Meeting nights for the Brisbane & Northern Suburbs Budgerigar Society are held on the SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at the Bracken Ridge Neighbourhood Centre, Bracken Street, Bracken Ridge commencing at 7.45p.m. Come along and meet the members and not only learn how to care for your birds but also to make some new friends.



Check out our NEW website bnsbsinc.com.au Lots of interesting information thanks to Peter Brown

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2011 South Queensland Show dates

January 9	Judges Assn	Annual Meeting
February 6	Pine Rivers B.S.	Annual Show
February 13	Caboolture B.S.	Annual Show
February 20	Brisbane & N.S.B.S.	Annual Show
February 27	BS Bundaberg	Annual Show
March 6	Ipswich B.S. & Fraser Coast	Young & Old
March 13	Sunshine Coast	Annual Show
March 19	SQBBA	Forum& Sale
March 20	ABS	Annual
March 26	Ipswich BS	Sales Day
April 3	Toowoomba BA	Annual Show
April 10	Wynnum Redlands	Auction
April 16	BNSBS	Selling Show
May 14	Brisbane & N.S.B.S.	Club Selection
May 22	SQBBA	Zone selection
May 27- 29	ANBC	Canberra Nationals
June 12	Ipswich B.S.	Bird Spectacular
June 26	Judges Assn.	Judges Forum
July 3	Bundaberg CCBS	Annual Show
July 17	Brasea	Auction
July 24	Combined Show	Wynnum: Surfers Paradise
July 30	Crest Lawn Show	Clearwings: Blackeye: Clearbody
August 7	Fraser Coast B.S.	Nestfeather
August 14	Pine Rivers	Nestfeather Young and Old
August 21	Three way challenge	Young bird
August 28	Pine Rivers	Auction
September 11	Wynnum Redlands	Strawberry Festival
September 11	Fraser Coast BS	Young & Nestfeather
September 18	Sunshine Coast BA	Nestfeather & Any Age
September 25	Brisbane & N.S.B.S.	N/feather, Young & Any Age
October 2	Ipswich Bud Soc	N/f , Young & Any Age
October 16	Toowoomba	N/f & Young Show
October 16	Fraser Coast	N/f, Young show
October 23	Australian Bud Soc	N/f & Any Age Show
October 23	Bundaberg CCBS	Any Age Show
November 6	Wynnum Redlands	N/feather, Young & Old
November 13	Judges Assn.	Judges Meeting

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A Novice Viewpoint

With Trish, Damen, Glenn & Chris Winch

Glen & Damen Winch joined the Brisbane & Northern Suburbs Club in 2008 and have proven themselves to be very valuable members with Glenn joining the committee this year as Chief Steward. Chris has been seen helping out in the kitchen ensuring everyone receives a hot cuppa



and a friendly smile. Trish has proven she is great at selling raffle tickets.

Carol: First of all, I would like to know a little about you individually before we commence on the birds.

Glenn: I am a retired school teacher. I retired three years ago because I could retire at 55 years. I took one year long service leave so officially I have been retired for two years. I turn the big "60" in 2013.

Damen: I am a lazy uni student but only for another eight weeks. Then I will be a Secondary Biology Science Teacher and do relief teaching.

Trish: He is a kept man. I am acting Head of Department for The Arts at Redcliffe State High. I have taught Drama and Film for about thirteen years and I keep Damen in a lifestyle to which he is accustomed.

Chris: I used to work in the banking and insurance industry and in the last few years as a teacher's aide so I could fit in with the other family members. Now I am retired and enjoying the grandchildren.

Carol: I know you were involved with the birds' years ago with your father, Ted Winch, who was a founding member of the Sandgate Society and Pine Rivers Society.

Glenn: Between the age of 10 and 17 years ago I was involved because Dad was deeply involved in what used to be the Sandgate Caged Bird Society. He was more involved in finches than budgies. When I turned about 17 years old, I found the other sort of birds (the ones without feathers) especially the one sitting opposite me and of course that sort of bird was more interesting to me. For the next 35 to 40 years I wasn't interested in them as I was too busy raising kids and working. It wasn't until I retired in 2008, did the overseas trip, came back and Damen said "We should get into budgies like granddad had".

Damen: It wasn't exactly like that – I wanted a few budgies to put on the back verandah and Dad went to a pet shop and bought another bird because he thought it was spectacular as he had never seen an English budgie before. Dad gave it to me but mum got so attached to it, I only had it for a week before he took it back off me.

Glenn: But then he said, "We should get into budgies like Granddad did". I walked away and about two minutes later said "Have you got any idea of the amount of work that is involved in this if you want to do it properly?" He said, I have no idea at all but let's do it anyway. The next step was we ran into Keith and you at the RNA show, asked a few questions, but other than a few poor pet budgies we had plus our English Double Factor Spangle hen, Heather Farren-Price put her hand up and invited us to see her. We went to her and got a Spangle cock. We then went to see you and got some birds and two and a half years later, we have around 250 birds.

Carol: Now Chris and Trish, how did you figure in the purchase of these birds?

Trish: Well, it was because of me that we got them on the back deck in the first place. We went to a Country Living Outdoor Garden Centre and they had a little budgie cage in the corner and I thought we should get that. I got home one day a short time later and Damen tells me he has got me a present and that is where the bird cage came from.

Carol: So how much of active role do you ladies take with the birds?

Trish: I put my two cents worth in regarding the types of birds that I like. I am allowed to have Spangles but not allowed to have Clearwings. I don't pair up but I help out.

Damen: Trish understands the way to do it all and can do it all in the absence of anyone else. She understands how it all works and how to feed them and what to do with babies and is quite capable of looking after them.

Chris: I don't do very much at all. I comment on how pretty they are.

Glenn: Chris is getting better as she is now saying things like, "Now that one has a nice buffy head". Trish has one very good valuable point. If Damen and I are off stewarding or otherwise involved in the show, Trish sits down with pen and paper and takes notes on how our birds perform etc.

Carol: How on earth do you read the numbers because they are so hard to see? I have been trying to get them to put them in permanent marker so they stand out.

Trish: I know what classes we are in and I know the birds they have entered and know what the birds look like so I don't have many problems.

Glenn: Afterwards, Trish can tell us which birds sat on the floor, which ones behaved etc. She is a really good secretary.

Carol: From what I understand, your show birds started with this "English" Double Factor Spangle you purchased from a pet shop to Heather Farren-Price's Spangle.

Glenn: The Double Factor hen never bred at all – not interested. So we had this Spangle Cock from Heather who then didn't have a partner. We spoke to Jean Horrobin and got a Spangle hen off her and mated them together (again these are both \$20 birds) and they produced 7th place at the Nationals. It was the 21st bird we had ever bred. It was ring number 121. You don't need to spend a lot of money.

Damen: His brother and sisters are actually nicer birds and we didn't even realize it. We paired them up so they weren't even at the pre-selection. We thought it was more important to breed from them. We had no idea of the quality. We only took the 7th placed bird and a few others along to be sociable. We had birds at home that were probably better. I now know we had a Pied at home that could have done quite well for us. Later on this Pied went on to win Best Novice Cock a couple of times. He probably would have been selected for the club but not gone on any further.

Carol: This is the hardest message I try to give to breeders. You should bring down as many young birds as you have to our club selection and let the more experienced people decide on the quality. Your aim should be to make the club selection and anything more than that is a bonus for you.

Carol: You had these two spangles then what?

Glenn: That was the start of our Spangle line. We have out crossed since then and from that same Spangle line we have Double Factors and Single Factor Spangles that are now Grandchildren of the originals. Back to the same thing - \$20 birds - but the bloodline, the genes were still there. We have a couple of lines. We have the Spangle line from the Horrobins and Heather. We have two Pied lines, with one coming down from the Goughs and the other the McClennans. The Pied we got from you, we put to a Greygreen hen from Garry Menzies and they are producing very well. The McClennans sold us a Pied that we put to a Horrobin hen and that is the Pied line we have here at Damen's place and now we will cross the two lines over each other.

Carol: Now, you have the big aviary here plus you breed birds at your house Glenn.

Glenn: At my house we have six breeding cages and there are only Pieds there.

Damen: Here we have all the Dominants as well as Opalines, Cinnamons and the odd Lacewing.

Carol: Are you going to break into any other varieties?

Damen: No. We are sticking to the Dominant Varieties like Normals, Spangles, Pieds and Yellow faces. Obviously we have the Cinnamons and Opalines but they come from the Normals so you just have to accept them. We breed Normals and we treat the Spangles, Pieds and Yellow Faces as Normals.







Carol:

Above: Original Pied cock bird from the Gough aviary with a daughter and son. Below is the grand daughter and grandson. Although all birds were in moults, the quality is still apparent.





Carol: So how Dominant are your Dominant Pieds? I know ours are extremely dominant, probably about 95%

Glenn: Very dominant. The very first nest we got from that cock bird of yours produced 2 Normals, so mated to a different bloodline lessened the dominancy. Last year I would say we produced sixty to seventy percent Pieds whereas this year we have produced a lot more Normals.

Carol: I would say that the biggest influence on the way you manage your aviary and birds would be from Henry George.

