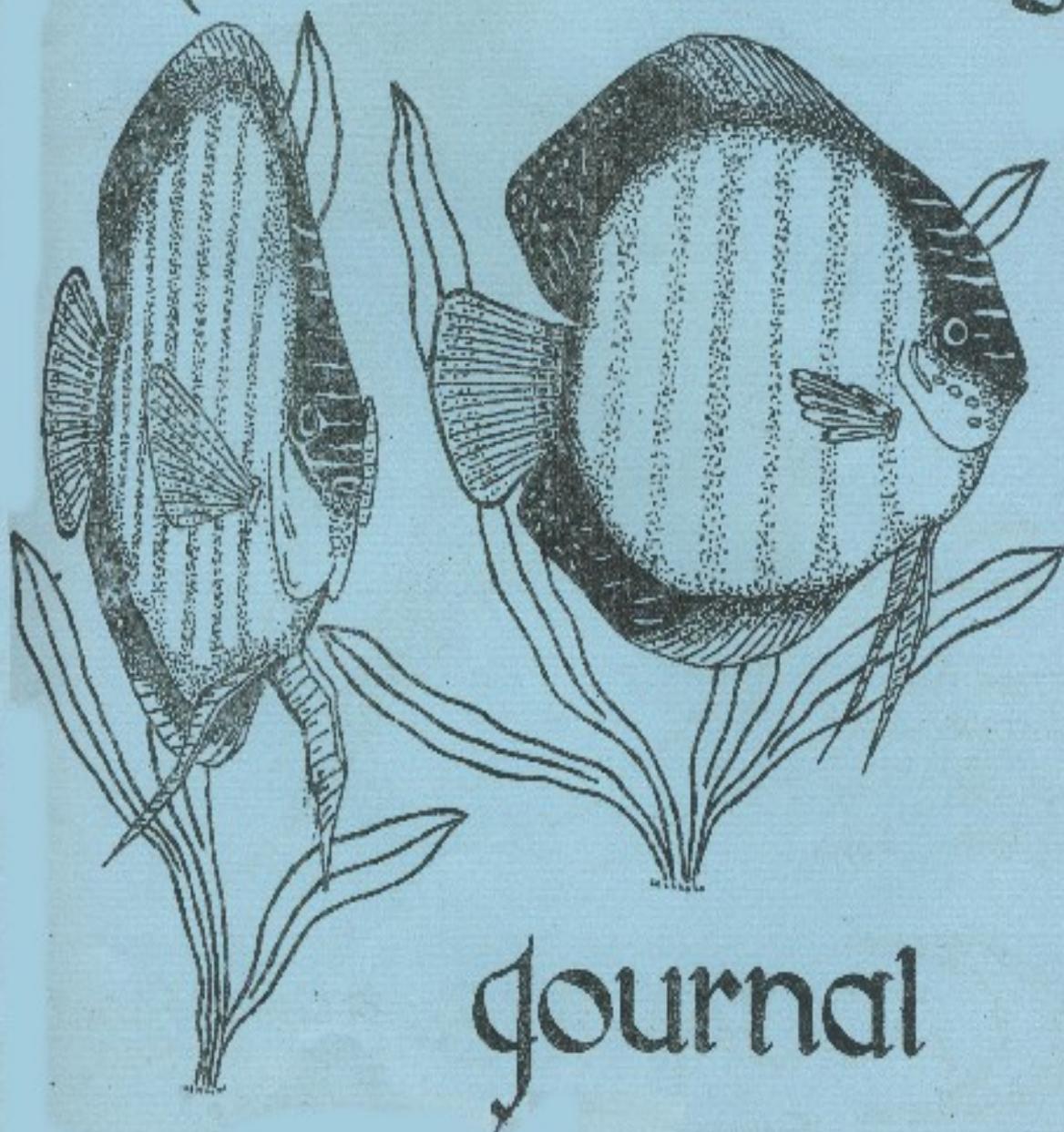


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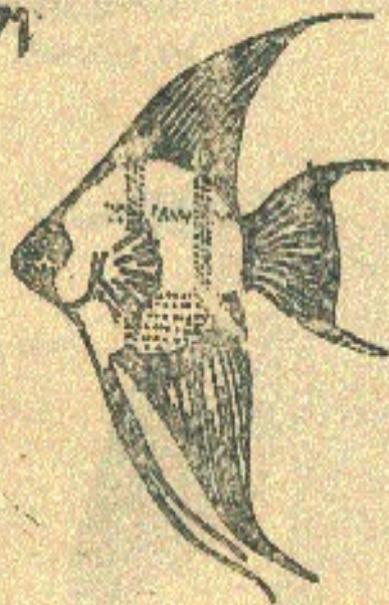


Journal

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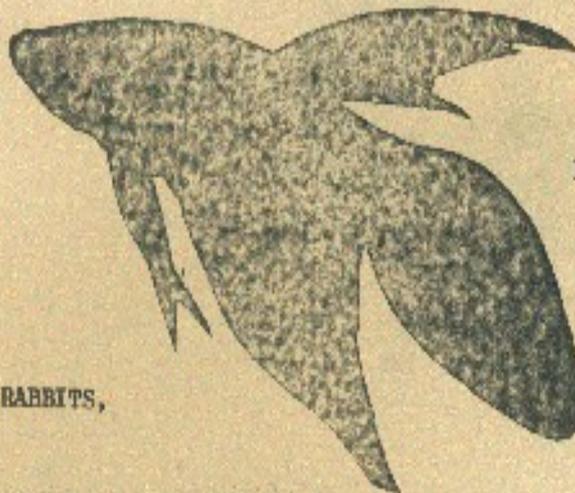
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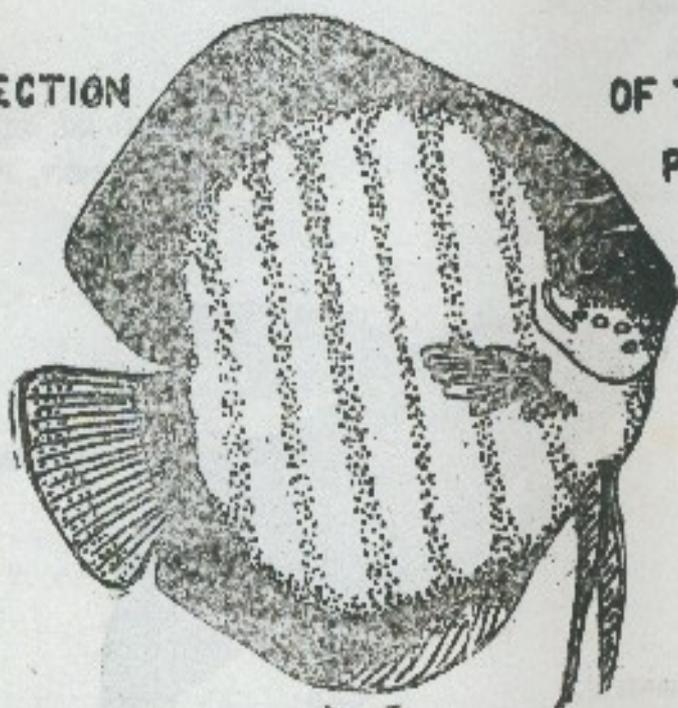
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**SOUTHEND, LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**  
**(Founded 1935 or before)**

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.  
Venue :-

**ST. ANDREWS HALL,**  
**ELECTRIC AVENUE,**  
**WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA,**  
**ESSEX.**  
(Entrance in South View Drive)  
**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL Number 74**  
**JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1979**

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**C O N T E N T S**

	<b>PAGE</b>
OFFICERS FOR 1979	2
EDITORIAL	3
PRESIDENT'S PAGE	4
THE 1979 OPEN SHOW	5
APHYOSEMION AUSTRALE	6
DO YOU KNOW?	8
ELECTRIC FISH	9
OPEN SHOW REPORT	10
OPEN SHOW DATES 1979	12
CLUB REPORT	13
COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER	18

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## EDITORIAL

This is the first time I have ever undertaken a job like this, so I hope that you will forgive me; for any mistakes made. In order to compile a journal for your enjoyment I require articles, preferably on fish, aquatic plants and other articles connected with the hobby. Even mishaps that have occurred to you that you think may interest other members. In fact, anything that you think would be suitable jot on a piece of paper and give it to me. I would be grateful. Remember it's all very well saying "When can we have an article on fish?", as many do, when you, are not prepared to do something about it.

That's the moaning and groveling over with for this issue. Now on to other things. This will probably be the last Journal before the Open Show (28th April) so a few words to those who want to enter fish - all of you I hope? Remember to hand in your entry form before the day as this saves a lot of time. If you are uncertain of any rules governing entries consult the F.B.A.S. rule book in the library or purchase one from Cindy Cudby our P.R.O. Paint the bottom of the tank black, the fish tend to show better, and also clean it well. Arrive at the Show early in order to bench the fish correctly, transport the fish in insulated boxes so that they do not become chilled and use as much of your own water as possible. Remember that you may get to the Show and find only three entries in a class and wished you had entered, or look along the bench only to find you'd left better fish at home - it can happen.

This job takes a lot of time to compile, and without the help of the chief handle-turner (alias Ken Dyke) and Mrs. Miell who manages to type the stencils from the mess that I give her, wrong spellings especially, it would be a full time occupation. (The Committee, though, are not prepared to pay me full time - rotten lot !!). So, thanks to you two.

My mind has just gone completely blank, so I'll sign off here and not pollute your minds with any more of this garbage.

CHRIS. CHESWRIGHT.

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Well here we go once again with another year ahead of us

First I would like to thank you all for voting me in once again as Chairman-for this Society. I do hope we can maintain our general standard of fish keeping for the next year.

On saying this, at our first Committee Meeting, it was stated that our Auctions are very low on fish, and it was said that this could be due to members of this Society not doing very much in the breeding of fish, so I have asked the Committee to have a think about how we can entice members to breed fish. So if anyone has any ideas let's have them. You may ask what has this to do with our Auctions. The idea is, if we all breed fish our overflow of fish can be brought up to the Auctions, and all members will get a bigger range of fish in the Society, and don't forget you get 75% of the profit made at our Auction, so once a month I will endeavour to write a page, on breeding different types of fish, starting next month with :Blue Acara; so get your tanks out and start breeding, first-for yourselves, and then the Auctions.

Once again our Social Evening was a great success with John Mason presenting the trophies for the year, and the cheese and wine lasted out very well. I would like to thank all members who brought food for the evening. My thanks to Audrey Cheswright, also Dave who I must admit makes a splendid barman, which helped to make such a good evening.

I must say it's nice to see some new faces on the Committee for 1979; perhaps they will come up with some new ideas

Well I will finish now by wishing everyone a very Happy and Prosperous: -Year and good :fish: keeping.

A. J. CHAPMAN.

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### **Unfair cruelty to Dolphins.**

Re-print - Xiphorous, January 1978.

Clareville NEWFOUNDLAND: A charge of cruelty against animals was put against a Mr. Elias Skiffington, who allegedly poked the eyes out of Dolphins with a stick. The Magistrate dismissed the charge saying that the Animal Protection Act applied only to animals in captivity, and not those in the wild.

(Editor's feelings - Why not extend such laws to non-captive animals?)

## **THE 1979 OPEN SHOW**

The 1979 Open Show will be held on Saturday April 28th. Once again, the venue is St. Clements Hall, Rectory Grove, Leigh-on-Sea.

A lot of hard work goes into the Open Show, planning for which is well under way. A great deal of help is required to ensure a successful Show and, obviously, the more people assisting relieves the burden on those already involved. Every member of this Club should be able to spare at least a couple of hours, especially between the Thursday evening and Sunday morning of the Show weekend (even if only to make tea for the rest of us) and I will therefore be asking for volunteers nearer the time.

We have for the past few years held a draw, the profit from which helped towards the expenses of the Show. Due to the increasing number of draws and lotteries now held it is harder and harder to sell draw tickets and make a worthwhile profit, and it has therefore been decided not to hold a draw this year. However, we now need additional sources of income to replace that from the draw. Various suggestions have been put forward, for example a tombola or other stalls at the Show. Any other ideas (legal, please) for raising money for the Show will be welcome.

Remember - this is your Show, the one occasion in the year when we are able to display our hobby for all to see, and it is up to all of us to make the Show a success, both by helping and by entering your fish.

RAY STANFORD.

## KEEPING AND BREEDING APHYOSEMION AUSTRALE .

.....by C. CHESWRIGHT

"But aren't they hard to keep?" is the usual reply I get when I say that I keep killifish. The simple answer for MOST species is no. The easiest to keep must be the *Aphyosemions* and Rivulins, This article is about one specie - APHYOSEMION AUSTRALE. This I have now kept successfully for several years after winning my first pair in a club raffle.

About the fish - it's maximum size is 2½ inches (excluding the tail) or 6cm for metric ones among us. The general body colour of the male is chocolate brown with numerous red spots over the body and fins. The dorsal and anal fins are enlarged and have a white border, the centre of the fins being brown with a violet stripe. The caudal (or tail) has two filaments, one at the top and one at the base of the fin; these are white, the rest of the fin is blue-green.

The colour of the female is duller than that of the male, it being light brown with faint green and red spots, the fins of the female are not enlarged as are those of the male.

A sub specie also occurs, the difference being that it's body colour is golden-brown and it is also smaller, growing to only 2¼- inches (5½ cm. )

They do not require too large a tank, so a few specimens can be kept in a 12 x 8 x 8 tank. The water conditions are not specific. I keep mine in ordinary tap water and the fish have live happily. They can be kept in soft peaty water, and I have done so but the production of this, although relatively easy, requires a large amount of time. Therefore as tap water is the easier; to produce it is what I use. Some books even suggest keeping them in brackish water, as you would with mollies, but I have never had cause to try this.

The tank should be placed in a position that does not receive too much light, as I have found that too much tends to cause the fish's colour to depreciate in intensity. In the same respect the base of the tank should be covered in a layer of gravel to prevent the light from reflecting off the base. Cover the tank well as the fish are good jumpers and when scared tend to rush around, leaping out of the water, so as you require live fish and not dried specimens it is advisable to cover the tank. Put plants in the tank in which the fish can hide; such as Indian fern or Nitella (Naga's to some members).

Feed them, preferably with live foods such as daphnia, grindalworms and white worms, although they will readily take to commercially prepared foods. Remember when feeding live foods to change some water regularly, as when it dies it can.....

foul the water, quickly killing the fish.

Breeding these fish is a lot easier than with most egg-layers. In fact they will breed in the set-up above, and you'll find young fish-swimming around with their parents. But this method does not produce many young. To collect a lot of eggs separate off one or two females, and place them in a small tank (a 6 x 4 show tank is suitable) and feed them well for about a week; this enables them to build up a supply of eggs. Into another small tank place a nylon mop and some clean water followed by a male and the separated female(s). Leave these for about a week, giving them a little food, and then remove the mop to check for eggs. Squeeze it (check before doing so that all the fish are in the tank as I have known people to squash fish!) and look for eggs, these resemble small glass beads; on finding one pick it up and you will find it to be hard. This shows that it has been fertilised. (If it has not been it will squash between the fingers).

Place the eggs in a shallow dish of water containing methylene blue, to prevent fungusing, and, leave these for about two weeks in a warm place, by which time they should begin to hatch. Continue looking for eggs at intervals of three or four days until egg production drops. At this stage return the fish to their original tank to recuperate. At each egg collection a maximum of a dozen will probably be collected.

As soon as the first egg hatches begin to hatch some brine shrimp. This should just have begun to hatch when the young have used up their yolk sac and require feeding. Remove the young with a spoon. (They move fast so this can take a fair time) Place them into a small tank with water of the same temperature as the hatching vessel. Check each day for new young, and then follow the above procedure. The young are large and will accept brine shrimp immediately, then after a week or so the diet should be supplemented with chopped grindal, or white worm. .

After a few weeks they will accept whole worms and fine dried foods. They should now grow rapidly and reach maturity in about four months.

I hope this article has got you interested in trying Killi's as they are, I consider fairly easy fish to keep and breed and also (most importantly) beautiful to look at.

**DO YOU KNOW?  
With Apologies to "Fish Forum"**

- (1) That the Federation of British Aquatic Societies was formed in the 1930's and, in 1978, there were over 180 Societies in the U.K. affiliated to it?
- (2) That the F.B.A.S. has provided its booklets, covering Show Standards, etc. to many other countries, including the USA, Canada and New Zealand, apart from Europe, as we in the U.K. seem to be well ahead on having a well-organised Showing System?
- (3) That S.L.A.D.A.S. hopes that all members will breed (Fishes) in 1979
- (4) That "Fish Forum" is a Journal published jointly by Basingstoke A.S. and South Shields A.S.
- (5) That Fred Gardner may have by now moved to that Island in the Sun known as Canvey, and that his house should be on the highest land-*quote* "4 feet above the sea" ?
- (6) That there are Specialist Societies covering Catfish, Killie-Fish, Guppies, Koi, Cichlids, Marines, and Livebearers. Addresses of their Secretaries can be had from our Hon.Sec.
- (7) That Terry Waller is reputed to be stationary at the moment but we hope to have him fully-furnished early in 1979 for a talk?
- (8) That the longest scientific Fish name I have come across is :- *Phallocerus caudomaculatus reticulatus Auratus* --- Can anyone beat that?
- (9) That Howard Preston is looking for fellow-travellers to Mexico? Ask him for details.
- (10) That Dick Mills is the Editor of the F.B.A.S. Bulletin and that his name frequently appears on the Tele on Saturdays? S.L.A.D.A.S. members can let our Editor know the name of the Programme and the first correct answer will be printed. (There is no prize for this - other than your name in print).

Dave Cheswright.

## **ELECTRIC FISH**

### **A. C. CURRENT**

Electric catfish (MALAPTERURUS ELECTRIUS . ) -

This fish can attain a size of 3ft and a weight of 50lb in the wild but in captivity it reaches a length of 20ins. It has a plump body with a rounded tail and no dorsal fin. The general colour is greyish brown to flesh on the head. It's eyes are very small, they can probably only differentiate between light and dark, and in darkness show luminescence.

The electric organ is situated near the tail; it consists of muscle under the skin, which is divided into many compartments, these are analogous to a battery in that they serve the same purpose. Nerves from the spinal column come to the organ, some to the tail end and some to the head end. The direction in which the impulse flows through these nerves gives the tail end of the organ a positive charge compared with the head end, negative pole. The organ thus acts as a battery (many individual cells joined together), which can give out 350 volts. This is enough to stun small fish, as the current is only small. The electricity is also used to deter enemies, mainly when smaller.

It eats worms and small fish which it captures at night, as they interrupt the constant electrical field around the catfish; this sense is used instead of sight as the water conditions in which it lives are generally murky.

The fish is native to rivers and lakes in Africa, with the exception of Lake Victoria and the eastern rivers north of the Zambesi.

### **ELECTRIC EEL . ( ELECTROPHORUS ELECTRICUS ) :**

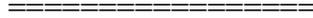
The maximum length recorded for this fish is 6½ ft., but the usual maximum is 6ft. Of this length 7/8ths is tail - the internal organs being crammed into the small area behind the head. Its colour is olive brown and the body is scale-less. The eyes are small, as they are not used to locate prey, or obstacles when moving - this sense has been taken over by an electric field which is constantly generated by the fish. The impulses are generated at a rate of 50 per second and any object entering the field distorts it and the eel is able to distinguish what it is and take the required action.

The electric organ is in the tail and consists of 5-6000 units arranged like cells in a dry battery; it can only operate while the fish is in motion. The fish can give out a shock of 550 volts which will kill any small fish or amphibians which it subsequently eats, and stun larger animals such as horses and humans.

Its native habitat is the Amazon basin and North-east South America, where it lives in water much depleted of oxygen. As a result it obtains oxygen from the atmosphere by gulping at the surface. But oxygen dissociation into the.....

body does not occur in a labyrinth as in Anabantids, but through blood vessels lining the mouth.

Other fish which generate electricity include the Nile fish, a form of knife fish, which uses an electric field for direction finding, and for hunting prey. This is possible as animal's electrical conductivity is greater than that of water, whilst rocks have a lesser conductivity. Therefore according to the distortion caused to the fishes' electrical field by an object the Nile fish can distinguish between prey and obstacles.



