The GFCCI News

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AGM 2026

A NEW CHAPTER

FOR THE GLOSTER FANCY WORLDWIDE

by Mario Zahra – International Secretary • GFCCI

The Annual General Meeting of the Gloster Fancy Canary Council International, held in Peterborough on Sunday, 13 September 2026, will be remembered as another significant milestone in the history of our Council.

Only seven months have passed since the Extraordinary General Meeting in February, when the decision was taken to transform the former GFCC-UK into a truly international organisation. At that time, we set ourselves an ambitious task: to bring Gloster enthusiasts from around the world together under a common vision, while preserving the traditions and heritage of this remarkable breed.

"The Peterborough AGM demonstrated that this vision is becoming a reality."

A Growing International Family

One of the most encouraging outcomes of the meeting was the election of all the newly nominated Councillors, further expanding the international representation of the GFCCI.

Every new representative brings something valuable to our Council: experience, knowledge, enthusiasm and a deeper understanding of the Gloster Fancy within their own country.

The approval of all motions and proposals presented at the meeting also marked an important step forward. These decisions provide the Council with a foundation upon which to develop its activities, strengthen its international structure and provide greater support to clubs, breeders, exhibitors and judges.

But representation alone is not enough. The real value of an international Council lies in the active participation of its members.

I sincerely hope that every Councillor, whether newly elected or already serving, will take an active role in communicating with their local clubs, sharing information and contributing ideas that will benefit the Gloster Fancy as a whole.

Preserving Our Heritage, Embracing the Future

Among the highlights of the AGM was the presentation of the historical development of the Gloster Standard of Excellence and the official unveiling of our new three-dimensional Gloster model.

This project represents a connection between generations. From the original Convention models to today's technology, the objective has remained the same: to provide breeders and judges with a clearer understanding of the ideal Gloster.

The new model is not intended to replace the written Standard. It is an educational reference designed to help fanciers study type, balance, proportion and overall Gloster character.

It was particularly satisfying to see this project finally presented to the Council, and I hope that it will become a valuable teaching tool at specialist shows, club meetings and judges' seminars throughout the world.

The development of our New Judges Framework, the Official User Manual for new Gloster clubs, and the GFCCI Recognised Clubs and Recommended Shows programmes further demonstrates our commitment to education and practical support.

These initiatives must now be translated into action.

Learning from Our First International AGM

Bringing together Councillors from different parts of the world, both in person and online, was an important achievement.

We had no less than 16 online correspondents and although the

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A Warm Welcome to Our Newly Elected GFCCI Councillors

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Belgium

Abdul Khaliq Jammo
Syria

Ibrahim Yaris
Turkey

Alhawari Naji
Libya

Mahmoud Bebo
Egypt

Raed Kordy
Jordan

communications were soemtimes interrupted with sound issues we can say that this step was one in the right direction.

Our Responsibility Begins Now

The AGM also highlighted the need to strengthen our financial resources through sponsorship, donations and fundraising initiatives such as Club 101, which we will descibe in the next coming weeks.

Our ambitions are considerable, but our resources remain modest. Continued support from Councillors, clubs, sponsors and individual fanciers will be essential if we are to maintain our website, develop educational material, support international activities and invest in the future of the Fancy.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our Chairman, fellow officers, Councillors and everyone who contributed to making this AGM possible. I also extend a special welcome to our newly 14 elected representatives and thank those who supported the meeting from abroad.

The decisions taken in Peterborough have given us a direction. It is now our collective responsibility to turn those decisions into meaningful achievements.

"An international Council is not measured simply by the number of countries it represents, but by the contribution it makes to the people and the breed it serves."

Let us continue to respect the work of previous generations, share our knowledge openly, encourage the next generation of fanciers and work together to ensure that the Gloster Fancy continues to flourish.

The AGM was not the conclusion of our international journey. It was the beginning of another important chapter.

"Together, we can grow the Fancy and protect the Gloster."