



Goldfish Standard

Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers

August 2013

Volume 3 Issue 2

Photos & Winners – Open Show, July 2013

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Additional Pics by Sandra Witter

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 its Committee, and no liability will be accepted by the A.M.G.K. about the information contained therein

AMGK Open Show

Well what a fantastic show we put on back in June, record number of entries (despite the very slow start to the year) and a good crowd of fellow fish breeders and keepers from the other specialist societies with a good number of new faces showing a keen interest in the show and especially the auction. Thank you all for your efforts in hosting the show on the day and to Mick and June for collecting all the entries and organising the tank placing's on the day and to Linda and Gary in preparing all the schedules and programmes – not to mention the canteen!!

Open Day at Pat's House

The show was followed by a day out at my house and thank goodness the weather was kind to us once again. Good weather, good food, good company and plenty of fish to view and talk about - what more could one want. My only disappointment is that I have only managed to rear 200 young shubunkins and although they were bred from my four top fish they are not showing as much promise as I would expect. Being hatched on June 1st and 14th has not helped this year being so late, but I'll see how they progress through to October when the heat is turned off.

Nationwide Election of New Chairman & Standards Review

Congratulations to Sherridan Moores on his election as the new Chairman of Nationwide and many thanks to Andy for his sterling work for the last few years at the helm. Sherridan has issued a survey sheet to the Nationwide delegates to start the ball rolling to find out if any of the existing nationwide standards need any alterations following any developments in the breeding and showing of the various varieties over the years since the standards were nationally agreed between all societies' delegates back in the 1980's.

We will be discussing this issue at the next meeting (our baby fish show) so to focus the mind of breeders and judges Sheridan has produced the following to help with the discussion:-

Nationwide Goldfish Standards Society Survey – A.M.G.K.

Last year the Nationwide Committee agreed to review the 1995 Goldfish show standards, to assist in this matter would you kindly discuss the questions below at your next meeting, fill in the survey and return to Nationwide chairman; Sherridan Moores, 19 Manley Road, Sale Cheshire, M33 4EG Telephone 0161 969 7567 moores_s@sky.com
Please tick 'retain' if you think the standard drawing meets our needs and does not need alteration, please tick 'redraw' if you think the standard needs any alteration.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Please do give the matter serious consideration as we are unlikely to have the chance to review the standards again in the foreseeable future.

Goldfish Variety

	Retain	Redraw
Common Goldfish		
London Shubunkin		
Bristol Shubunkin		
Comet		
Veiltail		
Oranda		
Broadtail Moor		
Globe-eye		
Pom-pom		
Pearlscale		
Celestial		

Please indicate any changes you think might be beneficial to any of the varieties you have ticked as 'Redraw' on separate paper as needed.

Sherridan Moores, Chairman Nationwide.

Although Sherridan has asked for the forms to be sent to him, I would ask that these be brought to the next meeting so that all the breeders of the varieties can discuss any alterations they feel appropriate openly with the full membership so that the AMGK can democratically respond officially to the Chairman's request.

Although at this stage we are looking at the shape and finnage - only if you have thoughts on other aspects of the pointing system such as colour, size etc., please bring these to the meeting too. As Sherridan has said, please give this serious consideration, what we should not be doing is changing standards for the sake of it. If the standard reflects what breeders are exhibiting on the show bench then perhaps we leave well alone!

It is understood that Ray Rich, one of the Nationwide delegates representing GSGB members has now transferred the standard drawings into a computer drawing format for ease of modification should the Nationwide delegates at a future meeting agree to do so following requests led by the breeders from within the membership of their respective societies.

Future meetings:-

A day at Andy's house to see new fish set up on Saturday 24th August and Sunday 25th August 2013. Please let Andy know asap which day you will be visiting and arrival time.

The following week end on Sunday 1st September will be

the Bristol Society Open Show. Entry forms will be available at our next meeting.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting (baby fish show) on Sunday 18th August 2013.

Pat Davies

Chairman

Note from the Editor

Just a quick reminder fellow members, if no one submits articles or photos for your Newsletter, then there won't be one !!

It's no good if it consists purely of meeting dates, committee members and stuff I've found on the internet.

We need YOU to submit your fishkeeping experiences so that new members can learn from all our mistakes. We need information to put in here to keep it interesting and as an archive on how the club progresses.

