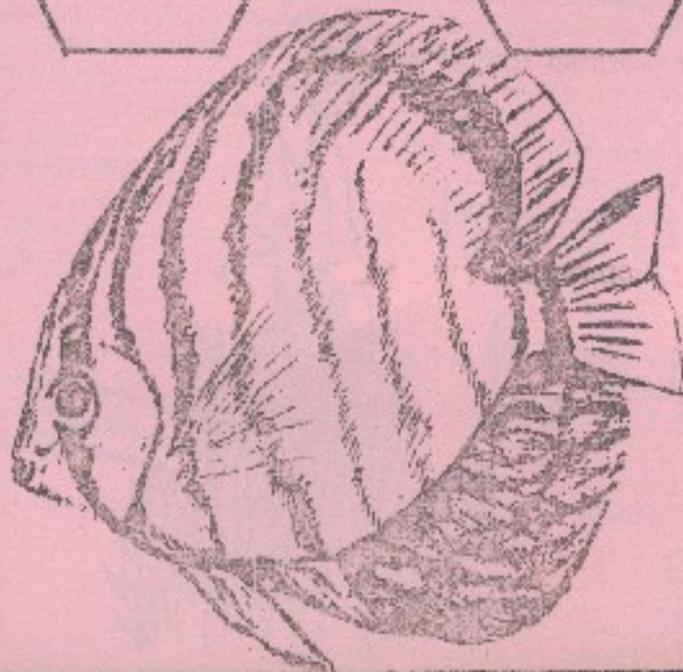
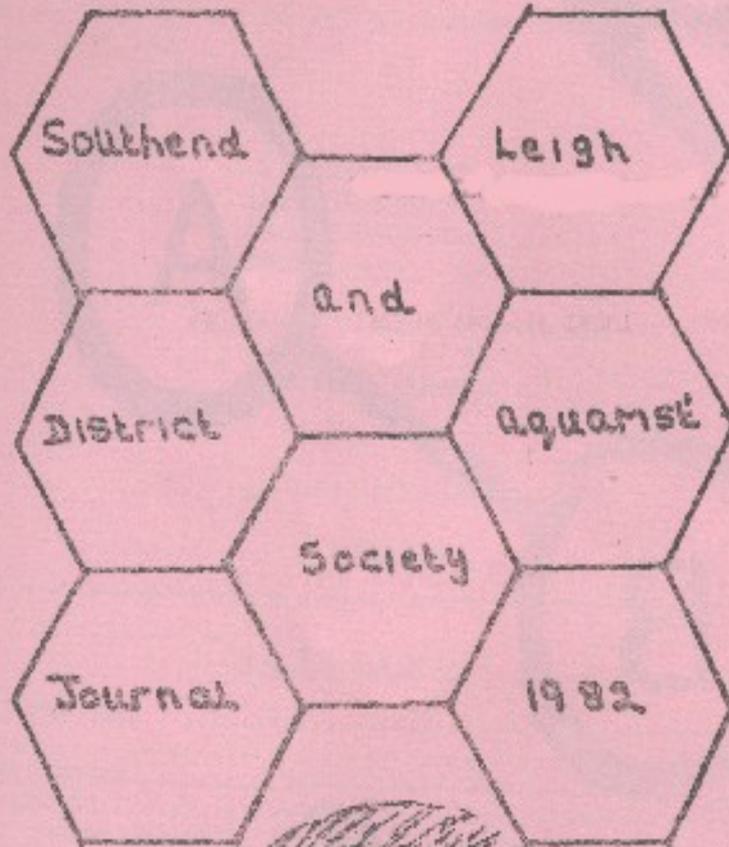


# SLADAS



# **SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**

(Founded 1935 or before)

Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month the meeting commences at 8.30pm.

VENUE:-

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

**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL No. 87  
JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 1982**

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**EDITOR.** J. Harrison, 18 Tasman Close, Corringham Essex. S.L.H- 71746

**OFFICERS FOR 1982**

**PRESIDENT**

DAVE BURGESS. 11 SILVERDALE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF~ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE i

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

BERT FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE:- BASILDON 556625

**HON: SECRETARY**

JOHN HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**HON. TREASURER**

JOAN FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: BASILDON 556625

**TABLE SHOW SECRETARY**

KAREN TURNER. 82 BARNSTAPLE PLACE, THORPE BAY, ESSEX..

**JOURNAL EDITOR**

JACKY HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

PAUL MANSFIELD. 22 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX

**LIBRARIAN**

DAVE CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

JANET MACKENZIE.. 36.HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON SEA, ESSEX.-  
TELEPHONES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA'616149

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

PAUL BOORE. 42 CHASE.BD,.SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 615236

**CATERING SECRETARY**

AUDREY CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

LES SOMNER. 8 CANONSLEIGH CRESCENT, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 712365

**JNR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

STEVEN MACKENZIE. 36 HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-OIJ-SEA 616149

## EDITORIAL

Hi,

Now is the time of the year when we are all looking forward to the breeding season - while fishes are quite readily bred in the winter, the spring and summer with the increasing hours of daylight plus a wider variety of live food available, are the times for producing fry which in turn will make specimen fishes, (this is one good excuse for breeding anyway).

May we all try and make a special effort this year to grow on really good fish« Throw out the runts early, and give the stronger, healthier looking fry more of a chance of getting the food, and more room to develop and grow.

Try and feed your fish a varied diet of live and flake foods. The Open Show is only 2 months away, so with the little time we have left before our fish go on show to the public, lets get them into first class condition and support our Open Show. A lot of work and organization has gone into preparing for this day, so tell all your friends to come along and have a look, maybe they'll consider entering next year.

The next Journal will not be on sale until the day of the Show (don't forget to buy it) so I'll wish everyone entering, the very best of luck with your fish, and lets see just how many PRIZE FISH we have at SLADAS.

GOOD LUCK

Jacky Harrison  
EDITOR

## PRESIDENTS NOTES

DAVE BURGESS

I still have to pinch myself and say wake up, are you really the new SLADAS President? What I am saying is that after only a short time at the club, how did I get this job?

Well surprised as I am, I hope and intend to make the best of it and take it as a compliment to have a year as President of such an old established and well thought of club as ours. The thing that gives me most confidence is the experience and willing committees I am lucky enough to have around me.

We had our first full committee on Tuesday 12th January, all members braved the arctic conditions and turned up. Although you will probably have heard by now we have made one or two changes. One thing that will please a lot of people is we agreed to give medals for all firsts at the table shows as well as the Cup awarded at the 'Social Evening'. This will make it easier to get your shields and hopefully more people will enter the table shows now with more to win.

Another thing we would like to try is if Members have any fish or plant (not equipment) for sale they can bring it to the club on any meeting and hand it to Les Somner, with the price you require clearly marked on each article- For this service the club will deduct only 15%. Auctions will still be held as per programme card for all your aquatic goods fish, plants etc; again the good news only 15% will be deducted for club funds I hope to see some support for this idea this new idea (get breeding).

I will also confirm a prize, to be announced, will be awarded for best Journal entry this year. As this is the last Journal before the Open Show, I must give it a mention. As you all know Dave Cheswright is Show Secretary this year. He has already done a lot of work towards the show but lets not leave it all to one person better still lets not leave it all to the faithful few. All of you, yes you- could give some sort of a hand before and after the event, many hands make light work.. Its your club and its your show, lets make it enjoyable; worthwhile and profitable. Talking of profitable, last year unfortunately was not enough said.

We are having a draw, first prize a cube (not rubik) aquarium and accessories, second prize a sandwich toaster, other prizes to be announced. We are hoping to sell lots of tickets, so for a start here's a job we can all do. If anyone has ideas for fund raising or would like to make a contribution, money, cup etc, it would be greatly appreciated. Any ideas on the club or show itself give them to me or any committee member for discussion and we will see if we can use them.

Well, on closing I wish you all good luck with your fish, whether showing or otherwise, and look forward to seeing you at the club meetings etc.

## SOCIAL EVENING

The Social Evening was held on the 15th December, with our new president, Dave Burges in the chair, plus a glass of wine in his hand, giving him a drop of Dutch Courage for his first Official evening as President. Many thanks to Audrey Cheswright and Janet Mackenzie who were our caterers for the evening, keeping the members and guests happy and contented with various wines and cheese, biscuits, crisps etc. Dave Cheswright also showed slides on the club trip to Diss. Mollie and Maurice Wood from Studio One Aquatics honoured the club by presenting the trophies to members, which have been won throughout the year.

Results were as follows:-

DUBOISSON CUP	BEST CHARACIN	A. COOPER
LEN WILLIS CUP	BEST KILLIEFISH	A. FARROW
STAN HYDE CUP	BEST CORYDORAS/BROCHIS	L. SOMNER
WINNEDERMERE CUP	BEST MARINE	D. HOLLIDAY
SLADAS 4	BEST COLDWATER	D. DURRANT
SAUNDERS CUP	BEST COLDWATER RU	D. HOLLIDAY
BARNES-OAKE CUP	BEST Xb-m EGGLAYER	P. MANSFIELD
CORONATION CUP	BEST Xo-t LIVEBEARER	R. NEALE
SLADAS 1	BEST AOS EGGLAYER	T. GILBEY
SLADAS 2	BEST PLANT	T. GILBEY
GILES CUP	HOME FURNISH	R. DAVIS
POND TROPHY	BEST POND	D. CHESWRIGHT
MEMBERS CHALLENGE TROPHY	MEMBERS CHALLENGE	P. BOORE
ED NICHOLLS CUP	MEMBERS CHALLENGE	T. GILBEY
STAN HALSEY ROSE BOWL	HIGHEST POINTED /TABLESHOW	T. GILBEY
SOUTHCHURCH CUP	HIGHEST POINTED /TABLESHOW RU	L. SOMNER
ABBOT CUP	HIGHEST POINTED TABLE SHOW	T. GILBEY
BROOKS SHEILD 1	BEST MINI TANK	L. SOMNER
BROOKS SHEILD 2	BEST MINI TANK RU	A. WALLER
HARD LUCK CUP	BEST IN HARD LUCK	D. BUSH
SLADAS 3	HIGHEST PTS OPEN SHOW	D. CHESWRIGHT
JONES CUP 1	MEMBERS BEST FISH	L. SOMNER
SLADAS 5	MEMBERS BEST FISH JNR	A. WALLER
MERITORIOUS BREEDING TROPHY	BREEDING	D. RIDGEWELL
PAUL BOORE TROPHY	HIGHEST POINTED SNR	L. SOMNER

There has also been a competition going throughout the year for the best article written for the Journal, all articles entered in this years Journals were judged by an independent judge (not a member of SLADAS) and the winning article was "ARROWANNAS" by Peter Capon, £5 was presented to Peter. So start writing and I'll let you know if the competition will run this year.

### Table Show Results:-

#### NOVELTY TANKS -

1 <sup>st</sup> J. Harrison	2 <sup>nd</sup> A. Waller
3 <sup>rd</sup> P-Mansfield	4 <sup>th</sup> . R. Neale

## BREEDING THE ORANGE CHROMIDE

PAUL MANSFIELD

Although not a 'Popular' fish, the Orange Chromide (*Etroplus maculatus*) is firmly placed in my own top ten. I find his shy yet playful manner a great source of delight. I also consider them one of the prettiest fish as far as facial characteristics go. They have beautiful eyes that seem to speak. Anyway, onto breeding. The information I could gather from books was, at the best, patchy. All the books containing any mention of this fish (that was only a few) just gave it a quick mention with nothing really helpful. The most I could gather was that some professional had no joy whatsoever while some amateurs had great success. Very helpful stuff I thought but decided to have a go anyway, especially as I certainly considered myself an amateur. I had three fish in my large community tank, two males and one female. One of the males was the 'red' variety, i.e. completely orange, as against the normal yellow and black. It was this male that took the fancy of the female, and they spawned once in the community tank- Naturally enough, the eggs didn't last long, making a tasty meal for a host of fish, all larger than the frantic parents.

I moved the pair to an 18"X10"X10" breeding tank with gravel, a couple of rocks, a flower pot and a nasty plastic plant just for a bit of cover. The temperature was, on average, 77F. The pair took to hiding in the flowerpot, only leaving it's sanctuary now and then to take mosquito larvae that luckily was readily available at the time. They took flake only if it fell directly in front of the flowerpot. They were in the tank a week before anything happened. Then on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September they laid their eggs. They were laid in what the books would call "typical cichlid fashion" the female laying the eggs with the male following close behind doing the fertilising. They produced about fifty eggs, fixed to the top of the flowerpot. The eggs are slate grey and are a long oval shape, fixed to the pot at one end by a minute thread. The parents took it in turns to fan the eggs and also become more adventurous about leaving the pot for food.

The eggs took six days to hatch but parental activity was very pronounced in that time. On Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> the parent not fanning the eggs was digging deep pits all over the tank bottom, taking up the gravel in his or her mouth and depositing it in a mound some distance away. By the time I went to bed there were four pits about 1½" deep. On Tuesday there was no digging. On Wednesday morning I came down to find all the eggs had been moved to the bottom of one of the holes with the male fanning them from above. The hole looked very precarious and I immediately feared the worst, i.e. the gravel caving in on top of them. On returning from work Wednesday evening I found much to my surprise that the eggs had hatched out, something they were not supposed to do for another two days. I could just about make out the tiny fry wriggling about in the bottom of the hole, having to hand no specific details on feeding I introduced a minute drop of Liquify. Both parents still took it in turns to guard the young and neither of them seemed to show any inclination towards eating the eggs. By Monday September 21<sup>st</sup> I could see the fry much better as they had grown quite quickly from little .black dots to

Cont/D P. 7

small fish shapes. The fry were a dull yellow and black like small versions of their mother. I started to introduce very small amounts of brine shrimp but the parents ate most of it. On the following Tuesday the fry took their first tentative 'stretches' and hovered above the hole. By Tuesday the fry were venturing further afield as their frantic parents tried to gather them all up at once and steer them home. As soon as Mum and Dad caught one of them in their mouth spat it back into the nest someone else would be off again. They never went far though, never more than four inches away from the hole. A couple of the text books containing any information mentioned that maybe the fish used glancing as the Discus did- From my observations this does seem to be the case but nowhere near as much. The fry took brine shrimp and Aquarian fry food quite eagerly. Wednesday found them swimming around more freely but still the parents kept them together as much as possible occasionally popping one or two back into the nest; probably just to show who was still boss- The fry seemed to like the flower pot and swam in and out of it all day. On the Wednesday night I dropped a Tetra tablet into the tank and by accident it fell into one of the other holes. On Thursday morning I saw all the fry had been herded into it and the tablet was completely gone. At least I knew they were eating well.

My first setback came when I took a week's holiday in mid October. On my return I found most of the brood dead. Obviously they couldn't last without food for a week as the older fish could. I only had eight fish left and felt very disappointed. Also I vowed not to go away again when I had fry to look after but I think that my family may have something to say about that so I'll have to time my breeding program carefully for the next year. By November the tank was getting a bit dirty so I took the fish out and gave it a good cleanout. I filled it up with half fresh water and half matured water and removed the flower pot and plant and changed the rocks over. (A change is as good as a rest). On November 6<sup>th</sup> I came home from work to find a new spawning with more eggs this time attached to a rock. The parents had killed five of the fry by the time I got there so I hastily rescued the other three. That was certainly a good example of learning by your mistakes. Next time I will know to remove the fry at the slightest hint of breeding activity. Obviously the strong parental instinct only covers the latest batch. The fry were a threat to the eggs therefore they were killed. Still, I hope they will breed again and I can put all this education to good use. Watching the fish breed has placed it even higher in my league and I would like to see it become one of the populars.

#### **POST SCRIPT TO ABOVE**

It is now early December. The eggs mentioned before hatched out in five days this time. The fry were two days old when they were all eaten. I can't even guess at a reason. A new batch of eggs were laid about a week later but never even hatched out before becoming a meal for the parents. They seem to be preparing the rock again so this time I shall remove the parents when the eggs are laid and try my hand at rearing the fry artificially. I have had success with Angels using this method. I shall continue with my education and see what results I get this time.

**FISH OF THE MONTH  
FLAG CICHLID**

SCIENTIFIC NAME	<i>AEQUIDENS CURVICEPS</i>
RANGE	Amazon River
SIZE	3 inches, breeds at 2½ inches
TEMPERAMENT	Colourful fish for the community tank when small, but will eat fish smaller than itself when adult
WATER CONDITIONS	Temperature 76 to 80° F, pH 7.0-7.2
BREEDING	Easy to breed, recommended for beginners.
COLOURATION	The body has a blueish tinge, with a few short dark bars come and go over the forward part of the back. The dorsal fin is blue, it has a yellowish tip, and is edged with red- The anal fin is yellow and the tail has an orange border. Males have longer points to the ends of the Dorsal and Anal fins- Females are thicker through the body just above the ventral fin.
SHOWING	Class D FBAS Show Size 3¼ inches

This fish spawns under typical cichlid conditions. Both the parents should be well fed on tubifex worm or other similar live food before spawning. The pair will select a spawning site which they will clean thoroughly, after this ritual the breeding tubes (ovipositor) will appear behind the anal fin and within a few hours the pair will spawn. As this fish is very shy it should be provided with a heavily planted aquarium, and also place a flower pot in the tank (earthenware only) in which this fish may spawn. The parents can be left with eggs, but you should ensure that they are not devouring the eggs. If you wish to hatch the eggs artificially, remove the parents, but make sure you put an airstone in with the eggs. The fry hatch in 3 days at 76°F and are free swimming in another 3 days. They require freshly hatched brine shrimp, micro-worms and sifted daphnia. The growth in the first three to four weeks is amazing if fed well, the fish are ½ inch long in less than a month.

-9-  
**OPEN SHOW**

**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 1982**

Our open show will be held at the usual venue St Clements Hall, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Support is needed from Members please, to sell Draw tickets before and at the show, painting etc. before the show there will be plenty for all to do on the evening of 30<sup>th</sup> April and all day - on the day - 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Please support the show also by entering your Fishes etc, and encouraging all your friends to enter &/or come and see the show.

The cost of putting on the show increases each year and maximum support of all members is essential in order to cover some part of the costs before the day v/ith sales of Draw tickets and entry monies.

Any members who can help or any member who is not sure what this is all about PLEASE COME AND ASK ME.

Dave Cheswright- Show Secretary.

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**ASSOCIATION OF ESSEX AND EAST LONDON AQUATIC SOCIETIES**

D. Cheswright  
DI.

The usual monthly meeting was hold on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1981 . The convention in November showed a profit and funds are now to hand to go ahead with a second Convention, which it is hoped will be held in May 1982 (after our Open Show possibly Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> ) It has been decided to try to organise 2 conventions per annum

For 1981/82 the Annual subscription per Society is £5. New Societies who ;join will still have to pay the £10 entry fee.

Unfortunately, due to the snow/ice the January 82 meeting had to be cancelled. Tlie Association now has a Speakers list of Aquarists who are willing to speak at Member Societies Meetings. Booking Societies have to pay Petrol or offer a return speaker to the speakers Society. If it is not possible for the expenses to be paid the Speaker can claim from the Association if he so wishes. With. this scheme any member Society who is short of funds can still obtain good speakers. Any S.L.A.D.A.S. Members willing to be included on the speakers list please let me or John Harrison know.

## ESSEX & EAST LONDON CONVENTION

### COLDWATER FISH

J & J HARRISON

Joe Linale was the speaker, he started breeding coldwater fish in the early 1940's, before that he kept tropical fish. Joe has a life long ambition, and that is to breed a true blue veil tail gold fish, and after listening to his talk I think it is an ambition that will be achieved. We were again shown slides on fancy goldfish and then Joe told us his method of breeding.

The first is to quarantine all fish for a couple of weeks, preferably buy your fish from a recognized breeder, if bought through an importer buy from one batch only-. After quarantine conditioning begins. Gold fish excrete much more than tropical fish so a regular water change is a must, at least once a week. Never use water direct from the tap when you do a complete water change. If you have to use the water right away, buy some "Hypo Crystals" from a photographers, use 1 crystal per gallon of water, this clears the chlorine from the water. The best food to give the fish is garden worms, try and get small red ones, worms are highly recommended as they contain no parasites. Once conditioned they will spawn anywhere.. Place the fish and a piece of wil root into a bucket and they will spawn, keep an eye on them as they love to eat their eggs.-

Another method Joe prefers is Hand stripping - place the male in one hand and the female in the other, using a bowl, rest the fish in the top of the water with their nose gently pressed against the side of the bowl, this stops then wriggling through your hands, now with their bellies facing each other and quite close together, strip the male first by gently squeezing, then the same is done with the female, be very gentle with the female, strip just a few eggs at a time, then put the female over another bowl as before and you can then fertilise her eggs with a different colour male, and then again with a third, this gives you three different batches of fish from one female, all in one go. Once you have eggs the parents are removed, and you then put one drop of methylene blue into the bowl and a partial water change is required every 12 hours, try to vary the temperature as this creates different features in the fish. Hatch the eggs slowly in not too high a temperature, 3 days is the normal hatching time, if under the 3 days then deformities can occur. No inforsoria is required as brine shrimp is taken right away, after the egg sac is used up,(after one day).

Once you can see the fish clearly, in about 2-3 weeks, you must then start to sort them out. Look for a complete split tail. Put 50 alevins to 1 cubic foot of water, as they grow keeping sorting them out, you are now looking for a nice arc in the dorsal fin, metallic scales and good body colour.

Joe had to finish his talk there as time ran out, I think he could have gone on all night, this was a very good interesting talk. I would just like to mention, that breeders from all over the world go to Joe for their breeding stock, so the new strains he creates can be found in quite a number of countries. I think, and I am sure you must agree, that this is an acheivement on its own.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

**March 27<sup>th</sup>** - Croydon A.S. Open Show at the Ashburton High School, Shirley Rd, Croydon.  
There will be 47 classes held at this show, and the schedules are available from  
Les Derrick. 5 Glenthorne Ave, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey. 01 654 0984

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** - SPEAKER - RASBORAS  
T/S - J - RASBORAS

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** - AUCTION  
T/S - Q - XIPHOPHORUS HELLERI

## NEW SPECIALIST SOCIETY

The Anabantoid Association of Great Britain. Write for Details to, Allan Thompson, 4 Nelson Ave,  
Nelson Village, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 9HG.

This Society was only formed in July 1981, although they are based in the North, you can obtain  
useful monthly literature from these groups with out having to attend their meetings.

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## I WONDER - OR DO I

Does a knife fish cut up his own food?  
Doos an electric eel, telling a dirty story shock his listeners?  
Do fighters attend the peace conference?  
Does the dog fish pine for a tree?

## UNHOLY COMMUNITY

While suckers watched their Tets by night,  
A spawning down below?,  
An angel of the hoard came down,  
the dirty so and so-

M.C. Mash  
Fear not. said he dear Neon Tet,  
I'll fan back to and from,  
But cunningly he double turned,  
And syphoned up the roe.

**ME !!!!!**

T. Waller

I feel I don't have to introduce myself at S.L.A.D.A.S., because I have been coming here for the past two or three years, judging and speaking. At long last my conscience has pricked me into joining as a member. You have probably gathered that I love judging and in particular, speaking. However there is another side to my fishy interests - just being a plain ordinary fish keeper with a wide range of interests, especially Rasboras, Livebearers, Plants and Furnished Aquaria.

