

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN "BUDGIE DIGEST"

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BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

Meeting Place: Adelaide South West Community Centre,
171 Sturt St, Adelaide SA

First Tuesday of each Month at 8.00 pm

Club website - www.bssainc.org.au

PRESIDENT:

Chris Murphy—Coromandel East H 8370 6306
W 8300 5900

VICE PRESIDENT:

Steve Elliott—Gawler 7220 4514

HON. SECRETARY:

Sue Adams—West Lakes Shore 8242 2849

TREASURER:

Marie Murphy—Coromandel East 8270 8284

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Tim Campbell—Adelaide

SHOW MANAGER:

Wayne Weidenhofer - Victor Harbor 8552 4283

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SOCIAL CO ORDINATOR:

Tracey Haskell—Noarlunga Downs 0408 326 607

WEB MASTER:

Trevor Gwatking

COMMITTEE:

Jim Tolson—Somerton Park 8296 7011

Jim Butterworth—Sellicks Beach 8556 3494

Ian McEwan—Edwardstown 8276 4648

AUDITOR:

Neville Guthberiet 8346 6347

DELEGATES TO B.C.S.A.:

Chris Murphy (see above)

Positions Vacant (2)

DIGEST EDITOR:

Kerry Murphy Email: kerrymurphy@ozemail.com.au

The opinions expressed by the Authors are their own and not necessarily those of this Society

On behalf of the Committee of the BSSA, we would like to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2: (Tuesday Monthly Meeting). This year we are holding our Christmas Party at the Watermark Hotel – 631 Anzac Highway, Glenelg North, opposite the Buffalo ship. Our seating commences at 7.30pm, and bookings can still be made by contacting Tracy Haskell. The menu price as per the internet on 25/11/2014 – adults \$31.95, seniors \$26.95 & children under 14 \$14.95.

As with last year, the Committee would appreciate any feedback on this type of function as we plan 2015.

NEST FEATHER SHOW – 25 OCTOBER 2014

On Saturday 25 October, the BSSA and NEBS held the annual Unbroken Cap Show at the NEBS Hall in Kilburn. With great support from our members, the BSSA was able to retain the trophy. We look forward to defending the trophy at our Show Hall in Vermont in 2015. Within the Digest are the Show results and individual trophy winners.

BSSA 2015 SHOW DATES

The dates for our Shows in 2015 will be as follows:

- Novice Show & Social Day – Saturday 28 March.
- Stan Watson Breeders Show – Saturday 16 May.
- Logan Shield – weekend of 13/14 June.
- National Show, Mandurah, WA – weekend of 20/21 June
- Ron Norman Annual Show & South Australian BRASEA Show – Saturday 4 July.
- Interclub Nest Feather Show – Saturday 31 October.

PETER SIMIC AUCTION SELLOUT

As members may be aware, Peter Simic will be selling all of his birds in March 2015. Peter has been a member of our Club since 1986 – almost 30 years and has been a very successful Open exhibitor in South Australia. The highlight for Peter was winning the 2010 ANBC Recessive Pied class. Ill health has forced Peter to make some significant lifestyle decisions and as part of this process, the budgies are being sold off.

The auction of Peter's birds will be held in conjunction with our Novice Show on Saturday 29 March (hot weather permitting) at the Vermont Hall on Cross Roads. We expect a full catalogue and photos will be available on the BSSA website during January/February 2015.

JANUARY 1 RING ISSUE DATE

The 2015 rings will be available from January 1 2015 from our Ring Officer – Wayne Bandt.

As we will not have a meeting until February, members who are breeding during January will need to:

1. Complete the enclosed ring order form (purple) within this Digest.
2. Email or post the form directly to Wayne.
3. Include payment or use the EFT option on the form.
4. Remember to include your membership, postage and Council membership if applicable.
5. Sit by the letterbox and wait for the postman!!!!



