



FEDERATION OF BRITISH AQUATIC SOCIETIES

# BULLETIN

Summer 2011

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# **BULLETIN**

## **June 2011**

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*Opinions expressed in any article remain those of the author  
and are not necessarily endorsed by this publication*

**Produced for FBAS website by Dick Mills**



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## EDITORIAL

Variety is the 'Spice of Life' we are led to believe. This being the case, then readers shouldn't have any complaints about the contents of this issue.

Most of us take for granted the manner in which our staple ingredients get to the shops and for fishkeepers it's probably the same. You go down the aquatic centre and there it is – all that you could possibly want just waiting for you to pick it off the shelves or out of the tanks.

I make no apologies for the space-taking article we have this time in which a Balinese fisherman explains his daily work in catching coral fishes for our enjoyment. There's plenty of food for thought.

Back in our own comfort-zone, we are fortunate to be able to continue our great hobby and here, halfway through the year already, Open Shows are in full swing with exhibitors desperately trying to qualify for the competitions at Sand Bay's Festival of Fishkeeping. Speaking of which, it's still not too late to book your accommodation at fishkeeping's most prestigious event.

Does your Society produce a Magazine or Newsletter? Why not drop me a copy (with permission to reprint from it, of course!) so we can widen your circulation?

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Although we may be interested in where the fishes and corals for the reef hobby come from, we rarely give any thought to how they are collected, and probably never wonder about the people who collect them.

On a recent trip to Bali, Frank Schmidt (ESAIA e.V.) interviewed a typical fisherman to find out about his life and his work.

Fisherman Made Sudira (39), his wife Wayan and their two kids schoolboy Kadek Resa and the little girl of four years, Putu Krisna- were all born and still live in Serangan, Bali. The village is located on a small island, now peninsula, close to Sanur in the South of Bali. The former mangrove area and rather isolated place has rapidly developed over the past 12 years since BR Pontok Serangan was connected by a bridge to the main island of Bali. A marina was built and expatriates started to settle here, escaping the increasingly touristy areas along the south coast of Bali. Still local village life goes on as before.

Made's family is one of the poorest in the village, but at least has a roof over its head. A hut with two small rooms, beds, plywood cupboards, two fans, a small TV and a minimalist kitchenette. I see neither washing facilities nor a toilet.

I ask Made, "Why do you believe to be among the poorest in your village?"

"Because I don't own a Moped, or even a small boat."

"What is your daily average income?"

"15.000 Rupiah (1.20 Euros), when I go out fishing."

"What does 'go out fishing' mean?"

"I wade and swim the 1 km out to the reef, around the platform over there, and collect fish for a middleman in my village. If I had a moped, I could bring the fish directly to Jimbaran, where I would earn more."

"Why Jimbaran?"

"In Jimbaran is the export facility. The exporter is a wealthy man, even richer than the middleman in my village."

I visit the middleman after my conversation with Made. He buys fish, invertebrates and live rock from the local fishermen and forwards them to the exporter in Jimbaran exclusively.



Fishermen with a moped get a better price for their fish than collectors without any transport (collectors like Made just catch anything what they come across for 15.000 Rupiah a day) as they have the opportunity to bring their catch directly to the exporter in Jimberan where they earn more, especially for rare or ordered fish. For some species they can earn 15.000 Rupiah per fish.



The middleman's facility is made of three concrete tanks with approx. 600 litres of saltwater in the garage of the house. The water is circulated by pumps and aerators, but that is all there is in the way of equipment. Fish are kept here up to a week until supply is sufficient to invest in the fuel to transport the organisms to the exporter.

For the rather short transport of thirty minutes the fish are gun packed in plastic bags with seawater and oxygen.



A collector shuffles in, with two plastic buckets full of fish (small boxfish and cowfish, damsels and clownfish, sea stars and urchins). He just arrived with his boat, coming from the opposite side of the island, where it has coral and seaweed farms. I ask him if he is alone. No, other collectors have just arrived and are still unloading their boats.

Five small bangkas, the traditional outrigger boats, loaded with live rock and a potpourri of marine organisms.





The fish are separated with bare hands into the buckets and carried across the street to the middleman. Dead or injured fish are thrown overboard. Life is hard.

"Made, you alone sustain the livelihood of your family. What happens when you fall sick?"

"I need to approach my relatives for money then".

"Do you have any other income source?"

"No. There is nothing else to make a living from."

I know of fishermen in Banggai, small islands East of central Sulawesi, who used to earn 380 Rupiah per Banggai Cardinalfish. Now, since they formed a cooperative and follow their own code of conduct, which forbids cyanide use, they receive 450 Rupiah per fish. The local government set quota to manage the fishery.

"You supply exclusively the middleman in your village. Does he provide any equipment, like goggles, fins or transport bags?"

"No! That's my responsibility. Would you like to see my gear?"

He presents age-old goggles, thought for kids and a shabby snorkel. Even dodgier are his fins - self-made of old tyre tubing. I would probably be worse off with than diving without them...



He shows me what the collectors in the Philippines call a 'fast ferry' his floating transport devise. An air-filled tube with a spaghetti strainer in its middle.



It serves as float for Made when swimming out to the reef, where he ties it to his foot to dive the 4-6m when collecting fish. Any fish caught is transferred to the spaghetti strainer on the surface. Made is seesawing between the waves like a cork until the strainer is filled with fish and he swims back to shore.

"What gear do you use?"

"A scoop net. It is difficult to reach fish as they hide between the corals and rocks. Then I use a long hook to fish them."

"Have you ever used potassium (cyanide)?" Made wants to know why I'm asking. I explain to him that it is a well-known secret of the trade in Indonesia or the Philippines. "Law prohibits Cyanide use. If one gets caught by a patrol a pack of trouble is waiting." "Have you ever been caught?"

But it's not that easy to dupe Made. He only knows of the consequences from others, although he claims not to know anybody who has ever been stopped by a patrol. I can feel it is not the whole story, but digging deeper seems pointless. I ask if Made is using a compressor or if he ever went deeper than 6 meters.

"No, I wouldn't dive deeper. On rare occasions I dive beyond the reef crest, because the more valuable species tend to be there, but it is dangerous to swim there. When I surface and blood is running out of my ears, I know I went too deep. All my friends are familiar with this phenomenon. But it can be worse, especially when using a compressor and getting numb from the emissions of the engine you take in over the tubing. Every year collectors die or get paralysed from decompression sickness. Some were my friends."

I try to explain about dive safety and decompression. Made just gives a shrug. "I know that diving is risky, but it is the only livelihood for me. I have to sustain my family, pay for school, food and the doctor."



Living costs in Bali are rising. Massive developments, in infrastructure and communications have taken place. The by-pass Jalan Ngurah Rai, kind of a motorway connecting Kuta with Sanur, is better than many of Germany's autobahns. Trendy shops and restaurants with European cuisine spring up like mushrooms. That all comes with a price. A beer is more expensive than in my hometown now.

I remember that the first mall just opened when I came to Bali for the first time in 2002. No idea how many of them are there now... One sees Porsches and other shiny cars in the parking lots. I ask Made how much a kilogram of rice is now.

"Ah, the price goes up every year. Not long ago I paid Rph 5000, now it's Rph 7000 already".

"And how much do you pay for school?"

"Around 1 Million Rupiah. Probably I cannot afford to pay for my daughter too. But my wife didn't go to school either."

"Is there a doctor in Serangan and how much is a consultation?"

"Yes, there is. He charges 15.000 Rupiah."



I spot his little daughter lying on the bed. It is hot like in a sauna why does the fan not work? Power cut. The little girl sleeps like a log, but breathes heavily. Later, upon saying goodbye, she sits on her mother's lap and coughs terribly. I ask if they went to the doctor.

Wayan says "No, we needed to save the money for the cough syrup. I think she's getting better now. She had high fever some days ago. Should be OK now."

Words fail me. How could it be worse than now?

Neither Made nor Wayan expect any sympathy. They are happy to have an expatriate visitor. It will get around and maybe improve their social rank in the village.

"How much does Putu weigh?"

Wayan, "I'm not sure ...". She tells a figure - half of what my own daughter of similar age weighs. I can't believe what I'm hearing. I feel suddenly totally dried out and ask Made for some water (regardless of Bali-belly, I'll take what he offers).



Finally I raise a question, which many might find naïve or inappropriate. I ask nevertheless.

