Chattan Vol 1 No 3 Winter 2023

Meet Ken & Janet Harris PAGE 6

Yellow Variation PAGE 9

> Development of the Ideal PAGE 14

Daniel Lutolf PAGE 22

Budgies as Companion Pets PAGE 24

Around the Clubs PAGE 25

Budgerigar Council South Australia

PRESIDENT:

Troy Holmes – Kensington Gardens president@bcsa.com.au

VICE PRESIDENT:

Michael Smith – Paralowie cars19852003@yahoo.com.au

SECRETARY:

Chris Murphy – Coromandel Valley cmurphy68@msn.com

TREASURER:

lan Wise – Hallett Cove ianwise1@hotmail.com

RING STEWARD:

Nigel Tonkin – Blackwood nigeltonkin50@gmail.com

SHOW MANAGER:

Currently Open

WEB MASTER:

Troy Holmes – Kensington Gardens president@bcsa.com.au

AUDITOR:

Matthew Worrell, Worrell & Co Accountants matthew@worrellco.com.au

CHATTER EDITOR:

Troy Holmes – Kensington Gardens president@bcsa.com.au

BCSA DELEGATES:

Chris Murphy – Coromandel Valley – BSSA cmurphy68@msn.com

Ken Harris – Fulham Gardens ken.harris5@bigpond.com

Wayne Weidenhofer – Hayborough - BSSA wayneweedo@tpg.com.au

Troy Holmes – Kensington Gardens – BSSA president@bcsa.com.au

Larry Jeffries – Crystal Brook – Port Pirie Club jeffers2@bigpond.com

Peter Glassenbury – Tiddy Widdy – Port Pirie Club pglassen@bigpond.com

Michael Smith – Paralowie – Port Pirie Club cars19852003@yahoo.com.au

Doug Lange – Maitland – Port Pirie Club drlange@internode.on.net

lan Wise – Hallett Cove – North East Budgerigar Society ianwise1@hotmail.com

Nigel Tonkin – Blackwood – North East Budgerigar Society nigeltonkin50@gmail.com

John Mulley – Firle – North East Budgerigar Society jmulley@bigpond.net.au

Shiralee Reardon – Para Hills – North East Budgerigar Society shiraleereardon@gmail.com

The opinions expressed by the Authors are their own and not necessarily those of this Council. Contributions in the form of letters and articles are welcome and should be addressed to:

CHATTER, president@bcsa.com.au - Please ensure all submissions abide by Australian and International copyright law. Such contributions must be in electronic format and include the writer's name, address and telephone number. The contents of any contribution are the expression of the writer and not necessarily those of the BCSA, nor its Editor. The right is reserved to edit any submission to CHATTER for clarity or space, or to reject it for any reason without obligation.



First published December 2022

Image: Image

Letter from the President

It feels like it's been an incredibly busy couple of months in budgies here in South Australia, and a whirlwind year for those newly elected to roles within the BCSA. In the more recent months, we've launched the revised website (May), as well as holding numerous club shows, the Logan Shield, and the ANBC National Titles in Ballarat. I am phenomenally proud of how South Australia performed in the Ballarat event, with four National wins being the most ever since the inception of the BCSA in 1996. Since 1996, South Australia has won a total of 38 National Titles. And at a single event, we've won three logies at the same event on five occasions since 1996, but never four. What's even better is that the four wins were spread across four different SA exhibitors.

None of the above would be possible, without the tireless work of volunteers, so I want to take a moment to stop an acknowledge them. It is your work that makes events like this possible, whether it be in the set up of staging, the coordination of the event itself, or being a bird carer for the team – all are paramount to the hobby's success in this state, so thank you.

In my line of work, continuous improvement is critical to success, and we want the BCSA to continue to grow from strength to strength. Continuous improvement looks like a continuous cycle of Planning, Doing, Checking, and Acting, and feeding that back to Plan the next move, and so forth. PDCA is a well-known model for continuous improvement, and it allows people to speak with data, so we can manage with facts. The facts in this instance are that:



- We had 45 birds on the top bench (Top 10) at the Nationals, 5 more than the year prior where we had 40.
- We had 20 exhibitors making up the team, 5 more than the year prior where we had 15.
- We finished with 446 points, 35 points out of third place, compared to 397 the year prior, where we were 105 points away from third place.
- We had only one class where we didn't fill it with all three birds (Dark Eyed Clear), versus three classes the year prior (Crest, Dark Eyed Clear, and Blackeye)
- We won 4 National Titles (Dilute, Clearwing, Dominant Pied and Whitecap) versus 2 the year prior (Normal Blue, Dilute).

Based on this assessment of the data, it is clear that we had a more successful 2023 outing than we did in 2022, notwithstanding that 2022 was a favourable home Nationals for South Australian fanciers. We had greater participation, a stronger team, and a better outcome. So, the challenge is how, as a State, we turn that around into something meaningful for 2024, to create a plan to improve and build on the success of 2023.

With that in mind, the first thing that we can do is reflect on the data of 2022 and 2023, and what

it tells us. Right now, to be successful at a National event, a State really needs to have two birds on the Top bench. Two of the three birds score points for the state, so it's important that those points are valuable points. At two of three, in an 84-bird team, that's 56 budgies on the top bench. If we do an analysis of the data from 2022 and 2023, we can look at how many birds for each class we had in the Top 10. For 2022, we had 40 birds from our team in the Top 10 (from 84 possible birds). In 2023, that number rose to 45 birds from a possible 84. To put that in perspective, 3rd place (SQ) in 2023 had 48 birds in the Top 10, only 3 more than SA. In 2022, SQ finished 2nd overall, with 55 birds in the Top 10. By comparison, the benchmark, Victoria, had 66 birds in 2022 in the Top 10, and 71 birds in 2023. To draw from that data, 3 more birds on the Top bench could have been the difference between 3rd and 4th place in 2023. Granted, the position of those Top 10 places matters, however it provides an order of magnitude for what third place at the National titles for a State might look like.

So let's take a deep dive into the 28 classes, and where we think there are opportunities, and where our strength lies. Now granted, we may be very successful in a given variety one year, and not the following year, but we can only base our assessment and path forward by speaking with data, so we can manage with facts. What the table following shows is the number of birds we had inside of the Top 10 for 2022 and 2023. For 1 bird inside the Top 10, we've visually color coded that in YELLOW, while for 2 or 3, we are showing GREEN, and for no birds inside of the Top 10, we've colour coded that RED. Right now, based on the data for the past two years, we are strong in Blue, Grey, Dilute, Clearwing, Cinnamonwing, and Recessive Pieds. In contrast, opportunity for improvement exists in the Normal Greens, Violets, Yellowfaced Blue, Australian Golden Face, Dark Eyed Clear, Spangle Double Factor, Lacewing, and Crested. If we are looking for 2 or more birds inside of the Top 10 bench at the Nationals, these could well be the 8 classes where the biggest opportunities exist.

| Variety | 2023 | 2022 | Status |
|-------------------------|------|------|-------------|
| Normal Green | 1 | 1 | Opportunity |
| Normal Grey Green | 2 | 1 | |
| Normal Blue | 3 | 2 | Strong |
| Normal Violet | 1 | 0 | Opportunity |
| Normal Grey | 3 | 3 | Strong |
| Yellow Faced Blue | 0 | 0 | Opportunity |
| Aust. Golden Faced Blue | 1 | 1 | Opportunity |
| Black Eyed Self | 1 | 2 | |
| Dilute | 3 | 3 | Strong |
| Lutino | 2 | 0 | |
| Albino | 1 | 2 | |
| Dark Eyed Clear | 1 | 1 | Opportunity |
| Clearwing | 3 | 3 | Strong |
| Greywing | 2 | 1 | |
| Cinnamonwing | 3 | 2 | Strong |
| Spangle Double Factor | 0 | 1 | Opportunity |
| Opaline | 1 | 2 | |
| Opaline AOSV | 0 | 2 | |
| Clearbody | 1 | 3 | |
| Lacewing | 1 | 0 | Opportunity |
| Fallow | 2 | 1 | |
| Spangle | 2 | 1 | |
| Spangle AOSV | 2 | 1 | |
| Dominant Pied | 2 | 1 | |
| Recessive Pied | 2 | 2 | Strong |
| Crested ASC/ASV | 1 | 1 | Opportunity |
| Aust White Cap | 3 | 1 | |
| Hen | 1 | 2 | |

Birds Inside of the Top 10 @ ANBC 2023 and 2022

Let's break those classes out, and understand where the improvement opportunity exists – is it a case that we have a lot of breeders of those birds, and our quality of birds is not at the level of other states, or is it a case that we just don't have the number of breeders to be able to put those birds forward for State team selection? Again, we need to speak with data, so we can manage with facts. One outcome may require a direction of overall quality improvement, whereas the other will require driving more fanciers to take on board that variety, and increasing participation.

