

# 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 :-

Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland.

The South African Koi Keepers Society.

**Partners in goodwill.**



Issue 16  
January 2008

## 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.



## Yamakoshi - 3 years on.

October 23rd 2004 and the centre and birthplace of our hobby was also the epicentre of the Chuetsu earthquake. A time when many of us wondered if the region would ever recover.

The photographs on this page show the extent of the damage to the Koi breeding facilities and the infrastructure of this region. Due to both the remoteness of parts of the region and the extent of the damage the Yamakoshi area was evacuated and the residents, including all of the well known Koi breeders had to be found temporary accommodation. One of the pictures below shows the interior of the Ojiya Gymnasium - the site of many Koi shows serving as a hostel for over a thousand people. Although the Koi breeders eventually got special dispensation to return to their villages to salvage their livelihoods it was to be 9 months before many could officially return. One such family was the Tanaka household of the Marujiyu Yoriyo in Mushigame village. A family concern that once bred a Showa bloodline and occupied a spectacular position on the edge of the village on the road to Yamogihara with wonderful views down the valley overlooking the mudponds of many of the famous breeders



### Chuetsu Earthquake 平成16年新瀛県中越地震

Began at 5.57pm and registered 7 on the Japanese Shindo Scale (6.7 on the Richter scale) followed by another at 6.15 and a 3rd at 6.49. A further 22 registering more than 5 on the Shindo scale occurred during the 1st 66 hours.

690 Households in the Yamakoshi area were served with evacuation orders which remained in place until July 2005 when 528 were allowed to return to their homes. An estimated 3,000 casualties were reported and 39 fatalities.





Resourcefulness and generosity are characteristics that visitors soon associate with the residents of Niigata. Traditions and the upholding of them is another.

One such tradition is the “Joya no Kane” the traditional ceremony to celebrate the new year where a temple bell is rung 108 times. Having lost their the Yamakoshi villagers have resorted to beating large drums since their return. But come 2008 they will be able to ring the bell for they have been given one by a generous benefactor who was moved by the plight of many of the villagers who are still living in temporary accommodation. The bronze bell 1.4meters tall and 78cms in diameter has been named the “Bell of hope”

Mark Gardner gave us the following information..

“Tanaka San wanted to take us up to the Yamakoshi City Office, outside there is a new commemorative bell that was delivered for the 3rd anniversary of the earthquake. Anyone passing should stop and have a look, it's only in temporary housing at present. There is a Kanji message on the side of the bell which was written by Tanaka San and he is particularly proud his message was chosen. On the inside are the names of those who died”

The Tanaka clan have long been in the thoughts of the South East Section. Segiyoshi Tanaka having visited our show in 2000 and presented the prizes.

Their original house was destroyed by the quake and reports from several visitors have told us that they now live in the Mushigame petrol station & garage.

Photos courtesy of Martin Symmonds, Mark Gardner and Alan Coogan.



### Joya no Kane

– the ringing of the midnight bell is a typically Japanese festival. Technically a Buddhist festival but one with a decidedly Shinto flavour. A purification ceremony that is held on the 31st of December when large bells housed in the grounds of Buddhist temples are struck 108 times in order to purify those listening of the 108 sins that mankind are deemed to have. The ceremony is reckoned to have originated in China coming to Japan in the Kamakura period (1192 - 1333). Japanese temple bells are struck from the outside via a horizontal pole supported by two ropes or chains, unlike western bells with an internal clapper.





# 43rd ZNA National.

“A little bit of water never hurt anyone” was our 1988 Show Chairman Doug ‘Dob’ Holder’s summary of our 1988 Show where the inclement weather made show conditions less than enjoyable. That phrase became the unofficial motto of the subsequent South East’s Show Committees as until 2007 there had never been an SE show without rain. That motto was something our new 2008 Show Chair Alan Archer had cause to remember when he visited the 43rd ZNA National Show in Ojiya as the rain made an appearance on the Sunday reminding him of home. Although the rain made filming a problem for one of Alan’s companions (i.e. Mark Gardner NTV) it didn’t spoil the enjoyment for Alan and his father David who was visiting Japan for the first time as a birthday treat. David is as koi-kichi as his son and the Chairman of the Lea Valley & Harlow Section .

