

LIFE AT THE **GOLDFISH BOWL**

ISSUE 3 / FESTIVE SPECIAL

**12 FISHKEEPING
PROBLEMS SOLVED**

**SPRUCE UP YOUR
AQUARIUM IN TIME
FOR CHRISTMAS**

**HOW YOU CAN
TREAT YOUR FISH**



AND A FISHKEEPERS' CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE



To all our customers

What a strange couple of months it has been jumping from the tier system to lockdown and then back to tiers again in a couple of days. Whilst everything else seems to be up and down and changing every day, we have remained open throughout the pandemic in order to best support you with your hobby. We understand how important fishkeeping is for many, and especially so in times where we are having to stay at home a lot more. We really hope we have been able to give you some respite from the current headlines.

We have continued to have new livestock in to ensure there is something for everybody and we are expecting more shipments to arrive in the coming weeks with Christmas just around the corner.



△ Our beautiful saltwater set up

We hope you enjoy reading the Christmas edition of our magazine which features a whole host of ideas for Christmas gifts for your favourite fishkeeper. We've also put our own twist of the 12 Days of Christmas, giving you 12 solutions to 12 common fishkeeping issues. And find out how you can treat your fish after this long year, after all they deserve it too!

Finally, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all your support this year and we look forward to a day when we can welcome you back in the shop as we did before.

With best wishes from our families to yours,

Barry



TREAT YOUR FISH THIS CHRISTMAS

It's the time of year where we all treat ourselves - and gosh do we need it after the year we've had! Our fish deserve a treat too so here's a lovely way you can give them something a little special.



Fish Science's Fish Treats!

So here's an easy way to treat your fish for Christmas! Why not grab some fish treats from our friends at Fish Science!

There are two different varieties - one type contains shrimp and krill whilst the other is algae based, packed with lots of spirulina. The shrimp version is suitable to feed to any carnivorous or omnivorous fish and is popular with the likes of livebearers, whilst angel fish, goldfish and most types of marine fish also like to chomp on these. The vegetable ones are preferred by mollies, swordtails and platies too, as well as tangs, whilst those with Malawi cichlids might also like to give these a go - just don't expect them to last too long!

These clever treats stick on the glass so will give you loads of fishy fun this Christmas! They can be fed to freshwater and marine fish alike and if one tablet is too much, it'll still stick to the glass, even if you have to split it in half for your aquarium inhabitants.

Available in store or for home delivery.

SPRUCE UP YOUR AQUARIUM

Can you believe we can actually have people round our houses this Christmas? If you've got the relatives coming to visit, then here's a quick 10 minute step by step guide to spruce up your tank before they arrive!

Step one:

Get rid of the algae! What makes a good tank look GREAT is sparkling clean glass on the fronts and sides. So grab your algae scraper and get rid of those pesky green patches to give optimum tank viewing!

Use the Eheim Rapid Cleaner! It is perfect for quick touch ups on your tank and you can also purchase extra accessories which turn it into a flat sponge, a 90 degree sponge or algae brush within seconds.



Step two:

Water still a little cloudy and no time to clean your filters out? Quickly add some of Seachem's wonder product Purigen and Sera Crystal Clear floss into your filter and your water will instantly start to clarify and become nice and clear. OK so maybe it'll take more than 10 minutes but at least your tank is well on its way to being super sparkly for your guests, meaning more time for mince pies!



Step three:

Only five minutes to go and no time for a waterchange, let alone to get the buckets out?! Look no further than Eheim's QuickVac Pro. This battery operated gravel cleaner lets you "hoover" the tank to your heart's content without needing to remove any water of the aquarium. Whether you just need that five minute touch up or have a bit longer to get your aquarium sandbed cleaned up, you really can't go wrong with this handy tool!



AN ALTERNATIVE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

12 FISHKEEPING FIXES

1. Ghastly green water

A problem that plagues many fishkeepers! Green water can be solved with one of two methods. The best would be to invest in a ultraviolet steriliser like the Eheim Reeflex range. Some filters also have UV bulbs like the Betta UV filters. You can also try NT Lab's Algae Gone.

