

# Goldfish Standard



Newsletter of the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers

AMGK

BEST IN SHOW

BABY FISH SHOW  
BRISTOL SHUBUNKIN BRED BY TONY ROBERTS

SEPTEMBER 2019 Contents of this issue

#### DISCLAIMER

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# NATIONWIDE: GOLDFISH SOCIETIES UK



Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers (AMGK)



Bristol Aquarists Society (BAS)



Northern Goldfish & Pond Keepers Society (NGPS)



North East Goldfish Society (NEGS)

Chairman: Pat Davies. Email: [patrickiandavies1@gmail.com](mailto:patrickiandavies1@gmail.com)

## Board Members:

**Graham Turner** (NEGS) Secretary/Show Secretary

**Andy Barton** (AMGK) Hon.Treasurer /Principal Show Manager

**Ian Mildon** (BAS) Standards/Judges

28<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Members,

## NATIONWIDE: GOLDFISH SOCIETIES UNITED KINGDOM

(Goldfish Variety Standards, National Fancy Goldfish Open Show, Nationwide Judges)

In accordance with the **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK's** Constitution, the Board and society delegates have now completed their last three year tenure and have undertaken an election of new Chairman and selected a new Board, together with a confirmation of each contributing society's delegates to serve the goldfish hobby within **Nationwide:** until June 2022.

The new Board is as printed above with the confirmed delegates for each society as follows:

**AMGK:** Andy Barton; Keith Waters; Phil Riley **BAS:** Ian Mildon; Bob Jones; Neil Coleman.

**NEGS:** Graham Turner; Dennis Godfrey; Tom Bell. **NGPS:** Sherridan Moores; Dean Roberts; Craig Clinton.

It is with much gratitude that we take the opportunity to thank Sherridan Moores (NGPS) for his completed double tenure as Chairman over the last 6 years, during which time the Nationwide Constitution and Standards Protocol was modified and formally adopted by all societies comprising **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK**. We also have to thank the retiring Nationwide Secretary, Dennis Godfrey (NEGS) for his behind the scenes securing of affordable Public Liability Insurance for the National shows and some society meetings,

Also within the last 6 years a complete review of existing Goldfish Variety Standards, comprising all 20 currently accepted and bred varieties within the UK, was undertaken over a two year period by Nationwide delegates and after 5 full consultations with all fish breeders (through the delegates) was published in January 2016. It is this document that governs all open Shows within **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK**. The following attached pages outline the aims and objectives for **Nationwide** for the next three years.

Pat Davies,

Chairman, **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK**

Passed Chairmen: Bill Ramsden (NGPS) 1989 -2008; Andy Barton (AMGK) 2008 - 13; Sheridan Moores (NGPS) 2013 -19

## **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK Aims and Objectives for 2019 - 2022**

1. Continue the development of the Butterfly Goldfish, through publication of records of breeding, showing, meetings and presentations over the next three years with a view to eventual consideration of incorporation into the published **Nationwide: Goldfish Standards of the United Kingdom** in 2022.
2. Encourage fish breeders that are interested to train and become qualified as Goldfish Judges. This will entail design and ratification of a realistic training programme that would be recognised and adhered to by all the societies within **Nationwide:**
3. Encourage and support all open Shows and new membership within all societies as part of the goldfish breeding/keeping fraternity.
4. Galvanise full and active support for the annual **National Fancy Goldfish Open Show** to be staged, this year, on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Preparations have been ongoing since October 2018 and are now almost complete. This show will be our 6<sup>th</sup> successive self-financing Annual **National Fancy Goldfish Open Show** and aims to celebrate the pinnacle of all the societies fish breeding and keeping throughout the year. To stage this show we rely on volunteers from all societies and am pleased to report that three volunteers from BAS, one from NEGS and two from AMGK have already booked hotel rooms for Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> October to enable enough volunteers to be on hand to set up the halls for this largest of shows in the UK the night before the big day. We welcome more volunteers from all the societies who wish to do the same, and also stay right to the very end of the show day to ensure the event goes smoothly and on time. This show is put on by all the societies so as many volunteers as possible from all the societies would be welcome!

The **Nationwide Constitution, Organisation/Structure and Standards Protocol** follows on the next few pages as a reminder to Society members, new and old, as to the workings of **Nationwide:** in its endeavour to support the ever developing hobby throughout the UK and act as a conduit between all societies, breeders and enthusiasts.

Like our individual societies within Nationwide, we are all volunteers when it comes to running events and our societies, the more folk that take on responsibilities within societies and the **Nationwide:** itself, the better each will run and help all fish keepers, new and more experienced to enjoy our hobby. Notification of any progress with any proposed new standards and /or events of interest will be issued to all **Nationwide:** delegates and societies as and when they arise over the coming three years.

