



# **CAPRICORNIA BUDGERIGAR**

## **SOCIETY INC.**

The Secretary –  
CBS Inc.  
131 Mostyn St  
Nth Rockhampton  
Queensland 4701

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

**December 2021**

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Dear Member,

As the year draws to a close the committee wishes our members and all who participate in this great hobby a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The club held its Christmas party at the Raglan tavern and although numbers were down a bit, those who did attend had a very enjoyable day. The food was great, the atmosphere was great and everyone had a great time. What more could you ask for?

With the weather really starting to heat up and with the oppressive humidity we urge all members to be proactive in attending to the welfare needs of our feathered friends. Please provide cool conditions in their housing and be vigilant for an outbreak of Coccidiosis

It won't take long and the 2022 season kicks off with a bang, the first auction kicking off on the 16<sup>th</sup> January hosted by the Australian Budgerigar Society, and the first show off the ranks is the Pine Rivers Annual Show on the 6<sup>th</sup> February. Both great events to attend. Closer to home we have both the Budgerigar Society of Bundaberg and the Fraser Coast Shows, also great events, and of course our first meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February.

We have an interesting article on one of our oldest and most successful breeders included in this newsletter. I hope you find it as interesting as I did. Also included is the ANBC Penalties and Disqualifications, which all members should acquaint themselves with, especially our newer members.

And remember too many holidays is never enough.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,  
Russell Ogden  
(Newsletter Editor, CBS Inc.) [ogdenrc@bigpond.com](mailto:ogdenrc@bigpond.com)

## MEMBERS INFORMATION PAGE

- **Committee Members:** Confirmed at AGM

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President:	John Agnew	0408 361 762
Vice-President:	Ian Schneider	0408 287 709
Treasurer:	Scott Eriksen	0419 776 837
Secretary:	Rodney Vidler	0434 762 399

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

- **SHOW & WIN!!!!!!** Starting at our 2021 Breeders Show, you will become eligible to win a \$200 Credit at our Annual Auction by showing at the 3 Major Shows (Breeders 2021, Annual 2022, Young Bird Show 2022). 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 2021, 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.

- Services Section: The Club Shirt is now being worn by many members. If you want to purchase one, contact Shayla Evans 0408 731 846 **(Please do not call after 7:00 pm)** Shayla will also have a supply of 2022 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: 2022 :- Normal Green. 2023 :- Fallow. 2024 :- Clearbody. 2025 :- Greywing. 2026 :- Crested. These are judged at the Annual Show each year.

## Important message from the Committee

Hello members

When you wish to transfer rings, the request must be writing and the rings have to be sighted by both the ring steward and a committee member except where the rings are going to or from the ring steward in which case the rings must be sighted by two committee members.

This only applies to uncoded rings as coded rings cannot be transferred.

Yours sincerely  
ROD VIDLER  
SECRETARY

## The Philosopher

An old man was having a conversation with his Grandson, and said “The great philosopher Plato once said” “I am the wisest man alive, for I know one thing and that is that I know nothing”. “How did he know that? Grandpa”. “His wife told him”.

## Ancestral Mathematics

In order for you to be born you needed:

2 parents  
4 grandparents  
8 great- grandparents  
16 second great-grandparents  
32 third great-grandparents  
64 fourth great-grandparents  
128 fifth great-grandparents  
256 sixth great-grandparents  
512 seventh great-grandparents  
1024 eighth great-grandparents  
2048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 12 previous generations you needed a total of 4094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you to exist in this present moment.

## BUDGERIGAR PENALTY AND DISQUALIFICATION CLAUSES FOR GUIDANCE OF ANBC JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS

(THESE GUIDELINES ARE SET AND MAINTAINED BY THE ANBC  
JUDGES PANEL WHO RETAIN SOLE OWNERSHIP OF THE CONTENT)

