

The Show Budgie

For Show Budgie Breeders and Exhibitors

Issue 68

December 2013



Best Bird on Show – Eastern Cape 2014 – Tony Slight

Christmas & New Year

Well December has arrived and at speed this year. We were still unpacking the new rings in November 2012 and when we wiped our eyes out it was January. Next thing we knew it was the SA National in Bloemfontein and now we are heading for Christmas again.

Well here's hoping that those going away for Christmas have a wonderful time and those staying at home or working through December make the most out of December. Drive safely and we will see everyone at the first meeting in 2014.

This year has been a busy year for the club in that we hosted a few shows in very short succession. The club is however hoping for a quieter 2014 on the show scene and has not requested to host the usual February show.

There will however be a show at Safari Garden Centre on 22 February 2014. We will be joining the Indaba Nyoni Club where all birds except Canaries will be showed on the day. More details will become available shortly.

The 2014 Year program will be put together shortly and all are asked to throw their names in the hat to host one of the Saturday club activities. Please drop the Secretary an email and you will be contacted to secure a date.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year



The 2014 Club Champions

The Nel Brothers Stud is the 2014 JSBS Club Champions. The Nel Brothers, John and Ian, are founding members of the club and have a long tradition of competing for the club champions since the club was established in October 1998.

2013 was basically a three way race between the Nel Brothers Stud, Koos du Preez and Gert Pieters. The other club members missed out on an exciting club race and we hope they will get involved in 2014 to ensure there is more participation at the Mini Shows.

Looking back at club championships since the club's first year in 1999 the Nel Brothers have taken the honours four times. They also won in 1999, 2000 and 2001. This is the only time that the club championship has been won in three consecutive years. The only club member to have won the Club Championship more times is Gert Pieters who has won six times namely 2002, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2010.

Other club members to have won the Club Championship once have been Deon Davie (2004), Bill Sykes (2005), Mike Davies (2008), Clarence Marks (2011) and Rynier Burger (2012).

The Nel Brothers Stud was established in 1996 and they were members of the now defunct Northern Transvaal Budgie Society. As founding members of JSBS they have through the years progressed through the ranks starting at Beginner then Novice then Intermediate until they became Champions. They are active on the show scene and attend all club Mini Shows.

Club Mini Shows and the decrease in numbers

Looking back at the early days of the club it must be mentioned that there used to be over 100 birds benched at a single club's Mini Show. This does not happen nowadays due to the Mini Shows being in competition with sport and other activities on a Saturday.

If one looks at the yearly totals of birds benched at club Mini Shows 2002 had 289 birds benched, 2003 had 420 birds benched, 2004 had 239 birds benched, 2005 had 234 birds benched, 2006 had 93 birds benched, 2007 had 79 birds benched, 2008 had 72 birds benched, 2009 had 104 birds benched, 2010 had 75 birds benched, 2011 had 70 birds benched, 2012 had 85 birds benched and 2013 had 29 birds benched. The low total for 2013 is mainly due to the cancellation of many of the Mini Shows.

Members must remember that the Mini Shows are hosted so you can bring your birds to compete against other club members to give you an idea of how your birds may do at a championship show. Secondly it is good practice for the birds in preparation for a larger show. ♦

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Tips

No 1.

Make sure your aviary is 100% vermin proof. There is nothing that will set your birds back quicker than a small mouse urinating or leaving droppings or drinking from the bird's water bowls.

No 2.

Make sure that your seed bins are completely sealed for the above reasons. A mouse will get through the smallest of gaps in doors or vents.

No 3.

Don't fall into the trap of treating all your birds with antibiotics on a regular basis simply because one bird doesn't look quite right. Always isolate it and treat it on its own.

No 4.

Don't be afraid of asking for advice from any good, consistent fancier. Most will be only too willing to offer the right advice no matter how long you have been breeding and exhibiting show budgies.

No 5.

Be a good listener and ask more than one fancier for advice.

No 6.

Don't be conned into buying everything that is advertised and sold as the best additive on the market. There are simply not enough days in the year to give your birds what is advertised.

No 7.

Training: Your birds should be trained from an early age to sit in a show cage. This could be in the aviary or taking them to club mini shows. Mini shows are the best practice for the birds. There is nothing worse coming second at a championship show when you clearly have the better bird but it did not perch while being judged.

No 8.

Your time and efforts will be far more rewarding if you spend time cleaning your aviary with a scraper and washing your drinkers (not just rinsing them in cold water).

No 9.

Pay attention to detail. If you have the time, sit and watch your birds – they will tell you when they are in condition for breeding.