This years ZNA Show was a spectacle reminiscent of the days before KHV changed the format and the subsequent entries. Over 1,100 koi were entered in the show from all over Japan as well as by foreign exhibitors who had yet to transport their purchases home. Amongst them Mr So Chi Keung of China and William Wong of Hong Kong made it onto the champions board. In addition Elliot Gibb of the UK came very close to the Grand Champion with his Kohaku being one of the three koi separated for the semi final vote, losing narrowly to the Superior and Grand Champions of the day.

Grand Champion



Superior  
Champion



Photos by Mark Gardner (NTV) and Alan Archer .



Atsushi Yokoyama (ZNA Judge) supervises the transfer of Grand Champion candidates to separate vats for closer inspection,

Mature Champion



Major Prize Winners.

- Grand Champion:  
Kohaku (90cms) Tadashi Nakanishi
- Superior Champion:  
Sanke (105cms) Nobuo Takigawa
- Mature Champion:  
Sanke (74cms) - So Chi Keung
- Adult Champion:  
GinRin Showa (54cms) Akio Fujwara
- Young Champion:  
Kohaku (39cms) Masakatsu Yanai
- Baby Champion:  
Kohaku (25cms) William Wong
  
- Jumbo 1 Champion:  
Kohaku (97cms) Nobuo Takigawa
- Jumbo 2 Champion:  
Ochiba Shigure (116cms) -  
-Hirofumi Fujimoto

Baby Champion



The famous Ojiya Gymnasium building whose grounds host not only the ZNA shows but also the Niigata Nogyosai and Wakagoi Shows.



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# How to select Tosai for male or female.

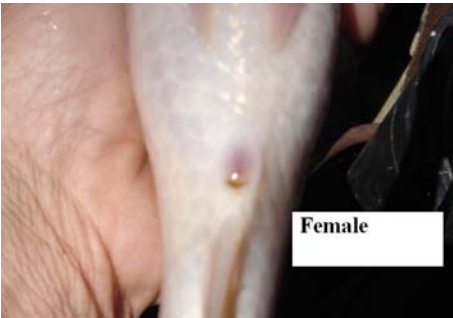
Chai Taevanitcharoen

No one can select tosai for male or female 100% of the time. Some tosai will show the characteristics of male or female 100%, but some won't, and some may be neutral fish. As your knowledge improves you will have better percentage of selecting male or female.

These are some guide line when you are selecting male or female tosai

Chai Taevanitcharoen

Is from the ZNA Southern California club and this article came to our attention via the newsletter of the KwaZulu Natal chapter of SAKKS.



## Male

1. 80% of males develop colour early (finished)
2. The beni and shiroji are rough, yellowish skin, or the body is white but the head is yellowish, especially the mouth, nose and cheek areas. If the fish have all of the above, 90% chance they are male.
3. The pectoral fins are thicker. The primary and secondary bone look darker white colour tone. If you have 20/20 eyes sight you may see little stars in pectoral fins. If you are good at this technique, it would be almost 100% male selection.

Note: Nisai pectoral fins look different but still have little stars.

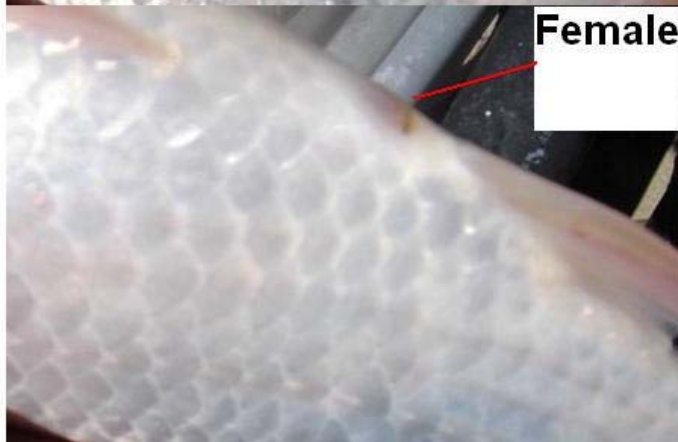
4. Anus looks tear drop, looks long and sinks in. Possible 90% chance is a male.

