



FEATHERED WORLD

CANARY AND CAGE BIRD FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.



COLOUR MUTATIONS IN BIRDS.

HOW THE GALAH GOT ITS NAME IN A MUDDLE

RECORD NSW FLOODING TRIGGERS BREEDING FRENZY

KING QUAIL—WHAT COLOUR IS IT?

NATURE'S LIVING TAPE RECORDER TELLING US SECRETS

CORELLAS AND COCKATOOS FILLING SKIES

TASMANIA'S NATIVE HEN

MINUTES, GENERAL MEETING 1ST MARCH

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Canary & Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc.

ZOOM MEETING DATES 2023

General Meetings 3rd May, 5th July, 6th September & 2nd November

AGM 6th March 2024

Meeting commences at 8:00 pm

NOTE: Meetings at Anzac Room, Ashfield RSL, Liverpool Road, Ashfield
Will be confirmed in advance at previous Zoom Meeting

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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.

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

Ron Robertson, Secretary, The Canary & cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc. PO Box 230, Frenchs Forest, NSW 1640; Phone 0402 888 291: Email: federationbirdclubs@aapt.net.au

2023 RING ORDERS

Supplementary orders can be arranged for all species during 2023. Clubs requiring an order form to be completed, should contact the Secretary.

Clubs requiring an order form which must be completed, should contact:-

Secretary, Ron Robertson,

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Have you updated your club details?

Please send in any club detail changes, including changes of position to the secretary asap. Thank you.



The Canary & Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc now have a Facebook page!!
The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/CCBFA>
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COLOR MUTATIONS IN BIRDS

The code for feathers of a certain color is carried on a bird's genes. Therefore, it is possible to breed birds with genetic codes for different colors together, creating new and different color mutations. Breeding for color mutations has become especially popular in the bird trade as of late, with breeders of many species striving to create the perfect bird in an array of beautiful and sometimes unusual colors. A few species which are known to carry the genes for a variety of color mutations are Budgies and Parakeets, Lovebirds, Cockatiels, and Indian Ringnecks. Breeders working with these species have been able to produce birds in an extraordinary number of colors and shades. While many color mutation birds are already available, the practice of breeding for these mutations is relatively new, so new variations on color themes are popping up in aviaries across the world every day. Many bird species have yet to be bred for color mutations, but with increasing knowledge about genetics, the possibilities for different color combinations are virtually endless.

Different color mutations each have different names, and some aren't as obvious as you would think! The correct name for a yellow mutation bird, for example, would be Lutino.

Other mutations, such as darker or lighter versions of blue, could be labeled Cobalt or Violet. For most pet bird owners, the terminology used to describe the bird isn't nearly as important as the overall condition of the bird itself—but those interested in breeding will need to know the genetic background of the birds they plan on purchasing.

Most breeders are proud of their mutations and will quickly and happily be able to tell you exactly what type of color mutation birds comprise their breeding stock, so it's a good idea to be prepared to ask for clarification on mutations that you haven't heard of before. You want to know what you are breeding!



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How Color Genes Work

The easiest way to explain how color genes work is by example. For instance, my Indian Ringneck Parakeet, Oliver, is green. This is the nominate or normal color for Ringnecks in the wild. Oliver's father was also a normal green, but his mother was Lutino! This means that Oliver is what's known as a Split Lutino Ringneck. If he were to mate with another Ringneck and have babies, it would be possible for some of his offspring to be Lutino even though he is a normal green. The same logic applies to all color mutations and this is what makes the wide and seemingly endless array of new mutations possible

As breeders continue to experiment with new color combinations and species, color mutation birds are becoming more and more popular and available. Those interested in acquiring a color mutation bird for pet or breeding purposes should contact their local bird club or avian veterinarian for information on the care of color mutation birds and links to good, reliable breeders.



HOW THE AUSTRALIAN GALAH GOT ITS NAME IN A MUDDLE

Galahs are the pink and grey cockatoos that are one of the most familiar of all Australian birds. They've have been at the centre of a curious debate: what should their scientific name really be?

It's a tale that spans centuries and continents, and has clues hidden in museums, diaries of 19th century travellers and evolution's own diary of DNA sequences.

When biologists formally publish a scientific description of a new species, they give it a unique scientific name that is forever linked to a single, preserved specimen in a natural history collection. This specimen is known as the holotype.

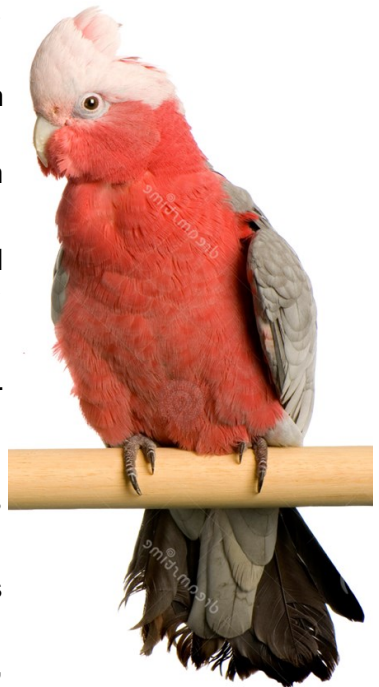
The galah's scientific name is *Eolophus roseicapilla*. Its holotype was collected in Australia in 1801 by biologists on the Expedition led by France's Nicolas Baudin and is held in the Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle, in Paris. East and west

Much later, Australian ornithologists realised galahs in the continent's west look very different from galahs in the east.

