



**NORTHERN GOLDFISH
& PONDKEEPERS
SOCIETY**
A Nationwide Society
NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2016

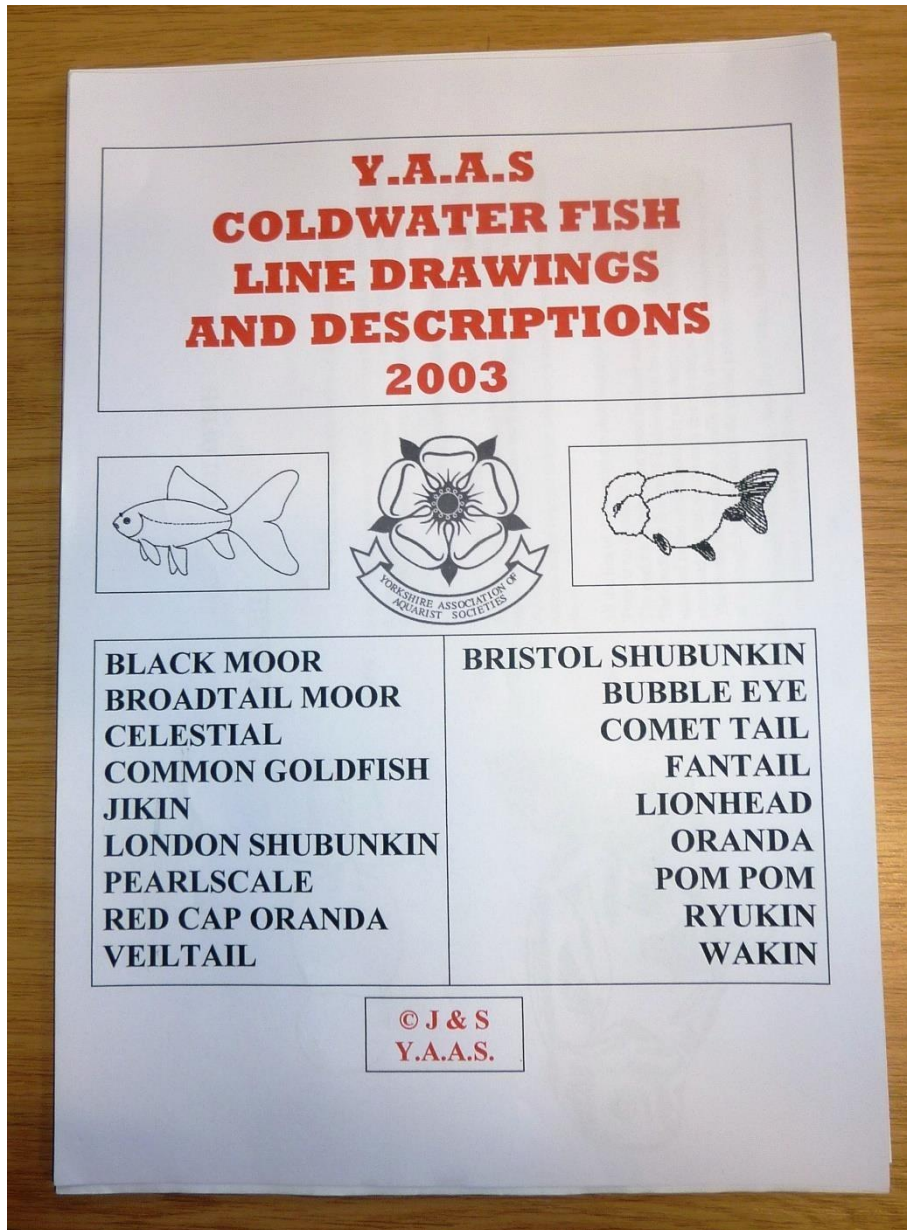


Yorkshire Goldfish – a Ryukin gets a First

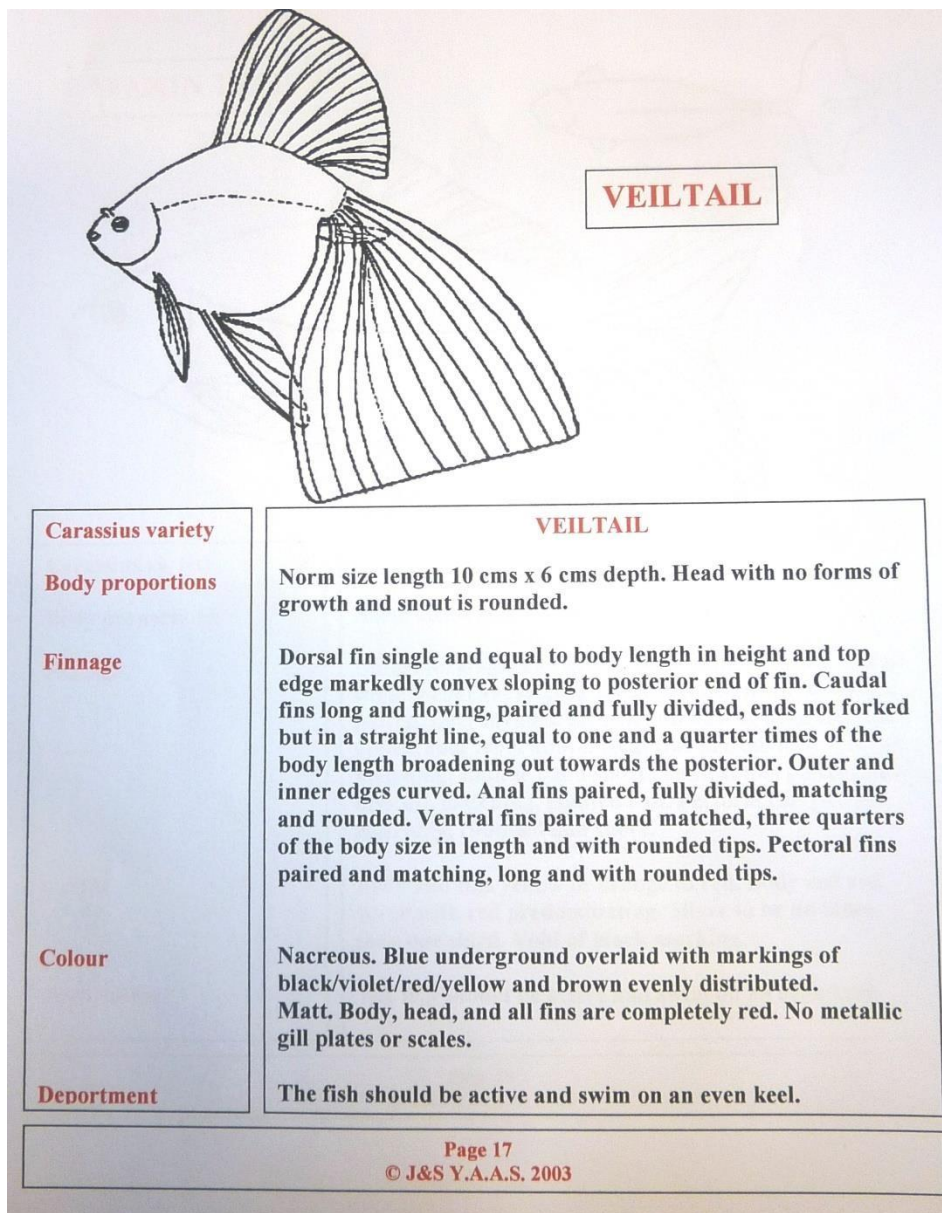
Traditionally the Bradford & District Aquarist Society starts the club show scene in Yorkshire with a Springtime Open Show and Auction. This year (and it is their 69th year) the club missed that honour because there were earlier shows and even two clashing shows (one in Scotland and one in Southern

England) so entries were low and auction audience less than usual. This is not bad news though...it means the aquatic club scene is alive and growing.

