

# HOT SPOT

英國錦鯉愛好會東南俱樂部



The E-Mag of the South East Section BKKS

- twinned with the :-

Issue 10  
October 2007

Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.

The South African Koi Keepers Society.

**Partners in goodwill.**

## HOT SPOT

is the on-line version of the South East Section BKKS' newsletter called "Spotlight", suitably sanitised and denuded of in-house content to make it interesting for other Koi Clubs. However, it will also contain some occasional South East publicity.

"Hot Spot" will be a periodic publication i.e. it will get published when we have enough articles to fill it's 8 pages.

Copies of it will reside on the South East's website and will be distributed to other Koi Clubs who indulge us with an exchange of magazines or newsletters.

Articles taken from "Spotlight" are the copyright of the South East Section but may be used by clubs who participate in this exchange.

The original text and photos can be obtained via the editors whose details can be found on the back page.

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Koi Clubs participating in this exchange scheme are:-

- Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.
- Oregon Koi & Watergarden Soc.
- South African Koi Keepers Soc.
- Chiltern Section BKKS.
- NorCal Chapter ZNA (USA)
- Australian Koi Association AKA
- Mid Atlantic Koi Club
- Cambridge Koi Club
- ZNA Potomac Chapter
- Essex Section BKKS
- Texas Koi & Fancy Goldfish Soc.
- Cayman Island Koi Keepers
- Koi@Home (Belgium)
- Banana Bar Koi Society.
- East Midlands Koi Club.

**Did you know back issues of Hotspot are available on-line?**

**[www.koi-clubs.com/SouthEast](http://www.koi-clubs.com/SouthEast) under the Newsletter button!**

# NTV Peoples Choice Champion.



...and the winner is - this Shiro Utsuri owned by Alan Archer

Koi 1

On Sunday 26th August the South East Section in association with NishikigoiTV inaugurated a new Koi show award - the NTV Peoples Choice Champion.

8 people associated with the show were selected to nominate a Koi of their choice from among our 313 exhibits. Our board of selectors were :-

Brian Edwards a former South East Show Chairman, our Newsletter Editor and major domo of the Benching Admin team.

Jack Bunker, the youngest of our benching team (13) but a show worker for at least 5 years.

Bernice Brewster - our water and fish health professional. Maurice Cox a UK Koi breeder and one of the dealers at the show, Vanessa de Boer, a photographer from the Netherlands who's photos have graced many a Hotspot. Anja de Leur, wife of one of the NVN's Trainee Judges, and Dayana Boon a member of the NVN's Benching Admin. I'd also asked Ryan Coogan (Virasure Koi) to choose one but forgot to tell him when it had to be done. When time pressed I hastily chose another selector. I can't remember who it was, but she was Dutch and had better legs than Ryan.

Between them they independently selected 7 different Koi. Two of them incidentally selected the eventual winner.

Seven video clips were taken of these Koi and sent to NTV's subscribers in 22 different countries. Seven photographs were displayed about the show where ballot boxes and voting slips were made available as well.

### The contenders were :-

- Koi 1 - A size 6 Shiro Utsuri
- Koi 2 - a Sanke
- Koi 3 - a size 7 Kohaku
- Koi 4 - a Doitsu Yamatonishiki
- Koi 5 - a Kumonryu
- Koi 6 - a Goshiki Showa
- Koi 7 - an Asagi

Votes were collected throughout the period of the show but only collated afterwards. Analysis of the votes revealed that the competition quickly narrowed down to a two koi race between the Shiro Utsuri and the Kumonryu with the Shiro eventually winning by the narrowest of margins - just two votes.

So congratulations to Alan Archer owner of the Shiro and commiserations to Trevor Childs the owner of the Kumonryu.



Runner up!  
This Kumonryu

Owned by Trevor Childs

Koi 5

And finally thanks to NTV for coming up with the idea and allowing us to take part in this inaugural event - the first truly global Koi award.

Alan Archer is a member of the South East Section and a regular contributor to our Newsletters.

Trevor Childs is a member of the neighbouring Dorset Koi Keepers Club and a regular exhibitor at our show. The Kumonryu won last year's winner of our Selected Variety Award for Best Kumonryu.



