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Canary & Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc.

MEETING DATES 2020

General Meetings: 4th November
Zoom Meeting commences at 8:00 pm

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The Canary & Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc now have a Facebook page!!

The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/CCBFA>

All information printed in Feathered World is believed to be correct at time of printing. If there are any corrections required, please send them through to the editor.

If you have any stories you feel would be of interest to the readers, please send them through to the editor.

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NOTICE TO ALL AFFILIATES

For legal and insurance requirements, affiliates are requested to notify the Federation Secretary of changes in office bearers, public officer and delegates, also changes of the club's meeting location, email and postal address.

Notification should be on club's letterhead or if required a hard copy or electronic copy of the *Office Bearer's Information and Privacy Provision Consent Form* is available from the Secretary.

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Ring Specification

Colour Sequence & Code

Change the Pastel Green to Pantone Green and Orange to Pantone Dark Brown, coming into effect in 2020 and 2022.

Colour	Pantone Code	RAL	Year	Year
Red	1797 U	3002	2018	2024
Black	Black 2U2X	8005	2019	2025
Pantone Green	3292U	6026	2020	2026
Violet	249 U	4008	2021	2027
Pantone Dark Brown	1535U	8003	2022	2028
Dark Blue	301 U	5019	2023	2029

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WE SHOULD DEFINITELY CALL PIGEONS “ROCK DOVES” AGAIN

One of my favorite fun facts to unveil whenever I’m strolling with a friend down a city footpath goes like this: “Did you know that pigeons are actually doves?”

About half the time, my friend couldn’t care less. (Their loss.) But sometimes, they’re taken aback. Doves are creatures of dignity and grace. They were considered good omens as early as ancient Mesopotamia, and today doves—especially white doves—are considered symbols of peace. Compare that to the city pigeon.

Sometimes called “*rats with wings*,” the plump, Typically gray birds with an iridescent neck-flash are scorned worldwide as pests.



Yet, it’s true: A dove of peace is a white pigeon, no more and no less. The two are interchangeable—there’s no rhyme or reason why some of the 300-plus species in the family Columbidae are called pigeons and others doves—and yet we afford the dove some grandeur while the pigeon is relegated to the trash bin.

I’ve always felt the pigeon deserved more admiration. So I was flabbergasted in 2003 when the North American authority on bird names, the American Ornithological Society, officially changed the pigeon’s English name from the long-held Rock Dove to the Rock Pigeon. As if the birds didn’t suffer enough dishonor already! They should at least be allowed to share their English name with the rest of the dove family. But, no: The Brits had decided to rename the Rock Dove as the Rock Pigeon, and North American ornithologists had little choice but to follow suit.

This year, however, there is a revolution in the works. Terry Chesser, a bird taxonomist at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, recently submitted a proposal to the American Ornithological Society’s classification committee to revert the species’ common name to Rock Dove.

When I asked Chesser if his decision had anything to do with restoring the Rock Dove’s dignity, he declined to comment. “It’s strictly a nomenclatural issue for me,” he wrote in an email to *Audubon*. You see, after the 2003 name change, it came to several ornithologists’ attention that there is an

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existing group of Australian birds (*Petrophassa* sp.) called rock-pigeons. So, calling the city pigeon Rock Pigeon was causing some confusion. The American Ornithologist Society classification committee will take up the proposal for a vote this year.

(Update: The proposal was voted down, and the city pigeon remains a Rock Pigeon officially. Alas!)



You can imagine my surprise and delight at this news; after all, pigeons are doves, and deserve to be treated as such. Their only crimes against humanity appear to be their presence in our urban territory, and their spectacular success as a species.

Rock Doves survive on every continent except for Antarctica, in no small part because they breed excessively. Young birds can begin breeding after only five months, and a female may nest eight times per year with the same partner. (The species is monogamous.) Combine those traits with their highly adaptive diet—pigeons evolved tastes far beyond the seeds and grains scavenged in their native northern Europe, and into more exotic fare like popcorn, French fries, meat, and garbage—and you’ve got an evolutionary superstar.

No wonder Rock Doves strut around with their chests puffed out and colorful necks gleaming in the sunlight! And yet most people still consider them literal trash birds.

That’s a shame, because pigeons and people go together like doves and olive branches. “Pigeons seldom exist apart from people,” writes John Eastman in *Birds of Forest, Yard, & Thicket*. “The farmer is its friend, the city dweller its closest friend.” Evidence of our close bond can be found in the proclivities of pigeon fanciers, who have developed some two hundred different breeds of Rock Dove optimized for color, plumage, speed, and meat. And don’t forget homing pigeons’ service to humankind during war. In World War I and World War II, pigeons delivered messages to the frontlines when other communication methods proved too dangerous; some 32 pigeons even received the Dickin Medal, awarded to animals who serve the United Kingdom, for

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Which is all the more reason to return their common name to Rock Dove, indicating that they are a remarkable species that's part of a much larger family of beautiful birds. I asked renowned ornithologist Kenn Kaufman, who's also *Audubon's* field editor, what he thought about the proposal to revert Rock Pigeons to Rock Doves. "People get bent out of shape about these things, and I really don't care," he said. "Pigeon and dove are two different words for birds in that family. It's like egret and heron."

Fair point; I'm probably going a little overboard here. But when pressed, Kaufman did get behind the idea. "Doves are symbols of peace, and pigeons are easy marks," he said, reconsidering his position. "I like the dignity of it."

So, there you have it: I think we can all agree that it's time for the Rock Dove to have its respectability, and its proper name, restored.

Source: www.audubon.org/news/we-should-definitely-call-pigeons-rock-doves



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MY BEGINNINGS WITH PARROT MUTATIONS BREEDING

The following article by Nanda Kishore was published in Parrot Daily News and is reproduced with the kind permission of Lubomir Tomiska Editor in Chief, Parrot Daily News

Aviculture is an art where you use birds as your canvas.... it is a slow and steady process, where, patience is the key to success. The joy of holding your art ... your produce... your baby is beyond words.