"Made, are you happy?" He doesn't understand and asks what I mean. I explain that I want to know if he is content with his life in general, although there is always something bothering... Made laughs.

"Nobody ever asked me that and frankly, I've never thought about it. Maybe that means I'm happy. If I would be unhappy, I would probably waste my time with drinking and thinking. Well, I guess, I'm happy. You know why? Because I have a family and friends like you!"

I'm moved and would like to show my appreciation of his kindness. Nothing else is expected. Easiest would be to put some money on the table, but I like trying a different way...

I say: Probably you are wondering why I ask all these questions. You know, I'm not only interested in this little colourful fishes. We Europeans are just crazy about a piece of intact coral reef.

However, I want to learn more about those people, who collect these fishes for us and find out how they live. Thus I'm grateful for your willingness to listen to and answer my questions. Now I need something real, I can take with me to show my friends how you work and what gears you use. Would you give me your fins, hook and the fast ferry?

Made, "If you like, but then I cannot collect anymore."

"I'm happy to compensate you financially!" I reply.

Probably he will craft his fins again from old tyre tubing and use the money for other things. I don't mind. I hand over the agreed amount. Much too much, but I want to help...



While he wraps up the gear, I tell him how they catch Mandarinfish in Batasan. Made cannot believe they spear them with self-made harpoons and the fish survives in good shape. I explain that Dragonets have a very protective mucus layer, which helps them to heal wounds quickly.

It's all Greek to Made... he just asks himself where all the fishes he and his friends catch year after year, end up. Demand is constantly rising. Does everybody in Germany have an aquarium by now? Or do they eat them in the end?

# ASK US



**Java Fern**  
*Microsorium pteropus*



**Java Moss**  
*Vesicularia dubyana*

**Q:** I hope you can help me out – I don't know my Java Fern from my Java Moss! I have been told that one (or is it the other?) is an excellent spawning medium but I always forget which is which.

**A:** You can be right on both counts, as the densely-growing, fine-leaved Java Moss, *Vesicularia dubyana*, is a great 'egg-trap' for egg-scattering fishes as it effectively hides the eggs from the adults once they are laid.

On the other hand, the broad leaves of Java Fern, *Microsorium pteropus*, can provide an excellent spawning site for Angelfish.

Both plants, which benefit from strong light, may be regarded as 'rootless' – Java Moss forms a floating mass in the water but like Java Fern can be anchored to an underwater object such as a rock or wood with nylon threads to encourage it to stay put. Java Fern will eventually anchor itself to any such object after a period of time but its 'roots' do not function as nutrient gatherers.





## Living with Fighters (*Betta splendens*)

It was when I was a teenager I fell in love with Fighters, in fact I had a specially-built aquaria for housing 10 males. It came with cut-outs in the top framework so the vertical dividing glasses would keep the males apart. Iron, or stainless steel tanks being all that were available in those days, long before all-glass tanks that we have today.

For those that don't know, Siamese Fighting Fish males left together will fight each other, often one killing the other; however females can be kept in one tank and, while they may have tiffs, in the main will get on alright together.

In times gone by, local men in these Far Eastern countries owned wild male Fighters (these being short-finned) and would set up fights between each other's fishes and would gamble on the outcome, similar as using Fighting Cocks in this country, also many years ago.



Long-finned varieties have been sold in our shops for as long as I can remember. If one studies the FBAS Booklet No 1 – Cultivated Fish, clear illustrations, in the form of line drawings and colour types tell us what standards were expected on the Show bench, namely, long-finned males and short-finned females, thus making these fish easy to sex.

In colour, these fish had to comply with the Show standards and had to be all one colour, whether it be blue, green or red, often in various shades.



However there was one exception to those as described in the Show Guide, a Fighter with a pink-coloured body and blood red fins, called a "Cambodia".

A Fighter of this description was on sale at a fish shop in Ealing Broadway at the time and it looked fantastic to me.

For some time I have been looking at all the Fighters sold in the shops hoping I may see one again, but none have been available. So, when a fellow enthusiast in my Fish Club started importing fish I asked about such fighters. Cambodia fighters were on his list of imports, great!

Only one problem I had to buy a whole box full of them, but they were 50% males and 50% females, about 180 fish in all.



On the day they were being delivered I tried to find every container I could find, Show tanks, mugs and glasses of all shapes and sizes. I was told to expect these fish just wrapped in wet newspaper, what a thought!



So I was pleased to see they came in small sealed plastic bags even though they were only about 2" square, with water.

Although all the fish looked great, I feel these fish came from Cambodia rather than be the colour type I had been looking for.

I soon got over this disappointment of not having the true Cambodia colour type as these fish were many colours, well within the new FBAS Show Standard guide for colour, being "pleasing to the eye". There were all pure whites with matching females, fantastic blues, a couple nearly all-black and many more all with females. The females are spread about in community aquariums within the fish house and I purchased plastic pint size pots, normally used for beer.

I change the water every other day and it takes about one and half hours to complete. I feed them (on the day I do not change their water) with frozen Bloodworm carefully cut into small pieces with a sharp knife.



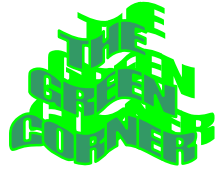
My tank tops are full with these fish so if you would like to contact me, the Editor, e-mail:

[malcolmgoss@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:malcolmgoss@tiscali.co.uk)

So when you have that glass (plastic) beer at the next Assembly, check it has not got a Fighter in it. Maybe what you thought was a good head on top of the beer may, in fact, be a "bubble nest!"

**Malcolm Goss**

The area for  
aquatic plant-lovers



**ECHINODORUS:  
THE AMAZON SWORD PLANT**

**BY BILL RUNDLE,**

**PLYMOUTH FISHKEEPERS  
SOCIETY**

**PART 3**

In this my last part of growing Echinodorus I would like to conclude this series of articles with some descriptions of species I have grown and had success with over the years.

***Echinodorus amazonicus*** (Rataj)  
synonym: *E. brevipedicellatus*.



**Echinodorus barthii**

This is the plant that we have known as "The Amazon Sword Plant" for so long - a perfect aquarium plant with long slender beautiful green leaves on short stems.

Although the foliage reaches to the water surface, it tends to adjust to the depth of water and remains in proportion to *the* size of the tank.



It requires good light and will then propagate freely from aerial shoots that really are the flower spikes. I find that this species grows well provided that the gravel is *clean* and the water conditions are good. Unsightly brown spots may appear if the water is less than optimum.

These plants will not usually grow well on undergravel filters. If too many aerial shoots are produced the parent plant will be weakened.

This species is not so readily available today which is a pity.

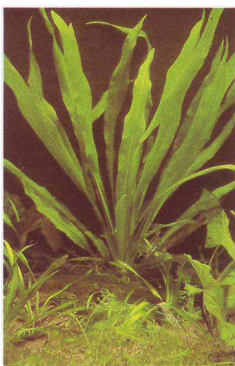
*Echinodorus bleheri*, a larger species has taken its place and is the plant usually offered for sale. *E. amazonicus* leaves may be up to 3cm wide and often curved. *E. bleheri* can be 7cm wide and are not curved at all.

Once planted, the species should not be disturbed. Best results are obtained if young plants are initially and left to grow on. Uplifting mature plants and replanting will cause the roots to die off with a resulting setback until new ones are grown. The plants will benefit from a weak feed of Phostrogen, about 1/4 of a teaspoon in a two gallon bucket when changing water.

### ***Echinodorus bleheri*** (Rataj)

Synonyms *E. paniculatus*, *E. rangeri*

A robust Amazon Sword Plant that is readily available and reasonable priced, but really only suited for larger aquaria.



A well-grown specimen will completely fill the average home aquarium to the exclusion of lesser plants that will not be able to compete for light and room. It is never a majestic sight with its profusion of green laminae.

These are very much to the liking of several species of fish that enjoy the cover and spawning platforms of this broad smooth foliage. Propagation and cultivation is as for *E. amazonicus*. There are larger *Echinodorus*, mostly not suited to the home aquarium. *E. bleheri* is perhaps the largest that is well suited.

A must for those who want a lot of plant for little outlay.

Of the smaller species of *Echinodorus*, three are usually available. They are collectively called either Dwarf Amazon Sword or Chain Sword Plants, this derives from runners sent out from the parent plant producing young sword plants at regular intervals in a long "chain". Eventually these may form a dense carpet over the floor of the aquarium.

