

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 3
Farewell to 2006

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“HOT SPOT”

“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.

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.



Introducing the X- Factor.

Wherever you see this symbol it will mean that the attached article was obtained from a Koi Club other than the South East Section BKKS as part of the exchange

Bumper 10 page Issue!

Due to last minute
insertion

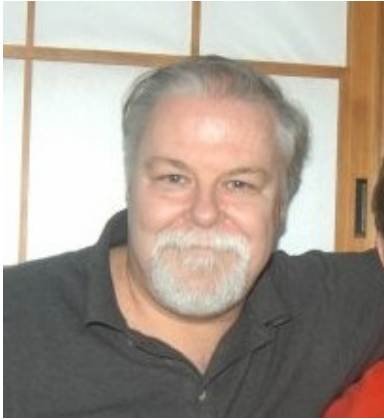
SEE PAGE 8 & 9

History of Carp & Nishikigoi.



Courtesy of ZNA America.

Published in the Oct issue of Spotlight.



This article appeared in our October 2006 issue of Spotlight courtesy of **James P Reilly. MAKC**

For the Koi student who really wants to understand the nuance and trivia of carp domestication leading to the creation of Nishikigoi, I offer this explanation:

PART I

Common wild carp evolved from the area around and between the Caspian and Black seas regions. Especially in that area that separates Eastern Europe from western Asia. The modern day countries that define this region would be:

Caspian sea - Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Russia.

The Black sea - Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey and Georgia.

There are a huge number of small lakes, tributaries of rivers, massive summer flood plains and deltas between and bordering these bodies of water.

The Caspian Sea became land locked and of a low salinity (30-40% that of the saltwater oceans) some 50 million years ago and to this day serves as a depository for rivers, lakes and melted mountain snows. Carp have lived happily in this area of the world since the beginning of their kind. Whether it was natural migration accomplished by seasonal flooding or later by man via the Northern route of the Silk Road isn't of great importance. Carp continued to expand their domain until at least two distinct subspecies existed (basically

an eastern and western subspecies) as well as several other ancient subspecies on the extreme edges of the natural range that carp managed to create.

It is also helpful to know that among these subspecies were several colour morphs. So the wild carp can range from yellow/gold through shades of green and tan to deep brown/black.

PART II The influence of China.

China, in terms of humanity, was a name for a region of diverse ethnic groups with very different cultures. Trade was a natural way to avoid war and looting and to exchange unique and locally produced/available goods to distant places. China is also a place of great ecological diversity.

It is therefore a place blessed with a huge number of DIFFERENT species and subspecies of the carp family. But there are only two or possibly three subspecies of *C. Carpio* - the common carp, within this region.

China is also the home of many other 'carp' that are eaten, grown, caught and have been part of the greater Chinese culture for centuries. This is especially true of the waters along the Yangtze River and the northern Yellow River. The people of the day (2800 - 2000 BC), grew rice and ate carp. This includes the cousins of 'our' carp. And here is an interesting point, although the Chinese were the first to write about, isolate and appreciate colour mutations of 'carp', we have no proof that these were the Common Carp, per se. In truth, the four common species in eastern China rivers are the Black Carp, the Grass Carp, the Silver Carp and the Big-head Carp. This river system is very similar to the water systems between the Caspian and the Black seas, i.e. massive flood plains and contains similar species - including the sturgeon. Not surprising, the Sturgeon also has an eastern and western subspecies.

The Chinese certainly could very well have culled, captured or traded colour morphs and mutations of the western subspecies Common Carp, or their references and focus could just as easily have been on other species, such as *Carassius carassius* - The Common Goldfish

(at 3 pounds, a more responsible sized captive fish)? Fortunately, we do not need to know that. For whatever reason, it was the Goldfish that developed in China as a cultured domestic fish and not the Common Carp.

PART III - the influence of Japan.

Japan has no living carp in their natural biodiversity. There are fossil remains of a carp like fish but not a modern version. So the carp the Japanese used for their diet was likely imported from Korea and/or China pre 1500s and later from the Portuguese, the Germans and the English. Certainly the pace picked up in terms of interesting variations after the European version of the Common Carp arrived in Japan.

