

July - September 2023

# WILDFOWL

## AUSTRALIA

Supporting Australian aviculture since 1965



Wildfowl Australia is proudly published by the Pheasant & Waterfowl Society of Australia Inc. keeping our Members up to date with the latest news & events in relation to all things wildfowl & more...

Publication by PWSA Australia Inc. E-mail: [PWSA.org.au](mailto:PWSA.org.au)



This edition's story features the Reeves pheasant.  
The PWSA Inc. hope our members enjoy the feature article.

# ***Index to July to September 2023 edition of Wildfowl Australia***

***Cover page photo – Male Reeves pheasant***

<b><i>Index of Contents</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>
<b><i>Executive report</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
<b><i>Meet the team</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>
<b><i>The Reeves Pheasant</i></b>	<b><i>5-8</i></b>
<b><i>Livestock guardian breeds – Keeping your birds safe</i></b>	<b><i>9-10</i></b>
<b><i>Maremma Guard dogs</i></b>	<b><i>11-12</i></b>
<b><i>What’s happening</i></b>	<b><i>13</i></b>
<b><i>Feather Trader</i></b>	<b><i>14</i></b>
<b><i>Minutes of Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>
<b><i>Profile of a PWSA member Mr John Urane</i></b>	<b><i>17</i></b>
<b><i>PWSA Inc. Application form</i></b>	<b><i>18</i></b>

*Executive report*  
*The Pheasant & Waterfowl Society of Australia Inc.*



A special call out to our members who keep penguins!

After reading this issue of the “Wildfowl Australia” you may or may not understand the penguin reference. Our supplementary article by Genevieve Wallfried provides insight into protection of flocks by utilising the guarding instinct of specific canine breeds. Our multi-talented treasurer Georgie Patterson compiled notes on suitable Australian guard dog breeds. Georgie’s article precedes Genevieve Wallfried of South Australia who has a wealth of experience with Maremma livestock guardian dogs.

A special General Meeting was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September. The executive encourages members to participate and have your say re the future direction of the Society by participating in our on-line meetings. We are asking for one hour of your time every 3 months.

New members are always welcome & anything that the committee or members can do to foster new generations & create interest in the keeping of gamebirds is a positive thing. All ideas, suggestions positive contributions or advice related to running of the Society will be acknowledged & appreciated.

Thanks to all the members for their support and we look forward to ongoing continued support. I encourage members to please take an active role in the Society and encourage your friends to take part as well, as it really is a great club to belong to. Every contribution or suggestion by members is appreciated by the executive.

Please volunteer to write a brief outline of your involvement or interest in bird keeping for publication in “Profile of a PWSA member” and send it to [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au).

This issue of Wildfowl Australia reflects the Societies continued determination to promote our group in-spite of the difficulties that we and many similar groups have encountered. We strongly believe the PWSA Inc. provides a practical & invaluable service for members seeking to procure, sell or exchange their surplus avian stock. Such trade allows members to source unrelated blood lines or secure stock of our rarer species kept in captivity

PWSA member Mitchell Smidt has generously volunteered to assist our Society by undertaking the role of “Social Media Officer”. Please assist Mitchell by providing relevant information for this important role which can be e-mailed to:- [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au)

**Members please advise by e-mail if you can’t access the PWSA online information [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au).**

The executive will endeavour to resolve the issues

John Urane.

Hon Secretary of the PWSA Inc.

## ***PWSA Inc. - MEET THE TEAM***

Get to know your management team. Don't be a stranger, feel free to contact any of the team as they are willing to help



President - position vacant



Publicity Officer - position vacant



John Urane – Secretary



Keith Biden - Committee



Georgie Patterson – Treasurer



Marcia Ludlow - Committee



Danny Brown  
Club Patron



Stephanie and Steve Robinson  
Club Patrons

## ***THE REEVES PHEASANT* (*Syrmaticus reevesii*,)**



Photo - Reeves cock and hen birds

### **DISTRIBUTION**

The Reeves pheasant is a large pheasant which is endemic to the mountainous areas of central China and is named after the British naturalist John Reeves.

