

Finch Bizz



*The monthly magazine of the
Hawkesbury Finch Club
A Branch of the Finch Society
of Australia Inc.*

March 2023

Finch Bizz March 2023

The Hawkesbury Finch Club

A branch of The Finch Society of Australia

Committee Members

President

Phillip Ferguson philsalinda@westnet.com.au

Vice-President

Peter Berry

Secretary/Treasurer

Ron James

Finch Bizz Editor

Phillip Ferguson philsalinda@westnet.com.au

Raffle Steward

Robyn Schmid

Lecture Steward

Bob Cliff

Sales Steward and Email Coordinator

Rossllynn Davidson

Technical Steward

Rennie Schmid

Website Planner

Roy Peake

To contact our club: www.hawkesburyfinchclub.com

Life Members of The Finch Society of Australia

Ross Appleby	Neville Brown (d)
Heather Brownnett	Doug Hill
Joe Gafa	Stan Guest
Ron James	Glenn Johnson
Paul Menagazzo	Peter McGibbon
Don Provest	Neville Simmons (d)
Stan Simmons (d)	

The Hawkesbury Finch Club: takes no responsibility for any claims by advertisers or articles printed in its newsletter (*Finch Bizz*).

Next Meeting 1930hrs March 22nd, 2023:

***HAWKESBURY FINCH CLUB A BRANCH OF
THE FINCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC***

DATES FOR MEETINGS 2023

**25th JANUARY 2023 ANNUAL MEETING
SUBSCRIPTION DUE**

22nd FEBRUARY 2023

22nd MARCH 2023 * 5 Wed this month

26th APRIL 2023

24th MAY 2023 * 5 Wed this month

28th JUNE 2023

26th JULY 2023

23rd AUGUST 2023 _ * 5 Wed this month

27th SEPTEMBER 2023

25th OCTOBER 2023

**22nd NOVEMBER 2023 CHRISTMAS MEETING
* 5 Wed this month**

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

February Minutes:

FINCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC

HAWKESBURY FINCH CLUB

MONTHLY MEETING..... FEBRUARY2022

Meeting held in the Castlereagh Community Hall Castlereagh commencing at approximately 7.30pm
The Chairperson Mr. P. BERRY..... occupied the Chair, their being 22 members in attendance
The minutes of the JANUARY..... meeting were read and adopted on a motion moved

by ROS DAVIDSON..... and Seconded by ROBYN SCHMID.....
CORRESPONDENCE..... NIL.....

Moved by..... Seconded by.....
that the correspondence be received.
NEW MEMBERS. NIL.....

Moved by..... Seconded by.....
that the new members be accepted
APOLOGIES..... BRAD ADAMS PHIL FERGUSON.....

Moved by PETER BALDRY..... Seconded BARRY DUKES.....
that the apologies be accepted
ACCOUNTS..... NIL.....

Moved by..... Seconded by.....
that the accounts be accepted
REPORTS..... ORANGE BIRD SALE 4th MARCH.....

GENERAL BUSINESS FURTHER DISCUSSION SPONSORSHIPS
PHIL TO CHECK ON PET LINK TO PLACE FLYER ON SITE
JAMES O'CONNOR PRESENTED A TALK ON BREEDING MAGGOTS
AND FLIES WITH A DEMO OF HIS INSECT BOX
ALSO THE REQUIREMENT TO KEEPING AND IRRLED
THE FLY AND MAGGOTS
A Q&A FOLLOWED AFTER THE TALK

RAFFLS \$80
SUPPER \$37
MEMBERSHIP \$80

MEETING
CLOSED
9-15PM

Forsale / Wanted

FOR SALE	FEB 2023 WANTED
FREE GREY DINK QUAIL COCKS (James)	2 x Budgies (pair or 2 cock budgies) (GEOFF) Redheads Carbars (Peter Barry) orange and red headed Souldier hens, BOB. 0412287 059.
EXCHANGE	

Article regarding the use of Cod Liver Oil:

[The Avian Advisory Hub](#)

Brian Bohl

Admin

Response to query from page member – David Towne asking about Cod Liver Oil as it was used by budgie breeders in the past

Good question David as I did use Cod Liver Oil many years back in combination with Wheat Germ Oil to obtain adequate quantity of Vitamins A, D and E for my canaries...

Around the period 2010, older more experienced breeders put me onto an 85:15 pbV (parts by volume) blend of Cod Liver Oil and Wheat Germ Oil and suggested I use this prior to the breeding season..

