



Return address
c/o KSWA Acting Editor
5 Houghton Close
SOUTH GUILDFORD WA 6055

KOI SOCIETY OF WA



JUNE 2009 Issue

New members, existing members and visitors are welcome at all meetings.

General Meetings are held at

Rotary Hall, Sandgate Street, South Perth
7:30pm, on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except Dec)

Northern Branch Meetings are held at

Wanneroo Recreation Centre, Scenic Road, Wanneroo
7:30pm, on the second Tuesday of each month.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009**

**NEXT NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING IS
TUESDAY 14 JULY 2009**

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Koi Society of Western Australia

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Committee of 2008-2009

President

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VACANT

Assis. Secretary

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Sales Table

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Membership Officer

Phil Lehmann 9310 3368

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Stuart Rowley 94906190, 0437 203 976

Phong Ta 0409405698

Charlie Giorgio 0408 911 964

Other Positions

Show Chairman Rod Strang

Webmaster Luke Bray, webmaster@koiclubwa.com

Trophy Steward Phong Ta

Door/Tea Person

Table Show Helper



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WELCOME & NEWS

Welcome to the June issue of the KSWA Newsletter.

Our next General Meeting will be held in South Perth on Wednesday 24 June. This meeting is our Annual General Meeting, where the committee will be elected, but don't let that scare you off! All the usual Q&A and discussions will also be happening, and as usual you can browse the library or buy from the Sales Table.

Tea, coffee, biscuits & advice are available at all our meetings (General & Northern Branch). See the newsletter cover for venues and times.

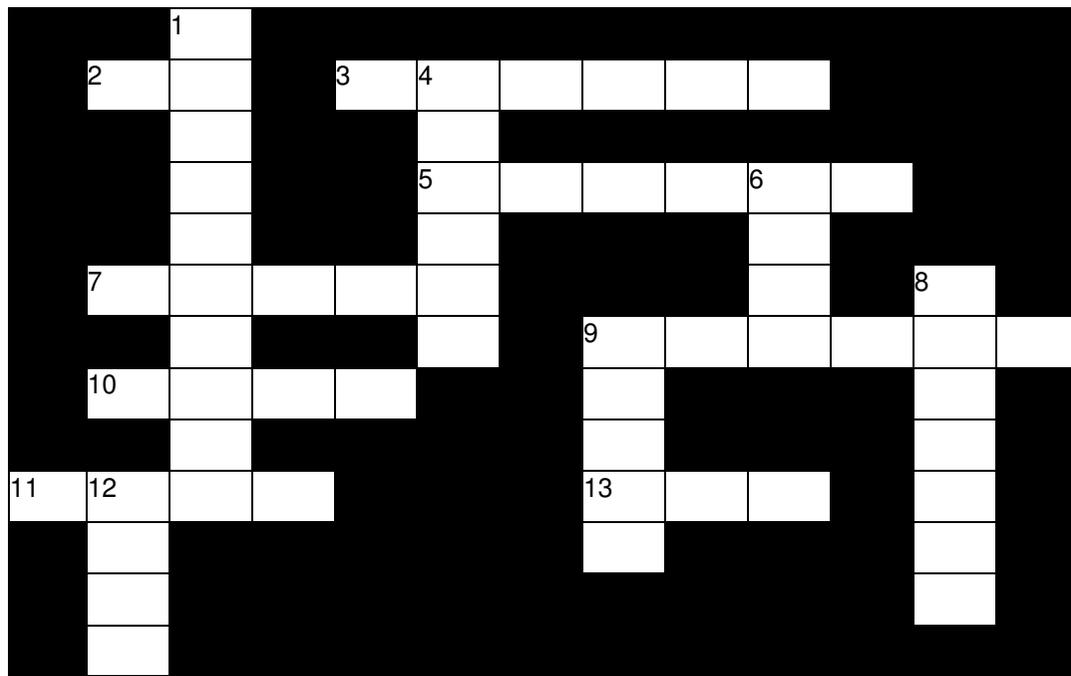
The next Northern Branch meeting will be happening on Tuesday 14 July. We have two interesting talks at this one—Understanding the Nitrogen Cycle and Selecting good Showa babies.

