

November 2011

SPIRAL

Newsletter
of the
Canterbury
Masters Figure
Skating Club



Future
Masters Reihana
and Liam steal
the show

CMFSC CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011

Spectators at our recent Club Championships and Open Invitation had a lot to look out for

October 24th 2011 was the day of our very own Club Championships and what a great day it was! We had hours of passionate and fantastic skating from all age groups to observe and were glad to welcome guest skaters from CISC and DISC. Entries included freeskate, dancing and stroking at pewter, bronze, platinum and silver levels, from beginners to the very advanced.

A special thank you to all our awesome volunteers on and behind the scenes who made this event possible again. After a year of trials and difficulties here in Christchurch, it is so great to belong to a Club with such wonderful people, who are giving so much of their time and resources and are always looking out for others, despite of their own personal circumstances. Thanks also to Air Rescue Services who paid for competition and workshop ice.

We want to make a special mention of those who competed in the copper first timers event. Jenny Kitamura, Rita Carrol and Jane Thompson took first, second and third places after bravely facing an audience of ice for the first time in their lives. We thought for a moment we were having an after shock during the event but it was just Jane's shaking knees which she managed to bring under control in time for her to perform a fabulous stroking circuit followed by some very fine inside edges. You three were the heroes of the day - well done! The audience was also delighted to see Connor and Liam McIvor with their partners Anja Noetzel Hayward and Reihana Dougherty in the Juvenile partner dance. The former couple took the gold while Liam and Reihana pulled off the silver with dancing that was full of fun as well as skill.

Special trophies were awarded during the medal presentation ceremony to the following club members:

- Wendy Thompson - Most Improved Skater Award
- Jude Heeney - Aspire Trophy
- Mel McGowan - President's Award
- Arnold Schmidt - NZIFSA Administrator of the year (see back page)
- June Laird: Outstanding Service Award (see back page)



Jude, Aleksandra and Jeanette
after their stroking events



We don't have space here to mention all the competitors who gave us pleasure, but we do want to bring you a photo of Rita Carrol exuding relief after her part in the competition is over and a silver medal safely stowed away in her pocket. She is flanked by her husband Denis and by Shayna... proudly displaying her Kiwiskate badge. Our grateful thanks go to Christchurch City Council which sponsored the Masters Kiwiskate Program Sept 2010 - Aug 2011

Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club

Christmas Party!

Monday 19th December

5:30 pm till 7 pm on ice

Bring a plate of food for supper after in Zambonis cafe!

Free entry for all club members,

Just wear a costume!

CMFSC Christmas Party

You are invited to our Christmas Party

December 19th from 5.30 until 7.00 pm. Entry is free for Club Members. There will be games and prizes for the best Christmas outfit for those who enjoy dressing up! Club members, your children are welcome to join us! Please bring a plate of food to share for a social time in Zambonis Cafe afterwards. We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

HIGHLIGHTS IN OCT



Spectrum strikes its jubilant finale pose while practising off ice in Gore's fantastic sports complex



Canada still looked hopeful on our Rugby World Cup day while Ireland below seemed to be crying foul. The problem was that without peripheral vision on the ice Rita kept getting off side and was likely to end up in a ruck



NZ National Figure Skating Champs 2011

Gore's Multi Sports Complex, a combined undertaking between the local council and Ice Sports Southland is a great venue for Nationals. The complex is an example of how heat transfer principles can make for an energy efficient outcome. Gore's unique feature is that it uses the by-product, the cooling effect of the heating system for the Aquatic Centre to provide cooling to the Ice Rink. Since Spectrum last competed in Gore the complex has opened a 4 court gymnasium adjoining the pool and ice rink making off-ice practices a much easier undertaking. With 2 unofficial practices on ice as well as the official one, the team was well prepared on competition day. Spectrum took first place in the Adult Synchronised event with a score of 36.2 points which qualifies the team to skate in the Australian National Champs in December. Individual and dance skaters from the club also achieved well. Congratulations to Connor McIvor who won the men's intermediate freeskate and qualified for Australia. Connor and his partner Anje Noetzel Hayward (CISC) also won the juvenile dance and Liam McIvor dancing with Reihana Dougherty (CISC) was placed third overall in this event. Anna Douglas won her silver freeskate event and Eleanor Stanbury was placed third in interpretive free. Well done all!

