



Goldfish Standard

Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers

November 2012

Volume 2 Issue 3

Photos & Winners – Open Show, June 2012

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*Photos courtesy of
Andy Barton*

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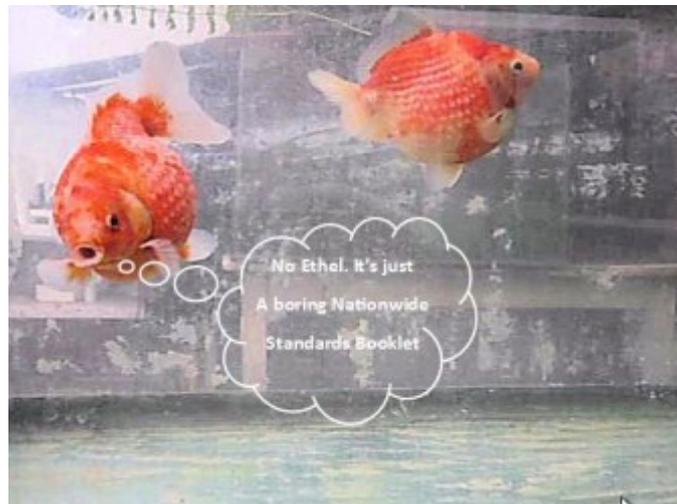
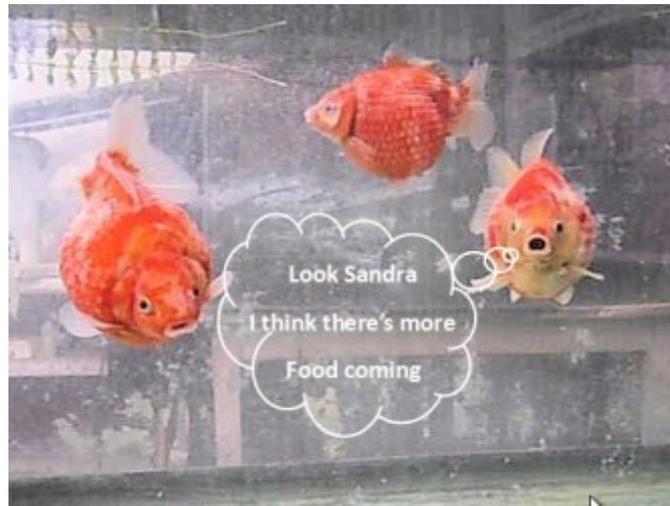
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Cartoons to accompany letter on back cover

With thanks to Elaine Edmunds' neighbour John Hazlewood



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



**DON'T FORGET
AGM
SUNDAY 4th NOV**



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012

Well it's that time of year once again when the club assesses the success and disappointments of the year's fishkeeping, breeding and showing and set the agenda for next year.

As this is the last meeting of the year for the club I would firstly like to thank all those members that have worked so hard to make the year the great success that it's been. Many of us had a very poor start to the year with trying to breed our fish in the early spring but most of us managed to get some late breeding done to hit the open shows in August and September. Yet again the club did exceptionally well taking 'Best in Show' in four of the five specialist Open Shows.

The usual suspects took a number of honours, proving that as a club we are second to none when it comes to breeding top class fish. So congratulations to Mick Smith, David Padfield, Andy Barton, Gary Malpas, Sheridan Moores, Dean Roberts and I'll add myself to the list too. Good to see Elaine and Phil at the shows too and hope that next year they are able to exhibit their stock to add to the competition.

Meetings this year went extremely well with good attendance throughout the year. Although some of us had a very bad year for breeding, myself included, it was great to see other members who had only shown a few fish, or none at all in the past, put on such a good selection at the various table shows.

New members have joined us throughout the year and I know that all members will make them most welcome. Although we are a small society we still pride ourselves on being a friendly and happy bunch of fish keepers irrespective of our knowledge and experience.

