



FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Nepean Budgerigar Society

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 28th Feb 11.30
Nepean Club Adult Shield
Selection and club meeting

Adult State Championships
Sunday 7th March



PRESIDENTS REPORT FROM JOHN FREEMAN

Welcome to 2021 from the Nepean Budgerigar Club!

With the year moving at what appears to be a rapid rate, most budgie business will be upon us before we know it. The show season is finally starting with the Melton show on this weekend and the Geelong show a weeks later. Followed in early March by the State championships Adult bird shield, at which we are hoping to field a fair size team this year.

Our club selections day for the State Adult Championship will be Sunday 28th of Feb at 11.30. On this day we will also hold our first monthly meeting for quite some time due to Covid. I don't anticipate our meeting to be a long one, the venue will be my factory at 42 Nicholas drive Dandenong sth.

If you haven't picked your birds out to be prepared for the Adult shield now is the time, don't leave to the last minute as preparation of the birds plays a big part in your birds success.

Now as for the club shows eg: Melton, for our new breeders they have categories UBCs which means unbroken caps (babies) so long as your birds are rung and haven't broken their baby cap they can be entered, these shows are a great opportunity to see some quality birds on display. (DON'T BE AFRAID TO ENTER BIRDS)

Please all make an effort to make it to our monthly meeting and Adult show selection on Sunday Feb 28th, light lunch and refreshments will be provided. Also there will be plenty of birds on display for our team selection so you can get some practice on training your eye to spot the good birds. If anyone has any questions about showing or anything to do with the birds for that matter please don't hesitate to call myself. I look forward to seeing you all there, especially our new members.

On another note I a friend of mine who's uncle has just passed away, he has a Canary and a Cockatoo **FREE** to good homes.

I still have an old aviary 3m x 1.5m in need of a bit of TLC for FREE.

John Freeman

President Nepean Budgerigar Society

2021 Nepean Schedule.



Usually at this time we would put forward the Nepean schedule for the year. But we will hold off for the moment, and just work on what is coming up in the current and following month. We have secured our room at the Dingely Community Centre again for most of our catchups. If it needs to be on a weekend, we will hold it elsewhere. John kindly has offered his factory for our first catch up for the year which is on a weekend.

Club Selections Day for the State Adult Championship

Sunday 28th Feb, 11.30 at John's factory; 42 Nicholas drive Dandenong Sth.

This will also be our first club meeting in quite a while. We encourage all club members to come along and join us for a quick meeting, a light lunch and a catch up with our friends we haven't seen in some time. This will be followed by our club selection. If you have any adult birds to enter, (2019 or earlier), please bring them along. If you have none to enter, please join us anyway!

Families are welcome, please rsvp to Mim numbers by 22/2 for catering purposes.

0421085974 or info@nepeanbudgerigarsociety.org

2021 Adult Bird Championships

Adult State Championships Sunday 7th March

Carwartha College, Noble Park. More details for the day to come.

Upcoming Club Shows

There are plenty of club shows coming up for this year all around Victoria, for adult, young birds and ubc's. These are usually well run, great events to attend. It's a really good opportunity to put your birds forward to see how they are going, as well as chance to meet & get to know other bird enthusiasts and have a chat. You never know what tip you just may pick up from an experienced breeder! Even if you have no birds to enter, you are still welcome to go along.

There is a schedule of the years shows in this newsletter. **BUT** please note that **all** shows are still subject to confirmation due to Covid restrictions, and other factors. This could be due the possibility of unexpected tighter restrictions being put in place, or because a club may not have the extra manpower to ensure the Covid safe plan can be adhered too. (Don't forget there are a large portion of our budgie community in the high-risk category)

We can confirm the Melton show will be on this Saturday. Forms for this were emailed to all this week. Please reach out to John, Rohan or Mim if you need a hand with filling the form out or have any questions.

As things stand now, the Geelong Show will be held the following weekend Sunday 21st Feb. This differs to the schedule presented in this table.

