

Aussies Check out New Zealand Budgies 2015 by Bill & Pat Sedgwick

Monday 27th July early morning rise to be at Brisbane Airport for 5.15 am to be ready for flight to NZ on Emirates A380 What a magnificent aircraft the video from the cameras mounted on the nose and tail showed great pictures of the take-off and landing especially over Brisbane and coming into Auckland.



Two & a quarter hours to Auckland quicker than going to Perth Two hours later through Customs, baggage collection, car pickup and an NZ mobile phone we were off to Hamilton. Tuesday 28th we met up with Barry and Di McClennan and Jean Spencer at their Motel and learnt that Hilary Berger was in Hospital so they would not be joining us for the aviary visits. Geoff Callister met us here and directed us to their home and aviary where Jill had prepared an enormous morning tea (enough for half of Brisbane). After smoko into Geoff's aviary, not a very large building but quite adequate as Geoff only flies around 40 to 50 birds. The aviary is insulated against the cold winds that blow in the area in winter. The birds have access to an outside suspended flight complete with eucalyptus bark and branches to play on. Geoff has some amazing budgies especially the hens, the wing markings are very good no opalescence or smudging. Geoff grows fennel in a glass house and says the birds relish it as a treat. Geoff & Terry (we will get him shortly) use a different nest box than we are used to. The box goes inside the breeding cabinet with access for the birds through a hole in the top of the box and an inspection flap is towards the front and on the top.



Dad keeping an eye on what is going on in the box





Some of the birds in the Callister aviary

Next stop was to Terry & Linda Patten for another jaw dropping aviary visit and a humongous lunch and countless bottles of wine. Keith and Carol joined us here having just travelled from the Bay Of Islands. The Pattens:- Terry has had heaps of experience breeding birds and Linda is an NZ National Judge and judged the ABNC National in Adelaide in 2014. Aviary slightly larger than Geoff's with around 50 to 60 birds. The birds again some magnificent hens with some lovely cocks mostly Normals and Cinnamons. Again an insulated aviary with outside suspended flights.



Barry convincing the sniffer dog that he didn't have any birds in his pockets!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Birds
in the
out
side
Patten
flights

A look at the Patten birds



Monday 27th July Brisbane to Auckland / Hamilton

Tuesday 28th visit aviaries of Geoff & Jill Callister & Terry & Linda Patten

Wednesday 29th Rotorua via Tirua for a breakfast stop. Country very green with lots of dairy cattle



All for \$10 each hmm this is good!!

Visit to Hells Gate Rotorua



Some Vagrants we picked up on the way through



Largest hot water fall 40 °C



Carol checking out the "spots"



Steam rising from the hot pools



Boiling mud pool

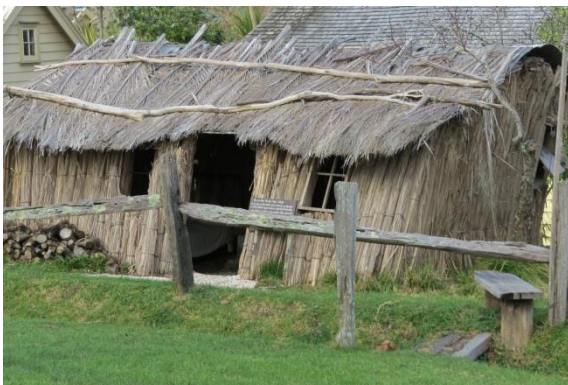
Thursday 30th back to Auckland for the NZ Nationals Dinner with a number of Kiwis (no pic)

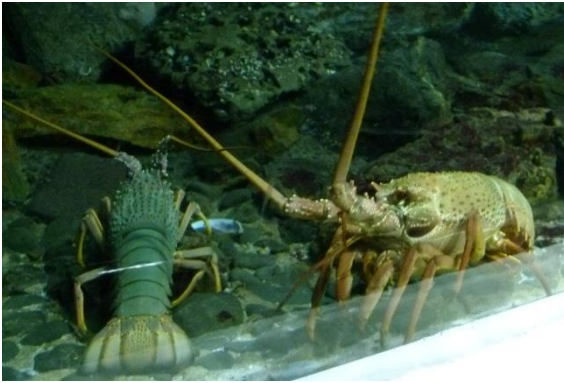
(Incredible fish & chips where ever we went)

Friday 31st while the judging was in progress a bus tour of Auckland had been organized

Historic Village Howick

The paths are covered in shell grit



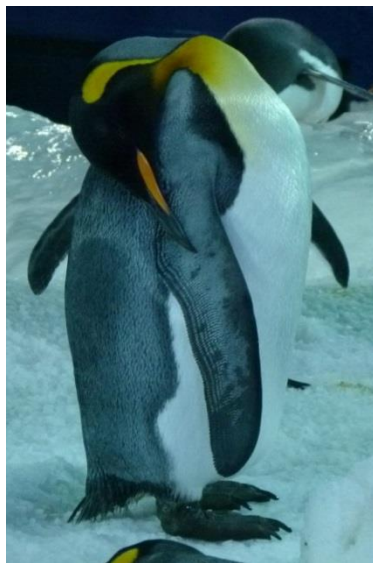


Dinner tonight



Hey the Aussies are here

Bloody visitors make me so tired



Penguins at Auckland Aquarium

Off to the Show

Gold rung Grey Green!!