Koi 2

Koi 3

Koi 4

Koi 6

Koi 7



## INPC bringing the message to the hobbyist.



Yoshi in full flow at the final presentation of the weekend.

We had the pleasure of having Yoshi Takeda of the International Nishikigoi Promotion Centre as a speaker and participant at our 21st Koi Show this August. In association with NTV and utilising the NTV sponsored Lecture tent Yoshi gave regular lectures throughout the show. The feedback from our visitors was positive citing the quality of the presentation, the delivery of information by the speaker and his willingness to answer questions and talk to hobbyists of any level.

INPC was founded on May 9th 2005 as a non-profit making organisation to promote and protect the culture and tradition of the Niigata Nishikigoi breeders that has existed for 200 years.

INPC began life as the Nishikigoi Protection Network originally conceived to help the breeders after the Chuetsu Earthquake that devastated the Yamakoshi area on 23rd October 2004. The Earthquake came on top of the

first confirmed outbreak of KHV in Japan a year earlier. Although not in Niigata the effects had already destabilised the Koi industry. Despite these setbacks the community spirit of the Nishikigoi farmers remained strong and INPC was formed first to preserve the broodstock and then to help the Niigata breeders regain their place in the market that had been usurped while they were in a state of recovery.

INPC's involvement at the South East's Show and at its sister-club's show (The NVN) the previous weekend was part of that 2nd phase - to remind us where Nishikigoi came from and where the heart of the Nishikigoi Industry still remains.

Alan Coogan, BKKS Judge and writer for Hotspot is renowned for saying "Niigata gave birth to the innovators, not the imitators" and this was very much a part of Yoshi's message throughout his presentation. As much as INPC is in business to promote

You can visit the INPC website via [www.japan.nishikigoi.org](http://www.japan.nishikigoi.org)

Niigata Nishikigoi production, it is well aware of the underlying reason why the Niigata breeders undertake this kind of work "They love Nishikigoi". Yoshi explained - "Breeding in Niigata is not about making money. Whilst many of them do earn big money it is not their original objective for producing Nishikigoi. Breeding Nishikigoi is life itself for them".

INPC continue to promote our Koi's heritage and have linked up with UK based Nishikigoi TV to bring this to a wider audience in the comfort of their homes. However, we at the South East are grateful for being chosen to play our part.



## “Circle of friends”



Tony's official finale - the 2007 NVN Show in Arcen surrounded by several of his 'Circle of Friends'

**Tony Price** decided that 2007 was the year to hang up his judge's badge. That triggered a sequence of events at koi shows around the world where the friends he had made and helped over the years paid their respects. This culminated at the NVN show where Toën Feyen presented Tony with a scrap book made up of photos and anecdotes from Tony's career and messages from his friends. With it was a painting and a gold pin depicting two koi swimming in a circle, a reference to an earlier painting Tony had presented to Toën several years before. Here Tony recalls some of that illustrious career....

A big thank you to all the contributors to the booklet "Circle of friends" and of course messages from many others upon my retirement

from judging Koi, thank God I hear you cry.

A truly wonderful thought though I expect it was a last minute idea from, as usual, Toen, I shall treasure it always, together with the picture of two Grand Champion Kohaku and the unique gold pin of the two koi, thanks.

In the early 90's and increasingly disillusioned with the BKKS, I sought further afield than this island in order to further my knowledge of Koi, together with a few friends in 1993 joined Zen Nippon Airinkai and formed the South of England Koi Chapter (SEKC) sexy eh? Later I showed a few Koi at the BKKS National, fortunately a two step Kohaku of mine became Baby Champion that year and amid the crowds I came across a handful of "foreigners", among them Enrico Does from the Dutch chapter and Luc Warnier of the Belgian chapter, little did I know what

this meeting would lead to. Soon after I would be on my way over the water with a couple of fellow Koi "nuts" to the first Dutch show and with an invite to visit Belgium the following year, this I failed to do as I was busy organising the 1st. SEKC show. It was here that I first met my dear friend – "tomadachi" – Ikeda san, an amazing man who was to become my mentor, we seemed to have a bond like brothers and to this day remain the greatest of friends, I had also invited Art Lembke from the U.S. and so, in less than 12 months, the "circle" began.....

