



President's Report - April 2015

In general conversation I hear most everyone saying. "Is it April already? The year of 2015, flying by so quickly." As for myself, I embrace each month; seemingly so much has happened already this first quarter.

Our line dancing Fund Raiser's should always be acknowledged for the time, effort and generosity that they contribute to their local, needy Charities. I travelled to Perth and attended The Pink Boot Charity Ball, which raised \$19,200.00 for a very worthwhile organisation "Kid's With Cancer" Closer to home. I must also mention our Birthdays, Marcia's Line Dancers and Country Cowboy, both celebrate their second and Marilyn Van Der Pol from Barwon Valley Bootscooters is coming of age - her eighteenth. Congratulations to Marcia, Trish, Ray and Marilyn. Enjoy your month.

The Portarlington Long Weekend was a huge success. The township certainly turned on some fine weather. The Questionnaire in question? I sort of felt like I was taking the lid off Pandora's Box! I rose to the challenge to inspect its contents... The survey was undoubtedly a majority vote for no change, "Don't fix, what isn't broken" was a cliché read many times.. a tradition that it has become. On behalf of the committee I wish to thank you for all your feedback, your comments, ideas and suggestions have been noted and will be discussed at our next meeting. It's reassuring to have your vote of confidence, that we are seen to be taking the right course of action. Gordon Elliott is a true professional and it is an honour to welcome him back next year. The themes were splendid, the atmosphere hilarious, fun company and If I was the judge the best Port. yet. A truly hard working group of helpers. A gracious thank-you. The Portarlington Local is printing a small article on the History of Discover Port, whereas Country Bay FM aired an interview with myself and Margaret Linley from The Geelong Advertiser. Do I feel a little bit of a resurgence towards Line Dancing. Is the word getting out there?

As an Association, our committee at all times has to conduct itself in a truly, professional manner and set an example. This is the time for us to step up.. For some reason we have not stressed the importance of Floor Etiquette. We have become a little blasé about its significance in our Line Dancing community. Safety on the Dance Floor is our chief aim. The VLDA is planning a campaign of A3 posters to be displayed at all our functions, including workshops and meetings, illustrating the ruling on Floor Etiquette. Our website will include a printable poster that Instructors can exhibit at their classes and socials. The newsletter will contain Floor Etiquette guidelines and at each of our events announcements will be made. The duty of all Professional Instructors has to be to inform our new dancers and remind our not so new (didn't say old) how to leave a dance floor or how not to cross the floor, or travel through rows with a cup of coffee or tea, or how not to stand on the dance floor to chat. Common sense Yes. We must be more aware of any impending situation, that could arise.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Easter, whatever you decide to do, attend socials, visit and spend time with your families or just relaxing at home, It would be lovely to see your support at Our Good Friday Marathon Appeal, to raise funds for The Royal Children's Hospital. Non-stop dancing, playing your requests, catching up with friends and perhaps win one of the many raffle prizes, all very kindly donated. Offers of help on the day in some capacity would be certainly very well received.

Our motto for this month.. Play safe.

Pauline Greenwood
VLDA President

