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“Chirp & Squawk”

April 2013 Newsletter

Next Club Night: Wednesday 10 April
7:00pm-7:30pm - Juniors Session
7.30pm-9.30pm – Club Night
Club Exhibition: Saturday 13 April

President's Report:

The exhibition is upon us! See below for further information.

April's Club Night: Wednesday 13 March 2013

Junior's: ???

We need speakers for our juniors. Volunteers most definitely welcome. This is the time we need to nurture their interest in our hobby. I have had nothing but good feedback from them for the speakers they have had to date so let's keep their enthusiasm going. Their 30 minute timeslot consists of 15-20 minutes talking, 5 minutes questions and 5 minutes drink and biscuits. If anyone is interested or available for April and going forward, please contact Adam or Helen. Junior's – if we get someone to talk to you, Helen will call you to confirm.

Club:

Exhibition

13 April at Community Centre. It is now upon us!!

Important Dates/Times (Times to be confirmed at Wednesday meeting)

Wednesday 10 April

- Final confirmation of timings for Friday/Saturday
- **Food Raffle** Please each bring one or two items along on Club night to allow sorting of the raffle on Friday afternoon.
- **Trophies** Please return all trophies on Club night.
- Adam will have the budgie and canary Club show cages at the Club meeting. Those members who are borrowing them can pick them up. Make sure you sign the loan register so we can keep track of the cages.
- Members who intend joining us at the RSA for the post-exhibition dinner please ensure they put their name on the list provided as we need to tell the RSA how many will be attending, so they can cater accordingly. Prices are shown below.

Friday 12 April

- **3:30pm** – Trailers (Kevin/??) meet at the Met Office container for picking up of show gear, BBQ, etc. A list of other people required to help load to be confirmed on Wednesday (Bill has the key to the padlock)
- **4pm** – Remainder of members helping set up to meet at the Community Centre (Adam has keys to Centre)

- NOTE: In the past, members have been advised a start time only to arrive and find everything is finished as others had arrived early. No setup at the Community Centre will begin any earlier than the 4pm start time above to be fair on all helpers.

- **4-5pm** (estimated) – set up Community Centre for Exhibition.

Saturday 13 April

- **8am** – Members arrive for bird benching and remainder of exhibition setup (including posting of road signs, setting up tea/coffee area, sales tables, etc).
- **10am** – Exhibition opens to the public. Rosters for sales tables will be confirmed at Wednesday's Club meeting.
- **3pm** – Exhibition closes to the public. De-benching and pack-up begins. This includes collecting of road signs put up on Saturday. All help is appreciated – the more we have the faster it gets done.
- **4-4:30pm** – Clean up of Community Centre completed, trailers unloaded at the container (Bill has afterhours access to the Met Office gates).
- **6:30pm** – Meet at the RSA for the customary post-exhibition dinner (sit down for dinner at 7pm). The RSA have advised two prices:
 - **\$20** – includes bain marie, carvery and dessert
 - **\$13** – includes bain marie only (no carvery, no dessert)
 - Bain marie usually contains
 - 2 meat dishes
 - a fish dish
 - assortment of vegetables
 - Carvery is usually roast beef or pork

Additional Notes (so important I listed some twice):

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|---------------------------|---|
| Food Raffle | Please do not forget to bring along any items for the Food Raffle. We already have a sack of potatoes on top of the items brought over the last few months (thanks to those who remembered). Non-perishables preferred. Wednesday is the last day so we can get it sorted on Friday afternoon during setup. |
| Trophies | Those with trophies from last year (Adele, Helen, Tom, Jan) please ensure you bring them on Wednesday night. |
| Baking | In the past, some members said they would bring some baking along for sale to the public and for members to snack on. If you intend to do the same this year, please bring these on Saturday morning. |
| Feilding Bird Sale | For those interested in this, it is on the day after our Exhibition (14 April) at the usual place in Feilding. |

Kapiti Bird Club AGM

It's almost that time again - the AGM is just around the corner (08 May). Put it in your diaries. Relevant AGM paperwork will be sent out in next month's newsletter.

Club Rules

We are bound by a set of rules – our constitution – the little green book! We have been a bit lax these last few years and some members may not have a copy. Get a note/email to Don (Treasurer) for your copy or Helen (Secretary) will have spare copies at the Club meetings.

National Bird Show, Hawkes Bay, July 2013

As the Nationals are close to us this year, it seems a shame not to take advantage of this, especially for those who either do not regularly show or, like me, have never been to a National before, either as a competitor or even to see other birds on display. It was mentioned last year that the club committee was considering the possibility of doing something towards getting a trip to the Nationals organized. What this entailed is yet to be decided or discussed but members should think about whether they would be interested in such a trip. I know I am going, as Club President and perhaps as an exhibitor as well, and so are many others, but those who would not normally have gone maybe think about this possibility should it eventuate. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting so April's newsletter will have more on this either way.

