

Ilford & District Aquarists & Pondkeepers Society

Last Month

Andrew Smith - Anabantids



Last month's talk on Anabantids by Andrew covered just a small selection of the fish available in this large family of fishes.

Andrew covered these fish from the common to the not so common, including bubble nest builders, egg scatterers and mouth brooders.

Andrew showed lots of picture of the fish but only a few pictures of his tanks/fish house. I would like to have had more detail on tank set ups, water conditions, feeding and rearing of fry. This was an interesting talk from a very knowledgeable aquarist.

Apparently it has been 3 years since Andrew last gave a talk at Ilford, hopefully it won't be so long till the next time.

This Month

A.G.M. Plus Fish Forum

Don't worry our A.G.M.s are usually friendly affairs.

It only takes about 45 minutes to hear the reports and vote in the new committee.



Please try to come to this meeting as we discuss what direction you would like to see the Society go in as well as what subjects you would like talks on, any fish establishments you would like to visit and any social events you would like the Society to hold.

Next Meeting

Monday 14th June

I have enclosed with this Newsletter the minutes from last year's A.G.M. This is for you to look at in case there are any points you would wish to raise.

Please remember you must be a fully paid up member of the Society to be able to vote at the A.G.M.

After the refreshments the second half of the meeting will be given over to a Fish Forum.



What we do is form a circle (where have I heard that before?) of chairs in the centre of the hall.

Then members have the opportunity to talk about any problems they may have with their fish/tanks/ponds. Don't be shy to ask a question as the Society has a wealth of knowledge and I am sure that someone will have the answer to your problem.

Pond Competition

Sunday 18th July

The Pond competition has crept up on us, so now is the time to sort out that pond and get it



ready to enter. Don't be put off if you think it is too small (size isn't everything) or the wrong shape it's the taking part that counts. So if you have not entered before, why not give it a try this year. Names to Dave Stock please, as soon as possible.

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A Visitor From Across The Pond



It was good to see Mike Shadrack at the last meeting.

For the newer members Mike was the Society's Chairman for more years than he probably cares to remember and of course is now one of our Vice Presidents. Mike married Kathy and moved to America a few years ago, but always tries to pay us a visit when he is in the UK.

Mike's other great passion is the Hosta (he has even had one named after him) and is at the Chelsea flower show on one of the Hosta stands.

Mike has over 6,000 photos of Hostas and is a co author with Diana Grenfell, producing books on the subject.

He is a member of the British and the American Hosta Societies and has leadership roles in both.

Mike lectures on Hostas in North America, Europe and the UK, he also, with his wife Kathy gives tours around private gardens in the UK and US.

I could not find a picture of Mike's Hosta, but here is a picture of part of his garden. (Other people have gnomes)



Apart from all that he has plenty of time on his hands.

Good to see you at the meeting Mike and thanks very much for your generous donation to the Club.

Next Month - July

Mick Minns – Discus



As I mentioned in last month's Newsletter there will be some discus for sale at the July meeting. I am not sure what colour varieties will be available or the price. Please remember that these are a specialist fish and not suitable for a general community tank.



Just a few bits from me this month.

Don't forget we have a quiz night on the 23rd October, put the date in your diary. More info nearer the time.

Thanks goes to Kelvin of Fishy Friends (Basildon) for the donation of a very large tub of Aquarian to the Club shop, it's very much appreciated.

There must have been a technical hitch in last month's Newsletter.

It would seem that last month's speaker was a Andrew Smit, obviously from the German side of his family.

It was pointed out to me by several members and I did apologise to Andrew and I did offer my resignation to the Committee. But no luck I'm still the Newsletter Editor.

Good luck to England in the World Cup in South Africa.

See you all Monday

Barry