

**SOCIETY SALES ITEMS**

**Ron 6254 2443**

9" Gal "D" Cup	<i>for soaked &amp; sprouted seed</i>	\$ 9.50
Galvanised Swinging Doors for Coop Cups		\$16.50

**Grits & Cuttlebone**

Calcium & Mineral Grit Mix	<i>Course or Fine</i>	1kg	\$ 8.50
Calcium & Mineral Grit Mix	<i>Course or Fine</i>	3kg	\$24.00
Cuttlebone		1kg	\$11.50
		2.5kg	\$27.00

**Miscellaneous**

Bird Catching Nets	From	\$25.00
Leg-rings Plastic & Aliminium	each from	\$ .35
Leg-ring cutters		\$15.50
Perch Holders <i>(Per Pair)</i>		\$ 3.50
Nest Box Holders <i>(Per Pair)</i>		\$ 1.65

**There is a large range of items that can be ordered in for you, We are not carrying a large range of medicines and supplements because of special storage requirements and expiry dates.**

**Please note that prices may vary without notice.**

**THE LIBRARY**

The Society has a very extensive library collection that is a free service to all members. We have most of the "Birdkeeper" bi-monthly magazines, most of the "Birdkeeper" species specific books, Russell Kingston's Finch books, Mark Shepherd's "Aviculture in Australia" and many more. We also exchange magazines with many other clubs from all over Australia.

Due to the large collection held by our librarian it is not possible to bring all the collection to meetings, so if you would like to contact **Caroline** on **6259 0545**, she can arrange to bring back issues of what you require to the next meeting.

Stan Sindel's & Jim Gill's new Lorikeet book now in the library as well as the new ABK Book on Cockatiels

Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc.



**FORMED 1977**

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**The Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc., The Newsletter and it's Editors assume no responsibility for omission of articles or information presented. The editor reserves the right to edit all material. The material presented is not the opinion or endorsement of the Society, the Newsletter or it's Editors.**

**THE AVICULTURAL SOCIETY OF CANBERRA INC.**

**FORMED 1977**  
**ABN 61 364 052 379**

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**COMMITTEE :**        **BEN JOHNSTON**                        **MAX THOMPSON**  
**JOHN MCGRATH**                        **ADAM DOBLINGER**

**LIFE MEMBERS :**    **GEOFF GIRVAN; IAN WOOLCOCK.**  
**BOB LENON; JOHN MCGRATH.**

**POSTAL ADDRESS:** **THE AVICULTURAL SOCIETY OF CANBERRA INC**  
**P.O. BOX 21**  
**JAMISON CENTRE ACT 2614**

**MEETING VENUE:** **THE UNITING CHURCH HALL**  
**GILLIES STREET**  
**CURTIN ACT 2605**

**MEETING TIME :**    **8PM TILL 11PM**

**MEMBERSHIP FEES : FAMILY RATE \$35 PA; SINGLE RATE \$30 PA:**  
**CONCESSION RATE (PENSIONERS & CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS) \$15 PA**  
**JUNIORS FREE.**  
**THERE IS NO JOINING FEE**

**VISITORS MOST WELCOME**

**WEBSITE : www.avisocietycanberra.org.au**

**SOCIETY SALES ITEMS**

**Ron 6254 2443**

**Medicines & Tonics**

Vetafarm Calcivet	250ml	\$20.50	500ml	\$31.50
Vetafarm Soluvet Plus			100g	\$11.50
Vetafarm Probotic	90g	\$13.50	500g	\$29.00
Vetafarm Polyaid			80g	\$21.00
Passwell Multivite (13 vitamins)	100g	\$7.00	500g	\$20.50
Calcium Sandoz (Liquid Calcium supplement)			200ml	\$11.00
Avitrol Plus Worming drench			100ml	\$16.00
Vetafarm Wormout Gel	50ml	\$13.00	100ml	\$17.00
Crop Drenching Needles			(From each)	\$17.00
Syringes	1 ml & 2 ml			\$ .80
Vetafarm Feeding Spoons	small	\$23.00	large	\$26.00

