

L I V E B E A R E R N E W S

1st Issue

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE "BRITISH LIVEBEARER ASSOCIATION"



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SPRING 1975

free to members.

non-members 5p

EDITORIAL

Firstly, allow me to apologise for the delay in publishing this our first bulletin. Unfortunately, response to our requests for articles etc has been very poor, so I am sorry if it does not appear as large as we would all like it to be, however I will do my best to make it as lengthy as possible with the proofs available.

I never thought that when we founded the B.L.A. that I would also have to write the quarterly newsletter, a job which just about takes up all ones spare time, and that is one thing I do not have plenty of, so if any member would like to take on the job of 'Bulletin Editor', I would be forever in their debt. Basically all the job entails is collating all the information received, and forming it into a useful format. If you feel you could do this let me know and I will make arrangements to have all letters etc passed to you, I can get all the printing done, so it would only be a matter of putting it into a working proof and forwarding the proof to me for printing, any volunteers?

You will see that any letters I have received over the past few weeks have been reprinted in their entirety, but as we progress, we will print relevant points only, this applies to general letters only, and not to "Letters To The Editor".

J.A.Laidler.

Message from the Committee

Response to our initial adverts, introducing the B.L.A. was very good, culminating in about 100 people writing to obtain details, from as far afield as the U.S.A., Germany, France and Canada. Unfortunately, only 27 members have actually joined, but we hope that this will increase as time goes by. A few requests have been received from clubs wishing to join and requesting enrolment fees etc, that we have decided that this will be allowed, at a fee of £2-00, with the proviso that we will only correspond with the club as a whole and not to individual members, with the exception of articles etc for the Newsletter.

One of the aims of the Association was to have specialist judges recognised by National Federations, and to this end our Chairman spoke to Mr R.Esson, who is Chairman of the F.B.A.S. Judging & Standards Committee, and raised this point, his initial reaction was against this, but he suggested that this could be brought up before the F.B.A.S. Committee, at a later date, to give strength to our request, we would request that any member who is a qualified judge write to the Chairman giving details of his appointment, and we will take it from there. At the present time the following are recognised by the F.B.A.S.

Mr G Liddle	F.B.A.S.	B	Class
Mr D Renton	F.B.A.S.	A	Class

Mr K Lowe	F.B.A.S.	B	Class
Mr R Lawson	F.B.A.S.	B	Class
Mr J Laidler	F.B.A.S.	B	Class

So we have 5 already that we know about, any more, regardless of affiliations?

The Committee -

At last we have found a dealer who is willing to make a badge for us, in the style of our logo. If the price is right we will order a quantity, and forward details as soon as possible.

Did you know that as a member of the B.L.A. you are also a member of the F.B.A.S., and entitled to wear their badges:-

Lapel Badge	15p	Blazer Badge	75p
Car Stickers	10p	Car Badges	£1-00
Key Rings	25p	Ties	£1-00

All with the F.B.A.S. Fighter Motif
Orders to the editor.

LIBRARY

I have a few books on various subjects related to fishkeeping in general, and I thought it would be a good idea if we formed a sort of Postal Interchange of books. The books I have are:-

- Naturalists Guide To Fresh Water Aquarium Fish (Hedeman)
- All About Tropical Fish (McInerney & Greard)
- Pictorial Encyclopedia Of Fishes ((S.Frank)
- All About Guppies
- Aquariums (Anthony Evans)
- Livebearing Tropical Fishes (Rurt Jacobs)

I am willing to lend these to any interested members if they agree to pay postage on the book, and guarantee to return same within 4 weeks.

If any other members have any books to help with writs, to Mr R Lawson, who will deal with this, and we may end up with quite a large library.

The Newcastle Guppy & Livebearer Society are holding their second Annual "All Livebearer Open Show" in the summer and invite enquiries from all our members. Write to Mrs J Renton, who is the Secretary of the club, and who is also a member of the B.L.A.

3 Mallard Avenue,
Barnby Dun,
Doncaster.

Dear Fellow Members,

I am 16 years of age and have been keeping fish for 3 years now. I have been saving steadily since I started work, and I now wish to buy a second hand shed and convert it into a fish house, unfortunately I do not know anyone locally who has done this type of conversion, and I am wondering if any other member has done so and would like to pass on any information to me as to do's and don't's, basic principles and any other useful information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely
Kevin Banks S010

Come on all you older members, write direct to Kevin and give him all the help you can

Mr and Mrs J Renton are very keen to get a pair of Pike Top Minnows (*Balonesox Balizanus*) can anyone help? If so write direct to Doug & June.