***Echinodorus tenellus*** (Martius) Buchenou.



This is the smallest species of *Echinodorus*, and for a while was called *Sagittaria microfolia*.

Depending on lighting conditions the leaves may be lanceolate or linear with no stem. As it is native to Southern North America as well as South America, slightly cooler temperatures and longer lighting periods may suit it very well.

The species adapts well to aquarium conditions but will only flower when grown emersed. This is the ideal plant for the front of your furnished aquarium. A plant similar in appearance and usually sold in mini pots as Dwarf Sword Plant is in fact a *Lillaeopsis* species. Although nice it does not compare with *E. tenellus*.

***Echinodorus quadricostatus*** Fassett) Synonym: *E. intermedius*.



Although this species is sold as a Dwarf Sword it can grow to 20cm high in the aquarium.

The mid-green leaves taper for almost the whole of the blade length then roundly pointed tip. They may be 15mm at the widest part. propagation is by runners along the surface of sand, sending up plants at intervals.

However, if the runners are removed from the parent plant as soon as they appear, the strength will go back into the parent plant and will result in nice well-grown specimen. This species has been sold as *E. magdalensis* but is in fact a variety of *E. quadricostatus*.

Again this species grows emersed when it will produce flowers. The foliage is then shorter and sturdier.

***Echinodorus latifolius*** (Seubert) Rataj.



This dwarf Amazon Sword Plant has lighter green foliage than the two previous species. The leaves are about 20cm long when well grown and 5110 mm wide. They are more easily damaged than others, being of a more delicate texture. The leaves are not so tapered towards as *E. quadricostatus*, but they do vary in form according to growth conditions, light and water depth etc. Propagation is as for other Chain Sword Plants.

***Echinodorus horizontalis*** (Rataj)

This is a truly handsome species with broad heart-shaped leaves that can be 15cm long and 8cm wide on 15cm stems, but are usually smaller.



Of all the *Echinodorus* with this shape leaves this is the most desirable. Most of the other species are either too long or too spindly with smaller leaves on long stems. The foliage is a pleasing mid-green with new leaves being tinted red-brown as they unfold. Water and lighting conditions are fairly critical for good results.

They are "short day" plants. Given the right environment they will propagate. The flower spike grows erect, growing out of the water surface when it will produce young plants.

This species will also flower and set seed in the aquarium. I have transferred the pollen from one flower to another using fine artist brush.

Two other species also available, *E. osiris* with a synonym *E. rubra* that is as the name suggest has reddish tinge to its foliage when growing well. A rarer plant that also has similar is *E. horemanni*, named after T. Horeman of Tachbrook Tropicals in London. This was an aquarist-friendly shop located for many years near Victoria Station, but now sadly has closed.

Growing these beautiful plants is both rewarding and interesting, and I would like to recommend the following reading.

*Echinodorus* in the American Tropics by Norman C. Fassett. Rhodora Volume 57

The Complete Guide to Water Plants by Helmut Muhlberg

Aquarium Plants by Dr. Karel Rataj and Thomas J. Horeman.

William L. Rundle.

Plymouth Fishkeepers Society (Edition: 124 & 125)

## ***NEVER MIND ABOUT TELLING SID, TELL KEITH!***

The Judges & Standards Committee's trial of reduced sizes in some has been running for some time now and Keith Cocker has been collating information from the Shows he has been attending.

But he can't get around to them all and is very much dependent on Show Secretaries keeping him informed about the effect the trial has had on their Show entries in these Classes.

Please drop Keith a line with your observations – either by email or post:

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Keith Cocker, 10 Croft Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP2 8EB



# KEVIN'S KAPERS OR MAN ON A MISSION

by Kevin King,  
Hounslow & D.A.S.

These days I'm usually 'on a mission' more than likely one that involves something to do with fish.

## ***(A Fish room is born spawned)***

For those of you who read my article in last month's Bulletin and sympathised, I decided to report a follow up and would like to add that during the construction of this epic monologue no fish or human was battered or starved of oxygen, simply because *she who must be obeyed* hasn't read it yet! I can't help it, Cod made me do it

For several years now I have been unsuccessfully trying to persuade Sylvia-Jane – my long-suffering spouse to relinquish the spare bedroom, having successfully infiltrated both the living and dining room strategically manoeuvring tanks into every conceivable orifice, using every implausible excuse under the sun, ie, our wayward son Morgan is begging me for a tank of his own – he now has 2: a four foot community complete with derelict car, submerged fighter jet, crocodile skull, and a WW2 Submarine and an eclectic mix of Catfish Danios and Cichlids. The other tank is a rather swish 3ft bow fronted tank (thanks to Peter Caira) containing another odd mix of Goldfish Rainbows and 3 Koi Angels which strangely works on compatibility.

Not to be outdone Sylvia has her own South American bio-topical construction consisting of tiered slate dry-stone walls (which act as planters) black sand, and a mixture of Platies, Endlers, Lemon Tetras, *Corydoras*, Snowball Plecs and, more recently, four rather nice Red Lizard Whiptail Catfish The rack on which it stood did look rather bare so I managed to squeeze in a couple of two footers for good measure – (Sylvia did notice!).

Then the two other racked tanks: The 3ft Flowerpot Tank (thanks to another Hounslow member, Kedar) and the 30" Endler tank below.

After some jiggery pokery, the TV became sandwiched between an armchair and sofa – a better option would have been a wall mounted flat screen TV but at present our finances have the last word, so all things considered the downstairs has been maxed out with 8 tanks including the 6ft beastie housing the tank-busters: Bala Sharks, *Anostomus*, *Leporinus*, Silver Dollars and a healthy shoal of 9 Denisonii Barbs – plus, of course, the Platies which continue to multiply regardless!

The upstairs spare room housed a rather bulky futon Sofa Bed which, when extended, took up almost the whole of the box room. In fact, one couldn't swing a Catfish round !!

I devised a cunning plan to re-arrange Morgan's bedroom (no mean feat) and persuaded him to have an extra bed for sleepovers to which he replied "Sick!" which I believe is the new colloquialism for "Great idea, Dad!" That was until it meant rearranging his entire room.

The knock-on effect meant a complete de-cluttering of the spare room. As part of the clearing process, I came upon some really thick 4ft lengths of heavy-duty plywood shelving that I rescued from our bin area. As we live right next to a tip - and quite often in it – I often get first pickings of anything car bootable – the Wombles had nothing on me! After some quick calculations I discovered that there is enough of this to span the length of the fish room - oops, sorry readers, I meant spare room! Enough to give another shelf on top and Hey Presto, a fish room is spawned!

Through the very lucrative 'Freecycle' website I managed to obtain a quantity of breezeblocks for support - I think they would be a touch too heavy for Sylvia-Jane to use as ammunition later!

We collected a lovely 4ft tank and mahogany style cabinet from a dear little old lady in Fulwell this was complete with lid, working light and an external Eheim Filter (minus the taps and tubing, but in good working order). The tank originally housed a 15 inch Black Shark. Another part of the bargain was that I take away a rather gaudy yellow Ikea Display Cabinet which now lives upstairs and houses my fish keeping paraphernalia such as buckets foods and medicines - very posh with its glass shelves.

As I type, I have accumulated 4 tanks for the project ranging from 30" to 4ft. To keep you bang up to date, yesterday saw me struggling single-handed despite suffering from a throat infection and cold - don't try this at home!- to haul a 4ft tank including gravel and dregs of water - and a water butt from a local skip after a rather good tip off from my good old parents whilst walking their dog.

I did knock and ask first, as one should always do in this situation for legal reasons, the chap answered just said "Just take it away mate!" so I did. Surprisingly it wasn't cracked, the light worked and after a clean up - it was quite calcified - a great tip is to use neat vinegar and a sponge (and resist the urge to nip off to the local Chippy!)

There was also a junction box for connecting all the accessories and a pond junction box still boxed for outdoor use.

Sylvia-Jane and Morgan went back in daylight and recovered the water butt lid and stand and some choice pebbles and shells.

On the whole I have had quite a fintastical couple of weeks!

## DON'T DELAY FOR SAND BAY

In order to safeguard your accommodation at this year's **Festival of Fishkeeping**, it is vital that you book now by completing the **BOOKING FORM** and sending it together with you deposit to Grace Nethersell as soon as possible. As the FBAS is sharing the Holiday Village with another party, any shortfall in accommodation may be taken from them the other's allocation.