Eastern galahs became known as the subspecies *Eolophus roseicapilla roseicapilla*, the holotype of that name automatically being the original held in Paris because it was assumed to have been collected in the east.

The subspecies in the west was named *Eolophus roseicapilla assimilis* and that name was also linked to a new holotype, a bird from the west.

But was the bird collected back in 1801 really from the east? The name *roseicapilla* means pink or rosy "hair" and so refers to the general pink colour of the species. It does not refer to the dark-pink headed galahs from the west as distinct from the pale-pink almost whitish-headed galahs from the east.



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Expedition route

In the late 1980s, Dr Richard Schodde, then the Director of CSIRO's Australian National Wildlife Collection, realised the route of the Baudin Expedition wouldn't have passed anywhere near where eastern galahs occurred at that time.

Galahs were originally birds of arid, inland Australia, only expanding into their present, vast range in the early- to mid-20th century.

The biologists of the Baudin Expedition were more likely to have encountered galahs around Shark Bay in Western Australia. The holotype was more likely a western bird, Schodde reasoned.

Schodde further reasoned that if the holotype in Paris was a western galah, its name, *Eolophus roseicapilla roseicapilla*, actually belonged to the western galahs. This left the eastern galahs, one of the most familiar birds in all of Australia, without a scientific name.

Schodde named them *Eolophus roseicapilla albiceps* and designated a holotype that was collected in Canberra and is held in CSIRO's Australian National Wildlife Collection.

His detective work at that time didn't settle the debate. Simple examination of the holotype in Paris should reveal whether it is an eastern or western bird. But the specimen is more than 200 years old and not in great shape.

Nevertheless, two recent papers published by Australian ornithologists, including a further one by Richard Schodde, and another by our team, have argued that despite the specimen's condition it is identifiable as a western bird.

What the DNA says

Enter DNA to solve the mystery. Australian natural history collections contain hundreds of specimens of galahs from across their modern range.

If these specimens show detectable genetic differences between eastern and western subspecies, and if we can get a DNA result from the Paris holotype, we could find out whether it belongs to the eastern or western group.

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With a colleague in Germany, Thomas Wilke, we mapped genetic diversity of galahs from 192 museum specimens. We found that galahs were likely isolated during the last several hundred thousand years into western, northern and eastern subpopulations.

Even today, with the modern range expansions, any galah can be assigned to either of these three genetic groups regardless of where it occurs.

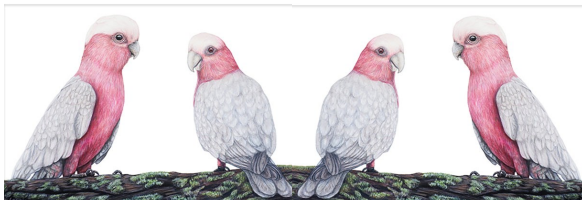
Colleagues at the Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle kindly allowed us to snip some skin from the toe pads of the holotype. One of us (Jeremy Austin) obtained DNA sequences and dropped them into our analysis.

Et voila! The Paris holotype is identical in its DNA sequence to the most common variant found in western birds.

Schodde's theory holds. Galahs in the west should indeed be named *Eolophus roseicapilla roseicapilla* and those in the east *Eolophus roseicapilla albiceps*.

There is a third, northern variant but it is not part of our story here.

And what of the original scientific name for the western galahs, *Eolophus roseicapilla assimilis*? That name is not currently necessary but if anyone ever finds differences within the western birds, it may still be needed.



DID YOU KNOW.....

The Ottomans of Turkey placed carved cobblestones on streets to collect water so thirst birds and street animals could drink from them.



RECORD FLOODING IN NEW SOUTH WALES WETLANDS TRIGGERS BIRD BREEDING BONANZA

It has been a tough few years for Australia's aquatic wildlife with droughts and bushfires. But record-breaking flooding in western New South Wales has provided a lifeline.



University of New South Wales river ecologist Richard Kingsford said the conditions were important for a range of waterbird species because they hadn't been getting as much opportunity to breed as they did in the past.

"A big event like this essentially allows them to bring back their numbers," Professor Kingsford said.

The flush of floodwater has seeped into wetlands and triggered one of the most widespread bird breeding events in decades with hundreds of thousands of waterbirds converging on wetlands such as those at Booligal near Hay in far western NSW.

The Booligal Wetlands are fed by the Lachlan River which cuts through the centre of NSW and which was subject to several months of major flooding late last year.

"What happens in these big floods is that they produce a tremendous flush of things to eat for waterbirds," Professor Kingsford said. "Everything from small invertebrates, to plants, to frogs, to many fish.

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Teams from the University of New South Wales in Sydney are visiting Booligal once a fortnight for six months to monitor the bird breeding event. They waded up to their necks in water that has created the perfect sanctuary for an array of species to breed.

"First you need the flood, then the water needs to stay around [and] the water needs to stay at the right depth," UNSW researcher Jana Stewart said.

Breeding bonanza

The team tags nests which will then be checked for eggs and how many chicks hatch.

Ms Stewart said the wetlands were home to straw-necked ibis, glossy ibis, white ibis, royal spoon bills, ducks, wading birds, as well as fish and invertebrates.

