

# Something Fishy

The Newsletter of the Ilford & District Aquarists & Pondkeepers Society  
Last Month

**Brian Zimmerman**

Ornamental Fish in the Brazilian Amazon



“The Amazonian export trade in ornamental fish is estimated to be over \$100 million annually, yet there is currently

very little regulation or monitoring of this trade and its environmental impact.

Aquarium fish are the most popular pets worldwide and the global industry in 1999 was estimated to be worth \$3 billion in annual retail sales. Freshwater species make up 90% of the trade value, and around 10% of this number is wild caught.

In 2005, ZSL was awarded funding from the UK government’s Darwin Initiative to set up a new conservation project in the varzeá flooded forest ecosystem of the Brazilian Amazon.

In association with Sociedade Civil Mamirauá, ZSL helped work towards maintaining the biodiversity of ornamental fish within the Amazon by developing a pilot project in the Mamirauá and Amaná Sustainable Development Reserves (MSDR).

The pilot aimed to establish best practice guidelines that could be adopted for a certification system within this, and other,

**Next Meeting  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

mechanism for improved control of the trade in ornamental fish and therefore a sustainable ornamental fish trade.

It was planned that the introduction of such a trade would result in direct economic benefits to the rural community and the monetary value, along with the establishment of a sustainable system, would ensure the long-term protection of fish diversity within the reserve.

Incentives from this project are to be considered as alternative or additional sources of income to the local traditional economy (and not substitutes). Consequently, the food-fishery and farming practised by the MSDR community will remain the primary economic activities.”

This is from the ZSL web site and explains it much better than I can. Brian showed plenty of pictures. One fact that did emerge was that the local fishermen were really only interested in catching Cardinal Tetras as these were more valuable. He showed one photo of a holding facility that had hundreds of containers and each one held thousands of Cardinals. A very interesting talk, with very good pictures.

# Something Fishy

The Newsletter of the Ilford & District Aquarists & Pondkeepers Society

## This Month

### The AGM



This month we have the AGM I won't shout it out too loud otherwise nobody will turn up. Only joking (I think).

The AGM gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the previous year and what direction you would like to see the club go in the future.

After the election of officers the club will be selling off some of the clubs shop surplus stock. Small items will be bagged up and sold for a few pounds each. The larger items will be sold individually.

Now, most importantly, there will be a table show. The club will supply the tanks - all you need to do is bring your fish.

The show is for any Variety Livebearer, such as Guppies, Platies, Swordtails etc. The fishes will be judged by the members during the evening.



You can bring as many fish as you like - there is no limit. Don't worry if you think your fish are not good enough, you could have a winner.

Another reason to come to the AGM is that Ken is bringing some Glowlight Tetras for the fry growing competition. It will be 4 fish for 50p (please pay money to the shop). You will then be asked to bring back one fish to be judged on a date to be decided.

## Magic Night



The magic night was a great success, and with the raffle we made a profit of £262.

As you can see from the pictures there was plenty of food about. I am sure everybody who was there enjoyed the evening.

The close up magic was quite amazing as was the cabaret in the second half.

The only down side was that out of the 55 people who were there only 12 were members of the fish club. You can understand that the committee gets a little disheartened when we organise something for the members and we get such a poor response.



Thanks goes to Ray for organising the evening and to everybody who helped.

**Next month for the coldwater side of the club we have Paul Mills talking on all things coldwater.**



Don't forget your fish for the table show.

A date has been arranged to visit Kelvin at Fishy Friends. It is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. More info next month.

*See you all Monday Barry*