Glenn: Most definitely. Initially there were five people in the club who really did help us a lot. They were yourselves, Heather Farren-Price (without doubt), Garry Menzies, the McClennans and the Horrobins. These people gave us average looking birds for cheap prices which they knew came from good stock as opposed to people who go to aviaries wanting nice looking birds. All the birds we purchased bred well and you only had to go back one or two generations and there were the top names like Henry George. Obviously now the Henry factor is there. Keith, you are responsible for that because going back two and a half years, I asked you who had the best birds around. You told me it was Henry who I did not know from a bar of soap.

So I thought, well I am retired, nothing better to do than play golf and look after the grandchildren, so I may as well go and meet Henry George. Now we have a good reciprocal arrangement. Call him a mentor or whatever you like. I go there to help him with the physical side of things like cleaning aviaries etc and he teaches me everything he knows. Two and half years later I am still learning. Henry and I are both benefiting from the agreement. Henry sold us a Yellow Face Grey Cock who is a foundation bird for us and we now have five or six of his progeny breeding.



Carol: Have you ever mated your Yellow Face Grey to one of your Dominant Pieds as I feel they both have features that would complement each other?

Damen: No we don't like composite birds. We haven't put the Yellow Faces to either the Pieds or our Spangles. I am more inclined to put Pied to Pied but Dad doesn't like that either. Mind you, we don't view Cinnamon Opaline as a problem bird. We almost don't even take that into consideration. We prefer most of our birds are split Cinnamon or Opaline as our best birds seem to come from

them.

Carol: Now what about your feeding programme for your birds?

Glenn: We only ever use Golden Cob Supreme seed to which we add Hi Pro (dry) and hulled oats. We also give them carrot and to their water we add Vitamin B on Tuesdays, Vitamin C

on Thursdays and Vitamin D on Saturdays. We do not feed any soft food for two reasons. One being the time factor and the other is we do not want to leave soft food in there because of the bacteria build up etc. They do get the Hi Pro in dry form which does take new birds a little time to adapt to.

Carol: Do you give preventative medications?

Damen: We worm the birds twice a year with Worm out gel or Ivomec. We treat them for Cocci with Baycox. We had a couple of birds with Canker which we treated. We had a couple of birds which we thought had Gastric Yeast so we treated them but that is about all.

Carol: Girls, how much input do you have in the pairing up side of things?

Trish: I say I want to put such and such together. I have a Grey spangle in the aviary so I pick out a mate and Damon says that the bird is not in condition. It doesn't matter which mate I pick out, it is never in condition, so I don't think it will ever be paired up!

Damen: Ladies, the only reason we put so many Spangles to Double Factor Spangles is because you girls like Double Factors the best. We do try to please you at times.

Trish: Yes, but when it comes to selecting the pairs, you men obviously have something in mind.

Glenn: I know what the next question is going to be – it will be how do we pair up our birds, either visually or pedigree. It is not necessarily one way or the other. We breed the lines that produce the best.

Damen: There are distinct pairings where all the offspring are good. We would then breed the offspring together. The closest we have paired up is half brother to half sister and the jury is still out on how successful that was. There are some good birds but a few things are not quite right.

Glenn: Obviously things like uncle to niece and aunty to nephew are good. We haven't been in it long enough to put a cousin to cousin pairing yet. The best answer to all of that is that we look at it as a genetic pool.

Damen: Each line has its features. The Pied line is big and long and they can all fly. The Yellow face line are all buffy, a bit short and flecky whilst the Spangle line is different again. One line compliments the other. We plan to put the Normals from one line back to the dominants in the other lines.

Carol: Do you have difficulty when it comes to purchasing birds?

Glenn: Starting out we found it fairly easy to obtain birds from fellow club members. We have approached a couple of people but twelve months later we are still waiting. After that

we observed from a distance the auction process with its positives and negatives before entering the water ourselves. We have purchased a number of very useful birds from a few breeders at auction. In fact, the Yellow Face Grey that I mentioned earlier was obtained by bidding for him on the phone at an auction in Melbourne. We would normally never bid by phone, but in this case we had seen the bird before and knew its pedigree.

Carol: At what age do you pair your birds up?

Glenn: Hen birds definitely twelve months. Cocks maybe eleven months. We had one younger hen (10 months) that laid fertile eggs and hatched them but she would only feed the chicks once a day so the birds were undernourished. Last year we put up lots of older foster parents and we had an exceptional year.

Damen: Last year we really went flat out and had twenty two cages breeding and the birds were cranking out youngsters. We wanted to build up a big genetic pool and it did work. But the old adage that your big cock headed hens do not breed well, we really learnt was true. We put the big headed hens to good cock birds and we would only get about two eggs. So now we are learning through experience to use the lesser sisters to the cock.

Keith: Have you found that by breeding your dogs, Hungarian Vizslas, has helped you understand the genetics when it comes to budgerigars?

Damen: It is identical. The birds have actually helped us to breed the dogs. We have a bitch downstairs who is the lesser sister to the best dog in the breed in Australia and we put her to an imported dog and the offspring are stunning. She is a tiny little thing with a son and daughter who tower over her. We have her mother who is also a lesser sister, who produced just as well. It is the same principle. You can always get a good dog to mate but the good bitches have problems. Use the lesser sister and you get good results.

Carol: You were telling me earlier, that when you first came to this house, the back yard was greyhound kennels and you have converted a quarter of the kennels into your aviary. Can you please explain what you have done.

Damen: The house had not been lived in for eighteen months and the grass was over my head. The back yard consisted of rusty old dog kennels and I must have burnt out three angle grinders cutting up the old kennels – it was a brothel. The kennels stunk and the house was disgusting. We built the breeding room downstairs under the house. It was a greyhound whelping room with lots of windows, and the walls are besser brick. The temperature never goes over 32 degrees. There is a big difference in temperature when the birds go from the breeding room to the aviary and it takes about four weeks to progressively transfer them. The breeding room is mouse and gecko proof.

We did line all the aviary and added wire mesh to the false ceiling and tiled the floors. The flight area is 6 metres by 3 metres with a walking area of 6 metres by 1.5 metres. We would have about 200 birds at the moment. We do not cull the birds under twelve months of age. We have learnt not to cull to early.

Take for example the spangle that came seventh at the Nationals. He was the worst of the seven chicks in two nests. Without a doubt we nearly culled him twice. He turned out to be the best show bird out of the two nests. He was a late developer.

Glenn: Because of their genetics we have learnt not to cull before twelve months. At about ten months of age they just grow and develop. That Cinnamon Hen that is mated to the Yellow Face cock has two half brothers and sisters that we gave away as pets and you should see them now – they have developed beautifully and it makes you cry.

Carol: Are you intending to go to any Nationals as you haven't been yet.

Damen: We will probably go to Toowoomba, but because of the birds we can't both go.

Carol: Well I think the girls should go next year.

Trish: I would love to go especially seeing it is in Melbourne.

Damen: When you go to the dog shows, you show your dog, drink champagne and then show the dog again. A number of times Trish has been running around the ring not knowing who she was showing.

Carol: What is your aim with the birds?

Chris: It depends on where Damen and Trish are living. They are likely to be here for about another three years and then there is going to be a dilemma as we have not got the room at our place. I can see Glenn wanting to go back to acreage where he has plenty of land.

Trish: We joke about transforming one of our properties into an aviary. We have ten acres near Ipswich with a very old house on it that could be converted into an aviary and then we would build our dream house on it but it is too far away from Glenn and Chris. It would be nice (sometime in the future of course) to put some pairs down and breed my own birds.

Damen: I have no idea because where we want to live, Glenn will not want to live there as he is too attached to his house. It is a bit of a quandary. If we move in three years the birds will have to come to us.

Glenn: I just take it day by day. We know in the future things will change. We breed some birds at our house in the laundry where they breed quite well. We have to be close to each other so one couple can go away.

Damen: Land on the northside is far more expensive than land to the west of Brisbane and the property has to suit the dogs as well. We have a problem that Trish is on realestate.com whilst the removalists are still unpacking furniture into the new residence.

Glenn: I don't see it as a problem. The situation will arise and we will adapt. I am surprised at the number of bird people who move and just set up again. The biggest advantage of having a partnership is we share the costs and the labour (supposedly). Damen is the brains and I am the manual labour.

Carol: What short cuts or lessons have you learnt?

Glenn: We have learnt not to wash the aviary floors with too much bleach as the birds go onto the wet floor, drink it and get sick. We have paper on the trays of our wire breeding cages so it is easier to clean.

We have twelve breeding cages that are wire and two that are timber cabinets and that is for new hens that were reared in the timber cabinets. After one season they adjust to the wire cages.

Carol: What is the best part of being in the fancy?

Glenn: There are lots of good things as you get rewarded all the time. I cannot believe the amount of help we got initially in the hobby. In the first twelve months we were very lucky.

Damen: It wasn't really luck. It was because those people knew the birds came from good stock.

Glenn: We started off as raw beginners, \$20 birds later produced good offspring even a couple of generations down the line. Look for great bloodlines not a great bird.

Damen: A good bird is one that produces good birds. We tend not to breed with any of the birds we how until we breed with the lesser sisters and brothers to see what they produce.

Glenn: There are two things that Henry George has taught me about birds and life. One is the Champion Racehorse does not have a colour. The other thing is to breed from the lesser sisters. They are the ones that will be fertile and raise the chicks. You have to keep going back to that all the time.

Carol: Do you keep your bird records on computer?