I can't do it alone folks. You must have noticed that this is the first proper Newsletter this year, and its likely to be the last one, as apart from the very informative articles from Chris, (Thanks Chris) I have nothing else to add....

A very welcome experiment, but it definitely isn't working

2013 Meetings

Sunday 18th August - Baby Fish Table Show (2013 Bred)

Sat 24th/Sun 25th August- Weekend OPEN HOUSE
Andy's house PLEASE
LET ANDY KNOW ASAP TIME AND DAY YOU INTEND TO VISIT

Sunday 3rd November - AGM & Presentaton of Awards

A Guide for Prospective and New Goldfish Keepers

Part 1

Introduction

First let me introduce myself... My name is Chris Whitehurst, I have been keeping and breeding Goldfish from the age of four, (my Father was a quite successful tropical fish breeder and show man in the sixties and early seventies). I originally kept common Goldfish, these fish were obtained from the local funfairs and proudly taken home in a small plastic bag and kept in a corner of Dad's tropical fish-house in a collection of angle iron tanks and galvanised wash tubs of various sizes. I still have common Goldfish descended from these fish in my Fish house and in forty seven years have never had an outcross!! I moved on to Variegated Fantails at the age of ten, these being purchased from Colin Roe at Shirley Aquatics by Dad for me as he accidentally killed a tank full of fry using his infamous infusoria concoction. Once I left school at sixteen and started work as an apprentice Composer I could afford more of the Fancy types of Goldfish and visited the Suttons establishment, purchasing fish that I thought at the time could improve my chosen types of fish, Bristol Shubunkins and Lionheads.



*Young Bristol Shubunkin
(at 9 weeks old)*

I was befriended by the late Frank Close a true master in the Art of Goldfish breeding, who taught me so much about Goldfish and what to look for, I will always treasure my memories of times spent with Frank and his Aladdin's cave of a fish house, Bristol Shubunkins with unbelievable colour and finnage and Veiltails the size of Cricket Balls with finnage like I had never seen before. Two other Top Breeders, Pat Davies and Tony Roberts have been very good mates to me over the years, helping me understand the intricacies of the Bristol Shubunkin. It was Pat who encouraged me to actually show my fish in the first place, by his own admission not one of his better ideas!!

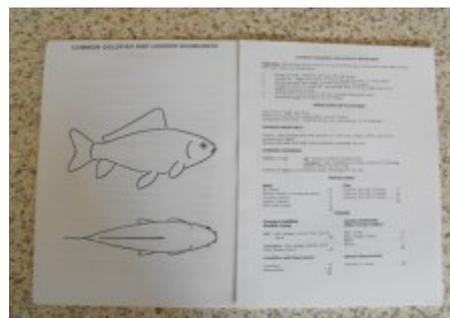
This guide is intended to encourage people who, like me, have an interest in keeping and maintaining a strain of Goldfish.



My Old Strain of Lionhead

Basic Advice

Join a local specialist Goldfish Society, there are five main Societies in England, Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers, (AMGK), based in the Midlands. North Eastern Goldfish Society (NEGS), based in the North East of England. Northern Goldfish and Pondkeepers Society, (NGPS), based in the Manchester area. Bristol Aquarist Society (BAS), Based in the Bristol area and The Goldfish Society of Great Britain (GSGB), based in London. All Clubs hold regular meetings and produce an informative newsletter on a regular basis. Each of the listed societies hold an annual Open Show, dedicated solely to Fancy Goldfish. These specialist societies are all members of the Nationwide Standards, and all the shows are judged to the Nationwide standards. The standards are available to purchase from your chosen society and are a very useful guide for the breeder to critique their own fish.



Nationwide Standards

Do not be tempted by the fancy names of the societies. The specialist societies are all regional societies and all of the societies welcome newcomers with open arms and a wealth of information is available for the newcomer from the established membership. There is no benefit in joining multiple societies unless you are able to attend the meetings of all the societies you have joined to make the most of your subscription.

