



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



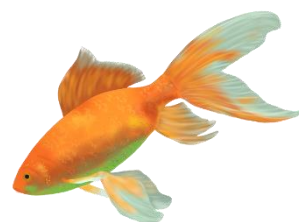
January 2017



By tradition it is always half-way into the month before your Newsletter can be published...but it is never too late to wish all our 65 members....



**Happy
New Year!**



Your Chairman Writes...

2016 was a very odd year for goldfish breeders, while some had normal spawnings, the majority of breeders found it very difficult or impossible to get their stock to spawn and if they did the resultant fry seemed more than usually liable to develop a range of fatal diseases. Why this should be is a total mystery but let's hope that 2017 brings us a less problematic season.

For some time now I have been hoping to remedy the difficult situation regarding the timing of our Open Show, the second Saturday in September - it's traditional date - did not allow sufficient time, often only one week, after the Bristol Open Show and with the Nationwide Open Show two weeks later there was no room for movement in that direction. We have discussed this situation numerous times at the meetings but have been unable to suggest any workable remedy and had resolved to continue to make the best we could of it. Now, however, I am pleased to announce the excellent news that the Nationwide Open Show will be moving to a

week later on the 30th September and our Show will be moving a week later to the third Saturday, 16th September, this should make things a little easier all round.

Our January meeting was the best attended for several years, let's try and keep the standard as high through 2017. I wish all members a happy and prosperous new year. Sherridan.

The 2017 Fish Shows

Sunday 19th February - OASIS Auction, Redhouse Community Centre, Sunderland.

Sunday April 16th - Castleford A.S. Open Show & Auction, Lock Lane Centre, Back William Street, Castleford, WF10 2LW.

Sunday May 14th - Bradford & District A.S. Spring Open Show, Bradford Academy, Teasdale St, Bradford BD4 7QJ **This will be their 70th anniversary OS.**

Sunday June 18th - Ryedale Aquarist Society Open Show & Auction, Kirby Misperton Village Hall, Malton, N. Yorks.

Saturday June 24th – AMGK OS, West Orchard Church Hall, Baginton Rd, Coventry CV36 6FP.

Sunday June 25th - International Betta Show, Huskar Community Rooms, Silkstone, Barnsley S75 4LX (back of Co-op Petrol Station).

Sunday July 2nd - Y.A.A.S. Open Show & Auction, The Village Hall, Stockton on the Forest, YO32 9UJ.

Sunday July 9th – Castleford A.S. Catfish & Loach Open Show & Auction, Lock Lane Centre, Back William Street, Castleford, WF10 2LW.

Sunday July 16th – NEGS Open Show, Redby Community Centre, Sunderland, Fulwell Rd, SR6 9QU

Sunday August 13th - Friends of Yorkshire Open Show & Auction, The Village Hall, Stockton on the Forest, YO32 9UJ.

Sunday September 3rd - Bristol Aquarist Society Open Show, Hengrove Community Centre. Fortfield Road. Hengrove. Bristol BS14 9NX. **Note new venue.**

Saturday September 16th our Open Show, St Matthews Church Hall, Stretford, make a calendar note to help on the Friday, September 15th!

Saturday September 30th – Nationwide Open Show, Horsehay Village Hall, Horsehay, Telford TF4 2NF.

Saturday & Sunday October 7th & 8th – Festival of Fishkeeping Weekend by FBAS, at Hounslow Zoo (or whatever it will be called by then).

Tuesday & Wednesday October 18th & 19th – AQUA at Telford International Centre, St Quentin Gate, Telford TF3 4JH (Trade only).

Any additions or amendments? Send to drdmford@outlook.com Thanks.

Pond News

In Leeds there is a 700 acre park run by the council called Roundhay Park. It is the venue for many spectacles, from November 5th fireworks to the Chinese Light Display over last Christmas. There are many places of interest in the park – and parking is easy and free – but one of interest to members visiting the city is the Tropical World. Based off Princes Street (LS8 2ET) this life museum contains seven habitats to walk through, such as a Butterfly House (up to 40 species), Australasia, Amazonian and Desert Sections, with everything from Crocodiles to Meerkats.

