

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday wishes for January and February to

Mykaila Lewis
 Chelsea Richdale
 Amy Button
 Nicholas Kokay
 Brittany Woods
 Charmelle Dorn
 Emily Horwood
 Lauren Harwood
 Ciara Zack
 Madeleine Weir

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

As you may have been aware Sharon Mills has handed over the job of newsletter editor. She has done excellent work over the last three years to keep club members informed. Thankyou Sharon. The new editor is Dorothy Brown who can be contacted by email at pollock@lincoln.ac.nz or dbn@lincoln.school.nz. Please forward any items to be included in the newsletters

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

A club membership form is included with this newsletter. Note that a discount applies to those who renew before the end of March so get your form filled in and sent off before this date.

Membership forms are also available at the rink and can also be printed from the website. Please do not leave cheques or cash in the filing cabinet at the rink. Forms can be posted to the post office box (P.O.Box 30041, St Martins) or given to the secretary, Ina Paul.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Hollins Trophy (Sydney) June 12-14
 Club Champs date to be advised
 South Island Champs (Gore)
 August 12-15
 Australian Nationals (Adelaide)
 August 21-28
 Nationals (Queenstown)
 September 19-23

Sunskate 2003 – Brisbane

Our plane left the terminal and returned two minutes later to drop off a caterer. The rest of the flight was boringly normal and we arrived in the heat and humidity of Brisbane. Thank goodness for air conditioners.

My first look at the rink was on Sunday when we went to watch the Gore precision team in action. Added drama was provided by an Australian skater who gashed her leg in the middle of a routine requiring another ice clean. Murphy's Law meant that the ice had just been cleaned before this.

Both Caitlyn and I had a practice and the short program the next day. It was very hot outside and inside the rink which operated like the Gardens hothouse in reverse. My event was first so I got to relax and watch Caitlyn afterwards. The power was off for 45 minutes so everything was late, very late and we left the rink at midnight. I was in second place and Caitlyn was in third place. The next morning we had our practices at the convenient time of 6am which meant we had about five hours sleep before having to front up to the rink again. This left us very tired so we slept for most of the day before going to the rink for the freeskate. I had a good warm-up and landed my double axel but my program was far from spectacular and I equalled my personal record of four falls in a program. However, it was enough to keep me in second place. Caitlyn was up next and had a better skate than me but was narrowly edged out of third place.

After we had finished skating we were able to do whatever we wanted. We went to the Gold Coast, looked around downtown Brisbane and visited Australia Zoo though we didn't see Steve – or the baby. Unfortunately, while we were doing all this Brisbane got about the same amount of rain that Canterbury gets in a year. We did enjoy the nearby Subway (especially the meatball), Cold Rock ice cream and frangipani flowers but could have done without the ants, especially the colony that invaded Caitlyn and Ina's motel unit.

- Iain Pollock