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5 Houghton Close
SOUTH GUILDFORD WA 6055

KOI SOCIETY OF WA



FEBRUARY 2010 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 FEBRUARY 2010**

**NEXT NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING IS
TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2010**

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Koi Society of Western Australia

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Committee of 2009-2010

- President** Bill Passey 9535 7732, 0438 357 732
bpassey@bigpond.com
- Vice President** Allan Bennett 9405 9331, 0419 907 973
- Secretary** Fred Sharp 9305 3240
- Assis. Secretary** VACANT
- Treasurer** Josie Giorgio 9457 1517
- Assis. Treasurer** Phil Lehman 9310 3368
- Newsletter Editor** Shona Whaite 9274 8535
editor@koiclubwa.com
- Librarian** Tim Leroy 9306 2844, 0437 511 644
- Sales Table** Kerry Cross 9453 6509, 0417 959 009
- Membership Officer** Phil Lehmann 9310 3368
- Committee Member 1** Phong Ta 0409405698
- Committee Member 2** Stuart Rowley 94906190, 0437 203 976

Other Positions

Table Show organiser: Stewart Rowley
 Trophy Steward Phong Ta
 Auction Master Tim Leroy
 Logistics officer Tim Leroy
 Tea and Coffee Kylie Wall
 Show Chairman Yet to be appointed
 Webmaster Luke Bray
 webmaster@koiclubwa.com

Northern Branch

Chairman Allan Bennett
 Secretary Richard Mussell
 Treasurer Peter Morris
 M/ship & Publicity Shona Whaite
 Tea & Coffee Ray Lines

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS—Jan & Feb

Shona's Pond

Shona gave a fascinating presentation about the building of her new pond (right), from start to finish, showing all of the stages in-between. It was hard work because of the soil type (clay), not to mention all the other usual challenges, but the finished pond looks great. I bet the fish are happy!



Raffle

Far out! Des Howlett won the raffle again, for the second time in six months! Well done Des. This time Des won two bags of koi tucker and a koi ornament.

Table Show:

January's meeting had no entries. In February, Brad took out the table show with no other competition. Thanks for bringing your fish in Brad. Here's hoping for better support of the table show next month. It takes a fair bit of effort to bring in your fish but it sure makes the meetings more interesting.



Place	Variety	Owner
Table Show A		
1st	Sanke	Brad
2nd	Smaller Sanke	Brad
3rd	Kohaku	Brad

Table Show B, Table Show Ginrin A and Table Show Ginrin B—No entries

Next month's meeting:

The next Northern Branch meeting will be on 9 March. Agenda is TBD but, judging from recent meetings, it will be a great evening.

Richard

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS—Jan & Feb

Wow, the New Year has really taken off in the KSWA, so much so that both Jan and Feb's Northern Branch meeting notes appear below. Quite a few new members attended the meetings and there was plenty of interesting info for novice and experienced Koi lovers. Highlights were:

- Shona's presentation on her new pond
- Peter M's "how to make your own UV"
- How to judge tategoi
- Allan's presentation on the All Japan Show
- Koi quiz

Allan's update

- This year's KSWA show will be on 23 May 2010. There will be 3 judges, most likely 1 Japanese and 2 Australian. The venue has been booked.
- There has been some discussion about changing the entry classes so that it better suits the available members' fish and makes the competition more interesting. The details are yet to be finalised but watch this space!

Pond Tour

The next pond tour will be on Sunday 21 Feb. These are well worth attending so that you can see how other members have built their pond and perhaps even get some new ideas. Details are:

10am Sang's place. Dianella
11:30am Allan's place. , Gnangara
1pm Ray's place. Ellenbrook

Make your own UV

Peter Morris showed us how to make a home-made UV. Of course great care needs to be taken because of the safety issues when working with 240V (easily lethal) and intense UV radiation from these devices. The radiation can blind a person in 1- 2 seconds. Some interesting facts that Peter had researched include:

- There are several types of UV devices – germicidal, sterilizer or clarifier
- UV light wavelength we want is 254nm
- 1.2 seconds exposure is required to "kill" the algae
- Killing distance is 1 – 2 cm
- One supplier of UV globes is Pro-lamps in Belmont.