Damen: No Trish and I have an Apple Mac and Dad doesn't even own a mobile phone let alone a computer. We have all the information on cards in chronological order. The only drawback is we cannot print out pedigrees but I do know where all the birds come from.

Carol: What a great family these four are – great people- great workers- I thank them for their time and what they give back to the fancy.

Australian National Budgerigar Council – Hall of Fame

In Canberra at this year's Gala Presentation Dinner, Mr. Barney Hackney from our zone was inducted into the ANBC Hall of Fame in recognition of all the hard work he put in to getting South Queensland zone into the National Competition. One year he paid for out of his own pocket, all the costs of transporting the birds so we could compete. Barney has been a tireless worker for almost all his 80 years and this recognition is justly deserved. Congratulations Barney.

Get Well Wishes:

As a lot of our members know, Jean Horrobin has been battling cancer since before Easter and our thoughts are with her and Greg at this worrying time. Jean had surgery on June 1st and it is still an uphill battle for her. Please remember Jean in your prayers and wish her a speedy recovery. She is a wonderful person who wouldn't think twice before helping anyone.

Our Club Preselection Show

Our club Preselection Show was held on Saturday 14th May and what a great roll up we had. Hoping I don't miss anyone but we had birds from Barry & Diane McClennan, Di Neale & Jack Hackshall, Henry George, Glen & Damen Winch, Heather Farren-Price, Phil Edgar, Errol Willey, Keith Moreland, Trebbin Family, Peter Schellbach, Peter Brown, Neville & Jean Spencer, Garry Heuvel, Keith & Carol Gough. We also had birds brought along by Kathryn Smart and Rod Lihou but unfortunately they were the wrong ring colour and I look forward to seeing those birds at the 2012 club selection show.

We had a total of 191 birds brought along which was a super effort and I thank everyone sincerely for supporting your club. It was a great morning with some lovely birds in attendance.

We had 13 Greens: 12 Greygreens: 13 Blues: 8 Greys: 4 Black Eye Selfs: 5 Lutinos:

6 Albinos: 16 Clearwings: 9 Greywings: 8 Cinnamonwings: 4 Double Factor Spangles:

9 Opaline Normal: 5 Opaline AOSV; 8 Clearbodies: 18 Lacewings: 4 Fallows: 8 Yellow Faces;

12 Spangles: 19 Dominant Pieds: 7 Recessive Pieds and 3 Cresteds.

It is always very hard to tell what numbers in which varieties we are going to have benched e.g. last year we only had 3 Lacewings whilst this year we had 18. Last year we had 25 Clearwings, this year 16. That is why we ask that you bring down every young bird you possibly can because we just don't know the numbers till the day.

Our judges for our club selection show worked very well together and I thank them on your behalf. All judges suffer from dart wounds in their backs and I know our members appreciate all the judges do after all it is a voluntary duty they carry out and before you criticize a judge, ask yourself a couple of questions please.

- 1) How many years have I put into training for being a judge?
- 2) Did I see the bird being judged?
- 3) Do I really know what I am talking about?
- 4) Would I do this for no payment?

Below is the Brisbane entry/result sheet from the SQBBA Zone Selection Show. The placing in brackets is their placing. Three firsts are awarded and they are the birds to go away.

	1 0			2	0
Class 1: Green		Class 2: Greygreen		Class 3: Blue	
H George	(10)	H George	(4)	H George	(5)
H George	(4)	H George		H George	
G & D Winch	(6)	H George	(7)	H George	(7)
P Edgar		H George	(9)	P Edgar	(10)
Class 4: Grey		Class 5: Blac	k Eye	Class 6: Luti	ino
H George	(4)	P Schellbach	(1)	H George	(5)
H George	(1)	P Schellbach	(1)	H George	(4)
H George	(1)	P Schellbach	(1)	H George	(9)
H George	(8)	P Schellbach	(6)	H George	(10)
Class 7: Albino		Class 8: Clearwing		Class 9: Greywing	
H George		H George	(5)	H George	(1)
H George		P Brown	(1)	H George	(4)
B&D McClen	nan (9)	H George	(4)	B&D McClennan (7)	
B&D McClen	nan	P Brown	(1)	H George	(8)
Class 10: Cin	namon	Class 11: Spa	angle D/F	Class 12: Op	oaline Normal
H George	(8)	G & D Winch	(1)	H George	
H George	(9)	H George		H George	(1)
Neale & Hack	shall (7)	G & D Winch	(4)	H George	(6)
H George	(10)	H George	(9)	G & D Wincl	h
Class 13: Opa	aline AOSV	Class 14: Cle	arbody	Class 15: La	cewing

H George	(5)	P Edgar		H George	
H George	(1)	P Edgar		H George	(1)
H George	` ,	P Edgar	(5)	H George	. ,
B&D McClen	nan	H Farren-Pri	ce	H George	(7)
Class 16: Fall	low	Class 17: Yo	ellow Face	Class 18: Sp	oangle
N & A Spence	er (9)	H George	(1)	P Brown	(4)
K & C Gough	l	H George	(1)	H George	(10)
N & A Spence	er	H George	(6)	P Brown	(7)
Trebbin Famil	ly	H George	(10)	P Brown	
Class 19: Doi	m Pied	Class 20: Re	ec Pied	Class 21 Cr	ested:
H George	(8)	H George	(1)	Trebbin Fam	nily
H George (4)		H George	(9)	Trebbin Fam	nily
K & C Gough		H George Trebbin Family			nily
H George		H George			
Class 22: Her			AL CLUB PO		
H George	(4)		ane & Norther		339
P Brown		•	num Redlands		337
H George	(5)		Rivers		161
H George	(9)	Ipsw	ich		109
		Toov	voomba		92
Thank you			ralian Budgeri	gar Society	64
Brisbane Me	mbers	Frase	er Coast		59
for your supp	ort	Cabo	olture		47
			Soc Bundaberg	g	46
Thank you ju	ıdges	Surfe	ers Paradise		13
for your grea	t work	Suns	hine Coast		13
on the day		Bunc	laberg Canary	& Cage Bird	6



It was also fantastic to see so many of our club members in attendance to set up the staging, assist on the day and dismantle staging and clean the hall for the SQBBA. The only members of the SQBBA are the clubs so we need assistance from the clubs' members to work with the SQBBA. Thank you everyone. Above: from left to right: Barry McClennan, Heather Farren-Price, Diane McClennan and Diane Neale accepting the shield.

From our Show Manager, Peter Berger: On Sunday 22 May, I attended the zone preselection to assist in whatever way I could. Accordingly, I was asked to be a steward on behalf of BNSBS, a job I willingly undertook.

During the day I personally observed two separate acts of "good sportsmanship" that I would like to bring to your attention and which I think are worthy of sharing with club members, via the club's magazine.

As part of my tasks, I assisted Mr. Henry George to unload his representative birds from the back of his Landcruiser, a task that required Henry to physically climb into the back on his hands and knees, pick up the show cages and place them to the back of the vehicle so that they could be unloaded.

Whilst he was doing so with one bird, the bird shook itself for some reason, perhaps in fright by being suddenly moved, thereby causing the bird to shed a number of flights. Naturally, Henry was extremely disappointed, saying that the bird, an AOSV Opaline cock that had been judged champion young bird of our annual show earlier in the year, had lost all chance of being selected to go to the Nationals. Henry also indicated that this was probably the best of all the birds that he had at the pre-selections. Henry also indicated that the bird may have caught its wing in the cage front when it shook itself.

I took the view that if the bird was possibly injured and had no chance of being selected for the Nationals because of the loss of its flights, that Henry might not bench the bird. I took this view because if the bird had been mine, I wouldn't have benched it, I would have put the bird first.

I asked Henry if he was going to bench the bird. He immediately said "Oh, yes, it might still win a point for the team." As you are aware, that bird was placed 5th, thereby earning 6 points for BNSBS. Our club's winning margin for the pre-selection shield was 2 points.

In this instance I think Henry should be complimented on immediately thinking of the club and benching the bird in the hope that it might still assist the club in earning a point towards the shield. Whilst disappointed with the bird, he took the view that these sorts of thing happen from time to time and he did not complain or moan about his bad luck.

The second act of what I call "good sportsmanship" also involved Henry. I was standing and looking at the "also ran" Dominant Pied birds, a hen in particular that took my eye, when Henry and one of the judges from that class came up to the hen I was looking at. That hen belonged to Henry and he politely and respectfully asked the judge why that bird, which had been sitting in third place for most of the judging (ie, a selection for the national team) had been moved down and subsequently missed the team, when in fact it was far superior to birds placed above it. The judge said that the hen had three toes forward some of the time, that they had moved her around and given her time to settle back down, but that she had had persisted in having three toes forward. Well, I looked, Henry looked, and sure enough, three toes forward.

Henry looked at me and said "I've never seen her do that before" and thanked the judge for his explanation.

In this instance, a competitor who didn't understand why his bird had not done as well as he thought it should, took the time and trouble to seek an answer from one of the relevant judges and then accepted without question what the problem was. No complaining or moaning, just an acceptance of the facts.

As you know, judges come under attack generally for their decisions, something that seems to be widespread in the fancy. Whenever someone criticises a judge, it seems to me to spread out with everybody knowing about it very quickly. Instances of good sportsmanship seem to be rarer and never spread out as widely or as quickly.