### **OPEN SHOW REPORT.**

D.M. Cheswright

Audrey had tried to organise a Coach trip to the **HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS A.S.** Show on Sunday, 17th September, 1978, but there was no support. Chris, Audrey and I went by car and had a thoroughly enjoyable day in brilliant sunshine. Benching was up until 12 noon and we left home at 7.30 and arrived by 9.30 - not bad for 80 miles. We took 16 entries covering classes F, NO-t, T, Xb-m and XO-t (Egg-laying Toothcarps, and A.O.S. Livebearers). The Show Hall was in a hollow and it was a job of work to unload the car, as we could not park very near. We had taken our own water as usual, as the local water is very hard. Cold water only was available to those prepared to descend further to the basement. The staging was scaffold boards on trestles covered with white paper, and everything was excessively bright with the sun shining in. East London A. & D.A.S. arrived in a double-decker bus with 40 people on board, and went away with a bottle of whisky in the the raffle. We had no such luck.

The Show Hall was only a couple of miles from the sea-front, and we spent the day eating, drinking and on the Pier. I understand that Terry Waller and family from East London spent time in the Castle dungeons but managed to escape in time for prize-giving at 5.30. De-benching was allowed before prize-giving and completed afterwards, and we were away by 6.30 p.m. There were just over 400 entries and the Best in Show was a Catfish owned by Mr. Lambert of East London. Out of our 5 classes we took two 1<sup>st</sup> s, two 2<sup>nd</sup> s, four 3<sup>rd</sup> s and three 4<sup>th</sup> s. Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> were plain wooden plaques.

**EAST LONDON A. & D.A.S.** held their 31st Annual Breeders Show on Saturday, 7th October, 1978, at Ripple Road School,.....

Barking, Essex, ..... Support- from Southend was again only myself and Chris. This is the only Show of its type held in the country, and classes covered all Breeders except Coldwater, plus some Pairs classes, Plants and Furnished Aquaria. The individual class of the latter attracted 40 entries of 12 -x 8 x 8 inch tanks - this must be something of a record, and the standard was very high. The total entries were about 280 which proves that some Aquarists still breed fishes. Ten Societies were represented apart from East London. The children's painting competition attracted a large entry as well.

Tanks were provided for all Breeders' entries and, whilst this made the Show look tidy many entries were in tanks which were far too large — we would have preferred to use our own show tanks. Although the staging was covered in black plastic we thought that the bottoms of the tanks should have been painted black as there is still a clear bottom effect when only plastic is used. Benching was on Friday evening, and we went back to the Show on Saturday afternoon. Trophies were presented at 5-30 p.m. by Bernard Pye and most winners received gifts of foods, etc. as well as Shields. I had only expected to win anything in Class Xt, Breeders A.O.S. Livebearers, and was beaten into second place by one point. Chris was more successful and won two 1<sup>st</sup> s, one 2<sup>nd</sup> and one 3<sup>rd</sup> .

The.:1979 .Show Season starts in March. In 1977 about 5 members entered other Societies' Shows but in .1978 this went down to just us,, Going to Shows does require planning and time in getting entries ready to take and looking after them beforehand -with a view to showing. Most of you have a day out now and again so why not go to a few Open Shows in 1979??? You can have some very enjoyable days exploring the countryside and seaside, around the various venues.

There must always be better fishes at home somewhere than at the Shows and, if you do not give it a try, you do not know if you have show-standard fishes or not. Also, there is the friendly atmosphere of meeting and chatting to other Aquarists from all over, thereby improving your knowledge of the hobby. Remember that support of other Shows must result in more support for our own. Many times I have heard people say "I don't go to their Show because they never go to anyone else's"

**OPEN SHOW DATES - 1979**

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (1) March 17th _or 24th,   | RIVERSIDE A.S.                       |
| (2) 31 <sup>st</sup>       | CROYDON A.S.                         |
| (3) April 1 <sup>st</sup>  | REIGATE & REDHILL A.S.               |
| (4) 22 <sup>nd</sup>       | NORTH KENT A.S Provisional Date      |
| (5) 28 <sup>th</sup>       | <b>SOUTHEND</b>                      |
| (6) 29 <sup>th</sup>       | HAVANT A.S.                          |
| (7) May 5 <sup>th</sup>    | BRIGHTON Provisional Date            |
| (8) 6 <sup>th</sup>        | BOURNEMOUTH A.S,                     |
| (9) 12 <sup>th</sup>       | TONBRIDGE D.A.S.                     |
| (10) June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | SUDBURY A.S.                         |
| (11) 10 <sup>th</sup>      | SARACENS A.S                         |
| (12) , July ????           | SOUTH EAST LONDON A.S.Date to follow |
| (13) Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup> | BETHNAL GREEN                        |
| (14) 8 <sup>th</sup>       | KINGSTON A.S                         |
| (15) 15 <sup>th</sup>      | . HOUNSLOW A.S                       |
| (16) 23 <sup>rd</sup>      | . TONBRIDGE A.S.                     |

## CLUB REPORT

### 7<sup>th</sup> November 1978

As has been the case in auctions in the past few years the amount of goods for sale was not very great; there was a time when the front of the stage would be packed – mainly with fish.

#### F. Egglaying Toothcarps

1 <sup>st</sup>	C.Cheswright	Aphyosemion australe	76 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	C.Cheswright	Aphyosemion australe	74
3 <sup>rd</sup>	A.Moltino	Rivulus agilae	70
4 <sup>th</sup>	A.Moltino	Panchax playferii	66

#### Fy

1st,2nd,3rd & 4th G.Savill with 69, 68, 66 & 64 points

The Judge was Derek Durrant who disqualified one of my entries because it had his black tape covering a crack.

#### K Danios and W.C.M.M.

1st	D.Cudby	Zebra danio	76 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	D.Cudby	W.C.M.M.	75
3 <sup>rd</sup>	S.Chapman	Pearl danio	64
4 <sup>th</sup>	A.Raymond	W.C.M.M.	59

The judge was Fred Gardner

=====

### 21<sup>st</sup> November

Tonight a talk was given on the marine life of Britain and the escapades of the Ilford Club.

#### Members Best Fish - Senior

1 <sup>st</sup>	D.Cheswright	Two spot livebearer	84 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R. Neale	<i>Barbus fasciatus</i>	75 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	P.Bore	<i>Barbus tetrazona</i>	74 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	R.Faulks	Cichlid zoma	73 points

#### Members Best Fish Junior

1 <sup>st</sup>	S.Bore	Bitterling	70 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	G.Savill	Firemouth cichlid	69 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	D.Phillips	Golden sailfin molly	68 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	J.Wood	Three spot Gourami	67 points

The judge was Dave Edwards.

(continued)

The results of the Home furnished Competition, judged by Dave Holliday and Andy Smith, were announced – they were as follows:-

1 <sup>st</sup>	G.Dyer	162 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R.Davies	152 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	D.Cudby	147 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	L.Faulkes	144 points

There were only eight entries this year, but I am sure a few more of you must have a community tank that is worth entering.

=====

### 5<sup>th</sup> December

Tonight was the night of the A.G.M. When our new Committee is elected. A list of these unfortunate people can be seen earlier in the Journal. I, on that terrible evening got conned into the job of getting this Journal together. I thank nobody.

The table Show was the Hard Luck for those members who did not win a first prize during the year.

### Hard Luck – Senior

1 <sup>st</sup>	A. Chapman	Opaline gourami	73 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	S. Chapman	Harlequin	72 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	P. Bore	Tiger Barb	71 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	K. Turner	Swordtail	69 points

### Hard Luck – Junior

1 <sup>st</sup>	C. Dickinson	<i>Julidochromis regani</i>	73 points
-----------------	--------------	-----------------------------	-----------

Judged by Derek Durrant

### Raffle Winners were:-

K. Turner	Glasses
J. Wood	Glasses
S. Boore	Crackers
C. Dickinson	<i>Xenotoca eiseni</i>
A. Moltino	Balls (as for use on Christmas Trees)
R. Wylie	Bells (as per above)
A. Chapman	Plant
W. Hadkiss	Scraper

-----

**SOUTHEND' LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST'S SOCIETY**

**TABLE SHOW TROPHIES 1977-1978**

**19th December**

The annual S.L.A.D.A.S. booze up, or cheese and wine party. Those who came, I believe, enjoyed themselves, and staggered home contented. Ron Faulks was heard to say "Keep yer 'orrible mits off them pickled onions" more than once, and by the end of the evening people began to keep their distance. Dave Holliday after the presentation was seen to be drinking a vin (note the French!) of exceptional vintage -'Chateau Duraglit 1972' from one of the awards.

The awards were presented by Johnny Mason, an ex S.L.A.D.A.S. President and honorary member. The awards were as follows :

Duboisson Cup	Best Characin	G.Dyer
Len Willis Cup	Best Killifish	C.Cheswright
Stan Hyde Cup	Corydoras-Brochis	D.Cudby
Windermere Cup	Best Marine	-----
S.L.A.D.A.S. 4	Best Coldwater	S.Bore
Saunders Cup	Runner-up Coldwater	R.Davis
Barnes-Oak Cup	Xbm Egglayers	C.Cheswright
Coronation Cup	Xot Livebearers	S.Bore
S.L.A.D.A.S. I	-----	
S.L.A.D.A.S. 2	Best Plant	J.Wood
Giles Cup	Home Furnished	G.Dyer
Pond Trophy	Pond Trophy	R.Davis
Members Challenge	Members Challenge	R.Neale
Ed.Nichol Cup	-----	-----
Stan Halsey Rose Bowl	Highest Pts. in T/Show	R.Davis
South Church Cup	Highest Pts. in T/Show runner up	J.Wood
Brooks Shield I	Mini Tanks	R.Davis
Brooks Shield II	Mini Tanks Runner up	D.Phillips
Hard Luck Cup	Hard Luck Senior	R.Davis
S.L.A.D.A.S. III	Open Show	D.Cheswright
Jones Cup I	Member Best Fish	D.Cheswright
S.L.A.D.A.S. 5	Member Best Fish junior	S.Bore
Meritorious Breeding Shield	-----	-----
Abbot Cup	Highest Pts.in T/Show (Junior)	J.Wood
Southend Sports Centre Cup	Hard Luck Junior	-----

=====

**SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST'S SOCIETY**  
**ROSE BOWL TROPHY 1977 - 1978**

The Stan Halsey Rose Bowl, the TROPHY everyone wants, is for the member who receives the most table show points throughout the year was won by Ron Davis this year - the points attained for the other members are as follows :-

<b>SENIORS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
R. Davis	80
C. Cheswright	48
D. Cheswright	42
D. Cudby	35
D. Holliday	32
G. Dyer	32
R. Neale	27
J. Wimbush	19
R. Wylie	17
D. Durrant	14
S. Spicer	9
L. Faulks	9
A. Chapman	8
A. Moltino :	6
F. Gardner	6
J. Wylie	4
K. Dyke	4
T. Waller	3
K. Bentham	3
T. Blackmore	2
D. Dodd	2
D. North	2
S. Chapman	2:
P. Bore	2
B. Street	1
A. Raymond	1

<b>JUNIORS</b>	
J. Wood	62
S. Bore	52
G. Savill	45
I. Phillips	31
D. Phillips	25
I. Archer	15
I. &9odall	13
G. Dickinson	10
M. Paterson	9
R. Smith	9
M. Spivey	6
P. Cole	2
G. Buckley	2

### Novelty table show

1 <sup>st</sup>	A. Moltino	Shoal--of Tin Foils
2 <sup>nd</sup>	T. Moles	Chocolate Gourami
3 <sup>rd</sup>	R. Neale	Pencil fish
4 <sup>th</sup>	G. Savill	A fishy home

The judge was Mrs. D. Chapman

### Raffle winners were,:

D.Cheswright	Box of crackers
D.Cudby	Glasses
D.Holliday	Christmas pudding
R.Neale	Dates

### 2nd January 1979

This was the night that the north wind blew hardest so most people decided to stay-at'home. About 20 people braved the roads and arrived, but one after falling off his bike several times-gave up and went home. We all sat around a heater and were entertained by Dave Holliday, who took his pump to bits with a lot of encouragement from Ken Dyke, and Dave Cheswright, who showed how to make a small show tank.

### Ez Labyrinths

1 <sup>st</sup>	P.Boore	Opaline Gourami	78 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	P.Boore	Opaline Gourami	69 points

### Ezy-

1 <sup>st</sup>	P.Cole	Opaline Gourami	78 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	G.Savill	Dwarf.Gourami	75½points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	G.Savill	Dwarf.Gourami	75 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	I.Archer	Dwarf.Gourami	72 points

There were no entries in **class 0** - Senior male guppies

### Oy

1 <sup>st</sup>	G.Savill	Male guppy	81 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	S. Boore	Male guppy	75 points

### Raffle winners were :

Mrs. Walker	Beer
Mrs. Burgess	Sweets
Mr. Wimbush	Sweets

## COMMITTEE MEETING

### 12th December 1978

The meeting was held at 5B, Fairlop Avenue, Canvey. Those present were:- President, Vice-president, Secretary and Messrs. Moltino, Cudby, Dyke, Holliday, S.Chapman, C.Cheswright and Mrs.Cheswright and Cudby.

Secretary said Mrs.Cudby's appointment as P.R.O. at the A.G.M. was incorrect, as she accepted a post for which she nominated someone else., She was unanimously co-opted onto the Committee.

### Matters arising

Mrs.Cheswright said Steve Spicer has agreed to provide his disco at dances provided transport is supplied. She was asked to check if the Great Wakering venue was still available without a disco supplied.

Mr.Stanford has notified the "Aquarist", "Practical Fishkeeping" and the Water Company of the Show date. Secretary said Juniors are complaining about the IOp charge for show tanks. It was suggested to have sealer as raffle prizes.

President said he has a Shield for Mr.Spicer's medals.

### Treasurer's Report

Balance held at £160. Mr.Pyke suggested more use of the Deposit Account. Secretary said he would mention this to Treasurer. A.O.B.

Mr. S.Chapman to sell raffle tickets at meetings.

Bids at Auctions must go up at a minimum of 5p in future. Mr.Holliday asked if the half rate for senior citizens applied to all club activities. It was then said that it applied only to subscriptions.

Vice-president asked if Herpetology talk (snakes) was being booked for 1979. Secretary said he was trying to book a date.

F.B.A.S. are trying to run a London show, cost £7,500, and require volunteers to help organise it.

Secretary said East London are trying to get Marlow and Witham & Braintree to join in Inter-club. It was agreed to have only 3 auctions in 1980, the January one being dropped.

Ways of raising money for the Open Show were discussed and the P.R.O. and Journal Editor were told of their duties.

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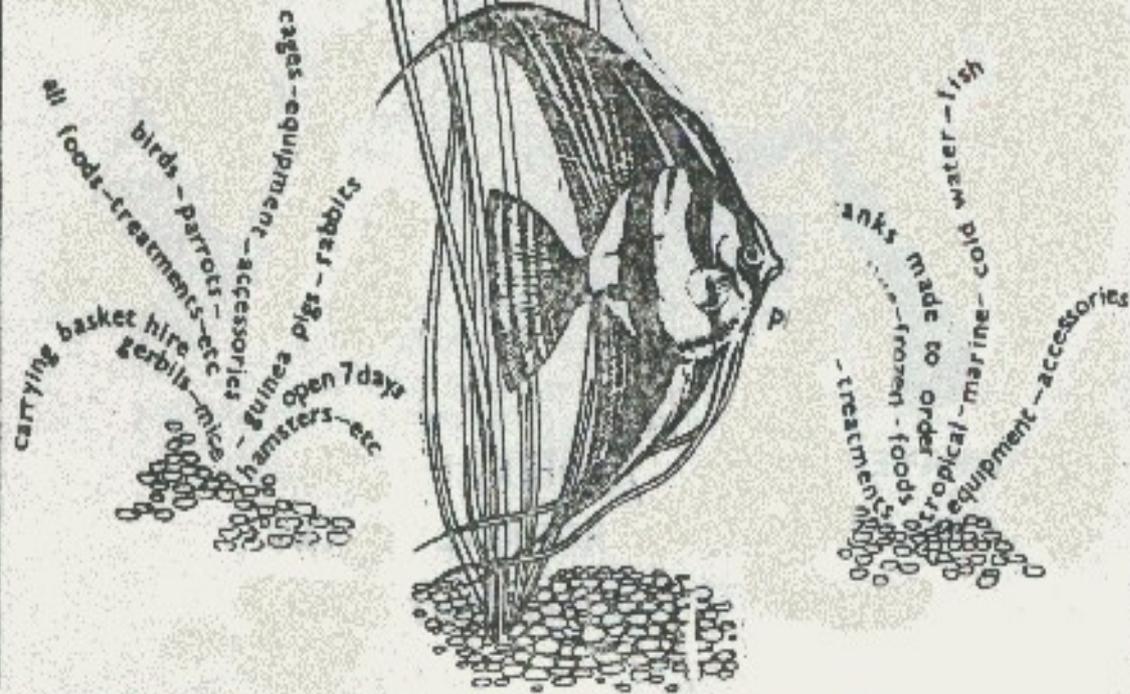
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(COLDWATER IN SEASON)