### **STATUS OF AUSTRALIAN BIRDS**

Reeves Pheasants are not maintained in large numbers in Australian aviculture and unfortunately their numbers are declining in captivity. The bird is threatened in its native habitat due to deforestation, hunting for food and its tail plumes, the Reeves pheasant is evaluated as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. There are thought to be around 2000 birds remaining in the wild.

### **COLOURATION**

The male's plumage is generally golden with black markings that form a lace like pattern. They also possess white and red body plumage and brown eyes. The facial and orbital skin is red. The head is white with a black narrow band across its eyes.

A white band runs around the neck and throat below the black band. A further black band lies around the lower neck above the gold orange body colour.

The beaks and legs of both sexes are light grey coloured. The male has an extremely long silvery white tail barred with chestnut brown. Cock birds primary colours are golden bronze on their lower neck back and sides. Some variation occurs between individual birds with some appearing washed out and some displaying dazzling gold feathers with dark black lacing.

The belly and upper legs feathers are black. A fully coloured mature cock bird is guaranteed to attract attention due to both its spectacular colours and the extraordinary long tail. This species is credited with having the longest natural tail feather of any bird species. The tail has been reported to measure up to 2.4 m long. The tail length develops incrementally as the bird matures. The cock's tail lengthens as the bird each year as the bird matures.

First year cock birds possess tail feathers being approx. 300 to 350 mm long

Second year cock birds possess tail feathers being approx. 1000 mm long

Third year cock birds possess tail feathers being approx. 1300 mm long

Fourth and subsequently older birds possess tail feathers varying between 1700mm to 2100 mm long

The female possess a dark brown crown and buff face with dark brown ear coverts which creates a patch behind the eye. The hens are marked with dark and light brown and white markings on their back and wings which lighten toward the belly which is pale buff colouration. The pattern distribution of colour provides excellent camouflage and a hen may flick a few pieces of straw over themselves making themselves effectively camouflaged, rendering them virtually indistinguishable from their background. The female's tail feathers are mottled light and dark brown and display some barring. There are no known subspecies, but there is significant plumage variation evident in cock Reeves pheasants.

The better coloured variants should be selected for breeding.



Cock Reeves pheasants need to be handled with care

## **SIZE AND WEIGHT**

Cock birds measure approximately 210cm long and weigh 1.5 kg.

Female birds measure 75cm long and weigh approx. 1 kg

## **HYBRIDSATION**

The Reeves will readily hybridise with Ringneck pheasant species. Hybridising of all pheasant species should be discouraged as the genetics of Australian birds are unlikely to be enhanced by future importation of any species.

## **HOUSING**

Due to their long tails, housing needs to be sufficiently spacious to enable them to move around freely. The species are hardy and temperature tolerant, provided a draft free and dry shelter is provided.

## **BREEDING**

Reeves are reliable parents and will raise young successfully given appropriate and suitable nest locations screened by cover. The hen lays a clutch of 7 to 14 slightly pointed oval pale olive buff coloured eggs which may be laid over an extended duration. Daily removal of eggs for incubation may result in multiple clutches which may also involve indiscriminate depositing of eggs rather than positioning the clutch in a nest location.

Occasionally pale blue eggs may be laid. The incubation period is 25 days. Hens will utilise nest boxes on the ground, particularly if they are surrounded by brush which provides the brooding bird a sense of security.

If nest boxes are unavailable, hens will seek out a protected and secreted location to excavate a shallow depression in earthen floored aviaries which she roughly lines with grasses, feathers and twigs to form a nest in which to lay and incubate a clutch.

The mating display of a mature cock pheasant is a spectacular event to witness. Their mating display generally occurs at dawn and involves the cock bird maintaining his spectacular tail feathers vertically as the bird rushes frantically around the enclosure. Occasionally the cock bird will maintain an erect stance and “wing whir” throughout the day to court the hen. Generally the displaying cock bird fails to attract much interest from the hen.

