

DAGENHAM & DISTRICT CAGE BIRD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021



NEXT MEETING
which would have been the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
on Saturday 16th January 2021
HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE
CORONAVIRUS

(Please see inside for more information)

SALES TABLE AT EVERY MEETING

Dagenham and District
Cage Bird Society
Meetings held at
Wantz Hall
Rainham Road North
Dagenham
Essex
RM10 7DX

PRESIDENT

Peter Decort
5 Campbell Close
Collier Row
Romford, Essex
RM1 4SA
0772 666 4671

CHAIRMAN

Barry Johnson
01708 348330

TREASURER

Peter Decort
0772 666 4671

SECRETARY

Richard Wilson
Unit 5
28-30 Fowler Road
Hainault, Essex
IG6 3UT
07852 959447

SHOW SECRETARY

George Philpot
0208 805 8179

Committee Members 2021 (subject to change – please see the President's Comments below)

President	PETER DECORT
Vice President	Vacancy
Chairman	BARRY JOHNSON
Vice Chairman	Vacancy
Secretary	RICHARD WILSON
Asst. Secretary	Vacancy
Treasurer	PETER DECORT
Publicity & Raffle	BARRY & VAL
Newsletter	BARRY & VAL
Show Manager	STEVE WALLIS
Asst. Show Manager	LES RIX
Show Secretary	GEORGE PHILPOT
Asst. Show Secretary	Vacancy
Trophy Secretary	LES RIX
Canteen	FRAN, VAL & BARRY

Committee:

Dick Lathleiff, Mick Pegram and Ted Papandreas

Meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month at 10am to 12pm at Wantz Hall – Rainham Road North – Dagenham – Essex RM10 7DX

Committee Members' meetings

Would Officers and Committee Members please attend these monthly meetings starting from 10am on every meeting day?

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020

Single	£15.00
Partnerships:	£20.00
Juniors (to 16):	FREE

If anyone would like to contribute an article to the Newsletter about their birds or their showing – or anything else – please speak to Barry or Val at any of the meetings.

Forthcoming Meeting dates

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID 19

NB: As you all know, the Meetings would have been arranged at the AGM. The following are the dates when the Meetings would have been held this year and show the same details as last year. They are of course all subject to change and / or cancellation.

2021

Sat 16 th Jan	Cancelled
Sat 20 th Feb	Cancelled
Sat 20 th Mar	TBC
Sat 17 th Apr	TBC – Possibly AGM
Sat 15 th May	Song Bird Competition
Sat 19 th June	TBC
Sat 17 th July	TBC
Sat 21 st Aug	Open Show Preparation
Sat 18 th Sep	TBC
Sat 16 th Oct	Club Show League – Second Round – Hen Bird Show
Sat 20 th Nov	Young Stock Show (10am to 2pm)
Fri 10 th Dec	Staging for Open Show followed by Christmas Raffle Draw and Buffet (8pm to 10pm)
Sat 11 th Dec	Open Show (all day)

2022

Sat 15 th Jan	AGM
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The President's Comments and chit chat

I hope you all had the best Christmas and New Year as possible

Now that we have a vaccine and people have started to be vaccinated against Covid, perhaps the light is at last shining bright at the end of the tunnel so we can start to see the end of this horrible pandemic and start to get back to some sort of normality.

Since October, I for one, month by month, thought the Club was about to re-open but no, something else came up and we were pushed back again. Let's hope very soon the Club will be open and we can all meet.

At the time of writing this, it looks like we will not be having our AGM so for now I hope those that took office last year will carry on into 2021. If there is anyone who wishes to stand down, will they please get in touch with Richard and let him know.

At this time I would like to thank Richard for all he has done throughout this year.

Also a very big "Thank You" to Barry and Val for keeping us up to date with all that's happening via the Newsletter.

As I have said before, this has been a very hard year not only for our Club, but for all Clubs

On looking through the Enrollment Book I was very disappointed to notice that twenty+ people did not pay their subs for 2020. This could, I think, be a lot to do with the pandemic as they could not get to the Club to pay. But I, for one, am hoping we will see these people back at the Club as soon as we open up again.

We obviously lost most of our sponsorship for 2020. I hope the people who have sponsored us in the past will do so again in the coming year.

