



IOA RECOGNISES NICK BARRETT'S LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE GLOSTER FANCY



Seventy years of dedication to a breed is an extraordinary achievement. For Nick Barrett, Chairman of the Gloster Fancy Canary Council International (GFCCI), those seven decades represent a lifetime devoted to breeding, exhibiting and helping shape the future of the Gloster Fancy.

Today, Nick is the longest-serving breeder and exhibitor in the Gloster Fancy. His experience, knowledge and unwavering commitment have earned him recognition as the "Guardian of the Gloster Fancy"—a fitting description of someone who has devoted so much of his life to its preservation and progress.

In recognition of these achievements, the International Ornithological Association (IOA) has named Nick as its "Order of Merit recipient for 2027". Richard



Lumley, Chairman of the IOA, presented Nick with a commemorative glass trophy honouring his lifelong service and lasting contribution to the fancy.

Nick's contribution extends far beyond the show bench. Following the end of the Gloster Convention in 2018, he played an important role in helping shape the Council into the organisation it is today. His guidance and commitment helped provide continuity during a period of change and contributed to the foundations upon which the GFCCI continues to build.

The IOA has its own long tradition of service to bird keeping. Founded in 1955 by members of

the Roller Canary fancy who wished to compete with their European counterparts, it initially organised international shows before extending its work to other bird breeds. It has since helped fanciers from Great Britain participate in international and world-level competition. The association is affiliated with the Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale (COM) and is a founder member of COM-UK.

The IOA's Order of Merit honours members whose lifetime of work has made a significant contribution to the association and the bird-keeping hobby. Recipients' names are recorded on its Order of Merit shield, and each honouree

receives bespoke glassware as a permanent keepsake.

For the GFCCI and the wider Gloster community, this award is a fitting tribute to a man whose dedication spans generations. It recognises both Nick's remarkable personal journey and the importance of those who share their knowledge, provide leadership and devote their time to securing the future of the fancy.

"On behalf of the GFCCI, we warmly congratulate Nick Barrett on this well-deserved honour and thank the IOA and its Chairman, Richard Lumley, for recognising seventy years of outstanding dedication to the Gloster Fancy."



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**Council
Administration
Coordinator**

Keeps Councillor and country records updated, organises nominations and helps track Council decisions and follow-ups.



**Judges Panel
Administration
Coordinator**

Receives nomination forms and evidence, maintains the Class A, B and C records, and tracks assessments before applications are presented for Council consideration.



**Communications
and Newsletter
Coordinator**

Collects reports, articles and photographs from Councillors and helps maintain a reliable publication schedule



**Social Media and
Website Coordinator**

Helps keep the GFCCI Facebook Page Updated and create new social media channels, keeping information accurate, active and useful.



**Recognised Clubs
and
Shows Coordinator**

Keeps in touch with clubs and show organisers, maintains their records and gathers show dates, results and updates.

We are pleased to announce that two of our volunteer posts have now been filled. "Mario Zahra" will take on the role of "Council Administration Coordinator", while "Fabrizio Ioppolo" will serve as "Judges Panel Administration Coordinator". We are now looking for enthusiastic volunteers to fill the remaining roles:

**"Communications and
Newsletter Coordinator"**

**"Social Media and
Website Coordinator"**

**"Recognised Clubs and
Shows Coordinator"**

"You do not need to be a Councillor to get involved!" These opportunities are open to capable people with a good knowledge of our hobby and a willingness to contribute. Councillors are also

encouraged to nominate someone they believe has the skills and enthusiasm to help.

The GFCCI's continued progress depends on people coming together, sharing responsibilities and putting their talents to good use. If you would like to volunteer or nominate someone, please contact the Council Secretaries.

"Our foundation is strong—help us build the next chapter together."

CLUB 101 THE HISTORY IS YOURS



You do not need to be a Councillor to get involved! We welcome capable people with a good knowledge of our hobby, relevant skills and a willingness to contribute. Councillors are also encouraged to nominate someone they believe would be suited to either role.

Club 101 is an opportunity to bring our community together and raise funds to support the GFCCI's work. By sharing the responsibilities, we can turn this initiative into a lasting source of support for the Gloster Fancy.

If you would like to volunteer or nominate someone, please contact the Council Secretaries.

"Together, we can give Club 101 a strong start and a bright future."



**Club 101
Coordinator**

Oversees day-to-day operations, coordinates the team's activities and follows up on agreed actions.



**Promotion
Officer**

Develops fresh ideas for fundraising, publicity and participation.



**Finance
Liaison Officer**

Maintains accurate records of all income and expenditure, prepares regular financial updates for the Coordinator and Council Secretaries

We are pleased to announce that "Hatime Souadka" of Morocco has taken on the role of "Club 101 Coordinator". We thank Hatime for stepping forward and look forward

to working together as this initiative develops.

We are still looking for enthusiastic volunteers to fill two important roles:

"Promotion Officer"

"Finance Liaison Officer"



GFCCI

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Gloster Canary**