As my old mother used to tell me "give praise where praise is due." I think praise of Henry George in this instance is due and I'd like to give it.

You have my permission to print this article in the club's magazine if you so desire.

Peter Berger.

Editors Note: As a Zone judge and a retired ANBC Accredited Judge, I have the experience to say that judges are honest people who put the birds first and judge without fear or favour. They cope with far too much criticism and not enough thank you's. We only have 14 judges left in our zone – how about giving them a fair go! How about you becoming a judge? Thank you Peter for your contribution above.

A.N.B.C. NATIONAL SHOW – CANBERRA 2011

The weekend commenced with the meeting of the World Budgerigar Organisation which included sixteen delegates from many different

countries. I personally didn't attend the meeting but I believe it was a very successful afternoon.



effort. Let's see if in Geelong.

A Meet & Greet Reception on the Friday evening at the Marque Hotel was held at 7pm. This is where everyone catches up with each other after twelve months and gets to make new acquaintances of fellow fanciers. The evening included a welcome by the Wioradjuri Echoes with aboriginal dancing and didgeridoo playing. Then the judges were introduced and a meal was served. I counted 59 South Queenslanders in attendance over the week end. A super we can match that number

Early the next morning our selectors were up and getting our birds caged etc for Day one of the judging which included all the odd numbered classes. Each of the seven zones could bench up to three birds in each class but points were only allocated for the first two placings for each zone. 14 points for 1st place down to 1 point for the last bird meaning seven birds could get no points but each bird benched received a rosette.

Judging was done in pairs. Ghalib al-Nasser (United Kingdom) was paired with Jim Fletcher (Tasmania) and the other pair was Jean Painter (New South Wales) with Alan Rowe (Victoria).

Class 1: Green Normal: Judged by Ghalib Al-Nasser & Jim Fletcher. Judges comments:

When we first looked at the class we thought it would be easy to pick the winners but upon closer examination we found lots of faults.

First Bird in cage G is a big strong powerful bird. Has good width but not in the best condition. R Blizzard, Victoria

Second bird in cage E is a big strong powerful bird but like a number of birds in the class has opalescence in the wings. G & D Armstrong WA

Third bird in cage C is another strong powerful bird but has opalescence in the wings and down the body. B & M Boal Sth Qld

Fourth in Cage O another big bird but let down by tear drop spots and they are not the size they should be. J McKellar, Victoria

Fifth bird in cage A again a good strong bird but not in good condition – it has pin feathers in the head. Kakoschke & Rice, Sth Aust

Have to comment on the seventh placed bird in cage B is a big strong powerful bird but is only carrying 3 spots and carries the right wing down. 6P Birds NSW

Our birds owned by B & M Boal, 3rd: Wayne Stephen, 10th: B & M Boal, 21st

NCZ = North & Central Zone Queensland

State points after this class: Victoria 25: Sth Qld 18: West Aust 18: NSW 17: Sth Aust 17: NCZ 6 Tasmania 4

Class 3: Blue Normal: Judged by Jean Painter & Alan Rowe:

Judges Comments:

There were no standout birds in this class which made it a little difficult. Condition played a big part in the placings.

First bird in cage D has lovely width and feather direction. Had a debate on the ticking which is a worry but even penalising it for that fault, it is still a worthy winner. T Gleeson NSW

Second place in cage H doesn't show to advantage but overall a solid outline, lovely mask and spots and good shoulder. Ian Hunter Victoria

Third place in cage G is a powerful hen but not as strong as the two cock birds placed above her. When she does show she has good width and impact. Bob Smith Sth Qld

Fourth place in cage M could have been placed further up the line but condition slightly down. It has pin feathers in the head but still a well balanced bird. B & T Jones NSW.

Fifth in cage C has nice feather length but does change from looking good to average. Sheppard & Flanagan Victoria

Sixth in cage J is very showy and has nice feather but not the width of the birds placed above. Greg & Jean Horrobin, Sth Queensland

Seventh in cage E has good shoulder width but shows badly. D Wales NCZ

Our birds were owned by Bob Smith, 3rd: Greg & Jean Horrobin, 6th:: Errol & Lynne Miller, 21st:

State points after this class: Victoria 48: NSW 42: Sth Qld 39: West Aust 30: Sth Aust 24: NCZ 17 Tasmania 10

Class 5: Black Eye: Judged by Ghalib Al-Nassser & Jim Fletcher.

Judges Comments:

This was a lovely class of Yellows – there were no Whites in the class at all. We had to have a consultation with the other judges on third and fourth placings which we will talk about later.

First placed bird in cage R is a powerful hen with good colour and head width. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria

Second placed in cage A is another powerful hen and not far behind the first. She has a good outline and colour. A & J Howes, Vic

Third placing in cage E was initially the winner but has a slightly inflamed eye so after consultation was marked down. Mulley & Stafford, Sth Australia.

Fourth in cage N is another strong bird, buff in feather which breaks its outline slightly Peter Dodd, New South Wales.

Fifth in cage J is a good quality bird but slightly lacking condition. Sheppard & Flanagan, Vic Our birds were owned by Peter Schellbach 9th, 18th & 20th.

State points after this class:Victoria75:NSW62:Sth Qld47:Sth Aust44:West Aust41:Tasmania24:NCZ22

Class 7: Albino. Judged by Jean Painter & Alan Rowe:

Judges Comments:

A very nice class of birds to judge.

First in cage K is a lovely hen, wide head and shows herself well. C & B Gearing, WA

Second in cage S is a strong cock, well balanced, but not quite in as good condition as the hen. Wilson & Hoadley, Victoria.

Third in cage N is a nice strong bird but a little out of condition and carrying suffusion. Peter Thurn, Victoria.

Fourth in cage F is another strong cock but again carrying suffusion. Peter Thurn, Victoria.

Fifth in cage U is a showy hen displaying good variety but doesn't always let go. Graham Barlow, Sth. Queensland.

Sixth place in cage J is an erratic shower. A & C Druery, NSW.

Seventh in cage Q is a very nice bird. Abi Haider, NSW.

Our three birds were owned by Graham Barlow 5th: Len Bartz 11t5h: John & Joy McAllister 19th.

State points after this class:Victoria100:NSW81:Sth Qld64:West Aust63:Sth Aust53:Tasmania32:NCZ22

Trouble: West Australia is only one point behind us!

Class 9: Greywing: Judged by Ghalib Al-Nasser & Jim Fletcher.

Judges Comments:

A very nice class of birds but some had problems.

First place in cage F is a lovely example of the Greywing variety. It is lovely bird with good markings. A lovely variety bird. Mark Chidel, NSW.

Second place in cage K is a strong powerful bird but not the same Greywing standard as the first placed bird. Errol & Lynne Miller, Sth Qld.

Third in cage is another strong bird with good variety but lacked the size of the first two placed birds. J & W Weidenhofer, Sth Australia.

Fourth in cage S is a good cock bird, good in variety but not the strength of the birds above it Howard & Home, Tasmania.

Fifth in cage G is a little bumpy which affected its outline a little. Errol & Lynne Miller, Sth Qld.

Four birds were disqualified due to having no tails, 2 NSW, 1 Tasmanian, & 1 Victorian. One bird was removed from bench due to appearing to be in ill health

Our birds owned by E & L Miller, 2nd & 5th: Henry George 8th:

State points after this class: Victoria 112: NSW 95: Sth Qld 87: West Aust 78: Sth Aust 72: Tasmania 45: NCZ 35: We pulled away from WA a little.

Class 11: Spangle Double Factor: Judged by Jean Painter & Alan Rowe:

Judges Comments:

First bird in cage A is an easy winner. It stood out from the others. It has lovely shape, length and colour. Charlie Chiang, Sth Qld.

Second in cage C has nice feather and has a beautiful mask. Showed well. D & M Campbell, NSW.

Third in cage R has a strong shoulder and a nice face and good width but is loose in feather. McCauley & O'Regan, NSW.

Fourth in cage L is a long strong bird but hasn't the width of the ones placed above it and has slight suffusion. D & M Campbell, NSW.

Fifth in cage K is a nice bird which has an appealing facial features but is down in feather condition. L Richardson, Victoria.

Sixth in cage D is a well balanced hen with fine feather and colour. Barber Family, Tasmania.

Seventh in cage I is a little narrower than those above it. Andrew Johnson, Tasmania. Cage G was penalised heavily for a broken tail. R & C Ogden, QNC

Our birds were owned by Charlie Chiang, 1st: Glen & Damen Winch, 8th: Henry George, 9th.

State points after this class: Victoria130:NSW120:Sth Qld109:West Aust87:Sth Aust80:Tasmania64:NCZ39:The points are tightening up.

Class 13: Opaline AOSV, AOC. Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser

A very strong class but as you would expect there is a problem with flecking.

First place in cage R is a very powerful bird displaying good width and shoulder and is a clean bird. Brian Walters, NSW

Second in cage J is a powerful bird with good length but penalised for heavy markings on the back. C Buckingham, NSW

Third in cage P has lovely width of head but again markings on the back. M Paoli, Vic.

Fourth in cage D is a strong bird but mask is not correct and was penalised accordingly. Rowe Brothers, Vic.

Fifth in cage E is another strong bird but has pin feathers in the mask. Kakoschke & Rice, SA

Sixth and seventh placed birds are also very strong hens Peter & Katrina Cox, Sth Qld & R & C Spadon, NSW.

