

APRIL 2018



March 14<sup>th</sup> and members visit Chester Zoo Aquarium for a behind-the-scenes tour. Michael, Richard and Abby Rizzotti, Sherridan and David Ford behind the camera. Despite blizzards and sub-zero gales.

Assistant Team Leader Hannah Thomas did the honours, here she is showing us the equipment on the other side of the display aquaria.



There are more than 100 tanks in the Aquarium – but only 23 on display to the public, who wander up and down the two passages from the entrance to the exit.



Which is exactly what we did on the other side! The full story is available as an attached PDF: download from here (it is safe to do so) – [ChesterZooAquarium2018](#)  
The manuscript will be published in various aquatic magazines, but that will be weeks, even months, in the future. More photos are on the NGPS website too, see Social page 8, at [www.northerngoldfishsociety.com](http://www.northerngoldfishsociety.com) .

### **This Month's Top Tip**

A Pond one – these instructions were posted by Will Moseley, an American Wildlife and Fisheries Consultant back in 2009. It has become a quote in all official publications for pond wildlife inspectors.

When a pond turns cloudy - "If sufficient grass cover already exists in the watershed, get a clear jar with a lid and fill it with the pond water. Leave the jar undisturbed for a week and see if the mud has settled to the bottom of the jar. If the mud has settled and the water is clearer than it was, then you still have problems with sediment-laden runoff, excessive wave action, livestock disturbance or fish activity. However, if the mud has not settled, then you have a problem with suspended clay particles."

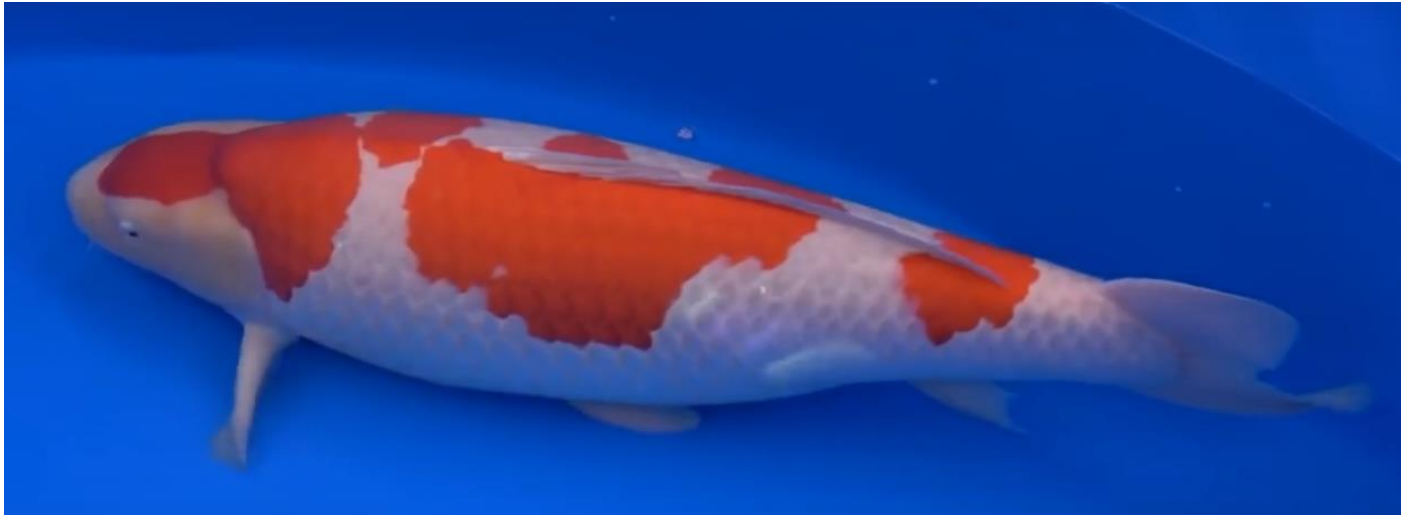


If you have a natural pond (rather than Butyl or Concrete etc.) this simple test will show if you have a soil run-off problem (plant more grasses) or a water problem (change it).



