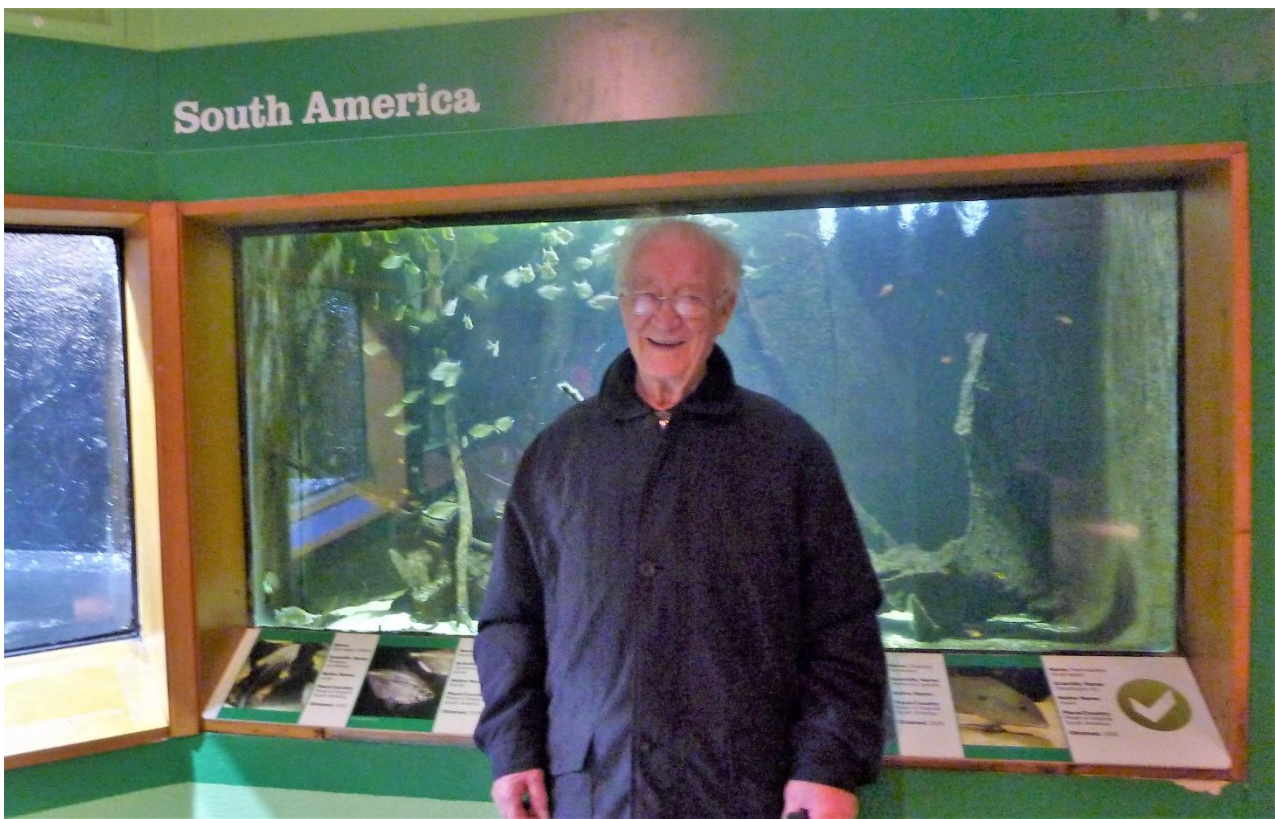




**NORTHERN GOLDFISH
& PONDKEEPERS
SOCIETY**
A Nationwide Society
NEWSLETTER



MAY 2018



Your President on a visit to the Bolton Aquarium

Bolton was once the centre of the World Trade in textiles, back in the days of Empire. It is just a town now, swallowed by Greater Manchester, but retains its Civic Centre with a splendid Town Hall, Public Library, Museum and an Aquarium. Before World War II they did not have a Public Aquarium, but it was necessary for Civic Pride to have one and plans were laid to use the Museum basement. When war broke out, the unit was almost built, so the decision was made to complete it – despite wartime austerity. It was opened on January 27th, 1941 – here are the first visitors...



Now, 77 years later, the basic design remains ...



There are 24 aquariums – still plate glass. All exhibits are tropical freshwater fish from all over the World. They are kept in Bolton tapwater (which is of excellent quality) in a recycle system, with continuous top-up. The place is now officially a Zoo, rather than just an Aquarium, and is maintained by two Curators (Peter Liptrot & Paul Dixon). Over the years the unit has bred endangered species, with wall displays that explain more, especially in the connecting corridor



There are many splendid specimens (over 70 species) and most tanks contain lush (real) aquatic plants.



No Goldfish however, but Bill can remember when they did – he supplied them. If you visit Bolton, don't just go to Dave's Aquarium, do have a look around their Public Aquarium – it is free and open every day (except Xmas time, of course).

There is an excellent Museum too, with a new Egyptology exhibition being built – planned to open next year.

Hi Dave and Sherridan,

May I share a problem with you both? One of my goldfish seems to have a problem with any proprietary dry fish food. I use both floating and sinking pellets (no flake). However much or little this fish consumes, within an hour it has a buoyancy problem that causes it to float at the top of the tank. It is obvious that this is not by choice. When the fish makes an effort to swim downwards, it succeeds, but as soon as it stops swimming it floats back to the surface. All other signs are that the fish is in good health.

Other foods don't produce this symptom. When I feed it on any other type of food, corn, peas, beans worms, maggots, soft fruits, leaf vegetables and meats, the fish swims normally. I have tried soaking the fish foods. That made no difference.

Firstly, as far as you can tell, is this causing the fish any pain?

Secondly, are there any packet fish foods, of which you know, that won't cause this problem?

This is a brief update on the fish that had problems with the food pellets. After feeding with live and natural foods, worms, daphnia, spaghetti, rice, lettuce etc., for the last 4 or 5 weeks the ailing fish did not have one bad day. I started it on some dried spirulina flakes which went well. Last night I tried the dried pellets again and the problem fish returned to the top of the tank. I'm concluding that the pellets were and are the problem, both the floaters and sinkers, so I shall feed all the fish with just the natural foods and flake.

Thanks, from me and the floaty fish, for your advice with this problem,
Kind regards,
Charles Orstein