The committee members again rallied round to stage our Annual Open Show back in June so my thanks go to everyone who contributed to the organization of the event prior to the day, in particular Mick and June for collating the entries and pre-sorting out the table layouts so effectively on the day itself; to Linda and Gary for organizing and printing the schedules and programmes and organizing the refreshments and judges lunches.

Also I have to thank Andy for the fantastic winner's plaques yet again and for sorting out the sponsorship and to everyone who gave donations, including raffle prizes which were most welcome.

Once again we were helped by almost all the membership on the day which contributed to another time

record in setting up the show and dismantling at the end of the day.

Once again, I am indebted particularly to both Gary and Linda, despite their hectic family life over the last year – giving Gary little time to himself in the Fish House at the critical times in the fish spawning calendar, for doing so much for the club throughout the year from organizing and booking the meeting rooms, catering at every meeting and the open show, encouraging new members to join and answering countless enquiries from fish keepers from the internet, preparing and printing all the show schedules and programmes, sorting out membership paperwork and all of the club accounts. They make my life as Chairman a great deal easier than it might otherwise be.

Whilst I have not accomplished everything that I intended to do this year (see last year's minutes) I have asked Frances van der Merwe, from the GSGB to start the ball rolling on our society's Web site. Frances has done a cracking job so far in assembling some copy from myself, edited by Sheridan and adding a picture background from our annual posters etc., It has good references to the other Goldfish Societies too – just by clicking onto their respective logos. It is just a start and can be added to at anytime. I offer a very big thank you to Frances for taking on this task. By the way our new web site address is www.amgk.co.uk

This time next year we will be considering our 40th Anniversary as a specialist goldfish club – any ideas as to how we might celebrate this event will be gratefully received. I mention this a year early as some things we might want to organise may take longer than a year to organize.

You will notice from the agenda that we are to discuss the news letter. We are indebted to Sandra for all her hard work in making such a spectacular success and thank all those who have contributed articles and photos etc., Printing has become a little difficult with Sandra's change in work so we will be looking for ways to make life easier for Sandra and to keep costs incurred to a minimum.

Finally I wish you all a great winter break and hope that next year brings us all even more pleasure and success with this hobby of ours

Pat Davies
Chairman

FIRST STEPS ON A NEW JOURNEY

Breeding Ryukin—By Chris Whitehurst

I have been toying with the idea of breeding Ryukin for the last four years. I had looked at the standard of some of the fish that were being staged at some of the shows, and also investigated some of the fish through the internet in America, China and Japan. Some of the fish had long tails and some have fantail like finnage, I first drew up a draft standard in 2009. I opted for a short tail almost square with a high dorsal but rounded shorter finnage that was so far removed from the run of the mill fish available at the time.



I was always on the lookout for some fish that loosely fit the bill for my draft standard, and a month ago I was fortunate to acquire a young pair of fish that would allow me to attempt to breed something close to what I want. The Male is a variegated fish mainly red with white on the underside, the female is again a variegated fish mainly white with patches of red. Both fish have fairly decent shape, although at first the dorsal hump was not very pronounced, it seems to increase with age.

The Dorsal Hump is what the Ryukin is all about, it is probably the only goldfish that is deeper than it is long, I have a few views on what would enhance the 'hump', but believe that the genetics of the fish have to be in place to get anywhere near what I am hoping to produce. Most fish that are currently being bred and benched at the open shows at the moment are, in my view going backwards in terms of colour and shape. The Ryukin by design is a powerful looking fish, the depth and shape of the fish give it the impression that it is capable of swimming through the side of the aquarium.

I am hoping that I will be able to spawn these fish and try out a few ideas on any resulting fry, some will be raised using my usual feeding regime and others using different diets and water depths etc. The results and on-going trials will be published

as and when available, along with photos of how the original pair develop as time goes on, and also photos of the developing fry.

I am hoping to dispel any myths or rumours regarding these fish, and hope by keeping detailed records I can prove that this fish can be bred true for generations without further outcrosses, although one further adult fish may be purchased next year depending on how the Dorsal Hump develops in the parents.