2. Finicky feeders

Isn't it frustrating when fish don't feed? Try them on some of Seachem's Garlic Guard, which can be mixed in with any types of food - dry or frozen - to entice both freshwater and saltwater fish to feed. Garlic is also good for the fish's gut and will help the fish fight diseases.

3. Annoying ammonia

High ammonia levels that you need to get rid of fast? Use Interpet's Ammonia Remover to bring down these dangerous levels quickly. Once they're lower, switch onto Seachem's Prime, which will help to combat levels of nitrate and nitrite too. Use with API's Quick Start, which will help boost the live bacteria in your aquarium.

4. Frustrating filtration

It can be difficult to know what filtration to get. The market is flooded with different options - internal, external, air-driven sponge filters etc. We would always advise an external filter if possible and the Eheim Professional 4+ range is our favourite! However, there are also many great internal filter options too. We love the Eheim BioPower internal filters as these also come with Eheim SubstratPro, which helps to colonise the good bacteria in your aquarium.

5. Nightmareish nitrates

Can't get your nitrates down? We've got the product(s) to help! Seachem's Prime is a great way to reduce nitrates in your tank (it also helps with low levels of ammonia & nitrite too). You can also get filter media which helps to reduce nitrates specifically. Seachem's denitrate can be placed in any type of filter or sump and will help to bring your aquarium's nitrate level down.

6. Weighty water barrels

I'm sure everyone will agree that the worst part of a waterchange is trying to lift the barrels / buckets up to head height to pour the water into your tank but worry no more as we have a solution! TMC have brought out a handy Waterchange Kit, which features a pump (small enough to fit in a jerrican!) that will pump the water up to the aquarium for easy waterchanges! It honestly couldn't be simpler than this and it saves all that back breaking lifting to get new water into your tank.



7. Pesky pest snails

Pest snails can be a pain, particularly in planted tanks. If you're suffering from pest snails, clown loach are a great way to keep the numbers in check as they love feasting on snails! We also have a snail trap from Hugo Kamishi, which you can bait with food and watch the snails descend onto the trap for you to remove.



8. Stressful slime algae

Slime algae - also known as cyanobacteria - can be so infuriating! It appears as a green or purple "slime" across your aquarium decorations and gravel. To get rid of this, use CyanoControl, which helps to rid the aquarium of the slime. It can also be used alongside Purigen and Pristine to give your aquarium that sparkle this Christmas!



9. Why oh why white spot

White spot - a fish disease that has plagued fishkeepers across the world usually at least once in their hobby. It can be treated though but early detection is key! Keep a close eye on your fish and look out for white spots (the size of a grain of sand or so) on their body and fins. In a freshwater set up, we recommend Waterlife's Protozin, which we use in conjunction with API's Melafix. For reefkeepers, we have had good success with PolypLab Medic. This is reef safe and can be used up to 20 days at a time. As with all treatments, please seek advice before using.



10. Plant problems

Plant aquascapes can look great but sometimes yellow leaves or weak stems ruin our hard work. If you have red plants, we recommend using Flourish Iron into your set up. This will help them THRIVE! If you have yellowing leaves, it may be a lack of nitrogen and Flourish Nitrogen will help boost your plants back up to where you'd like them. Small black dots or holes on your plants could be an indication of low potassium, easily solvable with the use of Flourish Potassium.



11. Worrying water quality

Worried about your water quality? That's understandable but we're here to help. We offer a water testing service so bring us a sample of your aquarium water and we will be able to advise you. If you'd like to test at home, we sell the API Freshwater Master Test Kit for tropical or coldwater fishkeepers or the API Saltwater Master Test Kit and API Reef Master Test Kit, which will test everything you need to for your saltwater aquarium. We would recommend these liquid test kits. However, we also do API 5-in1 Test Strips, which give you a quick indication of how your tank is doing.



