

Goldfish Standard



Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers

Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK



DELEGATES MEETING 16TH FEBRUARY 2020

DISCLAIMER

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APRIL 2020

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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

30th March 2020



This year's March meeting was chaired by our new chairman Phil Riley for the first time, who settled into the role with ease, like he had always been doing it, a man with natural talent.

The meeting was well supported and we had a busy afternoon, the highlight for me was the gathering together of the new trainee judges and the judging of the two classes of fish, being Bristol Shubunkins and Nacreous Fantails. It was pleasing to see that in the end just about everyone in the room got involved in one way or another. It created a great atmosphere and I can see that there is a lot of potential amongst all those who took part.

However, since then world events with the covid-19 virus has taken a grip and with all of the restrictions in place to prevent the spread of the diseases and keeping people safe and in turn our efforts to help the NHS, the AMGK has reluctantly had to cancel both the May meeting and June Open Show, a decision not taken lightly but indeed the correct one under the circumstances.

As things progress with this virus we may have to cancel further events, should the situation not improve to a point where restrictions are lifted and we can go about our normal lives.

So, in the meantime, while we are protecting ourselves from the virus with isolation and social distancing, it could give us an opportunity to share things through the social media with posts about our fish keeping and breeding which can be done via **The Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers' Website and Facebook Page**, of which some of the members already use - it makes the world a smaller place.

Finally, thank you all for your understanding at this difficult time and let's get back to normal as soon as possible.

Stay safe everyone,

Kind Regards,

Andrew Barton
President

STAY AT HOME - PROTECT THE NHS - SAVE LIVES



Letter from **The Chairman**

Dear members,

I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well.

Firstly, I would like, on behalf of the Club, to say a big thank you to Pat Davies for all the hard work he did as Chairman. He has now gone on to be the new Chairman of the **Nationwide:Goldfish Societies UK and we wish him well in his new role in the hobby.**



As regards our first meeting of the year (March 2020), I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who attended; it was quite a good turn out as usual, considering the current climate we find ourselves in. Grahame has done a superb job in the creation of the new website for Nationwide and I offer our appreciation for his providing the excellent film presentation from America on the breeding of veiltail fish. Drinks and other refreshments were up to their usual great standard, so thank you Linda (and Jackie).

Subscriptions for the year are now due, and anyone who has not paid so far, can you please make contact with Gary (our treasurer).

Due to Covid-19 our Open Show has been postponed until June 2021, with all Club meetings for the foreseeable future cancelled in accordance with current government advice. Let us hope that some shows planned later in the year will go ahead, should restrictions be lifted in the next few months. We will let members know of any changes as and when they occur.

At our first meeting we had an excellent raffle and thanks to all those who donated prizes. This always raises enough funds to pay for the hire of the meeting hall, so extremely important financially! On the plus side, the weather, throughout most of the country, has been mainly warm and sunny for April and the fish should be getting ready for spawning, if they have not already. Although very cold nights have been a hinderance. I think it is important to keep the breeding going, even with no shows planned at the present time. Looking forward to seeing you all again soon. On a further note, this newsletter will be the last to be edited and formatted by June together with the editing of our website. So, thank you June, for the fantastic hard work over the last few years. The club will greatly miss you.

Regards to all.

Phil Riley AMGK Chairman

Message from Pat Davies - (Former Chairman)

VICE PRESIDENT AMGK



Well it has finally happened, after 23+ years as Chairman, I finally took the chance to stand down and let someone else have a go!!

At the last AGM. I had thought that the time that I would have spare would mean more time for actual fish breeding and rearing, but since the AGM this has been, once again, seriously curtailed having now taken on the Chairmanship of the Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK, following the election last June.

Having first joined the AMGK back in 1979, some five years after it's creation, I have seen a lot of changes, with new members joining and older ones leaving the hobby or, indeed, passing on. Despite many clubs and hobby societies experiencing falling membership I am glad to report that the AMGK still manages to grow, with new members taking up the core of the hobby, that is breeding their fish to the highest standards.

Unfortunately, 2020 will be remembered as the year of almost total lockdown due to the very nasty Covid-19 virus currently sweeping the world. Hopefully all our members will be spared to carry on with this season's breeding programme, and who knows we might be able to see the results later in the year. In accordance with government guidelines all open shows are cancelled or postponed, but as soon as we are given the go head to resume normal activities, we will! I'm betting that this will not safely happen until an effective vaccine is widely available so we may well have to wait until the summer of 2021 before we could expect to all meet again.