Everybody within the hobby starts with a couple of fish in a tank, some planted up with colourful gravel and once the bug bites decide to expand. Tanks can be kept within the house, so long as you have a supportive partner, but bear in mind the amount of tanks you will

A Guide for Prospective and New Goldfish Keepers

require, if and when you decide to breed the fish. Goldfish kept at a constant temperature within the home very rarely come into breeding condition. Goldfish need a cooling period followed by a gradual rise in temperature to condition them for breeding, along with this gradual temperature increase larger amounts of food, both dried and live food are required. At least two tanks are required if you decide to spawn one pair of fish, one tank for spawning the fish in and one for moving them into after spawning so as to avoid them eating the eggs. As the fry begin to grow, further tanks are required to separate the fry into for maximum growth. With the amount of food required for conditioning of the adult fish and growth of the fry the tanks will begin to smell. Water changes have to be done more frequently with the risk of spillages. Siphoning the bottom of the tank to remove uneaten food and detritus will help but, remember to replace the water with water of the same temperature to avoid shock to the fish, this requires a large receptacle to keep the water you are using for water changes in, and very soon your house is taken over by your hobby. Bear in mind that water is heavy, will you have to strengthen your floor? It is little wonder that the majority of Goldfish Breeders have what they call a 'Fish House'. This is situated away from the living quarters and can be as basic or advanced as you can afford. More control of the water temperature is possible through artificial means if the tank is kept in a fish house, and by this method you can condition your fish to breed at a time that suits yourself, normally six weeks from the start of the conditioning process.

My advice is to visit as many hobbyists' as is possible before you even buy a single specimen, the idea behind this is to get as many ideas as you can on layout and setup, adapt these to fit with the space and time you have available. Remember that what works for one person does not work for everyone. Do not be afraid to ask questions, no matter how trivial they may seem a little knowledge gained could save a lot of money in the long run.

After all your visits and chats with fellow Goldfish enthusiast you decide that a fish house is your preferred option.

When designing your fish house it is advisable to plan on paper several times rather than going straight in and building something that is totally unsuitable and unworkable and most of all expensive!!! Remember to factor into your design accessibility, none of us remain 21 forever. If built properly your fish house should last a lifetime in the same layout. You should be able to access all corners of every tank without over stretching or hanging

onto a corner of a tank. Glass is very sharp when broken and cuts through flesh like a hot knife through butter (as I found out a few years ago).

Tank sizes vary greatly but a general consensus is the depth needs be no greater than eight inches for the majority of Fancy Goldfish varieties, the main exception being the Veiltail, although this is more of an advanced fancier's variety.

I have found that a tank measuring 4 feet by 2 feet will comfortably house 20 Bristol Shubunkins/Common Goldfish and allow them to grow, providing that basic husbandry and a continual supply of clean water and good quality food are provided.

When keeping a tank of Goldfish for decorative purposes you can get away with keeping several types of fish of both sexes in a single tank with basic biological filtration, when you decide to breed and raise your own fish things become a lot more involved, and tank space becomes more of an issue. A single pair of average size Goldfish is capable of producing 3,000 fry in a single spawning, depending on the type of goldfish you are keeping it can take several weeks until the fry can be sorted, *(This will be covered in more depth in a later part)*.

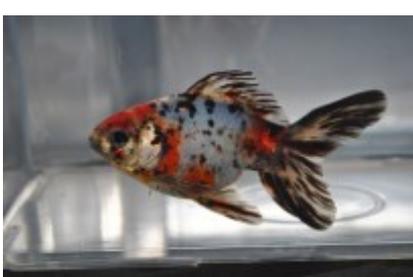
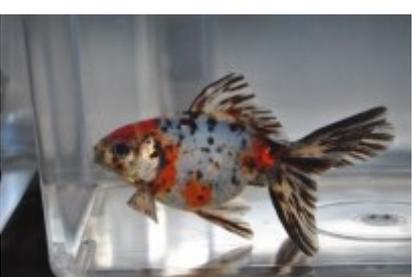
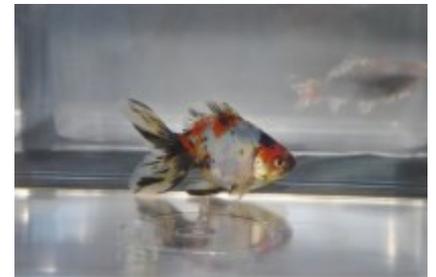
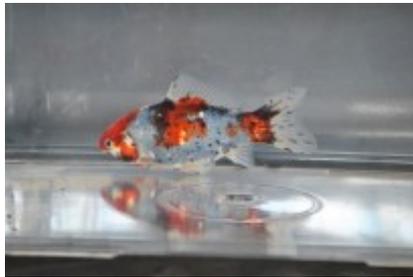
Fish need space and food to grow and remember that over-crowding will produce stunted fish. Goldfish are messy feeders and produce a lot of waste. This must be removed from the tank on a daily basis and the ammonia produced by the fish through the vent and gills must be diluted sufficiently to prevent problems occurring. The best method for water changes is a drip system; this involves water dripping into the tank on a continual basis and requires the tank to be drilled to facilitate an overflow system. This system can be adapted to suit any water type, (I am lucky enough to live in an area supplied by Severn Trent Water and my water comes out of the tap at a ph of 7.0 neutral). Many inline water purifiers are available for very little cost from DIY stores or online suppliers.

