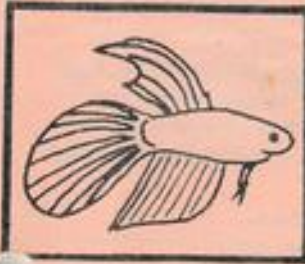


W. Stange

FISH FORUM

MAY 1975

Issue Number 15



South Shields A.S.
Founded 1971



Basingstoke A.S.
Founded 1954

Twinned July 1974



FISH OF THE MONTH - Amphiprion Ocellaris

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO FISH FORUM

We have been asked by several aquarists outside our own Society whether they can receive regular copies by subscription.

Fish Forum is issued free to members and contributors, and members are expected to help cover the costs entailed by entering a competition, a Fishpool, which together with receipts for advertising, is the present source of income to the Forum.

It has been decided that we should offer 1975 issues to interested aquarists at a rate to cover printing costs and postage. The subscription is an entry to our Fishpool competition and the magazine is provided free. There are six issues left to come during 1975 at six weekly intervals. The subscription for these six is 50p, payable in advance. Cheques to be made payable to the Basingstoke and District Aquarist Society and sent to:

Mr. W. Coulson, 149 Colver Road, Basingstoke, Hants.

EDITORIAL

It's very nice to be proved wrong when it benefits the hobby.

You will remember that last month I stated the Coldwater enthusiasts and asked the question "Is Coldwater Fishkeeping Dead?". Well I have received a resounding "NO" and have been offered two new Coldwater series. One is COLDWATER CORNER and the first offering is from one of the Society's Vice Presidents and the other series is SPECIALIST COLDWATER FISH, of which I have two episodes for this issue and also number 14.

I was so impressed by the response received that I was tempted to devote the whole issue to Coldwater Fishkeeping, but that would be a little unfair to other readers. However, the Goldfish Men will find they are extremely well covered for in this issue.

I would like this opportunity to remind readers that anyone can send in an article for any series. They are not restricted to the author of the first in each series and some of our "Regulars" could do with a break. At the present time we are low on tropical fish articles and have no coldwater marine articles in hand at all.

A. G. HARGREAVES

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Answer to the March Editorial

People who keep fancy goldfish quite often get criticised by other aquarists for keeping and reproducing "Mutations". Strange that. True, the fish are hybrids of carp and are sometimes hindered in many ways which a "naturally" developed fish would not be. But then all these goldfish are well cared for and kept in good condition with long life expectancies. Although their life at some times may be difficult it is surely better than none at all.

I think that most of the people who criticise feel sorry for the fish, they consider a moral injustice has been done. But let them consider this: is it kinder to breed a fish under specific conditions and bring it up to be healthy and well cared for, or to snatch a beautiful coral fish from the endless abundance of the ocean and place it under tank conditions which are completely alien to it?

The strains of goldfish are self-supporting, they do not affect the natural carp population in the lakes by diminishing their numbers, unlike many marine and freshwater tropical species which are constantly being captured and taken from the wilds to satisfy the needs of aquarists.

I know that if I had the choice I would rather be a "mutated" Neocryptus Fawcettii than a marine clown fish.

R. W. RICH



Number 11

Amphiprion Ocellaris (Jimmy A. Perouls)
(see cover photograph, courtesy Paul Wakefield)

COMMON NAME

Common Clown.

SIZE

To 15 cm (6").

PERSONALITY

Fearful with fish of their own size but resent the introduction of any other Amphiprion and become very territorial. This is particularly noticeable if kept with an Anemone. It is better to buy several of one rather than add one at a time.

FOODS

Frozen brine shrimp, prawn flesh, TetraMin flake, freeze dried brine shrimp and most live foods - earthworm, slugs, white worms, etc.

WATER CONDITION

Marine: S.G. 1.020 - 1.025, Temperature: 72° - 77°F.

SEX DISTINCTIONS

Central white bar on male comes to a point behind the pectoral fins. Female's bar is more rounded. Abile shown in cover photograph tending eggs at the base of the host anemone.

COLOURATION

Fish orange-brown with three vertical cream-white bars edged with black. Tips of fins clear except anterior dorsal.

BREEDING

These fish have often spawned in the aquarium but only a few have been raised. In aquariums are well loved for the number of spawnings that have occurred in their stock tanks. The eggs, void in shape are laid close to the base of an Anemone (Balanus). The parents tend the eggs in a similar way to Clarias with much fanning. Hatching commences

at 2-3 days and the larvae will usually cling to the surface. A third party of Suckling will be taken during the first few days. On the third day newly hatched larvae should be expected. At 12 days the fry are 2 mm x 12 mm long (2 x 1/2") and will seek an immense host.

COMMENTS

This friendly fish is surely going to produce the first Atlantic breeding tanks to be exhibited in an Open Show, and this challenge is a must for those breeding experts who are based with freshwater fishes.

SHOWING

Class Va (if no Y class is available these fish may be exhibited in Class M). If in F.S.A.S. note that females on show must have a mark label showing the Specific Gravity of the specimen.

A. G. HARMWORTH



Number 1

How to Keep a Goldfish

Goldfish are not difficult to keep, they'll survive happily in a bucket, although to get the best from them you want something a little more sophisticated. The best method is to have a bare tank with no gravel. Gravel easily becomes fouled and hampers tank cleaning operations.

Plants, such as Elodea Denso and Hornwort can be included in bunches held down with lead weights or merely left floating.

If you wish to keep more than one or two fish, aeration and a good filter are a must. Upflowery foam in the filters is much more economical than easily filter wool. The foam can be easily cleaned by placing it under running water and giving it a squeeze. Filter wool tends to wear out after a few weeks, whereas the foam retains its original qualities. Carbon is not really needed as the water should be changed regularly to keep it fresh and reduce the pH content.

Goldfish are pretty messy as eat a length of garden hose off and get hold of a large bucket so you can siphon off the bottom of the tanks to keep them clear of debris. So long as you siphon off about one-third of the water and replace it with water straight from the tap, a healthy goldfish won't be concerned and will happily swim into the fresh water as if to have a good "wash".

Goldfish are not fussy eaters. As far as they are concerned if something floats past their nose they will eat it (or try to). The best foods are pond pellets, earthworms, white worms, daphnia (if you can get enough), fluke food and dog manure. Beef heart and liver can be frozen in the freezer and then put up in a cheese grater and fed to the fish. A balance of live and dry food should be aimed at. Floating plants like duckweed are a useful addition as the fish eat, when hungry, like a mouthful.

As far as temperature goes goldfish are happy at anything from 50°F - 70°F. Anything below 50°F and the fish become slow and sluggish and much above 70°F for a long period and the fishes' lives will be considerably speeded up and they will become weak and "fence grow".

A healthy goldfish will rest around the bottom of the tank and be alert to any movement near the tank. An erect dorsal fin is usually a good indication of a healthy fish.

E. RICH

SPECIALIST COLDWATER FISH

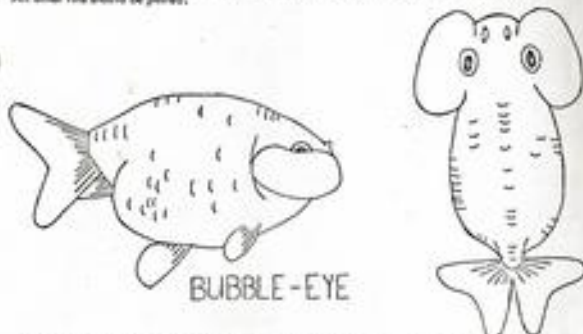
Number 1

The Bubble-Eye

The Bubble-eye is a very highly developed goldfish, and it must be carefully looked after.

The body should be short and fat. The back should be smooth and rounded with no spikes or bumps. The scales along the back should be evenly spaced when viewed from above. A thin, long body is a common fault with these fish.

The fins should be short and rounded. The caudal fin should be deeply forked. There should be a double anal fin, both being the same in shape and size. There should be no dorsal fin. All other fins should be paired.