Using the data, let's break those seven classes out for the Logan Shield, and take a look at them. There was 390 benched at the Logan across 28 classes, so the average class size was 14 birds. Our biggest class was 33 in the Hens and Cinnamon classes, followed by 25 in the Grey Green, and 24 in the Lutino. Of those four classes, only the hens class had fewer than 2 birds in the Top 10, so the greater our depth (numbers) of entries, the stronger the likelihood that we will have 2 or more birds in the Top 10 at the National level. So, let's breakout the 8 varieties where there was fewer than 2 birds in the Top 10 across both years for SA. Using data again, let's see if we were below or above average for entries in those classes, where we fell outside the Top 10.

| Variety | 2023 | 2022 | Status | Entries |
|-------------------------|------|------|-------------|---------|
| Normal Green | 1 | 1 | Opportunity | 19 |
| Spangle Double Factor | 0 | 1 | Opportunity | 13 |
| Lacewing | 1 | 0 | Opportunity | 11 |
| Crested ASC/ASV | 1 | 1 | Opportunity | 6 |
| Normal Violet | 1 | 0 | Opportunity | 5 |
| Aust. Golden Faced Blue | 1 | 1 | Opportunity | 5 |
| Yellow Faced Blue | 0 | 0 | Opportunity | 4 |
| Dark Eyed Clear | 1 | 1 | Opportunity | 3 |

Logan Shield Entries for Classes Versus Nationals Placing in Top 10 for 2022/2023

As you can see, only light green had above average results, whereas the remainder had entries below the Show average. These classes (Violet, Yellow-faced Blue, Australian Golden Face, Dark Eyed Clear, Spangle Double Factor, Lacewing and Crested) represent the greatest opportunity for South Australia to boost its overall points score. If we could lift all of the 2023 numbers above to 2, it would represent a total of 10 additional birds in the Top 10, which would have matched what SQ had in the Top 10 when they finished 2nd in 2022.

Based on the data showing a lack of entries in those classes, managing with facts would mean encouraging fanciers to take on board one or more of these varieties. If you're keen to get birds away for the National team in South Australia, and to get birds into the Top 10 at a National level, then we need to encourage more participation in these varieties to build the ensuing depth in each of those classes at the Logan Shield State Selection Show. If we are to achieve our long-term goal of improving our competitiveness at a National level, these seven identified varieties represent a stepped opportunity for a boost in our overall points score. Imagine if we had 33 each of these varieties to choose from at the Logan, instead of in some cases, just 3!

Turning our focus now to other areas of the hobby, encouraging fanciers into the exhibition side is something that we've been strongly working on. We're taking on the challenge of becoming more discoverable, through social media, our website, and in the broader community. This of course can be a slow burn, but the wheels are in motion, and we are starting to gain some traction. At the beginning of May, we launched the new look website, with content focused on very specific knowledge and resource areas, so as to be discoverable by search engines such as Google. In parallel, we contacted media outlets about the Logan Shield, and posted flyers at known "budgie hot spots" such as Magill Grain and others. We had a very pleasing turn out, with somewhere in excess of 50 non-members making their way through the doors, keen to see what the exhibition side of budgerigars is all about. It was great to see so many of you hosting these visitors, and explaining to them the nuances of the exhibition side of the hobby.

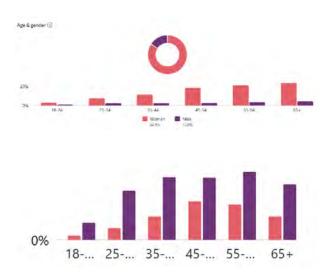
We've been very active on Social media with 87 Instagram posts, and over 100 Facebook posts. We have 1,100 following us on Facebook, with an average of 100 coming on board every month. In the last 28 days, our posts have been shown in people's Facebook feeds 14,372 times, and we've had 2,359 reactions, and 215 shares of posts through Social media. Social media is our biggest traffic driver to our BCSA website.

| Pa | ge overview | Create a post | Last 28 days | |
|-----|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Dis | scovery | | | |
| 0 | Post reach | | 14,372 | |
| - | Post engagement | | 14,896 | |
| sh | New Page likes | | 84 | |
| ٦ | New Page Followers | | 116 | |
| Int | eractions | | | |
| ۲ | Reactions | | 2,359 | |
| æ | Comments | | 375 | |
| | Shares | | 215 | |
| | Photo views | | 2,958 | |
| h | Link clicks | | 3,216 | |
| | | | | |

Demographics and Interactions with BCSA Facebook Page

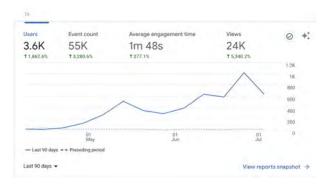
One of the interesting things about Facebook is what our audience looks like, and what our potential

audience might look like, which is insightful. With South Australia selected, and Birds (Animals) selected, data shows a potential audience of 170K to 200K people who have listed that interest and live in South Australia. However, what's really interesting is that 84% of them are women. In contrast, our Facebook page only has 30% women following it, and close to 70% men. If we speak with the data, so we can manage with facts, there is a big audience opportunity by pivoting some of our marketing material to be more focused towards the demographic we are missing, which you may have seen more recently with the memes, and posts into groups such as the Budgie Lovers. Although we can't post in some groups as the BCSA, we can brand images with our logo, which drives the curious to get over to try and learn more about who we are.



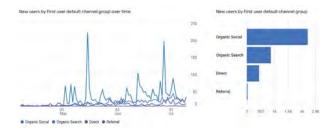
Facebook Potential Audience, Based on Our Page & Content Shown with Age & Gender of Current Facebook Following

Speaking of finding us, we are becoming a whole lot more visible on Google search engines. The following chart below shows our Wincher feed, which demonstrates how many times we are appearing in Search Engine results when people search words related to our website. We have curated pages on our website to make us easy to find, through focusing around keywords that are typed into Google. At the moment, we are showing that we are getting 807 impressions per month, and that's without cracking traffic from some of the prominent key words yet. Impressions are where Google puts us there as a result. Google has discovered and ranked content for 101 of our individual web pages (from a possible 190). Overall, Google itself says we've had 3,600 users to our website in the last 90 days, and 55,000 events. An event means we have been an option for that person to click on, even if it means we were back at Page 3 or 4 of the search results, and the views is how many times people have actually seen us (24,000).



Google Report of Actual Traffic to our Website

Our most popular pages are the Budgies for Sale, and relevant Budgie Auction pages, as people scour the internet looking for new birds. Our User Acquisition is how people come to find us – so the first time they ever visit our website, Google records how they got there and where they came from. It also records how many times they come back, and how long they hang around for. You can see from the chart below, just how important organic (not paid) social media is for us. The two peaks you see below were when we were "first to market", so we had a big spike when we got the National Auction catalogue, with a link back to our website, out, and again in the lead up to Melton and Hills Auctions in late June. You will see that there isn't a big spike around July 1st and 2nd, when we released the BCSA catalogue, as these members had already discovered our page, and were returning – they weren't "new acquisitions" as defined by Google.



Channels of "New Acquisitions" to the BCSA website

| 56 | web_ | | | | Rows per page: 10 | * 14ef4 |
|----|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Final user delachannel proup = 4 | a New users | Engaged sessions | Engagement rate | Engaged sessions per user | Averag empagemen tim |
| | | 3,555 100% of total | 5,747 | 67.26% Aug DN | 5.67 Arg DN | 1m 48 |
| 1 | Organic Social | 2,217 | 3,872 | 67.04% | 1.76 | 1m 32 |
| 2 | Organic Search | -868 | 1.221 | 73.6% | 1.40 | 2m 26 |
| 8 | Direct | 444 | 510 | 57.05% | 1.09 | 1m 32 |
| 4 | Referral | 26 | 150 | 83.65% | 5.48 | Bert 14 |

Acquisition Data for People Who Found BCSA for the First Time

Turning our attention to the BCSA Auction, we are encouraged by the high interstate participation that we've been able to garnish for the event. This year's auction provided local enthusiasts with the opportunity to get around a significant number of quality birds from award winning aviaries across Australia. We also had a good number of interstate buyers interested in the event, which is a reflection on the efforts of those involved in organising the event.

