

## THE 2009 ADELAIDE BIRD SALE

Sunday the April 5<sup>th</sup> saw our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bird Sale. Although down slightly on birds compared with last year the sale was a financial success. The attendance by buyers was good, and this resulted in higher food sales and raffle proceeds. Service Item sales were also strong.



PART OF THE BUYING CROWD

Finches were very well represented with many quality birds and a good representation of both exotic and natives. Most sellers sold out and were pleased with their results.

Now all this just doesn't happen without willing helpers, and I am greatly indebted to the many Society members who helped on the day. We provided three transfer cages this year, ably assembled by Brian Noble, Brian Allen and David and Richard Wilson. Extra Marshals were on duty this year comprising Peter Brook, Brian Preece and Arthur Casey, which

helped with a speeder table allocation. Gordon Campbell and I attended to the registrations.

We are indebted to Harry Cailles who provided a very sophisticated barbecue, plus the ice for drinks. To top it off, aided by his son James, he did the lion's share of the cooking. Di Cailles, daughter Alecia and son Matt along with Ellen Parsons and Jeanette Melbourne made up the balance of the catering team. They did an excellent job and provided quick and efficient service.

Service Items sold well under the care of Dennis Lomman, Matt Russell, Steve Voight and Gary Edwards. Gross sales totaled just over \$1400.00 which when added to other income came to a grand total of over \$3000.00. What a pity we have to have expenses which reduce the total.

Never-the-less it was an outstanding effort by all who put in a hard day's work on behalf of the Society. The results of the sale have set us up for financial stability for the remainder of the year. Richard Chilton looked after the P.A. System and conducted the raffle draw. The use of the white board to record drawn numbers, was, I thought, a big improvement and the raffle ran a lot more smoothly this year. There is a problem with the hall's P.A. system but unfortunately we have little control over that.

Donations for the raffle were generously given by members, and I would like to thank the following donors for their support: Keith Hocking. Arthur Casey, Diane and Alecia Cailles, Roxy Goodwin, Indy Chapman (Indy, by the way, was busy selling raffle tickets all day and did an extremely good job), Richard Chilton, Pauline and Bronte Duncan, Janina McBeath, John Burns and Moisev Yurtaev. Again thank you for your donation it was appreciated.

Four businesses who support us each year again donated this year. Farm Fresh Fruiters of Salisbury again provided a large fruit basket. If you live in the area I can personally recommend them, not only for your produce, but keenly priced vegetables and fruit for your birds. Wombaroo Passwell again donated their products to the raffle, while Magill Grain provided prizes of bird seed. The Wheatsheaf Hotel at Virginia again gave us a dinner voucher to the value of \$50.00. These people generously help us out each year and help make the raffle table more attractive. The raffle does not cost the Society a lot and Jeanette spends most of the year chasing up prizes and makes a quilted wall hanging each year for the raffle table.

One pleasing aspect this year was the members who brought birds to the sale for the first time, some of whom are new to the society. Thank you for your support, but we would like to see more members bringing birds to the sale in future.

In closing, thanks again to all those members who came along and worked on the day, those who donated raffle prizes and importantly those who brought birds along. You are the ones who make the sale a success. I hope to see you all back next year. If anyone has suggestions which could improve the sale we would like to hear from you.

Tony Melbourne— Sale Convenor