

Southland Competitions Society Inc

P O Box 1393, Invercargill 9840

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NEWSLETTER 2018

Our 2017 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 Southern Trust, Invercargill Licensing Trust, ILT Foundation, Community Trust of Southland, Invercargill City Council Creative Communities, and the Southland District Council Creative Communities for their financial support. Without their generous support, we certainly would struggle to hold our competitions.

This year our competitions will be held over four weekends:

August 18th - 19th	Tap Dancing
August 11th	Highland & National Dancing
August 12th	Irish Dancing
September 14th - 16th	Speech & Drama
Sept 28th - Oct 1st	Ballet & Modern Dance, Vocal & Instrumental

CUPS AND TROPHIES

PLEASE NOTE: Cups and trophy returns are to be arranged with the convenor of each art. Drop off points and cut off dates for returns 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 2017. **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 2017 we were represented at the NYPA by Shelton Shaw (Modern Dance) & Andrew Fleming (Speech & Drama). Unfortunately, our nominated Troupe and additional 2 Speech & Drama competitors had to withdraw earlier in the year. Both of our nominees performed well and the experiences they gained will give them added confidence for any future competitions.

At PACANZ 2018 the Society will be represented by Jaewon Lee (Pianoforte) with Tap Dance and Troupe Nominees being decided at our Competitions during this year. There were no entries for the Ballet Nominations and we hope that these can be gifted to another Society to utilise, so that as many young competitors as possible get to experience the NYPA and national competition at this level.

So, teachers of students in the relevant arts, please start looking for possible nominees! Further Information regarding the awards is available from the Southland Comps Secretary; 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 19-22 October 2018 and will include the Troupe/Group section again as it was so popular.

SPEECH & DRAMA: Convenor - Jan Hawke - 215 4740

We had a very enjoyable competition. Our adjudicator, Anna Keno, was from Oamaru. She was excellent with the children and young adults and gave good comments for the teachers to follow up. My thanks go to Birgit for the computer work which helped me a lot, my helpers, Karen Duthie, Carolyn Clearwater, Judith Stevens and Margaret Allan. Also, thanks to the parents and teachers for encouraging their children to go into the classes and it is also great to have new pupils enter.

This year is PACANZ nominations and we are in the process of finding our adjudicator. Our competition is being held on the 14th-16th September and I look forward to seeing you all again.

VOCAL: Convenor: - Margaret Allan - 217 7015

Everyone was happy to be back once again at Lindisfarne after a break of 2 years. It is an ideal venue with plenty of space and a huge warm up room. A number of competitors withdrew owing to feeling unwell which was very unfortunate after all the hours of practice that they put in before our competitions. Our Adjudicator gave brilliant reports along with encouraging remarks to the competitors. She was willing to speak and fill in time when the breaks were long owing to the gaps in the programme. We had a large number of people in the audience who were rather surprised that there was no door charge and that they could come in and listen. A number of competitors used CDs as a backing track and this worked well for most.

HIGHLAND & NATIONAL DANCING: Convenor - Heidi Boniface - 2158940

We had 19 entries in the Highland dancing this year and a good range of ages. The competition was again held at Repertory house. Overall the day went smoothly and finished early due to less entries in some events. I need to thank the parents and helpers who gave up their time on the day but also to Birgit and family for their help setting up on Friday night. Our generous sponsorship from the Invercargill Licensing Trust and the St Andrews Scottish Society meant that many of our dancers were able to take home prize money as well as some of the 23 trophies we have to be won each year. We look forward to returning our dancing to the 3rd weekend in August next year, and hope to return to the same venue.

IRISH DANCING: Convenor - Birgit Crean - 230 4700

Another successful competition was held in August 2017 with competitors attending from the O'Neil School of Irish Dancing (Christchurch and Invercargill). Mary-Ellen McDonald from Arrowtown once again judged the immensely talented dancers, and was full of praise and admiration at the high standard of Irish Dancing. We had several dancers also perform their own choreographed dances and this was well appreciated by the audience. Although our competition is small, it is a great competition to attend, especially with the monetary prizes kindly donated by the ILT and Waxy O'Sheas. We also need to acknowledge the sponsors of our competitions – The Southern Trust, Community Trust of Southland, Invercargill Licensing Trust, and Creative Communities. We certainly could not hold these competitions without their continued support. We look forward to being able to host the competitions again this year, and hope that more people would like to come and experience the unique competition we hold and enjoy the hospitality of Southland.

BALLET/MODERN: Convenor-Anne Canny - 027 391 4696

2017 saw a growing and full programme of entries and it was wonderful 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 – Alisha Gabrielson and Georgia Marshall who ensured we ran on time, and wrote constructive feedback to our competitors which was appreciated. We had no competitors for Nomination classes this year but looking forward to 2018 we are expecting a number of entrants.

TAP DANCING: Co-convenors-Kelly Wills/Andrea Cole

Firstly, I would like to thank and acknowledge the help received from the ITDA committee, Coral, Jan, Maxine and Carolyn Clearwater the competition Secretary. Without all your help these competitions would not have run as smoothly and successfully as they did on the day.

With competitors travelling from Central Otago and Dunedin South, we had a great entertaining two days of tap. Unfortunately numbers were down on last year but expect this to increase again with new tap teachers taking on new students and the PACANZ nominations due again in 2018. Our adjudicator Amanda Wilson from Wellington was suitably impressed with the hospitality and standard here in Southland. Amanda flew her mother down to write for her and they really enjoyed their weekend. Due to a small number of scratchings, we did our best to run to time with the program by taking longer breaks to ensure that we ran no more than 30 minutes ahead of schedule.

Thank you to the ILT for providing sponsorship and scholarship prizes; this is a great incentive for the children to perform at their best. We look forward to our 2018 competitions where we will also hold the PACANZ tap nominations at Centre Stage on the 18th-19th August 2018.

INSTRUMENTAL: Convenor - Irene Liddell, Assistant - Jocelyn Donaldson

A big thank you to all 2017 instrumental competitors, sponsors and helpers who contributed to a most successful and entertaining weekend of music. The adjudicator was impressed by the talent of the performers, (piano, organ, brass & percussion), who ranged in age from 5 to 18 years. Congratulations to Jaewon Lee, who was nominated to go forward to the 2018 PACANZ Pianoforte competition. Parents and competitors were appreciative of the constructive and encouraging comments given both verbally and in written reports. Stobo Hall at First Church proved to be an excellent venue and has been booked for the 2018 competitions being held on 28 & 29th September. Finally, I wish to advise that Jocelyn Donaldson, a music teacher and accompanist of note, has kindly offered to accept the role of convenor for 2018 competitions. I wish Jocelyn, the Competitions Society and competitors well for the future.

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 2018:

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 Highland & Irish)		\$6.00 per class
Highland & Irish Entry Fees		\$5.00 per class
Duos/Trios		Duos \$8.00 Trios \$9.00 per class
Pacanz Entry for each art		\$25.00
Scholarships		\$10.00
Door Passes		TBA via entry form
Membership – covers all sessions, all venues		\$5.00 per person (programme not included)

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