Like everyone else I too started bird keeping as a kid (22 years ago) and my first birds were budgerigars. The little birds blew my mind with the blue and green colours. I noticed that the green birds had a yellow head and the blue budgies had a white head... but, one out of the 24 birds I had was blue and had a yellow head. That bird was the inspiration for me to understand the genetics of birds... I tried to understand by asking a few people who had birds but, whatever they spoke was gibberish to me.



Later as I joined my college I studied genetics as a subject and began to understand the terms like genes, alleles, chromosomes, mutation, sex linked genes and co-dominant genes, homozygous, heterozygous, phenotype and genotype... etc. My urge for understanding the birds genetic patterns became a burning desire. Though I read about genetics to put it into use was very tricky. When I studied genetics they spoke about the ratio of babies with certain characters.... but, when I crossed birds here the ratios were very different as the number of chicks were varying in number. I started to get confused and was losing orientation..

Until I met a professor from UCLA at a seminar hosted by CCMB (center for cellular and molecular biology) and, he told me a very funny quotation "probability is the best way to go wrong.... confidently". He told me that when you want to breed birds for a certain trait, you must take it up as a project and have a facility to retain all offspring and that the record keeping should be the priority... those words became my motto. My journey had begun.

I wanted to breed my budgies and get colours of my choice. I had to choose one mutation and I chose to have fallow birds (unfortunately I don't have pictures of those birds anymore) I had one bird which was

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a allow (red eyes with very light markings) and I crossed it with a normal blue bird. All the babies were normal blue. We bred the pair for one year and had about 17 chicks. We further inbred the chicks randomly and then got a few lacewings, fallows and spangles. We started to inbreed the fallows with fallows and we got a lot of fallows... spangles with spangles gave us birds with almost clear markings. However, the lack of pure or homozygous pairs was a big big challenge to predict the colour patterns.

We later bred budgies for head crests. I got my hands on two tufted male birds and we started to breed them with normal budgies and later we kept pairing the offspring. The challenge here was to know when you have pushed too far as the crest is a deformity in the birds skull and too much of a crest formation can lead to death if the offspring. After about 4 generations I got some good crested birds. However we could not pair a crested to a crested as the chicks would not survive, we has to keep pairing them with normals of tufted birds...

The day I held my first crested bird I was soo happy. I am convinced that I am an artist with birds as my canvas.

Now that we moved to conures, I like to do the same thing with my green cheek conure mutations. I once bred two yellow sided conures and got two pineapple mutation chicks, and, both were females (I later learnt that it was a sex linked mutation) I saw that the chicks were fairly good in size and shape compared to the birds in the market. I got a few males and paired them... the chicks I got perfect looking babies. I retained a female and paired it with a normal blue green cheek conure and we got the wild green cheek conure...



I now want to see what the next generation offspring would be like. I think the prospects are a lot with birds like these that are split to so many genes ... you may get normal green birds, blue green cheeks, blue pine-apples ... etc

The journey has just begun for me with these conures. I hope to see many many colours in my painting.

Source: www.parrotsdailynews.com



CHRISTMAS BOOBIES UPSET FACEBOOK

WHEN the Christmas Island tourism board decided to promote its lovely juvenile Boobies, it never thought it would have Facebook's pervert police on its case

The proposed promotion might sound a bit dodgy, but it was a plan to advertise the island's annual Bird 'n' Nature Week, and its population of endangered Booby birds.

But the social media site claimed the promoted ad of a baby Brown Booby with the accompanying text - "Some gorgeous shots here of some juvenile boobies" - breached decency guidelines, and removed the offending picture.

An appeal from Christmas Island marketing bosses to Facebook still failed to get the ad passed.

"We presumed our original advert was blocked automatically so we appealed to Facebook directly who re-affirmed the campaign was banned due to the sexual language, particularly the use of the word 'boobies'," said Linda Cash, marketing manager of the Christmas Island Tourism Association.

But it hasn't harmed business too much, with accommodation for the eco-tourist event booked up for months, and the Facebook intervention highlighting the beauty - and plight - of the indigenous Booby bird.



Three species - the Brown Booby, the Red-footed Booby and the Abbott's Booby - live on the island, 580km south of Java, where the latter is exclusively found.

Alongside some 80,000 nesting seabirds and the island's annual red crab migration - recalled by legendary British conservationist David Attenborough as one of his top 10 most memorable experiences - the abundant wildlife is hoped to attract increasing numbers of eco-tourists.

"This is a pure wildlife haven, with some of the best diving in the world, and we are currently in a competition to be named the eighth natural wonder of the world," Ms Cash told AAP.

With the island's asylum seeker detention centre shutting, eco-tourism could secure the future livelihoods of the island's 1,350 permanent residents, she said.



VIRUS CAUSES LORIKEETS TO 'DROP OUT OF THE SKY'

Experts don't know what causes it or why, but a virus that spreads quickly in close contact is causing rainbow lorikeets to "drop out of the sky" across South-East Queensland.

"There are lots and lots of cases in Brisbane at the moment. I'm pretty much inundated by things," Professor Jones said.

He said while it was not related to COVID-19, it had an important similarity in that it spread quickly when the birds were in close contact.

The severity of the disease can vary between birds but it can lead to them dying "pretty horribly".

"Some of the birds, because they can't fly or walk properly, will fall out of the sky," Professor Jones said. "They have a clenched claw, so they can't land and hold on to a branch: that's the simple problem. They fall to the ground and starve to death or a predator gets them or ants get them. It's a pretty horrible way to go."