### **WE HAVE A FISH HOUSE !!!!!!!**

This unusual building is at present being considered for registration as a historic monument, due to my wife answering a rates assessment form when she described it as early Norman, what she meant was early Norman Wisdom. This cavernous creation (the shed, not the wife) measures some 12ft by 10ft and is 7ft high at one end tapering down to 5ft at the other end- This presents somewhat of a disadvantage if you happen to be over 5ft tall. Owing to the peculiar design of the ceiling it is advised that Wellington boots be worn at the 7ft end, and anglers waders at the 5ft end. The roof is typical of the period when architectural design was rich in its extravagance with indications of the young Christopher Wren showing, in the Gothic edged ramparts blending pleasantly into the corrugated tin roof. Here the swallows and warblers can be seen at their best picking up food and nesting amongst the rust. The cleverly contoured holes allow just enough light into the shed to keep the water a delicious shade of pea green which sets off the interior colour scheme of Royal Blue and Pink to a fine degree. A word of warning here if you are not prepared for this when entering, nausea followed by a total blackout can occur, especially if you wanted a quiet afternoon, and had just taken tea and cakes in the garden-

There are some 40 tanks of which 2% do not leak more than a pint a day. This to be honest probably accounts for the odd shape and gradient of the floor. A CONFESSSION, if a mistake has been made in the construction then it lays in the fact that the shed has been fixed too securely to the house, because as the 5ft ends sink further into the pond, so it has the effect of pulling the back, wall of the house away from the other two. What with all our other commitments the fish still come first and are always fed at least twice, once in mid June and once at Christmas. Water changes are more often frequent due to the erratic design of the roof and the long wet winters.

Winters in this country are cold and long so from the outset we decided on individual tank heating and some 40 thermostats were purchased. In two years time when the bank loan expires it is expected that 40 heaters will be bought to connect them to. Now I have a confession to make (yet another one) I am no electrician, and the wiring of the shed is a bit primitive. It has been described in such glowing terms as being like "Russian Roulette" or just "Bloody Madness". Personally I have always found that if you keep your feet dry and touch nothing metal you are in no danger, in fact with the lights out the sparks can be awe inspiring. We like to breed fishes, study plants, support shows and many happy hours are spent setting up tanks, planting and catching fish and putting them back into their tanks. TOP GLASSES, what are they?

**FIND THE FISH**

P. Mansfield

IN THE SQUARE BELOW ARE 36 FISH. THEY ARE ALL LISTED BENEATH THE SQUARE. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIND THEM. THEY ARE PRINTED FORWARDS, BACKWARDS, UP, DOWN AND DIAGONALLY. ONE IS ALREADY MARKED AS AN EXAMPLE. HAPPY HUNTING,

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Y P S B G I A N T G O U R A M I A R E Y
S L E A C U S T A R T E T E A P R E S M
A D L F O M P I R A N H A N A H S D A R
S I M O E I S P L E C O S T C M Y S T C
N L R A N F N I Y B L P C E S F G W I S
E H F L S K I W B R A P H E G I T O S Y
O C A K O C C S R A L O E S V A W R F A
N I C R M A N A H A S I D A B S I D A B
T G S I L F L F L Y C M I A T W E T K R
E E M R H E L L E B A S M Y W S P A E B
T L W E S T Q A Q R H F O B R A P I H C
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S E A S I R L K F O E S E L I A D E S G
U K H O O E A S G S A M G O B F I S T N
C O C T G D A P E L C O N V I C T M O I
S O N N E D I U Q R P R A C I O K A I Y
I E A M O S S Q U I T C O R C O M E R B L
D O P A I H S B L E T U O A E R I F A F

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**THE HIDDEN FISH**

- |            |               |           |                 |
|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|
| ANGEL FISH | BADIS BADIS   | BATFISH   | BLACK MOLLY     |
| COMET      | CONVICT       | DISCUS    | FIREMOUTH       |
| FLYING FOX | GIANT GOURAMI | GOBY      | GOLDFISH        |
| GUPPY      | HARLEQUIN     | HOGFISH   | KEYHOLE CICHLID |
| KOI CARP   | KRIBENSIS     | LIMIA     | MEDAKA          |
| MOSQUITO   | NEON TETRA    | OSCAR     | ORANGE CHROMIDE |
| PANCHAX    | PIPEFISH      | PIRANHA   | PLECOSTOMUS     |
| PLATY      | RAM           | ROSY BARB | RED SWORDTAIL   |
| SEA HORSE  | SEROAE TETRA  | SNAKEHEAD | TIGER BARB      |

**CLUB MEETINGS**

**JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup>**

Livebearers was the topic for this meeting and our speaker was Dave Cheswright. Many different aspects of livebearers was covered, from your everyday Guppies to many livebearers not so commonly seen in our shops?, such as Limias and Goodea. Our club projector was given an airing and Dave showed us slides of some of the many different species he has collected for his fish house. The table show this week was for Male and Female Guppies, results were as follows:-

**Class 0 Male Guppies**

Judges C. Cheswright

1 <sup>st</sup> W. Chapman -	76 Points
2 <sup>nd</sup> A. Waller -	71 Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> A. Waller -	65 Points

**Class P Female Guppies**

1 <sup>st</sup> R. Noale	72½ Points
2 <sup>nd</sup> P. Mansfield -	72 Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> D. Bush -	66 Points
4 <sup>th</sup> D. Bush -	63 Points

On reading the results, Dave Burges congratulated Mr Will Chapman for his 1<sup>st</sup> with a Male Guppy., this was the first time Will had shown a fish. WELL DONE.

**JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup>**

We had the FBAS tape and slides this week, Ian Sellick, who was at the Essex and East London Convention prepared this evenings programme, which was on Rift Valley Cichlids. Ians talks do tend to be very thorough in explanation so we only got half way through the slides.

The Table Show this week was on Labrynth, results as follows:-

**Class Ea Fighters**      3\_ Entries      Judge D Durrant

1 <sup>st</sup> R. Speller -	67 Points
2 <sup>nd</sup> R. Speller -	64 Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> W. Chapman -	62 Points

**Class Ez AOS Labrynth**      10 Entries      Judge D. Durrant

1 <sup>st</sup> P. Mansfield	77 Points	Opaline Gourami
2 <sup>nd</sup> P. Mansfield	73 Points	Pearl Gourami (F)
3 <sup>rd</sup> D. Bush	72 Points	Three Spot Gourami
4 <sup>th</sup> W. Chapman	71 Points	Opaline Gourami (F)

**Class Ea-y Fighters Jnr**      1 Entry

1 <sup>st</sup> T. Gilbey	63 Points	Male Fighter
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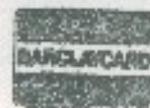
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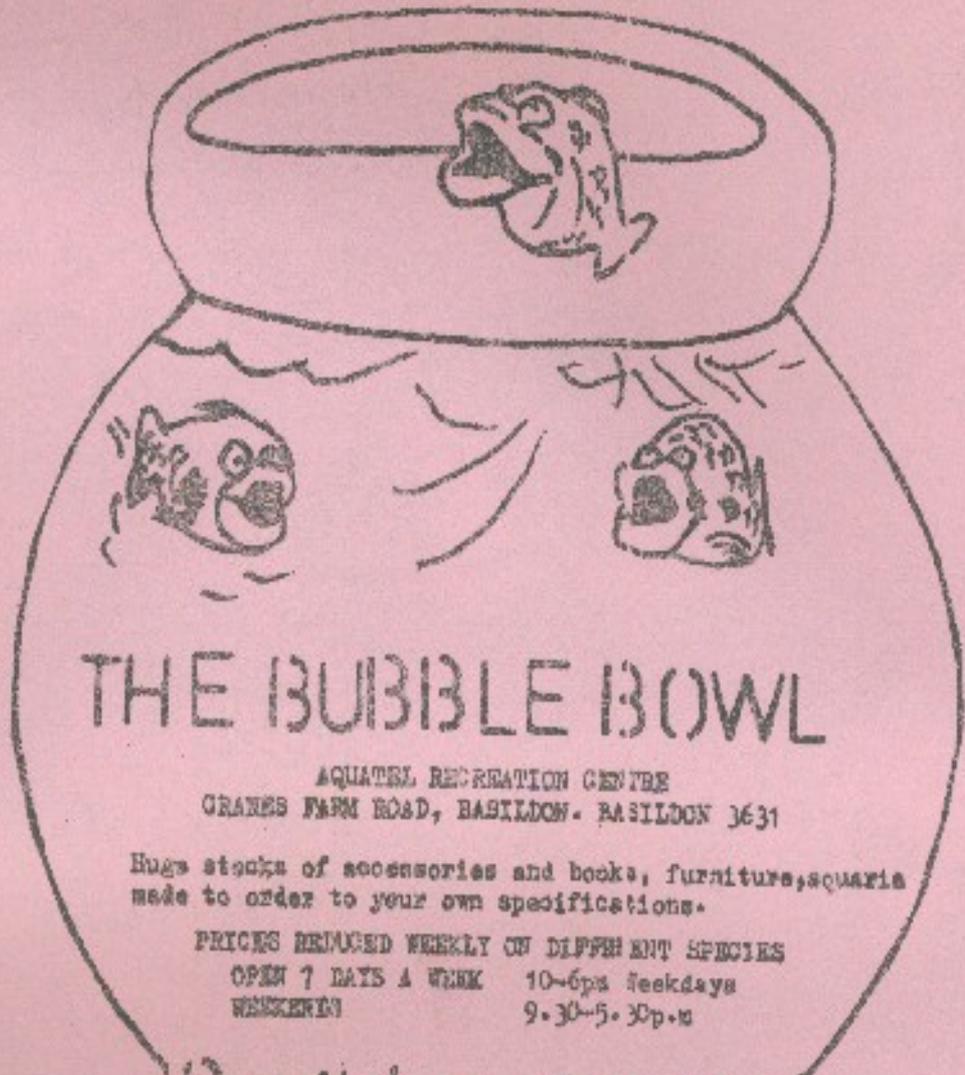
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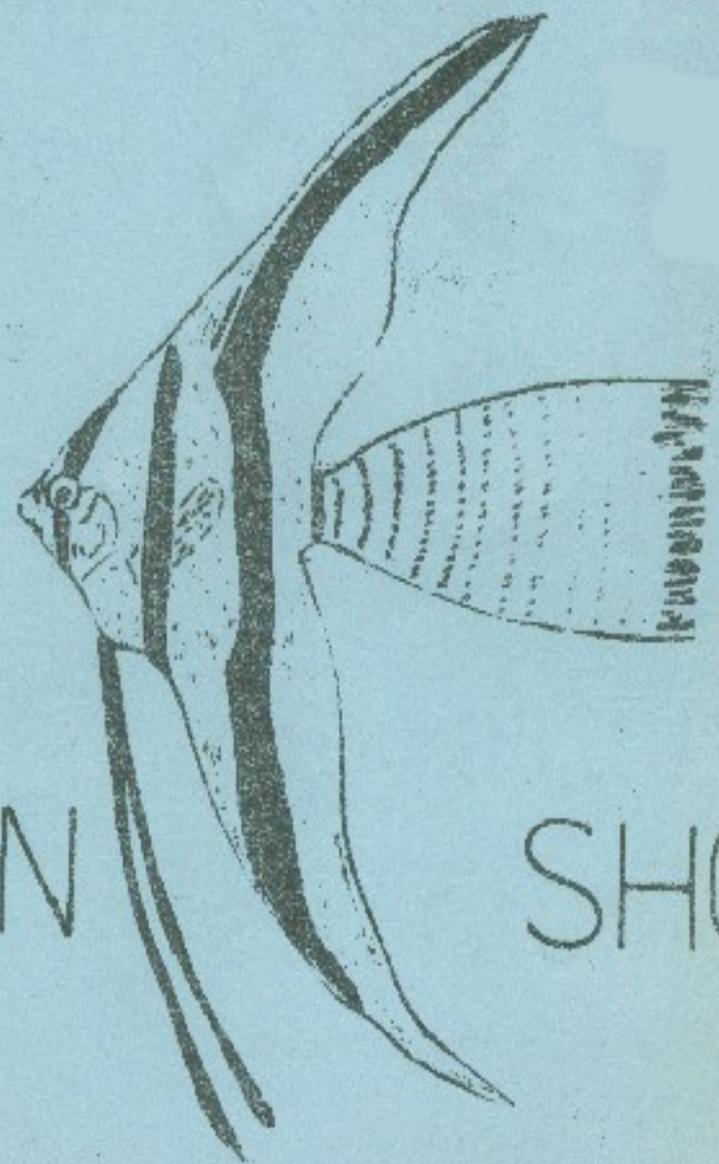
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AND DISTRICT  
AQUARIST SOCIETY



OPEN

SHOW

JOURNAL 10p

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(founded 1935 or before)

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**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL**  
**No. 88 MARCH/ APRIL -**

**OPEN SHOW 1982**

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**EDITOR** Mrs J Harrison 18 Tasman Close, Corringhaia, Essex. S.L.H. 71746

**OFFICERS FOR 1982**

**PRESIDENT**

DAVE BURGESS. 11 SILVERDALE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF~ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE i

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

BERT FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE:- BASILDON 556625

**HON: SECRETARY**

JOHN HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**HON. TREASURER**

JOAN FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: BASILDON 556625

**TABLE SHOW SECRETARY**

KAREN TURNER. 82 BARNSTAPLE PLACE, THORPE BAY, ESSEX..

**JOURNAL EDITOR**

JACKY HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

PAUL MANSFIELD. 22 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX

**LIBRARIAN**

DAVE CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

JANET MACKENZIE.. 36.HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON SEA, ESSEX.-  
TELEPHONES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA'616149

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

PAUL BOORE. 42 CHASE.BD,.SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 615236

**CATERING SECRETARY**

AUDREY CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

LES SOMNER. 8 CANONSLEIGH CRESCENT, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 712365

**JNR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

STEVEN MACKENZIE. 36 HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-OIJ-SEA 616149

## **EDITORIAL**

Hi,

Welcome to the Open Show Edition of our Journal. At last the great day has arrived and all the hard work and preparation has at last been put together, and lets hope its a great success, not just for our club and its members, but to everyone entering their fish today, and also to visitors and new faces.

When your relaxing at home tonight after the show, just take half an hour to browse through the journal and you will soon find out what sort of people attend our club meetings. Most of us are just plain nuts (mention no names, but he had a dig at me) but we also know what we are doing with our fish. So why not come along and join us, further details of club meetings can be found on page 7.

As this journal has been devoted entirely on the show and members practical experiences for other aquarists to experiment with, the club results which are normally published in every journal will not appear this time, due to lack of space, but they will be published next time, I hope this will cause no inconvenience to anyone.

Just a finishing note to all exhibitors, on behalf of SLADAS members and the committee I wish you all the very best of luck with your fish, and if you are just visting we hope that you enjoy our show and seeing the fish in first class condition.

Jacky Harrison EDITOR

## PRESIDENTS NOTES

DAVE BURGES

Well, here we are again, OPEN SHOW DAY. I hope we are all enjoying the show and getting the deserved something from it your efforts have earned. I say this because it looks as though members are responding well to the show, and know that a lot of work has gone into it.

Meetings so far this year seem to have been successful I haven't had any complaints, (you can you know if you want to)«. Terry Waller on April 6th seemed to get you all in the mood for the open show anyway.

Looking at the new programme John Harrison has prepared we should have plenty to look forward to. Other than the club programme the year holds other events for us, by the time you read this we will of had an evening out at Schulers Restaurant, and a Convention at Hendon, which I know quite a few members are attending. Then on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, we have the Essex and East London 2<sup>nd</sup> convention.

So plenty to do, pity it all seems on top of each other. Still in the summer there is a trip to London Zoo to be arranged, I hope. Perhaps also a trip to Diss, we all enjoyed it last year.

As we all must know by now Wedding Bells are sounding at the club, apparently the first time ever at SLADAS. I had to laugh when I first announced it. I thought someone was having a joke with me. Still I have stopped laughing now (thats what I'm telling you) and must say congratulations to Terry and Karen, and wish them happy fry rearing.

I know Jacky is waiting for these notes so I am going to close here. Good luck to you all at and after the show.

Sorry I keep getting the raffle prizes, I assure you it is only luck and it cannot continue much longer.

THE VERY BEST TO YOU ALL ONCE MORE .

DAVE.

**STARTING WITH TROPICALS  
(or how things can get out of hand)**

P. Mansfield

When I look back on my humble beginnings it seems amazing how I managed to get hooked on the hobby of fishkeeping. As a boy I went through all the usual pets such as stick insects, caterpillars, snails etc. then moved up to newts and frogs starting off with the spawn. Living in the country with a farm and woods at the end of my road was a distinct advantage for collecting any form of wild life and I spent much of my time out in the open air, usually turning up at home again with a new creature to keep. Looking back, I must have driven my poor mother to distraction many times. I remember well her shrieks one morning as she got up to find my snail collection had escaped from the box I kept it in. The snails were having a race of sorts up the walls and as I rarely collected in two's or threes it was a fairly impressive sight to my young eyes. My mum didn't see my point of view however and from then on all my animals had to live in the greenhouse. Even my experience with the snails didn't put me off though.

My first fish arrived without due ceremony and completely unsolicited. My Grandparents arrived for the weekend and with them came seven wild guppies and a gold fish bowl that my Grandad had obtained from a man he worked with who kept fish. The bowl immediately took pride of place on our sideboard and the fish didn't seem to mind their new home. The only piece of equipment I had was a medical thermometer as my Grandad had told me the fish had to be kept warm. Luckily our living room was always warm or I might have lost my fish straight away and not carried on, but I think I was bitten by the bug as soon as I set eyes on the fish anyway so who can say. I can't honestly remember what I fed the poor things on, knowing the mind of a child it was probably bread or ants captured in the garden.

The next step was getting a book and reading up on the hobby. I still have the book at home and it is nothing more than the sort of thing you occasionally get as a free gift with an aquatic magazine, but it certainly increased my keenness. On his next visit my Grandad turned up with a 12" tank. It may be small to me now but it was a palace in my eyes then. My fish were instantly transferred to their new home, still without heating or filtration. I saved like mad and soon had the 12/6 necessary to buy a heater. It was with great excitement that I went to the newly opened fish shop to purchase it. The mans first question was "What wattage do you need" and my heart sank. I didn't have the faintest idea what he was talking about let alone what my need was. Luckily the owner was the helpful sort and soon had me put right. Then came the next set back as he explained I needed a thermostat to go with it. Once again my plans were put back. I eventually got the necessary cash and bought the article in question. I should add here that the shop owner probably did more to make sure I wasn't put off than anyone else and I shall always be grateful to him for that. Once I had heater and thermostat they needed wiring up, a task my mum refused to let me do (with good reason). We enlisted the help of a man over the road who kept fish and he had it wired up very quickly. Suddenly I was in business and the tank went up in my bedroom.

## STARTING WITH TROPICALS      Cont/d From P.5

On my next "birthday" my Grandparents arrived with another tank. This one was 18" complete with heater, lights, plants and some baby swordtails and mollies. This too went upstairs and my passion grew along with the baby fish. I remember spending an entire afternoon watching the first of my guppy births. My mum was as enchanted as I and spent the afternoon peering into the tank with me. She'd never admit to being interested though. Eventually my collection of tanks grew to ...somewhat alarming proportions. I had them from every plug in my bedroom and also from the four light sockets. I read by candlelight or fish tank. My bedroom was probably the most unsafe room in town. I'm amazed it never caught fire. When I was sixteen I went to college and the first bloke I met there happened to be selling a five foot tank. Naturally I couldn't resist it and it ended up in our living room. My sister showed an interest and one birthday I bought her a small tank with a pair of Siamese Fighters that she kept by her bed. Unfortunately she never stuck with the hobby though.

Once I left college I moved into the hotel where I worked. Soon all the living in staff were in possession of aquariums I had set up for them. My mum was moving so I had to clear out my tanks from home. They all found good homes within the hotel. Soon after I had my first major setback. I went away for a couple of days leaving my fish unattended in my staff chalet. When I got back all I found were dead fish due to a rather nasty power cut that had lasted all day in a particularly nasty cold snap.

Shortly afterwards I left the hotel for greener pastures and didn't bother to set up any aquariums again. Two years ago however I suddenly had the yearning again and when my wife asked what I wanted for my birthday I asked for a fish tank, and surprisingly got one. Eventually (well, within a month actually) I decided that one three foot tank looked silly on a stand meant for two, so another tank found its way into my humble home. My poor suffering wife (her words) has seen it grow to six at the moment.) including the five foot monster, which make up one side of our living room.

There's another half a dozen tanks in the shed awaiting some decent weather when I can get my fish house ready. A certain sarcastic member of my family wonders if one shed is going to be enough. At the moment the aquariums I'm setting up at work is keeping my interest and on occasions people ask my advice when first setting up in the hobby. As a point of interest I set up a three foot tank for a friend about a year ago. Next time I went round his house he had five tanks. That was in the short space of six weeks. That's just one example of how the bug can get you.

Of course this article isn't written to put you off fishkeeping, in fact the reverse is true. If you do wish to start the best bit of advice I can give you is to go along to your local fish club. There you will be able to get any advice you need. I have always found my fellow aquarists extremely helpful and keen to pass on their knowledge. Also at the club are the people who specialise in one particular field and know much more than most about their chosen subject. At S.L.A.D.A.S. we have people such as Dave Cheswright, who is something of an expert on livebearers, Bert Farrow a Killie Fish fiend, and others keen on cichlids, anabantids etc. At the front of the Journal are a list of Committee

Cont/d on P.7

members and where to find them, I know of none who are above giving a bit of advice when asked. Personally I take great pleasure in being asked for advice or even a helping hand when it comes to helping people new to the hobby. The hobby is a fascinating one that I believe should be spread to as many people as possible. The number of people who come to my house and say "Oh I'd love to keep fish like that, but aren't they a lot of work". The answer to that question is of course "NO". They have to be looked after the same as any other 'pet' but nothing overtaxing. The number of disabled people who are aquarists speaks volumes. I would like to see an aquarium in most old peoples homes too, they are marvelous for relieving the boredom that I know a lot of the inhabitants in these homes feel. Once you've got over the initial outlay for the tank and equipment fishkeeping is relatively cheaper than other pets. Another plus is that I've never had to take a fish for a walk or get up in the middle of the night to let one out. Since I joined the club my knowledge of fishkeeping has increased in leaps and bounds due to meeting people who know more than I do and are more than willing to pass it on. If you are already an aquarist or someone who would like to think about the hobby being for you I urge you to come to a club meeting and see what's going on. You don't have to join straight away. If you do come you might be pleasantly surprised by what we have to offer you. Our P.R.O. is Paul Boore, see him and he'll be able to introduce you to the person he thinks you'll need. I hope we'll see you soon.

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### SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY CLUB MEETINGS

Our club meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> . Tuesday of every month. We are always glad to welcome any new members or visitors. You may attend three meetings before you actually have to join the club. Set out below is details of our next four meetings. The meetings start at 8.30pm, refreshments are available.

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** General Fishkeeping for Beginners. The speaker will be Bernard Meech, a very experienced aquarist.

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** Open Show Forum. This will be a discussion on the Open Show, to see how well our fish done or didn't and why? also plenty of tips on showing for beginners.

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** Auction., Members bring in surplus fish, plants , tanks, equipment; you name it they bring it, have you ever bought fish for 50p per pair, well you can here.

**June 15<sup>th</sup>** Killie Fish. The speaker will be Bert Farrow, one of our members, who has successfully, bred raised and shown killie fish.

EDITOR

**THE MOMENT OF TRUTH**  
(Oh well, never mind)

T. WALLER  
' B' Class Judge

The moment of truth for exhibitors whether seasoned campaigners or just first timers comes about four o'clock when judging ends and the results are published. Now the moment of truth, the reward for all the effort, the disappointments, and the near misses (only a measly half point and 1 would have had first). One thing is certain, whether your fish comes first or last you can bet that it has been judged in a fair and proper manner using a system that has been tried and tested since the formation of the F.B.A.S. Under the F.B.A.S. rules your fish HAS been judged as we believe all entries have the right to be judged, also every entry is anonymous to Federation judges, as they are not allowed near the benching area or help in any way with benching or entering. Please do not approach any judge officiating before judging, but feel free to do so after. I personally have known all the pitfalls (dropping a furnished aquaria on the floor), all the joys (getting best catfish and championship classes), the laughs of telling your son not to bother bringing a fish, and then watching it get 86 points and best barb. Traveling 300 miles one week and not getting a thing, then next week going up the road and seeming to win the lot.

