



Budgie Bulletin



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2018-2019

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NORTH EAST B.S. NEWSLETTER

Issued bi-monthly for the members

The opinions and ideas expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the North East Budgerigar Society of South Australia Inc.

CLUB OBJECTIVES

TO PROMOTE FEELINGS OF GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND SPORTSMANSHIP AMONG ITS OWN MEMBERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE BUDGERIGAR.

TO PROMOTE THE IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING VARIETIES AND THE PRODUCTION OF NEW ONES.

TO ENDEAVOUR TO PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE AND STIMULATE THE BREEDING OF BUDGERIGARS.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

All subscriptions become due January 1st, 2020

(Also applies to new members who join after October 1st, 2019, who will be financial for 2020)

SINGLE \$20.00, DOUBLE \$30 (Single fee plus 50%)

FAMILY Single fee (\$20.00) plus 50% single fee for each person over 18 years of age
Under 18 years – no charge in family situation

JUNIOR \$13 (65% normal fee)

PENSIONER Single \$16, Double \$24 (Both 80% of normal fee)

PARTNERSHIP \$15 per person (75% of normal single fee)

For electronic transfer of membership fees use your name as the reference, and Bank SA BSB

105-146, Account number 547328040

BCSA Membership fee: \$15 per person

Members must be financial with North East Budgerigar Society and BCSA to purchase 2019 rings.

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EDITORIAL

I am a relatively new member of the NEBS, especially given the rate at which new members join. I had bred pet shop type budgies for some years, but only started with exhibition birds when I became a club member. My first 'proper' birds came from Camsal, and were quickly added to with generous gifts and bargain purchases from several club members. As a new member, the meetings have been a great source of information and shared experiences on breeding the ideal bird. Everyone appears to have their own tips and tactics, special diets and management practices, but all have been more than willing to pass on their advice and knowledge. I quickly learned that while pet shop budgies breed like rabbits, the better birds require much more coaxing and care to get a result in the nest box, and this has meant that it has taken me a while to get any birds suitable for showing. However, this year I have managed a few night shows, filling my seven show cages, and even claiming a few novice awards in the BSSA Murphy Classic. All in all, my experience having joined the NEBS has been very positive and added to my enjoyment of the hobby.

I do wonder however, where the NEBS will be in a few years' time. Regularly the meetings have very small attendances, and there appears few new members coming on board. The news of the closure of the Mount Gambier Budgerigar Society came as another signal that involvement in our hobby appears to be declining in South Australia. To keep everything running smoothly, the members on the committee must wear several hats, as it seems there are more roles and tasks than there are people to do them. Clearly this is not sustainable. It is hard to see where the membership needed to fill future committee vacancies will come from, unless more new members can be attracted.

I take some hope from looking across at our eastern states. Victoria has less than 4 times our population, but has 7 times the number of local budgerigar societies. It is much more costly to become a member and show your birds in Victoria, and yet their membership is growing and new societies forming. Despite the decline in society membership here in South Australia, there seems to be no decline in the number of people keeping or breeding budgerigars. They remain one of the most popular of pets, and this should provide us some confidence we can encourage greater interest in the show budgerigar fancy in SA.

I have noticed that most new members of budgerigar societies started off keeping a few birds at home, most likely pet shop type birds, and this then led them into joining a society to expand their interest in the hobby. I am sure many of our current members started as children, with a pet budgie or a backyard aviary. Should we do more to promote the hobby beyond the walls of our annual club shows and night-time meetings, so that those many families who already keep a few budgies see us as a source of information on budgie keeping more generally? I suspect this is the group of people where most of our future members will be found. There is something addictive about the challenge of breeding that ideal bird, but I think we must first introduce the pet budgie-keeper to the joy of that challenge, as one of our strategies if the membership is to grow.

Marcus Strudwicke

Some articles for this magazine are supplied from:
Budgerigarworld.com
The international website for the hobby worldwide.

2019 RINGS

2019 Ring Issue

I still have 2019 (BLACK) NE coded rings left for sale. If required, a one off supplementary order for 2019 rings can be placed before 30th June. This order will only include specific ring orders, including personally coded, requested by members.

Members anticipating a need for extra rings over and above what they have already purchased should let me know their requirements before 30th June.

2020 Ring Issue

The NEBS order for 2020 rings (GREEN) needs to be finalized by the end of August 2019. Our usual NE coded rings will be bulk ordered and will be based on historical ring sales.

However members requiring personally coded rings will need to place their order with me by the August general meeting (14th August).

The 2020 rings are expected to be available as from 15th December 2019.

Dennis Lomman
Ring Officer

*******NOTICE TO MEMBERS*******

As of the April 2018 Meeting

The start time for the meeting will be 7.30pm.

The day will still be the second Wednesday of the month.

BCSA and NEBS Websites

BCSA and NEBS Websites

The **BCSA** website can be viewed at www.bcsa.com.au.