RSPCA spokesman Michael Beatty said the rescue service had seen many cases of it.

"At any given time, we will have 30 lorikeets in [the wildlife hospital] because of it," he said.

Professor Jones said experts did not know what was causing it, but it had been known to occur at different times in eastern Australia since the 1970s.

This year the cases were predominantly around South-East Queensland, with cases also being reported on the Sunshine Coast. He said if a person found a bird lying on the ground and it appeared to be dead or injured, it was still worth taking to a vet.

"The treatment can vary, depending on how badly they are affected."

Professor Jones said feeding birds was — and wasn't — the problem. The problem is we bring them in together to feed.

He said it was thought some of the birds' natural foods might be the origin.

"There is an enormous amount of natural food out there, flowers of every sort, but somehow it's causing a disease. We don't know the link — we know what it is, but we don't know what is causing it or why."

Source: www.abc.net.au



THE JASPE CANARY MUTATION EXPLAINED

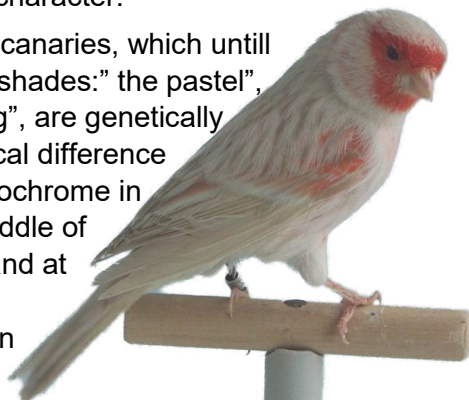
The following article is a translation of information published by Pajaros Canarios Domestico and other sources in Spain

This mutation opens a lot of new possibilities for different phenotypes in colour canaries and has been known for a long time in some European birds like the Eurasian Siskin (*carduelis spinus*). It was subsequently transmitted to the South American Hooded Siskin (*carduelis magellanica*) and from this it was then transmitted to the canary by Mr. Jose Antonio, Abellan Baños, a noted breeder from Murcia, Spain, which in 1996 obtained the first hybrids “F1” fertile.

Josè Banos, starting hybridisation with a lighter black headed siskin, where the ‘dominant’ mutation factor was already present was after many years of work, able to obtain the “Jaspè” canary, that’s to say the “pastel shade” canary as a dominant character.

An absolute novelty in the colours of canaries, which until now presented a character of lighter shades:” the pastel”, and as a consequence “the grey wing”, are genetically bound transmissions. The phenotypical difference of this is in the presence of yellow lipochrome in the ribbing of the wingspan, in the middle of the primary and secondary pinions, and at the beginning of the rectrices.

In technical terms the Jasper variation is a remarkable dilution of the



melanin melanic structure. Both black and brown that create the effects of melanin striping are reduced to thin veins of dark melanin, of a metallic colour called ‘jaspered’.

This is continued along the shafts and on the edge of the feathers, of the entire back or mantle, where the dilution takes place, from the shafts of the feather towards the contour of the back in all directions, offering a nice contrast. The spines of the coverts are therefore dark, unlike that of the chest and tail feathers where the dilution is clear. The sub-plumage feathers are the same colour as the particular variety, just like in the classic canaries. This is inheritable and transmissible so the new character qualifies as a mutation.

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Currently it can only be seen in the black types with yellow factors and white factors, in the dark yellow ones, and in the agate yellow ones, but the goals of the breeders suggests that other mutations and varieties, will receive recognition. The best results were observed when, combining the two dominant factors, and in this way achieving the “double factor” of lighter shades, another spectacular novelty.

When first viewed in September 2006, it was decided that José Antonio Abellán Banos should present it at the International Exhibition of Reggio Emilia , where it was received with great interest and success

CANARY BLACK JASPER SINGLE DILUTION

The black-type phenotype is characterized by the appearance of a diluted sample relative to its classic predecessor, with small venous marks on the head, neck, and back. There remains a dark mantle composed of eumelanin and a slight presence of pheomelanin.

CANARY BRUNO JASPER SIMPLE DILUTION

The mutation exerts an eumelanin reduction action on the classical canary or sea bass, in this case Bruno, resulting in a reduction of the melanic pattern to fine veins of dark melanic melanins similar to the pearl gray gemstone that extends throughout the entire back of the cloak.

CANARY AGATE JASPER SIMPLE DILUTION

The strong dilution that the mutation exerts on agate, leaves us with a specimen similar to the classic one, with a perfectly striated design, but more diluted.



DID YOU KNOW....

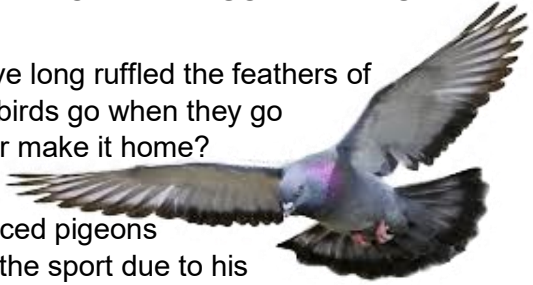
The Slender-billed Corella feeds on the ground in large flocks which puts it at risk from Predators, so in order to avoid that danger they employ sentinel or lookout birds while they feed, to warn the flock of oncoming danger.



PIGEON RACERS KEEN TO KNOW WHY SOME BIRDS NEVER MAKE IT HOME

They are the questions that have long ruffled the feathers of pigeon racers — where do the birds go when they go awry? And why don't some ever make it home?

Rob Vanderveen, from Cairns in far north Queensland, has raced pigeons for six years and was drawn to the sport due to his fascination with animals and their behaviour.



He too has pondered these questions which are often debated between fliers.