Chris Whitehurst

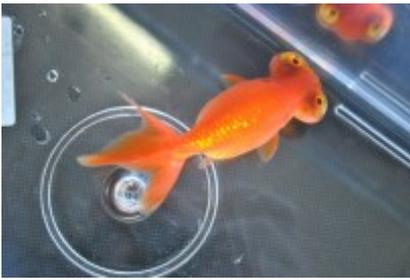
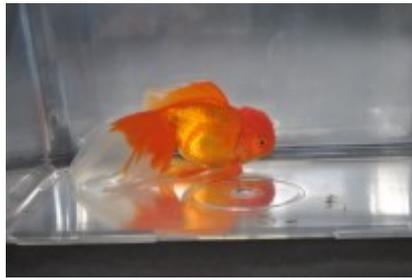
To be Continued

Look out for Part II, Your Fish House and Starting up coming soon

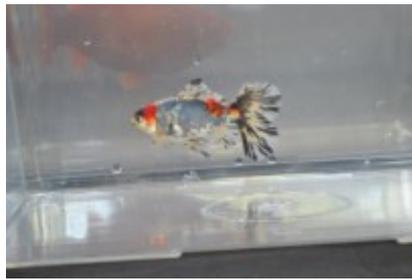
Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013



Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013



Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013



Best in Show
2013



Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013

CLASS 1	Common Goldfish under 3"
1st	STAN HAGGETT
2nd	IAN MILDON
3rd	BRIAN BATES
4th	GRAHAM TURNER

CLASS 2	Common Goldfish over 3"
1st	DEAN ROBERTS
2nd	BRIAN BATES
3rd	IAN MILDON
4th	SHERRIDAN MOORES

CLASS 3	Comet
1st	RICHARD RIZZOTTI
2nd	RICHARD RIZZOTTI

CLASS 4	Bristol Shubunkin under 3"
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	PAT DAVIES
3 rd	PAT DAVIES
4 th	DAVID PADFIELD

CLASS 5	Bristol Shubunkin over 3"
1st	BRIAN BATES
2nd	PHIL RILEY
3rd	BOB JONES
4th	PHIL RILEY

CLASS 6	London Shubunkin under 3"
1st	ALAN RADCLIFF
2nd	BRIAN BATES
3rd	BRIAN BATES
4th	BRIAN BATES

CLASS 7	London Shubunkin over 3"
1st	BRIAN BATES
2nd	ALAN RADCLIFF
3rd	ALAN RADCLIFF
4th	BRIAN BATES

CLASS 8	Metallic Fantail Owner bred 2012
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	DAVID GAY
3rd	DAVID GAY
4 th	DAVID GAY

CLASS 9	Nacreous Fantail Owner Bred 2012
1st	GARY MALPAS
2nd	GARY MALPAS
3rd	GARY MALPAS
4th	GARY MALPAS

CLASS 10	Metallic Fantail
1st	ANDREW BARTON
2nd	BOB JONES
3rd	ANDREW BARTON
4th	MICK SMITH

CLASS 11	Nacreous Fantail
1st	ANDREW BARTON
2nd	RAY RICH
3rd	GARY MALPAS
4th	GARY MALPAS

CLASS 12	Metallic Veiltail
1st	ANDREW BARTON

CLASS 13	Nacreous Veiltail
1st	FRANCES VAN DER MERWE
2nd	DAVID PADFIELD
3rd	BOB JONES
4th	FRANCES VAN DER MERWE

