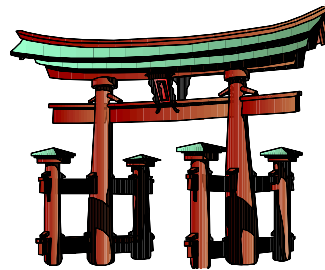




# SEKC



## ZNA SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAPTER

October 2009

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## SEKC Club Focus

### SEKC Annual Diner

The SEKC's Annual Dinner is to be held at the Lysses House Hotel, Fareham, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November (day after our Nov. club meeting). Please ensure that Barbara has your final payment (£19.50 p.p.) and menu choice by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, our next club meeting. Thank you.

LYSSES HOUSE  
HOTEL  
51 High Street,  
Fareham,  
Hampshire  
PO16 7BQ



Tel: (01329) 822622  
Email: lysses@lysses.co.uk

### We can email you your Newsletter

If you are a regular web user and have an email address why not have your newsletter sent to you by this method.

Please contact me with your email address if you are interested.

*Pat*

### SEKC General Meeting Agenda



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009  
at the  
Titchfield Parish Room  
8:00 p.m.

### Agenda

- Open Meeting
- Welcome and apologies for absence
  - Koi Chat
- Tea, Coffee and Raffle
  - Q & A Session
    - A.O.B.
    - Close

Don't forget we are on the web  
[www.sekc.org.uk](http://www.sekc.org.uk)

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### *Peter Watson – “Temperature, Temperature, Temperature”*

Temperature according to Peter Watson is the most important thing to have in your mind when dealing with the welfare of your Koi. High water temperatures – great, but as our water temperature starts to fall during those autumn days and later when the temperature reaches as low as 2-3 deg C. and below, our Koi are at risk.

Peter emphasised the importance to always be aware of the temperature in our ponds. He gave us a lot of information on what is happening in our pond and to our Koi at different temperatures.

Koi are a very hardy species, tolerant of temperature changes and small fluctuations. Nevertheless, a range of 68° to 75°F (20°-23.9°C) is recommended, especially during the summer months. *Gradual* change from one temperature to another is also recommended as drastic fluctuations in temperature are not good for Koi.

During the winter Koi kept as low as 3 or 4 deg C for a short duration cause them no harm providing they are healthy. Rather, we learn that it is the *duration* of very low temperatures that can cause problems.

Peter suggests covering the pond as a way of protecting the fish against our lengthy winter temperatures, especially if unable to heat the pond. Also we are advised to insulate pipe work, filters and pumps and a reminder to turn off the air pumps too.

We have recently erected a poly tunnel over the pond (see picture) to help prevent wind chill and to preclude rainwater and also ice forming on the pond. We hope to see a difference in our koi this spring. Fingers crossed.



Rocky's poly tunnel, newly erected over the pond.

Thank you Peter Watson for giving a very interesting talk (at our Sep. meeting) emphasising how different pond water temperatures affect the well being of our beloved pets.

### *Pat*

Please note that the information given in this section is intended as a guide only, and the information is given in good faith to assist.

### **KOI FOOD, VIRASURE**

The club have the following for sale to members at low prices:

15 kilo bags mixed pellet koi food.  
6 mm (med.) £57.

60 tablets Virasure. £28.

*Please contact Peter on:  
01722 340313 for availability.*

## A Popular Variety - The Shusui ...

The Shusui should have a sky-blue skin, paler on the head, which should be without spots. One or two lines of deep blue scales run along the dorsal ridge, and fiery red markings are expected on the forehead and body.

Shusui have been crossbred between Doitsu Koi and Asagi, and their points for appreciation therefore are basically the same as those for Asagi, yet Shusui are the more popular variety possibly because they have more variation in their colours and patterns, and they also have the unique characteristic of being Doitsu (no scales, or with a few rows of enlarged scales).



Shusui have the tendency to show black spots in the head region as they grow big. Koi with a spotless head region are valued most highly.

The arrangement of scales is also important. It is desirable that scales are visible only on the back and the regions of lateral lines – no undesirable scales in other regions. Hi on the belly covering over the lateral lines are showy.

The typical colouration is pale blue body with two rows of large dark blue mirror scales running along the dorsal fin, and a single row running along the lateral line. The bottom half of the body is usually red and the head white. There are variations in Shusui such as, the Hi Shusui

which has the body all or mostly red, Hana Shusui which has white replacing the blue on the top half of the body and also the Ki Shusui in which yellow replaces the blue and red on the body.

To be considered of good quality, a Shusui must have the proper alignment of large, dark-blue scales along the back. The scales should be offset by a lighter background, preferably white, while the head should be light blue. Red should be present on the snout, below and behind the eyes, at the bases of the fins, and on the abdomen. The Japanese consider Shusui to be of inferior quality when grey, black, or other colours are present on the scales.

A further look at the representative types :

- **Hi Shusui**, which have a red colour (hi) on the back. The large doitsu scales on the back are blue and extend from the head to the tail.

- **Ki Shusui**, which have the characteristic Shusui body, but with yellow and dark blue on the back.

- **Hana Shusui**, which have red markings on both sides of the body and abdomen, extending to the tail.

- **Pearl Shusui**, having doitsu scales with a glittering pearly appearance.

Source: [www.koi.com.hk](http://www.koi.com.hk)

Date	Programme of Events 2009/10
Fri. 23rd Oct. 2009	Club Meeting at the Titchfield Parish Room. 8:00 p.m.
Fri. 27th Nov. 2009	Club Meeting at the Titchfield Parish Room. 8:00 p.m.
Sat. 28th Nov. 2009	SEKC Annual Dinner at the Lysses House Hotel, 51 High St, Fareham.
December 2009.	No Meeting
Fri. 22nd Jan. 2010	A comprehensive talk on rivers using the "otter" as the flagship species to discuss wider environmental issues. A talk by Graham Roberts at the Titchfield Parish Room. 8:00 p.m.
Fri. 26th Feb. 2010	Club Meeting at the Titchfield Parish Room. 8:00 p.m.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Titchfield Parish Room, High Street, Titchfield, Fareham, Hants. 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm start, fourth Friday of the month unless advised otherwise.

For further information on all the clubs social events, call Barbara on 01722 340313. Activities for 2009 are being arranged, so remember to keep a check on what is happening on the social scene.

**Club "Life Line" for Members with Sick Koi**



**Ken Saunders for the Eastleigh, Southampton area: 02380 571403**

**Steve Layley for the Fareham, Portsmouth area: 01489 557748**

**Peter Webber for the Salisbury, Wiltshire area: 01722 340313**

**Keith Shakes for the Worthing, West Sussex area: 01903 753275**

**If our contact cannot help you with your particular problem themselves, they will ensure that you are put in touch with someone who can.**

*Have a Good Month,  
Pat*



*Newsletter Editor: Pat Genovese  
Tel: 02380 428852  
Email: pat@sekc.org or  
pgenovese62@uwclub.net*

*Address: 59, Oakleigh Crescent,  
Rushington Manor, Totton,  
Southampton, Hampshire,  
SO40 9AR.*