

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF AQUARIST SOCIETIES



Photograph courtesy of A. Kenworthy and Y.A.A.S. website

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023



DAVID'S PIECE

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome to the December 2023 edition of the YAAS. Newsletter.

A big **THANK YOU** to Ivor, Sue K., Norman, Anthony and Sue M. for their contributions to this Issue.

Hopefully, I will be back with you in March for our first Newsletter of 2024. Please remember that this is **YOUR** Newsletter so all of your news, views and articles are always welcome.

Finally, Sue and I hope that you are all keeping safe and keeping busy with various aquatic projects.

Regards David

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Best wishes David Marshall

Next Newsletter - March 2024

News, views and opinions printed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Y.A.A.S. or the Editor.

COVER STORY



Our cover photograph, which was taken by Ivor Hilton, shows a beautiful South American Night Tetra of the genus *Prochilodus*.

NEWS DESK

A message from Sue Kenworthy on behalf of the Y.A.A.S. Management Committee

Hello All

On behalf of the Y.A.A.S. Management Committee Arthur and I would like to wish you all A Happy New Year. We hope that you are all keeping safe and well. A small number of our YAAS affiliated Societies did so well to put on Auction and other Open Events during 2023. Hopefully, the New Year will see a return to a wider range of YAAS activities that I am sure many of the members of our affiliated Societies are missing.

Best Wishes

Sue Kenworthy, Secretary, Y.A.A.S.

SAD NEWS

On behalf of everyone connected with the YAAS we send our sincere condolences to the Atkins family, of Sheaf Valley A.S., on the tragic loss of their son, Joshua, at the age of only 17.

A REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER OASIS AUCTION

By Norman Banks

On Sunday 5th November, OASIS held their annual winter Auction at the Redhouse Community Centre, Sunderland. We were a little down on attendees when compared to the number of people who were with us in 2022. We were also slightly down on 'lots', but the eight vendors who would enter their wares brought along a wonderful variety of fish and aquatic items. Andy Flinn of NETS was the Auctioneer.

Among the catfish for sale were some excellent quality *Synodontis albolineatus* and *S. petricola*, of both the natural and pink colour forms. I was taken with some Rusty Corydoras, *Corydoras rabauti*, but resisted their purchase. Many members of the audience would be taken with some amazing Green Dragon Bristlenose (a line-bred form of *Ancistrus* in which the body is covered in grey and black spots that are outlined in an olive colouration) so these made a good price for the seller. Some strange looking Bulldog Plecs. also caught the eye.

If we group the other fish that I liked into one grouping then we would have the strange mix of Green Dragon *Betta splendens*, Black Sharks, various Guppies, Blue Phantom Tetra, Clown Loach, various Endlers, Dumbo *Betta splendens* and Ram Cichlids.

Along with the fish side of things, would be a large and amazing selection of aquatic items that included heating units, small tanks, LED lighting units, various gravels and filter accessories.

To accompany the Auction, the Beach family had a trade stand selling various types of fish foods and aquatic accessories.

I had a really enjoyable afternoon and will give a quick reminder that the next OASIS Auction will be held, at the same venue, on Sunday 18th February.

A REPORT ON THE BRADFORD AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY WINTER AUCTION

By Anthony Fisher (Hon Secretary)

As Dr. David Ford was, sadly, unable to join us I was invited, by our Editor, to do this write-up instead. On Sunday 12th November, the Bradford and District A.S. held their Winter Auction at Bradford Academy. Firstly, a big thank you to anyone who came and helped in any way on the day and especially those who helped with the running of the event.

It seemed that the odds were stacked against us when our planned Auctioneer let us know, on the day of the event, that he was unable to attend. To add to this, it was an exceptionally cold day weather wise. But we coped. Club members had arrived at 9 am to help make up the sandwiches, butter tea cakes, peel boiled eggs, slice onions and tomatoes, put fillings into the tea cakes and place the pre-made sandwiches into plastic sandwich bags. The fantastic array of cakes and buns had been made the day before. All done to make buying lunch at the Auction a reasonably priced and satisfying experience. We know the pies were a bit on the small side but we had difficulty getting any at an affordable price

Admission was £1 - and that entitled you to a free draw later in the afternoon to win a box of chocolates. Seventy-three attendees paid to come in. Those with an auction 'lot' do not pay an entry fee. There were 15 'lots', so with sellers and public and our own members there was about a hundred people in the hall.

Ian Wallbridge stepped up to do the auctioneering, with his son Zac being promoted to auctioneer's assistant. There were plants, fish, tanks and a selection of dry goods and equipment. There are clubs who only accept fish and plants but we have continued to sell anything. If there are buyers wanting bags of bits then we will sell them. As the pace of the Auction was fast you had to be quick to snap up that item you wanted otherwise it was gone. A breeding group of albino *Corydoras* seemed to be the deal of the day?

An added attraction was the raffle conducted by Dave Tetley - all prizes were claimed.

Our next Open Event is sort of pencilled in for May or June 2024 and hopefully we may be able to incorporate at least a Mini-Open Show as well?

