

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



AUGUST 2018



NGPS Showtimes – remember these?

Saturday September 15th is our Open Show at St Matthews Hall, Chapel Lane, Stretford, Manchester M32 9AJ, hope to see you there, but also to help set it up on

the Friday, September 14th (any time after 10am). Items for the Grand Raffle are wanted too – don't Ebay or Charity Shop them, bring them to the meeting at The Church Inn on Tuesday September 11th. Otherwise please bring your contribution to the Friday set-up or even the Open Show on Saturday.

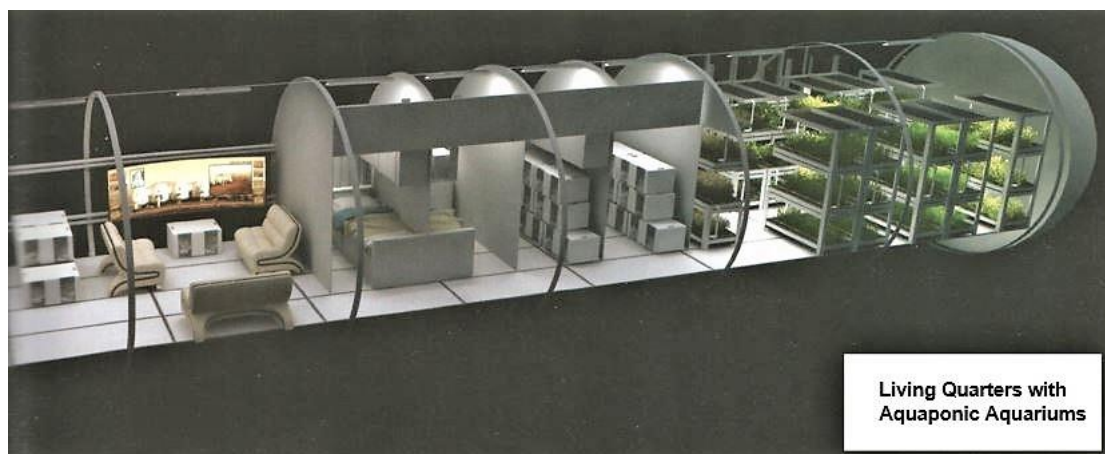
Goldfish News

My latest addition is a Redcap Oranda from Dave's Aquarium in Bolton. The aquarium is along side a tropical tank that contains an Angelfish. There were a trio of Angels, but the dominant one killed the other two (they are Cichlids) and when, through the side glass, he saw the new Redcap, he immediately tried to attack it. This has been going on for days now – the Redcap just ignores the Angel, but that glass is the only thing that is saving him.



Pond News

A few years back NASA decided to go to Mars and plans were laid to feed the Astronauts via 'Aquaponics'. Here is the planned Mars base.



Living Quarters with
Aquaponic Aquariums

Official definition: Aquaponics is a method in which fish waste provides organic food for plants which in turn keeps the water fresh for the fish. The system recirculates and reuses water between animals and plants to maintain a stable aquatic environment. Water is added only to replace loss from absorption, transpiration, evaporation, overflow or removal of biomass.

This technique has moved from aquaria (on Earth!) to ponds. Farms, such as Madhavi Organic Farms, India's largest Aquaponic farm, located in middle of Bengaluru, Karnataka, report that popular plants suitable for this aquaculture include green leafy vegetables such as lettuce, cabbage, basil, spinach, and tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes and beans.

Fish in the system can include either ornamental or edible variety, though freshwater fish are better suited, with Tilapia and Goldfish (yes!) being popular choices.



An aquaponic unit at Disneyland (under a research contract to NASA) with Tilapia in the recycled water and green vegetables growing on the surface of the tank's water.

The veggies and the fish are fed to visitors in the Disney restaurants.

Vijayakumar Krishnamoorthy, who runs Madhavi Farms, started aquaponics a year ago. The yield he says is eight times higher than that of open area conventional cultivation. Currently, there are 16 varieties of greens grown, which he plans to extend to 35 soon. He quotes: "In spite of growing organic vegetables for two decades, we were not able to make it commercially viable. We switched to aquaponics because it is eco-friendly, completely organic and energy efficient".

The social media are reporting that as this technique becomes popular, gardeners will be growing their vegetables in their garden ponds. Fertilized by their Goldfish.

Top Tip of the Month

Use a lidded plastic container such as an ice-cream pot and place a few earthworms from the garden at the bottom. Cover them with filter floss that has been wet with tapwater and then squeezed to make it just damp, to a depth of 2"/5cm. Make a few holes in the lid so air can enter, wrap in newspaper to exclude light and leave in a cool place undisturbed for a day or maximum two days. The brown, dirty worms

will burrow up through the floss and shed the dirt and excrete too, leaving them pink and clean to feed to your fish.

Global Warming

Hope that your Goldfish have coped with the high temperatures of this Summer. Dean Roberts (our Show Sec) reported that algal blooms in his fish-house spawning tanks have made discovery of eggs difficult. On the other hand, the green water is good first food for the fry.

Green ponds too – at least there has been no reports of blue-green algal blooms. Warnings of the toxic nature of this 'animalcule-plant' are in the press. The Daily Mail had this photo on July 21st. It is the algal bloom in the Little Britain Lake in Hillingdon, West London.



This must be a pond-keeper's nightmare!