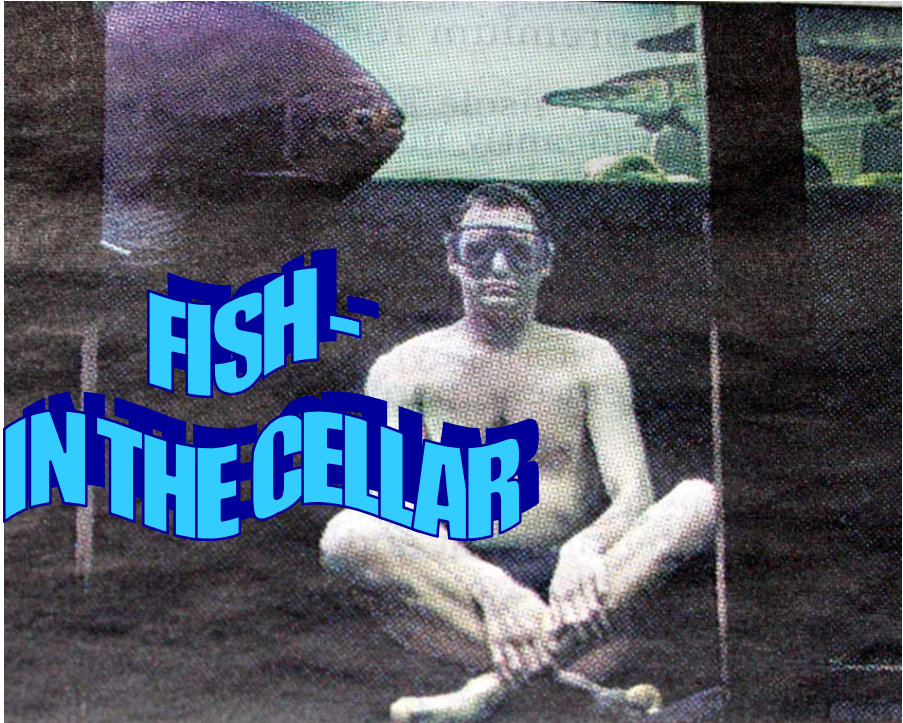
The Booking Form can be found on the FBAS website

[www.fbas.co.uk](http://www.fbas.co.uk)

## ANOTHER NEW FBAS VIDEO

**V.64 Danios & Devarios by Pete Cottle 68 minutes**

Details of how to hire or buy at [www.fbas.co.uk](http://www.fbas.co.uk)



During the time when I was serving garden ponds along with fish tank maintenance I came to look after an aquarium that was at the end of a swimming pool. The swimming pool was in an out building, away from the house, but was joined to the house by an underground passage (tunnel). When you had walked through this you would enter the games room complete with snooker table and bar, how the other half live!

The aquarium was large, very large in fact, taking up nearly the same space as the end of the swimming pool. So when swimming you could see straight into the tank and admire the fish.

When carrying out water changes you could not empty the water level any more than 100mm (4") because on the other side of the rear glass of this aquarium was the water in the swimming pool.

All that water pressure and the thought of the glass of the tank caving in was constantly on your mind.



For such a large tank it had a very small opening to get into the top, as I put my head into the top and leaned down to get scraping off the front and rear glass Gloria come with me to hold on to my legs and feet.

When I read the story of Jack Heathcote who converted the cellar of his five bedroom house into what was quoted as Britain's biggest domestic aquarium it reminded me somewhat of that swimming pool aquarium in a house at Moor Park.

Jack say "cleaning the tank means putting on swimming trunks, snorkel, a weighted belt, and then jumping into the water through a hole in the living room floor'.



Underneath the living room is the cellar and the aquarium takes up almost the entire area.

In this tank, being 7 feet deep and holding 4,800 gallons of water, are Fanged Alligator Gars, Chainsaw Doradids, and eight Stingrays.

The tank gets a clean every fortnight, but Jack goes on to say "My hobby's not only taken over my life, but taken over my home. But I love it, the tank, which cost £5,000 to build, has inner brick walls lined in polystyrene then plywood and finished with fibreglass. The water temperature is kept at 27°C (80°F) and costs a bit for the upkeep, and most people would not want my electricity bill, but I make some money selling some fish I breed."

His love life is not going swimming, however, having broken up with his girlfriend since moving into his house, he says. Any new romantic prospects? "She'd have to be a fish lover!" he said.

All inquires to the Bulletin and we will pass then on.

Ref: Daily Mail 24/03/11

# FISH MENUS - "HIS" & "HERS"



## "HIS" Community Aquaria (takes 24hrs or less - for all the Family)

### Ingredients:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Aquarium (size to suit space)     | Rocks or petrified wood                                   |
| 1 Aquaria stand or sturdy furniture | 1 Heater/Thermostat (to suit size of aquarium, 200w/300w) |
| Outside aquarium backing            | 1 Filter (internal)                                       |
| Aquarium gravel (up to 75mm deep)   | 2 tube light unit (with hood/cover)                       |
| 1 Thermometer                       |   |

**For finishing:** Aquatic Plants, Lead strips, Water Conditioner, Fish

Place aquarium on stand or furniture with good support.

Wash aquarium gravel under running water, till clean.

Cover base of aquarium with gravel, deeper to the rear of aquarium.

Place heater/thermostat plus internal filter (after washing filter medium), in aquarium but **do not connect to electric supply**.

After washing, place rocks or wood, maybe both, into tank, to give best natural appearance.

When filling tank, direct water on to a plate/saucer placed on gravel so not to disturb gravel.

Place the correct amount of chlorine-removing water conditioner into water.

Put lead strips around the base of plants to hold them down.

Plant up aquaria with largest plants to the rear and smaller plants placed in the foreground (remove old or dead leaves).

Place thermometer where it can be easily read.

**Now switch on electric supply** and wait for temperature to reach 24/25°C.

Re-adjust plant positions if necessary

Purchase up to six fish at a time and watch them settle in (swimming lively and good health). If all OK after 2 weeks, add more fish - once again six at a time - until you have finally made up your complete "Furnished Aquaria"



## **"HERS"**

### **Thai Baked Fish (takes 20 minutes - serves 4)**

#### **Ingredients:**

4 Trout Fillets

1 Lemongrass stalk,  
finely chopped

Small knob of fresh root ginger,  
peeled and finely chopped.

1 Red chilli, seeded and finely  
chopped.

1 Garlic clove, finely chopped.

1 tbsp Fish sauce.

1 tsp Golden caster sugar.

Handful of coriander, roughly  
chopped.

Preheat the oven to 200°C / gas 6 / fan oven 180°C.

Tear off two large sheets of foil and place 1 trout fillet, skin-side down, in the centre of each sheet.

Make a sauce by mixing together the remaining ingredients.

Spoon half of this mixture over the fillets, setting aside the remainder.

Sandwich the other 2 fish fillets on top, skin side up, then tightly seal the foil to create two packages.

Bake for 12 -15 minutes.

Bring the packages to the table to open and serve with the rest of the sauce.

Ref: Good Food Magazine (*BBC BOOKS*)

# KNOW YOUR FISH



## *Oryzias woworae*

**Scientific name:** *Oryzias woworae*

**Common Name:** Daisy's Ricefish

**Origin:** Sulawesi, Indonesia

**Size:** 28mm

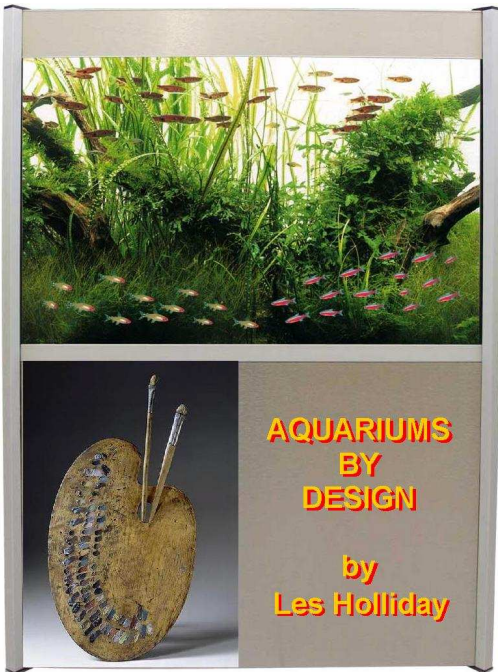
Described in 2010 from a freshwater habitat on Muna Island off the southeastern coast of the main island of Sulawesi, Indonesia.