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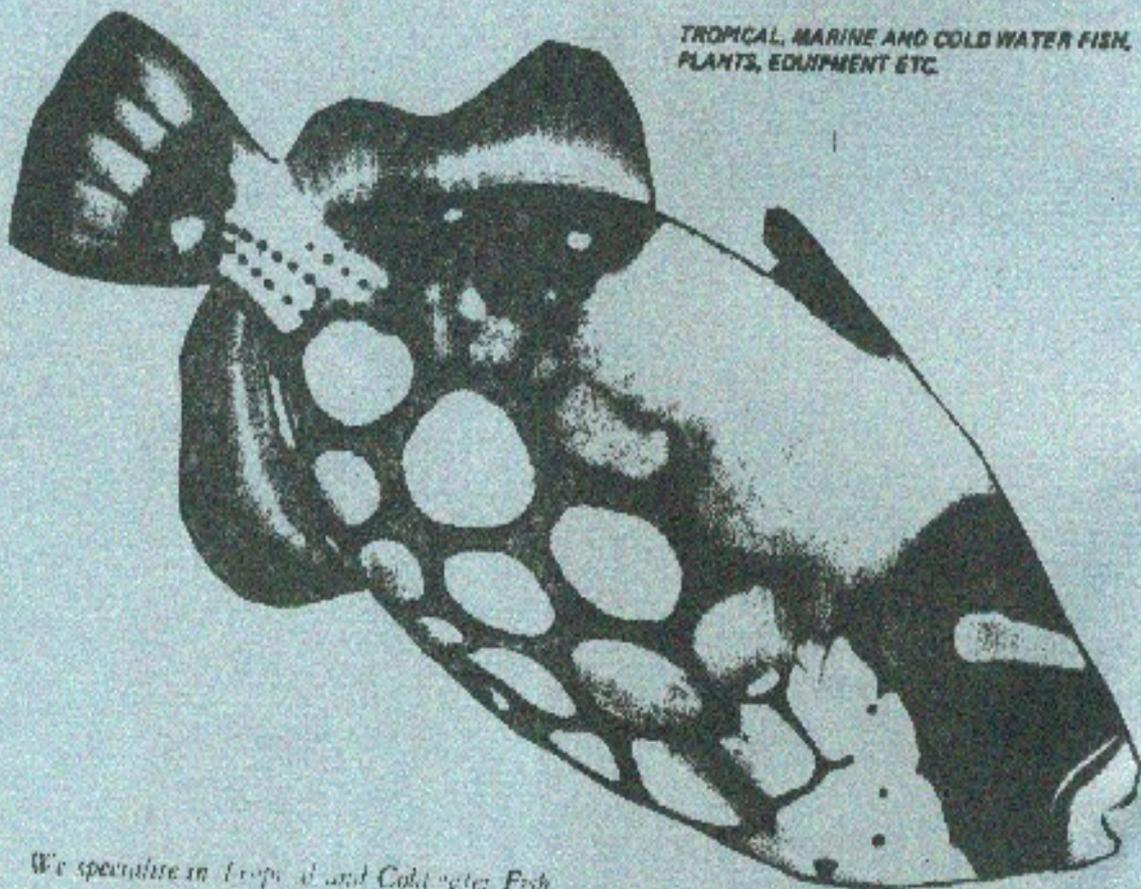
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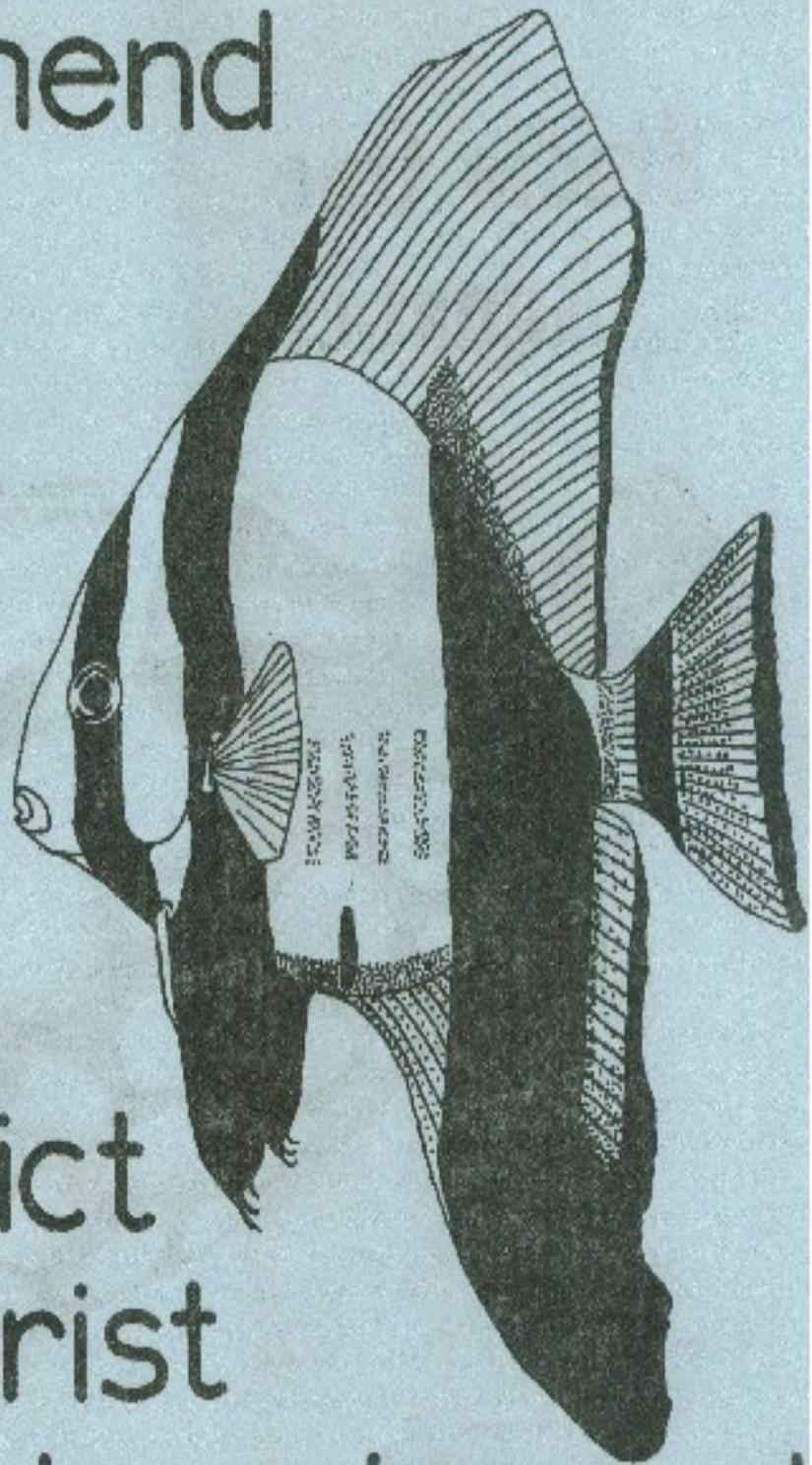
Southend

Leigh

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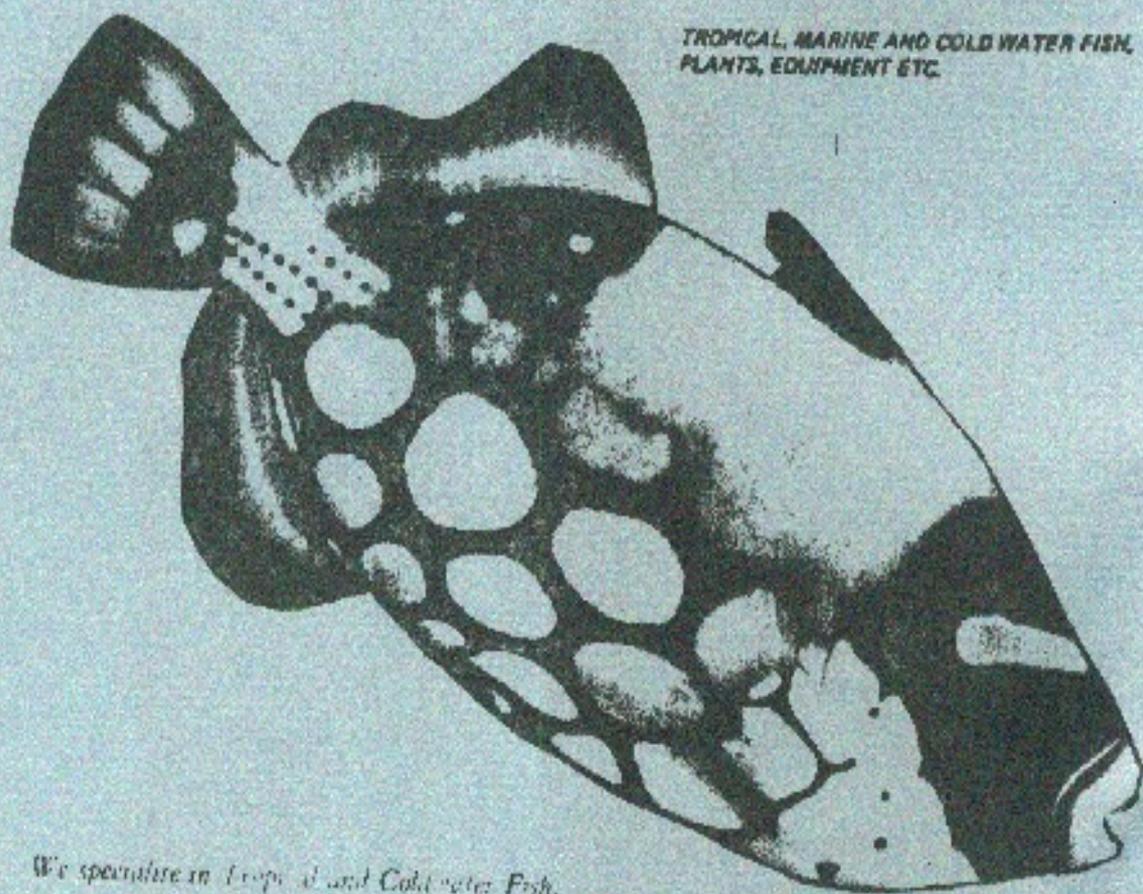
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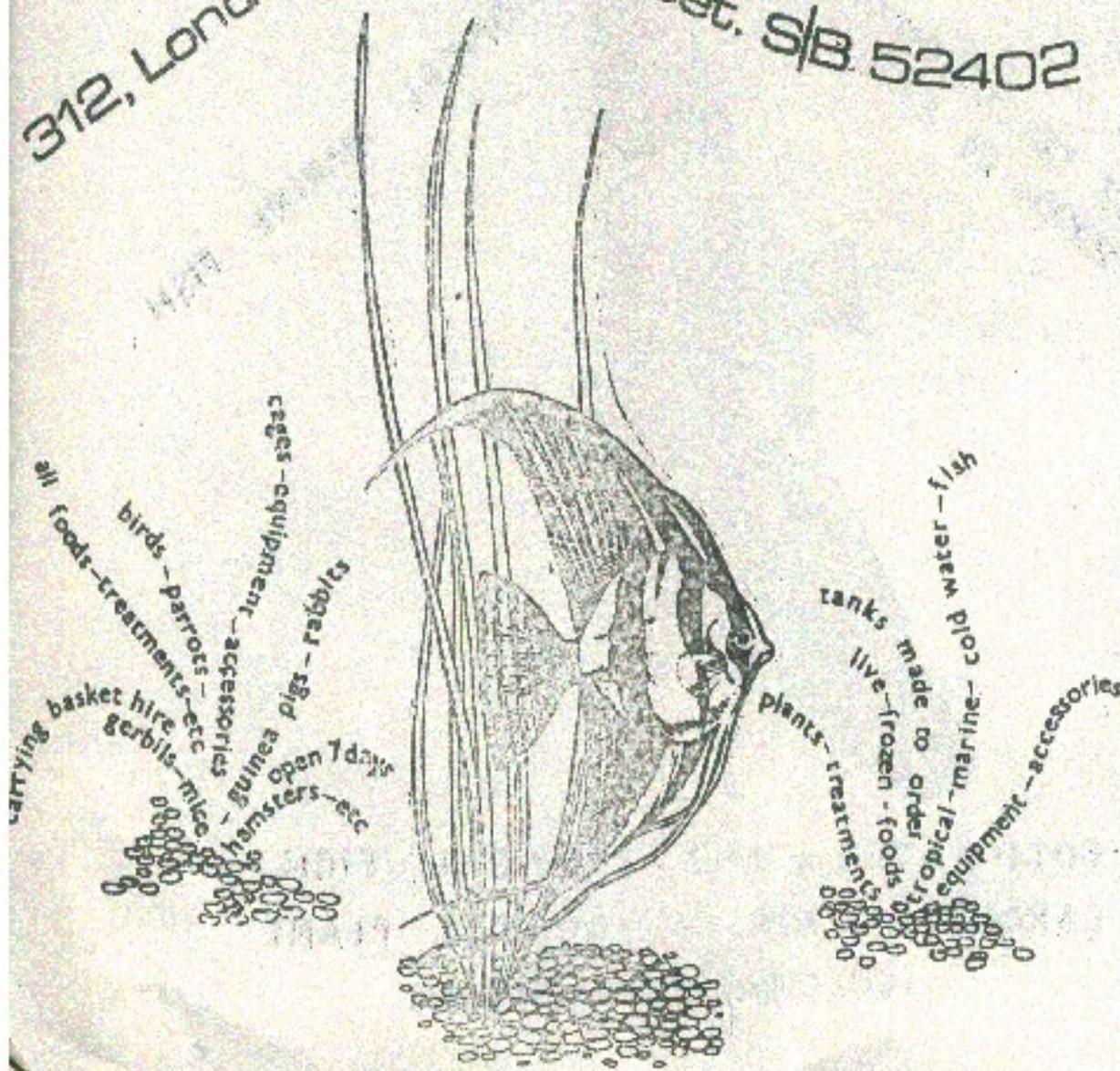


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# DJ TROPICALS & PETS

312, London Road, Benfleet, S/B. 52402



**SOUTHEND, LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**  
**(Founded 1935 or before) -**

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 a.m.

Venue:-

ST. ANDREWS HALL,  
ELECTRIC AVENUE,  
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
(Entrance in South View Drive)

BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL NO, 75

MARCH - APRIL 1979

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CONTENTS

	Page
OFFICERS FOR 1979 .....	2
EDITORIAL	3
PRESIDENTS PAGE	4
NOVELTY TAELE SHOW M.E. CHAPMAN	5
A PAIR OF JEWELS RAY STANFORD	6
LETTER TO THE EDITOR E.BLADDERWORT .	7.
BEGINNING WITH- FISH C. CHES WRIGHT .	8
SILICONE SEALANT TONY MOLES	10
BASS MEETING	11
OPEN SHOWS	12
Club Reports	14
HENDON CONVENTION	17
COMMITTEE MEETINGS	18

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Mrs. C. Cudby, (As D. Cudby)

### **Committee Member**

S. Chapman, 1A, Canvey Road, Canvey Island, Essex .

## EDITORIAL

With any luck you should be reading this on the day of our Show (or before!) So I would like to thank any members of other clubs or members of the public for purchasing this Journal. As is usual at Shows most Southand members will be busy, but if you have any queries or problems just ask a steward, or come to the SLADAS stand, where we will try to help you out. This also goes, for SLADAS members at meetings, who shouldn't be scared to ask questions.

Any way, back to the usual nonsense of this page. Reading through some old Journals (circa 1948) I was amazed to find, that the entry fee for a table: show was 6d (2½-p) which is about the same as our juniors pay now, so they had better not complain about exorbitant entry fees, or we'll take 31 years' inflation into consideration! Also in this issue the Ed.: (much to his relief) has had to contribute very little, due to donations from members, but please! keep these articles rolling in, or the next... issue will contain more of.: my dribble so; don't let it be said that you haven't been, warned!

P.S. the answer to question 10 in "Do you know?" in the last Journal is Doctor Who, Dick Mills also appeared in Nationwide a few weeks ago.

Thanks are due to Montrose Electrical Engineering Company ---for the donation of components for Open Show Trophies. This Company manufactures the., well-known -"Major", "Minor" and "Magnetic" Air Pumps

## **PRESIDENT'S PAGE**

By the time you all have read this Journal our 1979 Open Show will either be well on the way or it will be on that day. As you will all be aware our Open Show this year in approximately one month early.

It is a very hard thing to try and organise a Show that does not clash with some other activity which is going on in the area around us, such as Carnivals, Football Cup Ties etc. The other year Mr. Axlerod was speaking at Hendon and I must say it made quite a difference to our Open Show, so as you can see there is quite a lot of thought and surveying goes on just to find out what day to have the Show.

Any way the main thing is we have a Show on the 28th April, and I hope this year will be one of our best Shows yet, as we have put a few new ideas into it, also we have a new Open Show Secretary - Mr. Ray Stanford, who I am sure will do his utmost to make this Show a very entertaining one for the Public & Exhibitors, so give him and our Society all the help and support you can. Talking of help, after the Show on Saturday and Sunday this is the time when a lot of help is needed - because it takes from Thursday night to Saturday to prepare for the Show but we have only the matter of a few hours to break down and pack away, so once again give him a few hours of your time and remember he and many others have given many many hours of their free time to put this Show on.

One more thing before I finish put in as many entries as you can they all stand a chance.

Best of Luck to all exhibitors, and I hope that the public will all enjoy looking at our hobby. Please come along to our meetings and learn all about our fascinating Wonderful World of Water.

Thank you all for coming

Alan Chapman (President).

**NOVELTY TABLE SHOW**

There once was a lady called Dot,  
Who put all her friends on the spot  
For she was a judge  
At the local fish club  
for the funniest show of the year.  
She waltzed round the floor  
and wrote down the score.  
She looked in the tanks .  
and tried to be frank  
But she still had one more to go  
So she stood right up on tip-toe  
She reached for the shelf  
But fell in herself  
and won first prize for best pair.

M. E. CHAPMAN.

## A PAIR OP JEWELS.

By Ray Stanford

Having persuaded various livebearers to breed and having managed to raise some fry, I felt a bit more ambitious and decided to attempt to breed egglayers. But which species?

One day, looking through a dealer's tanks I saw some rather drab-looking cichlids in a tank labelled "Jewels". I went home, looked in my books, saw the pictures, read the descriptions of the breeding of the fishes (*Hemichromis bimaculatus*) and my mind was made up. So what if they were allegedly aggressive, I was going to keep the pair on their own and anyway those breeding colours!

So I purchased what was almost certainly a pair about 1½ inches in size and put them in a 20 gallon tank with gravel, a few rocks and a clay flowerpot. I can't remember now, but I probably naively expected to see fry after a fortnight. The fishes ate anything, grew quickly, and dug around but that was all.

Six months or so later, the fish were 3½ inches but still no fry. Not feeling patient I gave them some convicts for company. Yes, you've, you've guessed it, a couple of days later they laid and their breeding colours were even better than the photos I'd seen

. I whipped out the convicts, sat back and waited. Next day the eggs had disappeared. A week later they laid again and the same happened. Another week and it was third time lucky, the eggs laid as before in the flowerpot, hatched in two days and fell to the bottom of the pot. After a further couple of days the fry were free-swimming. The sight of the fry swimming in a shoal, with the parents (still in breeding colours) acting like shepherds, was amazing.

From a rough estimate of 200 eggs laid, there were about 60 fry remaining to grow on after natural losses and a bit of thinning out. They were left with the parents for about a month, then transferred to another with some difficulty (due to their pugnacious nature) when they had reached 1½ inches,

After the fish had laid a further couple of times I reluctantly decided that the problem of disposal of the fry and the amount of growing-on space necessary to prevent them killing each other just outweighed the fascination of breeding these beautiful fish.

So I sold them and have regretted it ever since.

Utricularia,  
Runnawelle,  
Bogford  
Esex  
Friday last

The Editor  
SLADAS Journal.

Sir,

May I be permitted to take up your valuable space (notwithstanding the welter of articles that I understand are piled on the editorial desk awaiting publication) to make a complaint about the quality of aquatic goods in the local shops.

In 1952 I purchased a pressed steel framed aquaria of above average dimensions, some 9 inches by 4 inches by 6 inches deep, a truly magnificent receptacle for the culture of aquatic creatures. The tank was purchased from a local firm "???" Aquatics. I leave out the exact name as the establishment after several changes of hands now has no reputation as an aquatic dealer.

Early in 1978 the said aquaria collapsed. The pressed steel had rusted through in several places, and the putty no longer held the glass in place having been crumbling away over the past two years.

Now I purchased this Aquaria in good faith for the exorbitant sum of seven shillings and sixpence and I think you will agree that 26 years service is a very poor show, what! It is lucky that at the time of collapse the tank only contained a few larval snails, the cull of my intensive breeding program - entering breeding snails to act as rector for bilharzia in temperate climates. It is my ambition to introduce this tropical disease into the U.K, and in this cause I am in receipt of funds from the Manpower Services Commission as, if I am successful; the spread of the disease will greatly lower the number of unemployed seeking work. This government agency has set me the target of debilitating at least a million persons, think what this will do to the figures of unemployed in what is probably an election year.

Still; I digress; the point is that this aquaria is obviously of poor quality workmanship, and I am at my wits end to know who to turn to, to take up my case.

I tried telephoning the Department of Trade but the official on hearing my sad tale simply made an unseemly noise by placing his tongue between his lips and blowing forcibly.

I phoned the P.M. but his secretary said " --- off mate".

I tried the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but again spoke to a secretary who said "Th` gaffer's doin` 'is sums. Ere - do you know what per cent means, 'cos 'e don't?"

I thought perhaps the-opposition leader could help but when she answered the phone and I told her my troubles, she

simply said "What else do you expect my man! "

You, dear Editor, are my last resort. Could you possibly come to my aid and warn your readers of the short life of my aquaria, still in use, made of pressed steel.

Yours,

Elias Bladderwort.

Eds. note. Elias will be remembered by many of the older club members under an alias!

### **BEGINNING WITH FISH -**

C. Cheswright

Just starting to keep Fish, or thinking about it? Well read on and you may find out a few things of interest.

Initially a tank has to be bought. I suggest a tank between two and three feet to begin with. This must be placed on a sturdy floor, as a tank this size once set up can weigh a couple of hundredweight. With the tank a hood should be bought to house the lights (either ordinary bulbs, or more commonly now fluorescent lights or gro-lux, this form brings out reds and blues in fish). Fluorescent light is probably the most natural form. The tank should be placed so that it receives some daylight to help the plants' growth.

Other equipment required will be a pump - for an airstone or filter (if required), a heater and thermostat to maintain the tank's temperature if tropical, and a thermometer to check on this temperature. The filter can come in various forms all of which serve the same purpose - to keep the water clear. Also to keep the tank clean a scraper is needed to clean the glass, and a bucket and piece of hose to change some water -about a bucketful a week is quite adequate.