Results of all Club and State shows are posted on the website. The Photo Gallery features photos of the winning birds.

The **NEBS** website is a subset of the BCSA website and can be accessed by clicking on the NEBS logo on the BCSA Homepage or directly at www.bcsa.com.au/nebs/.

Information available on the site includes the NEBS Monthly Meetings Program and the Night Show Schedule.



NEBS TRADING TABLE



The Trading Table has a range of products which are available for purchase at the NEBS Monthly Meetings or from Michael Sloper on 0423365378 or at michael.j.sloper@gmail.com

Nutritional supplements which are popular with members include;

Passwell Liquid Gold	Vetafarm Multivet/Moulting Aid
Passwell Budgie Starter	Vetafarm Soluvite D
Murphy's Minerals	Vetafarm Breeding Aid
Calcium & Iodine Bells	Vetafarm Spark
Mineral Blocks	Elliott's Sulpha D

Other popular products include Vetafarm Triple C* **antibiotic**, Vetafarm **Probiotic*** and Passwell Multi-Clens **disinfectant** as well as various **Wormers** and **Scaly Face** treatments.

A range of **accessories** are also available including; Mason Jars and Bases, Drinkers, Wire Fronts for Show Cages, Finger Drawers, Show Cage Carriers, Ring Cutters**and more!**

Also **New and Quality Used Show Cages.**

All these products are available at better than the normal retail price. Some items, e.g. those above with an "*", may not always be immediately available due to their shorter use by dates however they can be readily reordered. Other items can also be ordered on request.

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| ▶ Red Panicum | ▶ Medications | ▶ Garden requirements |
| ▶ Canary seed | ▶ Paswell products | ▶ Rat traps...and more! |



LOGAN SHIELD RESULTS

NEBS 995 points

BSSA 668 points

Port Pirie 174 points

SA BIRD CARER REPORT 2019

National Show hosted by the South Queensland Budgerigar Breeders Association, May 24-26

SA Bird Carers: John Mulley, Doug Lange, Ian Marshall and Michael Smith

A full Team of 84 birds was selected to represent South Australia at Brisbane, from 17 successful exhibitors out of the 21 BCSA members who participated at the Logan Shield. All 21 of you are what maintains the linkage of SA to this national hobby of ours. Of 328 birds entered 263 were benched – indicative of the problems we all had with feather condition (tails and flights) which continued after the selection show until the Team departed for Brisbane, and at Brisbane, which accounted for the Team changes and shortfalls you may have noticed when the national results were streamed. Other States/Zones were as affected as we were. The extent to which the birds selected in the Team were spotted was excellent this year and was greatly appreciated by the Carers who have limited time on the Friday prior to the Show to work on the number of birds now in the Team. Birds with multiple spots as we all know need to be spotted over several days to minimise risk of removal of the wrong spots. Just a reminder to anyone who cut the spots rather than pulling to make sure the cut is made as close as possible to the base of the quill so that cutting cannot be detected by high resolution photography.

As explained in the Show Schedule we trialed a procedure for maximising the separation of birds from different breeders. Despite a vastly different Team Structure this year, in terms of the distribution of numbers of birds per exhibitor, the initial guidelines established from the structure of the 2018 Team were surprisingly robust. These were: Breeders with 4 – 12 birds in the Team (additional compartment for more than 12 birds) are assigned separate compartments in the 12 Adelaide and the 12 National holding cages. Breeders with a minimum of 3-4 birds in the Team are assigned separate carry cage compartments, with 3-4 birds per compartment for breeders with multiple birds in the Team, increasing to five where necessary for anyone with five birds in the Team. The process was challenging and required knowledge of numbers of birds per breeder before leaving the state show venue to facilitate cage assignment without delays. At the national venue it required the full complement of four Bird Carers to maintain the vigilance needed to ensure separations especially with the tight turnaround time between the two judging sessions on the Saturday. To summarise: in 2019 by prioritising breeders with the most birds in the Team we were able to keep birds from 35% of the breeders separate (this comprised 74% of the birds) in the holding cages in Adelaide and in Brisbane. Separations were increased in the transport cages to 47% of the breeders (this comprised 81% of the birds). SA were the only Team Carers separating birds to anywhere near that extent.

The SA birds achieved the following compared with other States/Zones:

Victoria	579	New South Wales	569	South Queensland	489
NQ & Central Zone	351	South Australia	340	Western Australia	307
Tasmania	185				

Classes were judged in three sessions: Ten on Saturday morning, eight on Saturday afternoon and ten on Sunday morning. Full classes of 21 birds comprised the best 10 on the top shelf that attracted most of the points. Looking at the SA birds in the top ten:

