

THE 2010 ADELAIDE BIRD SALE

Another bird sale has come and gone and despite the attendance being down on last year, a profit was made, much the same as last year. We were not alone with a reduced attendance, it was the same with all other bird sales this year. Some of it would be due to the economic situation, plus the still unresolved exotic bird situation.

We had more sellers this year and a good spread of species for sale. Most sellers I spoke to were happy with their results, particularly the finch breeders. The number of finches offered for sale seems to grow each year. Native parrots were also in demand. Prior to the sale I had numerous phone calls enquiring about the availability of Australian parrots. Rosellas, particularly the Adelaide, were on the top of the wants, along with King parrots.

We tried something new, a display of bird skins, bird pictures, posters and a DVD of birds. The idea was to attract new members and give out information to the general public regarding bird keeping. The presentation was excellent, likewise the DVD, which was very well put together by member Bob Wright, an excellent job. However, despite all the work the effort met with only moderate success. To be fair it was our first attempt at such a project and I am sure that with more time to prepare we will do better next year.

Despite the lower crowd, food sales were up, approximately \$165 dollars on last year. We are indebted again to Harry Cailles for the barbecue facility, it looked very professional. The raffle proceeds were down a little, but again was a great source of income. Being the last bird sale in the metropolitan area our Service Items were down on last year. However, Alecia Cailles, who looked after the leg rings on the day improved, last year's sales, which was a great help. Well done Alecia.

Now, down to manpower. It takes some 30 odd people to run the sale with some members helping out each year. Without them the sale would not go ahead. So I have listed those helpers, too whom I am eternally grateful; and hope I have not missed anyone.

Catering: Harry & Di Cailles, Tara Russell, Ellen Parsons and Judy Wright

Transfer Cage Builders: Richard Wilson, Brian Noble, Brian Allen, David Wilson

Service Items: Dennis Lomman, Mark Shephard, Steve Rollis, and Alecia Cailles

Raffle: Jeanette Melbourne, Di Cailles, Helen & Peter Bryant, Greg Edwards and Sue Wakefield

Registration: Tony Melbourne and Brian Allen

Promotion: Richard Chilton, Kevin Turner, Matt Russell, Ken Bell and Greg Johnston.

I must also acknowledge those who generously donated raffle prizes, Jeanette and Tony Melbourne, Di Cailles, Kym Sandercock, Pauline & Bronte Duncan and Keith Hocking. Special thanks to Salisbury Fresh Fruiters who continue to donate a fruit basket each year, plus Terry Wraight who has provided the transfer cages since the inception of the Bird Sale.

Socially the day was excellent, with aviculturist enjoying a day with friends and acquaintances and of course our beloved birds. If you have not attended a bird sale, then you are missing a great day. Even if you are not selling or perhaps you thought you were not going to buy a bird, it is still an enjoyable day. You have the opportunity of meeting old friends, seeing what birds are available, what birds are in demand or short supply. We are now established as a recognized event in the bird world and should strive to improve on each year's sale.

Again, I thank all those who assisted on the day, those who donated raffle prizes and the members of the Bird Sale Subcommittee who worked in the background to make the day so successful.



Tony Melbourne
Bird Sale Convener

Photo credits for following page:

1. David Pace. 2., 3. & 4. Tara Russell. 5. David Pace. 6. Tara Russell. 7. David Pace.



11:00am AND THE RUSH IS ON



Mmm! WILL I, OR WON'T I?



ONE OF THE MANY TRADE STANDS



THE RAFFLE IS DRAWN



BIRD VIDEOS RAN ALL DAY



THE INFORMATION CENTRE



A CLOSE-UP OF SOME OF THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTION OF BIRD SKINS