

President's Report : September 2009



This is my first Report, having been elected to the position of President of the VLDA at the recent AGM. Your new Committee is a mixture of new faces, some returning from last year's committee, and a few who served in previous years who have once again put their hands up.

Nadia Friel is our new Vice President, Lorraine Hillard is again Secretary, Marg Beaty Treasurer and Cynthia Rennolds, Pauline Greenwood & Marion Adams return again as General Committee members.

Marion is our new Ball Coordinator.

The Ball this year was a fantastic evening and thanks must go to Cynthia as Coordinator, and to the other members on the Ball committee.

Cathryn Proudfoot is continuing as a General Committee member after four years as Publicity & Promotions Officer, and as Editor of the Newsletter since November 2006, when she produced her first of many Newsletters. The Newsletter is a big part the public face of the VLDA, and producing it is a huge task gathering all the necessary information from everyone all in a very tight timeline. Cathryn did this efficiently and developed the Newsletter to the high standard it is today. These roles will become the responsibility of newly elected members Adrian Lefebour, who will be responsible for Publicity & Promotions, and Stephen Paterson as Editor of our Newsletter.

We also welcome to the Committee Willy Sharp as Membership Coordinator, and Robo Lockwood on General Committee.

Over recent years the VLDA has become stronger and more relevant to the line dance community for both instructors and line dancers, and I am enthusiastic and confident the new Committee will work together to continue this.

Three of the biggest events on the Victorian line dance calendar are Portarlington over the March long weekend, the Good Friday Appeal and, of course, the Annual Ball. Planning for these 2010 events is already underway and new sub-committees will be formed as soon as possible to coordinate these events. We are looking for members to volunteer to join these sub-committees so if you can assist please let us know. Even if you can't join one of the working groups, your offer of assistance in any way would be appreciated.

On behalf of the new Committee I would like to extend huge thanks to the members of Committee that are stepping down. In last month's Newsletter our Caretaker President Jenny Leigh thanked Darren Mitchell for the outstanding contribution he made as President.

To quote Jenny: "Darren leaves very big boots to fill ... as President he has been a committed, hard-working, sometimes outspoken, passionate ambassador for Line Dancing in Victoria". I think that says what we all feel, Darren – and, on behalf of the new committee, a very big 'Thank You'.

Jenny Leigh is also leaving Committee after three years as Vice President – thanks go to Jenny for her consistent contribution over that time and for willingly stepping into the President's role for the last couple of months.

Another part of the public face of the VLDA is the website and memberships. Tilly McIntyre was the quiet achiever behind these important roles – thanks Tilly so much for your hard work. A big welcome back to John Bishop to an administrative role within the VLDA – John has agreed to develop and maintain our website.

Before I run out of space I would like to thank you, the line dancers, who help out behind the scenes at socials and functions, and come along rain, hail or shine to classes to support your instructors and class mates. Lets hope 2009 - 2010 is a good year ... and in the meantime enjoy your dancing ... and let's smile on the dance floor ☺

Keith Davies : President VLDA