A reminder that **RENEWAL FEES** are now due—please be sure to send in your form & payment as we will be updating the mailing list shortly to include just financial members—if you have misplaced your renewal form, download one from the website or call any committee member to request one is posted to you.



Apologies for the lateness of the May newsletter for those who receive it by post.

Welcome to all our new members—we hope you and your families enjoy your time with the club.



DOWN

1. One of the most important parts of a pond
4. This gas must be in the water for koi to survive
6. A single coloured koi
8. This is harmful to koi when it builds up & must be removed from the water by doing regular water changes
9. A kohaku with 5 steps (patches) of red
12. Koi lay these to create baby koi (fry)

ACROSS

2. Japanese word for yellow
3. White koi with red markings
5. A "Ki Utsuri" would be which two colours? Black and _____
7. White koi with red & black markings
9. Short name for sparkling scales
10. Koi breath through this
11. Japanese word for deep red
13. Japanese word for basic red



DOWN	ACROSS
1. FILTRATION	2. KI
4. OXYGEN	3. KOHAKU
6. OGON	5. YELLOW
8. NITRATE	7. SANKE
9. GODAN	9. GINRIN
12. EGGS	10. GILL
	11. BENI
	123. AKA

Events Calendar



Wednesday 24 June— General Meeting, South Perth

Sunday 5 July—Member Auction, Bedford (pg 15)

Tuesday 14 July —Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 22 July— General Meeting, South Perth

Tuesday 11 August —Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Wednesday 26 August— General Meeting, South Perth

General Minutes 22 April 2009

Editor's Note: These minutes should have appeared in the May issue, but we were short on space. There are no May General Minutes as the May General Meeting was cancelled.

The meeting opened at 7:45pm

Apologies: Barry Ambler.

New Members: Josh

Points Arising from Previous Minutes: There were no points arising.
Minutes accepted as true record. Moved: Ces **Seconded:** Fred **Carried:** All

Treasurers Report: as at 22 April 2009

KSWA Closing Balance: \$
Deposits for the month: \$
Withdrawals for the Month: \$

Correspondence In: A couple of e-mails from the KSWA web page chasing information to help treat a gravely ill fish and also an offer to sell some fish.

Correspondence Out: Nil mentioned

Library: Nil

Sales Table: Kerry reported the sales table has stocks of 2500 litres per hour pumps at \$65 suitable for use attached to filters at the Annual Show, quarantine tanks or spawning ponds in a few months.

Table Show Results:

	Table Show A	Table Show B
1 st	Showa, Rod Hansen	Gin Rin Shiro Utsuri, Rod Hansen
2 nd	Showa, Bill Passey	Gin Rin Showa, Allan Bennett
3 rd	Kohaku, Allan Bennett	Gin Rin Showa, Rod Hansen

	Table Show 'B'	Table Show 'Gin Rin B'
1 st	Tancho Showa, Rod Hansen	No entries this month

Thanks to the judges Tony C and Allan P who did a great job.
Congratulations to all the winners, especially Rod and also to those who

Show Chairman's Report on the 2009 Annual Koi Show

8.00am sharp which was ok by me as I drove along Albany Highway with my fish at 8.15.

This was until I saw Kerry Cross driving in front of me with the Judges. Lucky for me my heart attack cancelled out the stroke and I got to my allocated pond just in time to put the fish in the wrong vat – otherwise I wouldn't have been able really start to panic and get my brain and body so far out of coordination that Stuart Rowley had to ask me why I had just put a fish out of my sock net and on to the ground and a bag of green water into my show tank. A reasonable question I guess.

All the fish in the Show looked beautiful. As has been the trend lately, the fish were bigger and better than ever. This fact was reaffirmed by a number of competent people over the day – including the Judges and visitors from interstate who were surprised by the quality of the fish, remarking about their full bodies.

