



# **CAPRICORNIA BUDGERIGAR**

## **SOCIETY INC.**

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

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

## **June 2020**

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Dear Member,

As the restrictions caused by COVID 19 start to ease we can hopefully look forward to getting back to socializing and being able to attend meetings and shows again. For those looking to upgrade breeding stock some auctions should be able to recommence again. Without our usual activities everyone should have been able to put a concerted effort into their breeding programs and hopefully produced that sort after champion. As most people would know by now the Nationals will go ahead in Bendigo for 2021 so now's the time to start planning and preparing your birds.

Included in this newsletter is a couple of articles on creating and maintaining a winning stud. You will notice the authors have differing views on how to obtain this goal. This is not necessarily a bad thing as a differing of views can lead to a new and improved view or a combination of the two may be a better way to go. Digest their suggestions and pick out what if anything suits you and go with that. Or their suggestions may prove a light bulb moment for you and you come up with a completely new and improved idea. There is also an article on line breeding which is a different take on a similar article in the last newsletter.

The Budgerigar Society of South Australia has hosted a couple of virtual aviary visits in the last month the first with Maarten Haylen of Belgium and the second with Mike and Sara Ball of the UK. Both have great birds and some interesting ideas. Maarten was to be one off the judges at this years Nationals if it had gone ahead. If you missed them you can still see the presentations by going to the BSSA web-site and logging onto their YouTube videos.

Cheers,  
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:	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 2019 Breeders Show, you will become eligible to win a \$200 Credit at our Annual Auction by showing at the 3 Major Shows (Breeders 2019, Annual 2020, Young Bird Show 2020). 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 new 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: 2020 :- Australian White Caps 2021:- Lutino and 2022 :- Normal Green. These are judged at the Annual Show each year

# CREATING AND MAINTAINING A WINNING STUD

By Pierre Swart (P888)  
South Africa

Everyone remembers your recent success on the show bench, but nobody remembers that many times you travelled to shows and did not even win a first place.

When people ask me how I managed to build up my current stud, a number of things come to mind.

## The Principal

First of all – how do you tell somebody just in a few short sentences how to do it, because anybody can do it, if they put their mind to it. It is actually a very simple principle, but that is the only easy part, the principal, the rest is not so easy.

## Doc Robinson

Many years ago I obtained a Grey cock from the famous Doc Robinson line. It was a good bird, but no longer a young bird. I paired it to a nice Opaline Light Green hen that I got from another person, who claimed that it came with a Doc Robinson bloodline in it. This pair produced five chicks. The youngsters were not outstanding, but fair. I wanted good chicks from this cock, so I paired it up to a better hen. Needless to say, no chicks! I tried the cock with a few other hens, bred a few more chicks, but nothing much, and in the end the cock died.

## Keep the Blood Together

After a while I began noticing that his chicks with the Opaline Light Green hen began to look better and better every day. Unfortunately, I had already got rid of the two weaker ones – both hens. That was a big mistake! One of the chicks, an Opaline Sky-Blue cock, won my first Major award – Best Beginner on Show at the 1996 Eastern Cape Area Show. I started to use these three cocks – some of which can still be traced back in my birds' pedigrees. This was the first hard lesson I learned – keep the blood together and don't be too hasty evaluating youngsters from good blood lines. I made a promise to my self to be very weary of this in the future.

## Very Good Youngsters

The same year I paired a good Molkontin-bred cock to a De Beer hen – which was very average but she was very well bred. This time I saw the chicks were good and I kept them breeding for 3 more rounds, fostering all the chicks. I tried to get as many chicks as we could from this pairing. Later I paired the hen and cock to different partners after they had rested well. Both the parents produced good offspring for me with different partners. I learned my second very important lesson: when both birds (the cock & hen) are predominant in producing good offspring, the chances of them producing very good youngsters is good.

## Pairings Will Start To Pick Themselves

I started to make sure that I test-pair birds with different partners, taking just one round and then at a later stage pair those birds together that have produced good youngsters with different partners. One thing that is coming out of this system, is the saying that “you have to know your birds to breed them”. Using this system is slow in the beginning, but after a very few years it will get momentum. Good families will start to build and pairings will start to pick themselves.

## Outstanding Quality

In 2005 I picked a Yellowface Grey Cinnamon spangle cock and a Grey Cinnamon spangle hen – they just looked perfect for each other. I must admit that it is not a pairing everybody would have made, but I knew their backgrounds. Both their parents produced good birds. I waited for them to mature and then paired them. At first a huge disappointment, the hen began plucking just after the chicks had been rung so I had to foster them out. As the chicks started to feather up, I realized that my calculations were spot on, they were all of outstanding quality, producing many Best In Show and CC winners.