The President report wouldn't be complete without reference to the situation at the North East, who now appears to have turned a corner and filled their committee for 2023/24. The Club are hosting a Budgie Bazaar in September, which is aimed at drawing a few fanciers out of the North, East and West of Adelaide, while increasing member participation. The Club is financially secure, but needs more volunteers to participate in events, meetings and organising committees. If you're thinking you may have an interest, but you're not sure, my advice to you is that serving on a committee can have numerous benefits, and it can be a rewarding experience for several reasons. Being a part of such a committee allows you to make a meaningful contribution to the budgerigar community in South Australia. You can help shape the policies, standards, and practices that affect budgerigar breeders, owners, and enthusiasts in the region. It has the added benefit that it can aid personal development, giving you the opportunity to enhance your leadership, decisionmaking, problem-solving, and communication skills. As a committee member, you'll meet and work with diverse people who share your interest in budgerigars. These connections can provide support, inspiration, and potential opportunities for collaboration in breeding programs with other fanciers. One thing I've personally found is that

serving on a committee deepens your knowledge of budgerigars, their care, breeding, diseases, and overall well-being. This specialised knowledge could benefit your own budgerigar breeding program. Furthermore, as a committee member, you also have the chance to advocate for budgerigar-related issues that are important to you. You can help in spreading awareness about budgerigars, their needs, and the joy they can bring as pets or as an exhibition stud. This can lead to more people becoming responsible budgerigar owners, which in turn helps grow our great hobby. While serving on a committee requires time and effort, it also offers the opportunity for meaningful experiences, and I would strongly encourage you to consider the potential experiences and benefits.

Finally, on a strong positive note, we are really excited about the Budgie Fest 2023. This event will be rolled into the UBC Shield between the BSSA and the North East on Saturday October 28th. We are really hoping to draw out a lot of pet budgerigar enthusiasts, with some excellent prizes on offer. We've secured Gary Gazzard and Peter Thurn to come over and judge the shield, while we're waiting to announce the additional judges for the Pet section. We've organised wine tasting from Hentley Farm, catering, and other great initiatives to make it a great budgie day out. I'd love to see each and every one of you there, so please put it into the diary now.

Troy Holmes

BCSA President

Behind the Scenes with Ken & Janet Harris: A Budgerigar Success Story

Meet Ken and Janet Harris, South Australia's latest National winners in the Dominant Pied class at the 2023 Nationals held in Ballarat. This husbandand-wife duo are prominent exhibitors in the South Australian budgerigar community, contributing numerous birds to the state team and finally clinching a National title this year. We were fortunate enough to go behind the scenes with this husband-and-wife partnership to understand the secret to their success.

Ken's fascination with budgerigars began as a child, around the age of 10, when he stumbled upon an aviary full of blue series banded Dominant Pieds. Mesmerized, he approached the owner to buy some. Over the years, despite work and other commitments taking precedence, Ken and Janet's passion for the hobby remained strong. Since 2014, they have been actively involved, initially joining the North East Budgerigar Society (NEBS) in 1985 but leaving in 1992 due to other commitments.

Ken and Janet currently run 14 breeding cages without feeders, a constraint imposed by the size of their unit and small backyard. Despite the spatial limitations, this constraint has arguably been a strong factor in their success, as it prevents them from tinkering with specialized varieties and forces them to focus on quality over quantity. Their breeding season is weather-dependent, but the birds ultimately decide when they want to breed. The outdoor aviary is divided into sections for adult and young birds, allowing them to quickly remove birds that don't make the grade to make way for future babies.



Representing the Budgerigar Society of South Australia (BSSA) on the show bench, Ken and Janet appreciate the friendly and progressive nature of the club. They find the members of the BSSA are always trying to improve the hobby, which is why the Club continues to see a steady growth in membership. They really look forward to getting along there to meetings.

We asked Ken and Janet about a few of their favourite varities and moments in the hobby. Here is what they had to say:

What varieties do you keep, and which is your favourite?

Because of our spatial limitations, we keep mostly Normals, Dominant Pieds and Spangles. Janet's favourite is the Dominant Pied, even though it's the variety that stole Ken's heart as a youngster, while Ken's favours the Normal Grey Green.

What is your favourite moment in the hobby and why?

That's likely the easiest question you've asked me! It was winning the Nationals for the first time this year at Ballarat in the Dominant Pied Class. Janet and I weren't there, but we were watching the live feed on the TV, and we had George England on the phone, as the live feed was going back and forth between the classes. George did a great job of keeping us abreast of every movement, while Stephen Mow and Troy kept us well informed on TV.



Winning a Nationals was a culmination of a lot of effort. You could say hard work, because it can be hard work, but it's really a project of passion. And winning a Nationals makes it all worthwhile.

What bloodlines have you used to influence your stud?

Our success has really come from a lot of bloodlines local to South Australia. Our real kick forward was when we brought birds from Sue Adams. We brought initially from Sue, as well as Kerry & Marie Murphy, who are lovely people and always have time for anyone in the hobby. In more recently years, we've brought from Mick Gearing in WA, Ian Hunter in Victoria, as well as Troy Holmes here in Adelaide. We've also worked in closely with Michael Sloper here in Adelaide. We also do need to give a shout out to George England, as our Dominant Pied Line started with a \$15.00 bird from George.

Who are the top couple of people in the hobby you highly respect and why?

It would have to be Kerry and Marie Murphy from the BSSA – they've worked tirelessly for many years, and are the silent generation that just push forward and get on with it. Our respect and admiration for them is enormous. They're two of the most lovely people you will ever meet.

What bird do you feel was your best bird and why?

Fresh off a National win, it has to be the Dominant Pied girl. She has 7 sisters, believe it or not, and they're from a strong family that reproduces, so we are hoping to imprint her stylishness and feather across multiple nests this year when we use the family.

What other hobby/s or interests do you have?

"Carn the Power!" – we love our football. We love Port Adelaide, and love to watch the football. We're hoping for big things in September.

What does your aviary setup involve and how have you evolved it over the years as you've created new bird rooms?

Our set up is small, but manageable. We feature a young bird, and adult aviary, which are both outside, and an insulated breeding room, which has air conditioning available. We are really constrained by our back yard, and how much more of the shed Janet will let me take, which possibly slowly creeps an inch further each day.

What is one staple medication/ preventative medicine you use and what do you use it for?

We really only use 2 broad spectrum additives – Sulpha AVS for sick birds, and Vitamin B12 for hatchability. The B12 we use 4 days on, 4 days off, across the year. We run this even when we aren't breeding.

What is one issue in the hobby you think can be improved and how do you feel this could be improved?

We actually feel that the hobby is in really capable hands here in South Australia, with our local club (the BSSA) growing strongly, and the BCSA promoting the hobby and doing the same. We're seeing some old members come back in, and increasing participation from young juniors.

What do you feel is the best piece of advice to provide to any beginner starting out in the hobby or fellow hobbyist?

Ask as many questions as possible – the only silly question is the one you don't ask. Listen to all of the advice you are given, and then work out what works best for you. Try and get yourself a mentor – someone you feel really comfortable talking to, who has a lot of experience breeding budgies over a number of years. Watch what they do, observe, and try to get them involved in the strategic side of your early pairings if possible. Ask them why they chose a certain pair. Then challenge them – ask them why not this partner instead. That's where the real information gain is – because a lot of those decisions are made in one's head, and when they're verbalized, it is a great way to understand how someone balances up faults, or their strategy.

What do you want to achieve with your budgerigars?

We want to be competitive with our birds, so the intent is to continue to improve them.

In Closing

Ken and Janet Harris's journey in the budgerigar hobby is a testament to their passion, dedication, and strategic approach. Despite spatial constraints and other commitments, they have managed to breed top-quality birds, and clinch a National title. They've rolled their sleeves up for numerous committees, as well as making show cages, travel boxes and other items for the Club. Ken has also become a judge. Their story is an inspiration to both beginners and seasoned hobbyists alike.







Genetic Control of Yellow Pigment Variation in Budgerigars

John Mulley

The colour series Green, Golden Faced Blue, Yellow Faced Blue, White Cap and Blue differ by their amount and distribution of yellow pigment known as psittacofulvin. That variation is controlled by a single gene. What we see as Single Factor Golden Faced Blue, Yellow Faced Blue and Single Factor Whitecap is the expression of those mutations in partnership with the Blue mutation. These colour variations are seen across all varieties, from Normals at the top of the Matrix, to Cresteds at the bottom.

