

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



April 2016



**Our 2016 AGM – 7 days & 57 years after the first one!**

As always – we met in the Back Room of the Church Inn, Church Lane, in Prestwich, near Manchester, M25 1AJ, on the second Tuesday of the month.

Back 57 years the very first meeting took place in the International Club on George Street in the centre of Manchester. This was on a Saturday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1959. The meetings were then held on the second Sunday of each month.

That very first meeting's report has been found among President Bill Ramsden's memorabilia...here is a photocopy, reproduced on the next two pages.

The meeting opened at 3.10 p.m.

The following Rules were submitted for the approval of the members and it was unanimously decided to adopt these Rules:-

1. The Society shall be called "THE NORTHERN GOLDFISH AND PONDKEEPERS SOCIETY."
2. The objects of the Society shall be to encourage and promote the study and collection of Goldfish, River Fish, Pond Fish and Aquatic Life and such hobbies as are connected therewith.
3. The Society shall consist of Ordinary members and Junior members. Junior members shall be those under 16 years of age. In addition Honorary membership (which will not carry voting power at any meeting of the Society) may be granted to suitable persons.
4. The subscription rate shall be as follows:-

Ordinary members	7/6d per annum.
Junior members	5/- per annum.

Subscriptions shall be payable in advance on the first meeting day in March each year.

5. The annual General Meeting shall be held on the first meeting day in March each year to elect the Officers and Committee of the Society, to receive the annual report of the committee, to pass the balance sheet duly audited by the elected auditors and to transact any other business.
6. The Society shall be governed by a Committee of 10. This number shall include the President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary Honorary Treasurer and 5 other members. Five of these shall form a quorum and the Chairman shall have a casting vote. The President shall remain in office until such time as he resigns or until such time as he is called upon by the Society to resign. The officers (with the exception of the President) and the Committee members of the Society shall retire annually and are eligible for re-election.
7. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the Committee but any member so appointed shall remain in office only until the next Annual General Meeting.
8. The Auditors shall be two in number and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall serve in office for a period of two years.
9. Applications for membership must be approved by the Committee and the Committee's decision reported to the applicants as soon as possible.
10. The Committee shall have full power and authority to act on behalf of the Society in all matters.
11. Decisions of the Committee shall be reported to the members at the next monthly meeting following the date of the Committee Meeting.
12. The banking account of the Society shall be with Williams Deacon's Bank Ltd. Piccadilly Manchester and the Signatories shall be the Honorary Treasurer and the Chairman and Honorary Secretary. All cheques are to be signed by the Treasurer together with either of the other two Officers mentioned.
13. Any alterations additions or amendments to these Rules must be approved by a two thirds majority of members present at a meeting specially convened for that purpose or at the Annual General Meeting.
14. Notice of any General Business Meeting; Extra-Ordinary Business Meeting; Annual General Meeting shall be fourteen clear days written notice.
15. Quorum for the valid transaction of business shall be one half of the registered ordinary and junior members of the Society.

16. The Committee shall be empowered to expel any member deemed to have behaved in a manner prejudicial to the good conduct of the affairs of the Society.

17. The Society shall be affiliated to the Northern Federation of Aquarium Societies.

In addition to the officers elected at the first meeting of the Society, Mr. S. Taylor was elected Vice Chairman and Mr. Bennett, Mr. Coupe, Mr. Chadburn, Mr. Stoll and Mrs. Mitchell were elected committee members.

Mr. Chadburn and Mr. Coupe were duly elected as Auditors of the Society.

Mr. Coupe reported that the Manchester Education Committee had offered accommodation at Parrswood Garden Centre for which there would be no charge, and after discussing other slight possibilities it was decided to accept the accommodation offered and to convey our thanks to Mr. Lucas.

It was decided unanimously that the meetings of the Society be held on the second Sunday in each month.

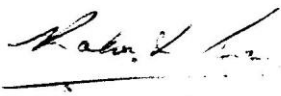
It was decided that the Society's representatives should put forward the following points at the next meeting of the F.N.A.S. :-

1. That it becomes a rule that any variety of coldwater fish should be abolished and all fishes should be classified separately, at least Singletail and twintail.
2. That it becomes a rule that heaters should be allowed for all fishes at the discretion of the exhibitors.
3. That it becomes a rule that only experienced coldwater Federation Judges be allowed to Judge coldwater varieties.
4. That it be recommenced that all coldwater tanks should be shown away from tropical tanks to avoid the possibility of overheating.
5. That a standard be fixed for the new Japanese fish fantail and fantail moor and the Japanese Orandas with forked tail.

It was decided that the Society would show at the next British Aquarists Festival.

It was decided that the Society hold a raffle each month in order to help raise funds and Mr. Bennett and Mr. Coupe kindly offered to supply the prizes for the raffle in May.

Mr. Loder then gave a brief talk to the Society and very kindly dealt with various problems submitted by the members.





## **This month's Top Tip is by Member Alexander King**

I normally give my fish a feed with garden worms on a fairly regular basis and definitely every day when I am conditioning them at the start of the breeding season.

