



# Goldfish Standard

Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers

MAY 2015

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## President's Open Day

Photos taken on the Open Day at Andrew Barton's home

### A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1987

Although the A.M.G.K. was founded in 1974, we didn't hold our first annual Open Show until 1987, with only 10 classes and 58 entries. I am pleased to say that many of the exhibitors from over a quarter of a century ago are still exhibiting in our shows to this day.

Jan Amos was the winner of the London Shubunkin class, Ian Mildon winning the Common Goldfish, Jim Amos 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> with his Bristols, Tony Roberts taking the Veiltail and Moor classes and Graham Bell, from Bristol, taking the Lionhead class and also Best In Show.

### DISCLAIMER

Please note that the views, opinions and individuals' comments expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the A.M.G.K. Society or it's Committee and no liability will be accepted by the A.M.G.K. about the Information contained therein.

### A Tale of Years Gone By.....

A short potted history of our Open Show, from its reasonably small beginnings in 1987 up to the present day, with some of the ups and downs along the way.

I hope that you find the trip down memory lane of interest in this edition and following issues of the Goldfish Standard.

Mick Smith



# Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers



## Chairman's Report May 2015

### Nationwide Standards

At long last we have agreed all the text for the revised Nationwide Standards at the last Nationwide Meeting of Fish Society delegates held on Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015. The meeting was attended by delegates from all the fish societies dedicated to the improvement and continuation of the Standards for all the recognised Goldfish Varieties. We are also well on with the modifications of the line drawings and our thanks go out to those delegates and societies that put so much work into this effort over the last two years. Apologies to all that had to spend so much time listening to the constructive arguments and contributing their thoughts and opinions at various society meetings over the last 24 months but we now have a solid draft document free of errors and discrepancies. Thanks have to go to all the delegates, from all the societies for their time and determination to complete this mammoth task as mandated by all the societies on behalf of the membership. There may still be some dissent from some fish keepers, with the door always open for further modification as fish develop over the forthcoming years. A standard for the Wakin and Ryukin were also agreed at this meeting. Minutes of the Nationwide meeting will be published soon as a permanent record of events for all society records.

### National Open Goldfish Show to Nationwide Standards

We can confirm that the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Open Goldfish show judged to Nationwide Standards will again be held in **Northampton on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015**. As previously, this is organised and run jointly by all four goldfish societies with more details being made available nearer the time but for now please make a note of the date in your diaries.

### AMGK Web Site

We now have a new web site, that will be set up by June Pons on behalf of the Society and I wish to thank both June for undertaking the initial management of the site and for sorting out how to transfer it from the previous domain etc., and also want to thank Frances Van der Merwe for running our web site to date on the Society's behalf. Once the web site is up and running we will publish all particulars for our members to use and contribute to as appropriate.





## Chairman's Report May 2015



### New Members

We offer a very warm welcome to new members Tony and Heather Carrier, from Leicester and hope that they will be able to attend our next get together at our Open Show on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

### Photography

Laurence Tressler, who has been a member for the last couple of years, was kind enough to volunteer to photograph and film our adult fish show during our last meeting. Laurence is a keen photographer and has had a number of interesting past commissions. It is intended that an edited disc copy is produced for review as a permanent club record and, if possible, Laurence has 'volunteered' to film the Open Show activities if he can make the date. The film will include the setting up, judging process, auction, canteen activity, presentations of awards and de-benching etc., this should make for interesting viewing later in the year so please watch your dress, language and any make up you lads want to wear!.

### Chairman's Open Day

For the third time in five years I have agreed to an open day at my house in Telford, Shropshire on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015, but cannot promise exceptionally sunny weather like on the last two occasions, but you never know. Although it has been a late start for many of us this year with our fish breeding programme, mainly due to the cold weather, I started to bring the fish into breeding condition during April and now have spawnings of Bristol Shubunkins, Broadtail Moors, Common Goldfish and a few Calico Veiltails – all feeding on newly hatched Brine Shrimp. So there should be plenty of young fish available to see before they hit the Autumn Show scene. Of course, all members are welcome as well as other members from the other Nationwide Standards supporting societies.

Our thanks once again to June for putting this issue of the **Goldfish Standard** together, and understand that there will be another bumper issue following our open show.