Now things required to add to the beauty of your aquarium - this depends on your tastes, but basically what you need is gravel, rocks, and/or wood. The gravel should be washed in running water to remove dust, and built up in the aquarium to a depth of about 3 inches at the front to 6 inches at the back - this makes the dirt roll to the front to ease

cleaning. Rocks should not be jagged, as fish could become injured, and they shouldn't contain crevices where dirt or fish could become trapped. Wood should be boiled well before placing in the aquaria to remove dirt. After placing in the rock, wood and gravel, fill with water and connect up the heater, thermostat and pump. - following instructions supplied, remembering to keep all wire joints above the water level as water and electricity are not compatible. Leave set up like this for a few days for the water to mature and the temperature to stabilize. Now you can purchase some plants. I can't give any information on this as it depends on your tank's position and the amount of light it receives. Ask your aquatic dealer, or experiment with several kinds of plant; one's sure to grow.

Leave the tank a further week or two before you buy any fish. Start off with some smaller species of compatible fish. Your dealer or fellow fishkeeper could give you some ideas on this. When you get them home turn the tank lights off and float the tanks for a while to stabilize the temperatures, then introduce the fish slowly. As a -general guide to the number of fish, for coldwater every 24 square inches of surface water one inch of fish should be added, and for tropical for every inch of fish 12 square inches of surface water is required (but remember fish grow).

Your fish should be fed a large variety of food, flake, freeze dried foods, live foods, etc., but do not over feed. A general rule for dried foods is add as much as can be eaten in 5 minutes. Keep your tank clean by regular water changes and removing any dead plant, and algae from the glass. Don't worry about leaving your fish during short holidays as they can survive quite well on rummaging around the tanks.

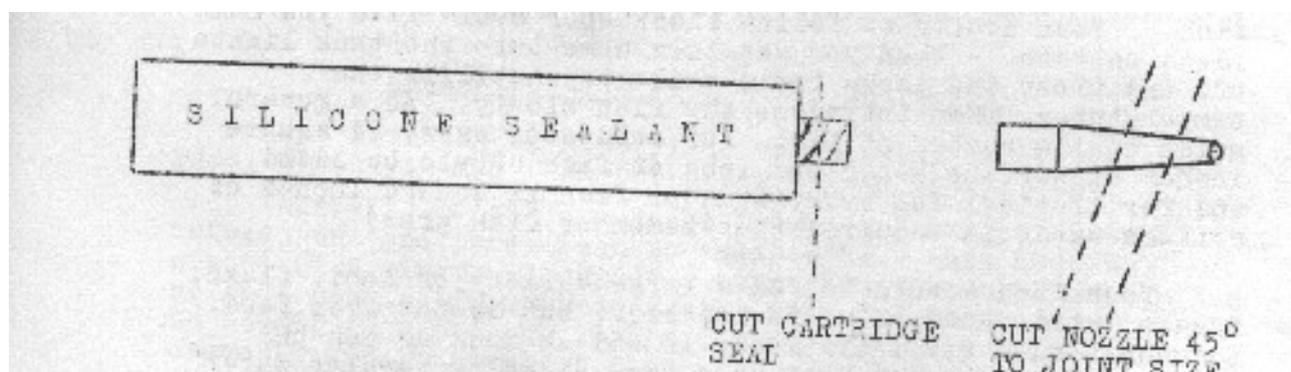
Hope this article has been of some help to someone?

## A GUIDE TO THE APPLICATION OF SILICONE SEALANT.

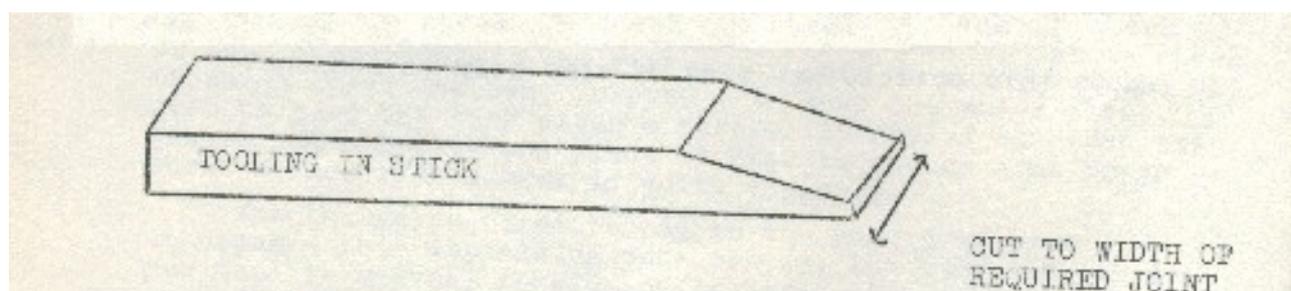
T. Moles,

Silicone sealant has a number of uses for the aquarist and is fairly easy to apply, if you have the right tools. Most important is a frame gun (you can borrow one from the Club library) and some plastic nozzles. Insert a cartridge of suitable sealant in the gun. Dow Corning is the best for the making of fish tanks as it goes off faster than most other clear silicone sealants. Coloured silicone sometimes has anti-fungal ingredients in it and should not be used.

Next cut the cartridge seal with a Stanley knife and screw on the plastic nozzle. If a small show tank is to be made, cut the nozzle to a width of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch or if a larger tank is to be made, cut the nozzle so that its opening is  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch wide, as a wider joint is required.



Now that you have everything ready to apply the silicone, what you need now is a tooling stick. This is a small piece of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch soft wood, cut to the shape below. This is used slightly wet to push the silicone into a neat fillet joint and to make sure that there are no holes in the silicone joint.



Now you can go ahead with the construction of the tank. Small tanks up to 10 gallons can be made using 32 oz glass. Larger tanks require plate glass. Make sure all surfaces to

be jointed are clean, dry and free from grease, as a final precaution, the edges to be jointed can be wiped over with methylated spirit. Lay the base glass on a level surface and run a small line of sealant along the top front edge. Sit the front glass onto this silicone and prop the glass up with some bricks or heavy books. Make sure the glass is square with a spirit level before making the first joint. Holding the gun at an angle of 45°, gently squeeze the trigger so that the silicone fills the joint at an even width throughout its entire length. If the gun is not clicked off after use the sealant will continue to come out. To click the gun off push in the square plate situated behind the spring mechanism.

Because silicone starts to form a hard skin after ten minutes or so, each joint needs to be tooled in after application. Continue with the two end glasses and then the back, paying special attention to the corners. When jointing the upright sides start sealing from the bottom and do not forget to run a small amount of silicone on the edges first. This cushions the glass. A tank made with the glass touching could crack when filled up. After allowing a day or two for the silicone to cure, test the tank out of doors. If there is a leak, skim over the offending joint after thorough drying out of the tank. One final warning, until fully cured, the silicone releases acetic acid, detected by the smell of vinegar.

## **BASS MEETING**

— By C. Cheswright

—

BASS (British Aquarists Study Society) held their first Meeting of 1979 on the 10th March. The subject was "Killies", on which talks were given on the genus *Aphyozemion*, bottom spawners, and collecting fish in Africa. Afterwards we looked around the London Zoo Aquarium - after the Zoo had closed. Those present from Southend were Howard Preston, Dave Cheswright and myself.

## OPEN SHOW REPORT.,

D.Cheswright

The 1979 Show season opened with the RIVERSIDE A.S. Show on Boat-race day at Fulham Palace Road, London S.W.6 Benching was from 11 p.m. on the day of the show 17th March. Chris could not come as he works on -Saturdays and Audrey and I arrived the hall at about 10 a.m..

We did not take many entries as we were going on to the Hendon Convention and would not get home until about 11.30

The Hall left a lot to be desired. The small hall where the Plants and Furnished Aquaria were benched had a leaky ceiling but, luckily the rain did not continue and a couple of buckets on the floor took care of the problem. The main Show Hall was in dire need of decoration and we were sorry for the ladies on the refreshments as they had to continuously go up and down the stairs to make tea, etc.

However it is to find suitable halls and this one definitely very difficult very difficult had more space there was much more space there was at the same Show last year. We found there was much more room to get organised. The benching was on a scaffold board/trestle system covered with black plastic. Some classes, however, were partly backed by plastic and partly on the top shelf where there was no backing. I have mentioned this point before that the whole of each class should be under the same conditions. If not you have some entries in full daylight and others with the black backing -this must affect the development, etc- of the fishes in the class. We left the Show after benching and went off for food and drink with Marvyn Strange and Phill Martyn from Basingstoke. The intention had been to watch the start of the Boat-race which was about half a mile away. What with the drink and discussions of fishes we suddenly we suddenly realised it was nearly 2.30 p.m., and when we got to the River it was all over!!! Dave North and Bob Smith were at the Show, and they went off to the Ideal Home Exhibition.

We arrived back at the Show and found that we had won 1st in Class No-t (Pairs, Livebearers) and 2nd in Z (Plants). We were not away from the Show until nearly 6p.m. and arrived at Hendon at 6.45. The Show had about 700 entries and the standard was quite good. The Riverside members are not allowed to enter their Show, except for the F.B.A.S. Championship class, which was R (Platys) and the number of entries was, taking this into account, very high.

We were the only Southend members at the CROYDON A.S. Show on Saturday 31st March.. We left home at 8.30 a.m. and were there by 10. The hall was very suitable with plenty of.....

space and windows high up down each side, similar to our own Show Hall at St. Clements. Benching was on tables plus one section of tiered stands all covered in black plastic. Organisation was very good and there were no hold-ups in benching. We had entered 7 classes, covering Live-bearers and Killie-fishes plus one Shubunkin and a Characin. There was a novelty "Largest Snail" class which was won by a huge Apple Snail, prize £1. There were also Juniors' and a Ladies' trophies for highest points. The "Magic Roundabout" snail did not get a prize!! I understand that there were 600 entries' — good, taking into account the fact of a Show at Reading the next day. Audrey and I went off into Croydon and had a look round the shops for an hour or so. We found a Fruit and Vegetable market with about 100 separate stalls where prices were much lower than in Wickford and Southend. Judging was to start about 1,30 p.m. and we went back at 4°. However, there were only six judges and they did not complete the job until 5.45 p.m. What a tremendous job to give to so few judges. Best in Show was taken in class Cb (Characins) by Mr. Chapman, BASIHGSTOKE A.S. The quality of the entries was very high throughout the Show. The Breeders classes were of 6 fish instead of the usual 4 but were very well supported. One had to be disqualified for having 7 fish. When we arrived the only card we had was a 3rd in class S (Mollies). Almost the last classes to be judged were the pairs and the breeders and we were amazed and pleased to find that we had taken 3 of these 4 1sts. The 1st prizes were glass mugs inscribed with ;a Fish, together with food or cures, 2nds and 3rds received Rosettes. Many of the Perpetual trophies had been made in wood by a member and were very good. Brighton A.S. took the top points trophy and made much noise every time one of their members went for his cards, which were presented by Bob Esson, Chairman, F.B.A.S. We thought that the rattle they had with them should have been banned!!!! These ought to be restricted to football matches. Because of the late finish we did not leave until 7.45 p.m., by which time the Show had almost been dismantled.

## CLUB REPORT

### 16th January

Dave Cheswright gave a talk tonight on fish foods. He brought with him dozens of pots full of things such as peas, beef heart, bemax, and a contribution from Dave Holliday - a pot of stinking micro worms. Hope you all feed your fish properly now on a well varied diet.

#### **B - Barbs** - 10 entries

1st	R. Neale	Striped barb	78 points
2nd	R. Davies	5 Banded Barb	77 points
3rd	P. Boore	Nigger Barb	73½ points
4th	C. Cheswright	Chequer barb	73 points

#### **By;** - 11 entries

1st	M. Phillips	Tiger barb	90 points
2nd	I. Goodall	Rosy Barb	77 points
3rd	S. Boore.	Aurilius barb	76 points
4th	S. Boore	Aurilius barb	75 points

#### **Q - X. Helleri** - 2 entries

1st	R. Neale	Black sword	73 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R. Davies	Red sword	70 points

#### **Qy\_** - 7 entries

1st	I. Archer	Black sword	71 points
2nd	G. Savill	Black sword	70 points
3rd	S. Boore	Red sword	64 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	G. Savill	Red sword	61 points

The above were judged by Derek Durrant and Alan Chapman.

#### Raffle winners:

Mrs. Perry	Kitchen holders
Mrs. Burgess	Tray
Mr. Woollard	Scraper
Mr. Cole	Butter dish

### 6th February

Another auction -night with a good selection of decent fish, as usual the juniors outbid the seniors and went home with the majority of fish. There are no table show results as tonight was the first leg of the challenge,, judged by Derek: Durrant. There were 18 senior and 7 junior entries.

### Raffle winners;

C.Dickinson	Glasses
J.Wimbush	Mirror
D.Cudby	Scraper
Mr.Birnie	Bucket
K.Turner	Cannisters

### 20th February

A talk was given tonight by Dave Hickraan on the do's and dont`s of showing fish. This also included going through the table show and pointing out the correct and incorrect things to do, I bet a few members wished he hadn't found the incorrect things on their tanks and pointed them out to the rest of the club, but I'll expect they won't do it again for a while. Also present was Terry Waller who may be making a come back to our club after a period of absence.

### C - Characins - 7 entries

1st	R.Davies	serpae	76 points
2nd	T.Moles	blind cave fish	75 points
3rd	P.Boore	serpae	74½ points
4 <sup>th</sup>	P.Boore	serpae	74 points

### Cy\_ - 18 entries

1st	S.Boore	bleeding heart	70 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	S.Boore	silver tip	67 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	S.Boore	silver tip	66 points
4th	J.Wood	head & tail light	64 points

### M-A . 0. S. Egglayers 7 entries

1 <sup>st</sup>	R.Davis	Ruby shark	66 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	C.Cheswright	Ruby shark	64 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	P.Boore	Ruby Shark	63 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	A.Chapman	Redtailed black	62 points

### My-6 entries

1st	P.Cole	Ruby Shark	67 points
2nd	G.Savill	Goby	65 points
3rd	I.archer	Applo shark	64 points
4th	S.Boore	Reed fish	61½ points

### 6th March

Tonight Dave Holliday's dad gave us an informative talk on how the parks in Southend are run.

#### Ea - Siamese fighters 7 entries

1st	J.Wimbush	Male fighter	47 points
2nd	Mrs.Burgess	Male fighter	46 points
3rd	Mrs Walker	female fighter	44 points
4th	Mr. Somner	Male fighter	43 points

#### Eay - 7 entries

1 <sup>st</sup>	P.Cole	Male fighter	72 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	G.Savill	Male fighter	65 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	S .Boore	Male fighter	63 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	G.Savill	Male fighter	60 points

Table show judged by Dave Holliday.

#### Raffle winners:

Mrs. Smith Valves  
Mrs. Cheswright Net  
S. Boore Scraper  
D. Cudby White spot cure

### 20th March

Alan (THE PRES.) gave a talk for the beginners among us, and probably some useful tips to the more experienced fishkeeper, I myself missed this as I had to judge the table show - all complaints about my judging must be brought up with the table show secretary who will then, hopefully never ask me again!

#### R - Platies

1st	R.Davis	Platy	62 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R.Davis	Platy	59 points

#### Ry Platies

1st	P. Cole	Platy	72 points
2nd	J, Wood	Platy	65 points
3rd	G. Savill	Platy	63 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	G. Savill	Platy	61 points

**L -Loaches** 4 entries

1st	J.Wimbush	Weather loach	66 points
2nd	D. Smith	Clown loach	61 points
3rd	Mrs. Burgess	Clown loach	60 points
4th	R.Davis	Coolie loach	58 points

**Ly**

1st	G.Savill	Coolie loach	69 points
2nd	S.Boore	Coolie loach	68 points
3rd	G.Savill	Coolie loach	64½ points
4th	J.Wood	Coolie loach	64 points

Sorry, but I have lost the raffle results for this meeting. All I know is that it's about time I won!

**Hendon Convention**

D.Cheswright

Audrey and I went on to Hendon after the Riverside Show on 17th March. It was a pity that the dates were the same as it was all a bit of a mad rush. However, this Convention, held annually since the 1950's is well worth going to.

Mr. Bill Tomey from Holland was already into his lecture when we arrived. He had 2 slide projectors working together and was talking on his many trips to the Tropics collecting Fishes and Plants. With the two projectors he was able to show both the fish and the location where they were caught; also local people who assisted. His lecture was extremely interesting and humorous, e.g., the fresh-water "lobsters" which cost a lot of money and eat all your fishes!!! (during the night). He emphasised the quality and intelligence of the local peoples and the fact that the modern dress and goods which are almost forced on them is lowering their way of life. Their generosity and friendship could not be overpraised. There were so many plants and fishes shown that it was impossible to take notes of them for this report, Mr. Tomey's lecture went on until about 9.30 p.m. with a break for refreshments and the usual raffle was held. At the end of the evening Mr. Tomey was made an Hon. Member of Hendon and D.A.S. This was the third time he had been over to the Convention as the lecturer.

### **COMMITTEE MEETING 30th January 1979**

At 2, Cedar Avenue, VTickford, Essex.

Present: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Messrs. Cudby, Holliday, Dyke, C. Cheswright, Mrs. Cudby and A. Cheswright.

Matters arising Mrs. Cheswright said Social on Friday 8th June at Great Wakering. Secretary said there was no information re a London show. Has also arranged meeting to discuss interclub.

A.O.B. Mr. Dyke suggested that Members' names, addresses and interests should be placed in the Journal to encourage members to visit each other. Decided to have a draw for show prize this year a tank set up.

Format of show trophies was discussed. A trip to Kew Gardens was arranged for the 3rd June.

Secretary said a new Club had started in December at Halstead. (Nr. Braintree Essex) It was agreed to cancel the Meeting of the 1st January 1980 - due to the bank holiday. It was agreed to give the Hard Luck trophy to the current winner, and not the winner of the previous year.

### **COMMITTEE MEETING 27th February 1979**

At 22, Grove Road, Rayleigh., Essex. Present: Entire Committee.

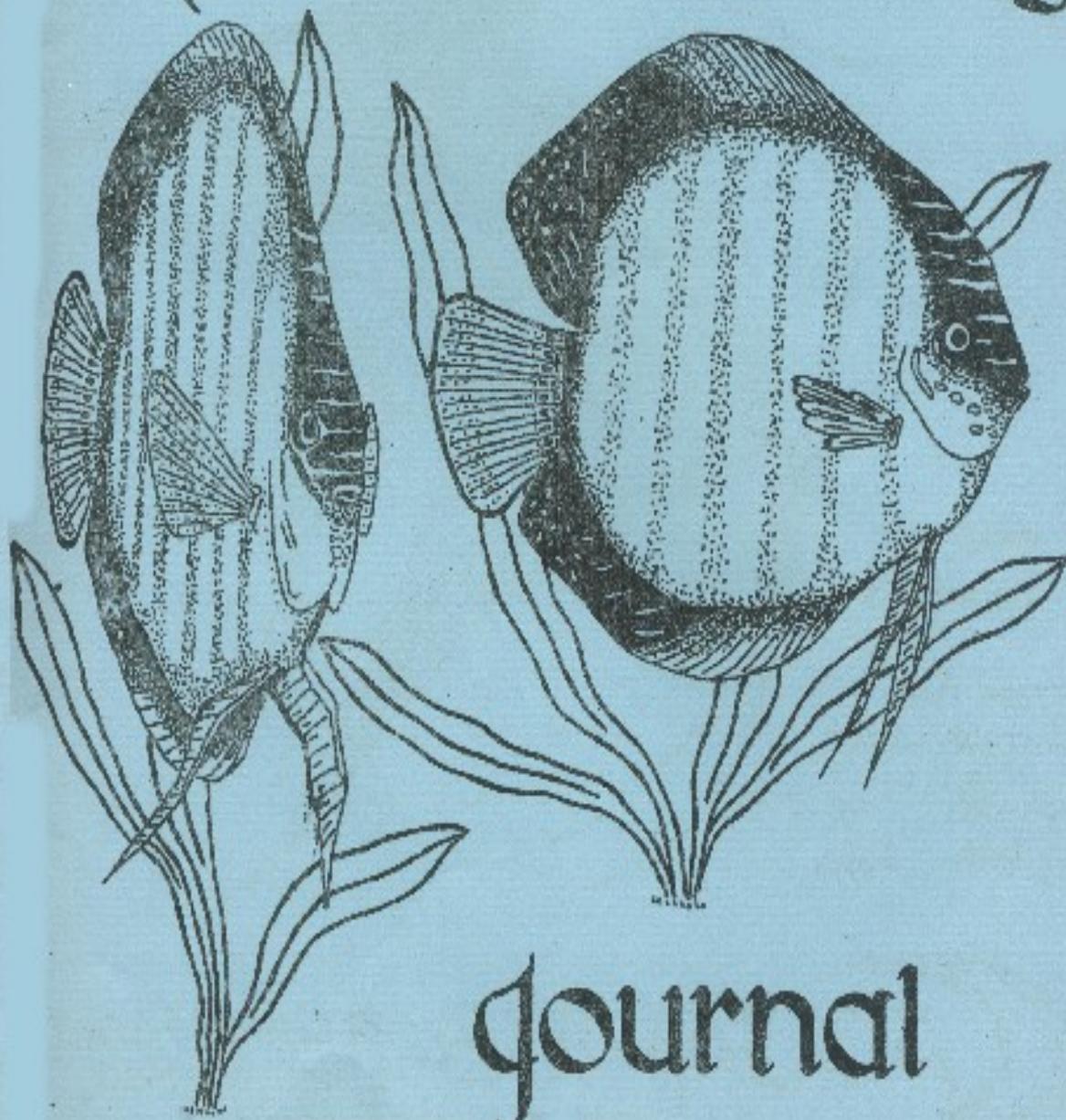
A Social has been booked for 26th October at Great Wakering.

