**NORFOLK FOREIGN BIRD ASSOCIATION – 2011 OPEN SHOW**

This years open show attracted 228 entries which was down on recent years, but quite good considering a few usual exhibitors were unable to enter. Andrew Howlett was judge for the Lovebirds and Australian, Robert Walvin judged other Seedeaters, other Parrotlike, Softbills and Junior whilst Denis Webster placed the Zebra Finches and Bengalese awards.

The Lovebird section contained 42 entries evenly split between adult and current year bred. Overall quality in this section was excellent and better than in any other section. D Watlow took the two leading awards in the adult section with a Masked and a Lutino Peach Faced. The Masked was also awarded best adult owner bred exhibit. Third best adult was a Black Cheeked owned by AK & JS Morton. Best current year bred, best Lovebird and third best exhibit was D Watlow’s normal Peach Faced. The Morton partnership took awards for both second and third best current year bred with an Orange Faced Cinnamon Peach faced and normal Peach faced respectively.

The other Parrotlike section was not as well supported as in recent years with 13 entries. B Sheldrake won almost all the awards taking all three adult places with a cock Plumhead, Blue Linoelated and hen Ringneck respectively. The Plumhead was also best Parrotlike and second best adult owner bred in show. B Sheldrake also won best and second best current year bred with a Yellow Sided Conure and Lutino Lineolated whilst M Staff’s Bourkes was third.

Australian Finches numbered 54 with some good quality on show. Best adult was the Black Headed Gouldian owned by J Mitchell whilst L Barnsdale was second and third with pairs of Cherry Finches and Hecks Grassfinches. The current year bred section was headed by a Fawn Parson Finch benched by J Boulton. This exhibit was also best Australian Finch and went on to become second best in show. L Barnsdale also staged second and third best current year bred with Hecks Grassfinches and Cherry Finches.

Other seedeaters numbered 64. Best adult was an African Silverbill owned by S Fisher. He also benched second and third best adult with a Chocolate Silverbill and cock Green Singing Finch. Even greater success followed for this exhibitor when we won the award for best current year bred with a Moluccan Mannikin. This exhibit went on to win the award for best seedeater, best current year and best in show. Second and third best current year bred went to D Lugo with a hen Blue capped Waxbill and L Barnsdale with an African Silverbill.

As expected, Softbill numbers were down again, a trend that is likely to continue. C Allaway won all the awards with a White Cheeked Touraco, Grey Backed Thrush and Spreo Starling. There were no current year bred Softbill entries.

Colby School entered the best Junior exhibit with a Java Sparrow.

Zebra Finch entries were down. B & J Rudling won all the champion awards. In the adult section these went to Chestnut Flanked Whites followed by two pairs of Fawns, and in the breeder section the two best were Fawns with Grey Cheeked being third. The novice adult section was headed by G Wincomb’s Chestnut Flanked Whites which were also best novice exhibit and best Zebra Finch. Another Chestnut Flanked White entry was also second best novice adult for G Wincomb whilst D Lugo was third with Lightbacks. Best and second best novice breeder awards also went to G Wincomb, both being Chestnut Flanked Whites. Third best novice breeder was won by P & D Smith with Lightbacks. Best single adult was won by B & J Rudling whilst best single novice went to P & D Smith.

Best Bengalese and best champion was won by G & L Lockington whilst D Williamson staged best novice.