

Community-Based Bird Clubs Animal Welfare Experts

- Animal welfare is central to our day-to-day existence, it is what we do
- Unsuitability of DAA Section 96 is due to an ongoing lack of cooperative consultation

Aviculture is diverse and central to the lives of tens of thousands of Victorians

DAA Section 96 **Restricts all trade to pet shops and homes**

- In force since 1994
- Unknown to aviculture until May 2015
- Birds have been routinely traded without issue at thousands of club events annually
- Trade has occurred for decades, and in some cases centuries
- Lobbying since May 2015 for a Section 5 exemption to maintain the status quo
- Amendments in the Bill to add Animal Sale Permits are unworkable
- We predict negative animal welfare outcomes

Lack of understanding of the size and diversity of aviculture

Diversity of Clubs

Approximately 200 clubs throughout Victoria

Thousands of events annually

- General Avicultural Clubs (ASA)
- Canary Clubs
- Exhibition Budgerigar Clubs
- Fancy Pigeons
- Racing Pigeons
- Exhibition Poultry
- Specialist Clubs
- And more...



Diversity of Events

Approximately 200 clubs throughout Victoria

Thousands of events annually

- Bird sales and expos
- Auctions – onsite and online
- Competitive shows
- Competitive pigeon racing
- Community exhibitions
- Aviary tours and visits
- Monthly meetings
- And more...



Diversity of Activities

Approximately 200 clubs throughout Victoria

Active throughout the community

- Threatened species work
- Education – aviaries in schools
- Research – advice and assistance to universities
- Health care – birds for therapy
- Fund raising to support charity
- Working in parallel with zoos
- Sharing our story – journals and presentations
- And more...





Diversity of Avicultural Events

Birds have been traded routinely at thousands of events annually for decades, and in many cases for centuries.



Diversity of Avicultural Events

Our expertise is highly specialised and respected internationally



Diversity of Avicultural Events

There are no records of any investigations, charges or prosecutions at any of these events



Diversity of Avicultural Events

Birds have been traded routinely at thousands of events annually without incident.



Diversity of Avicultural Events

Regional bird expos and sales are major social and economic events



Diversity of Avicultural Events

There are some 70 pigeon racing clubs supporting some 3000 members throughout metropolitan and rural Victoria

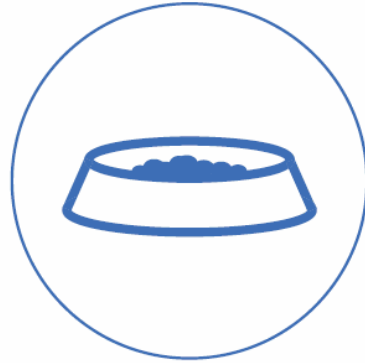


Diversity of Avicultural Events

Clubs are the major animal welfare educators and advocates



The need for a suitable
environment



The need for a
suitable diet



The need to be able
to exhibit normal
behaviour patterns



The need to be
housed with, or apart
from, other animals



The need to be
protected from
pain, suffering,
injury and disease

Animal Welfare – Central purpose of all bird clubs

Specialised and professional expertise



Aviaries

Species specific design of the environment is critical to all areas of animal welfare



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Threatened Species

Aviculturists ARE conservationists

Invaluable expertise and skills

- **Gouldian Finch**
- Red Siskin
- Orange-bellied Parrot
- Helmeted Honeyeater
- Swift Parrot
- Black-throated Finch
- And more...



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Community-Based Bird Clubs Recommendations

- Section 5 exemption for cage birds from Section 96 until resolved
AND EITHER
- Reject the Bill and start over as part of the Animal Welfare Action Plan
OR
- Amend the Bill to permit trade at club run events

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