

President's report to the Board and Members of Canoeing Victoria Inc,
31st July, 2008.

It has been a couple of months since my last report and much has happened during the intervening months;

1. The Executive, staff and the Board of CV have agreed upon and drafted our 'Strategic Plan'. This Plan has been circulated to the affiliated clubs but is available for all to read on the CV Website. Please take the trouble to read the draft Plan and again, please don't be shy in offering your constructive comments.
2. Our Chairman, Tom Hirrschoff travelled – at his own expense – to the recent World Championships in Portugal where as an 'internationally accredited official' he assisted with the running of the events. I should also mention that the Australian representatives in the events did very well indeed and we congratulate them on their achievements.
3. A company known as Valir Pty Ltd very kindly constructed some much needed polo boat racking for our boat shed at Westerfold Park and we thank both the company and Colin Pratt – the CEO - for their marvellous efforts.
4. Members of the Board conducted the catering at Fairfield Canoe Club (FCC) sponsored Winter Series race at Wesley Boatshed last weekend and I thank all who gave of their valuable time. I would particularly like to thank Geoff Hindle, a Board member, Liz Jenkins and her two girls, Melissa and Justine, members of the FCC Lady Birds canoe marathon team, Joan, Marg and Kath, my friend Neville Kidson and my son-in-law Graham Sim. I wish to put on record my special thanks – yet again - to Werner Bolz from FCC who yet again assisted me by collecting much of the BBQ gear, setting up and then cleaning up (along with Kevin Hannington, the President of FCC) but in particular I wish to thank Werner for acting as chef over a long day.
5. The Slalom Technical Committee (TC) held a dinner to farewell the Victorian representatives of the Slalom Olympic team. My wife and I attended that dinner (as paying guests) and congratulate the organisers on a very successful evening. The Board of CV, and I am sure all our members, wish the team a safe and happy trip and hope they achieve success and their personal goals in the Olympics.
6. During the Slalom dinner, Roy Farrance, on behalf of the Slalom TC – and I on behalf of Canoeing Victoria - took the opportunity to publicly thank Max Parsons for his very, very significant contributions to canoeing in Victoria, particularly to the Slalom discipline, and to wish him a long and happy retirement. Max has been a great advocate and tireless worker for the Slalom discipline over many years and has spent many, many long hours attempting to generate public and government support for a White Water stadium here in Melbourne. Hopefully Max will be able to continue pushing that particular project.
7. Canoe Vic is in good financial health and we are indeed fortunate to have a great team of dedicated staff looking after our affairs. The Board is one happy little band of great workers and I thank all and sundry for their efforts; hopefully they will volunteer for yet another year. We are due to have the CV AGM in a couple of months and we

note here that we are in desperate need of more Board members, particularly anyone with financial or marketing talents.

8. For those that are not yet aware of what is happening, the Red Cross, for many understandable reasons, have decided that this coming Red Cross Murray Marathon will be 'THEIR' last. Starting in 2009 someone else or some organisation, will have to take on the very substantial task of organising the event. Australia Canoeing (AC) and Canoe Vic (CV) have sought discussions with the Red Cross but as yet it is simply a Work In Progress.
9. Fund raising; CV have are 'running' a sausage sizzle at the Middleborough Road Box Hill Bunnings store on Saturday the 9th of August, 2008. Anyone interested and available to assist with this important CV fund raising event would be most welcome.

My thanks to all for their assistance over the past year and I look forward to continuing in my role as President of our great organisation.

Gary Flanigan