



Ilford & District Aquarist & Pondkeepers Society

December 2005

Christmas Meeting

Monday the 11th December

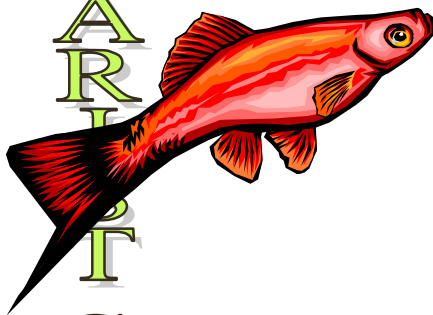
ILFORD
AQUARIST
SOCIETY
2005

Last Month

Roger had been trying to get **Gary Steptoe** to do another talk for a long time and last month's walk down memory lane certainly hit the spot with many of you. Gary reminded us of the old days when, so our memories tell us, fish were of much better quality than is generally available now. Thing is, who is to blame for that? We supposedly have better equipment and are able to control water quality more easily so why are the fish poorer. Simple really. We are not doing enough to breed quality fish. We all assumed that someone else would keep quality strains of the so-called bread and butter fish while we bred killis and discus - and they didn't. So we are stuck with farm produced miniatures.

This Month

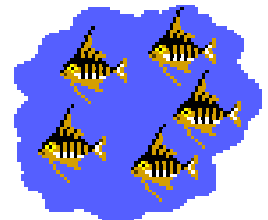
Peter Riley on Swordtails



Jim Humphries put together a video on Swordtails but he is not able to come to the December Meeting so sidekick from the former Thames Aquatic Society, Peter, is presenting it. The Swordtail is one of the so-called "bread and butter" fish seldom seen nowadays - at least not of the quality we once saw. It was a group Swords in a friend's tank that got me hooked on fish over 40 years ago. Then we only had the helleri in reds, red-eyed reds and the wild greens. There are in fact many more species and countless colour varieties but I'll let Peter tell you.

Fry Rearing

We have another batch of fry to raise this month, courtesy of Bill Baker who is bringing along some Black Phantoms. Please be aware that there is a limited number of bags so it is first come, first served. The usual entry fee of 50p per bag will apply.



While we are on the subject of fish breeding this is your last chance to update Ken Wrightson of any successes you have had this year before the book closes and is passed to Mike Brill to decide the best achievement for 2005.

Home Aquarium and Pond Competition dates 2006

In recent years we have had disappointingly few entries so the judges have been able to get round them all in one day. We would love you to make more work for us so if there are enough entries they will be split into two groups (each with a set of judges) and a second date will be arranged for the judges to visit the best from each group.

Entries to Cliff Tayler as soon as you like

Home Aquarium Competition
Pond Competition

Sunday 23rd April
Sunday 18th June

Rab	Newsletter & General enquiries	rab@ilfordaquarists.co.uk	
------------	--------------------------------	--	--

www.ilfordaquarists.co.uk



Ilford & District Aquarist & Pondkeepers Society

December 2005

I
L
F
O
R
D

A
Q
U
A
R
I
S
T
S
O
C
I
E
T
Y

2
0
0
5

Ilford Spreads the Word

Some of you will recall that Ilford once upon a time produced a magazine cheekily called "Playfish". In one of the early copies there was an article titled "Marriage and the Aquarist" by a long-suffering wife. A copy is available on our web site and has been printed in a few club magazines around the world. I was advised the other week that it has now been published in a glossy commercial magazine in Turkey. If you haven't read it then do. You will recognize yourself in much of it!

Social Calendar

Saturday 14th January 2006 – Club Dinner - Ye Olde King's Head Chigwell

As advised at the November meeting the dinner is now a three course meal, still at £20.00 per head. The menu has been extended to offer a further main course choice of Scampi and Chips but I may yet be able to get a meat dish either as an additional choice or replacing one of the others. You will be advised at the meeting.

Saturday 18th MARCH 2006 – Old Tyme Musical Hall Evening

The William Torbitt Primary School Ilford 7.30pm

Yes I did get the date wrong in the flyer last month but the eagle-eyed among you (you know who you are) will have spotted the date has now changed. **It is not a mistake!**

This has been brought about because one of the troupe's star players has unexpectedly gone travelling and won't be back in time for our original date.



MERRY XMAS

See you on Monday the 11th

By the way, Spain was



Rab



You should see the tree!

Rab	Newsletter & General enquiries	rab@ilfordaquarists.co.uk	
------------	--------------------------------	--	--

www.ilfordaquarists.co.uk