



Meet:

YASSINE DRIDI

The Gloster Fancy Canary Council is pleased to welcome Dridi Yassine of Tunisia as one of our newest International Councillors. His appointment represents an important connection with the rapidly growing Gloster Fancy community in North Africa and highlights the truly international reach of our beloved breed.

Yassine's passion for canaries began in childhood. Born into a family deeply devoted to bird breeding, he was introduced to the world of canaries at the age of five. His father and grandparents were all breeders, creating an environment in which knowledge, enthusiasm, and dedication to the hobby were passed down through generations. This early exposure laid the foundation for what would become a lifelong commitment to ornithology.

His involvement in the development of the hobby in Tunisia has been remarkable. In 2006, he created the first Tunisian blog and forum dedicated to canary breeding, becoming one of the pioneers of the country's online ornithological community. Through this platform he helped connect breeders, share knowledge, and encourage the growth of organized bird keeping in Tunisia.

His commitment to building a structured ornithological community continued in the following years. In 2012 he helped establish one of the first ornamental bird clubs in Tunisia, and in 2013 he was among the founders of the Tunisian Ornithological Union (UOT), which has since become the central organization for competitive ornithology in the country.

A particularly historic moment came in 2014 when, as Vice President of the UOT, Yassine attended the COM World Championship in Bari, Italy, where he officially submitted Tunisia's application for membership in the Confédération Ornithologique Mondiale (COM). This important step ultimately led to Tunisia becoming an official COM member nation.

Alongside his work in organizational development, Yassine also pursued judging qualifications. Beginning in 2013, he undertook formal training in France through collaboration with the Association des Amateurs de Faune, Flore et Canaris (AVFC), the Union Ornithologique de France (UOF), and the Commission Nationale des Juges Français (CNJF). After several years of study and mentoring under experienced international judges, he became in 2018 the first Tunisian national judge specializing in posture canaries.

Today he continues to play a key role in Tunisian ornithology. He serves as Vice President and Technical Director of the Tunisian Ornithological Union and is responsible for the posture section within the Tunisian Judges Commission. Since 2014 he has also been part of the organizing team behind the Tunisian National Ornithological Championship, contributing significantly to its continued growth and development.

Of course, Yassine's greatest passion lies with the Gloster Fancy Canary. A dedicated Gloster breeder since 2006, he has been one of the leading figures in establishing and promoting the breed in Tunisia. In 2022 he founded the Gloster Fancy Club Tunisia, the first club in the country dedicated entirely to the breed, and currently serves as its president. The club organizes an annual Special Gloster Show, with preparations already underway for its sixth edition later this year.

His influence on the development of the breed locally has been profound. Many Tunisian breeders trace their birds back to his bloodlines, and today the Gloster has become the most widely bred posture canary in the country.

As a competitor, Yassine has participated in numerous shows since 2013, including exhibitions in France such as the Antibes Ornithological Competition, as well as specialist Gloster shows organized by the French Poultry Club. ➤

Invitation for New International Councillors



By Mario Zahra

GFCCI Int. Secretary

The Gloster Fancy Canary Council International (GFCCI) continues to grow as a truly global organisation dedicated to the promotion, protection, and development of the Gloster Fancy.

As interest in the Gloster continues to expand across many regions of the world, the Council recognises the importance of ensuring that as many countries as possible are represented within its structure.

International representation allows the Council to better understand the needs of breeders worldwide and to maintain a strong and unified approach to the preservation of the Gloster standard.

For this reason, the GFCCI would like to invite countries that currently do not have a Councillor representing them to consider nominating a suitable candidate for future Council expansion.

Each country is encouraged to nominate one of its most experienced and respected Gloster

fanciers — someone who is actively involved in the Fancy and who is committed to supporting the work and principles of the GFCCI.

Nominations will be considered during the next expansion of the Council, which is scheduled to take place at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

Through wider international participation, the GFCCI aims to strengthen cooperation between countries and ensure that the Gloster Fancy continues to thrive for future generations of breeders and exhibitors.

As the body entrusted with safeguarding the integrity and development of the Gloster Fancy, the GFCCI believes that broader international representation will help ensure that the voice of the global Gloster community is properly heard. By bringing together experienced fanciers from across different countries, the Council can continue to guide the Fancy with unity, knowledge, and respect for the standards that define this remarkable breed.

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◀ More recently he has exhibited at the North of Italy Gloster Club show and continues to participate actively in Tunisian competitions.

His work has also taken him abroad as a judge, with invitations to officiate in Algeria, France, Libya, and at specialized Gloster shows in Lebanon. Throughout his journey he has collaborated with many respected breeders and judges worldwide, always with the aim of sharing knowledge and promoting the breed.

Through technical seminars, training sessions, and mentoring activities across Tunisia and neighbouring North African countries, Yassine continues to encourage new generations of breeders.

The GFCCI is delighted to welcome such a passionate and dedicated Gloster enthusiast to the International Council. His experience, energy, and commitment to developing the breed will undoubtedly strengthen our global community.

We warmly welcome Dridi Yassine and look forward to his contributions in the years ahead.

GFCCI Website Nearing Completion

By N.J. Barrett

GFCCI Chairman

Dear Friends and Fellow Fanciers, I am pleased to announce that the work on the new GFCCI website is now nearing completion. This project represents an important step forward in strengthening communication and providing a central source of information for Gloster enthusiasts around the world.

From the beginning, the Council has always believed that education, knowledge, and participation within the Gloster Fancy should be accessible to everyone. For this reason, the GFCCI does not operate as a money-making organisation.

“Our goal is simply to promote the Gloster Fancy and support breeders and clubs worldwide”

I am happy to report that the development of this new website,

which cost approximately £500, has already been fully funded within just one month. This demonstrates the commitment and dedication that still exists within the Fancy when people come together with a common purpose.

However, while this project has been successfully financed, it does not mean that donations or sponsorship are not welcome. On the contrary, support from fanciers, clubs, and sponsors helps the Council continue its work and develop further educational and promotional initiatives for the benefit of the Gloster Fancy.

Every contribution, large or small, sends a powerful message: that through passion, cooperation, and a shared love for the Gloster Fancy, our community can continue to grow and thrive.

The GFCCI reminds all fanciers that messages shared on social media can sometimes cause unnecessary hurt and division, and we encourage everyone to communicate with respect and responsibility



On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank everyone who has supported this initiative and all those who continue to work for the good of the Gloster Fancy worldwide.



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