2021 Show & Auction Calendar for The Budgerigar Council Of Victoria						
Date	Event	Club	Venue	Contact	Phone	
FEBRUARY						
13 Sat	Club Champ	Melton	Melton Catholic Regional College 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West	Amanda Fonti	0414 011 930	
14 Sun	Club Champ	Geelong	T.B.A	John Ennis	0401 914 784	
MARCH						
7 Sun	Adult S/Champ.	BCV	Carwatha College, Noble Park	Rod Turnbull	0400 354 178	
13 Sat	Club Champ	Colac	Colac Youth Hall, Hearn Street, Colac	Ray Slade	0429 540 067	
14 Sun	Club Champ	Riverina	Barooga Community Hall, Barooga	Robert Randall	0438 095 995	
20 Sat	Club Champ	Ballarat	Brown Hill Hall, Humphrey St, Ballarat	Simon Meagher	5335 5454	
21 Sun	Club Champ	Border	Mirambeena Hall North Albury	Darrin Roulston	0415 642 348	
27 Sat	Club Champ	United	T.B.A	Vic Murray	0414 344 081	
28 Sun	Auction	Geelong	T.B.A	John Ennis	0401 914 784	
MAY						
16 Sun	Y.B. S/Champ.	BCV	Carwatha College, Noble Park	Rod Turnbull	0400 354 178	
22 Sat	ANBC	ANBC	Bendigo, VIC	James Smith	budgeman77@	
23 Sun	ANBC	ANBC	Bendigo, VIC	James Smith	hotmail.com	
29 Sun	Auction	Dandenong	KK Auction, Dingley Community Centre	Mrs Judy Wilson	9702 8070	
JUNE						
5 Sat	Auction	Eastern	Bedford Pk Yth Hall, Rosewarne Ln, East Ringwood	Robert Dagg	0409 652 962	
12 Sat	Club Champ	Bendigo	Lockwood Sth Comm. Hall, Lockwood South	Brett Ricardo	0409 572 442	
13 Sun	Auction	Western Sub.	Masonic Hall, Werribee	Wayne Cachia	0412 969 848	
27 Sun	Auction	Riverina	Barooga Community Hall, Barooga	Robert Randall	0438 095 995	
JULY						
10 Sat	Auction	Melton	Melton Catholic Regional College 109-141 Bulmans Rd, Melton West	Amanda Fonti	0414 011 930	
18 Sun	Auction	Bendigo	Lockwood Sth Comm. Hall, Lockwood South	Brett Ricardo	0409 572 442	
AUGUST						
7 Sat	Auction	Clyde	Dingley Community Centre, Marcus Rd, Dingley	Con Herouvim	0417 277 775	
22 Sun	Auction	United	T.B.A	Vic Murray	0414 344 081	
SEPTEMBER						
12 Sun	UBC S/Champ.	BCV	Carwatha College, Noble Park	Rod Turnbull	0400 354 178	
19 Sun	UBC Show	Geelong	T.B.A	John Ennis	0401 914 784	
OCTOBER						
9 Sat	UBC Show	United	Scout Hall, Irvine Road, Ivanhoe	Vic Murray	0414 344 081	
16 Sat	Club Champ	Dandenong	Dingley Community Centre, Marcus Rd, Dingley	Mrs Judy Wilson	9702 8070	
17 Sun	Club Champ	Nepean	Dingley Community Centre, Marcus Rd, Dingley	Mim McQualter	0428 857 897	
24 Sun	Club Champ	Eastern	Bedford Pk Yth Hall, Rosewarne Ln, East Ringwood	Robert Dagg	0409 652 962	
NOVEMBER						
7 Sun	Club Champ	Western Sub.	Masonic Hall, Werribee	Wayne Cachia	0412 969 848	
14 Sun	Club Champ	Clyde	Dingley Community Centre, Marcus Rd, Dingley	Con Herouvim	0417 277 775	
27 Sat	UBC Show	Colac	Colac Youth Hall, Hearn Street, Colac	Ray Slade	0429 540 067	
28 Sun	Club Champ	Baw Baw	Exhibition Hall, 15 Howitt St, Warragul	Darren Macfarlane	0418 507 379	

Registration Night -2021 Club and BCV Membership and 2022 Ring orders

To make the registration and ring ordering process a little easier, this year we will be hosting a 'Registration Night' For those wishing to join Nepean Budgerigar Society for 2021, and order 2022 BCV rings. Please come along to this night to complete forms and process payment. This year we are also asking for payment to be made via bank transfer to the Nepean account for records purposes. This payment can be made easily on the night with a mobile phone. Payment details will be provided on the night. If you don't have access to internet banking, cash will be accepted. Stay for a cuppa, chat & something for those with a sweet tooth!

Date: Tuesday 16th March, 2020

Time: 8pm

Where: Dingley Community Centre



This Month's Article

What Constitutes a Winning Bird? *by Alistair Home*

Let me say from the outset that I am not claiming to have any of the top winning birds. My greywings that are doing pretty well at National level don't really compare with the very best birds in the major varieties, but the principles of what goes into the make-up of a good bird apply in all cases. I am drawing on a little bit of my own experience and a lot on the comments of other people that I have gleaned from articles and interviews I have read. My main point is that we should not become so obsessed with one aspect of the ideal that we forget the whole bird.

I think there are three main elements that go to make up the winning show budgerigar and they are; physical constitution, feather structure and varietal display. All three are determined genetically and can therefore be influenced by our skill in selective breeding (spiced with a bit of luck, of course), but husbandry also plays a major part in what is finally produced.