Both eyes should have a sac or "bubble" beneath them attached to the sub-orbital region of the head. Both sacs should be round and equal in size. They should be coloured the same as the rest of the fish. No sharp objects must be present in the tank or pond as the fish does not see well and could well puncture one of the sacs.

The colour should be metallic (orange and silver or just orange with the appearance of shiny metal) or "calico" (a mixture of blue, orange, yellow and black with the overall appearance of mother of pearl). The colour should extend into the fins and not fade at the ends.

These are really nice little fellows and I like them.

E. RICH

Fishes advertise 1/8th page 50p; 1/2 page 90p; 1 page £1.00. Full page £2.50. Centre page spread £4. Two Colours £2 EXTRA; inclusion of photograph £2 EXTRA.



One of the wonderful things about the aquatic hobby is its ability to suit the variety of people's circumstances with respect to space at home, and their tastes at certain times, as they pass along through the hobby.

Quite a few of these aquarists are spellbound by the magnificent colours of a small fish they own, which is one of the wide family of Kribiafishes. Kribias are not usually good community fish, though Kribia may allow its water certain varieties together in their collections. The handy thing about Kribias is that they require little space, and therefore a display of small tanks, for instance 12" x 6" x 8", can be made up in a stand to show off their beauty.

I have seen Kribias kept quite successfully in these systems with no heaters but the water temperature is maintained at 70-72°F, which is perfect for this type of fish. A common variety of Kribia is the *Aplocheilichthys*, one of the *Zonchus* group, and a large Kribia which grows to a maximum of four inches.

It is extremely pike-like in appearance and follows the same type of life in the wild as the pike, for it is a predator, and feeds in plants just below the surface feeding for prey. This fish comes from southern India and Ceylon where it is widely distributed.

The male can vary in colour from light brown to yellow and he is heavily speckled with glittering golden spots. The front end of the fish bears many bright red spots and there are dark transverse bands along his body.

The female is much more drab and can be easily identified from the male by the dark spot in the base of the dorsal fin, which is absent in the male. Aquarists usually spawn these fish in nylon netting over mesh or tanks, which are suspended in the tanks, and are perfectly checked for eggs. The eggs are quite large and solitary, and should be removed by hand and put into a small container with a little water. Regular checks will show by swimming around and these may be transferred into a nursery tank.

The *Aplocheilichthys* likes soft acidic water, which may be made by adding distilled peat to the tank. Feed the food whenever possible, such as brine shrimp, daphnia and when adult, tiny Guppy fry, but the Kribia can be trained to eat fine flake food and blended meat.

FISCS
(courtesy Sheila Goetze)

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CORNER

This is the time of the year that all outdoor aquarists have been looking forward to. All outdoor ponds should be cleaned ready for the coming breeding season and all the old water left to drain out back to allow new growth to develop.

All ponds that are intended for use should be examined and spores purchased in good time. All existing fish should be inspected to ensure that they are in good health, before returning them to the ponds. They should be fed a diet of nutritious food of the best live food for bringing fish into breeding condition and also vitamins and algaecide. After a period of time it will be clearly seen that the females have put on weight when viewed from above and, provided that the males have tubercles on their gill plates, you have all the outward signs that the fish are in breeding condition.

Now to come to the conditions of temperature, light, etc. see right, nature will do the rest. If your fish do not spawn as soon as you had hoped, stay after 14 days separate the sexes for at least a week, again concentrating on live food. This is part of the game of outdoor fishkeeping - "giving them time". When the fish spawn in your ponds, provided that you have plenty of plants (Duckweed, Duckweed, etc.) and good sized Lily pads, enough of your fry should survive for your own "growing-on" for future breeding seasons.

The information in this article applies to single till varieties kept in outdoor ponds, such as Common Goldfish, Bicolors and Carps. Always ensure that during the breeding season, Common Goldfish are kept to one pond and Bicolors to another so they will cross breed causing all the work done by devoted aquarists in the pond to be nullified in but one season.

A. MARSHALL

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Water is such a common commodity that it is taken for granted by the majority of people, especially in the British Isles. However, without it we could never survive, but more important, that it is as "fish rich", fish would never have been "domesticated".

Water to most people is just a liquid which makes them wet if it enters in the form of rain, sea or in water with its coffee, beer, etc. It can be used in manufacturing processes, washing clothes and "drinking water". It can be even drunk neat, people are sure to do, fish can also swim and live in it.

Wonderful stuff, and yet, unknown to most people, except us aquarists of course, it can vary in its chemistry from sea to sea, even in the same basin. It can be found in varying degrees of hardness from very soft to very hard, also in varying grades of acidity or alkalinity. As the aquarist knows, the hardness of water can be measured in numerous ways, probably the most commonly known methods being the English (Clark's) p.p.m. and the German DH. The acidity or alkalinity has the symbol PH and this also can be measured in a number of ways. The pH and DH is considered to be very important to fish to the extent that some fish will not survive if in the wrong type of water, while others, although surviving, will not breed, breed or show their colours to their best advantage.

However, is the pH and DH really as important to fish as the experts contend? We find some aquarists buying test kits and feverishly testing their water at every opportunity, and even dumping in chemicals in an endeavour to obtain the right environment for their fish, which are then expected to reward their masters with a fishy grin of approval, usually the reverse happens, the fish dies.

What type of water does the fish dealer keep his fish in? Does he have the time to mess about with the water for the numerous species of fish which he will probably have? If a dealer was asked

what type of water he was keeping his various fish in, and he gave an honest reply, he would probably admit that it was pure wholesome tapwater. I have seen Discus in a number of dealers' shops swimming and feeding quite happily in tapwater. It has been known to keep fish which normally come from soft acid water areas in hard water without ill effect, and even reproducing. Beginners can often use the wrong water unknowingly, and yet keep their fish for quite lengthy periods. After a while they learn all about water chemistry, and wish they hadn't.

However, forget what you need in books; all you keen aquarists must have formed your own private opinions or theories on water conditions at sometime or other, so let us hear them. Get your pen and paper out and write in, even if it is only to tell me that I'm taking a load of "sod's wool".

Come on you amateur experts, don't be "tight", let's hear from you.

STORA UPPA

BREEDING FISHES

Number 7 GOLDFISH

With proper conditioning goldfish are not difficult to breed. The problems arise when one attempts to raise the young.

The most successful method of breeding goldfish is to use a pair of adult fish (male and female) - many people have been frustrated by attempting to do otherwise. To ensure that you have a pair, recognition of the external sexual differences in the fish is an essential knowledge to acquire.

The male goldfish in good healthy condition will display white tubercles on his gill plates. These can be likened to small white pimples which have the outward appearance of (perhaps the thought) white spots. They normally number just under a dozen on each gill plate. Also the male will have pectoral fins which consist of thick robust front rays and thin rays behind the front two or three which will be of uniform width.

The female goldfish will appear fat and bloated but towards the vent. This should be especially noticeable from above. It is covered by the formation of numerous eggs inside her body.

As goldfish breed in spring and summer from around April to September these sexual characteristics will become more apparent in both sexes as spring approaches and diminish partly or wholly as winter sets in.

Once you are sure you have a pair, separate them and feed them well on live food such as water-worm, daphnia or dog food. This conditioning of the fish gives them plenty of nourishment so that they can produce plenty of eggs and sperm respectively.

The tank you wish to breed them in should be about two to four feet long, depending on what space you have available. There should be no gravel, plenty of algae plants (such as elodea or hornwort), a heater and thermostat and plenty of aeration. Fill it with water straight from the tap, get hold of a cover glass and fix a good light above it (about 60 watts).

After a couple of weeks of conditioning the fish should be ready to spawn or place the pair of them in your breeding tank. Pour grey water on the surface of the tank with a bangle until the tank is about 3/4 filled. Your fish should then spawn within the next few hours.

The purpose of the water spitting is a psychological one. In the wild, carp (which is what your goldfish are) will spawn in the morning or evening after a good rainstorm - if one is available that is. The purpose in nature being that new fresh rainwater creates new life in the rivers or lakes which the fry will feed on.

