

Southland Competitions Society Inc

P O Box 1393, Invercargill 9840

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NEWSLETTER 2017

The 2016 Competitions Festival was held in August and September. While numbers in some art forms were down, some others were up. We once again acknowledge and sincerely thank the Invercargill Licensing Trust, ILT Foundation, Community Trust of Southland, Invercargill City Council Creative Communities, Southland District Council Creative Communities, and the Southern Trust for their financial support. Without their generous support, we would struggle to hold our competitions.

This year our competitions will be held over four weekends:

August 19th - 20th	Tap Dancing
August 26th	Highland & National Dancing
August 27th	Irish Dancing
September 15-17th	Speech & Drama
Sept 29th – Oct 2nd	Ballet & Modern Dance, Vocal & Instrumental

CUPS: Convenor - Coral Sycamore - 215 6346

Congratulations to everyone who returned their cups on time for the 2016 Festival. This year Cups and Trophies are to be returned to the **convenor of the art** from which it was awarded by **the 23rd June** for the August Competitions and **the 11th August** for the September Competitions.

PLEASE NOTE: This year onwards, cups and trophy returns are to be arranged with the convenor of each art, drop off points will be listed in the syllabus. We would appreciate it if parents could ensure that cups are returned by these dates and we ask teachers to remind their students about returning any cups and/or trophies they received in 2016. Please treat these cups and trophies well and do not use abrasive cleaners when cleaning them prior to returning them, as they are very expensive to replace.

National Young Performer of the Year Awards

In 2016 we were represented at the NYPA by Grace Madoc & Talia O'Neil (Ballet) Briar Babington (Vocal), William Swan (Pianoforte), Lydia Bernard (Tap) and Shelley E Coutts Dance Academy and Mosgiel Meenan Dance (Troupes). All of our nominees performed well and the experiences they gained will give them added confidence for any future competitions.

At PACANZ 2017 the Society will be represented by Shelton Shaw (Modern) & Dryw McArthur, Andrew Fleming, Henry McIntyre (Speech), Fuel Fitness (Troupes). Highland Nominees will be decided at our Competitions during this year.

So, teachers of students in the relevant arts, please start looking for possible nominees! Further Information regarding the awards is available from our office; the PACANZ Office, P O Box 138, Gore 9710 Ph (021) 417872 or can be seen on the PACANZ website at www.pacanz.co.nz

The **NYPA will be held in Palmerston North 20-23 October 2017 and will include the Troupe/Group section again as it was so popular.**

SPEECH & DRAMA: Convenor - Jan Hawke - 215 4740

Our competitions went well for speech & drama 2016. We thank all our helpers for their support during the weekend. Thank you to the teachers and parents for the encouragement to have so many young people participating. PACANZ nominations were held on the Friday night with a record number of 5 young men competing. Three have been nominated for the finals in Palmerston North in October 2017. Thank you again for great classes. To close, words from our adjudicator, Robyn Keno, "A feast of speech & drama."

VOCAL: Convenor: - Margaret Allan - 217 7015

After a lapse of 12 months, Vocal competitions were held in September 2016. A total of 23 entries were received for both Senior and Junior Sections. The numbers again were very low and it was disappointing for all those on our committee who worked hard to revamp our syllabus to try and get an interest in this art form so that it could be up and running once again. At this stage due, to the low numbers and lack of interest in the past, this art form may not proceed in 2017. **So a big call out to all teachers and pupils**, if you want to have vocal competitions, please tell us what you would like in the way of classes or how we can improve this art form to get it back to what it has been previously over the past years.

HIGHLAND & NATIONAL DANCING: Convenor - Heidi Boniface - 2158940

We had a pleasing number of entries this year which was up on last year and the day ran very smoothly. We had the benefit of a local judge this year and I appreciate the efforts by both the judge & our writer who was called in at the last minute. I would also like to thank our pipers Jorden Caig & Angus McIntyre for their hard work.

Thank you to the ILT and the St Andrews Scottish Society of Southland for their sponsorship of our event. The sponsorship by the Invercargill Licensing Trust meant that the senior dancers received cash prizes rather than ribbons for their events, which they appreciated and will hopefully mean more entries in this age group in the future. We again

struggled for younger dancers, under 7 and under 8 years which is unfortunately similar to other Highland Dancing competitions in this area.

I would like to thank all of the helpers on the day, Julia Adams who helped on the stage, Sharon Blackwood who helped on the door and Linda McLeod & Lyla Belesky who helped behind the scenes. I couldn't have run the day without you all. Next year's competition will be held at Repertory and the date will be Saturday 26th August 2017.

IRISH DANCING: Convenor - Birgit Crean - 230 4700

Another successful competition was held on 21st August 2016 at Repertory House, with competitors travelling from Christchurch to attend alongside the local dancers from Invercargill. We were fortunate to secure the services of Mary-Ellen McDonald to adjudicate, who did a marvellous job and provided some valued feedback to the competitors. To be able to host a competition in Invercargill means a lot to the local dancers, who generally have to travel far afield to obtain the stage and competition experience. This certainly would not be possible without the continued support and generous funding from our sponsors, mainly Invercargill Licensing Trust, ILT Foundation, Community Trust of Southland, ICC & SDC Creative Communities, Southern Trust & Waxy O'Sheas. Likewise I'd like to acknowledge the continue support of the Christchurch competitors, from the O'Neill School of Irish Dance, whose attendance help make this competition possible, beneficial and viable.

