



The Orpington Club of Australia (Inc.)

‘The Orpington Outlook’

May 2016 ‘Autumn is upon Us’ Edition



Photo courtesy of C.Weichelt (Facebook)

**Established in 1985 the Orpington Club of Australia is dedicated to promote and protect this stately breed.
‘We do best what we do together’**

From the Presidents Shed.

Hmmm, what to write as it's been a while!

I think the first lot of imported Orpingtons are in some breeders hands now, but other than that nothing occurs to fill a full article, so here are some random thoughts from the junkyard that is my brain! (Nope, not yet, Ed☺)



* **Culling** : With the breeding season well and truly over, all youngsters with physical deformities or faults should be culled by now. Your focus should now be narrowing upon the remaining "teenagers" to see how they are filling out. I am a proponent of culling ruthlessly, however, with Orpingtons, don't be too hasty with those that are left. They are a slow growing fowl and require time. Amongst others, I hatched a cockerel in October last year. Until recently he was never much to look at, however I kept him because of his short legs and full breast. I did waver on this and nearly sent him to the big chook house in the sky a number of times. I'm glad I didn't, in the last fortnight he has blossomed into a beautiful bird (a full 13 months after hatching !). I'm not saying they all are this slow to grow, still, it just goes to show.

* **Top Tip** : The owner of the Champion Bird in Show 2015, Terry Trengrove told me this. He uses sand in the base of his brooder/s as litter to raise his chicks on. I have tried this and the youngsters seem quite happy with it. The three advantages I have seen from doing this is that the sand warms up nicely under the lamp providing warmth top and bottom for the real littlies. Also, the tiny grains of sand they ingest will without question assist in the development of their gizzard, something which is vital for their growth as well as assisting their immune system to develop. Lastly, the brooder floor stays somewhat drier as the sand really sticks to their droppings, and as we know dryness of conditions will keep coccidiosis at bay. Thanks for the tip Tezza !

* In an ironic twist to my last article re: a picture of a perfect Orpington, I got this little anecdote from Dallas Smith. Many years ago he was visiting a gentlemen called Harold Ridout who had the best stud of Columbian Wyandottes in Australia (at the time). As they went from pen to pen, Dallas kept seeing pictures (all the same one) put up everywhere, the back walls of the pens, the back door, the kitchen door etc. He queried Harold on this and Harold told him that that was the best way he had found to keep the perfect type of Wyandotte in his mind's eye. Dallas said his bird's certainly reflected this. Food for thought.

* At our last National, I bumped into a lovely lady who was a new member of our club and had come to see our show. She was blown away by the birds but unfortunately had not entered any of her own (photos of which I had seen). She seemed to have been a bit hesitant, perhaps thinking her fowls not good enough. Now, no names no pack drill as I have no wish to embarrass anybody, but can I say to all new members please have no hesitation in showing your birds at Orpington Club shows. As a progressive club one of our aims, if unstated, is to assist you to prosper in your Orpington endeavours. So show your birds, so what if they might not currently be all you wish, you've put your time and effort into them and they deserve to be represented. You will only get constructive feedback from our members, not baseless or negative criticism. After all, we want you to succeed, and the best club to help achieve such success is ours. Might I add that the ladies of our club have been mighty successful on the show bench, so why not join them !

* A gentle nudge : I had cause to go back over old Outlooks and previous newsletters having been rained off a major fencing job. Comments and photo's from these have prompted me to highlight the need for us all to keep an eye on the topline of our fowls. Quite a number in the past have had flat backlines, with no rise to the tail, and looking at more recent birds, I think the advice is still pertinent. With flat backs the birds take on more of a Sussex look, and you lose that lovely "cobby" look. Some years ago when I still had Blacks I exhibited a beautiful black pullet. She was everything you could have hoped for, except she had the merest rise to the tail. I was aware of this, but hoped the judge wouldn't notice. Wrong ! The late Robert Hunt was the judge and he knew his beans. She went uncarded because of the near flat backline, but he did comment to me later that had that not been the case he would have had her in the running for best in show (this was a regional club show). As he pointed out to me, without the correct tail carriage she was just a big black chook. Quite right too. I might add, it didn't stop him from paying an auction-topping price for her two near identical sisters some months later at the local poultry auction ! I would add too that I don't include our bantams in the above comments, most seem to be very good in this regard.

So there you go. The 2016 National Poultry Show is now upon us and there is much to look forward to. See you at the AGM and may all your youngsters be champions!