The fish will have probably spawned by the time you get up the next day but they may well carry on well into the morning. The main thing to remember is to get them out when they stop otherwise they

will eat the fish. The male shows the female and fertilizes her eggs as she releases them in short bursts of spitting up to 10 doses. So as soon as they stop "shaking" pull them out and place them in separate tanks to rest.

The eggs are about one millimeter in diameter and are adhesive, sticking to the glass, the side of the tank and the bottom. For a hatch in 24 days when the temperature of the tank is about 72°F. The infertile eggs quickly go white and should be removed as they may fungus. Keep a good flow of water in the tank and have the light on about 12 hours a day. This shows a good plant growth and gives the fish a point of light at which they will instinctively gather when they hatch.

For 24-36 hours after they hatch the "larvae" as they are called do not eat because they have a supply of food called a yolk sac attached to their bellies. During this time they cannot swim but jerk up and down in the water and stick to the glass or plants for a rest.

After their yolk sacs are used up they require minute foods such as Infusoria, water eat, or hatched egg yolk mixed with a little water into a soup. One should feed them just under the light bulb as they will gather there by instinct. Any food which sticks to the bottom should be siphoned away.

After a couple of days small diaphanous larval shrimp should be fed in large quantities so as to get the maximum growth. Change the water very slowly day by day withholding a couple of pints and replacing them with well aged water of the same temperature.

After 4 or 5 weeks the fry develop eyes to be called shrimp when they resemble a miniature replica of their parents should be about 1" long and should then be "buffed".

Culling involves shoving of the fish which do not correspond with the standard of the fish which you are trying to breed. No mercy should be shown here, if the fish does not resemble the standard in body shape, fins, eyes, color or any other particular of the breed it should be shovied off in any manner available.

As you can imagine, out of three or four hundred fish one will then be left with about a dozen, these should then be given an end used as new breeding stock in approximately three years time.

RAY RICH

OSONE IN THE MARINE AQUARIUM

The use of ozone in the marine aquarium is a subject on which there are many, often conflicting, views. At the present time the use of ozone seems to have fallen out of favor - a very low "residual" is now in the marine, which probably indicates that ozone was given. The effects of ozone on the marine environment are not very well researched as yet, and most of the opinions you will find tend to be personal impressions, based, very often, on specific pieces of equipment and specific aquarium systems. In this short article, I will add my own personal impressions to those already recorded.

Ozone, in its "pure" form, is a blue gas with a characteristic odor. It is poisonous to all life in moderate quantities, and is one of the most powerfully reactive gases known. It is formed from oxygen gas, by passing the oxygen over an intense electric field. Oxygen atoms normally make molecules with two atoms each - O_2 . The electric field causes a third atom to join the molecule, to make ozone - O_3 . Ozone is unstable, in that the third atom is joined only loosely to the other two, and therefore it is a powerful oxidizer, giving up the oxygen atom very readily to any suitable molecule that comes along.

Because of its oxidizing action, ozone is a powerful destroyer of bacteria - by giving up its oxygen to them, it "burns" them up - and is often used to sterilize water and air.

Because of its instability, all traces of ozone will leave the environment quite rapidly, and without a continuous means of replenishment all the ozone in existence would rapidly break down into normal oxygen.

Ozone is introduced into the marine aquarium by means of an "ozonator", a simple piece of apparatus that produces a high-voltage electric field and allows air from the aquarium air pump to be passed through it.

Ozonators are still quite expensive, not because they are so complicated, but rather because they are made in such small quantities that mass production techniques cannot be used.

Ozone can be introduced into the aquarium water simply by bubbling "oxygenated air" through the water with an airstone, or by using a reactor tube. In the latter case a much higher concentration of the gas can be used, but the prime object is to oxidize chlorine directly to chlorates rather than oxidize the water. I have never used a reactor tube, mainly because the simpler, cheaper, and less messy undergravel filter seems to work sufficiently well on its own.

When ozone is introduced into the air supply, the first observable effect is that the water appears to become clearer and more transparent. This is probably due to the bleaching action of the ozone, acting on suspended and dissolved matter in the water.

Continuous use of ozone at a fairly low level (around 2mg/hr) seems to maintain clarity of the water, and to what extent it prevents disease is difficult to predict. In theory, it should reduce the number of bacteria in the water, and make bacterial diseases less likely.

I have had great success in using ozone as a treatment for some skin problems with sensitive fish. I have kept a Royal Tang (*Acanthopagrus皇城*) for almost two years now, and this fish has had several problems with skin disease, to which it is particularly susceptible. Recently, it brushed against an octopus, and made several quite deep scratches in its skin. After a day or so, these became infected and took on the "furry" appearance characteristic of a bacterial infection. The ozone was not introduced for two days, during which the infection gradually worsened.

Then, on "lights out", the ozonator was switched on at approximately 3 mg/hr, and left on all night. In the morning, the infection was completely cured, and the wounds healed normally in a couple of days.

An equally dramatic indication of the effects of ozone was seen when a friend's Royal Tang developed an ulcer on the side of the head. The ulcer gradually worsened over the course of a few weeks, until it was about as big as a 1p piece, the normally blue skin completely absent, and the ulcerated tissue appearing whitish with pinpoint spots of blood.

I gave him the ozonator, and he connected it into the airstone supply, and switched on at the rate of 3 mg/hr. The following day, he reported (with some alarm) that the ulcer had turned black, the inside of it (slowly followed by now) looking like a blackened crater. Since it was clear that something was happening, the ozone was reduced to 2 mg/hr, but left on. Over the next few days, the healthy skin invaded the ulcerated tissue, until the ulcer was completely healed, leaving only a slight depression in the skin to show where it had been.

I have also used ozone to "cure" apparently overnight, a fish infection on a Fire Clown, and a similar infection on a Blue Chromis.

I have never used the ozonator at a really high level, so cannot say what the effects are of over-dosing - I am not too keen on raising about \$40 worth of fish in the case of an illness. The best technique seems to be to use a low level initially, and increase it until a cure is effected, or the fish show some signs of stress. At the levels quoted, there have been no ill effects on any fish or a wide variety of invertebrates, including crustaceans, tubeworms, sponges, etc.

The ozonator I use is an "Ecolab", which has a control for adjusting the output. It varies the electric field strength to do this, so the calibration on the dial is probably a very rough estimate only of the actual quantity of ozone produced. It does provide a basis for tests, however. The quantities quoted above are all dial readings, and should be regarded as very approximate.

Personally, I have found ozone highly effective against bacterial infections in the marine aquarium, despite some published material to the effect that "it can't happen" (the fish haven't died it).

A most important factor is that, with classical medicines, the spine usually breaks down into
fragments and leaves absolutely no trace at all in the capsule after treatment is completed. It appears
to allow treatment of some diseases without docking a fish by making it to a "hospital tank", and
with a minimum of trouble on the part of the operator.

J.E. WATSON

WHO WAS THE NINETEENTH CENTURY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS WITH A FIXATION?

On 20th May 1807 at Mollat-en-Vully in the Canton Fribourg, Switzerland, on the shore of Lake Geneva, a son was born to the prominent pastor of the region. This son was to become one of the really great scientists of his era and have his name honorable throughout the scientific world.

Jean Louis Rudolphe (better known as Louis) Agassiz attended the Gymnasium at Sienna and the Academy at Lausanne during his boyhood. From there he progressed to the Universities of Zurich and Heidelberg where he obtained an Organon Doctorate of Philosophy. At Zurich his studies culminated in a Doctorate of Medicine.

In his youth he had considerable interests in the fishes of the brooks and streams of western Switzerland but it was not until later (when he had access to and was able to study a collection of Brazilian fishes brought back from the Amazon River by one of the most eminent naturalists at Zurich University) that his lifelong devotion to the discipline of Ichthyology began. One of the two collectors began to actually work in 1825 (The Fish were collected during the years 1818 and 1820) and upon his death Agassiz described and published the work in 1829 as "Pisces Brasilienses et Silesiae Piscium". After this the study of fish forms became the overriding feature of his early researches.