First	Opaline (Kakoschke & Rice). Congratulations again.
Second	Yellow Faced Blue (John Mulley)
Thirds	Opaline AOSV (Kakoschke and Rice); Crested (Kakoschke and Rice)
Fourth	Spangle (Bob Deverson); Clearwing (John Mulley)
Fifth	Australian Golden Faced Blue (John Mulley); Opaline AOSV (Kakoschke and Rice); Cinnamonwing (Michael Sloper); Opaline (George England and Sons); Clearbody (Tracy Haskell)
Sixth	Australian Golden Faced Blue (J&W Weidenhofer); Spangle (Ken & Janet Harris); Dominant Pied (Troy Holmes); Opaline (George England and Sons); Dark Eyed Clear (John Mulley)
Seventh	Normal Blue (Malcolm Loveridge); Clearwing (Kakoschke and Rice); Recessive Pied (Kakoschke and Rice)
Eighth	Normal Grey (Kakoschke and Rice); Albino (Malcolm Loveridge); Greywing (Troy Holmes); Spangle (Troy Holmes); Fallow (John Mulley)
Ninth	Crested (Kakoschke and Rice); Hen (Kakoschke and Rice); Australian White Cap (John Mulley); Cinnamonwing (Troy Holmes)
Tenth	Normal Blue (S&C Norris); Australian Golden Faced Blue (J&W Weidenhofer); Spangle Double Factor (Kakoschke and Rice); Black Eyed Self (John Mulley); Fallow (Tracy Haskell); Recessive Pied (John Mulley)

Some observations and insights for the future are as follows. Judges liked birds that stood up off the perch and they gave due credit to varietal features throughout the judging. A small number of the SA birds with flecking will not pass at shows in 2020, so the BCSA will need to distribute the pictorial for flecking to judges and SA clubs for distribution to members. The winner of the Black Eyed Self class had the required buttercup yellow varietal feature; but for anyone sitting in the audience many of the remainder were far removed from that with mustard yellows taking over. Breeders are now outcrossing to large heavily feathered grey greens since grey factor was officially allowed. A few grey factor birds had previously done well at the national show without being recognised as such for disqualification except by breeders who specialised in these varieties, which was the initial rationale for allowing it, since it was there anyway. But it has quickly got out of control to the extent that in a very short space of time it is well on the way to destroying this variety, which has been a variety unique to Australia. Moves are afoot through the National Judges Panel and Colour and Standards to remove grey factor from Black Eyed Selves but the process may be gradual over several years. During the transition judges will need to refocus on buttercup yellow (as it states in The Standard), variations in cheek patches (paler in Black Eyed Selves than in Dilutes), tail quills on the birds with grey green backgrounds and the colour of the tail feather in Black Eyed Selves versus Dilutes. Interestingly, the first Spangle, the second Dilute and the third and fourth Cinnamonwing were yellow faced. Increasingly, with the addition of classes and the dwindling number of breeders some of the smaller states are no longer able to bench birds in every class. SA is now at a point where this year we barely covered all classes. The SA submission to reduce the number of classes was not supported by anyone else so any future changes to the size of the Team can only be upwards as new varieties come online. Next year Single Factor Australian Golden Faced Sky Blues that appear sea green after their first moult and Single Factor Australian Golden Faced Greys that appear grey green after their first moult will be disqualified. None were benched this year where they would have received no points for colour, on the basis that body colour in these birds is not blue. They will therefore be Non-Standard from next year and if anyone wants to put them into a show they will belong in the Any Other Non-Standard Variety class (except for Unbroken Caps where body colour is still blue or grey) with birds like Cinnamonwing Greywings and Cinnamonwing Clearwings, where show schedules list an AONSV class. A report updating progress with Australian White Caps will soon be forthcoming from the national body but we

Bird Carers were busy receiving birds back into the bird room when that discussion took place. What we do know from what we see is that these birds have developed very quickly to exhibition standard and it is a credit to those who facilitated their rapid dispersal to every State/Zone so that we can all breed them if we wish.

There is one important variation to the interpretation of the disqualification for flecking to come into effect in 2020. One of the dot points in By-Law 2(c) covering ANBC Judges Protocol – The principles of disqualification and penalty states “Only use the ANBC Penalty & Disqualifications if an issue is CLEARLY visible. If any doubt exists the exhibit must be given that BENEFIT of the DOUBT and move on.” To be consistent, whereas it had been originally proposed that borderline flecking difficult to classify be disqualified, implementation of the flecking rule within the wording of the above ANBC By-Law necessitates for consistency that borderline cases be accepted but heavily penalised on the basis that heavier the flecking the heavier the penalty. This unfortunately amounts to a degree of “watering down” of the flecking rule.

Full show results including photographs of the first three birds in each class can be found at <http://www.nationalresults.net>. Next year the 46th Australian National Budgerigar Council Championship Show 2020 will be hosted in historical Bendigo by the Budgerigar Council of Victoria May 23-24. The venue is a revamped gaol.

John Mulley, May 29, 2019



USE OF THIS STANDARD - MATRIX

1. For describing Standard Varieties.
2. As a guide and reference for Breeders and Judges.
3. As a guide and reference for exhibitors in ascertaining the classes to enter their exhibits.
4. As a guide for compiling show schedules.
5. Combinations of varieties accepted as standard are listed as groups under the primary variety in the combination. Such birds are described as: Opaline (primary variety) Greywing (other variety) Yellowfaced Sky Blue (colour).

