

Trev Says . . .

On behalf of the Organising Committee, I would like to thank all those who didn't worry about the credit crunch and either visited, stayed or took part in this year's Festival. We hope everyone enjoyed all the displays, trade stand, lectures and activities at this year's Show.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their support for the various events especially Tetra for their continued support, Also, Hagen, RO-man Reverse Osmosis, Star Fisheries and Reef Aquatics for our Marine Displays at the Festival. Thanks to Westergate Care Home, Anglo Aquarium Plant Company and Keith (the Gardener) Clark for the components used in the main Displays; along with all those who helped build it and the kind person gave us the fish in the two ponds which have ended up in the big lake at Mill Rythe to grow big and strong.



The Furnished Tank Competition was excellent and made a striking display again this year with entries from a number of Societies; I can only say that some of the visitors have a funny idea of a furnished tank - especially the guy who bought the Festival Techies fish tank with all our cable ties - but it did come in the top three on Saturday.

Congratulations to the winner whoever he was.

The Festival Fish Shows were first class again this year with a very good selection of entries. Including the International Discus show, with 72 Superb Discus on display.

The Discus looked quite spectacular over in the two small marquees along with the two Discus traders.



On Saturday we had the Goldfish Show which had many fine examples along with the Catfish, Killifish Shows which were both very well supported.



The Koi Festival once again made a very large impact on the visitors with some excellent well-displayed exhibits.



As always, the tropical section culminated with the British Open Championship and, finally, on Sunday The Supreme Championship both of which were again staged on their own purpose-built display stand.

Congratulation to all the Winners.

The Festival Open Show was very well supported our thanks to Alan Henderson and his team for all their work.



The Viviparous Society along with Eric and Mary Franklin (ex-SPASS) with their amphibians and the improved Killifish display, created a lot of interest and hopefully lots of new members for all the specialist Societies.

Special Thanks go to all the Societies, Specialist Societies and Traders that put on displays at the Festival.



The Breeders' sales stand, which was very well stocked this year, ensured that our home-bred fish were distributed throughout the country - especially to Ireland! - as most of the fish were sold. Hopefully this stand will be expanded next year.

Our thanks again this year to Brian Chittenden for putting on his tank-making display throughout the weekend. Also thanks to Steve Cleverdon for his talks by his stand on Bonsai plants.

We must not forget to thank all the lecturers for their talks which were fairly well attended.

We not only had a Craft Lecture this year (which unfortunately was not very well attended) but we offered a Craft Marquee for the interest of the non-fish keeping visitors but, as with the lecture, we are not sure that it was a resounding success as a few of them were not too happy with the numbers who visited them.

We had a few traders that pulled out at the last minute along with the Reptile Display. This created some problems close to the Festival opening day but thanks to our resourceful team and some traders who either moved or expanded to fill the gaps.

The Festival will be better than ever next year and we look forward to seeing more of our members at next year's Show **on 8th 9th & 10th of October 2010 at Mill Rythe.**

As always, I would advise booking early as we already have a number of chalets pre-booked; many people paid the Reservation Fee at this year's Show to ensure their bookings.

We would also like more Specialist Societies and Clubs who wish to have a Stand, Display or just a tank in the Furnished Tank Competition, to let us know in good time that they want to come and not assume that there will be room, as there are a number of new exhibitors looking at coming next year. Therefore, if you don't book - don't moan later!

My special thanks to Jean Corbett for the cakes and pies, Glyns and Marilyn for keeping us well soaked in tea. Even with all the tea **"there's No more room for the Koi next year"**.



Congratulations to Keith and Tina Doswell on the award of the Chairman's Trophy for 2009 plus special thanks to Paul Corbett for building the bridge walls in one day.

Finally Joe, Paul and I would especially like to thank all of our long-suffering Festival build team whose tireless work is very much appreciated. Not forgetting all the sub-teams from the Koi, Goldfish, Discus, and everyone else, without whose help the Festival would not take place.

I can promise you again that things will be different again next year!

Trevor A Butler
Asst Show Organiser

