

The Yorkshire Koi Society



NEWSLETTER: Winter 2019

This edition will cover our weekend away with the Scottish Koi Club, some of the All England Koi Show, our last supper, first of the winter meetings and the Christmas dinner.

As some of you may know, Pete and myself will be stepping down for a while from the committee, our new arrival is expected to make his appearance in March. This will leave a few responsibilities/duties to be filled by our members. Please may I take this opportunity to ask any of you to consider taking on one of the following roles in April: Events organiser, Vice Chairperson, Advertising & Sponsorship and producing the Newsletter. Jim will likely need help with the Photo Show too which will be a weekend job. Without your help and contribution then the club can't function as it should and it is unfair to expect one person to take on all of the jobs.

As usual.....

Please keep using the forum!

Check out our sponsors links to see what's going on with them and any offers that may be had.

As a club, we rely heavily on the continued support and sponsorship of these businesses to keep the club going, but they also to allow us to have the events that we all enjoy.

Events 2020

- **Sunday 16th February** - Talk by Allan Tait.
- **Sunday 19th April** - AGM & Talk by David Pool from Fish Science.
- **Weekend 2nd & 3rd May** - Young Koi Show.
- **Sunday 17th May** - First Supper.
- **Weekend 4th & 5th July** - National Koi Show.
- **Weekend 5th & 6th September** - Visit to South East Koi Club.
- **Weekend 26th & 27th September** - All England Koi Show.
- **Sunday 6th December** - Christmas Dinner.

YKS Merchandise

As some of you may know, we do have various items of merchandise for sale. These include polo shirts, jumpers, fleece jackets and hoodies. They are of excellent quality. Items have the club logo embroidered onto them with an optional extra of having your name or user name also sewn on. They are available in a number of different colours and sizes.



If you are interested then please contact Glen Windle for further details and to place an order.



T Shirt - £9.95

Polo shirts - £14.95

Sweatshirts - £16.95

Hoody (Pull on) - £18.45

Hoody (Zip up) - £21.45

Fleece Jacket - £24.45



Prices include YKS emblem (£3.50 extra if you would like your name on)

Scottish Koi Club: Weekend 14th & 15th September

We had a very early start on the morning, getting to our pick up point for 06:15hrs. Bags were packed and we all got on the mini bus to head up north to meet our hosts for the weekend. We stopped off on route at a little café for breakfast which was lovely and settled our grumbling bellies.

We arrived at our first pond belonging to Abby and Kate Bain. This fibre glassed pond



holds 4000 gallons and runs via a BD to a RD500 drum filter and a bakki shower before returning to the pond. There is also a skimmer which also feeds into the drum. Additional features include a heat pump, UV's and trickle in system. Behind the pond was an extra building that had a grow on



tank and filters in it. Lunch was also served here before we left for the next pond.

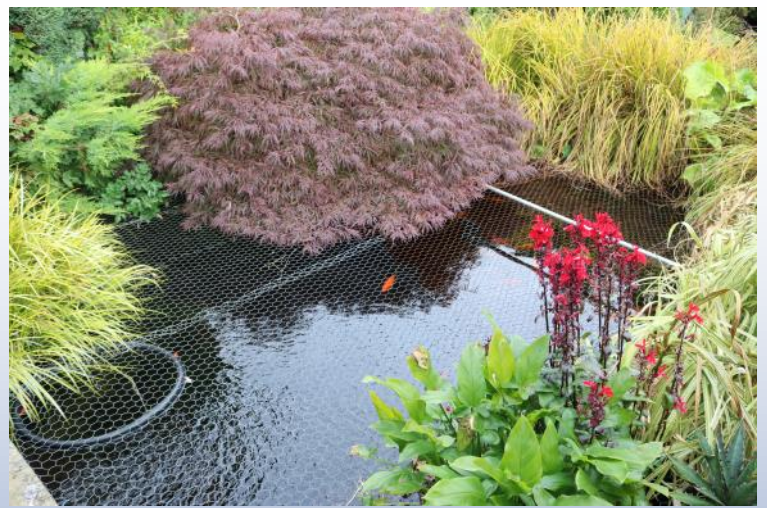


After lunch we headed off to see the next pond of the day. It belonged to Archie and Janice Dick. Their pond holds around 3000 gallons. From the bottom drain water runs to a sieve, then a bead filter then finally passing through a trickle filter back to the main pond. The skimmer runs to a multibay filter then returns to the pond. This pond



has been built to the back of a garage and is completely enclosed, much needed for the cold Scottish winters. There is also a viewing hatch from the garage looking onto the pond. In their garden is an additional “nature pond” that had some

koi and goldfish in it. Netting has been placed over the top to stop predators. Archie had treats of bulger wheat, mussels and crab sticks