If we accept that these documented sources of the Common Carp make up the original brood stock of Nishikigoi. These brood stocks were likely a mix of the 'native' Western China sub species, the later introduced Eastern European subspecies and the isolated genes of the domestic 'food carp' strains (especially the doitsu variety). These food carp strains, in themselves, were a mixing of feral-domestics and regional-domestics. The German gift of the Austrian version of common food carp (doitsu) and the Portuguese versions of the golden carp (both feral and domestic) added additional 'range' to the genetic variables available to Nishikigoi breeders. All of them Common Carp, but all representing very isolated and unique pools of DNA.

So from this melting pot of isolated genetic pools of Common Carp, Common Carp subspecies and Common Carp variations we have the basic stock.

Serious hobbyists will know that the foundation stock, as defined by the local Japanese breeders, is from Magoi. But what almost all accounts written in English ignore is the Japanese genealogy chart that shows three distinct forms of Magoi:

- 1) the Tetsu-magoi
- 2) the Doro-magoi
- 3) the Asagi-magoi

History of Carp & Nishikigoi.

No one outside of Japan has really paid much attention to this fact or even questioned why there are/were three distinct 'wild types' used to create new varieties.

PART IV- Summary

Perhaps it might be helpful to look at Nishikigoi as a unique animal- a combination of four separate and distinct phases:

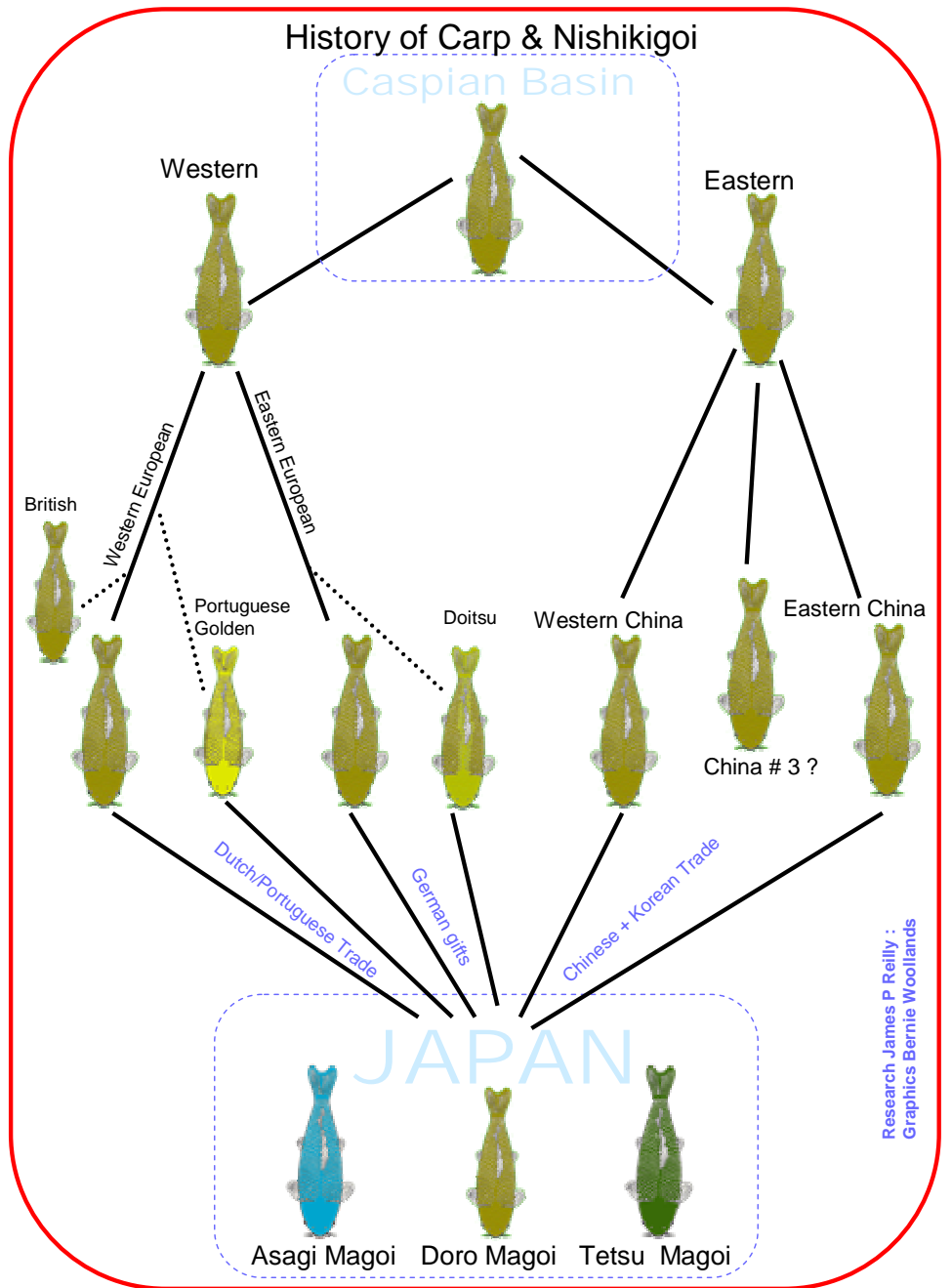
- 1) First, The importation of wild stock originating from the Caspian sea/Western China region.
- 2) The mix in Japan of basic Magoi variations (in some cases with #3)
- 3) The appearance of natural colour morphs within domestic stock by the 1800s.
- 4) Finally, The active manipulation (cross breeding) of colour varieties to produce new varieties

