



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



**DECEMBER 2021**

*Merry*    
*Christmas*

**&**



**To all our 69 members World-wide**



**Butterflies**

These are just two of member Jackie Pedley's Butterflies taken from the video by another member, Jamie Mullen. He has a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/mountain.goldfish/>

Called 'Mountain Goldfish', the Jamie website features his Fish House and Jackie Pedley's too. His latest addition is the 'Bills Goldfish' video by our President Bill Ramsden. Note the caption additions at the end of the video.

If you have Facebook, give him a 'like' or become a 'follower'. If you would like your fish house videoed and published, contact Jamie – all details are on his website.

## **Pond News**

Did you know there are 8 pond classifications in the science world? They are: -

Biological pond

Fish pond

Koi pond

Mini pond

Mirror pond

Natural pond

Ornamental pond

Plant pond

'Biological Ponds' are 'Experimental ponds' used to test hypotheses in the fields of environmental science, chemistry, aquatic biology, and limnology.

'Fish Ponds' are a controlled pond, artificial lake, or reservoir that is stocked with fish.

'Koi Ponds' are a pond containing Nishikigoi (Japanese for Brocaded Carp).

'Mini Ponds' are a small portable decorative pond basin.

'Mirror Pond' is actually a place on the Deschutes River in the US state of Oregon, with a science group.

'Natural Ponds' Man-made natural ponds are considered to be natural in the sense that they don't require pumps, filters or chemicals to be maintained.

'Ornamental Ponds' means a pool, pond, lake, stream or open tank, not wholly enclosed inside of a building, where swimming and human recreational use is not intended and does not occur.

'Plant Ponds' are shallow waterbodies with varying abundances of aquatic plants and may include animals.

# Goldfish News

Talking of science – the latest news about Goldfish Taxonomy is that once upon a time the Goldfish was thought to be a subspecies of the Crucian Carp (*Carassius carassius*). Now, with genetic sequencing, a modern Goldfish is known to be a domesticated variety of a separate species *Carassius auratus*.

For example, *C. carassius* have a rounded snout, *C. auratus* have a pointed snout (had anyway – the Fancy Goldfish varieties are very different). All juvenile crucian carp have a black spot on the base of the tail, absent in *C. auratus*. The crucian carp have 33 scales (or more) along the lateral line, *C. auratus* have 31 (or less).

However, *C. auratus* can breed (hybridize anyway) with other crucian carp – but you wouldn't want to!



A crucian carp juvenile and a Blue Goldfish juvenile

## **Bristol AS Zoom**

The Bristol members held the usual Zoom meeting on the second Monday of last month. With 21 logging on, this online meeting is popular – it even had a visit by Grant Lord (see <https://www.about-goldfish.com/>) in New Zealand. He said it was morning there and start of summer, but there are no Goldfish Society shows

to attend.

During the session the value of a good silicone sealer was described – several members use 'Marine Quality HA6'. See <https://bond-it.co.uk>. It does not shrink at all (unlike standard silicone sealer) and is guaranteed for 20 years. The reuse of glass still having traces of Silicone Sealer was discussed – since Silicone will not adhere to set Silicone. Those traces must be removed, and a Stanley Knife was recommended after dosing in vinegar. (So that is this month's **Top Tip**).

Details of HA6 are at:

<http://www.laydex.com/laydexdocs/Bond%20It%20HA6%20Marine%20Sealant.pdf>

## Online Goldfish

If you have Instagram, it is worth looking at the Scottish Aquarist Debbie Sinclair's web pages. Go to:

[https://www.instagram.com/debbies\\_exotics/](https://www.instagram.com/debbies_exotics/)

Perhaps even 'Follow' her, she has hundreds so far – plus thousands 'following'.

She is also in this December's issue of Practical Fishkeeping, see page 57 *ff.*

The title being 'The Highs and Lows of the 'Insta-Aquarist'. The site is about all petfish but her favorites are Goldfish....





The site is very feminine, perhaps the followers are ladies too.

It is a live site so continuously changing.



Try scrolling down and choosing 'videos'

then find the photo of the Goldfish aquarium, click to see the video; more than 5,000 people have done that!

## **Chairman's Notes**

So, the cold weather has arrived and in my unheated fish house I discovered my Goldfish lying on the base, looking dead. There were even signs of fungus on some. I treated with a little Pimafix and then turned on the 100-watt heater (at minimum setting) which hadn't been used since last May. Within a day it was 45°F/7°C and the Goldfish were swimming again, looking for food, so very little was given, and the tanks treated again with Pimafix.

It is always a good idea to have a tropical heaterstat ready for the icy weather, if set

at minimum and used only when needed, the electricity costs are not high.

I have noticed that young Goldfish will turn upside-down at the first icy weather! They do recover when slowly warmed, but if the cold snap repeats, the Goldfish do not do it again.

As regards Shows and Meetings we must await the Omicron Covid decisions – hope to do this in the January 2022 Newsletter 'Notes'.

Until then – have a merry, and safe, Christmas.