"[Pigeons] are the racehorses of the sky. But that's the point A to B. The unknown in between is the conversation all the time," Mr Vanderveen said. "Every weekend it's the same stupid question we keep asking ourselves. You've been flying for six years and you've thought 'I've spent half my life asking where these things go'."

But it's an intriguing question. Where do the pigeons go?

Mr Vanderveen said there were many theories within the pigeon racing fraternity, especially as to why some birds went missing.

The magnetic pull of the Earth, solar flares, 5G towers, mobile phones — when you compact it all together it could be a bit of everything," he said.

The Federal Government's Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) researches and monitors the effects of mobile phone towers.

Assistant director of the agency's assessment and advice section, Ken Karipidis, has assessed the effects of radio waves on animals.

He said while birds use natural electromagnetic fields, or radio waves, to help with navigation, there was no research that showed the impact of radio or mobile phone towers on a bird's orientation.



"Mobile phone towers and other wireless telecommunications sources, including 5G, emit low-level radiofrequency electromagnetic fields which are also called radio waves," Dr Karipidis said.

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"It's well established that some animals, including birds such as pigeons, rely on natural electromagnetic fields as one of a number of parameters believed to be used for orientation and navigational cues.

But the president of the Queensland Racing Pigeon Federation, Wayne Reese, said he believed there may be a link.

"There has been a bit of upsurge in the number of birds that get lost, or get lost for a period of time," he said. "It could be phone towers and it pretty much coincides with that. It seems to have corresponded with around the time mobile phones started. We had a pick-up in the amount of losses. We don't really know why [pigeons] know their way home so it could be something like [phone tower signals] that interferes with them."

Man-made factors, natural predators to blame?

Golo Maurer, from Birdlife Australia's Key Biodiversity Areas project, said he was unaware of any evidence that signals from mobile phone towers disrupted a bird's navigational sense.

Dr Maurer has done extensive studies into wild bird migration and believes variations in the Earth's magnetic field could be sending pigeons off course. But he believed urban development, resulting in habitat loss, was a more likely factor.

"Our landscape is more and more built-up ... probably in the same timeframe that people have been worrying about pigeons not returning. We've lost 60 per cent of some native birds in some areas," Dr Maurer said.

Dr Maurer said urban development reduced the opportunities for pigeons to rest or feed en route, while window strikes, which kill millions of birds worldwide every year, could be another possibility.

He suggested the prevalence of natural predators had also increased, in particular the peregrine falcon, since the use of Dichlorodiphenyl trichloroethane (DDT) was banned.

Mr Vanderveen agreed.

"When you look at all the data that's out there, the peregrine falcon is high on the list," he said.

Source: www.abc.net.au



THE CINNAMON GOULDIAN

The latest Gouldian Finch Mutation to create a frenzy of excitement in Australia is the very sought-after Cinnamon Mutation, which was first bred by Gary Herrick of Melbourne from a pair of split to blue Gouldians that he had purchased locally some eight years ago.

All of the credit must go to Gary for his expertise and dedication to the challenge of developing a new and at times difficult mutation in the weather-challenged city of Melbourne; chilly weather shows no mercy to Gouldians.



This also shows the quality and the strength of the Cinnamon gene that we, as mutation breeders, have been waiting in anticipation for many years, giving us more options to take it further, also developing new exciting colours.

Over my bird breeding years, I have bred Gouldians, Canaries and also Parrots. In those early days we only had access to normal Gouldians, no mutations existed; although many were bred, sadly none were developed. I have no doubt that in those days the Cinnamon was bred plus the Lutino and the Blue as confirmed by the articles from Ray Murray. With canaries, things were very different. The Cinnamon was one of the first mutations to show its face, already established in France in 1709 and well established in Australia in the late 1960. The canary breeders were aware of the importance of the Cinnamon to their show stock birds, improving the feather quality and also enhancing the size and the genetic strength.

Some of the Cinnamon canary hens that I bred were exceptional in size and feather quality. Because of this Cinnamon improvement to my stock birds, I won my way from novice to open class in just two show seasons.

The Cinnamon is always a sex-Linked Character, regardless of what type of bird you are working with. This Cinnamon Gouldian has appeared because of a spontaneous change in the gene that is responsible for Eumelanin Black; so Cinnamon stops the black pigment from being produced which then changes the colour to brown family pigment – simply the Cinnamon cannot produce black family pigment any more. This colour change of the family pigment in the Cinnamon also affects the eye colour of newly hatched chicks from black in the normal to a

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plum colour but does change darker around seven to ten days – the skin colour of the legs changes from dark to a flesh colour. Interestingly, the beak also is a flesh colour and should not go dark when in breeding condition as will the normal Gouldian.

A normal green Gouldian is a Yellow Ground bird. Now if you remove the yellow pigment from a green bird, what you have left is a blue bird (remember when your kids mixed water colours blue and yellow to create green). The same happens with colour in birds. A blue bird is a White Ground bird because the yellow has been removed. Similarly, a Cinnamon is a Yellow Ground bird but once mixed with a blue bird it becomes a Cinnamon Blue which is a White Ground bird.

A Cinnamon can only be one of three types:

- 1) A Cinnamon Hen – there cannot be split hens, it either is or it's not a Cinnamon hen.
- 2) A Split Cock – if put to a normal, will produce cinnamon hens at 50% of hens and split cocks at 50% of cocks bred.
- 3) A Coloured Cock – if put to a normal, hen will produce 100% split cocks and cinnamon coloured hens.

I think this mutation with all that it has to offer will prove in time to be most helpful when used for the development of better quality birds, also being helpful in the development of other secondary mutations. In my opinion this Cinnamon is a win, win, for us all!

Source: Published with permission of the author—Don Crawford

DID YOU KNOW...