Cock birds are generally not aggressive toward newly hatched chicks displaying indifference.

To ensure breeding success and to increase their numbers, the first clutch may be removed for artificial incubation and the hen permitted to incubate the second repeated clutch of eggs

Cock birds are rarely fertile in their first year.

Reeves chicks are precocious and will roost in elevated locations when less than one week old.

Presentation of drinking water in deep containers presents a drowning threat to young pheasant poults therefore very shallow trays with a layer of small pebbles prevents their accidental drowning.

## **BREEDING SEASON**

The breeding season commences in October and egg laying may continue through to late February.

Reeves cock birds are notorious eggs eaters and prevention is better than cure. Provision of a sheltered area for the hen to hide her nest site where the eggs are not visible to the male is recommended. Cock birds of most pheasant species are reluctant to enter heavy cover and no more so than Reeves cock birds due to their tail length.

The habit of egg eating is difficult to resolve and culprit cock birds may have to be removed and reinstated to their enclosure with eggs being collected for artificial incubation in the cock birds absence.

Reeves cock birds often become aggressive during breeding season. Their aggressive behaviour is likely to continue once started indefinitely throughout the rest of the year. Prospective inexperienced keepers should be warned to NEVER take their eyes off a cock bird when entering its enclosure. Reeves cock birds have an extraordinary sense that one is distracted and may exploit that opportunity with a swift and unprovoked attack. Generally their initial attack occurs during the breeding season as the cock bird endeavours to protect his hen.

Artificially incubated and hand reared cock birds are feisty when a few days old and will commence attacks on males of all pheasant species if brooded with them. Artificially brooded cock birds need to be separated and reared in individual cages to prevent their attacks which will result in fatalities if not addressed.

Aggression of cock chicks toward other cock birds does not occur if the chicks are parent reared.

In spite of the aggression toward other cock birds, Reeves cock birds are generally passive toward their females and will tolerate face preening by the hen.

Reeves are hardy birds and their call is unlike other pheasant species in that it is best described as a warbling sound. The call sometimes accompanies the cock bird picking indiscriminately at the ground, such behaviour is a display of aggression toward a perceived threat.

## **NUTRITION**

Their diet consists mainly of seeds, insects & greens. They can be readily maintained on pelletised or grain based mash. Micro pellets ensure the birds obtain a balanced diet as most pheasant species often waste unwanted food content when fed mixed grain based mashes. They will opportunistically take live food and readily consume meal worms or fly larvae. Greens, shell grit and clean water should be available in a shaded location, particularly during hot weather.

## **AVICULTURE INFORMATION**

Reeves pheasants prefer to roost in elevated locations at night and appropriate perches should be made available under shelter from the weather.

Cock birds develop spurs with their growth commencing in their second year. By their third year cock birds are well equipped with spurs, which can present a serious hazard to their handlers.

Reeves pheasants are not well suited to first time keepers due to the pugnacious nature of cock birds.

Reeves' pheasant numbers have declined in Australia for a number of reasons and the risk of extinction in Australian collections exists if efforts are not made to secure their future.

Urbanisation has diminished the opportunity to keep birds such as pheasants due to reduced allotment sizes.

Bird and poultry keeping prohibition and restriction by some urban councils further restricts their keeping.

Preference for keeping colourful pheasant species such as Golden & Lady Amherst pheasants does not assist ensuring their future.

The aggressive nature of cock Reeves may be less appealing than more gregarious species.

## **HOUSING**

Female Reeves pheasants demonstrate excellent camouflage skills in straw or sugar cane mulch litter and demonstrate a more relaxed demeanour when provided some brush cover within their housing which enables them to seek refuge if they feel threatened.

Cock birds become less secretive at the onset of the breeding season which generally commences in October and may continue thru to early January. During the breeding season, cocks display wing whirring which is part of the ritual courtship display. This display characteristic is common across the Lophura pheasant species. Cock birds display confidently and are not intimidated during the courtship period. They may become openly aggressive toward cock birds in adjoining cages irrespective of species. I have experienced cock bird aggression directed at me, from all mature cock birds that I have kept.