The next pond belongs to Nikke and John Ross. Holding a total of 4000 gallons their recently refurbished pond has 2 BDs running to an Ultrasieve, bead filter converted to K1 micro, through a 110 watt Pro Clear UV then back to the pond via a two tier shower. This is another pond that has been completely enclosed to protect from the colder weather.



Their pond has a viewing window and seating area so you can enjoy watching the koi while relaxing. It has been finished off in grey tiles with stone copings.



At one end the water returns through a shower style pipe return and air dome. This helps with the water circulation as it is quite a long pond. At the opposite end is the shower.



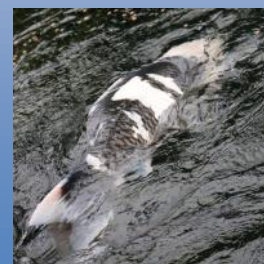
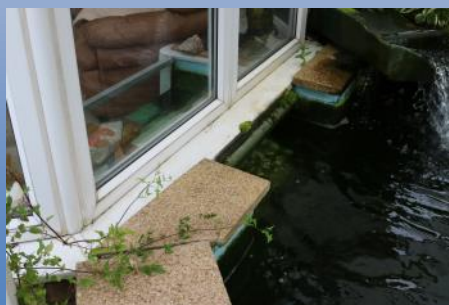
The fourth and final pond of the belongs to Willie Morland, you may have seen him at the National or North East koi show. This is another enclosed pond with vaulted glazed ceilings to get the most out of the sunshine. This is a 6000 gallon pond with a box liner. Filtration consists of Bakki sowers, easy pod, bead converted to K1 and a impressive vegetable filter. In this veggie filter Willie was growing tomatoes which looked to be doing brilliantly. While we were there he took the opportunity to show us a



good technique of catching koi. This also gave us the chance to get a much better look at his collection.



Outside, Willie has another pond built next to his conservatory, there is a part of the pond that comes in allowing him to feed his koi without needing to go outside.



On our way to one of the ponds we saw the “Kelpies”, a stunning pair of sculptures designed by artist Andy Scott. The photos do not give you any idea of the sheer size of these things. Well worth a visit if you are ever in the area again.



After leaving Willie’s place we headed to the hotel to check

in and get ready for the evening meal and the Scottish Koi Club’s Awards evening. This was held at a hotel/pub a short walk away from our hotel.



After the meal and presentation we headed back to get some much needed rest.





We had breakfast at the hotel before setting off to pond number 5. This belongs to Gerry Lau. Holding 3139 gallons and fibre glassed, it has a filtration system consisting of a Queni22 drum, a Nexus 200 full to the brim with K1 (outer chamber) so there is no turning over and crushed coral in the centre chamber. The