- Cod liver Oil (85 parts) is a good source of Vitamins A and D

- Wheat Germ Oil (15 parts) is a good source of Vitamin E

At this time, WGO was about 6-8 times more expensive than the Cod Liver Oil so thank goodness CLO was the major component.. the drawback using Cod Liver Oil is that it is prone to rancidity and if the 85:15 blend was incorporated into the birds seed mix , the CLO component coating the seed could succumb to rancidity with exposure to heat , light and atmospheric oxygen...

Being rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids , Cod Liver oil is quite prone to becoming rancid due to oxidative damage.

Let me reiterate David that Cod Liver Oil is an amazing source of both Vitamin A and D but one has to weigh up the high probability of spoilage (rancidity) if oil treated seed is left in the flight or breeding cage. . Also I have been told by avian vets (specifically Dr. Debra Monks) that they see a high % of avian patients in their clinics suffering from Hypervitaminosis A and Hypervitaminosis D..

(vitamin A and D are both fat soluble hence any excess quantities offered to the birds are stored in the avian liver , muscles and fatty tissue).

I have always been an ardent fan of the Vitamins A, D and E for avian general health and enhancement during avian reproduction but there are other means available to achieve adequate levels of these 3 vitamins without resorting to the use of Cod Liver Oil or a Cod Liver Oil / Wheat germ Oil blend ...

My own personal choice for a vegetable oil that stands head and shoulders above all others is *Hemp Seed Oil*.

I have never posted on the benefits of Hemp Seed Oil for the avian species but believe me there is no other vegetable oils available that can compete with the cannabidiol, Hemp Seed Oil for use with our birds ... Brian

[The Avian Advisory Hub](#)
Brian Bohl

Response to Vince Lozzi query – am I suggesting replacement of Cod Liver Oil with Hemp Seed Oil

Page member Vince Lozzi from Western Australia has asked if I was suggesting the replacement of Cod Liver Oil with Hemp Seed Oil..

My only concern with the use of Cod Liver Oil is if it used to coat seed or was incorporated into a sprouted mix or soft food and was left in food dishes in the flight or breeding compartments for any period of time, any of the 3 prerequisites for rancidity (heat, light or atmospheric oxygen) could lead to a rancid food source..

As mentioned on the page by local SEQ finch breeder , exhibitor and national finch judge , Tim Hartung , he makes an oil modified finch blend , refrigerates this blend until required for feeding then offers it to his birds ensuring it is not exposed to any possibility of spoilage ...

I know personally of occasions where CLO modified avian foodstuff has been offered to caged birds and left unattended until this foodstuff was consumed and this could become a number of days...

Rancid foodstuff (coated seed , oil blend modified sprout mix or soft food) may not necessarily result in avian death but why take the risk of upsetting the birds GIT system...

Just located a bottle of a commercially available CLO/WGO oil supplement in my birdroom fridge and have attached a JPEG to show that a blended CLO/WGO oil mix is still commercially available to bird fanciers... it was surprising to find their blend ratio was **98 parts CLO : 2 parts**

WGO whereas my own long term personal blend was a more expensive 85:15 blend of the two oils...

The reasons for my choice of Hemp Seed Oil as a general “go to” avian oil product will be explained in a follow up post...

In closing this response to Vince, care should be taken when using Cod Liver Oil (CLO) from the rancidity point of view and if suitable precautions are taken when offering CLO to your birds, there should be no negative health outcomes..... Brian

Article on the use of Milk Thistle :

[The Avian Advisory Hub](#)

Brian Bohl

My comments on the use of Milk Thistle with avian species

With regard to comments made by both Bill Sewell and Col Mackereth, I agree that some birds (budgies, canaries, finches etc) may show no interest in Milk Thistle as a green offering as they have not been exposed to it when youngsters still with their parents and really have no idea that it is indeed a food source... I have stayed with Tony Mills (Maitland) on many occasions over the past 5-6 years and every avian variety in his flights and birdrooms demolish an entire Milk Thistle plant , root system , soil and the whole plant including the flowers at the top..

Now we should look at the benefits of Milk Thistle to the avian species and are there any side effects to excess dosage.

I don't see Milk Thistle as a rich source of the more common avian nutrients plus vitamins and minerals but moreso as a naturally occurring plant that exhibits amazing hepato-protective (liver protection) properties plus antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and antifibrotic (tissue scarring) properties..

The milk thistle seed contains 70-80% Silymarin which confers Milk Thistle its liver protection and liver tissue regenerative properties; Milk Thistle oil contains both linoleic (Omega 6) and linolenic (Omega 3) fatty acids. Both of these fatty acids are essential to good avian health..