<b>Symptoms of Illness</b>	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b> Ruffled, huddled in appearance, sometimes with vomiting and/or diarrhoea (often described as ‘dirty’ vent but not to be confused with nervous wet vent) <b>Remove from the bench</b></p>
<b>Presence of Mites</b>  	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b> Scaly face - Encrustations visible on one or more of the cere, beak, legs, eyes and vent. Feather mite - Ragged black or brown markings on feathers, particularly on the side toward the vent area <b>Remove from the bench</b></p>
<b>Presence of Lice</b>   	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b> Visible usually on face, mask or neck as black ‘dots’ or fly shaped - flat &amp; fast moving. Each disappear into the feather when disturbed <b>Remove from the bench</b></p>
<b>Deformity or Injury</b>	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b> <i>Feathering</i> – evidence of feather plucking, obvious French Moults, more than two primary tail feathers. <i>Deformity of Foot/Feet</i> – three or more toes permanently facing forward, inability to grip the perch, missing toe/s or part thereof – not toe nails, callusing on the sole of the foot. <i>Other major problems</i> – undershot beak, dislocated joints, substantial bleeding. <b><u>Penalty</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twisted primary tail feather/s – the greater the degree of twisting, the greater the penalty.</li> <li>• Broken or missing or twisted toe nails [not toes]</li> </ul>
<b>Condition</b>  <b>Condition cont.</b>	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adult Birds:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cere colour not relating to the sex of the bird, i.e. hormonal change.</li> <li>○ Both primary tail feathers missing or neither below the secondary tail feathers</li> <li>○ Missing Primary Flight Feathers (refer Ideal Topography) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- when three or more outside visual flight feathers are missing from one wing</li> <li>- when two outside visual flight feathers are missing on both wings</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Broken Nest Feather:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Disqualification clauses as per adult birds apply plus, pin feathers in the cap, visible adult feathers in the cap, neck, body or wings, solid iris ring where present in the variety coupled with adult coloured cere.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Penalty</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of pin feathers in adult birds</li> <li>• Missing Primary Flight Feathers (refer Ideal Topography)</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incorrect coloured cheek patches, other than birds entered in the wrong class</li> <li>○ Ground colour spot on back of head or other part of the body other than as permitted in <i>The Standard</i></li> <li>○ Incorrect iris ring colour – not white</li> <li>○ Incorrect cere colour for the variety as described in <i>The Standard</i></li> <li>○ Cleft, shallow or narrow masks</li> <li>○ Missing (or extra) spots where <i>The Standard</i> requires six. Spots where <i>The Standard</i> requires none. Spots incorrectly presented as required in <i>The Standard</i></li> <li>○ Feather disturbances :       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ruffle in neck or chest area</li> <li>- feathers on the feet</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Wing