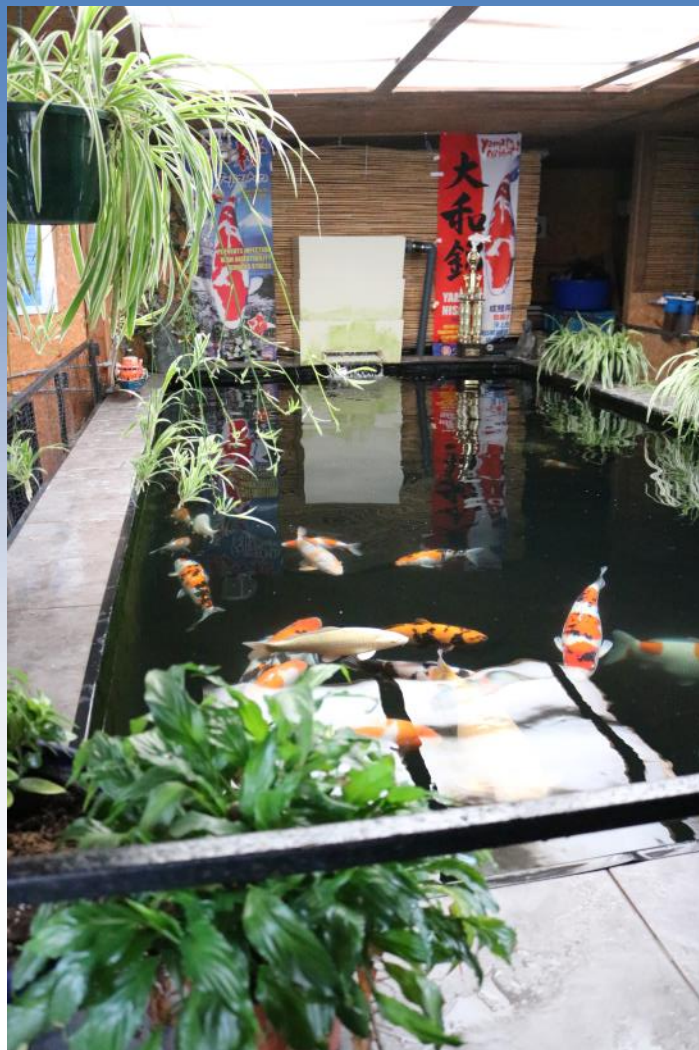
water then returns to the pond over a three tier Bakki shower. Gerry has managed to squeeze in a 360 gallon hospital tank with its own filter system. Again it is all



enclosed to retain heat and protect from the elements. He also made the most amazing Leek & Potato soup I have ever tasted!



The sixth pond we called at belonged to the clubs Chairman, Andrew Frew. He has two ponds; the indoor one holding 5500 gallons and running a Queni 35 drum, bio vortex fed from a BD and skimmer, then to a three tier shower back into the pond. The second outdoor pond is 3000 gallons with a BD to a RTF double filter. The outdoor pond didn't

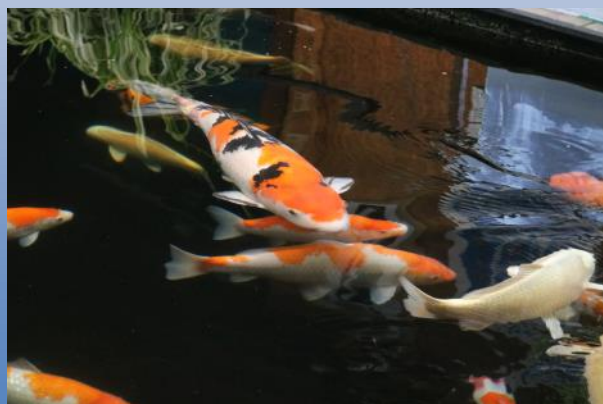


have any fish in it when we visited.

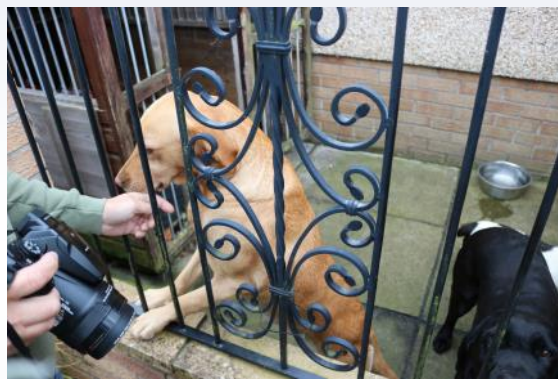
Andrew also keeps and breeds tropical fish and had a large range of species in a separate building. He also had a small hospital tank



in his main pond building that had goldfish in it.



