

Christchurch Singletrack Club

2021 Annual General Meeting

Date: **Sunday 8 August 2021 5:30 pm** - Location: Huntsbury Community Centre

Attended by: Craig Tregurtha, Rebekah Tregurtha, Jennifer Tregurtha, Joel Tregurtha, Brian Smith, Nikki Bligh, Jeremy Bligh, Annabel Bligh, Sara Taylor, Alex Hamilton, Andrew Marshall, Justine Marshall, Murray Anderson, Jacob Turner, Olly Pearce, Brigitte Bilbe, Andrew Laurie, Maria Laurie, John Laurie, Francis Laurie, Alex Adams, Will Keay, John Thornton, Dave Ffowcs-Williams, Graeme Woodward, Jemmima Snook, Chris Taylor, Ben Cannon, Dave Sidery, Dee Richards, Matt Boulcott, Rebecca Kingsford, Darcy Arnold, Dale Nyhan, Grant Nyhan, Eva Nyhan, Alyssa Nyhan, Robbie Halliday, Christine Wright, Steve Roberts, Jeanette Gerrie, Michael Šimek, Sammie Ross, Marty Anderson, (44 attendees)

Apologies: Steve Moffatt, Nick Singleton, Graham Allan, Richard Morley-Hall

1. Approval of the minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

The minutes from 2020 were received as being accurate. Moved Rebekah Tregurtha, seconded Murray Anderson

2. Chairman's Report - Nikki Bligh

The past financial year has been very different with insecurity created by the potential for rules for gatherings to change at any time depending on our COVID-19 situation. However, we planned as if all would be fine and adjusted things as we went along.

In September last year we were saddened by the passing of our much valued volunteer Neil McKeegan.

Membership

Membership numbers were similar to the previous year. This year we created a club Instagram account and the Crocodile XC MTB Park Facebook account doubled in followers.

*[Membership 118 individuals, 61 families, all up 219 adults and 38 children. Slightly down on 2020. CSC Facebook page currently has 3773 followers, **Singletracks** schools racing Facebook page has 765 followers, **Crocodile XC MTB Park** Facebook page has 1149 followers (doubled from last year), and Instagram 527 followers]*

Races / Events

We kicked off the race season with an Open Day at the Crocodile MTB Park and this was a fun day that was well attended. Over the season we held 8 club races and 3 schools races. More were planned but were disrupted by weather and COVID restrictions. Our big focus was on hosting the National Champs in conjunction with Gravity Canterbury, for CyclingNZ. This was a big highlight and more people raced the XC than in recent years for MTB national cross country champs.

In the lead up we organised a couple of skills sessions which were ably led by **Michael Šimek**.

Numbers at club races were down a little, but the school's competition held each March continues to grow. This year we had around 250 secondary school riders registered.

[2 x skills sessions, Before Christmas - XC multi-lap races 74-117 participants, Post-Christmas events - 52-84 participants]

Singletrack Club members featured in nearly every podium at the National Champs. It was great seeing the event so well supported by our club members. For our club, hosting the champs is about promoting the sport of cross country racing as there is little financial incentive for us.

2021 Podium Results for Christchurch Singletrack Club riders

Elite Male:	1st Anton Cooper 2nd Ben Oliver
U19 Male:	1st Ethan Rose 2nd Jacob Turner
M1 Male:	1st Joe Nation 2nd Oliver Pearce 3rd Peter Hatton
M2 Male:	1st Brent Miller 2nd Flavio Vianna 3rd Anthony Chapman
M3 Male:	1st Neil Sutherland
M4 Male:	1st Neil Averis 2nd Andre Chappell
Sport Male	1st Max Beckert 2nd Flynn Marshall
Elite Female	3rd Rebecca Kingsford
U19 Female:	2nd Amelie MacKay 3rd Annabel Bligh
U17 Female:	1st Maria Laurie
M1 Female:	1st Sarah Gilbert 3rd Nicki McFadzien
M2 Female	1st Bridget Tempero
Sport Female	1st Priscilla Thompson 2nd Jemima Snook

We were pretty worn out in the lead up to Christmas so the planned longest day ride was cancelled. We made some changes to the way the Gold Segment Series was structured so that each warmer month had a different focus but there was not a big uptake partly due to changes with Strava.

Track projects

The pines were harvested at **Living Springs** so the track has been closed since September 2020. Several sessions have occurred since then to reinstate the climbing track and we hope to have that open this coming summer.

With the National Champs looming, the focus at the **Crocodile XC MTB Park** was on getting the park race ready. Garden Path was finished, a Rockclimb was built, additional passing lines were created on C2, the Water Gap was developed and we built a new faster exit for Coopers Creek. We also wanted to better cater for spectators so we installed a bridge at the ponds and extended and improved the Fantrail walking track. In addition to all this we built the lower section of Double Exposure, improved safety and flow to multiple tracks, planted some natives, we put up racks for tool storage in the container, built an additional bridge and short section of track at Poplars Hub, and installed lots more signage and barriers. The council modified the entrance with the installation of the squeeze gate, and HRS Construction installed a roof on the container - a massive thanks to Andrew for initiating and undertaking that job. As usual, lots of general maintenance was undertaken, especially trimming vegetation and keeping drains cleared.