As early as 1820 he sent out a prospectus of "Fresh Water Fishes from Central Europe" which he eventually had published in several parts between the years 1825 and 1830. He went to Paris, then the recognized center of scientific research, in 1826 where he studied with Baron Charles Cuvier, one of the most prominent ichthyologists there. This proved to be a most important time for his because it was due to his association with Cuvier, coupled with his essentially religious upbringing, which led him to accept the Doctrine (based on the book of Genesis) of Special Creation which was firmly held in the first half of the nineteenth century and from which he never departed. Agassiz stated in his Essay on Classification (1859) "Every branch, class, order, family, genus and species represents a distinct Creative Thought, and, again in the same essay "the extinction and replacement of species are due to the direct intervention of the Creator." In Paris Louis lived as a poor student depending for himself, aided from time to time by the kindly interest of such friends as Cuvier and the great German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt - it was von Humboldt who assisted him in obtaining the professorship at Neuchâtel (then a Museum which became a University in 1829) and who provided him with a 1,000 Franc grant to enable him to complete his work on Pisces Brasilienses at Geneva.

Agassiz had become interested in the great wealth of extinct fishes of Europe, especially those of Sienna in Switzerland and Monte Verena near Verona, many of which had never been critically studied at that time. As early as 1825 he planned a complete, comprehensive and critical investigation of these fossils and spent much of his time gathering material wherever and whenever possible. His great, much

awaiting work "Recherches sur les Poissons Fossiles" consisted of five volumes of text and four of illustrative plates appeared, in part from the ten years between 1830 and 1842. In this work alone he related the number of fossil fishes to over 1,700. He brought the ancient bones to life again with his vivid descriptions of their possible environments. This fundamental work was to secure great importance since it gave so much impetus to the study of extinct life, and even to that life itself.

In the years between 1833 and 1842 Agassiz gave his attention to the other animals found alongside the fishes and published two volumes of Fossil Echinoderms of Switzerland. 1841 and 1842 brought forth his "Etudes Critiques sur les Mollusques Fossiles".

Agassiz was professor of Natural History at Neuchâtel from 1832 to 1842. For a while, during this period, he acted as his own publisher, consequently his private quarters were the provincial hive of activity with all the young men acting as his assistants. It was here that he began his "Manuel de Zoologie" a catalogue which reformed all the names of genera applied to animals since the start of scientific nomenclature at a date fixed on 1st January 1758, the start of the Linnaean era.

Again shifting his interests in 1835 he began a completely new line of study, this time into the movements and effects of the glaciers of his native Switzerland. By this time several other writers had expressed the opinion that these "Rivers of Ice" had once been much more extensive and that the tundra stream valleys over the whole region, and up to the summit of Mt. Jura were left there by melting glaciers. Agassiz built a hut (which he called "Chalet des Neuchâtelois" on the ice of the An Simier from which he and his assistants set out to trace the movements and structure of the ice. In 1840 he produced his "Essai sur les Glaciers" in which he showed that Switzerland in common with much of Europe (in 1840 he was able to detect signs of such glaciation in the British Isles) had been covered with a vast sheet of ice. His final conclusion was that immense sheets of ice once covered all the countries where ultra strata gravel (known as moraine drift) is to be found.

1846 found Agassiz on a visit to the United States of America, ostensibly to study Natural History and Geology but, more specifically, to present a series of papers, on lectures, at the Lowell Institute in Boston which were succeeded by another series in Charleston and then, later, by many more (both technical and popular) in other cities. While on this tour he fell in love with America and decided to stay there. In 1847 he was offered and accepted the Professorship of Zoology at Harvard and, in 1850, after the death of his first wife, he married Elizabeth Cabot Carey - a writer and promoter of women's education. In 1851 Louis Agassiz produced many series of lectures among them were "Three Superior" (1850) "Contributions to the Natural History of the United States of America" (1852-1877) in four parts, the most notable being considered to be on the Ichthyology of Florida and the Essay on Classification (1859), this last was a brilliant work but, even here, he failed to grasp the fact reality was fast rejecting the Doctrine of Special Creation and seeing none, and soon issued the "Theory of Evolution". Together with these extensive efforts he also produced a multitude of short papers on various aspects of natural history and especially on the fishes of the United States.

REGINALD C. PECK
Member of the British Ichthyological Society

Editor's Note: Due to lack of space this article will be continued in issue 16.



A most important factor is that, unlike classical medicine, the same deadly bacteria beta cryptus and beta absolutely no trace of it in the aquarium after treatment is completed. It appears to allow treatment of some diseases without shocking a fish by moving it to a "hospital tank", and with a minimum of trouble on the part of the aquarist.

J.E. WATSON

WHO WAS THE NINETEENTH CENTURY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS WITH A FIXATION

On 25th May 1807 at Marbach-am-Juilly in the Canton Fribourg, Switzerland, on the shores of Lake Neuchâtel a son was born to the Protestant pastor of the region. This son was to become one of the really great scientists of his era and have his name mentioned throughout the scientific world.

Jean Louis Rudolphe (better known as Louis) Agassiz attended the Gymnasium at Solothurn and the Academy at Leuven during his boyhood. From Leuven he progressed to the Universities of Zurich and Heidelberg where he obtained an Erlanger Doctorate of Philosophy. At Zurich his studies culminated in a Doctorate of Medicine.

In his youth he had considerable interests in the fishes of the banks and streams of western Switzerland but it was not until later (when he had access to and was able to study a collection of Brazilian fishes brought back from the Amazon River by one of the most eminent naturalists at Zurich University) that his lifelong devotion to the discipline of Ichthyology began. One of the top collectors began to classify them in 1830 (The fish were collected during the years 1828 and 1830) and, upon his death, Agassiz completed and published the work in 1829 as "Materia Genera et Specie Pisium". After this study of fish bones became the overriding feature of his early researches.

As early as 1820 he went out a prosector of "Fresh water Fishes from Central Europe" which he eventually had published in several parts between the years 1839 and 1842. He went to Paris, then the recognized centre of scientific research, in 1832 where he studied with Baron Dominique Duvivier, one of the most prominent ichthyologists there. This proved to be a most important time for him because it was due to his association with Duvivier, coupled with his essentially religious upbringing, which led him to accept the doctrine (based on the work of Spence) of Special Creation which was firmly held in the first half of the nineteenth century and from which he never swayed. Agassiz stated in his Essay on Classification (1859) "Every species, class, order, family, genus and species represents a distinct Creative Thought, and, again in the same essay "The distinction and placement of species are due to the direct intervention of the Creator." In Paris Louis lived as a poor student providing for himself, aided from time to time by the kindly interest of such friends as Duvivier and the great German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt - It was von Humboldt who assisted him in obtaining the professorship at Neuchâtel (then a Museum which became a University in 1823) and who provided him with a 1,000 Franc grant to enable him to complete his work on *Dietsa Genera et Specie Pisium*.

Agassiz had become interested in the great wealth of extinct fishes of Europe, especially those of Geneva in Switzerland and Rome before Peter Verreaux, many of which had never been scientifically studied at that time. As early as 1820 he planned a complete, comprehensive and critical investigation of these fossils and spent much of his time gathering material wherever and whenever possible. His great, much

having work "Recherches sur les Poissons Fossiles" consisted of five volumes of text and four of illustrative plates appeared, in part, from the ten years between 1830 and 1842. In this work alone he raised the number of named fossil fishes to near 1,700. He brought the ancient man to life again with his vivid descriptions of their aquatic habits. This fundamental work was to assume great importance since it gave so much impetus to the study of extinct life, and even to that life itself.

In the years between 1839 and 1842 Agassiz gave his attention to the other animals found alongside the fishes and published two volumes of Fossil Conchifera of Switzerland. 1841 and 1842 brought forth his "Etudes Critiques sur les Mollusques Fossiles".

