



APRIL 2019



The AMGK Facebook Closed Group

If you are on Facebook you can join the Association of Midland Goldfish Keepers new Group for all members of Nationwide. It is a 'Closed Group' so you have to apply to join (or be invited by an existing member). The main contact is AMGK's Heather Carrier (via the AMGK Facebook page) because she is the organiser and can check you are a Nationwide Club member.

This is the beginning of a Nationwide Club of Goldfish Keepers and Breeders, but kept exclusive to avoid the usual invasion of Facebook pages by advertisers for commercial firms. On the pages so far are photos and videos of the 2019 spawnings by Nationwide Breeders.

Pond News

Did you see the headlines? "Swallowing Algae 'like that in your pond' will stop amputations" ! The medical report states....

"Capsules containing algae could stop thousands of people needing amputations, scientists believe.

The aquatic organisms, similar to plants in the garden pond, increase blood flow to damaged limbs, animal research has found.

Experts hope it will treat patients with critical limb ischaemia (CLI), which can be caused by smoking, diabetes or obesity. Affects 60,000 people a year in the UK."

(Good for Goldfish too)

Goldfish News



This photo on Facebook went 'viral' in the USA and the newspaper 'USA Today' published this article...

"Where do flushed goldfish live out their final days? Maybe getting fat in a pond in Danville, Kentucky.

Cassie Anderson shared a photo that has since gone viral of her brother Hunter Anderson holding what looks like a massive goldfish.

"It is not a stolen image or edited photo," she wrote. "This is my brother!! Who is holding what could possibly be that pet goldfish we flushed when I was 9!!!"

OK, it's probably not Bubbles, but could it really be a 20-pound, 30-inch long goldfish?

Hunter Anderson told USA TODAY that he is not faking this fish story, even though it might seem unreal. The 22-year-old said he's been fishing since he was big enough to hold a rod, and he's caught thousands of fish.

"I can't be 100 percent sure ... but I would say it's a goldfish — one of the biggest one's ever caught," he said.

Wildlife experts aren't totally convinced.

Kevin Kelly, a spokesman for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, said Anderson's fish looks like a breed of butterfly koi and "not a goldfish." He said the department's fisheries biologists came to that conclusion because the fish appears to have "a barbel near its mouth." A butterfly koi of that size would be considered average, Kelly said.

While there have been reports of dinner-plate-size goldfish in the wild, most goldfish weigh less than a pound, according to the United States Geological Survey.

Koi or not, the catch will be a memorable one for Anderson, who made the golden catch using a piece of leftover biscuit attached to a hook. Anderson said he and his girlfriend stopped at Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken earlier in the day. As they were driving home, he wanted to show her a pond known to have goldfish and koi fish. Without his usual gear, he said he used what was available.

And the fish didn't want to come in without a fight.

"This was the hardest fighting fish I ever caught," he said. "It never wanted to give up."

After about five minutes, Anderson had captured the fish, snapped a photo and then released it back to the wild."

(Note that an American Biscuit is not a biscuit (they are called Cookies) it's a potato fritter, and perhaps the article heading should be Koi News!).

More Goldfish News

The UK National Press reported that a Somerset man went to a Bridgewater Funfair last September and won a Goldfish (thought they had stopped this) which, to impress a girlfriend, he put in his mouth and swallowed it with half a pint of beer. The girl videoed it and put it Online, which brought a prosecution (good). At the trial a Vet told the judge the Goldfish was alive when swallowed and must have been traumatised before dying. The fellow got fined £300, a 12 month community order and banned from keeping fish for five years. (Should have been life!).

NGPS OS & Auction

All efforts to find a storage place for our 150 aquariums have failed, but now St Matthews Hall have demanded removal or scrapping by the end of March. New member Louise Rylett solved that problem by offering space in her garage at the village of Culcheth (near Warrington). So several committee members collected them in an assortment of cars on the 30th March (one day to go!) and they are now, at least temporarily, safe until we search for a new venue, hopefully with storage space, before the next OS & Auction.

The visit allowed us to view Louise's collection of Fancy Goldfish



And Sherridan offered advice on her Sakura Oranda that has become permanently upside down



Minutes of the April Meeting

A good AGM with 10 members attending – even our President Bill Ramsden turned up.

Subs were paid (sent yours?) and votes taken for the 2019 Committee.

Sherridan was unopposed as Chairman, and he was also voted to continue as the Nationwide Chairman. He will contact the Nationwide Committee to see if there is any



other contenders for the post. He did request that his role as Treasurer needed to be changed and we are all pleased that Louise Rylett offered to take the post, unanimously approved.

Please continue to send Subs to Sherridan, he will pass the moneys to Louise eventually. For his last annual report as Treasurer he declared that we have £1,233 in the Barclay's bank as a Business Account, plus £1,234 in the Current Account. He also reported that, as several previous years, the annual Open Show & Auction was running a loss.

This year we need to find a new venue which will inevitably be more expensive than St Matthews Hall, so a proposal to increase the fees for Showing Goldfish will increase from £1 to £1-50p was made. Unanimously approved – we hope all Nationwide Members accept this, and continue to support us.

All the other committee posts remain the same, Secretary: David Ford, Show Manager: David Roberts, Show Secretary: Dean Roberts, Web Master & Newsletter Editor: David Ford. We have 72 members, but some of these (such as overseas and commercial members) are honorary.

In AOB Louise announced that her Calico Lionhead fry (spawned by Stephen Whalley) needed some growth food. Advice on Brine Shrimp culture was offered plus methods of safely moving the fry for water changes (because she only has small aquaria, the planned Fish House has yet to be built).

Sherridan will continue to search for new Show premises and will email Committee members about viewing potential venues asap.

Finally - an article by President Bill showed the very first venue for our Open Show ...



The newspaper cutting is yellow with age, so this is the best photo editing can achieve. The sign says: NORTHERN GOLDFISH AND PONDKEEPER SOCIETY FOUNDED 1959. The photo also includes Bill Ramsden, naming him as a judge at the Open Show.

The article states that the venue was "a Church Hall in Bolton, Lancashire".

The second photo (even worse!) states that 5 years later (so this must be 1984) the NGPS moved the Show to the "spacious Bolton Sports Centre" and " in the foreground is their Judge Mr Bill Ramsden".



We hope that 60 years later we find an equally spacious venue.

We also hope to see you on Tuesday May 14th at 8pm at The Church Inn, Prestwich M25 1AN.