Best wishes,
Simon

Proud prez of the happiest poultry club in the world

Round the Traps from the Secretary.

I am excited. Having experienced the last two editions of the National Poultry Show in 2008 – my very first Poultry show- and 2012 in Canberra all roads now lead to Sydney for what I am sure will be an outstanding show and well worth the effort!



With over 5400 birds of all shapes and sizes on display I am aware that there will be a bumper entry of Orpingtons from all over the country, a number of high quality Orpingtons from some of Australia's leading breeders and lines up for Auction, a chance to mingle with other Orpingtonians at the Club Stand AND the Launch of Dallas Smiths new Book on Orpingtons.

YES you did read it write a new Book on Orpingtons!!!!!!!!!!!!

Included in this issue is the details on how to get your hands on '*Orpingtons- The Past, the Present and The Future*'. Having had the privilege of reading the final draft this book is without equal the best book on Orpingtons ever written. Apart from it being beautifully crafted the pictures of Orpingtons throughout the ages is a delight to view and the practical advice on breeding, the various colours now found around the world and how to select a quality Orpington is invaluable knowledge and advice!!

It is bound to become the 'Go- To' book for all lovers of Orpingtons worldwide. And with a limited edition of only 300 being printed they will be in high demand especially as the introductory price is AUD \$45!!! The Club has supported the publishing of the Book financially and we are grateful to Dallas for allowing us to be part of this exciting venture. More details on that will follow in the next newsletter.

So we have the world launch of the Book at the 2016 National Poultry Show. To make it even special the author and Orpington Life Member /legend our very own Dallas Smith will be in attendance at the Club Stand on the Saturday where he will personally sign a copy of the Book.

As you will see from the Secretary's Annual Report the Orpington is more than holding its own with numbers of members breeding Large birds in all colours (bar Cuckoo) staying quite stable. Not so with bantams though. However, there are many breeders of Orpingtons around Australia- as seen by the large number of people who have joined the Club Facebook page- that the Club can't count in this survey. So our challenge is to either convert more people to become members or to find another way of measuring the breeds popularity?

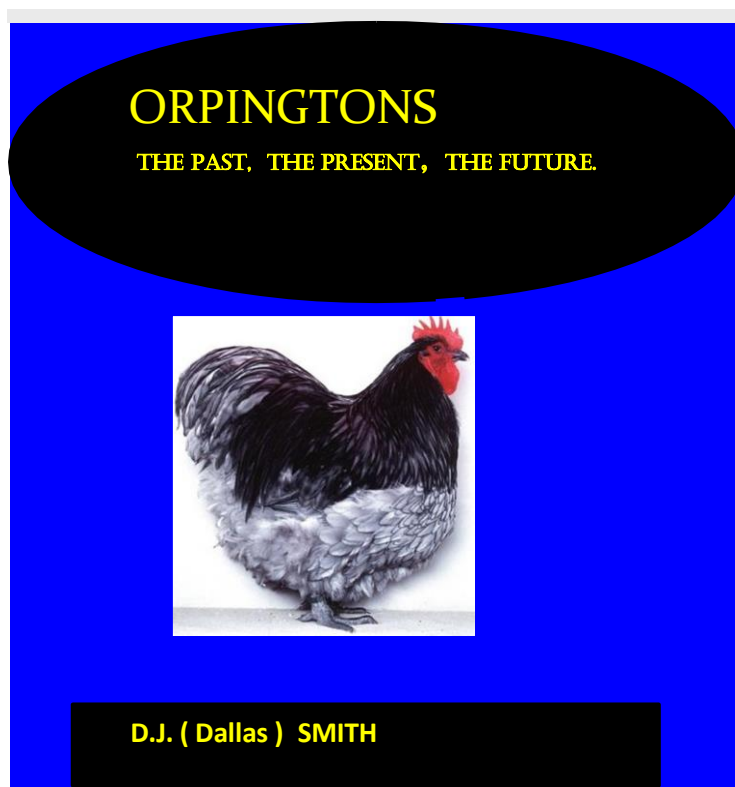
With more and more communications being online perhaps we can entice more people to attend a show and see Orpingtons in the flesh. So again this year The Club is increasing its show support in all states in a bid to encourage non- members who show to join the Club.

That's all for now but as we celebrate the 130th Anniversary of the debut of the Large Black Orpington at the 1886 Dairy Show in the UK as always if you need to ask anything or let me know how your birds are going email, FB message or call me – always happy to chat and spread the word about our favourite Poultry breed!