The focus at **Taramea**, which is nearly 5 years old, has been on maintenance and trying to get approval for a new track to be built linking the existing loop with the bottom of Rapaki Track. It is a frustratingly slow process with lots of red tape to be navigated. The lower section will be digger built - paid for by the Christchurch City Council, and the track on the ridge will be built by volunteers.

The new berms and skills area features have added to the fun to be had for young and old.

The new grazing leaseholder has been fantastic in keeping grass lengths down so we have not had to spend hours on line-trimmers this past season.

The Huntsbury downhill and Ally Express were made official by the CCC and they provided signage, stockgrids and work parties. The Transpower Community Fund money that we used to underwrite Taramea Loop was originally applied for to build a track on Huntsbury

Ridge/Bowenvale Reserve. However we were denied permission for that location, so the dollars were spent at Montgomery Spur - to very good effect.

Finally

I would like to express my thanks to the many people who give to the club, either directly through donations, or indirectly by providing goods and services, or through assisting with volunteering at races or by providing muscle for trailbuilding. **We appreciate you all.**

3. Financial report for 2020-21 year Christchurch Singletrack Club Inc – Brian Smith

Accounts for the year to June 30 2021

Revenue	2019-20	2020-21
Subscriptions	\$2910.00	\$5317.00
Donations/Sales	\$10146.72	\$4976.01
Event Fees	\$3508.50	\$3580.00
Grants	\$4431.00	\$4382.00
Interest	\$ 586.91	\$431.27
Transfer In	\$0	\$710.00
	\$21583.03	\$19396.28

Expenditure

Events	\$2687.26	\$6592.35
Equipment	\$11282.80	\$2728.63
Construction	\$2664.70	\$1712.58
Donations	\$0.00	\$0
Operations	\$3256.22	\$4767.89
Affiliation Fees	\$2330.95	\$1977.95
	\$22221.93	\$17779.40

2019-20 Excess Income over Expenditure \$1616.88

Statement of Financial Position

B/Fwd from 2019-20 current a/c 30 June 20	\$12404.02
Revenue 2020-21	\$19396.28
Expenditure 2020-21	\$17779.40
Balance in current account	\$14020.90

Investments

	2019-20	2020-21
Other	\$17000.00	\$17000.00
Other 1	\$13365.27	\$13540.85

The term investment of \$17000 matures 9 May 2022. Interest rate is 1%

The term investment of \$13540.85 matures 10 January 2022. Interest rate is 0.9%

Comments

Subscriptions: Increase in members and an increase in the average sub payments from \$25.40 to \$33.44 suggests more family groups.

Donations: Last year \$7k in larger company donations e.g. for signage. This year many more, smaller (\$25-\$150) individual donations given (7 vs 22).

Interest: Reduced interest rates on our investments. This will be considerably lower next year.

Events: Much of this is first aid costs. With more races this year first aid cost more. Note Covid reduced number of races in 2019-20

Moved to accept Financial Report – Alex Adams, seconded Andrew Marshall

4. Election of Executive Committee members for the 2021-22 year.

Chairperson: Nikki Bligh

Secretary: Rebekah Tregurtha

Treasurer: Brian Smith

Committee members: Graham Allan, Sara Taylor, Craig Tregurtha, Andrew Marshall, David Ffowcs-Williams, Murray Anderson, Matt Boulcott and Jennifer Tregurtha

Moved to accept the executive positions and committee members – Rebekah Tregurtha, seconded Justine Marshall.

5. 2019-20 trailbuilding review

1. Taramea – Graham Allan, CSC Port Hills Liaison

This integration of Huntsbury DH again highlights the tensions & dynamics that operate with 'guerilla tracks' on public lands that are tolerated, then eventually become official/ accepted. (The Mount Pleasant, and lower John Britten Reserve tracks became part of CCC network via a similar process a few years ago.) I still think there is a better line (i.e.; more mellow gradient) that could be created between Traverse Track and the airstrip, but that's another story.

The Taramea Loop is approaching its 5th birthday, and remains a very popular destination on the Port Hills. Maintenance continues as we lose Loess soils to the winds - dry, dusty summers certainly accelerate this. The new berms and playground equipment have added to the fun to be had for young and old.

The long anticipated 'lower link' to connect Taramea Loop with bottom of Rapaki Track has recently been scoped, and will - we hope - be built by end of 2021. The lower section will be digger built - paid for by CCC, and the track on the ridge will be built by volunteers.

The top link, aka 'The Full Monty', is very popular for both climbing and descending riders. It too demands quite a bit of maintenance, mostly due to steeper gradients. We have removed the signage that indicated down traffic has right of way. Common trail courtesy now applies.