"It feels very special when you come into these places," she said. "We have between 30,000 and 50,000 breeding pairs and you're maybe the only person that these birds have seen so far. Seeing some of the chicks hatch in front of you, it feels very special."

The birds act as a barometer for the rest of the ecosystem.

If they can breed and raise their young, it means the water quality is high and other animals are also flourishing.

"It looks really good; we can see the water is really clear, there's a lot of movement, a lot of chicks around," she said.

Awash with water

The survey is two-fold as the teams are also monitoring the health of the water and collate the data on behalf of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. The information is then used to help determine whether or not more releases are needed from upstream to sustain the wetlands and wildlife.

"The critical thing for these breeding birds is they like to be nesting above water, and that's really so they're protected from predators," Professor Kingsford said. "This is such a big flood event that it's not really envisaged that we need extra water to get them through because there's so much water around."

Loic Julliard and Jana Stewart are among the UNSW researchers studying the Booligal Wetlands. *(ABC Central West: Joanna Woodburn)*

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University of New South Wales has also completed its annual aerial bird count which monitors up to 2,000 sites across eastern Australia.

"They're very thinly spread across the Murray Darling Basin at the moment," Professor Kingsford said.

He said the benefits of the major flood could not be overestimated for birds because of the years of drought.

"The capacity to rebound is reduced," he said. "If you have got fewer birds in the system to be able to actually take advantage of a big flood like this, that comes down to the big issue that we've got in terms of managing the system. It's those sort of small to medium floods that we've lost a lot of."

Nests drowned

While the recovery has been widespread, there has been too much water in some parts of NSW and the state's largest natural inland lake, near West Wyalong, lost a colony of about 10,000 ibis when their nests were flooded.

Lake Cowal Foundation projects manager Mal Carnegie says there has been too much water at Lake Cowal for widescale bird breeding. but said next summer should be more successful.

"If we go back to a more normal sort seasonal pattern, I'd expect those areas further west would be drying up and we'd expect to see greater numbers of birds here," he said. "The habitat is going to be in good condition on the back of this flooding and the water level will be more appropriate for nesting."

Source: www.abc.net.au



KING QUAIL—WHAT COLOUR IS IT?

Quail, have been popular with aviculturists for many years. Until recently, only normal and silver mutations of the King or Button Quail also known as Chinese Painted have been available to the aviculturist. In the last few years however, several new mutations have been developed in the United States, Europe and Australia as well.

One mutation originating in Europe is the white King Quail. These birds are pure white, but are not albinos as they have dark eyes and yellow beaks and legs. Another European development is the cinnamon or fawn colour mutation. This particular mutation varies in shades of brown, similar to the normal Quail, but is much more diluted in appearance, hence the cinnamon colouration.



In captivity, many different colour combinations and mutations have occurred through selective breeding. Females are never red or blue. They are often duller in appearance than the males. This is a common way that breeders tell the sexes apart.

One of the later and more exciting new mutations, is the Red-breasted mutation originating in the U.S. Odd as it may seem, the hens of this mutation are more attractive than the males. The Red-breasted hens are extremely pale, cream to tan, with black barring on each feather.

Males look similar to the normal Quail except their white bib is replaced with a black bib and their whole underside is red, from throat to tail. The Red-breasted silver is, by far, the most striking mutation available. The hens are white with almost charcoal barring from head to tail. Again, no white is present on the male and the whole underside is a reddish-pink.

With the advent of the new Quail varieties and colour mutations that have been developed since the late 1980s, a large variety of names have been used by many breeders in an attempt to identify these various mutations.

Combining the different colour patterns means there's no limit to the color varieties of the King quail.

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Below you will find a list of King Quail mutations, their correct names and below that name other names which many breeders are currently using often to suggest or designate something new or different.

Recognized mutations of the Button Quail in the US

- Normal Wild type
- Silver
- Red Breasted
- White
- Cinnamon
- Blue Face
- Golden Pearl
- Pink eyed Dilute (not well established at this time)



All other names used represent either combinations of these above colors to create a new variety or an unofficial name used by others to designate something unique or different or incorrectly identified.

Recognized Names for Combinations of the above varieties

- Ivory - A combination of Silver and Cinnamon
- Slate - A combination of Silver and Blue Face
- Smoky - A combination of Silver, Cinnamon and Blue Face
- Silver Red Breasted - A combination of Silver and Red Breasted
- Cinnamon Red Breast - A combination of Red Breast and Cinnamon
- Splash - A selection from within White for increased spots (this is not a pied)
- Fawn - Another name for Cinnamon often used for darker versions of Cinnamons
- Blue Face Single Factor - A name used to designate the difference within Blue Face having only one gene for BF as new



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- Blue Face Double Factor - A name used to designate a very dark Blue Face, with 2 genes for BF, males and female often show white facial and breast markings at hatching and at maturity.
- Blue Face Cinnamon / Blue Face Fawn - a combination of Cinnamon and Blue face genes
- Silver Pearl - A combination of Silver and Golden Pearl
- Cinnamon Pearl - A combination of Cinnamon and Golden Pearl
- Blue Face Pearl - A combination of Blue Face and Golden Pearl