## **AVAILABILITY AND STATUS**

The long term status of Reeves pheasants in Australia is not secure and maintaining a pair of unrelated birds in the collection is important to secure their future. It is hoped fanciers ensure viable breeding populations of

Reeves pheasants are maintained in the future. In the absence of that action, the species is destined to follow the path of Siamese Fireback pheasants which are regrettably extinct in Australian collections.

Reeves pheasants may be regarded as low maintenance birds. It is not recommended to endeavour to gain their trust as wary birds are generally less aggressive toward their keepers. Reeves pheasants are vocally subdued and are unlikely to cause disturbance to adjacent neighbours.

Author - John Urane

## ***LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN BREEDS – KEEPING YOUR BIRDS SAFE***

Livestock Guardian Dogs have been used successfully for thousands of years to prevent livestock predation.

In the 1970's Livestock Guardian Dogs were introduced to agriculture in the USA and are now used extensively in the USA and Canada. With similarities in livestock production and grazing models, it makes sense that Australia could also benefit from this strategy.

Guardian dogs have proved their worth against predators such as, wolves, bears, mountain lions, foxes, dingoes, feral dogs, birds of prey, coyotes, feral cats, cheetahs & leopards.

Recently, they are being used in conservation projects across the world. There's no doubt about their diversity of application! So could this be the answer to keeping your birds safe.

### **Anatolian Shepard Dog:**

Anatolians are large dogs that are still used today to guard sheep and other livestock, and the breed's temperament reflects this function. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog should be "loyal, independent, and reserved." They possess great endurance, speed, and agility," and are "highly intelligent, courageous, adaptable, instinctively protective, and territorial."



### **Great Pyrenees:**

Sometimes affectionately referred to as the "Pyr," these large, white, fluffy dogs are defined not only by their great size and striking appearance, but also by their "smart, patient, calm" temperament. Like many livestock guardians, the Great Pyrenees was bred to be an independent thinker, and is thus able to guard livestock without human supervision or direction. Given this breed's function as a livestock guardian, companion owners should keep in mind that this dog will naturally look for some guarding activity as a source of employment. However, they are known for their gentle nature, especially with their families, and it is not uncommon to see a Pyr working as a therapy dog.



### **Komondor:**

The Komondor's temperament as "loyal, dignified, and brave," and these qualities serve the breed well in its function to protect flocks and herds (usually sheep) from predators. These dogs are known to be very territorial and form strong bonds with their flock—both animals and humans. They tend not to wander and instead stay close to the livestock and people they are guarding, making them ideal as livestock guardians.



### **Maremma Sheepdog:**

Despite the name Sheepdog, the breed is not used for rounding up sheep, but protecting them, or whatever stock they are bonded with, by living with them & keeping predators at bay. The Maremma Sheepdog does this by territorial marking, warning barks &, when required, by displaying protective behaviours. The breed's first response is to put itself between the predator & the flock & bark and sometimes charge at the threat. While the Maremma Sheepdog is not an aggressive breed, if a predator persists, it will protect its flock by force. It is aloof and independent, so training, although not impossible, can be a challenge. More importantly, the breed is wary of strangers & suspicious of odd noises & anything unusual.



### **Kangal:**

Kangal is intelligent, independent, & courageous. Calm & vigilant, the Kangal dog can quickly switch to high alert by the slightest sounds & scents. With a strong intuition he is an expert at accurately identifying threats. They are affectionate, loyal & gentle. Their gentleness with small children, the fragile & elderly, as well as their gentleness towards all creatures large & small, is leading to its popularity as guardians. Regarding their human family as "flock", they guard them as well as their animals with extreme devotion and loyalty.

Kangal dogs do not need training to protect. Letting the puppy free among a herd of sheep is all one needs to do. A full grown Kangal that has never seen livestock can naturally bond & start working as a livestock guardian very quickly.

Georgie Patterson.