**Happy fish keeping**  
**Pat Davies, Chairman**



## President's Open Day

Andy Barton, our President, kindly opened his house and fish establishment for members on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014 which made for a great day out. Apart from some excellent fish on display (particularly broadtail/Veil Orandas, Andy keeps and breeds show quality Fancy Guppies. A number of members, myself included, started fish breeding with quality Guppies so it was good to see some excellent ones that have done Andy proud in the national guppy show league over the last few years. We have included a number of photographs from the day and also some from the year before on a similar event if you are wondering why some of us have had a change of clothing!



## A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1988

1988 had quite a low number of entries with only 45 fish on the bench but with exhibitors the likes of Bill Ramsden, Harold Pritchard, Brian Tinkler, Ian Mildon and Bob Jones the quality must have been of the highest standard. The Best in Show was won by a Bubble Eye exhibited by S. J. Rodgers.



# President's Open Day



A selection of Andrew's fish

## A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1990

1990 saw the show grow yet again to 17 classes and 88 fish on the bench. Among the judges were legends in the fish keeping lobby, Bill Leach, Bill Ramsden, Bill Cumberland, Vic Capaldi and our own Jim Amos. Brian Tinkler from AMGK taking Best in Show with his Bristol Shubunkin.



## A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1989

In 1989 we expanded the number of classes to 15 and a certain Elaine Edmunds made her first appearance among the fringe winners with a Pearlscale. Kevin Swinson from NGPS taking Best in Show with his Metallic Veiltail.



## A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1991

This growth in the show continued into 1991, breaking the century barrier with 109 entries and seeing Jan Amos taking Best In Show with her Common Goldfish.



## Letter from the President

Dear Members

2015 is looking like it is going to be a marvellous year for goldfish keeping, with many of our members having early spawnings in large numbers. Some of our members who have been lucky enough to do this have shared their experiences with us via the social media, namely Facebook, and it has been interesting to see at first hand, the results that they have had and also the progress they are making with the fry.

There are many pages on Facebook but two that have held my interest just lately are Funky Fish and London Ranchu, with both pages having pictures and videos of high quality fish which are available for a fee.

The A.M.G.K. is also working on it's own web site at the moment and at some point we will be asking for contributions towards this in the form of articles and pictures etc. We will keep you informed as to when this will be needed, so while the site is being worked upon could all those people who wish to contribute please get their information ready so that it can be included when the time comes.

The May meeting has again been well supported by the members, with an outstanding display of their fish of which nearly all on display were owner bred. During the meeting a video was recorded of the meeting and the fishes, of which we hope to be able to show to you all at a later date.

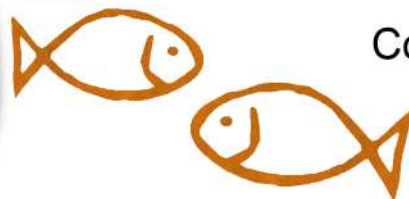
### *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1992*

*The following year, 1992, was a record breaking year with another increase in the number to 112 entries and 22 classes with the introduction of Pairs and Size Classes.*

*The Best In Show was a Metallic Fantail exhibited by A.C. Barns.*

### *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1993*

*1993 didn't quite match the previous year, with just under 100 entries. Standards, however, continued to rise. Bill Ramsden taking Best in Show with his lovely Bristol Shubunkin.*



Cont.



## Letter from the President

The annual show in June is nearly here again, but this year will be the last that we will have Mick and June as our Show Secretaries, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Mick and June for all their hard work - they will be missed in this role, so it is very important that a successor is found A.S.A.P. to ensure that we keep up to the high standards that we have come to expect over the years.

Finally, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the show and to wish everyone the best of luck and a happy, enjoyable day.

**Andrew Barton**  
President

### *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1994*

*1994 was not one of our better years, with another drop in numbers. Brian Tinkler taking Best in Show with a Nacreous Fantail.*



### *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1995*

*The 1995 show saw a change in Secretary, yours truly, taking over from Andrew Barton and I'm afraid a rather poor turnout. On the bright side a Pat Davies appears among the winners in the Moor and Bristol Shubunkin Classes. Brian Tinkler taking Best in Show again with his Nacreous Fantail.*



### *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1996*

*1996 saw the Open Show fortunes reversed with 111 fish on show - more than doubling the previous year, with plenty of exhibits from the other societies in attendance. Yet again, AMGK taking Best in Show with Brian Tinklers Bristol Shubunkin.*