colour and/or markings not as described in <i>The Standard</i></li> <li>○ Long flighted and/or heavy secondary flight feather characteristics</li> <li>○ Incorrect tail feather or tail quill colour within the parameters of the variety other than the disqualifiable characteristics</li> <li>○ Length of primary tail feathers not in proportion to the bird</li> <li>○ Dropped Tail</li> <li>○ Nipped Neck</li> <li>○ Poor Backline</li> <li>○ Poor Wing Carriage</li> </ul> <p><b>Departure from varietal features as set out in <i>The Standard</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Red eyed self colours with markings on the head, back of neck and wings - the heavier the markings, the heavier the penalty</li> <li>○ Clearwings that do not have clear &amp; pure ground colour on wings with absence of markings as described in <i>The Standard</i> - the heavier the markings the greater the penalty</li> <li>○ Greywings that have body colour and wing markings varying from that required in <i>The Standard</i> - the greater the departure the greater the penalty</li> <li>○ Self coloured birds, Spangle Double Factor and Lacewings with body colour suffusion</li> <li>○ Opalines not showing a clear ‘V’ effect in mantle or with inadequate wing markings</li> <li>○ Opalines with markings at the back of the head and neck</li> <li>○ Apart from Opalines, birds showing body colour on wings, back or neck</li> <li>○ Dominant Pieds showing incorrect markings as defined in <i>The Standard</i> for that variety of Pied.</li> <li>○ Recessive Pieds with wing markings greater or less than that as required in <i>The Standard</i> - the greater the departure the greater the penalty</li> <li>○ Crested – where a bird has an incomplete, damaged or untidy crest, multiple crests, crest off centre or has a crest or feather disturbance outside of the areas allowed for in <i>The Standard</i>. Any detectable</li> </ul>
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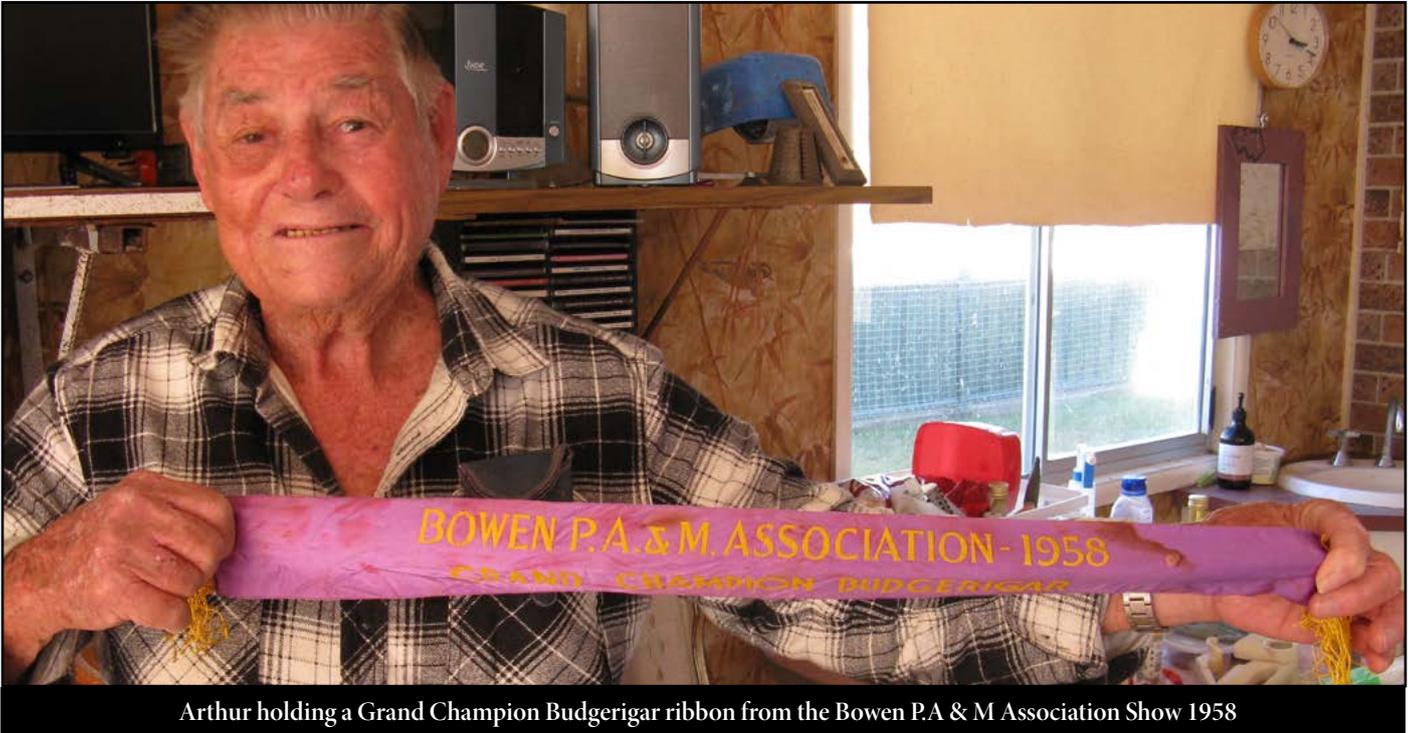
	<p>trimming refer Disqualification section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dilutes that have body colour and wing markings greater or less than that required in <i>The Standard</i> – the greater the departure the greater the penalty.</li> <li>○ Spangles with the absence of correct throat spots or lack of definition of wing markings.</li> <li>○ Yellow Face colours and variety combinations that display white ground colour are to be penalised if the spillage of yellow from the mask to the body is more than minimal. The greater the spillage colour deviates from the normal the greater the penalty.</li> <li>○ Golden Face Blue in all variety combinations where spillage of yellow from the mask to the body is more than minimal, affecting the quality of the blue or grey colour as seen in the Blue Series. The greater the yellow suffusion the greater the penalty.</li> <li>○</li> </ul>
<p><b>Inappropriate or Illegal act by an exhibitor or team carer/s. Also refer Format &amp; Rules for the ANBC Annual Championship Shows</b></p>	<p><b><u>Disqualification</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Any evidence of trimming (other than spots) or of dying or bleaching of feathers.</li> <li>● Any practice that is deemed to be unfair including the tampering with rings.</li> <li>● Double ringing, be it plastic or metal.</li> <li>● Rings other than the correct coloured ring marked with the year &amp; ANBC Secretary's nominated symbol.</li> </ul>