The Judging kicked off on time with the Chief Steward Rod Hansen and President Bill Passey detailing the distinctive allocation of awards for our Show to the Judges and teams.

The actual Judging process in the English style took quite a while and is something that might need to be refined if possible by the next Show committee.

This year the prize for the best fish in the Show – the Grand Champion went to a lovely Jumbo Sanke owned and bred by Bill Passey. The runner-up Champion prize went to Phong Ta with his Showa that has been the Grand Champion for the past 3 years.

The young Champion Showa was bred by its owner Northern Branch Chairman, Allan Bennett. And whilst I'm happy for him on a personal level, I'm a bit sad to see his tartan bridesmaid dress from last year left hanging in the wardrobe this year. Honour Ta won the Junior exhibitors award with a Showa and the RSA Friendship Prize was won by Allan Bennett with his home made Gin Rin Showa. AKA friendship prize this year was to go to the best in variety Bekko. This was won by Luke Bray.

The Most Successful Exhibitor award was won by a lovely old fisherman that some of you may know named Bill Passey.

And what was the lesson for me out of this years Show– same as every other year. ? If I want to win higher prizes - keep less fish and look after the ones I have better. It's not rocket surgery.

And on a serious note, a sincere thankyou from myself to all of the people who helped with the Show and Judges. Without you guys pulling in the same general direction, the Show wouldn't have been the success it was.

- Rod

Show Chairman's Report on the 2009 Annual Koi Show

As is always the case, the planning phase for the KSWA 19th Annual Show commenced months before the actual event. The KSWA Committee sent off an early request to the ZNA for a Japanese Judge for our show. It is a big undertaking for a Judge from Japan with no direct flights to Perth, so the trip is a very long one and li'ole Perth being a nice place to live but you wouldn't want to visit there.

This year we were very lucky and happy to have two overseas ZNA Accredited Judges to assess our Koi, Senior Judge, Mr Shirimizu from an island off mainland Japan and Mr. Harry Beckx from Durban in South Africa. Harry and his wife Yvonne were visiting and staying with family North of Perth.

Mr. and Mrs Shirimazu arrived at Perth airport around midnight on Friday 23 May and we arrived at the Rydges Hotel a little after 2am in the morning, so it was a long day. When we went to check in at the hotel, the concierge informed me that they didn't have record of a reservation and payment through an external broker. I informed him in a round-a-bout way that he must be mistaken and presented the booking and payment details and then everything worked out fine.

On Saturday 23rd May, Kerry and Julie Cross drove Mr and Mrs Shiramizu around Perth and Swan Valley to visit various points of interest including a winery for lunch, while other supportive club members set up the Cannington Greyhounds site for the Show the following day.

This year our club expanded, setting up a second branch in Wanneroo and this may have contributed to the number of Show entry Koi. There was a record number of 252 fish entered into the show this year – which was a fantastic effort for a relatively small club. In 2004, I was the Show Chairman and recall that there was around 165 Koi entered – so this year was an excellent result.

Saturday evening saw the Judges, wives and myself enjoying a nice Tapenyaki meal at Midori restaurant in central Perth and a bit of an early night in anticipation of a very early morning catching up fish for the show.

The weather forecasters predicted showers for the show day - which was a good sign. As anticipated, the weather on the day was perfect, the temperature was around 20°C and hardly a cloud in the sky.

I thought I was all set until I walked outside to catch my 14 fish by myself and it was pitch black for another hour. My pond has never seemed bigger and my fish surprisingly agile. I renamed most of them over the next hour or so.

I'm a firm believer in the adage that a leader should lead from the front and so it was this year for me as show Chairman. All the show fish were to be in their vat by

missed out this time round. All of the fish entered were beautiful and we look forward to seeing them down the track when they develop further.