The gene responsible for these colour variations is designated MuPKS. That DNA sequence codes for the enzyme polyketide synthase that makes the yellow pigment. Since the gene is present on paired chromosomes, no budgerigar can carry in combination more than two sequences of the gene out of the five available possibilities (Green, Golden Faced Blue, Yellow Faced Blue, White Cap and Blue). For example, it is not possible for one budgerigar to carry three variations of this gene, such as Yellow Faced Blue, White Cap and Blue. A Yellow Faced Blue/Whitecap combination (which looks green) mated with Blue (Blue/Blue) can never produce Blue chicks, only the expected 50:50 Mendelian ratio of Yellow Faced Blue and Single Factor Whitecap, both of which are expressed in combination with their recessive Blue partner.

There are two extremes in yellow pigment production in budgerigars. At one extreme, the green budgerigar can make the normal wildtype level of yellow pigment, even when split for the other



allelic mutations Golden Faced Blue, Yellow Faced Blue, Whitecap and Blue. At the other extreme, the blue budgerigar is a knockout mutant with no yellow pigment. The active site of the enzyme that makes yellow pigment is deactivated in the blue budgerigar by a mutation at a critical site in the DNA sequence of the MuPKS gene, disabling the active site of the enzyme. This is the same gene responsible for the yellow-peach-pink-orange-red psittacofulvin pigments seen in other parrots. This mechanism of pigment production is unique to parrots.

Complex feather structure and pigment content determines the colour series in budgerigars.

Described simply, feathers containing melanin absorb part of incident white light, reflecting the remainder of the spectrum back to us as blue light. Blue light reflected through the yellow pigment layer appears to us as a green budgerigar. Removal of the yellow pigment through mutation, with retention of melanin, is seen as a blue budgerigar. Various mutations in other genes that remove melanin, with retention of the yellow pigment, give us yellow budgerigars. Take away both the melanin and the yellow pigment through mutation and the incident white light is reflected to us as a white budgerigar. There are no green or blue pigments in budgerigar feathers.

To summarise, the amount and distribution of yellow pigment and melanin determine colours in the budgerigar. All of that is under simple genetic control, enabling some interesting budgerigar phenotypes to be created. Many of the combinations can be produced just for fun and visual appeal. Not all combinations are suitable for exhibition budgerigars but since they can be very attractive, they play an important role in recruiting enthusiasts to the hobby. Many of the most interesting combinations involve variations in the amount and distribution of yellow pigment that account for their popularity.



The National Budgerigar Standard

Suitability for the show bench in relation to the expression of yellow pigment is clearly defined by the national Standard. The Standard is regularly modernised with updates made available online by the Colour and Standards Committee of the Australian National Budgerigar Council (ANBC). Judging is governed by the variety descriptors in The Standard and the variations from the ideal budgerigar are described in the Penalty and Disqualification clauses. The Penalty and Disqualification Clauses that cover imperfections are managed by the National Judges Panel.

The Matrix within the Standard is a guide for acceptable combinations of colours and varieties for the show bench. This is a man-made classification framework that brings order to complexity. There are many hundreds of possible combinations of colours and varieties for the budgerigar. For simplicity, the Matrix is divided into three sections: The first section comprises the colour series of the Normal variety (combined with the wildtype pattern of black melanistic markings). The other Variety mutations mutated away from the Normal variety comprise the second section in the Matrix, in their colours. The Crested is alone in the third section of the Matrix. The Crested is a feather mutation that affects the outline of the budgerigar and can be expressed in all colours and in all varieties above it in the Matrix.

Penalty and Disqualification for Yellow Body Suffusion

The published rules that apply to judging the varying levels of yellow body suffusion are incorporated within the Standard. These guidelines are not hard to interpret for either the exhibitor, the show manager, or the judge. The rule that applies to the expression of yellow pigment in Yellow Faced Blues is: "Yellow Face colours and variety combinations that display white ground colour are to be penalised if the spillage of yellow from the mask to the body is more than minimal. The greater the spillage of colour deviates from what we see in the normal the greater the penalty."

The ANBC Standard is a Standard for Perfection for the Ideal Budgerigar for exhibition purposes. Applied to yellow suffusion, the greater the degree of yellow body suffusion the greater the penalty as is usual for quantitatively varying exhibition features in budgerigars. "Minimal" refers to the baseline amount of yellow spillage characteristic of Normal Yellow Faced Blues. The de-melanised varieties (Albino, Dark Eyed Clear White, Spangle Double Factor White) and partially de-melanised varieties (Black Eyed White, Dilute Blue Series, Clearbody White, Lacewing White, Blue series Fallow) are penalised by judges in proportion to their degree of yellow body suffusion. Penalty is applied the same irrespective of their placement in the Matrix, or position in show schedules. Changing the position of these varieties in the Matrix, from their previous historical position between Fallow and Spangle, did not affect the penalties applied for yellow body suffusion. This was just an adjustment to bring the hobby into the 21st century by recognising the difference between mutations that affect colour and mutations that have created new varieties that can be expressed in combination with all of the colour mutations.

NOTE 2 listed under the Yellow Faced Blue descriptor in the Standard states that "Where Yellow Faced Blue is combined with any variety that displays white ground colour minimal spillage from the mask is acceptable to the extent as described for Normal Yellow Faced Blue but varieties with reduced melanin are to be penalised for colour in proportion to departure from minimal (as described for the normal) to the extent where points for colour are heavily penalised in the self-coloured varieties." The most extreme interpretation of this means that Albinos,



Dark Eyed Clear Whites and Spangle Double Factor Whites combined with yellow face and presenting with pale yellow bodies do not receive a good proportion of the 40 Group 1 points for colour that are allocated in the Standard. Arguably, they might not receive any points for colour – the reason being that their bodies are not white, as currently prescribed by The Standard.

Quality of colour in the presence of yellow suffusion in the partially de-melanised varieties can vary with yellow suffusion masked to some extent when combined with the dark, violet, or grey factors. Sky blues in Spangle, Opaline, and Cinnamonwing are slightly de-melanised so the quality of their blue body colour when combined with yellow face is not as striking as for the Normal Blue. Their colour in the presence of yellow face can be enhanced by the addition of dark, violet, or grey factor, to mask to some extent the yellow suffusion to improve the quality of body colour to that approaching the corresponding Normal Blue Series. Judges comparing Normal Sky Blues with Spangle Yellow Faced Sky Blues, all else being equal, will in accord with the current Standard slightly penalise the Spangle Yellow Faced Blue for its slight aqua tinge. Alternatively, should we move

into the 21st century and realise that this is in fact the natural presentation of a Spangle Yellow Faced Sky Blue and not penalise it for being what it is?

Green Series and Blue Series are easy to breed and to interpret for exhibition. Yellow Faced Blues require a little more experience. Golden Faced Blues represent an additional challenge due to the presence of more intense yellow pigmentation and greater propensity for yellow body suffusion. There can be slight variation in the intensity of the yellow pigment in the caps of the Yellow Faced Blues and in the caps of the Golden Faced Blues, as indeed can occur for the Green Series. The ideal caps of single factor White Caps are white, but they too can vary by presenting with a very pale wash of yellow through the cap. The yellow body suffusion in all its presentations can slightly and gradually increase with age of the budgerigar.

For the de-melanised and partially de-melanised varieties the Standard describes their allowable groups. This can include Yellow Faced Blue Series. Take Albino as an example. The descriptor for Albino states: "This includes Yellow Faced Blue Series. The Standard for these birds is as for Albino modified by the applicable Yellow Faced Blue colour with which it is combined." If this is being misinterpreted as being OK for exhibition purposes by Beginners and Novices, then perhaps a rider should be added to the end of the above statement to read something like "....., but be aware that for exhibition purposes yellow body suffusion will be penalised in accord with the Penalty and Disqualification Clauses."

The penalty rule within the current Penalty and Disqualification Clauses that applies to the expression of yellow pigment in Golden Faced Blues as currently set out is as follows: "Golden Faced Blue in all variety combinations where spillage of yellow from the mask to the body is more than minimal, affecting the quality of the blue or grey colour as seen in the Blue Series. The greater the yellow suffusion the greater the penalty." That is strongly reinforced for sky blue and grey Single Factor Golden Faced "Blues" stipulating disqualification for "Golden Faced Blue in all variety combinations that display sea green or grey green body colour rather than visual shades of blue or grey."

Single Factor versus Double Factor Golden Faced Blues

The simple reason for the disqualification of single factor sky blue and single factor grey Golden Faced "Blues" is that the bodies of these birds are not blue. A case could be made for all exhibition Golden Faced Blues to be double factors since only they can present with the quality of body colour approaching that of the Blue Series. As it stands, yellow body suffusion is regarded as sufficiently masked by dark factor to enable their inclusion as Golden Faced Blues with penalty, but without disqualification.