# 90 Arthur Turnbull

## YEARS YOUNG - A TRUE BLUE BUDGIE LOVER

Story: Graham Banks, Arthur Turnbull

Photos: Russell Ogden



Arthur holding a Grand Champion Budgerigar ribbon from the Bowen P.A & M Association Show 1958

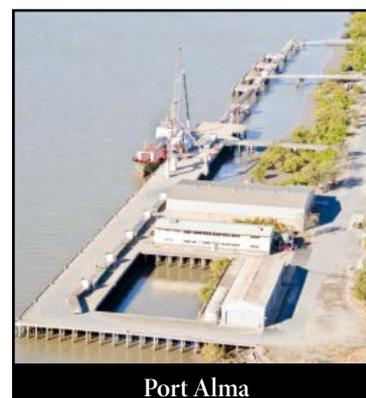
I first moved to Central Queensland in the late 1980's to the little township of Jambin, just south of Biloela. It wasn't long after this that I attended my first show in the region. It was held at the Rockhampton Showgrounds and conducted by the Capricornia Budgerigar Society. It was here that I first had the pleasure of meeting Arthur. I always found Arthur to be welcoming and a straight shooter but most of all a person who loved Budgerigars. For many years Arthur has been a regular at the regions shows, always lending a hand and helping others. Arthur has very graciously agreed to answer some questions about his lifetime involvement in Budgerigars. I would like to thank Arthur, John Agnew, Kevin O'Callaghan and Russell Ogden for their assistance with this article, please enjoy.

*How long have you been in Budgerigars and what got you first interested?*

When I first came to Rockhampton, I came with a car full of canaries. I had Red Factor canaries which I kept and bred until 1974 when I sold the lot. My introduction back into budgerigars was when I went to Brisbane and bought some Danish Recessive Pieds which at the time were hard to get but I managed to pick up six pair, enough to give me a good start. I bred them for a number of years. They were the best sellers, everybody wanted them. I could not breed enough. Then I started to buy a few birds that were hard to get...good exhibition type birds. I went to all the local bird shows which were then held at the Rockhampton Show Grounds. The local members tried to get me to join the club and I did eventually join the club in 1983 and started to show a few birds, mainly Fallows, Dominant Pieds, Recessive Pieds and Lutino.

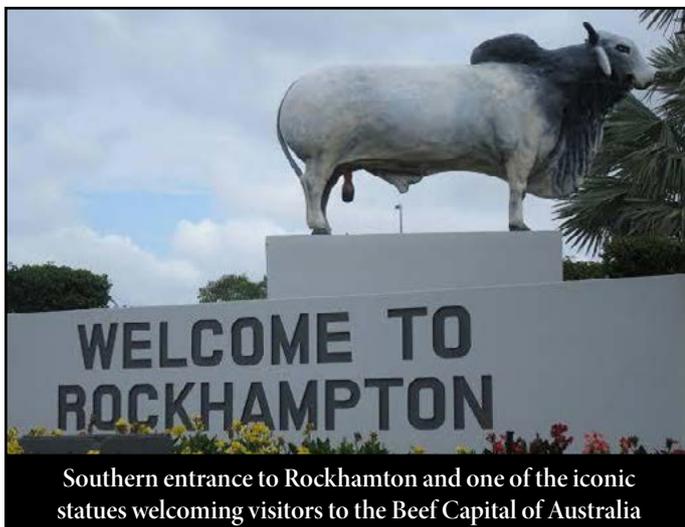
I bought birds off Jack & Michael Mitton, a father and son partnership from Gladstone. Mostly Cinnamons and a few Normal's and slowly done well with them. I managed to breed some strong Cinnamons, really good birds at that time. Later on I got birds from Henry George after attending the Maroochydore National Budgerigar Show. Then I bought birds from John & Rodney Tanner from Melbourne. These were the best birds I ever had. The Grey Greens I bred from the Tanner birds were some of the best I ever bred. They were also prolific, and I bred hundreds from this line, solid consistent quality with any one capable of winning on the show bench. Unfortunately, being mostly Grey Greens, I got stuck with them as no one wanted them. Just not a popular colour at the time. I eventually ended up sending a lot to breeders in North Queensland.