I began "Judging" as a trainee at ZNA shows wherever I could, the Dutch & Belgian chapters were particularly helpful, the U.S., Japan and North of England chapters finally securing Local Certified Judge status in 1999 and being the first ever Englishman to achieve this I was a very proud man.



My 22 years with Koi, so far, have been exceptional to me, I've been privileged to see some truly amazing Koi, visit wonderful countries and best of all, made friendships with so many. This hobby of ours surely is one of the most sociable on the planet, it has been a great pleasure to me and a great source of knowledge, I'm pleased that wherever I travel I know I can talk to a friend.

Sometime ago, I remember visiting Hans van Domburg at his new Factory and offices along with Toen, Mike Harvey and others, we were on our way from the Dutch show in Arcen to Amsterdam for our annual visit and sitting around after lunch when an idea sprang to mind, I began doodling on some scrap paper, Lo and behold a pin design and the Banana Bar Koi Society was born! It has now become one of the most sought after pins for the avid Koi pin collector and the BBKS AGM in the Banana Bar has been established on the Koi circuit.

One other moment I shall never forget, the year 2005, at the end of January I suffered a stroke and I was due to judge in Johannesburg at the SAKKS National show in the May, it was quickly apparent that I couldn't possibly make it, my son Darren informed Mike and I concentrated on getting back on my feet, coming out of hospital at the end of April, imagine, I'm sitting in my lounge one day in May, the phone rings and it Ikeda san, Mike, Toen and Harry Beckx



Receiving his accolades.

Above: Koi@Home Show Belgium.  
Below: SAKKS National South Africa.

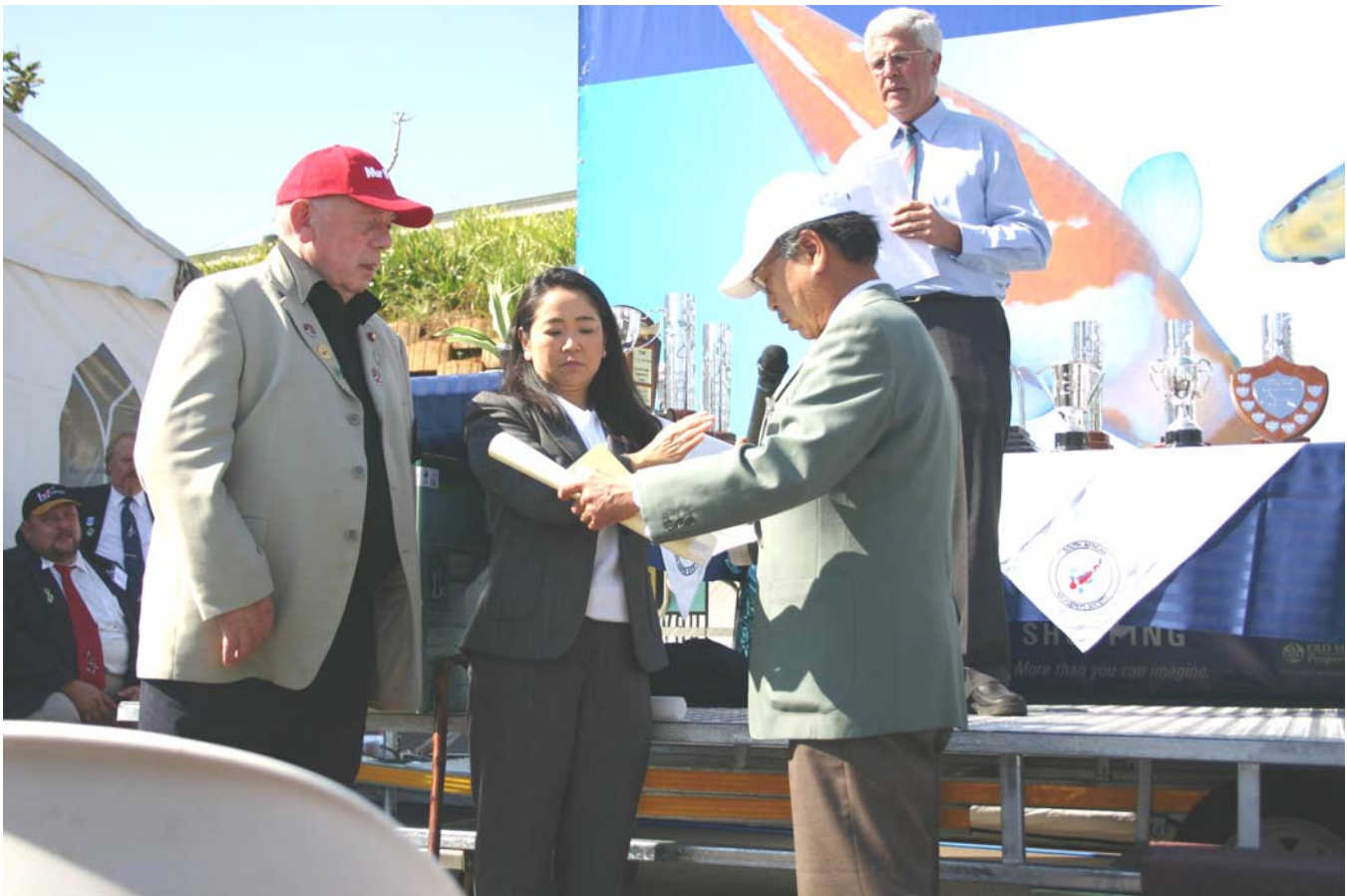
phoning from the highest pub in Africa at the top of the Sani pass in Lesthoto to wish me well, I had let them down badly yet they still remembered me. I promised to make it to the Dutch show in August and did in fact, we were re-united in Arcen.