# NATIONWIDE: GOLDFISH SOCIETIES UK

Comprising:- Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers (AMGK); Bristol Aquarists Society (BAS);  
North East Goldfish Society (NEGS); Northern Goldfish & Pond Keepers Society (NGPS)



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## CONSTITUTION

### Purpose of the Organisation:

To administer, formulate and review the **Nationwide Goldfish Standards UK**, to promote and organise the annual **National Fancy Goldfish Open Show**, and further assistance and goodwill to affiliated members.

### Structure and Management:

- 1.1** The four founding societies comprising:- Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers (AMGK), Bristol Aquarist's Society (BAS), North East Goldfish Society (NEGS) & Northern Goldfish and Pond keepers Society (NGPS)., being equal custodians of the organisation.
- 1.2** The administrative body of the organisation shall be known as 'The Board' comprising three representative 'Officers' elected from within each of the founding Societies. One 'Officer' from each society will be a 'Principal Officer' and will be the main representative for their society. In addition, one principle officer shall be elected as Chairman with an additional officer from the Chairman's society being put forward for the board. The other three principle officers, one from each society, will be elected to one of the following specific positions; Secretary, Hon.Treasurer and Standards/Judges.
- 1.3** "The Board" shall manage the organisation.
- 1.4** The review of existing and formulation of new standards shall be carried out to agreed protocols before being submitted to The Judges and Standards Committee for final approval.

### Aims and Objectives:-

- 2.1** The organisation shall be known as: Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK.
- 2.2** The Aim of the organisation is to bring together specialist Goldfish Clubs and enthusiasts, in order to promote the general and specialist culture of the different varieties of Goldfish. To keep, breed and exhibit along with providing a standard, trained judges and

endorsing the staging of shows around the country, concluding with the National Fancy Goldfish Open Show to be held annually.

**2.3** The founding and member societies, have a duty to acknowledge and uphold the excellence of the established written standards, protecting the continuity, progress and preservation of all these varieties.

**2.4** The main structure of the organisation has been agreed and established by the members of the founding societies comprising A.M.G.K., B.A.S., N.E.G.S., N.G.P.S.

**2.5** Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK shall remain independent of all commercial organisations.

**2.6** General and show accounts, to be presented annually.

**2.7** All members are to be treated equally and without prejudice.

**2.8** Founding and member societies are required to uphold the values of the Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK organisation and its standards whenever possible. All participating societies are required to share the workload of the National Show. In addition, the founding societies are responsible for the organisation in general.

**2.9** Review of the standards will be considered when the need arises, the formulation of any new standards are to be in line with written protocol for establishing a standard.

**2.10** Any changes to this organisation can only be made with the agreement of the founding societies.

**2.11** Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK is a “not for profit” organisation. Money acquired through staging of the National Show will be kept to a figure to be agreed by the founding societies to ensure the smooth running of the National Show with any agreed surplus being distributed to the founding societies in equal measure.

**2.12** If a society or individual is found to have brought the Nationwide Goldfish Societies UK into disrepute they may face any sanction deemed appropriate by the Board.

**2.13** Copyright Standards and Constitution is vested with the **Nationwide: Goldfish Societies UK**.

*Formulated January 2016*

## Nationwide: STRUCTURE

**Officers:** *(comprising all society representatives/delegates 12 No. in total)*

**A.M.G.K.** (3No.)      **B.A.S.** (3No.)      **N.E.G.S.** (3No)      **N.G.P.S.** (3No.)

These officers elect/choose the board from the twelve delegates.

### **Board:**

**Four positions on the board:** *(wherever practical, one board position from each member society)*

**Chairman;**      **Secretary;**      **Hon.Treasurer;**      **Judges/Standards;**



Each Society has a National Show Manager (from their delegates) with one society providing the Principal Show Manager.

## Nationwide: Goldfish Standards Protocol

For those breeders wanting to have their 'new' variety or a change to an existing Standard variety of goldfish entered into the agreed **Nationwide Goldfish Standards**, a protocol for achieving this was adopted at the Nationwide delegates meeting held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The relevant extract of the minutes recorded and agreed by all delegates at that meeting is reproduced below for information and clarification:

.....“ © Protocol for the Agreement of Goldfish Standards.

The recommendation under this heading was that we (Nationwide) should build upon the approach recently adopted in our search for an appropriate standard for the Ranchu, by ensuring that any future exercise was conducted 'across all societies' and by finding ways to encourage the input from those who were committed breeders to the variety under consideration.

Delegates were keen to discuss ways in which information and evidence, for a particular variety, could be obtained from within the Nationwide Societies and how this might be considered and tested before being adopted as either a 'new' or 'revised' standard.

