

DAGENHAM & DISTRICT CAGE BIRD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020



**NEXT MEETING
which should have been on
Saturday 19th September 2020
10am to 12pm
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 2020

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 during 2020
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID 19

Sat 19 th Sep	TBC
Sat 17 th Oct	Club Show League – Second Round – Hen Bird Show
Sat 21 st Nov	Young Stock Show (10am to 2pm)
Fri 11 th Dec	Staging for Open Show followed by Christmas Raffle Draw and Buffet (8pm to 10pm)
Sat 12 th Dec	Open Show (all day)
<u>2021</u>	
Sat 16 th Jan	AGM

The President's Comments and chit chat

Still no joy in getting our Club open again. I hear that the people at the Hall have re-opened it but with Do's and Don'ts. The main thing being the number of people allowed to attend Meetings. This seems to make no sense in our case as most Clubs seem to struggle to get up to 15 members attending. We always get double to treble this amount, so we fall short of the amount we are allowed to meet all at once.

Richard is in constant talks with the people who we rent the hall from so I will assume we will have more news soon.

In our last Newsletter Richard spoke about the new staging. When we get this I was wondering where it will be stored. I do not think we can take a chance on keeping it in the shed or store we use now (nice little earner for the scrap man) so I was wondering if we should think of asking if there is somewhere inside the Hall we could store it. Just a thought!

I recently went with my family for a week on Mersea Island. Very disappointing. The only good thing I saw was a huge amount of Pied Wagtails. I didn't count them but there must have been 40 to 50 in one flock.

Also Starlings – there must have been a flock of 100 to 150 flying around and roosting in the trees around our caravan. I sat on the steps to the van and a little Cock Robin came right up to my feet. There were also a pair of Blackbirds and the usual Pigeons and Gulls.

We were coming back from a short trip and we saw a chap with a Falcon on his arm. (I thought to myself why can't I get a nice bird on my arm!!)

We stopped him and he let my grandson have some photos taken of him stroking the bird. Highlight of the week.



Pete's Grandson Alfie

Since I wrote about the Hall I have had Richard on the phone about re-opening the Hall.

If the Committee agrees this will be for the October Meeting. Richard has spoken to the Hall Committee and they said we are allowed up to 40 Members in the Hall.

We would enter at one side of the Hall and leave at the other side. We will have to social distance to some degree, and use the sanitisers supplied at the doors.

The kitchen would be open to serve tea/coffee and cakes. No rolls though.

Barry says he would do the raffle from a table, probably somewhere near the Kitchen rather than circulating, so if you could help him with this I would be obliged.

So please bear with us, we will hope to open in October with a few restrictions and if we do go ahead I hope you will all feel safe enough to come along and meet your friends. Looking forward to seeing you all again.

Don't forget to bring your masks or visors as they will probably be needed.

When I was talking with Richard I mentioned the staging and its safety. He said he would get another lock for the shed, but I have asked him if there is some sort of lock-up inside the Hall we could hire. He is going to enquire.

Also, whilst we were speaking He asked about subs for next year. I said we used this year's subs to pre-pay for the Hall (Meetings and Shows). Also as you know, we have been sending out Newsletters. Stamps alone are currently over £30 per month so all the income we had for this year has almost been spent. It came to pass that we agreed on free subs next year for all paid-up Members for 2020. A few people I have spoken to say perhaps it should be half subs. I would like your views please at the October Meeting.

We are trying to sort out about the pre-paid hall fees and whether we will get the money back or have free meeting nights to counter this year's loss of revenues.

On another topic – If anyone wants to sell any birds or equipment the Committee would like you to make sure cages and equipment are thoroughly cleaned.

Pete

The Club Secretary's Comments

The starting of monthly meetings has been discussed by the committee and has been agreed that Saturday 17th October will be the first one back, so we will give you an update in the October newsletter regarding any new government rules that may apply between now and then. What we do know is that the hall has implemented a one way system in the hall so that you enter at one point and exit at another. We will have a wash station on entry. MASKS OR VISORS ARE COMPULSORY UNLESS YOU ARE MEDICALLY EXEMPT FROM WEARING ONE and members will need to sign a register with name, address and contact number in case anyone reports any symptoms after the meeting in which case everyone, including NHS Track & Trace, will be notified. It goes without saying (although I'll say it anyway) if you feel unwell or are having any symptoms please stay away from the meeting and seek medical advice. While in the hall social distancing will be in place. More details will be in next month's newsletter.

Richard

Staging Fund

Here is an updated list of donations towards the new show staging –

This month's donations (three) –

Nigel Breese donated a Pair of Goldfinches = £80.00

Barry and Fran Johnson donated cash = £100.00

Valerie Holmes donated cash = £100.00

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

TOTAL = £2,175.00

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

I have spoken with Dave Rands who is collecting the staging from Portugal. We are paying 50% deposit on 15/9/2020 and the rest when he collects which is the last week of September. The total cost will be around £2,650.00 which includes the collection and delivery to our hall.