CLASS 14	Metallic/Nacreous Oranda
1st	GRAHAM TURNER
2nd	ANDREW BARTON

CLASS 15	Moor
1st	RICHARD RIZZOTTI
2nd	ANDREW BARTON
3rd	BOB JONES
4 th	RICHARD RIZZOTTI

Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013

CLASS 16	Lionhead
1st	SHERRIDAN MOORES
2nd	SHERRIDAN MOORES
3rd	SHERRIDAN MOORES
4th	SHERRIDAN MOORES

CLASS 17	Pearlscale
1st	DEAN ROBERTS
2nd	RICHARD RIZZOTTI

CLASS 18	Celestial
1st	IAN MILDON
2nd	DEAN ROBERTS
3rd	RAY RICH
	RAY RICH

CLASS 19	Bubble Eye
1st	GRAHAM TURNER
2nd	SHERRIDAN MOORES
3rd	SHERRIDAN MOORES
4 th	MICHAEL PEPPER

CLASS 20	Ranchu
1st	DAVID GAY
2nd	DAVID GAY
3rd	RICHARD RIZZOTTI
4th	NICK SWALES

CLASS 21	Jikin
1st	IAN MILDON

CLASS 22	Tosakin
1st	TRACEY WHITE
2nd	ANDREW BARTON
3rd	TRACEY WHITE
4th	STAN WOOLRIDGE

CLASS 23	Matched Pairs Bristol Shubunkins
1 st	DAVID PADFIELD
2nd	PAT DAVIES
3 rd	BOB JONES
4 th	PHIL RILEY

CLASS 24	Matched Pairs Single Tail
1 st	IAN MILDON
2 nd	STAN HAGGETT
3 rd	BRIAN BATES

CLASS 25	Matched Pairs Twin Tail
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	MICK SMITH
3rd	PAT DAVIES
4th	GRAHAM TURNER

CLASS 26	Matched Pairs Single Tail (Owner bred 2012)
1 st	PAT DAVIES
2nd	PAT DAVIES
3 rd	STAN HAGGETT
4 th	BRIAN BATES

CLASS 27	Matched Pairs Twin Tail (Owner Bred 2012)
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	NICK SWALES
3rd	FRANCES VAN DER MERWE
4 th	PAT DAVIES

CLASS 28	Novice Class For competitors not having won 1 st in show
1st	NO ENTRIES

CLASS 29	AOV WITH NATIONWIDE STANDARD
1 st	NICK SWALES
2 nd	GRAHAM TURNER
3 rd	GRAHAM TURNER

CLASS 30	NEW VARIETIES NON STANDARD
1 st	TOM BELL
2 nd	NICK SWALES
3 rd	DAVID ROBERTS
4 th	DAVID ROBERTS



Open Show—Saturday 29th June 2013

AMGK MEMBER HIGHEST POINTS (23)	ANDREW BARTON
BEST COMMON GOLDFISH	DEAN ROBERTS
BEST LONDON SHUBUNKIN	ALAN RADCLIFF
BEST BRISTOL SHUBUNKIN	BOB JONES
BEST FANTAIL EXHIBIT	BOB JONES
BEST VEILTAIL IN SHOW	ANDREW BARTON
BEST AMGK MEMBER FISH	BOB JONES (Bristol Shubunkin)
BEST OWNER BRED EXHIBIT	BOB JONES (Bristol Shubunkin)
BEST IN SHOW	BOB JONES (Bristol Shubunkin)



Pics from, Adult, Prettiest and Bluest 2013 *from Sandra*



Your Committee 2013

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Goldfish Standard

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How to submit Articles and/or Photos for publication

Several people have asked recently, how to send in their articles and/or photographs. So here is a quick description of how to go about it:

BY COMPUTER:

Type your article using WORD if you have it, save it to MY DOCUMENTS, then ATTACH FILE to an email to my NEW email address. OR, just type the article IN your actual email. Easy! All I ask is that you please use ARIAL as your font, and size 11 as your font size. And don't use any fancy formatting

PHOTOGRAPHS: If you are sending photos with your article, please attach them **separately** to the email, otherwise I will have problems extracting them to use in the Newsletter. Just use INSERT and select PICTURE, then chose your photo(s) and click on them then click OK

PICTURES should be saved in a recognised picture format, preferably JPG

If you are scanning a document or a photo, then make sure to save it as JPG and NOT as a PDF file as this won't copy into my pages on all occasions.

BY HAND:

Just hand write your article and post it to me, address to left of this section. Proper photos too can be posted, but please ensure your name and address is on the back so I can return them to you