Accordingly, the following Protocol emerged from our discussions;

1. Requests to determine a 'new' or a 'revised' Standard will be referred to the Nationwide Committee, who will decide the merits of the request and if agreed the target timetable for the resultant 'case' to be presented back to the committee.
2. A Nationwide Delegate representing the Member Society which has formally requested either a 'new' standard (to those currently agreed), or a 'revision' to an existing Nationwide Standard, shall be appointed as the Lead Coordinator for the variety under consideration.
3. The Lead Coordinator will be responsible for approaching each society to ascertain the names and contact details of each breeder of the variety under consideration. Either directly or through the facilities of other goldfish societies each of these 'serious breeders' will be informed of the Standards exercise and will be invited to provide evidence and information about what they look for in their chosen variety.
4. The 'provision of evidence' can be in the form of photographs, drawings or written descriptions, though the viewing of examples at Open Shows (where a competitive class is provided), through the staging of special 'exhibitions' (at Open Shows) or through arranged personal visits to breeders of the variety. Wherever possible the support of a recognised Goldfish Judge should be involved with such gathering of information and evidence.
5. The Nationwide Committee will be looking for evidence as to how 'true' the variety is breeding and whether future development is required, to obtain the 'ideal fish'. Evidence from first and second generations youngsters will be essential. It is appreciated that this evidence may have to be obtained from more than one breeder of the variety.
6. When the compilation of available evidence has been completed (assistance is available from within Nationwide for the presentation of such information and evidence) then the Lead Coordinator will arrange for this to be presented to the Nationwide Committee. Wherever possible the Lead Coordinator should be accompanied by one or more of the committed breeders of the variety who have provided evidence and information.
7. The task of the Nationwide Committee will be to receive the evidence gathered, ensure that it is robust and is able to withstand detailed scrutiny by Goldfish Judges and other breeders of the variety. The Nationwide Committee will have the right to defer a decision pending the provision of further information, or pending the undertaking of a broader consultative exercise.

Pat Davies, Chairman, **Nationwide:** Goldfish Societies UK



# President's Open Day



**This years Open Day was hosted by your President, Andrew Barton**, at his home in Wellingborough on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July and after much preparation, you can never rely upon the British weather which gave us a wet and windy day, we headed inside.

However, this did not put too much of a damper upon proceedings, now that the

**A busy day that was all over too quickly but I hope that all of you that attended had an enjoyable day.**

conservatory had been added to the back of the house which comfortably seated 27 people at the busiest part of the day, with members travelling many miles to take part in the event.

There was a very relaxed atmosphere, particularly in the conservatory, with lots of conversations and laughter taking place.



**Many people braved the weather and took a short walk down the garden to see the fish, both babies and adults of Moors, Veiltails, Fantails, Lionheads and Tosakins.**

*Andrew Barton*  
**President AMGK**



**Two years ago I suffered badly with the chemicals in the water, thought to be chloramine. At the time it caused a lot of damage to the fish and my stock of fish.**

This year I have suffered again, only this time "I'm not alone." It has been reported to me that goldfish keepers all over the country have had issues as well, with losses of fish, eggs that don't develop and hatch and fish health in general.

### **So what happened to me and what have I done about it?**

The issue started with the tails on my baby metallic veiltails which seemed to just get eaten away, so I treated with an anti-parasite treatment. After a short time other fish in the greenhouse also started to show poor health and began to die.

I then consulted with some close friends in the club about this and as a result a mass tank cleaning exercise, along with treatment for parasites took place and also changes that were needed to the way the fish were kept in the greenhouse.

- Firstly I changed the amount of water going through the tanks, increasing the rate of flow.
- Then I added floating plants to help with water quality, along with the addition of a larger filter.
- An HMA set of filter pods was bought to help deal with chlorine , chloramine and other chemicals within the incoming water supply. This fresh water is then stored in barrels ready for use.

For the time being the problem eased but the fish were left in a position where parasites could run riot on their skin and finnage causing other problems.

- The fish then underwent a treatment of F.M.G. which eventually did the trick - this was confirmed by taking scrapings and checking them under a microscope.

However, I looked into the results of water quality testing results carried out by my local water authority with my attention focused on the permitted legal limits of various chemicals. There was no legal limit for chlorine and to make chloramine, ammonium is added to the water. These two chemicals are some of the most dangerous ones you can be faced with as a fish keeper. Going forward, as there is no legal limit for chlorine, it would be prudent to test for high levels of both ammonium and chlorine on a regular basis because my thinking is that if there is a spike in these chemicals it will cause great harm to the fish and testing will help to prevent this.

Currently the fish are in a good state of health and the issue is now under control, for the mean time, but it has left me with no confidence in **WHAT'S IN THE TAP WATER!**

*Andrew Barton*  
**President AMGK**

# AMGK BABY FISH SHOW

As far as I'm concerned, the highlight of our society's year is usually the **Baby Fish Table Show**. This is the one meeting of the AMGK that opens a window as to how are hobby of fish keeping, and more importantly, the breeding of Nationwide Standard fish is progressing.