The British Carp.

This was an inclusion of my own that I felt fitted in with Jim's article. British carp were introduced by the Romans and developed in isolation over the following centuries developing deep bellies and high backs in the process. Their other feature is their small size in comparison with their European cousins. The record British Carp was a 44lb specimen caught in 1952. Compare that against the 60lb European specimens that are regularly caught there, and now here.

The leisure industry has imported many a European carp into British waters so much so that the original British carp known as a 'Wildie' to anglers is now a rarity.

Bernie Woollands



Research James P Reilly :
Graphics Bernie Woollands

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Maneki Neko - The beckoning cat!

First published in November issue of Spotlight

Maneki Neko are Japanese good luck charms that are becoming increasingly popular over here. I've seen them on sale in various forms from porcelain statues to cheap plastic key rings and even mobile phone covers. I just assumed that they were based on some new cartoon or video game character and as such were nothing more than a current fad. However, I was amazed to find out that they are as ancient as Koi and have an interesting background.



招き猫
mane ki -neko
beckoning cat

The Legend.....

In the 17th century Tokyo there was a ramshackle temple run by an impoverished priest in the western part called Setagaya, who shared his food with a pet cat named Tama.

One day a wealthy Daimyo (Lord) called Naotaka Li was caught in a storm while hunting and took refuge under a nearby tree. While he was sheltering he saw the cat beckoning him to enter the temple gate. Amazed by the cat's antics he crossed the road to enter the temple. At that very moment the tree was struck by lightning.

In gratitude the Daimyo became a benefactor of the temple and the priest and his cat never went hungry again. The temple was renamed Goutokuji. When Tama died he was buried in the temple's cemetery and a

statue of the Maneki Neko (beckoning cat) was made in his honour.

The Culture

Over time the statues have been changed to take on different meanings. Those changes involve the paw and the cat's colour.

First the paws. Traditionally the Maneki Neko has a raised left paw and this symbolises the original story. It means 'health'.

Nowadays it is quite common to see cats with their right paw raised. This means 'Wealth'. Furthermore, the higher the paw is raised the more 'wealth' is contained in the blessing. The original Maneki Neko's paw was raised in line with the eye. Some of the modern ones have the paw and inch or two above its ear.

Next the colours. Tama was reckoned to be a tri-coloured cat, a rarity in Japan and considered then, and now as a lucky omen. For this reason the majority of Maneki Nekos are tri-coloured too.

Other colours are popular too and each has a meaning.

White ones symbolise 'purity' and are often given to brides at their wedding.

Black cats are considered magical, and therefore the black Maneki Neko wards off evil. In a sign of the times, black Manekis are often carried by young women to ward off stalkers.

Red Manekis are considered capable of exorcising evil spirits and curing illness.

Pink ones for attracting a love interest.

And Gold for luck at gambling.

And finally, - the western influence.

Maneki Nekos haven't gone un-noticed in the western world and increasing numbers are being shipped abroad. In recognition of this the manufactures have made another alteration to encompass the western culture.

In Japan the sign of welcome is a raised hand with the palm facing outwards and the opening and closing of the fingers.

In the UK we raise our hand with the back of the hand facing outwards and make a gesture towards our body.

Manekis made intentionally for the western market will show the back of their hand.

So, if you have one. Check it out and see what blessing it is trying to bring you.

Maneki Neko are Japanese Good Luck charms that are becoming increasingly popular in the west



Introducing the Banana Bar Koi Society - the BBKS..