Some of the birds that caught our attention



The New Zealand Nationals

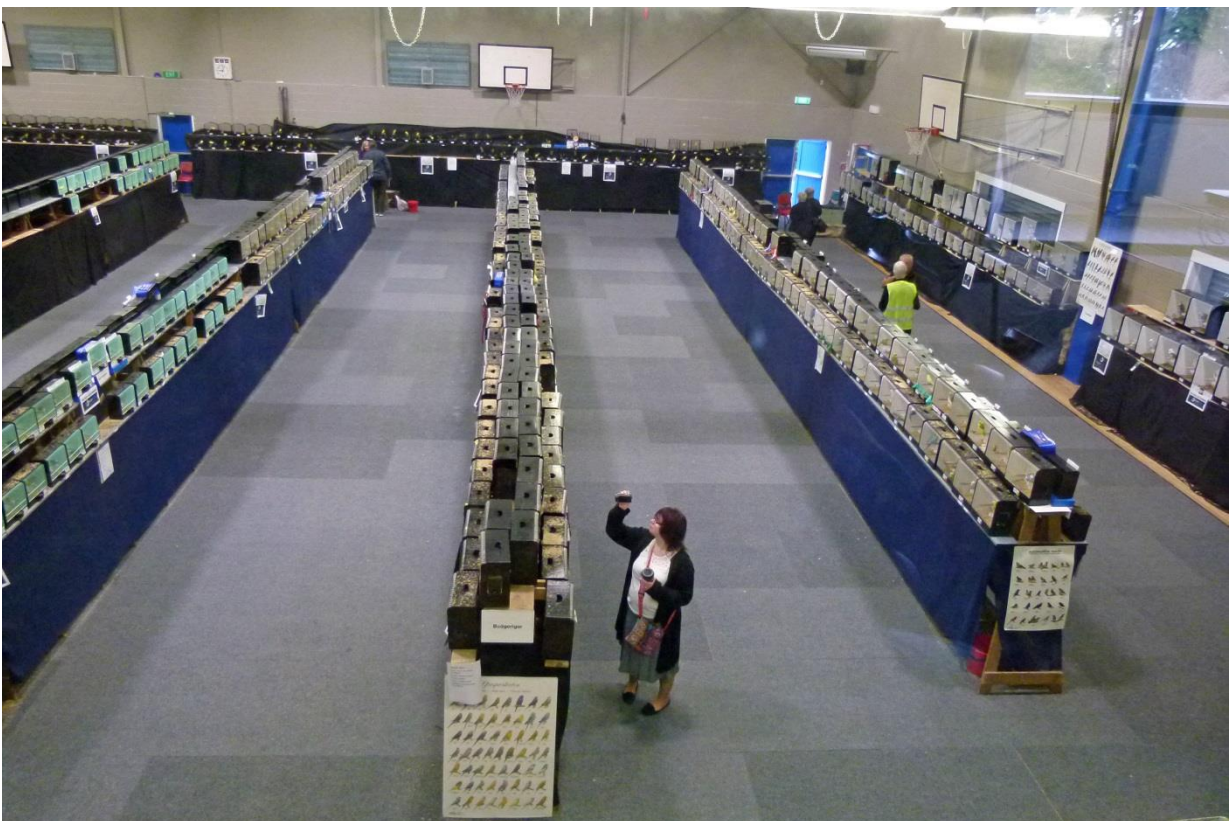


Champion of Show bred by Terry & Linda Patten



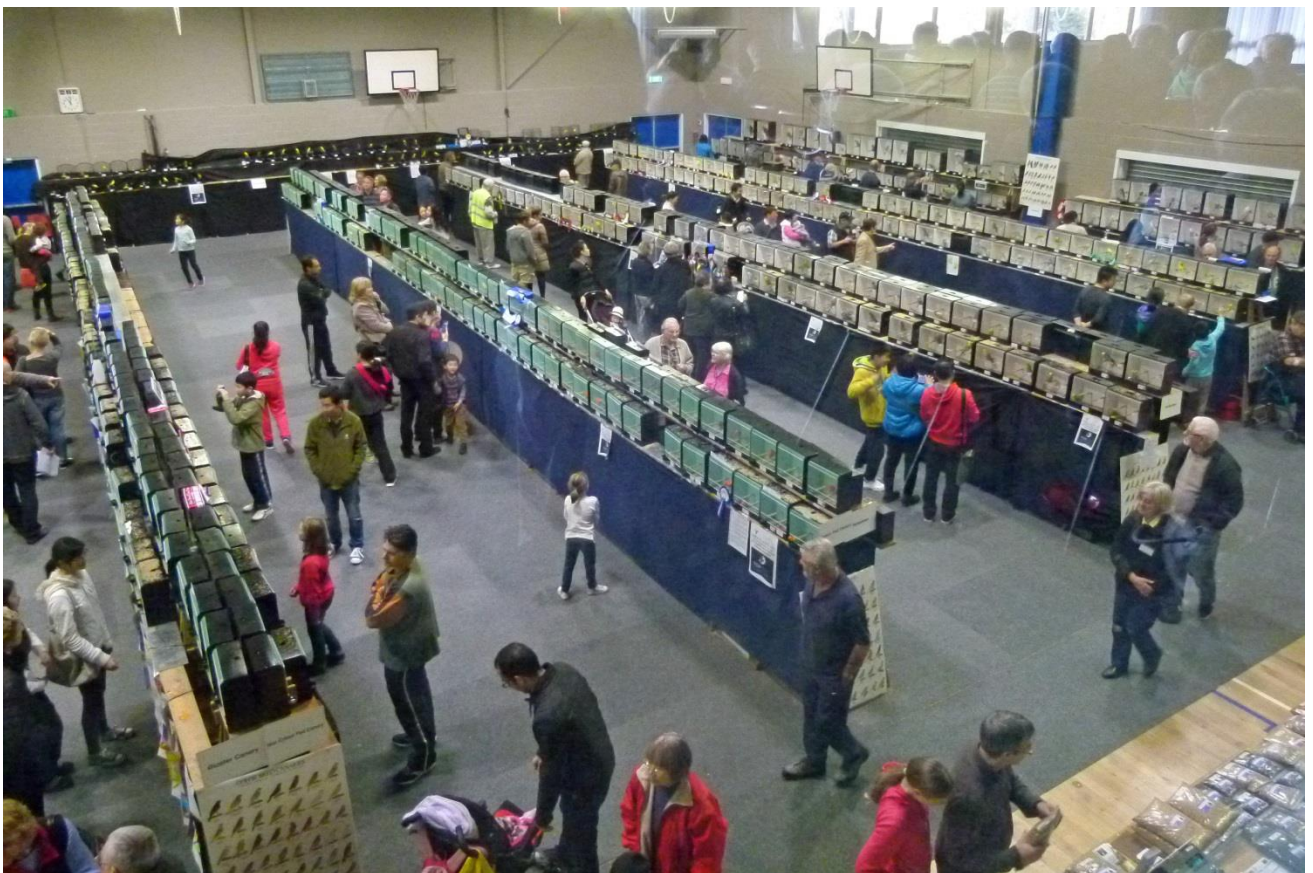
Terry Patten (on the left) Grant Finlay (Scotland) Linda Patten, president Mike NZ Budgerigar Society
Presentation of Champion Trophy

Show Hall before opening to public





Show Hall Open to Public around 1000 visitors for the weekend



The NZ show was a combined show with Canaries, Finches, Parrots, Cockatiels, Love Birds, and Budgerigars on display. Approximately 300 budgies benched in Open and Novice

Sections. They have fewer classes than we do as they have not found any Dilutes, Blackeyes or Crests

The NZ breeders have kept the English bloodlines pure, by not mixing them with their original stock as was done here in Aust. The show was run by the Auckland Metro Bird Club.

Birds were benched on Thursday afternoon and remained there in their show cages until 1pm on the Sunday. Judging was on Friday (closed door) similar to English shows. The budgerigars were judged by Grant Finlay from Scotland and Gerd Bleicher from Germany. We were able to view the birds after 3 pm on Friday after our bus trip around Auckland.