The final pond of the weekend was a 5000 gallon circular pond. It belongs to David and Sheila Beverage. It is fed from a bottom drain to a sieve then bead filter when water is then pumped to a Bakki shower before returning to the pond. The skimmer line feeds a cyclone filter which then returns to the pond via the shower. As well



as keeping koi, they have a few four legged friends too. A fantastic buffet was provided for us so we didn't go home on empty stomachs. The views from the house were beautiful, open fields and woodland with rolling hills. All to soon it was time to go.





Our hosts throughout the weekend were outstanding and it was lovely chatting to them all about their ponds and koi. We will look forward to having them visit us in 2020 where I am sure there will be plenty for them to see.

We still had a little time left so on the way back home we called in at Blackburn House Koi, who is one of the SKC's sponsors. On our arrival we were greeted by a pack of Great Danes. They were very friendly and wanted to say hello to all of us.



Blackburn House Koi was a treasure trove of all sorts; plants, trees, koi, dry goods, ornaments and other koi related equipment. We spent time looking around and some of us took a liking to the shrubs. We very nearly didn't have room for it all.



Doneena had made a couple of friends, I thought she was going to get carried off by them at one point!

The main pond here was again built indoors to protect from the elements. It was an unusually shaped pond that ran the full length of the building. There were some lovely koi on display in it too. There were other buildings with more tanks

and ponds in them. Although due to it getting to near the end of the year there was not much to choose from in terms of koi.



Gina made a little friend too, a little rescue chicken that loved having cuddles. There was also some owls (one that flew at the cage if you got too close), and various other birds including a bird of prey. Then it was home time.



All England Koi Show 2019



Grand Champion.

Exhibited by Tony Pinn.

Breeder: Hoshikin.

Supplied by Nippon Nishikigoi.

This year I was unable to attend the show so here are the results.

Permission has been given for me to use the South East Koi Club's images/photographs.

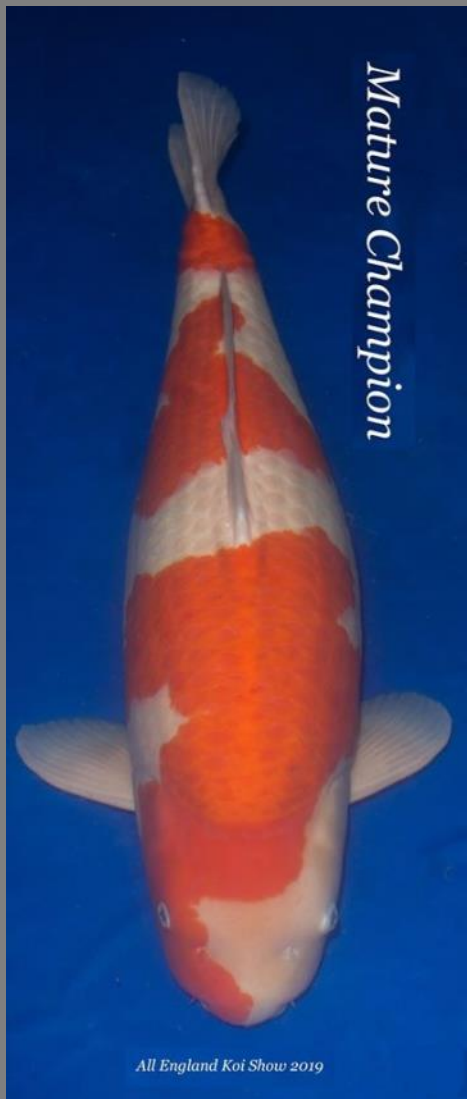


Superior Champion.

