



## Festival of Fishkeeping 2008

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### Report to FBAS Annual General Meeting December 2008

Good afternoon everyone. I would like to thank all those who took part in this year's Festival and we hope everyone enjoyed all the displays, trade stands, lectures and activities at this year's Show.

The **Furnished Tank Competition** was an excellent and striking display again this year with entries from a number of Societies; this also gave Societies the opportunity to advertise their Clubs and activities.



**Society Furnished Aquaria**



**Festival Trophies**

The **Festival Open Show** was first class again this year with a very good selection of entries, as was the **International Discus Show** with 98 superb Discus on display, some of which came from Poland along with the very nice members of the Polish Discus Society.

The Discus Show did a takeover bid for one of the marquees but it did look quite spectacular.

On Saturday we had the **Catfish, Fighter and Killifish Shows** which were very well supported. The **Goldfish Show** had many fine examples along with the **Koi Festival** which once again made a very large impact on all those who visited, with some excellent well displayed exhibits. As always, the tropical section culminated with the **British Open Championship** and finally the **Supreme Championship** which was staged on the new display stand whose results you have already heard. Congratulation to all the Winners!

The **Viviparous, Killifish / Anabantids, SPASS** and **British Cichlid Association** displays created a lot of interest and hopefully lots of new members for them.

I would like to thank all of our sponsors for various events **Tetra, Aquarium, Hagen, RO-MAN Reverse Osmosis, Star Fisheries** and **Practical Fishkeeping**, and **Reef Aquatics** for our Marine Displays at the Festival. Thanks to **Adams Antiques** and **Keith (the Gardener) Clark** for the components used in the main Displays.

A Special Thanks go to all the Societies, Specialist Societies and Traders that put on displays at the Festival. Another Stand that gained a lot of interest was the **Snails**.

The **Breeders Sales Stand**, which was much bigger this year, ensured that our local home-bred fish were distributed throughout the country as most of the fish were sold. Hopefully this Stand will be expanded next time.

Our thanks this year to **Brian Chittenden** for putting on his tank-making display throughout the weekend. Also **Steve Cleverdon** for his impromptu talks by his stand on Bonsai plants. We must not forget to thank all the lecturers for their talks.

Something else that could not be missed - as it was a bit orange - was nicknamed The Tetramini which played the aquarium set up video on the DVD player in the car and displayed in the boot; of course everyone has a TV in the boot of their car.



**The Club Breeders Sales**



**Spider's 'Tangoed' TetraMini**

You may have notice that **RO-MAN** did not have a stand this year; this was because Martin Dadswell was quite seriously ill, but I am pleased to say he is on the road to recovery.

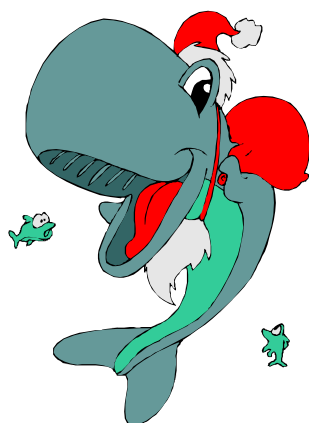
The Festival will be better than ever next year and we look forward to seeing more of our members on **9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2009** at **Mill Rythe**.

I would advise booking early as we already have a number of chalets pre-booked, many have paid the reservations fee for it at again at this year's Show to ensure their bookings.

We also need the Specialist Societies and Clubs who wish to have a Stand, Display or just a tank, 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 – a Booking Form is available online at [www.fbas.co.uk](http://www.fbas.co.uk) ..

Joe, Paul and I would especially like to thank our long-suffering Festival 'Build Team' whose tireless work very is 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.



**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2009  
from the Festival Team**

Trevor A Butler Asst Show Organiser