Our birds were owned by Peter & Katrina Cox, 6th: Errol & Lynne Miller, 8th: Kevin & Vicky O'Reilly, 9th.

State points after this class: Victoria 153: NSW 147: Sth Qld 126: West Aust 96: Sth Aust 95: Tasmania 67: NCZ 50: Six points separating the top two.

Class 15: Lacewing. Judged by Jean Painter and Alan Rowe

A very pleasing class to judge and good birds down to the second row.

First in cage H is a powerful Opaline hen. There is a little flecking evident and we debated the issue and even penalising for the flecking the bird is still the winner. I Hanington, NSW.

Second in cage I is another hen which is very strong in the shoulder, good body and lovely width but lacks the push and height of the first bird. Marshall Family, Sth Australia.

Third in cage B is a nice cock with lovely variety but didn't show to its full advantage. S & T Grech, Victoria.

Fourth in cage F is a very interesting bird. We liked it but it has some feathers missing which makes the frontal look a little flat. O Haddick, Victoria.

Fifth in cage J is a medium sized bird in lovely condition. G & G House, WA

Sixth in cage D has good condition and lovely feather. Marshall Family, Sth Aust

Seventh in cage G has nice frontal but a short mask which is a little messed up. D Bishop, Tasmania.

Our three birds Henry George, 9th: Camelle Lamb, 13trh: Cosh Family, 18th.

State points after this class:Victoria176:NSW167:Sth Qld137:West Aust117:Sth Aust108:Tasmania78:NCZ56:

Class 17: Yellow Faced Blue. Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser

A lovely class to judge – very pleasing to the eye – some lovely coloured birds.

First place in cage A is a big strong Sky cock which has good variety and is powerful through the shoulder. A & C Druery, NSW.

Second in cage C is a nice Grey bird in good condition but not the size of the winning bird. Henry George, Sth Qld.

Third in cage D is a big strong Opaline Sky but down in condition which let this bird down on the day. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria.

Fourth in cage P is a Cinnamon Opaline with a big head, but down in condition and doesn't show well. It has a tendency to lay across the perch. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria.

Fifth in cage O is a nice strong Grey in good condition. Barry Whalan, NSW

Our birds were owned by Henry George, 2nd & 9th. Brian Hollingsworrth, 7th.

State points after this class: Victoria 199: NSW 191: Sth Qld 158: West Aust 127: Sth Aust 124: Tasmania 82: NCZ 63:

Class 19: Dominant Pied. Judged by Jean Painter and Alan Rowe

What a great class to judge. So many good quality attractive budgerigars to look at and debate over.

The first three birds are very powerful birds with strong shoulders, great width and deep masks.

First in cage S has a wonderful face and feather, lacking spot size but width of face won it for him on the day. M Greber, Sth Qld.

Second in cage F is a great showman and good set of spots. Not the facial features of the first bird or the third but lovely colour contrast. G & M Chandler, NSW.

Third in cage N has a wide face, good deep mask and is a powerful bird but didn't show well. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria.

Fourth in cage U is a very pleasing attractive hen but displays a bit of ticking in the head but overall a very well balanced bird. M Chidel, NSW.

Fifth in cage J we deliberated over for quite some time. It is a nice bird but doesn't spend too much time on the perch so at times can look very good and not so great at other times. Andrew McFarland, NSW.

Sixth in cage T has a nice face but not the strength of the birds in front of him. Wilson & Hoadley, Victoria.

Seventh in cage I shows well, has a nice backline. Kerr Family, Tasmania.

Our birds were owned by M Greber, 1st. Dave Ganzer, 8th. Peter & Katrina Cox, 12th.

State points	after this	class: Victoria	221:	NSW	215:	Sth Qld	180:
West Aust	135:	Sth Aust	134:	Tasmania	94:	NCZ	70:

Class 21: Crest. Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser

This was a pleasure to judge. Wish I could take some of the birds home with me. They are a credit to the breeders.

First in cage F is a powerful bird in its own right let alone in the Crest variety. It is a long bird with a very neat circular crest. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria.

Second in cage G is a strong circular crest, good sized bird, good depth of mask. Kakoschke & Rice, Sth Aust.

Third in cage R is another long bird, good markings with lovely circular crest, but has a slight disturbance in the back of the crest. Garces Family, NSW.

Fourth in Cage K is another good bird, strong, wide shouldered, strong crest but again another disturbance in the back of the crest. Sheppard & Flanagan, Victoria.

Fifth in cage J is a lovely long bird, a strong tuft and a credit to the breeder. Blair & Poole, Tasmania.

Our birds belonged to Jacky Jansen 7th and the Punter Family in 11th and 14th placings.

Points at the end of day one:

Victoria	246:
New South Wales	232
South Queensland	195
South Australia	151
Western Australia	145
Tasmania	111
Nth & Central Queensland	74





Saturday afternoon was spent with a meeting of the Standards & Colour Sub Committee at which Henry George and Garry Menzies attended and Saturday evening was a Dinner Dance held at the Canberra Rex Hotel. A great evening was had by all who enjoyed very tasty dinner and dancing. Henry George and Ghalib Al-Nasser from the United Kingdom seemed to be having a good time – I wonder who was doing the leading?

I was told everyone wanted to dance with Henry including the ANBC President Warren Wilson.

Day Two - Even Class Numbers

Class 2: Normal Grey Green: Judged by Jean Painter & Alan Rowe

It was a hard class to judge as the majority of the birds are magnificent and a credit to the breeders. There are some lovely power birds with not much separating them. There were not many reasons for separating them.

First bird in cage G is a magnificent hen who does tend to put her tail over the perch but a great power bird with a wonderful top end and good face, mask and spots. Welshman Family, NSW

Second bird in cage D is again a nice big powerful bird but marginally down a little in spot. Peter Thurn, Victoria

Third bird in cage E is a nice strong big bird but lacks a little back skull. When he lets it all go he is really nice. R Robinson, NCZ

Fourth bird in cage F has lovely feather and feather direction got him where he is. Dave Frampton, Sth Qld

Fifth in cage S would have been placed higher if he was in better condition and showed better. He is a lovely budgerigar. Kakoschke & Rice, Sth Aust

Sixth in cage I is a little short in the mask. C & J Huck, WA

Seventh in cage J is a nice bird with nice feather but a little short in the mask. Les & Fran Percy, Sth Qld

Cage M was placed down due to a broken tail feather. Geoff O'Connor, NSW

The class was a pleasure to judge.

Our birds belonged to Dave Frampton, 4th: Les & Fran Percy 7th: Vicki & Kevin O'Reilly 18th.

State points after this class: Victoria265:NSW251:Sth Qld214:Sth Aust168:West Aust157:Tasmania116:NCZ88:The battle continues between New South Wales and Victoria.

Class 4: Normal Grey Judged by Jim Fletcher & Ghalib Al-Nasser

A very nice class of birds and good examples of what a Normal Grey should be.

First bird in cage F showed well the entire time. He is terrific and a good example of the variety. He is in beautiful condition and a good shower with good head feather blow. Brian Walters, NSW

Second bird in cage G is another nice example of the Normal Grey. Again he is a good shower in good condition but is down in spots compared to first place getter. Henry George, Sth Qld

Third bird in cage H is another good strong bird in good condition but very unlucky not to win on the day. C & B Gearing, WA

Fourth in cage K is another magnificent strong shouldered bird with good length and blow but doesn't always show to his best. John Barden NSW

Fifth bird in cage B is another big powerful bird with lovely head feather but is down on condition and a few dirty markings on the feathers. J Leong, Vic

Bird in cage P which came in eleventh placing is another good power bird but not in show condition. Geoff O'Connor, NSW

Our birds belonged to Henry George 2nd and 16th: Errol & Lynne Miller 9th.

State points after this class: Victoria 282 NSW 276: Sth Qld 233: Sth Aust 181: West Aust 178: Tasmania 121: NCZ 93:

Class 6: Lutino Judged by Jean Painter and Alan Rowe

We really worked this class and did more than the normal changing of birds to get the placement we finished with. A lovely class of birds and exhibitors should be proud of their achievements.

There are birds with really nice colour and quite powerful.

On first assessment cage J looked like the best because he has nice head, colour, size but as we left him he dropped his tail and ruined the outline. R & A Smith, NSW

First bird in cage A has all the modern features we all need to see on our birds. Overall the best shaped bird here. T has Lovely colour and condition and quite powerful. Rowe Brothers, Vic

Second in cage N is a strong bird with lovely colour and condition. Just would like to see a bit more flair on top end. Wayne & Gwen Robinson, Sth Qld

Third in cage B is in good condition but down in colour. Good feather but needs to be stirred up to show the best. B & T Jones, NSW

Fourth bird in cage G has good condition and variety. Very nice but is down just a bit in colour. C & B Gearing WA

Fifth in cage J is already mentioned. R & A Smith, NSW

Sixth in cage I looks very nice but not quite in condition on the day and down in colour. A Turnbull NCZ

Seventh in cage F could do with more shoulder. Wayne & Gwen Robinson, Sth Qld Our birds belonged to Wayne & Gwen Robinson 2^{nd} , 7^{th} and 8^{th} .

State points after this class: Victoria 301 NSW 298: Sth Qld 254: West Aust 196: Sth Aust 186: Tasmania 126: NCZ 108:

Three points separating the top two and WA has overtaken South Australia for fourth placing.