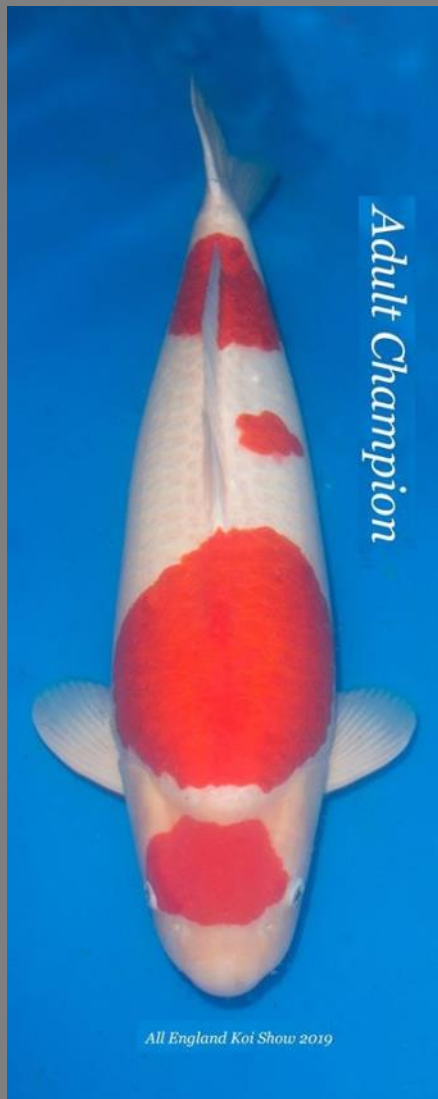
Exhibited by Wayne Taylor.

Breeder: Matsue.

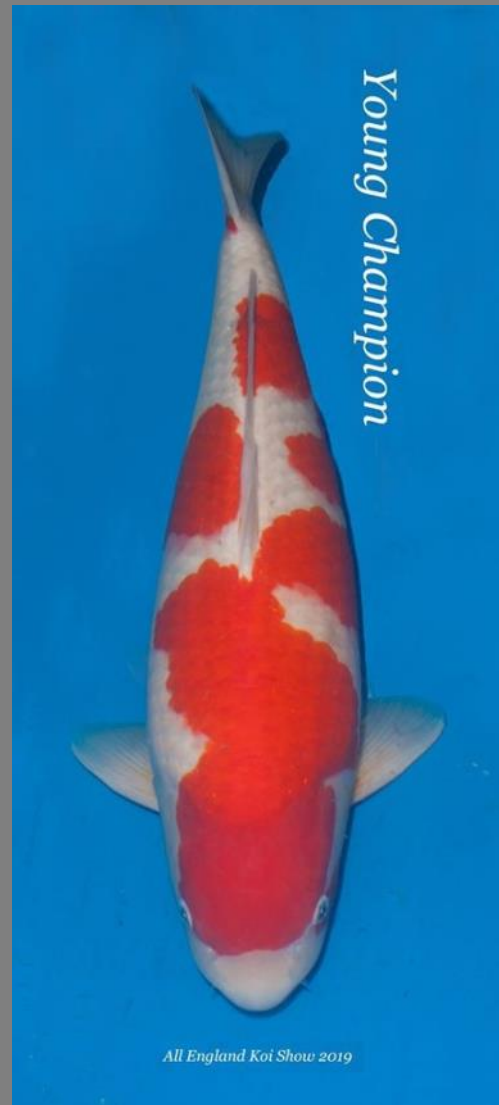
Supplied by Yume Koi.



All England Koi Show 2019



All England Koi Show 2019



All England Koi Show 2019

Mature Champion.

Exhibitor: Paul Williams.

Adult Champion.

Exhibitor: Mick Preston.

Breeder: Anetto.

Young Champion.

Exhibitor: Robert Robson.

Breeder: NND.

Supplier: Tony McCann



All England Koi Show 2019

Baby Champion.

(Left)

Exhibitor: Matt Shields.

Breeder: Momotaro.

Supplier: Koi Water Barn.





Best Non Gosanke.

Exhibitor: Steve Rollins.

Best Yamabuki.

(Below)

Exhibitor: Steve Rollins.



Best Doitsu.

Exhibitor: Adam Richardson.



NVN (Dutch Chapter ZNA) Friendship Trophy.

Exhibitor: Tony Pinn.

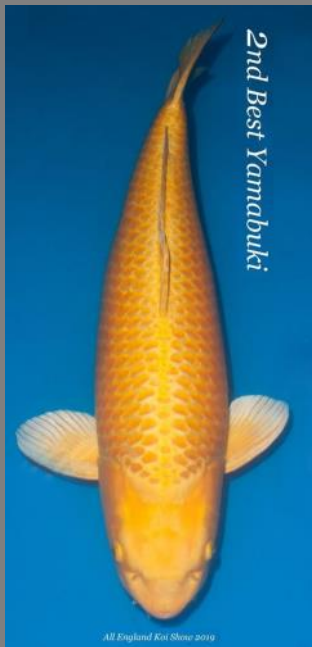
Breeder: Omosako.