For combinations of more than two varieties to be accepted as standard, every combination of the varieties involved must appear in the groups.

Standard Primary Colours & Varieties	Section Number	Recognized Combinations											
Primary Colours		As with any Green and Blue Series the Yellow Face Series Blue is recognized and accepted in sections 4-20											
Normal Green Series	1												
Normal Blue Series	2												
Yellow Faced Blue Series	3												
Primary Varieties													
Black Eyed Self	4												
Dilute	5												
Red Eyed Self	6												
Dark Eyed Clear	7												
Clearwing	8												
Greywing	9												
Cinnamonwing	10												
Spangle Double Factor	11												
Opaline	12												
Clearbody	13								12				
Lacewing	14								12				
Fallow	15					9			12				
Spangle	16					9	10		12			15	
Dominant Pied Group	17					9	10		12			15	16
Recessive Pied	18					9	10		12			15	16
Any Other Standard Variety (AOSV)	19												
Crested	20	Recognised in 1 to 19 and above groups											

Standard Primary Varieties 12-20 may combine with one or more than one of its group varieties, but will remain the primary variety for exhibition purposes. The largest number listed in the numerical list of sections and combinations is always the primary variety.

NOTE: The "Section Number" is the code number for *The Standard* Primary Variety it represents and includes any birds displaying the Violet Colour Intensity Modifier.

Budgerigar Variety and Colour Descriptions

It's time to submit auction lots for the BCSA auction so let's get the descriptions right. Ideally the national auction catalogue should set an example but it, and various other auction catalogues that have been or will be circulated during the year, are or will be deficient in properly describing lots according to the guidelines set out in *The Standard*. These guidelines are clearly set out in *The Matrix*. **As a reference, the current Matrix accompanies this article.**

A selection from the 2019 national auction catalogue is as follows:

“Grey Normal” should have been written “Normal Grey”. Similarly, “Sky Blue Normal” should be “Normal Sky Blue”. Variety and colour were written wrong way round. “Light Green Clearwing” should be “Clearwing Light Green”. Likewise, “Grey Green Normal” is in fact a “Normal Grey Green” with the variety which is Normal preceding the colour. Both “Violet Recessive Pied” and “Grey Recessive Pied” fail to specify variety before colour. “Grey Green Cinnamon” should have been written “Cinnamonwing Grey Green” because the variety Cinnamonwing.

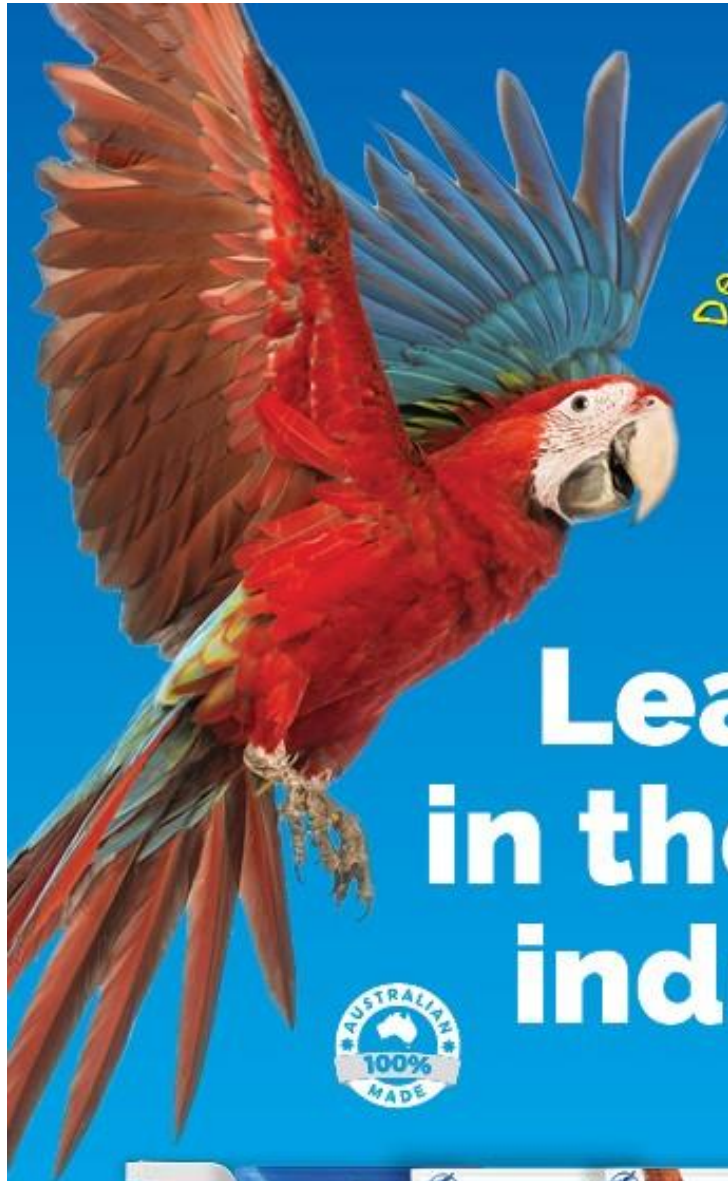
“Double Factor Spangle Yellow” should have been written “Spangle Double Factor Yellow”.