All Japan Show and Quiz

Allan had some amazing photos and commentary from the All Japan Show. What an incredible event it must be. The size, quality and uniqueness of some of the Koi leaves you drooling. Following this, as if to push us to the next level in koi keeping, Allan sprung a surprise quiz on us. This tested even the most avid among us, with no team getting all the answers right! It was great fun and as usual generated a lot of friendly rivalry between the competing teams. Well done to all.

WELCOME & NEWS

Welcome to the February issue of the KSWA Newsletter.

Have any questions about your koi or pond? Come along to any meeting for free tea, coffee, biscuits and advice. See the front cover for meeting addresses.

Shona

Events Calendar



Sunday 21 February—Pond Tour

Starts at 10:00am, Dianella, Gnangara, Ellenbrook. Free BBQ lunch. Some amazing ponds, you don't want to miss this one! See page 8

Wednesday 24 February—General Meeting, South Perth

Sales Table & Library open. Agenda yet to be decided.

Tuesday 9 March—Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Sales Table will be open. This month's topic will be understanding and eradication of gill & body flukes, by Peter Morris.

Wednesday 24 March—General Meeting, South Perth

Sales Table & Library open. Agenda yet to be decided.

Sunday 28 March—Member Auction, Bedford

The first one of the year. Members only. Beaufort Park Hall, Bedford (near Morley).

Tuesday 13 April—Northern Branch Meeting, Wanneroo

Sales Table will be open. Agenda yet to be decided.

Wednesday 28 April—General Meeting, South Perth

Sales Table & Library open. Agenda yet to be decided.

General Meeting Minutes - Wednesday 27 January 2010

The meeting opened at 7:45pm. Number of members attending – 34

Apologies: Josie & Charlie Georgio, Phong Ta.

New Members: Nil. **Visitors:** Nil.

Points Arising from Previous Minutes: None.

Confirmation of previous minutes: Moved: Norm Wall, Seconded: Rod Strang

Treasurers Report:

Opening balance	\$
Total income	\$
Expenditure	\$
Closing balance	\$

Correspondence In: Rotary Club South Perth Burswood Hall Hire
Renewal, OAM Insurance Renewal

Correspondence Out: Rotary Club South Perth Burswood – Booking Dates
for Year 2010

Library: Nothing new, **Sales Table:** Nothing new.

Table Show—no entries

General business

- Christmas party this year was an outstanding success, a good turnout as usual. Allan Bennett was awarded a life membership
- Question time was as interesting as ever - a query came from the meeting regarding milky water after a water change. General answer was it was most likely due to the killing of the bacteria- dead bacteria - due to a high exchange of water, remember to add the appropriate amount of dechlorinator whilst doing water changes.
- The club will need to put out a advert for the southern regional area (Bunbury). Syd will be the focal point there. We are gauging the amount of interest there with the view of perhaps establishing a southern branch in that area.
- The Sales Table was generating a lot of interest and a lot of items were out of stock due to the closure of wholesalers during the Christmas / New Year period. Things will be back on track by the next meeting.
- A lot of members were having a good spawning season - Tim Leroy in particular was achieving good growth rate on his fingerlings after successive cullings.

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Koi Keeper Warning - Climate change linked to fish aggression

Warmer water temperatures caused by global warming could cause fish to become more aggressive, according to a new Australian study.



Research conducted at the University of New South Wales found that even a slight increase in water temperature - in fact just 2 or 3 degrees, caused fish to become more aggressive than they normally would be.

The studies were conducted on young Damsel fish, but head researcher Dr Peter Biro told ninemsn it is possible that any fish could increase their need to feed. The research involved putting Damsel fish in varying temperatures of water and placing other fish behind glass to see how they feed.

Dr Biro said that it was "obvious" the warmer water had an effect. "Some fish would literally charge the glass" he said. "I'm quite confident that if the glass weren't there they would have torn the other fish to shreds"

While some fish showed extreme aggression in warmer water, others didn't show any signs at all.