**Handrearing Mixes**

Passwells Handrearing Food	1kg	\$15.50	2 kg	\$29.00
Pretty Bird 19/8 Formula			2.27 kg	\$32.00
Pretty Bird 22/10 Formula			2.27 kg	\$36.50

**Egg & Biscuit Mix**

Egg & Biscuit Mix	1kg	\$6.00	2kg	\$12.00
Egg & Biscuit Mix	5kg	\$28.50	25kg	\$115.00
Finch Soft Food (Canary Starter)			1 kg	\$ 6.00
Finch Soft Food (Canary Starter)			5kg	\$23.50
Wombaroo Lorikeet & Honeyeater Food			1 Litre	\$ 6.00
Wombaroo Lorikeet & Honeyeater Food			5 Litre	\$22.00

**SHEPS LORI MIXES**

Lori Wet and Lori Dry	2.5kg	\$13.50	5kg	\$26.50
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**SEED HOPPERS**

Galvanised Seed Hopper	Small	\$27.00
Galvanised Seed Hopper	Large Single	\$30.00
Galvanised Seed Hopper	Large Twin	\$33.00
Galvanised Seed Hopper	Large Quad	\$35.00
6" Gal "D" Cup	for soaked & sprouted seed	\$ 6.50

### BIRDS FOR SALE

Joanne Ph 6161 3551 or 0402 367 475

*(Don't forget that all adds are posted on our website as well)*

**Troy 6254 1313:** Cloncurry Parrots - 1 hen & 2 cocks (All related)

**Caroline 6259 0547:** 1 young unsexed Red Collar Lorikeet; Aviary Bred Cockatiels in various colours; Budgies.

**Adam 6259 7313:** 5 Handreared Green Princess Parrots; 3 cock Regent Parrots; King Quail cocks & hens in Normal, Silver & Fawn; Bourke Parrots in variety of colours and splits.

**Len 6236 6364:** 2 Green split Blue Quaker hens for sale 06 bred and is asking \$200 each for them. .

### BIRDS WANTED

**Adam 6259 7313:** Swap hens & cock Red Wings for same (need to make un-related pairs)

**Caroline 6259 0547:** Mature Alexandrine hen.

**Adam 0428 243 424:** Hooded Parrot (young or mature cockbird); Goldern Shouldered Parrots (young uncoloured pair); Bush Budgies.

*This section is a free service to all financial members. Please note that all listings in this section are current for one month only. All adds must be lodged with Joanne (6255 2078) or Mick (6258 5572) by the **Second** Saturday of the month in which the add is to appear. You must renew your add each month for it to continue in the magazine.*

### NOVEMBER 2007 MEETING

The next meeting of the Society will be held on **Friday 16th November 2007**. This will be the Society's last meeting for the year (*No meeting in December*). On the agenda will be a discussion on the breeding season's results so far (Some members are having a fantastic season and others a disastrous season) and an update on the proposed record keeping scheme for exotic birds.

A light supper will also be provided.

***Your Society needs you to participate.***

**See you all at the meeting.**

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### SEED ORDERS

Since the beginning of this year, the Society has collated a monthly seed order for members, to be delivered on the last Friday of the month. Whilst there have been some minor issues involved, and overall it has been a success, it is very time consuming to collate the orders, collect the money and organise the seed pick up.

It has been organised that members who wish to order seed, can directly do so through Heffernans Seeds in Goulburn. This will make it easier for members to organise payment and a delivery time and schedule that better suits their needs. There is a price discount for being a member of the Society. They deliver to Canberra currently on a weekly basis.

***You can contact Stuart, Brian or Rebecca on 02 4822 7528 to arrange your own orders and deliveries.***

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### MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

If any member would like to receive their newsletter by email instead of regular post, could they contact Mick or Joanne, who will collect your details and make the appropriate arrangements.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

*(What's on and where)*

**November 16<sup>th</sup>:** Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc. monthly meeting  
**Xmas Meeting & Final Meeting for 2007**

**January 27<sup>th</sup> - 08:** Avicultural Society of Canberra's Annual Social BBQ  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at a venue to be decided.