## *Maremma Guard dogs*



This article was kindly written by PWSA member Genevieve Wallfried. (Genevieve has a wealth of experience with Maremma livestock guardian dogs)

I would like to tell people about my experiences with Maremma Sheepdogs. This idea started a few years ago when we were having one of our South Australian Pheasant and Waterfowl meetings. One of the members was telling us a sad tale about how he had lost all of his pheasants recently. A gum tree had been planted in the middle of his aviaries and the mesh roof had been cut to the tree. This was really beautiful and advantageous to the birds for many decades. But foxes being foxes had eventually found a way to enter the aviary near the trunk of the tree where it met the wire. Foxes are amazing climbers and extremely persistent. They seem to kill all or as many birds as possible by biting off their heads or biting their shoulders. Often the birds in their fear will kill themselves by flying up and bashing their heads on the wire roof. The idea of killing all the birds is that if they have enough time the fox will take each bird and stash them somewhere to be eaten at the foxes leisure. The poor fellow ended the story by saying “we should be looking into Maremma’s”. Well I thought I don’t know much about Pheasants but I do know a bit about Maremma’s and how good they are.

As far as I can tell there seems to be 2 varieties of these dogs – the loving placid, docile, love all humans’ kind and the group I call “the mean as shit” kind. These are fiercely protective, dominant and very confident. We have the latter. I am not sure but maybe the first type are more for the show ring or family pet than for a livestock guardian. The latter seem to be much better workers/guardians.

The dogs need to be bonded with whatever they need to guard. Here we have chickens, which wouldn't exist at all if it weren't for our dogs. I have heard of them guarding sheep, goats, geese, ducks, chickens, penguins, native animals and children.

Before we got our first Maremma a fox got into our big aviary on Christmas Day in the middle of the day. We heard a disturbance and when we went to investigate 67 birds were dead. That is a lot of plucking to do. The trouble was that we never did figure out how the fox got in and out! We now live close to a conservation Park and we have never had so much of a fox problem.

We have a Maremma that is totally devoted to the chickens. My husband has to lock him up before he captures any birds or he will be bitten on the bum or arm. The dogs are very in tune with the many alarm calls that the birds make, plus anything unusual that is happening. It is very funny to see a Maremma leaping into the air when the birds make the alarm call for the Wedge Tailed Eagles. The eagles are often just a speck high up in the sky but the Maremma is doing his best and all the chickens are hiding safely until the all clear call is given. Our neighbour who has lost all of his birds dozens have time does not have a Maremma.

We did have a one incredible event. The Maremma was in the backyard looking after the chickens. It was 3am and the dog heard the lock and chain on the front gate rattle. Then he heard 2 people walking down the driveway crunching on the gravel. Maremma's don't like strangers, the chickens were alarmed, and the dog was in action. My husband heard it all, but I slept through it. Then I heard a really loud bang it sounded like a car accident had happened next to our house. In fact the Maremma had knocked over our whole side fence. Next thing he was in hot pursuit of the 2 men up the driveway and over the gate. The dog chased them all the way down to the esplanade which is about 1km away. My husband had to get into the van and follow the dog. When my husband caught up to the dog puffed out and trotting home. I was incredible impressed with this dog I had never heard of a dog knocking over a fence, I would say he took his job 100% seriously. We never lost a single bird on his watch even though we could hear foxes all around the house and yard. One even did a poo on our front door mat, this didn't impress my husband. I have mentioned that they guard numerous animals and humans but I would like to add that they have killed numerous snakes, feral cats and rats. These dogs are very in tune with the alarm calls and unusual behaviour of whatever they are guarding.

There are a lot of pluses to having a Maremma. They stick with the stock that they feel responsible for.

