

International Parrot Conference



Breeding for the Future



Mornington Peninsula Avicultural Society Inc. (MPAS Inc) is proud to announce that we will be hosting an international conference on the 25th of November 2017 at Deakin University, Burwood Hwy, Burwood, Victoria.

It is a 1 day event featuring 8 lectures on a wide range of topics involving parrots. There will be 4 speakers from Germany and 4 Australian speakers - full details to follow. There will be 20+ people from Germany attending with a view to meet plenty of Australian's to exchange ideas and make contacts.

The price of just \$99 includes all lectures in a state of the art lecture theatre, morning and afternoon teas and lunch. We also anticipate a number of sponsors displaying products & providing information. To further enhance the day, there will be a number of "quick fire" auctions of items donated to the event.

ALL profits from the day will be donated to Swift Parrot conservation programs run by Birdlife Australia via their "Woodland Birds for Biodiversity" program.

birdlife.org.au/projects/woodland-birds-for-biodiversity

To register your interest please phone David White on 0428 777 556 or email:

secretary@birdclub.org.au

Further information will be posted on our web page:

www.birdclub.org.au and face book pages:

Mornington Peninsula Avicultural Society and Skye Bird Sale

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Saturday 25th November 2017,

Deakin University, Burwood Victoria



European speakers

Dr. med. vet. Friedrich Janeczek

Dr Friedrich Janeczek has been interested in parrots and parakeets since his fifth birthday when he acquired his first budgie then started breeding lovebirds, Cuban Amazons and other large amazons, cockatoos, and African Grey Parrots. Graduating as a vet from the University of Munich in 1986, he undertook a world tour for 6 months visiting of the best avian clinics and parrot collections in Florida, California, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, and the Philippines. In 1989 he completed a PhD on diagnosing chlamydia (psittacosis) and also started Europe's first parrot-only veterinary practice which he continues to run. He is the consulting veterinarian to Birds International as well as being consulting veterinarian and co-owner of AVIFOOD (www.avifood.com) and AVIJAN OHG (www.avijan.com) and a member of the Veterinary Surgeons' Council Malta

How to treat bite wounds and malpositioning of feet and beak in young birds

Parrot aggression occurring during the breeding season which can be directed towards owner, chicks and partner bird is a problem for many breeders and private persons. Dr Janeczek will explain how injuries resulting from such aggression may appear and how they are treated. As well, Dr Janeczek will discuss the treatment of scissor beaks, rickets, splay legs, beak and feet malpositioning and feather plucking in young birds. Birds, that don't receive treatment for these debilitating conditions may live with their disability for the rest of their lives.



Hildegard Niemann MSc Biology

Mrs Niemann graduated in Biology from Westfälische Wilhelms University, Münster in 1992. She works as a free-lance parrot behaviour consultant and is on the editorial staff of WP-Magazine. She is a Certified Member of the International Association of Animal Behaviour Consultants and the American Federation of Aviculture as well as the

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author of scientific articles about parrots and parakeets. She is also a member of the International Society of Anthrozoology, the International Association of Avian Trainers and Educators, Funds for endangered Parrots, the Loro Parque Foundation and the Aviator Club <http://www.fliegerclub.eu/index.php/en/>. She is married with two children

Crossing the bridge: It's all about communication

Parrots are highly intelligent, beautiful beings and have always attracted human attention. Since the history of people and parrots began there has been misunderstanding the behaviour of each other. In recent years we have begun to look closer into the secrets of bird communication and have come to appreciate through intelligence tests that these beautiful beings have abilities we never imagined. We now understand that behavioural problems like screaming, biting and feather plucking are often caused by communication deficits and that we can solve these problems if we learn to read the body language of our parrots and parakeets and understand their hormonal and social needs. When we respect our parrots as equal family members and fulfil their emotional and environmental needs we can look forward to a future with a bond between a beautiful pet and a happy pet owner.



Ms Heike Mundt

Heike Mundt is the owner of the Parrot – Park in Bochum in Germany where she keeps over 500 large parrots in huge inside and outside flights, some up to 250 square meters in size. The whole complex is about 3000 sqm. The aviaries are built on concrete and with stainless steel to minimize risk from disease agents and metal toxicity. Birds are feed with Harrison's extruded pellets and fresh fruits and vegetables. Species kept and sold include macaws, cockatoos, African Greys, amazons and other different types of parrots. The parrot park is dedicated to educating bird owners and offers workshops, obesity consultations, private tours, birthday parties and general advice on how to feed, keep and breed birds. Since 1990 Dr Janeczek has visited the park monthly, assessing new arrivals and quarantine birds and offering private consultations to bird owners. In her separate private collection Heide has successfully held over 100 pairs of different types of parrots for more than 20 years.