How well the fish is shown is very important and down to you. We have three stages or grades of judges within the Federation, A.B.C. :- C class judges are gaining experience through judging table shows and interclubs, either on their own or in the company of a senior judge. The next step up is intermediate or B class, when he or she is allowed to judge at Open Shows, then finally the top of the tree is the A class, the heady heights of championship classes and supreme championship is achieved. Federation judges are taught from the outset to enforce the Federation show rules and adopt the Federation system of judging which has been proved the fairest and most efficient way of finding the best in class.

The system consists of pointing five categories of 20 points each. 1. **SIZE** the fish is measured from the tip of the mouth to the caudal peduncle, the size arrived at is compared with the size sheets and using a size disc the points for size are allocated. Taking into consideration that to grow a fish half size is easy and gets progressively harder to get to full size, a fish half size will get only 7 points. 2. **BODY** also getting a maximum 20 points is the shape of the body, this is where experience comes in knowing the correct shape of certain species. 3. **FINS** get a maximum of 20 points with particular reference paid to the shape, rays and development 4. **COLOUR** of the fish get 20 points and again experience plays a part. Many cultivated species have special standards laid down as a guideline to stop deterioration of species. These standards are rigidly enforced to encourage the improvement of species. The twenty points for **Condition and Deportment** speak for themselves. A fish in nice condition will look good, nice bodied and colourful. The deportment of the fish is how the fish is behaving in the tank. Some species will curl up and hide, others will show well. Remember a top swimmer will be expected to swim at the top, just as a bottom dweller will be judged to be on the bottom.

## ME & MY BREEDING- CORYDORAS

Jacky Harrison

I started off breeding *Corydoras* with just one pair of peppers (*Corydoras paleatus*), they were put into a bare tank with fresh water that had stood for 3 days. When we came home one night John went into the fish house and found that they had spawned, there was eggs all over the glass, he called me to come and have a look, and we decided that they had only just started spawning; and as all the books say, *Corydoras* don't eat their eggs, so with this knowledge printed in our minds we left them over night. When I went in the next morning all the eggs had gone, and my loving parents were not hungry, as one of our fellow aquarists has said, "we ought to teach our fish to read these books".

Anyway I cleaned out their tank and started all over again, we left them in together and just fed them plenty of live food, and kept their tank clean. When the female was fat and ready, I hoovered the bottom of the tank and gave them a part water change. Instead of putting warm water in I put cold in, this dropped the temperature by about 6 degrees, this temperature drop induces spawning. Next day when I went in, my *Corydoras* were spawning again, but as fast as she was laying the eggs, she would turn tail and eat them. Once again I had to start all over again this time she didn't eat the eggs straight away, she actually finished spawning first, then she ate them. So I quickly removed both the parents. Now I was still going by the book and I left the eggs to hatch, 3 days later they had all fungused. I was beginning to think that we would never have any babies, just lots of eggs and one hungry mother.

Off I went again, conditioning, spawning, eggs. This time I put Methylene Blue in the tank with the eggs, but they still fungused. Then a friend said, that when I put Methylene Blue in the water make it really dark blue. Well I did as my friend had said, and boy was that tank blue, but success was ours at last, we had fry at last, they were very small and unfortunately they only lived a couple of weeks.

By this time the parents had conditioned up again, so they were put into their breeding tank to start their ritual. The eggs hatched this time and the fry were big, you didn't even have to strain your eyes to see them. They were big hungry, and very lively. After about three weeks of being fed on micro-worms, -deli-kat and aquatabs there was only 21 left but these fish were big and strong, at least 1/2 inch long, they seemed to have done their own culling out, and we never ever found any dead ones in the tank, they must have eaten them. They are one month old at the time of writing this story (25.2.82) and hopefully they will be big enough to enter in the breeders class at our Open Show. I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

The most important thing I found when raising the fry was that the water was kept at about 5 inches deep, this allowed the babies to come to the surface without too much effort. The tank they were in had about 2 1/2-3 gallons of water in, and every morning and night I would take out one pint of water, and put back in one pint of fresh warm tap water. Then once a week, I would take out half the water cleaning the bottom of the tank as I went, and put back in the

**THE FISH FANATICS PAGE  
FIND THE FISH (2)**

P. MANSFIELD



**THE HIDDEN FISH**

- |              |                 |               |                        |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|
| ANGLER       | AROWANA         | BETTA         | BLIND CAVEFISH         |
| BLOODFIN     | BLUE GOURAMI    | BUTTER HAMLET | CHERRY BARB            |
| CONGO TETRA  | DOLPHIN CICHLID | EARTH EATER   | GLASSFISH              |
| HATCHET FISH | HEADSTANDER     | LAMPREY       | LEAF FISH              |
| LIONFISH     | LIONHEAD        | MINNOW        | MONO                   |
| MORAY EEL    | MUDSKIPPER      | NEON GOBY     | PORK FISH              |
| PUFFER FISH  | ROACH           | ROCK BEAUTY   | RED TAILED BLACK SHARK |
| SCAT         | SOLE            | STARFISH      | SPINY EEL              |
| STINGRAY     | TENCH           | TIGER BOTIA   | TIN FOIL BARB          |

**WHO AM I ?**

P. MANSFIELD

MY FIRST IS IN GRUMBLE BUT NEVER IN MAD,  
 MY SECOND'S IN LAUGHING, NEVER IN SAD,  
 MY THIRD IS IN PLAYFUL AND ALSO IN FLAP,  
 MY FOURTH'S IN PERFORMANCE DESERVING A CLAP  
 MY FIFTH IS IN TUESDAY, NEVER IN WEEK  
 WHICH MAKES UP A FISH A LOT OF YOU KEEP.

Answer on page 20

## THE MARINE AQUARIUM

MIKE LIGGINS of BURGESS AQUATICS

The first two months of a marine aquarium are its most vulnerable assuming that it has been set up correctly, i.e. with Algarde U/G filtration which is still the most cost effective. These can be made more efficient with extra slits cut in and a bend fitted to the uplift, it also helps to glue the filter plate down with silicone sealer. The best filter medium has to be a four inch layer of coral sand which is imported from Phillipine beaches. If undergravel filtration seems unnatural, think of surf constantly pounding a beach, driving waste material and oxygen into nature's own filter, coral sand. Hence a strong air pump is essential at a water depth of fifteen inches, EACH uplift should have one Rena 101 or the equivalent.

Sp.G is not critical, a reading between 1.018 and 10.24 is O.K. Temperature again can be from 70°F normal temp, of -the Red Sea up to 82°F. I have even known Damsels and Clowns survive at 96°F for seven days with no side effects. If there is a secret ingredient then it must be light, so many failures can be attributed to this. For our three foot tank we should have a minimum of one 20Watt Gro-lux, two 20Watt True-light, and one 100Watt Spotlight. We are not trying to establish a clinical looking environments i.e. false looking dead corals with one Gro-lux light, although pleasing to a beginners eye, it is a nightmare for the fish. The white corals are devoid of life and the fish are swimming about in semi darkness, for Gro-lux tubes emit only the red end of the spectrum, and red light will not penetrate seawater, that is why when diving on a coral reef only blue colours are visible. The theory behind this system is that seawater is dragged through the coral sand where nitrosoma bacteria when established break down the fishes toxic waste products ammonia etc, into nitrites which again are harmful to fish, for they combine with the haemoglobin in the blood forcing away oxygen. So nitrosoma bacteria breaks this down into nitrate which is only toxic in high concentrations, dirty tanks. Carbon dioxide released by the inhabitants is used along with nitrates and various trace elements in the process of photosynthesis to build algae. In return the green algae release oxygen, and are eaten by the fish.

pH should never fall below 8.1 and will not, provided you are harvesting enough algae for they will use up Carbon Dioxide which will prevent this from mixing with water to produce carbonic acid so bring down the pH. Once our tank has been set up it needs to be matured, this can be done by adding a good handful of coral sand from an existing tank. A Damsel can then be added and with the lights left on permanently for the first week our tank will slowly mature, after a few weeks further fish can be added.

If money is no object then living rock can be put in, thus making our Marine Aquarium an: actual section of living coral reef. One drawback with marine aquariums is if any parasites such as whitespot attack the fish, then only copper based cures can be used to cure them, but these will also kill any invertebrates, so great care is needed if invertebrates and fish are to be kept together.

## CULTURING GRINDAL WORMS

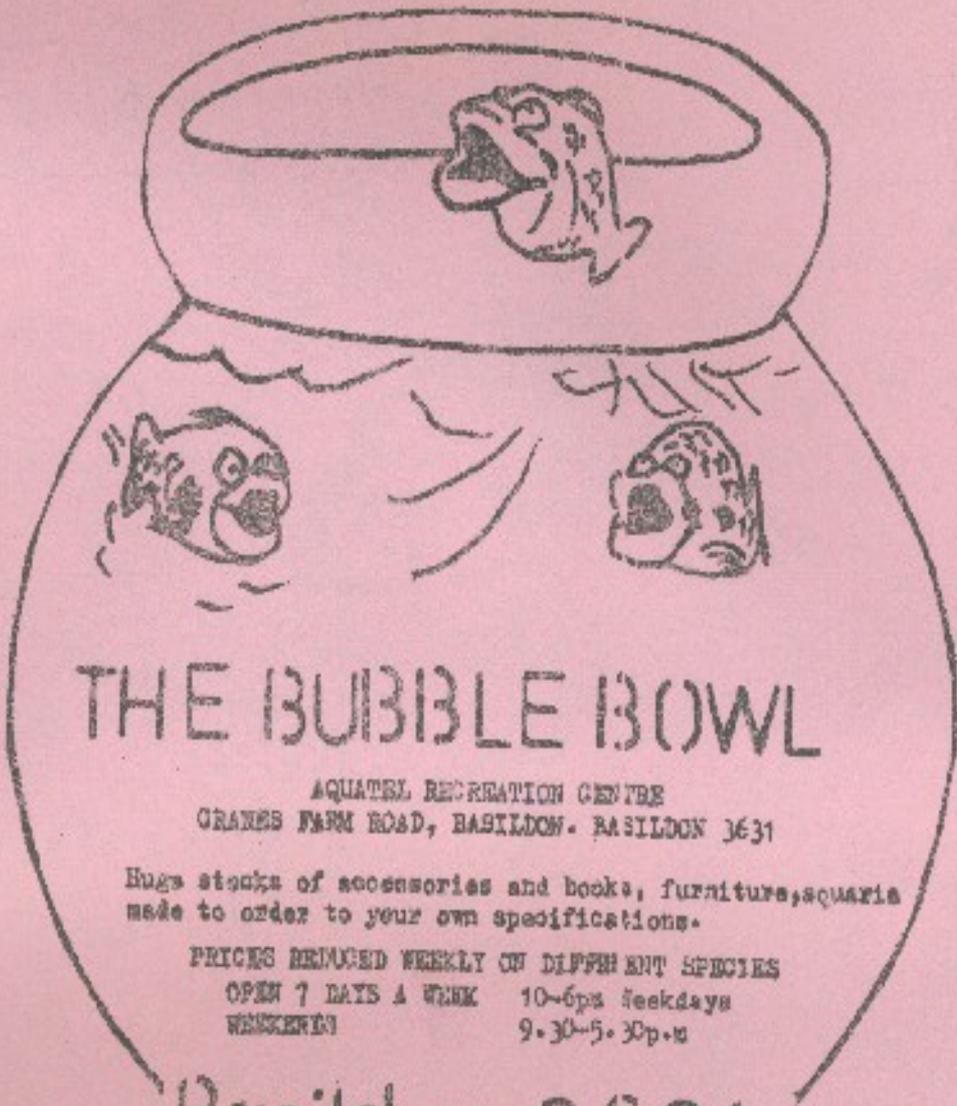
D. Cheswright

These worms are a good food for your fishes, provided they are not fed excessively - once or twice a week is reasonable. They are smaller than the white worm being only about 5/10 cm long and much thinner. They require different conditions from white worm in order to be successfully cultered-

1. A plastic or other box about 6"x4"x4" or slightly larger. The box should be a dark colour - you can paint the outside of an ice cream tub black.
2. Only about 2/3" of peat is required note peat not soil. Some people use a mixture of peat and soil but I find that they do much better in pure peat. The peat used should be fine with no bits of roots etc in it. The peat is dampened by adding water and then squeezing out as much as possible by hand.
3. Your culture of Grindal is added - just place it on top of the peat. Even a very few worms is sufficient to start a thriving culture.
4. I always feed Grindal with dried milk - just a sprinkle daily. For those of you without babies in the house a packet of dried milk will last a year or more. The granulated-type milk you can put in your tea is not "Marvel"lous for Grindal. Cover the culture with a small piece of glass and keep the box covered with a dark lid or piece of wood. If you use the ice-cream box make sure you make holes in the lid, otherwise the worms will quickly suffocate.
5. Once a week or so remove any uneaten milk powder and give the culture a gentle stir up - adding a small amount of water just to make sure the peat is barely damp, do not drown it.
6. You should be able to reap enough worms from one culture to feed many fishes. You must be able to maintain the culture at 70/75°F (21/24°C).
7. Obtain your "starter" worms from your fellow aquarist. They are also available from fish magazines.

TROPICAL

MARINE



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**HOW TO WIN AT SHOWS  
(without being caught cheating)**

by Dark Cloud Mountain Danio F.B.A.S.S.

Your Editor (rot her Caudal peduncle) has asked me to write a few lines on fish showing and how to ensure that your fish win all those pretty shiny trophies that are on offer around the Shows now-a-days.

First let me explain why she thinks I should put pen to paper and write this treatize. I have the extinction of being a F.B.A.S.S. judge and have some idea as to how a judges mind functions (yes. contrary to your editor's regular comments judges do have functional minds).

First, perhaps, I should explain that the hobby as far as showing is concerned is governed by the F.B.A-S.S these initials, as most readers will know, stand for the Bolivian Antiquarian Societies Federation. The Society - (everyone should prostrate themselves in the direction of Red Lion Square at the mention of it's name) issues standards (remember the Vanguard's) on many of the more popular fishes and several that are decidedly unpopular, for the guidance of judges and exhibitors. It also issues size tables which are designed to encourage giantism in dwarf species and dwarfism in giant species and profanity amongst avid showmen. Our table show secretary has copies of many of the Federation publications which he will be pleased to sell to you but please do not forget to prostrate yourselves and kiss the ground at his feet whilst facing Red Lion Square.

Now let us assume you have your fish which you wish to enter in a show. First write to the Show Sec` of the club holding the show, do not enclose a S.A.E, as this only confuses the Open Show Sec and helps the club to break even. Within a few days you will have an Open Show Schedule on your door mat, (for overseas readers enlightenment in G.B. letters are still occasionally put through letter boxes in our front doors). Wipe your feet on it or give it to the kids to scribble on. Now wait until two or three hours before the close of entries and phone up the show sec` (try reversing the charges) and be thoroughly rude about the fact that you no longer have a Schedule. None of this mamby-pamby stuff such as, I'm frightfully sorry old fruit but my dawg has eaten the entry chit, be rude. Blame it all on the Show Sec` insist he deliver another by hand, if it's over 30 miles he'll be ecstatic, after all he's got little better to do, show see's are masochistic by nature.

When you have the new schedule read it carefully, note the rules, and then enter your name and ommit your address and Society, if at all possible your name should be completely unreadable- Now decide which class your fish should be entered in keep the Sec' on his toes enter it in another. (Think of the fun he would have if all exhibitors did this.) Don't forget to put the size of your tank on the form under the heading of species, try a little subterfuge for instance if you are entering a two foot.....

Cont/d P. 14

## HOW TO WIN AT SHOWS

Cont/d From P. 13

Koi in class Ak just write down "show jar" or if you are entering a male guppy in class W put four foot please supply and then bring your own.

Now, you must get your fish conditioned so as to be ready for the show. In a show a fish is subject to all sorts of strains and stresses, get them used to it. Use the wife's food mixer in the tank every evening to simulate the journey to the show in the boot of your car. Throw the cat in the tank at regular intervals to accustom them to the Show Sec's hairy visage staring from a few millimeters away. It is difficult to acclimatise them to the removal around the hall by the show sec` but a suitable simulation can be had by placing their tank on a plank of wood and putting this plank onto a quart beer bottle laid on its sides. If your offspring have a seesaw so much the better, in any case inside information is required here as you now need to know the number of sways the sec` exhibits in a hundred yard dash loaded with a leaking tank, some show committee members might be persuaded to part with this information for a fistful of coins of the realm as most persons on these committees are usually short of the ready after contributing to the trophies and suchlike.

To acclimatise your exhibits to human visages is a little more tricky, first determine the ruling body to whose rules the show is being run. If they be Feds recitations of stock market reports or readings from Shakespeare are suitable but if they are Con's (yes such people do exist) then your fish will have to be subjected to videotape recordings of "Coronation Street" continuously for at least a week don't for Pisces sake watch it yourself otherwise you will end up like our editor. Particular attention should be paid to conditioning if entering a show at Southend - recitations from the News of the World and scandalous passages from **SLADAS JOURNAL** are required if you can only bring yourselves to open the latter underwater rag.

After this treatment your fishes will, no doubt, be a little bit nervous and pale, alcohol is a great pick me up. No! not for the exhibitor having seen the average exhibitor I wouldn't fancy picking any of them up. The fish are the ones now in need of resuscitation although you must be careful to avoid excess as judges have a bit of a habit of disqualifying upside down aneus, halfmast flag fishes elephant noses with crimson probosces, angels with satanic habits, or male guppies with brewers droop, it's odd but many judges have this foible about stimulants administered to exhibits, whilst they welcome stimulants themselves.

Now we come to the great day your fishes are in the peak of condition if you have followed our instructions, incidentally, it's a good idea to feed them a little during the conditioning period. The best technique is to arrive a few minutes before the benching closes in this way you get the whole-hearted attention of the whole show committee. You are always able, thus to get other people to bench your fishes for you, after all you are an honoured exhibitor and should not be expected to actually carry water, fish and tanks around yourself. At this stage it's a good idea to have a snout around the exhibits already benched and to demand the show sec' take late entries if you think your supply of fishes out in the car are of better quality. In your travels around the hall you will probably come across one or two other judges,

Cont/d P.15

pretend you don't realize their official capacity and point out the faults on any exhibit that is not yours. On rare occasions it is possible to offer inducements unfortunately F.B.A.S.S. judges don't seem interested in money (they ain't 'uman) but remarks like "what a load of rubbish there is in this class only number 10 stands a chance", or "only a raving idiot could think of giving a ticket to any of those tatty fish - hey look at this beauty number 10). We suggest you use your imagination.

Now we come to the serious business - nobbling. There are a number of materials which can be slipped into tanks we can't give you a list here but the editor has the list and will forward it to anyone sending her a twenty-five pound postal order - no cheques please these can be traced more easily.

Always carry around a few livebearers if you have exhibits in this class a few fry dropped in with any suitable female usually gets it disqualified. Duckweed is a very useful ally and readily dumped into any dangerously competitive exhibit judges always seem to frown on this pretty plant in the fish classes often going so far as to disqualify. A little bottle of a clay dispersion can be tipped into exhibits with advantageous results, and in the extreme a few drops of copper sulphate solution can play hell with a fishes breathing and deportment. Great sport can be had in the fighter class if one can manage to remove the glass partitions, save one of course. Mayhem can be created in the furnished tank class by the judicious adding of only one six inch cichlid or in the breeders class by the popping in of a lone dytiscus beetle. Then of course judges frown on exhibits containing snails, leeches or even the odd newt larvae. Think of a tank in the class Xo-t containing three newts and one platy.

It is a shame that whitespot takes so long to develop but cotton-wool can often be stuck onto goldfish with interesting results. An odd drop of methylene blue popped into show jars containing dangerous competitive exhibits can often have advantageous results.

During the judging help can often be had at a price from young children who can be bribed to run around screaming in order to distract the pontifications of the judges.

A few further tips that spring to mind are-

- 1) Never move your car from the front of the hall, no matter how many times your registration number is called.
- 2) Don't move your fish boxes out of the gangways from this act you might trip up an opposing exhibitor or if you are very lucky you might break the judges leg.
- 3) Spill as much water as you can for similar reasons to 2).

## HOW TO WIN AT SHOWS

Cont/d From P. 15

- 4) Don't clear the hall when asked, the longer judges have to wait the more is your chance of winning
- 5) Ask stewards who are trying to get on with important tasks stupid questions.
- 6) Always carry a large wooden spoon with you it's use has an unsettling effect on fishes of other exhibitors
- 7) Carry a little tin with you always and keep it topped up with dog-ends, these can be dropped into tanks or even the main water supply container with great effect.

After the judging (don't buy raffle tickets during the interval, it's regarded as unlucky) check on the results if necessary switch a few labels to your advantage. The place labels can be removed if peeled very carefully. This enables you to complain loudly at the prize giving, that the whole thing is a "carve-up".

If your plans have been carried out meticulously you should have achieved the satisfaction of winning a place or two, when you mount the stage to take your rightful reward your comments to the local beauty queen should be along the lines of ... CENSORED BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE. If the mayor is giving the prizes then ....CENSORED BECAUSE THE EDITOR BLUSHED....

If by some strange quirk of fate you do not get into the cards then declare your disgust in loud obscene tones throughout the whole of the prize giving. Stamp and shout and catcall at the most popular wins and blow raspberries at the rest.

Above all resolve to be a good sport and follow my instructions more closely at the next show that you visit or even think up a few angles of your own. Above all remember to revere Red Lion Square and the officers of the F.B.A.S.S.

Resemblances are purely intentional but cash limited.

## THE DWARF GOURAMI WHO COULDN'T READ AQUARIST BOOKS

Paul Mansfield

This is just a short tale of the Dwarf Gourami (*Colisa lalia*). I put a pair into a 12" plastic tank in late October. I had no light for it and used no aeration. However, it was in the middle of two other small tanks with lights so it was getting a certain amount of diffused light. I used a great deal of *Elodea* which was trailing over the surface. Up to that moment the books were accurate and all of them agreed on the breeding method. Unfortunately for me my fish, as yet cannot read the same books as I do. That means they have to make it up as they go along, I suppose.

Anyway, on November 3<sup>rd</sup> I noticed the male and female in an embrace as in the text books. Wonderful, I thought and rushed over for a look. To my astonishment the surface was covered with fry. Obviously they had only recently hatched out, but up to that moment I'd seen no activity whatsoever that pointed towards breeding. After that I was in a bit of a quandry. What should I do? I could go back to the books but they would only tell me that what I had just seen hadn't happened. I decided to leave the female in the tank for a while as she wasn't being bullied by the male. As far as I could see she was quite happy and her 'old man' was just ignoring her. On the 5<sup>th</sup> I took her out anyway just in case she fancied a meal of her offspring. On the 6<sup>th</sup> I removed the male too, as the fry were free swimming. I started them on liquifry and milk.

I would very much like to hear other peoples comments on this episode, especially the questions below:-

1. Why would no bubble nest be built? Would the male get lazy and use the substantial plant cover instead of a nest?
2. Would the fish spawn at night? None of the books mention it even as a remote possibility, but I have a pair of Angels who do so all the time.
3. Why did spawning apparently take place over two or three days, instead of all at once? (Even then I only saw it once).
4. Why was the female left in peace afterwards? All the books say to take her out at once or she will be bullied, maybe even killed.
5. The most important question of all. WHY CAN'T FISH READ??????

I hope this brief story has given you something to think about like the whole episode has made me think again. There's a lot of good books around that I think we maybe rely on a bit too much. Perhaps we would get better results by not trying so hard to 'go by the book' and leaving it up to the fish.

Of course we could always teach fish how to read - couldn't we?

**FISH OF THE MONTH**  
**PEARL GOURAMI**

SCIENTIFIC NAMES	<i>Trichogaster leeri</i>
RANGES	Sumatra, Borneo, Malaya to Siam
SIZES	5 inches
TEMPERMENT	This peaceful species is suitable in the community tank
WATER CONDITIONS	Temperature 70-88°F
BREEDING	An easy and interesting fish to breed.
COLOURATION	The body is brownish with pearl like spots the male has a red breast.
SHOWING	Class E FBAS Show Size 4½ inches

The male is the only possessor of the red breast, use it as a sign that he is prepared to spawn. The female is treated as a "lady" throughout the spawning process. The parents are kind to their family, as they don't eat the eggs or their fry. Though they will usually build a sizeable bubble nests it is unnecessary as the ova of the pearl gourami are lighter than water and they will float.

