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Club Subscriptions are due in January each year

The Chirpa



The news of the
North West Bird Club Tasmania Inc
58 Main Road
Wivenhoe Tasmania 7320
<http://www.northwestbirdclubtasmania.org.au>

Issue No 3081 April 2024

Presidents Report

Hi all hope you are all well.

We had a great day at the Wynyard Show with plenty of people attending, unfortunately we didn't have a huge number of birds on display but was a great variety. We had a last minute withdrawal with our valued raffle seller (Lorna) having a stint in hospital and not being able to attend, but we had some members step in and sell tickets a special thanks to Robert and Garry who stuck with this job all day. A few birds were sold and Steve was kept very busy with his display of different aged macaws. I was lucky enough to take out the Col Hite Trophy with a white canary and a member of Cols family was on hand to present the trophy. Thanks to everyone for making it a great day.

Lorna and I met with council and a designer on the outcome of our building and removal of the grandstand unfortunately we won't be getting a toilet or water supply but we had some good outcomes with keeping our room and getting some upgrades to doors etc and works will start in the next few months possibly.

Bird sale well it's nearly here hoping to see you all on April 13th if you haven't contacted Gaye and let her know you will be attending and selling please do so as soon as possible and a list of birds you are selling would also be great as enquires are starting to roll in. Please find more info on sale in this chirpa or phone Gaye on 64232121. If you aren't selling but could help out on the day that would be great. The club will also have a limited amount of bird wormer on sale this is getting harder to purchase so we are lucky a member has been able to source some for the club. So see you all on Saturday 13th April.

Your President Leon

Contacts - NW Bird Club

Leon Richardson (President) Ph. 0407342283

Lorna Dicker (Secretary) Ph. 03 64 421820

Garry McTackett (Editor) Ph. 03 64232121

NORTH WEST BIRD CLUB INCORPORATED. **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

I wish to renew my membership / become a member
(Please circle)

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....TOWN.....P/CODE.....

EMAIL.....

PHONE.....D.O.B. (Junior members only).....

SIGNEDDate.....

If this is a family application please state first names below.

NAME.....DATE OF BIRTH.....

NAME.....DATE OF BIRTH.....

NAME.....DATE OF BIRTH.....

NAME.....DATE OF BIRTH.....

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (please circle)

FAMILY / ADULT / PENSIONER FAMILY / PENSIONER ADULT / JUNIOR

SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

Family.....\$30.00

Return with subscription to:

Adult.....\$25.00

North West Bird Club Inc.

Pensioner family...\$25.00

PO Box 59

Pensioner adult.....\$20.00

Wynyard

Junior.....\$10.00

Tasmania 7325.



FOR SALE

Canary Breeding cages also
birds & equipment for sale.
Phone: Brendan
0427290330



Anyone wishing to rehome birds please contact any club member and we can try to help you out.
Leon Richardson (President) Ph. 0407342283
Gaye & Garry 0364232121 email garrymct1@bigpond.com

Tasmanian
Liberals

**Jeremy
Rockliff**

Liberal Member for **Braddon**

**43 Best Street, Devonport
(03) 6478 6050**

Executive member for the year 2022

President: Leon Richardson
Vice President: Barry Dudman
Patron: Hon. Ruth Forrest MLC
Secretary: Lorna Dicker
Treasurer: Lorna Dicker
Bird Stewards: Leon, Robert, Steve, Garry
Membership Officer: Gaye McTackett
Editor/Web Master: Garry McTackett
Social Media: Justin Tippett
Committee Members: Leon Richardson, Lorna Dicker,
Barry Dudman, Garry & Gaye McTackett,

Calendar of Meetings (Fridays 730pm at club rooms unless stated)

March 2024 16th Saturday Wynyard Show
 April 2024 13th Bird Expo 10 to 1pm
 May 2024 TBA
 June 2024 No meeting
 July 2024 No meeting
 August 2024 TBA
 September 2024 13th 7.30pm meeting Wynyard Showground
 October 2024 11th 7.30pm Meeting Wynyard Showground.
 November 2024 30th Stanley Show.
 December 2024 Christmas function TBA
 January 2025 10th meeting 7.30pm Wynyard Showground
 February 2025 14th AGM meeting 7.30 Wynyard showground

The Cole Hite canary trophie was won by Leon Richardson



Scientifically, a raven has 17 primary wing feathers, the big ones at the end of the wing are called pinion feathers. A crow has 16. So, the difference between a raven and a crow is only a matter of a pinion.

Close and Split Aluminium Sizes	BIRD RING REFERENCE CHART	Split Plastic Sizes
1	Waxbill.	AS
2	Zebra Finch, Gouldian Finch.	
3	Bengalese, Chessnut Finch.	AL
4	Gloster, Fife and Small Canaries	
5	Yorkshire, Border, Red Factor Norwich, Roller and Lizard Canaries.	B
	Java Sparrow.	C
6	Budgerigar	D
7	Neophemas, Bourkes, Blue-wings, Turquoise Parrot, Rock Parrot, Scarlet-chested Parrot and Diamond Dove.	
8	Lovebird, Peachface, Fig Parrot, Grass Parrot, Golden Shoulder, Little & Purple-crowned Lorikeet, Hooded Parrot and Redrump.	E
9	Cockatiels(Quarrion), Varied Lorikeet, Weiros, Mulga, Blue Bonnet, Swift Parrot, Kakariki, Red Cheeked Parrot and Western Rosella.	F
10	Eastern & Northern Pale-headed Rosella, Plumbheaded Parakeet Princess Parrot, Red-capped Parrot, Scaly-Breasted Lorikeet, and Sun Conure	
11	Indian Ringnecks, King Parrot, Red-collard Lorikeet, Crimson Wings, Crimson & Green & Yellow Rosellas, Rainbow Lorikeet, Regent, and Superb Parrot	G

