

DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T TELL YOU: All club meetings and time-sensitive club news must reach us by **10.30am on Tuesday** at the latest for inclusion in the issue on sale on **Wednesday of the following week.**

The original concept

WORLD BUDGERIGAR ORGANISATION

THE original concept of a world-wide association of budgerigar enthusiasts was launched in 1984 in an 18-page full-colour booklet, writes Terry Tuxford, *Budgerigar Society publicity officer.*

The brainchild of the late Gerald Binks, the idea was to bring individuals and societies from around the world into a single united mega-club and to unite all countries associated with the breeding and exhibiting of budgerigars. Called the World Budgerigar Association (WBA), it promised to leave the autonomy in member countries unaffected but would give each country a say on the WBA board.

Gerald's company Budgerigar World Ltd was at the centre of this new organisation, however he stated that so long as any decisions made by the WBA did not affect his company's business strategy, they could do pretty

much what they liked.

The kicker, particularly for the Budgerigar Society (BS), was that the WBA would issue its own closed-rings and two months earlier each year than the BS, but they were assured that nationally issued closed rings would be accepted.

In addition to closed rings, the WBA was seeking to create an internationally agreed system of colour standards, judging procedures and a standard of excellence, as well as providing world-wide WBA patronage consisting of colour certificates, gold, silver and bronze medals and rosettes.

There were two levels of membership for fanciers – one that was a full membership and the other included an annual subscription to *Budgerigar World* magazine plus other perks. There was no charge for country affiliation. Membership subscriptions would fund the

WBA and it would have its own bank account and accountability.

So where did it all go wrong? Some say it was because the published management structure showed the Budgerigar World Ltd main board above the WBA and the individual national societies did not want to be dictated to by a commercial enterprise. Others thought the hobby was too parochial and there was just no appetite for such a venture.

I also recall that around the same time *Budgerigar World* was having production issues with its publisher and printer. Because they were a relatively small customer, they were continually having to take second place to much larger production runs, which meant late delivery and a significant impact on the business.

Eventually, Gwyn Evans – a printer and budgerigar breeder from North Wales – came to the rescue but by this time the WBA dream had passed its sell-by date.

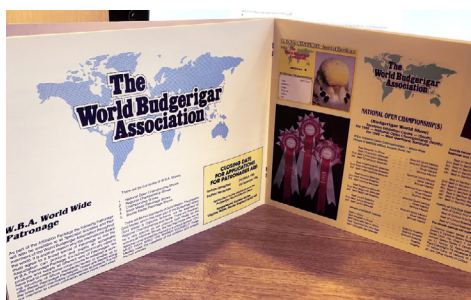
From the ashes the WBO emerges

Six years passed and at the 1990 Budgerigar Society convention the viability of a world organisation was raised again, and it was met with enthusiasm by the BS General Council (GC) who immediately started the groundwork

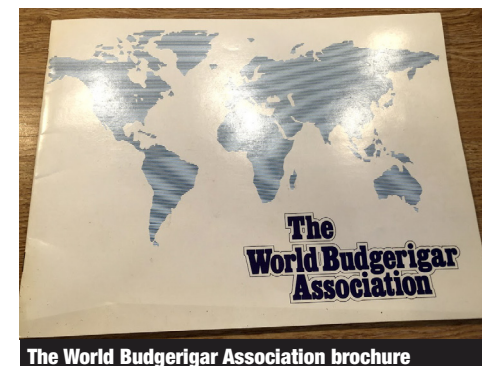
PART ONE



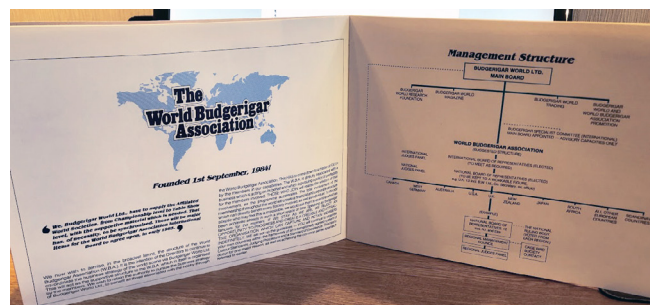
Current officials: the new WBO executive committee (l-r) Gerd Bleicher WBO past chairman, Ghalib Al-Nasser WBO secretary, Carlos Ramôa WBO chairman and Grant Findlay WBO vice-chairman



The WBA management structure was disliked by some, comments report author Terry Tuxford



The World Budgerigar Association brochure



WBA patronage. 'The main difference between the WBA and the WBO is that the WBA looked to recruit fanciers as members where the WBO recruits National Societies as members,' writes Terry Tuxford

for the World Budgerigar Organisation (WBO).

The BS allocated £5,000 towards setting up two exploratory meetings in Doncaster in conjunction with the 1992 and 1993 BS World Shows. The money was to be spent on hiring a meeting room and providing accommodation for local and overseas delegates and a German Eng-

lish interpreter.