The fry are very small at birth and require plenty of room. Their first foods are most important. They require infusoria or brine shrimp from the first day they are free swimming. This should be supplemented with the yolk of a hard boiled egg squeezed through a porous cloth. The water level should not be higher than 5 inches until the fry are seen to be coming to the surface for air (about 6 weeks old).

## THE INTELLIGENCE LEVEL OF PEOPLE WHO BUY AQUARIUMS

Terry Waller

Now I don't accept that this individual is average. For a start she was obviously his girl friend, and was obviously in love, because everything she said he agreed with. However he did find it difficult to agree with her over the following statement.

Let me explain.

I help a good friend of mine manufacture aquariums. We do three basic types, all glass, teak finish, and black silk mica. I was putting the finishing touches to one of our four foot teak models, when she sauntered over. In between chewing and giggling she did remark that it really did look lovely. Yes I agreed, hoping she would go away. She didn't, so out of embarresmont I started to chat to her saying my preference was the black ones. I could see this statement start to sink in and finally she answered, "How do you see the fish"

Exit red faced future husband\*

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### TIP OF THE MONTH

Terry Waller

I am sure a lot of people have got ponds in the club,(a few of them have them in their gardens as well)\*.Well in the winter when it is bitter cold they ice over which prevents the fish from getting air, and they could suffocate.

The tip is to float a rubber ball in the pond which prevents the pond from icing completely over.

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### FUTURE OPEN SHOW DATES

May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Strood, Kent.
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-Sussex
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Brighton, Sussex.
13 <sup>th</sup>	Dunmov/, Essex.
19 <sup>th</sup>	E. Dulwich, London 25th Aniversary Show.
Aug 29 <sup>th</sup>	Ashford, Kent.

**ME AND MY BREEDING CORYDORAS**      Cont/d from P 9

same amount of fresh tap water. Corydoras love fresh water and this I am sure helped them grow as strong as they are.

Among my other breeding pairs of *Corydoras* is a pair of Albinos, I think these fish can read, they do everything by the book, and they don't eat their eggs. It just goes to show that fish do have a strong mind of their own, and they don't like being dictated to by us aquarists, don't blame them.

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**THE MOMENT OF TRUTH**      Cont/d from P .8

The classic example is *Synodontis nigriventris* or the upside down catfish, when judging one would expect to see the fish in an upside down pose.

The great thing about entering a show whether you put one or a dozen entries in is the feeling of having been a part of the days events. The comparison you can make between yours and his. The great feeling of an unsuspected win, but please don't get too carried away about winning, there are far more important reasons for entering, and no show would be staged if there were no losers, it's you that makes a show.

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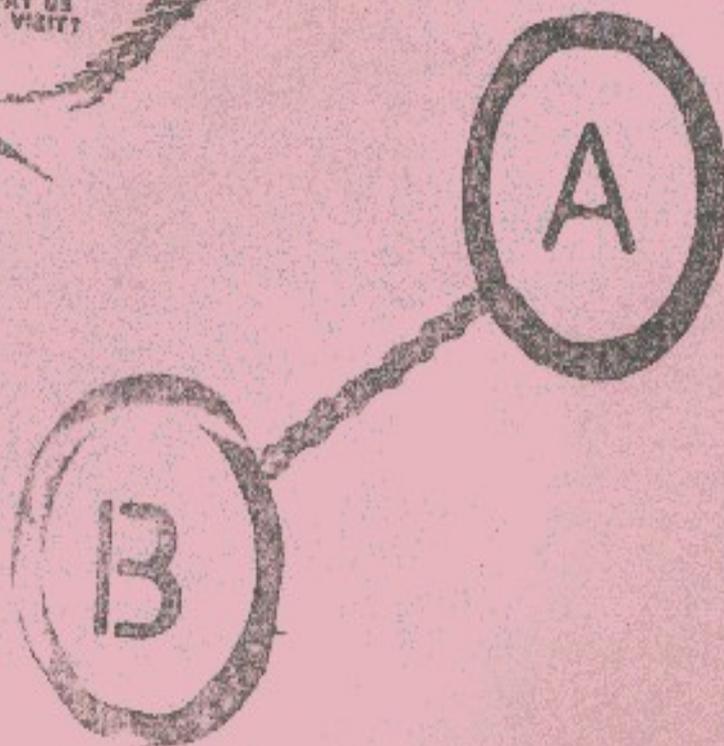
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**THE MARINE AQUARIUM**      Cont/d from P.11

Other failures can be attributed to aluminium hoods and other harmful metals coming into contact with the water and aerosols being sprayed around the aquarium. Marine fish hate a lot of noisy activity around their tank, and being creatures of habit they like to be fed regularly, three to four times a day at regular times, and their lighting switched on (by a time switch) at 8 am and off at midnight.

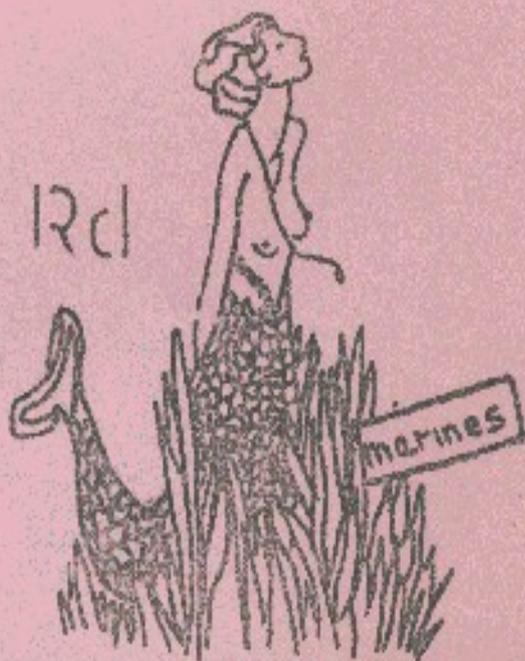
ANSWER TO QUIZ ON PAGE 10 "WHO AM I?" - A GUPPY.

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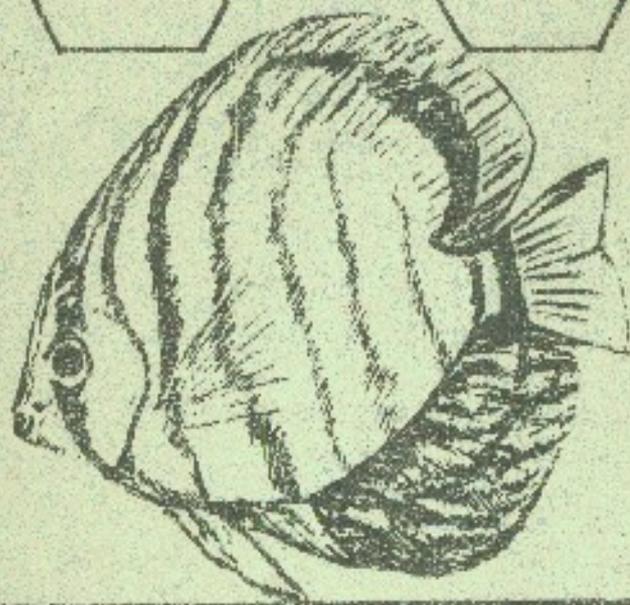
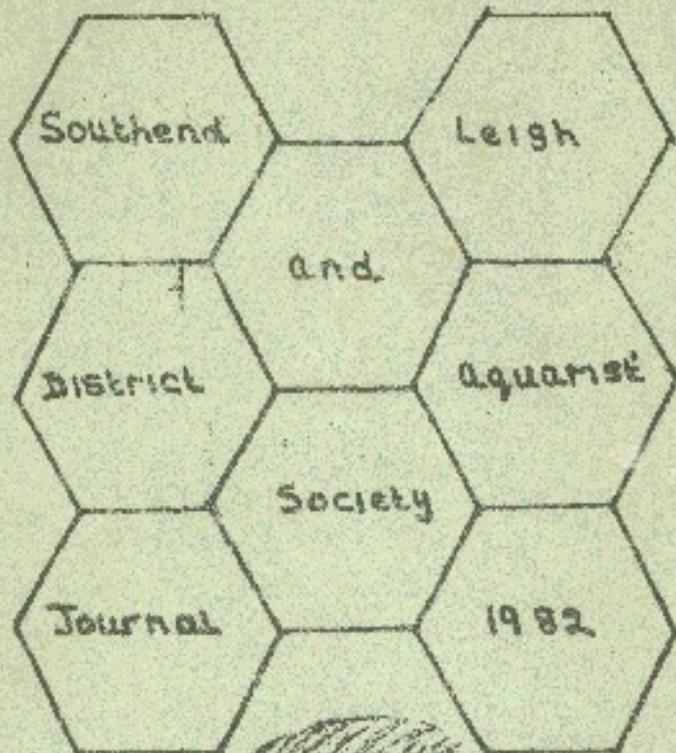
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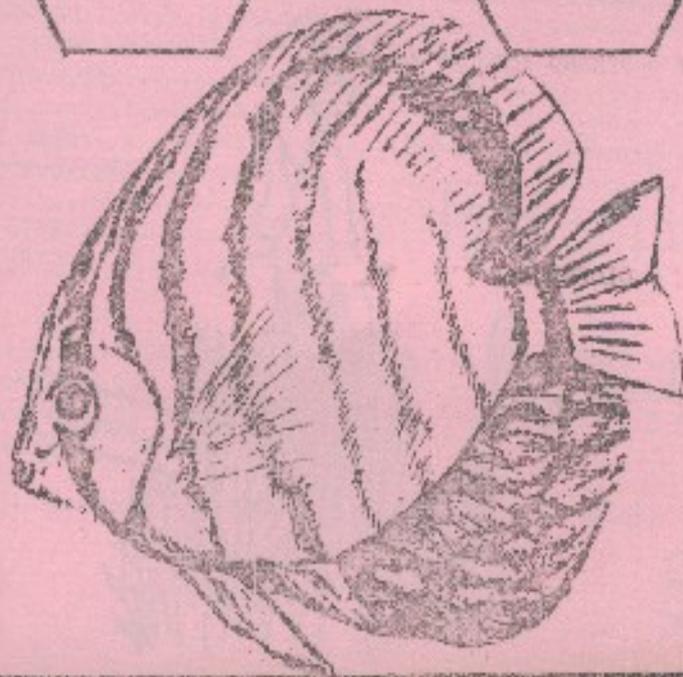
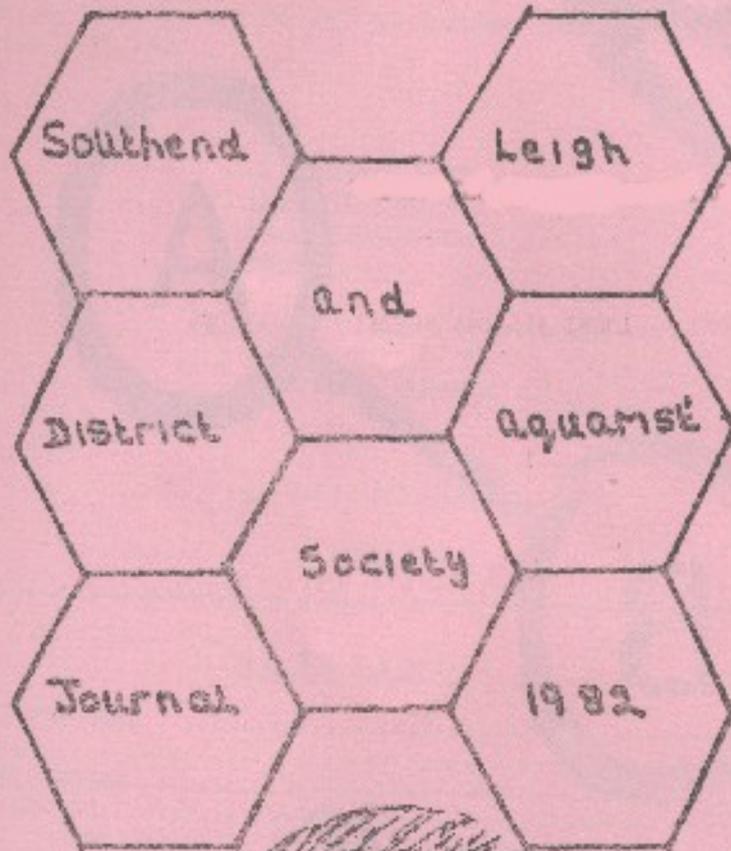


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**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL**  
**No. 89 MAY/JUNE**

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EDITOR. Jacky Harrison, 8: Tasman Close, Corringham, Essex. S.L.H. 71746

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**PRESIDENT**

DAVE BURGESS. 11 SILVERDALE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF~ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE i

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

BERT FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE:- BASILDON 556625

**HON: SECRETARY**

JOHN HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**HON. TREASURER**

JOAN FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: BASILDON 556625

**TABLE SHOW SECRETARY**

KAREN TURNER. 82 BARNSTAPLE PLACE, THORPE BAY, ESSEX..

**JOURNAL EDITOR**

JACKY HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

PAUL MANSFIELD. 22 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX

**LIBRARIAN**

DAVE CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

JANET MACKENZIE.. 36.HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON SEA, ESSEX.-  
TELEPHONES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA'616149

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

PAUL BOORE. 42 CHASE.BD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 615236

**CATERING SECRETARY**

AUDREY CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

LES SOMNER. 8 CANONSLEIGH CRESCENT, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 712365

**JNR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

STEVEN MACKENZIE. 36 HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-OIJ-SEA 616149

## EDITORIAL

With our highly successful show now behind us, it now leaves the rest of the year open for other ventures. (No suggestions please from the President) We have the Home Furnished and Pond Competitions under way, and I hope that you have all supported this. While you are waiting for the second judging the suspense really gets to you.

There is also the Diss Open Show, which most of the club turned out for last year. Diss A.S. rely on our members and their entries for their show, please support them. You can bring your family, even your mother-in-law.

I mentioned earlier about the success of the Open Show. There was however a few complaints going around, that Audrey hadn't made any bread pudding this year. This is not exactly true. Audrey did make some but due to the two show meetings held prior to the show it all got eaten. So never mind better luck next year.

I am pleased to say that the Journal this year has been well supported, but please keep the articles rolling in-

Due to the cost of paper and duplicating materials, we have found it necessary to put the price of the Journal up to 15p. We have tried to hold off this decision for as long as possible, and we feel the time has now come for the price rise.

JACKY HARRISON EDITOR ..

### **STOP PRESS:**

Congratulations to Chris Cheswright who has passed his Bachelor of Science exams at Swansea University. This was in Marine Biology and was passed with Honours. Well done Chris.

**PRESIDENTS PAGE**

DAVE BURGES

Once again Jacky is after me (lucky me) for my Presidents page. Putting pen to paper still seems the most difficult part of my job, but here goes.

First of all the Open Show was a great success, as anticipated in the last Journal, with a large amount of entries, plenty of activity and most important a good profit.

Thanks must go all round to all who helped and special thanks to those who did that extra bit. You know yourselves who they are and it would not be fair to single any one person out. Not only that, but it would take too long. I feel here that I would like it to be known that some people who helped with this event are not even members, or are people who we only see at open show time. I said I would not single any one person out but we would be in a state without that large van that appears every year. Well thanks again to all the helpers; whether manual or clerical, and hope we can have as good a performance next year.

The meal at Schulers was a success thanks to Janet, this evening was enjoyed by 12 members. If we have a meal out again I would like to see it get better support. It is then more encouraging for the organizer.

The two conventions have been very interesting and well supported by our club. These outings are worth a visit and make a good social occasion, normally with time for a chat amongst friends during the intervals. Essex and East London plan to hold another convention in the Autumn, their plan is to hold two a year. As I have said they are very educational and well worth the money, so I hope to see a few more of you at the next one.

The committee decided not to go to the Zoo this year, through lack of support from members, but this may have been partly our fault, as the date arranged coincided with the South East London Open Show. Still, don't forget that we hope to go in 1984 and have a tour of the Aquariums behind the scenes.

We definitely want a trip to Diss & Bressingham Live Steam Museum in September we should be able to fill a coach easily for that, it's a good day out, ask those who went last year.

DAVE BURGES PRESIDENT

**S.L.A.D.A.S. Show 1<sup>st</sup> May 1982**

**TOP POINTS**

	Societies ex SLADAS	Individuals	SLADAS members
Walthamstow	57	P. Mills Walthamstow 32	A.Waller 14
E. Kent- A. Study Group	49	J.Edwards E.K.A.S.G. 21	L. Somner 11
Sudbury	37	F. Scarr E.K.A.S.G. 18	C.Cheswright 10

There were 40 classes, .Wa, Koi etc, had only 1 entry and 0-tys Junior Livebearers, only 3. Therefore there were a total of 156 awards, apart from the specials. Of these S.L.A.D.A.S. Members won:-

1 <sup>st</sup> .....	7
2 <sup>nd</sup> s.....	6
3 <sup>rd</sup> s.....	9
4 <sup>th</sup> s.....	<u>6</u>
	<u>28</u>

Best Junior in the Jnr. Classes was Miss Bysouth, Ipswich & Suffolk - £5 donated by Studio One Aquatics.

Class K Danios and W.C.M.M., was the F.B.A.S. Championship Trophy Class and the first 3 in the class are eligible to .enter the .Championship final later in 1982. ....lose wares -

1 <sup>st</sup>	D. Millins .Walthamstow D.A.S.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	W. Chapman S.L.A.D.A.S.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	M. Smith Romford & Beacontree A.S.

Practical Fishkeeping/Aquarian Top Tank competitions were won by:-

Best Fish. D. Hart. Witham & Braintree A.S. Plus Aquarist Gold Pin

Best Breeders F. Scarr E.K.A.S.G. Plus 1 year Sub to Practical Fishkeeping.

Best Pairs Mrs A. Kurd. Croydon A.S.

These 3 won Parker Ball pens and Aquarian Badges.

The Free Exhibitors prize was won by Mrs B. May of Reading & D.A.S. The prize was a 6 months sub to the Aquarist & Pondkeeper plus an air pump donated by the Basildon Aquatic Shop.

The raffle was won by Mrs M. Clarke of Bracknell A.S. I do not have details of.the other 3 winners

**Draw Results:-**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Aquarium, stand and Equipment (Heater/Thermostat donated by Burgess Garden & Aquatic Centre. The rest supplied at a discount by Studio One Aquatics. Won by Quilters Cty. Jnr. School Billericay.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandwich Toaster (Donated by Paul Mansfield) Won by D. Patmore Rochford.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Power Filter (Donated by The Bubble Bowl). Won by T. Davies, Rochester, Kent.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tia Maria - won By S.L-A.D.A.S. Member, Kevin Browse.

ROUENNE BRICH & D.A.S. OPEN SHOW RESULTS + 1st MAY, 1982.

<u>P.B.A.S. Classes</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>
A9 furnished	T. Waller	P. Mills	L. Somner	B. May
Ak Aquascapes	P. Mills	P. Mills	A. Waller	P. Cox
B Barbs	C. Tonna	B. Witteridge	C. Tonna	J. Edwards
Bc " "	A. Pilbeam	L. Somner	L. Somner	D & P Lambert
C Characins	W. Hastings	J. Edwards	E. Witteridge	A. Pilbeam
Ca " "	H. Smith	J. Fartt	Mr. Powell	P. Hatchliffe
D Cichlids	P. Walmsley	D. Harnish	J. Rowney	F. May
Dc " "	A. Fuller	Mrs D Winder	J. Rowney	J. Rowney
Do " "	R. Thoday	D. Norman	A. Fuller	E. Scotting
L Labyrinth	J. Edwards	A. Hurd	W. Hastings	D. Ridgwell
Fc Potts Splendens	E. Witteridge	Mr Powell	Mrs B May	T. Laughlan
F Millies	M. Smith	T. Harvey	C. Cheswright	D. Newman
Fc " "	A. Parrow	C. Cheswright	F. Shepman	A. Parrow
Outfish	P. May	J. Edwards	R. Thoday	D. Norman
H " "	J. Adams	J. Adams	C. Tonna	C. Tonna
J Reddies	P. Hatchliffe	J. Edwards	W. Hastings	F. Chapman
K Danies/D.O.M.K.	D. Milline	W. Chapman	M. Smith	T. Laughlan
L Louches	A. Thoday	R. Thoday	L. Somner	D. Witteridge
M A.O.S. Breeders	E. Witteridge	Mrs D. Winder	B. Witteridge	W. Hastings
Nc-a Pairs B/L	Mrs A. Hurd	H. Smith	T. Laughlan	P. Hatchliffe
Nc-b Pairs L/B	M. Clarke	P. Scarr	D & P Lambert	J. Edwards
O Supplies Misc	T. Laughlan	P. Holding	T. Laughlan	F. Holding
O " " Pairs	Mrs J Harrison	W. Chapman	D. Jeron	C. Tonna
Q Kiph. Holland	A. Cooper	Mrs P Edwards	W. Hastings	K. Holmes
P Platies	B. Light	D. Newman	C. Tonna	H. Smith
S Mollies	J. Smith	Mrs C. Smith	A. Waller	W. Hastings
T AOS Livebearers	F. Scarr	E. Hatchliffe	C. Tonna	S. Furesedon
U Goodside	P. Mills	P. Scarr	J. Edwards	P. Mills
V Single tail G/fish	K. Darrelly	K. Darrelly	D. Shiner	Mrs B May
V Twintail " "	D. Shiner	R. Shiner	R. Shiner	D. Shiner
W AOS Coldwater	D. Hart	M. Smith	D. Norman	C. Cheswright
Wa Koi	A. Davis	ONLY ONE ENTRY		
Xc-a Breeders B/L	P. Scarr	D & P Lambert	K. Holmes	U. Cheswright
Xc-b Breeders L/B	A. Waller	Mrs P Edwards	R. Meale	W. Chapman
Xc Breeders L/B A.O.S.	S. Furesedon	D & P Lambert	J. Edwards	C. Tonna
Za Cuttings Floating	P. Mills	A. Davis	K. Lambert	Mrs P Edwards
Z Bredol Plants	E. Lambert	P. Mills	C. Cheswright	G. Rowney
3-Wy Junior B/L	Miss Bynorth	G. Rowney	S. Mackenzie	Miss C Smith
3-Wy " " L/B	S. Mackenzie	G. Rowney	K. Holmes	3 entries only
3-Wy " " Coldwater	Miss Gattaway	B. Davis	R. Howells	S. Mackenzie

Best fish & Best Exhibit) D. Hart, Wither & Braintree A.S. with a Minnow  
& Best Coldwater ) Phoxinus phoxinus

-7-  
**OPEN SHOW**

Cont/d from P 5

There were about 110 Exhibitors of which 30 were S.L.A.D.A.S. Members. These 30 entered about 180 of the total exhibits.

Thanks are due to all the S.L.A.D.A.S. members who worked to make the show a success and to non-members such as Ron Faulks, Margaret Waller, Bill Hastings, Frank Chapman, Jenny White and others such as Ray Stanford who turned up to lend a hand. Thanks also to another non-member, Howard Preston, who once again spent the whole of Friday night tidying up with help of Terry and Andrew Waller. Thanks in particular to Derek Durrant who printed the Schedules and who spread the gospel of the show when judging elsewhere- I think the high numbers of entries were obtained due to the very wide publicity given out over the 2 months prior to the day by Derek, Terry Waller and myself in judging and speaking around other Societies and by the wide spread of Schedules by post and by hand. We also had Posters out as far as Ipswich, thanks to a wholesaler, Lastly, thanks to Traders for their generous donations of goods for prizes, etc.