## A Blessing in Disguise

The hen plucking her chicks in this case was a blessing in disguise. It made me implement a new system. In the past I fostered the eggs of every second round, but now began fostering the chicks as soon as they were rung. This lets the hen go through the full breeding cycle but is just shortens it. If a pair is looked well after in this way

then it will easily produce 20 and more real quality chicks and any breeder will know how valuable this is for any stud.

### **Pair Up As Long As Possible**

Many visitors over the years were amazed by how many chicks I am able to get from a good pair. Remember that when two birds produced good chicks with different partners, and they are paired together, they will then produce the required quality youngsters. They should be paired up together as long as possible, to get the maximum chicks possible. I had some pairs together for as long as 2 years.

### **Brothers and Sisters**

I also used the sisters and brothers of the Spangle Grey Cinnamons extensively enlarging the family and also adding other colours. I paired a well-bred Opaline Cobalt to one of the daughters of a Spangle Cinnamon pairing. This produced my 2007 National winner; his mother's sister was also best opposite sex at the same National. Today I have very good Grey Greens, Light Greens and Greys, winning the South African National in 2011 with a Normal Grey.

### **Brothers and Sisters**

If this sounds very easy to you, let it be a fair warning, because it is not. You should be prepared for all kinds of setbacks that come with breeding good birds, i.e. French Moults, infertility, chicks being attacked by parents and the list can go on and on. Most probably the French Moults set us back the most. I believe in a product called Virukill which also kills the Polyoma virus and using it extensively, touch wood but for a number of years I don't have that problem anymore.

### **Focus, Dedication & Observation**

If you want to keep on breeding quality budgerigars you have to be focused, dedicated and at all times very observant, but most of all be ready to absorb setbacks every day. If you can do that, you are half way there.

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# NO PERFECT WAY

By Chris Ferrante

The truth is there is no ONE perfect way or "system" to develop your stud.

That's what makes this sport so amazing; it's an individual journey to the tops of the show bench.

Those who put in the work and do their due diligence to really fine tune their aviary and birds will be the ones who make up the 5%.

The winning "System" for you is the compilation of showing methods and tactics that allow you to get the best results for the unique combination of you, your schedule, the types of birds you are showing and the distances you travel to shows.

Makes sense right?

With that being said, there are some foundational principles that all individual systems should be built upon.

If you keep these principles in your aviary you will be way ahead of most of the studs and fanciers out there.

So here they are in no particular order because the importance of each one is exactly the same.

## 1. Always keep good records!

There is no way to consistently better your aviary, birds and results when you don't have records. From the very minute a bird enters your aviary it should have a paper trail. Everything that bird does from show training, breeding, showing, health, results and everything in between should be recorded.

## 2. Good health is 75% of the equation!

Just like any athlete, budgies need to be in good health in order to perform at their peak levels. There is no sense of buying top class birds if you don't keep them in top condition. A sick and unhealthy "world-class" budgie is in the same category as a losing budgie. So keep health a priority

## 3. The show result never lies!

This actually goes hand in hand with number one, you may have your favourites in your aviary, you may have birds that you think "look" amazing but in the end results speak louder than words. Shows will always show you who you're best birds are. Again this is why it is also important to keep good records.

## 4. Quality over Quantity!

A few good budgies are better than a large number of inferior ones plain and simple. Not to mention that they are easier and cheaper to maintain as well.

## 5. Start with a good foundation

Start with 2 to 4 pairs of good quality breeders and build a nucleus from them.

## 6. Successful showing requires a 365 day per year commitment

This is pretty self-explanatory but just because the show season is over doesn't mean your commitment to your birds should be. In fact that should be the time to really audit and reformulate your aviary and birds (according to your previous year's records) and put together a plan of attack and plant the seeds for the next show season.

## 7. Be Strategic!

Strategy will always beat out luck in the long run so if you plan on counting on luck or "chance" to win shows then you're probably better off saving your money and getting a new hobby. Treat it like a real sport, your birds like real athletes and you like a real coach.

## 8. Spend quality time with your birds

You will improve your record if you give the birds kind, gentle and regular attention so they will trust you. This should make them contented and unafraid. This loving care they receive will encourage them or motivate them to perform on show day.

## 9. The aviary matters!

Too many fanciers underestimate the value that the aviary has on their results. The aviary is the starting point of everything and is the nucleus of all of your efforts. Keep it clean, dry, organised and comfortable for your birds and manage it like a true champion.

