

# Kapiti Bird Club Inc. "Chirp & Squawk"



Patron: Shirley Allerby  
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May 2011 Newsletter  
Kapiti Bird Club Inc

**Committee:** Beverley Grant (04) 904 9133  
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**Next club night: Wednesday 11 May**  
It's the AGM  
**7.30 pm** Community Centre, Ngahina St  
Paraparaumu

**AGM The annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Bird Club Inc. will be held on  
Wednesday 11 May**  
At 7.30 pm Community Centre, Ngahina St Paraparaumu

**Thank you** to everyone who helped with the Coastlands display and the Bird Club Exhibition.

## **President's Report 2011**

Another year full of activities, it seems we are either feeding our birds up for Showing or thinning them down for breeding. Then when our chicks start hatching we are always trying to do better than the previous year and even getting that elusive "Champion" We are a Social Club and even though we have Members who do Show their birds we do not have the pressures of a "Judged Show". We do have our Exhibition once a year in April which is stressful enough. Our Club has Members who are Judges and with an excellent Library so we don't lack knowledge, and people are very quick to help if problems arise, you only have to ask and admit that you have a problem and not to be embarrassed to ask for that help. For people who have been into Birds for years, we also have to acknowledge that as we get new Members the Club has to have some Club Nights that are just about the basics. Last year was the first year I showed any birds and that was a steep learning curve, and I made mistakes, like entering birds in the wrong classes, so one has to learn from their mistakes. We have had quite a few new members join over the past year and it is really good to see we have some Junior Members. The past year we did have a "cliché" and that was mainly caused by a lack of Committee Members. We were very fortunate when Natalie Bowles came forth and became Secretary and took over the Newsletter, and Don McAlpine took over the posting and e-mailing of the Newsletter. I just added bits and pieces as they arose. We have had some good Guest Speakers over the past year. Then we had Palmerston North approached us about an aviary crawl which went ahead in March. They brought cut lunches and Murray and Jan Davey kindly provided their place for lunch and after a visit to a few more Aviaries' they had afternoon tea at my house before they headed home. Aviary Crawls are really interesting and you can pick up a lot of good "ideas". A return visit to them will be put in the pipeline for the new incoming Committee. Our other activities included a "Pot Luck Dinner" and Christmas Dinner. The Pot Luck Dinners have been a great success since I started them about 3 years ago, It is a great way to get to know our other Members in a relaxed atmosphere and the food is always delicious, and somehow even though nothing is planned everybody turns up with a different dish. It is even great to see the men in the kitchen doing the dishes! One of things we did this year was have a display in Coastlands. I was told by Coastland's Management that it was not problem, but I had a big problem convincing our Members. They threw red rags at me until I finally convinced them it would be "safe", The main thing was there are a lot of people out there who do not like to see birds in small cages so we put signs up to offset that and we didn't have any trouble. The funny thing about that Saturday was the S.P.C.A. were there adopting out cats and kittens. Our Show was one week later, and I thought perhaps having been in the Mall the week before we may get a lot more people to our Show, but as it turned

out we didn't, perhaps even a few less than last year. It is a real sign of the times that people do think how they are spending. We had a great lot of birds for sale but many returned home again. This is my last report as your President as I am standing down, but we do have very able people to carry the Club forward. I have enjoyed my time as President, and I would like to think the Club has moved forward. My thanks go to my past and present Committee Members but would like to think we could get a few more on the Committee. I feel it will be good to have a new President who has the interest and energy in the Club to take it forward. I will remain on the Committee as I do like being involved in the running of the Club but it will give me more time for my birds and my new venture selling my Jewellery at the Markets.

*My Kindest Regards to all*

*June*

**AGM 2011** Are you interested in the organisation of your club? Ideas? Please think about putting your name forward to go onto the committee or as one of the club officers. June Simpson, President, is stepping down from this position in May. She will stay on the committee.

**PINIMIX** June can now buy Pinimix from Checker-Flight in Auckland. It comes in a 2kg. size for \$13.95 plus freight. which would be about another \$1.20 per packet. I will need orders for 10 as that is the number in a carton. Please phone June (04) 904 2330 -if I get enough orders I will purchase it. I already have orders for 3.

**Pigeon Express.** Murray Davey Phone 04 2988850 is now taking orders for this. You will need about 2 bottles for the breeding season. The price is \$20 per 750ml bottle.

**For Sale** Gloster Canaries for sale Phone June 04 904 2330

### **New Zealand Finch Breeders Association Inc**

NZFBA, PO Box 58, Albany, North Shore, Auckland 0755.  
Email:nzfbfa@finches.co.nz; Phone 473-5954 (Secretary)  
26 April 2011

Dear Bird and Pet enthusiast

#### **The impact of fireworks on aviary kept birds and other pets**

The New Zealand Finch Breeders Association Inc. (NZFBA) holds concerns for the welfare and on-going viability of finch species held in New Zealand. Several species bred by NZFBA members are considered threatened locally, as well as internationally. With this in mind, the NZFBA wishes to maximise the chances that finch species breed and sustain populations within New Zealand aviaries. Several NZFBA members have observed that the use of fireworks is detrimental to the on-going viability of aviary kept birds held in New Zealand. Similar concerns are held for the welfare of other pets or livestock, although the status of various finch species may be more fragile. The NZFBA decided to raise this issue with a Government Minister to assess whether further restrictions could be considered. The NZFBA is interested in your view. In our view, the current restrictions on fireworks are insufficient to remove the risk to aviary kept birds or other pets/livestock. The Minister's reply suggests that the situation will be monitored, but there is no explanation as to how this might be achieved on an objective and informed basis. Apart from monitoring the sale and use of fireworks, bird and pet interests could usefully tabulate and/or quantify the impact that fireworks have on their members' interests. Could you please consider this issue within your interest group or club, and provide a reply outlining your views to the NZFBA by **30 June 2011**. Following that, the NZFBA may look to write to the Minister for the Environment to further outline some of the concerns and suggested approaches to better address our issue in the medium term. It would be good if several other bird clubs or pet enthusiast organisations could support the concerns held, such that the Minister and department officials could see the wider level of support for action.

Dave Allen, President NZFBA