The single factor Golden Face tends to be larger than the double factor Golden Face, placing the latter at a disadvantage on the show bench if the "budgie" is given priority over variety. That is unfortunate because visually the double factor form represents the variety with far superior body colour. It is the only presentation of the Golden Face with body colour that closely approaches that of the Blue Series.

The White Cap (which could be referred to as the White Cap Series since it can present as a colour in all varieties) has been placed into Group 2 of the variety groupings. Group 2 places "Emphasis on Markings and/or Varietal Features". The reason for placing White Cap into Group 2 might have been to emphasise whiteness of the cap, as it's defining varietal feature.

Normal Yellow Faced Blue Series (which includes Golden Face) is in Group 3. The Group 3 descriptor is "Equal weight given to Colour & Markings or absence of markings". I wonder if moving Normal Yellow Faced Blue Series into Group 2 might help address the imbalance between the single factor and double factor Golden Faced Blues? It's the "Varietal Features" component of Group 2 that logically could apply as much to the Golden Faces (to emphasise purity of blue body colour) as it does to the White Caps (to emphasise purity of white ground colour in the cap).

The White Cap

White Cap is a "new" mutation added to the Matrix at the end of the second section. The single factor form is the exhibition bird. It is enjoying a surge in popularity because it is new, and because it has an attractive deep yellow mask coupled with a white cap. As a member of the colour series based on varying amounts and distribution of yellow pigment controlled by the MuPKS gene it can be combined with all varieties, including Crested. The question is not what Cresteds can do for development of the Whitecap but what the Whitecap can do for the appearance of the Cresteds. Such birds, including golden faces and yellow faces, are great ambassadors for the hobby. That is especially true for Opaline Clearwing composites combined with Golden Face, Yellow Face, or Whitecap which are known as Rainbows.

Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms

There are plausible explanations for the varying distribution and intensity of the yellow pigmentation in the Golden Faced Blues, the Yellow Faced Blues, and the White Caps. That includes plausible answers within a Mendelian framework for why Double Factor Yellow Faced Blues have white faces, and why Double Factor White Caps have green bodies produced from parents with blue bodies, and why intermating Whitecap with Golden Face or Yellow Face can produce green feathered birds. Explanations are highly technical but do not affect the practical considerations associated with breeding varieties with these colours or how judges treat yellow body suffusion on the show bench.



Conclusion

To summarise, for exhibition purposes it's wise to restrict the breeding of the Yellow Faced Blue and Golden Faced Blue colours to the Normal variety to minimise yellow body suffusion. Outcrossing to Normal hens in the Blue Series guards against the importation of Opaline and Cinnamonwing into the Yellow Faced family (as routinely practised for Greywings, Clearwings and Dilutes). If you breed budgerigars for fun rather than for exhibition, then you can do anything you like, to see what the various combinations of mutations look like. But for budgerigars that you breed for exhibition, remember that you are constrained by The Standard for Perfection for the Ideal Budgerigar and the quality of the blue body colour free of yellow suffusion is a large part of that.

The Standard Sideview Pictorial and how it Progressed commencing in 2000

In this article, Nigel Tonkin talks through the development and progression of the Standard of Excellence over time.

The Standard of the Exhibition Budgerigar is changed from time to time to reflect the progress that breeders have made over the years, these bird often surpassing the Pictorial before any change is considered / made.

Much discussion took place in the year 2000 and likely prior to change *The Standard* of the Budgerigar in Australia to reflect the needs going forward.

The style and shape of the Budgerigar was changing at a rapid pace world-wide, other countries were changing their Pictorials, the World Budgerigar Organisation (WBO) was progressing theirs.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to judge at the 75th Budgerigar Society show in the United Kingdom in 2000 along with many judges from around the world and saw first-hand the wonderful works of Roy Aplin (United Kingdom). Roy seemed to be the logical choice given his artistic capability and the works he had done or was doing for other countries and their Standard Pictorials thus an approach was made to him to take on this project and he accepted.

It was suggested by our group to have a sideview of the bird in black and white and to use this sideview for the topography of the Budgerigar. Roy submitted his first draft – this was distributed to each State / Zone for comment with suggestions flowing in. These responses were back with me by April 2001.

From these, one sideview was put together to at least have a single unit to work with / from.

In May 2001, I attended the National Show in Fremantle, Western Australia, with this sideview to get as much feedback as I could and little bits were changed here and there over the course of the weekend just to finetune to what we believed was the best end result to give Roy absolute guidance as to our requirements.

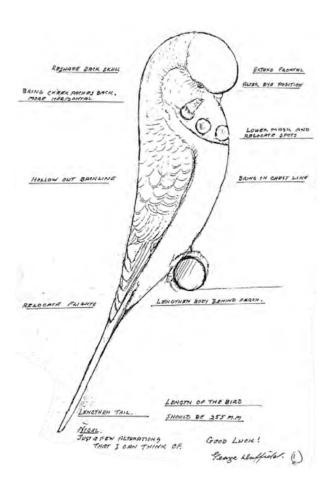
Further work came in from Roy and continued throughout the year. During the summer months, whilst I was working for ForestrySA, I along with many other employees would be on Fire Standby on weekends when there was a high fire risk. We mostly relaxed and did no strenuous activities to reserve energies if we were needed to attend an outbreak. It was during these Standby days that I would work on the sideview and the next stage of the bird for presenting to the ANBC and Roy, using photographs of birds from around the world to try and get wing patterns, secondary placements, mask depth etc. accurate. A few ForestrySA employees would assist to get the angle of the bird to reflect 30 Degrees from vertical. This helped fill in their day and showed a bit of a competitiveness along the way.

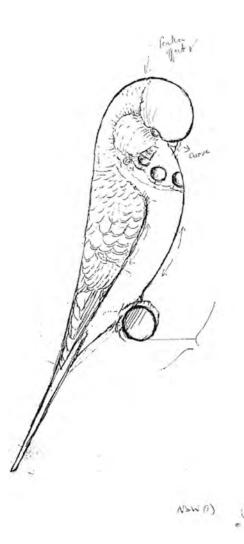
The sideview went to and from the United Kingdom for a period of time getting things in order from our perspective, giving feedback to Roy, with the aim to use this end result to commence the actual visual Pictorial (3/4 view). The below show various changes that were suggested to obtain the final end result.

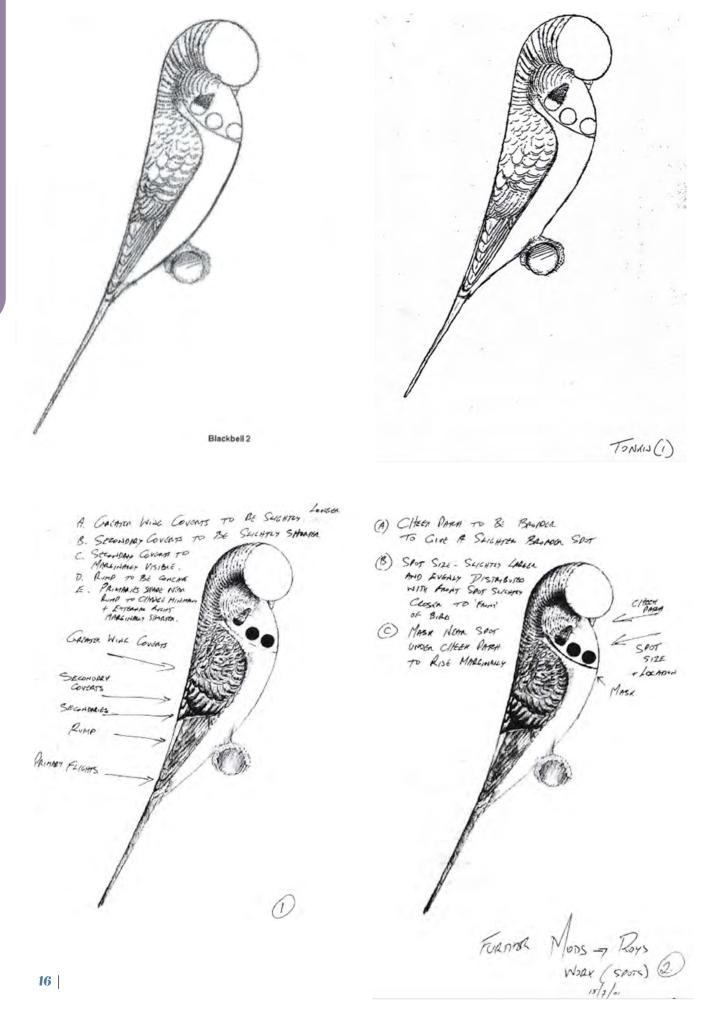
One priority was to ensure that the length of the Secondary Flights on the wings were depicted as to how they should be placed on the exhibition budgerigar, they should be almost non visual. There had been some confusion for some 'I was fortunate enough to be invited to judge at the 75th Budgerigar Society show in the United Kingdom in 2000 along with many judges from around the world and saw first-hand the wonderful works of Roy Aplin' between the Secondary Flights and the Secondary Coverts, both the sideview and ³/₄ view clarified this.