## 10. Develop your own unique equation!

You need to be self-aware of the unique situation that make up your aviary and devise a specific plan of attack for it. Again it's an individual journey to be a show winner so understanding the specific and unique needs of you, your schedule, your birds, the shows you will be entering, the system you will be using and everything in-between is very important to achieving success in this sport.

So there you have it,

The 10 Commandments of Winning Shows!

When you strip away all of the fancy names, varieties, show systems, tips, tricks, strategies and "secrets" these are the principles that you will find at the very base of every champion fanciers process no matter which system they are using.

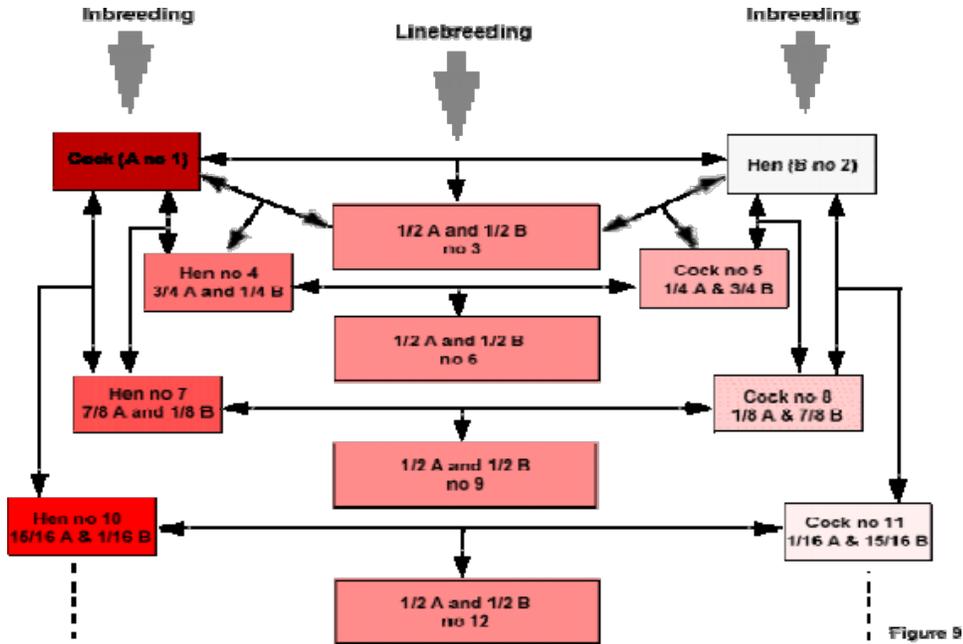
Do yourself and your wallet a favour and if these are not part of the base principles in your aviary now then I highly recommend you make it a priority to implement these commandments into everything you do going forward.

I hope you enjoyed this article and found some value in it.

# The New Line Breeding : Frame, Feather, Pieces and Parts

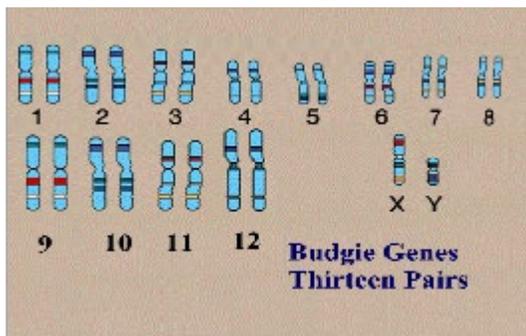
By Mike Rankin

If you pick up any book on Budgie breeding you will find a chapter on line/in breeding. The practice is based on the premise that you find a great Budgie and clone that bird by a serious of mating of closely related birds. This example is the summary of both line breeding and inbreeding.

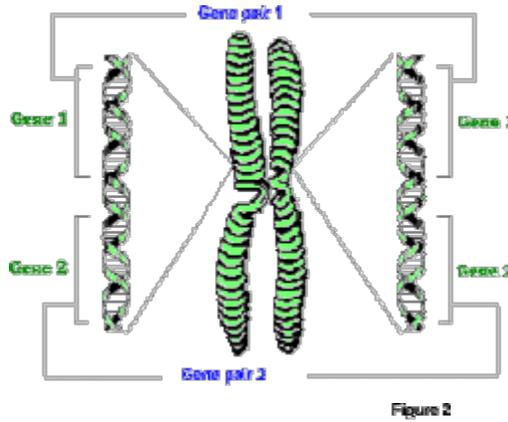
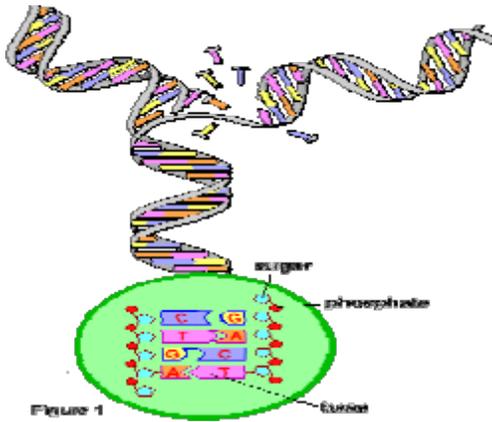


