



# **CAPRICORNIA BUDGERIGAR**

## **SOCIETY INC.**

The Secretary –  
CBS Inc.  
PO Box 5451  
CQMC  
Rockhampton  
Queensland 4701

**Webpage:** [www.capbuds.org](http://www.capbuds.org)

**October 2020**

Dear Member,

As the year heads towards an end we only have one meeting left in November and the clubs Christmas party on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. This year we are holding it at the Raglan Tavern starting at 12:00 pm. The committee invites members to attend what should be an enjoyable and fun day where we can all relax and enjoy each other's company and get to know our fellow members better without the hassles of a show. Unfortunately we are limited to 20 people, so please +let Scott know if you are attending two weeks prior.

As we have not been able to have our usual fund-raising activities this year, the club is holding a Christmas raffle and are seeking donations towards it. If you are able to kindly donate something, no matter what, it can be brought to the next meeting or delivered to Scott Eriksen (0419 776 837) or Michelle Vidler (0457 088 108) Thanks go to those who have already donated.

Great to see such a large roll-up of members to our October meeting, it would be the largest attendance we have had for many years. Also, great to see so many entries for our table show held during the meeting. Some cracker birds were benched and I'm sure everyone benefited from the comments from Ian and Scott. Wow! what about the Nestfeather class, some outstanding future champs there. Congratulations to two of our newer members for showing us older members how it's done. Michael and Shayla Evans won the class with an outstanding double factor White Cap. Not far behind was Michelle Bulmer and Paul Brown's superb Normal Grey Green followed by another Normal Grey Green of John Guinane's. It will be interesting to see these birds as well as some of the other birds shown, at our Annual Show in March.

Included are a couple of articles by Ghalib Al-Nasser who is considered a world authority on Budgerigars. Ghalib and his wife Janice have judged all over the world including at the ANBC National Show on a couple of occasions.

Cheers,  
Russell Ogden  
(Newsletter Editor, CBS Inc.) [ogdenrc@bigpond.com](mailto:ogdenrc@bigpond.com)

## MEMBERS INFORMATION PAGE

- **Committee Members:** Confirmed at AGM

- 

President:	Tom Bartlem	0457 255 639
Vice-President:	Darryl Fisher	07 4926 2489
Treasurer:	Scott Eriksen	0419 776 837
Secretary:	Scott Eriksen	0419 776 837
Member:	John Guinane	0401 250 326

- EMAIL Addresses: To allow for more efficient distribution of newsletters and other Club information, please forward a test email or your email address to [ogdenrc@bigpond.com](mailto:ogdenrc@bigpond.com) ***Thanks to all those who have forwarded these details previously.***

- **SHOW & WIN!!!!!!!** Starting at our 2020 Breeders Show, you will become eligible to win a \$200 Credit at our Annual Auction by showing at the 3 Major Shows (Breeders 2020, Annual 2021, Young Bird Show 2021). You will receive one ticket for showing 1 to 10 birds, 2 tickets for 11 to 20 entries, etc. After the Young Bird Selection Show in 2020, the winner will be drawn. The more you show, the better chance you have to win. It is only open to CBS Inc members. You must show at all 3 shows unless you are judging the show or are genuinely ill or have a family emergency. The aim of this incentive is to encourage members to show consistently at all 3 shows. If you have missed out for this year, you can still be in it next year.

- Services Section: The Club Shirt is now being worn by many members. If you want to purchase one, contact Qing Wu 0455 237 367 Qing will also have a supply of 2020 rings, (60 cents each and sold in lots of 25, postage is extra \$5.00) and show cages and cage fronts if anyone needs some.

- Future CBS Variety of the Year are as follows: 2021:- Lutino and 2022 :- Normal Green. These are judged at the Annual Show each year

# The Greywing

By Ghalib Al-Nasser

*"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder"* This applies to any Budgerigar variety and without a doubt the Greywing variety has got that certain appeal to many budgerigar breeders. As a breeder of this variety I found the challenge to breed a good specimen as rewarding as breeding a good Light Green or a Sky Blue.

The first Greywings were established in around 1919 in Europe and were of the green series. They were initially called Apple Green or Jade. But when the Greywing of the blue series was established, initially at the back of the head in Austria in 1927 and then afterwards in the UK in 1928, the Colour Committee of the Budgerigar Society to a normal grouped them together and gave them the name "Greywings" in 1929.