They seem very robust. Our dogs are unvaccinated, have never been to the vet and seem to have no problems with their health. But when they are 10+ they can go deaf and can have hip problems. We had a Maremma that was still working at 14 years old. For this reason get a pup when the old Maremma is about 7. The old one will definitely teach the young pup. One of our Maremma's threw a German shepherd by the scruff of the neck, against a fence after it tried to kill a chicken. We found the German shepherd shaking under a saltbush but she never looked at another chicken. On the downside they bark a lot especially at night when they are most active. They also bark at each corner of the property but this is part of the job that they are employed to do. Because of their nocturnal ventures they then tend to sleep all day, but with one eye open, just in case. Maremma's are working dogs, they need space and a job to do.

They can have two types of coats, one long and fluffy and always picking up the burrs, and one a double coat that they need to shed by scratching out the coat. My husband also thinks that there is two size varieties one tall and one shorter. So after dividing them into varieties all I can really say with great confidence is that they are all white..... I think ☺.

Genevieve Wallfried.

## *What's Happening*

The PWSA executive hope you enjoyed the April June 2023 issue of the “Wildfowl Australia” Recipients of this edition & the accompanying e-mailed correspondence, confirms that you currently hold membership of the PWSA Inc.



The PWSA executive’s desire to appoint new executive members continues in earnest. Please contact the executive by e-mailing to express your interest to participate. We need you to participate.

### **OPPORTUNITY – Vice President**

An enthusiastic person with an interest in preserving & promoting the Society in the role of Vice President of the PWSA Inc. This role offers a rare opportunity for a personal contribution & skill utilisation to maintain & build the PWSA. Please provide your expression of interest in the role if you would like to contribute to the PWSA.

### **Social media officer - Position filled**

### **OPPORTUNITY – Publicity officer**

An extraordinary opportunity exists for a computer literate person to obtain real life practical experience that may enhance both their resume & future employability in the advertising/media & other allied industries. An individual having completed or currently undertaking computer studies, having an interest in avian species would be made welcome & mentored. The Publicity Officer would participate in compilation and publication of Wildfowl Australia.

This edition contains stories about protection of your birds using a guardian dog. We realise this may not be a solution for many but may prove to be a suitable solution for some members. We hope you enjoy the article by our Treasurer Georgie Patterson titled “Livestock guard dogs – keeping your birds safe” and SA member Genevieve Wallfried’s article titled “Maremma Guard dogs”

Members having birds available for sale or wanted can advertise for free in “Feather Trader”. Please ensure details are provided by e-mail to [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au)

What information is available to our members on our website? Go to Information and click on species



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Please use our website and report and problems you encounter or your concerns.

## ***FEATHER TRADER***

Are you finding it difficult to source or sell your Pheasants, Waterfowl or Gamebirds?

Members may provide details of surplus or wanted stock for publication in the societies Feather Trader. Feather Trader listed items are also displayed on the Societies website [www.pwsa.org.au](http://www.pwsa.org.au)

<p><b>FOR SALE</b>            Dark-throat Golden males            Kalij Nepal pheasant hen            NWIFF Birds available            Contact John            Mob 0412 799 767            Greenbank QLD</p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b>            Ringneck pheasants \$50 pair            Golden pheasants \$150 pair for sale.            Kristina            Willawarrin near Kempsey            Mid north coast NSW            Mob 0427 678 216</p>
<p><b>WANTED</b>            Female Bleeding Heart Pigeons            Contact Shane from Roma Qld            0428233384            E-mail shaneferry01@bigpond.com</p>	<p>Bush Stone Curlews            3off 12 month old bush curlews for sale            \$250 each            Unsexed            Anthony Collins            0498123440</p>
<p><b>FOR SALE</b>            Dark-throated Golden males            1 pr Mutant pheasants            Bantams:- 1 trio Vorwerks                      1 trio Brown/red Modern game                      1 pair Rosecombs            Ringneck doves.            Marcia Ludlow 07 5426 6248</p>	<p><b>WANTED</b>            Bleeding Heart pigeons            Masked Doves            Talpacoti Doves            Trio of Golden Pheasants            Contact Anthony collins            0498123440</p>
<p>Pheasant &amp; Game bird availability The breeding season has commenced with most pheasant species now laying. Advise us if you wish to obtain birds &amp; post your wish list here in the next issue of Wildfowl Australia</p>	
<p>If you are interested in the PWSA North West Island Feral Fowl (NWIFF) Breed recovery program and would like to participate, please Contact John on 0412 799 767</p>	

**If you desire specific information, the club library may be the place to start.**

If you want more specific and relevant information on the many species of Pheasant, Waterfowl and Quail, please research the PWSA web site? The web site contains great information. Check it out online!