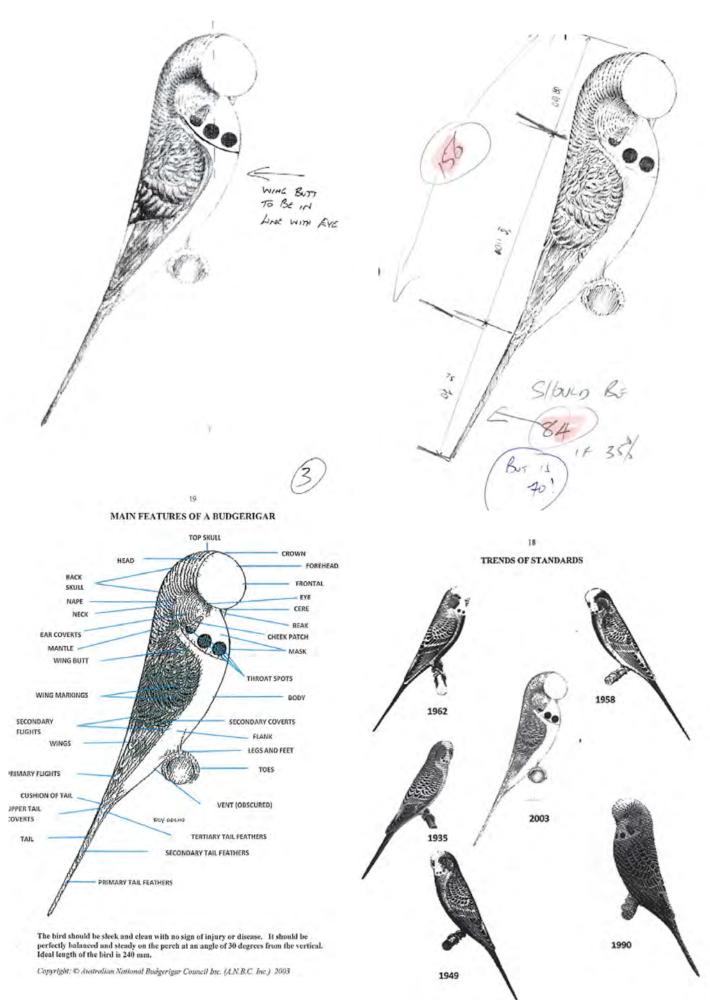
With the many quality birds around the world, the modernising of our Pictorial had many positive points to consider. Jo Mannes, Frank Silva, Daniel Lutolf and others were producing birds that were progressive and desirable and obviously achievable to them but a challenge to others to make up that ground.

The end result was achieved with cooperation, communication and dedication by many.









Chatter | Vol 1 | August 2023 | 17

Results from our first "You Be The Judge" competition.

Judges comments by James Bader, courtesy of the BCV. Thanks to Rod Turnbull for photographs provided.

1ST PLACE D SKY BLUE COCK.

Really strong Bird, good width across the shoulders. Very nice face with good directional feather & width of cap. Good depth of mask complemented with good spots. The photo definitely complements this Bird as a modern day Exhibit, strong & powerful.

2ND PLACE A SKY BLUE COCK.

Tough call, different photo, different angle; if there was more Bird in photo could have finished 1st, but the photos are what I am Judging. Solid Bird in great condition, good depth of mask complemented with nice large round spots. Good directional feather with beak tucked nicely into the feather. Really good width & height of Cap feather.

3RD PLACE G SKY BLUE COCK.

Strong Bird with condition & a small amount of flecking costing him. Really strong top end, good depth of mask & nice large round spots. Good directional feather, with beak tucked nicely into the feather. Really good height & width of cap.

4TH PLACE F COBALT COCK.

Nice clean Bird in good condition. Not quite as strong as the first 3 Birds. In saying that, it still is a pretty good Budgie. Good depth of mask & spots. Nice face with good directional feather & width of cap.

5TH PLACE J SKY BLUE COCK.

Nice strong solid Bird. As Exhibitors, we need to accept that some Birds show better than others.









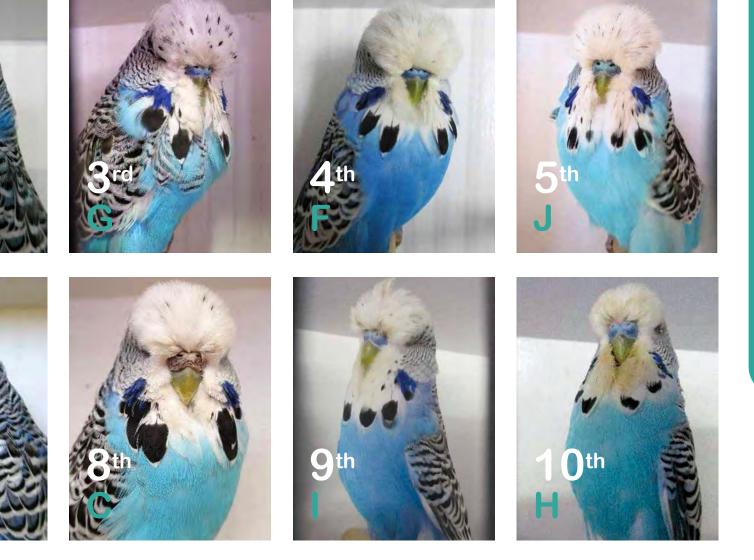
Pretty sure that this fella has not given us everything he has, but here we go. The mask width is good but lacks the required spots, making the mask look short. He has good width of shoulder & a nice face. Good directional feather & width of cap.

6TH PLACE B SKY BLUE COCK.

Nice Bird in good condition & strength across the shoulders. The gap in his mask between his spots does hurt the Bird from a visual perspective, but he does have nice big spots. He just doesn't have the directional feather of the Birds in front of him, so the beak doesn't appear to be tucked in. He does have good width & height of cap feather.

7TH PLACE E COBALT COCK.

He has a shallow mask with small spots, especially when compared to the Birds in front of him. From the cere up, he has some positive features like good



width & height of cap feather. Good directional feather, which is tucking the beak into the feather.

8TH PLACE C SKY BLUE HEN.

1st Hen in the class. Handy Bird in the Breeding room, depending on what you may have, but we are Judging exhibition Birds today. Nice stock Bird in good condition. Nice big round spots with good width of face for the size of the Bird.

9TH PLACE I COBALT COCK.

Some Birds just don't like to be in a show cage & some don't take good photos. If this Bird relaxed, I am sure he could look a lot better than he does in this photo. With that said, I will Judge the Bird as it is. He lacks shoulder strength but has good depth of mask. Doesn't quite have the spot impact of some of the Birds in front of him. Doesn't have the directional feather of the Birds in front of him.

It appears that he does have reasonable width & height in his cap feather but just needs to relax.

10TH PLACE H SKY BLUE COCK.

Doesn't matter what section you Show in (Champion, Open, Intermediate or Beginner) or how long you have been in the Hobby; we all have to start somewhere. This Bird could also be split for a lesser (Recessive) variety. Putting all that aside, this Bird just doesn't have the modern day features we are looking for on an Exhibition Budgie. Over many years I have assisted Rod Turnbull with the BCV Shield (State Championship Show) & ANBC Nationals Photos. I can tell you that some Birds take a good photo naturally & some can take forever to get a single photo that captures how good they are.

If you get a chance to assist Rod with the photos, I would encourage you to take up the opportunity.

You Be the Judge Competition for Spring 2023

Have you ever considered becoming a judge and joining the BCSA judging fraternity, or are you seeking a chance to hone your talents and determine what constitutes a winning bird? The tournament is open to all participants, regardless of their skill level. The rules are simple.