BIRD EXPO



North West Bird Club Tasmania are having their annual bird sale, also bird equipment, buyers and sellers welcome, Bar-B-Q and great raffle. phone Gaye or Garry 64232121. Saturday 13th April 10am to 1pm or until sold out. Everyone welcome to come. 138 Stony Rise Rd; Stony Rise.

Right is first prize raffle and the winner below Erin Witt



Two little old ladies were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was in progress. The thin one leaned over and said, "Life is so darned boring. We never have any fun anymore. For \$5.00, I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid flower show!"

"You're on!" said the other old lady, holding up a \$5.00 bill.

The first little old lady slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes and, completely naked, streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show. Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling.

The smiling and naked old lady came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering crowd. "What happened?" asked her waiting friend.

"I won 1st prize as Best Dried Arrangement."

Gouldian Finch

FAMILY: Estrildidae

GENUS: Erythrura

SPECIES: gouldiae

OTHER NAMES: Desert Parrotfinch, Painted Finch, Gouldian Grassfinch, Purple-breasted Finch, Purple-chested Finch,

Rainbow Finch, Rainbow Bird, Lady Gould Finch.



Description: Medium to large strikingly coloured finch. Male's wings and back are green, rump and upper tail coverts blue. Tail is long, pointed and black. Crown, face, chin and cheeks black, breast purple. The belly is yellow, tending to cream toward the vent and undertail. Eyes are brown, the bill is horny white with a coral red tip. Legs and feet are yellow. Females resemble males, but are much duller. Immature birds are generally an olive brown above and grey below and have blue nodules around the gape. This finch is the most sociable of all the grassfinches and is strongly gregarious in all its activities. It is not surprising therefore, that they are usually encountered in very large flocks. Gouldian Finches are thought to be migratory, dispersing southward to breed during the monsoon and retiring to coastal lowlands during the dry period. When feeding, Gouldian Finches come down close to the ground but seldom actually reach the ground. Instead, they prefer to harvest seeds directly from the plant and to take insects on the wing. When disturbed, the Gouldian Finch will take to the tops of trees. It also roosts in treetops. Length: 130-140mm.

Subspecies: None.

Status: In the wild - endangered. In captivity - secure (one of the world's most popular aviary birds).

Threatening Processes: Fire and trapping for the avicultural trade have been implicated in the decline of this species.

Distribution: Across tropical Australia from the Kimberley to Cape York. The Gouldian Finch has declined drastically since early this century and is now considered to be rare east of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Habitat: Tropical savannah woodland.

Diet: Seeds and insects (especially when breeding). In captivity, a good quality finch seed mix is the mainstay of the diet. This should be supplemented with greenfood (eg half ripened seed heads of grasses or most other herbs from the garden such as Shepherd's Purse, Dandelion and Chickweed, or any vegetables such as silverbeet, lettuce, etc.). Many aviculturalists provide live food (often mealworms) during the breeding season although others have had good results without it. Lastly, it is im-

Breeding: December-April. The nest is a rudimentary structure made of grass and located in a hollow branch of a tree or in a termite mound. (This is the only Australian finch which nests exclusively in hollow branches or termite mounds). Both sexes are involved in constructing the nest and incubation is shared during the course of the day. The female broods at night, with the male remaining close by. The young are also cared for by both parents. In captivity Gouldian Finches will accept a variety of nesting receptacles ranging including woven baskets and boxes

Courtship Display: The male turns toward the female and commences to wipe his bill on the perch. This increases in rapidity until he commences a bobbing dance whilst ruffling his feathers and holding his entire body erect. Often this is accompanied by crowing. The female eventually signals her readiness to copulate by crouching down and quivering her tail.

Sexual Maturity: Becomes sexually mature at the age of about 9 months, but most birds are most productive from their second year onward.

Clutch: 4-8 pure white eggs (17mm x 13mm). Incubation period: 12-14 days. The young usually fledge at around 21 days. In warm climates these birds produce multiple broods. Independent young should not be removed from the parents until about 4 weeks after fledging.

Mutations and Hybrids: Two colour mutations are reported for this species: a black-breasted form (solid black between bars) and a fawn form.

Suitable Aviaries and Compatible Birds Double-barred Finches will be quite happy in suspended cages or breeding cabinets. These should have at least the following dimensions: 700mm(long) x 400mm x 400mm. These birds are at their best in larger planted aviaries. Such an aviary should provide plenty of shelter and should probably have a roof over at least half its area. Black-throated finches will readily share an aviary with most other finches (eg. zebra, painted, parrot, etc etc), quail, doves and even neophema parrots.

Species Specific Problems This species tends to be prone to airsac mite and scaly mite. Stress and obesity are also common problems encountered with this bird