

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



JULY 2021



The Golden Fantail

One of the most common fancies, Fantails are the best choice for anyone starting to keep Goldfish. They are more hardy than

most other fancies. They have flowing tail fins that trail behind them as they swim. Choose ones with "normal" eyes (not telescopic) and no shoulder hump (present in some fancies). The ideal family pet – better than a traditional Goldfish, that really belongs in a pond rather than an aquarium.

Comments by Chairman Sherridan

Before members start to point it out, the Fantail on the front of this month's Newsletter does have a tail that is, for a show fish, too large and flowing but it is a good example of what used to be called sometimes a Fantail 'of commerce' i.e. one that could be bought in the shops. As such it represents a huge percentage of Goldfish that will be encountered in the wider world away from the show bench and the sort of fish that might be familiar

to the general Goldfish fancier because that is all they see.

More Weather Loach News

In the last few Newsletters the Weather Loach has been featured. Sherridan warned you about it leaping out of the aquarium, which prompted member Ian Mildon to post this anecdote.

He wrote: A few years have passed since this incident happened but firstly, I will set the scene:

A 4ft x 18" x 18" fish tank sits across filing cabinets above a young lady in my office. It contains several Goldfish, Comets, a Moor, two fantails plus four Weather Loaches.

One of the Loaches ended up on the desk of the said young lady from where screams of panic and flapping of hands emanated.

Frank Rogers, another office inmate, tells the story in rhyme

1. The life of a Loach, you see,
Is as boring as it can be.
Others swim round and round,
But we go to ground
And hide in the stones "Can't see me!"
2. Other fish swim round and round,
Makes me dizzy so I go to ground,
But heavens above,
"I want someone to love"
And I'll have one, one day, I'll be
bound.
3. I'm gonna try for this bird that I
know,
She sits at the desk just below,
She's young, dark and slim,
A little bit thin,

But, I'd give her a kiss, you know.

4. To get from this tank I must try,
And I've worked out how I can fly.
Very fast I will swim
And leap over the rim
To land in her cleavage - Oh my!

5. Well, I'm back in my tank, sad to
say,
Unrequited my love, worst to say,
Yes, I really did try,
And I managed to fly,
But my advances were just turned
away.

6. The adventure has taught me my
place,
And I'll lie in the stones with good
grace,
For the saying is true
It applies to me too

“it’s no good just to fall for a face!”

Even more:

Swopped my
Weather Loach for a
Red Cap!

I no longer
recommend Weather
Loaches
for the Goldfish
aquarium.

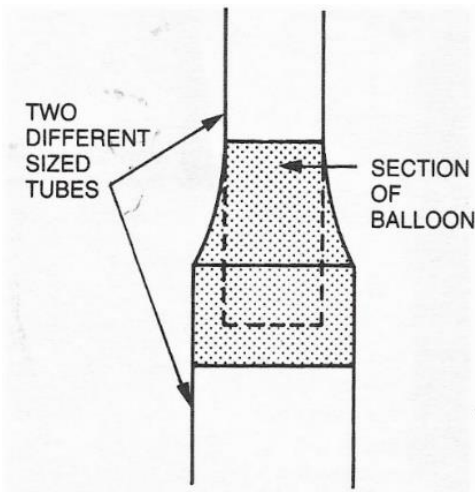


Whatever the books recommend, it is not
a suitable companion species.

Too aggressive.

Top Tip

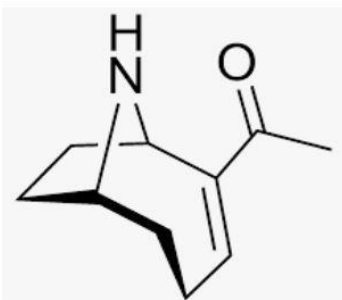
Often you will find tubing cannot be joined because they are different diameters.



A simple solution is to use a section cut from a kid's balloon.

It should snap into place and prove water-tight, but if permanency is needed, smear the outside of the tubes with Silicone Sealer and allow to set.