So what do Koi keepers do now in these troubling times? How do we know if our fish have been affected by this condition. When we attempted to contact the KSWA committee for comment, a spokesperson for the club said they were unavailable. "As I'm sure you can appreciate, the committee has been locked down in crisis talks since this event surfaced. They are actually conducting their own experiments and extending the trial parameters further to study the effects on Koi under extreme conditions.

Our President has informed me that the earlier research does in fact apply to Koi telling me that, if you actually boil the water and put a large Koi in the pot (Bill actually used an old copper) the fish starts going absolutely beserk and then as with the other study fish seemed to calm right down and actually change shape and colour."

"All I can suggest and please don't take this out of context, is that next time Koi keepers feed their fish, take extreme care and count your fingers when you're finished" Wise words from an obviously very distressed Koi keeper.

© Rod Strang

- Norm and Kylie had a great spawning of Gin Rin Harawake they both are very much looking forward to the results of that spawn. They both are also concentrating on the lesser known varieties, we need more of these to keep the non Go Sanke classes going at our shows.
- Bill is desperately seeking a male Kikisusui for breeding, good luck Bill !
- Our Annual Show results and photos are in the current Nichirin magazine accompanied with a excellent article about our chapter (club) by Rod Strang.
- The club needs to produce better quality photos on our fish when we submit them for our shows, that's the reason why we are now going digital, we are also looking at registering our fish and photos on line this year, more on that to follow shortly.
- We will endeavour to have a session in the not too distant future on photographing koi.
- Don't forget the up and coming pond tour the date will be Sunday 21 February 2010. Details and times are published in the newsletter. BYO drinks.

Subject of the night was about stocking rates of koi ponds. Various opinions were discussed and the one main focus was on the size of your filter system, and the size of your koi. There is no set rule on numbers, the size of your pond also must be taken into consideration. As a guide we use the formula of filter should be no less than 25% of the surface area of water. New advances in technology changes all the theory we all once took as the general rule. Work with what you have that works well, old systems work well they tend to be more labour intensive. New systems these days seem to have a smaller footprint work just as efficiently and are also less labour intensive.

Auction results—2 fish for sale

1st Showa – Eddie \$ 210 2nd Goshki – Alan Peck \$140

Rod strang gave a talk on the progress of Sanke cull he did in November 2009. Rod brought in some of the original cull now 3 months old to observe the development of the kept fingerlings. Members were invited to observe and to further cull and were allowed to take home some of the fingerlings to further watch their development.
Thanks Rod.

Thanks to all who attended. The next General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 24 February 2010.

Meeting closed: 10:00pm.

Fred Sharp



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Ideal water change regimens

Every week	10 percent water change
OR: Every two weeks	20 percent water change
OR: Every three weeks	30 percent water change

No matter which of the above regimens you pick from above, I HIGHLY recommend that twice to three times per year you should perform a 60-70% water change to really REFRESH the pond. You will notice a real boost to fish health and growth.

Major water change: Simply drain the pond down 60-70% and add dechlorinator. Then refill the pond. Don't do this in the PEAK of the summer as you might chill the fish (I've never hesitated, but that's just me). But SURELY in the early summer and late summer you should find the fish VERY appreciative of this service.

If you are performing the recommended water changes, you should have robust, hungry and healthy fish. Fish may still become ill, of course, however it is much less common in well managed ponds with LOTS of FRESH Water. Fact is, if you wouldn't swim in the pond, your fish shouldn't be.

Editor's note: New water can be added to a tank first (small or large) to be mixed with dechlorinator before going into pond; or make a carbon filter (top) to connect your hose to (this will remove chlorine from the water passing through it).



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. a) sashi
1. b) kiwa
2. a) kikikuru
2. b) kawarimono
3. 10,000 litres per hour
4. (can be any new member you know of!)
5. Kigo
6. Tancho, ogon
7. Answers include copper, chlorine, inadequate filtration, ammonia, lack of oxygen, not quarantining, moving around fish, overcrowding, pH swings, etc.
8. Dissolved organic compound
9. Ogon
10. Goshiki has grey reticulation on the white, koromo has no reticulation on its white and black reticulation on the red.
11. Sanke = white based fish, Showa = black based fish
12. Kawarimono variety (fish is a Doitsu goshiki)

Water Changes Are Critically Important

A Word About Water Changes - by E L Johnson DVM
From koivet.com

Water changes are simply the removal of some old water, and the replacement of that old water with new water. It sounds so simple but there are problems, nationwide. First, water can be chlorinated. Second, a lot of people don't do water changes, at all. Thirdly, failure to do water changes allows the accumulation of background pollution such as phosphates and proteins which inhibit fish health and growth. Finally, water changes need to replenish trace elements and minerals in the water which fish need.