Beginning life in 1993 as a recreational activity after the trials and tribulations of the **Holland Koi Show**, the **BBKS** is now a very selective Koi Club intent on fostering international relations and promoting yellow Koi.

It had long been a tradition of the **NVN** to take their visiting overseas judges to their capital Amsterdam for some cultural enrichment. Ever keen to hone their ability to assess body shape, skin quality, colour and deportment some of those early participants discovered a venue that supplied their needs. A venue whose name would one day feature in the title of this very select Koi club.

Founded by their "President for life" Tony Price the members of this exclusive club are drawn from the ranks of the judges of the world's premier Koi Societies and very select friends and supporters.

The Society meets once a year, on the Tuesday after the shut down of the **Holland Koi Show** for their Annual General Meeting where new members are welcomed and accepted and the strategy for the following

year is planned.

The strategy involves the selection of Koi Shows that merit the awarding of a BBKS Friendship Trophy and deciding who pays for the next round of drinks.

New members will receive their unique BBKS pin (badge) and their details recorded for a mention on the BBKS' very own web-site :-



www.koi-clubs.com/BBKS

In the interest of furthering relations the web-site contains a section containing a number of Koi-related jokes to assist a visitor to an alien Koi club in breaking the ice.

Out on the Show scene the BBKS are actively promoting Yellow Koi with their

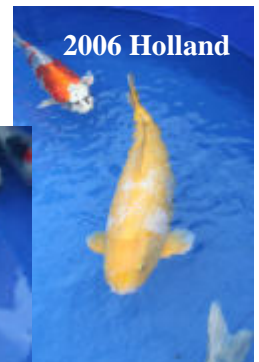
stunning array of Friendship Prizes, which like their membership are distributed at shows far and wide.

With a membership from three continents, and five countries this initiative began at the end of the 2005 Show season and has gathered momentum in 2006. Three of the recipients are shown below but there was a fourth at the KwaZulu Natal Show in Durban South Africa awarded in July.

The recipients so far have been two Ki-ochiba (or Koyo if you prefer) and two Yamabuki. Superb fish that have graced their shows but are unable to compete against the might of the Go-Sanke.

For those wishing to be considered for membership the secret is simple. Be seen to participate at Koi Shows and be certain to attend the next NVN's Holland Koi Show on 17th - 19th August 2007.

The next AGM is on the 21st August at Acterburgwal 37, Amsterdam.



From what started out as a frivolous notion in 1993 the BBKS has gone on to provide International Friendship Awards to Koi Clubs in Europe, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Cursusaanbod - the NVN's training programme.

Northern European Koi Societies share more than the Koi Hobby, they also have to suffer long dark & boring winters too. The UK hobby is kept alive during this time by its Sections who provide regular monthly activities to keep their members entertained, educated and in touch with each other. The NVN (Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland) of Holland have no sections and therefore activities have to be provided by the main Society. Over the years they have traditionally resorted to auctions, organized outings and the occasional seminar at the premises of a dealer.

In March 2005 they decided that things needed to change and a group of members, Guus Roijen, Joop van Tol, Jan de Kock, Jeroen Dregmans and Martin Tendole came up with a plan to give more value to their members and provide a more formal set of training courses covering all the basic requirements of the hobby. By June, authors had been found and they, Theo van Bladel, Toen Feyen, Joop van Tol, Jan de Kock, and Guus Roijen began to work devising the modules and preparing the courseware. This was in addition to the small task of organizing and managing the largest Koi Show outside of Japan in August as well as the KoiTrek2005 visit to the UK.

Koi Show and KoiTrek notwithstanding they completed their assignments early and were able to use the show to launch the curriculum. By October all courses were fully booked.

The courses were spread over six different dates between January and March and there were five separate modules :-

Fish Health Basics prepared by Joop.

Water Quality prepared by Guus.

Pond Filtration prepared by Jan de Kock

Buying Koi prepared by Theo and Toen.

Koi Keeping Techniques prepared by Jan de Kock

Each course followed a similar design with a theoretical part presented via PowerPoint presentation and accompa-

nied by some very superior documentation *averaging 40 pages and 70 photos or graphics*, followed by practical sessions involving real life case studies including hands-on where applicable. Each course allowed time for a question and answers session and was completed by a small examination. Successful participants were awarded with a Certificate.

Some of the courses (eg Pond Filtration) have a follow-up day which includes either a visit to a water purification plant, a public aquarium or a laboratory.