CLASS 8: Clearwing Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser.

Ghalib Al-Nasser spoke on this class and stated that having come from the Northern Hemisphere where they don't have the clarity of wings it was a pleasure to judge. The birds benched today have beautiful contrast especially on the dark factor birds.

First place in cage F is a lovely bird with good clearwing clarity. Good width of head and good condition on the day. K Hatherall Vic

Second in cage L is a bigger bird but lacking the condition of the winner. He has a tendency to hold his flights out of line. Mulley & Stafford, SA

Third in cage D is another good bird with good clearwing contrast but lacking show condition. He tends to have the shakes now and then. Peter Simic, SA

Fourth in cage C is a nice bird but being of the Light Green series does not have the colour contrast and depth of body colour that it should have. Betty Rea, WA

Fifth in cage M is the same as fourth lacking in the colour contrast. De Rango & Skoric, Vic

Sixth in cage U is a lovely White Wing Violet showing beautiful colour contrast but lacking in width of head. Matt Holyoak, NSW

This was a lovely class and credit goes to the exhibitors.

Our birds belonged to Peter Brown 9th & 18th: Bill Kirstenfeldt in 16th

State points after this class: Victoria 325 NSW 312: Sth Qld 264: West Aust 211: Sth Aust 211: Tasmania 140: NCZ 111:

Class 10: Cinnamonwing . Judged by Jean Painter & Alan Rowe

As expected from the standard of the cinnamon class in previous years, we were not disappointed this time. It was hard to find a bottom row because the quality was so good.

First in cage D is a lovely example of an exhibition budgerigar. Has a nice face but lacking a full size spot but couldn't fault him otherwise. J L'Estrange, NSW

Second in J is very much the same type as the winner. Not quite as good as the first place getter and not as good in the top end. G & M Watson NSW

Third in cage E is a very nice Cinnamon Cobalt with nice features but could be in better condition. H Chasemore, Vic

Fourth in cage P is a big long strong bird with power but unfortunately has ruffled wings. T & S Appleton, Vic

Fifth in cage U is another good long bird but not showing nice tight feathers in wings. Peter Jeffrey, Sth Qld

Sixth in cage H is a nice style bird with good feather direction but has a bent tail. Peter Thurn, Vic

Seventh in cage A is an erratic shower but very stylish. It could look a million dollars at times. A little short in the mask and the feathers over both eyes detract from her presentation. Alan Jaeschke, WA

Our birds belonged go to Peter Jeffrey 5th, Errol & Lynne Miller 9th and 20th.

State points after this class: Victoria 348 NSW 339: Sth Qld 282: Sth Aust 225: West Aust 222: Tasmania 143: NCZ 120:

Class 12: Opaline Normal Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser.

First bird in cage A is a magnificent example of the modern Opaline. He selected himself from the start and has beautiful length and clear on flecking. Kakoschke & Rice, Sth Aust

Second in cage Q is a big powerful Grey with lovely style. Has a bit of flecking but still a good bird. John Barden, NSW

Third in cage U is a lovely big Grey Green. When he does relax he has lovely head feather blow and good condition. Bob Smith, Sth Qld

Fourth in cage N is another lovely Grey Green but is a bit messy around the tail. Kakoschke & Rice, Sth Aust

Fifth in cage E is another Greygreen but lacking the width of head of those in front of him.

Jye & John Young, NSW

Cage B is a lovely Violet Cobalt but had to be disqualified as he has no tail. Sheppard & Flanagan, Vic

Our birds belonged to Bob Smith 3rd: Henry George 6th: Ken Dunk 13th.

State points after this class: NSW 362: Victoria 361: Sth Qld 303: Sth Aust 247: West Aust 238: Tasmania 150: NCZ 123: New South Wales has hit the lead by 1 point.

Class 14: Clearbody Judged by Jean Painter and Alan Rowe.

The first two birds in cages F & M could really be in either placing because they are both excellent birds but we favoured F with his clear head and better showmanship.

Bird in first place in cage F is a lovely bird in proportion and showed well. Peter Thurn, Vic

Second in cage M is nice, has a wide head but a little short in mask and not the showmanship of the winner. R Loats Estate

Third in cage G is a big strong long Opaline Clearbody without the top end of the first two placings. L & P Walmsey NCZ

Fourth in cage Q is a very good bird put together nicely just a bit smaller than third. P McInnes, Vic

Fifth in cage C doesn't carry himself well but still a big bird with a deep mask and good variety and lacking a little top skull. J & W Weidenhofer, SA

Sixth in cage L is a nicely marked bird but dips his tail and seems to be favouring one leg. Tracy Haskell, SA

Seventh in cage A is a very nice variety bird, didn't put a foot wrong, shows well in good condition and has yellow feather. John Richardson, NSW

This is a variety that has improved but still has a lot of work to do.

Our birds belonged to Mal Reid 9th: Barry Prang 14th and 20th.

State points after this class: Victoria388:NSW379:Sth Qld314:Sth Aust268:West Aust242:Tasmania157:NCZ141:Victoria is back in the lead again.

Class 16: Fallow Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser

This was a very nice class of Fallows. I don't think they are as nice as Ian Hanington's Fallow class winner in 1994 but still a nice class.

The Blue Series birds in general were patchy in the body colour and penalized accordingly.

First place in cage F has good size, lovely condition, showed itself well. Has good width of head and good shape. Mark Chidel, NSW

Second in cage R is another nice bird, long and nice through the head but small spots. Mark Chidel, NSW

Third in cage P is a lovely length of bird, good spots but does not relax well to show its true potential. Charlie Chiang, Sth Qld

Fourth in cage B could have been in third position but was penalized because of body colour patchiness. Whell Family, Sth Qld

Fifth in cage K & sixth in cage M are two lovely hens, good faces but spoilt through body colour patchiness. T & L Cripps, Sth Aust and (Ian Hanington, NSW respectively.

Bird in cage O was disqualified as it has no primary tail feathers. K Heron, Tasmania

Our birds belonged to Charlie Chiang 3rd: Whell Family 4th: Greg & Jean Horrobin 14th.

State points after this class: NSW 406: Victoria 405: Sth Qld 337: Sth Aust 283: West Aust 245 Tasmania 164: NCZ 154: New South Wales back in the lead by 1 point.

Class 18: Spangle Judged by Jean Painter and Alan Rowe

Another very good competitive class here with some great powerful budgerigars. We were surprised at the quality of the Spangle markings on the larger birds.

First place in cage S has a wonderful face, flair, feather, feather and more feather. Nice wing markings. B & M Boal, Sth Old

Second in cage N is a longer very strong bird, beautiful stance but just not top exhibition feather today. It also is of good variety. Bob Smith, Sth Qld

Third in cage H is another lovely faced bird with strength in the shoulder area and great wide blowy top end. It was just penalized for not showing straight enough. C Buckingham, NSW

Fourth in cage A is a lovely example of variety, wonderful spots, plenty of feather but not the width of the birds in front of it. Geoff Wood, NSW

Fifth in cage J has good width of head, a lovely deportment and wing markings. He also shows well when worked. Stephen Elliott, Sth Aust

Sixth in cage Q on bottom row he looked fantastic because he lifts those frontal feathers right down over his face but unless he is doing that he is very ordinary. He tends to tighten up and look narrow but still a nice bird. Mike Gearing, WA

Seventh in cage G is a nice hen with impact, lovely wide face and body and lovely variety and showed well. Sheppard & Flanagan, Vic

Our birds belonged to B & M Boal, 1st: Bob Smith 2nd: Ken Dunk 17th:

State points after this class: NSW 429: Victoria 418: Sth Qld 364: Sth Aust 297: West Aust 261 Tasmania 167 NCZ 163: New South Wales has pulled away slightly.

Class 20 Recessive Pieds Judged by Jim Fletcher and Ghalib Al-Nasser

At first we thought it would be an easy class to judge as there are some nice birds here but we discovered a lot of feather problems.

First place in cage P is a big powerful bird with good deportment, good width of face and shoulder. The only problem is he has head markings but he is too strong to put down further. Glenn Schiller, NSW

Second in cage D is a complete bird but lacks the size of the third and fourth birds which we penalized for lack of flights otherwise they would have been second and third.

Third in cage R (C & B Gearing, WA) is a good strong bird and a good example of the variety but lacked 4 to 5 flights in the right wing. It has good spots. Henry George, Sth Qld

Fourth in cage E is another nice bird but has flight feather problems. Kakoschke & Rice, SA

Fifth in cage I is a nice clean dark factor bird but hasn't the width of the bird placed above it. George Caryofyllis, NSW

Bird in cage F was penalized heavily as it is missing half a wing of flights. I Gould, Vic Our birds belonged to Henry George 2^{nd} : Dave Frampton 8^{th} & 9^{th} .

State points after this class: NSW			453	Victoria	429:	Sth Qld	384:
Sth Aust	313:	West Aust	281	Tasmania	174	NCZ	170:

Class 22 Hens ASV, ASC Judged by Jim Fletcher & Ghalib Al-Nasser

Again a good overall class of hens with power behind many of them.

