

The Orpington Club of Australia (Inc.)

‘The Orpington Outlook’

March 2013 Edition



Large Buff Cockerel – Zuidlaren Show 2012 Photo H.Schellschmidt

Established in 1985 the Orpington Club of Australia is dedicated to promote and protect this stately breed.

'We do best what we do together'



The Presidents Message from the first newsletter written in August 1985.

'Greetings fellow Orpingtonians on this historical occasion of the first newsletter of the first Orpington Club of Australia'

As we stand on the verge of the end of the first century of official Orpington, it would be well to pause and pay tribute to the people who founded and fostered the Breed in the earlier years to reach a very high mark of popularity in the period between the two great wars, when they were bred and shown in the hundreds. Like many large breeds, they saw a fall in popularity in the post war period, largely because of import restrictions and the urban spread when it became the era of the bantam.

As we stand poised to enter the second century of Orpington breeding, we face the challenge of maintaining and improving the popularity and numbers, but above all the quality of our breed. There are still some fine Orpingtons about, but not enough of them, so our challenge is to breed well, cull well, never losing sight of the fact that the Orpington is primarily a table bird, with fleshing weight for age gains, plenty of size, without coarseness on a bird with a brilliant sheen on a wide quality feather being our objective. There is no such thing as a good little Orpington.

Best wishes and Good breeding. The Club Slogan could well be " We do best what we do together'

Jim Blatch

President Orpington Club of Australia (1985-1989)

Life Member (Dec)

Hello Orpington Club Members

The season has at last evened out. We have been roasted and washed out and even at times chilled. It is no wonder our fowls are a bit erratic in their behaviour.

In the last newsletter I wrote about my visit to the UK and Germany in late 2012. In this report I will give a short run down on the world's largest and best quality poultry show. It is the 'Europa Show 'in Leipzig Germany.

It is held in the most amazing pavilions (I should say complex) in the world. It has an immense glass and steel building (the biggest glass building in the world) as the entrance hall with four large pavilions feeding off it. I counted seven restaurants and bars in the few pavilions I visited and there were more. It housed near one hundred thousand exhibits. These comprised of Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Pigeons, and of course Poultry of all sorts. The show was held to determine the European Champion exhibit. (What an honour to win and breed; one could only dream.)



A scale model of the Exhibition Centre with the entrance in the glass domed building facing the left side of the picture.

The standard of the fowls was remarkable. In hundreds of rows I did not see an exhibit that looked below standard. Each cage had a score card with the judge's comments written on it and of course the score out of one hundred. I did not see a fowl score less than seventy. If there was a fault (even a minor comb fault) there was no score.

The welcome I received from the German Orpington Bantam Club was a wonderful surprise; both Pam and I were welcomed into the ranks and joined the celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of their club. They had a stand with special edition anniversary wine and snacks along with a sit and talk area strategically arranged around an octagonal cage with a bantam of every color to watch during your sit. The bantams in the cage were all wonderful

quality, whoever bred or owned them must have been extremely proud. There were Black, Blue, Buff, White, Partridge, Silver Birchen, Red, Cuckoo, Spangled and Gold Laced bantams just going about their day scratching and looking beautiful. The Gold laced bird was the only male in the cage. He looked a picture. The cage and its birds can be seen on the web site for the German Orp Bantam Club. www.zwerg-orpington.de



A Gold Laced bantam in the competition pens

The large fowl were just as impressive. Of all the colours the Buffs were outstanding in my opinion. The males (nearly all cockerels, were mirror images of each other. I would hate to be the judge) there were large Orpingtons of wonderful quality and in all colours, the same as in the bantam section. This was really a sight to see.

The thing I have often reflected on is the consistency in type between the different coloured birds. In Australia this has been my biggest problem with breeding coloured birds. I spoke about this over an evening meal with some friends from the UK and the answer eventually popped up. The amount of breeders in Europe per population is hugely more proportionate than here. Nearly everyone has fowls of some sort and the Europeans are so articulate and keen to produce good quality in everything they do. It shows.



