

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT: FEBRUARY 2008.

Howdy Folks!! *Happy New Year!!!*

I hope you had a restful & peaceful Christmas break, I know I certainly did.

It was good to take time out from dancing.

During my two week break I had nothing to do with dancing,  
no learning new dances, no listening to music.

I had a complete break, recharging the batteries for another  
full on year of dancing.

Having filled out my diary for 2008, I can see that it is going to be as hectic as  
usual, but would we have it any other way.....NOOOOO!!

One of the first major events on the VLDA calendar is of course the launch of  
the Whittlesea Country Music Festival in the city.

The VLDA became involved in this event last year & it proved to be a huge success.

This is a great opportunity to show the public what Line Dancing is all about.

We are looking for your support again this year, we have the Longest Line Dance  
record attempt again, plus many other activities.

You only need to spare 1 ½ hours of your time on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

for more information please refer to the advertisement in this newsletter.

Other major events coming up are also Portarlington with Gordon Elliott -  
as usual this promises to be another great weekend.

We also have the VLDA Good Friday Marathon approaching us very quickly this year,  
and it is a month earlier than last year.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March is the date to write down in your diaries;  
again we are looking for your help to make this a great day,  
not only for us Line Dancers but for the 'kids'.

Last year we raised \$9,409.55 what a great effort!!

I want to go one better this year & crack the \$10,000 figure,  
& we can only achieve this by your help & support on the day.

If you have anything that you would like to donate, whether it be money or goods  
for our raffles & auctions then please speak to one of our committee members.

In my classes we have provided a coffee tin,  
for any loose change that our students want to get rid of -  
it's amazing how quickly this can add up.

Just another way of raising money for this great cause.

Preparations are also under way for this years 'Gala' Ball,  
which promises to be a fantastic night.

I have been told what the theme is for the night & by what I have heard,  
the hall should look absolutely brilliant, but isn't it always?

Well that's it for this month, plenty of dancing, plenty of workshops, plenty of socials, bring it on.  
Get out there support each other, have fun, but most of all be happy that we have a fantastic 'hobby'  
that we can all enjoy, it's cheap, it's great exercise, but the most important thing is that we get to  
meet some great friends that stay with us forever.

Take Care, have fun, keep smiling' & most of all keep DANCING!

**Darren Mitchell**  
**President VLDA**