Agassiz was professor of Natural History at Neuchâtel from 1822 to 1858. For a while, during this period, he acted as his own publisher, consequently his private quarters were the provincial hive of activity with all the young men acting as his assistants. It was here that he began his "Monographie Zoologique" a catalogue which referred all the names of genera applied to animals since the start of scientific nomenclature at a date fixed as 1st January 1758, the start of the French era.

Again shifting his interest in 1835 he began a completely new line of study, this time into the movements and effects of the glaciers of his native Switzerland. By this time several other writers had expressed the opinion that these "Rivers of Ice" had once been much more extensive and that the boulders strewn randomly over the whole region, and so to the summit of St. Jurs were left there by moving glaciers. Agassiz built a hut (which he called L'Hotel des Neuchâtelois) on the ice of the Air Glacien from which he and his assistants set out to trace the movements and structure of the ice. In 1840 he produced his *Etudes sur les Glaciers* in which he showed that Switzerland in common with much of Europe (in 1840 he was able to select signs of such glaciation in the British Isles) had been covered with a vast sheet of ice. His final conclusion was that (some sheets of ice once covered all the countries where ultra arctic gravel (some boulder drift) is to be found).

1848 found Agassiz on a visit to the United States of America, ostensibly to study Natural History and Geology but, more specifically, to present a series of lectures, or lectures, at the Lowell Institute in Boston which were succeeded by another series in Charleston and then, later, by many more (both technical and popular) in other cities. While on this tour he fell in love with America and decided to stay there. In 1847 he was offered and accepted the Professorship of Zoology at Harvard and, in 1850, after the death of his first wife, he married Elizabeth Cabot Cary - a writer and promoter of women's education. In 1853 Louis Agassiz produced many works produced along these were "Two Superior" (1850) "Contributions to the Natural History of the United States of America" (1850-1852) in four parts, the most notable being considered to be on the Embryology of Turkeys) and the Essay on Classification (1855), this last was a brilliant work but, even so, he failed to grasp the fact zoology was fast rejecting the doctrine of Special Creation and moving on, and more toward the theory of Evolution. Together with these extensive efforts he also produced a multitude of short papers on various aspects of natural history and especially on the fishes of the United States.

REGINALD C. RECK
Member of The British Ichthyological Society

Editor's Note: Due to lack of space this article will be continued in issue 16.



South Shields News



Any South Shields news should be sent to:

Mr. Brian Biddiscombe - South Shields Editor,
13 Chesterton Road,
Baldock Hill Estate,
SOUTH SHIELDS,
South Tyneville,
Tyne and Wear,
NE34 9TW

MEETING HELD 5TH APRIL

The meeting opened with Bill Scott presenting two trophies to the Club. These were to be used in the Closed Shows for the Senior Best Fish and the Junior Best Fish. The senior trophy was a fish which had been chosen from a piece of mahogany, this being done with a set of carving tools Bill had purchased and, of course, his skill and patience. He did mention that the carving tools must have been made from unadorned steel as he had the devil of a job trying to cut the wood with them. The junior trophy proved to be a carved wooden fish set into a wooden base. I don't know where Bill gets his ideas from but he always comes up with something different, if not original.

Colin Bartlett gave a short talk on fish diseases which created interest, especially for the newer members.

The table show for the evening was Small ClabMids and the judging was put into the capable hands of Mr. Gordon Carter of the British ClabMid Association who was ably assisted by our junior member Peter Sambell. The first prize went to our Chairman, Les Buller. I have a feeling that he will shortly be extending his fish house as he now have very little room left on his walls and willing for giving up any more sticks.

BRIAN BIDDISCOMBE
South Shields Editor

~*~

MEETING HELD 26TH APRIL

A varied agenda was had for this meeting with the emphasis being on beginners topics.

A general "winter" went on in the main room while a taped lecture took place in the "beginners" room on Aquarium Management. The tapes led to a number of discussions on different subjects. One in particular was the use of steel wool for cleaning the aquarium glass, and it was generally considered that its use did more harm than good.

A very informative talk and demonstration on re-arranging a tank with plants and rockwork was given by Mr. Eddie Farrow. I think that everyone who attended, including the more advanced members, enjoyed this and gained a little more knowledge.

Frank Aulice wound up the evening with a slide show and taped lecture on his favourite subject, ClabMids.

DISCUSSION AT TYNE-POOL FISH CONVENTION (ASSOC. OF THE F.I.A.S.)

After the opening remarks by George Little we settled down to listen first to Mr. E. Eason. He put a great talk over on cold-water species, and the right way to keep them. His sense of humour led us in a good mood for the rest of the day. He's a jolly good fellow.

Bill Pearson then gave a talk on water conditions, not an easy subject but he made it as easy as possible. Then he told us "Tanger 11" and we finished.

Mr. Charlton's lecture and slides on ClabMids was next. In all honesty, after hearing all his talk and seeing before amazing perfection, I'm not yet ready for "Guppy Growing".

I had a pint with Tony Evans and a penny little chat, and at the interval met Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tomkins. I gave them directions to get to the Isle of Lindisfarne (Holy Island). They were on their way north to the Scottish Aquaria Festival. I hope they did not have to death, sorry.

The buffet was outstanding - chicken, turkey and muddy peas, (no peas just, Tony).

Mr. Haves opened up the second part of the programme on our World and its Inhabitants. It was full of interest and we all enjoyed it.

Last, but by no means least, Miss Sue Turner (Lincoln Museum) talked of ClabMids, and other fish, not of today but when the world was young, and the work that is going on in the Fish Valley, finding fossils of various creatures that lived when man was yet to be.

Top marks to the team that got it all together. What did you think Bob, Frank and Tony? Could you let us know in Fish Forum, the Box, & On, and So, Shields periodicals.

BILL SCOTT

~*~

A FISHY TALE

Did you hear about the angler who was telling Bill Scott about the fish he had caught which was six feet long?

Bill got to be outside still, "That's neat now, An hooked a tonters from a Spanish Gullion one day, and ye see what? The angler in it was still slight." "Widney now, An deem believe that," said his mate, whereupon Bill replied, "An'll tell ye what, ye knock lower feet off yer fish and An'll show the angler out in me tenters."

~*~

CONFESSIONS of a SOUTH SHIELDS Aquaria Member

I am one of the few South Shields members who knows more about fish kept in aquaria, and for this I make no apologies. Yet I suppose I have had no much experience to start with edible fish.

During the war I went to sea and saw enough of ships sea fishing to last a lifetime, and yet I personally caught none. Many years ago I was on a ship that traded between Canada and Newfoundland and near to Newfoundland there is a place of excellent water where the Gulf Stream meets the cold Atlantic. This was its breeding ground for most cooler water fish but mainly cod.

We had some pretty handy lads aboard ship (not me of course), who made a flat bottomed boat, and in this they would go fishing. You never saw such a plucky! You've heard of the Leningrad and its yearning to commit that Karl, well this place had a similar object, but in this instance it was the great big cod, who were slowly opening up to get into the boat. They couldn't

walk for the lady to bait the hooks, they were too eager to get out of the crock of fish and get into the nice rainy boat. Everyone caught fish except yours truly, but I had my day in the end.

While in the tropics, in the lovely Indian Queen, an old tar once told us greenhorns how to catch flying fish one day as we were busy watching the Delatins raising the ship. They were rubbing their backs against the bows and springing through the water, but it seems that flying fish are much different - they spring to the surface and leap clear of the water and when clear they open their fins, especially the pectoral fins, which are as long as their body length. To see them gliding along just clear of the waves is surely a magnificent sight and the old tar's secret to capture flying fish was disclosed to us.

A couple is popped into a jar (or eight (of course you fight it you do) and put on deck to attract the fish. Everyone caught loads of flying fish (except yours truly) but I had my day in the end.

There is a place in India where we could catch Parrot fish. You didn't use bait, you just skinned them and brought them aboard and everyone caught loads (except yours truly) but I had my day in the end.