Dave Cheswright SHOW SECRETARY

**OPEN SHOW RESULTS**

CONT/D from P 6

Best Breeders F. Scarr  
Best Pairs Mrs A Kurd  
Best Juniors Miss S Bysouth  
Best Characins W. Hastings  
Best L/Bearere F. Scarr  
Best Catfish F. May

Highest number of silver stars ( 80 points and over) J. Edwards  
Highest pointed individuals P. Mills Waltharastow & D.A-S.  
Highest pointed Society Walthamstow & D-A-S.  
Highest pointed Southend Member A- Waller

**F.B.A.S. Judges:-** R. Essons K. Saxby, P. Cottles T. King. K. Cocker. K. Beadles  
C. Pannell W. Dale. R. Bowes:

Show held at St. Clements Hall, Rectory Grove, Leigh-on-Sea Essex. Total number of entries 692  
Number of entries benched 663.

**CROSSWORD CLUES**

Paul Mansfield

**ACROSS**

- I) THE KILLIEFISH APLOCHEILUS HNEATUS (4,7)
- (9) THE TAXONOMIC FAMILY OF THE CICHLIDS (9)
- II) (WITH 26 DOWN) A LABYRINTH WITH A PHYSICAL DEFORMITY (5,6,7:)
- 12 A SHARK DEFINATELY NOT SUITABLE FOR THE HOME AQUARIUM (4)
- 13 CALAMOICHTHYS CALABRICUS (4,4)
- 15 RASBORA TRILINEATA - THE \_\_\_\_\_ TAIL (7)
- 18 SOMETHING TO SEE THROUGH (4,4)
- 21 AEQUIDENS CURVICEPS (4,7)
- 23) ANOTHER NAME FOR THE ARGUS FISH (4)
- 27 A COLD WATER PREDATOR (4)
- 29 THE LUMPSUCKER'S OTHER NAME COULD SUGGEST A LOT OF EGGS (3)
- 30 DORSAL OR PECTORAL FOR INSTANCE (3)
- 31 (with 34 across) ANOTHER NAME FOR THE FLAME TETRA (5,4,3.)
- 34 SEE 31 ACROSS
- 35) OXYELEOTRIS MARMORAT\$B FROM THE MALAY PENINSULAR (7>4)
- 36) THE CAPITAINE OR \_\_\_\_\_ FISH (3)
- 37) THIS IS USED A LOT IN AQUASCAPES (4)

**DOWN**

- 1) HYPOPLBCTRUS UNICOLOR (6,6)
- 2) A 'SYNODONTIS WITH A BALANCE PROBLEM (6,4,7)
- 3) SOME MALE TETRA'S H/VE A SMALL HOOK ON THIS (4,3)
- 4) THE KOI OR THE MIRROR FOR INSTANCE (4):
- 5) THE BRONZE COHYDORAS (6,7)
- 6) BETTA SPLENDENS (7,8,4)
- 7) A CONDITION CAUSED BY SHOCK AND TEMPERATURE DROP (8)
- 8) THE SHAPE OF POLYCENTROPSIS ABBREVIATA (4)
- 10) THE GENUS CONTAINING THE PORCUPINE FISH (6) .
- 14) THE CUBBYU'S OTHER NAME SUGGESTS A PART OF A DRUM KIT (7)
- 16) A GYMNASTIC FISH (11)
- 17) DOES THIS FISH HAVE GILLS OR BELLOWS (6)
- 19) APHYOCHARAX RUBRIPINNIS, A BEAUTIFUL CHARACIN (8)
- 22) THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF FISH (11)
- 26) SEE 11 ACROSS
- 27) A NASTY AILMENT CAUSED BY TOO MUCH SPINACH (6) 28)
- 28) THE LAMPEYE FAVOURED BY LENNY HENRY (7)
- 32) A BARB, A SHARK OR A PRECIOUS STONE (4)
- 33) APLODIUOTUS GRUNNIENS USES IT'S SWIM BLADDER TO PRODUCE THE NOISE THAT GIVES IT IT'S NAME (4)

The answers to this crossword are on page 16. No cheating please, otherwise when the next crossword is printed, you will have to wait two months for the answers to come out in the following Journal. Have Fun



## BREEDING ANGEL FISH

PAUL MANSFIELD

I don't think anyone has actually bred Angel Fish. I have kept them for a while now and I can only come to the conclusion that they are their own bosses, and as such do what they like, when they like. Okay, so the books say do this and do that if you want your Angels to breed, but I think you know my opinion on following the books too closely. If you've read any of my previous articles on breeding you will realise that theory doesn't always work in practise. Reading that back I have to think about why I am writing this, what works for me may not work for someone else. I can only hope that this article helps someone. I know quite a few people who have tried to breed Angels. Some have been regularly successful others have given up in disgust. As I said earlier I find it's just a matter of leaving them to it really but of course we can do our bit to help out and raise the fry. Getting the parents to lay the eggs is probably the easiest bit, raising the fry is where we have to put some work in.

Anyway lets get back to the beginning and obtain our breeding stock. I find that it's better to start with medium sized fish and grow them on rather than go out and buy the biggest fish possible- By not being impatient you give the fish time to settle down and choose their mates, also to a certain extent to work out their territory. Start off with three or four fish purchased from a couple of shops to make sure they're not related. Having said that of course it does help if you can sex Angels. A task some people find impossible to grasp, but which is quite easy once you study the theory for a while. As far as this goes you may be surprised to learn that one of the best books for showing the sex differences is 'Enjoy your Angelfish' from the Pet Library series. Page 13 of this rather cheap booklet is what taught me to sex angels and was well worth the 40p it cost me. Once you have the fish, feed them well as you can (that should apply to all your fish though) and leave them alone. If things go right the fish should pair up and start protecting a corner of the tank that they would like to call their own. Don't worry too much about outside disturbances I have a tank in Wickford Station that contains my most regular breeders, with something like five thousand people passing through twice a day as well as train noise and vibration, I never had any intention of breeding anything in that particular tank but Bill and Doll (the pair in question) had other thoughts about it and now breed far too often for me to keep all the eggs. Bill is one of the three males I took in from home, coming from my first brood. Doll was in the tank when I bought it and they seemed to hit it off straight away. I will use this pair to explain the breeding pattern.

The tank is three foot long and has an invisible line down the middle that only angels can see. This line is controlled constantly by Doll who keeps the two other males and one female away from her end of the aquarium. Eventually she leaves her patrol and joins her mate at the far end of the tank, where they choose and carefully clean a leaf on a large Cryptocoryne. After the ritual cleaning has finished the female has a couple of trial runs up the leaf feeling it with her belly.

## BREEDING ANGEL FISH

CONT/D from p 10

After a couple of these runs she begins to lay in earnest, laying in amazingly straight lines. The male, follows close behind fertilizing the eggs. This can go on for a long time as quite a lot of eggs are sometimes laid. To start with though small spawnings are more usual. Once the whole process is complete we reach the crucial stage. It's now when you find out if you've got good parents or not. Bill and Doll are very good and would probably raise the brood themselves if they were in a tank of their own. As it is, Doll returns immediately to the 'border' while Bill stays to fan the eggs and guard them against any unwanted attention. He is a good guard and he can see off any fish dumb enough to try anything- If I decide to keep the brood this is the point at which I must enter the scene- I keep a plastic sweet jar up the station at all times ready for such moments, I put this in the tank and fill it with water. Still holding the jar neck under water I break off the leaf and transfer it to the jar. Taking the leaf out of the water for only a few seconds does unimaginable damage to the eggs and probably none will hatch out. I attach a piece of lead to the leaf so it stands up in the jar. I also add a fair bit of Methylene Blue, enough to turn the water very deep blue leaving the eggs just visible. After the mad dash home I place the jar in one of my small tanks and introduce a very very gentle airstone-This must be just strong enough to keep the circulation going, too violent and it will blow the newly hatched fry into oblivion. The eggs should hatch in two or three days- Some will be infertile and turn white but if the Methylene Blue is enough fungus shouldn't get a grip.

Some of the books say to remove white eggs with tweezers but I have found this unnecessary. At this moment I have about seventy eggs just hatching out with fourteen white ones doing no harm. As far as hatching is concerned you will suddenly notice -that your eggs have tails. The leaf will look like rows of opaque dots with vibrating antennae. After a couple of hours the fry will at least look like small fish. They will not start free swimming for at least 24 hours and will use up their yolk sac in that time so no feeding is needed at once. When the fry do start swimming around they need a lot of good food. This is when probably most broods are lost. Newly hatched brine shrimp is a must as far as I'm concerned. Not too much of course as it is a wonderful pollutant, but at least, for times a day if possible. At this stage I put a couple of small snails in the jar to dispose of any shrimp that falls down uneaten. Also I start to change small amounts of water from the jars using water from the tank, after a week or two the fry should be quite large enough to go into the tank. Slowly tip the jar over and let the water mingle and the fry swim out themselves. In my fry tanks I use foam cartridge filters. They are very effective and are just about the safest form of filter when fry are involved. (No holes to get sucked into). Keep feeding the Brine shrimp regularly and slowly introduce other foods such as dried fry food. The danger period is now passed. There is now reason why you shouldn't raise the fry you have left to full maturity. GOOD LUCK.

## CROYDON OPEN SHOW REPORT

DAVE CHESWRIGHT

The first Open Show Chris and I went to this year was at Croydon, Surrey on 27<sup>th</sup> March, held in their 51st Year. Entries were just over 500, most received,, from Exhibitors turning up on the day.' This makes the Show Secretary`s- job much harder as he cannot plan staging,-etc. until the actual day. Let us hope that, when you are reading this, we at Southend have managed to cope!!

There had been a previous show in Bedford earlier in March and, .apparently, similar numbers of entries, mostly on the day, were, received.

The Croydon show had 47 classes, including many sub-divisions and 2 for Reptiles and: Amphibians. Some sub divisions were poorly supported with only 4 entries in each. The total entries made an average of only 10 per class. Class T, A.O-S. Livebearers had over 40 Entries, being the F.B.A.S. Trophy Class, .and the usual higher numbers were entered in the Catfish and Characin classes.. Breeders entries were of good quality.

It took us less than an hour to arrive, having not heard the alarm go off! We had a frantic hour in the fish-house catching and bagging.(and panicking). However, when we arrived it seemed that everyone else was late as well. The benefit of posting your entries form beforehand is that you do not have to queue up. We had entered 14 between us and we lent a hand putting, up the Southern . Livebearers .Aquatic Group stand after we had benched.

The judging took about 3 hours and we spent this chatting generally, about fishes (apart from a short spell in the local Pub which was full of Morris Dancers). John and Jacky Harrison showed up for a look-around - had Dave Burges been there we might have won the raffle. The raffle and prize-giving seemed to go on for ever but we were still away by about 6.30pm..

We had taken 2 , 1<sup>st</sup> s with Killifishes, a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> s. and only 1 Livebearer card among them. I must be slipping. -Class T, F.B.A.S. Trophy, was won with 90 points with a *Xiphophorus montezumae*, which was also best in show. 2<sup>nd</sup> in Class 'T' was a *Gambusia marshi* which lost by only half a point. Highest pointed Society was East Dulwich. A.S. Judges included our member, Terry Waller doing his first Open Show as a "B" class judge - luckily the linching party could not find him after the show.

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### Future OPEN SHOW dates

Aug 29<sup>th</sup> ASHFORD, KENT  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup> HOUDSLOW LONDON.  
18<sup>th</sup> KINGSTON SURREY (no'n P.B.A.S.???)  
19<sup>th</sup> TONBRIDGE, KENT.  
DISS NORFOLK.  
26<sup>th</sup> WALTHAMSTOW, LONDON.

**SCOOP !!!!**

A document has come into our hands which might be of interest to any members with ideas on becoming a judge- It gives a very clear guide to the intellect and , intelligence level required. It was picked up at one of the Northern Shows in a poor state of conservation, owing to the fact that it had the owners sandwiches wrapped up in it. It seems to be some form of grading -paper belonging to one of the Northern Federation.

All questions must be answered. Time allowed 12 hours. Candidate will be accompanied at ALL TIMES. All writing will be in pen or pencil and only joined up letters accepted.

- 1 .. Where do Echinodoras (Amazon Sword Plants) come from?
2. Should the Checkerboard Cichlid be kept where there are draughts?
3. How much water is there in a pint?
4. If a fish is Full Grown; how big is it (inches please);? .-.'
- 5 Do the Bahlke species (penguin Fish) live in the Arctic or Antarctic?
- 6 Do the Monk Fish have dirty habits?
- 7 Pick the odd one out -- Tiger Barb, Rosy Barb, Blue Whale.
8. Where is the favourite resting place of the *Corydoras aneus*?
9. At what age does a half beak become a full beak?
10. Would you describe a cross breeding between a Zebra Cichlid and a Zebra danio as a Zebra Crossing?
11. Does a ramirizi abbreviated name of "Ram" come about because it has two large horns, a long tail and snorts at people?
- 12 ;When "Kissing Gouramis" "Kiss" is this the start of the mating procedure?
- 13 Are there two forms of Chocolate Gourami one dark and one lighter?
- 14 A lot of fish are shoaling types, how many make a shoal?
- 15 What are the basic colours of
  - a) Silver Tip
  - b) Red Swordtail
  - c) Black Molly
  - d) Brown Acara
- 16 Naming the fish: We have an exhibit on the bench, when we start to judge it, it jumps splashing water all over us. It also sucks in mouthfull of water and spits at us. Upon adjusting the tank lid it takes a lump out of our hand. What do you call it?
17. Temperament: Does judging of the American Flag Fish (*Jordanella floridae*) drive you up the pole ?

2 POINTS FOR A CORRECT ANSWER  
1 POINTS FOR A WRONG ANSWER

## THE TRADE IN GENERAL

MIKE LIGGINS

For the moment Singapore seems to have cornered the market for nearly all of your run of the mill Tropical Fish. In fact if trading ceased, we would be in very short supply of Livebearers, tetras, angels, loaches, sharks etc. Suprisingly, nearly four per cent of tropical fish in shops today are locally bred.

Another exporter is South America, all fish are wild caught with many odd and interesting species, but because of overfishing and our political situation I cannot see an abundance of fish leaving this continent. I hope she will fill the gap, not just with Malawi Cichlids, but many other species. Otherwise sources are few, Florida exports fish from her fish farms, but tends to be expensive due to high overheads. Sri Lanka ships out fish but mainly Barbs and there are Siamese Fighters from Bangkok. Except for a few goldfish from Americas the Japanese have tied up the markets for Koi and fancy goldfish.

Marines comes from every corner, south of the Equator, Mexico, Florida, Mombassa, Phillipines, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Hawaii, some from Australia re-exported from Singapore and the best up until May when the borders were moved, from Israel.

The mortality rate from exporter to wholesaler is (except from South America) generally low, about 8%. Singapore is very professional with shipping fish, they have an excellent Airport, more up to date than Heathrow, with flights via Dubai or Frankfurt everyday. Your fish are always packed in polystyrene boxes which I am sure you are all familiar with. For instance up to 800 medium sized Neons to one box, these spend anything up to thirty hours cooped up and I have known fish to withstand forty hours. Problems arise though with South America, being wild caught, they are sometimes packed in dirty water with too little oxygen- When they finally arrive at our famous airports they are subjected to a three hour customs clearance if the airport staff are not on strike and they have not left them on the plane which has just took off for Bahrain.

I do feel that more serious problems arrive at wholesalers, fish from this continent are used to roughly a pH of 6.8 and water hardness of 7 degrees. So when let out into our tapwater which has a pH of 8 and general hardness of up to 21 degrees they come unstuck.

Usually these shipments contain a high number of bottom feeders which means overcrowding especially as the lowest amount of any one species of fish available is half a box. Overcrowded tanks does not mean a tank full of fish, it depends how many fish to one of three levels, the bottom, middle or surface area. Certainly bottom feeders, Plecos, catfish need plenty of space and will not tolerate overcrowding. Disease therefore is strife and this is when an aquarist shows his colours, I have known of up to fifty per cent mortality to be common place.

**THE TRADE IN GENERAL**

Cont/d from P 14

Now we come to the decision of whether, to import direct or purchase from wholesalers, I personally will always import as long as I have the facilities to quarantine, most of the fish. Variety is still possible because you can bring fish in, down to one sixth of a box, which can consist of eight large Opalines, three fire eels, one hundred extra large Neons., forty medium sword-tails., two hundred small Glowlights and thirty apple snails in one box.

Wholesalers do have a drawback in that fish are brought in early on in the week and then sold on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the same week providing they are fit and healthy. Where do you draw the line. I have also found that deaths have fallen since importing, due to one less move in a short period, and prophylactic treatment which I do not agree with., :-

Arguments for wholesalers is that they prevent cut throat competition which although good from, your point of view, would be detrimental to the trade. Perhaps you have noticed a few retail-outlets which import direct, and in consequence have tanks full of diseased or dead fish and the rest hyped up on every drug going. Isn't it about time these places were closed down for the fishes sake?

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**SOME OF THE FISH BEING BRED IN OUR CLUB**

PLATYS VARIATUS - Ralph Neil.	TRICHOGASTER.- LEERI John-Harrison
XIPHOPHORUS MACULATUS - Will Chapman,	TRICHOPSIS PUMILUS Doug Ridgewell
GAMBUSIA MARSHI - Dava Cheswright.	RIVULUS ROLOFFI Chris Cheswright
PRIAPELLA COMPRESSA - Dave Cheswright	CORYDORAS PALEATUS Jacky Harrison
APHYOSEMION PUERZLI - Chris Cheswright	ETROPLUS MACULATUS Paul Mansfield
BRACHYDANIO RERIO - Jacky Harrison	APHYOSEMION OESERI John Harrison

PLEASE ASK ANY OF THESE MEMBERS FOR THEIR ADVICE - please put any new additions in the breeders book which John Harrison has. Thanks. \_\_\_\_\_

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Answer to WHO AM I? on page 9- - MOLLY

-16-  
**WHAT S : 0 N**

**Halstead A.S.** Barbecue, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1982. £2.50 per head including food- Members can take children under 10 years old free. Live band will be present.

**South East London A.S.** Open Show. 4<sup>th</sup> July .at. Greenwich. We have a few schedules- available or you can write to W. Hastings, 4 Lyveden Rd, Blackheath, London SE3 01 858 6344 to obtain further copies.

**Dagenham Town Show** 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> July

**Romford & Beacontree A.S.** Show, schedules available at our club or from Garry Steptowe, 35 Coniston Way Elm Park, Hornchurch."

**Diss Open Show** Sept 19<sup>th</sup> S.L.A.D.A-S. hired a coach last year for the event and all .the members who went had a really good day. During the judging, .we went round the Waveney Fish Farm, which.is just an easy stroll up the road, we also went onto Bressingham, which is the, home of the Steam and Traction Engines. Thi is situated in marvelous gardens which you can also., ride through, on the miniture trains. The club is arranging a coach for this year- which we hope you will all support, particularly new members even if you are not showing, it is still a good day out with an interest for all the family. Prices and further details will be announced at meetings.'

**Ashford & District A.S.** are holding their second open show-on 29<sup>th</sup> .August, schedules available from R. Scotting, 6 Manor Way, Ashford, Kent.

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**ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

- 1 ) BLUE PANCHAX
- 9) CICHLIDAE
- 11) THICK LIPPED
- 1 2) MAKO
- 13 REED FISH
- 15) SCISSOR
- 18) GLASSFISH
- 20) LUNGFISH
- 21 FLAG CICHLID
- 23 SCAT
- 24 STAR
- 25 IOAD
- 27 PIKE
- 29 HEN
- 30 FIN
- 31 TETRA FROM
- 34 RIO
- 35 MARBLED GOBY
- 36) HOG
- 37) MOSS

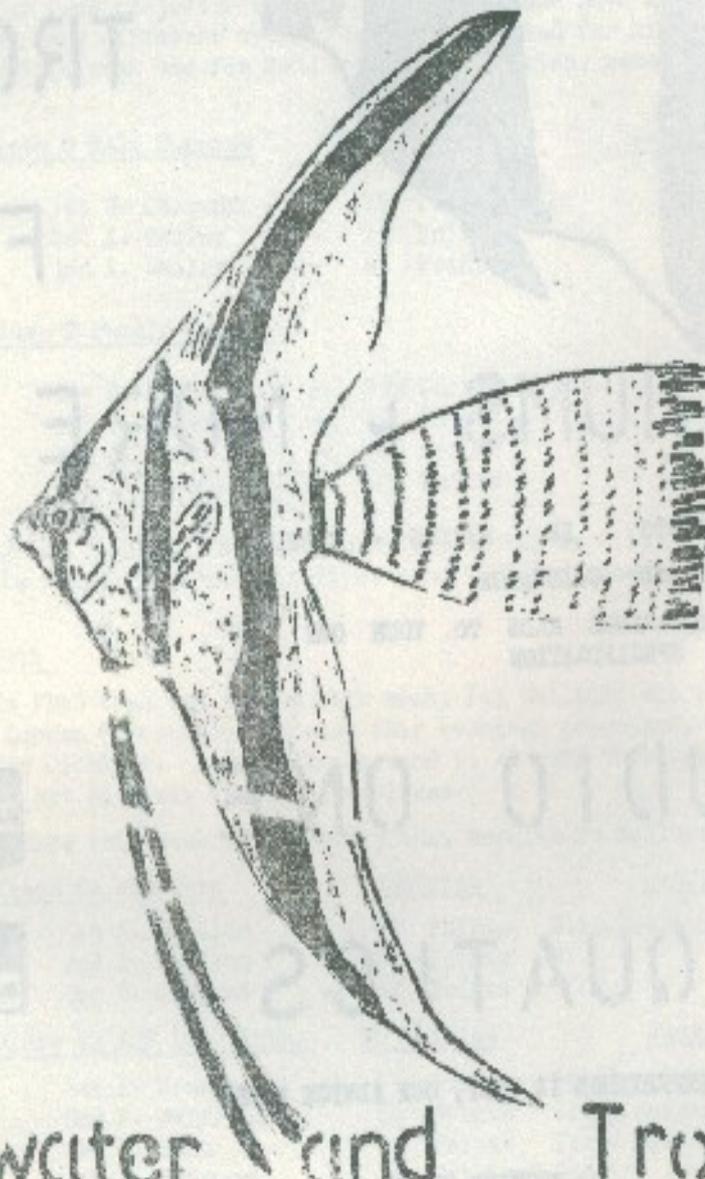
**DOWN**

- 1 ) BUTTER HAMLET
- 2) UPSIDE HOW CATFISH
- 3) ANAL FIN
- 4) CARP
- 5) AENEUS., CATFISH
- 6) SIAMESE FIGHTING FISH
- 7) SHIMMIES
- 8) LEAF
- 10) DIODON
- 14) HIGH HAT
- 16) HEADSTANDER
- 17 PUFFER
- 19 BLOODFIN
- 22 ICHTHYOLOGY
- 26 GOURAMI
- 27 POPEYE
- 28 KATANGA
- 32 RUBY
- 33 DRUM

# AQUATIC SHOP

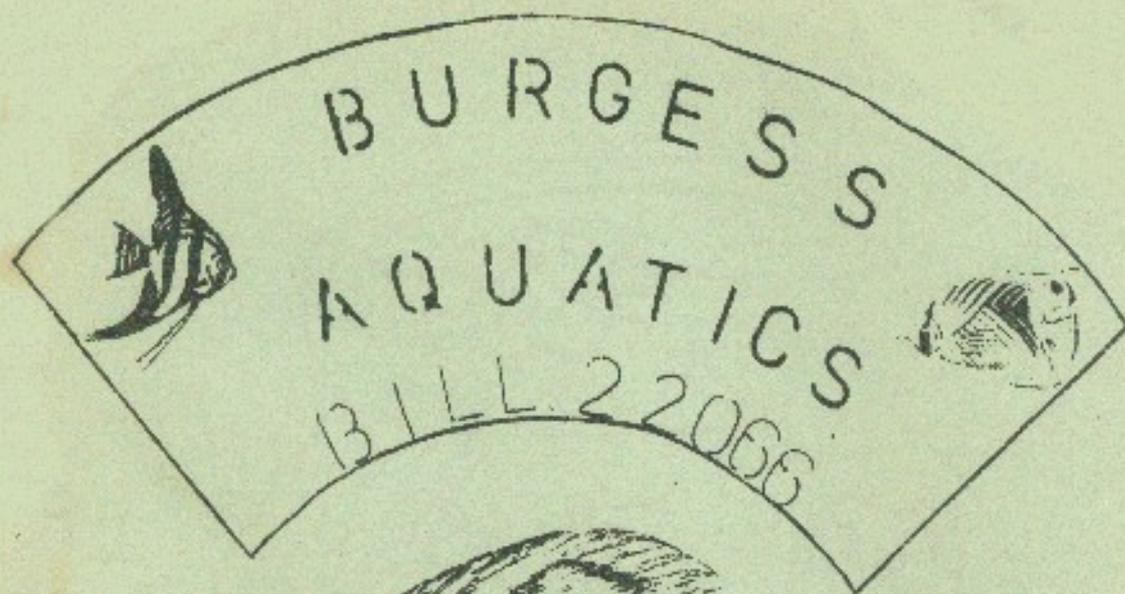
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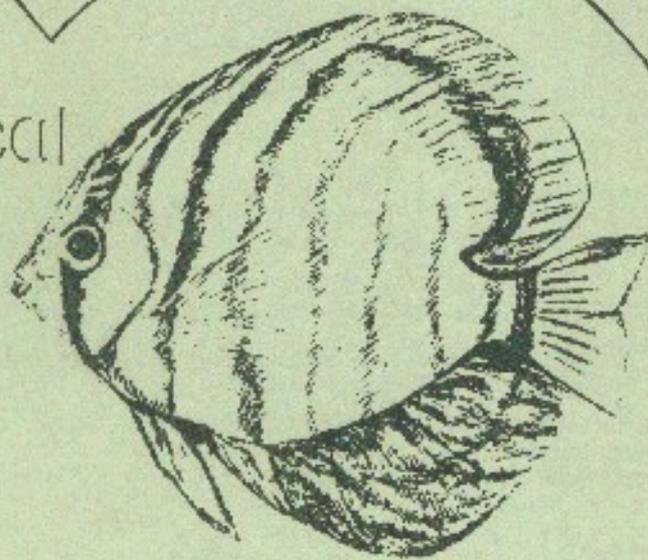
Coldwater and Tropical  
Fish and Plant

81-83 SOUTHERNHAY BASILDON ESSEX.



