



# Canterbury Masters

Figure Skating Club Inc.

Newsletter Oct/Nov 2006

## Spectrum Steals the Show



As a young club CMFSC packed plenty of punch at the South Island Champs in Queenstown in early August. A synchro team of 20 has lots of presence on the ice so as it streamed out in a continuous blur of blue, Spectrum's size alone was impressive. After a

deceptively docile warm up, the team upped the anti and the tempo and gave a dazzling display. One of Cushla's laces sprang loose but like the trooper she is she kept her skate on by desperately clutching the sole with her toes to complete the performance without mishap.

Team members were delighted with gifts of confection from Gail Schat - superbly wrapped in the very organza of the costumes - and from Dunedin's synchro team.

Kim Lewis always deflects praise back onto the team but there is no denying her outstanding skills in coaching this mixed ability group to such a cohesive and creditable performance!

Check out the President's Column on page 3 for other CMFSC successes at the SI Champs.

On the Saturday morning club members enjoyed a breakfast at the Goldridge Lodge courtesy of CMFSC. This was a relaxed opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of members to club events and a number of certificates were awarded.

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## Spring Fever Hits Christchurch

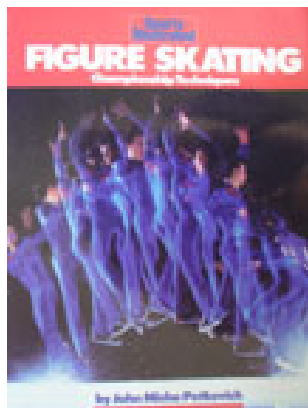
Jenny Blackadder has been on tour with the *Spring Fever Road Show* so when they touched down in Christchurch a large group from the club were there to see them. What a night! Jazz, folk, country and western, ragtime and war music – you hum it, they'll play it. It was a great show and a chance for the

audience to dust down their own vocal chords as well. Marion on the fiddle was quite simply a delight - witty, amusing, fun and *extremely* relaxed. Jenny displayed the profound breadth of her wardrobe with four rapid costume changes each more resplendent than the one before. Her skill on the banjo

quickly showed that figure skating is only one of the many strings to her bow. And in keeping with her self appointed role as club publicity officer, Jen took the opportunity to focus attention on her ice skating buddies.

Cheers, Jenny. You're the best.

## Book Tips



The sudden increase in the number of members with personal coaches makes us wonder if some book recommendations are in order. Check out *Sports Illustrated Figure Skating Championship Techniques* by John Micha Petkovich, 1989. The cover looks scary, but this book begins with the absolute basics and offers a three fold

approach to every manoeuvre— a description, step by step guide and photos of the lovely Tracie Brown performing each move. With diagrams of the edges and tracings as well, there should be something here to suit any learning style. For more advanced skaters a wide range of turns and jumps are covered demonstrated by the agile Brian Boitano.

You'll find this book at the ChCh Central Library at 796.91 PET.

Remember, if you have a library pin, you can check to see if it's on the shelves and if necessary reserve it from your computer: Go to [www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz), choose catalogue, search for the book and take the *place a hold* option.

To buy : [www.amazon.co](http://www.amazon.co)

## CMFSC Open Invitation Competition

CMFSC hosted its first ever open invitation competition on October 12<sup>th</sup> 2006. Local skaters were joined by others from Dunedin, Queenstown and even as far afield as Sydney to make up the more than 45 competitors who entered.

Congratulations to Jeanne Begej for her superb organization in planning and staging this event. Thanks too to the committee and officials especially the judges Wendy Clucas, Sandra Williamson-Leadley, Kath Craven and Lesley Ward. We are grateful to Harry Sweeney, Evelyn Brown, Joy Street and Gill Boyd who undertook music and announcing duties, and also to special helper, Kelsi Lewis.

The lucky winner of the club raffle was Jeremy Claridge.

Full results can be found on the club web page – there's just room here for a few highlights.

Kim Lewis opened the competition with her racy professional free skate and gave a breathtaking display towards the end of the evening in the professional stroking event. It took Kim's breath away too so she had to lay down the law to the judges about just how many circuits of the rink they could expect from her!

In the first timers event it was a treat to see our new future masters Maizie, Nicole and Lucy Jane in their matching

skirts stroke elegantly into gold, silver and bronze places. The hallmark flash of hot pink on their skirts has already earned the group a nickname!

There were some exciting new freeski programs to be seen. Linda White's funky Abba number, *Money money money* was a real crowd pleaser and beret clad Cushla Smith took gold in her platinum freeski event. For the record there is no truth in the rumour that there will be mandatory drug testing of medal winners next year after Cushla was seen chewing suspicious looking gum as she strutted her marching girl stuff on the ice.

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## President's Column

The competition season is now behind us and our Club can be very proud of its achievements.

Spectrum, our Synchro team, has had a great year starting with a silver medal at the NZ Masters Games in Dunedin, gold in the SI Figure Skating Champs in Queenstown and gold in our own Masters Open Invitation event this month.