*How long have you been in living in Rockhampton and what attracted you to Rockhampton?*



Port Alma

In 1969 I came to Rockhampton having been transferred to Port Alma Shipping Terminal through my work. Port Alma is situated approximately 60km by road from the city of Rockhampton on the southern end of the Fitzroy River delta. At that time Port Alma was experiencing a growth boom with plenty of



Southern entrance to Rockhampton and one of the iconic statues welcoming visitors to the Beef Capital of Australia

work available. The local meat works was sending all their meat through Port Alma and a lot of copper from Mount Morgan was also being handled. Nowadays Port Alma handles mainly explosives, fertilizers, tallow and military equipment associated with training exercises held regularly at Shoalwater Bay.

*Are there any problems, and solutions, or benefits you experience living in Rockhampton with regards to keeping the budgerigars? For example, cold winters or hot summers or resourcing seed, travelling to shows etc.?*

Rockhampton is a hot place in summer and the birds never seem to stop moulting but the heat doesn't affect their breeding. I breed mostly through the summer months with

good results.

*How many birds do you normally hold, and do you think is this enough to develop a stud of exhibition budgerigars with limited outcrosses?*

At present I have 120 birds, the least I ever had.

*I believe you keep some very nice exhibition clearwings, are these the main variety you are concentrating on and what first attracted you to them?*

I only breed clearwings now, it's a hobby to me and I enjoy the Clearwings but they are the hardest of all budgerigar varieties to breed to a quality standard. Good clearwing budgerigars are few and far between. I had some good ones this year but had a bit of sickness in them and lost most of the first round I bred. They have now settled down and doing all right, but I unfortunately lost all the good hens.

*What do you like to see in a quality Clearwings e.g. wing colour clarity, size etc?*

Wing clarity is very important and so is getting modern head features with structural size bit this is hard to achieve.

*What don't you like to see in an exhibition Clearwings?*

Dirty wing markings.

*Do you find more challenges in breeding Clearwings compared to the more mainstay varieties? E.g. fertility, wastage etc.*

To get size into clearwings you've got to breed splits by outcrossing to good Normal's and then use the splits to improve the Clearwings. But with splits to Clearwing I found you breed more splits than Clearwings and the Clearwings tend to have worse wing clarity and it's a lot harder then to get the clear wings back again, you do get bigger birds and improved head quality. You also get a lot of wastage and end



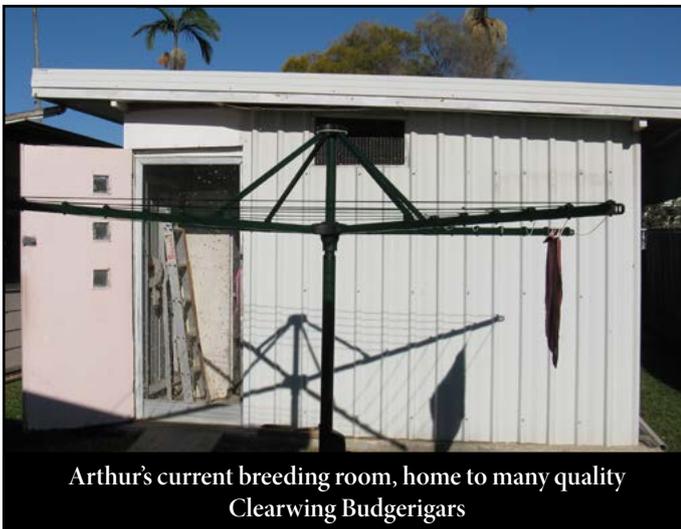
An impressive display of ANBC National Show Rosettes that Arthur has won over his time in Budgerigars. If he wins more in the future I think he may need to upgrade the display cabinet to accommodate them!