The male's Its brilliant red and blue color pattern has already attracted attention from conservation biologists and aquarists. The female is not the same colour and has a more obvious reticulated pattern due to the dark-edged scales and there is a dark blue/black line midway along the flanks level with the dorsal fin and extending into the caudal fin.

Reaching a maximum size of 28 mm (just over one inch), it is the smallest known Ricefish from Sulawesi, a large, geologically complex island in the Indo-Australian Archipelago.

Its common name in English is "Daisy's Ricefish" in honor of the collector of the new species and the person for whom it is named, Dr. Daisy Wowor, an Indonesian crustacean biologist.

The main feature of Ricefish is the habit of females swimming around after spawning with a collection of eggs dangling, like a bunch of grapes, from the vent until they are brushed off into the aquatic plants to subsequently hatch.



Aquarium designers have made some impressive leaps forward in recent years in order to provide the hobbyist with a whole range of choice in stylish aquariums that can create stunning living features in today's modern interiors.

There is no doubt though that Rolf C Hagen, with their Fluval range of designer aquariums, is the leading force in this exciting new trend with designs to enhance almost any room in the home or workplace, from the diminutive but highly stylish Fluval Edge with a capacity of only 23ltrs/5galls up to the magnificent 323ltr/71gall Fluval Profile able to provide the experienced enthusiast with the opportunity to create a truly spectacular display.

The leading Fluval design in aquariums of more conventional size is the Fluval Roma, which is perhaps the most popular aquarium set in the whole Fluval designer aquarium range. Devised on clean, simple lines to fit into modern home décor, the Roma comes in four sizes with 90ltrs/20gall, 125ltrs/27gall, 200ltrs/44gall and 240ltrs/53gall models. For a little extra design flair you might like to choose an aquarium from the Fluval Vicenza bow-fronted range, or the Fluval Venezia corner aquarium packs a large aquarium into a small space.



The latest edition to the Fluval designer aquarium range is the Fluval Studio, available in two sizes, the Studio 600 with a capacity of 125ltrs/27galls and the Studio 900 sized at 180ltrs/39.5galls.

These aquariums are really well built and bristle with great features, all finished to the usual high Fluval standards.



Whilst only becoming available in the UK quite recently, the very appealing Fluval Studio aquarium kits have, after nearly a year on sale in the USA and Canada, become a firm favourite on the other side of the pond. And what's not to like, when you examine the highly desirable, very comprehensive package which comes with each model.

Typically a kit is comprised of an all-glass tank with a brushed aluminium frame, the Studio 600 measuring 65L x 45W x 55D cm (25 x 18 x 22") and the Studio 900 94L x 45.5W x 55D cm (37 x 18 x 21.5"). The tanks are mounted on a glass black cabinet with 2 doors and aluminium handles.



The virtually silent integrated Fluval 205 filter in the Studio 600 model and Fluval 305 filter in the Studio 900 are housed in the cabinet and connected to the aquarium above through drilled holes in the base. This feature provides a very neat finish with short pipe runs and, as will be seen a little further on, can add to the versatility of these well thought out aquarium kits.

The lighting is provided by a Fluval Glo T5 high output, twin light unit and fitted with twin tubes, a 24w Power Glo T5 fluorescent tube and a 24w Life Glo T6 in the Studio 600 and 39w tubes of the same designation in the Studio 900. The Fluval T5HO lighting unit is a really superior quality build with highly polished reflectors and advance designed, electronic technology for optimal tube performance. Modelled on the existing, highly successful, T5HO linear lighting system, the Fluval Studio versions come in the aquarium kit's gloss black and brushed aluminium livery.

Both models in the Studio range are fully equipped as fresh water tropical aquariums, the Studio 600 aquarium fitted with an 150w heater, the Studio 900 with one rated 200w. These kits can also be used, of course, as cold-water aquariums and as a number of hobbyists have discovered, also make ideal marine tropical aquariums after a little modification.

Marine hobbyists both in the USA and Canada have been quick to recognise how versatile and easy the Fluval Studio models are when it comes to converting for marine use and marine hobbyists web sites over in the States were buzzing most of last year with enthusiasts discussing the best conversion methodology.

The most popular approach is to fit a sump in the cabinet below, easily accomplished as the cabinet is in one section with no shelf so requires no need for modifications. The holes pre-drilled through the base of the aquarium are ideally located to attach the pipe work needed to feed the sump and water return using a simple weir or stand -pipe in the tank.

A sump is easily acquired by commissioning a small aquarium tank for its use. The main use of the sump will generally be to house a protein skimmer and the pump returning water back up into the aquarium, but depending on choice, other items such as mechanical, nitrate and/or phosphate filters may be added or even an algal filter employing caulerpa and other algae. This range of alternatives may require silicone-gluing pieces of glass within the sump to form compartments.

High light levels are a necessary prerequisite for a marine system and the Studio aquarium kits are ideally suited for fitting additional lighting. The sliding glass canopy over the tank is easily removed allowing the tank to be used open-topped for easy mounting of the additional lighting or any other equipment. The compact dimensions of the Fluval standard Glo T5HO lighting, makes these units a good choice for multiple lighting and ideal to add additional lighting by supplementing the T5HO lighting supplied with the aquarium set. It should be possible to double the number of T5 tubes creating more than sufficient light intensity. The aforementioned modifications should transform each of the Studio kits into an ideal environment for corals (mostly soft kinds) and a small number of fish.

Aquarium kits, and especially those in the Fluval Studio range, are undeniably the best choice when acquiring an aquarium, as all of the components are compatible one with another and the equipment provided properly sized and therefore, most effective in use. It is also more economical than purchasing items separately and as a nice finishing touch a few additional essential items are often added, which in the Fluval Studio range includes a thermometer, Nutrafin Aqua Plus water conditioner, Nutrafin Cycle, Nutrafin Tropical Flake food and a Fluval Aquarium Care Guide.



## **SUCCESS AT LAST!** or **The Pres Knows Best!**

It was a slightly worried FBAS President that set off for the 2009 Festival of Fishkeeping. Always an 'Angel' man, you can understand his feelings when a pair of his Gold Angels decided to pair off and spawn in a tank put aside for that very purpose. Little did he know that this was to turn into a very long-running saga of failures to obtain some home-bred Angels.

Like any normal fishkeeper, wanting the parents to do their 'cichlid thing' in caring for their young, rather than raise the fry separately, the pair were left to it and followed the same routine *for the next 18 months* – laid and fertilised eggs every ten days or so, cared for the eggs until the young were about to free-swim and then everything disappeared. It got so predictable that, at one time, it even seemed the very act of reaching for the Brine Shrimp Hatcher triggered the demolition of the fry! This was all very frustrating, especially as leaving the eggs in with the parents had always worked before, with Silver and/or Marbled Angels kept previously.

Although the actions of the pair of adults provided a large amount of video footage – always handy for the next FBAS video! – any viable results were getting nowhere.

Never shy to seek advice, our President could be found deep in consultations at Open Shows with such experts as Phil Austen of Portsmouth, Strood's Ron Baldock, Bracknell's Terry Hewitt and Ilford's Ken Wrightson – all 'Angelmasters' in their own right. Advice varied on the methods used when hatching the eggs separately.

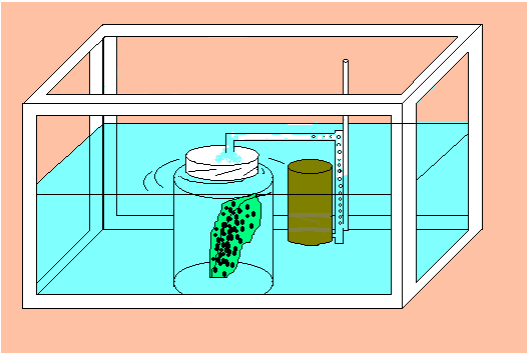
One school of thought followed tradition: put the egg-laden leaf/slate in a small tank and arrange a nearby airstone to simulate water currents over the eggs, much in the way of the natural parents' fin-fanning action. A small addition of methylene blue to tinge the water helped to reduce fungus spreading from unfertilised eggs.

Another approach was to separate the eggs into a small tank but **not have any appreciable water flow past the eggs at all**. A small foam corner filter was advocated with just a single air bubble emerging every minute or so to disturb the water surface. Again methylene blue could be used.