Books available to borrow from the club library please contact at:- [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au)

The Pet Directory A guide to Pheasants and Waterfowl Birds of Inland Waters

Beginners Guide to Lovebirds

The World of Birds - Birds of Australia (seas, scrubs and swamps)

Australia's Living Deserts Lakes and Rivers of Australia

Domesticated Ducks and Geese -"The Pheasant" 3 copies of summer 2006

WPA Annual review -"The Goose" newsletter.

If you have any books you would like to donate please contact us at:- [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au)



## **Meeting Minutes of the General Meeting of the Pheasant & Waterfowl Society of Australia Inc.**

This General Meeting of the PWSA Inc. was convened in accordance with the constitution.

The meeting was held online utilising Microsoft Teams

**Meeting:-** 24th September 2023. The meeting opened:- 1400 hrs

**Apologies:-** Marcia & John Ludlow

**Previous minutes:-** Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 meeting held on line were tabled and read by the Secretary. Motion moved John Urane and Seconded Georgie Patterson - Minutes from the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 meeting were an accurate record of the meeting. (Motion carried)

**Business arising:-** Related to motion #1 of the last minutes - President James Anderson has been added as a signatory to the PWSA bank account and enjoys unrestricted access to the account which operates on two signatures

Related to Motion #3 of the last minutes – To date no member has responded related to the position of nor nominated a “Conservation officer” or recommended a worthy avian conservation project. This opportunity is ongoing and members discussed the possibility of a school may wish to participate in such activity. Members are encouraged to consider this matter and provide feedback of any ideas.

Related to Motion #5 of the last minutes –The BOQ declined the PWSA request saying that they are unable to place a stop on WIX.com automatic debit, saying the PWSA’s commercial relationship with Wix required the PWSA to terminate the agreement as they were unable to do so.

**Financial report:-** The latest financial report was unavailable due to access due to online access issues and therefore was not issued at the meeting.

The Secretary confirmed the status of the account would be reported in the minute of the next copy of “Wildfowl Australia.” The secretary is working with Georgie and the BOQ to establish full access by the Treasurer to the societies account.

### **Correspondence in:-**

PWSA typed content for the Wildfowl 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2023

Member inquiry re sales of waterfowl 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2023

James Anderson e-mail re cancellation of auto debits 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

South Australian member submission for the Wildfowl 10<sup>th</sup> Jun 2023

### **Correspondence out:-**

PWSA e-mail to members re Feather Trader 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2023

PWSA e-mail to members re General meeting 21<sup>st</sup> Sep 2023

PWSA e-mail to SA member re attribution 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023

- Financial report:-** No formal treasurers report as treasurer is still seeking unrestricted access to the Societies BOQ accounts and online banking access.
- The PWSA Inc. bank account latest financial status advised by the Secretary as below.
- |                        |                            |   |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Opening balance</b> | 6 <sup>th</sup> June. 2023 | \$3297.20 (Reported as closing balance in the last minutes) |
| <b>Closing balance</b> | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sep. 2023 | \$3,409.87  |
- Quarterly report:-** The Secretary provided a verbal update on the Societies proposed activities going forward.
- The last formal issuance of “Wildfowl Australia” April – June 2023, occurred on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023. The Secretary is preparing a volume of Wildfowl Australia for July to Sep for formal issuance.
- New business:-** The Secretary to confirm QLD Hire’s return of the security deposit (\$500) paid for tables and chairs for the Avian Expo.
- PWSA Member Mitchell Smidt expressed a willingness to participate in some PWSA social media. The Secretary to contact Mitchell and provide access to the Societies social media to facilitate Mitchell’s participation.
- The Secretary will endeavour to organise an aviary visit or suitable venue for QLD members during the next quarter. Ideas re organising events in other states welcomed.
- Motion #1 :-** Motion moved Lee Scott & Seconded by the Secretary:- The PWSA authorises closure of the PBQ financial account by two signatories if the auto debits of Marq. and Wix referenced in Motion # 4 are unable to be successfully terminated. (Motion carried)
- Meeting Closure:-** There being no further business the meeting closed at 1500 hrs
- Members are encouraged to contribute and participate in the PWSA general meetings online. The executive welcomes member’s ideas and your participation is crucial to the society’s future.