Supplier: Nippon Nishikigoi.

2nd Best Yamabuki.

(Middle left)

Exhibitor: Matt Shields.



3rd Best Yamabuki.

(Left)

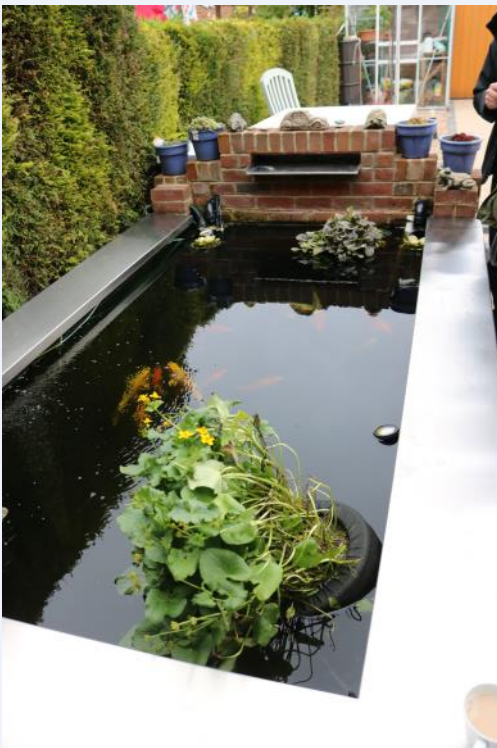
Exhibitor: Matt Shields.

Last Supper: Sunday 20th October

For the last supper we started off in Bradford at Wayne and Maggie Taylor's pond. His koi were looking good as usual and we managed to get warmed up with a hot drink or two.



It was then a run over to Pudsey for breakfast at Paul and Sue Dixon's. They had managed to get the roof finished on the pond which still let a good amount of light through the polycarbonate.



Next on the itinerary was a drive over to Steven and Doneena's place in Thorn. They have a lovely little pond that has been finished off with marine grade stainless steel so it doesn't rust. Multi coloured lights are hidden under the inside edge of the pond which I am sure looks lovely in the dark. They had gone all out on providing cakes and sausage rolls too which proved to be irresistible. It would have been rude not to have tried at least one or two! All washed down with a brew of course.





Next up was Andy and Gina's place with their immense garden. It was quite chilly outside but fortunately Gina had got the fire going in their garden room so it was nice and cosy. After warming up we got moving.



This was the final pond of the day. Back over to the other side of York to see Pete and Caroline Houseman in Arkendale. It was raining cats and dogs by now, some of us had the sense to bring an umbrella or water-



proof coat. The koi weren't bothered by it though and were enjoying treats of brown bread. Caroline kindly let us take over her kitchen to have the raffle and dry off a little. Finally we headed over to the Anchor Inn at Whixley for one of their exceptional carvery dinners. A good day out again.



1st Winter Meeting: Bonsai Care

Sunday 17th November saw us hold the first winter meeting at the usual place of Collingham Memorial Hall. This was a talk and demonstration of bonsai care by Ray Caldwell of Accrington Bonsai. Prior to the meeting members were asked if they had



any bonsai's they wanted to bring with them for advice on their care.



Ray and his friend Kim had brought a good selection of different types of Bonsai trees with them. It was amazing to learn how old some of the bonsais were. The image below shows two bonsais of the same age.



The only differences were that they were grown in different ways while young. The larger bonsai had been in the ground for a number of years whereas, the small tree had been grown in a small pot. Growing bonsais in the ground for the first few years allows a thicker “tree trunk” to develop. This gives it the typical “little tree” like appearance once it has been wired, trimmed and trained.