**BEST IN SHOW**



## RESULTS - 18TH AUGUST 2019

CLASS 1	Bristol Shubunkin
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>TONY ROBERTS</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TONY ROBERTS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TONY ROBERTS
4 <sup>th</sup>	PHIL RILEY



CLASS 2	Moor
1 <sup>st</sup>	TONY ROBERTS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TONY ROBERTS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TONY ROBERTS
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY



CLASS 3	Oranda
1 <sup>st</sup>	JUNE KEMP
2 <sup>nd</sup>	JUNE KEMP
3 <sup>rd</sup>	JUNE KEMP
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY



CLASS 4	Butterfly
1 <sup>st</sup>	JUNE KEMP
2 <sup>nd</sup>	JUNE KEMP
3 <sup>rd</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
4 <sup>th</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY



CLASS 5	London Shubunkin
1 <sup>st</sup>	CHRIS WHITEHURST
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CHRIS WHITEHURST
3 <sup>rd</sup>	CHRIS WHITEHURST
4 <sup>th</sup>	CHRIS WHITEHURST



CLASS 6	Lionhead
1 <sup>st</sup>	CHRIS WHITEHURST
2 <sup>nd</sup>	NO ENTRY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

The table show was down on numbers from recent years with 22 entries, although the standard was just as high. A number of us did not bring fish this time, with several members having a year of very disappointing spawnings with males not producing milt and eggs not hatching in any reasonable numbers or even not at all. The talk at the meeting eventually turned to water quality. All of us have different water suppliers but it transpired that many of us had similar problems at various periods in the normal breeding period (early March to late May). The conclusion we seemed to arrive at was that the water supplies had many chemicals contained within the water with some being decidedly not conducive to healthy fish keeping.



I personally, had approximately 30 spawnings before I got a small hatch of Bristol Shubunkins, then all my adults, apart from five, started to die two or three a day for a few weeks. Total deaths over thirty including all my show quality and passed winners. One minute they were breeding and the next day dead. Disappointing to say the least, followed by a complete wipe-out of the young Shubunkins. Kept changing the water through my four in line filters to no avail. Indeed, it would appear that some of us were damaging our fish stock beyond saving, by our kindness in changing the water! In Late May, I managed to spawn the last of my Bristol Shubunkins and two spawnings of Moors. A few survived the usual culling process, so I've now re-stocked with both varieties for next year.

The meeting questioned the use of continuous water drip systems and filtration techniques but came to the conclusion that we cannot be fully prepared for what water suppliers choose to allow or put into our drinking water to make it 'Safe for human consumption!!!'

Despite the difficulties, good fish were on show, With **Tony Roberts** achieving **Best in Show** with a well grown Bristol Shubunkin.

We'll try and obtain a water expert to come to one of our meetings next year to advise how we can minimise the risk to our fish. Hopefully those of us that want to show later this year will be able to grow our fish sufficiently well enough to be in with a chance of card placing, despite the unfortunate start to the season.

*Pat Davies*  
Chairman AMGK

## Remembering Dave Denny

We were contacted with an anonymous 'phone call saying that unfortunately Dave Denny had passed away, shortly before our Open Show in June. Dave attended the very first meeting of our society back on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1974 and although had been absent for many years - re-joining the society a few years ago. Lifelong disability made travelling a bit of a chore for him, but always a pleasure when he could manage a meeting or two each season. Although he never showed fish or brought any to our various specific fish meetings, it was obvious that David enjoyed looking at the fish of other members at the meetings and open show together with the camaraderie he felt when we all got together.

His health seemed to deteriorate in recent months, especially after the passing of his wife that left him feeling somewhat isolated.

We offer our condolences to his family and friends at this unhappy time.



# BAS

## OPEN SHOW

### 1st SEPTEMBER 2019

**The Society, celebrating its 90th Anniversary this year,** were as welcoming as ever with a large pan of hot bacon on the stove and tea and coffee at the ready.

I've always considered BAS the premier fish club, not only for its being the longest formed society in the country, but also for its tradition of excellent breeding of Nationwide Standard fish varieties. The years of 300 plus entries in any fish club show have, unfortunately, disappeared in recent years (except for the Nationwide show in Coventry), but the fish that were entered for this show were well worth making the effort to see.

**The auction raised a tidy sum for the society** and for those selling their surplus fish, with some very good prices gained for top quality specimens. I know that to be true having to part with £60 for two last year's male Bristol Shubunkins needed to retrieve my blood lines following a disastrous year due to apparently uncontrollable water conditions.

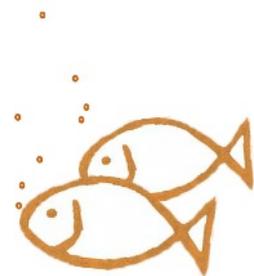
**All our members exhibiting fish won top honours** in some of their respective classes, with rosettes a plenty being awarded to Phil Riley for his Bristol Shubunkins gaining best in section A, best Bristol and best baby Bristol. Jackie and Grahame for their entries in AOV Butterfly, and Ryukin classes. Gary took honours for his excellent calico fantails and Mick Smith having so many successes

**A good number of our members made the long journey down to Bristol for the BAS Open Show on Sunday**

that he was awarded the prize for a member with the most points in the show and Andy, our President, who won the best exhibit in the show with a fine metallic veiltail with perfectly formed finnage including a fantastically straight edge with colour running to the ends of all the fins, a rare sight on the show bench in recent years.