Unofficial and/or unrecognized names of King Quail colors (this list below represents names that either are used for particular selections within a color variety or names that were used those who failed to recognize the true identity of the variety or thought it was something new and different enough to warrant a distinct name)

- Darth Vader - A selection of Red Breasted in which the male has an entirely black face. the breast may be all red or partially blue (name coined by Jeff Bridges of Colorado) *- *I love and use this name though, it is quickly catching on ;) Just too awesome not to use! Love the Vaders!*



- Calico - a name used by some to describe female Red Breasted Quail
- Barred - a name used by some to describe female Red Breasted Quail
- Pied - a name used by some to describe the Splash button quail and or normal wild type with some white feathers (to my knowledge no true Pied Button Quail are in the US.)
- Cream - a name used by some to describe very pale versions of the Cinnamon Button Quail.
- Tangerine - a name used apparently to describe very bright Cinnamon
- Lavender - a name used by some to describe a Cinnamon Blue Face in which the back color is very Grey against a prominent blue face and breast.(name coined by Jeff Bridges of Colorado)

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- Grey Form Cinnamon Blue face - a name used by some to describe a Cinnamon Blue Face in which the back color is very grey against a prominent blue face and breast.
- Rusty Nail - A name attributed to a combination of Cinnamon, Blue face and Red Breasted and sometimes regular Cinnamon Red Breasted when the males are very red.
- White Capped - a name attributed to Golden Pearl males which often show a prominent white forehead. Females never show this color.
- Golden Red Breasted - a name used to describe brightly marked female Red Breasted Button Quail
- Blue - A name attributed to Male Blue Face Buttons (female never show blue)
- Chocolate - A name attributed to female Blue Face Buttons which generally are dark chocolate brown.
- Tuxedo - A named used to describe Double Factor Blue Face buttons what show a pronounced amount of white on the breast and often facial areas.



NATURE'S LIVING TAPE RECORDERS MAY BE TELLING US SECRETS

Back in the 1930s there was a bird, an Australian bird, who had this thing for a human lady. The lady's name was Mrs. Wilkinson (I couldn't find her first name) and she lived in Australia. So did the bird. It visited her daily for food. She named it "James."

When James the bird decided to woo Mrs. Wilkinson, he built a mound in her backyard, stood on top of it, and sang. Mrs. Wilkinson, naturally flattered, invited some human friends to listen.

According to those who were there, on one occasion James sang for 43 minutes. Because James was a superb lyrebird (that's what they're actually called), his songs included sounds he had heard in the woods and suburbs where he lived. Lyrebirds are probably the world's most gifted mimics and according to Wikipedia, James' love song to Mrs. Wilkinson included a kookaburra's laughing song, the calls of cockatoos, wattle-birds, starlings, parrots, an automobile horn, a rock-crushing machine and a jackhammer.



These birds are amazing. If you've never heard a lyrebird do a perfect imitation of a chainsaw, let me introduce you to Chook, a superb lyrebird now resident at the Adelaide Zoo.

Chook lived in a cage next to a panda exhibit while it was under construction so presumably that's how he learned to do perfect renditions of hammers, power drills, and car alarms. Many birds can mimic sounds but lyrebirds are the masters. They are nature's living tape recorders, and sometimes their songs can be troubling.

For example, when the BBC's David Attenborough ran into a lyrebird deep in the Australian woods, the bird not only sang the songs of 20 other forest birds, it also did a perfect imitation of foresters and their chainsaws, who apparently were getting closer. That same bird made the sound of a car alarm.

These birds were, in effect, recording the sounds of their own habitat destruction. And they were doing this, ironically, inside their mating songs.

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Are Lyrebirds Accidental Historians?

The birds, of course, don't "remember" where they picked up these sounds. For them it is just a noise. But scientists do wonder how old are these sounds? Lyrebirds can live 40 to 50 years.

In 1969, Neville Fenton, an Australian park ranger, recorded a lyrebird singing a song that sounded very much like a flute, a flute being played by a human. After much sleuthing, Mr. Fenton discovered that 30 years earlier, a farmer/flute player had lived near the park and played tunes to his pet lyrebird. That lyrebird downloaded the songs, then was allowed to live wild in the park.

Phrases from those flute songs apparently became part of the local lyrebird songbook. A scholar named Norman Robinson figured out that the songs wild lyrebirds were singing in 1969 were modified versions of two popular tunes from the 1930s, "The Keel Row" and "Mosquito's Dance."

Listening to a lyrebird sing may be like listening to very old tapes, writes blogger Alexander Trevi in his fascinating blog Pruned. When you go to the zoo and hear a lyrebird making buzz sounds like a saw, are you listening to something that happened yesterday, or is the bird telling you something more disturbing?

It is...interesting to imagine that a similar soundtrack might have been playing in their home forests before being rescued and brought to their present cages. What visitors are listening to then, are the narratives of their displacement, from their own voices. Their birdsongs are a kind of strange audio tour though environmental degradation and ecological extinction.

Well, maybe. I don't know how Mrs. Wilkinson felt during her serenade, but when I hear Chook, the Adelaide Zoo bird, doing a perfect human whistle on YouTube, so uncannily real it feels like there's a guy walking right behind him off camera, I know I'm hearing a bird rendering of a very specific person who once absolutely whistled that very tune. Who was he? Or she? I don't know. The bird doesn't know, but it's fantastic to hear.