The aquarium house has many tropical fish, from giant Catfish to giant Pacus....



Being 'tropical' there are no Goldfish, however, in the Asian Jungle walk there is a waterfall feeding a pond with large Koi.



You can buy pelleted fish food at the entrance to feed the Koi. But even if you do not, the fish think you might and gather to greet you, with open mouths.



The entrance fee is £5 (half price for 15 and under – free for under 5's) and the hours are 10 to 6 in Summer, 10 to 4 in Winter.

Nice café if you want to include a meal. Usual souvenirs shop too. Well worth a visit.

Goldfish News

Last year researchers at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia, studied Goldfish as an 'invasive aquatic species'. They found that pet Goldfish, released into the wild, will migrate over 100 miles to find a mate and start breeding colonies. They stated: "Once established, self-sustaining populations of (these) alien freshwater fishes often thrive and can spread into new regions, which is having a fundamental ecological impact and are major drivers of the decline of aquatic fauna."

The largest wild Goldfish they discovered is 4lb (almost 2kg) and published this photograph...



Goldfish must like the Australian climate. One advantage of our climate – they are not an ecological problem in the UK. (But it is illegal to release them into the wild.)

This Month's Top Tip

Most aquarium gadgets get suckers to hold them in place on the glass or acrylic sides. This is a very effective fixing system with easy removal and return. The problem is that about a year later, the sucker fails. If rubber, it perishes, if polyester, it hardens. Few manufacturers offer replacements and if they do, they are ridiculously expensive.

So, DIY. Household gadgets such as bathroom holders for soap or toilet paper etc. have suckers to attach them to the tiles. Some are expensive, but the £-shops (sometimes) have the holders on sale. Shops such as Wilkinsons have several gadgets that include sucker holders, at low prices.

Discard the gadget and fit the sucker to your aquarium accessory. It will never be an ideal fit, of course, but ingenuity will make it so. If just a button on the sucker, thread a needle through it with polyester (not cotton – that soon rots) thread and tie the heater, filter, ornament, etc. to the sucker.



The heaterstat has traditional sucker fittings.

Alternatives are on the soap holder, but a tie will be needed.

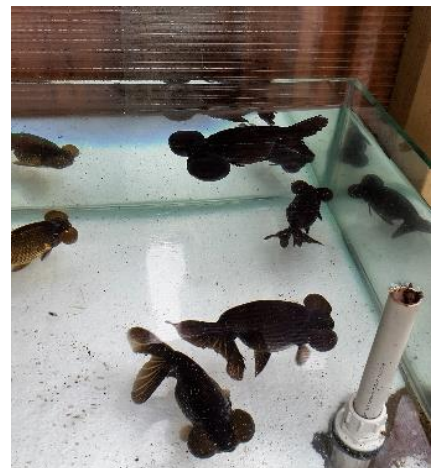
The Wilko's Hanging Hooks will hold a filter box in place using the Chrome-plated hooks*.

*The Chromed metal should be safe for use in freshwater aquaria, especially water-flow fish-house units, but to be sure, coat it with a two-part resin sealer or Silicone-sealer. Or replace them with Stainless Steel hooks. Use DIY ingenuity – any other ideas, send to me at drdmford@outlook.com.

Craig Clinton's Goldfish

Some of Craig's magnificent Goldfish are shown here.

They are (or will be) for sale – contact him at sam.clinton@hotmail.com



Craig writes: I bred all the fish in the photos over March and April 2016 except for the Broadtail Oranda in the middle photo.

I hope to breed in 2017 more Bubble-eyes (in Calico, Black, Blue and Red) plus Celestials, Veiltails, Orandas and Black Ranchu.

That's a lot to do but I will give it a shot ☺

In addition to those I have bred, I managed a spawning of Broad Tail Orandas - of which I have about 40 at 2inches in size, and growing well. They all seem to be quite nice fish.