Another method of growing bonsai is the “root over rock”. As with any bonsai growing, it takes many years to develop and a lot of patience. This style is done by finding a suitable piece of rock that you can easily handle. Using a suitable young tree with pliable roots, remove all soil from the root system. Position the tree at the top of the rock and carefully wrap the roots where you want them, around the rock. Secure the roots to the rock using plumbers PTFE tape. Then find a pot/container deep enough to fit the rock into. The rock is then “planted” and covered in soil all the way up to the trunk of the tree. Every year or two you then carefully remove a small amount of soil from the top to expose part of the root/rock. This is done until



you have exposed the desired amount of root and rock. As the tree grows it will send out roots further down into the soil underneath the rock. These will need the usual care of trimming and repotting.

Jim had brought in a camelia to get a little bit of advice on it. Ray advised him that if this was his tree, he would take off the top of it and wire some of the branches in a more horizontal position. He did say that if you have a camelia then the best time to trim, wire and repot is after it has finished flowering. He also said that flowering may not happen the following year if it has been pruned or repotted but should be OK the year after. Camelia's do like a lot of water so daily watering is important.

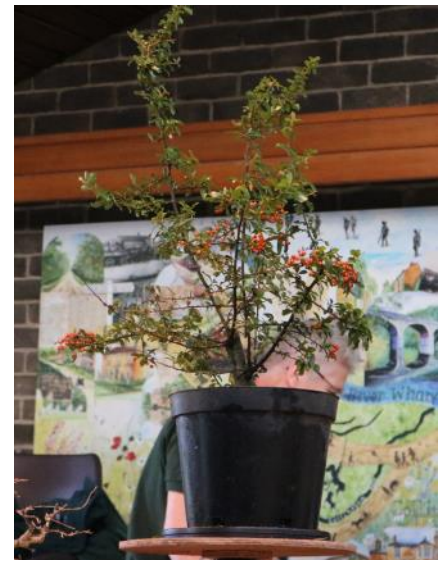


Japanese pines have specific care needs too. If you have a pine that needs trimming, wiring or repotting it is important to wait until winter when the needles have dropped. Doing any sort of maintenance to it when there are still green needles can kill the tree. Ray also spoke of getting the dead wood effect, known as “Jin” or “Shari” onto bonsais.

Knowing where the veins are running is important so that you don't kill the tree. The outer bark is removed from a certain branch or area and then painted with a Lime Sulphur solution to preserve the wood.



Tony brought in a spikey garden centre reject for them to demonstrate with and try turn into a bonsai. The image to the left shows the shrub as it was. After some deliberation, they decided to get the saw out (below) and cut the trunk down only leaving a few select branches to work with. The next task was to wire the remaining branches and trim off any that were not quite right. It was a two person job. One holding the spikey branches out of the way while the other



wired the chosen branch. Tony was advised to let it grow for a year or two before cutting the taller branch, this was to allow it to get some more width on the new trunk. The image to the right is the finished tree. There is certainly a big difference and it looks much more bonsai style than the shrub it was before. A very interesting talk and we got some good tips.



Chairman's Note

Hí all

2019 has been a good year for the YKS. We have had some great and well attended events & increased our membership which is great news.

The photo show and BBQ was as usual the highlight of the year and we have just had a great Christmas dinner to finish off 2019.

I'm looking forward to 2020 (keep an eye on the Events 2020 on the forum).

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2020.

Please keep using our forum.

Best Regards

Jim Shaw

YKS Chairman

YKS Christmas Dinner

It was that time of year again! The annual Christmas dinner. A time when we can all sit down together and enjoy the festivities, Jimmy's quiz and the raffle. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated prizes for this and to all our sponsors for their continued support over the year.