Richard

The Crimson Capped Assassin

The Redpoll is a bird that always gladdens the heart. Its diminutive size belies its enormous character. Always busy and inquisitive the Redpoll is a joy to keep and constantly entertains. I used to keep three or four pairs and had a great deal of success breeding with them over twelve or fifteen years ago. They would go down and have three or four rounds and rear good sized clutches successfully. Once moulted I would pass on most of the young to a dealer or a trader as a job lot, none sexed. I just kept a few of the darkest and those showing the most colour. During those productive years I never saw any signs of aggression, just a little squabbling to establish a pecking order!

Turn the clock forward to today and after not keeping Redpolls for many years I find myself with a trio, two hens and a cock from separate studs, perfect. I first run them together in a large flight cage, six by two by eighteen inches deep, throughout April. In May I placed some nest sites and a little cover, sadly there were no signs of breeding activity. I tried putting the slides in and separating them for a few days and then reintroducing the birds in various combinations, hens separated, cock with one hen or the other, still no signs of breeding. Then in June I put the trio in a double breeder as I needed the flight cages for other youngsters. Within a few days the cock paired up with one of the hens, so I placed the other hen in the double breeder directly above. I watched the cock tread the hen a few times over the next couple of days and as he was interfering with her nest building I thought it a good idea if I placed him with the spare hen poll in the double breeder above. The cock Redpoll jumped in and sat alongside the hen and began to feed her, happy days. When I returned forty minutes later the hen was dead, lying face down in a pool of blood

with a long deep wound from her shoulders down to the middle of her back. The cock with his freshly enriched crimson chest feathers was the obvious culprit. I left the cock and surviving hen separate for a day then cautiously returned them together. So far, no problems then again, no eggs either. I'm no Redpoll expert, I was looking back to the past when it seemed so easy to breed a plentiful number of Redpoll youngsters. I fear at this rate I may end up with a minus Redpoll count rather than a plus.

Perhaps there is a darker side to the Redpoll that I was not aware of. I still think they're great and I still love their character, but in the future I shall not be quite so trusting in their nature, or was I just unlucky with a rogue poll?

Paul Jupe

A follow on from Titter Ye Not

I hope you enjoyed reading my escapade of cleaning Border/Fife show cages from the August newsletter, and had a good laugh at my expense! No, I never suffered any lasting problems or issues!

In the current situation of this Covid I feel we are in need of a laugh sometimes, and I am more than happy to share another 'funny episode' that happened to me during my early working life.

I started work in 1967 as a Trainee Draughtswoman for Thorn Lighting in Enfield. This was the first time the company had ever employed a female within that part of engineering, and I was classed as a 'trainee' rather than an 'apprentice'. I still had to go through their 5 year scheme of college (which I failed miserably, on Maths & Science!) and workshop experience. My workshop experience at one point included 6 months in 'maintenance for a lighting laboratory'. This area was very cramped and 'housed' 4 of us. As you may remember the fashion in the late 60's & early 70's was mini skirts! Me, being very naive in those days, did not have a clear mind of thought as to what to wear for my work clothing.

One morning I stepped into our cramped office and saw my 3 colleagues (including my governor) all looking down at the floor. All I heard was, 'I've won the bet'! What!! I looked down on the floor and saw they had highly polished a sheet of aluminium and had a bet as to what colour underwear I was wearing that morning! I run out as red faced and fast as I could, but to be honest I could not take any offence, as my dad worked in another department and would not have tolerated anything upsetting to me!

This incident also made me realise why I was the one who was given the task of the testing of fluorescent tubes at the top of the ladder on a weekly basis! Yes, you are right, whoever was holding the ladder had a 'good bird's eye view'! Thank goodness for tights in those days. After that, I spoilt their jollifications by making sure I wore trousers in that department!
Brenda Kettle

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

Mark Cussen is looking for a **BRITISH SHOW CAGE NUMBER 2**. If you can help please phone him on **0759 807 4418**.

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 120 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 has been leading the charge on our FaceBook page and I have 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.

Richard

Mick Pegram’s “Spot the Member” give-away

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

2020 Membership Subscriptions

**The Club’s year runs from January to December
2020 Subscriptions**

Single - £15.00
Partnerships - £20.00
Juniors (to 16) – Free

More photos from Mick Pegram

Continued – Dagenham CBS and Barking CBS promoting the hobby. We took over the cloakrooms and adjoining Hall to put on this display at a School Fete. Really was successful and both Clubs gave a donation to the School funds. More photos to follow in later Newsletters.



Charlie Hussy and Micky Pegram



Eddie Hussein, Harry Binnings and Brian Reed Above

Harry Binnings and Eddie Hussein Below