Breeding and raising parrots in a private collection

This will be a practical talk on how to acquire breeding pairs; different types of nesting boxes and control systems; different brooders and needed accessories; the egg, from when it is fertilized, how to screen, incubation procedures, monitoring; how to raise a baby parrot from day one to weaning and hand raising, different problems and how to avoid them.

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Dr Rainer Niemann, PhD.



Born 1966, married, two children

Study of Biology at the Westfälische Wilhelms University, Münster, 1986-1991, since 1996 member of the editorial staff of PAPAGEIEN and the WP-Magazine.

Hormonal Life of Parrots

Everyone knows the considerable influence of the different hormones in our own daily routine. These chemical substances – mainly simple polypeptides or steroids – are omnipresent and essential for any metabolic pathway in complex organisms. Hormones regulate our sex life and reproductive processes, our digestion and our blood sugar levels but there is much more. Hormonal stress, psychic abilities and nervous disorders, sensory perception, the regulation of calcium and other essential minerals are just some of the important aspects of endocrinology, the science that describes the secrets of this highly developed biological messaging system. The influence of hormones in birds is much stronger than in mammals but less understood by science. Nearly everything that we know about endocrinology is the result of studies on short-lived species like chickens. It is not possible to understand many aspects of parrots' lives, e.g. moult and growth, without taking a closer look to the hormonal life of these long-lived birds that have a long puberty and very complex reproductive strategies including display and nesting behaviour.

Australian Speakers



Dr Stacey Gelis

Stacey has been an avian veterinarian for over 25 years, working in both private practice and zoological facilities. During this time he has developed a broad expertise not only with psittacine birds, but also finches, softbills, galliforms, waterfowl and ratites. He has been involved in the import and export of birds, as well as working with endangered parrots including the orange-bellied parrot. Stacey has published much of his work in scientific and avicultural journals as well as contributing chapters to several avian veterinary texts. He has also lectured at veterinary conferences and avicultural conventions. His particular areas of interest include nutrition and diseases of loriinae, gastrointestinal diseases of birds and diseases of finches and softbills. Stacey has also been an aviculturist for over 30 years, having kept and bred a variety of psittacines, finches, softbills and poultry. His particular avicultural interests include lorries and lorikeets, Psittacula and Australian parrots.

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Lorikeets in the Wild and Aviculture

Lorikeets are one of Australia's favourite urban backyard birds as well as inhabiting a range of other environments in the Australasian region. They have enchanted Europeans since early settlement, a Rainbow Lorikeet was taken back on Captain Cook's voyage. The peculiarities of this group of parrots in behaviour, anatomy and digestive systems associated with their nectivorous diets and life styles will be discussed, as well as how these impact on how Lorikeets are kept as pets, in aviculture and in the threats they face in the wild.



Dr Pat Macwhirter

Pat was a pioneer in pet bird medicine, being the second person in Australia to become a registered specialist in the field. She established her clinic, Bird Vet Melbourne, 35 years ago, sold it in 2015 and now works with fellow bird vet Dr Matt Gosbell at Greencross Vets, Springvale. She has a fascination with connections between birds, animals, nature and people and how these have influenced 'big history'. She has kept birds most of her life, is a keen bird watcher, owns a remarkable heritage property and along with her vet degree, holds a PhD in Australian evolutionary history.

Clever dinosaurs, my patients

Hard to imagine but you and your parrot's ancestors evolved out of the same particles and forces, the same 'stardust', and both had the same parents some 312 million years ago. This talk will sign post moments in bird and human evolution as each progressed around our planet, explaining how 'clever flying dinosaur' parrots and people came to have remarkable things in common, such as the ability to use language in context, pair bonding and walking on two legs but also equally remarkable differences such as flight, feathers and eggs. We find ourselves at a pivotal time where pet bird medicine has developed at the same time as people have come to recognize a special connection between humans and birds. Some people have taken up the challenge of improving the lives of both our special companions and their wild relations. Understanding evolution can achieve this.