Bradford (like 10 other fish clubs) are members of YAAS (Yorkshire Association of Aquarist Societies) who arrange Open Shows and appoint Judges with their own unique standards (the War of the Roses never really ended). They have two Classes that are devoted to Goldfish: 34 is Common Goldfish and Comets, 35 is Fancy Goldfish. This is their Judges' standards for those classes....



....and just one example of the variety standard....



....which is all very different to our Nationwide Standards. But I did present the YAAS Judges with a copy and they said it would be useful for them to point the Goldfish (there were 10 entries in the two Classes).



That Ryukin winner in the Fancy Goldfish Class is owned by Sharon Hall who, members will remember, used to be with NGPS. She now lives in Sheffield and is

a member of SVAS (Sheaf Valley AS) and still keeps and breeds Goldfish (and Tortoises!).



Her daughter Chelsea also won the Junior Competition with a Common Goldfish, here she is receiving the diploma from BDAS Secretary Anthony Fisher...

Incidentally, the total number of entries at the OS was 122 (usually double that) and the audience for the Auction was 75 (usually over 100). But the auction did last 4 hours and everyone left with bargains.

By YAAS rules there are only two trophies – the Best in Show (was a Catfish – usually is!) and the Best Exhibit (pairs and shoals) won by a breeding pair of Hockey Stick Pencil Fishes.

Let's hope they have a bigger, better Goldfish section soon, with Nationwide Standards!

More Goldfish Facts

Six Japanese scientists at Tokai University School of Medicine, Shimokasuya, Isehara, Kanagawa, Japan published a paper (back in 2009) in the Journal 'Gene' about their study of Fancy Goldfish. As they put it in scientific language...

'Many different physical characteristics of Goldfish (*Carassius auratus auratus*), such as celestial and telescopic eyes, fancy but uncontrollable shapes of tail fin, an unfittingly fat body, and loss of dorsal fins, provide us with a unique opportunity of studying artificial selection on phenotypic changes on the basis of molecular evolution.'

Genome study is the latest popular subject for Research Papers and they chose Goldfish. This was to determine the evolutionary origins and history of goldfish varieties. They examined genetic material from 44 different goldfish, including many Fancies.

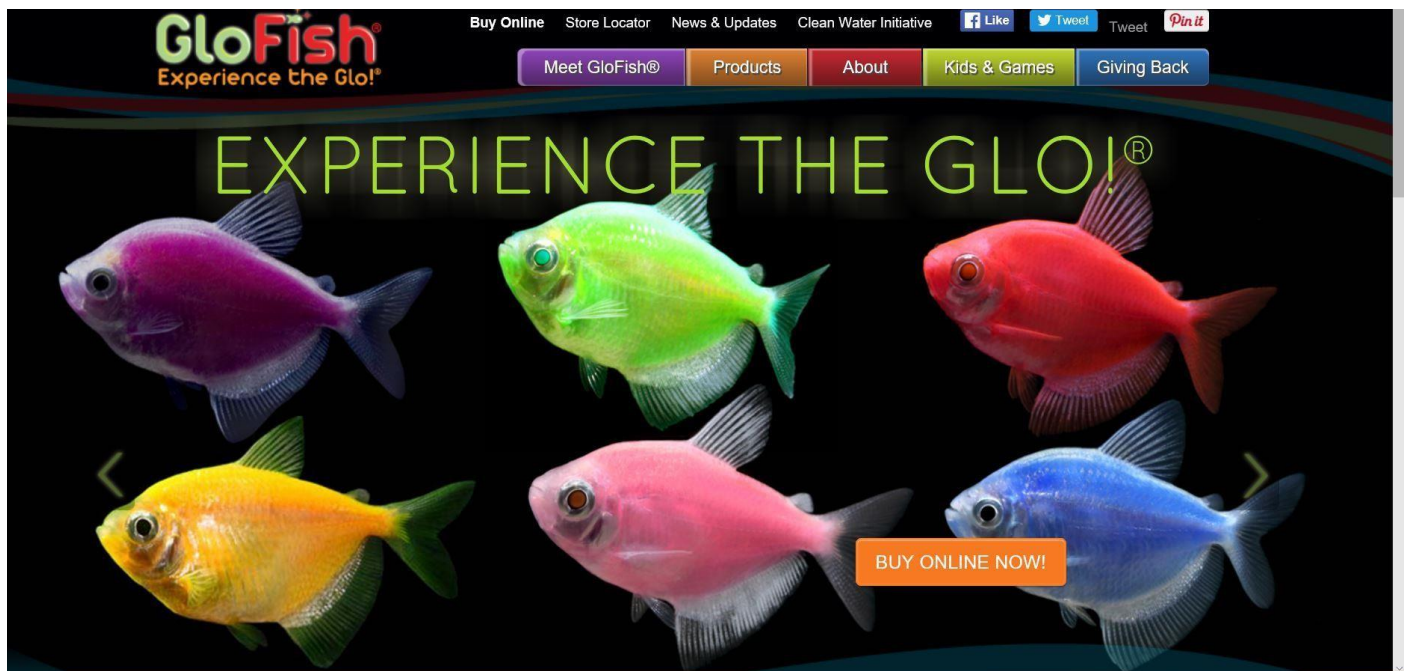
What they discovered is mainly about scientific progress in this field, but one conclusion was that Japanese Goldfish are not related to Japanese Crucian carp, *Carassius auratus langsdorfi*, but that they instead originated from one of the