General discussion:-

- Bill summarized the Northern branch Easter Cup. Members were encouraged to enter four of their last years spawned babies in the competition where they were judged by a guest judge (Alex Fazekas) and resident judge and long time member Tony Cornwall. Congratulations to the winner and next years judge – Mr. Phong Ta.
- Members were reminded of the KSWA member only auction on Sunday 3 May at Beaufort Park, Beaufort St, Bedford.
- Bill reminded members that membership renewals and ZNA membership is now due.
- General discussion relating to the Annual Show on the 24th May at Cannington Greyhounds.
- Alan asked committee to look at free KSWA membership available at the public Auction.
- 7 Good quality fish were auctioned at the meeting and all were sold with prices ranging from \$5 to \$60. Excellent value even by the kilo.

Meeting closed 2200 hrs.

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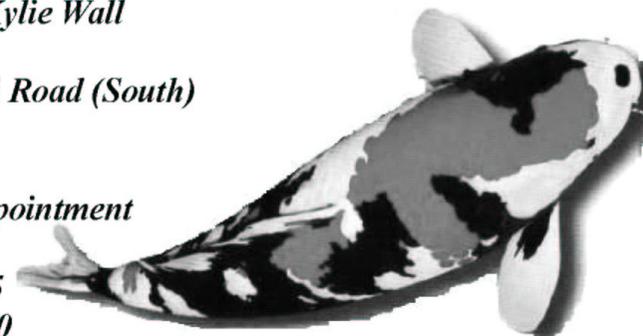
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Interview with Harry Beckx

ZNA CERTIFIED JUDGE 27/05/09



What got you into koi Harry?

The kid next door threw a koi into my goldfish pond. Initially I did not know what it was but it all started from that one koi, which was a shocker!

Tell me about your own ponds

Well I used to have 14 ponds but now I have one pond 38k liters with 80 fish in itso you are a firm believer in understocking.....great laughter! I just love koi so much I cannot help myself

Filtration

I use settlement chambers and shredded plastic (I can get it cheap) for media which works well but seeing you guys I am interested in moving to K1

Anything special on your pond?

I have a UV but don't use it and a stream which runs around the house with waterfalls but nothing special in the way of equipment.

What would you tell a beginner is the main aspect of pond build

Built the pond correctly first time, as big as you can afford. Put all your money into the filtration and take advice from someone with experience whom you can trust.

What is your favourite variety?

Showa and Shiro.... I love to watch the development over time of an average young fish turning into a superb older fish

Durban South Africa (S.A). Tell me about your Chapter, when was it formed?

I formed it about 27 years ago after that kid threw the koi into my goldfish pond... it was his fault!

It was formed in 1991 with Dr Charles Barnard as chairman but he did not want to get involved so I took over in 1992 and held the first show in 1996

How many members?

110 members and you must join the ZNA to be a member. Our fees are about \$A60 plus the ZNA fees.

How many clubs in S.A.

We have one Chapter and 7 Branches across the country and it is hard work keeping them all pulling together. S.A. like Oz is a large country but most realise the benefits of working together for a common goal.

Koi are obviously legal can you import?

Yes we can import, there are 4 dealers in my Durban area. My ZNA judging accreditation does not allow me personally to be a dealer. It is against the rules

KHV in S.A. tell me about the impact of it as we have never experienced it ?

Guys what ever happens you do not want it! It is the most heart breaking experience you will ever go through if you get KHV. We have it everywhere and you have to be so careful, one drop of water from an infected pond and you are ...

MEMBER AUCTION—SUNDAY 5 JULY

**WHERE: Beaufort Park Hall, corner Beaufort & Drummond Street
BEDFORD (near Morley)**

WHEN: 10:30am, Sunday 5 July 2009

SELLERS: Book your bin by Sunday 28 June 2009

As bins and airlines need to be organised in advance, no late entries (or entries on the day) can be accepted.

This Auction is just for club members—you need to be a financial member to buy or sell koi at this event.