Chlorinated and chloraminated water is usually supplied to hobbyists "at the tap" from municipal water supplies. The water company adds these two chemicals to disinfect the water. Each day, municipal source-water is tested for eggs, spores, ova and cysts of various pathogens. If any are found, it may be that the municipal water authority will double or triple the chlorine or chloramine concentration. Spritzing the water into the pond slowly WILL dissipate a lot of chlorine, but will it dissipate all of it? Dechlorinate. By dechlorinating the water, you can be 100% sure the chlorine is gone and will not harm your fish. When your municipal water supply uses Chloramine, you will be relieved to know that dechlorinator can still bind the harmful Chlorine. The remaining Ammonia should be no match for a cycled (properly functioning, well colonized) filtration system.

In speaking to people from across the country, I found that about forty percent of the hobby is not doing ANY water changes at all. This accounts for recurring illness among the fish, slow growth, and poor color. This is the most common cause of the "seven inch, seven year old" Koi. A koi in good water with plenty of water changes should grow at least 3-4 inches per year. Hobbyists should be encouraged to follow a water change regimen as outlined in the chart below.

"Topping Off" the pond is not a water change. You should know this about water: The solids in water do NOT evaporate, nor do many of the chemicals in the water. This means that the nitrates, phosphates, a good bit of the carbon dioxide, all the salt, minerals, etc NEVER leave the pond and accumulate over time. As the pond water level goes down by evaporation, you may notice that the fish perk up as you add water back. There is a transient increase in water quality after the addition of 'new' water but it's rapidly offset by the dissolution of the existing background pollution.

So, "topping off" actually concentrates solids and organic chemicals in the water over time. Real water changes should be endeavored.

ANNUAL SHOW UPDATE

This year's Show is coming up on Sunday 23 May 2010.

The 2010 Show Entry Pack will be available on the website shortly, at any upcoming meeting, or we can post a copy out to you by request. The pack contains everything you need to know about entering, prizes, preparation and what to do on the day.

The Class sizes are currently being discussed by the Committee and will be finalised soon. If you would like to be involved with the Show Team in any way, please contact Show Chairman, Allan Bennett on 041 990 7973.

News just in about the JUDGES—there will be 3 judges this year!

NOBUYOSHI OZAWA san from Japan

ZNA International Certified Judge
ZNA International Division Member
ZNA Judging Panel Member
Advisor to Tokyo Chapter

Gerard Mc Donald from Sydney Australia

ZNA Assistant Certified Judge

Kazio Mc Donald from Sydney Australia

ZNA Local Certified Judge



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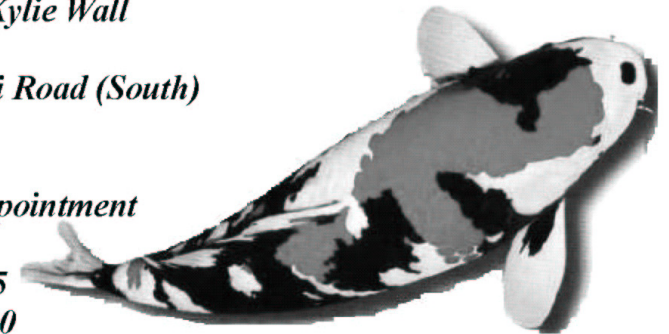
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NORTHERN BRANCH POND TOUR

New members, existing members, visitors, Northern & Central branch members, family & friends are all welcome to come along.



WHEN? Sunday 21 February 2010

Please note earlier start time (not 10:30am as listed in last newsletter!)

10:00am Sang Ming Dong Dianella

11:30am Allan Bennett Gnangara

1:00pm Ray Webb Ellenbrook

Each stop is approximately 15 minutes drive apart.