So whilst I have my many distractions limited these days I have prepared myself for a season of relaxing fish keeping. Alas, with the help of Jackie's microscope and computer I have discovered an infestation of Costia on the few adult Shubunkins that I have had left after a disappointing last few years. It's a devil of a disease to eradicate but I think that after a number of week's treatment using SW3, Permang and FMG (not at the same time), I think that I have cracked it! Salt proved not to be as effective as it once was due, it is believed, to new strains of the disease entering the country. Fish are now feeding, so hopefully just a matter of time until they decide to spawn.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all AMGK members for their help, encouragement and support over the last 20 odd years, they made my job as Chairman of our great Society such a pleasure and , in particular, the help that I and all of us in the society received from June with her excellent newsletters. When I started as Chairman, we would occasionally print out a one-sided note as an information sheet to members. This was followed up by the first real newsletter put together by Sandra Witter, for a number of editions, until Sandra unfortunately moved house and left the society. However, when June decided she would like to have a go at a newsletter, massive progress was made with the newsletter now going international with our Website, Facebook page and YouTube etc., We are currently in a great position for the future and I can only hope that all members continue to support the society, but more importantly the hobby!!

Thank you June and also thanks to all those who continue to put themselves out to support the society, be it through video making, printing, judging, providing teas and coffee, storing and bringing tanks to the meetings and shows etc., Finally, I'd like to thank the Society for honouring me with a Life Membership at the last AGM in recognition of my Chairmanship, it was, I have to say humbling and much appreciated. I wish the new Chairman, Phil Riley, every success for the future and hope Phil that you enjoy your slow introduction to the role over the next year. Good luck and every success to you all over the next few months.

Keep well and enjoy your fish keeping, Pat.

We all wish to give our heartfelt thanks to Pat Davies, who has served the AMGK for many years helping to make it the lively and successful club that it is today. A club that everyone can be proud of and a leader in the goldfish hobby.

Many thanks Pat and all the best for your future endeavours!

AMGK Members

Summary of decisions made at **Nationwide:** Goldfish Societies UK Delegates Meeting, held on 16th February 2020 at Horsehay Village Hall, Telford, Shropshire

As it had been nearly five years since the Nationwide Goldfish Standards were revised and modified by the Nationwide delegates, following detailed consultations and suggestions with the breeders of each variety from all four Nationwide Societies, a new meeting for 2020 was called to decide on a number of issues that was thought to be of benefit to all the societies and the continuation and expansion of the goldfish breeding hobby in general and the Annual **Nationwide:** Fancy Goldfish Open Show.

The full minutes have been issued as a first draft to all the four societies and await comments from the delegates. However, listed below are the main decisions made at the meeting on behalf of the four societies and are summarised for publication as they affect the 2020 show scene and potential training of additional judges.

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Section 1. **Nationwide:** Goldfish Societies UK new Web site

Section 2. Review of breeding progress of Butterfly Tailed Telescope Goldfish

Section 3. **Nationwide:** Show Secretary Report

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Section 5. National - **Nationwide:** Fancy Goldfish Open Show

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Section 9. Interim Review of Current Standards (Not officially due until 2021)

Section 10. National Register of Current Standard fish breeders

Section 1. Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK new Web site

- The meeting welcomed the excellently detailed and constructed Power Point presentation designed and delivered by the first guest presenter, Grahame Draper (AMGK) that explained the reasoning and merits behind the concept displayed and potential benefits for all societies to having a dedicated **Nationwide:** Web site. The excellent work undertaken by Grahame over the months leading up to the meeting sprang from a number of members discussing the idea both in society meetings and comments registered at the last couple of National open shows etc., His presentation gave delegates an insight into some of the main functions of the proposed web site including (A) to direct users into the four Nationwide Goldfish societies as an advertising tool that promotes the hobby and hopefully leads to increased society membership etc., (B) publish the **Nationwide:** Fish Standards and Protocol for future Standards (C) Promotes the annual **Nationwide:** Fancy Goldfish Open Show (D) and publishes the **Nationwide:** Constitution (E) Keeps a running list of availability of Standard Fish and list of breeders of each variety through a connection into each society's point of contact, in accordance with current data Protection legislation and any amount of other functions to support the needs of all **Nationwide:** Societies.

- The meeting agreed to go ahead with the Web site as presented by Grahame with one abstention. Sherridan Moores (NGPS) had some concerns as to whether the host system chosen by Grahame was necessarily the best one for our purposes, how much income through selective advertising might be generated and how we might be linking with American web sites etc.,
- Agreed that Grahame should be the Web Master for this new venture and that a reserve web master, (as an insurance) should be nominated from one of the Nationwide societies asap. It was also pointed out that, through sponsored, relevant advertising, the web site should become self- financing and after the first year should be capable of providing additional profit for the **Nationwide:** budget. Societies were asked to search for potential advertisers and report back to Grahame. His 45minute presentation was warmly applauded by the delegates for a job well done and recognition that all the work that Grahame had put into this project so far will be a great benefit to the hobby and all the Nationwide societies.
- Meeting agreed to review the level of success of use and cost for all societies after an initial twelve months.