Tropical

Marine



Coldwater

727 Ryleigh Rd, Hutton.

-1-  
**SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**  
**(Founded 1935 or before)**

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

Venue:-

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

**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL**  
**No. 90**  
**July/ August 1982**

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DAVE BURGES. 11 SILVERDALE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF~ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE i

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

BERT FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE:- BASILDON 556625

**HON: SECRETARY**

JOHN HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**HON. TREASURER**

JOAN FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: BASILDON 556625

**TABLE SHOW SECRETARY**

KAREN TURNER. 82 BARNSTAPLE PLACE, THORPE BAY, ESSEX..

**JOURNAL EDITOR**

JACKY HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

PAUL MANSFIELD. 22 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX

**LIBRARIAN**

DAVE CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

JANET MACKENZIE.. 36.HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON SEA, ESSEX.-  
TELEPHONES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA'616149

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

PAUL BOORE. 42 CHASE.BD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 615236

**CATERING SECRETARY**

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TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

LES SOMNER. 8 CANONSLEIGH CRESCENT, LEIGH-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 712365

**JNR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

STEVEN MACKENZIE. 36 HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-OIJ-SEA 616149

## EDITORIAL PAGE

### THE HOBBY THAT GROWS AND GROWS

STEVEN MACKENZIE Jnr Member

Like just about every aquarist I started off with the good old common goldfish in the good old goldfish bowl which I purchased in a P.D.S.A. Shop. As soon as I had bought this I immediately wanted an occupant, so I obtained one 29p goldfish, a bag of gravel and one piece of spindly Elodea.

I then moved on to an Eighteen inch tank and of course the original goldfish looked so lonely so I bought it a friend which promptly died. So the next stage came when I decided that this tank was too small, so for a Christmas present I bought a two foot tank with all the necessary equipment, but this never took off, with all my fish dying of a mysterious unknown disease called White Spot...

After having this unsuccessful time with goldfish I decided to move onto Tropicals so my mum (the source of all financial outlay) bought us a three foot tank, gosh what a size, with all the usual bits and pieces that go with it. This was set up with the usual rare and exciting fish like Guppies, Platy and Neon Tetras.

I then decided that this two foot tank lying obsolete in my bedroom had to be used. So I went out and bought a pair of those rare hard to keep fish called Convict Cichlids. Soon of course two tanks were not enough, so on seeing an advert in my local newspaper I obtained two more two foot tanks and stand.

These then went through many phases of occupants with Oscars, Texas Cichlids and Malawi, but I eventually ended up with Angelfish and Livebearers. As you can tell by the way this is written I was rather ignorant at the time, so it was around now when I joined the club where I have gained a lot of knowledge and experience, and where I have found out just how prolific convict cichlids are. Due to a recent move I have been cut down to two three foot tanks, but who knows there is plenty of room in that garden for a fish house.....

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## EDITORIAL

Hi,

Once again it is time for me to put pen to paper and fingers to the keys of my typewriter to try to produce a Journal. I have opened up the Editors page this month and published an article written by one of our Juniors, Steven Mackenzie. I am hoping that Steve's story will encourage some more of our Juniors to write about their experiences as aquarists. You have at least 6 weeks before the next Journal is published so lets see what you can do. This also applies to the Senior members, lets see if we can make the next and this is my last Journal for this year a bumper Christmas Edition. **PLEASE**

Jacky Harrison **EDITOR**

## PRESIDENTS PAGE

DAVE BURGES

Here I am again holding up the Journal. With this old house of mine I always have so much to do.

The last thing I mentioned in the previous Journal was a trip to Diss. This has now taken place and once again proved a very enjoyable day out also most successful for a lot of members who came away with plenty of trophies and cards, congratulations, it was nice to see such a good effort. We must say thanks to Janet for all the arrangements and for being such a good coach hostess, thanks Janet and Steve.

Another outing worth a mention was the Halstead Bar B.Q., wellworth going to, there was plenty to eat, now I have tried it and can now recommend it, perhaps more of us can go next year.

The date just to remind you for the Essex and East London Convention is the 31<sup>st</sup> October, there will be three speakers, Ian Sellick on Rift Valley Cichlids, Dave Mullborough on British Coldwater and Rod Roberts on Killies. Well worth the time out and the money, hope to see you there. Also on October 23<sup>rd</sup> we have a Dance to look forward to, there will be a disco and chicken and chips. We are going to need at least 100 people at this dance to make it a success, it is a nice hall with a recommended D.J. a good bar so what else could you ask for.

The meetings seem to be going well, plenty of well informed speakers with Forums in between to give plenty of variation. The new members we have seem to be settling down now, its nice to see them enjoying themselves. Don't forget if you are not getting what you want from your club tell us the Committee and we will try an oblige.

So with plenty of pleasant memories to look back on and plenty to look forward to in the near and distant future I will close for now. I wish you all happy and successful fish keeping.

Dave Burges.

## A.FEW SHOWS YOU MISSED

Andrew Waller

I have attended a few shows recently which other SLADAS members missed. The first was an invitation closed show which SLADAS was invited to but at such short notice it would have been impossible to have organised anything. It was held at Portsmouth A.S. and there eleven clubs who each put one fish into 13 classes and the highest pointed club won. I covered every class as a SLADAS member and we came 3<sup>rd</sup> (from the end) at least we beat Newham and London Transport.

Next was Bournemouth Open Show, with 300 entries. I went with Frank Chapman and helped on the Federation stand. The Catfish Show at Aylesbury was not well supported in number but quality was the cats whiskers (no pun), a card won here is well earned. I got a second out of six entries and was well satisfied. My dad judged South East London, so I went to Kings Lynn with Harry Johnson. This show was weak on numbers 220 or so. I had a field day being highest pointed exhibitor and getting SLADAS 2<sup>nd</sup> highest Society. Poor old Harry put out his *Syn`angelicus* he had just bought for £100 only to be told it had been knocked down for a deformed fin.

East Dulwich had their 1<sup>st</sup> show for a number of years, and it was very successful in numbers and quality.. I could not enter as my dad was judging. Dagenham Town Show is a wonderful show, if you put a £1.00 worth of entries in you get a free pass to the Town Show and what with the weather what more could you ask. You leave your fish for two nights. and this puts people off, however, in two years they have only lost two fish. I put my second string out but still got nine cards. My dad won the Mini Furnished again, there were eleven of them entered. The judge messed up the Rasbora class again with a two inch fish that grows to six inches winning. This class for some reason is getting to be a headache. Why I don't know because all the fish are old types seen for years.

---

## WHO AM I?

My first is in plymouth, not in Bridgend,  
My seconds in lover, never in fiiend.  
My third is in leaving and holiday too.  
My fourth is in Toolbox, never in screw,  
My fifth is in Pygmy, never in small,  
Producing a fish that known by you all.

## BRINE SHRIMP

D. Cheswright

This crustacean, scientific name *Artemia.salina*, is without a doubt, the best food available for nearly all fry-livebearers from birth, egglayers from birth or when a week or so old. Many egglayer fry are too small even to take newly hatched Brine Shrimp immediately they are free-swimming. Exceptions are Cichlids and Catfishes, and there are many other species, such as even small Characins and Barbs, where they will be eaten straight away by at least some of a brood. Most Labyrinth species fry are very, very small at birth and need microscopic food in the form of infusoria, etc for the first week or so, again exceptions occur, e.g. Siamese Fighters, *Betta splendens*, which can take Brine Shrimp immediately. Once fry are large enough to take other live foods then there is little point in continuing to feed Brine Shrimp unless you are prepared to grow them on. This I have never bothered to try to any extent, although you will find some reaching 12mm or so if they are left to their own devices - this happens if you forget to clean out the hatching jar - a few survive and grow. There is a S.L.A.D.A.S. member who used to grow some on in an old butler sink and perhaps he can provide us with details in a later Journal.

Brine Shrimp eggs are actually called Cysts NOT eggs they are collected by monster vacuum cleaner type machines in vast quantities in San Fransisco from a salt lake there and from the Great Salt lake in Utah, both in the U.S.A. The Great Salt lake is 400ft above sea level and is about 10 miles X 45 miles in size. Apparently it contains no fishes but does contain various insect life and *Artemia*, which feed on Algae growths and the various microscopic life in the salt water. The lake is in a desert area and there are other .salt lakes in this part of Utah.

The cysts, having been deposited by the many millions of shrimp, become "high and dry" as the lake waters recede and this is when they are collected. As far as I know they are collected solely for the Aquatic trade. They have to have a dry period before they will hatch and they can be stored for long periods before hatching - sometimes several years, but will hatch after being dry for the natural period of a few months. It is essential to store the cysts completely dry in an air tight container - any dampness-.will ruin them. They are very expensive to buy and it is worth the care required in storage. The cysts are very small, almost like hard dust and there are millions in 1 oz. Bear this in mind when hatching them as a little goes a long way - these shrimps live in salt water and excess put in with your fry will, die in a few hours and pollute the aquarium. Do not feed fry solely on this shrimp - give them fine dry food as well remember that the shrimps are very salty and an excess can cause internal problems in your fry, or too much salt in the aquarium. The latter problems can be solved by water changing when you should be doing this anyway to remove excess food.

You can now obtain Brine Shrimp cysts in two forms. The latest is shell-less in a saline solution. These hatch much quicker as the shells do not need to soften,first as they have been removed already. It seems to me that the newly hatched shrimp from this process are smaller than when hatched from complete cysts, this could be an advantage with fry being able to take them at earlier ages. Against this however, is the vastly increased cost of buying the shell-less cysts which makes them, I feel, suitable only where you are occasionally breeding fishes, if you need regular supplies of newly hatched shrimp it is much cheaper and more practical to stick to the with-shell dry cysts. To hatch the cysts you need a clean container the size of which depends on how much shrimp you require. I find that a 2 lb jam jar size or larger are best, but even a bottle can be used for small quantities. The essentials to hatch are!

1) 1 level dessertspoon of cooking salt to each pint of water. Do **NOT** use table salt. Marine salt can be used but what is easier than to raid the wife's kitchen!!

2) Temperature of 70/77°F (21/25°C). If lower they take longer to hatch.

3) Light. Both 2 and 3 can be obtained by standing the jar by the side of your aquarium.

Continued from p 6

### **BRINE SHRIMP**

You do not need a separate heater or light and during most of the year, with normal heating indoors, the room temperature should be enough

4) Aeration. This is a must, fairly heavily, taking care to avoid the salt water splashing onto any metal or furniture nearby. The best way to avoid splashing of salt is to have a larger container which is only about half full

5) Cysts. Having the fully dissolved salt you just sprinkle eggs on the surface - just a pinch - experience tells you how much to use but remember that you have about so many fry and that there are thousands of shrimp going to hatch from a pinch. Put on your aeration which makes the eggs stay in suspension instead of sinking to the bottom in a mass where they will not hatch nearly as well

The shrimps hatch after about 36 hours - only some at a time - and they will not all be hatched for 3/4 days from one hatching. You then throw the contents away and start again - Have two cultures going a day apart to get a continuous supply. Do not add eggs to a culture after the initial quantity - the water gets very messy once the cysts hatch and it is much better to start a 2<sup>nd</sup> culture in fresh salt water. This method gives the greatest possible hatching.

To feed your fry:- 1) Take out the air stone and make sure the shrimps have hatched. They are reddish whereas the eggs are brown. In a few minutes the shells, hatched or unhatched, will either float or sink, leaving the shrimp swimming and they will collect where there is most light. 2) Use a handkerchief over an empty jar and syphon out the shrimp with a length of air tubing, making sure you do not collect the shells, which whether hatched or not are of no food value to your fry eating the shells must be like us eating concrete!! Pour the salt water back into the culture and replace the air stone. Pour a little fresh water through the hanky to rinse some of the salt away and you can then feed the shrimp to your brood. 3) Put only a small amount of hatched shrimp with your fry at first - in minutes you will be able to see whether they are being eaten by the distended stomachs of the fry and, in many cases their red stomachs. Increase the amount of shrimp fed as all fry get large enough to eat it and as they grow, using fine dry foods as well and moving on to other foods as the fry grow. The growth rate of fry eating Brine Shrimp is quite amazing and I have never come across any food to compare with it.

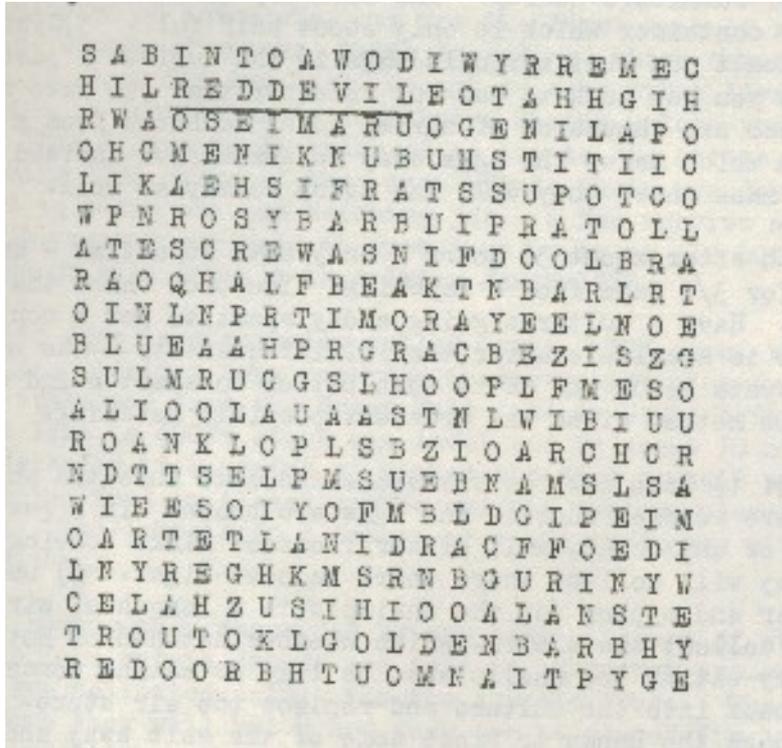
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-8-  
**FIND THE FISH**

P. Mansfield

In the square below are 36 fish. They are all listed below the square- All you have to do is find them. They are printed forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonally.



**THE HIDDEN FISH**

- |           |            |             |                       |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Rosy barb | Bloodfin   | Black Neon  | Siamese fighting fish |
| Half beak | Glass fish | Kuhli loach | Chocolate gourami     |
| Shubunkin | Lampeye    | Lemon tetra | Egyptian mouthbrooder |
| Whiptail  | Salmon     | Red Devil   | Opaline gourami       |
| Carp      | Discus     | Dog fish    | Clown Rasbora         |
| Octopus   | Highhat    | Moray Eel   | Albino catfish        |
| Molly     | Starfish   | Bowfin      | Cardinal tetra        |
| Guppy     | Botia      | Merry Widow | Zebra danio           |
| Trout     | Koran      | Golden barb | Lyretail              |

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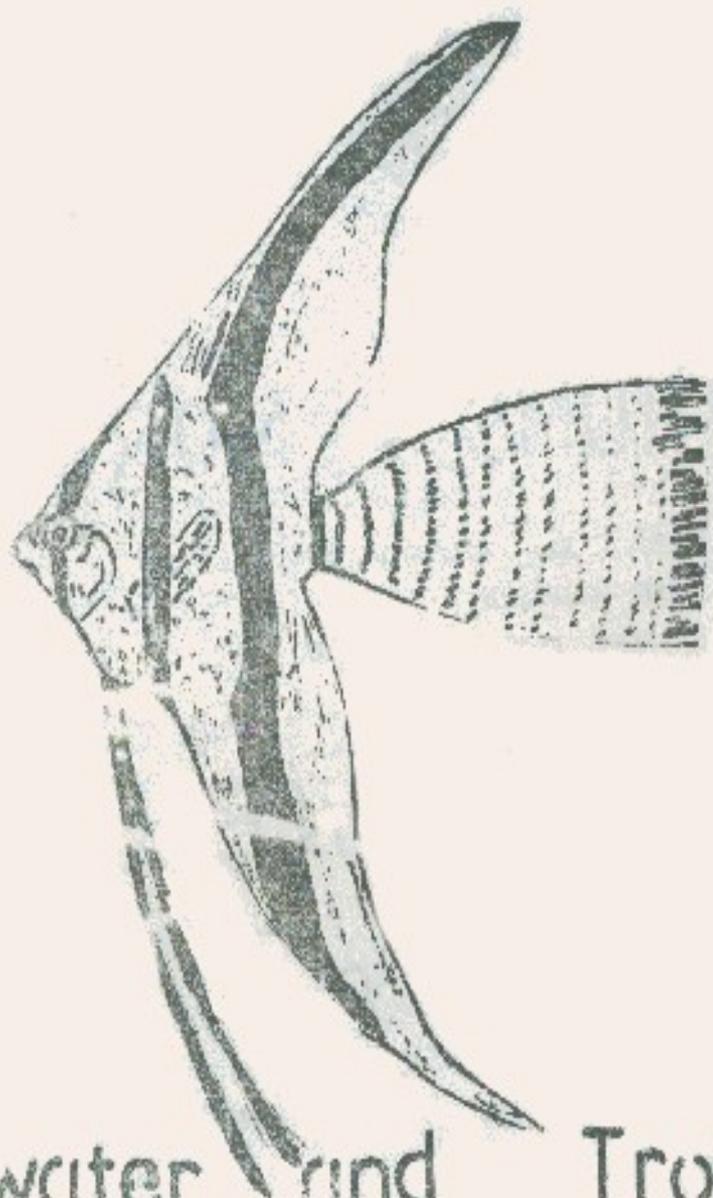
Answer to "Who Am I" is .....PLATY

# AQUATIC SHOP

Tele

Basilton

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Coldwater and Tropical  
Fish and Plant

81-83 SOUTHERNWAY BASILTON MISSISSIPPI



**R A S B O R A S**  
**The Little Known Genus**

T. Waller

These fish come from within the family Cyprinoid They are closely related to the African species of Barb, the Barbodes and the Labeo's. With the exception of two species they are all elongate in shape, made for fast swimming. They range in size from 5/8" to 8", although they are equipped with upwards of three rows of Pharygeal teeth (teeth with hooks) they are very peaceful types- For the most part they are not very colourfull but do tend to have pleasing elegant lines which set them aside from the other tropical types.

These fish are natural shoaling species and do best in the aquarium when kept in half dozens or more. Well aerated, peaty water with plenty of plant cover is very necessary. They swim mid-water and will eat most foods but the average diet must contain regular feedings of live food. Some species, in particular *pauciperforata* (Red Line) and *maculata* (dwarf) have very small mouths and must be fed accordingly. In making only a small study of the genus we notice straight away that apart from a couple of species all the Rasboras look very much alike, both in shape, colour and pattern. In particular most species are born with a dark dot on the caudal peduncle which becomes a dark longitudinal stripe which very often turns out to run the entire length of the body through the eye to the snout. Also at times on semi adult fish you will notice the appearance and subsequent disappearance of a thin black line where the anal fin joins the body. This is a supra anal pigment and sometimes runs as far back as the lower lobe of the caudal fin«

The genus as a whole is still going through a very active programme of evolution. The roots of the genus can be traced back to a single specie *Rasbora rasbora*, that appeared round about the time of the emergence of the great ice age» From this fish evolved the species as we know them today. Compare the similarity between the dwarf rasbora and *Rasbora kalochroma*, nearly identical except that one grows to an inch and the other to five inches. This suggests that a fish found its way into different water volumes i.e. one into ditches and ponds, and the other into rivers and lakes and so evolved primarily in size.

Rasboras are easily available just look for them-*Rasbora heteromorpha*, the Harlequins, *dorisiocellata*, the emerald eye, the two true scissors, *borapetensis* and the Red Line Rasbora are easily come by. Sometimes little gems like *cephalataenia*, *paucisquamis* and *einthoveni* turn up. A lot of people say they loose Rasboras, and some shops are known not to stock them because of their seemingly high mortality rate. The main reason lies in the breeding of the species, or rather lack of it. Here we have a species that is not commercially bred at all. Only a few enthusiastic amateurs have achieved any success at all in the Western World. This means most of the fish we buy are either wild caught or have been bred in a natural condition in the Far East. When you buy a fish on a Saturday, do you realise that it could have been swimming around in a river or pond in Singapore, Sarawak or Borneo.

Think of the change in water conditions. Because they are wild caught types lots of oddities creep in, not always evident on a quick look in the dealers tank. Close inspection will reveal *R. hengeli* amongst the Harlequins, a fish called *Alepidomis evermanni* is invariably evident amongst the scissor tails. *R. myersi*, and *sumatrana* are always present with scissors as well.

We picked up a tiny Barb in a shop tank of 50 or 60 scissors and the thing (we can't put a name to it) has grown to 6" and unfortunately its still growing.

**OPEN SHOW VISIT**

**DAVE CHESWRIGHT**

**MID-SUSSEX A.S.** held their 2<sup>nd</sup> Open Show on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1982 at Burgess Hill. The venue is 75 miles from Wickford but, with the Motorway system I arrived there in 1¾ hours and the journey back; I left at 6.30pm took a few minutes less. The weather was very hot all day and most of the heavy traffic was heading for Brighton etc.

The hall was large and had a big back room used for refreshments and stands from F.B.A.S., SLAG(Essex) and Catfish Association. The back part of the main hall was blocked off with black polythene so that the Trade Stand and Society Tombola, etc could be open throughout the judging. Staging was borrowed from Tonbridge A.S. and the only snag with that is that there is no way that any backing can be put behind the Show Tanks. Mid-Sussex have an excellent stand for Furnished Aquaria entries - unfortunately with only 4 entries it looked very bare. The show attracted about 460 entriness as against about 630 in 1981. There were 36 classes and 10 judges and judging took about 4 hours. Benching was from 8 to 11.45a.m. The standard of entries was quite high. Although the hall was open during judging hardly anyone stayed behind - they all took advantage of the weather and the many places to visit in the area.