One of their most baffling movements of Pelicans is that from the coast to inland breeding sites. However, nobody knows just how the pelicans know to leave the coast and head inland to breed at just the right time

Pelicans are associated with wetlands, and in the interior of Australia, the wetlands are ephemeral, filling only after infrequent drenching rains, but when they do, some usually attract pelicans to breed. Lake Eyre, for example, acts like a magnet for pelicans, which flock there in their thousands to nest.



WESTERN GROUND PARROT: RACE TO SAVE RARE WEST AUSTRALIAN BIRD

Translocation is the long-term strategy to save the last wild population of one of the world's rarest parrots, which lost most of its known habitat in Western Australia's south to a series of devastating bushfires.

Less than 150 Western Ground Parrots are estimated to have survived last year's inferno in Cape Arid National Park and adjacent Nutysland Nature Reserve.



It was the fourth major blaze in the area since 2015 and slashed the bird's unburnt habitat by about 90 per cent.

The parrot was the highest-ranked bird species in a provisional list of 113 animals considered the top priorities for urgent intervention, and WA's Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions launched a major monitoring and management effort in January.

It installed dozens of acoustic recording units in the remote area to capture the parrots' call, allowing experts to assess population numbers, which can ultimately contribute to a long-term translocation strategy.

Perth Zoo have installed a new CCTV system to monitor the rare Western Ground parrot. The recordings are stored on data cards, which fill up after several months, and a helicopter is the most efficient way to retrieve them.

Paul Wettin of Friends of the Western Ground Parrot says much-needed cash from WIRES Landcare Australia Wildlife Relief and Recovery Grants will fund that work over coming months when several flights are planned.

"Currently some 7500 hours of recordings need to be analysed by DBCA staff," Mr Wettin said.

He said translocation needed to be considered given the vulnerability of the remaining birds to more fires and other threats such as feral cats, providing an "insurance" population.

"If done, it needs to be in a secure, sustainable location and consider the impacts on the source population," Mr Wettin said.

Source: Fremantle Gazette

CANOLA AND CARNABY'S COCKATOO LINK FOUND

Researchers in Western Australia's Mid West have found a link between canola planting and numbers of the threatened Carnaby's cockatoo.

Denis Saunders began studying the endangered bird with the CSIRO at Coomaloo Creek, east of Jurien Bay, in 1969 and believed numbers had increased since the uptake of farmers in the region growing canola.

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment said numbers of the Carnaby's cockatoo around the state had declined over 50 per cent in the past 50 years, largely due to land clearing.

But alongside the installation of artificial nesting boxes in 2011, Dr Saunders said an increase in canola crops around Coomaloo Creek had seen breeding attempts for the beloved cockatoo rise three-fold to 120 breeding attempts in 2019.

Fledgling Carnaby's cockatoos were found to be particularly healthy thanks to the abundance of canola for food.

"And what was interesting is before 1996 I had never seen a female younger than four years old attempt to breed, but [in 2019] we were getting three-year-olds breeding," he said. "There was obviously ample food, because the birds were producing fledglings which were really in good, healthy condition. Canola has been a godsend to them."

Dr Saunders would like to see 'sacrificial' canola crops planted to support the endangered species.

Canola's appeal a mystery

Dr Saunders said he was not sure what made canola such a sought after feed for the cockatoo, but said the season overlapped with the bird's mating season which assisted in boosting numbers.

"I don't know why canola, and not wheat, barley or oats which they don't eat but are grown in large quantities around their range. But they'll even eat it green, and once it's harvested there's always grain lying around on the ground. So the canola growing season and the breeding season of the birds overlap greatly, so the timing is right for them as well."



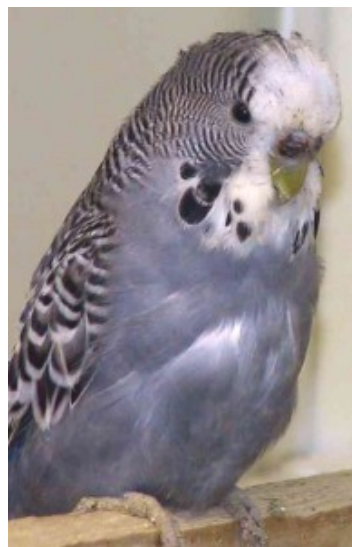
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THE ANTHRACITE BUDGERIGAR MUTATION

The Anthracite budgerigar mutation is an extremely rare mutation similar to the *Violet* budgerigar mutation, that causes a difference in the coloring of budgerigars. Anthracites have black or very dark gray feathers, possibly with some white depending on the budgerigar in particular.

The mutation is believed to have started in Germany where it appeared in 1998 in the aviaries of Hans-Jürgen H Lenk, who successfully established the strain and continues to report on its development. Initially found only in Germany, by the end of 2008 descendants of this original mutation had been exported to America, Belgium, Canada, England, Finland, Holland, Italy, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland and is now reported to be in Australia

The description and genetic behaviour of the Anthracite and *English Grey* are identical, insofar as this can now be determined. It seems likely that the Anthracite is the re-emergence of the *English Grey*.



Genetics

A bird with two Anthracite factors has an extremely dark grey body, jet black markings and the cheek patches of the same very dark grey as the body. G W von Kamrath describes them as "jet black wing and tail markings and deep black cheek patches".

A single Anthracite factor has a similar effect to the *Dark* mutation, causing a Skyblue to become Cobalt in appearance.

The Anthracite mutation has an incompletely dominant relationship with its wild-type allele. That is, it shows a visible effect when present as a single factor (SF) and a different effect when present as a double factor (DF).

In the green series varieties the SF Anthracite Light Green has one Anthracite allele and one wild-type allele at the Anthracite locus. This darkens the body colour to a shade somewhat deeper than a Dark Breen

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The DF Anthracite Light Green, with two Anthracite alleles, is a deep olive colour.