Source: www.npr.org/sections/krulwich/

CORELLAS AND WHITE COCKATOOS FILLING SKIES AND SPORTING FIELDS NOT ALL BAD NEWS



Clouds of corellas are filling the skies across parts of Victoria, South Australia, and southern New South Wales, creating a cacophony of sound and more than a few headaches for farmers and councils. They damage sporting grounds, strip seals and fittings from buildings, dig up crops, and generally make a nuisance of themselves.

Councils have tried various programs to deal with the problem, ranging from replanting ovals with different grasses to firing off "sound cannons".

Some individuals have sometimes applied more lethal control measures. But nature writer and ABC wildlife expert Tanya Loos says the birds cannot be blamed for their prevalence.

"As a wildlife person, I don't like using the word 'plague' for really any animal because it's often implying immediately it is the fault of the animal," Ms Loos said. "'Plague' implies something really bad. I would ask 'are they over-abundant?' Which is a more scientific question, [and that] really depends on your acceptance and tolerance of these animals."

"We've created the perfect conditions for [corellas and white cockatoos] in terms of providing so much food for them in our lawns and our farms, and they have just responded in kind."

The Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research estimates there are 7.7 million sulphur-crested cockatoos, 5.2 million long-billed corellas, and 2.9 million little corellas in Victoria alone. Although there has been a slight recent decline in sulphur-crested cockatoos, the populations of all three species have been stable or increasing over the past 10 years,

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According to the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) all three species are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975, which means it is illegal to "wilfully disturb or destroy" them without approval. However, the department will grant permission for councils and organisations to deal with problematic flocks using non-lethal control options before being able to apply for approval to use lethal control.

"DEECA is working with the community to manage the impacts of the birds by providing advice about how to reduce cockatoo damage."

Little corellas and long-billed corellas dominate agricultural areas of Australia, but have also established populations along the coast and in metropolitan centres including Melbourne and Sydney.

Wildlife photographer Peter Rowland, co-author of Australian Birdwatching Megaspots, said corellas moved into built-up areas during droughts and never left.

"I can remember back in the early 1980s you would occasionally see the odd pair. Now you see good numbers," Mr Rowland said. "Their habitat has increased. Little corellas have always been very common, forming huge flocks like galahs, but you now see long-billed corellas in huge numbers along the Murray River and towards the coast. They have spread into areas which have been dominated by sulphur-crested cockatoos but they aren't necessarily competing."

Ms Loos described seeing at least one council corella management plan that catalogued an array of complaints including chewing holes in sails, damaging cricket pitches and grounds, and defoliating trees.

"They are super intelligent and they have to exercise their beaks because their beaks grow continuously, so they chew on a lot of things," Ms Loos said. However, the news is not all bad. Ms Loos said corellas and cockies can do good when allowed to settle away from those areas that cause the most disturbance.

Research from the University of Melbourne which measured the rate at which sulphur-crested cockatoos remove onion weed from turf found each cockatoo can remove 200 plants each hour.

"To put that in perspective, 50 cockatoos — and you could extrapolate that to corellas — can remove 20,000 onion weed bulbs, which is an amazing free weeding service," Ms Loos said.

Source:: www.abc.net.au/news/2023-02-19

TASMANIA'S NATIVE HEN

A wonderful unique story of survival: How Tasmania's 'turbo chook' native hen has survived, despite the odds

Turbo chooks — if you're from Tasmania, you'll immediately know what I'm talking about. The Tasmanian native hen is the island state's very own Road Runner. And while Tasmanians have come to love the humble bird, one researcher believes some of the more remarkable facts about the native hen aren't widely known.



Lucile Leveque is a PHD student at the University of Tasmania and has researched the Tasmanian native hen for the past four years. The hen is part of a species of bird known as the rails, and Ms Leveque said their story was exceptional. It has survived, despite the odds

"Flightless bird species massively went extinct when they first met people, about 3,000 or more years ago," she said. "The native hens are one of the very few survivors of that massive extinction."

The native hen did also exist on the Australian mainland, but like the Tasmanian devil, is now only found in Tasmania.

"Surprisingly and happily, the native hen is doing very well [in Tasmania], which is also exceptional," Ms Leveque said. "That is probably from the way they evolved. They love to live just beside humans, and Tasmania might be the only place in the world where you can be near and interact with flightless rails."

A bird that doesn't fly? It doesn't sound right, does it. A flightless bird. Why the native hen doesn't fly is a question that still haunts Ms Leveque.

"It's one of the biggest mysteries about the native hens and we have no idea how or why they became flightless," she said. "It blows my mind."

The native hen lived on the Australian mainland thousands of years ago, and despite living alongside various predators, they evolved to be flightless. It's also why climate change could pose an existential threat to the species.

"Because native hens are so dependent on water, if the climate becomes hotter and drier, they will naturally disappear from some areas," Ms Leveque said.

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It doesn't take a PHD student to work out why the Tasmanian native hen has been dubbed the turbo chook. They run. Fast. And they kind of look like chickens.

"They can run up to 50 km/h, which is incredible," Ms Leveque said. "They will just speed up everywhere, dart across the street, or across the road."

And it's one of many reasons Tasmanians have become so patriotic about this flightless bird.

"I think Tasmanians appreciate the native hens because they are very funny and quirky and so fast, but I don't think they know how exceptional these birds really are," Ms Leveque said.