## More Pond News

The Grand Champion at the 49<sup>th</sup> All Japan Nishikigoi of the World was won by breeder Mr Pan Zhi Chung of Sakai Fish Farm (3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018). You can see a video of the Koi at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v37bLZK7Lpg> (once you have passed through the adverts!). A beautiful Koi ...



  
**Saki-Hikari®**  
**The diet of Champions**

**2018 All Japan Grand Champion**  
At the 49th All Japan Nishikigoi of The World, held on the 3rd and 4th February 2018, the largest and most prolific show in the world, a splendid 6 year old Kohaku was crowned All Japan Grand Champion.  
Fed and raised on 100% foods made by Kyorin (Hikari®) including Saki-Hikari® Series, the 94cm Kohaku is owned by Mr Pan, Zhi Cheng, bred by Sakai Fish Farm Co., Ltd. and handled by Odakan / Sanshin Trading.  
This Koi also won Grand Champion at the All Japan Young Koi Show 4 years ago, and this is the first time that the same koi has won both Grand Champions.



The Koi Shows in Japan are very commercial – the fish food and equipment manufacturers promote many of the breeders. This winner is now appearing World-wide in adverts like this ....

## Goldfish News

Last month's Newsletter revealed that Churchill kept Goldfish (in Sherridan's competition) – Churchill's very last painting was of the Goldfish in a pond at Chartwell (his home in Westerham,

Kent). His paintings are now up for sale and the Chartwell Goldfish Pond one is in an auction and expected to fetch at least £80,000. Here it is for free ....



The other news is rather sad – the latest Mintel Research results covered pet ownership in the UK in 2012 and now in 2017. It reveals that the number of households owning pets was down a little, from 63% to 56% but the greatest fall is in ownership of a Goldfish. Down from 17% in 2012 to 10% last year. The reasons are (given by Veterinarians) that Goldfish lack a 'selfie' factor, people want a pet they can photo themselves with, to put on their Facebook page.

More causes must be that Fairs and Fête Stalls no longer give Goldfish as prizes and kids cannot impulse-buy pets unless accompanied by an adult (it's the law). Also, kids just stare at their mobile phone all day, not into an aquarium.

It is predicted that Goldfish will lose the claim 'the most popular pet in the World' soon.







In Dubai they are building yet another hotel – the New Royal Atlantis Hotel on the Palms. It will have six giant aquariums in the entrance with water falls and fountains. Not due to be opened until 2019 but work is underway. Here is the very first tank being installed, the frame work will hold the Acrylic box – but why up in the air? Because it will be over a dance floor and the dancers can look up to see fish swimming over their heads. More news as it develops (because one of my relatives is the engineer on the job!).



The final design.

## Minutes of the April Meeting

The April Meeting was due 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 but there were so many members who could not make it, for various but valid, reasons that Sherridan decided to cancel it. Hence this meeting has been moved to the 'Members' Meeting' on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> at St Matthews Church Hall, Chester Road, Manchester M32 8HF (from 10am to 5pm). Aquaria are available for any Goldfish you wish to bring for judging. Lunch is available too. Note that this is an AGM so your annual subscription is also due.

If you cannot make this AGM, please send subs to the Treasurer (who is also the Chairman!) Sherridan Moores, 19, Manley Road, Sale, Cheshire M33 4EG. £15 for an adult, £5 for under 21, £18-50 for all the family. Cheques to 'Northern Goldfish Society' (not 'NGPS', the bank insists). PayPal is available.

One other message – from me (David Ford). This month's issue of Practical Fishkeeping magazine (May 2018) has two items of interest. On page 29 (Tank Community Page) they have published my letter about all the Goldfish Shows for 2018, which is good publicity for Nationwide too. On Pages 44 to 50 there is an excellent article about Ryukins by member Jeremy Gay.

**Hope to see you on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> and then on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at The Church Inn, Prestwich M25 1AN.**