**Congratulations to all our AMGK members** and a big thank you to all the BAS members for staging such a fantastic show yet again. We also thank BAS for kindly sending us the result sheets for the show, that are printed in this newsletter.

**As a footnote,** I can report that the last London Shubunkin breeding pair obtained from our member Brian Bates by David Roberts of NGPS, produced some excellent youngsters, winning top awards at the show, so if you are reading this Brian, I can say that your blood lines continue to do you proud, even if illness has forced you to retire from active fish keeping. Your previous hard work has definitely not been in vain and continues to be a credit to your skills of judgment and care for your fish over many years.



Pat Davies

# BAS WINNERS

## OPEN SHOW

### 1st SEPTEMBER 2019



Common Goldfish 3"  
Body limit - Ian Mildon



Common Goldfish Over  
3" - Andrew Barton



Bristol Shubunkin 3" body  
Limit - Phil Riley



London Shubunkin  
Andrew Barton



Bristol Shubunkin over 3"  
Phil Riley



Comet  
Tony Waterhouse



Oranda Metallic/Calico  
Tom Rosser



Moor  
Joshua Hearne-Wilkins



Pearlscale  
Harry Williams



Veiltail  
Andrew Barton



Ranchu  
Keith Mullin



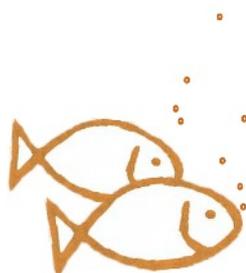
Bubble Eye/Celestial/  
Pom Pon - Graham Turner



Fantail Bred 2019  
Barry Collins



AOV Twintail Goldfish  
Clive Waterhouse



Oranda Bred 2019  
Tom Rosser



Ranchu Bred 2019  
Keith Mullin



# BAS OPEN SHOW 1st SEPTEMBER 2019



## WINNERS



Calico Fantail  
Gary Malpas



Bristol Shubunkin  
Bred 2019 - Phil Riley



AV Goldfish Without  
Standard - Jackie Pedley



AV Pond & River Fish  
Sherridan Moores



Metallic Fantail  
Mick Smith



AOV Singletail Bred  
2019 - David Roberts



AV Without Standard  
Bred 2019 - Tom Rosser



AV Without Standard  
Bred 2019 Jackie Pedley



Best Calico Coloured  
Fish - Gary Malpas

## MATCHED PAIRS



Matched Pair  
Bristol Shubunkins  
Graham Bell



Matched Pairs AV  
Twintail Goldfish  
Grahame Draper



Matched Pairs AOV  
Singletail Goldfish  
Mick Smith

CLASS 1	Common Goldfish up to 3"
1 <sup>st</sup>	IAN MILDON
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IAN MILDON
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 2	Common Goldfish over 3"
1 <sup>st</sup>	ANDREW BARTON
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IAN MILDON
3 <sup>rd</sup>	IAN MILDON
4 <sup>th</sup>	IAN MILDON
HC	TONY WATERHOUSE

CLASS 3	Comet 3" body limit
1 <sup>st</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
4 <sup>th</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE

CLASS 4	Bristol Shubunkin up to 3"
1 <sup>st</sup>	PHIL RILEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
4 <sup>th</sup>	PHIL RILEY

CLASS 5	Bristol Shubunkin over 3"
1 <sup>st</sup>	PHIL RILEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
3 <sup>rd</sup>	BRIAN YOUNG
4 <sup>th</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 6	London Shubunkin
1 <sup>st</sup>	ANDREW BARTON
2 <sup>nd</sup>	MICK SMITH
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MICK SMITH
4 <sup>th</sup>	IAN MILDON
HC	IAN MILDON
HC	IAN MILDON

CLASS 7	Fantail Metallic
1 <sup>st</sup>	MICK SMITH
2 <sup>nd</sup>	MICK SMITH
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MICK SMITH
4 <sup>th</sup>	JOSHUA HEARNE-WILKINS

CLASS 8	Fantail Calico
1 <sup>st</sup>	GARY MALPAS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GARY MALPAS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GARY MALPAS
4 <sup>th</sup>	GARY MALPAS

CLASS 9	Veiltail Metallic and Calico
1 <sup>st</sup>	ANDREW BARTON
2 <sup>nd</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
3 <sup>rd</sup>	ANDREW BARTON
4 <sup>th</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 10	Oranda Metallic and Calico
1 <sup>st</sup>	TOM ROSSER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TOM ROSSER
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GRAHAM TURNER
4 <sup>th</sup>	SHERRIDAN MOORES