So next time you're in Tasmania and see a native hen, it'll probably run away before you've had a good glimpse. But take comfort in the knowledge you've just seen a bird that despite the odds, has survived into the 21st century

Source: www.abc.net.au/news/

DID YOU KNOW....

When Mao Tse Chung introduced collectivization of farm lands and other measures this resulted in declining crop yields from the failed experiments and improperly constructed water projects. Mao blamed the declining crop yields on sparrows which he believed were a major pest on grain crops, and began a nationwide campaign to exterminate sparrows. This resulted in massive locust swarms in the absence of natural predation by the sparrows. Grain production fell sharply, and hundreds of thousands died from forced labor and exposure to the elements on irrigation construction projects and communal farming.

Famine quickly set in across the countryside, resulting in millions more deaths



THE CANARY & CAGE BIRD FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

MINUTES of the ZOOM GENERAL MEETING held Wednesday 1st March 2023.

The President opened the meeting at 8:55 pm, following the conclusion of the AGM.

ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES: As per the AGM.

MINUTES: All minutes published in *Feathered World* and on our web, ccbfa.org.au/journals.

The minutes for the 1st February General Meeting of Federation published on the Web. It was moved M. Surace and seconded G. Fitt that the minutes be adopted as a true record of the February 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 2023 proposed dates for show, sale and auction.
- Affiliated clubs. Notification of office bearers and delegate
- Affiliates ordering 2023 rings.
- Affiliated clubs requesting assistance with matters regarding the insurance.
- Coditech confirmation of ring orders.
- RAS notification of prize monies TRILL sponsorship acknowledged.
- Kempsey Macleay Bird Club notification of a change of name to Mid North Coast Avicultural Society Inc.

President / Govt Liaison Officer. Sam Davis- ongoing communication, received in response to communication with Federal Government and States Govt. Departments.

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

- Downs Bird Breeders Association Inc. Newsletter Feb'23
- PET Industry News. Newsletters Feb'23
- Central Coast Avicultural Society. Newsletter Feb'23
- Far North Queensland Bird Breeders Jan / Feb'23
- Coral Coast Bird Club Inc. Newsletter Chatterings # 288 Feb'23
- Native Cockatiel Society of Australia Inc Feb / June'23 NCSA News.
- FSA The Finch Breeders REVIEW Jan – Feb'23
- ANPA Newsletter February 2023
- Shoalhaven Avicultural Society Inc. Bird Tales Feb23
- Hunter Valley Finch Club Inc. Hunter Finch Fancier March'23

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Out-going correspondence as follows:

- Change of Office Bearers and Privacy forms sent to various clubs.
- Coditech, placement of new orders for 2023.
- Ring Secretaries of clubs emailing reminder notice for placement of rings for 2023.
- Affiliated clubs' assistance with insurance matters requesting information, etc.
- President / Govt Liaison Officer. Sam Davis- ongoing communication with Federal Government States Govt. Departments

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE:

It was moved by J. Forrest and seconded by N. Love that the correspondence be received, and the secretary's action endorsed - Carried

TREASURERS REPORT

The accounts were submitted for endorsement.

It was moved by B. Goleby and seconded by B. Whiting that the payments and the Treasurers actions be endorsed - Carried.

PRESIDENT REPORT

President Sam Davis presented the following detailed report:-

Parrot Imports.

The import risk assessment for parrots is still being finalised. CCBFA was asked by the federal government to appoint two members to a panel to consider and assess risk should disease make its way through the quarantine protocols and into either the wild or captive environment. We have now made these appointments and the panel will soon begin meeting.

It is unclear how long this process will take – many months, for sure.

Update on NSW licensing reforms V2 progress.

Minister Griffin's reply to our letter dated 31/1/23 was nonsense. It implies he did not read and certainly did not understand the issue. I subsequently wrote to the Minister on 14/2/23 advising he had been misinformed. The letter is on our website at the following URL...

<https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/NSW-NPWS-CCBFA-Griffin-Reply-140223.pdf>

The Minister's office then inappropriately referred the matter to the very same staff who have failed to be open, accountable, or transparent. I replied pointing this out as follows...

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Dear Minister

That is a completely inappropriate response. You have directed my complaint to the officers about which the complaint is levelled.

We will progress the matter politically once more using other political contacts after the election, and will advise our largely liberal/national voting membership to reconsider.

Regards

Sam

Sam Davis

President - CCBFA

We await further advice after the election and from the reform team regarding the bird code.

Taxidermy Draft Code of Practice

The NPWS licensing reform team has put aside the bird code and is now looking at a code for preserved specimens and soon reptiles.

The draft code for preserved specimens is ludicrous at best.

When delegates have a spare moment go and have a look at the draft code for dead animals, as I like to call it. Here's an example of just how ludicrous their proposal is - If you put a feather in your hat that was "naturally shed or moulted" then you must notify NPWS within 12 months. If it was from a dead bird then you need a licence!

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say/protected-animal-specimens>

Our submission is on our website at the following URL...

<https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/CCBFA-NSW-NPWS-Protected-Animal-Specimens-Draft-CoP-140223.pdf>

It's hard to keep a straight face about this, but the money wasted is crazy. These people actually think they are making a difference!

Although this code (if approved) will be ignored and is impossible to enforce, the requirement to notify NPWS as part of the conditions of a code of practice is a precedent we must resist.