*John Urane*

John Urane

Honorary Secretary of the PWSA Inc.

E-mail:- [Hello@PWSA.org.au](mailto:Hello@PWSA.org.au)

## *Profile of a PWSA member – John Urane*

Sixty years ago I encountered my first exotic pheasant and was immediately smitten by its beauty. I was temporarily residing with relatives at Toukley NSW whilst my mother was hospitalised. Whilst walking along the town's main road I saw a magnificent male Golden pheasant in a yard belonging to a gentleman called Mr Holmes. From that unexpected encounter, I desired to own a pair of Golden pheasants. A close friend of our family whom I called Uncle Bert noted my interest in birds and purchased me a copy of the 1958 publication of Neville Caley's "WHAT BIRD IS THAT?" Bert also gifted me a pair of Mongolian Ring-necked pheasants.

I was captivated by birds as I read and re-read my beloved book and enjoyed my gifted Ring-necked pheasants.

My fascination with birds continued during my life and I kept various species including native quail, exotic and native finches and pigeons, various parrot species including budgerigars and the most raucous of birds, a male Sulphur-crested Cockatoo. "Cocky" the cockatoo was obtained as a young chick which became mine by default when my daughter tired of the constant screaming of a lonely bird. "Cocky" sought to communicate with every wild bird in the neighbourhood. His title "Cocky" should have been revised to "LOUD MOUTH" whose volume control knob was severely compromised, best described as broken. "Cocky" now resides at Scone in NSW.

After my children fledged & left the nest, I moved to central QLD and later resided in various suburbs of Brisbane before settling in the rural outskirts at Greenbank. I kept many species of birds both native & exotic including pheasants. I have kept all species of Australian available pheasants including the now extinct Siamese Firebacks.

I was elected to the position of Honorary Secretary of the Pheasant and Waterfowl Society of QLD Inc. which has more recently had its title changed to the "PWSA of Australia Inc.

More recently I conducted a successful "Breed Recovery Programme" for the North West Island Feral Fowl.

Reports on these remarkable birds have been published on the PWSA web site and I would encourage members to consider keeping this rare and remarkable Australian breed if you have capacity to keep roosters.



Author with North West Island Feral Fowl cockerels.

## ***PWSA Inc. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM***

If you wish to join the PWSA Inc. please complete this page and post or e-mail to the address below.

Alternatively join or renew online [www.pwsa.org.au](http://www.pwsa.org.au)

Please ensure you provide necessary details including your E-Mail address, to enable provision of all of your Membership benefits.

I would like to apply for membership of the PWSA Inc.

<b>Membership type</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Standard member - One year subscription	\$35.
Associate Member or Student - One year subscription	\$10.00

First Name	
Middle Name	
Surname	
E-Mail	
Tel No	

Payment details Cheques/Money Orders are Payable to:-  
The Pheasant & Waterfowl Society of Australia Inc.

Post Application to:- PWSA Honorary Treasurer  
10 Glenlyon Little Hampton Road  
Little Hampton  
Victoria 3458

E-Mail Application to: [hello@pwsa.org.au](mailto:hello@pwsa.org.au)

<b>Details for Direct Deposit</b>	
Account Name	Pheasant & Waterfowl Society of Australia Inc.
BSB	124-001
Account Number	1025-9238

Alternatively, save time and join online by visiting [www.pwsa.org.au](http://www.pwsa.org.au)