The Embossed Jackets of the German Orpington Bantam Club

Well; I suppose I should close before I get the longing to go again next year. I hope to see you all at our show for a chat.

Your proud President
Robert (blue) Callinan

Dates for your Diary

the 2013 Orpington Club of Australia Show information (as at 28 March 2013)

NSW Camden Poultry Club- Saturday 18

May- Sponsor of Orpington Classes.

NATIONAL Show - Saturday 22nd June -

Venue ALBURY NSW-

Judges Colin Tiyce (Standard Colours)

Simon Bevan (Non Standard Colours)

NSW Dubbo Poultry Club July 14th – Sponsor of Orpington Classes- Judge Graham Finlay

VIC / SOUTHERN Feature Show- Saturday

July 27th – Venue BACCHUS MARSH VIC-

Judge TBC

QLD Rosewood Poultry Club Annual

Show- Sunday July 28th - Sponsor of Orpington Classes

TAS The Denis Lyne Testimonial (Longford)

Show -August 3- Sponsor of Orpington Classes.

SA- Royal Adelaide Show- September –

Sponsor of medal for Ch Orpington of Show

A Word (or Two) from the Secretary.



Hi Everyone. If you have made it this far into this March 2013 edition of the Orpington Outlook you will have already noticed some wise words from our inaugural President which hold as true now as they did in 1985. You will have heard more about President Blues trip to Europe last December and the impression that was made upon him by the magnificent European coloured birds. You will also have noticed that the Club has endeavoured to spread its support out and about amongst the States in a bid to engage with members in far flung reaches who might not normally get the opportunity to travel to the Annual National Show.

Talking about the **2013 National Show** I am very excited to announce that we have two of our very own to judge this year's birds. Our 'senior' judge **Colin Tiyce** needs very little introduction. Colin is a master craftsman of the Poultry world, a mentor to many Orpington members and has had a closed stud of Large Black Orpingtons since the early 1960's. Colin is always willing to share his knowledge and experience. Colin will be adjudicating over the Standard Colours eg those that are recognized in the 2nd edition of the Australian Poultry Standards, in both Large and Bantam.

Our second judge is that long time member and master Buff breeder **Simon Bevan** who has kindly agreed to take on board the Non Standard (formally known as Non Standard or Any Other Recognised Colour (AORC)). Given the rise in interest in Orpingtons in colours not recognised in the APS (and also to reduce the confusion about the position of Splash coloured Orpingtons -who are currently ineligible to win the Bird In Show award) your Club Committee has decided to clearly delineate the position of standard and non- standard colours. Birds and separate the two sections.

I am also pleased to introduce **Suzanne Knight**, our lone member from the ACT, who has kindly agreed to be the 2013 National Show Secretary and who will be organizing the administrative aspects of the show including the taking of entries. The National Show schedule is included in this Edition and we are most grateful to the Albury Poultry Club for their support of this event. You will notice that the specials are starting to build for this show and if anyone wishes to make a further donation to support the Show that would be much appreciated.

As per our Constitution any memberships that are taken from 1st March covers the following year which in reality closes off our Membership lists for the 2012-13 Year. I am pleased to report that we have 108 current members of which 41 were new for 2012-13. 62 of you breed Large Blacks which is by far the most popular colour/size (49 Blues/45 Buff/17 Whites/13 Cuckoos/ Splash 19 and 6 AORC- these are all Large by the way) In terms of Bantams Blacks and Blues are equal in favour- 12 each with Buffs just behind at 10. Sadly from these numbers Bantams are teetering on the edge of critical rareness especially with Whites at 3 Cuckoo at 1 and Splash at 3 bringing up the numbers? So going back to our first Presidents words of encouragement and sense of optimism for the future we need to ensure that all our members stay connected and that everyone who breeds this wonderful breed joins up! As subs are soon to be due a 2013-14 Membership Renewal Form is attached with this edition too.

