



Ilford & District Aquarist & Pondkeepers Society

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April Meeting – Monday 10th



Monday's meeting on DISCUS will be delivered by Dougal Stewart of the UK Discus Association.

May will still be on Koi as originally advertised but with replacement speakers – Roger will confirm later this month

Well March was both eventful and eventless!

We had **Brian** and **Sue** from **Coral Garden Aquatics** give their first ever talk to a club on setting up a marine tank. They were obviously a little nervous not knowing how much you all knew (with a few exceptions not a lot) but they did give us what we asked for though I'd liked to have seen a few more slides of finished tank set ups and fish. I'm still thinking of taking the plunge.

We had the fry rearing competition which was very successful in that 14 of the 18 members who took away fry brought them back to be judged. Congratulations to: Ken Wrightson, (who for once was able to enter because he didn't supply the fry), Len Baker, Gino Dallanegra and Cliff Talyer. Ken did give me his report on the Breeders Cup but I don't have room for it this month.



Eight of us had a trip round Wildwoods and a few other shops in Crew's Hill. Where were the rest of you? We saw some good stock and we all bought something though we did visit a couple of places not worth the shoe leather.

What we didn't have was an Old Tyme Music Hall Evening. The school apparently appointed a new lettings manager a few weeks after we booked the hall and he didn't get given the details so when we and the players arrived we found a dark and locked venue. Despite desperate efforts to contact the authorities we eventually had to cancel the evening and send everyone home. Fortunately we have been able to recover our expenses from the school as well as a donation for the players' charity.

We did intend to make a presentation at the Old Tyme to Don Taylor for his hard work over recent years in arranging our trips to Europe. As he is now only able to attend meetings infrequently we made the presentation, of an engraved pewter tankard, at the committee meeting last week and thanked him on your behalf. Thanks again, Don.



Despite the disappointment I hope you will all thank Ray and Roger who put a lot of effort into the organisation of the event which is to be rescheduled later in the year.

Roger will arrange the ticket refunds on Monday at the back of the hall, and I will be



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ILFORD
AQUARIST
SOCIETY
2006

waiting at the front because –

SUBS are due!

Single £12.50

Family £16.00

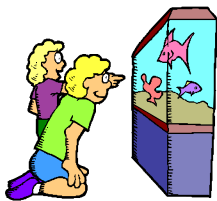
And before any one asks there are no discounts for Pensioners or anyone else. The subs are already very cheap and you are nearly all pensioners anyway!!! Did you know that Brownies pay £60.00 per year - and they don't even get a seat!

Mike Shadrack will be chairing the meeting, his last as Chairman as he has decided to stand down after I don't know how many years but it must be thirty or more – he was chairman when I joined in 1979. I am sure that others more eloquent than I will wax lyrical on Mike's contribution to the Society over the years with his seemingly endless enthusiasm and drive which, I am sure will continue to be given when he is on this side of the Atlantic, so all I will say is a very sincere... **"Thank you Mike"**.



To mark this sterling service the committee will be proposing that Mike be awarded an Honorary Vice-Presidency of the Society at the AGM in June. We will also be looking for a nomination for a new vice-chairperson to share Ken's burden and hopefully be groomed as the next chairperson.

The Home Aquarium Competition



It would seem that the competitive spirit of the fry rearing competition has finally filtered its way to the home aquarium competition because at the last count we had 13 entries. This is very welcome but they are so widespread geographically that it would be very difficult for the judges to get round them all before dark. We are therefore sending out two teams of judges on Sunday the 23rd April. Each team will select the best entries from their group and a third team will revisit top entries on the 30th of April to decide the result. **We could however use another volunteer judge for the first round on the 23rd. Please see Cliff Taylor on Monday if you would like to help.**

Can we have a similar effort for the pond competition?

If you want some more fish for your pond a Mr Gibbens in Woodford is clearing his pond and has ghost Koi, rudd and goldfish to give away. Be prepared to net them yourself. Call Len smith for a contact number. **(Members only)**

The Animal welfare Bill is still making its way through Parliament and it's not too late to let your MP know how it will have a devastating affect on our hobby. A second letter is now available on the FBAS website for you to send off. (Copy enclosed)

See you on Monday

Rab