The problem with this plan is the initial great budgie. It is a real challenge to come up with that great Budgie. In addition this plan does not take into account the advancement in genetic knowledge. With the in-depth knowledge of genetics we can now put together a plan based on the strengths of many good budgies.

For the sake of those people that missed genetics 101. Genes are the building blocks of life. In this genetic material are the building plans for life and all the characteristics of each living thing. Budgies have thirteen pairs of genes. Twelve complete sets and the sex determining gene. Each gene carries the coded information for each individual budgie.



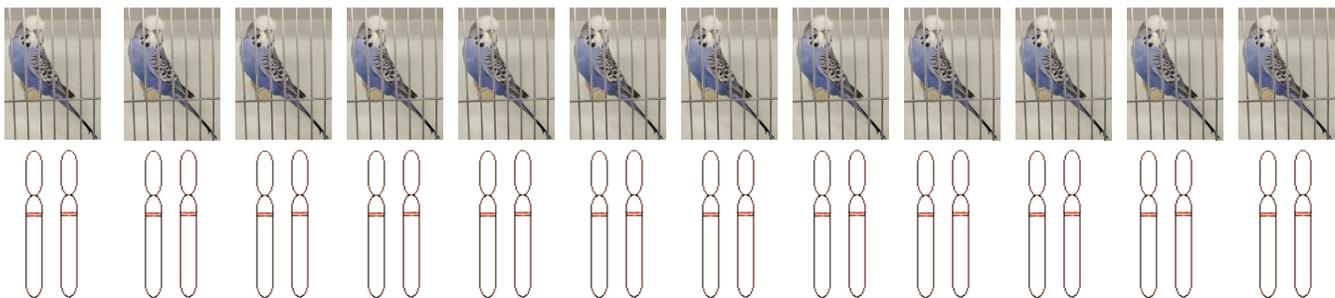
Each gene is a pair, one part from the father and the second part from the mother. The gene itself is a double helix with the actual coding on the rungs between the helix. This coding is a protein based code noted in figure one.



Now you have the basic of genetic theory. There are many good books on gene theory if you wish to get deeper into the management of genes. For our understanding the basic will do. So now we get to the substance of this article. For the sake of simplicity we are now going to assume that budgies have only one pair of genes. In reality the traits we discuss will be distributed on any of the thirteen genes. Some traits are co-located on the same gene and travel together during replication. We will not address collocation or linkage in this article.

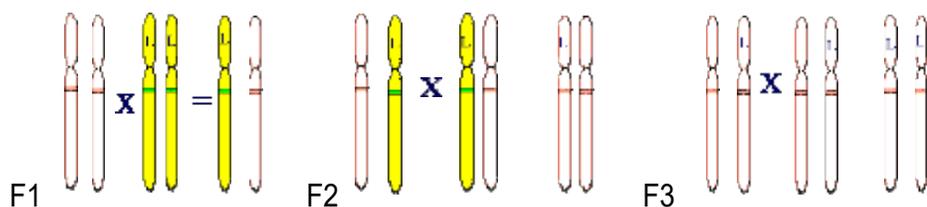
All the traits we cherish in our show budgies are recessive to the wild type. The length, width, color and size are all recessive to the little green budgie built to survive on the plains of Australia. Budgies left to their own devices will easily revert back to that wild type in a matter of a few generations.

So, we start with our foundation budgies. This should be a family loosely related with above average show characteristics and good breeding habits. These foundation birds should not have any major faults. We should start off with at least twelve birds for our plan. They would look something like this. The white gene denotes the family. The orange bar located on each gene denotes the family gene set.