DID YOU KNOW

That Brine Shrimp hatch best at a temperature of 68°F. With a Teaspoonful of cooking salt per ~~gallon~~ pint and not a teaspoonful as most brands suggest.

The majority of Livebearers thrive best with the pH of the water at an average of 7.0 to 7.2, and a Dh of 10.

The best way to sterilize a tank after a bout of fungi etc is to scrub the tank out with a good strong salt solution using luke warm water.

The way to calculate the capacity of your tank is to multiply Length X Breadth X Height & divide by 277 to give you gallons.

Mollies, being from a brackish environment need about a tablespoonful of salt to a gallon of water to thrive correctly. They can also live quite comfortably in a marine tank.

The filtering powder sold by Bost's the Chemists is exactly the same as that sold by the Diatom filter people and is only 12p per lb as against 50p, as sold at Aquarists shops.

Ich parasites can be carried from tank to tank on your wet hands as well as nets, fish etc. Use a dry net as dry conditions kill it, dead.

Salt is one of the best medications known for ailing fish and used in the right proportions cannot harm your fish. 2 teaspoons per gallon increasing to 4 teaspoonfuls per gallon will help cure all ailments if fish is immersed in solution. Caution:- This will kill plant life if too concentrated.

Polyurethane foam is a good substitute for filter wool but should be sterilized thoroughly before use in a salt solution

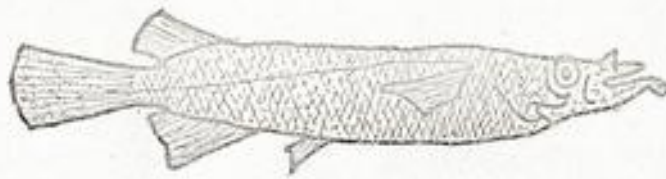
Overleaf you will find the names of the first 20 members we have recruited, until we can get more members we thought that we would print the type of fish that are wanted by specific members underneath their names, the reason for this being the high cost of postage, and the fact that not many members live within a reasonable distance to each other and our 'Stock Controller's' Ron & Lynn Daly, say the work involved would be phenomenal until we have enough members to warrant the printing of a complete list for all members. So would you bear with us, until such time as our membership increases, and then we can work the system we envisaged.

For this issue only names of fish are given under their common name. This is until you are all sent a comprehensive list listing all known species with latin and common names. This will be forthcoming within the next 4 weeks or so as soon as we can get it printed.

The prefixes in front of the membership no's are :-

- S Senior member
- J Junior member
- C Joint man and wife members
- X Club member

- 5001 J. Leidler 10 Elm ave, Gosforth, Newcastle / Tyne
NE3 2LS Tel Gosforth 890350
Wants Red Wag Platies and Delta Tail Guppies
- 5002 Bob Lawson, 84 Grosvenor Road, Jesmond, Newcastle/
Tyne. Tel Newcastle 812652
- 0003 Ron and Lynn Daly, 40 Palmerston Walk, Clasper Village
Gateshead / Tyne
Want Anableps Anableps, Limia Vittata, Priapella
Intermedia and Phalloceros caud Retic'.
- 5004 Neil Speed, 100 Moorside North, Fenham, Newcastle
/ Tyne NE4 9DU. Tel Newcastle 33870
Wants Green Swordtails
- 5005 Colin Whittaker, 1 Spring Bank, Middle Spring,
Ruscombe, Stroud, Glos. n Tel Stroud 5817
Wants Limia Nigrofasciata, Merry Widow.
- 0006 Roger Wilkinson, c/o Elm Church, Clapham Crescent,
Clapham London SW4
Wants, Limia, HI-fin platies, Super Large female
Guppies. (who doesn't) Desperately.
- 0007 Ed and Becky Lough, 315 Ewell Road, Tolworth
Surrey. KT6 7BZ.
Wants Limia Nigrofasciata



Nomorhamphus celebensis . Family:-*Nomorhamphinae*

Indonesian Half Beak.

A native of Celebes in Indonesia.

Males to 4/5 inches

Females to 6 inches

Body laterally compressed and the lower jaw is only slightly extended beneath the upper. The point of the lower jaw is bent downward and ends in a fleshy tip. The forward edge of the Dorsal is about $\frac{1}{2}$ " further back on the body than the front extremity of the anal fin. The pectoral fins are set very high on the body. Nasal barbels protrude upwards from the upper jaw. Body covered with large scales.

Body colouration is a rather drab grey/brown, . Dorsal and Anal fin a bright red tinged with yellow at times. Caudal fin not so brightly coloured though with the same hues as the Dorsal and Anal. Breeding conditions not generally known, but possibly the same as *Dermogenys pusillus*. Food:- Livefood whenever possible but can be trained to take dried foods, though these should be of the type that float for a long time.