Moved D. Renolds and seconded by G. Fitt that the reports be accepted, and reporters thanked – Carried

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GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Ring Orders 2023**, supplementary orders can be arranged for all species during 2023. Clubs requiring an order form to be completed, should contact the Secretary.
- **Show and Sale dates for 2023** – Clubs are requested to email Matt McKenzie the dates for their 2023 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 clubs@ccbfa.org.au
- **Sydney Royal Show update.** The President gave a brief report advising there were 437 entries. The Finches being the special breeds this year with 150 entries. The two-day show days will be Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th April 2023. Benching will be either Sunday 9th from 6pm or prior to 8am on Monday 10th. The aviary bird display and pet bird feature will run for the duration of the show, with the Brincat family and their hand raised parrots.

The President thanked the delegates for attending, as there was no further business the meeting closed at 9:26 pm.

Notice of the ZOOM General Meeting

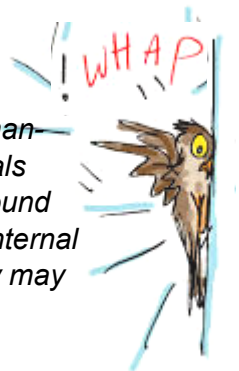
Wednesday 3rd May 2023

Meeting commences at 8:00 pm



DID YOU KNOW....

New research reveals that decals intended to reduce incidents of bird window strikes -- one of the largest human-made causes of bird mortality -- are only effective if decals are placed on the outside of the window. Researchers found that the patterns on the films and decals placed on the internal surface of windows do not reduce collision because they may not be sufficiently visible to birds.



THE CANARY & CAGE BIRD FEDERATION of AUSTRALIA INC.

MINUTES of the A.G.M. Zoom Meeting held on Wednesday 1st March 2023.

The President Sam Davis opened the meeting at 8:04 p.m. welcoming the delegates and thanking them for their attendance,

ATTENDANCE:

There were 20 delegates in attendance including, S Davis, R Robertson, J Forrest, B. Barnes, B. Goleby, M. Cameron, N. Love, M. MacPherson, B. Whiting, B Kerr, D. & M. Reynolds, B. Lloyd, C. Gruntar, J Palmano, B. Hudson, M. Surace, G. Fitt, T. De Graaff, M. Godwill.

APOLOGIES: were received from 9 delegates, W. Wilson, I. Ward, J. Norriss, – moved

B. Kerr seconded J. Forrest apologies be accepted - Carried.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the CCBFA AGM held Wednesday 2nd March 2022, nothing arising from these minutes, they were adopted on a motion moved by B. Lloyd seconded by J. Forrest as a true record of the 2022 AGM - Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

NSW Fair Trading. Lodging Annual Return for 2021.

It was moved by B. Kerr and seconded by N. Love that the correspondence be received, and the secretary's action endorsed - Carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The secretary Ron Robertson gave his report for the 2022 year. He expressed his appreciation to all clubs for their communication throughout the year and all fellow committee members and Delegates for their ongoing support and attendance. A special mention to President Sam Davis stating Sam's exceptional skill in documenting and representation on issues with various State Government bodies. Moved B. Lloyd seconded B. Goleby that the Secretary's report be received and endorsed - Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The financial statements were screened with the treasurer giving an analysis of the income and expenditure. The financial position was sound. Moved M. Surace seconded M. MacPherson that the Treasurer's report be received and endorsed - Carried.

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AUDITOR REPORT:

The President referred to the signed auditor statement on the financial statement, stating he had verified the Financial Statements and in his opinion the Financial Statements represented a true and accurate record as at 31st December 2022. It was moved by M. Surace and seconded M. MacPherson that the Audit Report be accepted and endorsed - Carried.

FEATHERED WORLD REPORT:

The Secretary expressed our thanks and appreciation to the editor Jamie Norriss for his dedication and presentation of the publication.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

During 2022 clubs returned to relative normality after COVID-19.

In terms of native animal licensing, we again were led to believe there would be progress in NSW but sadly this again ended with underhand tactics by those whose intentions are less than honest. The assurance by NSW NPWS staff to be open, accountable and transparent has proven to be a ruse.

Victoria remains in the early stages of both animal welfare and native animal licence reviews. Sadly the Animal Justice Party (AJP) was successful in having Georgie Purcell elected to the upper house (replacing Andy Meddick). Her influence is yet to be seen; however, she has already been elected chair of the parliamentary committee that will address animal welfare matters.

There have also been a range of local government matters. Gladly many of these have been resolved fairly swiftly and were, as usual, the result of neighbourhood complaints resulting in somewhat overzealous compliance. A considered and consultative approach to resolving such issues is best and has yielded positive outcomes.

Animal Care Australia (ACA) has been a great backup and support regards a number of matters, but in particular with regard to council issues. ACA is actively and have successfully had local laws and policies modified in many jurisdictions to ensure we can continue to keep our birds and other animals with minimal red tape.

The import and export of parrots continues to be a work in progress albeit at snail's pace.

Despite the review by KPMG indicating a simple DNA parentage system only for birds intended for export, a new review led by a team from Thinkplace was engaged. This report once again recommended against a national registration scheme for birds, in particular parrots. The whole saga involved an enormous

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amount of time for me and many others as we met with government and prepared submissions, data, and countless phone discussions. The Thinkplace recommendations will go via the department then to the Minister for consideration.

