



President's Report - March 2016

'ON THE MARCH' for the New Year. The VLDA is preparing its events, meetings and workshops, Instructors are planning their social dates and our dancers gloriously basking in the anticipation of the great dances and good times to follow. From all reports there has been a considerable increase in new beginners. The newsletter's main concept is to inform (many times I have heard it related to as the Bible) those special dates you must not miss, the photos are to delight and most probably also to check on those acquaintance you may know and a small insight into our Line Dancing domain.

March was named after the Roman God Mars, historically, the Ides of March, 14th The assassination of Caesar, St. Patrick's Day, 17th The Patron Saint of Ireland.... and then there's Portarlington Long Weekend 11, 12, 13th The VLDA'S first event of the year!

For those who are travelling to Portarlington, possibly as you receive this newsletter you will be packing those last minute items... You will need t-shirt (club) for Friday, your bright colours for Saturday social and your Country gear for the Sunday social. At 1pm on Sunday afternoon (after the morning social) Stephen Paterson, Lu Olsen and Linda Pink will be hosting a workshop of Victorian Choreography, and will also include some of their own dances. If you have a new dance that you would like to be considered for teaching, please email Stephen for all details and include your new dance sheet. As in previous years Pre-sold tickets & weekend passes can be purchased at venue from 3pm Friday. All prices remain the same as for last year. Please note that non-Line Dancers enter free to all workshops and socials for the duration of the weekend. Gordon Elliott will be in fine form, the weather will be glorious, so then have your cameras at hand! Port's reputation never disappoints!!

Closely followed by 2 weeks is The Good Friday Charity Line Dance Marathon, which is to be held at Norwood Secondary College, commencing 11am till 8pm. Marion Adams has so graciously offered her help once again. She is asking for donations for both the raffles and the Trading Table. Please ensure they are in good condition and any second hand electrical appliances / devices have a safety certificate. If any queries, direct them to Marion (0411 518 158) Cynthia Rennolds has run a Silent Auction for as long as I can remember. Once again any items would be gratefully accepted. The unique approach to this day is the fact, no repeat dances, no breaks except for announcements and raffle draws and an opportunity to request your dances, some a few years old and yes even those from the archives.

Thank you for your attendance at our last meeting at Yarraville, fortunately the weather was not too hot. Keith Davies our Ball coordinator reported his updates. A request list of dances for the Ball program will be appearing in this newsletter and I encourage all Instructors to complete. I offer a plea of patience regarding the website. John Bishop is in the 'throws' of updating a new web page, with modern, current software. I ask the professional members to check their class times and acknowledge permission to add their link to our website.

I take this opportunity to thank Kay Eastaway. Your contribution as membership coordinator was very much appreciated, especially over these last few months, till Jocelyn familiarised herself with the new secretarial position. However, it is not farewell as I am pleased to note that Kay continues to remain as a General Committee Member.

Our next meeting & workshops is scheduled to be held on Saturday 7th May at Ormond Uniting Church Hall.

On the way to Portarlington, please take care on the roads, as there is a lot of coastal Long Weekend traffic.

Pauline Greenwood
VLDA President