Entries described as “Violet” and “Sky Blue” are colours and these entries give no clue as to variety. Presumably they are Normals but one would need to see the birds to be sure.

“Cinnamon Opaline Light Green” should have been written “Opaline Cinnamonwing Light Green” because the primary variety is opaline and so is benched as an Opaline in the Opaline AOSV class. “Green Opaline Fallow” is wrong on two counts, the colour wrongly precedes variety and the order of varieties is wrong. The correct description is “Fallow Opaline Green” because the primary variety is Fallow. A third less serious problem with this descriptor is that it does not specify if the Green is Light Green, Dark Green or Olive. “Grey Cinnamon Spangle” should be “Spangle Cinnamon Grey” since the primary variety is Spangle and should be listed first.

As an aside, my recollection is that the original intention of the national auction was to present pairs with same ring colour as Young birds at the show as representatives of the corresponding national classes exhibited during the weekend. The seven Lots 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 23 are the only lots that comply out of the 24 lots presented.

John Mulley



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A further question and answer from the proceedings of the International Forum as part of the 2007 ANBC Show hosted in Adelaide by the BCSA with comment at the end on the context of the answer fast forwarded to 2019.



INTERNATIONAL FORUM

On the Tuesday evening (29th May) of the 2007 ANBC Nationals held in Adelaide South Australia, a very interesting forum was attended by about sixty fanciers.

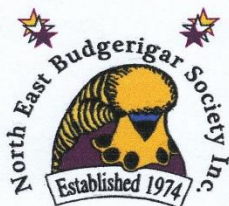
The forum panel were Marcel Buhler from Switzerland: Ricky Watts from The United Kingdom: Warren Wilson from New South Wales: Alan Gamble from New Zealand: Ron Pearce from The United Kingdom.

Question from Nigel Tonkin: *Question addressed to Alan Gamble from New Zealand. Alan, could you give us a comment please on how judging is conducted in your country?*

Allan Gamble: Thanks for the opportunity to talk to you tonight and I am sorry I am not as entertaining as the previous speaker. **Judging in New Zealand is totally different.** We just don't have the quality that you have here. We definitely don't have the quality they have in the UK. I can hear where Rick is coming from [*See previous question as presented in the NEBS April magazine*]. Some things are a little pedantic at times – but I have to be very careful here. Since your ANBC meeting yesterday, after huge pressure from us, **we are now part of the Australian scene.** For those of you who don't know, the New Zealand fancy is now affiliated with Australia and now, as a judge, I can dodge that question without any trouble at all.

Editorial comment in the context of 2019 on parts of the above text that I have highlighted in bold type. I don't think he answered the question. He referred to the quality of birds judged in New Zealand not how they are judged in New Zealand. Judging is the same the world over – the birds are judged against the Standard that applies in that country. Nigel Tonkin has judged in New Zealand and confirms that they use the Australian Standard, which is appropriate since New Zealand are affiliated with the ANBC, as mentioned above. Nigel also confirms that they accessed imports from the UK though the Australian import facility so judges over there should be looking at the same features as they look for in Australia, and I recall that Alan Gamble judged at one of our Logan Shields, possibly in 2007. Last year there was a strong New Zealand contingent at the ANBC national show in Penrith.

John



Llyod Edwards Breeders Show

Held On: Saturday, 11 May 2019

Held At: Kilburn Hall

President: Graeme Alchin

Secretary: John Mulley

Birds Entered: 251

Birds Benched:

Major Awards

Grand Champion
Champion Opposite Sex
Reserve Champion Cock
Reserve Champion Hen
Third Champion Cock
Third Champion Hen
Fourth Champion Cock
Fourth Champion Hen
Fifth Champion Cock
Fifth Champion Hen

Ken & Janet Harris
 Michael Sloper
 John Mulley
 Michael Sloper
 George England&Sons
 Sue & Colin Norris
 George England&Sons
 Graeme Alchin
 Marshall family
 J & W Weidenhofer

Spangle ASC Cock
 Cinnamonwing ASC Hen
 Normal Y/F Blue ASC Cock
 Normal Grey Green Hen
 Opaline ASC Cock
 Normal Blue Hen
 Normal Grey Green Cock
 Normal Grey Hen
 Cinnamonwing ASC Cock
 Dom Pied ASC/ASV Hen

