

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

July 2008

A trip of winners...

A Sunny Day out in June to Cuttlebrook Koi

Thank you to Ray for organising this excellent day out which proved to be very popular despite a wet start to the day!

On Sunday 1st June Ray organised a coach trip to Cuttlebrook Koi Farm in Thame, Oxfordshire, followed by an afternoon visit to the beautiful gardens of Waterperry.

Upon arrival to Cuttlebrook the coach driver had some miraculous driving to do to get through the gate and avoid the trees and the ditch... after a few tense moments, we made it. Our first view of the Farm was of the mud ponds which were very well protected from the local fishermen... herons, but for those of us who have not been to Japan this was our first view of a mud pond and it was really quite special. At closer inspection you would think that they were empty as you never saw a fish or a break in the water, but upon our

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Growing On Competition

The date is drawing near to finding out who has won this competition. A year long competition to see who has grown the biggest and who has the best – we all know that the biggest may not be the best and vice versa, but we will find out on 18th June! The meeting will be held at Alan and Linda's house. Results are on page 2 ...

Closed Show at Barleylands Annual Garden Show

Well what a weekend and I do hope you all popped over and visited the stand. The stand was very popular with the visitors.

The show was run according to the BKKS & DEFRA health regulations and saw new members showing their fish which included Ian Franklin and Paul & Helen Wilson and Andy Bolton. Ian Franklin walking away with the Baby Champion title for his size 1 Goshiki.

The weather remained beautiful whilst the weather men insisted that there would be rain! The show was set up on the Thursday with 11 Vats to be setup for showing the fish (1 members fish per vat up to a value of 15 points). Points are according to size of each fish (details of which Alan Hurley has available). 6 Marques were put up, fridge, cooker, 2 swimming pools, 3 extra vats for clean, dirty and disinfectant, rubbish bins, 7 tables, lots of chairs and on the Saturday night the BBQ! Phew what a lot of work. Did you know that the water has to be changed every 4 hours in each show vat? No, neither did I, until Paul volunteered (which indirectly involved Andy Bolton too!) to stay the night under the stars at Barleylands on Friday and was

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return after the garden visit to pick up various purchases, some lucky people were present at a mud pond when Mark Davis dipped his pan net into the water. He just scooped the net into the water and pick up hundreds of small fry from the mud pond. Each mud pond represented a different type of breed of fish, either Kohaku, Shiro utsuri, sanke, showa etc.

Looking around in the first fish house, there were lots of different vats for us to look at of different types and sizes of fish, ranging from 3" upwards. Then you could move onto more fish houses, with more spectacular fish.

Cuttlebrook also run a timed treasure hunt which meant that a number of people were running round testing their knowledge of koi. You had to answer 9 questions and the 10th question was an anagram of the answers!

Along with that, they also organised a Judging Competition which Charlie won and used his voucher to buy another fish!

They soon fired up the BBQ for our breakfast and there were lots of bacon and sausage sandwiches eaten as they were delicious!

The day was spent with some good friends and was a great opportunity to make new ones. I look forward to the next day out Ray when we visit Kennett Valley on 6th July. Thank you!

Koi Auction at Barleylands

The Spring Auction at the Barleylands Farm Centre in Billericay, Essex was a great day. It ran very smoothly with lots of members giving up their time on the Saturday and the Sunday to make it the best one yet. There was a record price for 1 fish in the over auction of over £600.00!! Lots of people were leaving with more than 3 fish, but they did have a choice of about 250 fish! As you can appreciate, this takes a lot of organising and lots of hard work to setup and put away, but I heard nothing but good comments from the people who attended.

Thank you to the "Committee of 1", Graham Hall and all the helpers before, during and after the auction – without you the day would not be as successful as it has been. The next auction is on 7th September 2008 again at Barleylands so please let Graham Hall know if you have fish or dry items for sale as soon as possible.

It is open to the general public and everyone from novice to experienced koi keepers are made to feel welcome. Looking forward to seeing you at the next auction – volunteers always appreciated!

BKKS Notice

The BKKS are currently in the process of getting all Koi Sections to update their membership details of all BKKS members. In order to comply with their request, Paul will be writing to all club members shortly. Once you get the letter, can you please respond quickly? Thank you for your assistance.

Results of the Show & Grow

What a summer evening ... a BBQ and a few spits and spots of rain! A big thank you must go to the judges, Graham Hall and Geoff Wilson, owner of Hill House Koi who generously donated the prizes. The prizes were Glassware for Grand Champion, Members Champion and Best in varieties, along with Hill House Koi own brand of Koi food, which was the main food of the Grand Champion, Members Champion & Best Kohaku. Thank you so much for Geoff's support.

The longest fish returning was a 17.5inch Kohaku followed by Showa & Kohaku of 17inch each. Just to show size is not everything the Grand Champion was a 16inch Sanke.

Many thanks to Alan & Lyn for allowing us the use of their garden and a lovely BBQ which was enjoyed by all. The evening ended with the presenting of the prizes and the distribution of the 2008 Tosai for next year's competition... remember size does matter for this competition – see you there next year!