CLASS 11	Moor
1 <sup>st</sup>	JOSHUA HEARNE-WILKINS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	JOSHUA HEARNE-WILKINS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 12	Pearlscale
1 <sup>st</sup>	HARRY WILLIAMS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IAN BRAILEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	IAN BRAILEY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 13	Lionhead
1 <sup>st</sup>	ANDREW BARTON
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 14	Ranchu
1 <sup>st</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
2 <sup>nd</sup>	ANDY BECKETT
3 <sup>rd</sup>	ANDY BECKETT
4 <sup>th</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
HC	KEITH MULLIN

CLASS 15	Bubble Eye / Celestial / Pom Pon
1 <sup>st</sup>	GRAHAM TURNER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GRAHAM TURNER
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GRAHAM TURNER
4 <sup>th</sup>	IAN MILDON

CLASS 16	AOV Twintail with standard
1 <sup>st</sup>	GRAHAME DRAPER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GRAHAME DRAPER
3 <sup>rd</sup>	IAN MILDON
4 <sup>th</sup>	GRAHAME DRAPER
HC	IAN MILDON
HC	TONY WATERHOUSE

CLASS 17	Matched Pairs Bristol Shubunkins
1 <sup>st</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
2 <sup>nd</sup>	PHIL RILEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 18	Matched Pairs AOV Single Tail
1 <sup>st</sup>	MICK SMITH
2 <sup>nd</sup>	MICK SMITH
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
4 <sup>th</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE

CLASS 19	Matched Pairs AV Twintail
1 <sup>st</sup>	GRAHAME DRAPER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IAN MILDON
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MICK SMITH
4 <sup>th</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 20	Bristol Shubunkin Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	PHIL RILEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	PHIL RILEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	GRAHAM BELL
4 <sup>th</sup>	GRAHAM BELL

CLASS 21	Fantail Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	BARRY COLLINS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	BARRY COLLINS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 22	Veiltail Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	BRIAN YOUNG
2 <sup>nd</sup>	NO ENTRY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 23	Oranda Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	TOM ROSSER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TOM ROSSER
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TOM ROSSER
4 <sup>th</sup>	TOM ROSSER

CLASS 26	Ranchu Bred 2017
1 <sup>st</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
2 <sup>nd</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
3 <sup>rd</sup>	ANDY BECKETT
4 <sup>th</sup>	ANDY BECKETT

CLASS 27	AOV Singletail Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	DAVID ROBERTS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	DAVID ROBERTS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	DAVID ROBERTS
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 28	AOV Twintail Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE
4 <sup>th</sup>	CLIVE WATERHOUSE

CLASS 29	AV Without Standard Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 30	Bristol Shubunkin Team of 4 Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	BRIAN YOUNG
2 <sup>nd</sup>	PHIL RILEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 31	Fantails Team of 4 Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	BARRY COLLINS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	NO ENTRY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 32	Veiltails & Orandas Teams of 4 Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	BRIAN YOUNG
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TOM ROSSER
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 35	AOV Twintail Teams of 4 Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	KEITH MULLIN
2 <sup>nd</sup>	ANDY BECKETT
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 37	AV Without Standard Team of 4 Bred 2019
1 <sup>st</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	NO ENTRY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 39	AV Single or Twintail Without Standard
1 <sup>st</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TONY WATERHOUSE
3 <sup>rd</sup>	JACKIE PEDLEY
4 <sup>th</sup>	MICHAEL MOSS

CLASS 40	AV Pond & River Fish
1 <sup>st</sup>	SHERRIDAN MOORES
2 <sup>nd</sup>	NO ENTRY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	NO ENTRY
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

CLASS 42	Best Calico Coloured Fish
1 <sup>st</sup>	GARY MAPLAS
2 <sup>nd</sup>	GARY MALPAS
3 <sup>rd</sup>	IAN MILDON
4 <sup>th</sup>	NO ENTRY

## BEST EXHIBIT IN SHOW

**METALLIC VEILTAIL BRED BY  
ANDREW BARTON**



## SPECIAL AWARDS

BEST EXHIBIT IN SHOW	ANDREW BARTON
HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS IN SHOW	MICK SMITH
BEST FISH IN SECTION A	PHIL RILEY
BEST FISH IN SECTION B	ANDREW BARTON
BEST FISH IN SECTION C	GRAHAM BELL
BEST FISH IN SECTION D	BARRY COLLINS
BEST FISH IN SECTION E	KEITH MULLIN
BEST FISH IN SECTION F	JACKIE PEDLEY
BEST BREEDERS TEAM OF VEILTAILS	BRIAN YOUNG
BEST BRISTOL SHUBUNKIN EXHIBITED BY A MEMBER	PHIL RILEY

## TEAMS OF FOUR BRED 2019



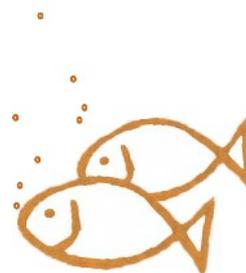
Veiltail/Oranda  
Team of 4  
Brian Young



AOV Twintail Goldfish  
Keith Mullin



Fantail Team of 4  
Barry Collins



Bristol Shubunkin team  
of 4 - Brian Young

# Is there a problem with the WATER?

**In this, the second of a short series of articles on fish health, we will look at some clues that can be used to diagnose what is wrong with your fish.**

The majority of fish and pond keepers will experience problems with unhealthy fish at some stage. Sometimes the cause of the poor health is obvious and it is relatively easy to treat the fish. However it can also be more difficult to get a good diagnosis despite looking at books, magazines and relevant web sites.