## Female

1. 80% of females won't develop colour early ( finished)
2. Beni and shiroji soft and shiny, the shiroji is even from the tip of the mouth, head, cheek to the tail. If the fish have all of the above, 90% chance they are female.
3. The pectoral fins are thin, look translucent. The primary and second bone look lighter in colour and won't have little stars in the pectoral fins. If you're good at this technique, you'll get almost 100% female selection.

4. Anus round and rise up, it does not sink in. Possible 95% chance is female

If you master all 4, you will be able to select male or female 95% or more of the time.





Possible male because yellow head shiroji and Thick pectoral fins



Possible male because it finish too early, yellow nose shiroji and thick pectoral fins.



Male pectoral fin.



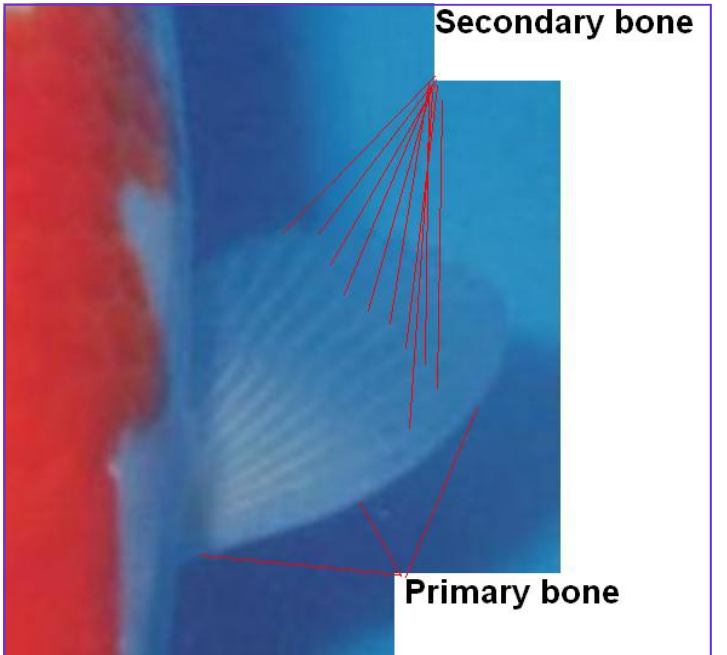
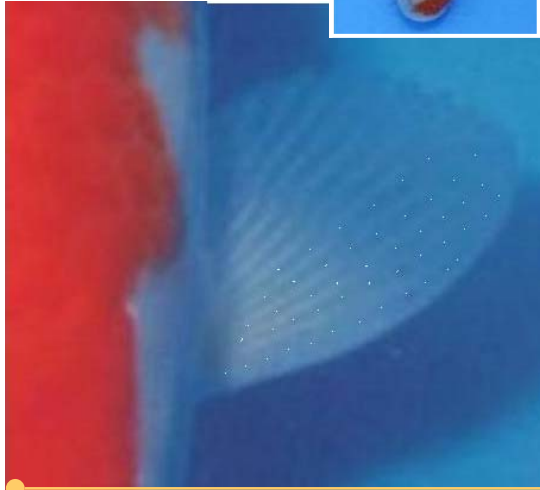
Female pectoral fin.



Right. Possible female because of good shiny shiroji and thin pectoral fins



Below. Little specs, dots, the Japanese call stars, because it looks like a star. There are more on the front part of the fin.



Secondary bone

Primary bone



## S.E. 2007 Best Doitsu competition!

In 2003 our sister club in the USA, the Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society (OKWS) proposed an exchange of Friendship trophies for our respective shows.

This request came a year after we had tested the ZNA's Selected Variety idea by introducing a Best Doitsu award and found that we could manage it without any negative impact on our benching and benching administration.

Members of the club that had visited the Holland Koi Show had commented on the quantity and quality of Doitsu Koi in the Dutch show so we decided to make the Best Doitsu award a fixture and name it after our sister club.