I like to think that in some small way I have helped to create a Koi friendship that will, with your help, continue and expand, thank you for your undying support at a time which has been very difficult for me, for the gifts, for the memories, and last but not least, for the occasional "Palm", the finest beer in the world!

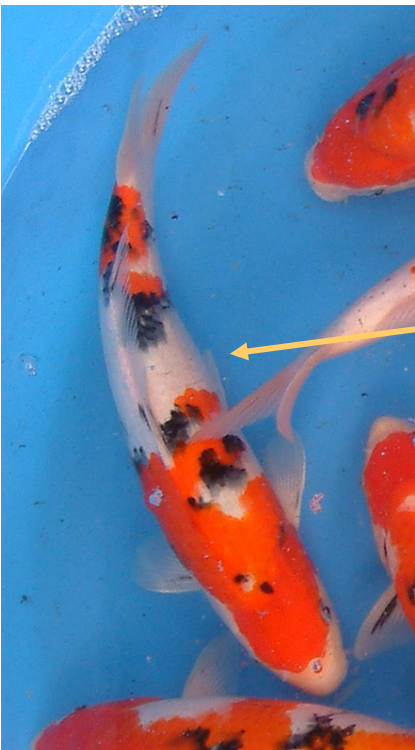
I hope to see you all some time, some where, on the Koi circuit, Bless you all.

With fondest regards, Friends for ever,

**Tony Price.**



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April 2003 in amongst the other purchases at Momotaro

This Koi was one of the first Koi that I purchased and imported from Momotaro back in April 2003 - it was around 9 months old at the time.

It was purchased by a customer in the process of building a Koi pond and was left with me for some time thereafter. I think that they paid something like £300 for the Koi at the time.

After a short period of time they decided to give up Koi keeping and Des and Greg got the opportunity to purchase the Koi for even less than was paid originally.

The Koi always exhibited excellent skin, and as you can see from the pictures below the sumi development in a short period of time after it arrived in the country.

Big congratulations to Des and Greg for developing the Koi further to a point where it could take a prestigious and highly contested award at the SE Show. A fantastic achievement that I hope gives every Koi keeper out their hope and belief in what can be achieved without breaking the bank.



