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“Chirp & Squawk”

September 2014 Newsletter

**Next Club Night: Wednesday 10 September
7.30pm-9.30pm – Guest Speaker – Rob West**

President's Report:

August seems to be the month for bird rescues. So far this month, we have had

- a request to try and sell two indian ringnecks for a lady who has had them for many years, but due to ill health, is no longer able to look after them herself and she has no family to pass them on to
- a request to re-home a 12-14 year old cockatiel (sounds like a Lutino from the description) from a friend of a terminally ill lady here on the Kapiti Coast
- a tame cockatiel found under someone's car by people who have enough cockatiels of their own

Christmas Dinner is just around the corner again. See below for further details

Don't forget Subscriptions are now due.

September Club Night:

7:30-9:30pm Guest Speaker: Rob West

For those newer members who may not know Rob, amongst other things, is a past President of the Kapiti Bird Club. Rob has agreed to come and talk to us about aviary design. So if you are in the market for a new aviary or you already have one and are looking at expanding, this may be the perfect time to get some tips.

Subscriptions:

Subscriptions are due from 1 August 2014. You should receive a subscription form with the last newsletter. I will have some spare copies at the meeting. Subscription prices are the same as last year – Partnership or Family \$20; Single \$15; Junior \$5; Federation Year Book (comes out January of the following year) \$10. Please remember to fill out your subscription form when you submit your payment as this is used to keep track of who our members are. You still need to fill out a form if you pay by internet banking – just hand it in on a club night. Thank you for those who have already paid.

Seed 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. See Jan and Denise on club night.

Club Library

Noel and Janice have sorted through the books and added a selection of new books last month for you to read including a number of parrot books Phil Eglinton donated to the club. They also ask that if you have any outstanding books to please return them. The latest Birdkeeper magazines are also 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 our new librarians know. We are having major problems finding up-to-date additions/replacements for the library so any help will be much appreciated.

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.

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.

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.

Helen has also spoken to most of the lower North Island clubs and we have their permission to publish their newsletters on our website as well so feel free to check out what they are doing. NZ Federation minutes are available to read on club nights and on the website as well.

Raffle

Don't forget to get your tickets for this month's raffle. These have been selling very well so don't miss out!

Xmas Dinner

It is getting close to that time again when we need to start thinking about where we want to go for our Xmas Dinner on 10th December. Fisherman's Table in last year's format seems to be the popular option but with its impending sale, who knows if it will still be there or not by December (it is being sold as a going concern so hopefully it will). It would be prudent to look at other possible venues all the same. Other options mentioned so far are the Waikanae Club and the RSA. Any ideas, feel free to add them to the sheet at September's meeting.

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 Buy:

- Yorkshire Canary Hen
- Norwich Canary Hen
- Java Sparrows Fawn or Cream, unrelated Breeding Pairs.
- Apricot or Frosted Red Factor Canary Hen

Wanted to Sell:

- Bird cage for sale: 6' long x 2' wide x 6' wide square welded mesh with a total of six compartments, on wheels so can be moved as needed, cupboards along bottom for storage, fold-out shelf, comes with 2 ramps made from treated wood total length about 6' and plastic for wind break on outside if needed. Open to offers.

Finches, Finches, Finches

New Zealand Finch Breeders Assoc. is celebrating its 30th Anniversary

All you finch breeders out there, come and join us for an amazing day out.

Learn all you can about caring & keeping finches from International speaker, Marcus Pollard from Clifton Finch Aviaries, Tasmania, & Paul Dick Editor & Publisher 'Just Finches & Softbills', Oamaru.

September 13th @10.00am

Venue: Concert Chamber, Pukekohe Town Hall, Corner Massey Ave & Edinburgh St.

Price \$35.00 Members & \$45.00 Non-Members, \$10.00 less for under 16's.

Price includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea, celebratory cake, plus a raffle.

Booking payments may be made online into the NZFBA's Westpac account (03-0180-0114442-00), or by post NZFBA. PO Box 58 Albany Village, Auckland, 0755 NZ, or pay at the door.