Part of the arrangement with OKWS was that each of us would source our own trophy and get it appropriately badged. A very sensible idea that reduced costs and worries about breakages in shipping etc. The OKWS produced a perpetual trophy in the form of a plaque and we acquired a beautiful porcelain bowl with an engraved base.....and promptly forgot to tell anybody that it was supposed to be returnable.

Our first winner of this new trophy was the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea. Yes that's right, one of exhibitors was a London Borough and not just any London Borough but the Royal one to boot. As PRO I was very keen on having them as an exhibitor because no other show had them and the bragging rights were undeniable. Just to elaborate, RBK&C had a Koi pond in one of their municipal parks and the Koi came from there. To this day our first OKWS trophy now resides in a showcase in the Town Hall.

The following year we copied the OKWS and obtained a shield plaque that we can update with the names of the winners. It never leaves the clubs hands. We show it to the successful exhibitor and give them a certificate.

We cannot say that the Best Doitsu award has attracted greater numbers of doitsu exhibits to the show. But we can say it has always gone to a doitsu Koi of quality.

**2007's OKWS Best Doitsu Winner a Size 6 Shusui exhibited by Frank Collins at the South East International Show.**



cially made up panel of visiting judges which we christened the IJP - International Judging Panel. See Hotspot#2 for more details.

Although the panel changes every-year the results have been remarkably consistent including selecting the same fish two years running; the Doitsu Kujaku of Mick Preston's. Also covered in Hotspot#2.

This year a panel of International Judges judged the whole show and their choice of Best Doitsu was this amazing size 6 Hi - Shusui (A fraction short of the 75cms barrier which would have taken it into size 7). Mick Preston was in contention this year with a spectacular Doitsu Yamatonsihiki (below) that caused the judging team much debate.

A Koi that will appear familiar to some as it appeared in the July 2007 issue of Nichirin. By no means a consolation Mick's Yamatonishiki received the NVN Trainee Judges trophy at this year's show and then he repeated that by picking up the same award at the Festival of

### PREVIOUS WINNERS

- 2002 - Kikisui - Tony & Vi Hussey
- 2003 - Shusui - Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.
- 2004 - Beni Kumonryu - John Burns
- 2005 - Kujaku - Mick Preston
- 2006 - Kujaku - Mick Preston
- 2007 - Shusui - Frank Collins

The rules regarding the judging of additional awards by the BKKS JSC are:-

**"subject to satisfactory paperwork being presented and time being available."**

As we were contemplating more awards with the introduction of the Selected Variety Awards and our shows often kept the judges late, we decided to hand the task of adjudicating them and the Doitsu award to a spe-

### NVN Trainee Judges award at the South East International 2007





NVN Trainee Judges  
award at the Festival  
of Fishkeeping Show  
2007



Fishkeeping Show in October 2007 with a completely different fish - a Doitsu Kinkiryu (above).

Just in case anybody is under the impression that Mick specialises in Doitsugoi let me dispel you of that notion. I've seen his pond and its 90% Wagoi. I guess he just specialises in prize-winning Doitsugoi as the examples on either side of this column illustrate. However, if we are looking for coincidence and consistency - the first two Dutch Trainee Trophies awarded in the UK have gone to Doitsugoi.

Doitsugoi may not be everybody's cup of tea but they have brought and additional element to the South East Show.



The OKWS Best Doitsu Shield, now a perpetual trophy



## Long live 'us males' !

Why choose female fish over male fish?

There are many reasons to choose female fish over male fish. Historically, the female fish represents power and strength. The very embodiment of the image of the struggling carp racing up the waterfalls to reach the gates to become the dragon. This is as old and universal a symbol in Japanese/Chinese cultures just as the eagle was to the early Romans and the young Americans. But today you don't have to be Japanese or Chinese to appreciate the female koi's form. Just go to a koi show and see the smaller, trimmer and longer looking male swimming in the tank next to the females. The male seems insignificant and over shadowed by the presence of the female form. But this is all one dimension of a multi-dimensional hobby.