All schools agreed on the importance of keeping the water absolutely clean with regular partial water changes almost every day. Again, this replicates the parents' fastidious approach to cleanliness.

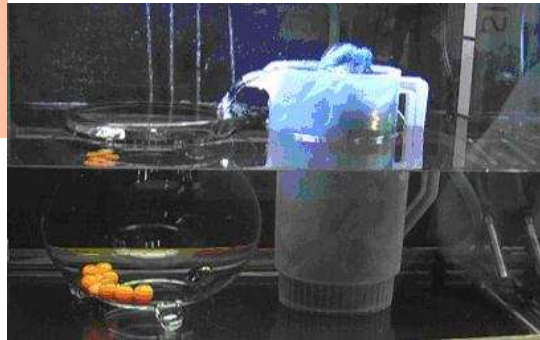
After that it was just simply getting the free-swimming fry off to a good start with the appropriate first foods. Usually the menu would include a progression from Liquifry (used sparingly), newly-hatched Brine Shrimp, Micro-Eels through to larger particle sized foods and Micro-Worms.

Years ago, although quite satisfied with his Angel-breeding prowess using the 'natural method' the President designed what he thought might be an optimum way of hatching Angelfish eggs.



Simply, a half-filled spare tank (heated of course) with a jar containing the eggs which is constantly filtered (to overflowing) by a simple air-driven sponge filter.

Years later here's the same system used in Singapore to artificially hatch *Arowana* eggs – the parents are natural mouthbrooders.





Moving on to 2011, it was time to change tactics – the production line of Angelfish eggs was still continuing unabated – the water temperature of 82°F (28°C) keeping the adult fishes' natural reproductive urges going.

A Mark 2 version of the hatching tank was created.



A simple airlift – tube with air-line inserted at bottom, empties water from main body of tank into an ice-cream box (doesn't have to be Cornish ice cream – the label wouldn't come off!) which then drains through the half-dozen holes drilled in the bottom back to the tank again.





The fertilised eggs were left with the parents until they had been cleared of any white unfertilised eggs, and the remainder were wriggling on a convenient Java Fern leaf. This was then transferred to the hatching tank.



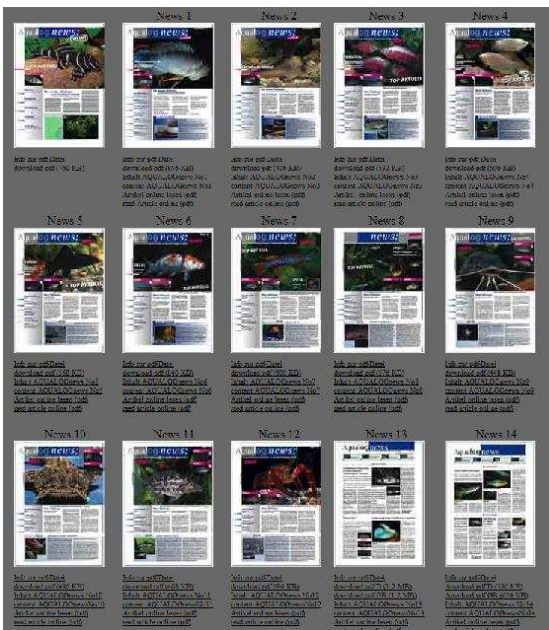
Now comes the truly wonderful part – how did the hatched fry know to swim through the half-a dozen small holes in the bottom of the ice cream box into the main tank? The waterflow from the airlift was a minimal dribble.



All that was left to do, apart from starting up sequential Brine Shrimp hatchings, was to upgrade the

furnishings of the tank – remove the box, install a small air-driven filter and add a bit of Java Moss and Java Fern for fry ‘security.’

Initial food given was Liquifry (Egglayers) and JBL’s Nobil Fluid Artemia.



**ALL THESE** \*

**CAN BE  
YOURS**

**\*  
and a whole lot  
more!**

Readers and collectors of the renowned 'Aqualog' publications can now update their libraries by downloading free News Supplements from the Aqualog website but, be warned, these downloads come with a serious risk to your available computer disk-space as there are no less than 96 of them!

At between 0.5MB and 4Mb, amassing the whole range of pdf files will not only take up disk space (re-saving them to a CD or DVD afterwards will free up your space again) and a little time to download but also there is also the problem of making time to read them all!

To obtain these updates, go to:



[http://aqualog.de/news/alle\\_news.htm](http://aqualog.de/news/alle_news.htm)

Thanks to J & Secretary, Chris Cheswright, for providing this information.



This year, we have again had a very harsh and severe winter. Unfortunately, many fish, who were in poor condition when they went into the winter, did not survive. In some cases, ponds were frozen for a prolonged period and without pond heaters to keep part of the surface free from ice, many Koi asphyxiated. Others, who have been weakened by the prolonged cold spell will emerge in the spring with depleted strength and not in the best of health. As a result, it is important that their environment is well looked after, they have excellent water quality and you start feeding again with wheatgerm/ multi-season feeds as soon as the temperature allows. Blood samples taken at this time of year often show the Koi to be anemic. The resumption of feeding will help them with any nutritional problems and to regain their former condition.

Some of the fish problems which are occurring at the present time is due to water toxicity. This often occurs when we have had a poor winter and a lot of debris can end up in the pond. A good clean-up and controlled water changes usually cures these problems.

Looking at your pond, the now is the time to:

## Pond & Environment

- Clean and vacuum the pond.
- Strip and clean pumps.
- Check all valves and pipework – now is the time to undertake those changes before the heavier feeding starts and the filtration system builds up efficiency.
- Re-direct / re-connect waterfalls which have been bypassed during the very cold winter spells.
- Clean and flush the filters – use pond water and clean alternative biological bays at weekly intervals.
- Reinstate any reduced air supplies.
- Replace the UV clarifier tube so its at peak performance when during the summer.
- Test the water – this is most important when the feeding protocol changes (ie resumed/ increased feeding rate or food type).
- Remember that it will take time for the biological filter to build-up again.



## Your Koi

Sit by the pond, have a cup of tea or coffee and just watch the Koi for a while – they will tell you if there is a problem.

- Look for any surface blemishes, marks or changes in behaviour.
- If there are any changes, bowl-up and carefully inspect the Koi – invert and look at the underside of the body and the gills.
- Do not treat the pond as a matter of course.
- If you think you may have a parasite problem, check with a microscope and mucous scrape first. If it's confirmed, select the best medication to treat the problem, bearing in mind water temperatures.



- If you find *Costia*, remember that this is a secondary parasite and is only found on 1 or 2 unwell Koi – look for the cause.
- Keep an eye on the water temperature and feed accordingly. If temperatures look like dropping again, slow the feeding rate.

If you need any advice or have any concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

**The Healthy Koi Team - 01243 572762**



**INTERESTED IN  
CICHLIDS?**

**Dear fishkeeper,**

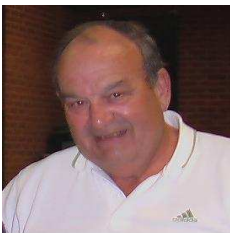
An initial meeting was held last month with the idea of setting up a Cichlid Group in the South of England.

The name of the group will be **Southern Counties Cichlid Group** and meetings are to be held quarterly.

If you know of any other person who would be interested in joining us, they will be most welcome.

**My telephone number is: 0208 224 5574  
and my wife has a mobile: 07771 647497**

Hoping to hear from you in the near future.



**Peter Quested  
32 Southfields,  
East Molesey,  
Surrey KT8 0BP**





## HERON DETERRENTS IDEAS

(received by email)

This is probably old news to you, so apologies if it is, but we have found a successful way of keeping a heron from feeding on our fish. Having lost another 5 smallish Koy (12 so far) to a heron we asked at our local fish farm where they suggested the usual electric fencing, netting etc.

Each of these has its own problems. The electric fence would stop our dog and other animals drinking from the pond, netting looks ugly and wire strands don't really work.

After a bit of thought I went and bought a pane of glass about 90cm sq in our case. I propped this up on bricks about 30cm from the bottom of the pond and about the same from the surface. The fish happily gather underneath this as from that side it appears much less transparent, but we can still see and enjoy them. We also have the wire round the edge to stop the heron wading in. Touch wood we haven't lost a fish since. I hope this is useful to your members.

Regards Bob

Name's Dave Kershaw, just read your article on herons.