Photo by  
Vanessa de Boer



This story originally appeared on [www.koichat.com](http://www.koichat.com) shortly after the South East Show. All photos and text supplied by Mark Gardner other than the one above.

In 2003 Mark was trading under the name of JustKoi. Des and Gregg (Harris) are members of the South East Section.



# Sanke or Showa - what's in a name?

Jim Phillips (SAKKS)

*What's in a name? That which we call a rose  
By any other name would smell as sweet.*

*William Shakespear 1595*

*Romeo and Julie. Act 2 scene 2.*

Our The kohaku, sanke and showa varieties of Koi are collectively known as the gosanke. In this case the “go” does not mean five, but refers to three noble Japanese families. The highest quality of skin and colour is to be found amongst the gosanke and for this reason grand champions are usually selected from these varieties. A Kohaku is a white Koi with red pattern markings while sanke and showa are three coloured Koi; red, black and white. Showa and sanke appeal to all types of hobbyist, especially those who want to show their Koi and compete for top awards. It is not easy to raise a Koi with three colours of high quality, but for those that can achieve this feat, there is the possibility of having a grand champion.

Hobbyists and even benching teams sometimes have difficulty in deciding whether a Koi is a sanke or a showa. It is often said that a sanke is a white koi with red and black pattern markings and a showa is a black Koi with red and white pattern markings. It is true that when breeding showa the all black fry are kept at the first cull. However, this does not help to distinguish larger Koi exhibiting all three colours.

In his book, Dr Takeo Kuroki referred to Mr Eziburo Hoshino as being the first to breed sanke while Peter Waddington credits Mr Kawakami (Torazo) as being the first to breed sanke in 1915. The sanke variety has its origins in the reign of the Japanese Emperor Yoshihito and the period of his reign (1912 – 1926) was known as the Taisho era. Taisho means “great righteousness”. Sanshoku means three colours and the proper name for a sanke is Taisho sanshoku or Taisho sanke, which is commonly abbreviated to sanke.

The proper name for a showa is showa sanshoku and this variety was developed a little later in the Showa era of Emperor Hirohito 1926 – 1989. Showa means enlightenment and harmony. Jukichi Hoshino has been credited with breeding the first showa in 1927 using a ki utsuri as one of the parents. These early showas were of poor quality and it was not until Tomiji Kobayashi crossed showas with kohakus in the 1960s that the high quality showas we recognise today were created.

Ideally, a sanke should have a good white ground colour with a red pattern. In a

young sanke the red may be orange, like a young kohaku, but it should turn crimson with time. Ideally, the red pattern elements should be like a kohaku; large, with two, three or four steps of even hue and extending onto the head but not covering the eyes. The fins should be white and an additional point of appreciation is a few, black, delicate stripes in the pectoral fins, known as tejima. The black pattern elements should be arranged in a stepping stone-like fashion above the lateral line, similar to that of the bekko variety. It is preferable that the black is situated on the white rather than the red and a black pattern element on the shoulder is particularly appreciated. There should be no black on the head. While black on the head of a sanke is not desirable, it does not appear to be such a big demerit as it used to be. High quality sankes with some black on the head have won prizes at Japanese shows and have been featured in the Zen Nippon Airinkai (ZNA) magazine Nichirin. Some sankes that have lost their entire red colour have competed well at shows in the bekko variety. This is because the black of a sanke is of very high quality. It is shiny and laquer-like (photo 1).



Photo 1 - Reserve GC  
Southern Cape Show 2007

The red of a showa is different to that of a kohaku or sanke. Young, showa fry are black. Their red starts to emerge as an almost greenish colour which turns a mustard colour and then into a dark orange. This dark orange lightens and in a few years a very deep crimson colour can develop. As with all the gosanke, the white of a showa should be snow white. Originally, the showa variety did not have much white but modern showa are now being produced with much more. A showa with less than 20% white is referred to as a traditional showa and a modern type with more white is referred to as kindai. The black on a showa should rise up from below the lateral line, like mountain peaks, in the manner of the utsurimono variety. There should be black red and white on the head. A distinctive head marking dividing the head called menware is particularly desirable. Instead of delicate tejima stripes, the pectoral fins of a showa should have a tight ball of black at the base of the fin, known as motoguro. The quality of the black of a showa is different to that of a sanke. The black of a showa is more matt and lacks the brilliant shine of a sanke (photo 2).