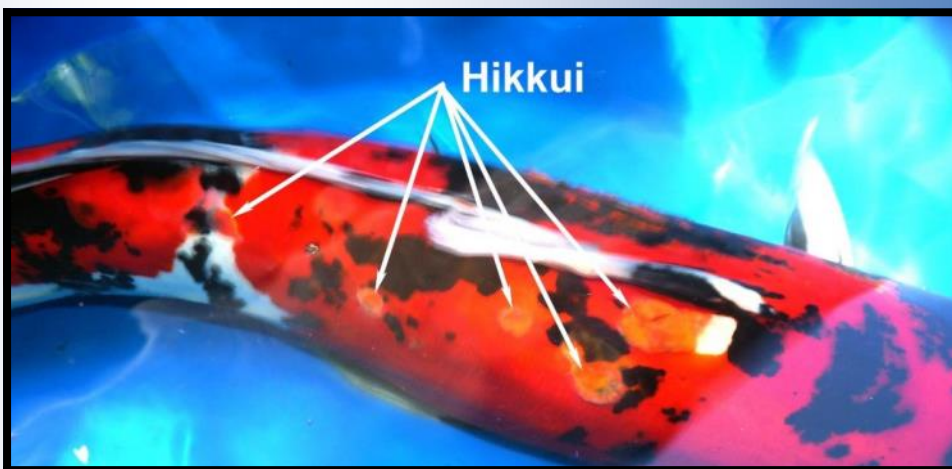


I hope that everyone had a lovely Christmas and all the best for 2020!



Focus on..... **Hikui**

The bane of any koi keepers life is paying a small fortune for a stunning fish, for it then to develop this disfiguring condition. This is a skin disease that affects only the Hi (red) colouring of the skin on koi. It translates from Japanese to mean “red eating worm”. There are also numerous variations of the spelling; Hikkui, Hikui and Hi-Kui. Unfortunately the exact cause of Hikui has not been determined as of yet. It is a fairly common problem. There is strong suspicion that it may be a type of skin cancer but this has not been confirmed. Other possible explanations may be bacterial or viral causes, but once again there is no concrete proof of these theories. There are some Japanese breeders who have beliefs that it may be a hereditary condition and will not breed from any koi that display symptoms of hikui.



Symptoms

It often starts as a small blotch or blemish that is orange/yellow in colour. However, as time goes on the affected area gets bigger as it eats through the red skin until only white remains. It can also look like “jelly” like blobs on the skin and the koi can develop excess mucous to the affected area which can make it look even more unsightly. Unlike parasites and bacterial issues, the affected koi usually continue to feed and act normally.



The Science

A study was performed on a number of affected fish. Histology (microscopic examination of the structure of tissues) showed that some of the samples displayed similar structure to perivascular wall tumours. Meaning tumours deriving from the cells of blood vessels. Some of these koi underwent surgery in an effort to remove the hikui. Some

of these surgeries were successful, however there were some cases recurred. The study found that surgery was the best option in dealing with the “neoplastic nature” of this problem. “Neoplasia” describes the process of various diseases, the most common is described as uncontrolled, abnormal

growth of cells or tissues in the body. When grown, the affected area is referred to as a neoplasm or tumour. These tumours may be benign (not cancerous) or malignant (cancerous). Benign tumours are the more slow growing whereas the malignant type are much more aggressive and quickly spread or grow.

Treatment

Duncan Griffiths has a step by step guide to treating Hikui (reference list). This involves sedating the affected fish and removing the affected tissue. These include the use of cauterizing agents

being applied to the affected areas. It should be noted that these chemicals can also cause the existing Hi to become discoloured or fade completely. There are currently no medications to add to the pond that are effective.

To treat the koi topically it will need to be sedated well as you may be working on it for a while. Ensure you have everything to hand prior to catching the koi, you do not want to be leaving it unattended while it is put under sedation. Once the koi is sedated well, clean the affected area with anti-bac or roccal and dry with kitchen roll or gauze. Using a fresh sterile scalpel blade try using the blunt side to scrape away the affected skin. If this doesn't work then use the sharp side to carefully slice away the damaged tissue. It may bleed which is where the cauterizer is used. Cauterizer can be purchased from Duncan Griffiths or Lincolnshire Fish Health. Alternatives are Potassium Permanganate paste or Hydrogen peroxide, but these will require rinsing off once bleeding has stopped. You then seal the wound with orahesive powder and top coat sealer before recovering the fish back in the pond. Friars Balsam has also been used to seal these wounds.

References:

<http://www.koiquest.co.uk/Hikui.htm>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27311577>

<https://koiorganisationinternational.org/koi-articles/hikkui-possible-cause-and-remdies>

<https://www.mahofsc.com/neoplasia-tumors-and-cancer/>



Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZKhgF88YJM>

*****Any treatments are carried out at your own risk. The YKS will not accept responsibility for any losses*****