**February 15<sup>th</sup> 2008:** Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc. monthly meeting  
First formal meeting for 2008

**February 16<sup>th</sup>:** Surgical Sexing Day by Dr Tony Gestier.

**March 1<sup>st</sup>:** Orange Bird Sale at Orange Showgrounds  
Ph Morrie 02 6365 3666 or Peter 02 6365 5318  
[www.orangebirdsale.com](http://www.orangebirdsale.com)

**March 21<sup>st</sup>:** Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc. monthly meeting  
*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008 is Good Friday, the start of Easter, so the Society will need to either bring the meeting date forward a week or put the meeting date back a week. Please give it some thought and a decision will be made in the new year.*

**April 5<sup>th</sup>:** Gunnedah Bird Sale & Expo  
Ph Greg 0447 749 971  
[www.gunnedahbirdsale.com](http://www.gunnedahbirdsale.com)

**April 18<sup>th</sup>:** Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc. monthly meeting  
**TBA**

*If anyone is aware of a forthcoming event that is not listed please let me know so that everyone is aware as well?*

## BIRDS FOR SALE

Joanne Ph 6161 3551 or 0402 367 475

*(Don't forget that all adds are posted on our website as well)*

**Mick 6258 5572:** Chattering Lory, mature cock bird, DNA Sexed & Micro-chipped

**John 0408 268 173:** After Hours or Weekends Only Please!  
Shortbilled Corellas Hand Raised Cock & Hen - Closed Rung - Surgically Sexed. WA Longbilled Corellas *P.butleri* Cocks and Hens Hand Raised - Closed Rung - Surgically Sexed  
Eastern Galah Cock Hand Raised - Closed Rung - Surgically Sexed  
WA Galah (*Assimilas*) Hen Hand Raised - Closed Rung - Surgically Sexed  
**Breeding Pair of Cockatoos;**  
Shortbilled Corellas *Gymnopsis* **One** Pair left eggs pipping 22-10-07

**Wanted or swap for above birds!**

Cape York Subspecies of Short Billed Corella *Normantoni* any Eastern States held WA Longbilled Corellas *P.pastinator*

**Calls Taken for 2007 seasons Pet Cockatoos, WA Long Billed Corellas, Short Billed Corellas WA Galahs etc All Chicks to be HR CR SS available early 2008**

**Fred Cardona 02 6493 6221:** Finch Show Cages and Show Cage Fronts. Varieties of Finches.

**Joanne & Ben 6161 3551:** 1 breeding pair of Scaly Breasted Lorikeets (Cinnamon hen & split cock); 1 bonded pair of Scaly Breasted Lorikeets (Mustard hen & split Cinnamon cock)

**Bob 6291 9345:** Cockatiels in Whiteface Pied and Cinnamon Pied.

**Margaret 6281 3136:** Budgies in Aviary Bred & Handraised; Masked Lovebirds; Zebra Finches; Handraised Cockatiels.

**Majella 6258 5572:** Budgies in various colours & ages.

**Adam 0428243424** (afternoon/evenings) or email: [beakybird@hotmail.com](mailto:beakybird@hotmail.com): Zebra Finches in Grey's, Whites & Pied's.

to our aviary inhabitants!

**So I hope by writing this it takes the worry out of seed spouting, for you give it a go! I know some of you are a bit hesitant but go on!**

**Notes;** The term “cockies” paddock-the farmer who scratches out a living in rural Australia is referred to as a “cockie” that is he makes his living by scratching around in the soil like a cockie!

Some people I know Micro Wave their seed mix with excellent results, Pat Thompson from Boorowa is one, we don’t have a Micro wave but simply rely on “camp oven” technology!

You may have to look up “camp oven” in a dictionary, its got something to do with baking dampers! You see technology is a bit slow in these parts!

The other thing that I have taken too in the last couple of seasons is adding a “cap full” of a liquid calcium supplement to the first “coop cup” full each morning, for additional calcium whilst chicks are growing, so far with seemingly excellent results.