In the blue series varieties the SF Anthracite Skyblue has one Anthracite allele and one wild-type allele, with a body colour rather like a deep Cobalt. The DF Anthracite Skyblue with two Anthracite alleles, the true Anthracite variety, has a dark grey, almost black, body colour with mauve overtones.

Because the Anthracite factor is always visibly expressed no budgerigar can be split for Anthracite. The Anthracite SF with just one Anthracite allele corresponds to the splits of recessive mutations.

A single Anthracite factor has a similar effect to the *Dark* mutation, causing a Skyblue to become Cobalt in appearance - as was suspected with the *English Grey*. In fact, the similarity of the Anthracite to the *English Grey* is striking. The description is virtually identical, and the cobalt appearance of a Skyblue with a single Anthracite factor is exactly what was suspected for the *English Grey*.

The interaction of the Anthracite and *Dark* budgerigar mutations has not yet been investigated. It is expected that a combination of the two factors will deepen the body colour even more.

Source: <http://www.budgerigarworld.com/what-is-an-anthracyte-budgie-carl-slavin-canada-photos-didier-mervilde-belgium/>



THE SPANISH TIMBRADO CANARY

The Spanish Timbrado Canary is a breed of song canary, developed in Spain in the 1940's and 1950's. It is also considered to be the purest domestic form of canary being closest genetically to the original wild canary. It was developed by crossing the wild canary with the song bird of Spain. This combination resulted in a bird with a very unique song. The name, like its song, suggests the chattering of Spanish castanets, Although loud, their songs are not grating or harsh. They consist of many quick successions and combinations of notes. A good Spanish Timbrado has a bright cheery song and is very pleasant to listen to.

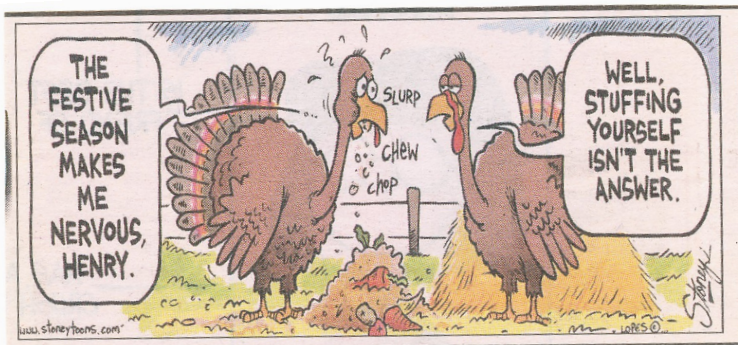
This bird can make a wonderful companion to be enjoyed for its song as well as its beautiful appearance. They have now been bred with all sorts of colors along with a variety of clear, metallic tones to their songs and are steadily growing in popularity.



The Spanish Timbrado is classed as one of

several well known 'song canaries', bred for song rather than physical appearance or color. Shows for these birds are of a different nature than shows for other canary types. Basically being entered into singing contests these canaries are bred with the goal of achieving winners with the best balance between quality and variety of song.

Some of the other well know song canaries include: the Roller Canary, the American Singer Canary, the Russian Singer Canary, and the Waterslager Canary with each variety of 'song canary' having a distinctive song and a well-defined song standard.



THE CANARY & CAGE BIRD FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

MINUTES OF THE ZOOM GENERAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 2nd September 2020.

The President opened the meeting at 8:00pm welcoming the delegates, thanking them for their attendance.

ATTENDANCE:

There were 18 delegates in attendance including, S Davis, R Robertson, C Gruntar, B Barnes, J Forrest, C Tsintarakis, B Goleby, N Love, T Hartung, W Robinson, F Attard, G Brandon, T Keogh, J Norriss, M Gallagher, G Brandon, Mary & Brad Kerr.

APOLOGIES: W Wilson, G Roberts, T Woodham, I Cindric, J Palmano, C Isbister.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the 1st July General Meeting of Federation had been distributed electronically to all clubs and delegates who attended. It was moved F Attard and seconded W Robinson that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the July General meeting – Carried

Matters arising out of the minutes:

None other than matters that can be held over for Reports and General Business.

In-coming correspondence as follows:

- Affiliated clubs. Notification of office bearers duly elected at their AGM's, clubs requesting assistance with matters regarding the insurance 2021 ring orders from various affiliates. Notification of delegates for the 2nd September Zoom meeting.
- Mackay City Budgerigar Society Inc., request for affiliation and insurance with completion of the application and Privacy forms, together with payment.
- Busselton Pigeon Club Inc., request for affiliation and insurance with completion of the application and Privacy forms, together with payment.
- Central Coast Poultry Club Inc. request for affiliation and insurance with completion of the application and Privacy forms, together with payment.
- President / Govt Liaison Officer. Sam Davis- ongoing communication, received in response to their communication with, NSW OEH / NPWS, - Wildlife Licensing submission, NSW DPI - Animal Welfare Action Plan, Keeper / Dealer Stakeholder Consultative Group meeting – ACA animal welfare alliance, W.A. DPAW Biodiversity Conservation Regulations.

Newsletters / Journals – Received from various clubs, with notification of club events for insurance:

Out-going correspondence as follows:

- Details of affiliation and insurance provided to clubs requesting information.
- Ring secretary's reminder notice for 2021 ring consolidation shipments for rings required for distribution by the 1st January 2021
- Mackay City Budgerigar Society Inc. Forwarding their copy of the CoC together with the covering letter detailing the policy requirements.
- Central Coast Poultry Club Inc. Forwarding their copy of the CoC together with the covering letter detailing the policy requirements.
- [Busselton Pigeon Club Inc.](#), Forwarding their copy of the CoC together with the covering letter detailing the policy requirements.
- State Budgerigar Councils, requesting review and notification if 2021 insurance is not required for some branches and associated clubs.