008 Paul and Barbara Skillen, 12 Heronsdale Court, Ford Estate, Birkenhead.
Wants Heterandia Formosa, Phallicereros caudonac'''' Quintana Atrizona, Anableps Anableps.

009 Doug and June Renton, 128 Dunstan Towers, Garth 18 Killingworth, Newcastle / Tyne 12.
Wants Pripella intermedia, Heterandia bimaculatus, Heloesea Bellizanus, Brachyrhaphis Escopi

5010 Kevin Banks, 3 Mallard Ave, Barnby Dun, Doncaster DN3 1LH
Wants Heterandia Formosa

5011 Robert Curry, 15 Cedar Crescent, Silverton Hill, Hamilton, Tel Hamilton 27625.
Wants Any variety of fish except Green Mollies Green Swords, Red eyed Swords, Gold Platfies.

5012 Steve Jordan, 48 Whitewaites, Harlow, Essex.

5013 John Waterson, 62 Holly Avenue, Winton Mill Blyden / Tyne NE21 6SL
Wants Blue Linia.

5014 Rodney Pook, 75 Keel Drive, Slough Berks. SL1 2LY
Tel Slough 32182 Works No
Wants Moon Platies

5015 Aubrey Manser, "Fairways" 132 Belmont Drive, Southport Merseyside, PR9 8PY.
Wants Hi-fin Platies, Lyra Tail Swords, Delta Tail Guppy.

5016 Paul Osgood, 7 St Andrews Ave, Windsor, Berks. SL4 4EH
Tel Windsor 65003
Wants Swords, Platies, Black and Green Sailfin Mollies

5017 Derek Lambers, 37 Chestnut Road, Raynes Park, London SW20 8GD.
Wants Female Blue Linia, Hump Backed Linias, Portholes, Half Beaks.

5018 Len McCourt, City Pets, Low Friar St, Newcastle/Tyne

5019 Jimmy Young, "Betta Aquaria", Chillingham Road, Heaton, Newcastle / Tyne NE6.

5020 George Liddle, 2 Cromer Avenue, Low Fell, Gateshead / Tyne
Tel Gateshead 877156

5021 Ken Lowe, 2 Farwask Road, Ormsby, Middlesborough, Cleveland. Tel Middlesborough 34433.

If you have any of the above, going spare, write direct to the person requesting them, and please, when writing your stock list out to send to us, identify your fish by colour, tail shape, finnage, etc. We want to print a really comprehensive list, and to do this we must have the information.

BRINE SHRIMPAGE

Continuous feeding of Livebearer fry is an essential to optimum growth and colour development. However, it is beyond the scope of the average working man (unless his wife is at home, and includes maintenance of fishtanks as part of her daily routine) to feed his fish manually throughout the day.

feeding Tubifex from a worm feeder is a good idea for fry upwards of 4 days old, however, for the fry between 2 and 4 days old, a smaller food is required. I find that brine shrimp are taken readily from 1 day old.

This is the method I use to supply Brine Shrimps to my fry throughout the day, (although I am still undecided about the nutritional value of these)

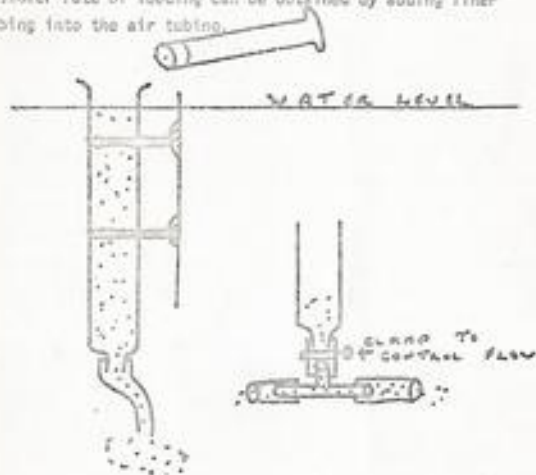
- 1 Take an ordinary medical plastic syringe, and attach a small piece of air tubing.
- 2 Draw up plunger, and fill syringe with washed brine shrimp, - a concentrated suspension of brine shrimps in tap or distilled water.
- 3 Using Heater/Clamp Suckers, immerse in the tank, leaving the top clear of the surface.
- 4 Gently remove the plunger.

The shrimps will then swim through slowly and the fish will be able to take them throughout the day.

The rate of flow of brine shrimp can be controlled by using a clamp of the type used to clamp air lines.