*David Pool*

The importance of good water quality in an aquarium or pond cannot be stressed too greatly. Fish and plants are completely surrounded by the water, therefore any harmful compounds or sudden changes in the water quality will have an immediate and often drastic effect. Poor or incorrect water conditions are responsible for considerably more of the problems encountered by fish and pond keepers than all of the other issues added together. In fact over 75% of fishkeepers troubles can directly, or indirectly, be related to water quality.

## Recognising water quality issues

It is obviously important to be able to recognize when water quality problems occur and understand how to overcome them. In the last article I suggested that if all of your fish, or all of a certain age or species, started showing signs of poor health over a short space of time, it was likely to be due to poor water conditions. But how do we go to the next stage and identify which specific aspect of the water quality is causing the problems. The behaviour or appearance of the fish no longer provides any reliable clues. Unfortunately many water quality problems affect the fish in a similar way – causing gasping, rubbing, rapid gill movements, lethargy or excessive mucous production,

Instead we need to rely on testing the water and some knowledge of what has happened in and around the pond or aquarium in the days before the fish became unwell to give us an indication of what is happening.

## Testing the water

Regular water testing is invaluable as it gives you an indication of what is happening in your aquarium or pond, and may enable you to detect problems before they affect your fish.

It is advisable to conduct regular water tests when you first set up your aquarium/pond and again when you make any significant changes to the water, décor, filter or inhabitants. I would suggest ammonia, nitrite and pH are the essential tests. Water hardness, chlorine, nitrate and specific tests related to the fish you keep are also useful, but possibly used more selectively.

One word of warning with water tests – they only give you the reading in the water at the time that you test. New tank syndrome, where ammonia and nitrite levels increase as the filter bacteria develop can result in very short lived spikes in the concentrations of these dangerous chemicals. If you test the water once a week, the ammonia level may have been at dangerous levels for 5 days but be at acceptable levels when you actually test.

pH is also worth mentioning. In many cases it is not the actual pH that is the problem, but a sudden change. Discus, for example, can thrive in a pH of 6.0 or 7.5 if they gradually get used to such water. However if the pH suddenly changed from 6.0 to 7.5 it would kill them!

Testing the water as soon as you notice the fish are behaving unusually or have a changed appearance gives you a good chance of identifying the water problem.

## Recent events

Recent events often provide a clue to what may have caused the quality of the water to deteriorate:

If the aquarium or pond is new or anything has been done which could impact the filter or the amount of waste that it has to cope with, you should suspect elevated levels of ammonia or nitrite. Adding new fish, over feeding, decomposing fish or plant material can all result in elevated levels of ammonia and nitrate as the filter bacteria try to decompose the additional organic waste material. Conversely, in a new aquarium or pond, or if the filter material is cleaned too vigorously, the numbers of filter bacteria will be insufficient to break down organic waste, and you will again get raised levels of ammonia or nitrite.

Water changes are another source of troubles. Tap water contains harmful chlorine and chloramine, which are severe irritants to the fishes gills and skin. Tap water may also be a different pH to the water in the aquarium or pond – and if added in large quantities it can cause a sudden change in the pH resulting in the skin and gills of the fish becoming irritated.

Sometimes everything points to a water quality issue, but the tests show that conditions are ok. Remember here that the water conditions that impacted the fish may have been short lived, and you are testing when everything has balanced in the aquarium or pond. Equally, the problem could be something that you aren't able to test for. Toxins from sprays that have been used around the aquarium or pond, or chemicals that are on your hands could result in the sudden onset of unhealthy fish. If your investigations don't throw up an obvious answer, consider events that have happened in the few days before you noticed the fish were showing signs of poor health – it may give you a clue.

## What to do?

The course of action will obviously vary depending on what is responsible for the fish looking unwell. Importantly you need to achieve two things. Firstly, correct the water conditions so that the fish are able to recover. And secondly, make sure that the problem doesn't come back.

A good example here would be of high pH levels in an aquarium or pond resulting from cement in the surroundings or the gravel. This would irritate the skin and gills of the fish causing them to rub against underwater objects, jump at the surface and 'yawn' as they try to flush water over their gills. In severe cases it would also result in colouration changes and a build up of mucous on the skin and gills. A partial water change would help to lower the pH (assuming the pH of the tap water is lower). However the cement is still there and would continually cause the pH to rise until it was removed or, in the case of a pond, sealed with a suitable treatment.