First in cage J is a complete bird except for only having one tail. She has beautiful deportment, is a clean Opaline and very stylish. She has good width of head and blow. C & B Gearing, WA

Second in cage C is thick around the head with the head merging well into the shoulder showing no neck. A little rough in the mask and unlucky to meet the winner today. A & C Druery, NSW

Third in cage N is a strong buff feathered hen of good width, is slightly ticked but unfortunately the wing carriage is slightly low. Ian Hanington, NSW

Fourth in cage Q is another strong hen, rough around the flight feathers. Mark Chidel, NSW

Fifth in cage I has lovely head feathering, but slightly overweight making her out of proportion. (Errol & Lynne Miller, Sth Qld)

Our birds belonged to Errol & Lynne Miller 5th & 13th. Wayne Stephan 7th.

Final State points:		NSW	478	Victoria	447:	Sth Qld	404:
Sth Aust	321:	West Aust	299	Tasmania	182	NCZ	178:

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW SOUTH WALES

Sunday afternoon there was an auction of 26 pairs and one single budgerigar that sold for ridiculous amounts for some of them - \$44,600. The trouble with auctions is that new people to our hobby think that the crazy prices are the norm but that is far from the truth. If you are a Novice to our fancy, why not ask one of your fellow club members if they can keep you in mind when they do their cull. I am certain you will pick up some very useful birds at a minimal cost.

The auction was followed by the National Judges Meeting then a quick shower and it was off to the Presentation Dinner which was held at the Rydges. The company was fantastic, the atmosphere good but the food is better left unmentioned. The National logies were given to the first place getters which included three Queenslanders: Mick Greber: Charlie Chiang and B & M Boal.

GALA PRESENTATION DINNER













Top row: Barry & Diane McClenna Garry Heuvel

Middle row: Peter Brown, Charlie Chiang & Stan Ford Henry & Diane George

Bottom Row: Jean Spencer & Diane McClennan Charlie Chiang with his Logie.

Monday there was a tour as well as the National Delegates Meeting. Major items that came out of the meeting are the following:

1) Cages are allowed to have a pair of either 12mm or 16mm perches.

- 2) In 2013 and 2014, there will only be allowed two birds in each class to be taken to the Nationals so if one bird drops a tail feather or worse, the team can really be penalised by only having one bird benched therefore points for only one bird awarded.
- 3) Also in 2013 and 2014 there will be four extra classes and these birds will have to be bred this year to have 2012 rings on them for 2013 and 2013 rings on the legs for 2014.
- 4) The extra classes will be the spangle class splitting into two
 - (a) Violet
 - (b) Spangle AOSV which will mean any bird that is Standardised other than the Normal Spangle and the Yellow Face Spangle.
 - (c) Suffused Class
 - (d) Australian Double Factor Yellow Face.
- 5) There will also be a promotional class in 2013 and 2014 of Dark Eyed Clears.

If anyone has Double Factor Australian Yellow Faces will you please start breeding them up as no one I have spoken to in our club has any.

Monday night there was a dinner and forum held comprising six of the international visitors. They were David Ingoe (NZ): Malcolm Taylor (Sth Africa): Carl Slater (Canada): Gerd Bleicher (Germany): Grant Findlay (Scotland) and Terry Hunt (Ireland). I hope to have the information from that meeting in the next magazine issue. I just haven't had the time to transcribe the information since returning from Canberra to the print date for this magazine.

Tuesday there was a tour to the Royal Mint and the War Memorial with the BRASEA Dinner that evening and Wednesday included another tour with dinner at the Ainsley Football Club. Overall a fantastic week and I encourage as many of you as possible to attend Geelong in 2012. The hotel they are recommending is a little on the expensive side but there is a wide choice of more affordable accommodation available.

If anyone wishes to know more about Geelong 2012, please see one of the committee members who can assist you.

Attending the National Show is a lot of fun and you get to see some of the best birds in Australia. If you have never attended a National before, then plan it in your diary now for June 2013. It will be held at Toowoomba so no airfares are required.

UNDERCOVER AGENT CANBERRA 2011

Whilst travelling to and from and attending Nationals there is always someone watching and this year it was "The Undercover Agent".

The first thing noted by "The Undercover Agent" occurred at the Brisbane Airport. Without mentioning names, the President of a Bayside Budgerigar Club and other fanciers were quietly sitting in the departure lounge waiting for

the flight to be called. Once called everyone moved forward to board the plane together. It was noticeable that this President was not with the group. After about five minutes on walked the President with a beautiful young blonde in his arms. Need to know more, ask Trevor Broadbent!

Also because it was rather cold in Canberra, Bert Lamb was boasting that all joints were stiff!

Garry Menzies was walking to the Hotel where the birds were being held early Sunday morning at 6am when four males in a car stopped and said "Hi Bro" Let us just say that Gary told them where to go – he must be attractive to males as well as females.

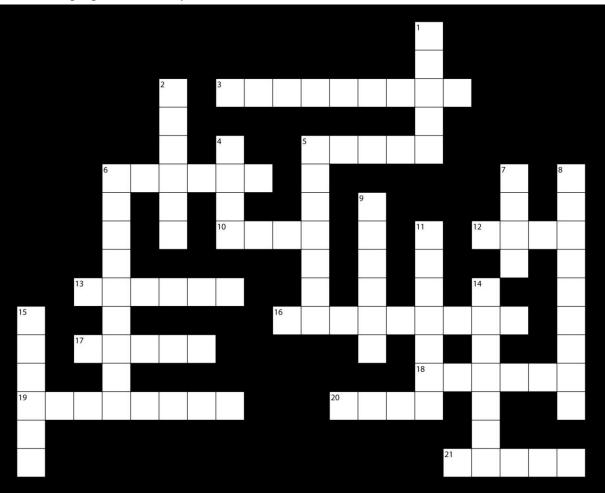
Then there was the Saturday night when a group of eleven South Queenslanders decided to walk to the local football club for dinner. It was a very cool night (expected to get to -1 overnight) and there was Charlie Chiang complaining about his ears being frozen. It wasn't until we reached the football club that Keith Gough told Charlie he would have been better putting his hood on. Dah Charlie.

That same night on the same walk Peter Brown was in charge of navigation to the football club as his new super phone had this great navigational app on it. If we had relied on Peter we would have ended up in Melbourne. A short 1.2 km walk turned into a 2 km walk. Needless to say we followed our noses to get back to our motel.

Who were our two members who were photographed going into a motel room carrying a bottle of wine and only wearing their undies????? Good thing they are married to each other.

Who is the ANBC Accredited National Judge that resides in our zone and finished up wearing his wife's perfume? According to fellow selectors, he smelt really pretty!

This Undercover Agent is now retiring until Geelong 2012 when more action is sure to be noted.



Across

3.	An allelomorph of the Ino mutation. (9)
6.	Seed (6)
10.	A of two cities (spelling) (4)
12.	Wire (4)
13.	Beginner (6)
16.	A type of Budgerigar- not variety (9)
17.	The original (5)
18.	A Yellow red-eyed bird (6)
19.	Lutino + Cinnamon (8)
20.	Area around the nostrils (4)
21.	Cinnamonwing tail quill colour (5)
Down	

Down	
1.	Responsible for placings at shows (5)
2.	Untilled (6)
4.	Orifice (4)
5.	Marbled (7)
6.	The name of the Capital City of the State the ANBC Show 2012 will be held in (9)
7.	Cheek patch colour on Grey Green (4)
8.	One who shows (9)
9.	Blue (6)
11.	Star Banner (7)
14.	A covering (7)
15.	Blue Series (6)

Jack Hacksall

by Peter Brown

Part One

Jack, how did you get into breeding Budgerigars?

I first started in the mid 1970's, I purchased 2 pair of birds from a guy



called Herbie Heath who was well recognized in the budgerigar fancy at that time. After that I joined the Sandgate Caged Bird Society, I met Keith and Carol Gough who gave me a lot of help and then I met Bill Silvertand whom I became very good friends with. I spent a lot of my time with Bill and an old fellow called Tommy Smith. My early learning's were from those guys, pairing up, preparing birds, dressing them for the show and general breeding of the birds. I stayed friends with Bill until he passed away, spent a lot of time with him and learnt a lot about budgerigars. Mind you, the birds were entirely different in those days.

Then in 1985 I purchased three pair of birds from John Scoble. Tommy Smith was good friends with John at the time and Tom arranged for me to get those birds. That really started my better birds as far as exhibiting was concerned, that was 1985, just after the nationals were held here in South Queensland at Broad Beach.



I met Jeff Attwood at Broad Beach, became quite friendly and had long conversations about breeding and the difference between the Australian bird and

the English bird, and then Henry (George) put together a syndicate. As far as the English

birds coming into this country are concerned, we have to thank Henry George for all the work that he did. It was a long time coming and a lot of hard work with many, many hurdles for Henry to finally get them here in 1990.

The birds we brought in I brought in, with my then partner, Gerard Griffiths, all came from Jeff Attwood and those birds



were entirely different from the Australian bird. We hadn't seen before a depth of mask or size of spot like those birds had, we didn't have that feather direction over the eye and we didn't have the frontal that those birds had. So that was a big improvement to what we had in the past here.

However there are a lot of breeders who believe that the English bird didn't do a lot for Australia - and to some degree they had a point because before the birds came in the best you could do was win champion and opposite sex of show, and the best you can do today is champion and opposite sex of show. Nothing changed as far as the foundation of the hobby was concerned, other than the birds were entirely different.