The courseware was published by Kindai Design (the publishers of Koi Keepers Mag) to their expected excellent standards. Each course has its own module complete with relevant photographs, graphics, and charts. The professionalism extends to the content, with excellent introductions and explanations. All of which can be housed in bespoke ring-binder.

The cost of production and development has been borne by the NVN who subsidize their members and the general public via very reasonable fees, 40 Euros for NVN members, 50 for non-members. Speaking as an ex-training professional I know that those fees barely cover the cost of the printing. Especially when considering that refreshments were provided too.

Having come so far in such a short time the NVN are not planning to rest on their laurels. They plan to re-run these seminars this autumn and if there are sufficient takers another session in February and March 2007. Two further modules are under discussion, a higher level Fish Health seminar and a Koi Appreciation course akin to a preliminary judges course.

When the initial concept of these courses was discussed back in March part of the stipulation was that the quality of the courseware, the documentation and the presentation should be first class. I'd say they achieved their aim.

Fish Health course.

The emphasis in this course is on prevention, knowing how diseases develop, and how to respond in an emergency. Students learn to recognize sick fish, pathogens, abnormal fish behaviour and how to use a microscope. Group exercises using case studies complete the practical part of this course before it concludes with an overview of Koi medicines. This course is the prerequisite for the Advanced Course that it under preparation.

Instructor: Joop van Tol (KOI Health Officer NVN)

Water quality course.

Working under the premise that all problems lead back to water quality, this course concentrates on water management. Explaining water composition, water quality and the effects caused by Koi and their food. It goes into the importance of water parameters, explains what each are, their interaction and how they influence each other and the pond environment. The practical sessions centre around water testing and the use of various test kits.

Instructor: Guus Royen (Treasurer and former Health Officer NVN)

Pond filtration course

Subtitled - The invisible life in the biofilter. This course explains what bacteria is and how it was discovered, the nitrogen cycle and its affect, filter media and flow rates. Its focus is on how to optimize your biofilter, how to start it up, and how to deal with peaks in ammonia or nitrite - the do's and don't's. A course that makes the invisible visible with superb photographs from an electron microscope revealing the breathtaking microscopic life in the biofilm.

Instructor: Jan de Kock (all round hobbyist)

Buying Koi course

Focuses on all aspects of buying Koi whether it be a pet or a Show Koi. Starting with basic health checks and proceeding to a fundamental Koi appreciation course covering bodyshape, skin

Cursusaanbod- continued.

quality, pattern and colour. it also covers the specific traits of the different varieties and what to look for in the different varieties and/or bloodlines, how to avoid beginner mistakes, and to differentiate between male and female.

Instructors Toën Feyen, (Chairman and ZNA judge) and Theo van Bladel, author of "In de ban van KOI" 'Under the spell of Koi'

KOI-keeping techniques

This course targets beginners who want to understand pond building and filter installations. The course covers bottom-drains, skimmers, pumps, pump performance, air pumps, UVC's, Ozone, Japanese matting, fluid bed media taking into consideration the power consumption, operating costs and maintenance of all the devices. Jan augmented the course with lots of demonstration material. A comprehensive course aimed at revealing the mystique of Koi keeping for the beginner, but also for any hobbyist planning to upgrade their facilities.

Instructor: Jan de Kock



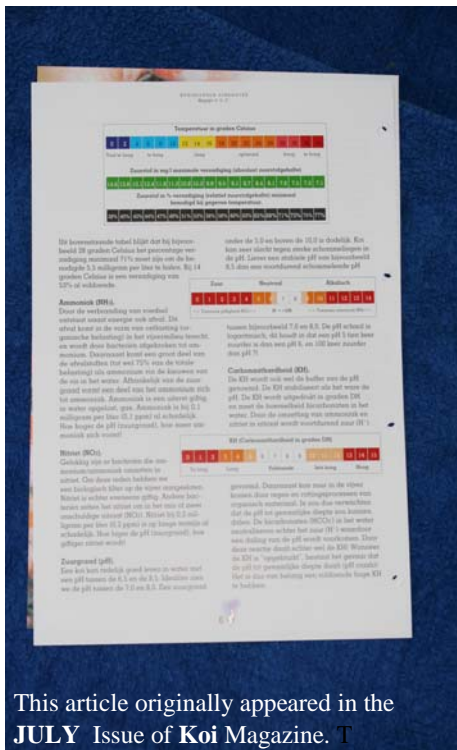
Mags & Forums

It has become very apparent from reading the newsletters out there that we all rely on the Internet forums for content from time to time.