Best Open Bird
Best Open Bird opposite Sex

John Mulley
 Sue & Colin Norris

Normal Y/F Blue ASC Cock
 Normal Blue Hen

Best Intermediate Bird
Best Intermediate Bird Opposite Sex

Ken & Janet Harris
 Ken & Janet Harris

Spangle ASC Cock
 Normal Grey Green Hen

Best Novice Bird
Best Novice Bird Opposite Sex

Michael Sloper
 Marcus Strudwicke

Cinnamonwing ASC Hen
 Cinnamonwing ASC Cock

Best Junior Bird

#N/A

#N/A

Best Of Colour/Variety

Normal Green Marshall family
Normal Grey Green George England&Sons
Normal Blue Sue & Colin Norris
Normal Visual Violet Sue & Collin Norris
Normal Grey Graeme Alchin
Normal Yellow Faced Blue ASC John Mulley
Normal Golden Faced Blue ASC J & W Weidenhofer
Black Eyed Self
Dilute Yellow/White John Mulley
Lutino Graeme Alchin
Albino Lloyd & Helen Edwards
Dark Eyed Clear
Clearwing ASC Marcus Strudwicke
Greywing ASC J & W Weidenhofer

Cinnamonwing
Spangle Double Factor
Opaline ASC
Opaline AOSV
Clearbody ASC
Lacewing
Fallow ASC
Spangle ASC
Spangle AOSV
Dominant Pied ASC/ASV
Recessive Pies ASC/ASV
Australian White Cap
Crested ASC/ASV

Michael Sloper
 DennisLomman
 George England&Sons
 DennisLomman
 Lloyd & Helen Edwards
 Marshall family
 Ken & Janet Harris
 Ken & Janet Harris
 DennisLomman
 Marshall family

Trophies, Awards and Rosettes Lloyd Edwards Breeder Show



Major Award Judge Kelwyn Kakoschke



Grand Champion: Ken and Janet Harris



**Champion Opposite Sex:
Michael Sloper**



**Open Exhibitor Vetafarm Award:
J & W Weidenhofer**



**Novice/Intermediate Vetafarm Award:
Michael Sloper**



EXTRACTED FROM FEATHERED WORLD, THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANARY AND CAGEBIRD FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

FEMALE BUDGIES PREFER MALES WITH BRAINS

Bird brains get mocked a lot. Rather unfairly, too. Birds are, in the words of *Gizmodo*, “freakishly smart.” Crows in particular are famously intelligent, but even outside the Corvidae family, our avian pals are constantly surprising us with their cognitive abilities. And it turns out we aren’t the only ones who are charmed by their intellect. A new study from a team of researchers from the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Leiden University in the Netherlands suggests that birds themselves prefer the company of brainier buddies. Their results are published in *Science*.

Budgerigars are nomadic birds in Australia where their natural habitats are the grasslands and open woodlands and where you can find them nestled inside the hollows of eucalyptus trees. Their neon green and blue plumage is unmistakable.

Budgies travel in flocks of 100s and can be seen soaring across the countryside skies. The famous ornithologist and artist John Gould described them as, “the most animated, cheerful little creatures you can possibly imagine,” even though he also ate them.

Budgerigars belong to the Psittaciformes order, members of which are renowned for their intelligence. These birds are capable of vocal learning, mimicking, and can be trained to open boxes. With this innate brain power in mind, the team put their theory to the test. “The idea that sexual selection might play a role in the evolution of such as that males are better at learning a task,” says Dr. Carel ten Cate, one of the study’s authors, in an email. “However, whether direct observation of a ‘smart’ behaviour could affect mate choice had not been studied,” he adds. “So we worked out a way of how this might be tested.”

Thirty-four male budgies were paired to 17 female counterparts. The researchers placed the birds together with the female in a two-choice cage. The bird she spent the most time around was deemed more desirable. After allowing the female bird to choose her preferred partner, the researchers then taught the non-desirable bird how to open two devices containing food, a petri dish and a three-step box—a bird-box if you will, although the budgies weren’t blindfolded. Each male bird was then placed in a cage, along with the box and petri dish, facing the female budgie.

The females then watched as the formerly less desirable males successfully solved both puzzles to get food, while the more desirable birds, who did not receive any training, struggled. After this brainy display, the two males were placed back together and the female budgie had to choose again. In almost every instance, the female bird spent more time next to the previously undesirable budgie. However, when these less desirable birds had free access to food and did not need to solve a problem, the females opted for the males they were more attracted to from the onset, even though the preferred birds had no food.

This suggested that it was the ability to solve problems, and not access to food, that mattered to the female birds. However, there are other ways of interpreting the behavior of the female budgies. According to Dr. Georg Striedter of the University of California, Irvine, who published an analysis of the study in the same issue of *Science*, the female birds could have been attracted to the strength of the males.

“We pointed out that the females may not have realized that the males were solving a complex problem,” writes Striedter in an email. “Maybe the females just thought the males were very strong (i.e., brawny).”