Section 2. Review of breeding progress of Butterfly Tailed Telescope Goldfish

- The second guest presenter, Jackie Pedley (AMGK), having first made available to the delegates her excellent homemade Butterfly Tail shaped cheesy biscuits had us all enthralled with her equally well presented breeding programme (now in its 3rd Year as of 14th January) of her Butterfly Tail Telescope variety of goldfish (or Brummie Butterfly as Jackie prefers to call it!). The Butterfly, although an established variety in the far east, has only been introduced into the UK in recent years.
- Jackie has taken the variety under her wing over the last three years and, in an attempt to prove its consistency to have it considered for eventual inclusion in the Nationwide Standards book as a recognised and true breeding variety, has embarked on a detailed and well-tried line breeding programme starting back in 2018.
- A detailed record of original fish, spawning record and progress report with plenty of photographic evidence was projected during her talk was also made available to all delegates in hard copy. It was agreed that (A) all societies could use this to inform their members and that(B) Jackie's progress with this variety was applauded by the delegates and look forward to further progress to be reported over the next two years, in line with agreed Standard's protocol.
- It was noted that if the breeding programme continued to produce such promising results then Andy Barton, the delegate sponsor for this variety, will prepare with Jackie, a final proposal for consideration by nationwide: for inclusion in the Standards Book.
- A further document, detailing June Kemp's (AMGK) breeding programme for this variety was also issued at the meeting to all delegates by Andy, together with a first draft of copy for consideration. A line drawing of suggested standard was not presented at this time. Further development opportunities and refinement of the Butterfly tail was promised for the future.
- A coloured illustrative chart, included in the issued variety document, that showed nine alternative fin arrangements found and bred in the far east was discussed as part of Jackie's presentation, with confirmation that it was proposed to develop on the lines of the illustration marked as 'Trapezium'.
- Again, the meeting applauded Jackie at the conclusion of her presentation and acknowledged and appreciated all of her painstakingly work over the last few years to reach this point in the development of this 'New Variety' and wished all success for the future.

Section 3. **Nationwide:** Show Secretary Report

- Due to illness, Graham Turner (NEGS), the **Nationwide:** Secretary and Show Secretary was not able to make the meeting, but had discussed by telephone and email with the Chairman prior to the date a number of points that he wanted to bring to the attention of the delegates.
- The following was noted and agreed.
- All show schedules and show programme would carry a full-page advert for each sponsor.
- Although AMGK would not necessarily be able to continue with a special supplement publication dedicated to the **Nationwide:** Fancy Goldfish Open Show results, with full set of results and photographs of all class winners and specials, as it has done for the six years that the show has been running. This will now be attempted by volunteers from the **Nationwide:** Goldfish Societies UK itself from 2020 onwards. Should this be done it will be placed on the new Nationwide: web site.
- Also confirmed that All queries or complaints raised during the Show will be brought to the attention of the Show Manager/Show Secretary during the show and the business concluded before the show end. This to be the end of the matter. This has always been made clear in the show rules as printed in the entry schedule and programme.
- Graham had asked for assistance in compiling just the total points of all entries in each class and have them available by each class, the meeting could not agree as to how this could be done and await further discussions with the Show Secretary. However, it was agreed that all judges sheets will be displayed once completed for any exhibitor to see at the show.

Section 4. **Nationwide:** Secretary's & Treasurer's Reports

- Dennis Godfrey, (NEGS) confirmed that Public Liability insurance would be organised, as usual, for the National Show in October 2020.
- Andy Barton (AMGK) **Nationwide:** Treasurer, produced summary accounts for the year with copies of previous years for the record. These were issued to all delegates.
- Andy reported that the national show produced a healthy profit year on year and after starting from scratch six years ago now had a bank balance. To date the shows have been self-financing, a great achievement as the show has not been partially financed by sponsors for the last two years. We were grateful to the Show Secretary for arranging the first four years of excellent sponsorship from Biffa and his continuing efforts in securing fish food sponsorship from Vitalis, Mars/Aquarian and Fish Science.
- Meeting agreed that once the balance in the **Nationwide:** Bank Account reached a certain figure, in accordance with the original decisions when the delegates first decided to put on a national show on behalf of the four societies 'surplus' monies could be distributed to the **Nationwide:** Societies. However, It was recognised by delegates from BAS that as AMGK provided their own show tanks for the majority of classes for this show over the years, they may want to replace these due to possible extra wear and tear. Funds would be made available, if so required, for such purposes in future years.