If anyone would like frozen bloodworm or cyclops ordered, I get 1kg slabs for £10 per slab, please contact me to place an order. My email is listed above the photos.

Newsletter News!

The 2016 Newsletters are now online in the websites...

www.northerngoldfishsociety.com (the full site)

and <https://ngps.webplus.net> (the mobile phone site).

Every Newsletter from 2014, 2015 and 2016 are viewable or can be downloaded for printing.

Nationwide News

The Nationwide logo has a very old icon of our Society. I have asked for this to be updated at the next printing (but was told this could take years!).

Here is the current Logo.



This is the preferred version.
(someday!)



Minutes of the January Meeting

The request from Sherridan for confirmation of a visit to The Church Inn for this Meeting was successful, with the best attendance in January for many years.

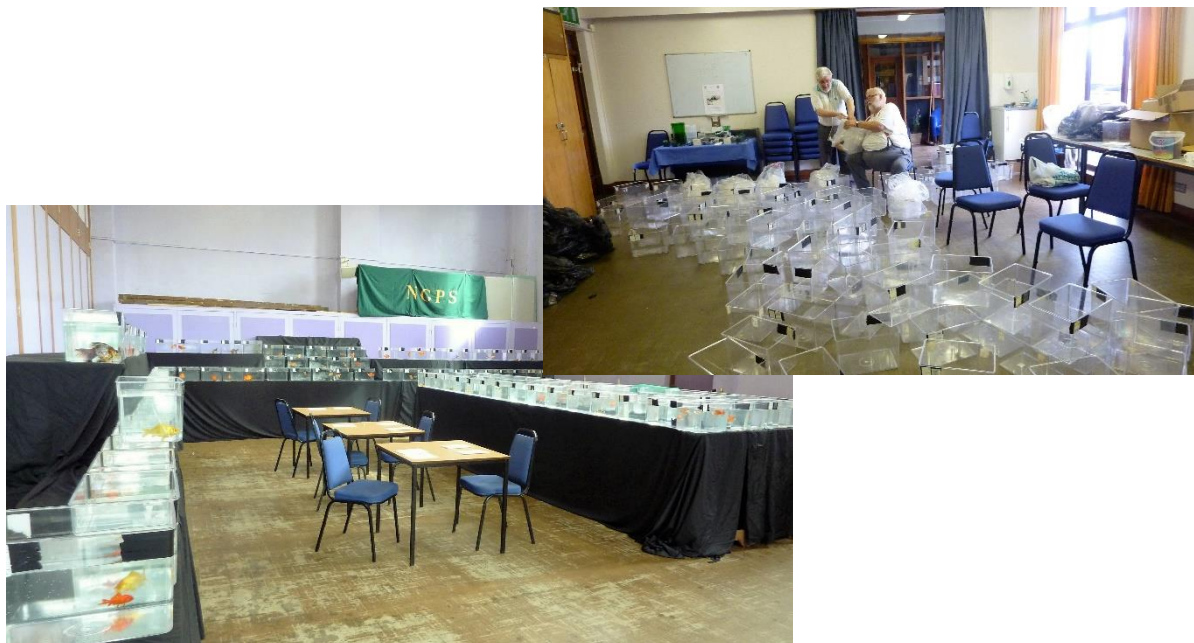
A new visitor was David Ormondroyd, who is the Hall Manager at St. Matthews Church Hall, where we hold our annual Open Show. He revealed that the Church may have available storage space in an unused loft...this would solve many of our storage and setting-up problems. Sherridan will investigate.

Discussions ranged from whether aquarium lighting was allowable at Open Shows to winter feeding breeding stock. This latter subject revealed some differences in opinions and experiences, so an article will be published in the February Newsletter and members' opinions sought.

Craig revealed that Shirley Aquatics at Solihull is closing down because the land has been sold for housing developments. However, a new site is planned further down the M42, more on this in future Newsletters.

Finally

Don't forget to make a calendar note of our new date for the NGPS Open Show – and the Friday before it to help with the set-up....



Next meeting at the Church Inn, Prestwich is February 14th unless members cannot make it. Let Sherridan know.