I have had no problem for the last 12 or so years. I have 3 floating islands (pond about 30' x 12') and an electric fence. The fence is about 15" high (bought from Electric Shepherd) and I have a top wire inset about 3" inside the top on the pond side which means the Heron's neck makes contact with the wire before its head hits the water – simples!

Trust helpful?

Best regards, Dave Kershaw



## LONDON PET SHOW 7th-8<sup>th</sup> May 2011

It was great news to learn of a major Pet Show coming to London but even more so when an invitation arrived to participate.

Thanks to support from Rolf C Hagen, the display Stand was originally designed to accommodate two major Hagen strengths - Aquatics and Reptiles - but, like all 'well-laid plans of mice and men,' things turned out slightly differently on the day.



Due to another display Stand's cancellation, it was decided to stage the Reptile Zone, under the supervision of Chris Newman, on another site thus leaving the Aquatics Zone to fill the whole of the original space! Add to this development, the fact that there was only eight hours to set-up and you can imagine the team from Hounslow A.S. under FBAS Chairman Joe Nethersell's direction had their work cut out.

The result was a staggering success with Aquatics being represented in a very simple but elegant form.

A diversity of Hagen aquariums were on show ranging from the tiny 'Spec' to the grandiose 'Profile' with all sizes in between.



A separate area displayed a strong conservation theme illustrating the diversity in fishes' spawning behaviours with no less than five different methods on show.

There should have been six but a sudden tank burst (after two hours of being set up) put paid to that.



A final area featured a table-top display of photographic highlights of Fish Club life that intrigued many visitors. Hopefully, Hounslow Society will benefit from an increase in new members. Also here was a continuously-rolling video playback of various Fishkeeping interests from keeping and exhibiting fish to highlights from past Festivals of Fishkeeping.

This area was highly popular as it was one of the very few with seating facilities where visitors to the Show could take a breather!



First attracted by the two large furnished aquariums set up by Peter Anderson and Malcolm Goss, visitors were then further intrigued by the Hagen 'Nano' tanks.



The 'Flora' was set up with a CO2 dosing unit whilst the 'Chi', 'Edge' and Shrimp-inhabited 'Ebi' models were all masterpieces in miniaturisation.





All queries on these aquariums were expertly explained by Hagen's Colin Hill – when he wasn't dealing with a very excitable pack of Cub Scouts!



This 'bird's-eye' view of the Aquatics Zone shows how popular it was.



The kid-level tanks were a great magnet for youngsters



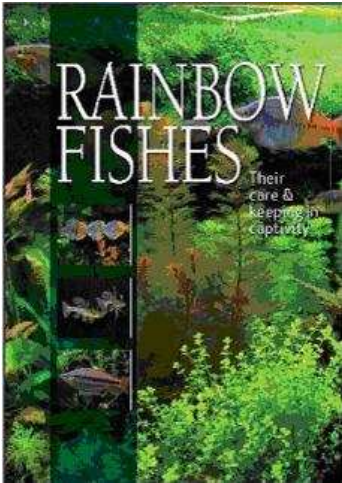


From the crowds of people around the Reptile Zone it looked as if Chris Newman and his team were having just as busy a time as the Aquatics Zone and everyone commented upon the sheer professionalism of all involved.

Thanks go to Rolf C Hagen for their support for the two 'Zones', to Colin Hill for fitting in so seamlessly with Hounslow members and the Federation of British Aquatic Societies' team.

**NOTE:** There's no need to regret missing this event, if you couldn't get there, as there will be another event on **19-20<sup>th</sup> November** at Olympia 2 called 'Aquatics Live.'

We are delighted that Rolf C Hagen will again be making it possible for the FBAS to be featured at this exclusively aquatics only event.



# **ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED!**

There might not be such a thing as a free lunch, but by keeping your eyes open you can often come across the most staggering offers.

Take this book on Rainbow Fishes. With its 493 page content, most comprehensive information on everything 'Rainbowfish' you'd probably consider buying it for your aquatic library but the exceptional good news is that computer-literate fishkeepers can get it for FREE!

Adrian R Tappin, the author, has made this staggering book into an e-book and despite its bulk (pdf file, approx 50Mb) it is easily downloaded. On-screen viewing is excellent with the fantastic photographs, both of natural locations and the fish themselves (by numerous photographers) coming over fine. Adrian has also said via the Rainbowfish.info website forum that he is preparing an even better quality version for downloadable printing, although the thought of printing – and finding a loose-leaf binder to accommodate all 493 pages is a bit daunting!

Of course, once you have the file, you can 'cherry-pick' the sections that interest you most although, once you've done that you'll probably find that you've printed near enough the whole book anyway!

A CD/DVD copy of the download would make a great addition to any aquatic Society's library. You can download the file from the following sources:

<http://mediafire.com/?ehmtjmkdww>

<http://www.practicalfishkeeping.co.uk/content.php?sid=3790>

# Festival of Fishkeeping

October 28 - 30, 2011 at Sand Bay Leisure Resort, Weston Super Mare, BS22 9UR

JOINTLY  
SPONSORED BY



Aquajardin



## This year's events:

- Festival Aquarist Society 'Masters' Open Show (on Sunday) - sponsored by Hagen
- The Tetra Southern Koi Festival sponsored by Tetra
- Goldfish Society of Great Britain Fish Show on Saturday & Sunday Sponsored by Festival AS
- British Open Final (Saturday - sponsored by Tetra)
- The FBAS 'Supreme Championship' Final for Pairs and Breeders (Saturday) and Single Fishes (Sunday) - sponsored by Tetra
- Catfish display Saturday
- 'Shichu Kai' - UK Ranchu Specialist Goldfish
- UK Discus Show sponsored by Tetra
- Society and individual Furnished Aquaria (residents only, Saturday and Sunday) (sponsored by Tetra)
- Hagen-Exo Tetra reptiles
- Speakers from the aquatic and water gardening worlds.
- Furnished aquariums, ponds and water garden displays, reptiles, trade displays.

A host of exciting attractions for both residents and day visitors, including:

- Freshwater tropicals
- Discus
- Marine fish
- Koi and goldfish
- Native freshwater fishes
- Filtration and lighting
- Water gardening
- Reptiles

## Prices

### Half-board

Two-night weekend £110

Three-night weekend £130

Lunch available both days  
Cabaret entertainment, fancy dress competition and dancing on all three nights.

Hotline bookings: Contact Grace Nethersell, 8 Acacia Avenue, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 8NR. Tel. 0208 847 3586.

### Day visitors

Day visitors welcome on Saturday, October 29, and Sunday, October 30, 10am-5pm.

## Day Visitors GET IN FREE!

With Compliments



Supporting the hobby of fishkeeping

# Booking Form

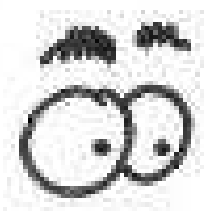
Festival of Fishkeeping & Water Gardening Weekend  
28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Sand Bay Leisure Resort, Beach Road, Kewstoke, Weston-Super-Mare, North Somerset BS22 9UR