Arthur has won many major show awards over the years at local, state and national shows. A remarkable effort



Arthur with a Clearwing Budgerigar Society of Australia sponsored State Challenge Certificate from 2014



Arthur's current breeding room, home to many quality Clearwing Budgerigars

Arthur's Clearwing Budgerigars, to breed and improve the quality of Clearwings takes a lot of skill and dedication



up with a cage full of splits that you have no use for.

*I have bred clearwings and think they are a great budgie variety but are very challenging to maintain and improve show features on, particularly if you have a small stud. Do you have any suggestions for the newcomers who are looking at getting into them?*

To get better wing markings put Clearwings to Clearwings. The birds are a lot smaller, but you get wings that are cleaner. The head on them also tends to not be good but at least you still have a good variety bird. Use dark green birds if you can for good contrast. For newcomers it can be harder to bring in another bird that will improve your birds. Without an experienced eye budgies can all look alike, and balancing features can be confusing.

*Can you describe the foods and supplements the birds receive and your feeding routine and whether you have altered this over time?*

Supplements and medications I use are Ornithon, Ivomec, Soluvite D, Baycox once a year, Coccivet a couple times a year and Mega Mix any time as needed.

I feed a mixture of boiled eggs, carrots, breadcrumbs, greens, endive, and grasses.

*Clubs you are a member of -*

Capricornia Budgerigar Society Rockhampton

*Do you believe that the birds breed better at different times of the year? Do you have a set breeding season or is this influenced by the bird's condition, ring issue date your work or family etc?*

We get our rings in January, so we tend to breed birds to suit the ring issue date. The birds breed better from August through to February in Rockhampton. A lot of breeder's breed birds in the winter months but I find they breed better in the summer.

*Are there any birds you've bought in that have been particularly influential on your stud of birds?*

About 2008 or 2009 three of us pooled our resources and bought Terry Huth's, from Calliope, entire stud of birds as he was selling out. They all came to my place first where we sorted them out and split three ways between us. They were top birds all sorts, including Clearwings, Pieds, Cinnamonwings and Normal's. They were all based on Kelwyn Kakoschke, from Adelaide, lines. Terry had purchased the foundation birds directly from Kakoschke. I bred some ripper Clearwings. The Pieds I got were the best Pieds I ever owned. There were some showy Clearwings that were just as good. They were all big birds but the wings were a bit cloudy.

Unfortunately, around 2015 I became ill and my wife couldn't look after the birds and I had to dispose of them all.



One of Arthur's exceptionally coloured Clearwing Budgerigars, note the lovely clear wings

There were some champion birds amongst them. The people that bought them knew nothing about them. They should never have bought them. The birds went to waste.

In hindsight, selling the birds was the worst thing I ever did, sold the birds nothing to do... boring days. I had to do something, so I started to get some birds back again and decided to stick with only Clearwings. I originally got them off Robin Hood, from Gracemere, they were handy birds, and that's how I got back into Clearwings. Later,

Ian Schneider gave me two pair bred from Henry George birds. I bought some more from a Brisbane breeder but when I received them, I was very disappointed, they were worse than mine, very dark to the wings. To me it's a hobby and if I breed anything good it will go into the show.

*When bringing new birds in are there any recommendations you have before introducing them into your stud e.g. quarantine, test mating etc?*

I am lucky as I only have Clearwings so don't need to bring in a lot of new birds. When I do get new birds, I keep them separate from my other birds for a period of time. I treat them with preventative medication for a couple days also.

*What is your most memorable show moment?*

I loved when we visited to go to another town for a challenge show. We used to have these in Gladstone, Gympie, Maryborough, and Bundaberg they were the best shows. We used to know they were on every year at a different place, they were the best shows, had a good time.