Over the years I have tried all sorts of methods for cutting them up to a suitable size for feeding to young or adults, but a few years ago I was visiting a friend of mine who also breeds goldfish, he showed me the method he uses and I have used it ever since.

All you need is a shallow glass jar and a pair of sharp pointed scissors as shown below, plus a net to rinse the worms in, to remove any dirt.

Below is an example of before and after, I certainly find it a lot better and easier than other methods I have tried.



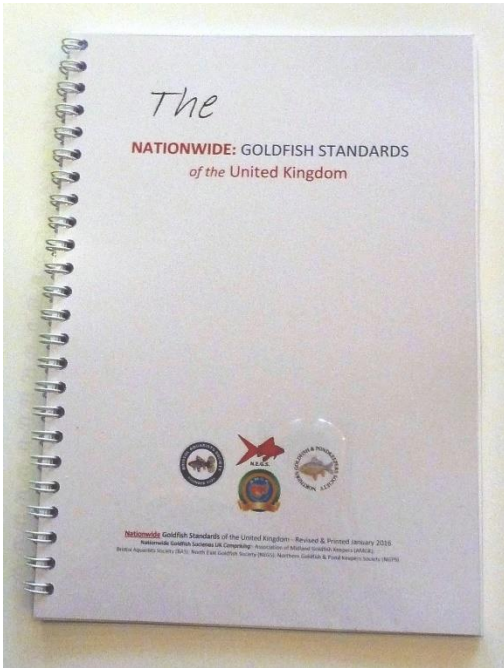
## **Ranchus for Sale**

Stephen Whalley has two Ranchus for sale – at their original price of £15 each. He lives in Walton, Leyland, if you can collect. Ring Sherridan for Stephen's full address and phone number if you are interested.

Here are the Ranchus, which *may* be a pair....



## Nationwide News



If you have received the email message or you are on Facebook (NGPS in Facebook Search), you will know that 'Nationwide Goldfish Standards of the UK' has been published.

The A5 printed version is available from Sherridan at £3 (or £5 with postage included).

If you have a printer, you can make a hard copy of your own on A4 sheets – if you choose duplex printing (both sides of the page), make sure you include the second blank page – then the descriptions will be on the opened left side with corresponding drawings on the open right side.

If you receive this newsletter by email, download the document from [HERE](#) (just click). It is in PDF so you will need a 'reader' (Windows 10, Adobe Acrobat Reader, etc.). And enough ink (50 pages!).

My article about the publication for Practical Fishkeeping magazine has appeared on their website under 'News' – go to [www.practicalfishkeeping.co.uk](http://www.practicalfishkeeping.co.uk) . At the last count there have been well over 1,600 hits...so lots of interest.

## Minutes of the April Meeting

The AGM commenced this meeting with the existing committee being voted back into office....

Chairman is Sherridan Moores

Treasurer remains with Sherridan too, but if anyone can take over, please let him know.

Secretary remains with David Ford (Website, Newsletter, Membership).

Librarian remains with Richard Rizzotti (and membership promotions).

Show Manager remains with Dean Roberts.

Nationwide reps are Sherridan, Dean and Alan Race with Richard as reserve.

The Treasurer's report showed £38 in Petty Cash, £815-12p in the Barclays Current Account. There is also a Barclays Savings Account of £1,032-21p, but earning little or no interest. Hence the NGPS is solvent but annual fees are still needed with escalating costs but no increase in these fees.

Members attending the AGM paid their fees (£15 individual, £18-50p family, £5 under 21)...if you have not yet done so, please send to Sherridan now, make sure cheques are made out to 'Northern Goldfish & Pondkeepers Society', not NGPS (Barclays instructions!). Or make a bank transfer to our account with Barclays: Northern Goldfish and Pondkeepers Society, sort code 20-01-96, account No. 60670197 (please put a note in say who you are – strangely the bank does not tell us that – and that it is a subs payment).

Spawnings were reported by Stephen Whalley with his red & white Lionheads and David Padfield with his Bristols.

Then a film by the BBC about Carp Fishing was shown (see front page photograph – the TV is in the corner) with commentary by Alan Ratcliffe, who explained the history of the Common Carp and its development into Crucian, Leather and Mirror varieties - even Goldfish!

The poor attendance at Tuesday Meetings was discussed but no real alternative to the day or venue was offered...it is hoped better weather in the coming months will help.

The Springtime Picnic is now due...should this be on a Saturday or Sunday? Let Sherridan know your thoughts.

The latest version of President Bill Ramsden's video (was 'Beautiful underwater Worlds' but is now 'Bill's Goldfish' with a new commentary from Bill) was handed out. If you own the old DVD, let me know ([drdmford@outlook.com](mailto:drdmford@outlook.com)) for a free replacement. However it is available online now...go to **YouTube** and type the phrase: BillsGoldfish in the Search Box, on your PC, iPhone, Smart TV etc. Just over 1 hour long and full of tips based on his years of experience.

**Next meeting at the Church Inn, Prestwich, is Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>, make a note!**

