

ALAN HAYWORD



A Lifetime with Glosters



Alan Hayward Snr.'s journey in the Gloster Fancy spans several decades and reflects a deep commitment to both the breed and the people who have shaped it.

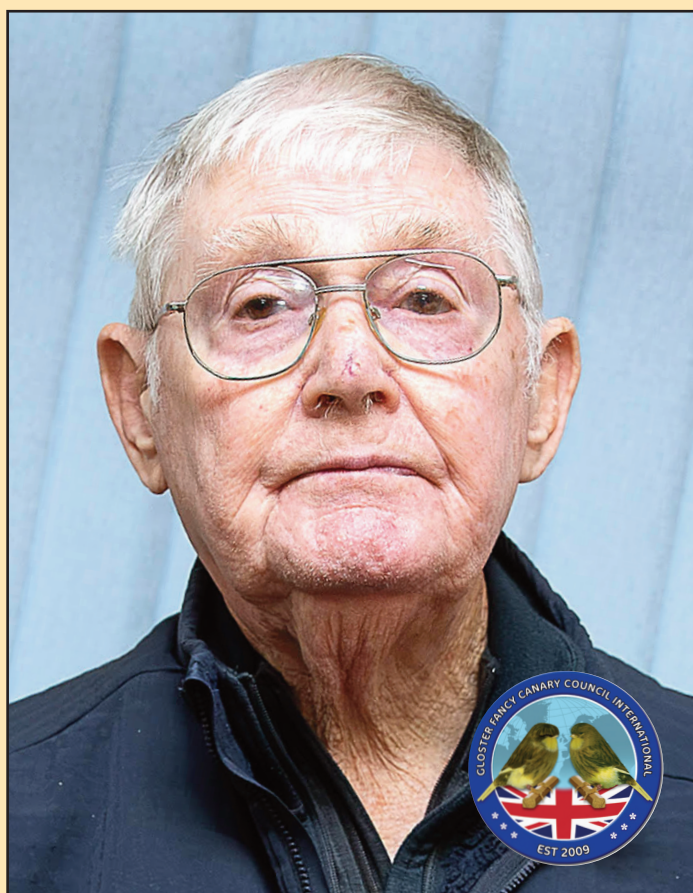
One of Alan's earliest memorable moments came when, while sitting down with a cup of tea after judging had concluded, several respected fanciers, including Ivor, Harry Marriott and Nev Thomas, came over to congratulate him. Their words were simple but significant: "Well, next year you're moving up to Champion." It was recognition that his dedication and success in the Novice section had earned him promotion to the next level.

In 1982, Alan achieved another milestone when he won his first All-Gloster award at the Gloster Fancy Specialist Society (GFSS) Show in Hanley, a success that remains a proud highlight of his exhibiting career.

Service to the Fancy

Alongside exhibiting, Alan has devoted many years to committee work within the Fancy. He has served on the committees of both the IGBA and the GFSS, contributing significantly to the organisation and development of Gloster events.

During the 1990s, together with Charlie Clark, John Herring, Steve Jones and several others, Alan



played a key role in running the GFSS Show and managing the Gloster Canary section at the Stafford Show. These events were important fixtures in the exhibition calendar and helped promote the breed to a wider audience.

Alan also served as Patronage Secretary of the IGBA for approximately fourteen years

before handing the role over to Dave and Lyn Hobart, ensuring a smooth transition and continuity for the organisation.

Reflections on the Fancy Today

Looking back, Alan recognises that the Fancy has experienced many highs and lows. There have

been great successes in the show hall, lasting friendships formed through a shared passion for Glosters, and the inevitable sadness of seeing many old friends pass away over the years.

More recently, Alan has become involved with the Gloster Fancy Council (GFCCI), initially through discussions surrounding colour canaries. During one meeting he was invited to join the Council, an invitation he readily accepted.

What particularly appealed to Alan was the openness and honesty of the discussions. While debates can sometimes become spirited, he believes this reflects the passion that fanciers have for the Gloster Canary and their desire to safeguard the breed's future. In his view, robust discussion is essential if the Fancy is to continue protecting and developing the Gloster for future generations.