SELLERS

- You need to be a current member of KSWA
- You need to **BOOK** your bin by Sunday 28 June 2009
- To book please contact Bill Passey—phone 0438 357 732, fax 9535 7011 or email bpassey@bigpond.com
- Seller fees: 10% of your total sales goes to the club

BUYERS

- You need to be a current member (bring your membership card)
- You don't need to register, just show up on the day and get a bidding ticket!
- Buyer fees: extra 5% on final bid is payable to the club

Members are welcome to come along to the Auction even if they are not planning on Buying or Selling fish—there is no entry fee or obligation to purchase.

Our Member Auctions are continuing to grow with increasing numbers & quality thanks to all those who support them—we hope to see you at this one!



Brad is selling a Nexus 300 easy with no media, otherwise complete & in good condition.

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Interview with Harry Beckx (cont)

gone, it is that bad. You cannot get rid of it without killing all of your fish emptying your pond and sterilizing everything. It is terrible, just so bad.

We have put a lot of effort into controlling it but it always manages to pop up two or three times a year. Once your country gets it you will never get rid of it.

Tell me about your judging what made you decide to get involved?

My best friend Mike Harvey and I met through koi and we knew little at that time. So getting involved in judging was a great way to learn. I see guys here with very good eyes for koi but they cannot tell me why it is good. Judging teaches you to dissect a koi, good points bad points, through all the varieties. I have learned so much. It is also a good way to put something back into the hobby. We have our own 'Judges School' in S.A. and let me tell you it is tough but we now have 12 or so good people who can judge koi to a high standard.

Best place you have visited with judging?

I love Oz, the people and I think not being able to purchase large expensive fish gives you a good feeling of humility. Your advancement in your fish is amazing I do not think you realise how much you have achieved and I am not trying to be nice. I also like Taiwan. The AKA Sydney which is the first Australian club we judged at, were just so good to us and left us with great memories of Australia. The way Yvonne and I have been looked after by the K.S.A in Sydney and Koi Society Of W.A has been absolutely fantastic.

Ok I have to ask this question as I am a professional in depth interviewer!!

You have been to Sydney.... now us, what..... do you see as the differences

You are strong in Go Sanke but Sydney has it over you in non Go Sanke. There were some amazingly good individual fish in your Show, just stunning. Yeh you guys are up there no question.

Ok specific to us guys what did you like about our Show?

I got this amazing feeling about the competitiveness in your Young Champion classes. I could tell it was hot, even your stewards were worked up. Good feeling You must look at this class as there were too many fish of different sizes competing and a split in sizes is necessary.

Overall impression of our Club?

Great,... smaller clubs generally have a good feeling. You are informal but respectful. This came across at your Presentation Evening, Yvonne and I like the family atmosphere you guys created.

You also had a bit of a pond tour what did you think?

Gobsmacked, honestly I was surprised. I was here years ago and what a difference. I recall eels in ponds and poor water quality. There is great enthusiasm here I like it so much.

We have a problem with size as we cannot importany suggestions to improve this?

Look, we buy fish from the best breeders in Japan and very few reach 70cms. In Japan very few of their fish reach 70cms and they are breeding millions of fish. Ok they have their 90cm fish but very few. I think you guys are doing ok.

Interview with Harry Beckx (cont)

As you know we all have to breed to an extent what are your impressions with this part of the hobby.

This is what makes you guys so good. Someone will always be on top that's what drives improvement but there are no 'cheque book' collectors here.

Any tips on how to influence our Government who appear to wish to shut us down?
Get someone on the inside who sympathises with you. Better still someone who keeps koi and is mad about them like us. They are difficult to get through to and we have the same issues in S.A.

Any thoughts on what the next significant innovations on pond equipment will be?
Fractionators or protein skimmer I think you call them. I like what I have seen as they do assist in lowering nitrates but we need to find a way to eliminate it. I like how you guys use K1 and I am not into Ozone.

What about fish varieties, seen any new ones coming through in Japan that you like?
You know it is the new breeders in Japan that bring out the new varieties and they are all metallic based. The old breeders stick with the traditional varieties and they know there is lots of room in them to get them better. Look at Goshiki, I never liked them now I love them, such improvement in recent years.