For years we have put on a decent café at reasonable prices. The price of the food we sell has remained more or less the same for many years but next time we feel we will need to put the prices up to cover the costs of the goods we have to buy. Another idea is to ask people to bring, and use, their own mugs for tea and coffee to cut out the need to pay for single use polystyrene or paper cups - your opinion is welcome

Overall, despite the early setbacks, our Winter Auction was a very successful day

Thanks again to all who came.

A MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER NEW YEAR QUIZ

By Sue and David Marshall

You will find the answers after the Diary Dates section

Question 1 - In fish terms what are harlequin, rohita, velvet and roseline?

- a. Rasboras b. False sharks c. Clownfish**

Q.2 - Which of the following South American freshwater fish IS NOT credited as first discovered by the French explorer Rabaut?

- a. Rusty Corydoras b. Marbled Hatchetfish c. Neon Tetra**

Q.3 - Dad's Army. In the early episodes which character always gets Private Pike's surname wrong, referring to him as Private Spike?

- a. Private Walker b. Miss King c. Lance Corporal Jones**

Q.4 - How many countries are found in the continent of Africa?

- a. 52 b. 53 c. 54**

Q.5 - Christmas Island is an external territory of Australia. What is the name of its main settlement?

- a. Marlin Cove b. Flying Fish Cove c. Porpoise Cove**

Q.6 - Popular in Asia, what type of food is shiso?

- a. A green minty herb b. A green cabbage c. A star fruit**

Q.7 - In a recent interview who said, 'My Christmas music is my pension fund. In 2022 it made me close to £250,000 in royalties?'

- a. Andrew Ridgeley b. Cliff Richard c. Noddy Holder**

Q.8 - Who was the King of Judea when Jesus was born?

- a. Augustus b. Herod c. Caesar**

Q.9 - Which of the following is NOT a collective name for a group of robins?

- a. A blush b. A squabble c. A rag**

Q.10 - In the 12 Days of Christmas, how many Lords are a-leaping?

- a. 7 b. 10 c. 12**

Q.11 - Becoming very popular in the U.K. what is the main ingredient used to make Ki No Bi Gin?

- a. Wood chippings from fir trees b. Potato peelings
c. Dried apricots**

Q.12 - What is the official term for a congregation of Great White Sharks?

- a. A shiver b. A thrashing c. A wake**

Q.13 - According to the song by Big Country, the light of how many stars is easier to miss than the glow of a lover's scorn?

- a. Five hundred b. One thousand c. One million**

Q.14 - Last of the Summer Wine. What is the occupation of Jack Harry Teasdale?

- a. A caravan salesman b. A Greengrocer c. A Librarian**

Q.15 - France. What is the occupation of a Bouquinistes?

- a. A cheese maker b. A seller of cut flowers
c. A person who sells books**

Q.16 - Which of the following is NOT a common name of the North American fish *Pimephales promelas*?

- a. Tuffy fish b. Fathead Minnow c. Western goldeye**

Q.17 - What type of fish is the Horned pout?

- a. A catfish b. A member of the cod family c. A cowfish**

Q.18 - 'Well here we are in a special place' is the opening line of which Waterboys hit single?

- a. Medicine Bow b. Don't bang the drum c. Iona**

Q. 19 - In what year was 'Lily the pink' the Christmas number one single for the Scaffold?

- a. 1966 b. 1967 c. 1968**

Q.20 - In the carol 'The holly and the ivy' which plant bears the crown?

- a. Ivy b. Mistletoe c. Holly**

Diary Dates

Sunday 18th February - OASIS Auction, Redhouse Community Centre, Sunderland.
Please note that the Auction will have an 11.00a.m. start. For further details you are welcome to phone 0191 3841433.

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14 April - AAGB Members Weekend, IBIS Chesterfield North, Barlborough. Please note that you need to be a member in order to attend.

Sunday 2nd June - Ryedale A.S. Open Day, Main Hall, Pickering Memorial Hall YO18 8AA. 10 Class Mini-Open Show, Sales tables, Information tables. 9.45a.m. to 2.30p.m. For further details you are welcome to phone 01751 472715.

Saturday 5th October - AAGB Members Weekend, IBIS Chesterfield North, Barlborough. Please note that you need to be a member in order to attend.

Answers to the quiz

Question 1 - a. All are cyprinids with a shark 'tag' in aquaria.

Q.2 - b

Q.3 - a

Q.4 - c

Q.5 - b

Q.6 - a

Q.7 - c

Q.8 - b

Q.9 - c

Q.10 -b

Q.11 - a

Q.12 - a

Q.13 - b

Q.14 -b

Q.15 - c

Q.16 -c

Q17 - a. The catfish *Ameiurus melas*.

Q.18 - b

Q.19 - c

Q.20 -c

FUN TIME

What does Luke Skywalker eat on Christmas Day morning?
Cranberry Yoda-gurt.

Why is Christmas like magic?
Because your money simply disappears.

How did Scrooge win the football match for Dickens XI?
The Ghost of Christmas passed.

On Boxing Day what is black and white and red all over?
A Notts County fan going too hard on the ketchup.

Why did the orange take a prune to the New Year Party?
Because it couldn't find a date.