The content ranges from the direct lifting of educational posts for articles to the collection of feedback from the public about a clubs activities.

Those very apparent in their contributions are:-

- **Koi Bito**
- **Koi Chat**
- **Nishikigoi International.**



This article originally appeared in the **JULY** Issue of **Koi Magazine**. T

The UK Magazine not the NVN's own mag of the same name

N.V.N.

The Nishikigoi Vereniging Nederland formed in 1993 was the first Dutch Koi club preceding its only rival by 7 years.

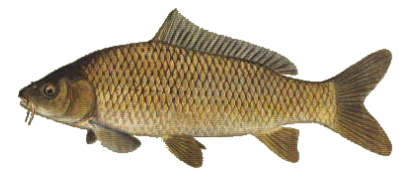
Starting with just a few hundred members it grew to 4,500 in 6 years and has maintained that approximate number ever since.

The NVN are the founders of the Holland Koi Show that like the parent organisation began in 1993. Held at the Kasteltuin, Arcen, it was originally a small affair that was benched and judged by BKKS Judges in the same day.

It is now a three day affair and the largest Koi Show outside of Japan visited annually by 25,000 people from all over Europe and the judges are drawn from all of the world's Koi-keeping nations.

Cyprinus Carpio

Cyprinus carpio
(Linnaeus, 1758)



- Kingdom: [Animalia](#)
 Phylum: [Chordata](#)
 Class: [Actinopterygii](#)
 Order: [Cypriniformes](#)
 Family: [Cyprinidae](#)
 Genus: [Cyprinus](#)
 Species: [C. carpio](#)

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Friends of Matsunosuke.inc

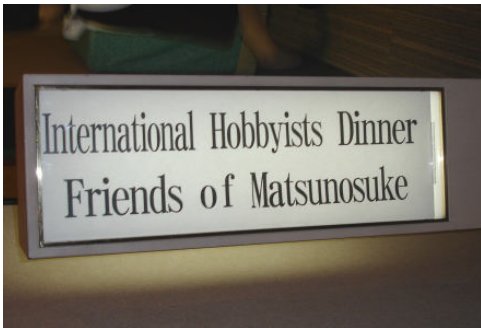
Alan Coogan, hobbyist and BKKS Judge writes a column for Koi Carp magazine about his exploits as a hobbyist.

This is the first printing of an exclusive article detailing an initiative by Toshio Sakai, which will be followed up in Koi Carp's March issue with more photos of the koi discussed

*We must not confuse dissent with disloyalty,
For when the loyal opposition dies,
The soul of the British dies with it.*

Mother said as a teenager she worked at a greengrocer's in the East End of London, he would always split the crate of oranges into two piles, one pile he would make four times the price, he said he had customers who would only buy from the more expensive pile, believing there must be a significant difference in the quality.

As the plane landed at Japan's Narita airport I was aware that this would be a different kind of



autumn in the mountains of Yamakoshi, I was to be part of a crusade orchestrated by Toshio Sakai where he tries to encourage hobbyists to travel independently and free themselves from the obscene commissions and preloading of price demanded by some dealers.

Toshio Sakai has higher goals than just producing the best Koi in the world, he hopes to build a huge family of Koi lovers from different countries and diverse religions and through Koi bring better understanding of each other and hopefully help to promote peace and joy. He also understands it would be almost impossible to build this family if good Koi could only be accessed by the few.

Most Japanese breeders are concerned, that the

desire for immense profit by some, will lead to the classic, 'killing the goose that lays the golden eggs.' What will sell the Koi hobby around the-world, is the Koi, great koi will enthruse. To make his Koi available to hobbyists direct, the concept of "Friends of Matsunosuke" was conceived, which culminates in an auction the day after his main harvest, where anyone can bid on a Koi,- high class Koi are sold for their real value of a few hundred pounds and not thousands.

When every one arrived, our party would consist of 11 souls, seven BKKSs members and four from the Dutch society "Koi 2000, ". My hope was that at the end of the tour, the myths propagated by those with a vested interest, of the difficulties buying and shipping Koi would be dispelled, and everyone would be confident enough to return with some friends, and open up to the many, the wonderful Yamakoshi Mountains.