To ensure the first meeting got maximum coverage the BS invited members of the British and German fancy press to attend.

These invitations were accepted by *Cage & Aviary Birds* and both the English and German *Budgerigar Worlds* – yes, and I was there representing *Budger-*

igar World.

By the end of the second meeting, the organisation's constitution and name had been agreed in principle along with a plan to meet in Karlsruhe, Germany in August 1994 for the first official meeting of the WBO.

See PART 2 in next week's issue

INTERNATIONAL TURACO SOCIETY

ISSUE 55 (Summer 2021) of the International Turaco Society magazine has been posted to all paid-up members. The magazine includes articles on mixing turaco species, environmental and behavioural enrichment and rearing a red-crested turaco at Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle.

Also included are a review of a new children's book featuring the grey go-away bird, a profile of secretary Jonathan Beilby, the chairman's annual report and articles on the conservation of Fischer's turaco in Zanzibar and confiscated birds received at Paradise Park.

The society has members in 17 countries around the world, and the recent Zoom AGM included participants from Argentina, Cyprus, Germany and the USA. New members are always welcome.

For more information, please visit: www.turacos.org or email david@turacos.org



What's on this week

*All subject to Covid rules

Club meetings nationwide

DARTFORD KENT BS – June 24, 7.30-9.30pm. Online show for rare and any other colour. Judge is Moheb Nabil Boules. Enquiries: secretarydkbs@gmail.com

ipswichbudgerigarsociety.co.uk

IPSWICH BS – June 24, Constable Memorial Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt, Suffolk CO7 6TP, 7.45pm. Peter's Swindle for 2020-nominated birds, plus the first colour competition for three classes: 1. any normal green series birds including grey green cock or hen; 2. any normal blue series birds including grey cock or hen; 3. any dominant or recessive pied or any spangle including double factor cock or hen. Judge is Dave Leadbetter. Enquiries: 07786 553 800, email: secretary@ipswich.bs@gmail.com or visit: <http://ipswich.bs@gmail.com>

NEWBURY CBS – June 17, Village Hall, Crookham Common Road, Brimpton, Reading, Berkshire RG7 4TD, 7.30pm. A bird judging competition. Enquiries: 01189 817 357.

NORTH WEST LEICESTER BS – June 21, 369 Ashby Road, Coalville LE67 3LJ, 7.30pm. Meeting to finalise whether the open show can take place on August 8.

SHEFFIELD BS – June 21, The Crown Inn, 22 Hill Street, Elsecar, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S74 8EL, 8pm. Meeting. Would all members attend. Enquiries: 01623 239 512.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR CLUB AND SHOW NEWS Email: birds.general@kelsey.co.uk or send post to: **Laura Welch, Cage & Aviary Birds, Kelsey Publishing, Yalding Hill, Maidstone ME18 6AL.** Note that the *C&AB* Peterborough office remains closed

First meeting and setting the rules

WORLD BUDGERIGAR ORGANISATION

THE Karlsruhe meeting, held in conjunction with the Europa Show, was a huge success and resulted in the World Budgerigar Organisation (WBO) being formally launched.

Since 1994, the WBO has relied on host countries providing meeting rooms and pay only the travelling and hotel expenses of its secretary and chairman and later on, part hotel expenses for the vice chairman and immediate past chairman. Since the first meeting, the WBO's income comes from each member country paying an annual subscription based on the size of their membership and in return they receive a voting right consistent with the level of their subscription.

From 2019 the BS has paid £200 for six votes plus a £200 donation to the WBO research fund. This equates to around 17p per BS member per year. From 2021 the BS will pay just the £200 subscrip-



The second international delegates meeting, Doncaster 1993. L-r: Brian Byles former *Cage & Aviary Birds* editor, Geoff Bostick the first WBO secretary, Roger Carr the first WBO chairman, Eddie Geary BS chairman, Dieter Keller BW Germany, Terry Tuxford BW/UK

tion fee, which is the equivalent of 9p per member per year. In addition to this, the BS also pays the cheap rate air fare and for a standard single rate hotel room for the duration of the meeting (normally two nights) for their one delegate. Any additional costs for meals and internal travel are met by the delegate, as is extra time spent at the WBO venue.

The achievements

The BS rules have always had

a global inference within them, and the BS was regularly approached about taking a leading part in a World Organisation. Eventually the BS did just that and provided the first chairman and the first two secretaries. After the formation of the WBO, the BS changed its rules to state that it should be an integral part of an international organisation.



