



Ilford & District Aquarist & Pondkeepers Society

**Next
Meeting
9th October**

Some of you might get a monochrome newsletter this month. Unfortunately part way through printing leaflets for our stand at Hayling Island the printer decided that it no longer wanted to do colour. I'll be down at PC World or Staples shortly to get a replacement

Last MONTH

I missed the last meeting but was informed at the following committee meeting that Chris Cheswright, as expected, delivered an excellent talk on Rainbows. I was swanning about the Norfolk Broads so will have to catch his talk another time.

This month is our Annual Auction

This meeting differs from our normal in many respects so I urge members to read and observe the rules attached below. Mike Shadrack, our usual MC for this night is unable to attend this year so Ken Wrightson will be officiating..

In November we have Geoff Wade on "Diving"

Geoff is one of our Honorary Vice Presidents and as well as running a successful exotic fish importing business has been diving as a hobby for many years. Should be very interesting. Geoff will also present the cards for the 2007 Pond Competition.

Club Dinner – 12th January 2008

The dinner is all arranged – all we need now is some diners. The venue is the same as last year - in Stoneleigh Court (off Herent Drive, Ilford). The cost is £25 per head (includes a bottle of wine per couple).



**Cream of Tomato soup with roll & butter
Roast leg of Lamb with Yorkshire pudding, mint sauce & gravy
Roast potatoes, new potatoes
Garden peas, Cauliflower florets
Warm deepish Apple pie with cream
Selection of cheeses & biscuits
Tea, coffee & mints**

Names to Barry Brown in the club shop please. Numbers will be limited to the first 50 so get your orders in ASAP.

Quiz Night – 15th March 2008

The date is now confirmed. More details later

Holland April 26th to May 2nd 2008

Don is looking for interested names as soon as possible so that he can negotiate prices – the more going the cheaper he can get rooms.



The Pond in September– by Mike Brill **Final Part of series**

The weather is very changeable and care is needed when feeding fish. If the water temperature drops below 5 degrees, fish cannot digest food and any food in the stomach rots and poisons the fish. Between 5 and 10 degrees they digest food poorly. Above 10 degrees there are no problems. Most pond foods have a high protein content to speed growth of fish. The protein content if it rots is the most poisonous part and kills many apparently healthy fish by late winter or early spring. Pond fish need very little food in winter and can manage on none at all. If feeding in colder weather do not use normal pond pellets or flakes. Carbohydrates are the least toxic food. A little stale white bread soaked before feeding is the safest food in cold weather, but healthy fish need no food.



The plants will be dying back. Pull out all yellowing lily leaves and old flowers. These can rapidly pollute the water - generally cut back all old plant growth and remove from the pond area. Streams and filtration units block regularly at this time of year with plant debris. Young fish under an inch in length are unlikely to survive the winter. If you want to rescue them, now is the time to catch them and protect them in an aquarium in the warm. Do not put them back into the pond until the warm weather is assured - about the end of May or early June.

Amphibians will be looking for somewhere to hibernate. They need undisturbed sites near the pond - under logs, large stones, and cracks in brick walls or under sheds. They will dig into very hard ground if necessary about one foot down, so beware of disturbing them by winter digging. They are too torpid to move to a safe site if uncovered in the winter months.

See you all on Monday

Rab