I had been selfish in so much as that I had surrounded myself with like minded people who enjoyed the 'crack'. Roger and Heather Payne a couple dedicated to Koi and laughter, Keiron Burns a genial gentlemen with an analytical mind and an immense dry wit, and Bill and Sue Ennis solid dependable folk with a great sense of fun, with Henny, Ronny, Dennis and Gerrat making up the Dutch team we were set for 10 days of hilarity.

We had been invited by "Friends of Matsunosuke" to two banquets, a training seminar and to watch some of the best Koi alive today being

retrieved from their summer growing ponds. The rest of the time we would travel the highlands stopping anywhere and everywhere. We would not be steered to those breeders paying the most commission. If anyone wanted a Koi they would pay for it there and then. Every breeder we brought Koi from was asked the question, "if necessary could and would you ship the Koi to England?", without exception the answer was always yes. We would share the cost of the minibus which worked out at £11 a day for each of the seven of us travelling in the ten-seater. We did make the breeders' life a little uncomfortable, for when we ask the price, the poor guy with no pre-arranged price loading in place and no calculator to easily adjust would have to sidle up and ask, "How much should I put on for you?", When I replied nothing, they would always be slightly bemused and then delighted with the realisation that the cash at our disposal would ultimately find its way into the pockets of the Nishikigoi breeders.

'Never judge the Koi by the pond' is a golden rule you must apply when Koi hunting in the mountains, Roger and Heather spotted and bought the most magnificent gin rin Showa gliding the depths of Gontaro's old concrete pond outside the family's corner shop. Another day we found ourselves walking down a concrete path to a partially hidden uninspiring facility to be faced with some fabulous Koi.





We bought two of the best three-year-old Kujaku I have ever seen for £250 each, Henny bought a show stopping 73 cm Koromo for £700,



Garrat a Sanke that would grace any Koi show for £250. Showa were bought for £200, high-class tatigoi from Shintaro and Sakai from between £400 and £1500, and an All Japan Show winning four-year-old Kin Showa for £2,000, We were given Koi as

presents, and invited into mud ponds to help harvest. 'We sang for our supper at the two banquets, although at the remarkable Kagetsu Japanese garden hotel in Isawa where the Koi living in Toshio Sakai's clean water filtration system, swim past the rooms, appearing to dangle in the air, we had to follow a renowned violinist and celebrated cellist, but judging by the way they were clapping to our "Whisky in the Jar" and "The Wild Rover," I don't think we let the British side down. .



Toshio Sakai's is on a mission to connect the breeders' directly with the hobbyist, the life-blood of nishikigoi. He believes that if the hobbyist is strangled then the long-term business health of the breeder is doomed, if football tickets were so expensive they became accessible to only a few, the grounds would empty, the atmosphere would be gone and people would find other things to support. The grace, passion and beauty of the game at the highest level would be lost to the masses.

Profit from one's labour is commendable, profiteering is immoral.

Hobbyist organisations around the world should push for closer links with the breeders. Travelling the Yamakoshi mountains is easy, importing Koi to England is easy, driving in Japan is simple, English is the second language of the young, an international driving licence costs a few Pounds, and importation licence from Weymouth is free.

No one should become worried by Toshio Sakai's initiative, as there will always be those who prefer to buy their oranges from the most expensive pile

Alan Coogan



SAKKS generosity raises £356 for a UK Breast Cancer

On my South African trip earlier this year I purposely sought out a few items of South African Koi paraphernalia to auction on the **Koi Chat** web-site in aid of the St Agatha's Trust, a breast cancer charity.

I was caught in the act of doing this by MaryAnn Harrison (SAKKS) who upon hearing of the cause promptly gave me a number of other items.

These items were finally auctioned in the run up to Christmas and raised the tidy sum of **£356** making the total raised by KoiChat a massive **£16,735.28**.

Well done SAKKS - I bet you never thought somebody would pay £100 for one of your shirts.

Bernie Woollands

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 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 2007 Diary.....

- Oregon Koi & Watergarden Society Koi Show. **9th & 10th June** at Roseburg, Oregon, USA.
- The SAKKS National hosted by the KwaZulu Natal Chapter, **21st & 22nd July** at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping, Umhlanga Rocks near Durban, South Africa.
- The 15th NVN Koi Show (The European National) **17th to 19th August** at Kasteltuyn, Arcen near Venlo, The Netherlands.
- The 21st South East BKKS Open Show, **26th & 27th 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

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

And

Brian Edwards - brianedw@hotmail.com