



President's Report - February 2016

Sweet '16 - A Happy New Year. A welcome back, to you all.

Most classes have now resumed and instructors are revising those taught dances of 2015. There is anticipated curiosity that builds from a rumbling and then mounts into an explosion of new choreography that's ready to go.

A huge congratulation to all our dancers and medal winners, who competed in The Australian Line Dance Championships. The Line Dance Association of Australia (LDAA) organises and hosts the competition and the VLDA is proud to be a major sponsor.

The winning dances from the 2016 ALDC Choreography Competition are:

BEGINNER - Dance With Me - Linda Burgess

EASY INTERMEDIATE - Ooh-Wakka - John Hughes

INTERMEDIATE - Best Seat In The House! - Stephen Paterson

ADVANCED- My Legs Are Weak - Linda Burgess

Darren Mitchell's Workshop at Aimee Country, hosted by Rhonda Mathieson, last month, with the favourite Big Blue Tree - Ria Vos is 'doing the traps' and then adding to this we have Gordon Elliott's Workshop at Good Time'n Bootscooters with Allan and Karen Burr February 6th. Having said this....the impossible task can be for an Instructor to have to choose one of these many new dances to teach!

We look forward to The Portarlington Long Weekend, with the return of Gordon Elliott hosting Friday to welcome 'Club T Shirt' Social and 2 Saturday Workshops in succession. The stamina and professionalism of Gordon is never short of excellence. It's then the VLDA'S turn with a themed 'Colours Of The Rainbow' social. (I hope this is not an omen for rain) Our major sponsor is Montana's, who have donated generous prizes for our raffle. For the 'early bird risers' there is a request Sunday Morning social. A rest up in the afternoon and then full on with a fun night - Dust off your Country outfits and let's have a "hoe-down". There is only light refreshment available i.e. cakes, slices with tea and coffee. I encourage you all to attend, especially if you have never been to Portarlington. (Check this Newsletter edition for further information) On my last check there were still some accommodation bookings available. So don't think you've missed the "boat" - Pre sale tickets available at the venue from 3pm on Friday, 11th March.

Our Good Friday Appeal 25th March, commencing at 11am till 8pm (note times) Donations of small hampers and other prizes towards raffles would be gratefully accepted. There is also the Trading Table Running, so donations worthy of selling would also be certainly most welcome. Marion Adams is only too pleased to answer any queries that you may have. Over the duration of 11 years The VLDA with the support of the dancers has raised a total well in excess of \$111,000.00. I warmly thank you for this most wonderful achievement.

The Gala Ball is our very special 20th. This is a date not to be missed, Saturday, 25th June. The theme 'Dancing Under The Southern Cross' Dress attire predominantly blue with the additional colours of red and white (Australian Flag) Keith Davies has once again been set the hard task of co-ordinating. Please confer with Keith for any further information, not listed on flyer.

Goodbye and Good Luck to Kerry and Andrew Bailey from Nuline with Kerry, an active member of the VLDA, who have been teaching in Ballarat for 6 years. I wish you well for the future.

Our first meeting of the year is to be held at Clare St, Yarraville on Sunday, 14th February. I look forward to seeing you there.

I take this opportunity to salute our committee, who all give of their time.

I am exhilarated at the prospect of what we can achieve throughout the year ahead.

Pauline Greenwood
VLDA President