This edition again has a selection of pics and articles from our sister Clubs in the UK, Denmark, Europe and the USA. For those 82 of you on now email you will have also received copies of our recent sister clubs newsletters and year books. For those of you not on email they will be posted on our Club website www.orpingtonaustralia.com

That's all for now -keep the feedback going on how you would like to see the Club support you. Cheers for now.

Martin D.

Best contact is via Email secretary@orpingtonaustralia.com

MACBETH, an unexpected visitor - unplanned, unknown, but oh, what a bonus!

Having swapped bloodlines of White Orpingtons for a while with a friend, I decided to use a new line, to supplement the line that Atlas, the star champion, has blessed me with.

I welcomed a handsome, blindingly white Orpington rooster to join the harem of expectant feather-boa'd ladies. Again, guaranteed all-white bloodlines, as far as pedigrees stretch. My expectations aroused, I awaited the first hatchlings of the then, unnamed Romeo. Some of my white girls, though, were carrying Ermine but showed white, as I had been planning to breed Ermine Orpingtons. I fell in love with the antique Japanese painting in Dallas Smith's book: "The Complete Orpington." I had to breed Ermings. Last year's batch produced a small amount of collared birds, the perfect Columbian (or Ermine), but the rest were beautifully conformed pure whites. Recessive genes that are asleep and don't announce themselves are probably responsible for the majority of new colours that present themselves when least expected. So it was with this batch of ERMINES. One chick with the ermine colour pattern, grew to become a massive, broad-chested, good-looking fellow like his dad, but his hackles, instead of having the black arrows edged with white, had barred feathers like a Cuckoo, and identical tail feathers and flight feathers. I have never heard of a Cuckoo Columbian, and asked several other breeders, none of whom had the slightest inkling. "Oh, just a mismark. Put him in the pot!" My pot should have been overflowing by now, but I decided that caution was the better part of valour, and searched the website for possible answers.

Then I found a British breeder, who seemed to have almost as many Orpington colours on his breeding list as there are in Pekin Bantams here in Australia. I sent him a photograph of Macbeth, and he replied with another few photos and an astonished comment: "You have a beautiful Delaware. I have two from which I will breed this season. Your boy looks truly beautiful". Upon research I found that a breeder in the United States had bred that pattern into another breed of American poultry, and it was christened: "Delaware" from the state it had come from. The British breeders took on the name of the colour and pattern, and called the so patterned Orpingtons "Delaware."

There was Macbeth strutting his stuff, and I decided to put him back to one of

his sisters to try and establish the gene as a dominant. The result was several badly marked Columbians and two-three perfect Delawares. Macbeth also produced one lavender/Columbian pullet, who has since been mated back to him to produce another Lavender/Columbian - May I be bold enough to say - Coronation? I understood that Lavender can only be produced by mating lavender to lavender, a self-dominant gene? Where did my lavenders come from?

So far, many questions need to be answered, but I learned a valuable lesson, which I had always applied to dog breeding. Never throw away the baby with the bath water, and see potential in every "Mismarked", often mis-shapen individual, because that could be your next pot of gold. Instead of trying to create a fancy colour where none exists, why not use what is offered by nature and enhance that. With perseverance, imagination and a bit of genetic knowledge new colours can be 'created' without having to resort to other breeds to achieve certain points. So I can claim that my Lemon/Cuckoo, Lemon/Cuckoo/Columbian and now Delaware - are all PURE Orpingtons, with no contamination from other breeds to achieve those results.

Eve Marso

Gentian Orpingtons



Figure 1 Macbeth the Delaware Editors Note- Since this article was written it has been generally agreed that the correct (global) definition of this colour is actually Barred Columbian

Desperate Breeder

For years I kept trying to win,
Judges tips ringing in my ears.
Trying hard to correct the faults
That held me back for many years.

Feather quality badly needed,
The bird's wings are far too high,
Overall size is lacking badly,
He's displaying too much thigh.

Finally I'd reached that point,
My patience had been tested.
There was a way I hadn't tried
So in steroids I invested.