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- President / Govt Liaison Officer, Sam Davis. - ongoing communication, in response to their communication with Minister for Agriculture NSW, Minister for Energy and Environment NSW, , NSW OEH / NPWS, Wildlife Licensing submission, NSW DPI - Animal Welfare Action Plan, Keeper / Dealer Stakeholder Consultative Group meeting – ACA animal welfare alliance, W.A. DPAW Biodiversity Conservation Regulations.
- Bruce Goleby commented, re ACT office of Conservator of Flora and Fauna, stating recent contact indicated they will soon implement the plans detailed in the following CCBFA submissions.
<https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/ccbfa-act-exempt-020919.pdf>
<https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/ccbfa-ACT-pestanimal.pdf>

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE:

Moved N Love and seconded B Barnes that application for affiliation and insurance be accepted for Mackay City Budgerigar Society Inc., Busselton Pigeon Club Inc., and Central Coast Poultry Club Inc. :- carried

It was moved by C Tsintarakis and seconded by J Forrest that the correspondence be received, and the Secretary's and President's actions endorsed - Carried

TREASURERS REPORT

Cheque account balance 2nd September \$28,798.55

The following accounts were submitted for endorsement:

- Kwik Kopy 30 copies August / September issues of Feathered World 32 pages FW \$74.70,
- Postage: Feathered World invoices and issues for Aug. / Sept \$55.00,
- Editor: Feathered World Aug./ Sept. \$150.00,
- Stationary \$19.48, Rings postage \$3.50, Dinner-shield engraving \$32.00.

It was moved by B Kerr and seconded by T Hartung that the payments and the Treasurers actions be endorsed - Carried

REPORTS:

President Sam Davis presented reported on:

- **NSW Native Animal Licensing Update.**

Unfortunately, Atticus Fleming did not respond as promised despite many prompts and reminders. CCBFA therefore asked ACA President Michael Donnelly to intervene on our behalf via Minister Kean's office. The Minister's Chief of Staff subsequently spoke to Atticus Fleming about the matter. Atticus has contacted ACA indicating a brief on the matter will be put to the Minister's office. This has not yet occurred and is overdue.

We are currently considering progressing the matter via a range of political contacts including Liberal, Labor and SFFP members of parliament in both houses.

- **Exhibition of exotic animals in circuses and exhibition of cetaceans in NSW.**

ACA appeared at this inquiry on behalf of all who keep captive animals. This inquiry was established by the Animal Justice Party (AJP) who currently have 2 upper house MPs in NSW (Emma Hurst and Mark Pearson) and 1 in Victoria, Andy Meddick.

The inquiry claimed to focus on Circus and cetaceans, however the definitions of Circus, Exotic and Wild Animal are particularly poorly defined such that any exhibition of any type of any animal is potentially implicated. ACA was central to this issue being exposed and ACA has been asked to assist the inquiry to redefine these terms, both in terms of the new animal welfare act currently being drafted as well as for the current inquiry.

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The quality of the evidence given by ACA President Michael Donnelly was commendable, and in my view was the standout presentation. ACA has had many dealings with inquiry MPs since which really has raised the status of ACA.

Clubs are encourage to join and support the work of ACA – www.animalcareaustralia.org.au

- **Review of the EPBC Act – Interim Report**

In general...

We must be clear about ensuring the bureaucracy does not “wag the dog”. It is my view this needs to be specifically legislated against within the Act.

I have been involved in many areas of government and the environment area is one where this is an enormous issue. It is particularly difficult to have alternative views heard, respected, and acted upon in this space. Too often those working in environment departments who are tasked with implementing environmental initiatives come with their own biases that exclude alternatives.

We need to encourage innovation and support parallel ways of looking at and addressing issues, particularly in the threatened species space.

Inconsistencies between the current EPBC Act and CITES obligations...

CCBFA supports simplifying regulated international trade in captive bred birds, particularly to deter smuggling. There are anomalies in our EPBC Act 1999 that do not reflect CITES and that are currently incentivising smuggling.

Examining the text of CITES, in particular Article VII...

<https://www.cites.org/eng/disc/text.php>

CITES Article VII (4) states captive bred Appendix I species for commercial export are to be treated as Appendix II species, therefore Article IV applies. Article IV regulates trade in Appendix II species, it requires captive proof from the exporter, however there are no import requirements (from CITES).

And perhaps even more convincing is CITES Article VII (5). This clause makes it clear that captive bred animals require no CITES documentation apart from a captive bred assurance from the Management Authority of the State of export.

Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.) further expands on this notion.

<https://www.cites.org/eng/res/10/10-16C15.php>

Australia has not implemented Article VII (4) or (5) so far as I can tell. I believe as a signatory, we are obliged to do so. We suggest a subsection, say “303FKA Import of captive bred CITES listed species” to correct this omission and if accepted (not so simple) solve the problem.

- **COVID-19 Update.**

Events have recommenced in WA. Unfortunately, in most other jurisdictions, things have not improved since our last correspondence with most events cancelled or postponed.

The overriding requirements is that ALL bird events, including shows, sales and club meetings must comply with relevant current state government orders, direction and/or guidelines.

CCBFA will continue to hold meetings via Zoom during 2020. It is unlikely we will return to Ashfield RSL until 2021.