Mr. Moltino will act as Show Manager for 1979 Show.

The show trophies were again discussed. It was decided to try and obtain some new books for the library.

The Meeting closed at 10.30 p.m. (Early for once)

# Southend, Leigh, and District Aquarist Society



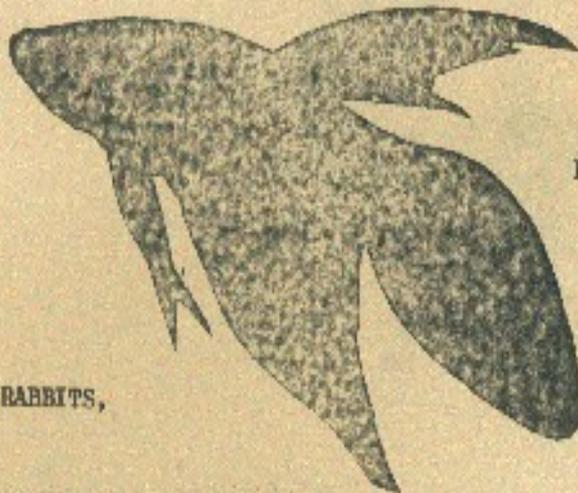
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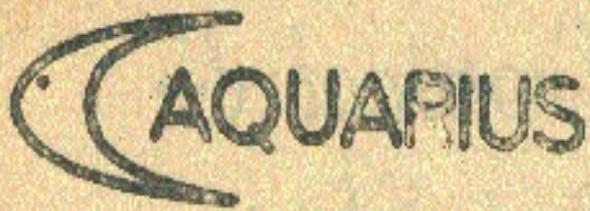
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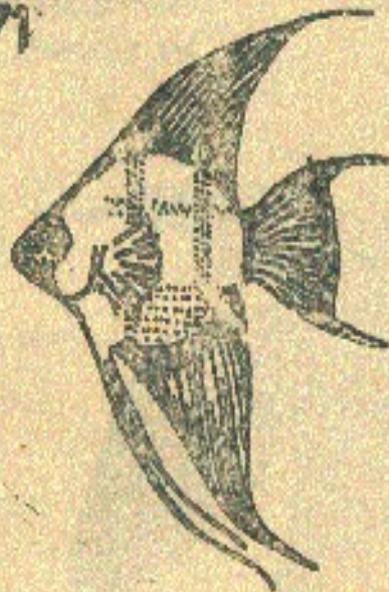
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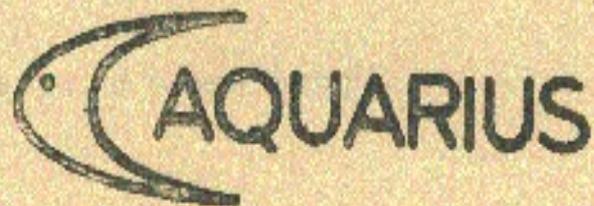
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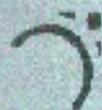
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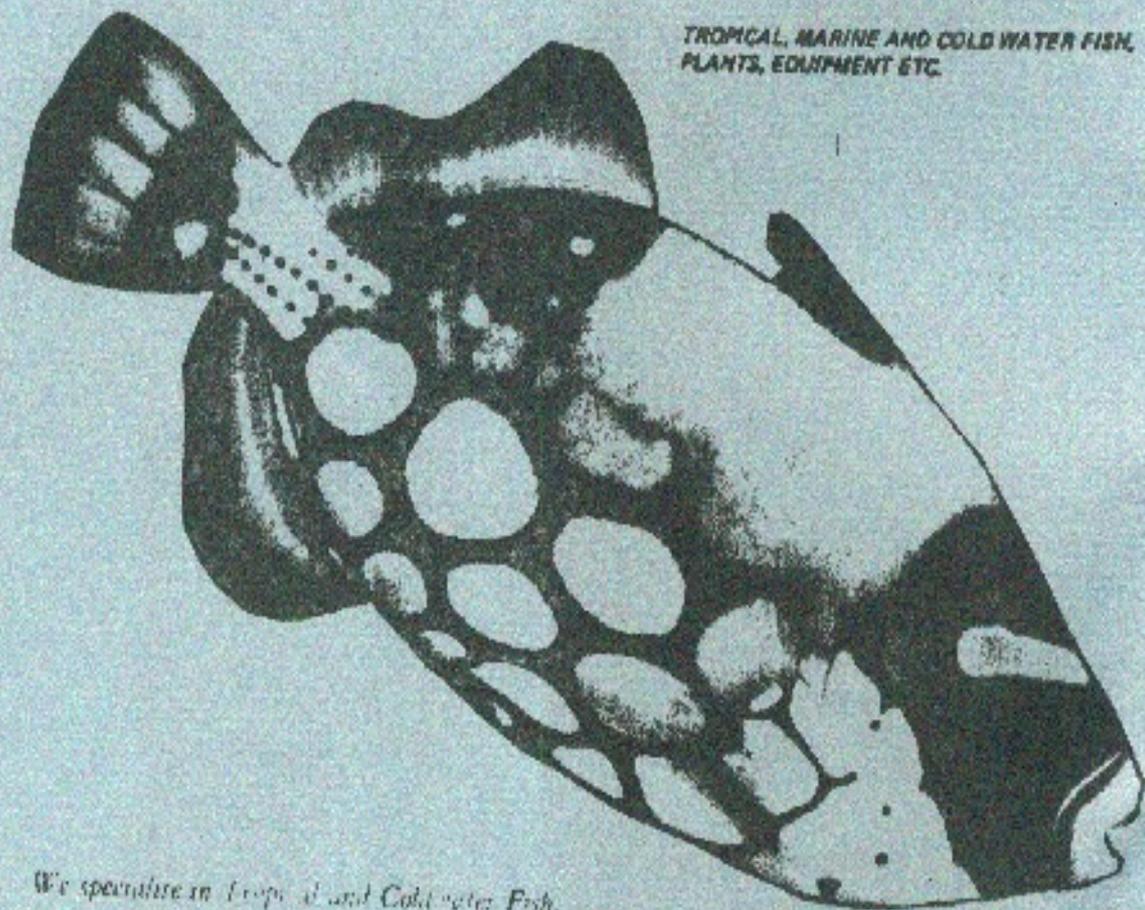
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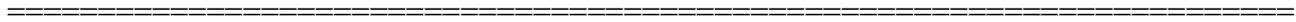
**SOUTHEND, LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**  
**(Founded 1935 or before)**

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.  
Venue :-

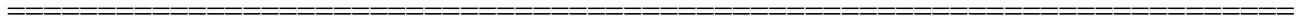
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**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL NO. 77**  
**JULY - AUGUST 1979**



<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
OFFICERS FOR 1979 .....	2
EDITORIAL .....	3
PRESIDENTS PAGE . . . . .	4
AQUARIUM FISHES FROM SOUTHERN FLORIDA J.H.PRESTON,	5
SEAWORLD .....	C.CHESWRIGHT..... 8
GENETICS - A BEGINNING . . . . .	C.CHESWRIGHT..... 9
SPAWNING HEMIGRAMMUS NANUS .	F.J.WALKER ..... 11
OPEN SHOWS .....	12
JAVA FERN . . . . .	JEANIENE SMITH .... 14
CLUB REPORT.....	15
COMMITTEE MEETINGS , . MAY AND JUNE .	18



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**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

MRS. A. CHESWRIGHT (as D, Cheswright)

## **EDITORIAL**

This is my fourth attempt at the Journal, and I am now getting into the swing of things and hope that you have found something of interest in them. I thank the shops that have advertised in this Journal, as without the money from them we would run this at a very considerable loss.

Our Treasurer is now a proud father. His wife Kath gave birth to a boy in August, and I'm sure you will wish them all great happiness in the future.

Back in July the "AQUARIST" Magazine held a Show at Alexander Palace. On Thursday the 12th my Dad (Dave Cheswright) and I went up to the Show in the early afternoon. I went via Euston Station to collect some fish, and we arrived there about 2 p.m. At this stage the hall was in uproar with all the trades stands in various stages of completion. Anyway we helped to put up some tableaux and then benched our fish in tanks provided. We left the hall at about 10 p.m. Judging took place on Friday morning, and the hall opened at 2 p.m. to the public. It was also open on Saturday and we returned on Sunday morning - before opening - to help on a stand, The whole show was enjoyable and there was plenty to see and do, although the prices were a bit extortionate.

We won a first, second, 3 thirds and three 4ths. Jim London entered and also went away with a few prizes. Other Southend members who came were Bob Smith and S. & A. Boor, Maybe next year Southend could have a tableaux?

**PRESIDENT'S PAGE**

Dave Cheswright

We have had changes on our Committee this year. Alan Chapman has almost gone from Canvey Island and we all wish him and Dot well in their new venture as Pub Managers at Hitchin, Hertfordshire, Chris is about to leave to pursue his studies in Marine Biology at Swansea — I understand this is somewhere in the remote wilds of the U.K. The Journal will, therefore, need a new Editor urgently. Ray Stanford may be changing jobs in the near or distant future and has had to turn down the job as Show Secretary for 1980. Depending on if and when he leaves we may need a new Treasurer as well.

There are 12 members on our Committee; this is now down to 9 and perhaps 8. At the A.G.M. on 4th December, 1979, you will need a complete number of 12 - there is more than enough work for 12 to do and a full complement is essential. So, chat amongst yourselves and please find members who are willing to take on the various jobs. We have had a few very active and hard-working new faces on the Committee in the last 2 years or so and a few more should do the trick, plus a Show Secretary who is additional to the 12. Ray has been doubling up on two jobs.

Jim London has been joining us in entering Open Shows and has been doing well in the Prize Cards; he has also picked up more than one Best in Show. One or two other members have also been spread our name amongst the Open Shows. Please let our Editor have a report of any Show which we do not go to. I did remind members that there is a Trophy for the most Points at Open Shows, including our own, and points must be totalled for Year ended 31st October 1979, as soon as possible after that date and handed into Dave Cudby. Points are 1 for entering each Show plus 4, 3, 2 and 1 for 1st to 4th Cards won. You count double points for Aquascapes, Furnished Aquaria and Breeders' classes. Get your computer out Jim!!!! -you must be catching up.

Costs of running the Social on Friday, 26th October, at Great Wakering, are high as we are having a Live Group. Tickets are £2, including Buffet and. Audrey has plenty to sell. We must have well over 100 there to cover the costs. Please bring all your friends and relations.

I often wonder whether members visit each other or whether the only contact of most is at Meetings. We can all learn a lot by seeing other members' set-ups and I would like to see this encouraged next year. Perhaps members could offer to have "open evenings" at their homes between meetings. Obviously only a small.....

(Over)

**PRESIDENT'S PAGE (Continued)**

number could be handled. This is just an idea which you might like to chew over.

A sad note which must be included is the death of Hugh Parrish who was Hon. Secretary of the F.B.A.S. for several years, Hugh passed away in July and he will be hard to replace, Mrs, Parrish has asked for donations to Cancer Research.

DO NOT FORGET THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Then is the time to come up with your suggestions on Rules, the running of the Society, next Year's Committee and Programme at Meetings,

=====

**AQUARIUM FISHES FROM SOUTHERN FLORIDA**

by J. H. Preston

Many of the waterways of Florida, within a few miles radius of the City of Miami and including even the drainage ditches on Miami International Airport, are full of fish. The most abundant are three species-of livebearers which are well known to aquarists: the green sailfin Molly (*Poecilia latipinna*), the tiny Mosquitofish (*Heterandria formosa*), and the *Gambusia affinnis*,

A good spot for catching fish is the Miami Canal between Hialeah and Miami Springs, This is only a ten minute ride from the Airport, by bus or taxi. Even some of the local dealers fish here! The canal at this point is only a couple of miles from the sea at Biscayne Bey, but I did not sample the water for salt content. An hour or so spent here with only an ordinary aquarium net can be quite rewarding: I will not attempt to list all the fish which may sometimes be found, but I will mention some of those which I have caught. Apart from the three species of livebearers mentioned in the first paragraph, there are a fair number of Brown Acaras (*Aequidens portalagreensis*), as well as Jewel Cichlids(*Hemichromis bimaculatus*), which seem to have become naturalised here far from their original home. As the Brown Acaras often reach nine or ten inches in length, perhaps it would be better to try for them with rod and line! At the other end of the size scale is one of the most attractive of the north American native fishes, the Blue-Fin Killie (*Lucania goodei*). This fish is not very well known here in England: it grows to only an inch, or two at the most (!) and has a brassy body colour with a black lateral stripe, but as the common name suggests, the most striking feature is the blue and red edging to the fins, especially those of the male,

(Over)

I have in the past brought a few Blue-Fins back to the U.K. but they have never become established. They are unfortunately a very shy fish, but not difficult to spawn. I once had some fry appear in the garden pond, in August. We in the Southend Society always seem to end up, eventually, with just a handful of males -maybe they are tougher than the females? Possibly someone in the B.K.A. is stillkeeping them.....

To the west of Miami, along the road leading to the Everglades are many streams where there are magnificent specimens of the American Flag Fish (*Jordanella floridae*). Here again, I brought a dozen or so young specimens back a few years ago with the intention of introducing new blood to our aquarium strains, but I don't think anyone was successful in breeding them. A pity. There are all sorts of other fish which may be discovered. One which is rather rare is the Pygmy Sunfish (*Elasomma evergladei*) In the Miami area, at least, they seem to be scarce and I only caught two in three visits.

Another short journey from Miami was southwards along the road to the Florida Keys, In a roadside swamp near Homestead, with its tomato fields and Air Force Base, I found two more species of killies. One was *Fundulus chrysotus*? sometimes called the Golden Ear from the bright spot on the operculum (gill cover), Most of the *F. chrysotus* from the Homestead swamp were the black-spotted variety, a colour mutant which seemed to be largely lacking in the few specimens I caught further north: they were just plain red and green. We have managed to maintain and breed the Golden Ear in the Southend area but only in very, very limited numbers. I believe they like a slightly higher temperature than is essential for many of these other semi-tropical Florida fishes, but that is not the real problem, I would have been able to breed many more Golden Ears, but my time and tanks are largely taken up with livebearers, as many of you will know. They again spawn quite readily, in normal killie fashion, in plants or nylon mops over a period of time though Dave Cheswright once had a pair spawn in the pairs class at an open show; not surprisingly, the eggs didn't hatch! Again, the *chrysotus* is perhaps a shy and retiring fish (though also a good jumper) and perhaps this is why it is not more popular.

From the same swamp came a few more killiefish, of similar size and shape to the foregoing, but rather drab in colouration being basically grey with a series of dark vertical bars. These grew to about three inches but probably could have reached a larger size but there were only a few and they were never properly identified. Most probably they were another specie of *Fundulus*, of which there are quite a number. I did obtain a number of eggs.

-

in due course but they never hatched, so I passed the "pair" on to Dave Cheswright and he had exactly the same experience. Maybe they were not a true pair at all - we may have had two females, or two different species-

The Gambusias are interesting: they abound everywhere, and with this species in particular, it is very noticeable how many of them never reach a large size, remaining as "runts" all their lives. So this doesn't only happen in the aquarium! It is perhaps a matter for debate whether the black spotted type, commonly known as holbrookii, is actually a separate species or sub-species; I am not a scientist or an ichthyologist but it is my opinion that it is no more than a colour variety. Plain grey Gambusias are the general rule: black spotted females are rare, but black spotted males are common enough but sufficiently prized for the local dealers sometimes to go out and collect them. Plain grey females may give birth to spotted young and unspotted ones in the same brood, in roughly equal numbers, according to my observations (the parent male here I should think was a spotted fish). Gambusias straight from the Miami canal do not travel that well, and to illustrate this I will mention one homeward journey from Mexico that I made with Steve Jordan of Harlow some four years ago. We had arranged to fly at breakfast time from Mexico City to Miami, and then on home from there to London on the evening flight. This careful planning gave us a whole afternoon in Miami. The Mexiaea fish in their plastic bags were deposited in the luggage locker at Miami airport and Steve and I took a taxi out to Miami Springs for a couple of hours by the canal, as previously described! On these occasions of course time passes very quickly and it is true that I wandered nearly a mile upstream and almost caused us to miss our London plane. We arrived quite breathless just in time to collect our other fish and check in for the flight, and now of course clutching a couple more bags of fish each. It was all rather hectic and the new fish had been shaken about a bit and nearly all the Gambusias died within a couple of hours, but fortunately just a few survived. The impression of hurried chaos was heightened by the take-off from Miami being through the usual thunder shower as we headed out into the Bermuda Triangle. The best remedy, we found, for the depression caused by the loss of many of the fish we had only just acquired, was a couple of bottles of wine each when dinner was served. It certainly shortened, the flight to Heathrow!!!!

## SEAWORLD

Seaworld can only be described as a very large aquarium and marine amusement centre. The one I visited was at Aurora, Ohio, From Pittsburgh, where I was staying we went via the Pennsylvania turnpike, which on entering Ohio becomes the Ohio turnpike. Anyway after a drive of 2 or 3 hours (at a maximum speed of 55 m.p.h.) we reached our destination. Using the half price vouchers we had acquired from a filling station we entered.

Inside there are many attractions, the first of which is the Japanese garden that like many others contains numerous large Koi. Next to this is a large display of sea shells and a pool into which a young girl dives to collect oysters that contain artificial pearls (made by placing a piece of foreign matter in the shell).

Onto the next attraction; a display to show how trout are reared in a hatchery, from egg to adult. On again past the alligator pool and the Hawaiian gift shop, one of several gift shops, to the aquarium. Although not enormous in size it was well worth seeing. Outside was a large pool containing some of North America's shore life. Inside there were several vary large tanks, at least 15' square containing dozens of enormous fish in immaculate condition.

Also around the walls were many small tanks with crystal clear water and equally good fish. It was by far the best public aquarium I have ever seen., They must have some big filter to keep that water clear.

After this we had a rest and watched some water skiing on the lake, after which we wandered over to the dolphinarium - an arena that must have a seating capacity of well over a 1,000. We sat away from the front seats as we didn't want an early bath, the first 5 rows being designated the splash zone. The dolphins do the usual tricks, but have you ever seen an 18ft Killer Whale do the same tricks? It was amazing to see Shamu (the whale) leap right out of the water through a hoop and back in again drowning the first 5 rows.