Who is your favourite breeder in Japan?

Maruda and Dianichi, the young guys have now got it together at Dianichi. Some of the smaller breeders also sell some superb fish. You will never be able to purchase a good breeder in Japan these are not for sale.

I finished by asking Harry's wife Yvonne what she enjoyed about her husband's passion.

Well I meet all these wonderful people around the world some who have become dear friends. I am not a mad koi lover but love Harry so I need to support him in his hobby and passion.

Nice comment to finish on Yvonne, safe journey home to you both. 'JJ'

WANTED TO BUY ...

Peter is looking for a pair (Male/Fem) Kigoi or Yamabuki 3 + years old brother sister.

He is also looking for a pair of Kohaku 1-3 years old.

Contact him on (08) 9305 0250 or 0413 995 434, or email prmorris1@optusnet.com.au

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

- Water goes purple when you add PP and then turns brown in a few hours after it has been neutralised. Turn on pump again when the water has gone brown.
- Can treat at intervals of 3 or 4 days, perhaps twice or three times.

Monthly Raffle: None this month

Table Show: None this month

July Meeting:

The July Northern Branch meeting will be on Tuesday 14 July 2009. Topics will be "Selecting good Showa babies" and "Understanding the nitrogen cycle" - both should be interesting & if you're new to fish-keeping, the nitrogen cycle is an important topic as many fish keepers don't understand the invisible aspects of water quality.

See you there! Richard

CARBON FILTERS (continued from page 10)

Here are the fittings I used:

Left side: 100mm cap drilled with 25mm hole, '20mm tank outlet' screws into hole, garden hose tap adapter screws onto tank outlet. This clicks straight onto a hose.

Right side: 100mm cap drilled with 20mm hole, 'water container tap' screws into hole. All the fittings were available from Bunnings. Carbon can be bought from pool shops. Divide a big bag amongst a few members to make it cheaper.

You could use different fittings to achieve the same thing, or even add another garden hose adapter to the Right side, so you don't need to put the filter right next to the pond.

Turn the tap to limit the flow to approximately 1-2 litres per minute. To be sure it is working, take a sample of the treated water to any pool shop and get them to check there is no chlorine.

If there are any members who would like one of these filter but aren't handy, I'd be happy to help them make one.



Shona

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

KSWA Northern Branch News

June's Northern Branch meeting was a quieter meeting than usual as everyone wound down from the highly successful annual KSWA show. We discussed the show and the things to improve at next year's event. Allan mentioned how complimentary the South African judge Harry Beckx was about the quality of the fish.

Allan also provided a wrap up of the recent committee meeting which included discussion about the KSWA show. Feedback from Harry Beckx indicated there were too many fish in the young champion's class and that we should consider splitting them by size since smaller fish have little chance against fish that are much larger in the same class. The committee will no doubt consider this.

Other points of interest: financially the club is doing fine. Josie is producing a breakdown of all the expenses for the show; looks like the show was a break-even event which is great news.

Next South Perth Branch Meeting – KSWA AGM 22 July 2009

Please note that the next meeting at South Perth is the AGM where all committee members will vacate their positions so that a new committee can be elected. Please come along and give your support and consider standing for one of the ten (or so) positions.

Discussion

The group casually discussed a number of things but one in particular was concerning following a very unfortunate accident using Potassium Permanganate (PP), also known as condy's crystals. This strong oxidising agent is commonly used by koi keepers to treat their ponds. However, great care must be taken. Sadly a KSWA member recently lost several beautiful fish following a pond treatment with PP. Following are key points:

- Do not use old or out of date stock.
- Recommended max application rate is 2 ppm (ie 2g / 1000L), or 1.5ppm for more safety (ie 1.5g / 1000L of pond water).
- High aeration is critical because PP removes oxygen from the water and do not use when water temp is over 30°C.
- Suggestion is to use at seasonal changes. Cleans up organic matter in your water.
- Turn off pump when treating the pond so that you don't kill your filter bacteria. Add to pond using a watering can. Circulate water using large volumes of air (eg from a bottom drain airdome).

