**President’s Report**

The adult bird shield ran smoothly I believe partially due to the effort by those members rostered on to arrive a little earlier to start erecting staging. I thank those members who have offered support and look forward to continued support of our members in the future.

 The set up for the young bird shield will take place on the Saturday morning prior to the shield day between 9 & 11 am. Here we ask for each of the 9 metro clubs to provide one of its members to make themselves available. The BCV will have a coordinator there on the day. (Not too much to ask for 1 member from each club- bring a fellow member even better.)

Positive steps have been made to ensure that these shows are run more efficiently offering a more enjoyable day for all of us. It has been noted that more members have been offering more assistance, realising these shield days are bigger and more involved than we have had in the past. We need to make sure this positive approach continues in the future.

On a more negative note, a minority of our members have issues and choose to view them on a social media outlet such as facebook. The introduction of the facebook page is working well and a positive tool being used for communication and attracting new members. I believe the facebook page should be used in a positive manner for those who choose to participate. To those who revert to hiding behind a facebook page to air their BCV issues or concerns, I suggest in the future they go through the correct channels and be in touch with the BCV or one of its councillors with any issues. The council executive will consider any issues or concerns of our members in a professional and positive manner.

ANBC National Challenge

The coming National with 27 classes and 3 birds in each class promises to be a major event. The expectations of our team carers is enormous with a total of 81 birds to be prepared for the show, as compared 12 years ago with 19 classes of 2 birds totalling 38 birds. The birds will be cared for at the Bruce and Judy Wilson residence prior to departure to Mandurah the Thursday prior to the show. (Thanks Bruce and Judy for the generous offer.) Team carers will be Bruce Wilson, James Bader, Phil Hoadley and Alan Baxter.

I hope to see a good number of Victorians there.

Good Luck Victoria!

Alan Baxter

President

Note: I remind members that are unaware that exhibitor points are available for dark eyed clears at shield competitions.