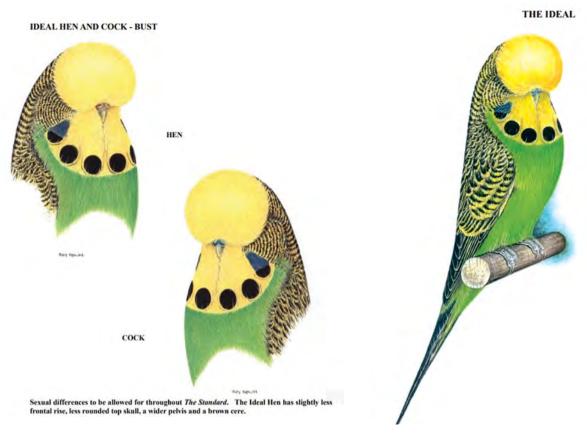
Position the following nine birds in sequence from first to ninth place on the display bench. A senior judge will also rate the birds from first to ninth place, and if your rating matches that of the senior judge, you will be eligible to win a 5 kg bag of Avi Smart Breed Plus Pro, courtesy of Avi Smart (valued at \$90).

We have also provided a copy of the illustrative standard, should you need it while making your choice. If you want a chance to win the bag of Avi Smart, send an email to BCSA Chatter editor Troy Holmes at president@bcsa.com.au with your results in the order you would put them on the show bench (please use the letter assigned to each bird to indicate your ranking).

If more than one contestant achieves the same winning combination, the ultimate winner will be determined by random drawing.

The findings of the senior judge and the names of those who picked the classes correctly, as well as the overall winner, will be published in the Spring 2023 issue of Chatter. For this competition, assess the Opaline AOSV class on the following pages. A big thank you to James Bader and Rod Turnbull, for the use of their photographs.

Entries must be in by 11:59 pm 30 September, 2023.



















A Visit with Daniel Lutolf -Switzerland

by Thomas Lautenschläger (Germany)

My friend Paul Reimann and I haven't been to Switzerland since 2019 to visit with Daniel Lutolf because the Corona virus did not allow this.

At the beginning of November 2022 we both had the desire to visit with Daniel once again. Daniel had promised Paul a bird for his 70th birthday and he was very excited to see what Daniel had chosen for him.

We had not been able to see one of the world's best for three years, and not being able to observe the progress over this period we had the expectation of seeing some very strong changes in the appearance and type of his birds. At the European Show in August 2022 we were able to witness some very promising ones. We observed the birds exhibited by Daniel and saw the direction he wants to steer the appearance of his animals.

At this show Daniel achieved a very good result:

- European winner opposite sex,
- European winner young bird GG,
- 8 European group winners and thus the best overall performance.

Daniel had won the best in show for five years in a row prior to 2022.

Much to our satisfaction we still were able confirm a date to visit Daniel in November.

We made an appointment for Sunday 27/11/22.

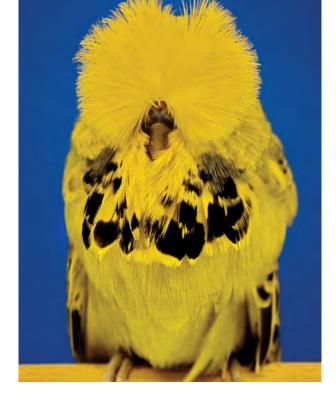
Paul and I live over 650 km from Daniels, we left very early to be in Würenlos late in the afternoon. After a very relaxed journey we arrived at 5 p.m.



at his breeding facility. After a short greeting we agreed to meet again with him in the early evening. We had enough time to settle into the newly renovated hotel quartered very close to Daniel. At 8 p.m. we then walked over to Daniel's house. Since we been on the go for a very long time and Daniel wanted to spend Sunday evening with his family, we agreed to visit again on Monday morning at 9am.

The next day, of course, we were excited to view the birds. During the first tour of his facility, we found that Daniel was fully into breeding. All boxes were occupied, with several fertilized clutches and many young birds in the nests or were already flying in the weaning aviary. You can tell that this is a breeder who pays close attention to fertility.

We both agreed - it has turned out to be a tremendous change in the appearance of his animals. What is most noticeable was that each of his birds almost had the same face type. A round head, embossed on a very good neck, exposed eyes and a feather attached to the body. And of course everywhere the unique transverse growth at the base of the beak, which gives his animals a majestic appearance. Gerald Binks aptly named this trait in 2004 "Buffalo Face". Also, the size of his birds is even and according to the ideal. Overall,



a very balanced lovely looking bird. It was very impressive to see this in its entirety.

As Daniel told us three years ago, he attaches great importance to the ability of his birds to fly. This quality has been visibly strengthened through his breeding. In addition, there is the full feathering of his birds. With a few exceptions we saw no birds with feather problems.

Daniel's goal is in the next three years is to have all of his birds, 'airworthy' and fully feathered. It's always about the length of feather, a delicate balancing act between "too much" and "too little". There are often just millimeters in between. But it is precisely these small details that make the big difference.

With the breeding in progress he was very satisfied he communicated to us.

Time passed too fast, as usual, much too fast and we still wanted some photos to record the visit. Daniel presented for me one top bird after another in the photo cage. For that he did not need to look far, he just grabbed birds from the breeding boxes and said to me: "The birds sitting here in the boxes can you take them all, they're all perfect for exhibition and therefore also to photograph".

Birds were caught for over 2 hours and photographed. In the end there were over 650



recordings that were made and a man could have taken more photos.

Unfortunately, only a fraction will be published.

It is always an experience, so many outstanding animals too in their entirety.

The breadth of his breeding only leaves one amazed, because it's not just the Normal varieties, but also the difficult ones, colors like Recessive Pieds, Lutinos and Lacewings are of the same top quality. That's what makes him such a unique breeder!!

For every ambitious breeder, it is a must to visit this breeder as some stage. You can learn a lot from conversations with Daniel and every visitor he faces openly and explains to them, in which direction the journey of budgerigar breeding will go in the future not without also pointing out any critical points.

Many thanks for everything. It was two beautiful days at Daniel's. The many great impressions we're happy to take home with us. Paul also has a beautiful, White Double Factor Spangle Cock for his birthday.

We wish Daniel all the best and much success for further breeding.

See you again next year Daniel!!!

Feathered Friends for Mental Wellness: The Benefits of Budgies

Discover How Budgies Can Be Your Winged Allies in Mental Health

The role of pets in enhancing human mental health is well-documented. From reducing feelings of loneliness to lowering stress levels, our furry friends have always been there for us. However, it's not just cats and dogs that can have a positive impact on our mental wellbeing. Budgerigars, commonly known as budgies, can also offer significant mental health benefits, while presenting as a really cost effective solution for a companion pet. These vibrant, sociable, and intelligent birds can become true companions, helping to improve our mood, reduce anxiety, and provide a sense of purpose.

REDUCING LONELINESS:

Budgies are social creatures by nature and enjoy forming strong bonds with those who take care of them. Having a budgie as a companion can help reduce feelings of loneliness by providing a sense of companionship and interaction, even when other human connections are limited. There are few things more therapeutic than caring for an animal, and budgies have been described as "the most animated, cheerful little creatures you can possibly imagine".

STRESS REDUCTION:

Spending time with a budgie can help reduce stress levels. Watching them flutter around,



listening to their chirping, and engaging in gentle play or conversation can be incredibly soothing and can help take your mind off any worries or stressors. Their animation is often unrivalled.

SENSE OF PURPOSE:

Taking care of a budgie provides a sense of responsibility and purpose. Providing for their needs, such as feeding, cleaning, and socializing, can instill a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction that can be incredibly beneficial for mental health.

ROUTINE AND STRUCTURE:

Having a budgie as a companion can help provide a sense of routine and structure to your day. Regular feeding, cage cleaning, and playtime can provide a sense of routine that can be helpful in managing mental health symptoms.

ENTERTAINMENT AND ENGAGEMENT:

Budgies are intelligent and playful birds that enjoy interacting with their human companions. Teaching your budgie tricks, talking to them, and providing them with toys can be an engaging and

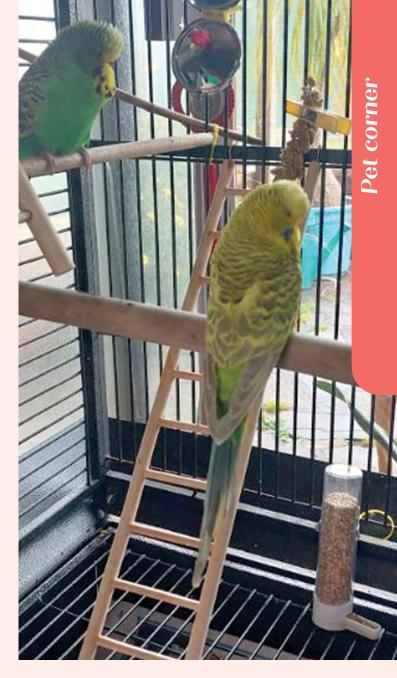


rewarding experience that can help keep your mind active and stimulated.