NEBS/BSSA Unbroken Cap Interclub Challenge 2014

Saturday 25 October

Major Award Judge: Larry Jeffries

Colour & Variety Judges: John Mulley and Wayne Weidenhofer

Birds Entered: 227

BSSA won the Interclub Challenge 221 to 156

RESULTS

BEST UNBROKEN CAP

BEST OPEN UBC BIRD

RESERVE OPEN UBC BIRD

Murray Bray

Murray Bray

Butterworth & Stone

BEST INTERMEDIATE UBC BIRD

RESERVE INTERMEDIATE UBC BIRD

Andrew & Lucy

Andrew & Lucy

BEST NOVICE UBC BIRD

RESERVE NOVICE UBC BIRD

George England

George England

YOUNG BIRDS

BEST OPEN YOUNG BIRD

RESERVE OPEN YOUNG BIRD

Dennis Lomman

Sue Adams

BEST INTERMEDIATE YOUNG BIRD

RESERVE INTERMEDIATE YOUNG BIRD

Andrew & Lucy

Andrew & Lucy

BEST NOVICE YOUNG BIRD

RESERVE NOVICE YOUNG BIRD

Wayne Bandt

George England

BEST OF VARIETY IN SHOW

Best Normal Green

Best Normal Greygreen

Best Normal Blue

Best Visual Violet

Best Normal Grey

Butterworth & Stone

Dennis Lomman

J & W Weidenhofer

Butterworth & Stone

J & W Weidenhofer

Best Normal English Y/F Blue	J & W Weidenhofer
Best Normal Aust Y/F Blue	Graeme Alchin
Best Black Eye Self Dilute	Butterworth & Stone
Best Lutino	No entry
Best Albino	Butterworth & Stone
Best Clearwing	J & W Weidenhofer
Best Greywing	Vicki Sanford
Best Cinnamonwing	Robert Worrall
Best Spangle D/F	K & A Smith
Best Opaline	Michael Crossley
Best Opaline AOSV	Michael Crossley
Best Clearbody	S & C Norris
Lacewing ASC/ASV	J & W Weidenhofer
Best Fallow	No entry
Best Normal Spangle	Ian McEwan
Best Spangle AOSV	Murray Bray
Best Dominant Pied	Libby Thomas
Best Danish Recessive Pied	Vicki Sanford
Crested ASC/ASV	Butterworth & Stone
AOSV or NSV	No entry
	No entry

BCSA Status Movement System
Summary of Points Awarded for 2012, 2013 and 2014

Congratulations to **George & Bev Jones** and **Laurie Barber** who will advance from Intermediate to Open effective from the 1st January 2015.

Congratulations also to **Kakoschke and Rice** and **Dennis Lomman** for being elevated to Champion Breeder for 2015.

Further details are available on the BCSA website at www.bcsa.com.au. Details include at which show the points were awarded and for which birds.

See overleaf for further details.

BCSA Status Movement System
Summary of Points Awarded for 2012, 2013 and 2014

Exhibitor	Status	2012	2013	2014	3yr Total
Sue Adams	Open	-	-	15	15
Graeme Alchin	Open	-	10	-	10
Andrew & Lucy	Intermediate	-	-	25	25
Wayne Bandt	Novice	-	5	10	15
Laurie Barber	Intermediate	-	10	25	35
Michael Crossley	Open	-	30	15	45
Geoff Edwards	Open	10	20	15	45
L&H Edwards	Open	15	5	10	30
Stephen Elliott	Open	45	15	25	85
Barb Fisher	Open	35	45	-	80
Peter Glassenbury	Open	-	20	5	25
Trevor Gwatking	Open	-	5	-	5
Tracey Haskell	Intermediate	-	25	-	25
Geoff Hay	Novice	5	5	-	10
Polly Heel	Open	-	15	-	15
Holmes Family	Intermediate	5	-	-	5
G&B Jones	Intermediate	-	10	20	30
Kakoschke & Rice	Open	110	-	145	255
D&R Lange	Open	5	15	40	60
Dennis Lomman	Open	80	70	100	250
Malcolm Loveridge	Open	15	5	15	35
Marshall Family	Open	30	30	65	125
John Mulley	Open	-	-	50	50
M & K Murphy	Open	-	-	10	10
S & C Norris	Open	20	35	25	80
Neville Richardson	Intermediate	5	-	15	20
Vicki Sanford	Intermediate	-	5	10	15
Peter Simic	Open	5	40	10	55
R&D Simpson	Open	-	-	-	-
K & A Smith	Open	25	5	-	30
Frank Tilley	Open	-	-	35	35
Nigel Tonkin	Open	35	45	-	80
Diana Trevarthen	Open	-	10	-	10
J&W Weidenhofer	Open	35	-	45	80
Robert Worrell	Open	-	10	-	10
Wright & Kaleas	Novice	-	5	10	15