It was wonderful to see all the dancers showcasing their incredible talent and also the camaraderie back-stage and afterwards. The competition was very close in all age categories and all of the competitors performed admirably. We were also fortunate to have some beginners perform on stage for the very first time; always a favourite with the spectators. During the session break, some of the parents were invited up to dance with their daughter; a moment I unfortunately (or fortunately) I had to miss, as collating the results was high on the agenda at that moment in time. The afternoon went by all too quickly and I sincerely hope the spectators who visited had an enjoyable afternoon; an afternoon that was full of bling, toe-tapping dancing, incredible talent, ability, athleticism, grace, rhythm and timing, all of which comprises the art form of Irish Dance. I'd recommend anyone who hasn't been to see Irish dancing at a competitive level take this opportunity to see the future aspiring "Lord of the Dance" & Riverdance dancers. This year the competition will be held on Sunday 27 August at Repertory House and we look forward to seeing you.

BALLET/MODERN: Convenor for 2016 Nikki Cunningham - 021 417 872 **for 2017** Anne Canny - 027 391 4696

2016 saw a full programme of entries and it was very timely that we held the Competitions at the Civic Theatre for Ballet and Modern Dance as there was ample room for all competitors and Officials. We had two Adjudicators – Cameron Fulton and Jason Yang-Westland. Nomination classes were held for the Modern section & the new Troupe/Group class which was reinstated in 2016 We are pleased to say that we will have representatives in each genre at the 2017 NYPA. This year Ballet is one of the four arts for the National Young Performer Awards and we welcome entrants in the nomination class. It looks as though the Troupe/Group section is here to stay and look forward to running this exciting class again. Those nominated in September 2017 will go on to represent the Society at the NYPA 2018.

TAP DANCING: Convenor for 2016 Nicki Brookland - 214 0112 **for 2017** Co-convenors-Kelly Wills/Andrea Cole

We had a wonderful weekend of tap dancing at Centre Stage, which went over two days. We had a healthy number of competitors from Dunedin south with lots of positive comments on how relaxed and friendly the competition was. Jeanette Mullins our adjudicator from Wellington was highly impressed with the caliber of competitors. We also were fortunate enough to have a nomination put forward to PACANZ for one of our competitors.

The ILT Scholarship section was once again well represented with some fantastic dancing performed. I'd like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful group of helpers who added to the smooth running of the competition. This year's competition will once again be held at Centrestage, 19-20 August 2017.

INSTRUMENTAL: Convenors - Irene Liddell - 2175856 & Andrea Hope

The 2016 Instrumental Competitions were held at the Victoria Room, Civic Theatre. There were a pleasing number of entries with a wide range of musical talent displayed. Unfortunately we did run late as each day wore on but steps are being taken to address this issue for future competitions. The 2017 Instrumental competitions will be held 29th September-1st October, Venue and adjudicator yet to be finalized. Remember that the Young Performer of the Year nominations for Pianoforte will be held in September and those nominated will represent the Society in October 2018 at the PACANZ Awards. Cups/Trophy's-Irene will contact all 2016 Instrumental cup & trophy recipients in August and make arrangements for the return of these. Irene would be pleased to hear from any person interested in working alongside her this year with a view to taking over the Instrumental Convenors position for 2018.

SPONSORSHIP

Once again, we thank the many individual sponsors who provide a lot of the prize money. However, there is always a need for new sponsors so if you would like to sponsor a class, please contact the convenor of the art or any of the Executive Committee.

ENTRIES AND PAYMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIPS AND PROGRAMMES

Please forward your payments to PO Box 1393 Invercargill 9840.

If you wish to pay online our account number is: 03-1355-0823967-00 (SBS)

Competitors: Please use your name and Art form for reference.

Memberships: Your name and ID Number for reference.

ENTRY FORMS & SYLLABUS

If you need more entry forms and / or an extra syllabus please contact us on admin@southlandcomps.org.nz or phone your convenor. They will also be available on the Website: www.southlandcomps.org.nz

PRICES FOR 2017:

Administration Fees – now includes Competitor membership	\$5.00	\$15.00 single \$30.00 two - if more than two add \$5.00 competitor membership for each additional child
Entry Fees (except Ballet/Modern)		\$5.00 per class
Ballet/Modern Entry Fees		\$6.00 per class
Duos & Trios		\$7.00 per class
Pacanz Entry for each art		\$25.00
Scholarships		\$10.00
Door Passes		TBA via entry form
Full Membership – covers all sessions, all venues		\$25.00 per person - Includes 1 free programme for each member for August & September

We are always looking for new committee members, so if you are looking for a new challenge and have an interest in the arts, please do consider joining. This would help to ensure that our Society continues to progress and function for the betterment of our young people interested in the various art forms in the years to come.

Southland Competitions Society Executive Committee