Number of people between the following ages. (Age at date of weekend)																																																
Under 2	2-4	5-9	10-15	16-17	18-25	26-44	45-59	60+	Total Persons	Total Rooms/Chalets	Please Tick if Disabled	Please tick if Wheelchair Ramp is needed																																				
Name of Society if any		I / We would prefer bed type		Single	Twin	Double	Accommodation		Please Circle																																							
		Noted but not Guaranteed					If accommodation type is fully booked, (NB accept the nearest alternative)		Yes	No	Bath/Shower																																					
Mr Mrs Miss	First Name of Person Responsible		Surname			Address Mobile Telephone Number		Child/Children sharing your room. Some two room Chalets available		Chalet / Room Type																																						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Tariff</th> <th colspan="3">Please indicate the number of nights --</th> <th>Three Nights</th> <th>Two Nights</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adults 16+</td> <td>Children 10 - 15 Years</td> <td>Children 5-9 Years</td> <td>Children 2-4 Years</td> <td>Infants Under 2 Years</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Two Night Weekend</td> <td>Two Night Weekend</td> <td>Two Night Weekend</td> <td>Two Night Weekend</td> <td>Two Night Weekend</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>£110.00 pp</td> <td>£60.00 pp</td> <td>£40.00 pp</td> <td>£20.00 pp</td> <td>Free</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Three Night Weekend</td> <td>Three Night Weekend</td> <td>Three Night Weekend</td> <td>Three Night Weekend</td> <td>Three Night Weekend</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>£130.00 pp</td> <td>£80.00 pp</td> <td>£50.00 pp</td> <td>£25.00 pp</td> <td>Free</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Tariff	Please indicate the number of nights --			Three Nights	Two Nights	Adults 16+	Children 10 - 15 Years	Children 5-9 Years	Children 2-4 Years	Infants Under 2 Years		Two Night Weekend	Two Night Weekend	Two Night Weekend	Two Night Weekend	Two Night Weekend		£110.00 pp	£60.00 pp	£40.00 pp	£20.00 pp	Free		Three Night Weekend	Three Night Weekend	Three Night Weekend	Three Night Weekend	Three Night Weekend		£130.00 pp	£80.00 pp	£50.00 pp	£25.00 pp	Free	
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<b>Deposit &amp; Insurance Premiums</b> I ENCLOSE THE REQUIRED DEPOSIT £.....IN TOTAL AT £20 PER PERSON BALANCE IN FULL TO BE PAID BY <u>1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011</u> PLEASE MAKE ALL CHEQUES PAYABLE TO <b>FBAS</b> THANK YOU INSURANCE TO COVER SICKNESS ONLY WITH A DOCTORS CERTIFICATE PREMIUM £..... IN TOTAL AT £4.50 PER PERSON FOR ALL PERSONS OVER 16 YEARS OLD. <b>INSURANCE PREMIUMS MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF BOOKING</b> REQUIRED / NOT REQUIRED SIGNATURE:.....Date:.....																																																
<b>DECLARATION</b> I HAVE READ THE CONDITIONS SET OUT ON THIS FORM AND AGREE ON BEHALF OF ALL PERSONS NAMED ABOVE TO ABIDE BY THESE CONDITIONS. I ACCEPT THE CHARGES FOR THE ACCOMMODATION AND AGREE TO PAY THE BALANCE BY THE 1 <sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 SIGNATURE:.....																																																

Please return the completed form **with your deposit or full amount** whichever is applicable to: Grace Nethersell, 8 Acacia Avenue, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 8NR.  
Tel: 020 8847 3586.

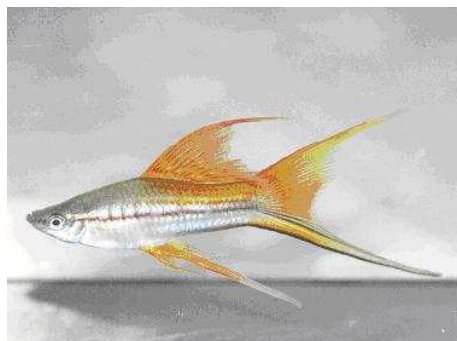




# Pleasing to the Eye?

It has been announced recently by the J & S that efforts are to be made to define the expression 'Pleasing to the eye' in an attempt to provide guidance to, or standardise, this most problematical aspect of judging especially where man-made, aquarium-developed new colour strains are involved.

The following pictures may give some idea of the difficulty of this – how many divided views can be accommodated?







## KEEP ON TOP OF YOUR FISHKEEPING

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**The Bulletin offers some tips you might care to follow in the following weeks**

### PONDS

1. Remove as much floating weed as possible by using a net, before it completely covers the surface of your pond.
2. As marginal plants start to grow quickly, make sure they are held firmly in place against strong winds.
3. Cut off any excessive water lily leaves as sunlight needs to get to the crown of your plants, to help them flower and then "dead-head" old flowers if you can reach them.
4. Purchase water treatment to eliminate green water & algae growth.
5. Change UV bulb (once a year), clean unit and change sealing rings.
6. Now is best to add any new fish you require while the weather is warm. As winter sets in they will get accustomed to cold weather.

### FISH HOUSE

1. Check out Open Show dates (Check last pages of this Bulletin). With fuel getting so expensive make sure the Shows you choose are within your budget.
2. Check Show Classes that you have fish for, and rotate fish entries, so you don't take out the same fish every week. Showing fish is more stressful for the fish than it is for you!
3. Showing plants needs as much care as fish, so get the correct sized tank and make sure the pot you're using for a rooted exhibit is clean.
4. Stock up on frozen foods and add more types of dry food to your collection so that your fish get a good variety.

## Community Aquaria

1. Remove any floating plants that have grown across the water surface.
2. Change 1/5 (20%) of aquaria water.
2. With having only one aquarium, when purchasing new fish check that they have been in stock some time so eliminating compatibility troubles with other fish. Watch how the fish in the shop act, to avoid adding a bully to your community of fish.

**Why not let the Bulletin know how your fishkeeping is going?  
Have you any ideas or tips to share with your fellow fishkeepers?  
Write or e-mail me, the Editor (address on the Editorial page)**

**MALCOLM**

## SHOW & EVENTS DIARY 2011

(full details can be found on FBAS website [www.fbas.co.uk](http://www.fbas.co.uk) )

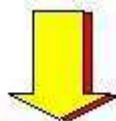
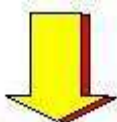
BKKS East Pennines Koi Show	4-5/6/11
<b>FBAS ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>4/6/11</b>
Crouch Valley Koi Show	11-12/6/11
Derwentside A.S. Auction	12/6/11
Bracknell A.S.Open Show	12/6/11
Sheaf Valley A.S. Auction	13/6/11
A.M.G.K (Goldfish) Open Show & Auction	25/6/11
PRESTON and District A.S. Show & Auction	26/6/11
USA Open Show and Auction	26/6/11
FBAS Middlesex Show	3/7/11
East Anglia Cichlid Group - Willem Heijns	3/7/11
West Lothian AS Auction	3/7/11
Y.A.A.S Open Show	3/7/11
GSGB General Meeting	9/7/11
Castleford Catfish/Loach Show & Auction	10/7/11
Cambridge Koi Club Closed Show	16-17/7/11
Solway A.S Open Show & Auction	17/7/11
N.E. Goldfish Society Open Show & Auction	17/7/11
SCCRS Open Show	17/7/11
Port Talbot A.S.Open Show	23/7/11
Gt Manchester Cichlid Group Auction	24/7/11
Club 2000 Open Show & Auction	24/7/11
Oasis A.S. Auction	24/7/11
A.S.A.S. Open Show	7/8/11
Friends of Yorkshire Open Show and Auction	7/8/11
North East Koi Club Open Show	13-14/8/11
3 Counties Open Show	14/8/11
Perth AS Open Show and Auction	14/8/11
Castleford A.S.Auction	17/8/11
Bristol A.S. (Goldfish) Open Show & Auction	20/8/11
South East Koi Club	28-29/8/11
Derwentside A.S. Open Show Auction	28/8/11
<b>FBAS ASSEMBLY</b>	<b>3/9/11</b>
British Aquarists Festival	4/9/11
BKA Convention	9-11/9/11
Northern Goldfish & P.S. Open Show & Auction	10/9/11
Midland Koi Association Open Show	11-12/9/11
Ryedale A.S. Open Show	11/9/11

Sheaf Valley A.S Auction	12.9.11
Hounslow & D.A.S. Open Show	17/9/11
Catfish Study Group Open Show & Auction	18/9/11
GSGB Open Show & Auction	24/9/11
Basingstoke & D.A.S. Open Show	25/9/11
Fair City AS Open Show and Auction	25/9/11
Gt Manchester Cichlid Group Auction	2/10/11
TTAA Open Show, Three Rivers Championship & Auction	2/10/11
East Anglia Group Talk	9/10/11
Preston & D.A.S Auction	9/10/11
Scottish Aquarists Festival	9/10/11
S.T.A.M.P.S. Auction	12/10/11
B.L.A.Convention, Guppy League Finals	15-16/10/11
Sheaf Valley A.S. Open Show & Auction	16/10/11
BKA Auction, Weybridge	23/10/11
S.T.A.M.P.S. Auction	23/10/11
<b>FESTIVAL OF FISHKEEPING</b>	<b>28-30/10/11</b>
OASIS Auction	20/10/11
Castleford A.S Auction	16/11/11
GSGB General Meeting	19/11/11
OASIS Auction	20/11/11
A of A Superfins, SCCRS & Aof A Joint Auction	20/11/11
<b>FBAS AGM</b>	<b>3/12/11</b>
Catfish Study Group Christmas Party	12/12/11
Hounslow & D.A.S. Christmas Party	14/12/11

**WE'VE MADE SHOW SECRETARIES' JOBS  
A LOT EASIER!**

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