Section 5. National - **Nationwide**: Fancy Goldfish Open Show

- Agreed, after some discussion, that the method of judging the best adult Fish, best team, best exhibit etc., would carry on as previously (i.e., by all judges) except that no judge would be able to judge their own fish in this final round.
- Graham Turner (NEGS) to remain Show Secretary, with Andy Barton (AMGK) remaining Show Manager. Two volunteers from AMGK to book hotel for the night before to help put up the show before show day, with one from NEGS and three or four from BAS. We had a total of nineteen volunteers last year and would ask all societies to promote the idea at their next society meetings to provide at least the same number again for 2020.
- Agreed that show schedule will include a dedicated line entry for all fish with a recognised standard and omit AOV with a standard class.
- Pre-booking facility for auction fish will continue to be on the entry schedule, but with no entry limit.
- Confirmed that security of show and the judging period being roped off was working well (but needed a little more room) and that discussions to be held with the venue authorities to see if adjoining users of the building could be persuaded not to use the kitchen as a through route due to the limited space for cooking refreshments throughout the day.
- As previously stated in the minutes, we need to find an alternative way of producing a record of the show with new volunteers to accomplish this. Delegates were asked to discuss with their respective membership and offer solutions.
- Request was made from the Chairman for all delegates to try and seek further sponsorship for the show and for the proposed web site. Graham has done a fantastic job so far for all the previous shows and will continue to do so, but ideas for additional sponsorship would be welcome.
- The current venue in Coventry for the show was discussed and agreement to stay for the next show was made. Alternative venues were also discussed briefly. The Horsehay Village Hall, Telford was dismissed on the grounds of restricted sunlight into the main hall, restricted safe parking and lack of available volunteers to stage the show, together with unavailability the day before the show. AMGK's fantastic facilities for their open show in June was also dismissed as being over £100 more than The Wyken Community Centre and also being unable to book the day before.

Section 6. Review and agreement required for new judges' training

- The Chairman provided a list of Judges and a list of possible trainee judges (the latter compiled from the response to an earlier letter sent to all societies to address the need for new judges to take over from retiring judges in future years and to add to the list of available judges at future shows in order to reduce the time taken up judging and restricting the viewing public's time enjoying the show.
- A final, corrected list is now available at the end of these minutes.
- An edited extract from a more formal training manual, initially provided by the show secretary, was loaned to the chairman at the last show. This training manual was originally written by Derek Seymore, senior judge for many years at the former incarnation of the GSGB. The edited forward and background written and produced by the Chairman under the title 'A Background Guide for Training Judges – Judging Goldfish' under the banner of **Nationwide**: Goldfish Societies United Kingdom was issued at the meeting in the delegates pack.

- It was considered by the Chairman to be a useful tool as background reading for trainee judges and established judges alike.
- The larger document, over 30 pages has been partially re-edited and will be issued to each society, upon completion in due course as a reference. No other written training programme from any **Nationwide** society in was forthcoming at the meeting.
- Ian Mildon (BAS), Board member responsible for Judges and Standards, then followed with a more detailed and specific envisaged programme by setting out exactly what would be expected of each trainee over a flexible period of time in order to become a judge. This was accepted by the meeting as the way forward and approved as follows:-
 - Stage one would involve an agreed trainee in following an experienced judge at a national open show (four sessions listening and observing four different judges with a variety of classes ie., teams, single tail and twin tail entries.
 - Stage two comprising six sessions with a qualified Judge, trainee judging in conjunction with the judge, with trainee taking a lead.
 - Each trainee would have a printed record sheet to record all thoughts, information regarding each show, class judged, number in class what judge was training etc., ensuring that as many classes was covered over the training period. The judge would be required to write a report on observations within this document to give a complete record and assessment after all sessions are completed. (anticipated that could be completed, if all opportunities are taken at every show approximately two and a half seasons.
 - Once completed, the Board member for Judges would alert the Delegates to the findings and hopefully approve the appointment of a new judge.
- Ian Mildon (BAS) has since forwarded to the Chairman a Judges Training Passport that will be issued with the minutes to all delegates, based on the general agreement at the meeting. Listed below are the 8 rules and stages shown on the passport.
 1. A training Passport will be issued to the trainee and signed on every occasion by the mentor. Also a record will be kept by the judges Training Coordinator
 2. All official Training and Assessments will be at Nationwide Open Shows.
 3. The trainee Judges should preferably have bred two types of fish and gained results at any of the Nationwide Open Shows before completing the final Assessment.
 4. The trainee will first undertake four training sessions at a Nationwide Open Show, two classes per show with four different judges.
 5. The trainee will then judge at six Nationwide Open Shows, two classes per show being mentored by a different Nationwide judge at each show.
 6. Judges will assess the ability of the trainee to judge the fish and their understanding of the Nationwide Standards Book.

7. A variety of Singletail, Twintail with Dorsal, Twintail without Dorsal and Teams should be covered during training and mentoring sessions.

8. When a trainee becomes a fully qualified Judge, at least first two classes judged will be scrutinised by an experienced Judge.

Section 7. Judges Recognition/Certification & Awards of Merit for Services to the Hobby

- Following a number of comments received over the years regarding recognition by visitors and exhibitors to the show it was felt that some sort of label/badge would be useful in identification of Judges, Show secretary/show manager/trainee judges etc., would be very useful. Draft printed sticky labels created by Grahame and Jackie were shown to the meeting. The principle was considered a great idea with Sherridan (NGPS) suggesting that he could have permanent labels manufactured but would need to wait until September to add to his forthcoming order for similar work for NGPS. Agreed we will have to await a cost prior to confirmation, and in the meantime sticky printed labels would be printed as a back-up at no direct cost to **Nationwide:**

- It was agreed that a certificate would be awarded to any new judge approved by the committee in future years upon successful completion of the proposed training course. The Nationwide Committee considered an Award of Merit to be given to those in the wider hobby to recognise outstanding contribution etc., This was rejected.