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Barry Blanch

Barry has had an interest in birds since he was a young boy growing up on the family dairy farm -preferring farming and keeping birds to attending school. Barry's interest in bird keeping started getting serious in the mid 1980's. One of his passions is keeping Australian Native Parrots and Cockatoos species and sub species pure and true to type. Despite his limited education he studied as a mature aged student and gained a Grad Cert in Applied Science (Ornithology) in 2001. Barry has a particular interest in Black Cockatoos having successfully bred all species and sub species. Over the last 30 plus years the knowledge he has gained has resulted in the collection expanding to over 250 flights housing more than 600 parrots and cockatoos. He also has many years of experience in nursery management and handraising. Barry has written for each issue of Australian Bird Keeper Magazine for the past 7 years and has given presentations at many bird clubs and at avicultural conventions both in Australia and overseas.

Black Cockatoos Husbandry

Australia has many species and subspecies of Black Cockatoos in different geographical regions throughout. The species is categorised into three groups- Redtail, Yellow tail and Whitetail with noticeable variations in physical appearances within the subspecies of each group. Unfortunately there a many of these cockatoos in aviculture today that are being kept without knowledge of the different subspecies resulting in birds being breed disproportionately. This is more obvious amongst the Redtails and Yellow species. For this reason it is important to keep species pure and true to type. This presentation will not only identify the differences between the species and subspecies but general keeping of all Black Cockatoos



Glen Holland

Glen was born in Zimbabwe, but grew up/schooled largely in South Africa. As a youngster he grew up with a large collection of African birds and snakes.

His knowledge of conservation principles gained in a variety of roles including a game reserve manager and district officer in Zululand. Worked very closely with the Zulu people and learnt to speak the language fluently. "Communities in Conservation" has always

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been a personal driver. In Zululand he achieved significant success in turning the attitude of the community towards the conservation department into a very positive relationship with multiple conservation outputs. He worked on contract in Botswana for four years to develop a very successful large walk through aviaries for education with hand raised native species such as bee-eaters and hornbills which were used for "hands on" connect experiences for African school groups.

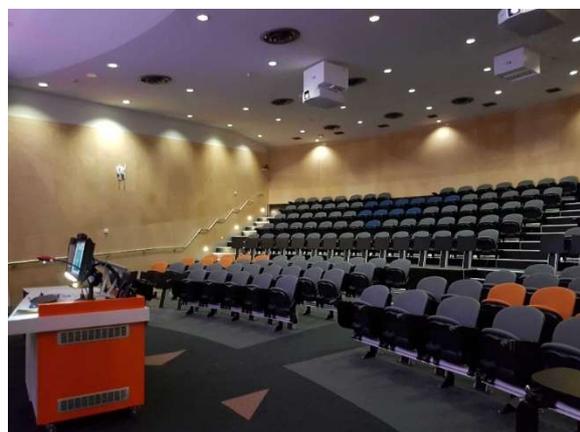
Lessons for Success in Endangered Species Breed and Release Programmes

He spent twelve years in New Zealand where five years of his was work focussed on endangered NZ species – captive breeding and release programmes to establish new populations both on offshore islands and the mainland. He had some amazing experiences on the islands where he got to experience NZ as it was before man. Seven years was spent as Director at Auckland Zoo where he was responsible for growing the business, writing of the Strategic Plan that saw the establishment of the Auckland Zoo Conservation Fund in 2002, integrating this into core zoo business and the appointment of a conservation officer in the zoo added to the zoo's credibility and sphere of influence and conservation outputs both nationally and internationally. In 2010 he spent a year back in Arica working on Cheetah Conservation in Namibia – an amazing experience with Leopard and Ruppell's Parrots in their garden!

Authored a book "Encyclopaedia of Aviculture" that covers all species from Ostriches and Hornbills to Hummingbirds and Waxbills.

The last seven years have been in Australia, the first year at Adelaide Zoo, six years as Director Healesville Sanctuary and appointed as Director Werribee Open Range Zoo in September 2017. His main focus has been ensuring an exciting visitor experience and showcasing the significant but previously largely hidden endangered species work. A primary personal driver is/has always been creating a direction and staff culture that connects communities to native wildlife, their conservation and indigenous culture. Birds are always a big part of this work!

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY LECTURE THEATRE



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**Saturday 25th November 2017,
Deakin University, Burwood Victoria**

Registration Form:

Full Name:.....

Address:.....

..... State..... Post code.....

Postal Address (if different from above).....

.....State..... PC.....

Email Address.....

Ph.....

Cost is \$99 per person.

Please forward registration form & payment to

PO box 4210
Frankston, Vic 3910

Or email to secretary@birdclub.org.au
and deposit payment into bank as follows:

ANZ – Somerville

013-279

Acc 46.587.5368

Ref: **YOUR name**