It is easy to recognize the variety when viewing it in daylight by the grey markings on the bird in comparison to that of the black on the normal varieties. By comparing a Greywing Light Green to a normal Light Green the spots, undulations at the back of the head, markings on the wings and primary wing flights are all of a grey colour instead of black in the normal varieties. The cheek patches are of light violet and the body colour is diluted by 50% of the normal body colour. Also the colour of the tail is grey with a blueish tinge instead of dark blue in the normal varieties.

At times fanciers find it difficult to distinguish between the Dilutes (Yellows and Whites) and the Greywings, especially if both varieties are of the grey factor (Greys and Grey Greens). Here a closer look at the body colour and wing markings of the Grey Yellow and Grey White when compared to Greywing Grey Green and Greywing Grey is that the body colour of the former is that much further diluted than the latter. The tail feathers of the Dilutes are of a white to pale grey while those of the Greywing Grey and Grey Green are grey. Without a doubt Greywings are more appealing on dark factor birds such as Dark Greens and Cobalts.

It was found that a recessive gene controls the Greywing when mated to normal varieties. So when a Greywing is mated to a normal all the young will be normal but carrying the Greywing gene in a hidden (split) form: Normal/Greywing. If one of these splits is mated back to a Greywing the 50% of the young will be split for Greywing and the other 50% will be visual Greywings. Mating two greywings together will result in all the young being Greywings. Because of the recessive gene it does not matter much which sex is visual Greywing as both cocks and hens can be mated and produced according to the above three types of mating. Also because of that recessive gene, a bird can be carrying the Greywing factor in a hidden form for many generations.

This is why on occasions a Greywing can pop up in a nest of normal parents in a stud that does not carry this mutation and the fancier is at a loss as to how the Greywing Appeared. Following the Mendal Theory of Inheritance, pairing two normal that are split for Greywing will result in 25% of the young being Greywings. Another 50% will be normal/Greywing and the remainder 25% being pure Normal. Suddenly the Greywing factor has been established in this stud.

Early breeders established using laws of genetics, that although the variety is recessive to a normal, it is dominate to the Dilutes (Yellows and Whites), the same as the Clearwings (Yellowwings and Whitewings) are dominate to the Dilutes, even though all three varieties are recessive. In fact all three varieties are separate mutations of the same gene and form what is known as a multiple allelomorph.

If a Greywing is paired to a Dilute all the chicks will be Greywings but split for Dilutes. The same will apply if a Clearwing is paired to a Dilute. But something quite unusual happens when pairing a Greywing to a Clearwing. Here the resulting young will possess the combination of both varieties in one bird and are called "full-bodied colour Greywings". This means that they have the full-body colour of the Clearwing variety with the Greywing marking: quite an unusual and beautiful colouration. These full-bodied colour Greywings are split for Clearwing but cannot be split for Dilutes.

If a full-bodied colour Greywing is paired to a Dilute then the results will be 50% Greywings and 50% Clearwings all split for Dilutes. However, if a full-bodied colour Greywing is paired to either Aa Greywing or a Clearwing then the results will be 50% full-bodied colour Greywings and 50% Greywings (or Clearwings)

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An elderly lady goes into her bank in Sydney and asks for a \$5,000 personal loan so she can go on a two-week Pacific cruise.

The bank manager tells her, "Certainly, but I must ask you for something you can use as collateral".

The lady replies, "Would my car, a Rolls Royce be sufficient? It is valued at \$250,000".

The bank manager asks for proof of ownership and after inspecting the provided paperwork, is satisfied that all is in order. He then asks for the keys to the car and instructs one of his employees to place the car securely in the bank's basement car park.

He then bundles up the \$5,000 and hands it to the lady wishing her a happy holiday.

After two weeks the lady returns to the bank and hands the \$5,000 to the manager in the exact same wrapping that the money was in when he handed it to her.

The manager thanks her and states, "that will be \$15.40 in interest thank you". The lady takes the change out of her purse and pays the manager, who instructs his employee to bring the car up from the basement and park it in front of the bank. While the employee does as he is instructed the manager says he will walk the lady out to her car.

On the way out the manager comments, "We have done a credit check on you and have discovered that you are a multi-millionaire. I am curious as to why you would require that loan to go on holidays"?

The lady replied, **"Where else could I get two weeks secure parking for only \$15.40"?**

# The Crested Budgerigar

*By Ghalib Al-Nasser*

Budgerigar fanciers have heard about, or seen, the Crested variety and a few have appreciated their merits by taking up the challenge of breeding them. My aim is to give some background about this variety.