Cheers for now

Martin D

Best contact is via Email secretary@orpingtonaustralia.com



INTRODUCTORY OFFER \$45 plus postage

Save on postage!

Pre paid copies may be collected at The National Poultry Show in Sydney. 2016.

Release date- June 10th at the National Show.

Payment available via Cash, Cheque, Money

Order, Bank Transfer or Pay Pal. (payable to D.J.Smith,35 Appletree Rd, Holmesville 2286.)

Phone enquiries to (02) 49532149 or to email-

dallas.j.smith@ bigpond.com

Bank Transfer details available through email or telephone addresses. (above)

2016 Annual General Meeting
Friday 10^h June 2016
Venue : 2016 National Poultry Show
Commencing after conclusion of Orpington Classes Judging and no later than 3.00pm
(Actual time and venue to be posted at Orpington Club Stand)

- 1. Welcome, Apologies and Attendance**
- 2. Minutes from 2015 AGM held at Dubbo on June 13th 2015**
- 3. Matters Arising from previous AGM**
- 4. Reports**
 - a. Presidents Report
 - b. Secretary's Report
 - c. Financial Report
- 5. Election of Officers**
 - a. President
 - b. Vice Presidents (2)
 - c. Secretary/Treasurer
 - d. Public Officer
 - e. Show Secretary
 - f. Southern Committee
 - g. Northern Committee
 - h. State Representatives
- 6. Any Other Business**
 - a. Setting of Annual membership Fees for 2017-18.
 - b. 2017 National Show Venue
- 7. Meeting Close.**

To be followed by Presentation of MAJOR awards and Report from Judges

The Orpington Club of Australia 2016 AGM – Secretary’s Report

In presenting my fourth report as your Secretary I would like to outline the amazing growth in interest in the Orpington breed over the past twelve months. While our member numbers have stayed relatively static it’s the growth in online membership of the Club face book Page that has literally taken off as has a number of sub groups dedicated to Orpingtons in various colours and states in Australia. We have gone from 288 FB likes last year to 571 FB likes as of 2nd May 2016!!!

I am sure that the founders of the Club in 1985 would have had no idea of the influence technology has had on our breed. The questions that used to take literally weeks to answer are now commented on, critiqued and answered within seconds online. The challenge for our Club has to be remaining relevant to those that want to keep the breed for whatever reasons they choose. Whether it be to show, to breed or just to keep prettily in the back yard each and every person who loves an Orpington as much as the Showies do are important to the breed.

As a club dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting the heritage the roots and the calibre of the Orpington we also need to ensure our reputation as being the Friendly Club with members that are willing to share opinions, comments and stock freely maintained and enhanced as this enviable reputation is critical to the breeds future. The FB posts are many and varied most of which seem to indicate lots of interest in the Breed but not everyone who keeps them is into showing them. The FB topics also help the Club track the key areas of interest that people want to find information on. This in turn helps the Club develop more in-depth articles for its members that are on trend! Somethings never change though and that is the search for quality stock which almost always has demand outstripping supply!

So is the Orpington Club of Australia membership and Colour popularity data any different in 2016 to 2015. In a nutshell the answer is yes but the trend data (comparing 2016 to 2012 data) is actually even more telling!

Membership

	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Total Number	115	113	102	109	82	45
% Change from previous year	+1.7%	+10.7%	-6.5%	+32%	+82%	NA
2014-15 members who were members in.....	115	87	58	43	33	21

Table 1 Membership Summary

The Membership Summary Table 1 highlights a 1.7% (4) increase in active membership subscriptions in 2015-16 from the previous year. Of note is that 28 new members joined last year while 24 members from 2014-15 did not renew. Again the last row shows that of the 115 2015-16 members only 21 were members in 2010-11. So we have a strong core of members with a transition group of newer members. The top reasons for non- renewal continue to be increasing feed costs, no longer keeping Orpingtons as against other breeds, personal matters and simply just plain forgetting to renew!

Table 2 shows the mapping of membership by state. The figures show that 34% of our members live in Victoria with that state having grown by 38% in member numbers since 2012. While NSW grew by 21% last year overall it is still 12% lower than in 2012. Member numbers continue to tumble in South Australia whereas Queensland and WA continues to hold their own. Growth in numbers might also mirror the FB traffic which indicates greater numbers of quality stock being put up for sale and the rise in reliable pet transport carriers as being a couple of reasons for this data.