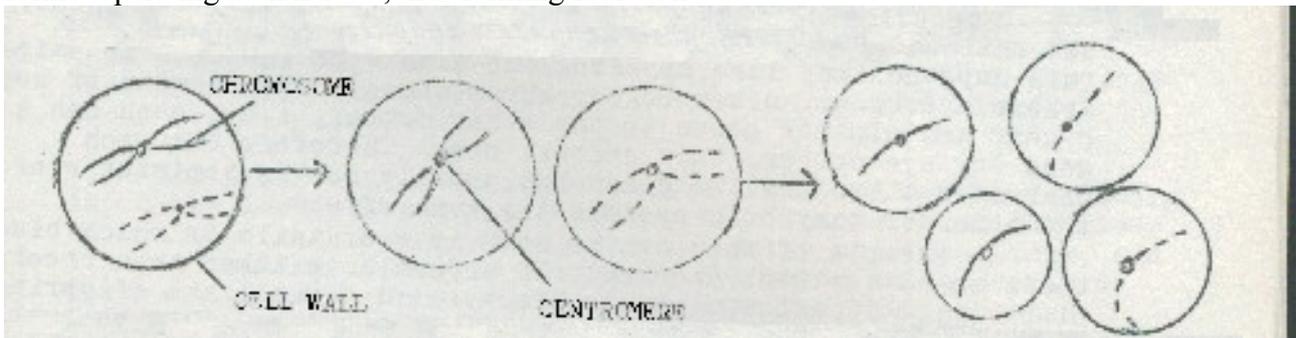
Apart from those main attractions there are more smaller ones these include a pool in which, are some porpoises. These are very friendly and come to the surface to be stroked, but they also have the habit of swimming round in circles causing a whirlpool which soaks everyone - much to the porpoises amusement I'm sure. A dear enclosure that you can enter to feed them. Also the inevitable ducks and flamingoes, and streams running through landscaped gardens.

A very enjoyable place, with too much to be seen all in one day. Worth a club visit? (Tickets are £300 each!! Anyone still interested??).

## GENETICS

This subject can become very complicated. In this article I will only discuss some of the basics and try to explain some terminology.

To start at the beginning all body cells contain a specific number of chromosomes (the number depends on what specie the individual is); these have along their length many thousands of genes, which determine the characteristics of that individual. Each one of the chromosomes consists of two identical halves, called chromatids, joined at the centre by a centromere. During a process called meiosis in the production of gametes - (which contain only half the number of chromosomes of normal body cells) or sperm and eggs, there are two distinct stages. In stage 1 half the chromosomes move to one end of the cell and the others to the other end. After this occurs a wall forms through the cell's middle - in effect forming two cells. Then in stage 2 the chromosomes of each of these two cells are lined up in the middle of the cell and the two chromatids are pulled apart to opposite ends of the cell and a wall again forms separating both halves., thus forming four cells



So from each normal body cell 4 gametes are formed. Incidentally the chromatids in each of these cells duplicate to form a chromosome. Thus each gamete has half the chromosome number of a normal cell.

These cells are now ready for reproduction to occur. In male fishes the sperm (or milt) reaches the eggs by one of two methods, in livebearers the male inserts his gonopodium into the female and releases sperm inside the female, or in egglayers the milt is released into the water. Once the sperm reaches the egg it penetrates it and the chromosomes are attracted together to form a new nucleus. As each gamete contains only half the number of chromosomes necessary for a body cell, on fusing the full complement is achieved to form a new body - which in the course of time occurs by continued division of this cell, first into 2, then 4, then 8, etc., until a complete new body is built up on the information provided by the genes.

This, I hope, has explained how a new life comes into being. What it does not fully explain is why every individual is different and how males and females are formed. The second of these two is the easier to explain; every male and female cell has the same number of chromosomes, but there is one difference - chromosome in the male half a chromatid is missing - called the Y chromosome, in the female this does not occur and the equivalent chromosome is the X chromosome. The X and Y chromosomes pair up with similar chromosomes - both X's. Thus males have the configuration XY and females XX

In gamete formation these separate one sex chromosome (as they are known). (or egg) can only contain one X chromosome whereas the male gamete (or sperm) could contain either an X or Y chromosome. So on fusion of the gametes it is the sperm that determines the offspring's sex.

To explain the difference between individuals the chromosomes must be studied in more detail. As mentioned before each chromosome along its length has many genes - these genes can be regarded as codes for certain characteristics of the organisms. Therefore in a fish there is a gene (or genes) that control its fin height, body colour, eye colour etc. If we return now to stage 1 meiosis we see that half the chromosomes move to each end of the cell; before this happens they line up along the middle of the cell in pairs  $n$  (these are known as homologous chromosomes), each member of such a pair has similar genes to the other member, i.e. gene for eye colour, body colour, etc. - Therefore for each character there are two genes but usually one is dominant over the other, or they both produce the same effect.

An example of this can be seen in swordtails in which black tends to be dominant over red. If a female is taken that breeds true black (i.e. if crossed with a black male all the offspring will be black) and a male that breeds true red and they are crossed the result will be 100% black. The reason being that the true black sword has two genes for black in the homologous chromosome - denoted BB. And the male has two genes for red - rr. Thus when the nuclei of the sperm and egg fuse the homologous chromosomes contain two different genes - one for red R and one for green. Therefore therefore as the red gene is dominant over the green gene the sword will appear red (how this dominance occurs is not known)

This can be applied to almost any other characteristic, although some become very complicated due to more than one gene being involved, mutation taking place and any characteristic involved with the sex chromosome., I will try to explain some of these in future issues.

## **SPAWNING *HEMIGRAMMUS NANUS***

by: F.J.Walker

I bought two of these small Characins some time ago, and I had never been at all sure if they were actually a pair although one of them would keep chasing all the smaller fish in my Community tank, so I thought at last that I would try to find out one way or the other.

On Decembet 10th in the morning, I thoroughly cleaned a 36 x 8 x 8 tank with salt, and filled it with warm water straight from the hot tap. Then I washed and cleaned some Cabomba, Bladderwort and Elodea and put them in a clump at one end of the tank weighted down with a piece of lead. I came home from work that night at 11.30 (Yes, I had come straight home from work too) to find that the temperature had settled down to a steady 80 , .so I caught the two fishes and put them straight into their new temporary home,, I then went to bed with my fingers crossed.

On the following morning at 9 o'clock they were chasing madly up and down the tank, and looking a bit closer I saw, to my great surprise, some eggs. I drew up a chair to watch and they continued to spawn for a further hour, after which time they began to nose around the bottom, so, feeling that the eggs were no longer their property, I promptly returned the fish to their former home.

The first babies appeared on the 12th, and on the following day there were quite a few sticking tail downwards on the glass. On the 16th they wsre darting spasmodically about the tank, and I began feeding infusoria from some old water which had held Chrysanthemums. For the next five days they had constant infusoria, made from potato and a banana skin which I actually dropped in the tank, and on the 22nd I began feeding with brine shrimps and very fine "fry-grain", and on the 25th they began to take finely sifted Daphnia. By the 28th they were feeding hard on anything and everything small enough for them to cope with and had grown to almost 1/4" in length. Since then I have spent many happy but fruitless hours trying to count them, and the male, who incidentally has now acquired a lovely bronze hue, is spending equally happy hours once more chasing all-comers in the Community tank.

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## OPEN SHOWS -

C. Cheswright.

**SUDBURY A.S.** held their show this year on 3rd June at Wasps Rugby club Wembley- As this year the show coincided with the club outing to Kew only me and my Dad went as my Mum had to go on the coach. Anyway we got up about 6.00 a.m. and managed to catch the fish in time to leave at 8,00 a.m. We had no hold-ups and arrived at about 9.30. The livebearers were benched upstairs so my Dad had to carry all his boxes up, well why should I help him.! The fish were benched on bare boards, some of which with tanks in the middle bowed so much that supports had to be placed underneath.

We left at about 11 to meet the coach at Kew, for which we had a long wait as it had been held up due to the closure of the Hammersmith flyover. After it's arrival we walked around Kew for a few hours before setting off back to the show. Here we found another S.L.A.D.A.S. member Jim London who had picked up some cards, including a 1st with a fire eel which gained over 90 points. my Dad also picked up some cards, but I did not.

The best fish was in Class Db, dwarf cichlids, with a *N.harrisoni*. the best livebearer was a male guppy and the top pointed society was Basingstoke.

**DUNMOW A.S.** held their show at Foakes Hall on 17th June. Those present from S.L.A.D. A.S. were myself, my Dad, Dave North and Bob Smith. Classes entered were F,W,0,P,Db,J,Nb-m,No-t,T, Gr,C,Xb-m and Zo-t After benching we went on a pub hunt with Steve Jordan from Harlow. (The one that we were looking for wasn't found until our journey home). So we continued on to Hatfield forest, and had a picnic. On a walk round the lake there we spotted many pike and rudd, and as the fishing season had only just started these fish were much sought after!

On arrival back at the show we found that all our members had won cards. Although we gained over 50 points the top points trophy, which we held last year, went to South-East London with 80 points. The best fish was the same as at Sudbury out of a total entry of 365.

**REIGATE & REDHILL A.S.** held their show on 1st July at Bletchingley village hall. We arrived there at about 9.30 in the morning after allowing too much time for travelling, we left home at 8,00. All our own water was used as the water there is very hard, due to the chalk, and we have had deaths using their water. After benching we went to the Coral Coral Bazaar with Terry Woolley, our inter club judge. Here.....

/Cont...

there was a large selection of fish but also a fairly good selection of disease. Here we met Bob Thoday and Bernard Meach buying up all the unusual rasbora's to fox the judges at the inter club.,

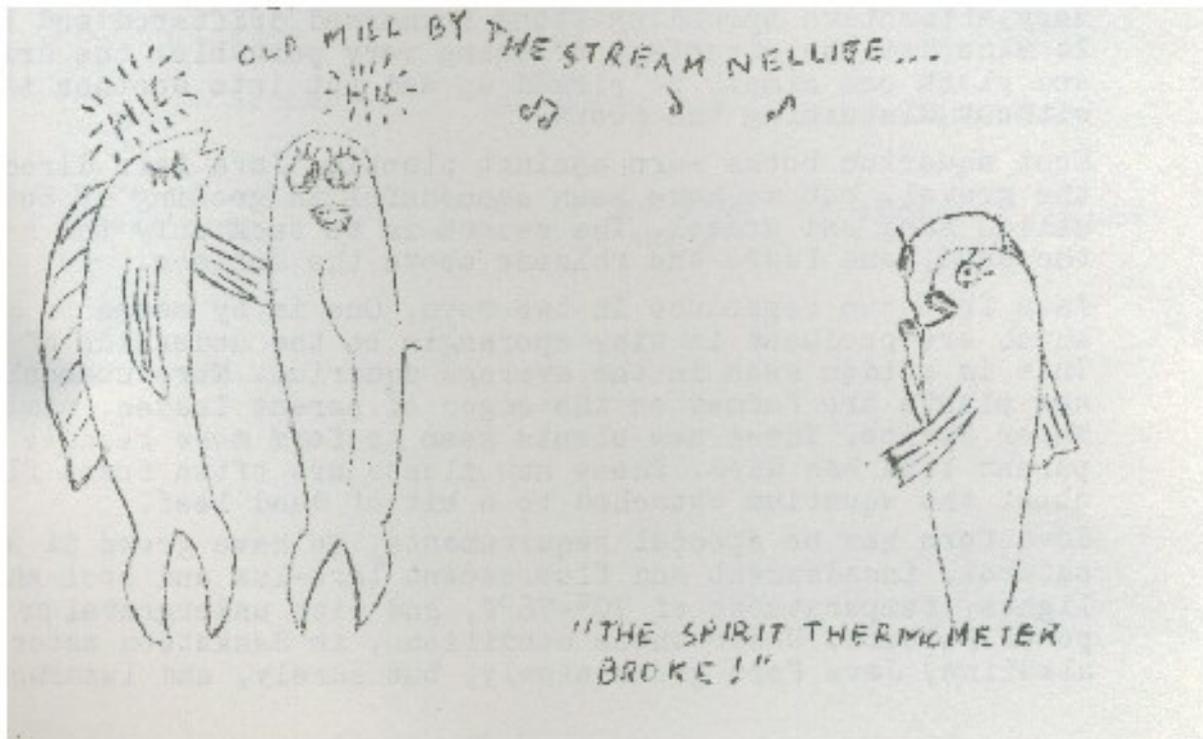
Meanwhile back at the show judging was late finishing, why I don't know as there were only about 300 entries. Cards were won by my Dad and I in classes F,T,Z,No-t,Xo-t and Xv-m. The best fish was a *Poecilia perugiae* in class T, and the highest pointed Society was Brighton with 105 points.

Derek Durrant was seen leading Jim Carney off at the end of the show by the hand after an hour long search for each other -what happened after this no one seems to know,

**HASTINGS A.S.** held their show on 12th August in Bexhill. We arrived at about 10.15 just behind the double decker bus from East London, The scaffold boards were covered in computer paper, so it was a bit bright and many fish did not seem very happy -also it got very hot and a few fish died.

After benching we went into Hastings, parking on the outskirts - due to difficulty in parking, and then walked about 3 miles into Hastings. The thought of walking back was not very inviting.

Anyway we made it back to the Show in time. We had won (my Dad and I) a 1st, two 2nds and two 3rds. Jim London obtained 3 1sts, one 2nd and three 3rds; he also got best fish with his fire eel.



## JAVA FERN

By Jeaniene Smith  
Saskatoon Aq.Soc.

Java Fern, or *Microsorium pteropus*, is a true fern which comes from the far east: China, India and Indonesia. It belongs to the family Polypodiaceae, like the Polypody ferns which are grown as house plants. In its natural habitat, Java ferns grow along the banks of rivers which are often flooded. Java ferns can also be grown as house plants, in the warm, moist environment of a terrarium. Since they can grow in either water or on land they are called amphibious plants.

Java fern grows from a creeping rhizome or rootstock, which is green and covered with tiny hairs. The rhizome produces short petioles with bright green, lance-shaped leaves. In a full grown plant these leaves may grow to a height of 10" and a width of 2", Parts of the leaf often seem to die, making brown marks on the leaves- The Java fern has long brown feathery roots which wrap themselves around pieces of driftwood, or are sometimes seen floating freely out from the plant,,

The best way to grow Java fern is to tie the rhizome to a piece of driftwood with black nylon thread (black so it doesn't show, and nylon so it doesn't rot). In time the roots become firmly attached to the wood. The same method can also be used to grow the plant on rocks. Y<sup>e</sup> have also grown some by simply wedging the plant into crevices in the driftwood, Java fern is one of the few aquarium plants that will grow in this way, and it looks very attractive spreading along submersed driftwood and branches. It also has the advantage of being very portable; the driftwood and plant can simply be picked up and put into another tank without disturbing the roots.

Most aquarium books warn against planting Java fern directly into the gravel, but we have been successful in growing it both in silica sand and gravel. The secret is to tuck only the roots into the sand, and leave the rhizome above the surface.

Java fern can reproduce in two ways.- One is by means of spores, which are produced in tiny sporangia on the underside of the leaf. This is seldom seen in the average aquarium. More commonly, tiny new plants are formed on the edges of parent leaves, similar to Water Sprite. These new plants seem to form more readily where the parent leaf has died. These new plants are often found floating about the aquarium attached to a bit of dead leaf.

Java fern has no special requirements, We have grown it under natural, incandescent and fluorescent (gro-lux and cool white) lights, temperatures of 70-76°F, and with undergravel or outside power.filters. Under these conditions, in Saskatoon water (hard, alkaline) Java Fern grows slowly, but surely, and luxuriantly.

..15,-

## CLUB REPORT

**15th May** Talks tonight were given by Alan Chapman, Ken Dyke and Dave Ches. on breeding fish. A judging competition was also run, this was won by Jim London - senior and jointly by

### **H-Corydorus and Brochis** - 6 entries

1st	R. Neale	Albino aneus	83 points
2nd	R. Neale	Albino aneus	70 points
3rd	M. Woollard	C.paleatus	69 points
4th	C. Cheswright	C.elegans	61 points

### **Hy**- 10 entries

1st	G. Savill	C. Julii	77½ points
2nd	G. Savill	C. Julii	77 points
3rd	S. Bodre	C.paleatus	72½ points
4th	S. Bodre	C. Aneaus	72 points

### **House plants junior** - 8 entries

1st	I. Archer	Begonia	27 points
2nd	J. Wood	Cacti	26 points
3rd	J. Wood	Yacca	25 points
4th	I. Archer	Begonia	21 points

There were no entries of house plants from the seniors. plants were judged by Dave Holliday and class H by Alan Chapman.

### CLUB REPORT

**5th June** Alan Chapman announced his resignation to the members, as President of the Club. The evening then continued with an auction, in which some very good fish were present. Terry Waller judged the table show which consisted of one aquascape, namely mine, which was a reconstitution of my Open Show entry

#### Raffle winners:

Nicola Smith	Sealer
Dave Holliday	Heater
Peter Crow	Air line connectors
Paul Rushbrook	Bucket

**19th June.** This was our leg of the inter club, at which a talk was given on how to build a silicone sealed tank - this was then placed into the raffle and won by Ken Dyke who had made up the basket of fruit also in the raffle.

#### Class F Killifish 14 entries

1st B. Thoday	Witham	79 points
2nd B. Thoday	Witham	78 points
3rd B. Thoday	Witham	77 points
4th R. Boss	E. London	76½ points

#### E- Labyrinths 14 entries

1st P. Boore	S.L.A.D.A.S,	72½ points
2nd B. Thoday	Witham	72 points
3rd J. Wood	S.L.A.D.A.S,	71 points
4th A. Brown	East London	69 points

#### T--A.O.S. Livebearers 16 entries

1st D.Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S,	81 points
2nd A.Waller	E.London	74 points
3rd D.Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S.	73 points
4th B.Meach	Witham	72½ points

#### 0/P - Guppies 22 entries

1st P.Chapman	E.London	74½- points
2nd D.North	S-L.A.D.A.S.	74 points
3rd D.North	S-L.A.D.A.S.	73½ points
4th D.North	S-L.A.D.A.S.	73 points

The judges were Terry Woolley and Jim Carney who will judge the next 2 legs as well. The points stand at us 18, Witham 13 and E. London 9

**3rd July** Alan Chapman gave a talk on cichlids, mainly the larger ones such as Angels and Oscars. Also the new President and Vice President were elected, these being Dave Cheswright and Derek Durrant respectively.

**Class No-t Pairs 1-ivebearers 5 entries**

1st	D.Holliday	Xenotoca eiseni	72 points
2nd	J.Wimbush.	Sailfin mollies	69 points
3rd	D.Holliday	Poecilia melanotata	68½ points
4th	R.Davis	Yellow wags	68 points

**Class No-ty 6 entries ir "**

1st	J.Wood	Limia	67 points
2nd	P. Cole	Guppies	66½ points
3rd	P. Cole	Guppies	66 points
4th	G.Savill	Mollies	61 points

**Herpetology - Junior**

1st	J.Wood	Tortoise
2nd	P.Rashbrook	Newt
3rd	S.Boore	Tortoise
4th	S.Boore	Terrapin

The herpitolology was judged by Dave Holliday and the pairs by Dave Cheswright. The third leg of the members' challenge also took place.

**9th July** An inter club at Witham was held with a very good talk on Killi's by Don Walker. This included the passing around of many bags of fish for our inspection.

**H- Corydorus and Brochis**

1 <sup>st</sup>	R.Thoday
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R.Thoday
3 <sup>rd</sup>	D.Hart
4 <sup>th</sup>	A.Waller

**J-Rasboras**

1 <sup>st</sup>	D.North
2 <sup>nd</sup>	D. North
3 <sup>rd</sup>	R.Thoday
4 <sup>th</sup>	D.North

**Q- Xiphophorus Helleri**

1 <sup>st</sup>	B.Meach
2 <sup>nd</sup>	D.North
3 <sup>rd</sup>	R.Smith
4 <sup>th</sup>	R.Smith

**L-Loaches**

All cards to R.Thoday including best fish

There was a good attendance by our members. The points now stand at East London 10, Us33 and Witham 38 - so I expect all the members to breed fish for the 3rd leg at East London on September 21st.

