

# KAPITI BIRD CLUB INC.

## “CHIRP & SQUAWK”

### March 2005 Newsletter

**Patron: Shirley Allerby**

**Vice Patron: Dick Bakker**

**Secretary: Pauline Colpman**  
**Telephone (04) 2984932**

**Treasurer: Janet Bartlett**



**Acting President: Rob West**

#### **Rob's ramblings**

Hi All. The new year is progressing well, the weather is good and the club is going along nicely (that's thanks to you all). This is a special month and a month to celebrate the fact that the club is now 25 years old. That to me is a good thing to celebrate and I am sure you will all agree.

We have gone through a lot in those years, changed venues from members houses to the Plunket room in Raumati (I can remember when we grew so it became rather cramped) then we moved to the Masonic Lodge and now to our current venue at the community hall.

Anyway let's talk about the Party. After the last newsletter there has been some discussion and we are going to spice up the party a little. We have changed the details slightly, but not the intention of having a good time. So please mark it in your calendar and come along and join in. Friends are welcome.

If you know any old members please invite them along as well. We hope that some of the members who are currently unable to attend most of our events will be able to come to this one so we can all catch up and celebrate together.

The Club is now supplying BBQ meat, buns, BBQ salad, dessert, soft drinks and some beer and wine (any special needs on type or quantity please BYO). If you would like to bring along a side dish to share with the group and add to the flavour please do so, but if you are unable to there will be plenty of the old fashioned Kiwi BBQ fare to make a more than adequate feast for all.

#### **Barbecue details**

**Venue:** Shirley and Roy's place, 61 Seddon Street, Waikanae.

**When:** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March. It will be an afternoon gathering, with the BBQ being cranked up at 4pm.

#### **March club night**

The March club night has been cancelled because of the barbecue. Instead, there will be a social gathering at Rob and June's at 58 Riwai St Paraparaumu, on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March, at the usual time of 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

We will be playing bird DVDs and videos so there should be time to watch and time to chat. Beware that we have pulled up the concrete on our drive, and at the moment it's just dirt. So don't wear your best shoes!

## Seed Orders

I have had a number of enquiries about seed. As a trial I am prepared to take orders at any time and deal with them as follows.

I will accumulate orders and place the order once the total ordered exceeds the suppliers freight minimum, or order specially if a member is prepared to pay or share any extra freight charges. I will keep those members advised.

As members know, the Club have two suppliers – Topflite Birdseeds from Oamaru and Tui Birdseeds from Palmerston North. Some members prefer Topflite, others Tui and some get seed from both. The Club recommends that members purchase untreated seed wherever possible. However as mentioned at the last meeting, except for canary and sunflower, untreated seed is becoming harder and harder to source.

Please phone me at 904 1497 for price and advice on supply. -Reg

## Storing seed

Seeds should be stored in a cool dry place, and never on or against concrete, as the moisture will be transferred to the seed resulting in mould growth. Plastic containers should be elevated.

Bay leaves and/or chewing gum in your seed helps prevent weevils, fodder mite etc. but be sure not to serve them to your birds because they are poisonous.

A man went to an auction, and noticed one lot offered for sale was a parrot in a cage. The parrot was big and brightly coloured, so he decided to bid for it.

When bidding for the bird started, it seemed that there was a lot of interest as the bidding was intense. The price went higher and higher, but the man wanted the parrot so he stayed in the running and finally secured the bird for a lot more than he thought he would have to pay.

Afterwards he approached the auctioneer, and said, "I hope this bird talks! I've always wanted a talking bird but I didn't expect to have to bid this high."

"Of course it talks," replied the auctioneer. "Who do you think was bidding against you?"



Please keep those articles coming in. If you have something to share, or would like to use the Buy, Sell, or Swap column, please contact a committee member, or e-mail us: [witham@paradise.net.nz](mailto:witham@paradise.net.nz)  
This month's newsletter edited by Marian Witham.