Physical constitution

The bird should feel a real handful when held. There should be thickness across the body as well as length in the body itself. Smooth line is maintained if the bird is well muscled, not carrying too much fat. We should not think that a densely feathered bird is large - the ideal is a bird that is physically substantial. The common idea in the UK is, "you can't breed rats from mice". Many of our imported birds are rather small in body - perhaps that is why they have been sold. The lesson is that at least one partner in every mating should have body substance and length if we hope to breed substantial birds. Two small birds won't breed large offspring even if there are large birds in their ancestry.

The quality of the feeding from their parents in the nest can determine youngsters' final appearance. I believe very strongly that in addition to seed, grit and green food we must provide vitamin and mineral supplementation as a part of our feeding routine. Personally I use Murphy's Pro-System (which is available in Victoria from Sonia Berger) and I have found it to be very satisfactory. I do not, however, rely on it alone. I also feed my birds on hard boiled egg during the breeding season, especially when they have chicks in the nest. I notice that the world famous German breeder Jo Mannes also uses it as a supplement. Sometimes I feed it alone, sometimes in a mixture with bread and carrot.

Feather quality

Much has been written about 'directional feather' and we can see the benefit of that feather in the winning birds today, particularly above the eye. We should become very conscious of feather qualities, looking for how they sit on the bird and selecting to favour feather that gives the best final appearance. Coarseness may be beneficial, but it can bring problems too if the feathers do not sit neatly. Of equal importance is density of down and softness of feather. Fred Sherman delivered a very interesting talk in Hobart about his experiences in introducing English stock into his aviary in Zimbabwe. The most telling point he made was that he examined the down of all birds bred and selected for density. It is this density which gives the correct line to the feather placement and it should form a part of our thinking when culling an mating up. In relation to softness Jo Mannes says that a major factor in his line of birds has been selection for softness as well as length of feather. Fanciers who have visited his aviary vouch for the impact of the feather of his birds. In the management of birds with this extra feather I'm led to believe that breeding performance will be enhanced if the feathers around the vent are trimmed prior to pairing up. You don't need to worry about "guide feathers", just make sure that the thick down and long feathers do not prevent proper contact between the mating birds. Research in England suggests this is the only significant factor in enhancing the breeding performance of the exhibition bird.

Variety

It's essential to remember that 40% of the points for a show bird is for its variety. An opaline with bad markings and patchy body colour for example must lose most of that 40% - it would have to be a long way ahead in other respects to win with that sort of handicap. The common saying is that we should judge the bird first. NO! We must judge the whole of the bird INCLUDING ITS VARIETY. The bird that is excellent in shape, size and feather has its place in the breeding team, but unless it is also good in variety it has no place in shows. It's not true to say that faults in variety can be readily corrected. They are no easier to remedy than any other faults, and sometimes can be frustratingly difficult.

In summary then, I believe that when we are establishing an exhibition family we should try to keep in mind all aspects of the bird so that the end product is a balanced, well proportioned, attractive specimen

Monthly Chuckle

There is a senior citizen driving on the highway. His wife calls him on his cell phone and in a worried voice says, "Herman, be careful! I just heard on the radio that there is a madman driving the wrong way on Route 280!" Herman says, "I know, but there isn't just one, there are hundreds!"



A boy with a monkey on his shoulder was walking down the road when he passed a policeman who said, "Now, now young lad, I think you had better take that monkey the zoo." The next day, the boy was walking down the road with the monkey on his shoulder again, when he passed the same policeman. The policeman said, "Hey there, I thought I told you to take that money to the zoo!" The boy answered, "I did! Today I'm taking him to the cinema."

Nepean Market Place

Aviary for **FREE**

John Freeman has an old classic aviary for **FREE** :

3m x 1.5m in need of a bit of TLC, has a bit of rust at the bottom but I have replacement panels that just need to be cut to size to replace, it is already taken down for transport just needs to be picked up, this aviary has served me well over the years and it would be great to see it go to a new home for **FREE**. (pick up is in Narre Warren Nth)

John also has a friend who's uncle has just passed away, he has a Canary and a Cockatoo **FREE** to good homes.

Call John on 0419 146 911



Do you have anything bird related for sale you would like to advertise in our newsletter? Or are you looking for something? Please email Mim on info@nepeanbudgerigarsociety.org with a short description, and an image if you have one. Also please feel free to email through any news, information or tips you think may be of interest in our newsletter.

Would you like to join a family friendly budgerigar club?

Please call or email one of our club contacts. We would love to hear from you!

Club Contacts

Emails – info@nepeanbudgerigarsociety.org

Venue – Dingley Community Centre

President: John Freeman 0419 146 911

31b Marcus Rd, Dingley Village

Secretary: Mim McQualter 0421 085 974

Treasurer: Rohan McQualter 0428 857 897

Website : www.nepeanbudgerigarsociety.org