Milk Thistle is also rich in flavonoids which assist the avian immune system, antioxidant properties and free radical scavenging.

As with any compound or product offered to our birds, moderation should be practiced and some common side effects of excess Milk Thistle with our birds can result in upset stomach and diarrhea..

On the matter of whether Milk Thistle flowers are safe for avian consumption, an internet site of "Bird Safe Edible Flowers" suggests that the flowers of the Silybum plant species (Milk Thistle) are safe to consume in moderation..

My personal suggestion would be not to overload your bird or birds with excessive offering of Milk Thistle just to play it safe...Brian

The Beautiful Cut-Throat Finch:

Commonly known as the Bearded Finch - Ribbon Finch -Cut Throat Finch and is classed as an estrildid finch predominantly found in sub-Saharan Africa.



Considered to be a free breeding estrildid finch that can be housed in single pairs, Colony or in Mixed collections. It is advised that they be kept in consistent numbers as equal numbers of males and females. Be aware that aggression may occur from unpaired birds and may become problematic.



Cut-throat finches will possibly hybridize with the Aberdeen finch. This should be discouraged and pairs should not be housed together or in adjoining aviaries where contact is possible.



Above a Photo of the Aberdeen Finch

In the Mixed Aviary:

Cut-throat finches can be a dominate inmate towards smaller finches, and it's essential to choose their aviary companions wisely. Providing a large, sparsely-populated aviary with plenty of hiding places or single aviaries – cages containing single pairs is the best way to manage their aggression.

Part Two Next Issue:

Hawkesbury Finch Club Club Membership Form:

Contact varrajames@bigpond.com.au

I wish to become / renewal a member of your Club as a:

* FULL MEMBER

* FAMILY MEMBER

* PENIONER

* JUNIOR MEMBER / STUDENT:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Phone

MOB

E-Mail

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

ADULTS \$ 20.00

FAMILY \$ 25.00

PENIONER \$ 15.00

JUNIOR (Student) \$ 5.00

Beyond Bank Australia Ltd

The Hawksbury Finch Club

BSB No 325 185

Account No 05816053

Annual meetings are held on the Fourth Wednesday of the month each year. In January each year subscriptions become due and are payable. Those people who join the Society at the January meeting or after are not required to pay the subscription until the following January.

We ask that you please try to attend our meetings and the various functions we have, to enable you to get to know your fellow members and enjoy your membership to the fullest.

Ron James Hon. Secretary

NOTE: * Delete which is not applicable

Attention, Attention, Attention:

Available each and every meeting from Rosslynn Davidson:

A list of what items I carry to each meeting

Cydectin plus 50/100ml jars \$7.50 /\$15.00

Baycox 50/100ml jars \$15 /\$30 both use separate or together to treat worms and coccid.

Coopex powder used as spray or a paint for crawling insects, ants' cockroaches. \$11.00 packet

Split plastic coloured bird rings small /large finch and small parrots \$4.50/\$4.50 \$5.00 a sleeve of 10 rings

Mouse season is quickly approaching I did my bate stations a week ago and found an adult mouse within 2 days.

Attention, Attention, Attention:

Now Available from Mr Bob Cliff:

- 1) Fly Boxes,
- 2) Aviary Bird Traps,
- 3) Corn Cutters,
- 4) Window Feeding Stations,
- 5) Bird Traps both Manual and electronic.

Contact Bob Cliff at bcliffwelding@iprimus.com.a

For all your Real Estate Needs please contact

**DUKES REAL ESTATE AGENTS proud
sponsor of the Hawkesbury Finch club:**



Proud Sponsor Of The Hawkesbury Finch Club:

Mr Electricity

Local/
Sparky

We are available 24 hours 7 days

With a life time of experience

In all things electrical

Call James and Jeanette

Any time on 0414336660

Or Email james@mrelectricity.com.au

Central Coast Avicultural Society

BIRD 2023 EXPO

MORISSET SHOWGROUND

Sunday 19th March

10am to 2pm



**\$3
General
Admission
Under 12
free**

**ALL THINGS
BIRDS**



anixetics
Avian DNA Sexing
Quick, Reliable & Friendly



Sale Table bookings and enquiries phone:
Anthony: 0416 144 323 Dave: 0407 267 627
Bird entry available Saturday afternoon.
Sunday entry from 6am
Bird sale fee \$1per bird Minimum fee \$5

Operated under current Bird Sale Code of Practice