It seemed to work for athletes
When they lacked a bit of bulk,
So I fed them to my favorite,
Then renamed him 'The Hulk'.

I knew the day a long way off
When a drug test he'd be taking,
So I was in for short term gain,
Even though I would be faking.

He grew and grew and filled his cage
So I re-housed him in the shed,
With his roaring crows and thrashing,
The locals all wished him dead.

He turned out so big and ugly
I received a dreadful fright,
I had to treat him with kid gloves
Or it would turn into a fight.

Time to rethink the situation,
I couldn't take him to a show,
I couldn't fit him in a pen,
And he'd frighten them with his crow.

The moral of this little poem
Is that cheats will never prosper,
Even when they get their wish,
It's never quite what they asked for.

Robert Callinan Jan 2013

Silver Laced Orpington Bantam- 2012 Zuidlaren Show

(Photo H. Schellschmidt



From the United Orpington Club Spring 2013 Newsletter

Editors Note: The UOC 2013 Spring Newsletter has been emailed to all Club members and will be posted on the Club website;

Is experience in poultry keeping Necessary?

by William H Cook

Pg 70 The poultry Keepers Journal 9/15/1922

I am sure there are more failures in poultry-keeping that are attributable to lack of experience than I'm gained to any other cause. From this it must not be imagined that anyone cannot be a poultry-keeper until he has undergone a course of study in this branch of agriculture, and that if he does commence the work without training, failure is the inevitable end. Frequently it is largely a matter of individual capacity, and I have known very successful poultry-keepers who have never had a day's training, but have depended entirely upon their own commonsense. On the other hand I have known those who have been trained, but who, by the want of commonsense, have failed. Speaking generally, however, want of experience is a fruitful cause of failure, and it is invariably found that when a man rashly starts on a large scale, without having had the least experience or knowledge of the subject, utter failure is almost sure to follow. The man who starts in a very modest way, and has only a limited number of birds, will probably succeed beyond his best hopes, since he will gain experience day by day, until he ultimately becomes master of the solution. When the time arrives for expanding his establishment he is well equipped for doing, and to face any emergency that may arise, and to overcome difficulties that would completely overwhelm the man who made a start on a large scale with but only a small amount of experience.

It must be remembered any type poultry-keeping is a definite business, requiring much hard work and observation to make it a success. The general desire of many beginners is to launch out in a large way from the commencement, but these are those who have only gained some theoretical knowledge of poultry farming, and not the man who has had a proper training. His start is very different in every respect -the choosing of the right neighborhood, the position, the soil, the plant and stock are all carefully weighed over first, whilst his plan from the begging are already made and workable, and he can count on making a good living and saving money, because he has the practical knowledge and ability to start right and make it a success.

Anyone wishing to embark into the poultry business as a sure means of livelihood should certainly go as a pupil or student on to a good poultry farm where he can be taught the whole system in a thoroughly practical manner, and place himself under the care of those who do know and have proved that poultry-keeping can be made to pay, and have done it.

The pupil must gain his knowledge by actual practical experience in order to enable him to do everything with his own hands, so that whether he commences in business on his own behalf or takes over the management of some other person's farm, he must be efficient in every detail of the work so necessary to the carrying of a poultry business in a successful manner.

Naturally, some pupils learn much quicker than others, but for one to become thoroughly efficient in every branch of poultry-keeping it is usual to work and study for two years, as in the second year one is able to thoroughly master all the detail work that occurred in the first year, and also to put to practical test so much of the various methods of management to obtain the best results.

Every symptom of each disease to which poultry are liable, the various remedies; the feeding qualities of different meals and grains, with their weight and prices, the values of various breeds and their breeding qualities, artificial and natural incubation and the raising of chickens, are no minor details, and take mouths of hard work and study to thoroughly master.

I myself have had pupils who, in six months, have made themselves efficient enough to commence in a small way, and then by keeping in touch with them they have made their farm successful and a paying concern.