A free BBQ lunch will be provided at Ray's place.

Allan's pond (top) is one of the largest in the club at around 100,000L. He also has an impressive breeding setup with a range of pond types.

Ray's pond (other 3 pics) is built into an amazing fake mountain which features waterfalls and a slide. The pond overlooks the swimming pool and fish can watch out from a giant 2m+ window. He is also in the process of setting up a second pond, so there are a variety of filters on view. Bring your swimmers (especially the kids!), and bring your favourite drink to enjoy with the BBQ lunch.

We hope to see you there.

We would love to organise a pond tour for South of the River—if you are interested in opening your pond to the members, please contact any committee member.



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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

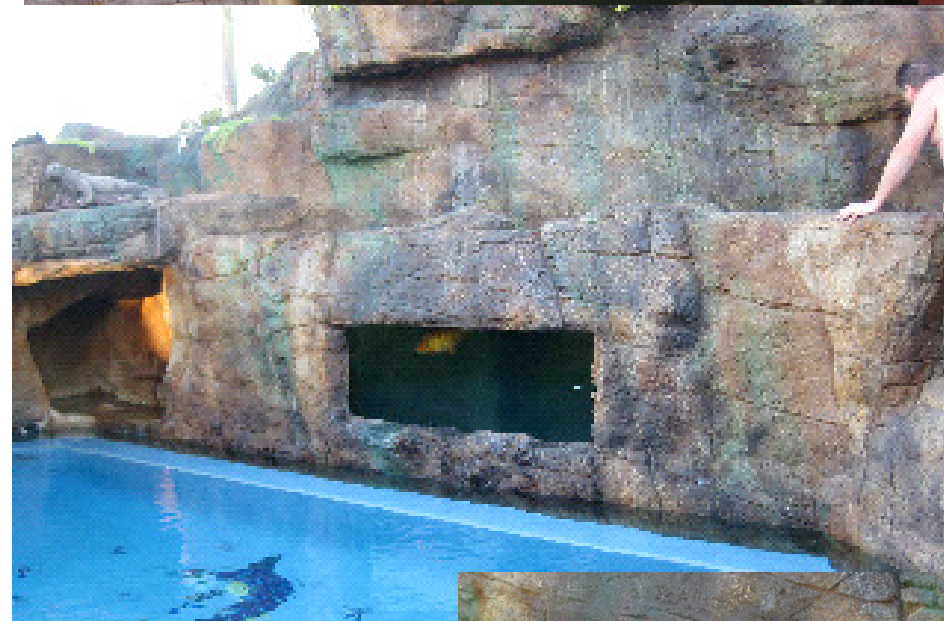
Koi Handling- 60cm dia fine super mesh net -excellent for sml koi
Culling net 30cm dia
Koi sock 30cm dia – water proof

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

Koi food per 1kg- Fry powder
Ocara Baby food sizes 1, 2, 3, & 4
Sekirin Japanese food
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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



Quiz from February Northern Branch meeting

1. a) What is the leading edge of the scale colour called?
1. b) What is the trailing edge of the scale colour called?
2. a) What is this fish called?



2. b) Which Show variety is it shown in?
3. As a rule of thumb, under gravity how much water can you get through 100mm pipe?
4. Name (first & last names) 3 new members who have joined in the last 12 months
5. a) What is this fish called?



5. b) Which Show variety is it shown in?

6. Under ZNA ruling which 2 gin rin fish are NOT shown in gin rin varieties?

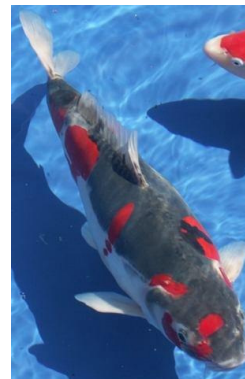
7. Name 5 ways of promoting sick fish

8. What does DOC stand for?

9. Which fish is the 'mother' of all metallics?

10. What defines a goshiki (right top) from a koromo (right bottom)?

11. What is the fundamental difference between a sanke (left) and a showa (right)?



12. Which Show variety would you put this fish in (left)?

Answers on page 15