

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2008

Nirkoda is entering a very exciting phase in her history.

A new beginners class commenced last Thu night with a “bring – a-friend” function. A huge number of Nirkoda members introduced a room full of new dancers to the joy of Israeli folk dancing.

Over the next few months, two very exciting club activities are planned.

A Teacher –Run camp will be run Aug 22-24th. We will be dancing circles, lines and partners together Fri night, all day Sat and Sun morning, with a wonderful party Sat night. We are also providing an extended partners session on Sun afternoon till 4.30 pm. The theme will be “You didn’t get to Beijing?Join us at Nirkoda OLYMPICS 2008 -”This will be held at our own Olympic village, Mt Morton. Many hilarious activities are being planned.

In addition to our camp, Nirkoda will be celebrating her 20th birthday in November with Kobi Michaeli , our guest choreographer. Not only is he a talented choreographer, a great teacher but also a genuinely nice guy.

An integral part of 2007 and 2008 has been marathons, and parties to celebrate Jewish Life Cycle events .Nirkoda has been involved in numerous community performances and activities throughout the past year with increased participation of our members.

Without the support and tireless planning of the committee none of this would have been possible.
A special thank you to the committee 2007/08 .To my mentor Rosie, our Vice-President, Denise Setton, an extraordinary Secretary, fiscally responsible , Treasurer Helen Rawicki and the other committee members Hillary, Lilach and Louise, I thank you all for your tireless work and extraordinary energy.

The past year has seen many challenges for the teachers Denise, Rosie, Rita, Ami, Marg and Ilana. Without their good humour, respect, support and co-operation issues such as travel, holidays and injury may have made the year much harder than it was. You were probably not aware that teachers have regularly met at 6.20pm every Tuesday

night, preparing the hall and music so that partner dances can be bridged from 7-7.30, followed by bridging of circle dances ,enabling many Nirkoda dancers to be comfortable at an advanced level. I am so proud of what the teachers have achieved with this commitment. However ,starting at 6.30 ,and packing up at 11.30 p.m. makes for an exhausting night. To conserve various ankles and knees the teachers recommended to Committee who agreed that from next week, Tuesday class will start at 7.30p.m. with partners and 8p.m. circles. A bridging dance will be taught at 8p.m. sharp.

Many people help Nirkoda but I want to highlight the efforts of Martin Imber. He has single-handedly restructured our library, sound and computer systems and patiently taught computer skills to even the slowest computer nerd(s) amongst the teaching staff.

The committee, teachers and dancers often leave their families to pursue their love of dancing. I would like to pay tribute to those families who make that sacrifice.

My priority as President has been to make Nirkoda a club which values its members, continues to have teachers who strive to achieve a high standard of teaching , and classes which are inclusive and fun. I look forward to the next year with great optimism.

THANK YOU

JUDI BANKY President 2007/2008