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	TAS	WA	ACT	Overseas
2015-16	40	40	13	3	4	9	2	3
2014-15	33	42	11	5	6	10	2	4
2013-14	34	32	10	9	3	7	2	7
2012-13	45	29	11	13	4	7	1	3
% Change 15/16 to 14/15	+21%	-4.8%	+18%	-60%	-33%	-10%	0%	-25%
% changes since 2012-13	-12%	+38%	+18%	-77%	0	+28%	50%	25%

Table 2. Membership by State/Territory

Colours From the membership data Large Colours are more popular with members than Bantams by a ratio of 5:1. (A growth of 20 % in the past year). The following table shows an increase in all Large Standard Colours (other than Cuckoo) with less members breeding nonstandard colours in Large. Perhaps the most significant growth has been in members owning Large White in 2015 but also with Large Splash and Large Blues over two years. It's great to be able to report an increase in Bantam Black breeders in the last 12 months with Buffs and Blues at least holding their own. The other colours remain in Cinderella status at best.

	Black	Blue	Buff	White	Cuckoo	Splash	Other
Large 2016	54	51	47	20	12	27	10
Large 2015	59	54	51	24	13	27	8
Large 2014	56	50	47	18	14	26	11
Large 2013	62	45	49	17	13	19	3
%diff 16 to 12	-5%	+20%	+4%	+41%	0	+42	+266%
Bantam 2016	13	8	8	2	3	4	3
Bantam 2015	14	9	11	2	3	5	2
Bantam 2014	11	11	12	3	2	4	3
Bantam 2013	10	10	10	3	1	3	1
% diff 16 to 12	+40%	-10%	+10%	-33%	+300%	+66%	+100%

Table 3 Breeders of colours #

Members Services

Four editions of the Orpington Outlook were published during the year of which 92% were emailed saving the Club some \$4000 plus if they had been copied and printed in colour. Those members on email also received soft copies of the Newsletters and information from our Sister Clubs in the United Orpington Club, Landsklubben of Denmark, the Buff Orpington Club UK and the UK Orpington Club with our resident overseas correspondent Blue building some awesome connections.

Show numbers. The Club held its National Show in Dubbo NSW in June 2015 and supported a show in each state (5) plus the support of the UK and Buff Orpington Club shows in England.

Orpingtons continue to be benched in reasonable numbers at key Local shows and with changes to the length of penning periods are also increasing cross the Royal Shows. We often read about results and photos on face book which helps promote the breed but also educates those who can't make shows on what the winning birds are looking like this year- most of the times that good!

For 2016 the Clubs challenge is set to support the 'Olympic' show scheduled for Sydney as well as cater for those members who can't attend it! Hopefully by continuing to increase the number of opportunities for Orpington breeders to meet and compete for Club ribbons we are hoping that this action might encourage those who aren't members to join up and those who are members to compare their stock and fly the Orpington flag.

Finally, pretty much everything about the Club is going well. Finances are strong, we have an ever growing Facebook page and hopefully the images of our show winners in the Orpington Outlook (and on the website) is a good reflection of the quality of the modern day Orpington. The Club is only as strong as its members and those who work for it and we are particularly blessed to have a passionate President in Simon and some willing supporters in Blue, Dallas, Jayne, Jenny, Suzanne and Sonya, Sue to name but a few. I hope those who started the Club would be proud of the progress and the status of where we currently are. The camaraderie when Orpingtonian's get together to is quite special and to share the great friendliness and respect that we have for each other is something I would encourage all our members to try and experience at least once a year!.

As a Club and as a Club member we each have a duty to Preserve, Protect and Promote this Stately of Heritage Breeds by ensuring that the Orpington as a breed is not devalued or derailed by false advertising . This is not a challenge solely confined to Australia and our excellent links with the UK, USA, RSA and Europe will no doubt help us to best address these common issues globally.