12. Problematic pH

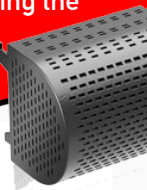
pH issues can be common. If you have a freshwater tank and your pH is too high, use API's pH Down and likewise, if it is too low, there is pH up. Any of these changes should be made slowly to avoid shocking the fish. For saltwater tanks, Aquavitro 8.4 or Balance will do the trick.

A FISHKEEPERS' CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

Not quite sure what to get your favourite fishkeeper for Christmas? Have no fear as we're here to give you the run down on some of the best products on the market right now that we KNOW your fishkeeping friends and family will be grateful for! Take a look...

For the little ones

Not for the little kids but for the little fish - they will sure be grateful for JUWEL's new BioFlow Filter Grid, which stops baby fish and shrimps from being trapped in the filter. Extendable for ease of use with many filters including the JUWEL internal filters. Also works with the AquaNano range. Suitable for many different tanks. £13.00.



Most fishkeepers will tell you how hard it is to clean their tank so save them from getting their hands wet with these magnet algae cleaners, starting at £6.99.



To make their life a little easier

Finding Nemo!

As popular as ever, we carry a huge range of Finding Nemo and Finding Dory ornaments to help you recreate the perfect movie scene for your aquarium. Characters include Hank, Bailey and Destiny as well as Nemo and Dory too!

Starts at £4.99.

Something a little different...

the standard available to feed our fish. NutraPellets are a great way to spice up your diet. The NutraPellets come in three different types - colour boost and copepod complete and can be used as a crushed up to feed smaller fish and corals. £5.99



A brand new tank!

Perfect for beginners, the AquaEl Leddy 40 aquarium includes white and blue LED lighting, a filter and a heater so is near enough ready to rock!

Great for kids, or adults alike, starting out in the hobby!

Available in black or white
40 x 25 x 25cm (25 litres) - £67.99



Or a bigger tank ...

The AquaEl Leddy is also available in two sizes - 105 litres - and comes with the same LED as well as a filter and a heater.

60 x 30 x 30cm
75 x 35 x 40cm



A gift voucher from their favourite aquatic shop!

OK we're totally biased but why not grab your favourite fishkeeper a gift voucher from The Goldfish Bowl! It can be spent on dry goods or livestock in store.

Available online in denominations of £10, £20, £50 and £100, or available in store for any amount. Please ask a member of staff in store for more details.



Products to perk up their plants!

If your favourite fishkeeper is an aquascaping enthusiast, they will love Seachem's Plant Fundamental pack, which contains 3 chemicals for perking up your plants.

Flourish adds micro & trace elements to your tank, whilst Excel adds important carbon dioxide for the plants. Flourish Iron helps plants produce chlorophyll to aid growth.

Fundamental Plant Pack
(3 x 100ml) - £23.99



(Walking in the) Air

Fish are certainly appreciative of an air pump, and your fave fishkeeper will be too! Eheim's Air Pump comes in 3 different sizes - 100, 200 and 400 lph.

Prices start at £30.50 and are ready to go with non-return valves, airline and airstones.

Light up their tank this Christmas!

The Aqua One StripGlo lights are a perfect present for your fishkeeper friends and family. The slimline design keeps your aquarium looking modern and sleek and the light features no less than 3 different channels, all with a dimmable function. Its clever mounting system allows it to be attached to many tanks.

Four sizes available: 45cm (£59.99), 60cm (£69.99), 90cm (£89.99) and 120cm (£109.99).



Festive themed ornaments!

Want to bring Christmas to a loved one's fish tank? Well wait no longer with these fabulous festive-themed ornaments from Betta! Father Christmas and his trusty Christmas tree will no doubt bring a smile to anyone's faces, which we definitely need after this year!

Father Christmas (9cm) - £6.99
Christmas Tree (11cm) - £8.99
Christmas Tree (16cm) - £10.99



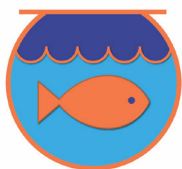
We all know about flake and pellet foods for fish but TMC's Gamma things up for your fish. Complete, algae and as they are or can be each.



larger sizes - 54 litres
great day and night

m (54 litres) - £79.99
m (105 litres) - £129.99





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and many more...

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