How did my day come in the end? I was the poor cook and had the job of skimming them and soaking them and all the rest that follows when a half-witted bunch have next better to do than go fishing every spare minute of the day. Oh! I hated fishing so I came ashore and went down the pit to get away from it all. Funny that, because now I work under the sea (North Sea), and I still see fish, but I'm eager to see these species, for they are fossils of fish millions of years old. They are found in coal, shells of forests and swamps that existed a long time ago, but today it is the coal that we work to run today's civilization and I won't bore you with the details of how we get it out. Above a coal seam there is a stuff we call rubble and it is in this material that we find the best fossils of shells, leaves, fish and even full trees.

Now it is here that one day I found a live apple snail, and I can prove it, for it was a flat prize for a friend at a place called Bingshoke.

I had my day in the end.

TONGUE IN CHEEK

—O—

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MEETINGS

26th March and 11th April

There were 29 members at the meeting on 26th March to listen to Derek Jones of Southampton A.S. give a talk and show slides about the breeding habits of Cichlids. Derek was a member of ours when he lived here many years ago.

It was decided by a vote that the Show to be held on 12th July in the Carnival Hall will be our 6th Closed Show. Local people will be invited to enter as well as our members.

The election of a Show Manager took place and Tom Finner became a Committee member as he was top of the poll. Tom then gave a report on the first S.C. Fish League and promised to do better next time. Bill Cawburn reported on his Minibus trips to shows, and on the proposed coach trip to Southampton, seats being still available. There is a Minibus trip going to the Salisbury Interclub on 6th April.

On 11th April we had a talk by Colin Roberts, who was a member in the early 1960's and has recently returned to the district. Colin has had many successes in breeding Characins and other tropical fish over the years and he talked of his achievements to the 26 members present.

Tom Finner reported on the second S.C. Fish League and promised to do better next time. He reported on the success at Everside and the Salisbury Interclub. The Society Shield for Highest points gained at Everside and the winners trophy from the Salisbury Interclub were on show and these were presented to Trevor Jarrold and Doris Halliday for them to keep on our behalf.

The Secretary asked for comments from members about the Forum and reported that the printing costs are rising and putting the magazine in the red. He also reminded members of their responsibility to get trophies won at other societies' open shows back to them for presentation. There is some concern at one member's failure to return trophies won when he was showing to one of our members.

Bobbie Canning expressed concern about the expenditure on the Jubilee being built, and he received an assurance from Ray Peck that there will be a right control this year.

Tom Finner asked members who wished to enter at the coming Closed 'Carnival' Show to contact him so that he can form a sub-committee to organise this.

SECRETARY

—O—

MEETING OF 20TH APRIL

There was a good attendance at this meeting to look at slides of Fish Farms from all over the world.

Slides were shown by Margie Baynton of Bracknell A.S., and they had been taken at such places as Caplan, Singapore, Thailand, South America, and the 2nd farm of Japan. They gave some idea of the scale of these enterprises, the methods used for breeding, and the conditions in which

Fish are caught in the wild, an insight was also given of the living conditions and way of life of the people of these countries.

The evening was made even more enjoyable by the visit of a Delegation of Aquarists from Haslemere A.S., and one of their members, Roger Payne, judged our tank show.

Dave Seal gave a report on the special meeting held on 25th April to discuss the Debates to be held this year. Plans have been made, some materials collected, and now help is required for it's holding.

Tom Fraser gave some details of the plans for the Closed Show of 17th July. Most of the Class prizes will be covered by Trophy surplus to the needs of our Open Show. He asked members to put on Aquatic displays that will be of interest to the Public.

A list of coming shows was given, and Adrian Blake urged that support should be given to Trarbridge A.S. on 17th May, as this would be their first show to be held under F.S.A.S. rules.

Secretary.

H.D. Haslemere A.S. put our Tank Show to shame on Monday 26th, when Arthur Marshall went there to judge whilst I gazed. They may be a new Society, but they have an entire, well attended meeting, and the fish are of excellent quality.

Joe,

-404-

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AROUND THE COUNTRY

March 21st Southampton

T. Burvill two 2nds one 3rd ; A. Chaplin one 1st two 2nds ; D. Williams seventh
S. Osburn one fourth ; and a litter of prizes were won by our regular showmen.

April 5th Basingstoke

1st E. Fraser, J. Jackson, S. Osburn, A. Marshall,
2nd E. Fraser, J. Jackson, S. Osburn, A. Marshall, T. Burvill
3rd E. Fraser, J. Jackson, S. Osburn, A. Marshall, S. Savage, T. Marshall
4th A. Marshall, S. Savage, T. Marshall, A. Chaplin
Best Goldfish Fish.....A. Marshall
Best Junior.....S. Savage
Best Society...Basingstoke (with 40 points)

50+ fish were entered in 29 classes.

April 6th Salisbury

1st E. Fraser, S. Savage, S. Osburn, A. Marshall, T. Marshall,
2nd E. Fraser, S. Savage, T. Jackson, D. Williams
Best Society...Basingstoke (with 40 points)

Just as the crowd visited the Centennial, and the others were drawn to the narrow whilst seeing interesting slide shows on birds (feathered) of Britain, and on kibblefish by 'pal' Churchill.

April 15th Basingstoke & Bordon

A. Chaplin, T. Burvill, and Miss Jackson all won firsts.

April 20th

Our Society was represented at TOWN shows on this day!
Bristol-S. Osburn won several firsts and got 95 points with his /Goby.

S. Osburn also won several firsts, and T. Taylor, who also attended, won two firsts.

Outfish John-J. Jackson attended this show.

Wimborne - S. Osburn and N. Rich took 13 fish between them.

Kerry got nine firsts and two seconds, and they got a first and a third. WOB 1

April 27th North Hants

1st E. Fraser, T. Burvill,
2nd E. Fraser, T. Burvill, S. Osburn
3rd E. Fraser, T. Burvill, S. Osburn
4th E. Fraser, T. Burvill, S. Osburn

-404-

20th March

Open Class B (Fishes)

- 1. R. Gussner
- 2. "
- 3. T. Hannah
- 4. A. Chaplin

TABLE SHOW RESULTS

A.O.S.
The only entry - who else would do it - 20 for fish in a furnished tank - - Richard Knight with 4****

GOLDEN BAKING

NOTICE

- 1. T. Burvill

14th April

Open Class K

- 1. T. Burvill
- 2. no more entries

A.O.S.

- 1. A. Marshall
- 2. "
- 3. T. Marshall
- 4. "

NOTICE

- 1. T. Burvill

15th April

A.O.S.

- 1. T. Marshall
- 2. T. Fraser
- 3. P. George
- 4. T. Marshall

NOTICE

- 1. R. Gussner
- 2. "
- 3. P. George
- 4. R. Gussner

Getting a bit thin on the ground these table show entries late if
-00-

TABLE SHOW RESULTS AND QUARTER

T. Marshall...44	R. Gussner...9	A. Strong...3
A. Marshall...24	R. Gussner...7	T. Fraser...3
R. Canning...33	C. Hester...7	L. Macky...2
T. Burvill...26	S. George...6	T. Hannah...2
A. Chaplin...24	D. Gossard...4	P. George...2
J. J. Canning...13	T. Jackson...4	
R. Turner...9	A. Knight...4	

THREE COUNTRIES FISHMATCH

The second match in the series took place at the Black Day, 28th March, ending on 28th March. The match was judged by 204g members of Reading Aquarists Society, and the results were as shown below:-
(totals so far in brackets)

<u>READING</u>	<u>WINDSOR</u>	<u>WYCOMBE</u>	<u>WINDSOR</u>
23(54)	22(55)	24(53)	25(50)

Signet were again unable to attend.
-00-

FRAGMENTS

1
What I have to tell is quite true
When Tom and Toppie had a 'do'
At building racks for next table show
Toss on a Sunday, but the air was blue,

2
Tommy Fraser gave our flag the bump
and caused Reggie then to jump
He hit his head, and got a bump
So a sweet nature turned to a Grump,

3
Tom then he cried "He's stole my flag",
I'm sure he didn't mean some old flag
The odds were tossed from next door
As Reggie threw things to the floor.

