

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



**NOVEMBER 2021**



For nostalgia: this Common by our  
Chairman, Sherridan, won the 2012  
British Aquarist Festival 'Best in Show',

then won the Champion of Champions (Coldwater) at the 2013 BAF too.

If you want more nostalgia, go to the website of the Federation of Northern Aquarium Societies ([www.fnas.uk](http://www.fnas.uk)) where many of the 76 years since it was formed are recorded.

## **Goldfish News**

If you have deciphered the complications of BBC iPlayer's 'Vigil' you will have found this Goldfish tank. Detective Amy Silva (Suranne Jones) has been locked in her cabin with nothing to talk to except the Oranda. The submarine is probably a copy of the Nuclear Submarine HMS Vanguard, but whether they really do have a Goldfish aquarium on board is impossible to know – all information is

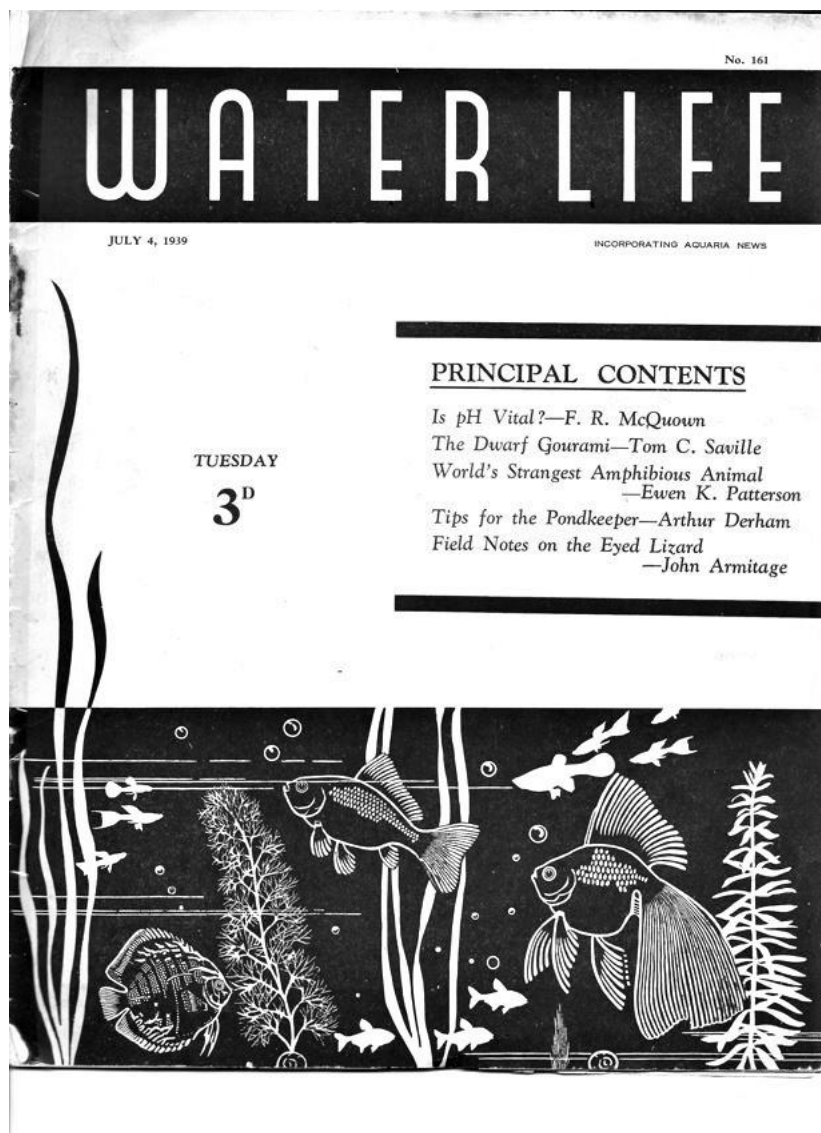
classified. But the set designers decided to include one: there are precedents of aquariums onboard in submarines. (Only – other boats rocking on the waves make it impossible).



## Veiltails

Last month, in Chairman's notes, Sherridan asked 'anyone discovered good Metallic Fantails'. No-one has. I would

like to know where all the Metallic Veiltails are too. When I started Goldfish-keeping (70 years ago) Veiltails were available, but even then they did not look like the specimens available pre-war. Here is a typical one (no photos – but see line drawing) ...