If any spawning activity happens I will pass any resulting youngsters on to anyone who would like to take up the challenge of these powerful looking fish. The more people who actually breed and show them, the easier it becomes for the delegates of the Nationwide charged with gathering information on these fish to develop the standards required to have them recognised and able to win the major awards at the Open Shows.

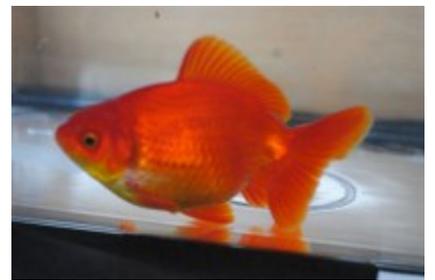
At the time of submitting the article I have had a spawning of this pair of Ryukin, on the 14th of June. I came home from work to find the fish spawning like fury, I hand stripped the pair of any remaining eggs and they hatched on the 17th June, on the 19th of June they spawned again, these fish are still very young and therefore spawn size is not huge, I believe the egg count will rise with the maturity of the fish.

One observation of the female is that she gets very 'square' around the vent prior to spawning, something I have never seen before in Goldfish.

Now the hard work begins..... I will keep detailed records of feeding regimes and growth rates and make regular contributions to the newsletter to keep everyone who is interested informed of how the fish are doing.

Chris Whitehurst

Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Entrants—(1)



Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Entrants—(2)



Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Entrants—(3)



Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Entrants—(5)



Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Winners—(1)

CLASS 1	Common Goldfish under 3"
1st	SHERRIDAN MOORES
2nd	IAN MILDON
3rd	TONY WATERHOUSE
4th	SHERRIDAN MOORES

CLASS 2	Common Goldfish over 3"
1st	SHERRIDAN MOORES
2nd	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
3rd	TONY WATERHOUSE
4th	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 3	Comet
1st	TONY WATERHOUSE
2nd	TONY WATERHOUSE
3rd	TONY WATERHOUSE
4th	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

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

CLASS 5	Bristol Shubunkin over 3"
1st	PAT DAVIES
2nd	PAT DAVIES
3rd	DAVID PADFIELD
4th	PAT DAVIES

CLASS 6	London Shubunkin under 3"
1st	SHERRIDAN MOORES
2nd	DON SMITH
3rd	DON SMITH
4th	DON SMITH

CLASS 7	London Shubunkin over 3"
1st	TONY WATERHOUSE
2nd	TONY WATERHOUSE
3rd	IAN MILDON
4th	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 8	Metallic Fantail Owner bred 2011
1st	DAVID GAY
2nd	DAVID GAY
3rd	BOB JONES

CLASS 9	Nacreous Fantail Owner Bred 2011
1st	DAVID GAY
2nd	GARY MALPAS
3rd	GARY MALPAS
4th	DAVID GAY

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

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

CLASS 12	Metallic Veiltail
1st	ANDREW BARTON
2nd	ANDREW BARTON

CLASS 13	Nacreous Veiltail
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	DAVID PADFIELD

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

CLASS 15	Moor
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	PAT DAVIES
3rd	PAT DAVIES

CLASS 16	Lionhead
1st	NICK SWALES
2nd	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
3rd	NICK SWALES
4th	PAT DAVIES

CLASS 17	Pearlscale
1st	RICHARD RISSOTTI
2nd	DEAN ROBERTS
3rd	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 18	Celestial
1st	NICK SWALES
2nd	TOM BELL
3rd	GRAHAM TURNER

Open Show 23rd June 2012—The Winners—(2)

CLASS 19	Bubble Eye
1st	DEAN ROBERTS
2nd	GRAHAM TURNER
3rd	SHERRIDAN MOORES

CLASS 20	Ranchu
1st	NICK SWALES
2nd	NICK SWALES
3rd	NICK SWALES
4th	TOM BELL

CLASS 21	Jikin
1st	IAN MILDON

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

CLASS 23	Matched Pairs Bristol Shubunkins
1st	PAT DAVIES
2nd	DAVID PADFIELD

CLASS 24	Matched Pairs Single Tail
1st	IAN MILDON

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

CLASS 26	Matched Pairs Single Tail (Owner bred 2011)
1st	PAT DAVIES

CLASS 27	Matched Pairs Twin Tail (Owner Bred 2011)
1st	BOB JONES
2nd	DAVID GAY
3rd	PAT DAVIES
4th	DAVID GAY