Rugby World Cup Day

The ice-rink couldn't hope to escape New Zealand's obsession with the Rugby World Cup so on 4 October skaters donned their colours of choice and the class kicked off with a few unusual exercises. Forming a scrum was one thing (eye gouging takes on an even more frightening aspect with the thought of toe picks!) but when the coach suggested we practise falling by scoring tries, only the hardy obliged. Graham Williams' outfit - with *loose and forward* emblazoned across his back and *Adidas* across his skates - was a standout winner. More than that he treated us to a glimpse of his dear little cold legs in rugby shorts. Wendy took an international approach supporting 4 teams of which her favorite was Namibia. England, Canada and Argentina were all represented as were the Irish. Who was that masked leprechaun? The biggest group of supporters came in black - with capes, wigs, flags and a rather strange long black blow up thing which has some purpose



that remains a mystery to the uninitiated. Next time there's a big event like this we may have a sports reporter who can make a better job of telling the tale!

NZIFSA - new structure

Following its SGM in Christchurch in August the NZIFSA has been operating under its new structure. The Board is now a separate entity from the Development and the Operations Groups. Our congratulations to Jeanette King, the club's Tests and Competition Coordinator, who has taken on the role of president on the new board. Other members of the board are Vice President Robyn Morris, Dion Cunningham, Keith Darvill and Garry Parker. Jan Christieson, who will be known to CMFSC members as a Spectrum member and as fundraiser extraordinaire, has been elected as anti doping officer on the Operations Group. Jan brings to this job significant experience as well as extensive pharmaceutical knowledge. You can see the other members of the Groups listed on the [NZIFSA](#) website

Synchronised Skating

Spectrum synchronised team is off to Australia this week to compete in the Australian National Figure Skating Championships. The team has scored its best ever scores at regional competitions this year and is hoping for further success in Brisbane. Good luck Spectrum from all of us.

Newsletter name

You don't like Spiral ? No problem. It's just an attempt to drum up more suggestions. Here are some we have had: Thin Ice, Thaw't, Meltdown, Slice (Senior Legs in Ice), Edged Out, Draw Up, The Insider, On The Edge, Wrink, Warm Down, Check it Out. Further ideas please to [June](#) or [Sabina](#) or let us know if you like any of these.

Invitation to Committee Meetings

We are extending an open invitation to all Club members who are interested in finding out what the Club's committee is doing "behind the scenes". Maybe you are considering joining the committee next year, maybe you want to see what skills are needed to work on a committee or you just want to experience first hand how the Club is run, when we are not on the ice together. Whatever your motivation, please register your interest with [June](#)



Pre performance nerves - Spectrum members preparing to leave for the rink at Gore and Kia Kaha waits to step on the ice in ChCh

Spotlight on Sponsors

2011 saw fantastic support for CMFSC from Charitable Trusts. In spite of the fact that many venues belonging to funders in the Canterbury area have been disabled by the earthquakes - meaning that less money can be collected for distribution in this area - and in the face of a continued economic recession, we have enjoyed the generous support of the sponsors below. The impact on membership has been obvious. With incomes depressed and ice hire prices increasing, for many of us this sponsorship has meant the difference between continuing to skate and not. For teams and individual competitors, costume and accommodation costs come on top of coaching, ice hire, travel and entry fees. So our grateful thanks go to these sponsors whose generosity makes such a difference. The energetic fundraising work of members has been another great source of income and we will highlight that in another issue.

It was time for new costumes for Spectrum this year and Southern Trust's generous grant covered most of the cost



Funding your community



Our thanks to First Sovereign Trust which sponsored accommodation for Spectrum at the NZ National Figure Skating Champs where the team won gold and qualified for Australian Nationals

Pub Charity subsidized term one ice time this year when club members made their way back onto the ice, knocked about by the earthquake. This contribution helped us get one part of our lives back to normal at a time when many of us were facing financial hardship



Lion Foundation's subsidy of ice time for the latter part of the year has given Spectrum and the rest of the membership a chance to shape up for competition from Club Champs to Australian Nationals.

The New Zealand Community Trust generously supported Spectrum by making a significant contribution towards its coaching costs for the second half of this year.

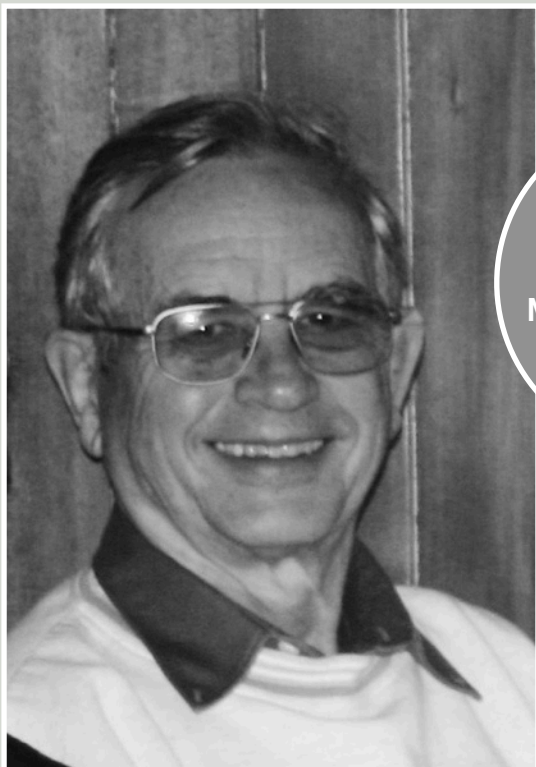


Ice time for our October workshop and for our Club Champs was completely paid for by Air Rescue Services. For many this offered a chance to test our skills and show we were moving on.



