

## 2005 Presidents Message

As always, cricketers look toward the new season with visions of warm summer afternoons, well-struck boundaries, wickets by the score and acrobatic catches held. Reality may seldom be so kind, but the joy of pursuing the elusive ideal sustains us all and ought to be sufficient reward.

Local cricketers were saddened by the recent deaths of two former Alcos, Trevor Bagot and Johnny Moss. John was one of that club's original members and an Honorary President of the VDCA. We extend our sympathies to their respective families but will relish the fond memories and contributions made by them both.

We also regret the absence of the Castaways this season and we wish them well in their plans to re-organize and re-build.

Happily, we are able to bring much good news of noteworthy cricket events.

Several members of the Wicket Maidens midweek team have been selected to represent Canada in matches in the Caribbean in July. They will raise the profile of women's cricket locally and across the country and we wish Lenore Davis and the others a wonderful time on tour.

We also look forward to two overseas teams playing in Victoria this summer. On June 22nd, a very strong side from Jaipur School in India will play our fortified Colts and on September 30th, Victoria will host the MCC Touring Team when they play a full British Columbia side, also at Beacon Hill Park. We hope that several VDCA players will be selected for BC. It has been years since local cricket followers have been treated to such high quality junior and senior cricket.

We welcome Tony Cordle's return as head coach of the Junior Programme. The future of local cricket lies in our youth and Tony and the VDCA urge your support in every possible way.

Any organization, such as the VDCA, relies on numerous volunteers whose work, alas, is so often under-appreciated. To all those who work so hard to maintain our wickets and the Beacon Hill Pavilion, who prepare and serve afternoon teas, umpire, score, coach and transport youngsters and who perform all the other essential tasks, we do appreciate all your effort and time. You are the heart and soul of the VDCA. My particular thanks go to Past President Allan Carter and his wife Sherry for their unstinting service to cricket over many years. We owe you a big debt but trust that you will still be involved significantly.

To all players, midweek, weekend and juniors, I wish you a memorable season. To all friends, spouses, supporters and spectators, I wish you many pleasant hours of watching and beg your indulgence if the after-match accounts of heroic deeds on the field, may be a little embellished at times.

John Wenman, President