No 10.

Keep an up-to-date written record of the bird's performances so you will know what to breed off in the future. It's no good trying to keep it in your head – unless you have only two budgies!

We all learn by asking questions. I'm still asking and listening.

News on the new SANCBA Affiliated

Jacaranda Show Bird Club

A new SANCBA affiliated club has been created in Pretoria which will cater for all Show Budgie breeders interested in breeding birds as well as other bird species. The club is affiliated to the Northern Region Cage Bird Association (NRCBA) and in turn affiliated to the South African National Cage Bird Association (SANCBA).

Committee

The first committee members were appointed until the next AGM which will be in June 2014. The appointed committee members are as follows:

- Chairman – Ian Nel
- Secretary – John Nel
- Treasurer – Gert Pieters
- Ring Secretary – John Nel

SANCBA Shows

Members will be able to enter SANCBA approved shows and exhibit their birds. There is no status so all compete against each other to determine the winner. Birds rung with SANCBA as well as BSSA rings will be accepted at the shows. The first show will take place on 22 February 2014. This is the SANCBA approved Summer Provincial Show and will take place at the Safari Garden Centre. Birds at this show will be aviary birds, parrots and budgies.

BSSA Shows

JSBC members will be able to exhibit at any BSSA championship show in the Champion Any Age class. Points will not be awarded to the member as they are regarded as SANCBA members. Note that this is only applicable to members who are not affiliated to BSSA. BSSA affiliated members cannot exhibit birds rung with SANCBA issued rings.

In order to participate in the BSSA championship shows in the status of the member a member will need to be affiliate to BSSA via JSBS.

Club Fee

The JSBC club fee is R150 for a year and on first joining an additional fee of R70 will be levied. This fee is for the SANCBA Blue Book. This is the Constitution and Rules of the Association.

Ring Price

The ring prices could vary depending on the supplier selected. Currently the price is R2.50 to R3.50 each with a minimum of 20 rings. This excludes postage which will be indicated when ordering.

Any current JSBS members who are interested in joining the SANCBA affiliated club can contact the club secretary for the necessary membership forms.

Joint membership is allowed so come and join.

Treating Budgies with Splayed Legs

Splayed Legs is a condition caused as a result of a newly hatched budgies not being able to get good footing in the nest right after hatching. The photos here are of a Silver Spangled Hamburg chick that hatched in an incubator and jumped out of the tray and tried to walk around on the tin foil in the bottom of the incubator for 36 hours. Its legs were unable to get a grip on the surface and so have slipped out to the sides. This condition is usually correctable if detected and treated in the first few days. The idea is to immediately give the budgie something it can grip on (paper or cloth towel, wire mesh, etc) and assist it in keeping its legs under it until it gains strength in its legs. Although the examples here are of the Hamburg chick the treatment can easily be adapted for budgies.



Above is a splayed legged chick. A band aid makes an excellent prosthesis, because the “pad” in the middle is just the right width to keep the chick’s legs the correct distance apart but you can also use string, yarn, masking tape, etc. Cut the band aid in half lengthwise to get the correct width. It may take two people here. One to hold the chick and the other to tape its legs. Above is what it should look like when it’s finished. Right after applying the band aid, the chick can already remain upright, even though its legs are still weak and it’s sitting on its hocks, and not using its feet. It’s getting used to the idea of standing erect. The last photo is the same chick the following day. Standing Up!!

If the budgies legs haven’t gotten too weak, the adhesive will usually give out about the same time the budgie is walking and no longer needs it. Keep an eye on it and if the band aid lets go and it still isn’t walking on its own, apply another band aid.



Birthday Wishes

16th December **Japie Smit**

25th December **Ian Nel**

The Jacaranda Show Budgie Society

Affiliated to BSSA

Annual Subscription

Membership Fees:

Member – R350.00

Spouse – Free

New membership Affiliation Fee (Once off)

Adult – R275.00

Junior – Free

Visit us on the Internet at

www.jsbs.zymichost.com

Contact John Nel for more information at Tel: (012) 542 3533

Want to contribute to the monthly news!

Drop me an email with your contribution and I will look into placing your article in the Show Budgie.

The Jacaranda Show Bird Club

Affiliated to NRCBA and SANCBA

Annual Subscription

Membership Fees:

R150.00

New membership Constitution Fee (Once off)

R70.00

Contact John Nel for more information at Tel: (012) 542 3533

Breeders Directory

Subscribers are requested to contact John Nel when they have birds or equipment for sale. This will be added below.

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Please check and ensure your details are correct at all times.

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