Bird Database:

If Helen has not contacted you about your birds for the database, feel free to either approach her at the meeting or call her (number is at the top). The club gets many queries about birds, whether someone is interested in buying or selling or just general information regarding a particular bird breed. Should a query come in, the database can be consulted and the database manager can then contact the member in question. At this point it is up to the member whether they contact the person querying or not – this is not compulsory. Also, the only person contacting the member will be the database manager – no one else, including other club members, will get contact details. All information remains confidential.

Bird Recipe Book:

We would like to put together a recipe book for birds (what they eat not eating them ☺) to help promote bird health and wellbeing, especially for our new members who are just starting out. We all know if we train them the right way from the start, then we will have bigger and healthier birds. If anyone has a favourite recipe they feed their birds either prior to, during breeding season or all year round – and are willing to share it then pass these on to Helen or pop them into the suggestions box.

We currently have a copy of the old club recipe book (thanks Shirley). We will be retyping this up and adding the few extra recipes we have been provided. We will advise once this is ready.

Club Library:

The latest Birdkeeper magazines are now available for loan. Don't forget: if you can think of any other books that may be suitable for the Club to purchase, feel free to let Bev know. We are having major problems finding up-to-date additions/replacements for the library so any help will be much appreciated.

Club Website:

Remember if you can't find a newsletter or want to ask a question, or have birds for sale/want to buy – go to our Club's website (<http://www.kapitibirdclub.org.nz/>). Remember this and you can advise other people interested in birds to check out the website or join the Club! I have added links to a couple of forums we use a lot and a couple of others I found. If you have any good links you want to share with the members, please let me know and I will get them added.

Seed Table Sales:

For those with smaller flocks or you need something before the seed order, there are smaller seed sizes being sold by the Club at the monthly meetings of the common (and some not so common) seeds.

- Budgie Mix – 1kg \$2.70 / 2kg \$5.40
- Canary Seed – 1kg \$2.70 / 2kg \$5.40
- Finch Mix – 1kg \$2.70 / 2kg \$5.40
- Fine Oyster Grit – 1kg \$1.40
- Hulled Oats – 1kg \$2.50 / 2kg \$5.00
- Weed Seed – 1kg \$1.90 / 2kg \$3.80
- 1 bag of 25 Millet Sprays - \$7.80
- 3x Cuttlefish - \$1.70
- Kiwi Soft Food – 1kg \$7.70
- Dutch Formula Soft Food – 0.5kg \$5.00
- Hessian Sacks - \$1.50 each
- Wood shavings for nest boxes \$2.00 grocery bag or \$6.00 rubbish black sack

We are trialing some other seeds in smaller amounts at member's requests and if they do not sell, we won't be getting them again:

- Canary Mix – 1kg \$2.70
- White French Millet – 1kg \$2.40 / 2kg \$4.80
- Wild Bird Mix – 1kg \$2.30 / 2kg \$4.60
- Cockatiel Mix – 1kg \$2.70 / 2kg \$5.40
- Sunflower Seed – 1kg \$

See Jan/Lyn at the seed table on Club night. There are also samples of the seeds Top Flight supplies in small containers so you can look at the seed selection.

Pigeon Express:

We still have a number of containers of Pigeon Express available for purchase by club members: \$20 per 750ml bottle. First up best dressed. These will be available on the seed table while stocks last.

PLEASE NOTE: Last year's order was done on a preorder system plus a couple of spares (which were snaffled up on the night by a couple of people who missed the order cutoff). This time around the club got a 12-pack on the assumption they would all go quickly again, but this has not been the case. As such, we will be going back to the preordering system for future purchases.

Wanted: Your spare unhatched eggs. Helen wants to show a selection of our birds eggs at the Exhibition – if you have any spare unhatched eggs please bring them along to Club night. She is looking at two of each type of bird's egg that cover all our member's different varieties/species. We can use this going forward both as an exercise in egg recognition and as a record of the different bird types within the Club. There will be a sheet of paper on the club table/notice board which will have listed all bird types known to be in the Club and also what eggs are currently covered and obviously what are still needed. Feel free to talk with Helen about this for further information or with your donations. Remember this is a long-term task – we are asking this now so people will have it in their heads to save some eggs that would otherwise be thrown away.

Wanted, Buy, Sell or Exchange

The website now has a form that you can fill in for Wanted, Buy, Sell or Exchange so people (members and non-members alike) can submit their requests from the website. Eventually (once I get some spare time) there will be a page where all WBSE requests will be listed for all to see. The listings will have no contact details displayed other than the webmaster, who will then pass any queries on to the relevant advertiser in confidence, who will then decide whether they wish to follow up on the query. Thus there will be no direct website interaction to advertisers. If you are interested in any of the entries below, contact me and I will pass on the relevant details to you.

Wanted to Sell:

- Border show cages, budgie show cages, Bengalese show cages and box plus lots of bits and pieces.

Wanted to Buy:

- We have received a query from a member of the public via the website who wishes to purchase a rainbow lorikeet.