Coccidiosis

Coccidiosis is a particularly serious disease for the fancier because it happens so quickly and can kill many birds of all ages within a matter of days. My first introduction to this 'Bug' was in our 1st season breeding when we had all these babies dying, called my local Vet who put us onto Dr. Harry Cooper. Please remember I am talking about 1986 when there were not many Veterinarians who knew anything about birds.

Dr. Harry being a breeder, Judge and Vet had researched this 'Bug'. Coccidiosis is spread when one bird eats faecal material from an infected bird, which contains the infective stage of the coccidia (small egg-like bodies called oocysts). The oocysts in the droppings need moisture and warmth to mature. These oocysts can be seen in a 'faecal' smear and that is what he saw at this time so put us onto a Coccidostat called Amprol Plus.

Mind you, this medication was sitting in our Services Section and our Branch Services manager did not inform us of this type of medication and what it was for. After this episode, when the position became available I took it over and made sure all our Branch members knew what all the products were and what they were used for and even though I don't have a Services Section any more, I still advise breeders about these basics.

We were advised to have concrete floors, which we had, except for one small section, and that is why it all started. It was soon concreted over.

The Coccidia like as it says above moist warm conditions and being summer at the time, it had both; moisture from rain, and also from the humidity. We in the warmer climates have a lot of moisture from humidity, and if one observes carefully you will see the droppings swell at this time.

As we know the Budgerigar likes to pick at the droppings, getting some of the nutrients it does not get from its diet, one being Vitamin B12 so each day you will see them down there having a pick. All part of nature.

As it happened to us, we had the sudden deaths of birds, and now a days if there is sign of rain then the preventative measures go in.

Continue next page...

The signs and symptoms of Coccidiosis.

Sudden death of birds within a week of rain or high humidity.

- Watery droppings on aviary floor
- A sudden decrease in noise level and activity in birds – this is a universal sign of sickness not necessarily Coccidiosis.
- Birds fluffed up on perches, they are weak and they tremble. They “go light” probably from lack of food and water.
- Dark tacky green droppings sticks to the tail feathers and around the vent, and on the floor.
- Ill birds go to ground and pick around.

One may also be able to smell that something is going on as the droppings get a characteristic smell – a sign that a secondary E.Coli infections is happening as well.

Current treatment is:

Baycox or Carlox for 2-3 days as per instructions on the bottle, then treat with an antibiotic for 7 days for the infection. e.g Baytril or Sulfa AVS. In Australia these drugs have to be dispensed via a Veterinarian. In some parts of the world they do not even have a Veterinarian let alone an Avian Veterinarian so this information is relayed to them in the hope that they may be able to buy the products on the open market.

Preventative Program

Treatment if one can get the products is

- a) Coccidostat like Baycox which is the preferable treatment. Treat birds every 4-6 weeks and in times on heavy rain then more frequently especially if using Coccivet.
- b) Coccivet – a Vetafarm product

Lastly, the one thing in the preventative program is concrete floors; this prevents the bug from breeding in the soil and remember intestinal worms and canker (trichomonosis) can also breed in the soil so you are preventing 3 things.