It is only by obtaining such experience on a well-equipped and up-to-date poultry farm, under the tuition of practical experts, who can impart their knowledge in a manner that is easily understood, can a pupil ever expect to become efficient and able to make a success of poultry farming.

To succeed in any form of poultry keeping, it is necessary to economise whenever it is practicable, but to purchase cheap appliances, stock and food is a very great mistake. To apply common sense, purchase what is necessary, and pay a fair price for a good article, is sound advice to every beginner who contemplates keeping a few or a large number of fowls.

William H Cook

**Welcome to our newest Members who have joined since
January 2013 -Tania Sheather (NSW) Michaela Rea
(NSW) Lachlan McDonald (NSW)**

Orpington Club of Australia Office Bearers 2012-13

Patrons – Rob Lavender, Will Burdett (UK)

President; Rob ‘Blue’ Callinan

Vice Presidents- Denis Stannard, Simon Bevan

Secretary Treasurer- Martin ‘Waninga’ Doulton

Public officer- Dallas Smith

Life members- Jim Blatch (Dec), Charlie Bishop (Dec), Rob Lavender, Rob Callinan, Dallas Smith

Southern Committee- Judy Whitney, Sonya Ford, Jenny Stewart, Sue Barker

Northern Committee- Dallas Smith, Rob Callinan, Denis Stannard, Simon Bevan

WA State Representatives- Stan and Dianne Bell

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The Views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Committee or editorial staff!

The Orpington Club of Australia (Inc)

THE NATIONAL ORPINGTON SHOW 2013.

Albury Showgrounds

(By Kind Permission of the Albury Poultry Club)

Saturday June 22nd 2013

ENTRIES CLOSE & MUST BE RECEIVED BY Friday June 14th

Entries , accompanied by the appropriate entry and membership fees should be sent by mail to Suzane Knight 2013 National Orpington Show Secretary c/o 32 Simpson St, Watson ACT 2602 and all enquiries may be made via email Suzanne.knight@anu.edu.au. Cheques and money orders should be made payable to the Orpington Club of Australia.

Entries will be accepted **ONLY** from Members of The Orpington Club of Australia. New Members will be accepted by enclosing the \$20 Membership Fee with their entries.

ENTRY FEE- \$ 2.00 per bird per class for up to 12 entries

Extra entries (beyond 12)- \$1.00 per bird

JUDGES- Mr Colin Tiyce (NSW)-Standard Colours

Mr Simon Bevan (NSW) – Non Standard Colours

SHOW REGULATIONS.

1. This Show will be conducted under the Rules of The Orpington Club of Australia and the Model Rules of The E.P.A of NSW. Copies of these rules may be perused at the Show Secretary's Desk.
2. Entries will be accepted only from Members of The Orpington Club of Australia. New Members may pay their subs. along with their Entry Fees.
3. Judging will be carried out in accordance with the Standards appearing in "*The Australian Poultry Standards 2nd edition*", AND those adopted by The Orpington Club of Australia.
4. The Judge's decision will be final in all matters regarding merit, and eligibility.
5. Judging will be " open", but onlookers are asked to maintain a respectful distance from the Judge and Stewards. An associate Judge may be appointed to handle certain classes if deemed necessary.
6. Perpetual Trophies are retained by the winners until the next National Orpington Show, (2014) when they are to be returned for further competition.
7. Penning of Birds may take place from 5 p.m till 7p.m. on Friday June 21st (pavilion closes at 7pm). and from 7 a.m till 8.30 a.m. on Saturday. Judging commences at 9.00 a.m sharp. Please note on your entry form if you intend penning on Friday night before 7pm.
8. Unpenning of Birds may take place immediately following the Awards Presentation. No exhibit may be removed without supervision from the Show Manager .This will be rigidly enforced!!!!
9. NOTE! Single birds from Breeding Pairs, and varieties other than Black, Blue, Buff, White, or Cuckoo are NOT eligible for the Best In Show Award.
10. Where four (4) or more entries are received for a non- classified variety, a separate class/ classes will be provided for that variety. Please ensure that variety details are completed on the entry form.
The pavilion will be open on Sunday morning for removal of birds, upon arrangement with the Albury Poultry Club and the Orpington Club Secretary.