Also, as you know, I pre-paid the Hall for the whole of 2020 but, through Richard's efforts the payments have been carried forward.

So, with no money coming in and having paid Hall fees, stamps, etc. I think we have done very well to have made a small profit of £305.

As we will not be paying any subs for 2021 it is obvious we will be drawing money out of our bank account. At the moment it will only be for anything to do with the Newsletter, so it will not be too bad.

But for those who did not pay subs last year they will be expected to pay subs for 2021 at the normal rate of £15.00.

Barry rang me to say that Les has put the second part of his article in this month's Newsletter. I am looking forward to reading it. Well done Les.

Although I have seen Barry and Fran's set up it was nice to see and read about how they got into birds. Nice photographs Barry.

Birds

By now many of you will have bought in some new stock, given your cages a good clean and painted where required. Trimmed and treated your birds for mite, got in all your soft food and seeds for the start of the season, and are all ready for the off.

Some people who use heat and light may have already made a start if you are one of these "Good Luck". Hope all goes well. For the rest of us, be patient, it will all be happening soon.

Pete

The Club Secretary's Comments

Happy New Year to you all.

Now with the Oxford vaccine being rolled out there seems to be light at the end of the tunnel. Today the third vaccine has been approved for use in the UK so, all being well, some of our members should be having their jab by the end of February, so a possible return to the club in April is looking realistic.

If any members have already had their vaccination or have been tested positive for COVID19 please let me know as it would make sense to keep a register of the membership as this may be one of the conditions when meeting up after lockdown.

I do hope you and your families are keeping well. I think without the birds and regular telephone calls to my friends you can only imagine just how difficult this last year has been for some people.

It also helps when you have a pub in your back garden, although we keep it to Saturday nights only

Richard

Staging Fund

Here is an updated list of donations towards the new show staging (same as last month) –

Mark and Sally Logan donated cash = £500.00

Les Rix donated a Yellow Hammer = £50.00

Dave Mason donated a Pair of Redpolls = £60.00

Richard Wilson donated a Canary x Bullfinch = £210.00

Mick Pegram donated a Hospital Cage = £40.00

Lawson & Wells Partnership donated a Light Greenfinch Mule = £160.00

Fergus McCarthy donated cash = £200.00

Steve & Bill Wallis donated cash = £200.00

Steve & Bill Willis donated a Goldfinch Mule = £145.00

Lawson & Wells Partnership donated a Cock Greenfinch = £40.00

Les Rix donated cash = £120.00
Richard Wilson donated Bullfinches = £120.00
John Young donated cash = £50.00
Nigel Breese donated a Pair of Goldfinches = £80.00
Barry and Fran Johnson donated cash = £100.00
Valerie Holmes donated cash = £100.00
Phil Perkins donated cash = £50.00
Mr & Mrs Ken Grigg donated cash = £75.00

TOTAL = £2,300.00

If you or someone you know would like to help with a donation please get in touch with Richard. Every little bit helps.

Update on New Staging

Portugal is now on a complete lockdown and curfew. They are not allowed to leave their homes between 1pm and 5.30am. So have no further news.

Richard

Useful Numbers and Contacts

Rings

IOA (International Ornithological Association) Website – www.ioa-com-uk.org

For all rings call Richard Lumley on 01653 697565

Email - ruby@lordlumley.plus.com

Richard is very helpful and provides a great service. The IOA are also sponsors of Dagenham CBS.

For closed or split rings email or call Hans Herr in Germany. Contact Melanie Siegel she speaks very good English, is very helpful and quick, I ordered & paid for rings on a Wednesday and I received them on the Monday. The quality of the rings is excellent.

Website – www.vogelringe.de

Phone: 0049-721-686023

Fax: 0049-721-683029 -

E-Mail: ma.herr@vogelringe.de

Members' Outlets

Essex Bird Fancier

Mark Smithson

Facebook and Ebay

Telephone – 07983 108 383

e-mail – essexbirdfancier@gmail.com

Bavister's Pet Centre

James Bavister

Website - www.bavisterspetcentre.com

Telephone – 01268 544 336

e-mail – info@bavisterspetcentre.com

If there are any other Club Members with similar outlets who would like a mention in this section of the Newsletter please send the relevant information to Val (valkenh@btinternet.com) or Barry (lukeira@btinternet.com).