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**22nd May** Held at 25 Cedar Avenue, Wickford, Essex. Not present Mr. and Mrs. Cudby due to holiday. Balance of funds held at £328.81. Montrose Pumps had donated some trophies and it was agreed that these be used at inter-clubs. President said he had to resign as he was taking a pub in Hitchin, Hertfordshire. Mr. Stanford was thanked for making the Show a success

**21st June** Held at 24, Tuckfield Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Not present Mrs. Cudby and A. Moltino, Balance held at £343.80, The Outing to Kew broke even. It was decided that at inter clubs the guests be allowed to have refreshments before Southend members. Alan Chapman was thanked for the work he had done in the past.

# AQUATIC SHOP

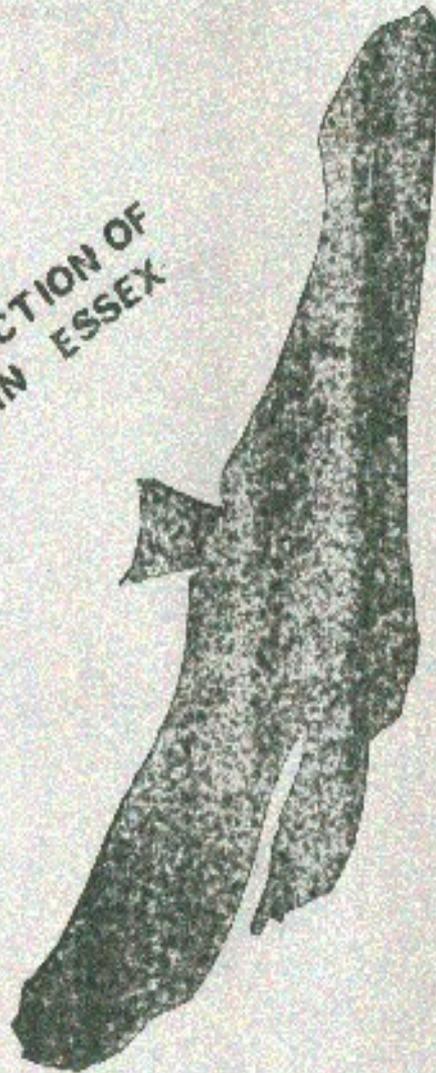
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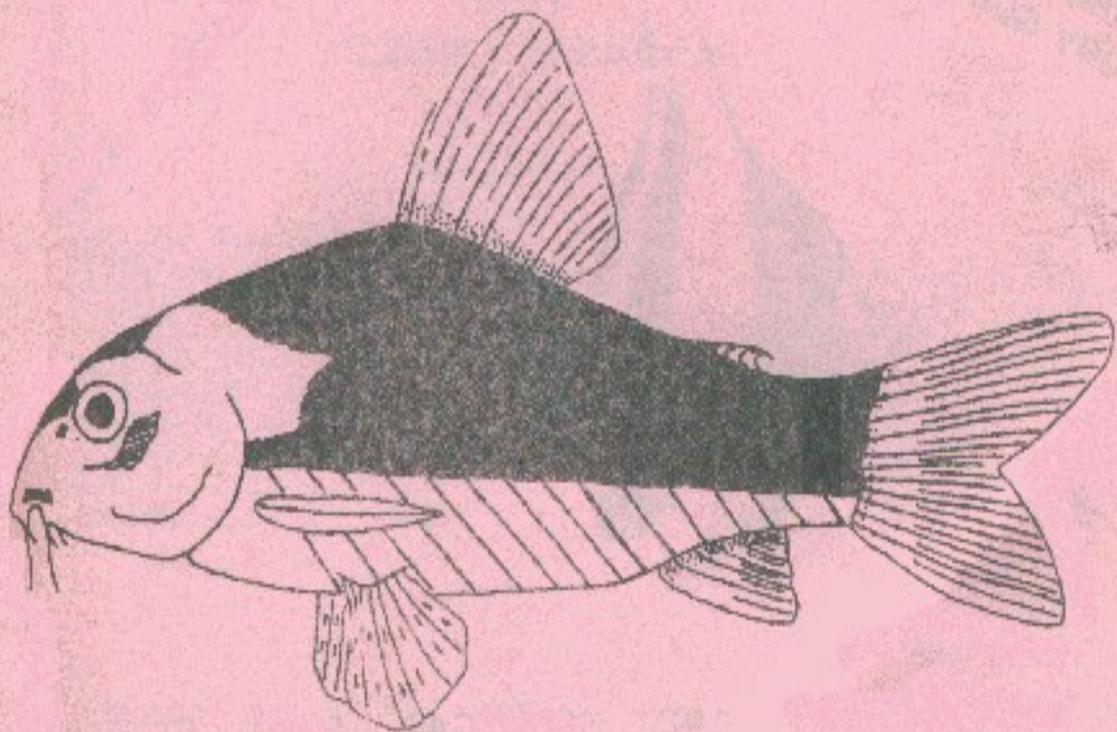
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COLDWATER AND TROPICAL FISH  
LARGE SELECTION OF TROPICAL PLANT  
(COLDWATER IN SEASON)

Southend, Leigh  
and District  
Aquarist Society



Journal

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(Founded 1935 or before)**

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, the meeting commences at 8.30 p.m.

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**ST. ANDREWS HALL,  
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(Entrance in South View Drive)

**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL  
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**CONTENTS**

	<b>PAGE</b>
OFFICERS for 1980 .....	2
EDITORIAL .....	3
PRESIDENT'S PAGE .....	4
BREEDING BARBS ... Chris Cheswright. .	5
SURVIVAL EXPERIMENTS WITH FISH. . Terry Blackmore .	7
LIVEBEARERS ..... D.M. Cheswright	8
OPEN SHOWS Chris Cheswright. .	10
CLUB REPORT .....	11
PANDA GOLDFISH .....	20
YOUR MAGAZINE . . .	20

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**EDITORIAL**

(CHRIS CHESWRIGHT).

This is my last Journal as I will be away from home at University in Swansea for the majority, of the next few years and there will be no possibility of my doing anything except supply the odd article. The next person who takes on the job will have to plead with people for articles and he/she will have to go through old magazines to find articles of interest, also write a few articles themselves. I know it's not a popular position? and I dreaded doing it, but after a while it becomes quite enjoyable? especially if people show an interest. So give some thought about it before the A.G.M. on December 4th.

There are also other committee members who either want a change or are stepping down, so ask around and find someone willing to take on a job? as without a committee the club would get nowhere.

I hope I didn't confuse anyone with my genetics article in the last Journal, and I hope that it followed on from the talk by Bob Esson on September 4th. I also thank Howard Preston for his article and wonder if anyone has caught the travel bug yet like he has, as without him. some species of fish would not be in this country.

I also wish to thank Mrs.-Miell without whom this magazine would probably be months late incorrectly typed with numerous spelling mistakes. Also Ken Dyke, the handle- turner - who though being very ill this year has still done his job, thanks.

'CHRIS.

Chris Ches` was not able to finish this edition of the magazine before his entry into college. Chris has however left a great deal of material ready for the mag. I'll let Chris have his last editorial just as he wrote it? despite being a bit aged. Many many thanks Chris - you've saved me a great deal of work.

EDITOR,

**PRESIDENT'S PAGE**

D.M. Cheswright

I was very pleased that, at the Annual General Meeting on 4th December, 1979, we appointed a full Committee of 12. We have several new faces on the Committee, if our first Committee Meeting is anything to go by, they are all keen and willing to tackle the various work required. Details of the Committee appear elsewhere in this issue; do not hesitate to contact anyone of them if you have anything you want discussed at Committee Meetings. If you do not tell us what you want we hope that you will enjoy the Programme which is at present being prepared for Year ending March 1981. Please give any suggestions for this to Tony Cooper as soon as possible as it must go to the Printers by 1st March, 1980.

In the last Journal I mentioned contact amongst Members between meetings So I hope to take steps to try to start this off soon.

The Open Show season starts soon.

Our own Open Show is on Saturday, 3rd May and our Show Secretary, Jim London, is well ahead with booking Judges, etc. He is going to need all Members' support in entering the Show and in working on 2nd and 3rd May in getting it ready. Some Societies are not running their Shows in 1980 due to rising costs; we too have this problem to meet, but Jim has ideas to beat inflation - PLEASE GIVE HIM YOUR PULL SUPPORT, At our Meeting on 4th March we are going to concentrate on Table Showing, etc. and anyone not sure of showing procedures should make it a MUST that night.

I mentioned the Open Show Points Trophy which is awarded annually, in the last issue. We have another rather obscure Trophy which has not been awarded for some years. This is the Meritorious Breeding Trophy. It is awarded only to a member who breeds a species considered of merit by the Committee. In other words for some exceptional breeding achievement. If, therefore, any member breeds a species in this category please let Tony Moles as Table Show Secretary or some other Committee member know. The Trophy is not awarded until late in the Year and was not won in 1979.

I hope that details of Outings and Socials will be ready soon, .any suggestions to Audrey Cheswright please.

As suggested at the A.G.M. , the Committee is to co-opt a Junior member for 1980 ;and he is Shaun Boore. Juniors now have a Committee member to bombard with their ideas and moans and I hope they will make full use of Shaun.

**1980 OPEN SHOW BATES**

<b>March 9th</b>	Brighton and Southern A.S.
<b>22nd</b>	Croydon A.S,
<b>April 12th</b>	Catfish Association of G-.B.
<b>May 3rd</b>	SOUTHEND
<b>May 11th</b>	Bournemouth A.S.
<b>July 6th</b>	South East London A.S.
<b>Sept. 21st</b>	Tonbridge & D.A.S,

## BREEDING BARBS

CHRIS CHESWRIGHT

I have bred both Tiger (*Barbus tetrazona*) and chequer (*B. oligolepsis*) barbs successfully by similar methods. My dad has also bred Rosy Barbs (*B. conchoni*) and Niger Barbs (*B. nigrofasciatus*),,

The method I used was to initially separate the males from the females and feed them well for a few weeks; by the end of this time the females should obtain a rotund appearance. The males differ from the females, in most cases, by being more colourful, apart from fish like the Tiger Barbs where they differ only in the fact that the female is usually much more rounded than the male.

When they appear in peak condition a tank can be set up. This should be approximately 10 x 6 for the smaller barbs (i.e. Chequer Barbs) and about 18 x 6 for the larger ones. It should be cleaned well with hot water (not too hot or the glass will crack) and scrubbed to remove any dirt. Afterwards it should be allowed to dry and then set up in the position where you wish to spawn the fish.

I used to use a mixture of half matured tap water (stood for one day) and half rain water, or if this was not available softened water. This should be to a depth of about five inches so that a few inches of the tank are left free of water. A spawning medium must now be obtained - this being either nylon mops (the fish seem to prefer light greens or blues) or coconut fibre, this must be boiled in order to kill any organisms which may later cause fungusing of the eggs. This is now placed into the tank so that it covers the base as the fish tend to eat their own eggs.

I also suggest an air stone be added that gives out a light stream of bubbles, as the fish drive pretty hard and need a lot of oxygen.

Once you have done the above, cover the tank with a glass cover as there is a chance that they may begin to leap about, and also cover all but one side with a dark cloth, I have one side open as they tend to spawn at sun rise, so if a few rays of sunlight hit the tank it may help to induce them to spawn.

Place the fish in late at night (preferably on a Friday evening, so that their progress can be checked during Saturday and Sunday, unless you have different days off of course) and turn off the light. Check them the next morning, if they are rushing around leave them for a while as they are still spawning, but take them out within an hour or so. If they are hiding away it either means that they have spawned and are exhausted or they are petrified of the new environment, and haven't found each other. If this is the case, get hold of a mop and lift it off the bottom - if they have spawned you will see eggs on the bottom, so take the fish out immediately and cover the tank. If not, leave the tank well alone until the next morning, and check again. If nothing occurs by the third morning remove the fish, re-clean the tank, and try another pair. Under no.....

circumstances must you feed the fish as the tank will easily become polluted.

Once you have got the eggs leave the tank alone for 24 hours, then check that the eggs haven't fungused; if you see a few that have, leave them as you may do worse by sticking implements in the tank, than leaving them alone.

After a further 12 hours they should hatch, at this stage looking like splinters of glass on the base and side, DO. NOT FEED YET, but leave for approximately two days until you see them actually trying to swing, this is more like short, sharp jerks.

Begin feeding either on infusoria - if you have any, or as I used, a few drops of milk in a bottle of water slowly dripped into the tank. Other foods include egg and dried foods (you can sprinkle a little of this on the surface to encourage infusoria, After 3 or 4 days on this food they should be large enough for NEWLY HATCHED BRINE SHRIMP - not too much at this stage. The young not large enough to eat this may die, but the ones you are left with should be the more sturdy.

In the next couple of weeks they should progress onto micro worm, older shrimps, chopped grindal worm etc. By this time all the mops should have been removed, and you should change a little water, each day. Some plant would also be advisable, as the fish can nibble at this.

After two or three weeks they should be transferred to a larger tank by lowering the breeding one into the new one until the water levels become equal, then just tip them in gently. If all goes well they should grow rapidly, and be mature in , about 7-8 months.

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### **Open Show 3rd May 1980**

Don't forget the Open Show on the 3rd of May. Jim London is this year's Show Secretary, and he will need all the help he can get especially on 2nd May, to .prepare the Show Hall, The Hall is available from 7 p.m. this year, so .things will be very hectic.

Help will be needed earlier to load all the equipment from our own Hall to be transferred to the Show Hctll,

Also contact Jim with your Show Entries.

## **SURVIVAL EXPERIMENTS WITH PISH.**

- TERRY BLACKMORE

It had often occurred to me of how long a fish would survive in poor conditions with no food. So last summer I thought I would try and find out. This was done especially with a view to going on Holiday for two to three weeks each year,

I used three fish for this experiment, one Limia (*Poecilia versicolour*) and two Platys (*Xiphophorus variatus* and *X. maculata*). For this experiment each was placed in its own 6x4 inch show tank. The water used was that from the tanks in which the fish were normally kept, not wishing to use water that they were unaccustomed to. No plant was used.

These fish remained in the same water without food for two months and without any water changes. Two months being considered as an ample length of time for the experiment. The fish did not appear to be uncomfortable during the two months; and did not appear visually to become any thinner than they were when placed in their separate tanks.

Also I noted that very little mulm occurred in the bottom of the tanks to pollute the water. Obviously due to the lack of food.

The fish used in this experiment were chosen mainly because they were of varying ages of 6 months, 1 year and 18 months and appeared in good condition. All three fish survived the experiment and some six months later all three are still alive and healthy, although the oldest is showing signs of old age.

In conclusion it would seem fairly safe to assume that providing they are in a healthy condition your fish could be safely left for two - three weeks while you are on holiday. Possibly safer than allowing a stranger to fish keeping from next door to look after your fishes' feeding. Also nobody to blame if any die while you are away. They probably would have done so anyway, barring of course any power cuts and other events.

## LIVEBEARERS - D. M. Cheswright

I have been specialising in Livebearing Fishes for some years now, having been encouraged in this originally by Howard Preston's enthusiasm for them and his trips to Mexico on collecting expeditions. It was indeed exciting when he and Chris Lyon arrived back from their first trip with Species which we and most other U.K. Aquarists had not seen, and in some cases not even heard of before.

Subsequent breeding and distribution of these fishes all over the U.K. resulted in the formation some years ago of the Newcastle Guppy und Livebearer Society and, in 1978, to the Southern Livebearers Aquatic Group. Both are Specialist Societies and both have a regular Journal. Beginners to the Hobby soon hear of such Livebearers as Guppies, Platies, Swordtails and Mollies and their various colour varieties, most of which have been man-made. Many other species have been introduced some only in the last two years by individuals and by liaison of the above-mentioned Societies with Germany, U.S.A. and other Countries., Personal trips have been made in both directions and many fishes change hands in the U.K. and with Europe/USA by post. The normal way to post is to send fry in a small quantity of water with as much air as possible. The bags are packed in Polystyrene boxes and the total weight is not too bad from the cost point of view. We may grumble at the Post Office but fishes sent this way by first class post almost,always arrive the next morning in the U.K. To Foreign parts the time is longer but, in most cases, they arrive alive. Obviously posting in the Winter is out.

There are now something over 60 actual Species of Livebearers in the U.K. A percentage of these are traceable right back to the original place in the wild where their ancestors were caught. These are, therefore, true to the wild type for a particular species although there is evidence that colour is , variable when it comes to subsequent generations in Aquarium conditions, particularly when *Xiphophorus* ("swordtail" and "platy") species are concerned. Even the wild-caught specimens show considerable variation in colour. As an example there are the following *Xiphophorus* Species in the U.K.

- (a) *Helleri* - these are usually "green swords" in the wild, with or without black markings. It is from this species that the various man-made colour varieties have been developed.
- (b) *Variatus* - Similar in colour to the "cultivated" "*variatus platy*" and, in fact, the same species,
- (c) *Maculatus* - this is the one known as the "Platy".

From the wild-type all the man-made variations have been developed. The wild specimens come in a wide variety of colours but are not all-over coloured, they usually appear with a greyish background with various indications of colours on body and/or fins and with or without various spot and/or "moon" markings on the Caudal peduncle.

- (d) *Milleri*. An Olive/brown fish. Does not have a sword.
- (e) *Xiphidium*. A greyish fish with, often, Caudal peduncle markings; can and should have, in the Male's case, a very, very short sword. Known as the "Purple spike-tipped platy" - in some wild fishes the body colour is sometimes purple all over. This remarkable colour does not often appear, however, and seems to go completely in generations descended from the wild.
- (f) *Pygmaeus*. Looks like a miniature "green sword". Male has only a very short sword, sometimes difficult to detect. Only grows to about 2-3- inches. (Mine are smaller). This species likes clean, fast-moving water. It only seems to have about 12 fry at a time.
- (g) *Montezumae*. The Male of this species has a sword of about ½ inch length. Colour is a basic pale brownish/green with the male, in particular, showing yellow on the Caudal and Dorsal fins. The Dorsal fin of the male is larger than the female's. They are a somewhat delicate species requiring clean water. Fry are sometimes difficult to obtain and are usually only 20 or less in number.

Temperature for most *Xiphophorus* species seems to be right from about 70/75 °F. (21/24°C). Feeding is easy, dry, live and vegetable.

Most of the above species are available from livebearer enthusiasts. They are not bred in sufficient numbers to find their way into the shops, with the exception, of course, of the normal Swordtails and Platies, including the *variatus*.

TO BE CONTINUED.

## OPEN SHOWS

CHRIS CHESWRIGHT

**Bethnal Green** held their Show on Saturday 8th September. It was very poorly supported with just under 300 entries. This was partly due to the fact that Kingston had their Show on the same day. Also it is usually on a Sunday, and the fact that not many of their members visit other Shows has a lot to do with it, as people think that if they don't support us why should we support them.

The highest pointed exhibitor was Bill Hastings from South East London, and the highest pointed Club was Thanet, a member of which, Mr. Edwards, also won best in show with his entry in Class T. We (my dad and I) came away with several cards including two firsts the prizes for which were pens. A good Show and not too far away, maybe next year they will get more entries?

**Tonbridge and D, A. S.** held their Show on 23rd September at Hadlow. It only took 1¼ hours to get there, so we didn't leave until 8.30. On arriving we grabbed a table near the door, as no benching was allowed in the hall - alright so long as you get there early and get a table. Also present from Southend were Jim London, who entered M, G, W and D., and David Sharp who; if I remember correctly entered Zb-m and 0. I entered F.; Nb- m and Xb-m, and my Dad entered K,T,U,No-t and XO-t. After benching we went off with Jim London to tour the local fish shops. On returning we found that we had done quite well, I got one 1st, two 2nd's and a 4th, my Dad got three 1st's, and a 2nd, a 3rd and 4th. Jim got two 1st's, a 2nd and a 3rd, he also got Best in Show with his Fire eel, Dave Sharpe a 1st, two 3rd's and a 4th. Overall we got 64 points. The prizes for 1st were pottery plates.