Nature has given male koi's skin the ability to hold and finish colour at a much younger age, just as she has given the male the ability to reach sexual maturity at an earlier age. In fact the two events are closely linked. Male fish, when not in the presence of the show stealing big females, can be amazing works of art in their own right. With hard white skin and bright crisp colours, an entire pond full of moderately priced males can be a sight to behold. And it is not unusual to see in different parts of the world, male ponds that house one, two or more young champions, baby champions and best of size fish. So there is a show future for male fish. And hopefully, long gone are the days where someone is operating under the illusion that a great fish of either sex can win baby GC and then grow to win GC of a show! Fish don't grow that way and the show is not judged that way.

So the thing to understand is that if you have singular goal, and the conditions, to shoot for a GC award then females are the only way to go. But if you wish to enjoy the journey sooner and are more realistic about your budget ( a good female capable of winning a GC these days is likely a \$3000 plus fish even at the smaller shows ) then male fish are a sensible way to go. Generally speaking, male fish are half the price of female fish. Marketing has attempted to change this as the margins would be much higher on male fish if the public could be convinced that males are the same as females. And often the few males in history that have won major awards are pointed to as proof that females being 'better show fish' is a myth. It is not

a myth. Those fish are really the exceptions that prove the rule. Females do indeed get bigger and have more presence and dominate the top slots at shows 99% of the time. This fact does not make male fish worthless. So at a fair price, ownership of a male pond can be very rewarding and allow the owner to enjoy all dimensions of the hobby, including dominating the GC awards in sizes one thru four.

Long live 'us males'!

Jim Reilly  
ZNA America



## NEWS FLASH!

### "The Bell of Hope"

Further information regarding the bell featured on pages 2 & 3 can be found on the INPC Website  
[http://www.japan-nishikigoi.org/bell\\_e.html](http://www.japan-nishikigoi.org/bell_e.html)

### Worst ever Christmas Joke.

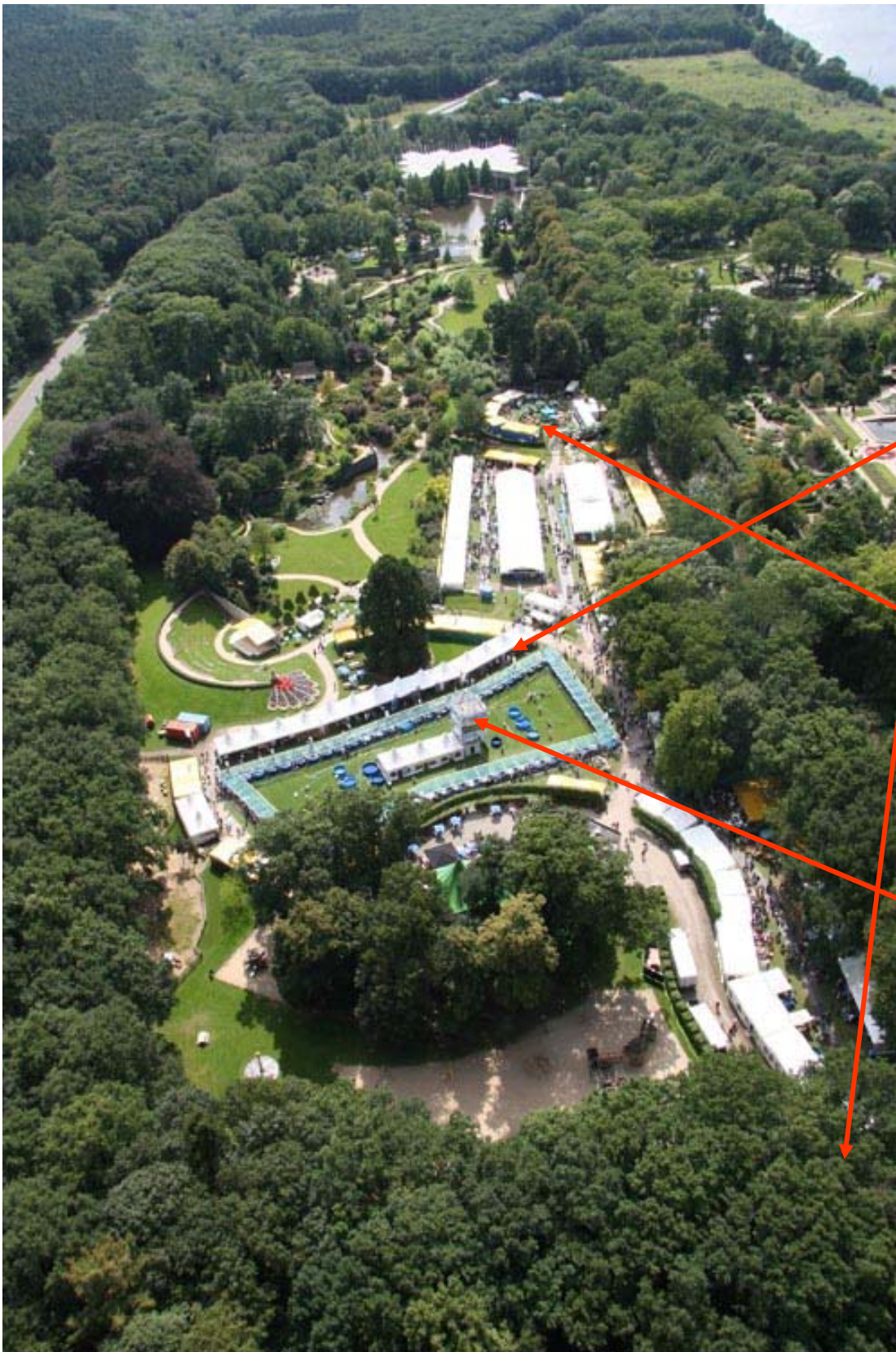
Imagine my surprise as I was getting the decorations out of storage and found one of last year's Christmas presents unopened !