Cheers for Now

Martin D Hon Secretary the Orpington Club of Australia

2016 Sydney Royal Poultry Show (NSW) Major Results List

Champion Large	Blue Ckl	Chris Hardman
Reserve Champion Large	Black Pullet	Josh Bell

Champion Bantam/Ch Orpington In Show	Blue Ckl	Chris Hardman
Reserve Champion Bantam	Blue Pullet	Chris Hardman

Standard Large Section		Exhibitor
Champion Black	Pullet	Josh bell
Reserve Champion Black	Ckl	Chris Hardman
Champion Blue	Ckl	Chris Hardman
Reserve Champion Blue	Pullet	Chris Hardman
Champion Buff		No entries
Reserve Champion Buff		No entries
Champion White		No entries
Reserve Champion White		No entries

Standard Bantam Section		Exhibitor
Champion Black	Ck	Chris Hardman
Reserve Champion Black	Ckl	Chris Hardman
Champion Blue	Ck	Chris Hardman
Reserve Champion Blue	Pullet	Chris Hardman

Dates for Your Diaries – where the Club is supporting shows in your State in 2016

April	Royal Easter Show	NSW
June 9-12	2016 National Poultry Show	NSW
July 9-10	Royal Melbourne Poultry Show	VIC
July 9	Bulsbrook Show	WA
July 23	WA Poultry Association Show	WA
July 26	Rosewood PC Annual Show	QLD
August 9	Midland Poultry Club Show- Orpington Feature breed	WA
September 4-13	Royal Adelaide Show	SA
September	Royal Perth	WA
Nov	The Buff Orpington Club (UK)	UK
Dec	The Orpington Club of GB	UK

As of 1st May 2016 All Memberships are now due! There is an easy way to pay Your MEMBERSHIPS

The Orpington Club of Australia membership year is from May 1st to April 30th the following year. New Memberships received between 1st January and 30th April 2017 automatically expire in the following year (to 30 April 2018)



A big WELCOME to our newest Members who have joined since January 2016
(and are current till the 30 April 2017)

From **New South Wales**- Cath Walker, Emmy Booth, Ange Snelling
From **Tasmania**- Greg Blanch
From **Victoria**- Ange Downey,
From **Queensland**- Don Beinke

Membership fees are \$20 for adults and \$10 for juniors which will get you at least 4 newsletters a year but more so the ability to connect with passionate fellow Orpington Breeders. Download a form from www.orpingtonaustralia.com and either send your remittance to the Club Secretary Martin Doulton at;

965 Macclesfield Road, Yellingbo VIC 3139

Or pay by Direct deposit into the Clubs account BSB 062 549 Ac No 0090 1366 Ac Name Orpington Club of Australia then send Martin an email with updated membership details, date and deposit details secretary@orpingtonaustralia.com



The Orpington Club of Australia **Office Bearers 2015-16**

President: Simon Beven

Vice President:
Denis Stannard,

Patron – Will Burdett (UK)

Secretary Treasurer: Martin
'Wananga' Doulton

Webmaster- Jenny Stewart:

Foreign Correspondent- Rob
Callinan

Life members:

Jim Blatch (Dec), Charlie Bishop (Dec), Rob Lavender (Dec), Rob Callinan, Dallas Smith,
Judy Witney, Robert Stanley

2016/17 State Representatives (TBC at AGM)

Tasmania- James Allchin
West Australia- Cliff Weichelt
South Australia- Vacant
Queensland – Jordan McKewen.

Club First Contact address:

965 Macclesfield Road, Yellingbo VIC 3139

Phone no ; +61 (0) 3 5964 8224

Email: secretary@orpingtonaustralia.com

Web site: www.orpingtonaus

The Views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors only, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Committee or editorial staff!



The Orpington Club of Australia (Inc)

Secretary–Martin Doulton

965 Macclesfield Road

Yellingbo, Vic. 3139

Secretary@orpingtonaustralia.com

Home Phone 03 5964 8224

2016-2017 Membership year

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms.).....

Postal Address:

Town:.....Post Code.....

Phone.....

Email Address (if willing to receive Newsletter by Email)

(Please print clearly!).....

I Enclose

☐ Annual Subscription \$20 p.a \$.....
(1st May to 30th April)

☐ Donation towards Club Show \$.....
(please nominate your preference)

Total \$.....

I keep the following Varieties:

LARGE		BANTAMS.	
BLACK		BLACK	
BUFF		BUFF	
BLUE		BLUE	
WHITE		WHITE	
CUCKOO		CUCKOO	
ANY OTHER VARIETY		ANY OTHER VARIETY	

STRIKE OUT WHICHEVER DOES NOT APPLY (/)

I OCCASIONALLY HAVE STOCK FOR SALE

YES/NO

I GIVE PERMISSION TO HAVE MY CONTACT DETAILS PROVIDED.

YES/NO

Please make remittance by money Order or Cheque payable to **The Orpington Club of Australia**

Direct deposit also available in Club Account BSB 062 549 Ac No 0090 1366