# Adult Fish Show 10/05/15



Andrew Barton  
Metallic Oranda

Results

Best  
in show

<b>CLASS 1</b>	<b>Common Goldfish</b>	<b>CLASS 6</b>	<b>Nacreous Fantail</b>
1st	MICK SMITH	1st	ANDREW BARTON
2nd	MICK SMITH	2nd	ANDREW BARTON
		3rd	GARY MALPAS
		4 <sup>th</sup>	GARY MALPAS
<b>CLASS 2</b>	<b>London Shubunkin</b>	<b>CLASS 7</b>	<b>Tosakin</b>
1st	MICK SMITH	1st	ANDREW BARTON
2nd	MICK SMITH	2nd	STAN WOOLRIDGE
3rd	MICK SMITH		
4th	MICK SMITH	<b>CLASS 8</b>	<b>Lionhead</b>
<b>CLASS 3</b>	<b>Bristol Shubunkin</b>	1st	ANDREW BARTON
1st	PAT DAVIES	<b>CLASS 9</b>	<b>Metallic Veiltail</b>
2nd	BILL BUCKSEALL	1st	ANDREW BARTON
3 <sup>rd</sup>	PAT DAVIES	<b>CLASS 10</b>	<b>Metallic Oranda</b>
4 <sup>th</sup>	BILL BUCKSEALL	1st	ANDREW BARTON
<b>CLASS 4</b>	<b>Moor</b>	<b>CLASS 11</b>	<b>Pearlscale</b>
1st	L BUCKSEALL	1st	ELAINE EDMUNDS
2nd	PAT DAVIES	2nd	ELAINE EDMUNDS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	L BUCKSEALL	3rd	ELAINE EDMUNDS
<b>CLASS 5</b>	<b>Metallic Fan</b>	<b>CLASS 12</b>	<b>Ranchu</b>
1st	ANDREW BARTON	1st	ELAINE EDMUNDS
2nd	MICK SMITH	2nd	ELAINE EDMUNDS
3rd	MICK SMITH		

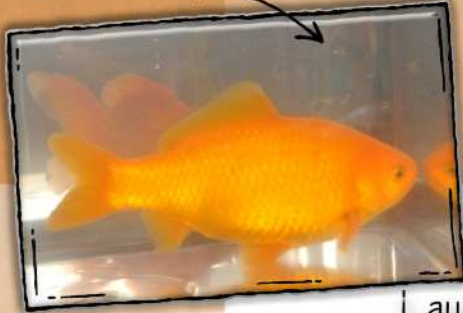
Bluest Fish.....Pat Davies - Bristol Shubunkin  
Prettiest Fish.....Pat Davies - Moor



# Adult Fish Show 10/05/15

## Class Winners

Mick Smith  
Common Goldfish



Mick Smith  
London Shubunkin



Lauren Buckseall  
Moor



Andrew Barton  
Metallic Fantail



Pat Davies  
Bristol Shubunkin



Andrew Barton  
Lionhead



Elaine Edmunds  
Pearlscale



Andrew Barton  
Metallic Veiltail



Andrew Barton  
Tosakin



Andrew Barton  
Nacreous Fantail



Elaine Edmunds  
Ranchu



# Breeding Bristol Shubunkins

Notes kindly provided by David Padfield on the Presentation by Tony Roberts and Pat Davies.

The following are notes summarising the two talks held at our society meetings on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup> 2014 where the above named fish breeders gave a power point presentation full of over 300 photographs of top quality pedigree Bristol Shubunkins at all stages of development. Many live fish were also exhibited at the meetings to help illustrate the talks.

## General:

Tony stated that he used a sophisticated in line filter to process water from the Water Board before entry into the fish house. We were shown a 'brown' filter that was used for 6 weeks only, demonstrating that apparently clear water from the mains can still be 'dirty'.

In the selection of young stock for future breeding Tony always picked the fish that grew faster and bigger than the rest. Picking males that chased from a very early age stage (when approximately 4-5 months of age). Tony does not use spawning medium as he believed that hatchings from eggs on the bottom were stronger! Both speakers emphasised the following major critical points: LIGHT, HEAT, SPACE and FOOD.

It was mentioned that goldfish in China were used to much brighter light than in the UK. Mulm was siphoned off the bottom every day. Tony showed us a gadget he had made using a tube with a funnel on the 'hoovering' end and a tap about three foot along with the rest of the tubing exiting to a drain. This enabled him to move it from tank to tank without sucking on the end every time. He always wore latex gloves to help avoid catching a disease.

Temperature was usually 65 degrees F and raised to 70 for hatching although Pat said that this year to 'hurry things along' he used 80-85 for a two day hatch without any problems.

