

BRUNO CHETTA



A Passion Guided by Friendship and the Gloster

For more than thirty-five years, Bruno Chetta has dedicated his life to the Gloster Canary, a journey that began in 1991 when he met a renowned breeder from his region who introduced him to the breed. What started as a simple discovery soon developed into a lifelong passion and commitment.

Throughout the years, Bruno progressed from exhibiting Glosters to becoming a French National Judge, before achieving the prestigious status of COM Judge. He credits much of this success to the guidance and encouragement of Denis Truchi, whose mentorship played a pivotal role in his judging career. Bruno has since had the privilege of officiating at COM World Championships and many prestigious international specialist shows, including the renowned exhibition in Reggio Emilia.

Despite these achievements, Bruno believes that the greatest reward the Gloster fancy has given him is not the titles or the judging appointments, but the friendships formed across the world. Over the decades, the Gloster has connected him with dedicated breeders from many countries, creating lasting friendships built on mutual respect and a shared passion for the breed.

Bruno wishes to express his sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to his journey. While impossible to mention everyone individually, he offers special thanks to Mario Zahra for his dedication, as well as Marc De Keyser, Johan, Joël, Fabrizio, Jean-Pierre Davignon, Stéphane Burdin,



“The Gloster has brought us together for many years, but while birds are our passion, it is the friendships they create that make our hobby truly special.”

and Philippe Merlevede, whose friendship and collaboration between their respective clubs have helped strengthen international cooperation and promote the continuous improvement of the Gloster Canary.

In recent years, Bruno has chosen to focus exclusively on judging specialist Gloster competitions. He believes these events best represent the true spirit of the hobby, where breeders can exchange knowledge, share

experiences, and work together towards the continual improvement of the breed.

Bruno is also encouraged by the remarkable growth of specialist Gloster clubs beyond Europe. He particularly highlights the outstanding work being carried out in Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco, where enthusiastic breeders have established well-organised specialist exhibitions that continue to raise standards and strengthen international ornithology.

On the breeding side, Bruno has dedicated himself exclusively to the Gloster Canary for the past four years. Together with friends from his local club, he enjoys participating in specialist competitions throughout the season, always motivated by the pleasure of breeding quality birds, learning from fellow enthusiasts, and sharing experiences.

This year marks another important milestone in Bruno's career, having received the honour of judging a specialist Gloster competition in Madrid—his first appointment in Spain. He approaches this invitation with both pride and humility.

Looking towards the future, Bruno remains optimistic about the continued development of the Gloster Canary. While differing opinions will always exist within any specialist community, he firmly believes that dialogue, mutual respect, and cooperation are the foundations upon which the breed will continue to flourish. For Bruno, breeders must always remain at the heart of this progress.



Steve's Corner

Colours in Glosters

Education is key...

White, Self-Blue & Fawn Dilute

Understanding Three Fascinating

Gloster Colour Variations In this edition of Steve's Corner, GFCCI Vice Chairman Steve Chennells takes a closer look at three distinctive colour groups found within the Gloster Fancy: White, Self-Blue, and Fawn Dilute.

White & Allied to White

White & Allied to White Glosters are among the most striking birds seen in the exhibition hall. However, not all white birds are genetically identical.

There are two forms of white found in canaries:

Recessive White – requires two copies of the gene, one inherited from each parent, before the bird appears visually white.

Dominant White – requires only one copy of the gene to mask the underlying colour.

What makes white particularly interesting is that it often conceals a

WHITE & ALLIED TO WHITE

White can be either recessive (needs two copies of the gene) or dominant (needs only one copy) to mask underlying colours. White hides a multitude of colours underneath – yellow, blue, green or cinnamon.



wide range of colours beneath the surface. A white bird may genetically carry green, blue, cinnamon, or other colour factors that remain hidden from view.

For breeders, understanding these hidden genetics is essential when planning future pairings, as unexpected colours can often emerge from apparently simple white-to-white matings (pairing not suggested).

The Self-Blue Gloster

The term Self-Blue is one of the most misunderstood colour descriptions within the Gloster Fancy.

A Self-Blue is generally produced through pairing a visually self-green bird with a white-ground bird. To qualify as a true Self-Blue (or Self-Green), the bird must show no visible white feathers in its plumage.



Interestingly, when body feathers are parted, breeders may occasionally discover isolated white feathers hidden beneath the surface. From a breeding perspective, this would technically classify the bird as variegated, yet in the show cage it would still be recognised as a Self-Blue because the white is not visually apparent.

Another important factor is that the white gene acts as an incomplete dominant gene. This means that when a bird inherits both a white and a blue allele, neither completely dominates the other.

Instead, both are expressed, creating the familiar variegated blue appearance.

Despite its name, the colour "blue" in Glosters does not refer to a true blue pigment. The visual effect is actually produced by eumelanin, a modified form of black pigmentation, displayed on a white-ground bird. The result is the characteristic grey-black tone traditionally referred to as blue.

Fawn Dilute

The Fawn colour mutation is one of the most elegant and refined colour varieties found in the Gloster Fancy.

Fawn is produced through a combination of colour genes and dilution factors. It commonly arises when white-ground genetics interact with cinnamon inheritance, often involving a visual cinnamon bird or a cinnamon-carrying male paired to an allied-to-white hen.

The result is a bird displaying beautifully diluted pheomelanin pigmentation, creating the warm fawn colouring that gives the variety its name.

Several characteristics distinguish the Fawn variety:

- Soft, diluted body colour.**
- Refined feather texture.**
- Delicate pigment distribution.**
- Distinctive red eyes, similar to those found in Cinnamon canaries.**

The red eye colour can often be observed in newly hatched chicks even before the eyes fully open, providing breeders with an early indication of the colour mutation.

Once established, breeders can successfully develop family lines of Fawns. However, Steve advises caution when breeding Fawn-to-Fawn pairings over multiple generations.

Because both contributing feather types tend to possess refining qualities, excessive concentration of the mutation may gradually reduce body substance and lead to a narrower, wedge-shaped body profile.

FAWN DILUTE

Fawn is the result of interactions between cinnamon pigment and dilution factors through a white ground to visual cinnamon or cinnamon carrier male, to an allied to white hen.



For this reason, experienced breeders often regard the Fawn factor not as a stand-alone colour variety, but as a refining tool when planning breeding programmes.

Steve's Breeding Tip

"Always regard the Fawn feather type as a refining tool when pairing up. Used wisely, it can enhance feather quality and refinement while maintaining the balance and type that define the Gloster Fancy."