The import risk assessment for parrots is still being finalised with ongoing emails back and forth throughout the year. A new committee is now being formed, including CCBFA appointments, to assess risk should disease make its way through the quarantine protocols and into either the wild or captive environment. This process has been going on for many years and still has some time to go before any birds will arrive in Australia.

Issues with the ABA have been ongoing during my time as CCBFA president. In 2022 their feature disaster was sabotaging the Sydney Royal Easter Show. The ABA's now current Vice President Con Tsintarakis led this disaster by posing as an RAS NSW representative, sneaking into the pavilion before opening time, putting up ABA banners, and taking photos. Such behaviour is dishonest and frankly embarrassing for the whole of aviculture. Fortunately, we have a very solid relationship with the RAS NSW and I (and others) know the previous and current chairs of domestic animals and the staff well enough to explain the issue. I think it is true to say that the ABA and Con are no longer welcome at the event.

As I keep saying it is time for the ABA to be shut down.

I intended to stand aside if the ABA was not shutdown during 2022. I will not follow through on this intention this year as the ABA apart from the Sydney Royal has been silent and irrelevant. However, I encourage all clubs to avoid any association with the ABA.

Many thanks to all on the committee and to those who have assisted with comment, donated time to attend government meetings, critiqued my work and supported aviculture in Australia in so many other ways. On behalf of all clubs and their members nationally a heartfelt thanks.

Once again Ron's work behind the scenes has been amazing. Insurance, rings, preparing meeting documents, managing correspondence, etc, etc. Ron is critical to the success of aviculture in Australia. Ron and his wife Beth have not had an easy year health wise, and we are so very grateful for all the work and sacrifices made. On behalf of aviculture in Australia – thank you, thank you, thank you!

Moved by J. Forrest and seconded M. Surace that the President's Report be accepted and endorsed - Carried

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HONORARIUMS:

It was moved that the honorariums remain the same as 2021 and be paid. –
Moved B. Lloyd and seconded B. Kerr - Carried.

This concluded the business of the AGM.

As there was no nomination for a change for the Presidents position S. Davis remained in the chair and continued to conduct the election of office bearers.

The election of office bearers being as follows:

President: Sam Davis.

Vice Presidents: The President spoke on the need to have V. P's and all other appointments be able to attend the Zoom meetings and be consulted electronically by email. B. Barnes, who was present accepted his nomination. The President suggested we leave to other appointment until the next General Meeting.

Secretary / Treasurer / Ring Officer, Public Officer, Minutes Secretary,

Insurance Officers: R. Robertson

Equipment Officer: John Walsh.

Government Liaison Representatives: Sam Davis.

Auditor: Greg Davie

Management Committee: C. Isbister, J. Forrest, C. Gruntar, B. Lloyd.

GoH Selection Committee: President, Secretary, G. Roberts, W. Wilson.

Guest of Honour Dinner Co-ordinators: J. Palmano and C. Gruntar.

Feathered World Editor: Jamie Norris

Feathered World Distributor for printed copies: Luke Davis, the electronic version to be prepared by J. Norris to be upload to the web site.

Feathered World Committee Member: J. Norris, R. Robertson, S. Davis,

The Feathered World to be issued bi-monthly in February / March, April / May, June / July, August / September and October / November.

This concluded the Annual General Meeting which was closed at 8:55 pm. The President declared the AGM closed with the President Sam Davis commencing the March 2023 General Meeting.

THE NEXT FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at 8:00 pm on Wednesday 6 March 2024

Secretary's Report 2022- presented 1st March 2023

Fellow delegates,

I express my thanks to all affiliate clubs' secretaries, ring secretaries and treasurers for their co-operation and communication throughout the year, your timely replies and prompt attention to payments for ring orders and renewal of affiliation and insurance invoices together with notification of changes in office bearers greatly assists the recording of updates.

To those who I had the opportunity to speak with, it has been a pleasure to catch up and with some to reminisce about the "good old times" at the cage bird national exhibitions and interstate show at which I have had the pleasure of judging.

It is also encouraging to have developed good personal relationship with our ring suppliers. We placed ring orders in 2022 for 59,920 rings and have to date placed orders to date of 55,040 for 2023.

One of Grant Bastin's legacy has been our close and strong relationship with our insurance brokers, this year covering 210 clubs. We gained four new avicultural clubs and unfortunately had the closure of seven, with five South Australian clubs insuring with the UBSA.

Special thanks and appreciation to the Editor of *Feathered World*, Jamie Norriss for his research and time with the production of the magazine.

Also a special thank you to equipment coordinator John Walsh for the handling of show stationery orders.

We all continue to acknowledge and are extremely appreciative of the President's representation with all Government bodies in all States and Federal Government reviews.

Sam dedicates numerous hours and presents very detailed and effective submissions on behalf of CCBFA, his exceptional skill in documenting and presenting the various issues benefiting all in aviculture.

Sam, we continue to express our appreciation and thanks for your dedication and the enormous amount of time you have personally offered. Your ongoing communication and updates and keeping us all informed is very much appreciated.

To our auditor Greg Davie again our thanks and appreciation for the task performed.

Thank you all, once again to all for your continued support.

Ron Robertson

1st March 2023



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