



President's Report : June/July 2010

Well what a night it was! The 14th Annual Gala Ball was a huge night and it was obvious that everyone was having an enjoyable time. It was great to see the dance floor filled with dancers and from the stage the sea of happy faces all decked in their 'Black and Bling' was fantastic! Outfits glittered, some were spectacular, many were innovative, while others were clever, even outrageous!

The Atmosphere was amazing and everyone coming along keen to have a great time.

The Committee was aware that there had been concern about the venue expressed by a few people but the feedback we have received about the venue regarding it's size, acoustics, atmosphere and facilities have been overwhelmingly positive.

Congratulations to the dancers from 'Cowboys & Angels' and 'All In Line' who demonstrated their skills so well and entertained us all with their dance routines.

Enormous thanks to Marion and her Ball committee for all the preparation for the big event and their work on the night. The organisation of such an event is huge! They did a terrific job. I would especially like to thank Stephen Paterson for working with me to jointly compere the night. Colin Kryser did a great job with the sound and lighting; and weren't the decorations supplied by Jazzmatazz terrific! While thanking people I must mention the instructors that gave their time to lead off the dances - they were well prepared with their dances (and, in some cases, had to go to the trouble of learning dances especially for the night) and led their dances enthusiastically.

I'd like to make special mention of those instructors, and others at various clubs, who supported the Ball by encouraging their dancers to come along to the night, collecting money and distributing tickets and other relevant information. It is important to have everyone's support for such events to be so successful and we really appreciate the support and encouragement we have received.

After the August AGM a new Ball Committee will be formed to begin the task of planning for next year's Ball and I'm sure this new group will value your input, so if you have any ideas, comments or suggestions, or would like to be a member of the committee, please put your name forward.

Members recently received an information pack regarding the August AGM. This also includes Membership Renewal Forms as VLDA membership is due for renewal on July 1st - *have you renewed yet?* There are some modifications to our nomination and voting procedures for the AGM to ensure that we adhere to the Model Rules for an Incorporated Association (Associations Incorporation Act 1981).

Some Committee members have indicated that they will be retiring at the end of their current term in office and we are calling for people to consider joining the Committee either as an Executive Member or as a General Committee Member. The position of Treasurer is one such Executive position that will become vacant and we would welcome any expressions of interest in this, or any other position.

I mentioned in an earlier report that the Portarlington Line Dance Weekend held in March raised \$2961.00. This was a great result given that the social on the Sunday night had to be cancelled due to the wild weather we experienced that weekend. Committee decided to round this figure to \$3000.00 and donate \$1000.00 to each of the State Emergency Service (so appropriate given the damage that weekend due to the storms), the Country Fire Authority and the Portarlington branch of the Bendigo Bank community Fund which each year donates to local organisations.

Until next time - enjoy your dancing

Keith Davies
PRESIDENT