Alan would like to see greater involvement from the British Gloster specialist clubs, rather than relying solely on individual contributions. He believes that dialogue, cooperation and a willingness to find common ground are vital for the future wellbeing of the Fancy.

After a lifetime dedicated to Glosters, Alan remains as passionate as ever about the breed and the people who continue to support it.

GFCCI to Launch Official User Manual to Support Gloster Clubs to setup Worldwide

As part of its continued commitment to the future of the Gloster Fancy, the ****Gloster Fancy Canary Council International (GFCCI)**** is proud to announce the development of an ****Official User Manual for the Establishment and Management of Gloster Specialist Clubs****.

For many years, dedicated Gloster enthusiasts around the world have expressed a desire to establish specialist clubs in their own countries. While the enthusiasm has always been there, many have faced the same challenge: ***Where do we begin?*** Setting up a successful club involves much more than organising meetings or staging a show. It requires sound administration, clear objectives, good governance, and a long-term vision.

Recognising this need, the GFCCI has begun preparing a comprehensive manual designed to guide individuals and groups through every stage of establishing and running a successful Gloster Specialist Club.

A Practical Guide Built on Experience

The manual is being developed using the combined experience of specialist Gloster clubs that have successfully operated for many decades. It will provide practical advice, proven procedures, and recommended standards that can be adapted to suit different countries while respecting local customs and regulations.

Among the topics covered will be:

- Establishing a new Gloster Specialist Club.
- Preparing a constitution and club rules.
- Forming an effective committee and defining responsibilities.
- Membership structures and administration.
- Organising meetings and educational events.
- Planning and managing specialist Gloster shows.

- Working with judges and exhibitors.
- Financial management and sponsorship.
- Communication through newsletters, websites and social media.
- Encouraging young fanciers and attracting new members.
- Promoting good sportsmanship and preserving the true values of the Gloster Fancy.

The manual will also include practical templates, sample documents, meeting agendas, membership forms, and other useful resources that new clubs can adapt for their own use.

Supporting the Future of the Hobby

One of the principal aims of the GFCCI is to encourage the formation of specialist Gloster clubs wherever there is sufficient interest. Strong local clubs create opportunities for breeders to exchange knowledge, improve breeding standards, organise specialist shows, and inspire newcomers to become actively involved in the hobby.

In many countries, enthusiasts work in isolation with little guidance available. This initiative aims to remove those barriers by providing a structured framework that any group can confidently follow.

The manual is not intended to dictate how clubs should operate. Rather, it serves as a practical reference offering recommendations based on decades of international experience, allowing each club the flexibility to develop its own identity while benefiting from proven methods.

A Truly International Initiative

As an international organisation representing Gloster fanciers across the world, the GFCCI believes that sharing knowledge is one of the most effective ways of safeguarding the future of the breed.

The User Manual reflects the Council's philosophy of cooperation rather than competition. By helping new clubs establish themselves on solid foundations, the GFCCI hopes to strengthen communication between breeders, encourage international friendships, and raise the standard of Gloster breeding worldwide.

The Council also intends to make the manual available in several languages wherever possible, ensuring that it is accessible to fanciers from many different countries.

Looking Ahead

The publication of the ****GFCCI Official User Manual**** represents another important milestone in the Council's ongoing programme of international development. Together with the expanding



Mario Zahra

GFCCI Int. Secretary

network of Councillors, the growing number of GFCCI Recommended Shows, educational initiatives, and the forthcoming sixth edition of the GFCCI Handbook, this project demonstrates the Council's unwavering commitment to supporting the worldwide Gloster community.

The GFCCI firmly believes that the future of the Gloster Fancy depends not only on preserving its proud heritage but also on encouraging new generations of fanciers to become organised, informed, and united.

By providing practical guidance and sharing the collective knowledge of experienced Gloster specialists, the Council hopes to make it easier than ever for new Gloster clubs to flourish across the world—ensuring that our beloved breed continues to thrive for many years to come.



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