**Enjoy!**

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## For Sale

**Tony 6258 6697 or 0418 438 395:**

Aviary 2.2 metres high x 2.2 metres deep x 3 metres wide, contains 3 flights.

9 single & 3 double Galvanised seed hoppers; Glass water bottles and basins; 6 large show or sale cages; 1 small carry box. 1 extra large divided carry box and home made seed winnower.

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## SALES TABLE

Ron McFarlane has generously agreed to take on the Sales Table Steward responsibilities. Ron can be contacted on 6254 2443. If we don’t have it in stock we can get it for you.

## MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP

*Minister for the Environment and Water Resources*

### New Exotic Bird Record Keeping Scheme to Combat Illegal Trade and Protect Native Birds From Disease.

A new national exotic bird record keeping scheme will allow better tracking of exotic birds to help fight illegal trade and introduction of foreign diseases which threaten Australia’s native species, the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Malcolm Turnbull said today.

“Under the new scheme, birdkeepers will be encouraged to keep standardised records on the origin of their birds and for their movement within Australia,” Mr Turnbull said.

“The scheme has been developed in consultation with aviculturalists through the Exotic Birdkeepers Advisory Group to ensure that it will be simple and practical for birdkeepers to implement.”

“Increasing legitimacy for exotic birds will also provide more certainty for birdkeepers about the origin of their birds – this will likely increase the value of legally held exotic birds and that will benefit the birdkeeping sector.”

The Australian Government is committed to curbing the illegal trade of exotic birds and has invested \$100,000 to ensure the successful implementation of the scheme.

The recommended standards for exotic bird record keeping will involve birdkeepers:

- marking and individually identifying all high interest birds that they hold and recording these details in an Activity Record book; and
- using Movement Transaction Records when selling or buying birds.

The scheme will apply to species listed on the 2003 Inventory of Exotic (Non

# *Avicultural Society of Canberra Inc.*

## **Annual General Meeting**

The deferred Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007. Apart from the presentation of the financial statements and election of office bearers, there were some very important decisions made that will impact on how various functions of the Society operate over the next twelve months.

Probably the most important change will be to the current monthly meeting arrangements. After much discussion it was decided that the Society would hold bi – monthly meetings at our current venue instead of the current monthly meeting. On the alternate months when we don't have a formal meeting at the Church Hall, we will meet at a member's residence, (*So be prepared, we could turn up at your place, JUST KIDDING!!!*). Seriously, if any member feels like they would like to host a social get together at their place, please let me know.

These meetings will be held on a Saturday or Sunday, depending on individual circumstances. There will be no formal structure to these meeting and may even include a BBQ. It was felt that this arrangement will facilitate a hands on approach to birdkeeping and give members a chance to exchange ideas in a less formal atmosphere. A full calendar of meeting arrangements and venues will appear in the January issue of the magazine.

The next most important change will be to the monthly newsletter. As from the January issue of the magazine, it will become a bi – monthly publication, posted in the months when we don't have a formal meeting at the Church Hall. In the alternate months of they're being no magazine, a reminder notice for that month's meeting and current events will be posted to members.

After some debate as to whether to continue with the Sales Table, Ron McFarlane has very generously offered to take on the responsibilities of Sales Table Steward. Ron can be contacted on 6254 2443. Whilst the sales table will continue, it will be with a reduced range of stock kept on hand. Cuttlefish, Wormers and some Medicine's, Egg & Biscuit Mixes, Lori Mixes and Hand Raising Mixes as well as a supply of Bird Leg Rings will be kept on hand. Other items required but not kept in stock can be ordered through Ron.

walked this planet of ours!

To keep that soaked mix growing too a sprouting mix, and clean I repeat the "flushing" with water process every twelve hours, that is until the desired length of sprout is obtained

Cost to you in monetary out lay, bugger all other than the cost of a good sprouting mix, cost of time at the most ten minutes because you slept the rest- How easy is it?

I feed my mix out from then, but it can be left to grow shoots that's up to you!

When my Cockatoos are breeding and especially when they are raising chicks I supply this food twice a day, as soak/sprouted seed is an easily digested nutritious food combined with the green seeding weeds that I supply, ex the paddock are "pumped" into the chicks until the babies crops bulge!