The WBO first meeting held in Doncaster in 1992

What's on this Week

*All subject to Covid rules

Club meetings nationwide

DARTFORD KENT BS – June 24, 7.30-9.30pm. Online show, rare and any other colour. Judge: Moheb Nabil Boules. Enquiries: secretarydkbs@gmail.com

HIGH WYCOMBE CBS – June 30, Hazlemere Community Centre, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP15 7UB, 7.30pm. Starts with a seed sale at 7.30pm followed by a club meeting at 8pm. Enquiries: 07973 785 863 or visit: www.hwbbbs.co.uk

IPSWICH BS – June 24, Constable Memorial Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt, Suffolk CO7 6TP, 7.45pm. Peter's Swindle for 2020-nominated birds, plus the first colour competition for three classes. Judge for the evening is Dave Leadbetter. Enquiries: 07786 553 800, email: secretary.ipswich.bs@gmail.com or visit: <http://ipswichbudgerigarsociety.co.uk>

NUNEATON CBS – June 27, Trent Valley Working Men's Club and Institute, New Street, Bedworth,

Warwickshire CV12 9DL. Auction. Birds and equipment to be booked in from 9.30am; auction at 11am. (See Club Roundup.) Entry £1 per adult, accompanied children under 16 go free. Raffle and drinks available as well as a small seed table. Enquiries: 02466 365 339.

SOUTH WESTERN & SOUTHERN COUNTIES ZFC – June 27, 12pm. AGM with a BBQ at member Gareth Hollings's home address in Paignton, Devon. Contact Gareth on 07810 370 294 and notify him of your proposed attendance for his catering numbers and to obtain his address. Enquiries: 01752 923 657, email: peter.cannan1953@btinternet.com or visit: www.swandsczfc.co.uk

TRIMDON CBS – June 30, Trimdon Colliery and Deaf Hill WMC, The Square, Trimdon Station, Trimdon, Co. Durham TS29 6AJ, 8pm. The club looks forward to seeing all of its members, especially new members. Bring your ideas along for the future, and this year's show. Enquiries: 0191 386 8749 (after 6pm) or email: gerryparker@btinternet.com



WBO delegates together at the 2019 anniversary meeting in Karlsruhe, Germany

PART TWO
See **PART ONE**
in June 16

Benefits to individual members are difficult to identify because they are global but in terms of achievement made by the WBO they are easily stated.

- Formulated a constitution agreed by all member countries.

- Produced a 40-page Colour Standard for all recognised varieties worldwide.

- Issued a scale of points for budgerigars adopted by all member countries.

- Establishment of an international judges panel.

- Guidelines for judges and exhibitors produced and adopted by all member countries.

- Introduction of a WBO judges accreditation for countries that do not have one.

- Produced a standard of perfection for budgerigars adopted by all member countries.

- Developed a colour standard and pictorial ideal for the colour budgerigar adopted by all member countries.

- Using the BS ideal as a

starting point, resulted in the International WBO pictorial ideal being produced in 2008 and adopted by all member countries.

- Developed an international show cage with technical drawings and specifications adopted by all member countries.

- Four WBO rosettes awarded every year at National shows to each member country/society.

- Established an international ring colour sequence and specification adopted by all member countries.

- Formulated a colour guide for rings and budgerigars using the pantone colour codes adopted by all member countries.

- Obtain and circulate research articles from international avian vets and scientists to member countries.

- Introduced the WBO Gould Award commencing in 2011, awarded annually for meritorious services to the world of budgerigars.

- Funded research into feather issues in budgerigars and interim report produced.

At each meeting of the WBO there is a wonderful exchange of ideas where best practice, judging methods,

how to become a judge, problem areas, ideas that are successful in other countries are discussed for member countries to pick up and implement if they so wish.

One advantage that WBO provides is that in the event of interference from governmental bodies the society would have the strength of a world organisation behind it. Except for parts of Germany, this has yet to happen but that does not mean it will not occur in the future.

The WBO is now a self-sufficient established institution. You only have to look at the difference between the photographs of the first and most recent Karlsruhe meetings (visit the WBO website www.world-budgerigar.org) to see how it has evolved.

Most of the original representatives have gradually made way for new delegates, which demonstrates the continued interest for the organisation within many countries.

To this you must add the fact that membership of the organisation has grown from the original 19 countries to a staggering 46 countries and continues to rise on an annual basis.

Club roundup

Show reports, dates, club notices

➤ auction, please call Simon or Veronica on 02466 365 339 at least two days before the auction.

READING CBS the next meeting will be on July 14 at Grazeley Village Hall, Church Lane, Grazeley, Reading, Berkshire RG7 1LD, 7.30pm.

Members present will discuss the open show in October, to be held at a new venue yet to be announced. All newcomers welcome to our friendly club.

Please bring your own refreshments as the club is unable to serve refreshments due to the current Covid restrictions.

SOUTH WESTERN & SOUTHERN COUNTIES ZFC the AGM will be held on June 27, commencing at 12pm with a BBQ at member Gareth Hollings's home address in Paignton, Devon.

Please contact Gareth on 07810 370 294 and notify him of your proposed attendance for his catering numbers and to obtain

his address.

TRIMDON CBS will re-start its monthly meetings on June 30, kick off at 8pm at Trimdon Colliery and Deaf Hill WMC, TS29 6AJ. As ever, the club looks forward to seeing all of our members, especially any new members. Bring your ideas along for the future, and this year's show.

For more information, tel: 0191 386 8749 (after 6pm) or email: gerryparker@btinternet.com