Additional feeding points can be made by using a "T"

piece, with small pieces of tubing attached.
A slower rate of feeding can be obtained by adding finer tubing into the air tubing.



Mr & Mrs R Wilkinson 0006

We are in the process of making an association stand on the lines of an information bureau, and to display various types of fish displayed in small tanks, and already we have been invited to put this stand up at three "open Shows" in the Newcastle Area over the next few months.

Various members have offered to man the stand, and we hope to put on a good display of fish with the emphasis on the lesser known varieties.

We may be writing to some of you on the beg for some fish to display, and we hope that these will be forthcoming, as it is for the Association's benefit in the long run.

At a recent 6 corner show held at North Shields Society's premises, Mr and Mrs Renton just about swept the board in the Livebearer classes.

They did the same the week previously as well at another leg of the same competition, held at Ashington.

Well done Doug and June, keep it up.

Could you all write to the "Editor" and let him know what type of a set up you have, how many tanks and how many of these are reserved for livebearers plus any other relevant information, and we will make up an issue covering all this information.

A few of the members have written asking about slides on livebearers, and information on fish photography. If any member has any good slides of fish, we have the facilities for copying these, and if we have enough response, we could possibly get together a reasonable slide show, which could be hired out to interested parties, thus advertising ourselves and showing the type of fish that we can produce. Let the Secretary know what you have, and when we have enough we can get these copied 'en bloc'.

Incorporated in this issue is an I.P. Leaflet, receive this gently, and retain. This will build up to a complete list as time goes by.

Information is gleaned from Kurt Jacobs Livebearer publication and other sources as detailed.

Dear Mr Laidler,

Further to your information leaflet etc on awards we would like to make these comments. As to ^{the} awarding of Gold and Silver badges, we feel that the badges would have more meaning and status if they were awarded without any qualification, to members who are competent in the keeping and breeding of livebearers, possibly on the recommendation of the regional committee. As to become proficient in any specialist branch of the hobby takes many years of hard work, we feel that this means that credit goes to those, rather than any 'poy hunter' who suddenly decides to try his hand at Livebearers for a short while.

From our experiences being members of the "British Killifish Association", we have found that by restricting the supply of "Killies" to their own members (not strictly true) they are finding great difficulty in enrolling new members as people cannot get hold of the easier Killies to try out, and therefore are not willing to join a specialist Association. Therefore we hope that the same will not happen in the B.L.A. in that the B.L.A. will allow and encourage members to distribute locally easier varieties of Livebearers. Whilst we are on the subject of the B.K.A. who also have area groups, it would seem that these will spring up in places, but no amount of badgering from the management committee will cause groups to start - but those that do get off the ground, usually of their own free will, tend to have a hard core of members who keep the group running and do invaluable work for the association. Should

there be people in our area who would be interested in the formation of a group, could they contact us and we will see what we can arrange.

We are pleased to see that information sheets are planned but feel that three to an issue may be a little to many, as quality would be preferable to quantity.

Ed & Becky Lough 0007

Other members views on the above subjects would be appreciated before the committee make a decision on these points.

We have a member in Chicago U.S.A. who intends sending us some American fish over as soon as the weather gets better, transport is the problem, together with custom restrictions. Does any member have intimate knowledge of these restrictions etc, so that we can arrange transportation.

Editor

Have you tried the new "Season" brand of fish foods? The river shrimp has a protein content of 71.75% and dry fish 70% etc.
J.Laidler

Sizes Of Glass For Glazing Aquaria

Depth Inches	Length in Inches						
	10	12	18	24	30	36	48
10	15oz	21oz	26oz				
12	15oz	26oz	32oz	32oz	32oz		
15		26oz	42oz	42oz	1	1	1
18		32oz	1	1	1	1	1
24			1	1	1	1	1
30				1	1	1	1
36				1	1	1	1

Types of glass

Heavy clear sheet 15oz-32oz

Heavy drawn 42oz . 3/16

Polished Plate 1-1

Toughened Plate 1-1 (five times stronger than plate)

Wired polished or figured plate 1-1 (for Base)

Fractions given =plate t = toughened plate.

BRITISH Livebearer Association

President Mr G Liddle

Vice President Mr K Lowe

Chairman Mr J Laidler

Secretary / Treasurer Mr R Lawson

Stock Controllers Mr & Mrs R Daly

Bulletin Editor Mr J Laidler
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 Gosforth
 Newcastle/Tyne
 NE3 2LS

To whom all correspondence for the bulletin should be sent. If possible all articles should be printed on this size (A5) paper on one side only.

Line drawings of fish are especially requested.