Female budgerigars incubate, brood, and feed their young after hatching, while males take care of foraging and bringing back food, hence why solving a problem for food was so attractive. The seeds that budgies eat are plentiful across their range and throughout their habitat. However, if rain becomes scarce, seeds could become a rarity requiring some unique foraging skills to obtain them. “If droughts in their natural habitats last long, such seeds are depleted and they search for other foods in other environments,” says Cate. “This may require exploring and extracting hidden foods. The abilities that budgies may have to cope with such critical bottlenecks in their life will then determine their survival.” While birds have evolved over time to strut, pose, and show off the goods to attract mates, the ability to bring home the seeds can be just as attractive and life-saving as a dreamy plumage.

Minutes of the North East Budgerigar Society General Meeting

HELD: Kilburn Hall, 49 Le Hunte St. Kilburn on Wednesday April 10, 2019, at 7.30pm

WELCOME: President Graeme Alchin welcomed members. Meeting opened at 7.40pm

APOLOGIES: Nil; NUMBER OF MEMBERS ATTENDING: 24

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Taken as read

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

1. There were four nominations for NEBS Delegates to the BCSA. Selection of delegates was deferred since the NEBS Committee has suggested to the BCSA that there be discussion on expanding representation for each club from three to four delegates after Mount Gambier has withdrawn from the BCSA
2. Last meeting we asked members to bring suggestions for entertainment to this meeting for the second half of 2019. We need suggestions for September, October and November. No suggestions came from the floor

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: Confirmation from Vetafarm of sponsorship for our shows in 2019 plus the sponsorship pack including material for our shows and multiple copies of their magazine "animalprint" which are on the table to take, with sample packs of Vetafarm egg and biscuit on the table to take; March – April Budgie Digest from BSSA; Newsletter from United Bird Societies of SA together with notification of Seminar July 21st with registration forms on the table to take and nomination form for anyone who wishes to be a Councillor for the UBSSA

CORRESPONDENCE OUT: Judges invitations for the NEBS Lloyd Edwards Breeder Show

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

TREASURER'S REPORT: Term Deposit \$12,500; Cheque Account \$4,399.24; Incentive Saver \$6,060.98. Total funds \$23,960.23

RING OFFICER REPORT: Plenty of rings remaining

TRADING TABLE REPORT: Same broad range of products are available. Asking for expressions of interest for millet sprays

BCSA REPORT: Nil; NEW MEMBERS: Nil

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Show schedules for the Recessive Varieties MiniShow on Wednesday May 8, NEBS Breeder Show on Saturday May 11 and Logan Shield on Sunday May 19 are on the table to take
2. Entry forms for the NEBS sale of birds by tender Wednesday June 12 are on the table to take
3. Tonight is NEBS 45th birthday. We have a celebratory cake for supper

ENTERTAINMENT: Discussion of Penalty and Disqualification Clauses and The Matrix was led by Ian Marshall with support on flecking by Dennis Lomman

SHOW RESULTS: Novice: Michael Sloper; Intermediate: Vicki Sanford; Bird of the Night Greywing: Michael Sloper. John Mulley spoke on the birds and thanked those who brought birds along in what is a difficult month with birds moulting

NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS: John Farrugia-Gay, Bodhi Sloper, Marcus Strudwicke

LUCKY ENVELOPE: Not filled

ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Nil

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday May 8 Recessive Varieties MiniShow

REMINDERS: Don't forget to pick up your magazines and show schedules

MEETING CLOSED: ~9.00pm

Graeme Alchin, Chairperson

NIGHT SHOW AGGREGATE POINTS ACCUMULATED TO APRIL

	Points	Shows entered
Novice		
Michael Sloper	31	3
Marcus Strudwicke	14	1
Intermediate		
Vicki Sanford	35	3
Open		
Dennis Lomman	6	1

Highest aggregate points in each section each year will win a \$30 Trading Table voucher.

Eligibility: minimum of three shows entered.

Minutes of the North East Budgerigar Society General

HELD: Kilburn Hall, 49 Le Hunte St. Kilburn on Wednesday May 8, 2019, at 7.40pm

WELCOME: President Graeme Alchin welcomed members. Meeting opened at 7.40pm

APOLOGIES: Paul Schroeder, Michael Smith, Sue and Colin Norris, Lea Todd

NUMBER OF MEMBERS ATTENDING: 22

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Taken as read

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: Clubs have agreed that the number of delegates to the BCSA be expanded from 3 to 4 with the loss of Mount Gambier. Subject to ratification at the BCSA AGM the four NEBS delegates (the only four to nominate) to be put forward are Dennis Lomman, Shiralee Reardon, John Mulley and Nigel Tonkin

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: New Fauna Permit Regulations to be implemented from July 1 which may effect anyone keeping native birds. CORRESPONDENCE OUT: Fauna Permit Regulations distributed to known interested parties.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE: If anyone else wants a copy of the Regulations emailed to them then contact the NEBS Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT: Term Deposit \$12,500; Cheque Account \$4,325.58; Incentive Saver \$6,074.96. Total funds \$22,900.54