## Origin

The Crested Budgerigar is neither a recent mutation, an abnormal feather growth nor in any way related to “feather dusters”. However, it is a naturally occurring mutation which owes nothing to man for its appearance, except for its development. This mutation causes the feathers, in certain limited areas of the bird’s body, to change the direction of their growth, causing feather disturbances.

The earliest recorded occurrence of a Crested mutation was in Sydney, Australia in about 1920. From this bird, presumably, the Australian strain Crests was bred. As there was no control over their export at the time, it is a possibility that some Crested birds were brought to other countries. But we in the CBC, believe that the Crested variety has a multi-origin as with certain other Budgerigar varieties (e.g. Yellow-Face and Opaline). Records tell us that other Crested mutants appeared on the European continent just prior to the second World War. From these, the Crested variety probably spread throughout Europe in a short period prior to the war.

There are records of another Crested mutant occurring in Canada about 1948. The Crests in the United States are descended from this bird, although the route taken was not the obvious one. Crested birds were smuggled into the US from Mexico. These Crests, which came from this country, were descendants from Crests imported from Canada in the early fifties. This is a good example of a variety’s ability to spread all over the world in a short space of time.

Examples of the Crest were first imported into this country in 1938 by Mrs R Brown of Morecambe, Lancs., from an Australian strain. They were breeding freely by 1938.

We, in the United Kingdom, generally identify the above mutations as the “Continental” they differ only in the position of the centre (or locus) of the Crest. The Continental Strain has the centre of the crest just above the cere, resulting in a strong splay of feathers which bend over the head down to eye level. The American strain has the centre of the Crest slightly further back on the head, resulting in the feathers standing more or less upright with a splay only at the ends, if at all. But over the years, these two strains have become intermingled and now either strain can produce the other.

## Type of Crest

There are three types of Crest: tufted, half circular and full circular. The CBC has devised a standard and pictorial ideal for each, which has been approved and recognised by the Budgerigar Society. But in a feather mutation like this, the countless variations of the feather disturbance and the amount of uplift prevents the CBC from applying its standards too rigidly. The standards, however, do provide a guide to breeders and judges. The main judging criterion, as far as the Crest is concerned, is the neatness of the Crest rather than its shape. The tufted (or Cockatiel) type of Crest is the most common and it varies from a mild disturbance on the head to a strong tuft. However, there should always be an upright crest of feathers, up to three-eighths of an inch high, rising just above the cere. The next most common Crest is the half-circular type. This Crest type should be a half-circle of feathers falling or rising in a fringe above the cere. The feathers at the back of the head should be quite

flat. The full-circular type of Crest goes all the round the head and should be a flat round crest with the feathers radiating from the centre of the head. This type is the aesthetic and the most in demand with fanciers.

The variations in each type of Crest are endless. A shift of the locus of the crest slightly to one side of the head will give a crest a lop-sided appearance. However, this will not alter their breeding pattern at all. There are even some birds with double crests, which have a very untidy appearance. These birds have one crest out in front with the other feather disturbance immediately behind. Another type of Crest that occurs now and then is the “Frilled” type. Birds of this type have a feather disturbance not only on the front of the head and along the back of the skull but also between their wings. “Crest-bred” birds are the non-crested progeny from Crest matings and are indistinguishable from ordinary Budgerigars. However, Crest-bred birds are of considerable value for Crest production when mated with Crested partners. Thus, it is important to keep a record of their identity.

### **Crest Genetics**

Crest genetics are not at all straight-forward, and it is not possible to classify the Crest gene as dominant, recessive or sex-linked. The Crest gene cannot be fully dominant (as are the Grey or Dominate Pied), because when a Crest is paired with a Crest-bred, the expectation of crested progeny will be more than that of when a Crest is paired to a pure normal ( i.e. a bird with no Crest background). In fact, even a Crest-bred paired to a normal can produce crested progeny. On the other hand, the Crest gene cannot be fully recessive because crested progeny can be produced from a first cross between a Crest and a pure normal. This is why we in the CBC, do not refer to non-crested progeny as “splits” but always as Crest-breds. There is no correspondence between the “Crest-bred” and the “split” birds of say, Recessive Pieds or Sex-linked Opalines. Also we have found that the laws governing the sex-linkage theory do not help in explaining Crest genetics, as there is no difference between the genetic potential of cocks and that of hens.