*How do you think the hobby has changed over the years?*

I really think the hobby has lost out on the hobby aspect of budgerigar keeping, the money seems have taken over. Go to an auction and not unusual for sellers wanting and getting a \$1000 for birds.

On the plus side there are more opportunities these days with a lot more classes in the show. The show caters for nearly all budgerigars, all varieties. They're a great hobby and over the years I've got a lot of great memories and good times from my involvement.

*There's been a bit of talk recently about the upcoming possibility of being able to import budgies into Australia again. Do you any views on this e.g. good, bad?*

I've been talking to some of the boys about imported birds and I get the feeling they are all with it.

*What would your recommendations be for someone just starting out in the hobby?*

To start with budgies, you should join a bird club, especially if you want to show, and get to learn about the birds first. Showing budgies can become an expensive hobby. You will have to have show cages, better birds etc but it is a rewarding hobby and the other club members will help you, so I say go for it.

**A**fter doing the interview with Arthur, we started chatting about some of Arthur's past and his involvement with birds in general. I found it very interesting and thought others would also find it interesting as it is representative of the history of Aviculture in Australia.

*Arthur, I remember you telling me once that your father kept birds, I'd love to hear some of the early history of how your interest in birds evolved?*

Yeah my dad did have birds... Well I got married in 1952 and I had birds all the way. I bought a house in Bowen and married a Bowen girl, Daphne. The first house I bought was full of bird cages. I used to trap a lot of birds, a lot of finches. I had all sorts of birds, but I also had budgies in those days. I left Bowen in 1959, I went over to Western Australia. I had to sell a lot of my birds, my budgies too. Daphne's mother lived in Bowen, there were two or three boys amongst their family and I built a cage in their yard and they kept the budgies for a long time after that.

I originally went to Western Australia to have a look at the place and ended up staying for six years. That's when I started to play around with a few canaries. I had gotten in with people who had canaries. I always had birds all my life and the interest



Border Fancy Canary



Red Siskin Finch



Red Factor Canary



Chestnut-breasted Mannikin



Black-throated Finch

in canaries followed from this. When I left Western Australia the Red Factor Canaries were just starting to be developed. I got to know Mrs Monahan in Freemantle, she had all sorts of Canaries, her husband was a wharfie like me, and he managed to acquire some Red Siskins off one of the boats and they bred them with the Boarder Fancy Canary. They bred a lot of beautiful birds, but they were a bronze colour. Turned out they were mostly mules, and you couldn't get anything out of them. The Monahan's did end up eventually getting some to produce. They were the first people that started the Red Factors off. When I left Western Australia in 1966, I got some good Red Factors from Mr Monahan and I took them back to Bowen where I stayed for the next 12 months. I kept and bred them on the veranda of my house. I bred a lot and eventually had too many.

I was planning to transfer to Whyalla in South Australia for work and had to move on some of the birds. I took about 20 or 30 up to Townsville but the pet shop people didn't know what they were and were reluctant to take them. The owner said I

could leave them at the front of the shop while I went and did some shopping and pick them up when I was finished. When I got back to pick them up they were all gone, he had sold the lot and wanted more. I said I had heaps more back at Bowen but I wasn't coming back to Townsville as I was leaving for South Australia.

I packed the car up, a Holden sedan, in anticipation of heading to Whyalla. I had made a cage especially to fit the shape of the back seat of the car and took all the birds with me on the road journey to Whyalla. They went everywhere I went. On the way we stopped at Tamworth. At Tamworth I had an opportunity get rid of some more of the excess birds. I took 20 odd birds to the pet store but the owner said the same thing as the Townsville pet shop owner, he didn't really want to take any. In the end he did take some and wanted my address in case he needed to contact me but I said I don't know as I was going to Whyalla for work and not sure where I was going to live.

When we got to Whyalla we couldn't get a place to live so we lived in a caravan for three months and the birds stayed in the back of the car. We eventually found a place and I built a bird cage and I bred hundreds of Red Factor Canaries, they were the best breeders I ever had. I joined the Adelaide Canary Club and that's how some of the first Red Factors came to South Australia.

