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In Brief



ON THIS WEEK'S COVER
Barnacle goose, tufted coquette
(©Shutterstock.com/COULANGES/Martin Mecnarowski)
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WATERBIRD GRANT

A POND in Chislehurst, Kent, has been given a £25,000 grant to help protect wild birds and restore nature in the area. The cash injection was donated to Chislehurst Common, which is responsible for managing 180 acres of land in Chislehurst and St Paul's Cray, by the HB Allen Charitable Trust.

CONURE FIGHTS BACK

AN AUSTRALIAN bird thief got his comeuppance when he was bitten by the sun conure he was trying to steal. The man was caught on a petshop's security camera taking the bird from its cage and then being bitten on the hand, before stuffing the bird into his pocket. Owner Dave Billing has appealed for the bird's safe return.

RAPTOR CHARGES

A GAMEKEEPER from Longformacus in Scotland, has been accused of 12 wildlife offences at Jedburgh Sheriff Court. Alan Wilson was charged with shooting two goshawks, four buzzards and a peregrine between March 2016 and May 2017. Mr Wilson made a not-guilty plea to all charges. His trial is set for later in June.

PREDATOR-FREE

SEABIRD numbers are soaring on Lundy Island following a 15-year conservation project to eradicate rats. Thanks to the RSPB and others, puffins, manx shearwaters and guillemots are thriving, with the total seabird population reaching 21,000 birds. Numbers of Manx shearwater are up from 297 pairs to 5,504.

TRACKING BOBBY

ACCORDING to BirdLife International, a grey-headed albatross chick named Bobby has fledged from Bird Island in South Georgia. A team of scientists on the island have fitted Bobby and 15 grey-headed juveniles with satellite trackers as part of a study by the British Antarctic Survey.

The LCA's famous 'Classic' is back and welcomes natural-coloured Lizards

By Georgina Probert

LIZARD CANARIES

FOLLOWING A BREAK in 2018, the Lizard Canary Association (LCA) "Classic" is back this November and it will be even bigger with separate classes for non-colour-fed (natural) Lizards, say officials.

At a recent LCA council meeting, it was agreed that

the show would be held on the usual date of the first Sunday in November, which this year will be November 3, at the Roade Village Hall in Northamptonshire.

“Hopefully, non-colour-fed Lizards will continue to feature at the Classic in years to come – Ian Adcock, LCA communications officer

Ian Adcock, LCA communications officer, told *Cage & Aviary Birds*. “We are looking

forward to a strong turnout for the UK's premier Lizard show to compete for the LCA Founder's Trophy, which was presented to the LCA in 1946 by Robert H. Yates.”

In addition to bringing back the “Classic”, LCA officials voted to put on separate classes for non-colour-fed Lizards on a trial basis.

Rosettes and prizes will be given to the best non-colour-fed in show, best non-colour-fed champion and best non-colour-fed novice. However, the Founder's Trophy can only be competed for by colour-fed Lizards.

Mr Adcock added: “The provision of classes for natural-coloured Lizards at shows in recent years has proved to be a popular innovation, and more clubs and specialist societies are planning to follow suit during the 2019/20 season.”

“Following a postal vote of all members, the LCA has



Both welcome (l-r): a colour-fed non cap gold cock Lizard bred by David Newton and a natural-coloured non cap gold cock Lizard bred by Huw Evans

suspended the rule requiring Lizards to be colour-fed for exhibition and its guidance to judges regarding birds that are not colour-fed. This is pending a vote on revocation of the colour-feeding rule at the AGM in November.”

This means that natural-coloured Lizards will be eligible to compete at all shows granted LCA patronage in the 2019/20 season.

Jeremy Goacher, LCA chairman, said: “This deci-

sion was taken so that breeders, judges and show organisers would have sufficient notice to plan ahead for the entire show season. Hopefully, members will consider the trial to be a success and non-colour-fed Lizards will continue to feature at the ‘Classic’ in years to come.”

● For more information on the 2019 LCA “Classic”, contact the show secretary John Record on tel: 07891 988 557 or visit: <https://sitecreator.com/lizard-canary>

LCA's long-serving chairman steps down and 'Classic' show is cancelled

By Georgina Probert

CANARIES

A NEW CHAIRMAN is to be elected for the Lizard Canary Association (LCA) after John Martin resigned from the post following more than 10 years' service.

An election was due to take place at an AGM at the LCA's 'Classic' show next month, but due to unforeseen circumstances, the show on November 4 has been cancelled. Members will be notified by the club when a rearranged date and venue has been confirmed for the AGM. For news, club president Stan Bolton will step in as temporary chairman. Mr Bolton said: “Unfor-

Thank you, John, for the 10 or so years you have served as chairman – Stan Bolton, LCA president and temporary chairman

tunately, John Martin has resigned as chairman of the LCA. This has been brought about in that he did not receive 100 per cent support in a recent ballot he presented to the LCA council members.”

Mr Bolton, who has been involved with Lizard canaries for some 52 years, has always believed the LCA to be democratic. He added: “I am left feeling saddened that John has felt it necessary to take this action. I have known him since the early 1970s and have always known him as a great guy and a good chairman.”

“On behalf of the membership, I would like to say thank you, John, for the 10 or so years you have served as chairman.”

As well as serving on the Club secretary David Allen added: “The LCA would like to take this opportunity to thank John for all his hard work and excellent stewardship of the LCA during his



LCA chairman John Martin (left) has resigned and club president Stan Bolton (right) was elected in a new chairman is elected at an AGM to be arranged soon. Left: Mr Martin is an experienced Lizard canary breeder. Here is a striking example of one of his clear cap gold cocks.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Why we must oppose COM's ruling on Lizard canaries

The LCA made the tough decision not to run the LCA Classic in 2018 due to unforeseen circumstances. This year, 60 per cent of members have voted to include classes for natural-coloured Lizard canaries

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