Moved B Goleby and seconded by B Barnes that the Reports be accepted, and thanked – Carried

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GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Guest of Honour Dinner.** Cancelled due to COVID, to be held 2021 when restrictions are lifted, same venue at Panarama House at Stanwell Tops. Guest of honour were Don Price and Peter Southgate.
- **Ring Orders 2021.** Clubs (Finches, Budgerigar, other species) requiring rings for distribution by the 1st January 2021 are requested to submit orders by the 30th September 2020 to be included in first 2021 consolidation. The initial orders for **2021 canary rings** [if required for distribution at the specialist Annual shows at the end of May] should be finalised by the 1st March 2021. Clubs requiring an order form which must be completed, should contact the Secretary, Ron Robertson.
- **Show and Sale dates for 2021** – Clubs are requested to email the secretary the dates for their 2021 shows, sales and auctions, including phone number of the contact person and venue details. It is understood that confirmation of the venue may be in abeyance / pending, however we request the tentative / projected dates be advised. Email secretary@ccbfa.org.au
- **Public & Products Liability Insurance for 2021** - It is important to note that all affiliates have a requirement to give advanced notice if they do not require the insurance for 2021. All affiliates are requested to advise CCBFA by the 30th September 2020 should you not require cover for the ensuing year. Failure to do so will necessitate being charged.
- **WIRES Rehoming.** Bob Barnes advised that he had received a request for assistance in rehoming a 40-year-old Cockatoo in Wagga Wagga and was pleased to advise that a local aviculturist was able to assist.
- **Feathered World publication, consider redesign of the cover?**
 - ◆ The current cover has been in use since the 1950s, therefore care is needed before changing. Thoughts were to modernise based on a similar design but more in keeping with our new CCBFA logo and incorporating the logo. Consideration for small banner text highlighting the main articles/issues within each edition, but the main cover design remains the same.
 - ◆ Our Editor Jamie will propose initial design concepts to the November meeting.
 - ◆ CCBFA will consider funding a graphic designer to finalise a professional cover design.
- **NSW Bird Sale Code of Practice Review.**

An initial draft code was emailed to all club delegates prior to the meeting.

The final code will be printed in a nicely formatted A5 booklet. We will also prepare summary versions for printing as posters, and simplified version just for sellers and another just for buyers.

The general timeline for approval and implementation is envisaged as follows...

- ◆ A formal first draft will be released for the November meeting.
- ◆ We envisage re-drafting and finalization at the first few CCBFA meetings in 2021.
- ◆ The approved code is copied and circulated widely during the remainder of 2021 so all clubs and sellers are aware of any changes.
- ◆ The code comes into force from the beginning of 2022.

Discussion of the initial draft with a range of refinements identified. Following the mention of online auctions Jayson requested ideas and input from those involved in running online auctions. All clubs and delegates are asked to submit further written comment and suggested edits to CCBFA at least 1 week prior to the November meeting.

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It is critical that all clubs support the new code including speaking up on any points they would like considered. All animal welfare legislation in NSW is currently under review, there are now 2 Animal Justice Party (AJP) members in NSW parliament, and animal rights extremism is on the rise. It is critical we self-regulate aviculture effectively, particularly for events where we are in the public eye.

Particular thanks to Jayson Forest and Bruce Goleby for their ongoing work on the draft.

- **Parrot Import Risk Assessment**

A draft of the Psittacine Biosecurity Import Risk Analysis (BIRA) has been released for comment. <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/risk-analysis/animal/psittacine-birds>

CCBFA will make a submission prior to the September 19th due date. President Sam Davis attended the webinar for this BIRA on August 31.

Assuming the Psittacine BIRA is approved in similar form to the draft the following will need to occur before any birds can enter the country, particularly listed CITES species.

- a. Species must be on the current live import list. This in itself will likely be a time-consuming undertaking for species not currently on the list. The current list is here - <https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/live-import-list>
- b. The species must be able to be traded under CITES. Currently Australia's interpretation of CITES would prevent many species obtaining the required CITES paperwork. Note CITES comments in "Reports" regarding the review of the federal EPBC Act 1999.
- c. Operational details in terms of the BIRA/quarantine procedures will likely involve the following, assuming the BIRA is approved.
 - I. At least 35 days quarantine and testing pre-export in the source country under the control of a vet employed or approved by the government of the source country.
 - II. Transport to Australia which involves a range of biosecurity checks and balances. All shipments must arrive into Australia at Melbourne airport.
 - III. Finally, 15 days in the Biosecurity Containment Level 3 (BC3) facility at the new Mickleham facility on the outskirts of Melbourne.

Our submission will focus on supporting and promoting the import of psittacines, including congratulating the government officials for their thorough work on the draft.

There are three significant matters our submission will recommend should be addressed.

- a. CCBFA supports a regulated import regime that is economically viable, whilst protecting the biosecurity and biodiversity of Australia's captive and wild birds. Such a system will deter smuggling (including poaching). CCBFA would like to see a simplified regime for both import and export much like that in force for other captive bred species such as dogs, cats, horses, etc.
- b. The draft BIRA does not clearly articulate why a BC3 level of quarantine is required. Many other species are quarantined to protect against airborne viruses, bacteria, etc. in lower level facilities. In addition, why must the Mickleham BC3 facility be used? Why not allow other approved private, zoo or university facilities? BC3 and use of Mickleham will be expensive and will require large shipments that increase risk should disease be identified.

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- c The exchange of Budgerigars between NZ and Australia should be considered a special case. Consideration of special conditions for an NZ budgerigar team to compete in the annual ANBC competition and then return home. Sam (CCBFA President) has made initial enquiries with both NZ and Aust officials to explore the possibilities.

Unfortunately, there has been some unwanted media regarding this matter. The President has emailed both the Guardian and Birdlife Australia to begin a dialogue. Both articles show complete ignorance of the facts regarding aviculture.

The Guardian article -

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/aug/25/federal-government-considers-lifting-ban-on-importing-parrots-25-years-after-it-was-introduced>

The Birdlife Australia article -

<https://birdlife.org.au/media/govt-considers-lifting-ban-on-importing-parrots/>

The President thanked the delegates for attending, as there was no further business the meeting closed at 10:15 p.m.

Notice of the proposed next Zoom General Meeting

Wednesday 4th November 2020

at 8:00 pm





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