

● All club meetings and time-sensitive club news must reach us by **3pm on Wednesday** for inclusion in the issue on sale on **Wednesday of the following week** ● Club News enquiries to: [birds.general@kelsey.co.uk](mailto:birds.general@kelsey.co.uk)

## The 2024 Golden D-Cup shines as 'The Show of Champions'

### GOLDEN D-CUP ALL-GLOSTER SHOW

THE fifth edition of the Golden D-Cup took place on December 7, 2024 at Project House Hall in Floriana, Malta, cementing its reputation as a premier event in the Gloster canary world, *reports Mario Zahra*.

This year's show featured an impressive 245 exhibits, each embodying the pinnacle of excellence, solidifying the title "The Show of Champions."

The event was honoured to welcome renowned IGBA panel judge Joel Cordeiro from Portugal, who returned to Malta to lend his expertise for the fifth anniversary of the competition.

Over the years, Joel has developed a strong rapport

with Maltese fanciers, who were delighted to see him back on the island to judge this remarkable show for the first time. Joel expressed his excitement upon being invited, noting that the Golden D-Cup Gloster show has earned a reputation as one of the most organised and professionally presented competitions in the Gloster community worldwide.

### Top honours and outstanding performances

Justin Calleja, who happens to be a novice exhibitor, stole the spotlight claiming the title of best Gloster in show with a magnificent unflighted (UF) three-parts-dark (TPD) corona hen. He also secured

best opposite head in show with an exquisite variegated buff consort hen, showcasing a level of quality that could have easily taken the top prize.

The aggregate champion title was awarded to Frank Formosa, who accumulated an impressive 170 points and triumphed in nine of the 27 official standard classes, demonstrating consistency and mastery in his show team. Frank also won best variegated buff in show.

### Additional highlights and winners

Peter Falzon achieved third best in show, best consort cock, and best white, further establishing his prominence in the competition. Herman Demicoli excelled with his entries, winning best corona



Celebrations galore! A wonderful experience with the most friendly bunch of the Gloster fancy in Malta



Outstanding performance: The Golden D-Cup show team with the top seven Glosters exhibited in show

cock, best cinnamon and best grizzle.

Mario Zahra won the newly launched honour of best flighted bird in show, the new honour was inspired by a five-year-old winning bird, owned by the Italian exhibitor Fabrizio Ioppolo that was exhibited in Montechiari in Italy. Mario's winning bird was a lovely TPD corona hen. Mario also won best yellow in show.

This year's Golden D-Cup exemplified the passion and dedication of Gloster canary enthusiasts, bringing together a vibrant community to celebrate the best of the best. As the event continues to grow in prestige and participation, it remains a calendar highlight for fanciers both in Malta and abroad.



Double winner Justin Calleja (right) with judge Joel Cordeiro, proudly presented with the two majestic trophies: best Gloster in show and best opposite head. An amazing achievement for a novice

## Autumn roundup from Ipswich

### IPSWICH BS

THE society held three successful events towards the end of the year 2024, *reports Ghalib Al-Nasser*. The October meeting was taken up by judging "Peter's Swindle" and a colour competition. The "Peter's Swindle" was an idea generated by the cur-

rent president Peter Stevens a few years ago where members can nominate two rings of the current year in January and pay £5 towards each ring. At the October meeting each year, those who participated in this ring scheme will bring their two birds to be judged and the proceeds will be divided from first to



A jolly turnout: members enjoying themselves at the Christmas social



Ghalib & Janice Al-Nasser's winner at the October meeting



Winners! (l to r) Janice Al-Nasser, Peter Stevens, judge Geoff Murrells, John Gibbens and Andy Brooks

fifth among the winners in that class. For 2024, 15 birds were brought by 11 members for Geoff Murrells, past president and chairman, to judge. The winner of the

class was Ghalib & Janice Al-Nasser with a cinnamon sky-blue cock. This was followed by Peter & Sandra Stevens' grey cock. Stephen & Bill Squires were third with a

cinnamon grey hen followed by John Gibbens' lutino hen and Ghalib & Janice were fifth with a light

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