There has been no progress that I am aware of in developing any mtb tracks in Linda Woods Reserve, and I think this signals that volunteers involved with track design,

coordination & build are somewhat tapped out. Summit Road Society and CCC (Nick Singleton) will happily engage with anyone who has the skills & time/energy to get into this new tract of land, but right now that opportunity remains open to anybody keen enough.

Lastly I acknowledge the excellent support of many volunteers, in particular Gray Rathgen, Robbie Halliday, David Jones & Chris Hyslop in putting time & energy into these tracks. Also the new farmer/grazing leaseholder has been fantastic in keeping grass lengths down (an imperative given fire danger on Port Hills in summer) so we have not had to spend hours on line-trimmers this past season.

We may have a Specialized Dig Day at Taramea in early summer

2. Port Hills – Nick Singleton, CCC Ranger

At Steadfast Reserve near Cass Bay in Whakaraupo- we are currently consulting with the community on a landscape plan. The draft plan shows a new MTB track which will be fun for the locals-who currently don't have anything on their back door.

The rebuilding of Brake Free in Vic Park has been really well received. Milty Coultas did a great job on his little yellow digger. We are planning to build a similar style track in the skid site area-where we "recycled" the old pump track to free up soil for Brake Free.

The Bowenvale Traverse re-surfacing project will continue when our contractor is available. The track is 25 years old now and this is its 4th re-surface-to ensure we can keep it fit for purpose and open-regardless of the weather.

New MTB and shared use tracks are being planned for Misty Peaks Res above Akaroa and Te Oka Res in the Southern Bays over the hill from Little River.

Last year we installed another 6 MTB cattlegrids. There are about 50 in the system now. With the growing popularity of E bikes (heavy to lift) we are very keen to ensure all riders can ride continuously without having to stop for a gate or stile. Sheep grazing is a vital part of land management on the Port Hills- and it's a good challenge to fit recreation in around such a large farming operation.

There's plenty of other stuff going on-but those are the main points. Our ranger team enjoy working with the club and the success of the new speed barrier at Halswell Quarry is an excellent example of working together.

A big thanks to riders who steer clear of closed tracks and turn up to working bees.

3. Living Springs - Craig Tregurtha

The Pines were cleared in spring 2020. We began scoping and rebuilding there in autumn 2021 (after Nationals and schools racing were finished). We will continue with hand building the climbing line and a gentle descending line, with help from a digger for some of the trickier sections. There is scope to put in a couple of more technical descending lines but as we are lacking in time and energy we have asked another group if they would be interested in taking this on. We would love more people to join the Living Springs trailbuilding team. Meridian Energy funded 5000 native trees and shrubs which volunteers have been planting since June.

4. Crocodile XC MTB Park – Murray Anderson

Murray gave an update on the plans for the coming year or so, which include developing a skills area below C2 by the ponds (near the rock garden) and putting in some more features at the exit of Garden Path, completing Double Exposure, which includes building a B-line for those who don't want to ride the steeper section and adding a race

connection from the top of Upload to Download to avoid going past the deck. With hosting the National Champs again in 2022 a focus will also be on keeping the park in good shape.

6. General Business:

Events this coming season

- Crocodile XC racing – up to 6 events on Tuesday evenings between 2 Nov and 8 Feb. We have moved to Tuesday evenings to avoid clashes with the evening rogain series and other events.
- Singletracks schools racing – 5 Wednesdays, starting 2 March
- National XCO Champs – 26 February (DH 27 February at CAP, hosted by Gravity Canterbury)
- NEW – a Sunday afternoon event for kids, followed by a two hour team's race on 30 January.

It was decided to retire the Gold Segment Series due to the amount of administration it takes to collate the results. We would like to thank **Graeme Woodward** for all the effort he put in to the series.

7. Awards

Singletracks Schools Series

Girls Champion - Amelie Mackay

Boys Champion - Jacob Turner

Top Boys Team - Rangiora High School

Top Girls Team - Cashmere High School

Gold Segment Series

Top 3 women (Hannah Miller, Brigette Bilbe, Jennifer Tregurtha)

Top 3 men (Olly Pearce, Ben Cannon, Brent Miller/Jason Blair)

Hillclimb Champs (Reverse Enduro)

Women's Hill Climb – Jeanette Gerrie

Men's Hill Climb – Ben Oliver

Club Champs (Summer Series)

Women's Club Champion – Rebecca Kingsford

Men's Club Champion – Anton Cooper

Contribution to Crocodile XC Park and/or Club Racing

Rob Moore – Nationals preparation

Darcy Arnold – Specialist trailbuilding (digger work)

30+ sessions (Crocodile XC Park)

Richard Morley-Hall

Dave Sidery

Life Time Membership

Rebekah Tregurtha outlined all that Sara has done for the club and moved that Sara Taylor receive a Life Membership.

The evening began with pizza at 5:30pm. The meeting began at 6:20 pm and went through to 7:50 pm. We were treated to an interesting and eye-opening talk by **Jessy Moffatt** about the work she does with the Coast 2 Coast Rangers Team.