Article Kindly Donated By Betty Berry



Folio 0932

Expressions of Interest for the following:

Bird Carers x 3 for Western Australia in June

Auction Coordinator - Annual Auction

Show Manager - State Selection Show

The Budgerigar Council of South Australia seek applications from fanciers that are interested in any of the positions mentioned above.

For further details on each position, please refer the website www.bcsa.com.au or contact either Dennis Lomman, dennisem@chariot.net.au or myself for copies of each position at bcsa.secretary@aapt.net.au

Looking forward to hearing from interested fanciers

Applications close 31st January 2015

Much regard

.

Nigel Tonkin
BCSA Secretary 18 Garnet Avenue Blackwood,
South Australia, 5051

15th November 2014

SHOW PREPARATION **WITH HARRY BRYAN**

Harry Bryan has been the maestro of Budgerigars as far back as the majority of fanciers can recall. He also has probably won every major accolade that the hobby has to offer and probably not only once but on a number of occasions. Over the years he has become a familiar visitor and exhibitor, as he still is today, at many shows throughout the UK each show season. However, where do you find Harry when he's at the show - not in the tea bar I can assure you or dashing into the hall at the last minute to collect his team. Harry Bryan will be found in the show hall talking budgerigars with everyone from Juniors through to fellow Champions. The man who joined the B.S. in 1929 is still as keen as ever. Apart from the fact that over the years the Bryan birds have oozed quality they have also been exhibited to their best advantage. In this article 'the maestro' tells us of his show preparation techniques.

Dealing with youngsters

It takes about a month to get birds ready for show and my training starts with the current year youngsters. At this time not too much attention is paid to older birds that have been shown before and so just the promising youngsters are caught up and placed in stock cages. Initially, 8 or 9 birds are placed in single cages where they are left for a week. Following this, the dividing slides are removed between the cages and they are housed at a rate of about 15 or 16 birds in triple cages.

After the end of the second week these birds will be beginning to settle down and it is at this stage that I begin to use show cages for training. The birds are placed in a show cage and are sprayed and this happens daily. The object is to get the birds steady in the cage and the spraying not only helps to get their feathers in order but it also helps to steady them more readily than any other thing that you can do.

Condition

Personally, although essential, so far as condition is concerned I don't think anybody has much power over this state in terms of preparation but this is what we are aiming at. So, in terms of preparing a bird for show, one has to wait until a bird is in full feather. This will not be achieved by spraying alone and all the fancier can do is be patient and allow the bird to become naturally

fit. It should also be noted that good quality feed also contributes to achieving top condition.

Once my show team is caught up they will remain in these stock cages through to when they commence their moult. At this time they are returned to the flights to allow natural replacement of their feathers. This is usually in October, which gives them sufficient time to repair themselves ready for the Budgerigar Society Show in November. On this basis, when combined with the breeding season, a good bird may spend up to 90% of its life in either a stock cage or a breeding pen.

Final spraying

When I have a bird that is ready for show following training it is only sprayed once before the show. If he's going to the show on a Friday he will be sprayed on the day before only. I don't believe in the intensive spraying programmes that many people use, thinking that it will improve the sheen on the feathers. So far as additions to the spraying water is concerned I've tried them all and to my mind you can't beat ordinary rain water used cold.

With budgerigars, some will hold show condition for several months whilst others have lost it after perhaps one show and there is nothing that you can do about it. Some exhibitors worry about showing a bird too much and although the bird will lose a little weight in the early days, they soon get used to it after they have been out a couple of times. I don't think going to a show makes any difference to the bird at all because once it has been trained and gets used to shows, it's no different for it than being at home. In fact they actually like it.

However, I am not keen on exhibiting hens although I will do so at the bigger shows. I recall a Cobalt cock that I had and I must have shown him 30 times in a season at weekends and midweek table shows. He handled this with no problems at all. The only way to learn the job is to get out there and do it. A fancier that wants to get to the top must study the type of bird that is winning on the Open Show Bench and then aim to produce something better.