Section 8. Possible purchase of portable sound system for **Nationwide: Show**

- Following requests from the auctioneers and public bidding for fish etc., that due to the building's acoustics during the auction, together with an increasing number of attendees with hearing loss, that some sort of amplifying device ought to be considered. Once again, Grahame Draper's (AMGK) expertise was put into use and a two microphone system in the region of £89.00 was found. This has now been purchased.

Section 9. Interim Review of Current Standards (Not officially due until 2021)

- There were no comments made for concern at this stage. It was noted that some of the varieties such as the Red Cap Oranda had not been seen for some years with a broad/veil tail only a fantail type and that judges had accredited fantail Orandas in the Oranda class. Outside the meeting the Chairman received comment from a society member that our standard for the Jikin could do with revisiting at some point. The latter variety involved a great deal of discussion and argument at the last review of all the standards prior to the last publication in January 2016. At the time all agreed that there would be a moratorium on modification of the standards for five years. This is due to expire in 2021.

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Section 10. National Register of Current Standard Fish Breeders

- The Chairman had drawn up a list of all 20 Standard goldfish varieties in the weeks before the meeting together with known breeders from the four Nationwide Societies and the societies from which they belong. This was issued to all societies to be updated as far as possible and issued as part of the meeting pack to all delegates. It was accepted that there were some omissions and errors. These lists have been subsequently modified and are attached to these minutes below. The benefits of such a list is to (A) help both existing breeders and keepers, both old and new to the hobby to locate high quality stock and (B) keep all varieties going for the years to come. It is obvious from the list that one or two varieties are in serious danger of being lost to the UK.

• Particularly with regard to very rare varieties, the Chairman suggested that breeders of such might be willing to share spawnings with other breeders that might want to take on the challenge of preserving such varieties. All agreed that this would be a good idea. Some of these varieties have been developed within the UK for over 100 years and all agreed that it would be disrespectful to earlier dedicated exponents of the variety and a sad loss to the hobby if we should fail to save them.

• It was agreed that suitable youngsters from these shared spawning as such, could be entered into 'this year's bred' classes, but only under joint names.

Pat Davies, Chairman, **Nationwide:** Goldfish Societies United Kingdom 07/03/2020

Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK

Fish Breeders Register

List of current breeders of Nationwide: Standard Fish 2020

This list has been compiled from all four societies in order to record current breeders of pedigree fish and their location through their respective societies. i.e., Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers (AMGK); Bristol Aquarists Society (BAS); North East Goldfish Society (NEGS); Northern Goldfish and Pond Keepers Society (NGPS).

Common Goldfish

Ian Mildon (BAS)
Tony Roberts (AMGK)
Mick Smith (AMGK)

London Shubunkin

Brian Parkin (NEGS)
David Roberts (NGPS)
Mick Smith (AMGK)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Bristol Shubunkin

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Martin Clare (AMGK)
Pat Davies (AMGK)
Elaine Edmunds (AMGK)
Bob Jones (BAS)
Robert Jones (BAS)
Alex King (NEGS)
David Padfield (NGPS)
Phil Riley (AMGK)
Tony Roberts (AMGK)
Rebecca Wilson (AMGK)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Comet

Alan Ratcliff (NGPS)
Tony Waterhouse (BAS)

Jikin

Martin Clare (AMGK)
Ian Mildon (BAS)
Alan Race (NEGS)
Graham Turner (NEGS)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Wakin

David Roberts (NGPS)
Ian Mildon (BAS)

Fantail

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Craig Clinton (NGPS)
Bob Jones (BAS)
Mick Smith (AMGK)
Gary Malpas (AMGK)

Pearlscale

Elaine Edmunds (AMGK)
Craig Clinton (AMGK)
Dean Roberts (AMGK)
Rebecca Wilson (AMGK)

Ryukin

Grahame Draper (AMGK)
Liam Roberts (AMGK)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Metallic Veiltail

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Martin Clare (AMGK)

Calico Veiltail

Craig Clinton (NGPS)
Keith Mullin (AMGK)
David Padfield (NGPS)
Phil Riley (AMGK)
Liam Roberts (AMGK)
Tony Roberts (AMGK)
Brian Young (AMGK)

Moor

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Pat Davies (AMGK)
Josh Hearne-Wilkins (AMGK)
Bob Jones (BAS)
David Padfield (NGPS)
Richard Rizzotti (NGPS)
Liam Roberts (AMGK)
Tony Roberts (AMGK)
Mick Smith (AMGK)
Nick Swales (NEGS)

Globe-Eye

Jackie Pedley (AMGK)
Graham Turner (NEGS)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Oranda

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Dean Roberts (NGPS)

Redcap

Andrew Barton (AMGK)
Alan Race (NEGS)
Stan Woolridge (AMGK)

Lionhead

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Sherridan Moores (NGPS)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Tosakin