Photo 2 - Reserve GC  
Western Cape Show 2007

## Sanke or Showa.....cont'd.

Breeders are always striving for perfection and improvement of the quality of Koi. In order to improve the quality of the black in the showa variety, the sanke variety has been used in breeding programmes. This introduction has improved the quality of the black in the showa variety but has produced some Koi with features of both sanke and showa.

Here is a showa (photo 3) with very high quality black. It is the result of a breeding programme involving the sanke variety. Unfortunately, in breeding programmes that have mixed sanke and showa varieties, some in between Koi are produced. The purists would say these indeterminate Koi should be culled but there is a market for unusual Koi and breeders are businessmen.



Photo 3

This interesting Koi (photo 4) has black below the lateral line and on the head (showa features), but the black is of high quality and the fins have stripes rather than motoguro (sanke features). Although Koi like this can have great appeal, they can cause problems for benching at shows. As showa are basically black fish, they can have black on any part of the body. One place they can have black pigment is inside the mouth. You will sometimes see people holding Koi and examining the inside of the mouth looking for black pigment. Since the presence of black pigmentation is random, its absence does not mean the Koi is a sanke. Its presence however, indicates the koi is a showa. Judges or experienced benchers will look at the overall nature and impression the Koi exhibits when distinguishing a sanke from a showa.

For hobbyists that do not show their Koi the distinction between sanke and showa is academic. Although, it can be the source of an interesting debate while sitting by the pond with friends and a few beverages. In general, if a koi is difficult to bench it is not a good example of its type and is unlikely to take top awards.

The interesting Koi below (Photo 4) was bred in Japan by a well known breeder. This breeder had no doubts that it was a sanke. In which variety would you place this Koi?



Photo 4.

Courtesy of Mike van Neste (Jersey)

The Koi in photograph 4 has a very interesting feature. The red in some areas is dappled. The Japanese refer to this as kanoko. Kanoko is not a variety but a description meaning spotted, like a young deer. Koi that are kanoko are benched as kawarimono, so this also has to be taken into account. Because of its overall high quality, this Koi would be competitive in the kawarimono variety.

*Acknowledgement: I would like to thank Rene Schoenmaker for his assistance with the manuscript.*

Turn to page 9  
For a assimilation test.



Another Kanoko Koi photographed at this Year's European National - the NVN show in Arcen. Photographed by Rene Gerritzen



## Dr Jim's assimilation test. .

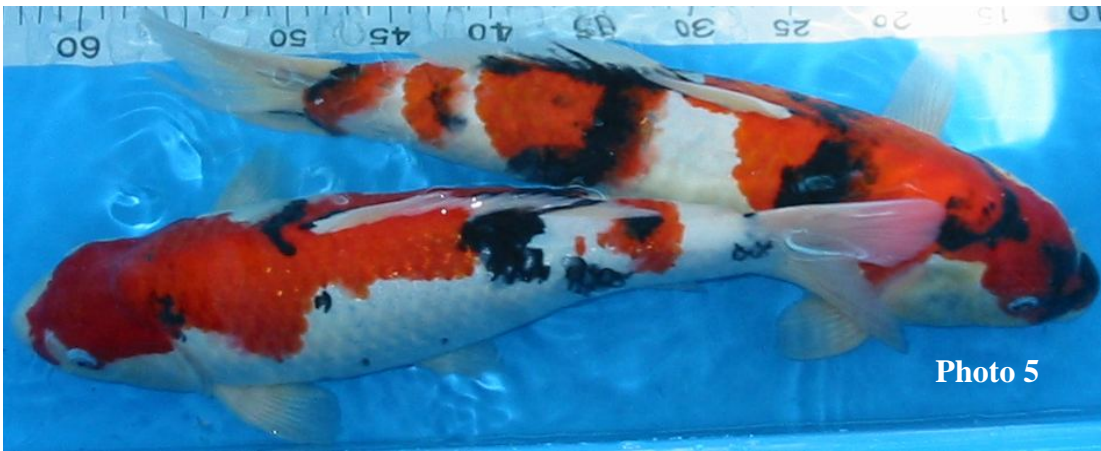


Photo 5

In photograph 5 we have two young Koi bred by Torazo. Both are three coloured Koi with great potential to develop into champions. You should now be able to name them both correctly.