How times have changed – thruppence for a monthly magazine (less than 2 new pence - PFK is a penny less than £5 now). Long flowing fins of that Veiltail Goldfish seem unavailable too.

## **Pond News**

We do have problems with maintaining ponds in the UK, mainly weather and predators, but never with volcanoes bringing instant boiling water! The Volcano in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is doing that.

Hot flaming larva pouring into a pool making the water boil....





Okay – that is a swimming pool – there are no records of Goldfish or Koi ponds in Las Palmas. There are a few natural ponds but these are saline (because of their everlasting Summer). There is a fish farm: Piscifactoria de Salinetas, but they produce Langostinos (Prawns)....safely in the far North of the island.

## **OATA**



This Association has a website that is full of free advice on our hobby. Click: <https://ornamentalfish.org/> (or Google).

Such as:

or:



The Goldfish information has a QR code for instant download of their advice on Fancy Goldfish. See:

<https://ornamentalfish.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/11-Fancy-goldfish.pdf>

An item that is interesting is that if you want to buy and import European Fish, the Brexit regulations do not (now) apply until July of 2022. You then have to register with the IPAFF. This stands for 'Import of products, animals, food and feed system'. They will demand a 'Health Certificate' for Goldfish. The

complications are such that unless you are an aquatic shop, it is just not worth the hassle.

## **NGPS News**

Last month our President celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday – a card was sent on behalf of all members of NGPS. For the new members of our club the video of his original fish house can be found at <https://vimeo.com/350902874> . He is also on Facebook under 'Bill's Goldfish'. However, in these crowded online data it may take a long while to find it! Better off with Vimeo – although they will try to enrol you! Join with Google rather than signing-up. Don't forget to activate your audio to hear Bill.

## **AQUA21**

Regular readers of the NGPS Newsletters



will recall that the Trade Show for the Aquatic Trade has been reported in 2015 (when it started), 2017, 2019 and now the 2021 Show.



Held, as usual, over two days, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Telford International Centre. I visited (on the 13<sup>th</sup>) but could only gain entrance after prebooking and then taking an NHS QR code saying I had been vaccinated. These Covid regulations meant that visitor numbers were down, compared with previous years, but it was still busy and the exhibitors say they were pleased with the trade it generated. A few big names were absent (e.g. Fluval, Tetra and Mars Fishcare) but there were over 50 firms present and every Stall was occupied.





Halls 1 & 2 were filled.....



(At least it meant that seats were available in the café area)

A feature of this Biennial Trade Show is the New Product Showcase Competition. Any manufacturer can enter their latest product (it has to have been launched this year) and obviously any First Award in each Class helps sales via the traders. In fact, each exhibitor entered several new products, so there were 80 in total but only 7 were chosen for a diploma.





Here are the winners ....



The awards were presented by Gordon Thomas, the Show Organiser (centre).

Class 1. Marine Food, Care, Accessories and Décor. Winner: "Fuzz Out" by Aquatic Now. Judges said: A unique all-in-one filtration media dedicated to the removal of hair algae, also removes toxins, metals, odours, organics and phosphates.

Class 2. Marine Equipment and Aquaria. Winner: "Reef Delete" by Aquatic Now.

Judges said: This is a standout product, showcasing the very best in innovation. It is also a professional looking piece of equipment. It has great packaging and is a truly unique product.

Class 3. Freshwater Equipment & Aquaria. Winner: "CrystalSkim" by Oase UK.

Judges said: It is a well-built, solid piece of equipment with an acceptable price point. It feels new and innovative.

Class 4: Aquarium Food, Care, Accessories & Décor. Winner: "Absolute Wormer" by Cloverleaf. Judges said: This helps to address an issue that is not discussed enough...and that is worming fish. It is a range of three anti-worming treatments designed for use in freshwater tanks with invertebrates.

Class 5: Pond Equipment & Construction.



Winner: “Tempest” by Evolution Aqua. Judges said: This is an amazingly good and efficient product that will help to deliver crystal clear water. It offers additional mechanical and biological filtration.

Class 6: Pond Food, Care, Accessories & Décor. Winner: “Pro-Tect Advanced Dosing System” by Cloverleaf. Judges said: This could develop into a revolutionary product. It will bring technology usually associated with the marine world to the pond section.