When I was in Bowen a fella named Cahoon, who had budgies, tried to get a club going, he used to have a meeting at his place once a month. He also supported all the shows out of his own money by supplying all the ribbon's, trophies etc. That's how budgies really kicked off there but that wasn't like now, they were proper Australian budgies. There was a standard but most people were more interested in pretty birds.

When I was trapping finches, I used to send them to Brisbane on the mail train, the mail used to go every second night from Bowen to Brisbane. There was a huge demand for Black-throats. I used to trap a lot of Black-throats around Home Hill, Proserpine and all through that area. I remember they were always there, and I believe they are still there. There were also a lot this side (south) of Townsville. I used to trap with a mate, Murphy Anderson. He's still alive and he's 96 now. There were a lot of Finch keepers in Bowen and I used to go to different people's places and get a caller finch from them to use when trapping as I didn't keep a lot of my own.

A couple of the Bowen fella's used to call me the birdman, 'here comes the birdman' they'd say. I left Bowen in the 50's and I was here (Rockhampton) in the 70s. We started to go back to Bowen for visits because Daphne's mother and sister still lived there. I remember going up town, and some of the old bird



Pictorial Standard for Exhibition Budgerigar from 1949

keepers would congregate at the pub on a Saturday morning. I would walk pass the pub and it wasn't unusual for some of the fella's to yell out 'here comes the birdman' and I hadn't seen

them for more than 15 years. It's great hobby that I love but as you get older things get harder to do, I suppose that's just one of those things though.

The following article has generously been supplied by Lloyd Marshall. First published in Talking Birds Magazine June 2021

## BUDGIES with DON BURKE



# Budgies can be weird



This is a black-faced, black-wing anthracite budgie which is not in Australia.



These munchkins are types of blackfaced budgies.



This bird is part green, part blue with a crest!



How's this for a banded spangle? It is not a pied at all, it is just a weird spangle.

MANY truly strange budgies have appeared over the years.

Perhaps the weirdest of the lot are chimeras, also known as half-siders or mosaics.

They are budgies that are a crazy mix of many colours.

Often they are a blue budgie on one side and a green on the other or a male on one side and a female on the other.

Chimeras in birds are incredibly, TWO babies in the one egg.

Sort of like much closer Siamese twins.

When twins occur in an egg there is usually not enough space for two babies so sometimes the two coalesce into one bird.

Sometimes as a half-and-half configuration sometimes not.

There are genetic mechanisms that co-ordinate the development of all babies such that you have two legs, two arms (or wings), one head etc.

In the case of chimeras those mechanisms make do as best they can.

Those birds never breed similar birds to themselves since no ordinary genes are involved in that configuration.

It is just a developmental mistake.

Then there are near-black budgies which are an assembly of genetic black bits and pieces, none of which is available in Australia.

The black-faced mutation produces black striping on the forehead, mask and subtly on the body.

When combined with the near-black anthracite mutation the striping is darkened considerably.

If you add the new black-winged mutation you get a truly amazing feat of budgerigar breeding.

Those birds are selling for vast sums of money in Asia in particular.

Some people are asking if they are really budgies?

Yes, they are but they do not exist in Australia.

Purewing budgies look almost exactly like a perfectly-coloured cinnamonwing clearwing but they are not that at all.

They are double factor melanistic spangles.

They are just being developed in the USA, again they are not available in Australia but if you breed some melanistic spangles together you might produce one.

Melanistic spangles are spangles with darker wings.

Banded spangles occur every so often but they are very rare.

The bird at right is a purewing budgie which is thought to be a double factor melanistic spangle.



The two above are true halfsiders. Each side is totally different. Below are different chimeras with a mixture of colours. Chimeras can be very different, with bits and pieces of strange birds all over them.



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2022

Capricornia Budgerigar Society Inc.



Forward to:

Capricornia Budgerigar Society Inc. [SEP]

Treasurer: 131 Mostyn St

North 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, Intermediate, Beginner.)

Applicant's Signature..... [SEP]

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

Date.....

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

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