Prizes:- 1<sup>st</sup> Trophy plus food etc. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Rosettes 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Cards.

De-benching was just before prize-giving which was possibly only because there were very few members of the public there-

S.L.A.D.A.S. Winners:- Chris Cheswright 1<sup>st</sup> Zc Floating Plant

2<sup>nd</sup> Xb-m Breeders Egglayers

Dave Cheswright 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> No-t Prs. Livebearers

2<sup>nd</sup> Zc Floating plant

4<sup>th</sup> Za Rooted plants

**1983 OPEN SHOW**

The 1983 Open Show will again be held at St. Clements Hall, Rectory Grove, Leigh on Sea and the date is **SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MAY.**

We held a Forum Evening after the 1982 Show and some useful ideas came from that. May 1983 may seem a long way off but I am open now for any constructive suggestions, from members to improve the show for the benefit of aquarists, the public, and most important the fishes. Information is something lacking at most Open Shows and I would welcome any volunteers willing to start preparing very soon information sheets to go with each class. What I have in mind is fairly brief., details of the Family or Genus of fishes in each class, perhaps with a small map to show their approximate wild locations. This is too much for me to tackle single handed - any members who specialise in particular types of fishes could, I hope, fairly easily help with this. Any suggestions on Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> , 3<sup>rd</sup> , and 4<sup>th</sup> , keeping cost in mind, would also be useful.

Dave Cheswright - Show Secretary

## MOUTHBROODERS

PAUL MANSFIELD

Most of the Mouthbrooders available to us are Cichlids. There is also one Anabantid, the Mouthbreeding Betta (*Betta brederi*) I have never even seen a mouth-breeding Betta so for this article I will forget it exists. Over the last couple of months I have gradually and unknowingly grown to like the mouthbrooding cichlids, I find their breeding behaviour fascinating, and you'd be surprised at the size a female can stretch her mouth to. I have found all the fish I have kept make excellent mothers up to a certain point. One example of this is my two adult female egyptians. They literally starve for two weeks while they hold eggs and fry in their mouths. Even the most tempting of foods is ignored. I find that once the fry are let loose the behaviour pattern changes. One female continues to be a good mother, ignoring the fry until danger threatens, then letting the fry take refuge in her mouth again. The other females spits her fry out and then sees them as a wonderful food, no matter what else is offered to her, if she spits while I'm at work it's goodbye to the brood. If I'm at home and I think she's ready I have to watch her like a hawk- Once she spits I have to remove her P.D.Q.

Most mouthbrooders have the same habits the only real exception being the black chinned mouthbrooder (*Tilapia macrocephala*) in which the male incubates the eggs. That is the only real difference though. Generally the method of breeding is as under.

First of all the fish do the cichlid lip lock, circling all the time. Once the fish have accepted each other they begin to look for a suitable spawning site. They seem to prefer a flat rock but if there are none, will dig a pit in the gravel. The female will then lay a few eggs which the male fertilizes. This happens a few more times until all the eggs are laid. Once the spawning is complete the female begins her two week fast, taking the eggs into her mouth, all the books I have read say to remove the male afterwards, but I have found this unnecessary. As my fish breed in a community tank I leave both parents in there, they both seem quite happy with the arrangement. I eventually move the female a couple of days before I consider her ready to spit. In the case of the smaller fish I simply put her into a 10" show tank with masses of plant like cabomba or hornwort. This gives the adult a sense of security and the fry a place to hide should they need it. Whatever the fish I like to remove the mother as soon as possible just in case.

The fry of all the mouthbrooders I keep are quite large when born and will take newly hatched brine shrimp straight away. The growth rate is quite good once over a month old. They are easily put onto dried food, also showing a liking for small amounts of spinach and the occasional pea.

There are quite a few mouthbrooding cichlids, some of which are listed below

1 Black Chinned Mouthbrooder (*Tilapia macrocephala*) one of the big fish, growing to eight inches. It will however breed at four inches. It is not really a community fish but if you do keep it with others it must be with fish of it's own size, As I have already explained it is the male of the species who broods the eggs.

2 Mozambique Mouthbrooder (*Tilapia mossambica*) This fish grows to six inches but again will breed at four inches. The books say a big NO as a community fish, but I have found it to be okay with anything big enough to render it uneatable. It is the male of the species who is the real beauty, varying from deep blue, black and a beautiful dark green« The tips of the dorsal and tail are a lovely orange once spawning starts they are prolific breeders and as the fish is, for some reason, unpopular the fry are hard to dispose of.

### **MOUThBROODERS** Continued from p. 11

3. Egyptian Mouthbrooders (*Haplochromis multicolor*). This is my favourite mouthbrooder. Once again it is the male who has all the colour. The array of blue, green and yellow is beautiful. The maximum size is three inches and they will breed when quite a bit smaller. This is a good fish to keep if you go away a lot, as they can survive quite well for thirty days without feeding, eating the microscopic matter found in the tank. Again this is a prolific fish but they are rarely seen in the shops for some reason. It is an excellent community fish, the males will fight amongst themselves (though seldom to the death) but everything else is quite safe.

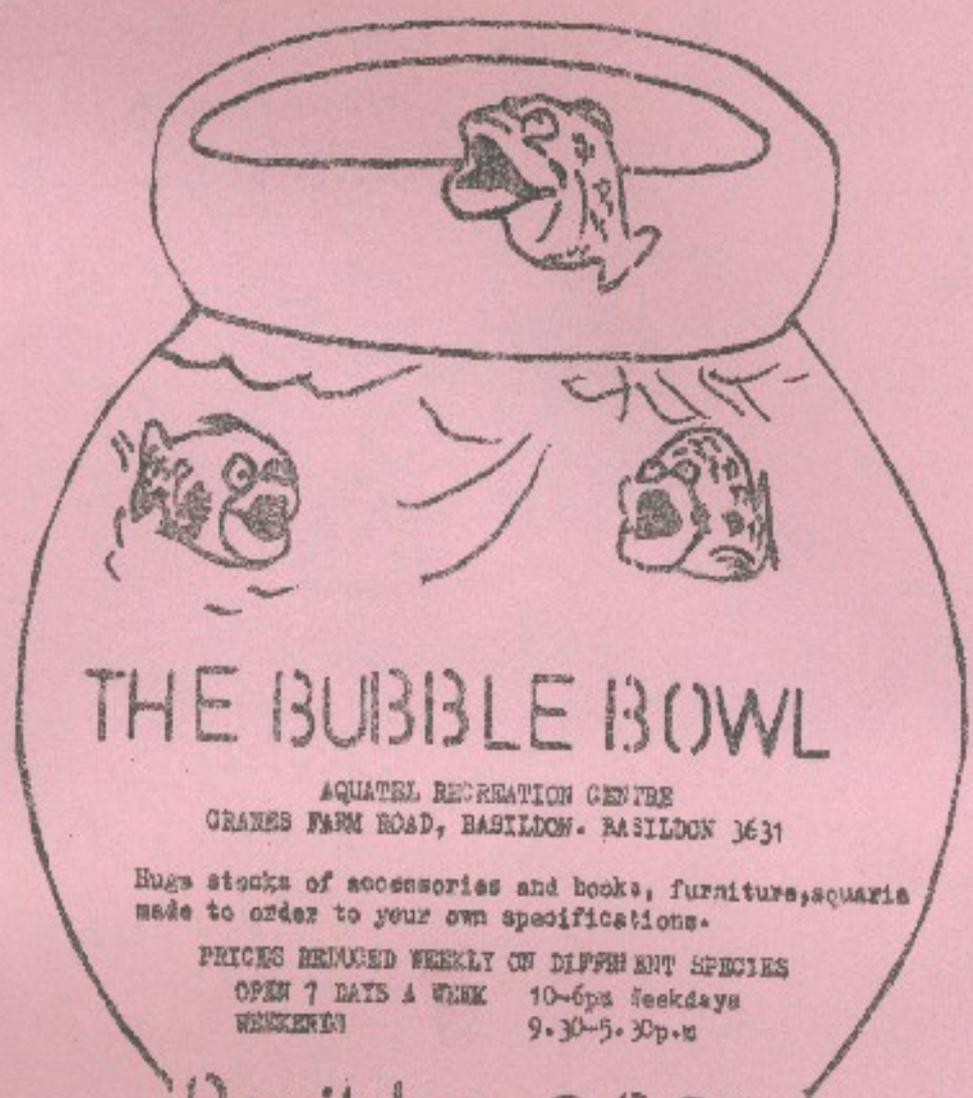
4 Philander (*Haplochromis philander*) Another fish that's made itself popular with me. It is a nicely coloured fish, similar to the Egyptian although it is more elongated and grows to four-five inches. It will breed smaller. The lips of both sexes are amazing, being deeply coloured as if the fish was wearing lipstick. This is usually a dark blue/purple. This is another good community fish, (I keep it with my Dwarf Cichlids, the only minor trouble being that the males tend to spar amongst themselves and with the male Egyptians. These are nothing serious though and deaths are rare.

5. *Haplochromis burtoni*. This is one of the most beautiful mouthbrooders being basically blue and green. This species are best kept on their own with dense vegetation, rocks and roots as hiding places. The courtship can get quite violent and the females need hiding places. Spawning is a little different in this fish. Once the female has laid the eggs on a rock she takes them into her mouth unfertilized. The male has egg spots on his anal fin and the female puts her mouth close to these. The male sheds his sperm and the female takes it into her mouth where the eggs are fertilized. The whole spawning process can last up to one and half hours. The fish grow to about five inches. This fish is very rarely seen in the shops. If you should come across them please let me know as it is a species I am anxious to keep.

There are quite a few more species of mouthbrooder but it would take up a lot of room. Most are hard to get hold of though as our shops rarely, if ever seem to go in for the unusual these days. I only hope that one day that will change. Other mouthbrooders to look out for are *Haplochromis polystigma*, *Hap. Mooriii*, *Aulonocara nyassae*, *Hap. euchilus*, *Hap.moffati*, *Tilapia nilotica*, and *Tilapia natalensis*. All will make fascinating study and some are the most beautiful of fish. I hope you will give at least one of them a try sometime.

TROPICAL

MARINE



LIVE

FOOD

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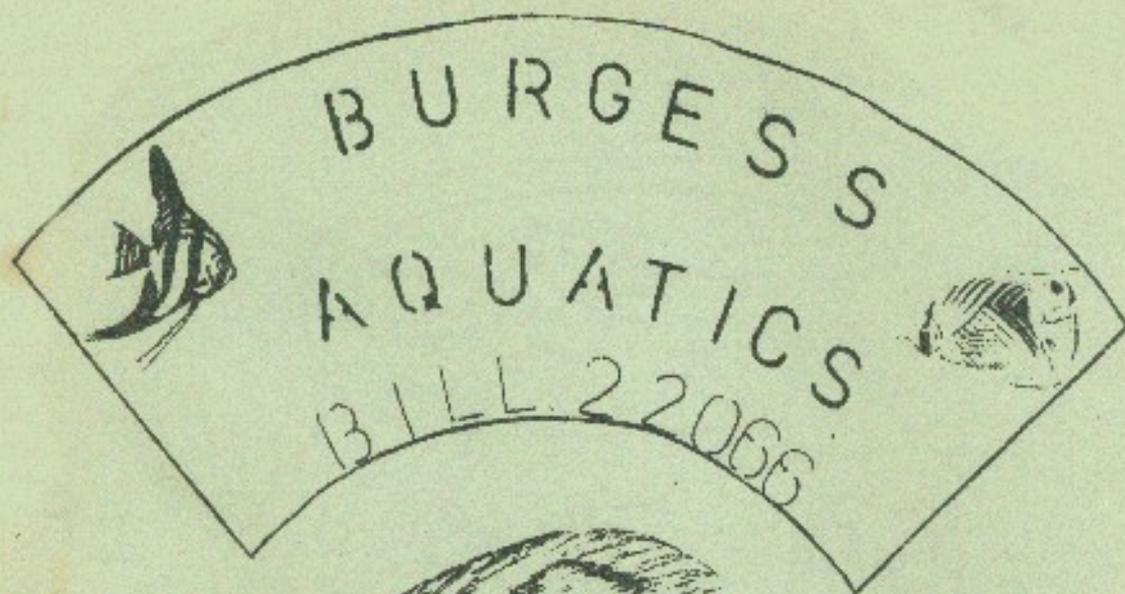
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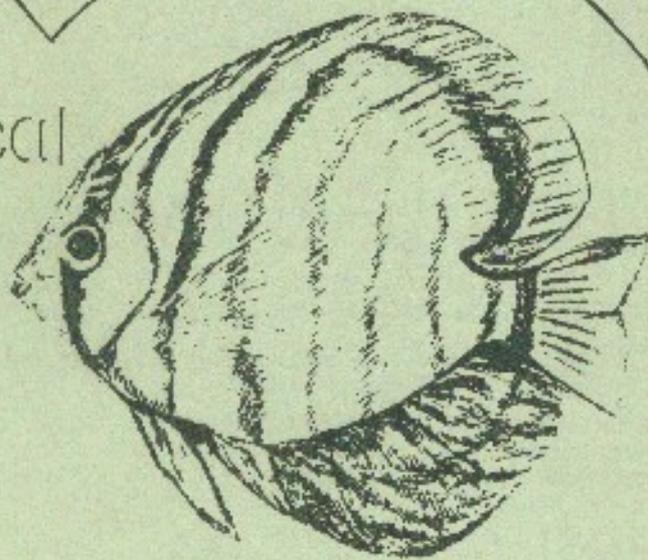
PLANTS

COLDWATER



Tropical

Marine



Coldwater

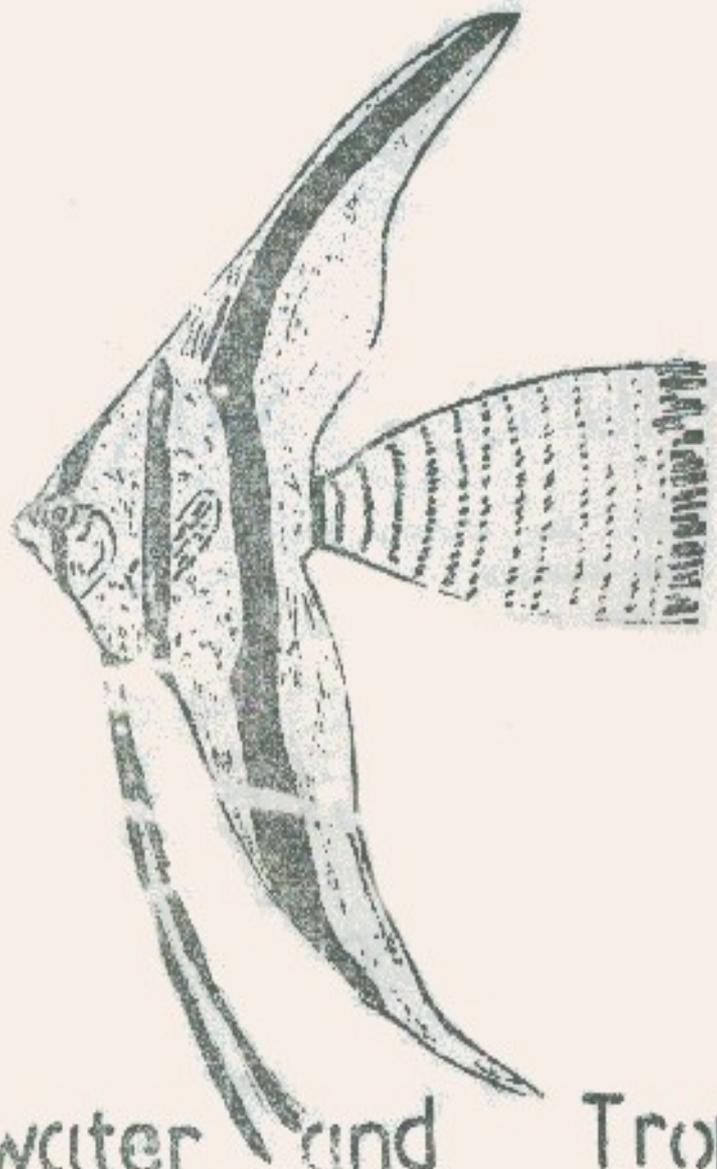
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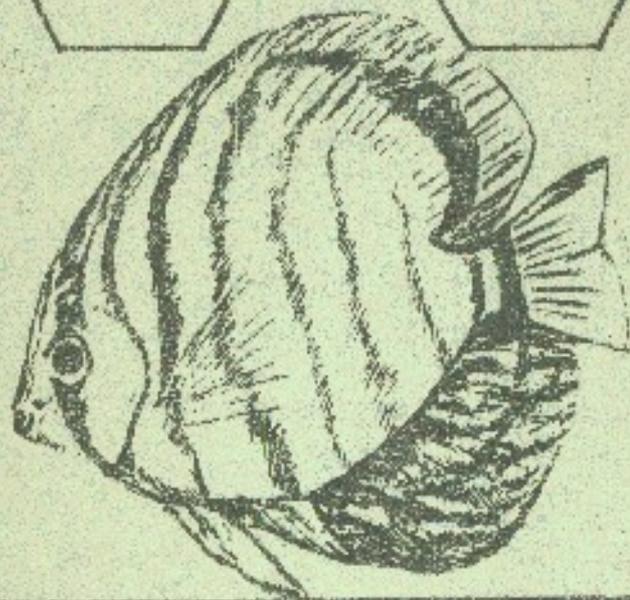
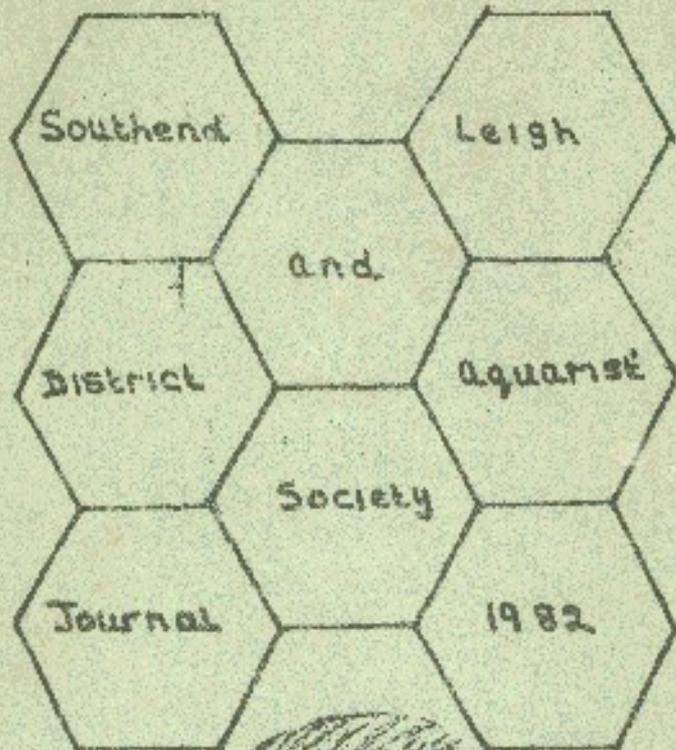
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Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every months the meeting commences at 8.30pm.

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**(Entrance in South View Drive)**

**BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL**  
**No. 91 CHRISTMAS EDITION**

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DAVE BURGES. 11 SILVERDALE AVENUE, WESTCLIFF~ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE i

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

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TELEPHONE:- BASILDON 556625

**HON: SECRETARY**

JOHN HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**HON. TREASURER**

JOAN FARROW. 59 TRAVERS WAY, PITSEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: BASILDON 556625

**TABLE SHOW SECRETARY**

KAREN TURNER. 82 BARNSTAPLE PLACE, THORPE BAY, ESSEX..

**JOURNAL EDITOR**

JACKY HARRISON. 18 TASMAN CLOSE, CORRINGHAM, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: STANFORD-LE-HOPE 71746

**ASSISTANT EDITOR**

PAUL MANSFIELD. 22 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX

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DAVE CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**SOCIAL SECRETARY**

JANET MACKENZIE.. 36.HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON SEA, ESSEX.-  
TELEPHONES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA'616149

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

PAUL BOORE. 42 CHASE.BD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 615236

**CATERING SECRETARY**

AUDREY CHESWRIGHT. 2 CEDAR AVENUE, WICKFORD, ESSEX.  
TELEPHONE: WICKFORD 2531

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

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TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA 712365

**JNR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

STEVEN MACKENZIE. 36 HAMSTEL RD, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX  
TELEPHONE: SOUTHEND-OIJ-SEA 616149

## EDITORIAL

Hi.

Well here goes, the hardest bit of the Journal for me anyway. It doesn't seem a year since my first Journal was published, and since then six Journals successfully out on time.

I would like to thank all our budding Authors for their articles this year and I hope you can keep it up for the new Editor. It is nice to see the Journal get plenty of support as it then makes the Editors job worthwhile

Due to other commitments, I have had to stand down from the Editors job this year, and from any other committee work, but I would like to wish Chris' your new ED, good luck with the Journal, and of course good luck to the Committee for 1983.

For this edition I have only got half a page to fill, the Assistant Ed Paul Mansfield is sharing the Editorial with me, about time as well. Any way this only leaves me to wish all SLADAS members a very happy Christmas, and best wishes for the New Year.

Jacky Harrison **EDITOR.**

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## SUB- EDITORIAL

Hello,

Well it's the end of the year again and as this is the last Journal that I shall be printing it seems I get to write this bit as well. (Exciting isn't it !)

I hope 1982 was as good a year for you as it was for me, fishkeeping wise! This is my second Christmas with the club and I know I have learnt a lot coming here, both from the talks which have been of excellent quality this year, and from just meeting people who know more than I do. I probably do talk to more people than anyone else, through selling the raffle tickets and it's amazing what you can find out or pass on in just a couple of minutes. As those of you who entered know I have also been judging the Home Furnished competition this year with Dave Cheswright and we had a better chance to you to see them. It is probably the best job in the club and I've been very pleased with the standard of tanks we've seen. Some have really made me jealous. There is no way I could possibly be called artistic and some aquariums have been pure works of art in their decorations. If I put one rock on top of another then that's my artistic bit worn out for the year. I have to congratulate all of you who can make rock into fantastic landscapes, (I hate you)..It has been very nice to see so many ladies coming, to not just to escort their Husbands, but as aquarists in their own right, they are still in the minority when it comes to the hobby and it's good to see them taking an interest. I often wish my wife would get into fishkeeping, no such luck. She comes to Corringham Club with me but that's just for a natter with Jacky. This summer she did suggest we split the living room into two, one half into a fish house so I'm lucky really. I had to work quick in case she changed her mind and relegated me to the shed at the bottom the garden. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jacky for producing such a consistently good journal throughout the year. I hope you will agree that it has been both informative and entertaining. Well that's my lot. I'd just like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a great New Year and of course happy fishkeeping\*

Paul Mansfield - **Assistant. Editor**

Here I am again wondering what to put on my page of the Journal, in what could be my last Presidents entry if not re-elected on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

The year since my election has gone very quickly indeed. I clearly remember being a bit bewildered about what and how to do things, but with help from the committee I don't think it has been a bad year on reflection. We now seem to have an interested group of members most of whom are keen aquarists and interested in what is going on. This makes a committee members job more satisfying to do

Also the financial side of the club is sound with money in the bank to the extent where we do not feel it necessary to increase the subscriptions. This is also a nice position to be in.

We have had various events through the year, outing, disco dance, conventions, night out\* B. B Q, not forgetting our very successful in more ways than one, the Open Show. So as I said on reflection NOT A BAD YEAR.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank on behalf of the club and myself, members who worked on the committee through the year. Also any member who has helped in any way to support the club.

The only things left to say at the moment are, I hope we have as good a committee next year. I wish you all a very enjoyable festive season and a happy New Year, with plenty of enjoyable fish keeping.

Dave Burges

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1982, with plenty of volunteers for the positions available, at least we think they volunteered. The minutes from 1981 A.G.M. were read and signed and a treasurers report was also, available, with the club showing a healthy bank balance, allowing preparations after Christmas for the Open Show in May:-

Matters arising in brief:-

Our President had quite a lot to say for himself (as usual) one of his topics was his year in office, which I think he enjoyed, and we hope his next year will be successful. The membership for this year has been very good, and hopefully some of these members will try some committee work.