Items for Sale

If you have any birds or equipment for sale please bring them to the Club or let Barry or Val know and they will add it to the next Newsletter.

Items wanted

If there are any birds or equipment you want please let Barry or Val know what you are looking for so that it can be added to the next Newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE, ADVERTS IN BOTH THE “FOR SALE” AND “ITEMS WANTED” SECTIONS WILL NOW ONLY BE INCLUDED IN TWO NEWSLETTERS. IF YOU WANT YOUR ADVERT IN AFTER THE TWO MONTHS PLEASE LET BARRY OR VAL KNOW. THANK YOU.

New Members

There were no new Members during the last month

The Club’s Website, etc

The Club’s **website** is www.dagenhamcbs.com. You can find out all about our Club right back to 1935. Newsletters, Shows, history and much more.

The Club can also be contacted by **e-mail** – info@dagenhamcbs.com – or via our **Facebook** page.

Dagenham CBS Facebook and Group Page: We now have 135 members on the Group Page. Please give it a look and join in the banter and the up to date news from the members.

Don't forget to keep checking the Website and Facebook for Richard's updates

Members’ Info.

Mick Pegram is still leading the charge on our FaceBook page and Richard has received contact details from a few Members to put onto the website page. This will allow members to stay in touch and give advice and help to other members who keep the same species or share the same problems.

“Falling in Love Again (part deux)” by Les Rix

Raza Espanyol (wow) after writing part 1 I have since discovered that the Raza cannot deal with the cold weather too well I've had one fatality a cinnamon hen. Fingers crossed the rest are ok. I have started adding honey to the drinking water on alternative days as well as marmite twice a week, also adding a dish of British Finch mix along with condition seed. The oily seed in the British should help, whether it will or not I don't know, as Jack Frost has now put paid to my garden herbs so I'm feeding peas, watercress, spinach and broccoli. Hopefully this is good enough. I've noticed that already the cocks are showing signs of being in condition. My birds are not yet paired and won't be till Easter weekend but after Christmas I will start to feed soak seeds and egg food once a week increasing it as time goes on, which I'm sure all of us do.

Since the fatalities of the 2019 winter I have done something that I have never done before. I have added a tubular greenhouse heater to my birdroom and connected it to a digital thermostat. This is set to 10 degrees Celsius. It is enough to take the chill off the air and stop the drinkers freezing up and all the birds are coping better now.

I must admit I was surprised to hear that some of you were waiting in anticipation for part 2 of my last article, pleased but surprised none the less as I understand that some people are finding our newsletter boring. My opinion on this is that I think Barry and Valerie do a sterling job with the newsletter that we anxiously wait the arrival of each month. It can't be easy producing a letter when nothing is happening within the club at this difficult time, so let's cut them a bit of slack and well done to them. Also most of our discussions and our sharing is done via the Facebook page.

Getting back to my beloved Razas, I am following a strict cleaning programme as I have discovered a small amount of mite and as a result my birds are sprayed twice a week with clean and clear check mite and every cage is sprayed with it and thoroughly scrubbed with hot soapy water, dried and sanitized, then diatom powder is spread under and in the trays to stop the mite. The only way in my book is to stay well on top of it with a stringent cleaning plan once a week, regrettably something I have

lacked in years gone by, Over the years I have kept my birds clean but the products that are readily available today were not about back in the day. I have no idea how true this is but I have grown up believing that mite don't like garlic so I give my birds garlic infused apple cider vinegar.. Whether or not this actually does work God only knows, but it does them no harm. You can easily buy these products but I learned that they don't work just sitting there on a shelf which is my reasoning.

I've also added a new window to my birdshed as well for extra ventilation and natural light.

Although there are no shows at present due to the covid I am still show cage training my birds. They are coming on well and i've got a couple of good prospects for 2021 if we no longer have the dreaded virus with us.