In the Winter I give my mix a "Kick in the Guts" so to speak by using hot water to get the process off to a flying start, and also I hear people say but my mix goes "mouldy" or it smells, I don't know what they are doing wrong, maybe "crook seed" or "filthy water", rinsed in good quality clean water there should be no problem, but if it "stinks" or has a sweet smell, **chuck it out.**

This breeding season I got two buckets going as the first ten litre was devoured in the morning feed and then you had second for the afternoon rounds, so I had two "cultures" twelve hours apart, on an ongoing rotation!

As most of you are aware, I do keep a few cockatoos and they can munch a bit of tucker! (The second load is soaked whilst I am at work, or both can be started same time and then start the next when the first bucket is emptied, it would be time consuming if you stood and watched the whole process in action, but like me I am sure you have other things to fill your life!)

I do not totally disagree with Chris Leepers writing, as she makes mention of some good practices, as I do above with the weed combo. Suppling sprouts in addition to other foods is very good practice, freezing and refrigeration of excess sprouts is highly applauded if you are allowed too as well, and for those of you that are observant enough you will see a flocks of cockatoos like Galahs, Corellas or Sulphur Crested's etc ripping up a just sprouting sown cereal crop from some "cockies" paddock, that is as it pushes through the soil in early Spring ie replicating exactly what we are achieving by suppling sprouts

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Now that you have that bit practiced you will need two maybe three more ingredients, good old clean water, usually comes out of the tap and a good clean sprouting seed mix (admittedly at the moment 2007 good seed will cost a bit, due to the drought), but do your birds and yourself a favour and get good quality seed for this exercise.

I buy a mix that's already premixed from Avicultural Accessories at Marsden Park NSW, this mix contains such goodies as Sunflower, Safflower, Wheat, Adzuki Beans, Mung Beans, Dunn and Pigeon Peas to name a few of the seeds contained in the mix! Heffernan Seeds from Goulburn are also offering a sprouting mix which I have not tried but it sounds on par with Keith and Margaret's, so it provides an alternative.

Then the third item you may require is an antibacterial agent, there are some specialist avian products available, of course good old fashioned bleach, which is what I use, see method below.

So, so far not a lot of monetary out lay or time involved, and guess what it does not get any worse!

Fill the "holey" bucket with about 66% to 75% full with your chosen seed mix, take the "unit" to the laundry tap and cover seed with water, cold which will normally do, then throw in a "gulp" of bleach (as I do if I do) or another antibacterial agent if you are a bit scared of bleach! Then if its late in the day go to bed and as you "punch out the Zs," nature is taking care of business for you, that is the seed goes into grow mode and starts to swell as if you had planted it into the soil!

Next morning "low and behold" the 75% is now almost one hundred percent of the buckets content, sometimes over the hundred percent, and spilling over the sides of the buckets into the sink, (I get away with doing it in the laundry tub) the next move will take some time as you are not only bleary eyed but somewhat stunned by what good old mother nature has done with your few kilos of dry seeds from twelve hours ago! Anyway get over the shock of natural occurrences and lift the holey bucket and the excess water will run free, put the holey bucket back into the good one and fill again with clean tap water, repeat this process until the water runs clear, you have now soaked and started to sprout seed! No ROCKET SCIENCE in that EH! Just what nature has been doing with seed well before both birds and definitely Homo Sapiens

After the presentation of the Society's Financial reports for the year 2006 – 2007, all Executive and Committee positions were declared vacant and nominations were called for those positions. The following Office Bearers and Committee Members were duly elected:

President: Mick Logan

Vice President: Graham Reardon.

Secretary: Joanne Gafa.

Treasurer: Majella Logan.

Bird Steward: Joanne Gafa.

Sales Table Steward: Ron McFarlane.

Librarian: Caroline Vollman.

Supper Steward: Bob Lenon.

General Committee; Ben Johnston, Max Thompson, John McGrath and Adam Doblinger.

Max Thompson has generously agreed to become our website manager, and over the next few months will update the website.