FEATHER PLUCKING
THE SYMPTOM OF ANOTHER CONDITION

by Cedric Airey

"I firmly believe that feather plucking is a symptom of another condition and when that condition is relieved feather plucking does not occur. "

I cannot accept the theory that feather plucking is hereditary and that the offenders and their offspring should be culled. This theory is perpetuated by each generation of newcomers accepting it, without question, and repeating it as fact and no one seems to be willing to substantiate it from personal experience. Very often the same people who tell us the problem is hereditary, suggest putting a nest box on the breeding cage floor and letting the cock feed the chicks. This may help if the problem is environmental but it is not much help if it is hereditary. Possibly a recurring problem is being mistaken for a hereditary one.

"Oven Ready" Chicks

I was foolish enough to accept this theory when in my first breeding season I discovered I had a maiden hen which plucked chicks "oven ready" and a cock with another hen which stripped all the feathers from his mate's head.

Two years later I decided to try one of the sons of the hen plucker in the breeding cage. No problems from the cock or any of his offspring. Encouraged by this. I tried one of the "oven ready" cocks. the "oven ready" hens were by this time, too old for breeding. Again no problems. I now have four generations of birds descended from the original two feather pluckers. Not one of these birds, cocks or hens, has ever plucked a feather from a chick even when inter-bred.

Finding the answers

I have had minor problems with birds from other families: the down not appearing or disappearing from between the wings on very young chicks. Feathers, missing from the back of the head of active three or four week old chicks completely cured by using deeper nest boxes, i.e. increasing the distance between the concave base and the bottom of the entrance hole or removing some of the debris. This damage is probably caused when young chicks try to leave the nest box before the hen thinks they are ready. She restrains them by holding on to the neck feathers and out they come, it's accidental rather than intentional. The foregoing is sufficient for me to have grave doubts about the hereditary theory.

Alternative causes

I offer for consideration three alternative causes for feather plucking.

The first is breeding condition.

How many breeders can differentiate between a hen that will breed and one that wants to breed? The reluctant hen from the eager hen? I cannot. The reluctant hen will mate, lay eggs, hatch and feed the chicks because it is her natural instinct. But she is not an enthusiastic mother. She gets bored sitting and feeding the chicks and starts plucking them. I anticipate this condition and provide millet sprays and an iodine block or piece of cuttle in the nest for every hen. It is therapeutic; an alternative is just sitting weeks on end.

The second alternative is diet deficiency. Additives may contribute but feather plucking has been with us long before additives became popular. We know ground up chicken feathers are fed to chickens as protein. Does a Budgerigar hen nibble the down and feathers instinctively because of a lack of protein?

Artificial lighting

A third alternative is artificial lighting. Does the increased noise and activity created by extending lighting, long beyond the amount of natural light the birds would have had in their natural breeding environment, disturb sitting hens and prevent them getting sufficient rest? Does it also contribute to a reduction in the birds' life span? I have no experience of parent birds attacking their young but I believe it is a different problem and not a follow-on to feather plucking.

I apply these ideas to my stock with positive results. My hens are very placid. They do not bite when handled. I leave chicks with their parents until the next round starts hatching. I have odd chicks, which later proved to be hens, sitting the eggs with the mother hen and one which fed, or went through the motions of feeding the newly hatch-ed chicks. The cocks are not aggressive towards the chicks, probably because the hen's daily ration of millet in the nest box relieves them of some of the pressure of keeping the hens fully fed. My stock are all descendants of a few birds from top bloodlines. I do pair related birds which should theoretically increase the possibility of producing feather pluckers if the problem is hereditary.

I only pair what I consider to be my best birds so my findings are not based on the results of vast numbers of pairings. No matter, I am merely casting doubts on an existing theory.

