

Bradley Family – SB8

The Bradley Family consisting of Steven (Steve), Beverley (Bev) and their daughter Gemma started breeding budgies in 1996.

They had them as pets and colony bred in their aviary at their home in Greensborough. Gemma was only eleven then, but became interested and has remained a part of the family budgie team since.



It wasn't until 2012, when their friend Leigh Mathews joined United, and suggested they also join the club, that they really got involved in selective breeding and showing.

A breeding room was extended on to the end of their aviary and half a dozen breeding boxes installed. This has now been extended again and more breeding boxes added to provide 20 cages.



By this time Gemma had been married to Nick, and bought a home in Coldstream, but still had the "budgie bug", so a second hand aviary was purchased and a breeding room built on the back of the garage with a dozen breeding boxes set up.

The family help each other, by looking after each other's birds when on holidays, swapping birds for breeding, selling birds on Facebook, and because Gemma now has 2 children, help with the aviary cleaning etc.

They both breed normal varieties at both establishments, with Gemma specialising in Recessive Pied, Opaline and Cinnamon.

Steve & Bev specialise in breeding Blackeye, Texas Clearbody and Crest. They have found the Crest variety to be very difficult, yet exciting and rewarding. It has taken a few years of frustration to get them up and breeding any quality and numbers. When we understand the genetics of this variety it explains why. They are "random recessive".

The partnership will move up from Beginner next year to Intermediate, and are looking forward to getting some wins on the board.

Steve, Bev & Gemma have seen their birds change dramatically over the last 4 years from the pet shop type to show quality, and enjoy the family bond they have in sharing the hobby.

Like most of our club members, they have made some really great friends in the club and enjoy the social aspect of the hobby as much as the breeding and showing.





Steve recently retired and is now on the United committee, all the family are very active in helping where ever possible. He is the administrator for the club Facebook site.

Gemma administers a separate Facebook site "Budgies Advice and Sales; Melbourne, Victoria" which has over 800 members. This site was started by Gemma and Dani Rogers, a Mountain district club member. Danny has now moved interstate, so Gemma & Steve administer it. The site has been successful in attracting many new beginner members to joining, not only our club, but other clubs as well.