RESULTS	No	Winner	Size
GRAND CHAMPION	23	Terry Gordine	16 inch
Members Choice	24	George Simmons	17 inch
Longest Kohaku	28	Jim Tyrell	17.5 in
Longest Sanke	23	Terry Gordine	16 inch
Longest Showa	24	George Simmons	17 inch
Longest Other Koromo	47	Charlie Griffin	14 inch
Best Kohaku	50	George Simmons	17 inch
Best Sanke	23	Terry Gordine	16 inch
Best Showa	44	Colin Wainwright	
Best Other Koromo	47	Charlie Griffin	14 inch

carrying out a water change at 1am and 5am. This has to happen no matter what religiously every 4 hours! He never mentioned how cold he got or that he had to resort to sleeping in the car. Andy, of course, never mentioned how loud Paul snored, the wide variety of snores, nor the lack of sleep! But they stayed all day to help out too. On Saturday night it was Tony Thompson & Alan Hurleys turn to look after the fish overnight and then stay for the duration of the next day....I didn't hear anything about snoring this time though!! Well done and thank you to everyone who helped make this a very successful weekend.

Thank you to the judges who deliberated over the results and to Steve Watson. Those of you who went on the Worthing Trip will remember Steve & his pond (the breakfast stop!). Steve attended the whole weekend as his role of BKKS health guru.

The results are as follows:

Kohaku Class - Size 2

1st – Jim Rolfe
2nd – Graham Hall

Size 3

1st – Arthur Sutton – MATURE CHAMPION

Sanke - Size 1

1st – Arthur Sutton
2nd – Arthur Sutton

Size 2

1st – Jim Rolfe, BEST IN SIZE & ADULT CHAMPION
2nd – Jim Rolfe

Size 3

1st – Lee Sutton, BEST IN SIZE, GRAND CHAMPION
2nd – Dennis Gould

Showa - Size 1

1st – Arthur Sutton

Size 2

1st – Fred Philips
2nd – Dennis Gould

Gin Rin - Size 1

1st – Graham Hall

Size 2

1st – Graham Hall

Size 3

1st – Lee Sutton

Bekko - Size 1

1st – Paul Wilson

Utsuri Mono - Size 1

1st – Paul Wilson
2nd – Ray Nicholls

Size 2

1st – Fred Philips

Koromo/Goshki - Size 1

1st – Ian Franklin, BEST IN SIZE & BABY CHAMPION
2nd – Andy Bolton

Size 2

1st – Dennis Gould
2nd – Fred Philips

Asagi / Shusui - Size 2

1st – Paul Wilson
2nd – Ian Franklin

Kawari Mono - Size 2

1st – Graham Hall
2nd – Ian Franklin

Size 3

1st – Jim Rolfe

Hikari Moyo - Size 1

1st – Ian Franklin
2nd – Paul Wilson

Size 2

1st – Dennis Gould

Hikari Muji - Size 2

1st – Paul Wilson
2nd – Dennis Gould

Best Vat – Jim Rolfe

WELL DONE to everyone and look forward to having more entries next year.

Judith took lots of photos of the weekend so I am sure that there will be a board of photos at the BBQ on the 27th July 2008 at Paul and Helen Wilson's.

Alternatively if you wish to see a copy of the photos prior to this just email her at paulfwiseman@hotmail.com



Shopping Zone

Do you have a clue what to buy the woman/man in your life rather than boring, hip expanding chocolate...? No, well here are a few ideas for you!

- Crouch Valley Koi Section Polo Shirt – Only £12.50 and a variety of sizes and colours are available!
- CVKS Ladies Shirts – Only £12.50 sleeveless
- CVKS Baseball Hats - £7.50
- CVKS Fleece – for those warm summer nights! - £20.00
- Membership to the best koi club in town, county, region, nationwide – Only £15.00 for a year of fun, festivities and days out!
- Koi Magazine - Subscription Hotline on 0844 844 0388. Lines are open 8.00am – 8.00pm Monday to Friday, 9.00am – 1.00pm Saturday or check out www.koimag.co.uk.
- Koi Carp Magazine – check out www.koi-carp.com the website is being updated, but if you click on the magazine cover a new window opens allowing subscriptions.

Upcoming Weekend Events

July 19th & 20th (Saturday & Sunday)

*Essex Section Koi Show
Aveley Sports Ground (10am – 5pm)*

July 27th (Sunday)

*Our own Pond Visit and BBQ
To be held at Helen & Paul's
7 Richmond Avenue, Benfleet
Essex SS7 5HE*

August 3rd (Sunday)

Crouch Valley visit Lee Valley & Harlow

August 15th, 16th, 17th

Holland Trip

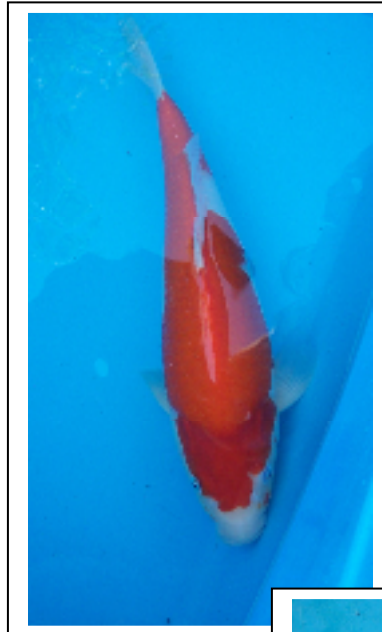
The Next Edition

If you have any news items/items for sale or wanted for the next newsletter please contact me.

Telephone me on 07900 274600 or email me

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Photos of the show and grow winners



Written by Helen Wilson