BSSA Hall of Fame - ANBC Class Winners

K & J Kakoschke - 22 Wins	Nigel Tonkin - 2 Wins	D Lomman - 1 Win
Normal Green - 1980,1984	Spangle - 1993	Violet - 2014*
Normal Blue - 1980,1984	Hens - 1988	
Red Eye Self - 1977,1979,1983,1984,1986		
Clearwing - 1980	R Arnold - 1 Win	
Cinnamonwing - 1981,1993	Normal Blue - 1977	
Opaline - 1986		
Fallow - 1982,1986	B Coventry - 1 Win	
Lacewing - 1986	Dominant Pied - 1977	
Dominant Pied - 1980,1982,1986		
Yellow Face - 1984	R & E Deslandes - 1 Win	
Hens - 1977,1982	Greywing - 1980	
Kakoschke & Rice - 7 Wins	Graham Evans - 1 Win	
Normal Green - 2005	Normal Green - 1981	
Clearwing - 2005,2010		
Opaline - 2011	Alan Kett - 1 Win	
Opaline AOSV - 2010	Normal Blue - 1981	
Crested - 2005		
Dark Factor Green/Blue - 2003	Stan Watson - 1 Win	
	Hens - 1981	
Geoff Smith - 5 Wins		
Opaline - 1984	Malcolm Aspen - 1 Win	
Dominant Pied - 1981,1983,1984,1985	Opaline - 1985	
Wayne Weidenhofer - 4 Wins	Marie & Kerry Murphy - 1 Win	
Yellow Face - 1977,1978,1979,1980	Spangle - 1989	
Deane Trevellion - 3 Wins	Lynn Ray - 1 Win	
Clearwing - 1981	Dominant Pied - 1990	
Greywing - 1983		
Fallow - 1985	Ron Norman - 1 Win	
	Hens - 1996	
Peter Glassenbury - 3 Wins		
Blackeye - 1980,1992,2009*	Mike Crossley - 1 Win	
	Yellow Face - 2002 *	
Ethel Dobie - 2 Wins		
Lutino - 1975	Peter Simic - 1 Win	
Dominant Pied - 1975	Recessive Pied - 2010	
Gordon Lowe - 2 Wins	Note: Both Geoff Smith and	*Indicates a past or current BSSA
Opaline - 1979	W Weidenhofer would be ANBC	member who did not enter with
Yellow face - 1983	members, however ANBC by	the BSSA team for Logan Shield
	laws only count wins since	pre selection event.
G & E Duffield - 2 Wins	1983 when all seven states	
Black eye - 1975	became full members and	
Clearwing - 1994	participants	

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B.S.S.A. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS SCORING SYSTEM

February to November (Monthly Meetings)

(20 cents entry per bird)

1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point

Bird of the Night = 3 points

Annual, Breeders, Novice, Deane Trevellion and Unbroken Cap Shows

Each Class

1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point

*** Denotes non member but Show results acknowledged**

OPEN		INTERMEDIATE	
M & K MURPHY	158	R & I FIELD	93
J & W WEIDENHOFER	125	ANDREW & LUCY	66
STEPHEN ELLIOTT	66	TRACY HASKELL	49
SUE ADAMS	30	VICKI SANFORD *	38
GLENN STEARNES	27		
K & A SMITH	25		
MICHAEL CROSSLEY	23	NOVICE	
DENNIS LOMMAN	22	WAYNE BANDT	200
BUTTERWORTH/STONE	19	GEORGE ENGLAND	63
C & T MURPHY	17	IAN JENKE	60
PETER SIMIC	17	KALEAS/WRIGHT	55
GRAHAM EVANS	16	LIBBY THOMAS	11
ROBERT WORRALL	14	T & K CAMPBELL	6
PETER GLASSENBURY *	10	BEN HALE	6
ALGI LAPINSKAS	10		
IAN MCEWAN	7		
ALAN KETT	5		
BARBARA FISHER	2		

LIFE MEMBERS CONT 2001: Mr. C Murphy; 2004: Mr. K Murphy, Mrs. M Murphy
2008: Mr J Fisher; 2012 Mr K Wing.