Emotional Support: The bond between a budgie and its owner can be incredibly strong, and many people find comfort in confiding in their feathered friend. While budgies may not understand the complexities of human emotions, their presence and attentiveness can provide a sense of comfort and support.

CONCLUSION

While they may be small in size, budgies can have a big impact on our mental health and wellbeing. Their vibrant personalities, social nature, and playful antics can help reduce feelings of loneliness, provide a sense of purpose, and offer much-needed companionship and support. If you're looking for a pet that can bring joy, companionship, and mental wellness into your life, a budgie could be the perfect choice! Remember, while pets can provide valuable support for our mental health, they are not a substitute for professional mental health care. If you are struggling with your mental health, it's essential to seek help from a qualified professional.







North East Budgerigar Society

Budgie Bazaar Open Night

North East Budgerigar Society welcomes the public to attend their Budgie Bazaar Open Night.

6:30pm, Wednesday September 13th 2023 49 Le Hunte St, Kilburn

- Bring any budgie related items for buy/swap/sell (books, cages)
- Tender sale of club rung birds
- Give aways and prizes
- Novice information
- Lots of varieties on display
- Information on breeding and showing exhibition budgies
- Lucky Door Prize of a quality exhibition budgerigar donated by Troy Holmes

For more information, contact Ian Wise on 0437591843 www.northeastbudgerigarsociety.com



Aviary Tour and Luncheon with Angela and Tony Van Den Brink

On Sunday August 27th, Angela and Tony Van Den Brink hosted the Port Pirie Budgerigar Society for an aviary tour and luncheon at their property in Auburn, in South Australia's Clare Valley. A wonderful day was had by all, and the event was well attended by the Port Pirie membership.

The Club is encouraging members to get along and support the Balaclava Agricultural Show, to be held on September 23rd, with entries due by Friday September 15th. The Club is also hosting their UBC Show on October 15th at Bob Simpsons Residence in Kadina, and their Christmas event at the Port Broughton Hotel on the 19th of November. They'd love to see as many people as possible come along and attend these events, to make this as enjoyable as Tony's aviary visit was.











OPTIMISING BIRD HEALTH

Join us to learn from renowned vet, Dr Kevin Eatwell about optimising the health of your birds.

7:30 pm Tuesday 5 September at the Unley Community Centre, 18 Arthur Street, Unley.

Annual Membership Single Membership: \$20.00 | Family Membership: \$20.00 | Junior Membership: \$5.00

For more information, contact BSSA President Chris Murphy cmurphy68@msn.com or BSSA Webmaster Danny Brill dannybrill@hotmail.com | www.bssainc.org.au



Senior Judges Panel

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED JUDGES



Peter Glassenbury 0409 288 710 pglassen@bigpond.com



John Mulley (08) 8331 0097 jmulley@bigpond.net.au



Shiralee Reardon

Nigel Tonkin 0407 976 790 nigeltonkin50@gmail.com

MAJOR AWARD JUDGES



Peter Glassenbury 0409 288 710 pglassen@bigpond.com



Larry Jeffries 0457 707 482 jeffers2@bigpond.com



Kelwyn Kakoschke (08) 8278 3514



Malcolm Loveridge (Retired National Accreditation) (08) 8825 3939 mjloveridge@bigpond.com



lan Marshall 0413 257 495 ianmarshall68@gmail.com

Kerry Murphy 0431 412 720 kerrymurphy@ozemail.com.au





Nigel Tonkin 0407 976 790 nigeltonkin50@gmail.com



John Mulley (08) 8331 0097 | jmulley@bigpond.net.au



JUDGES



Wayne Bandt 0409 099 582 bandt@internode.on.net



George England 0418 819 705 gendland8@bigpond.com



Ken Harris 0456 160 553 ken.harris5@bigpond.com

JUDGES EXECUTIVE



Nigel Tonkin 0407 976 790 nigeltonkin50@gmail.com



Shiralee Reardon 0427 095 566 shiraleereardon@gmail.com



Peter Glassenbury 0409 288 710 pglassen@bigpond.com



John Mulley (08) 8331 0097 jmulley@bigpond.net.au

JUDGES REPRESENTATIVE & SECRETARY



Peter Glassenbury 0409 288 710 pglassen@bigpond.com

RETIRED MAJOR AWARD JUDGES

Roy Deslandes (Deceased) George Duffield (Deceased) John Fisher (Deceased) Gordon Lowe (Deceased) Stan Watson (Deceased) Trevor Weckert Bruce Stafford Glenn Stearns John Rice

ANY CORRESPONDENCE FOR JUDGES & STANDARDS CAN BE DIRECTED TO:

Judges Representative & Secretary - Peter Glassenbury 0409 288 710 pglassen@bigpond.com



Budgerigar Council South Australia

BCSA Hall of Fame - ANBC Class Winners

Since the inception of the BCSA in 1996, the following BCSA members have won classes at the ANBC National Titles

| Kakoschke & Rice - 12 Wins |
|----------------------------|
| Normal Green - 2005 |
| |

Clearwing - 2005, 2010, 2015, 2016

Opaline - 2011, 2019

Opaline AOSV - 2010, 2015

Crested - 2003, 2005

Grey Green - 2016

J & W Weidenhofer - 4 Wins

Clearbody - 2015, 2018

Dilute - 2022, 2023

Holmes Family - 3 Wins

Grey Green - 2018

Normal Blue - 2022

White Cap - 2023

John Mulley - 2 Wins

Opaline AOSV - 2000

Blackeyed Self - 2003

Marshall Family - 2 Wins

Albino - 2007

Recessive Pied - 2014

Doug & Ruth Lange - 2 Wins

Normal Green - 2009

Crested - 2014

Ray Slade - 2 Wins

Blackeyed Self - 2016, 2017

Helen Brooks - 1 Win

Fallow - 1996

Ron Norman - 1 Win

Hens Class - 1996

Rob McKie - 1 Win

Opaline - 1997

A & R Rafferty - 1 Win

Opaline AOSV - 2001

Michael Crossley - 1 \

Yellowfaced Blue - 2002

Sue & Colin Norris - 1 Win Dominant Pied - 2002

Peter Glassenbury - 1 Win

Blackeyed Self - 2009

Peter Simic - 1 Win

Recessive Pied - 2010

Dennis Lomman - 1 Win

Violet - 2014

Ken & Janet Harris - 1 Win

Dominant Pied – 2023

Kelwyn Kakoschke - 1 Win

Clearwing - 2023

Officially formed on the April 12th 1996

Budgerigar Council South Australia

OBJECTS & PURPOSE

The specific aims and objectives of the BCSA are:

- To promote, encourage and stimulate the breeding and exhibiting of budgerigars, including the improvement of existing varieties, and the development of new.
- To serve as the State Council for Budgerigars in South Australia (including Broken Hill).
- To cooperate with other governing bodies interested in budgerigars, here in Australia, and abroad.
- To affiliate with and act as the South Australian member body of the Australian National Budgerigar Council (ANBC).
- To invite and encourage membership of Affiliate and Associate Organisations interested in the breeding and exhibiting of budgerigars.
- To use the Standard of Perfection for the exhibition budgerigar as set by the ANBC.
- To establish, maintain and recommend uniform rules for all shows and exhibitions held by the Council and its Affiliate and Associate Organisations.
- To establish a panel of judges who are able to judge these shows.
- To accept a code of ethics for judges.
- To ratify recommendations received from the panel of judges.

- To recommend and / or co-ordinate on any matter deemed to be of common interest to Affiliate and Associate Organisations.
- To obtain direction and/or instruction from Affiliate and Associate Organisations on ANBC matters through their BCSA delegates.
- To hold an annual pre-selection show to select a team to represent South Australia at the ANBC Championship Show.
- To host the ANBC Championship Show when required.
- To compile annually a register of show and meeting dates of all participating Affiliate and Associate Organisations.
- To establish and maintain an exhibitor status register for all financial individual members or partnerships.
- To do all such other things as may be incidental to the attainment of such objects.

LIFE MEMBERS

- 2016 Mr Graham Bell
- 2016 Mrs Doreece Brunton
- 2016 Mr Peter Glassenbury
- 2016 Mr John Mulley
- 2016 Mr Nigel Tonkin
- 2023 Mr Kelwyn Kakoschke
- 2023 Dennis Lomman







Chatter | Vol 1 | August 2023 | 33

For further information regarding the club, membership or events please contact:-

BCSA President, Troy Holmes on president@bcsa.com.au