AMGK MEMBER HIGHEST POINTS (31 POINTS)	PAT DAVIES
BEST COMMON GOLDFISH	SHERRIDAN MOORES (under 3")
BEST LONDON SHUBUNKIN	TONY WATERHOUSE
BEST BRISTOL SHUBUNKIN	PAT DAVIES
BEST FANTAIL EXHIBIT	GARY MALPAS (nacreous)
BEST VEILTAIL IN SHOW	ANDREW BARTON (metallic)
BEST AMGK MEMBER FISH	PAT DAVIES (Bristol Shubunkin)
BEST OWNER BRED EXHIBIT	PAT DAVIES (Bristol Shubunkin)
BEST IN SHOW	PAT DAVIES (Bristol Shubunkin)



Response to Editors moan from last issue—Elaine

As a long standing member of the AMGK and ex committee member I am responding to our Editors Report in the May 12 Newsletter but perhaps not as Sandra envisioned. Firstly though, I'm sorry Sandras mum is much worse than was hoped. It must be very stressful.

The AMGK is a meeting based Club and although we have produced Newsheets in the past, these were never intended to substitute for Club Meetings where memories and experience are passed on. The AGM is a good time to state what you need to know more of so that future meetings can be arranged to encompass that, or as more often happens, a chat to people during the normal Club Meetings tea breaks.

Whilst computers and digital cameras make writing and fish photography much easier than in the past, it still takes time to express and set up and it's not surprising to me that most of the stuff for publication is from committee members who have given up their time to arrange things for us.

I have enjoyed the profiles of club members and one day I may submit my own. Perhaps with some photos. Probably not this year though. Life is busy despite my fish not performing as they should, much as Pat has reported. I currently have a hatch of one, a hatch of six and no eggs or eaten eggs.

Back to the Editors report. The Nationwide Standards Group is OUR group and is very important. It impinges on what we do. It can reduce grown men to tears and tantrums. Let me clarify. The goldfish is a Chinese river Carp. Its varied colours, shape and other features are down to selective breeding. The only reason we have so many categories in the Open Shows is because someone or a group of someone's saw potential in a mutated fish and got together to decide what features they wanted to conserve/produce down the generations. Without selection for features the offspring of the mutated fish would melt into the background population.

In the UK each club had their own independent standards. With some if not all types of fish there were enough differences in features that made it difficult to show at Open Shows and difficult to buy in breeding stock with the required feature blood line. Personally I enjoyed the differences but I wasn't committed to showing my own fish at that time (still not come to think about it). Anyway, all these differences led to confusion (most recently with the Lionhead and Ranchu). The clubs decided to amalgamate their individual standards into a Nationwide standard. Sounds simple but if you have spent a lifetime breeding for a feature and someone else has spent a lifetime breeding for a different feature, then someone is going to lose out big time.

The differences in Ranchu have been emotive and now it's the Ryukin that's upsetting people. Our representatives on OUR Nationwide committee are doing a difficult job juggling with peoples beliefs and emotions, not just producing a standard for us all to follow.

Our Newsletter is the right place to keep people informed of our standards progress so that they have a forum to throw in their own three pennyworth before the next Nationwide meeting. I can assure you that other clubs are currently full of Nationwide reports and comments on their work. Some comments on their work are good, some aggressive, some very strongly disagreeing and some are bored!

So how have I found time to write this instead of something more interesting? I have left a lot undone. It's pouring with rain. I already knew what I wanted to say so I haven't had to think about it. So if anything is missing or confused let us know at the next club meeting or via this newsletter.

Elaine *(See cartoons to accompany this on front cover)*

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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