Mainland Foundation kindly paid for accommodation for Spectrum to skate at the South Island Figure Skating Championships where the team was placed first and scored a personal best.

Congratulations to Arnold, a most deserving recipient of NZIFSA's Administrator of the Year Award 2011. We are delighted that Arnold's skill, commitment and work have received this national recognition. Below is an excerpt from the citation that was entered by Arnold's committee colleagues



**Arnold Schmidt
Co-winner of the
NZIFSA Administrator
of the Year Award**

Arnold Schmidt has now been treasurer of CMFSC for four years. He brings to that job the skills of an accountant and the work ethic of a Trojan. At regular committee meetings Arnold comes not only with accurate and meticulous reports of the club's finances but also projections and a range of scenarios that provide a useful basis for decisions about spending for the forthcoming period. By doing this he allows the club to maximize the value of its funding and also to ensure that funds are distributed equitably amongst different groups within the membership. His skills extend far beyond financial reporting in that he contributes significantly in terms of ideas for spending and general financial management. Arnold has also contributed positively to our success with funding applications by always providing timely and thorough accountability reports for our charitable funders.

Arnold's methods are rigorous and his reports are presented in a way that allows all members of the committee to understand them and make informed decisions based on them. He undertook an Excel course in his own time and is now highly skilled at constructing detailed yet clear and comprehensible spreadsheets. The value of this to the club is immense – it saves committee time and leads to more robust financial decision making. It is a tribute to Arnold's skills that each year the auditor praises the quality of his annual accounts. As well as his professional skills, Arnold brings to the task modesty, good humour and a kind and diplomatic manner that works wonders with debtors. He is a truly generous soul and we consider ourselves fortunate to have such a treasurer.

Outstanding Service Award

At the Club Champs last month June Laird was awarded a trophy "In recognition of outstanding service to C.M.F.S.C."

Arnold Schmidt tells us why the committee made the award.

June was elected Secretary of the club at the A.G.M. in March 2007 and has worked tirelessly since then for the promotion of the club, sporting many different hats. Not only is she an excellent Secretary, keeping the Committee up-to-date on all matters relating to running the club, but also throws herself whole-heartedly into extra-curricular activities like arranging Winter excursions over the years, helping in many ways, for example, at competitions and at Spectrum practices.

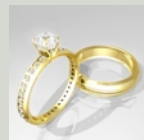


In particular we acknowledge the outstanding work June does in securing funding grants for the club and for the synchro teams. This involves an enormous amount of filling in forms, correspondence, telephone conversations... all taking up a great deal of her own time. In the five years as secretary June has succeeded in the club receiving approximately \$80,000.00 in grants. This has enabled us over the years to keep costs down and is a major factor in supporting the synchronised teams financially for their practices and participating in competitions.

A wonderful testament to June's commitment to Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club and a worthy recipient of this award.

Congratulations

to Aleksandra Jarmolik and David Ramm who travelled to Australia to be married on November 15th and then went on to Poland, Aleksandra's home. Aleksandra competed in the club champs for the first time last month and won the copper solo dance, delighting us with her soft knees and springy lilt on the ice. Best wishes to you both from us all.



Blades off - club outings

Kath Craven and Jude Heeney have been organising monthly outings for club members. The first was a walk in the Botanic Gardens which we have been neglecting a little since the earthquake. Still no water in the ponds and the glasshouses are closed but the group was taken by the unchanged beauty of the gardens. Coffee afterwards at the Boatshed cafe sowed the seed of a punt on the Avon for a future trip. Trip two was a walk in the Halswell Quarry - some varied terrain, great wetlands and of course coffee to finish. Don't miss the next walk along Waimairi Beach which will be on Friday 2nd December, followed by coffee at *The Beach Cafe*. Meet at the Waimairi Surf Club at 10am. Need transport? - contact [Kath](#) or [Jude](#)



Your Committee

President
Jeanne Begej

Vice President
Linda White

Secretary
June Laird

Comp and Test Coordinator
Jeanette King

Treasurer
Arnold Schmidt

Patron
Kath Craven

Committee Members

Jude Heeney
Sabina Crellin
Daphne Morris
Jan Christieson
Graham Williams
Jean Kennedy

CMFSC NEWSLETTER

www.cmfsc.co.nz

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