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# LCA takes speedy action on show-cage problem

By Georgina Probert

## CANARIES

**IN A BID** to ease problems with the supply of show cages for Lizard canaries and in response to a query about the acceptability of new cages on the market, the Lizard Canary Association (LCA) has updated its standard and approved the use of black vinyl-wrapped show cages, as well as those that are sprayed or painted with black gloss.

Several articles in *Cage & Aviary Birds* last year reported issues with clubs and birdkeepers across the fancy sourcing new and second-hand show cages (see *C&AB* May 5, May 26 and November 10, 2021). Problems were compounded when a popular show-cage manufacturer stopped trading.

Previously, black vinyl-wrapped show cages would have been regarded as “marked cages”, which would result in disqualification of the benched bird. However, a query on the Classic Lizard canary – International Facebook page sparked the LCA to investigate the new cages further.



**Left: previously, the only LCA-approved show cages were those that had been sprayed or painted with black gloss. Below: the standard Lizard canary show cage is made of wood and is box-type, with a wire front and a sloping roof**



Ian Adcock, LCA secretary, said: “Fortunately for those on the lookout for new Lizard show cages, paint that the LCA show cage standard requires. An enquiry about the acceptability of these cages was raised via the Classic Lizard Canary International Facebook page. And, with the oncoming show season, time to resolve the question was of the essence.”

**“It was agreed that our priority was to encourage fanciers to show their Lizard canaries and that the wrapped cages would be accepted by the LCA” – Ian Adcock, LCA secretary**

there is a new supplier in the marketplace. However, the cages he produces are wrapped in black vinyl rather than painted with black gloss

referred to the LCA’s Council of Management and enquiries revealed that the finish of these cages was like a sprayed gloss paint.

Mr Adcock explained: “Following discussion, it was agreed that our priority was to encourage fanciers to show their Lizard canaries and that the wrapped cages would be accepted by the LCA. The Lizard show-cage standard has been updated accordingly on the LCA website. The decision was also posted on the Classic Lizard Canary International Facebook page where the original query had been raised. All of this was achieved within a week of the initial query.”

● For more information about the LCA show-cage standards, visit: <https://lizardcanaryassociation.com/home/show-cage/>

## Where are the show cages?

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**Some cages list** the LCA logo on the front, but do not mention the LCA. Some cages list the LCA logo on the front, but do not mention the LCA. Some cages list the LCA logo on the front, but do not mention the LCA.

**Or (hang onto your seats) the fancy could go down the route of disposable cages**

**UK suppliers**

**Surplus stocks**

**Imports**

**A show-cage crisis?**



**Now it's a yes: black vinyl-wrapped show cages have just been approved by the Lizard Canary Association**

**In the November 10, 2021 issue, Gerry Parker discussed the problems of sourcing approved show cages**

# Lost bird saved by lifeguards

## BUDGERIGARS



**Blue was fine and back with its owner in the space of a few hours after being found at Aberavon beach** Photo: RNLI

**A LOST PET** budgerigar that was missing for four days has been rescued by lifeguards from a beach in South Wales.

On Wednesday July 13 a group of school children visiting Aberavon beach in Neath Port Talbot noticed a budgerigar on the beach. They notified the Aberavon RNLI lifeguards and lifeguard supervisor Sophie Phillips collected the bird and kept it safe until its owner could be located.

The lifeguard team contacted local vets, as well as posting an appeal on Facebook, to trace the owner of the escapee. A few

hours later the budgie’s owner got in touch with the RNLI and was reunited with her pet named Blue.

Blue had flown nine miles to the beach and was fortunate to only need a drink of water after his four-day escape.

Ms Phillips said: “The last thing I expected to see was a budgie on the beach and we were so glad we were able to help reunite the bird with its owner.”

Blue’s owner was so grateful for the actions of the lifeguards that she made a charitable donation to the RNLI.

## QUOTE of the WEEK

“Nestlings are fed equally, on the basis of which one was fed last, so all the nestlings are the same size.”

– Australian magpies (right) have a habit many breeders would envy! See page 12.



**Oz magpie: a highly organised parent**

## Also in the news...

### CASH FOR TREES

THE GOVERNMENT HAS pledged £44.2 million of funding for Community Forests and other woodland creation partners to plant trees across England, which will benefit birds, animals and the climate. The funding will support the creation of larger and more diverse woodlands, which will be more resilient to climate change and extreme weather events such as wildfires and storms. Around 2,300 hectares of trees – equivalent to some 3,220 football pitches – will be planted.

### FIND A FEATHER

PLANNING A VISIT to the seaside this summer? Scientists from the British Trust for Ornithology are asking people to look out for shelduck feathers on beaches around UK estuaries. Shelduck feathers are around 12-16cm long, with one white side and another that’s either dark orange or iridescent greenish-black. Analysing dropped feathers will allow scientists to develop a deeper understanding of shelduck migration routes. To find out where to send feathers, visit: [www.shelducks.co.uk](http://www.shelducks.co.uk)



## ON THIS WEEK'S COVER

Australian magpie  
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 katacarix). See story  
 on page 12 >>