



Newsletter

March

2017

Log on to the Website for up to date information
<http://www.christchurchrocknroll.org.nz/>
www.facebook.com/pages/Christchurch-Rock-n-Roll-Club

Bringing you awesome rock n roll since 1984

President's Report March 2016/2017

Voluntary clubs are always amazing spaces. They harness the goodwill, the passion and the drive of people whose only reward is the satisfaction of a job well done, and Christchurch Rock n Roll Club is no exception, 2016 has been a fantastic year of growth and development.

Membership grew to nearly 140, the number of junior dancers grew from our small (and outstanding) core of 5 or 6 to nearly 30, and the number of junior competitors has increased to almost half that number. At the beginning of the year I challenged the committee with what I call a BHAG.. a Big Hairy Audacious Goal.. something challenging yet achievable. I challenged your wonderful committee to try to grow membership to 150, and we nearly made it. Goals shouldn't be easy, and 150 was always going to be tough, but from our current base just short of 140, maybe we should set our sights on 200.

2017

March

22nd Beginners' lessons
29th Beginners' lessons
31st Club Night 7-9pm

April

2nd Juniors Mini nationals/demo,
2.30pm, \$2 entry to go to our
junior dancers, finger food tea
5th Beginners' lessons
9th Central Otago Birthday dance
14 – 17th Junior Nationals
(Whanganui)
28th Club Night, 7-9pm

May

12th Club Night, 7-9pm
26th Club Night, 7-9pm

None of this is possible unless clubs are run by enthusiastic and dedicated members, and Christchurch Rock n Roll Club certainly is. At the risk of inadvertently leaving someone out (always the danger when you start thanking people by name) I'd like to say thankyou to those who make the club run.

To Brenda Neill, Vice President, Karen Thomson Secretary, and Connie van Slooten Treasurer, and to the Committee members Bev, Craig, Catherine, Lorraine, Danielle, Hayley, Colleen and John .. thank you all for the tremendous work you do.

To Lexie McLaughlan who ran our junior section for several years, to Shaun Birchall who not only teaches our senior lessons week after week, but who also stepped up to take the reigns of the junior club when Lexie left to take up her teaching career in the North Island - thank you, you amazing people. Thank you to Hayley Floris who has been the behind the scenes organiser and manager of things 'junior' off the dance floor in the club. While talking about our juniors we should never forget the unsung heroes, the parents and whanau who bring their kids, encourage and cajole their kids, who support their kids to do their best, waiting patiently at the side of the hall while their coaches weave their magic. Thank you.

And this is an appropriate time to congratulate Shaun and Hayley on the arrival of their daughter Franki-Mae, a beautiful wee girl and another great addition to our rock and roll family. Well done both of you.

Thank you too to everyone who has coached dancers, or more importantly perhaps who have danced for, at and with the club whether socially or competitively. We need to remember that you are why we are here, you

June

17th Club Champs
23rd Club Night, 7-9pm

July

2nd Timaru RnR Club birthday dance, Waitohi Hall
8th South Island Interclub
22nd Top of the South dance, 7.30-12pm, \$15 pp
28th Club Night, 7-9pm

August

11th Club Night, 7-9pm
12th Geraldine RnR Dance, Woodbury Hall
26th Spring Dance, 7.30pm music with 'Anthony'

September

8th Club Night, 7-9pm
22nd Club Night, 7-9pm

October

13th Club Night / Snr Mini Nats 7-10pm
20-23rd October Senior Nationals (Hutt Valley)

November

12th All Comers No Jumps Competition
24th Club Night, 7-9pm

December

2nd Christmas Dance, 7.30pm
8th Last Club Night, 7-9pm

are our reason for existing. Thank you all so much for being a part of this wonderful family.

The club is financially secure, but it is worth noting that the surplus this year is the result of a fundraising effort. The biggest cost is our hall hire. We need to remember that the hall is essentially the centre of our club lives as both a training and a social dance venue. The club would lose far more than it would gain were we to forgo the huge asset that is our hall venue. The financial reserves that have been accumulated over the past years are our insurance against that inevitable 'rainy day', and in Christchurch we are acutely aware of how likely those rainy days are.

There are great plans for the future, for a revamp of club nights, for social events and fundraisers. Please get in behind the committee, whomever they may be. Dance. Be present in the moment. Come to club nights. Encourage new members to come along and learn.

2017 sees a larger contingent of junior dancers attending junior nationals, but senior numbers have been a little on the light side these past few years. Competition dancing isn't for everyone, but I have always maintained that it is an essential part of the mix for a successful dance club. The introduction of a 'senior cruise' section into our club champs and All Comers No Jumps competitions saw quite a number of our senior dancers come out of retirement to have a spin around the floor. A special thank you to you, your presence on the floor is still an inspiration and a motivation for our upcoming dancers, especially our junior members. It is worth remembering that many of them have probably never seen you compete. They love it.

Finally a plea. Get in behind your club, get dancing, regardless of whether it's socially or competitively. Spread the word - tell others about the joy that you get from your dancing. Life's too short!

Let's go for the Big Hairy Audacious Goal -- 200 members by April 2018.

Robin Sutton

Annual subscription

2017 annual subscriptions are now due. These are:

Adult \$35

Senior couple \$60

Junior \$25

Family \$80

Junior mini nationals/demo

This year's junior Mini Nats/demo is to be held on the afternoon of 2 April, starting at 2.30 pm, in our Hei Hei Hall. There is a \$2 entry fee which will go towards travel costs for the junior dancers. Please come along and support our awesome juniors. Give them a wildly cheering audience to dance for.

Hall Hours

Tuesday 6-8pm

Wednesday 6-8pm - Juniors 6-7pm, lessons 7-8pm

Friday 6-8pm

Sunday 2-4pm, 4-6pm Junior team training

Seniors please remember to put your gold coin in the bucket to help cover hall hire costs. The Hall is only available for club members.

Lessons for 2017

Senior lessons and junior club on Wednesday evenings, Juniors 6-7pm, and seniors 7-8pm.

Kaiapoi RnR Club

If you are looking for an extra opportunity to get out and dance during the week then where better to go:

<http://www.kaiapoirocknrollclub.co.nz/>

Club nights every Thursday **7.30pm** at the Ouruhia Hall, \$2.00 per person door entry. These guys regularly support Christchurch club events, so why not pop out and see them too.

Your committee for 2017/2018

President: Robin Sutton

Vice President: Brenda Neill

Secretary: Karyn Thompson

Treasurer: Connie van Slooten

Committee members:

Craig Blaikie
Bev Brash
Catherine Cleine
Colleen Harris
John Rickerby
Lorraine Sutton
Danielle Thompson

Junior Nationals 2017

The 2017 Junior Nationals are being hosted by the Whanganui RnR Club.

Senior Nationals 2017

The 2017 Senior Nationals are being hosted by the Hutt Valley RnR Club

Junior Nationals 2018

Just out, news from this year's AGM the host club is City of Sales

Senior Nationals 2018

And again from this year's AGM the host club is Wellington RnR Club