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CARBON FILTERS

I have a confession to make, and I've decided to come clean for the sake of other new hobbyists ☺

For years I use chlorinated tap water when I did a water change on my pond (I can hear the experienced members groaning now!)

When I first got koi and started reading about how to look after them, removing the chlorine from tap water was one of the first things I learnt. The problem was that no-one offered a "how to" for the average backyard hobbyist.

I watched the fish, and went by the only thing I could, my limited understanding and how the fish looked to my untrained eye. Well, they looked fine, so I continued filling up the pond with untreated tapwater and telling myself "they look normal/fine/happy/healthy, chlorine cant be that bad". Then one day I read that the damage chlorine does to fish is actually to the gills so isnt visible until you hold them down and pull back the operculum (gill cover).

Then I felt really bad. I started doing more research into a solution, but water change routines aren't that commonly discussed & practical information is hard to find. I knew what the larger scale hobbyists did—used bore water, or pumped water into a large rainwater tank to be dechlorinated.

In my suburban backyard these were difficult options—I would either have to pay thousands for a bore, or find somewhere to put a large tank, then work out a pump & hose setup to get the treated water across the yard into the pond. We were planning on moving in a year or so, so my big "water treatment setup" plan was put on hold.

I started putting the hose on very low so it took hours to fill up, hoping that by only adding a small amount at a time I would be limiting the damage.

In May I went along to the Northern Branch meeting & saw a simple carbon filter being made. I felt as though I had been let in on an amazing secret! So that's how everyone was easily treating tap water before adding it to their pond! Most people at the meeting mentioned that they had had one of these homemade filters for years—I wish I had heard someone talk about them years ago.

I went out the very next day and bought some PVC pipe, fittings & carbon. There are lots of different fittings to make it work, but the basics are:

- Section of 100mm pipe—50cm long is good, or make it longer to fit more carbon to treat more litres or last longer. Water flows from Left to Right through the tube.
- Left side—fittings to connect a garden hose for water in.
- Right side—tap to reduce the flow— must be on this side so that the main section of pipe has full pressure. If tap is on Left side, water will just trickle along the bottom of the filter, not fill the entire tube.
- Fill with carbon—add a piece of foam to each end to stop carbon escaping, or put carbon in a stocking.

KSWA SALES TABLE

All proceeds from your sales table are used as a fund raiser for your clubs needs. Please support your club by purchasing your requirements through the sales table.



Call KERRY CROSS on 9453 6509 or 0417 959 009

Items listed are a sample of what can be supplied

Keeping Koi In Australia \$20- Illustrated bible on koi keeping.

Water conditioners- Dechlorinator 2.5 litre

Dechlorinator 5 litre

Bionatural conditioner (concentrate)

Bacteria Aqua

Water treatments- Koi anti parasite 250ml

Koi anti ulcer 250mL , 1 litre

Koi anti bacteria 250mL

Virkon S 100g

Ammonia remover 250ml

Test kits- Master test kit

PH test kit

GH & KH test kit

Ammonia test kit

Air pumps- Alita- 40 litre , 80 litre & 120litre

Air stones- Ceramic 50mm & 40mm

Koi Handling- 60cm dia fine super mesh net -excellent for sml koi

Culling net 30cm dia

Koi sock 30cm dia – water proof

Filtration- Filter brushes- 60cm , 75cm & 90cm

Koi food per 1kg- Fry powder

Ocra Baby food sizes 1, 2, 3, & 4

Sekirin Japanese food

Quick grow—small , medium

Koi King 500gm Growth Formula 5mm

Koi King 500gm Excel Formula

Koi king 500gm Wheat germ

Koi King 500gm Colour Enhancing Formula

Also supplied in 10kg bags

Miscellaneous- Koi 66 Variety poster

UV lights and pumps