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### ***My Method of Seed Sprouting and Feeding out for Birds***

*By John McGrath Copyright remains with the Author.*

I read with interest the article that Chris Leeper from Queensland wrote that was reprinted in the November issue of The Avicultural Society of WA Magazine, where I am also a member, so I thought I'd throw my "two bobs worth" in. You are by now already thinking hasn't this bloke got anything else to do but write? Yes I have but I also like to put another point of view across on things that affect aviculture!

I soak/sprout seed almost year round for my Cockatoos and find it no hassle what's so ever, I also work long hours and the soak/sprout seed is fed "under lights" a large percentage of the year, that is in the dark both in the Wintery months and the early Eastern Daylight Saving that is the time that I leave for work to drive into the Canberra region to ply my trade, so the Cockatoos will get fed again in the dark "under lights" at the other end of the day during Winter, and guess what, they cope! Most of the my Cockies, will "squawk

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up” as soon as the flood light is “thrown on” leave the perch and come to their respective “coop cups” in anticipation of their early morning breakfast! - neighbours probably think its’ the SCG or MCG or maybe even the WACA, I don’t care I have to feed the birds!

Mick and Majella Logan were hosting an interstate speaker for the night and after one of our regular Avicultural Society of Canberra monthly meetings, the group got home and the host and hostess proceeded to chop up vegetables. “What’s that for, the morning feed?” “No now” “But its dark” “Yeah but Edison invented the light bulb!” was Micks snide reply! The Queensland guest was a bit stunned that people actually fed their birds in the dark, too me it’s the norm!

I don’t actually see my birds in daylight except weekends some months in Winter!

Therefore I find that soaking/sprouting seed is a very convenient way to boost the nutritional in take of my birds when there are no in season weeds to collect and daylight hours to find the same! I think some mornings the soak/sprouted seed mix freezes after I feed it out, I know my fingers are aching and need warm water (which doesn’t really help either some mornings) too thaw them out when I return to the house before hitting the road to work! The aviary water containers can stay frozen most of the day here in Winter if it is cold enough! (As most of you Canberra area members realise the water dishes don’t go off either in Winter with our very cold days!)

Birds need variety in their diet and by offering what I consider to be an easy alternative to buying sometimes expensive fruit and vegetables and spending excessive time chopping them up, you can simply soak and sprout seed, people say oh that’s too hard or it takes too much time- two statements I find hard to comprehend!

This is what to do, get yourself one ten litre plastic bucket, drill some drain holes in the bottom, whilst you are at the supplier buy two which is not that hard, but do not and I repeat do not drill holes in the base of the second bucket - then as a practise run slide the bucket with its newly drilled holes inside its surprisingly enough identical “brother”, they fit inside each other like a glove, so far you have spent a little time and outlaid about two dollars- the time and costs are mounting (Most people have access to a drill and a small drill bit)

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-native) Birds Known to be in Australia. These species have been classified into high interest and low interest species based on pest risk, disease risk and risk of illegal trade. Under the scheme, birdkeepers will return records for high interest birds to the Department of the Environment and Water Resources.

Record keeping will help owners demonstrate adherence to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Under the EPBC Act it may be an offence to possess wildlife without being able to demonstrate its origins. Substantial penalties of fines up to \$110,000 and 5 years imprisonment can apply.

“The scheme will help meet the Australian Government’s international obligations to minimise illegal international wildlife trade and to protect Australia’s biodiversity,” Mr Turnbull said.

Australia is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD).

“I encourage all exotic; birdkeepers in Australia – whether commercial or hobbyists – to take up this scheme to protect their own birds, and Australia’s unique native wildlife,” Mr Turnbull said.

11<sup>th</sup> October 2007

***Once the final details are formally released by the department, they will be summarised in the magazine.***

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## **Society Newsletter**

***I am desperately seeking suggestions, contributions, articles and handy hints to use in our newsletter. Without our members input, then (as with this issue of the magazine) there is very little content.***

***For our hobby to prosper and grow, we need not only to share amongst our fellow aviculturists, not only our successes but also our failures as well.***

***The Editor.***