Our other club members who featured well in the SI Champs at Queenstown were Anna Douglas, 1st place in Masters Diamond Freeskating, Mykaila Lewis, 2nd place in the Juvenile Ladies Freeskating, Robin Scanes & Jan Christieson,

2nd in the SI Waltzing Trophy and Shannon Russell, 1st Place in the Special Olympics level 3. Next year the South Island Figure Skating Champs are to be held in Christchurch on 26 - 28 August, jointly hosted by Centaurus Ice Skating Club and our club, so that will be an event to look forward to.

CMFSC has indeed been fortunate this year to have received funding support from The Trusts Charitable Foundation. Through this funding we have been able to provide subsidised ice time for our synchronised skaters as well as our other members who have worked hard to learn the skills and enter

into the various events that they have competed in. As well, this funding supported our holiday workshop and competition ice time.

Thanks to Kim Lewis for her enthusiasm and encouragement in coaching our members. Its great to see what they have achieved this year.

And with all this generous funding to handle, now is a good time to appreciate the skills of Club treasurer Graham Williams. Unsung hero Graham has been working steadily behind the scenes to keep accurate accounts and has been producing clear, detailed statements that help the committee with budgeting decisions.

And if you admired the logo on the medals for the club competitions, as well you might, credit for this goes to Joe Begej who designed them.

*Jeanne Begej*

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*South Island Figure Skating  
Champs will be held in  
ChCh next year*

*The Trusts Charitable Foundation  
has made subsidised ice time  
and a workshop possible  
for competitors*



## New Members

We are very happy to welcome the following new members for 2006:

Charlotte Dawson  
Sophie Dawson  
Dee King

Shannon Russell  
Nicole van Vuuren

Mayzie Wallen  
Lucy-Jane Walsh

## \$1000 Bonus for Spectrum

In September Debbie Gill-Fox's keen ears picked up a Classic FM radio competition that offered sports teams the chance to win \$1000. Teams had to register and if they were lucky enough to have their name aired, a

number of members had to ring the radio station within ten minutes. Spectrum's members got to work and it happened. They won \$1000! Congratulations to all those Spectrum members who registered, listened

and rang. Special thanks go to Linda White who rallied the troops at the last minute by text and phone to meet the deadline and add these delicious dollars to club coffers for the team.

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*Linda White rallied the troops  
to help Spectrum meet a  
deadline to win  
\$1000*

## Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club

### Your Committee

#### President

Jeanne Begej

#### Vice President

Trish Weir

#### Secretary

Evelyn Brown

#### Treasurer

Graham Williams

#### Committee Members

Kath Craven

June Laird

Kim Lewis

Gail Schat

Muriel Wheatley

Contact details can be found on our website  
<http://www.freewebs.com/cantmastersfigureskating/>

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Newsletter editor  
June Laird

## South Island Champs – continued from page one

Certificates were awarded to Verity Busby, Debbie Gill-Fox, June Laird, Kim Lewis, Sophie Main and Linda White. Check out their contributions which were highlighted in the president's column in the August newsletter.

We were lucky that Jenny Blackadder made it to the competition at all after a traumatic experience while shopping in Queenstown that morning. Having successfully negotiated entrance to a city convenience using a

card key Jenny had a few moments of blind panic when it failed to let her out. She waved the card and pulled frantically at the door but it wouldn't budge. Not a complete stranger to modern technology Jen made an urgent call on her mobile, begging her buddies to release her. "You just push, Jenny, like it says on the door" were the first words she heard from these unfeeling friends as they fell about laughing outside. But Jenny was back on form at dinner

that night reading palms and predicting the future of all who crossed her path.

Thanks to Muriel Wheatley, the Spectrum Synchro team was able to relive its moment of glory over pre-dinner drinks by viewing the video she had made. The more we drank, the straighter that kick line looked but nothing could disguise June's complete gaffe on the "ooh ahh" finale of the performance.



## Congratulations Monique and Jeremy

At Labour Weekend member Monique Da Costa and Jeremy Derbyshire were married. Monique's parents had travelled from Brazil for the ceremony and have been very welcome spectators at the rink. They arrived a little too late to witness

Monique's success in the club champs where she won gold for her free skate, dance and synchro. But they were in plenty of time to bring Monique her very special wedding dress – it had been her mother's too. In this dress and her beautiful ringlets Monique looked like a fairy tale princess and Mt Cavendish was a perfect choice for a reception that showcased the beauty of her adopted country.



The Club congratulates Monique and Jeremy and wishes them all the best for their future together.

## Christmas Break Up

The Club Christmas function this year will be held at Alpine Ice on Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> from 5.30 – 7.00pm. We'll begin with a demo from Spectrum Synchro Team and some of our ice dancers, then everyone will be invited onto the ice for some fun. Family and friends welcome – bring a plate please. Gold coin entry.