### ELECTION OF 1983 COMMITTEE

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	D. Burges.
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	T. Cooper.
<b>HON. SECRETARY</b>	D. Cheswright
<b>HON. TREASURER</b>	D. Baron.
<b>EDITOR</b>	C. Cheswright
<b>ASSISTANT EDITOR</b>	K. Browse
<b>TABLE SHOW SECRETARY</b>	A. Waller
<b>P.R.O.</b>	K. Hall
<b>LIBRARIAN</b>	F. Ray
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>	Mrs Ray
<b>CATERING SECRETARY</b>	Mrs. A. Cheswright
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>	T. Waller

The Junior members will be able to elect a representative of their own choice-Thanks were paid to John Harrison, Secretary, for the programme for this year.

### REPORTS

**F.B.A.S.** -The F.B.A.S. has booked Sterba for their convention which will be held at the London University on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Ken Saxby is now Chairman of the F.B.A.S, nominated by Southend A.S and seconded by Corringham A.S. The President for the next 3 years is Bob Esson, he is the first President of the F.B.A.S.

**Essex & East London** - John Boss is the President of this group, and Dave Cheswright has been elected Chairman, a new SLADAS delegate is therefore now needed. 11 Societies now belong to this group, they offer news and exchange speakers to other clubs.

## BREEDING -SIAMESE FIGHTING FISH

TONY COOPER

All the years I Have been keeping fish,. I have always thought of .trying to breed Siamese Fighters, but never got round to it until, first week in . November this year, and then it was not planned I was on one .of my expeditions round the local aquarist shops looking for something different, when in one shop on looking around came across a Siamese Fighter that was to my mind one of the best I have seen, it was a nice bright red, he. was showing off,all his fins were up and looking very nice, I said to my wife, I will have to have him.

I looked at the females, but did not think much of them, so I bought the male and later I came across a nice female, cleaned one of my 18" x 10" x 10" tanks out and put in a mixture of old water and some fresh, I also put in a couple of pieces of rock for hiding places for the female, my heater had been adjusted to 80 degrees C. I also put in lots of floating plant, the cabbage type which I bought at the club, I then made a divider as they have .to be kept apart until they show some interest in each other, she was then let in for about 15 minutes just to give him a little taste, she was then once again removed, and the feeding programme began, she then began to show more interest and he had begun to build a nest, by this time I took the divider out and let them get. on with it, I popped in now and again to try and catch them at it, but she was always hiding behind the rock, I saw him having a little dance near, her but that was that, I noticed the bubble nest was getting larger and I stood looking at him taking breaths of air and blowing more bubbles.

By now they had covered an area of about 3" x 2", the next day she looked a bit slimmer and he was under the nest all the time, I was getting a bit worried about letting cold air on the top although I. had it sealed fairly tight- I had to take her out as he was having a right go at her now, at the same time I lowered the water as the fry like shallow water,about two to three days later you could see tiny moving specs, dashing around under the bubbles.

My only hope now is that I can raise them up, it is about a week before you can use Brine Shrimp so I am using Infusoria Tablets and egg yolk. Here`s crossing my fingers.....

### WHO AM I?

P. Mansfield

My first is in Lantern,candle as well.  
My second's in onion, never in smell.  
My third's in demolish, also in mend.  
My fourth's in compatriot, also in friend.  
My fifth is in blizzrd, never in snow.  
And that means a fish that most of you know.

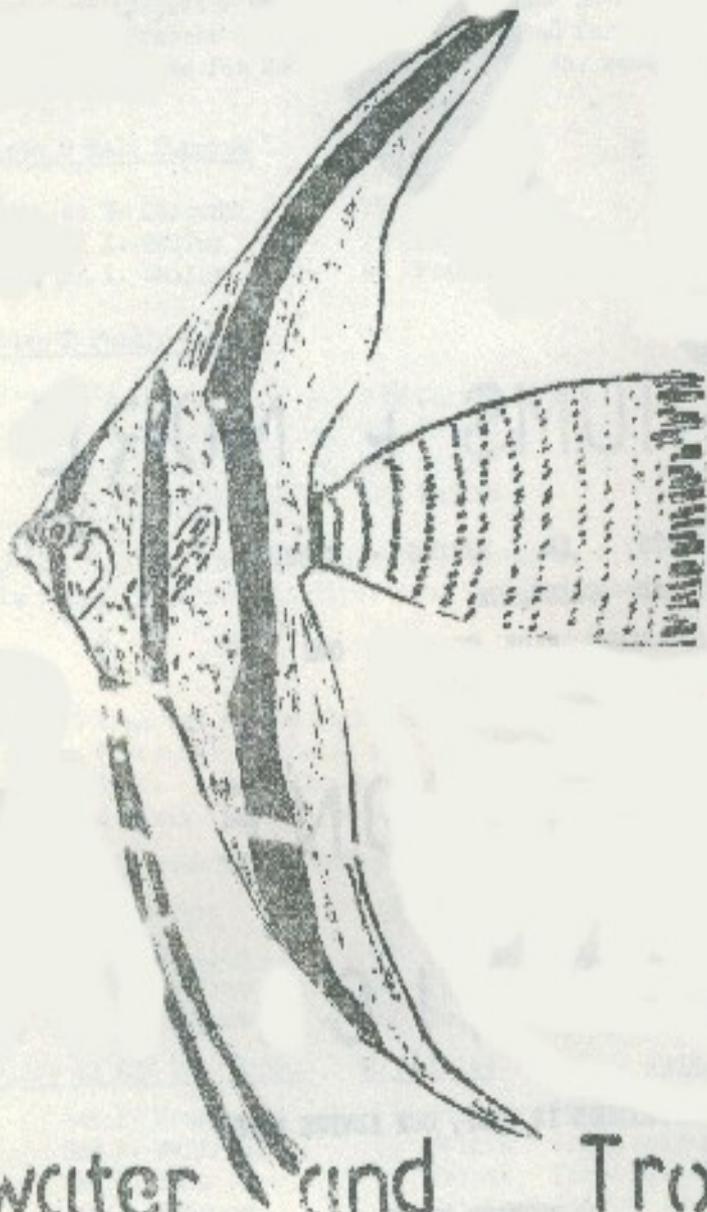
Answer on page 10

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# SPRINKLERS

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### Oldwater fish

Goldfish

Comets

Shubunkins

Golden Orfe

Bubble eyes

Green tench

Koi

Tropical

Marine

Invertebrates

Fibreglass ponds

Pond liners

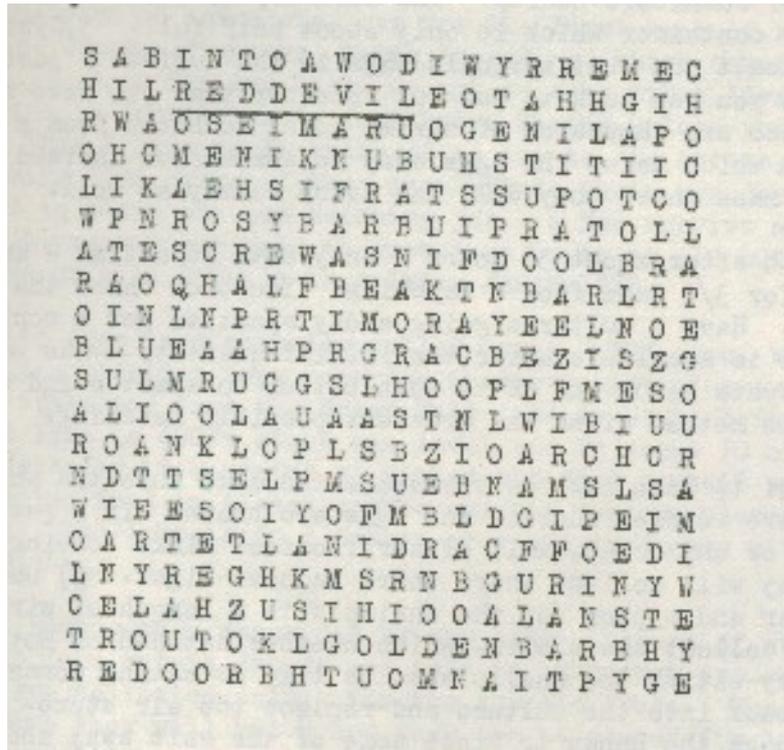
All Pond plants

EVERYTHING FOR THE  
AQUARIST.

### FIND THE FISH

P. Mansfield.

Hands up all those who said the last three were too easy. This time I'm giving you the fish but you've got to work out what they are. Solve the anagram and you've got your fish. All you have to do then is find them in the square. Easy isn't it. To help you out a bit I've put them all vertically or horizontally, no diagonals. GOOD HUNTING.....



### THE FISH

Private Litters 6,3,5.  
 Rivers Klesh 6,5.  
 Aim our legion 7,7.  
 A rich fresh 6,4.  
 Bug ails rule 4,7.  
 Chew'n' local 5,5.  
 Ribbin' Fleet 7,4.  
 Shake Dear 9.  
 I meal 5.  
 Fill my mail so 7,5.  
 Fall traced rat 8,5.  
 Seal cross it 11.  
 Dear dax shed 11.

lap carrying chain 8,8.  
 Quak by ark 4,5.  
 Got no treee 5,5.  
 A tree hater 5,5.  
 Hip ails fat witch 8,7.  
 dog barter 5,4.  
 Dire ponds loo 7,5.  
 Laus chats fig 5,7.  
 Hear owl cheat 7,5.  
 On rats ten 4,5.  
 Real pig our me 5,7.  
 Low wick bad 5,5.

Do rain leap 5,5.  
 Nail witch women out in  
 (maná 5,5,8,6.  
 Run a bomb quiz mother doom  
 (10,12.  
 I hitched from luci 9,7.  
 Lice lear tee 8,3.  
 March bel hated shift 7,11.  
 Be 1 chill chooky 7,7.  
 Burrows a sion 5,7.  
 Her tin rights fig 1 see 6,8,4  
 Red lion stew rag 5,9.  
 Rich dome 8.

Some years ago several members were at the Dunmow, Essex, Open Show and during judging we ended up as usual, in Hatfield Forest, well-known as John Harrison found out this year for its rumble strips.

We were ambling round one of the lakes, this was in June, and many large Rudd were spotted spawning and obviously enjoying themselves in full public view. This was the only time I have ever seen such goings-on in the flesh by wild fish. We watched the spawning for quite a time just at the edge of the lake in the roots of marginal plants. There was no sign of any let-up in the proceedings so we left them to it or at it and searched other parts of the bank. We soon found plenty of eggs, laid earlier. We collected some by pulling off a handful of roots and putting them straight into a plastic bag. It was some time before we went home but the eggs were OK, just a few fungussed later, I did not keep a record but quite a number hatched, were raised and some were given away, the rest going into my pond., with the goldfish and koi» They were all Rudd.

The ones I kept grew well and have spawned regularly since in the pond, quite a number of 2/3 inch specimens having been taken out in the years since and disposed of to other aquarists and even 20 plus 1 year to a dealer. This year I was determined to collect some goldfish eggs in order to get some more than the odd few that usually survive without being eaten. The first weekend of June I spotted the Koi rummaging in the shallows and, on looking, found eggs again on the roots of the rushes. I cut off a handful of roots with the kitchen scissors and these were placed in a 16 x 10 x 10 inch plastic tank in our lean-to, in water taken from the pond. I tried to count the eggs and thought there was about 50. When they hatched 2/3 days later there were obviously many more, even though many eggs had fungussed and these had not been removed. There were fry hanging everywhere. The water was only about 4 inches deep and once the fry were free-swimming, it was gradually filled up with tap-water and pond water, the later supplying some infusoria. In addition, as soon as they hatched, I put crushed lettuce leaf in to help the infusoria along. Once free-swimming and with the tank filled, about 2 pints of water were removed each day with a jug and replaced with pond water. In addition micro.worms and brine-shrimp were fed and fine dry food. Everything that went in was eaten

The roots were removed after a few days.in case they rotted and some Elodea was put in together with snails'to clear up the mess. After a week it was obvious that there were too many fry for the tank and they were moved a few. at a time.with a jug into; a half-filled 24 inch tank. It was also clear that some fry were larger than others and these spent most of the time near the bottom of the tank whereas the smaller fry were continually on the move in the middle top part. The larger fry were goldfish and the smaller Rudd.

Aeration was used on the 24 inch tank and this was gradually topped up and then water changes done. 310 Rudd and 60 Goldfish were taken out of the 16 inch tank, nearly 400 in all. From the eggs in the pond there must have been several 1000 there and I doubt that more than a dozen will survive in the pond from the eggs left there. A lot of the Rudd were used as food for my Pike Livebearers but a 100 or so were distributed about and some I have indoors, in a four foot tank with Goldfish and I kept about 20. About 25% of the Goldfish have developed deformed bodies and are not, therefore, of much use.The good ones I will keep indoors until the Spring when they will go into the pond.

## **Starting an Aquarist Club**

John Harrison

My first introduction to an aquarist club was when my wife saw the advert for S.L.A.D.A.S -in the **Aquarist** Magazine, this was in March 1980.

We both kept fish, so it seemed the most logical thing to do, this we did ;and we have not looked back since. On our second visit, we were asked to help load the staging onto the van, ready for the Open Show, I arrived at 5.30 pm on the Friday, ready for what I thought would be a couple of hours work. I finally left for home at 1-am with a different outlook on the work and commitment put in by the committee and its club members

For the next two years it was my pleasure to serve on the committee as a committee member, then to my surprise I was elected as Hon. Secretary (fools) and my wife Jacky, was elected as Journal Editor. This was to be, the start of a completely new experience into the other side of fish keeping..

During the course of the year, some-friends of ours in Corringham asked if it would be possible for us to start a club in Corringham. After careful considerations we decided we would give it a try, so after extensive advertising with local papers and pet shops the Corringham club was formed with a membership of 15. It has now been running six months and we have a membership of 36.

We feel that by serving on the Southend Committee this has given us first hand knowledge of the workings of a successful club. But unfortunately, with all the commitment, we now have with Corringham, we had to stand down from, the committee at Southend as we felt we could not serve on two committees.

I would like to thank the Southend committee for the help and support they have given the Corringham club in its early stages and we hope that in the near future it will be possible to hold an Interclub between the two clubs..

We will still attend the Southend club because we have made so many friends within the club and we will of course still help the club as much as we can.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish every one at Southend a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

### CLUB TABLE SHOW TROPHIES

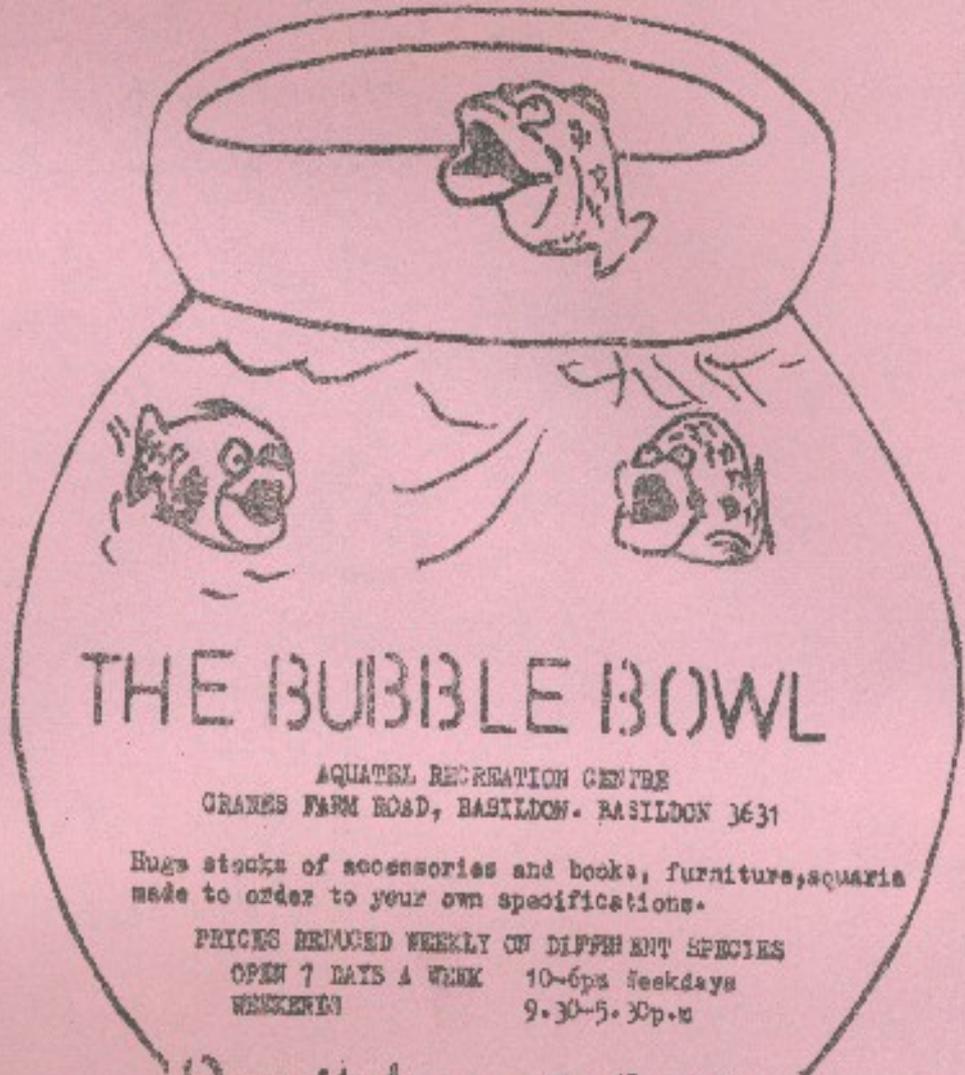
As I have had several people complaining, that they think that they should have been trophy winners last year and did not receive a trophy, I have listed all the trophies and whether they can be won by either Junior or Senior. I hope that this will settle any arguments that may arise this year. Where the trophy goes to the Best of a class which includes Junior and Senior fish the highest pointed fish from both classes will win the trophy, unless the Judges decide otherwise-

DUBOISSON CUP	BEST CHARACIN	JUNIOR/SENIOR
LEN WILLIS CUP	BEST KILLIEFISH	JUNIOR/SENIOR
STAN HYDE CUP	BEST CORYDORAS/BROCHIS,	JUNIOR/SENIOR
WINDERMERE CUP	BEST MARINE	JUNIOR/SENIOR
SL.A.D.A.S. 4	BEST COLDWATER	JUNIOR/SENIOR
SAUNDERS CUP	BEST COLDWATER R.U.	JUNIOR/SENIOR
BARNES-OAKE CUP	BEST Xb-m EGGL/iYER	JUNIOR/SENIOR
CORONATION CUP	BEST Xo-t LIVEBEARER	JUNIOR/SENIOR
S.L.A.D.A.S. 1	BEST A.O.S. EGGLAYER	JUNIOR/SENIOR
S.L.A.D.A.S. 2	BEST 'PLANT	JUNIOR/SENIOR
GILES CUP	BEST HOME FURNISHED	JUNIOR/SENIOR
POND TROPHY	BEST POND	JUNIOR/SENIOR
MEMBERS CHALLENGE TROPHY	MEMBERS CHALLENGE	SENIOR
ED NICHOLL CUP	MEMBERS CHALLENGE	SENIOR
STAN HALSEY ROSE BOWL	HIGHEST POINTED T/S SHOW	JUNIOR/SENIOR
SOUTHCHURCH CUP	HIGHEST POINTED T/SHOW R.U	JUNIOR/SENIOR
ABBOT CUP	HIGHEST POINTED TABLE SHOW	JUNIOR
BRROK SHIELD 1	BEST MINITANK	JUNIOR/SENIOR
BROOK SHIELD 11	BEST MINITANK R.U.	JUNIOR/SENIOR
HARD LUCK CUP	BEST IN HARD LUCK	SENIOR
SOUTHEND SPORTS CENTRE CUP	BEST IN HARD LUCK	JUNIOR
SL.A.D.A.S.3	HIGHEST PTS OPEN SHOW	SENIOR CLASSES
JONES CUP	MEMBERS BEST FISH	SENIOR
SLA.D.A.S. 5	MEMBERS BEST FISH	JUNIOR
MERITORIOUS BREEDING SHIELD	BREEDING	JUNIOR/SENIOR

Answer to WHO AM I? **LIMA**

TROPICAL

MARINE



LIVE

FOOD

# THE BUBBLE BOWL

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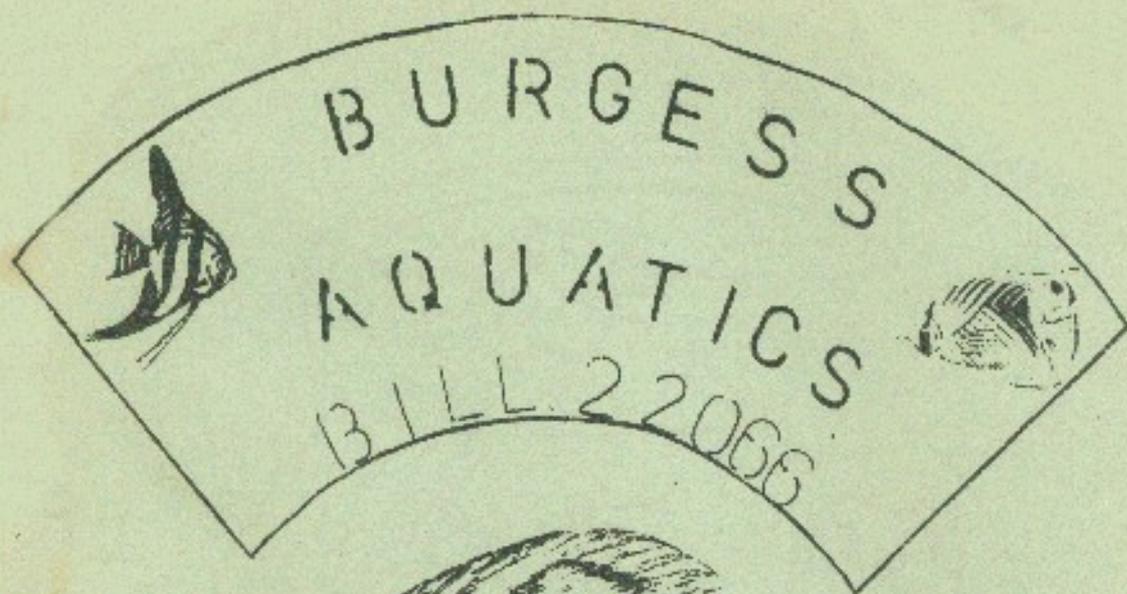
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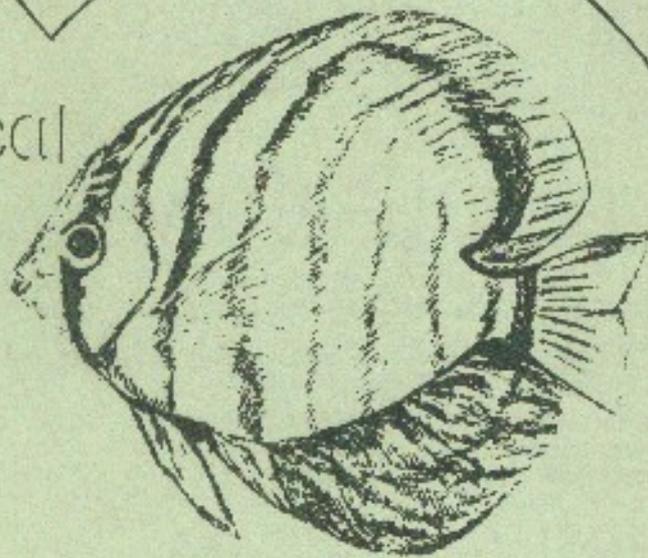
PLANTS

COLDWATER



Tropical

Marine



Coldwater

727 Ryleigh Rd, Hutton.