## Common causes of water quality problems and possible solutions.

### pH Too high

**Cause.** May be caused by tap water with a high pH, alkaline gravel and décor, limestone rocks in the water or cement.

**Corrective action.** If the tap water is not the cause of the problem and has a lower pH, undertake partial water changes to gradually reduce the PH. 0.1 units every day is ok for most fish, but sensitive species may require a more gradual change. Remember to remove the offending item that is causing the high pH. If you are unsure, get two clean containers and add tap water. Measure the pH and add a reasonable quantity of gravel or the décor to one of the containers. Measure the pH in both containers after 3 – 4 days. They should be identical with any difference being due to the items you have added to one container.

If the tap water is the cause of the problem consider using RO water, adding a pH adjuster, or keeping fish that can survive in your local conditions.

### pH too low

**Cause.** Usually due to tap water or decomposing organic material. If you live in a soft water area, the tap water may be naturally soft and slightly acidic. Water supply companies may add buffers to the water to temporarily raise the pH (so it doesn't eat away at old metallic pipework), but these can stop working after a day or so allowing the water to slowly return to its natural, more acidic condition. Using pH adjusters and buffers will help to correct the issue, but make sure that all future tap water is adjusted before it is added to the aquarium. Again keeping soft acid water species may be an alternative solution.

Organic material naturally releases acids as it decomposes (through the nitrogen cycle). If the water is very soft it can result in the pH lowering. Good aquarium or pond maintenance and the use of buffers will help to overcome the issue.

## Ammonia and nitrite

Both should be close to zero in a healthy aquarium or pond. High levels suggest there are not enough bacteria in the filter and aquarium or pond to decompose the fish waste and organic material (leaves, food, dead fish etc) that are present.

**Causes.** There are a range of causes of elevated ammonia and nitrite levels including:

- Newly set up aquarium or pond
- Newly set up filter
- Overstocking with fish
- Adding too many fish at one time
- Insufficient or faulty filtration
- Biological filter medium cleaned excessively or in tap water
- Over feeding
- Poor tank hygiene
- Excess debris in the water

Control measures include an immediate partial water change and removal of any excess debris followed by daily partial changes until the ammonia and nitrite are back to safe levels. Chemical additives can also be used to reduce ammonia and nitrite levels. In addition the cause of the problem needs to be identified. Avoid overfeeding and overstocking, ensure the filter is functioning effectively and don't clean the media with anything that will harm the helpful bacteria.

## Nitrate

**Cause.** High levels of nitrate are likely to occur in an aquarium or pond through the tap water in some areas of the country, or naturally as the end result of the nitrogen cycle.

If the tap water contains high levels of nitrate, using RO water (for aquaria) either exclusively or to dilute the tap water will help. Alternatively commercial products are available that will remove nitrate. The natural production of nitrate can be controlled by encouraging healthy plant or algae growth, and by minimizing the production of nitrate by removing organic material before it starts to decompose, avoiding overfeeding and taking care not to overstock your aquarium or pond.

## Chlorine and chloramine

Raised levels of chlorine and chloramine may be present in tap water as it is added to control living organisms and ensure the water is 'safe' for us to drink. Tap water can be made safe for fish and other aquatic organisms by leaving it to stand for 1-2 days with agitation (aeration or filtration). Alternatively, good quality tap water conditioners can be used to quickly remove both chlorine and chloramine – but do so before the water is added to the aquarium or pond so that the fish don't come into contact with it.

## Unidentified water quality problems

Sometimes the sudden onset of fish health problem points to a water quality issue. But even after testing and working out what has happened in the few days before it became noticeable, it is still difficult to identify exactly what has caused the problem.

In these situations I would suggest that you check your tap water, to ensure there is nothing obviously wrong with it, and then conduct a 25% partial water change, removing any debris from the aquarium or pond. Treat the new tap water with a conditioner that includes colloids as these will coat the skin and gills of the fish providing extra protection from whatever is affecting the fish. Repeat this every 1 – 2 days for a week. Whilst doing this, remain alert and check with anyone who has been in the vicinity of the pond or aquarium to see if they have any ideas of what could have caused the issue.

Water quality is a massive subject and this article has only touched the surface of some areas. There are many excellent books and web sites that can provide more details if you are interested.

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on

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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.

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Dates for meetings at Binley Hall starting at 1.00pm

**SUNDAY**  
20TH OCTOBER

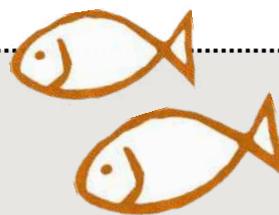
**AMGK AGM**  
& PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Other dates for 2019



**SATURDAY**  
5TH OCTOBER

**6TH NATIONAL FANCY  
GOLDFISH OPEN SHOW**



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