My delight soon turned to horror when it was opened. I'd always wanted a Goshiki.....

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# Arcen 2007 - the largest Koi Show in on Earth..



Visitors to this show leave with no doubt that they have attended the largest Koi Show on Earth, but it is hard to convey that in words as many a Koi journalist has found out. However, there is truth in that old saying that a pictures speaks a thousand words.

This picture taken by Johan Leurs (Kindai Publishing) from a helicopter organized by NVN PRO Jeroen Dregmans puts it into perspective.

The row of pinnaled tents running along the side of the centre ring (comprising of 67 three meter vats) give a good point of reference. Each tent is 5 x 5 meters square. The Show itself extends from the half moon shaped area right down to beyond the right hand corner of the photograph . What isn't clear here is that this area has marquees on either side which are mostly obscured by trees in this photo.

To quantify what you see, there are 138 vendor booths and 7 market stands.

The advertising tower - the "Tora-Bora" is 5 x 5 metres square and 12meters high

The Friday gate of over 5,000 people makes the place look empty. It takes the weekend crowd of nearly 10,000 a day to make the place look full.

The part of the grounds occupied by the Koi Show equates to almost 30% of the actual gardens of the venue - The Kasteluin (Castle Gardens) of at least it did this year. Next year I am told it is set to expand. Look out for 2008!.



# What did Father Koiristmas bring you?....



Teresa Lambert (South East Section) received this Spud-Cooking bag from Norman Call (OKWS) . Hand made with a tasteful Koi motif on the outside this simple but effective pouch cooks potatoes and other vegetables to perfection. I know I tried it.

Quite how it works isn't evident and any suggestions of taking it apart to find out have been vetoed.

The accompanying instructions were simple, clear and precise (for once) and more importantly were accurate. The Spud-Bag works.

Thanks Norm.



In 2006 the NVN awarded a Friendship Trophy to Paul Williams, a UK Koi keeper who had exhibited a Tanchō Showa at the BKKS National that year.