Pond News

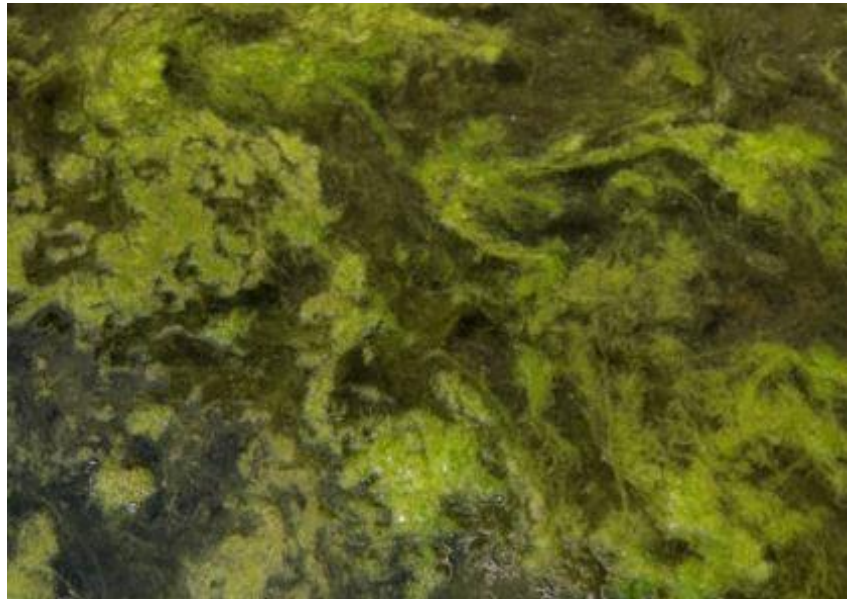


This is Anatoxin-a also known as ATX.

Also, as 'Very Fast Death Factor'.

If breathed-in (or drunk) by animals (including us) it blocks the auto-breathing mechanism causing asphyxiation.

The chemical is produced by most species of cyanobacteria, the blue-green scum that may cover ponds in the Summer.



It can occur in neglected ponds especially in sunny, hot weather.

If seen, remove it carefully via a long pole net and discard carefully.

Do not let your dog drink from a pond where even a trace of blue-green algae is

seen. There are warnings by the PDSA on this subject – type [Blue-green algae – PDSA](#) in any search engine such as Google (they will try to get a donation!).

BAS Zoom

Took place as always, second Monday of the month. In June, the talk was by Veterinarian Lance Jepson. He reviewed his history and although specialising in small animal husbandry he remains a keen aquarist. The front covers of all his many books on the care of exotics were shown – you can see these at this link:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Books-Lance-Jepson/s?rh=n%3A266239%2Cp_27%3ALance+Jepson

The talk took an hour but there was another hour of veterinary questions for

Lance.

The July Zoom meeting is a routine one for BAS members.

Presidential News

Our President, Bill Ramsden, will be 95 this year. The Royal Mint created a special Queen Elizabeth £5 coin for her 95th birthday and offered a limited number of them to anyone who will share that birth year with her.

A sponsor needed to send a life resumé about them and member Joanne Barton (his granddaughter) sent one to the Royal Mint. Not only did she win a medallion coin for him, the Royal Mint say they were so impressed by his life story that they sent details to the Manchester newspapers.

The Manchester Evening News decided to publish it and visited Bill with a reporter and photographer. It was published on Saturday June 19th and a copy is attached to the July Newsletter, for your interest.



Spawnings

Member Craig Clinton has had successful spawnings of his Calico Veiltails and Ranchus this year and here are just some of the varieties now



If you want to buy some of these line-bred Show Fish contact Craig on:

sam.clinton@hotmail.com

Chairman's Notes

As we seem to have a subtheme this month of fish jumping out of their tanks I will add my own two-penneth. I went away on holiday to Pwllheli last week, and very nice it was too, but on Saturday I returned home and went to check the fish-house only to see one of my beautiful, plump, shining, six-inch, Wakin lying on the concrete floor! It hadn't dried out much, if any, so by sheer coincidence it must have jumped only a few minutes before. I noticed some weak, irregular movement to the gills, so I carefully slid a net beneath him and lifted him back into the tank where he floated on the top of

the water. I did the fishy version of the kiss of life by gently holding him and moving him round in circles to get the water over his gills for a few seconds then left him alone, I did not want to add to his stress levels. It is rare for fish to jump out in the fish-house, they are happy, in good, well oxygenated water and are well fed and they tend to jump much more when conditions are not to their liking. Goldfish can survive for quite some time out of the water, especially in moist conditions, they can take in Oxygen from the air until their gills dry out. My chief concern for the Wakin was the bang he had given himself on the concrete floor after a fall of around five feet from his tank, however three days later he is swimming about again as if nothing had happened. Obviously covers on the tanks

would tend to prevent jumping but they are very inconvenient when working in the fish-house.

NGPS Open Show 2021.

I think the time has come now to make a definite decision about our 2021 Open Show; can we attempt to hold one with the present Covid 19 situation? I have consulted many members and the opinion is mixed but mostly the feeling is it would be very difficult to do this year and I am afraid that is my feeling too. So let's officially say we will skip 2021. I will float some ideas for 2022 in the next Newsletter for members to consider.