The colour of the Normals was absolutely unreal - the black on yellow on the English birds that Jeff Attwood sent us were out of this world. The Dominant Pieds were probably the best exhibition budgerigars that I had ever seen, so I think the English birds did a lot for the hobby in Australia when they first came in. There is no doubt that the birds that were bred in those times - 1991 and 1992 when the nationals were held here at the Gold Coast and the two Dominant Pieds shown by E & L Miller were undoubtedly the best Australian exhibition budgerigars I had ever seen. Saying that, Gerard and I bred some very good Dominant Pieds but they weren't equal to those two birds, I've never seen Dominant Pieds like them since, don't think I ever will, but in those days you could see 14 birds in a Dominant Pied class and any of the first five birds were capable of winning the class. Today you'd be lucky if you could find a Dominant Pied that is anything like them.



How important is it to have Normals in your Stud?

In my point of view if you don't have good Normals you don't have good Budgerigars and that is basically the end of it. I know people say well that's not quite true, we see aviaries based on Opaline breeding national champions, the owners think they don't have to concentrate on the Normals, unfortunately like everything else in livestock breeding that only lasts a short period of time because the basis of all good studs are Normals and without them you may be around the top for a few years, but after 10 years or so you start to find that birds don't maintain the quality they had in the past. That's my experience and the experience of many of the top breeders I knew over the years.

The Normals were the very basis of their aviaries. One thing that I noticed in the top UK aviaries is that you could see 20 normal light greens and they all looked the same. It was very difficult to pick the difference between number one and number 20. That doesn't seem to exist in this country today from what I've seen and if it does then people are hiding their birds from public view. Admittedly that probably has something to do whether you're an

outcross breeder or a line breeder. In line breeding you should see some similar birds in aviaries. In most aviaries however you might see a champion grey green or a champion spangle but you don't see the consistently year after year - this is one of the problems in the hobby today.

Tell us about your time as ANBC President?

My lead up to being president of the ABNC was that I was president of the SQBBA for eight years and in 1999 when the nationals came to Queensland, then the President of that state then becomes president of the ANBC for the 12 months in order to stage the National competition. I did that in 1999 that was a good experience and I enjoyed myself over that time.

What varieties are improved with use of Normals?

Well spangles need to go to Normals to maintain the markings, fallows do too, even though they are a recessive variety and they need to go back to Normals to improve their markings.

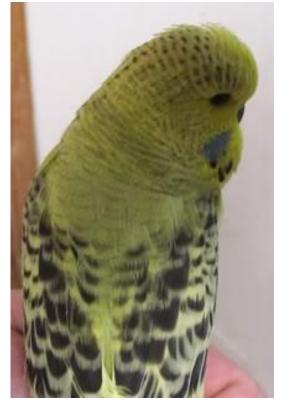
In fact most varieties use the Normal to improve their quality.

I've heard you say over the years, be careful when using Opaline, could you elaborate?

A problem I see is that people place too much emphasis on the Opaline and as far as I'm concerned the content of variety is gone. The reason is the continual use of Opaline into

varieties causing them a lot of harm. Opaline is a dilute and there is no argument about that. It will affect every variety you put it to. An example of that is the Spangle today, those wing markings have been greatly reduced. People have also put Cinnamon into them and that is a modifier, but as far as Spangles and Fallows are concerned Opaline had definitely done them a lot of damage.

You know a lot of people might shoot me down for saying this, even though the Nationals (ANBC) have done a lot for the Budgerigar hobby throughout Australia, it's also responsible for some of those birds not being great in their variety. From where I sit a lot of the time birds being judged in the national show are judged to 60 points and the variety really doesn't count and to me that is doing a lot of damage to the



varieties within this country and we have damaged the spangle and those sort of birds. Opaline is ok but it needs to be controlled

We are losing a few varieties these days we don't see the Australian Dominant Pied, and banded Pied in numbers anymore. We don't see the Australian yellow face in big numbers, If we don't concentrate on some of these varieties there is no doubt they will be lost.

Best Clearwing - 2009 ANBC National Show

I that very the in and

Sheppard & Flanagan winner 2011 Blackeyed ANBC

Clearwings

I see Opaline being used in Clearwings and that's a pretty dangerous thing to do unless you really know what you're doing, because what comes out of that is Opaline-selves and if you don't know how to use those birds back into your Clearwings damage will occur.

In breeding Clearwings I learnt from George Duffield in South Australia that Opalines can be used this way. It's important to use the Opaline that has a thumbprint in the wing, a clear window in other words and a lightly marked or clear V on the back of the neck. Use a Clearwing cock to an Opaline hen and then keep only the Hens whom should be Normal split Clearwing.

Use these split hens to Clearwing cocks. This

should improve size but it may take up generations for the clear wing to come back again. A Normal hen naturally can used, pick a bird with good black and white contrast in the wing or yellow and black contrast not the blurry look or the wings will be dirtier.

always remembered your magnificent Black Eyed Yellows, any tips here?

Black Eyed Yellows are a variety of bird I bred for 20 to 25 years. They are found to be a difficult bird to breed for exhibition purposes. Fortunately I was successful in breeding quality birds for show bench. I can remember way back the Sandgate Club days I had a Black Eyed Yellow hen in an 860 bird show she won champion opposite sex of show. Now you have to have a very

good Black Eye to do that because you don't see too many Black Eyes of that show quality and it takes a lot of hard work to breed black eyes like that.

Line Breeding & Genes

My ideal line breeding mating is to use first cousins, however in 1991 I won the nationals with a Black Eyed cock that was bred from the mating of brother to sister, be careful though, you can only do those sorts of matings once. When using line breeding methods you can produce really good birds because of the families genetic pooling, you can bring those genes down and you know pretty well what genes are going to tumble down in those situations, where, in out crossing Black Eyes you haven't got any chance at all at knowing what genes will come down.

One of the things that amazes me is when I look in at auction catalogues and I see birds advertised that are 62 1/2% of some line, that is a load of rubbish, that works in theory on a piece of paper, however no breeder in this world can guarantee to me that a bird is something percent one line and whatever percent the other line because you don't know what percentage and type of gene will tumble down from either side. You might get a bird who's genes tumble down mostly from one side and hardly any at all from the other side whatsoever. You can't guarantee any other thing other than birds that are closely line bred and that can be successful and it can also be a disaster, it just depends on the breeder whether they want to take that risk or whether they know what they're doing.

The only percentage one should believe is 100% when a bird is bred from 2 birds from one line.

How do you think Auctions have changed over the years?

I personally believe that auctions have changed in a way that is not a very good direction.

In this state I was probably the person responsible for starting budgerigar auctions and auctioned a lot of budgerigars over a 30 year period. However auctions have had their toll on the hobby there is no doubt about that. You use to be able to go to a top breeder and have no trouble in buying good birds as a beginner and this is where we need to address our hobby. Today new people coming into the hobby are few and far between and because of the high prices of good birds I've seen beginners come and go in a few short months as they just can't



afford to buy the expensive birds to be competitive. Juniors are just about non-existent, in this state anyway. Auctions have gone from raising money for clubs to being totally out of hand. Top birds are bringing absolute unreal prices where juniors would have no chance in the world of purchasing good birds unless their

parents were millionaires. That to me it is a sad side of it, today there is no doubt in my mind that there are some clubs, who as far as their auctions are concerned, are interested not in promoting the hobby in a way that helps new members or beginners but are interested solely in making money. I think clubs need to look at that situation.

Also under the recent laws of auctioning, some clubs soon will receive big fines for breaching the law, that needs to be addressed and it needs to be addressed quickly. People say it's just a budgerigar auction, but it only takes one person to go to the right authorities with a declaration of complaint then you're facing a problem. In addition the purchase conditions, rules and the catalogues need to be addressed. **Continued Next Issue**

Birthday Greetings.

	<u> zir tiraa,</u>		
June 6	Kathryn Smart		
June 24	Nathan Amies		
June 29	Jean Horrobin		
July 3	Rod Lihou		
July 7	David Estreich		
July 9	Andrew Samios		
July 10	Damon Winch		
July 21	Bob Smith		
July 27	Keith Moreland		
August 1	Beth Coleman.		
August 14	Keith Gough		
August 15	Alan Tibbet		
August 16	Peter Berger		
August 18	Noela Holyoake		
August 24	Yohanna Cook		
August 30	Glen Winch		
September 7	Dianne McClennan		
September 9	Rita Trebbin		
September 10	Grant Townsend		
September 11,	George Warry turns 70		



Birthday wishes are extended to everyone who will be celebrating over the next three months

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BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

(Cross out which of above is not applicable)

Membership of Brisbane & Northern Suburbs Budgerigar Society Inc is due for renewal on January 1st of each year

Fees per annum are:

Single/dual/family \$25.00 Pensioners & Juniors \$15.00

Magazine subscription only \$20.00

Pro Rata fees apply for membership applications received after June 1st taking the member through to December 31st of that year

Fees after 30th June:

Single/dual/family \$15.00 Pensioners & Juniors \$10.00

Your membership fee entitles you to attend and participate in lectures and demonstrations, which are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Bracken Ridge Neighbourhood Centre (next to the Library), Bracken Street, Bracken Ridge, commencing at 7.45 p.m.

You will also receive a free quarterly magazine devoted to budgerigars and their breeding.

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