Andrew Barton (AMGK)
Stan Woolridge (AMGK)

Ranchu

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Andy Beckett (BAS)
Martin Clare (AMGK)
Craig Clinton (AMGK)
Pat Davies (AMGK)
Alex King (NEGS)
Kieth Mullin (BAS)
Liam Roberts (AMGK)
Nick Swales (NEGS)
Keith Waters (AMGK)

Bubble-Eye

Martin Clare (AMGK)
Craig Clinton (NGPS)

Celestial

Dean Roberts (NGPS)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

Pom-Pon

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)

The above list is as complete as I can make it at the time of going to press. I would ask that breeders make contact with a list of their varieties actually being bred , rather than just being kept. This will give us a more accurate picture of how safe the varieties are from extinction.

The following list of all breeders is as comprehensive as it can be at the time of writing (26/02/2020), but undoubtedly will be modified over the years ahead.

Nationwide: List of 36 Known Breeders of Pedigree Fish 2020

Andy Barton (AMGK)
Andy Beckett (BAS)
Graham Bell (BAS)
Martin Clare (AMGK)
Craig Clinton (NEGS)
Pat Davies (AMGK)
Grahame Draper (AMGK)
Elaine Edwards (AMGK)
Josh Hearne-Wilkins (AMGK)
Bob Jones (BAS)
Robert Jones (BS)
Alex King (NEGS)
Gary Malpas (AMGK)
Sherridan Moores (NGPS)
John McGarver (NEGS)
Ian Mildon (BAS)
Keith Mullin (BAS)
David Padfield (NGPS)

Brian Parkin (NEGS)
Alan Race (NEGS)
Alan Ratcliff (NGPS)
Phil Riley (AMGK)
Richard Rizzotti (NGPS)
David Roberts (NGPS)
Dean Roberts (NGPS)
Liam Roberts (AMGK)
Tony Roberts (AMGK)
Mick Smith (AMGK)
Nick Swales (NEGS)
Graham Turner (NEGS)
Clive Waterhouse (BAS)
Tony Waterhouse (BAS)
Keith Waters (AMGK)
Chris Whitehurst (AMGK)
Rebeca Wilson (AMGK)
Brian Young (AMGK)

baby fish 2020



METALLIC BUTTERFLIES BRED 2020 BY JACKIE PEDLEY



The fish were born in January 2020 from a large spawning of two metallic butterflies originally from Star fisheries, I have split the large spawning with Jamie Mullen who came and collected lots of them so we can share.

baby fish 2019

BRED BY ANDY BARTON



VARIEGATED TOSAKIN



NACREOUS VEILTAIL



VARIEGATED FANTAIL



NACREOUS VEILTAIL



RED FANTAIL



POM-PON



CALICO LIONHEAD



POM-PON



MOOR



NACREOUS FANTAIL

JOIN IN

baby fish 2020

Due to the cancellation of meetings and shows this year, content for our newsletter will be a little thin on the ground, so Andy and Jackie have kicked off the challenge to fill the blank pages with photos of their baby fish.

Now it's your turn.....

Please email your photos together with a short write up about them to: amgkblog@gmail.com



YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

Goldfish Standard

Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers



Gardens, Ponds & Fish Houses

Several members have written short articles for publication in our newsletter on their particular set-ups and how they became interested in the fish keeping hobby. At last years' March meeting some gave a short talk with slides on the subject.

Either way it would be of great interest to the rest of our members - so why not give it a go?



Not on line?

*NO PROBLEM -
Good old fashioned
pen and paper will be
fine!*

**Hand written
articles can
be sent to:**

8a Howard
Road,
Stafford,
ST17 9EW

Message from

BAS

Hi everyone.

We find ourselves in uncharted waters regarding the Covid-19 virus.

Because of this, and our government's advice, the committee have decided to cancel all of our monthly meetings for the time being. They will resume when it is safe to do so.

The monthly newsletter will go out as usual and when the situation changes we'll let you know.

Bob Jones

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS 2020

For those who have not yet paid their membership (£12.00 per year), you are now able to do so via a Bank Transfer to the **Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers** account, details as below:

Santander Bank Sort Code 09-01-50 - Account No. 03585387

If you choose this option, and I hope you will, can you please let Gary know, either via email to linda.malpas@ntlworld.com or Tel.No. 01604 451515.

CAN
ANYBODY
help?

Hello there, I found your website after googling Goldfish breeders and I'm not sure if you can help me or not.

I don't know if any of your members breed the normal common Goldfish or not as I am after one all solid yellow and two all solid red (with no other markings or colours other than the original solid).

I'm in Leicester and willing to travel or pay for postage if any of your members have what I am looking for.

Thanks for any help in advance!

Mark Woodhouse

[\[mailto:britzwood@yahoo.com\]](mailto:britzwood@yahoo.com)

Please contact Mark directly by email

In recognition of the various sponsors that support our Open Show and that of the National it is considered appropriate that we have a regular inclusion of the names in our published **AMGK Goldfish Standard Magazine** and include them in our electronic distribution of said magazine.