### **The “Initiator” Theory**

In fact, after having bred this variety since 1971, I have come to the conclusion (in agreement with a few true geneticists in the fancy) that the Crest gene behaves as semi-dominant to the wild type. Many theories have been put forward over the years regarding Crest genetics, but the one that the CBC has adopted is the “Initiator Theory”. This theory put forward in June 1970 by Dr J E Fox of Kansas University, USA, superseded his earlier theory the “Inhibitor Theory” which he published in *Cage and Aviary Birds* on May 28 1964. The “initiator Theory” stated that the formation of a Crest depended upon the complimentary action of two types of semi-dominant genes; a Crest initiating gene and the Crest determining gene. When these are both present as a single factor, the Crest is tufted; when there is one inhibitor and two determiners, the Crest is half-circular; when there are two inhibitors and either one or two determiners, the Crest is full circular. The theory further states that when there is only one semi-dominant gene present without the other, then there is no visual crest and the bird is a Crest-bred (which is different from the pure normal which have no Crested genes).

### **Breeding with Crests**

Even if the “Initiator Theory” is accepted, there still remains a certain amount in the breeding pattern of Crests to be explained. One thing of which we are certain, is that Crests as a variety, are true breeding as far as the passing on of the visual Crest character is concerned, although the Crest type when bred with a Crest-bred can produce any other types of Crest. That is, a Tuft paired to a Crest-bred can produce all three types of Crests; a semi-circular Crest paired to a crest-bred can also produce all three types of Crests and so can a circular Crest paired to a Crest-bred. The main factor is the parentage of the Crest-bred. For

convenience, I shall use the term “Crest” as referring to any type of Crest, regardless of the sex, in explain the breeding pattern of this variety.

- Crest to Crest matings will produce the highest proportion of Crested progeny plus some Crest-Breds. However, I feel that there are no advantages to be gained in such pairings as almost invariably they will produce Crests of poor quality and little substance.
- Crest to Crest-bred matings will produce the next highest proportion of Crested progeny plus Crest-breds and pure normals (with no Crest background). This is in fact, the type of pairing that is most recommended for the maintenance of size and type. It is important that when using this pairing, the Crest-bred should come from a pairing in which at least one parent was visually Crested.
- Crest to normal matings will produce a few Crests but mostly Crest-breds and normals. However, this is the sort of pairing one has to make now and then to improve the size and quality of the Crests and Crest-breds. The normal parent used however, needs to be of outstanding size and type.
- Crest-bred to Crest-bred and Crest-bred to normal matings have been known to produce the occasional Crested bird. (This proves that the Crest gene is more than merely dominant in character). However, this is not a recommended mating for Crest production, unless one is breeding for the pet market, as a lot of wastage is produced.

A Crested chick in the nest can be distinguished from a non-Crested chick as early as 12 days from its birth by the twisted looking stubble on its head. However, it may not be until the chick is three weeks old that one can distinguish the type of Crest.

In conclusion, I do hope that I have succeeded in passing on some information about the Crested variety and whetted fanciers' appetites. Indeed the variety offers a challenge in breeding for colour as well as for crest.

# CBS Inc.---Calendar of Events---2020

Note that some Friday Night meetings have been changed to follow a Show or Club event.

Sunday Jan 12	ABS Inc Auction	Eagleby, Brisbane		
Saturday Jan 18	Committee Meeting	D Fisher's residence	2.00 pm	
Friday Feb 07	General Meeting  Judges Meeting to follow.	North Rockhampton High School (NRHS)	7.15pm	Table Show A/A & Y/B & NF  <u>FEATURE:</u> Faults in Birds  Open discussion
Friday March	General Meeting	To be held after the annual show		
Monday March 16	Entries close for Annual show	Entries close at 9.00 pm with the Show Secretary		
Saturday March 21	Annual Show and General Meeting		Benching by 9.15am	A/A & Y/B & NF  Judging commences 9:30am
Friday April	General Meeting	No meeting in April		
Saturday April 4 CBS Inc. ANNUAL AUCTION ENTRIES DUE TODAY!!!!!!! And Wynnum Auction				
Easter - 10 <sup>th</sup> April to 13 <sup>th</sup> April				
Saturday April 18	Committee Meeting  Committee meeting to discuss Zone & ANBC Agenda Items.	D. Fisher's residence	2.00pm	