two groups of Chinese Crucian carp, *Carassius auratus gibelio*, also known as the Gibel carp.

So now you know. They really are Chinese.

More Goldfish News?

In California the latest craze is genetically modified Tropicals - have a look at the details (and amazing videos) on the website <http://www.glofish.com>. What worries me is when will they get round to doing it to Goldfish!



They do it by genetically modifying the fish eggs with fluorescent genes from marine species that use bioluminescence. The adults then pass on these genes to offspring so it is claimed to be 'natural', not via staining or injection.



This Month's Top Tip

Summer is nearly here and so the roses will bloom...and become covered in Greenfly (*Aphis* spp). Ideal food for the Goldfish, but never after

spraying with chemicals, soapy water, garlic – or whatever you use. Treat your fish to this nutritious live food by stroking the Greenfly from the stems with a paint brush onto a

saucer and add to the aquarium... Then spray!

Minutes of the June Meeting



David Padfield brought a Bristol for comment – it is a potential show-fish but has a cleft in the dorsal. Would this mark it down by the judges?

The consensus was that it would not since it is obviously a genetic problem, not damage, and the fish was otherwise good quality.

The potential for such inherited deformities was discussed.

There were no spawnings to report – in fact most members were having problems ranging from flukes to overheating thermostats.

Sherridan said there was no suitable dates for the annual picnic and it is best left for next year. But then Richard and Abbey announced that they would be holding a barbecue for members and partners at their home Saturday August 13th.

Members who attended will recall their excellent barbecue in August 2015...see page 8 on the website www.northerngoldfishsociety.com . This year it will start at 2pm with edibles at 4pm – you only need to bring your own tippie. Richard needs to know numbers attending so email him acceptance at rizzottigroup@hotmail.com or drop a note to their home: 11 Newbrook Road, Bolton, Lancs, or phone 07931160762. For your SatNav it is BL5 1EP.

Sherridan described the good venue and audience at Preston AS where he gave a talk. It was then suggested that perhaps we could all attend local clubs as a Goldfish Group (with a Goldfish!) instead of just talking in the Church Inn. Debate!

The meeting ended with a discussion on the delights and dangers of live foods for your Goldfish.

Remember always that these Newsletters are prepared by David Ford, but they are written for and by you. If you have anything to offer for publication please send to me by post at 26 Clare Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax HX1 2HQ or by email (any format) to drdmford@outlook.com.

Next meeting at the Church Inn, Prestwich, is 8pm Tuesday July 12th, please be there!