In addition, we would ask all members who use the products from our contributing sponsors to report on findings such as ease of use, fish appetite, water quality changes, growth rates of fish etc.,

This will help all our members and be excellent feed back to fish food manufacturers and distributors that support each show.

SHOW SPONSORS RECOGNITION



FishScience Aquarium Foods

Unique New Formula With Insect Meal

Contains cultured Insect Meal:

- Recreates the natural insect based diet that goldfish would eat in the wild
- Environmentally friendly and sustainable - reduces the use of fish meal which is taken from the sea
- Easily digested for low waste

Plus Naturally enhances the colour of the fish using Spirulina algae, paprika and krill

...and the fish really like it

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vitalis
AQUATIC NUTRITION

Today I wish to take this opportunity to say “Thank You” to June Pons, on behalf of the membership of the Association Of Midland Goldfish Keepers, for her outstanding contribution to the club over the years, where she carefully developed the Goldfish Standard, from humble beginnings to the outstanding newsletter that it is today.

The dedication and enthusiasm along with her skill with the many different graphics, coupled with the computer tools has given the AMGK a newsletter that is second to none.

June has kindly re-written many an article which was hand written on a piece of paper with a few photographs and turned it into a really interesting article for all to read, published reports on the various shows both open and table, which are very time consuming, but those reports have been the backbone of the newsletter, giving the reader a wonderful and informative account of what took place at the various events, of which I have received many a warm comment about.

But, time goes by, and it was with a great sadness that I learned of June's decision to retire from producing the Goldfish Standard.

We as a club are very thankful for all of June's efforts and it was pleasing to know that she is happy to help with the transition period, in order that quality of the newsletter can be maintained when handed over to the new editor.

We wish June well and hope that her new adventures are full of new memories, as she has given the AMGK some wonderful memories to look back upon.

Andrew Barton

Thank you for your kind words - it's been a pleasure! xx June

INSECT MEAL

Is it the future for ornamental fish foods?

The range of aquarium and pond fish foods has never been larger. Fish food technology is moving forward at a pace, with novel ingredients and formats being used to provide new and innovative foods for our fish. Crisps with their low temperature production, soft pellets, wafers and species specific diets are all now regulars on aquatic shop shelves.

Developments are still occurring and one of the major changes that I believe will happen over the next few years is the increasing use of insects as a key ingredient for fish foods. It makes sense in so many ways - after all it is what most of the fish that we keep in aquaria and ponds have been eating for millions of years.

But what insects and why?

Reducing the use of fish meal

Most of the fish that we keep in our aquaria and ponds are not fish eaters - and yet most of the foods that are available to feed them are based on fish meal.

Fish meal has been used as a key ingredient and source of protein in fish foods because it was (and still is) readily available, is relatively inexpensive, and has a good nutritional profile. It is a good ingredient. Originally the fish meal was produced from low value wild caught fish or from fish that were not suitable for human consumption (often called trash fish). In the past they were caught and processed in vast numbers, even being scattered on the ground as a fertilizer.

However the reduction in fish populations and our increasing awareness of the need for sustainability and to be environmentally friendly has resulted in a dramatic fall in fish meal production. It more than halved in the twenty year period from 1994 – 2014 (from 34 million tonnes to 16 million tonnes) and that trend is continuing. Wild caught fish are still used in fish meal production, but they are increasingly from sustainably harvested populations of anchovies, capelin and herring. The official figures vary, but it is thought that 25 – 33% of fish meal is now produced from fish by-products – that is the heads, tails, bones etc that are left after the fish have been processed for human consumption.

We still use an estimated 10% of the worlds fish catches to feed to other fish.

Obviously as the production and availability of fish meal reduces, the costs of this ingredient increases. Not surprisingly significant research is being focused on identifying less costly and more sustainable alternatives. The use of insect meal appears to offer one of the better alternatives.

Insects as food

The use of protein sourced from insects goes far beyond the need to protect fish stocks. It is seen as a long term solution to providing high quality protein for human food.

In many parts of the world insects are already eaten in huge numbers. More than 2 billion people are estimated to eat caterpillars, beetles and larvae as part of their everyday diet. In South Africa over 9.5 billion mopane caterpillars are harvested every year for human consumption. In Uganda a kilo of grasshoppers is more valuable than a kilo of beef. It is only in Europe and North America that we find the idea of eating insects distasteful. Leading authorities believe this is about to change and that we will all be eating insects within 20 years.

What are the benefits of feeding insects to our fish?

Insect meal is a fantastic new ingredient that is being cultured at sites across the world. Many of these are still prototype factories, which are finding methods to culture different insect species in commercial quantities.