*****SCHEDULE- The National Orpington Show 2013*****

LIST OF SPECIAL AWARDS.

Champion Orpington In Show- The Will Burdett Trophy, The Jim Blatch Shield and The Club Cup- The above are Perpetual Trophies and will be held by the winner until the next National Orpington Show)

Champion Orpington of Show- Club Sash

Reserve Champion Orpington of Show- Club Sash

“Pioneers” Trophies- (Best of Colour-Large or Bantam)- to be won outright.

Champion Black In Show- The Jim Blatch Trophy

Champion Blue In Show - The Rob Lavender “Pioneers Trophy”

Champion Buff In Show - The Charlie Bishop “Pioneers Trophy”

Champion Cuckoo in Show “ The Tas Doornbusch Trophy”

Champion White in Show Donated by Waninga Orpingtons

Champion (Overall- AORC) from Development Classes (025-028) and (053-056)- Perpetual Trophy donated by The Cuckoo Breeder- Winner to retain this Trophy until next National Orpington Show.

Commerative Medals from Landsklunbben Denmark for Best Exhibitor in both Large and Bantam

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE

Large Fowl Specials-

Best of Variety in each of Black, Buff, Blue , White, Cuckoo and Non Standard (Splash/A.O.R.C) - **\$40 Cash + Rosette**

Res.Champ of Var. in each of Black, Buff, Blue, White, Cuckoo and Non Standard(Splash/A.O.R.C) - **\$10 Cash + Rosette**

Champion Large Breeding Pair- Rosette

Bantam Specials-

Best of Variety in each of Black, Buff, Blue , White, Cuckoo and Non Standard (Splash/A.O.R.C)- **\$40 Cash + Rosette**

Res. Champ of Variety in each of Black, Buff, Blue, White, Cuckoo and Non Standard (Splash/A.O.R.C)- **\$10 Cash + Rosette**

Champion Bantam Breeding Pair- Rosette

NOTE! The initials “ *A.O.R.C* ” refers to “ Any Other Recognised Colour (Non-Standard) . Specials for this category are restricted to classes 025-028,(Large Fowl) and classes 053-56 (Bantams)

Additional donated awards will be allocated as received.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.

<u>LARGE FOWL</u>	Cock	Hen	Ckl	Pullet	Breeding Pr.
Black	001	002	003	004	A
Buff	005	006	007	008	B
Blue	009	010	011	012	C
White	013	014	015	016	D
Cuckoo	017	018	019	020	E
Splash	021	022	023	024	F
A.O.R.C	025	026	027	028	G

BANTAMS

Black	029	030	031	032	H
Buff	033	034	035	036	I
Blue	037	038	039	040	J
White	041	042	043	044	K
Cuckoo	045	046	047	048	L
Splash	049	050	051-	052	M
A.O.R.C.	053	054	055	056	N

Please Check your class Numbers carefully and complete ALL details on the Entry Form Attached to this Newsletter

NOTE!- Special classes will be provided should there be more than four(4) or more entries of any specific Non- Standard AORC variety. Birds from these classes will be eligible for the “ Non Standard” awards.

BIRDS FOR SALE- As usual there will be a good number of birds for sale. “ For Sale” notices may be picked up from the Show Manager and may be displayed upon the completion of judging of the respective variety. Transactions are to be handled completely between the vendor and purchaser.

Birds sold under Private Treaty (excepting Variety Champions) may be handed to purchasers by the vendor before unpenning BUT strictly under the supervision of the Show Manager.



**Ross Kerles Large Black Pullet
Champion Bird in Show**

*2012 Rosewood Poultry Club Annual Show Queensland
Photo Courtesy of www.rosewoodpoultryclub.webs.com*