



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



Online Version

January 2015

*Happy New Year to all our members...*we hope to see you in 2015 at our monthly meetings and we hope your Goldfish have fecundity!

The NGPS is not just about Goldfish, it is about people...here are members eating a fish supper in Llandudno...read more in the Chairman's review of 2014.



The Chairman's Review of 2014

Controversy

It was an eventful year with our 37th annual Open Show in September – but only two weeks later it was the first Open Show by the Nationwide Group of Goldfish Societies.

We are one of the four members of this group (BAS, NEGS and AMGK are the others) but it should include the GSGB. However, they decided to leave the Nationwide Standards Committee and publish their own Standards – they even had their Open Show on the same date as the Nationwide OS!

This created a lot of controversy, which is still ongoing; let us hope Standards can be really Nationwide again in 2015.

President News

January saw the final version of our President's hour-long DVD on his lifetime in breeding Show Goldfishes. This is available to anyone wanting a copy – contact the Chairman.

In May our President was hospitalized with Pneumonia and nearly passed away. But he bounced back (of course) and is busy attending monthly meetings again. See the June 2014 Newsletter for the full story.

Breeding

By May-time everyone with a fish-house was reporting excellent spawning – the warm and sunny weather must have helped. Two members' fish-houses were visited during the year: Richard Rizzotti and Chairman Sherridan. Both are duly reported in the Newsletters.

Newsletter News

These Newsletters, which were launched online in 2013, were read by few members because they did not possess a Personal Computer...however, during the year most members obtained a Smart Phone. Hence a second online version of our Newsletter was launched in March, designed for the small screen of these devices.

The original publisher of the printed version closed down but Sherridan found a new printer that could produce copy at reasonable cost. However, that main cost is now postage rather than printing. Hence a bimonthly edition was produced and is currently sent to some 60 members world-wide.

Social Activities

No traditional picnic or annual dinner was managed (despite efforts) in 2014...it is hoped to do both in 2015. The Goldfish Weekend did take place with seven members staying at The Broadway Hotel in Llandudno over the last weekend in October.



One of the evening dinners can be seen on the front of this Newsletter...here was the Chinese meal on the next night.



We also visited the Welsh Mountain Zoo and saw many animals other than fish!

Open Shows 2014

Two Show ambitions were achieved: Sherridan won 'Best in Show' with a very red female Common at the AMGK OS and Pat Davies won 'Best in Show' with a team of four Moors at the Nationwide OS.

Unfortunately the NEGS OS had to be cancelled – all Nationwide Clubs have offered their help to make the 2015 OS happen. So too was BAF (the British Aquarist Festival – see www.fnas.co.uk) due to illness of most FNAS committee members. Again, we hope to help in 2015.

Finally...

You can see all the 2014 NGPS activities in archived Newsletters at www.northerngoldfishsociety.com (the full multi-page version) or on the Smart Phone version at <http://ngps.webplus.net> - but if you cannot, tell Sherridan your postal address for the bimonthly Newsletter and pay your dues in April!

Minutes of the January Meeting

The meeting was cut short by the arrival of snow...but there was enough time to show a video of Tommy Sutton's Fish Houses and ponds in 2001 & 2002. Members reminisced about those times with lots of anecdotes about the man and his top class Goldfishes. Sadly missed.

Sherridan reported that despite it being early January, there was one report of a spawning – Craig's Orandas. He also suggested that the club should embrace the new technologies in member's fish houses, such as auto-feeders and digital heaterstats. To start this innovation David Ford will write an article about Auto-feeders in the next Newsletter.



President Bill brought an example of his old-fashioned Sweet Jars – ideal for hatching Brine Shrimp.

Anyone wanting one, for free, he will bring more to the February meeting (together with some artificial spawning mats).



David Ford also reported that Santa brought him a Goldfish – in soap!

The Facebook NGPS Newsletter in December had a video version of the frontispiece called 'Goldfish, Frankincense and Myrrh'...it didn't exactly go 'viral' but there were more than 50 hits. All good publicity...

Next meeting is February 10th, usual place, usual time, be there!