The black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) has been the subject of considerable research and is being used as an ingredient in both aquaculture and ornamental fish foods. There are many benefits of the insect meal for fish keepers including:

- It is eagerly eaten by the fish. Many freshwater fish naturally eat insects either from the water surface or by consuming their aquatic larvae. Even species that are normally reluctant to consume prepared foods will eat insect meal based flakes. The African Butterfly fish (*Pantodon buchholzi*) is a great example eating insect meal based flakes as soon as they are offered, presumably being tempted by the smell of the food.
- Fish have been eating insects for millions of years and, not surprisingly have evolved to digest and process them very effectively. Independent trials have demonstrated excellent food conversion ratios and low waste production from foods based on insect meal.
- Provides an environmentally friendly and sustainable source of high quality protein.

Sustainability

The 'green' side of insect production is a major benefit. Not only does the use of insect meal reduce the need to use fish meal, with the benefits that this provides to our marine environment – it also has some major benefits over other protein production methods. Take a look at the benefits of culturing and using black soldier flies:

- Cultured on organic material such as brewery waste and waste fruit and vegetables. These are materials that are usually composted and dug into the ground.
- They grow rapidly from an egg to the pre-pupating larvae in only 13 days .
- Efficient conversion of food into protein, particularly when compared to other protein production.

1.5kg of food needed to produce 1kg of insects

2.3kg of food needed to produce 1kg chicken

8.8kg of food needed to produce 1kg beef

- Less than 10% of the greenhouse gas emissions when compared with conventional livestock rearing.
- Consistent quality and traceable.

Early days

The use of insect meal as an ingredient in fish foods (and for other animals and humans) is still at an early stage. As recently as July 2017 amendments were made to EU regulations which permitted insect meal to be used as feed in aquaculture. Prior to this it could only be used for non -food species – which included ornamental fish. The aquaculture industry is keen to find alternatives to the use of fish meal and will undoubtedly spend large amounts on research which will benefit our hobby.

Most of the research to date has focused on the black soldier fly, meal worms and crickets. However there are many different insect species available which could be cultured. By selecting the insect species and what they are fed on it is possible to obtain different nutritional profiles which could be used to produce the 'ideal' food for different animal and fish species. There are an estimated 14 million species of beetles, insects and terrestrial arthropods, so the opportunities are endless.

Using insects as food for farm animals, pets and even humans is big news, with articles and features on the opportunities and what will happen in the future appearing in the press on a regular basis. In the ornamental fishkeeping world we are already there – with insect meal based foods being available to feed to your fish.

Have you tried them yet?

David Pool



**CHECK OUT
THE NEW
WEBSITE**



nationwidegoldfishsocieties.uk

Join our **facebook** closed group

The Association Of
Midland Goldfish
Keepers
Closed group



Need any help? - please contact Heather Carrier on 07549 526622

amgk.co.uk

THE ASSOCIATION OF MIDLAND
GOLDFISH KEEPERS

A WARM WELCOME TO A.M.G.K.



COMMITTED TO THE CARE AND BREEDING OF GOLDFISH

**Back issues of our
magazine can be
found on our website**

amgk.co.uk

Videos of various meetings and shows can be viewed on our **YouTube** channel

association of Midland Goldfish Keepers



Association of Midland Goldfish
Keepers
6 subscribers

[CUSTOMIZE CHANNEL](#)

[YOUTUBE STUDIO \(BETA\)](#)

DIARY DATES FOR 2020

DATES FOR MEETINGS AT BINLEY HALL - STARTING AT 1PM

DUE TO THE CURRENT INFORMATION BEING GIVEN OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS, THE A.M.G.K. HAS TAKEN THE DECISION THAT WE WILL BE CANCELLING OUR NEXT MEETING (SUNDAY 17TH MAY) AND ALSO OUR OPEN SHOW (SATURDAY 27TH JUNE) FOR THIS YEAR.

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST BABY FISH TABLE SHOW (BRED 2020) AND SPEAKER
SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER AGM AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

OTHER DATES FOR 2020

SUNDAY 26TH JULY **INVITATION ONLY** - MEMBERS DAY AT PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
JULY - TO BE CONFIRMED NEGS OPEN SHOW
SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER BAS OPEN SHOW
SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER NGPS OPEN SHOW
SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER NATIONAL FANCY GOLDFISH OPEN SHOW
OCTOBER-TO BE CONFIRMED FBAS FESTIVAL OF FISHKEEPING WEEKEND

YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2020

PRESIDENT	Andrew Barton	07770 411419
VICE PRESIDENT	Pat Davies	01952 504280
CHAIRMAN	Phil Riley	07961 240755
VICE CHAIRMAN/FACEBOOK	Heather Carrier	07549 526622
SECRETARY	Linda Malpas	01604 451515
TREASURER	Gary Malpas	01604 451515
OPEN SHOW MANAGER	Andrew Barton	07770 411419
OPEN SHOW SECRETARY	Linda Malpas	01604 451515
TABLE SHOW MANAGER	Josh Hearne-Wilkins	07896 756686
SHOW CATERING MANAGER	Jackie Pedley	07752 752241
WEBMASTER	Grahame Draper	07889 128988
NEWSLETTER	TBC	