The Friday night Meet & Greet was very similar to any of our Nationals here except there was tons of food plenty for all. Saturday Presentation Dinner was a semi formal affair again heaps of good food (the pav was not up to the Aussie standard, no passionfruit or kiwi fruit)

We thanked the Kiwi fanciers for the way they made us so welcome. We look forward to seeing lots of them in Hobart in 2016.

Some photos of prize winning Budgies



Terry & Linda Patten Champion everything



John Rosser Champion Young Bird



Tony & Robyn Grinter



Dave & Lorraine Ingoe



J & C Ziarno Best Pinkey



V & L Huston Champion Any Age Pied



Tony & Robyn Grinter Runnerup Champion Young Bird



D & L Ingoe



Garry Wells



Breeder unknown to us



Best Junior Budgie Lilly Croft



D & F Goulden



Breeder unknown to us



Geoff & Jill Callister



Tony & Robyn Grinter



Carol Hughes & Ian Silk Novice



D & F Goulden



Carol Hughes & Ian Silk Best Hen of Show



Top left: Champion of Show belonging to Terry & Linda Patten:

Top middle: Champion Young Bird bred by John Rosser.

Top right: Best AA Opp. Sex bred by T & R Grinter.

Far left: Novice young bird opp.sex owned by the Hughes Silk partnership.

Left: Carol Hughes accepting the award.

There was a lot of controversy re the flicking on this bird especially with British & German judge