AMGK Show – correction

In a classic case of 'Fake News' we were told the Best in Show was Andy Barton's Ranchu – in fact it was Andy Beckett's Ranchu.



Andy not only won Best in Show, he also won Best Owner Bred and Best AMGK member in their Show.

Congratulations!

Butterfly Tails

It was at the AMGK OS that this description of the Butterfly Tails was displayed...

The Butterfly Tail goldfish is a variety of goldfish which is also known as Butterfly telescope. It is a native Chinese goldfish that was brought to Japan in the early 1980s. It is actually not known how this variety came to exist. It is easily distinguished by the butterfly-shaped caudal fins when viewed from above. This variety has only recently been deemed a major lineage by a few published works. Because this tail conformation is commonly bred into the telescope eye goldfish, the term “butterfly tail” is just short for the many names this variety has such as Butterfly Tail Telescope, Butterfly Tail Demekin, Butterfly Tail Moor and Top view Telescope.

The Butterfly Tail goldfish is best appreciated by viewing it from above. It is a variant form of the Telescopic Goldfish with protruding eyes. This variation is commonly paired with the Telescope eye variation. The tail spread is preferable 180 degrees, but some fish may droop down at an angle due to the weight of the long tail fins.

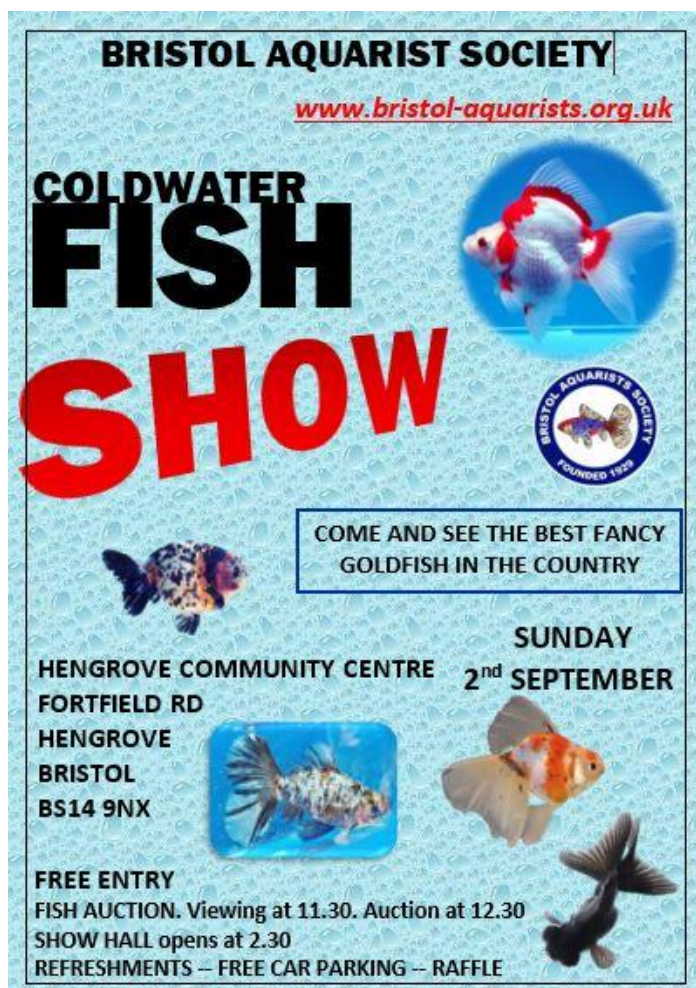


They are
rather
splendid !

Also, at an AMGK meeting this year it was decided that the Butterfly Tail (and the Demekin/Dragon Eye) varieties of Goldfish should be described in the Nationwide Standards for UK Goldfish. The co-ordinator will be AMGK President Andrew Barton. It is expected to take at least three years since there must be evidence of line-breeding over several generations, by more than one breeder, and the strain must breed true to type.

Members Letters

Hi, hope all is well with you all. I've had a good year with the fish. Have sold all the Angelfish I bred (approx 500) and bought some lovely equipment, so I'm back on track with the Goldfish. A request about feeding - we cold water boys used to swear by Hikari Gold, but what are breeders using these days? Have members found anything as good, or better? Would be interested to hear from you all on this food item as there are so many on the market now. Best Regards Neal Lloyd
Send your comments to me to publish please at drdmford@outlook.com



The next Nationwide Member's Open Show will be by the Bristol Aquarist Society. Hope you can make it as a visitor to Bristol, it is always well worth the journey because they put on a very good show and auction – and its free! Except the Raffle.

Minutes of the August Meeting

Preparations for our Open Show were discussed. Sherridan reported that the new manager (Helen) is helping us and that David Roberts has visited St. Matthews Hall and cleaned and sorted all the 140 tanks (thanks, David).

Sherridan reported that the GSGB club has been sold to Andy Green of Star Fisheries – how this will affect their Open Shows and relations with their members (and Nationwide) is not yet clear, we await their next Newsletter.

Sherridan also requested that anyone interested in our traditional weekend away in Llandudno (October – about £50 a night) should contact him now – click here: moores_s@sky.com . Postals should ring 01619697567.

Next meeting is 8pm Tuesday September 11th at The Church Inn, Church Lane, Prestwich M25 1AN. Please try to visit to finalize the Show details - and to bring your raffle contribution. Anything! Thanks.