



## **FROM MATT'S PERCH**

**By Matthew Russell**

I originally came up with "From Matt's Perch" as a way of invoking discussion, for voicing my opinion and giving you the opportunity to do the same. This will be my 6<sup>th</sup> column and not one person has an opinion on any of my columns or is too scared or lazy to let everyone know what they think about the topic at hand. Well come on people! Bring it on! Write in and tell me if you agree, or I am a complete dill?

I'll use this month as a practice month, let's start with something easy. I will tell you a bit about myself and what I am doing in the Society, and I hope to hear the same about you so we can put it in the next issue of the magazine.

As you know my name is Matt. I first got interested in birds when my girlfriend moved in with me and brought a cockatiel called Hank with her. My main interest in aviculture is with finches and softbills. This is due to my time looking after a friend's collection of finches while he was away. I loved watching them interact within their man-made environment. One of the biggest kicks I get from our hobby is designing and building new aviaries.

As for my plans for the future, I wish to greatly expand my collection and concentrate on breeding as pure as possible tough strains of exotic birds in large open aviaries in flock situations. I got involved in the Society after it was suggested to me by the same friend. I have got a lot out of it, knowledge, friends and the cheap services that help keep the cost of what can be a costly hobby down.

Well that took about five minutes and was not hard! No researching required, easy. So send a Christmas present to all in the Society by letting us know a bit about yourself.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I would also like to extend thanks to those who volunteer their time to administer the Society. A big thanks to Richard for this great magazine. Dennis for the work he puts in with the Service Items Table and sharing his knowledge at meetings. Jeannette for the work she puts into the raffle, supper and behind the scenes stuff; and another big thanks to Tony, without who the Society would not be as good as it is. They all do a wonderful job.

Please let me know what you think, and we'll publish it in the magazine. You can e-mail me at: [tara\\_matt@hotmail.com](mailto:tara_matt@hotmail.com).

Cheers,