Class 7: Reptile. Winner: “biOrb Earth” by Oase UK. Judges said: This is an outstanding vivarium with everything you could possibly need. Every aspect of this product’s environment – temperature,

humidity and lighting – are controlled via an app.



Another one of the winners, the Reptile vivarium by biOrb.

The term AQUA includes Aquariums, Ponds, Reptiles, as well as Watergarden Centres.

For example, Aquaria for 2022 were displayed ...

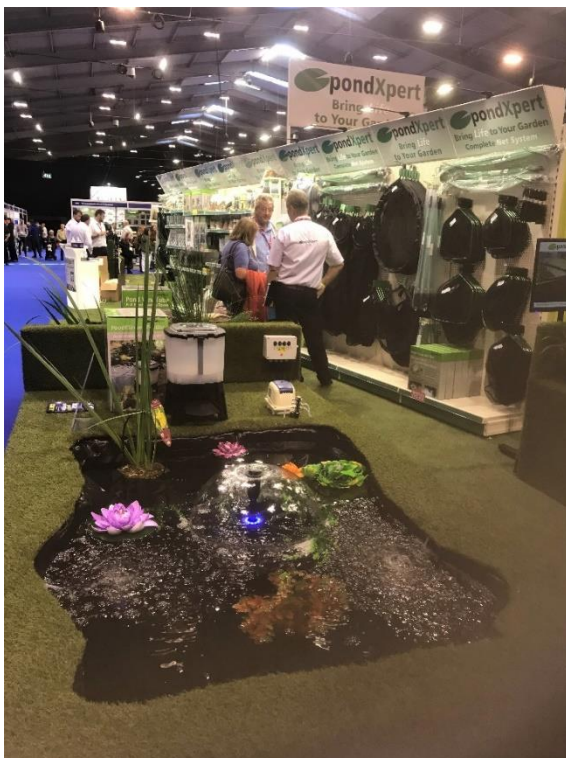


Plants, both real and (biodegradable) plastic ....





## Ponds and reptiles....



Our member Dr David Pool had his FishScience stand. He said he was well pleased with the business created at the Show. "The trade has benefited from the pandemic because the aquatic shops were allowed to stay open and stay-at-home people decided to keep pet fish"





As regards Goldfish – there were very few on display in the aquaria.



The OASE tank was on display (just as it was in 2015, 2017, 2019 now 2021 .... ) and that had a few Goldfish.





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## **Nationwide News**

AMGK held their AGM on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October at St Bartholomew's Church Hall in Binley, Coventry. There was a Table Show and Auction too. The first real-life meeting at last! It proved very popular, almost 50 members attended!

## **Chairman's Comments**

Further to David's Oranda tank on a nuclear submarine, I raise him the marine aquarium in Captain Jean-Luc Picard's cabin in Star Trek The Next Generation, but the absolute unbeatable hand must be the shubunkin tank, obviously a real hobbyists tank, glimpsed in a few scenes of 'Passport to Pimlico'.

Dave's Aquarium in Bolton is open again and there are some amazingly coloured calico Bubble Eyes on sale; only really babies at the moment but they have good, short, tails; worth getting a couple to incorporate into Bubble-eye bloodlines. Dave's Cafe has also re-opened but I have yet to summon up the courage to visit it.

The rumours of Urmston Aquatics closing down were false and seem to have been based on the mistaken interpretation of closing for, a quite impressive, redecoration.

Years and years ago I watched a TV programme in which Lenny Henry talked about his life and times and his tastes and preferences in take-away food, he was, I think, largely responsible for the subsequent popularity of Balti curries, but

what left me with an indelible impression, was his description of curry goat, it had to be called 'curry goat' and not 'goat curry' for some unexplained reason, perhaps the chef would chase you out of the shop with a meat cleaver if you got it wrong, in any case I thought how exotic could you get - I had to have some. This desire remained un-fulfilled until last Saturday I found myself with an unusual afternoon off and a plan. I would go down to Stretford where someone had told me a shop called 'Yeah Man' sold take-away curry goat and partake of some, then carry on to visit 'Manchester Pets and Aquatics'. I found 'Yeah Man' quite easily but *oh cruel world* they were shut, should have been open but THEY WERE SHUT! I carried on to Mcr P&A only to find a brand new Caribbean

food shop almost next door, curry goat is very nice. Another reason to visit the Worlds' only Cavearium.

Back in December.