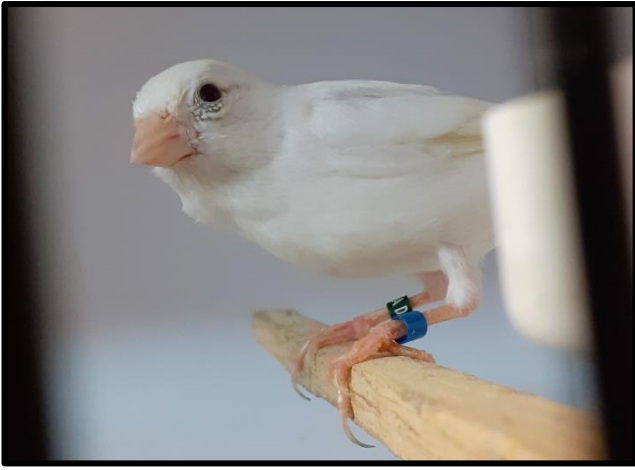
Well I'd better stop waffling now and get gone.

Looking forward to meeting you all again so until then take care and stay safe until we meet.

Les Rix

The following are a few pictures of Les's set up and some of his Raza's





“How I got started in birds” by Brenda Kettle

The very first canary I ever bought was supposed to be a Christmas present for my dad, who passed away in 1994. He was unfortunate to suffer a massive stroke in 1981 which left him paralysed on his right side and no speech. As years went by it became harder to know what to buy him for Christmas, until 1992 when I thought about the idea of buying him

a cock canary, which he could 'whistle' to and be able to 'communicate' with. After speaking to my mum she agreed that we could buy a canary as long as we supplied all the necessary seed etc, which we were prepared to do.

Having no experience whatsoever, we went to a car boot sale in Cuffley, Enfield, near to where we used to live. We found, and purchased a canary from the back of a car, something that would not be done today for sure! It was a clear yellow cock, with a brown cap mark, of a non-descript type, which we kept indoors until Christmas. By then mum had changed her mind and refused to take the bird, so we were left with it. Having no idea how to look after it I joined Edmonton CBS, and later, Walthamstow & Chingford CBS, meeting up with other bird colleagues, some of whom I am still in contact with today. I was advised to build a bird shed in our garden, which we did, and was only 8ft x 10ft, later adding an outdoor flight which our neighbours complained about, due to the noise of the birds singing! I bought a hen, and learnt how to start breeding them, producing 9 chicks that year, so I thought "easy peasy" and carried on. I was then encouraged to breed only one variety, by three local breeders, two keeping New Colours and one keeping Borders. After some thought I opted for Borders as I didn't fancy the colour feeding of New Colours. I did also dabble a little bit by trying my hand with Foreign Finches, being Strawberry Finch & Cordon Bleu, never being successful with either, so I just concentrated on Borders.

After the theft of my Borders in Feb 2013 I was prepared to 'throw the towel in' and give it all up, losing 23 of 29 birds from the flight within my shed which was devastating. There were a few friends out there who rallied round and supplied me with birds to encourage me to stay in the hobby, and to those friends, I am eternally grateful. That was then the path which led me to start breeding Fife Canaries, and put me in the position of where I am today in the Fife Fancy.

Brenda Kettle

Mick Pegram's "Spot the Member" give-away

The winner from the March 2020 Newsletter was DAVID DAWKINS so this is being held over until the Club re-opens to give David a chance to claim his winnings.

2021 Membership Subscriptions

The Club's year runs from January to December

2020 Subscriptions

Single - £15.00

Partnerships - £20.00

Juniors (to 16) – Free

As mentioned by Richard in the October Newsletter, all 2020 paid up Members will get their 2021 Membership free of charge

If you have already paid your 2021 Membership Fee it will be carried over to 2022

Last month's Newsletter

Referring to the President's Comments in last month's Newsletter, I was the 'someone' who sent the pictures of both members and their fathers past achievements in the hobby competitions of the past. They must have given some of our members more of an interest in showing their own birds and receiving similar rewards for their efforts in this lovely hobby. However, I am ashamed of the comments made by our club President / Treasurer and feel that if he was 'bored' with the pictures he should have kept his comments to himself and not put them in our newsletter so other people can see. I think he should make a formal apology in the newsletter to our members, i.e. Steve Wallis and Wally Scott, for his remarks re what was printed in November's newsletter.

Mick Pegram

A few more pictures of Les's Raza's