Answer at foot of page

.....Five famous Belgians.

**Koi@home became the Belgian Chapter of the ZNA on 26th Jan 2006.**



Very often in some of those xenophobic Internet quizzes that circulate the Net the question "Name 5 famous Belgians?" occasionally occurs. Well that's an easy question to answer in the Nishikigoi world. Here they are! - Koi@Home's finest, pictured at the 15th NVN show in Arcen.  
L - R Luc Olefs, Fred Cosemans Rudi van der Broeck, Rudi van Thielen and Dirk de Witte.

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## Disaster for the South East in the inaugural Benching Comp.

There is only one word to describe the inaugural Benching Championship between the South East and the NVN this August - **a disaster**.

Firstly, the plans all went awry when the KoiTrek coach drivers announced that they had to depart at 7.30pm which meant a hastY rescheduling of the evenings arrangements. Then we discovered that the lecture tent let in too much light, so much so that it was hard to tell if a Koi wasn't metallic. Add to this the speed of the computer advanced the slides faster than the allotted 10seconds, and the contestants had nothing to support their papers on other than their knees etc etc.....

But the biggest disaster of all was.....

**the NVN won**

and by an astounding majority despite all the setbacks.

The contestants, two teams of three were positioned in the front row, alternately seated to prevent team tactics (see below) and a series of 30 slides displayed which



they had to classify according to their own society's benching criteria and then identify the variety. The photo above will give some idea of the difficulty the lighting created. The slide is of a vividly coloured Ochiba Shigure a reddish-chocolate brown on a grey background. Even at this resolution it appears to be metallic. I've seen some adverse lighting conditions at indoor Koi shows over the years but this was above and beyond that. However, the conditions were the same for all, so well done the NVN.



The long and the short of it.

NVN Captain Jeroen Dregmans lofts the trophy high over SE Captain David Brown.

Front row: - the Contestants L-R

Fred Ersting (NVN) Tony Hussey (SE) Jeroen Dregmnas (NVN)

Tim Fisher (SE) Arnand Schinkelshoek (NVN) & David Brown (SE)





## The other side of Koi - Koi Pins.

Call the collectors of Koi Pins what you want, but they are truly passionate about their hobby. It is unbelievable how methodically they categorize their collection. Pins can be found in the most unusual of places. On caps, in files, on clothing, in pockets and on sales tables. It is the international passport to making new friends before you even introduce yourself. Nothing like swapping or exchanging or giving a koi pin to another pin crazy individual. You have then made a friend for life.



One thing for sure is that they are less expensive than koi and they will not die on you. The picture depicts a koi crazy guy who we met in Holland. He certainly captured the attention of many.

For those who are interested in starting a new hobby, The International Koi Pin Club can be contacted in this regard, upon which you will receive an international koi pin club badge with an additional pin in memory of Vincent Chiu who died in 2004.

The most sought after koi pin in the world, for interest sake, is the Banana Bar Koi Society Pin. It cannot be purchased for any amount of money, because it is simply not for sale. The BBKS pin is earned and handed over to individuals who make the effort to attend and who endure a night in Amsterdam at the AGM. The life long Chairman and founder member of the BBKS is Tony Price from the UK, who chairs the AGM each year. Take a look at this collector's item!!!

No more questions – that is all that I am permitted to say.