May General Meeting	May General Meeting to follow Young Bird Show			
Monday April 27	Entries for Young Bird Show closes 9pm with Show Secretary			
Saturday May 02	CBS INC YOUNG BIRD SELECTION SHOW.  May General Meeting to follow this SHOW  Draw of CLUB REWARDS for credit of \$200 at CBS Auction	North R'ton High Performing Arts Centre (PAC) Simpson Street.	Benching by 8.45am	Y/B & NF  Judging commences 9:00am  CBS Members Raffle drawn.
Saturday May 16	N & C Q Zone: 1. Judges Panel & 2. Delegates Meeting.	Townsville		3:00 pm Judges Meeting TBC 3:30 pm Zone Delegates Meeting TBC
Sunday May 17	N & C Q ZONE CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW.	Townsville		Benching by 8am Judging starts after benching
Friday May 22 Saturday 23 Sunday 24	ANBC C'SHIP SHOW	Bendigo	See ANBC Website for information and details, e.g., Venue, times, etc.	
Monday May 25	ANBC Delegates Meeting	Bendigo		
NO JUNE MEETING				
Saturday June 06	Pre-Auction Dinner	Red Lion Hotel	6.30 for 7.00pm	Performing Arts Hall opened from 2-4pm for setup & birds to be dropped off.
Sunday June 07	ANNUAL WINTER AUCTION	Nth R'ton High School Performing Arts Hall.	Bench by 7.45am	View 8.00am Starts at 9:00am
13 <sup>th</sup> June Henry George Auction – Strathpine Brisbane				
Saturday July 04	General Meeting  Committee Meeting to follow GM	Mount Larcom Showgrounds	1.00pm	<u>Lawn Show</u> A/A & Y/B & NF  <u>FEATURE:</u>  Question and Answer
12 <sup>th</sup> July BRASEA Auction, STRATHPINE, Brisbane.				
Friday July 31	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  General & Judges Meetings to follow	North Rockhampton High School (NRHS)	7.15pm	No <u>Table Show</u> or <u>FEATURE</u>
Saturday Aug 8 Newcastle Auction				
August 30th	Visit to ??? Aviary To Be Confirmed  Attend Pine Rivers Annual Auction	CLUB ANNUAL EVENT	Depart early Saturday morning	

Friday Sept 04	General Meeting	NRHS	7.15pm	<u>Table Show</u> A/A & Y/B & N/F  <u>FEATURE:</u>  Red Eyes
Saturday Sept 19	Committee Meeting	D. Fisher's Residence	2pm	
Monday Sept 21	Entries for Young Bird Show closes 9pm with Show Secretary			
Saturday Sept 26	BREEDERS SHOW  BIRD OF YEAR 2020 (Winners from All Shows from November Breeder's Show 2019 to October 2020 Table Show are eligible and will be judged at this Show)  Judge: TBA  October General Meeting to follow this Show.	North R'ton High Performing Arts Centre (PAC) Simpson Street.	Benching by 8.45am	A/A & Y/B & NF  Judging commences 9:00am
Friday Nov 06	General Meeting	NRHS	7.15pm	<u>Table Show</u> A/A & Y/B & N/F  <u>FEATURE:</u>  Clearwings
Sunday Nov 22	CHRISTMAS CLUB BREAKUP, including final meeting of the year. (December General Meeting).	TBA –	1.00p m 2.00p m	Lunch Meeting

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION**

**2020**

**Capricornia Budgerigar Society Inc.**



**Forward to:**

**The Secretary - CBS Inc**

**PO Box 5451, RED HILL-**

**ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4701**

**Surname:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Christian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ (all if partnership)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*This is vital to allow prompt delivery of information to all members.**

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

***I agree to keep my birds in a suitable environment and use appropriate husbandry practices.***

**My current exhibition status is ..... (Open, Novice, Beginner, etc.)**

**Applicant's Signature**.....

**Proposer's Name**.....**Proposer's Signature**.....

**Date**.....

**Please make cheques payable to: " Capricornia Budgerigar Society Inc."**

**Membership Rates for 2019**

**Senior : \$40.00**

**Partnership : \$40.00**

**Family: \$40.00**

**Memberships due by January 01 each year. Membership after June 30 will be \$20 for remainder of current year.**

**CBS Inc WEBPAGE: [www.capbuds.org](http://www.capbuds.org)**