RING OFFICER REPORT: Plenty of rings left

TRADING TABLE REPORT: Powder coated cage fronts \$8 each

BCSA REPORT: Nil; NEW MEMBERS: Nil

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Show schedules for the BCSA Logan Shield on Sunday May 19 are on the table to take. Entries close with Graham Bell on Friday, two days away!
2. Show schedules for the NEBS Fisher Annual Show on June 22 are on the table to take. Entries close June 14
3. Show schedules for the BSSA Ron Norman Annual Show and the BRASEA State Show on June 22 are on the table to take. Entries close June 1
4. Entry forms for the NEBS sale of birds at our monthly meeting on Wednesday June 12 are on the table to take. Entries close Wednesday June 5
5. Chrome fronted show cages will not be allowed on the show bench beyond this year. Powder coated fronts are available from the Trading Table for \$8 each or if someone can coordinate collection of chrome fronts then Peter Glassenbury can get them powder coated for \$3 each if all from SA are done in one run. One member indicated that they have 15 chrome cage fronts. Shiralee Reardon volunteered to coordinate collection from any NEBS members who wish to have their existing chrome cage fronts powder coated
6. Staging for the NEBS Breeder Show needs to be set up from 7.30am Saturday ready for benching by 8.00am. Volunteers would be appreciated
7. Entry fees for the NEBS Breeder Show need to be collected Saturday morning as birds are presented from 8.00am onwards. Volunteer needed. Lloyd Edwards volunteered
8. Committee are reminded that they need to bring a salad for the show on Saturday
9. Doug Lange is still two Stewards short for the Logan Shield. Any volunteers? Marcus Strudwicke and Vicki Sanford volunteered

ENTERTAINMENT: Judging of the Recessive Variety MiniShow. Judges for the night were Ian Marshall, Shiralee Reardon and John Mulley with Trading Table vouchers awarded for the following show results

MINISHOW RESULTS:

Novice: First Michael Sloper, Second Marcus Strudwicke

Intermediate: First Vicki Sanford, Second Geoff Murch

Opoen: First John Mulley, Second Marshall Family, Third L & H Edwards

NIGHT RAFFLE WINNERS: Murray Bray, Dennis Lomman and Dennis Lomman

LUCKY ENVELOPE: Not filled; ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Nil

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday June 12, NEBS sale of birds

REMINDERS: Don't forget to put your entries into the Logan Shield by this Friday and don't forget that sale bird entries need to be in by June 5 for the meeting next month

MEETING CLOSED: ~9.10pm

Graeme Alchin, Chairperson

THE NORTH EAST BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY HONOURS AND AWARDSIN THE BC SA ERA

NATIONAL CLASS WINNERS WHO REPRESENTED NEBS IN THE LOGAN SHIELD

1996	Helen Brooks	Fallow	Cairns
1997	Rob McKie	Opaline	Melbourne
2000	John Mulley	Opaline AOSV	Adelaide
2001	M & R Rafferty	Opaline AOSV	Freemantle
2002	S & C Norris	Dominant Pied	Hobart
2003	John Mulley	Blackeyed Self	Cairns
2007	Marshall Family	Albino	Adelaide
2009	Peter Glassenbury	Blackeyed Self	Burnie
2014	Dennis Lomman	Normal Violet	Adelaide
2014	Marshall Family	Recessive Pied	Adelaide
2014	D & R Lange	Crested	Adelaide
2018	Troy Holmes	Normal Grey Green	Penrith

NATIONAL JUDGING APPOINTMENTS WHILE A NEBS MEMBER

1994, Malcolm Loveridge, Perth;
1999, Shiralee Reardon, Gold Coast; 2000, Peter Glassenbury and Nigel Tonkin,
Adelaide; 2002, Malcolm Loveridge, Hobart, 2003, Peter Glassenbury, Cairns;
2007, Nigel Tonkin and Peter Glassenbury, Adelaide; 2008, Peter Glassenbury,
Busselton; 2010, Malcolm Loveridge, Rockhampton, 2012, Peter Glassenbury, Geelong;
2014, Nigel Tonkin, Adelaide

NATIONAL SHOW MANAGER WHILE A NEBS MEMBER

2000 & 2007, Bruce Stafford, Adelaide; 2010, Nigel Tonkin,
Rockhampton; 2014, Doug Lange, Adelaide

NEBS LIFE MEMBERS

Gordon Lowe (dec); Bob Hancock (dec); Betty Fisher (dec); John Fisher (dec); Arthur Harvey (dec);
Coral Harvey(dec); Julie Kakoschke; Kelwyn Kakoschke; Brian Marshall; Bette Marshall; Bruce Stafford;
MarionStafford; Lloyd Edwards; John Mulley; Graham Bell; Helen Edwards; Lea Todd; Dennis Lomman

Please notify the Club Secretary if you know of any errors or omissions in the above