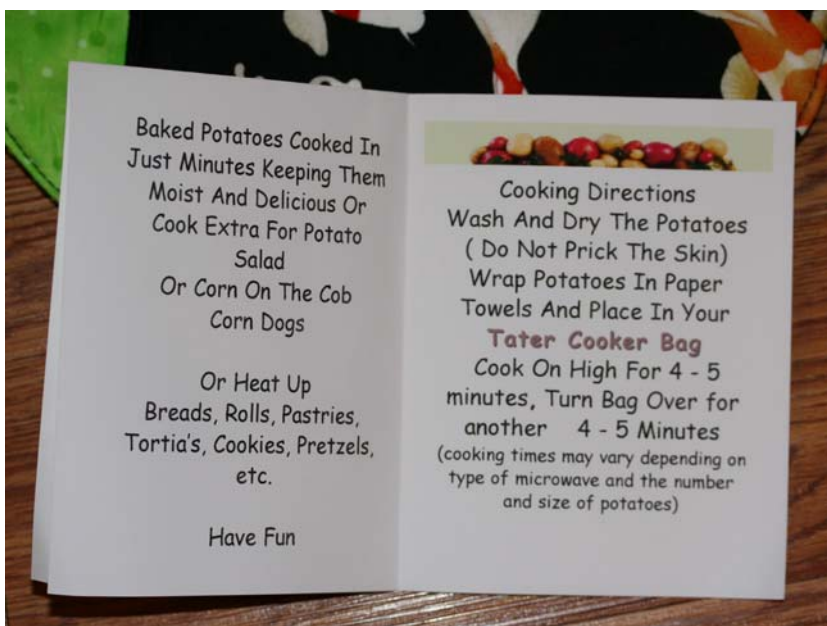
When an article about the show appeared in the NVN's Magazine Dutch artist Gregor Meijer saw it and fell in love with the Tanchō eventually producing a number of artefacts including a painting of it which he decided to donate to its owner.

Gregor's fascination for this Koi did not stop there. He was soon to have it engraved in a glass panel on his front door and then finally, in late December he had it tattooed on his arm.

It didn't stop there! Photos of the tattoo and the tattooist at work were turned into a Christmas card and sent to the deserving few around the world.

Gregor's more familiar paintings can be seen on

[www.special-paint.com](http://www.special-paint.com)



## Partners in goodwill.

This sentiment and it's logo were the product of Norman Call's (our representative in the Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society) imagination. It came about in an organic sort of way that has a lot to do with the relationship between our two clubs, our two countries and our hobby.

Our Spotlight newsletter had a USA/UK logo that was getting a bit faded & jaded after years of photocopying etc. Knowing that Norm was a graphic designer I asked him to give it a makeover which he did. It has adorned our newsletter ever since. It was delivered in October 2001 at a time when the atrocities and the aftermath of 9/11 were still current news and fresh in peoples minds.

That month, we were invited to attend a fund raising 'Barn Dance' by the governors of the school where we hold our Koi shows. The school was at one time in its history (WWII) a training school for fire-fighters of the London Fire Brigade who still support the school, as we do now. I forget the details now, but the heroics of the New York City Fire Department were mentioned in relation to the dance.

As a gesture of support Teresa Lambert one of our members printed off Norm's logo, laminated them and produced brooches which we wore to the dance. I sent one to Norm, who is an avid pin collector, who in turn turned the concept into a pin. The logo next appeared on the OKWS' own newsletter "**The Tall Fish Story**" underlined with the sentiment - "**Partners in goodwill**" an ethic we have since adopted and spread. Our partners are now the OKWS, The NVN (Dutch Koi Society) and the KwaZulu Natal chapter of the South African Koi Society SAKKS.

### Dates for your 2008 Diary.....

- Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society Koi Show. **14th & 15th June** at Roseburg, Oregon, USA.
- The KwaZulu Natal Chapter, **19th & 20th July** at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping, Umhlanga Rocks near Durban, South Africa.
- The 16th NVN Koi Show (The European National) **15th to 17th August** at Kasteltuun, Arceen near Venlo, The Netherlands.
- The 22nd South East Open Show, **24th & 25th August** at Parkwood Hall School, Beachenlea Lane, Swanley, Kent, UK.

### Working for an International Koi Community



## 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.

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And

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