4
It didn't help, when his problems he told
He got a reply that was a very cold
"I told you so", maybe that was true
But I blame Fraser, and so must you.

TOM LEAF

-00-

1973 OPEN SHOW

Members can help make this our best Open Show ever. There are plenty of activities in the Show, as all can play a full part. Several members have committed themselves to act as Stewards, make the Show Successful, help with fish sales, etc. In my own to some too soon to get these details sorted out, but with five societies playing their parts it is no good leaving things to the last moment. Our members will be working in teams with the other societies on such various activities as stock building, layout, raffia, Grand Draw, raffles, contest, judge's lunches, as well as numerous shows being required - so help by letting Roy Elish, Tom Fraser or Alwyn Strange know what time you will be able to help out, and what you would like to do.

Remember when you enter other Open Shows to put your society down with the Group name as you have been asked, i.e. 3 C./3 Beingville A.S.

The Schedules are now available, so don't forget if you are going to an Open Show take some with you to distribute to competitors.

Tom will be giving help to sort out and print the racking required, and remember we shall need all the help we can get to build up on Saturday 13th September, as well as on the big day, the 16th.

3 C. SHOW COMMITTEE

-00-

MATCHES DUE

The Interclub Match to be held on Sunday, 25th May will require a fish in each of the following teams: B (Betta), C (Channa), D (Cichlids), E (Labryrinth), F (Kribia), G/H (Gerron), J/K (Betta and Dania), M (Eggsayer A.O.S.), one Livebearer class = O, P, Q, R, S & T together U (Simplified Goldfish), V (Painted Goldfish) and W (Goldwater Fish A.O.S.).

Contact Tom Fraser if you want to enter fish, and Bill Cusburn if you require the service of Bill's Buss.

The next match in the Three Counties Group Fish League will be at home on our meeting to be held on Friday, 6th June.

The classes in the match are: D (Cichlids A.O.S.), E (Dania & W.C.M.M.), M (Eggsayer A.O.S. except D & K), F (Plecos), T (Livebearer other than R), X (Breeders team of Livebearers) and N (Pais of Eggsayers).

Contact Tom if you have a fish you want to enter. All surplus fish will be judged in an 'anything' class.

We normally supply the clubs with food-type refreshments on these occasions, and have ourselves a good time. Tom has promised we will win.

TOM LEAF

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Wednesday 9.30 - 1.00pm.

Friday 9.30 - 6.00pm. Lunch 1-2

Sunday 10.00 - 1.00pm.

CLOSED ALL DAY MONDAY

THE



COLUMN.

In the last issue I told some of the tales about Nils. 42. There were in truth so many paths of success, and the accomplished amateur, and even more depth of discussion that our Ben Stuenkel could provide many more chapters, even now that he is gone he still plays the game by his own set of rules and causes amusement by not returning replies in good time.

But let's have a go at Nils. 34. He joined us in 1971 and in 1972 served on the Committee. This particular year he made a name for himself as a writer to the judges at our Open Show. He excelled in this beyond the call of duty and bestowed the trophies from the elements with a bravely - so he and his better half got stuck with this job for the next two shows. He is quite handy too with a pencil and a big 'ommer' and has presented us with many a show with prizes and show tanks to swell the funds. He never was much of a fish-keeper, he never could keep the prawns alive (it's always blamed him up with the Scorpions and Cynops) so he went in for the 'Cottish Ugly' that could take being hit with his 'ommer'. He had a bit of success, but now he's sold the lot and is moving away to the West Country to run a guest house. You see the 'writing job' must have gone to his head, either that or it was just too much for him when his daughter Claire started winning with her Always and her Beesley's team.

The F.S.A.S. has made the Open Show Brooch easier to win than the Secretary first informed the Club. To win a Bronze Leaf Brooch with the F.S.A.S. Fighter emblem you must win 20 fish in F.S.A.S. sponsored Open Shows and submit the cards to the F.S.A.S. Brooch Secretary.

A further 25 fish and the Bronze Brooch will entitle you to a Silver Brooch and 20 more, making a total of 75, will entitle you to a Gold Brooch.

Societies will be responsible for registering results with the Brooch Secretary, as the Show Secretaries will have this responsibility.

Furnished Aquaria classes and breeder's classes are to be counted as two for the present and the F.S.A.S. may change to 'weight' other classes they want to encourage. The system will start in from the first show in 1975.

Tom Fraser must have gone berserk. He went to Marbury A.S. and judged the Table Show on 2nd April, at least I suppose this means he has ambition to become a 'C' Class judge. This means I shall not hear him criticising the other adjudicators. What ever excuse will he find now for his picking the wrong fish for the matches. Maybe he will start to pick Bill's now? Oh yes, he was accompanied by Roy Rich giving his first talk on Caldean Fish Showers. As Tommy said, "I didn't know he knew so much."

When you go outside the F.S.A.S. area and see the varying numbers and lettering combined with numbers used for the fish classification, it is brought home how simple and sensible the F.S.A.S. Lettering system is. I know on first sight it seems complicated, but after a while it falls into place and makes the competitor's life much simpler. The capitals A to Z cover the whole range of species and other exhibits just right and the small letters used for sub-divisions give all the flexibility that is required.

It is readily understood by most competitors and it is a rare Show Secretary who gets it very wrong. On some show schedules there are errors, usually these are where not all the sub-divisions are being used, and the small letter 'x' (meaning Any Other Species) is used when it should be left off.

There is the new Show/Judge who will use the outdated "a" and "b" sub-divisions in the judges classes, but this is unusual.

The system is by no means perfect, and any fish expert, if such an animal exists, could make a name for himself by proposing a change in the "B" (Bats) sub-divisions. The Bats are split by size, which is against normal F.S.A.S. practice, and in most shows the Large Bats are usually a small class with the others being very likely the largest class in the show.

How should they be split? I don't know, maybe the S.A.A. are on the right lines with Pustive, C. vellea and the J & S. They are overworked as I'm sure they would be pleased to hear from you.

TOM LEAF

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 17th May Trarbridge Open Show (2nd F.S.A.S. Show)
- 22nd May Portsmouth Interclub
- 1st June Newark Open Show
- 8th June Sudbury Open Show
- 16th June Kingston Open Show
- 15th June Gosport Open Show
- Runnymede Open Show
- 1st July 3 Counties Gulls at Newbury
- 12th July CARNIVAL Fish Show/Exhibition
- 22nd June SOUTH SHIELDS Open Show

LIVESAVER Favorites - Ahoy!

For the above species there has been formed the BRITISH LIVESAVER ASSOCIATION to study standards, exchange views and fish, etc. A good standard magazine is being published so if you are interested send to:

E) J.A. Leitch, 19 Ails Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2J. Single membership = £1. Family = £1.50, Junior = 50p, Society = £2.

LARN GEORGE

Lesson 3

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>(Geordie)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winkles Fishbones Synonym - Gilder. Synonym - fish bones. Winkles are Wray Synonym - fish bones. Mindfish Winkles Winkles Winkles Winkles | <p>(Pog)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gravel in the Altrincham fishbowl. Dolomite/Synonym - fish bones. Synonym - fish bones. Tinned grub. Thomas on date. Die funny. Loose fishbowl. Yakout mucky. Eyebow fishbowl. Shorelumpy. |
|--|--|

SEVENTSIDE OPEN SHOW

While Biff's Bait was in the tube to Riverside on 26th April I went to the South S. Open Show accompanied by Tommy Taylor and we renewed acquaintances with several old friends. Tommy was with his Fighter, and the Lakerfish class with a "Spookler". I was the Egg-layer Brooder, Dennis and the "Tater" class. Some Gosport members were in attendance and they were a little confused as to the rules.

The main difference in a Sevenside Show are that now only those fish that may get in the first five are pointed, and Judges are allowed to enter fish in the show in classes other than those which they judge. We both enjoyed ourselves and had some good sessions of fish-talk.