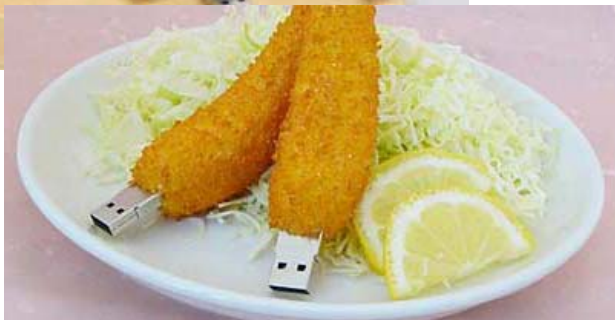
Kevin Harrison SAKKS

This article has previously appeared in SAKKS own magazine KOISA.

## Novelty USB Memory sticks.



Plastic 'food art' has long been a tradition in Japan with many a restaurant displaying replicas of it's dishes in their shop windows. These novelties combine that that tradition with the IT age.



## The Silly column.

A comical review of the Japanese economy by Andrew Glazzard (Birmingham and West Midlands Section) written on [www.Koichat.com](http://www.Koichat.com) on 28th September.

In the last 7 days Origami Bank has folded, Sumo Bank has gone belly up and Bonsai Bank plans to cutback some of its branches. Yesterday it was announced that Karaoke Bank is up for sale and more than likely will go for a song.

Today shares in Kamikaze Bank were suspended after they nose-dived and 500 back-office staff at Karate Bank also got the chop. Analysts report that there is something fishy going on at Sushi Bank and staff fear they may get a raw deal.

Not to be outdone, several other Chatters contributed with these quick quips.

Economists are also fearful for The Samurai Bank who are believed to be cutting it very fine while the Furoshiki Bank also seem to have everything wrapped up.

Jim

Jim (Cottage Koi)

.....and the Netsuke Bank have carved out a small piece of the market...

Martin (South Hants)

.....I heard that The Pergola Bank have made a long term commitment in the pension market and will look to be introducing more cover

Graham (Essex)

.....and I've just heard that dealings at the Ukata Bank are cloaked in secrecy and that not everything is black and white at Bank Utsuri (Andrew again)

.....and finally

The Beni Bank is deeply in the red.

(Mark Gardner)



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## NTV's future calendar of events.



NTV's Mark Gardner has embarked on a trip to Japan, one of several that will be undertaken during this year and 2008 to capture footage for forthcoming issues.

Some of the events that are on the agenda are as follows :-

Sakai Hiroshima Auction (see left)

Narita Koi Farm

Momotaro Auction

Niigata Nogoyosai

Hiroshima Nogoyosai

Sakai Hiroshima Fish farm

ZNA All Japan Show

Plus footage from breeders and the Niigata Mountains.

All of this is destined for issues 9 and 10.

Mark will be sending occasional photos and news snippets to Hotspot during these trips and events.



## About the South East Section.

The South East Section was founded in 1981 by a break away group from the London Section. It obtained Section status from the BKKS in 1982 and serves the counties of Kent, East Sussex, Surrey and Berkshire and the southern boroughs of London.

It's neighbouring Sections are the South Kent to the south, Essex to the North, Worthing to the west and the MSB (Middlesex & Surrey Borders) to the north-west.

The South East has a pretty stable membership generally numbering about 85 families.

Almost since it's founding the SouthEast has participated in information exchange with overseas Koi clubs and continues to do so today.

Our 'Open' show is both an attraction to the UK Koi scene as well as Koi keepers

Every year the show attracts an increasing number of overseas visitors and through them a number of useful connections have been made which enhances our appreciation and understanding of the hobby.



The show is always held on the August Public Holiday which generally falls on the last weekend of that month. Details can always be found on our web-site -

[www.koi-clubs.com/SouthEast](http://www.koi-clubs.com/SouthEast)

The South East meets on every 4th Sunday of the month with the exception of December. Our meetings start at 2pm and we endeavour to have a speaker for 2 out of every 3 meetings. Those speakers generally cover Koi related subjects but occasionally we have one that diversifies a little e.g. Bonsai.

Our current membership fees are £15 per family and details as well as a schedule of speakers can be found on our web-site.

South East contacts in regard to this E-Magazine are :-

Bernie Woollands - [bernie@koipin.com](mailto:bernie@koipin.com)

And

Brian Edwards - [brianedw@hotmail.com](mailto:brianedw@hotmail.com)