



# ASSOCIATION OF MIDLAND GOLDFISH KEEPERS

## BRIEF CLUB HISTORY

In 1973 three goldfish enthusiasts, Frank Orme, Tony Roberts and David Easingwood, met together to discuss the possibility of forming a specialist society for goldfish keepers who lived in the midlands.

At the inaugural meeting, which was held at the Foleshill Community Centre, Coventry, on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1974, many enthusiasts turned up in support. At that meeting the constitution was agreed and the group given the title of ASSOCIATION OF MIDLAND GOLDFISH KEEPERS (AMGK). The committee elected for that year consisted of Chairman Tony Roberts; Secretary Frank Orme; Reg Hancox acted as Treasurer, whilst Dave Denny and Mel Mason also served on the committee. This committee remained unchanged for two years and did much to put the AMGK upon a sound footing and ensure its recognition by the other societies, as an authoritative body of hobbyists.

The present committee continues to work hard to make the AMGK a successful society that welcomes members from a wide area of the midlands and beyond. These members range from the beginner to some who are very experienced goldfish breeders. It has been a feature of the AMGK that all members treat each other as equals; The more experienced always being able to advise and pass on their knowledge.

Meetings are kept as informal as possible and the business of the group got through as speedily as possible so that the main part of the meeting can be devoted to matters that are of particular interest to all the members. In this connection, one of the most popular type of meeting has been found to be table shows of members' fish. Early in the season members bring along adult fancy goldfish. Later in the year young fish that have been bred and raised that season are displayed. These miniature shows (anything from 30 - 60 exhibits) invariably provoke much discussion from which the newer and less experienced members can pick up many worthwhile tips.

Lectures, talks, videos and slide shows are arranged throughout the year, which cover all aspects of cold water fish keeping including, pond and fish house breeding, spawning, raising baby fish and showing. The Association also puts on an annual open show in the middle of summer and is a big contributor to the success of the National Fancy Goldfish Open Show, all judged to Nationwide Standards and staged by all the societies that judge to Nationwide Standards. The Association has many champion breeders and a number of Nationwide judges available to give advice on Showing.

The Association currently has among its ranks breeders of all 20 varieties of goldfish recognised in the Nationwide Standards.