Yates A.S. Open Show was on the 18th April and this was attended by many of our friends. One of our subscribers, Mr. F. Clipp of Newbury A.S. won his first Open Show first, and he and his son gained several other awards. Len Mansfield of New Forest A.S. was also in attendance and gained several awards. Eddie Canning had a post-hunting day and won three firsts. Ron Orlove was equally successful and gained a total of 23 points in the various tables and 1 got 22 each. Oh! didn't I mention that I was a little prize - a Gold Fish for Best Fish with a St. Pulcher. Just to my mind in your eye. It was a very enjoyable Show. There were 355 entries, the weather was fine and we had many a good chat and laugh.

SECRETARY

SOUTHAMPTON

Start of the Season

The 31st of March saw the start of the showing season for the stalwarts of our club. The B.S.C. held on a coach trip for anyone in the club who was interested in a day out. Weather being superb, we started out with everyone in the best of spirits "noC" and arrived for the first time with a surplus of the same in hand.

After lunching and viewing the exhibition different parties started drifting off to the "fish", "market", zoo, pub, etc., as there was some time before the judges would finish.

Arthur Marshall was observed in the zoo by wireless parties by the cold water pool, stealing a wicket?? Derys was knocking hell out of some poor defenceless cacomors and Bill was passing judgement on some "Statutus", as a good day was building up.

On our return to the hall we found the doors closed to be opened to the public and joined the main queue. The results were showing two fish, a 2nd and 3rd in consolation for Arthur Marshall, 1st (Second) M. Strong, 1st, 2nd (2nd) T. Fraser, 4th (Brooder) D. Holland, 4th (C) W. Cowburn, 2nd (2nd) T. Fraser, 3rd (2nd) M. Strong, 2nd (C) T. Fraser, 3rd (T) T. Fraser, 4th (R) A. Marshall (Jnr.). For members of the club who arrived by air also received prizes, as story on everyone, you're doing well.

POT HUNTER

Oh! Oh! Oh!

Southampton Open Show saw me reach what I believe was my highest aim fishwise - I bought a small Dwarf Clown, grew it on, nursed it, and with some advice and help from within our club succeeded in curing it from its ailments.

It has now repaid me 1,000 times over by winning the F.S.A.S. Championship Trophy for Class Oh. "IA".

Showman 12 reporting

PERSONAL COLUMN

40 words by extra words 2p ea.

Gift or Exchange

3 Tiger Sharks

3 Aikine Gouriete

1 Dairine

Offers to R.J.Lane

67 Tintern Cases(62014)

Prize-Danks with Fish & Plants

2ft x 15 x 12 (one)

2ft x 15 x 12 (one)

1ft x 10 x 10 (one)

Each with Reed Growth Pump etc.

Offers (all or separate) to :-

D. Urlician 40 Stukeway Rd.

FISHING BEANS 3/73

Date drawn 20th March

Drawn by 30 winner Jet

Highest points . . . 35 (subscriber 10

(P. WATTS)

Dear name 32 (South Shields)

32 (Ray Stish)

Lucky number 331

The draw :-

No.	Name	Points
14	Merry Nicoll	0
4	24g Dorcas	7
5	C. Kwanistoe	6
6	Pauline Fish	3
1	Sunny Overall	4
13	Georgina Fish	3
8	Barbara Gray	2
7	Keith Lawson	2

-000-

A G.S.C.B. man named "Bunny",
Says my fish really don't cost much money
I show just for fun,
Don't get lost by my son,
And I've got you all fish that's down bunny!

Young Tony, to solve and untangle,
About some things is quite dictatorial,
If he doesn't get fresh copy
He'll get over as straggly,
And write another long, rude editorial.

A man in Pompey, down by the sea,
Very untanned, and as tall as my knee,
Pulling a Blue Whale,
Up the beach by its tail,
Shouting "This year, Marine Club for me!"

Some people think tineticks are rude,
I've even seen some that were loud,
But here's a challenge to you, sucker,
Write me about Tommy Tucker,
Without your rhyme ending up crude!

I think I've just made a mistake,
Still, I'm not really sure it's a fake,
I've just bought this lighter,
Embossed with a "Tighter",
From a rather fish salesman, called "Blink".

A walloo diverger called "Fog",
For prizes has been known to beg,
And to steal, and to borrow,
You'll find out to your sorrow,
Next week's first prize is Maryn's left leg!

With devotion to duty unwavering,
On yet another committee he's serving,
His long suffering wife,
Who seen buying a knife,
Not just "strong", it's bloody unwavering!

I rarely write one about Tom Finzer,
But promptly get out my earner,
I had a nightmare you see,
With him chasing me,
With a Scorsall as sharp as a razor!

There's a rumour I heard in the wind,
Of matches with those Georges you twinned,
But you can't stick a stamp,
On a letter that's damp,
Though you could send your fishes there twinned!

B. GORSH

-000-

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Reception Areas

Cocktail Bars

Directors' Offices

SOUTH SHIELDS

Date	Programme	Table Show
7.5.75	TALK by Brian Eldridge	Class B - Large Boke
21.5.75	TALK by A. Selkington	Class G - Catfish
4.6.75	TALK by D. Renton, S.A.	Class S - Molluscs
18.6.75	FOWB FILTERS by Les Southall	Class L - Latches
22.6.75	SOUTH SHIELDS OPEN SHOW	Class D - Large Cichlids
2.7.75	Slides - Angels by the Thousand	Class E - Labyrinth
16.7.75	LABYRINTHS by Bill Scott	

Meetings are on alternate Wednesdays at the Emergency Service Headquarters, Winkton Vale, South Shields

OFFICIALS

Chairman	L. Bullfill
Vice-Chairman	C. Dingle
Secretary	F. Wight
Assistant Secretary	M. Douglas
Treasurer	Mrs. L. Bullfill
Assistant Treasurer	L. Bullfill
Show Secretary	S. Eldridge, 13 Charleston Road, Biddick Hill, Gates, South Shields
Assistant Show Secretary	F. Airew
Industrial Officer	W. Scott
Librarian	L. Southall
Social Secretary	Mrs. L. Scott
Assistant Social Secretary	Mrs. A. Turnbull
South Shields Editor	S. Eldridge (address as above)
F.S.A.S. Delegate	F. Airew

BISINGSTOKE

Programme

Date	Event	Table Show
9.5.75	CICHLIDS by Dave Allam of Heron A.S.	Class J - Eudora
16.5.75	Open Meeting (Informal discussion)	No Table Show tonight
23.5.75	BREEDING by Dick Mils	Class D - Dwarf Cichlids
30.5.75	Open Meeting (Informal discussion)	No Table Show tonight
6.6.75	3 COUNTIES FISH LEAGUE at home	No Table Show tonight
13.6.75	Open Meeting (Informal discussion)	Class K - Danos & WCAM
20.6.75	COLDWATER FISH by Arthur Marshall	No Table Show tonight
27.6.75	Open Meeting (Informal discussion)	
1.7.75	3 COUNTIES QUIZ LEAGUE at Newbury	Class C - H.N.C. Characins
4.7.75	Sparker not yet arranged	No Table Show tonight
11.7.75	Repetition of CLOSED SHOW	

Every meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the White Street Club unless stated (non-members welcome)

OFFICIALS

President	A. Bide (F.S.A.S. Council Member)
Vice-President	A. Marshall, GSG
Committee Chairman	G. Oliver
Chairman	F. George, BMA
Vice-Chairman	M. Strong, SCA, 10 Linton Court, Neville Close, Basingstoke
Secretary	G. Sloan
Treasurer	T. Freen
Show Manager	S. Eick, GSG, 93 Fiskeston Road, Basingstoke
Show Secretary	J. Edmond
Programme Secretary	S. Peck, BS
Projects Officer	Mrs. P. Dixon
Balfas Secretary	

Articles and correspondence to the Editor :-

Mr. A.G. Hamsworth,
"Mevacombe",
20 Widmore Road,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire. RG22 6LB

DETAILS OF SUBSCRIPTION
TO THE MAGAZINE CAN
BE FOUND ON PAGE TWO