## *A Tale of Years Gone By..... 1997*

*1997 was to be our last year at Foleshill Road, Coventry. With numbers still rising it was decided that a larger alternative venue would have to be found. The show itself proved to be highly successful with quality fish on show in every class. Jim Day from Bristol taking Best in Show with a Metallic Oranda.*



# Breeding Bristol Shubunkins

Cont.

## Raising Fry:

The objective was to increase body length by one inch per month for the first 5 months. The usual method was to use 'liquifry' for the first day after free-swimming and then onto brine shrimp. Pat uses plastic sweet jars with five heaped teaspoons of sea salt and one heaped teaspoon of eggs at a temperature of 82 degrees F. Brine shrimp is used every day for approximately 2 months followed by grated bloodworm when fish are big enough to eat it. A discussion followed that mentioned that Gamma treated worms were possibly better to help avoid disease. 'Hikari Gold' pellets are used as the fish put on more length with these being soaked for half an hour and mashed up before putting into the fry tank. (At four months of age sole feeding with 'Hikari' pellet was stopped with as much variety of fish foods now included – earthworm and flake and the all important Daphnia. At this stage further culling is done, particularly sorting for tail and rounded 'button' noses.

## Sorting Fry:

Tony emphasised the need to keep stress on the fish to a minimum, not culling for one month from hatch and then carrying out a full cull in one session per tank. Pat mentioned that he retains 'Pinkies' with a little colour as these can improve considerably in time. Protein content can be as much as 50% (Fish or animal protein) and that the aim is to feed continuously (Little but often). Some 'Mock' metallic are usually kept as they often carry stronger and superior finage. Coloured 'matts' (Calico fish usually of intense colour without the Nacreous glaze) are considered worth keeping and sometimes breeding with.

Both speakers touched on disease treatments. Tony preferring to use Formalin on its own rather than in combination with Malachite Green. It was also recommended that different treatments be used rather than the same one each time.

At the finish the speakers received a large ovation for what had been a very informative, useful and interesting talk. In particular it was appreciated that a lot of personal experiences were described – this being sometimes very rare in the hobby over the years.

*David Padfield, August 2014.*



# DIARY DATES FOR 2015



## Dates for meetings at Binley Church Hall for 2015 as follows

- Sunday 16th August** - Baby Fish Table Show (Bred 2015).  
**Sunday 1st November** - A.G.M. & Presentation of Awards.

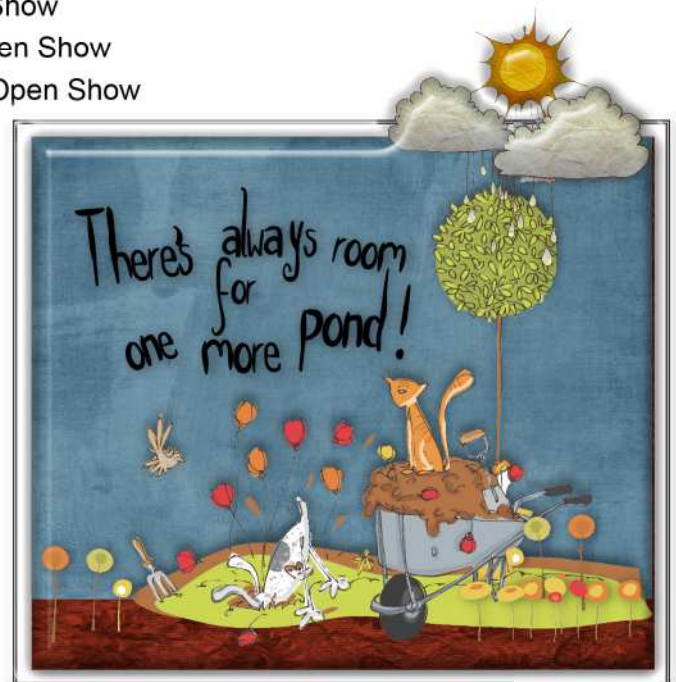
## A.M.G.K. Open Show at West Orchard Church Hall

- Saturday 20th June** - Don't forget our Open Show this year starts at 8am for all our members, in order to prepare the show hall for visiting exhibitors from the other societies that adhere to the Nationwide Standards.

## Other dates:

- Sunday 19th July** - N.E.G.S Open Show  
**Sunday 27th July** - Open Day at Pat's house.  
**Sunday 6th September** - BAS Open Show  
**Saturday 12th September** - N.G.P.S. Open Show  
**Saturday 26th September** - Nationwide Open Show

.....and finally



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