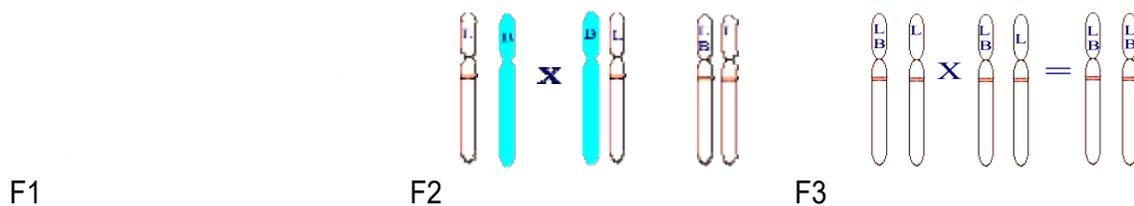


The first step in this process is to locate a Budgie with great length. We are looking for a budgie at least nine inches long. This Budgie should have a straight backline and a nice symmetry with at least thirty percent of its length below the perch. This budgie is denoted by the yellow gene with the green bar. The "L" denotes the genetic coded material for extra length. Once you have located the Budgie you want to breed that Budgie to the family. The following are the process through the F3 generation. The F1 cross is the Budgie with the length bred to the family. You will need to breed the budgie with length with at least two members of the family. The F2 cross is the young from the initial cross to the resulting half brothers and half sisters. The F3 generation is the cross of the inner family with the added length. At the F3 generation you have

established the length within the family. Subsequent mating will further establish the trait with in the whole family.



The next step in the process is the addition of feather. What you are looking for is a long wide feather with lots of down. Some would refer to this feather as buff. A good way to assess the feather on a Budgie is the spots. A spot is on one feather. If the spot is large and round then the feather is close to what you want. At this point you start the migration of the trait into the family. The F1 generation is the initial cross to the family. Remember you need to mate the outcross to at least two family members. The F2 generation is the cross of half brothers and sisters of the F1 generation. The F3 generation is the mating of family members to again establish the trait with in the family.



At this point you have a family with both length and feather established. Now you start the refinement process. These are the visual traits that set a side the nice budgie from the top bench budgie. These traits are more difficult and costly to acquire.

For me the next step was face. I wanted that bold square face that flowed gracefully through the neck to the body. We used the same process to migrate the trait to the family gene pool. In the F2 generation it is not uncommon to produce some wonderful show budgies. There is a temptation to use these birds as the family and change the dynamics of the family gene pool. I would strongly suggest you stay with the plan. If for any reason you loose or destroy the family gene pool all is lost. You will not be able to generate future competitive Budgies and you are back to owning a collection of birds.



After you have established the basic requirement of a competitive budgie in your family you can start to refine the genetic pool. Things like directional feathering, blow, width, spot size, mask placement and color. At some point I choose to break my initial family into three sub-families. This took some preplanning. First I had to generate enough basic stock to support three sub-families. The initial break was around color. After the initial break I started to refine the sub families for the specific color using the process. This created some differences between the sub families. This also created demand on any outcross bought in. In some cases I needed to breed that outcross with each sub family twice for a total of six breeding. In some cases this became a two season process. Many of the outcrosses never worked out. My average is one out of four

outcrosses actually provide value. I use cocks as the outcross for two reasons. First you can purchase a higher quality cock easier and cheaper than a hen. Second there is less of a chance for breeding problems. In the actual families many of the Budgies will appear relatively average. Many of the members will be carrying only a single factor for a specific trait when a double factor is required to produce a competitive budgie. Do not cull the core family because you have better show birds in the F2 generation. Remember this is all about the family and the gene pool contained within the family.

Now you have the basic practice of managing a gene pool. This is not a practice to be entered into lightly. This process requires detailed breeding records and keen observation. At the beginning of each breeding season you must write down your goals for that season. When plan "A" falls apart because a Budgie will not breed or the key bird has the audacity to die. You have to have a plan "B" to stay the course.

I can not guarantee that this will insure that you become a top breeder. All I can say is it works for me. But in the end you have to have some type of plan. Blind luck only happens now and then and if that is your plan we wish you well.

## **A Texan in Oz**

Randy a Texan rancher was visiting outback Queensland and went into a pub to get acquainted with the locals. He struck up a conversation with a cow cocky by the name of Glen, who invited Randy out to his station. As Glen turned off the road onto the track leading to the homestead Randy asked him much land he owned, to which Glen replied 30,000 square miles. Randy replied "In Texas our ranches are twice that size." As they drove along, they passed a large paddock of wheat, Randy declared "Our wheatfields are twice that size." As they approached the homestead they passed a large mob of cattle, again Randy declared "Our Texas Longhorns are twice the size of them thar cows." Just as they pulled up a mob of Roo's moved across the paddock and Randy inquired "What are they?" Glen looked at Randy and asked incredulously "What! Don't you have Grasshoppers in Texas?"

# 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	<u>Table Show</u> 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** [L] [SEP]

**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**..... [L] [SEP]

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

**Date**.....

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

**Membership Rates for 2019:** [L] [SEP]

**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)**