**Bexleyheath and D.W.A.S** had their Show on 30th September. This Show was only an hour's run, so- we didn't have to get up too early. When we arrived at 10 a.m. there were already a lot of fish benched. We benched our tropicals and then wondered where coldwater classes were. We found them in another unmarked building well away from the other hall. Jim London arrived about 12 as he said he had slept late. We helped him bench his fish, which was managed in about 15 minutes. Also present from Southend were Dave Sharpe, Shaun Boore and Paul Cole – a good turnout

The Show received approximately 500 entries, class G-had 45 of these - a very popular class this year. The championship class was Ga and was won by Mr. Lambert of East London. Best fish in Show was a dwarf cichlid, owned by S. Bourne of S.E.L.A.S. This Club also got top points. Jim London picked up a few cards, including 2nd best fish, and so did David Sharpe. My dad and I did quite well, picking up a 1st, seven 2nd's and three 4th's between us. The second prizes were pens so we had better get writing a few letters!

-.11 -  
**CLUB REPORT**

**17th July.** Tonight members of Witham and Braintr.ee were present. A quiz was held that they won - must have been fixed? The table shows were judged by Ken Saxby and Colin Wood.

**K - Danios and W.C.M.M.** 11 entries .

1st	R. Davis	S.L.A.D.A.S.
2nd	D, Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S.
3rd	R. Thoday	Witham
4th	D, Hart	Witham

**H- Corydorus and Brochis** 15 entries

1st	R. Thoday	Witham
2nd	R. Thoday	Witham
3rd	C. Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S
4th	S.Boore	S.L.A.D.A.S

**R- Platies** 6 entries

1st	D. Cheswright	S.L.A.D.A.S
2nd	D.Huxter	Witham
3rd	P.Boore	S.L.A.D.A.S
4th	P.Boore	S.L.A.D.A.S

**C. Characins** 18 entries

1st	T. Moles	S.L.A.D.A.S
2nd	R. Thoday	Witham
3rd	R. Thoday	Witham
4th	R. Thoday	Witham

**21st August** I had to miss this meeting as I was otherwise occupied in Austria, but I believe that the auction went well. There were no entries in Senior Rasboras's, surely someone had one at home somewhere?

**Jy- Rasboras** 2 entries

-	1st	P.Rashbrook	Elegant	56 points
	2nd	I. Archer	Harlequin	52 points

**Dz A.O S Cichlids** 3 entries

	1st	Mrs, Perry	Fulleborni	87 points
	2nd	Mrs, Perry	Fulleborni	85 points
	3rd	L.Somner	Angel fish	78 points

**Dzy** 6 entries

	1st	P.Cole	Ornatus	85 points
	2nd	G.Savill	Firemouth	83 points
	3rd	I.Archer	Firemouth	78 points
	4th	I.Archer	Convict	77 points

The senior mini tanks was won by Tony Moles with 72 points.

<b>Junior mini tanks</b>	5 entries		
1st	R.Pearman		66 points
2nd	P.Rashbrook		61 points
3rd	S.Boore		56 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	S.Boore		54½ points

**4th September** The talk was given by Bob Esson (Chairman F.B.A.S.) on genetics mainly, with a bit of ancient British history thrown in; overall a very enjoyable evening. The table show was judged by Terry Waller. Due to the large number of classes I will set some of the classes out differently to save space.

**W- A.O.S. Coldwater** 11 entries

All 4 winners were Koi.

1st, 3rd and 4th Mrs.Perry with 73½, 72 and 70 points respectively.

2nd was Jim London with 73 points.

**Wy** 3 entries

P.Rashbrook won all 3 cards with a brown bullhead 72½ a Koi 71; and a bitterling 70½.

V There was one entry in twintailed goldfish senior, this was D.Holliday's and it got 67 points-

Vy Only 2 entries, both black moors. 1st was S.Boore with 65 points and 2nd was R.Pearman with 64 points.

U- Singletailed goldfish 1st R.Davis 2nd T.Cooper 3rd K.Turner

**Uy** 6 -entries

1st R.Pearman 2nd P.Rashbrook 3rd S.Boore 4th R.Pearman

**T- A.O.S. Livebearers** 6 entries

1st	J.Wimbush	Limia	72 points
2nd	D.Holliday	<i>Goodia atripinnis</i>	70½ points
3rd	D.Holliday	Limia	66½ points
4th	K.Turner	Mosquito	66 points

**Ty** 7 entries

1st	P.Rashbrook	Limia	65½ points
2nd	S.Boore	<i>Ameca splendens</i>	62 points
3rd	P.Rashbrook	Half beak	59 points
4th	S.Boore	Limia	58½ points

And after all those classes and a new typewriter ribbon later, I've still got to do the pond results.

1st	R,Davis	72 points
2nd	D.Cheswright	68 points
3rd	Mr s. Miell	67 points
4th	C.Cudby	62 points

The judges were R.Stanford and D.Cudby. If you are wondering how one of the judge's wives won a card it was only because Ray judged this.

**18th September** An F.B.A.S. tape/slide tonight on A.O.S. livebearers, fairly good apart from some changes in the tape's volume. Table shows tonight were breeders egglayers and coldwater. With entries only in the senior egglayer class, it was a very small class. Most egglayers are not hard i.e. White Clouds will spawn almost anywhere, Zebras are easy so long as they don't get a chance to eat their eggs. Most Gouramis are relatively easy provided that the young are fed on very small food initially - green water or milk will do. So have a go, and if you have a problem ask another member.

**Class X.bm Breeders Egglayers 4 entries**

1st	D.Sharp	<i>P.auratus</i>	81 points . :
2nd	Mr.Burges	Pearl Gouramies	72 points
3rd	Mr.Burges	3 Spot Gouramies	71 points
4th	Mrs.Perry	Golden Medakas	61 points

**Class X u w Breeders Coldwater NO ENTRIES**

**Class X uwy Breeders Coldwater Junior NO ENTRIES**

**Class X bmy Breeders Egglayers Junior NO ENTRIES**

JUDGE: DAVE CUES WRIGHT

**RAFFLE** (No details are available)

**21st September** This was East London leg of the inter-club. The classes were breeders egglayers and live bearers, G class catfish and A.OS. coldwater. Present were Jim London and his wife, and the Cheswright clan from Southend. We were 2 fish short in class u- and 3 in A.O.S. coldwater. There were some unusual fish entered in coldwater as the Witham Club had rescued about 200 fish from a pond which was drying out; the fish are now safe in another pond. As to the results, we won 3 out of the 4 1st's, two 2nd's and a 3rd and a 4th. Result: East London 10 Witham 20 Southend 35  
So the final outcome after three legs was East London 20 Witham 59 Southend 69  
As you see we leapt ahead from a 5 point loss to a 10 point lead to retain the block and gavel. The evening consisted of 3 groups, each-containing 2 experts on breeding certain fish for a general chat -although in our cichlid chat we ended up on frogs and trees! But very enjoyable.

**2nd October** Could it be that Alan Chapman gave a talk on Cichlids? can't remember (the card says he should have done).. Chris was away perhaps, or no notes were made. I've no way of knowing.

### TABLE SHOW

#### MEMBERS CHALLENGE SENIOR 18 Entries FINAL RESULT

JUDGE DEREK DURRANT

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mr.Burges	3 Spot Gourami	300 Points = 75 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R.Neale	Striped Barb	298 points =74.5
3 <sup>rd</sup>	D.Holliday	<i>G.attrippinnis</i>	280 points = 70
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Perry	<i>L.fullerbornii</i>	278 points = 69.5

#### MEMBERS CHALLENGE JUNIOR 7 Entries FINAL RESULT

JUDGE DEREK DURRANT

1 <sup>st</sup>	S.Boore	<i>C.melanistus</i>	295 = 74 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	J.Wood	Opaline Gourami	278 =69.5 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	J.Wood	Giant Danio	266 =66.5 points

#### CLASS Z PLANTS 7 Entries Judge T. Waller

1 <sup>st</sup>	T.Moles	Apongeton	73 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	T.Moles	Crypt	72.5 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	T.Moles	Salvinia	72 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	T.Moles	Crypt	71.5 points

#### CLASS Zy PLANTS 6 Entries Judge T. Waller

1 <sup>st</sup>	S.Boore	Cabomba	72 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	P.Rashbrook	Cabomba	70 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	S.Boore	Cabomba	69 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	S.Boore	Cabomba	67 points

#### XO - t BREEDERS LIVE3EARERS 5 Entries Judge T. Waller

1 <sup>st</sup>	R. Neale	Black Swords	68½ points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	D. Holliday	<i>G.atropinnis</i>	65½ points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	R. Davis	Moon platys	65 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	R.Davis	Platy Variatus	63½ points

#### XO - ty 2 Entries Judge T. Waller

1 <sup>st</sup>	G. Savill	Guppies	63 points
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#### FRY REARING COMPETITION

1 <sup>st</sup>	K. Turner		61 points
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**16th OCTOBER** A talk on Marines by J. Mason was scheduled for tonight but again there are no notes to confirm this. There were six table shows, one class having no entries. The Mini Tank class seems very popular especially with the Juniors.

**TABLE SHOWS**

**MINI TANKS SENIOR** 4 Entries JUDGE DAVE CHESWRIGHT

1st T. Moles	80 points
2nd D. Surges	75 points
3rd R.Davis	69 points
4th R. Davis	64 points

TROPHY (OVER ALL WINNER) T. Moles 12 points

**MINI TANKS JUNIOR** 13 Entries JUDGE: DAVE CHESWRIGHT

1st G.Savill	76 points
2nd P. Cole	70 points
3rd P. Rashbrook	69 points
4th N.Smith	68 points

TROPHY (OVERALLWINNER) R. PEARMAN 8 points

**CLASS S - MOLLIES** NO ENTRIES

**CLASS S y** 6 Entries JUDGE:- KEN DYKE

1st S.Boore	Molly	84 points
2nd G.Savill	Molly	83 points
3rd G.Savill	Molly	81 points
4th SsBoore	Molly	80 points

**CLASS P FEMALE GUPPIES** 2 Entries JUDGE: D. HOLLIDAY

1st R.Neale	F. Guppy	29 points
2nd R.Davis	F. Guppy	25 points

**CLASS P y** 6 Entries JUDGE: DAVE HOLLIDAY

1st G. Savill	F. Guppy	68 points
2nd G. Savill	F. Guppy	66 points
3rd G. Savill	F. Guppy	64 points
4th P. Cole	F. Guppy	57 points

**RAFFLE PRIZES**

RON FAULKES	DECANTER
NICOLA SMITH	FILTER
P. COLE	FISH FOOD
CINDY CUDBY	BRINE SHRIMP

**26th OCTOBER** I hear that the Social of this date was very successful and enjoyed by all present. Members are looking forward to the next occasion a social is to be held.

**6th NOVEMBER** A quiz and slides were the order of the day; a good night's entertainment with everyone joining in the fun. The winner turned out to be junior member Gary Savill 16 points while the best senior was Tony Moles 15 points. I think a prize was given to the winner, but I can't be sure.

#### **TABLE SHOW**

I can't give any details as this appears to be missing, possible these will be given at a later date.

#### **RAFFLE PRIZES**

RON DAVIS	AQUA SEALER
JIM LONDON	TEAPOT
D. BURGES	AQUA FOOD
S. PARKER	AQUA SAFE
T. MOLES	BUCKET

Many thanks to the person who noted down the raffle prizes and quiz results.

**20th NOVEMBER** Auction night. There were not as many items for sale as there have been at past Auctions, but still enough to last the evening out.

#### **TABLE SHOWS**

##### **MEMBERS BEST FISH SENIOR 6 ENTRIES JUDGE: JIM LONDON**

1st	T. MOLES	BLIND CAVE FISH	77 points
2nd	R. DAVIS	5 BANDED BARB	75 points
3rd	J. WIMBUSH	MOONLIGHT GOURAMI	73 points
4th	R. NEALE	BLACK SWORD	70 points

##### **MEMBERS BEST FISH JUNIOR 5 Entries JUDGE: JIM LONDON**

1st	G. Savill	WEATHER LOACH	80 points
2nd	R. PEARSON	WEATHER LOACH	72 points
3rd	S. BOORE	BLACK SPOTTED CORY	66 points
4th	P. Rashbrook	RAINBOW CICHLID	64 points

**HOME FURNISHED AQUARIA** 7 Entries

JUDGES: DAVE CHESWRIGHT DAVE HOLLIDAY

1st	R. DAVIS	178½ points
2nd	R. MOLES	172 points
3rd	D. BURGES	125 points
4th	D. BURGES	122 points

**4th DECEMBER** This was the night of the A.G.M. Alan and Dot Chapman managed to attend. Alan, as most of you know, recently gave up the job as the Club's President, to take over the running of a Pub in Herts. Our thanks to Alan for presiding over the election of the new Committee, As ever Alan, it's nice to see you and Dot again.

**TABLE SHOW**

**HARD LUCK SENIOR** 2 Entries JUDGE: RAY SANDFORD

1st	L SOMNER	NIGGER BARB	57 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	M. WOOLLARD	ZEBRA DANIO	44 points

**HARD LUCK JUNIOR** NO ENTRIES

**RAFFLE WINNERS**

ALAN CHAPMAN	CHRISTMAS PUDDING
DAVE BURGES	FILTER
ROLF NEALE	CHRISTMAS CARDS
TONY COOPER	DISEASE DIANOSIS KIT
DAVE CHESWRIGHT	1980 CALENDAR

**18th DECEMBER** Plenty of Cheese and Wine tonight - an enjoyable evening. Maurice and Molly Wood of **STUDIO ONE AQUATICS** presenting thr tophies on what has now become an annual event worth looking forward to.

**RAFFLE WINNERS**

P. COLE	BOTTLE MARTINI
JULIAN WOOD	SILVER CRAFT
M. BURGHART	BOX CHOCOLATES
MRS. DYKE	BOX CRACKERS
WALLY HADKISS	FISH PICTURE
TONY COOPER	FLASK
DAVE BURGES	FISH PICTURE

**TABLE SHOW TROPHIES 1978 - 79**

DUBOISON CUP	BEST CHARACIN	R. Davis
LEN WILLIS CUP	BEST KILLIFISH	T. Moles
STAN HYDE CUP	CORYDORAS & BROCHIS	R. Neale
WINDERMERE CUP	BEST MARINE	not awarded
SLADAS 4	BEST COLD WATER	Mrs Perry
SAUNDERS CUP	R/U COLD WATER	P. Rashbrook
BARNES - OAKE CUP	X-bm EGGLAYERS	D.Shapp
CORONATION CUP	Xot LIVSBEARERS	R.Neale
SLADAS 1	AOS EGGLAYERS JNR	P.Cole
SLADAS 2	BEST PLANT JNR	S. Boore
GILES CUP	HOME FURNISHED	R. Davis
POND TROPHY	POND TROPHY	R. Davis
MEMBERS' CHALLENGE	M, CHALLENGE	D. Burges
ED NICHOL CUP	M. CHALLENGE JNR	S. Boore
STAN HALSEY ROSE BOWL	HIGHEST T/S PTS.	G. Savill
SOUTHCHURCH CUP	HIGHEST T/S PTS	S. Boore.
ABBOT CUP	HIGHEST T/S PTS.JNR	G. Savill
BROOKS SHIELD I	HIGHEST M/T	T. Moles
BROOKS SHIELD II	Mini TANK RUNNER UP.	R. Pearman
HARD LUCK CUP	HARD LUCK SENIOR	L. Somner
SOUTHEND SPORTS CENTRE CUP	HARD LUCK JNR	not awarded
SLADAS III	OPEN SHOW	D. Cheswright
JONES CUP I	Members Best Fish	T. moles
SLADAS 5	Members best fish jnr	G. Savill
MERITORIOUS BREEDING SHIELD		not awarded

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HARD LUCK Junior not returned by C.Dickinson, no address known

**ROSE BOWL POINTS 1978-79**

**SENIORS**

R. Davis	69	M. Woollard	9
T. Moles	67	K.Turner	8
R. Neale	30	A. Chapman	7
J. Wimbush	24	B. Smith	6
P.Boore	23	Mrs Burges	5
D. Holliday	22	A.Moltino/D.Sharp	4
Mr Burgess	18	S. Chapman	3
D. North	17	T. Blackmore	3
Mrs Perry	16	J. London	3
C.Cheswright	15	T. Cooper	3
D.Chewright	13	Mrs Walker	2
L.Somner	10		

**ROSE BOWL POINTS 1978-79**

**JUNIORS**

G. SAVILL	95	I. ARCHER	18
S. BOORE	76	C. DICKINSON	4
J. WOOD	40	M. PHILIPS	4
P. Rashbrook	40	I. GOODALL	3
P. COLE	32	M. TODD	3
R. PEARMAN	27	MISS N. SMITH	1

**15th JANUARY 1980** Over fifty Members attended tonight's F.B.A.S. slide show on A.O.S. Catfish, which members said was very well done, besides being very interesting, (Another F.B.A.S. tape/slide show will be shown on 19th February subject is Killifish).

**RAFFLE WINNERS**

TONY COOPER	DECANTER
DAVE SMITH	PLANT SPRAYER
TONY MOLES	TABLE MATS

**TABLE SHOW CLASS B. BARBS** JUDGE: DAVE CHESWRIGHT

1 <sup>st</sup>	ROLF NEALE	87 Points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	RON DAVIS	84 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	L. SOMNER	79 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	PAUL BOORE	74 points

**CLASS By JUNIOR BARBS 2 ENTRIES** JUDGE: DAVE CHESWRIGHT

1st	P. Rashbrook	78 points
2nd	P.Rashbrook	73 points

**CLASS Q-x X. HELLERI (SWORDS) 1 ENTRY** JUDGE: TERRY BLACKMORE

1st	ROLF NEALE	Black Sword	76 points
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**CLASS Q-xy JUNIOR SWORDS 5 ENTRIES** JUDGE: TERRY BLACKMORE

1 <sup>st</sup>	S. BOORE	NEON SWORD	57 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	R. PEARMAN	SWORD	56 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	J. WOOD	SWORD	50½ points
4 <sup>th</sup>	S. BOORE	GREEN SWORD	50 points

AS the above results were taken over the phone the types of Barb were not taken as it was a very bad line and it would have taken a long time with spelling etc.

## **PANDA GOLDFISH**

At the last All Japan Goldfish Fair in Osaka, two specimens known as Panda Goldfish were on view. These were among 31 varieties of Chinese Goldfish on display.

Fancy Goldfish were developed in about the 10th Century A.D. in the Southern area of China.

These fish were shown in Japan for the first time since the war, and were for show only.

The Panda is described as five centimetres long, with a yellow head, dull silver body and the dark eyes are surrounded in red.

Out of 5000 fish at the Fair the Panda was proved to be the most popular with the youngsters among the visitors.

## **YOUR MAGAZINE**

A Magazine is only as good as you make it. Articles of interest, news snippets etc. about fish are required to keep it going. As an incentive the new committee has agreed that the person writing the best article will be presented with a prize (yet to be decided) at the end of this year. This prize will be something useful and worth while trying to win.

### **Harlequin Rasbora (*Rasbora heteromorpha*)**

Recently I came across some old copies of Tropical Fish Hobbyist. One in particular (October 1966) had two articles on the same fish the Harlequin Rasboras. Both articles completely differing from each other. One by R. "Tukal" claimed them to be 2gg Layers and the other by Ong Tay long claiming that they were live bearers. He had even gone to great lengths to explain how the fish went about having their young.

Most have never having kept these fish and never either having seen them spawning. I along with millions of other hobbyists consider them to be Egg layers. Still there have been surprises in our hobby before.

Now about that egg laying Guppy!!!!!!!

Terry Blackmore.

# SPRINKLERS

## GARDEN CENTRE

TELE.

Southend 219063

Wakering Rd.  
Shoeburyness.



### Coldwater fish

Goldfish

Comets

Shubunkins

Golden Orfe

Bubble eyes

Greentench

Koi

Tropical,

Marine,

Invertebrates

Fibreglass ponds

Pond liners

All Pond plants

EVERYTHING FOR THE  
AQUARIST