



MEDIA RELEASE [For immediate release as of Friday 16th September 2016]

Christchurch Casino "The Jazz Library" Poker Event; Charities take home \$10,000!

The shared title of the Christchurch Casino "The Jazz Library" Charity Poker Event champion for 2016 went to REACH Child Cancer represented by Nick Henare and to Heart Kids Canterbury represented by Pat Lodge. Lynne Taylor took an admirable third place on behalf of the Diabetes Christchurch Inc.

The Jazz Library Charity Poker Event was held by Christchurch Casino with \$10,000 up for grabs for the eleven deserving charities to play for. The event was held on Thursday 15th September in Sixty6 on Peterborough. The multipurpose function venue had a prohibition theme with a library at the front entrance and a speak-easy below, including "Myrtle", the 1929 Austin 7C- Cab Van from by Happy Tours and scintillating dancing and entertainment throughout the evening by the talented Epic Entertainment team. The invited guests in their 1920's & 30's ensembles relaxed with the sultry jazz tones of the "River City Jazz Men" and enjoyed learning to play black jack and roulette with some even testing their croupier skills, all of which combined to create a fun atmosphere throughout the evening and a memorable occasion.

Mike King was a masterful MC, adding humour, energy and poker knowledge to the tournament. With \$10,000 at stake for three lucky charities, competition at the tables was fierce as even though this was a fun gaming event the players soon realised they were playing in a structured poker tournament and got their game faces on! The top eleven players then competed at the final table to play off for the top three spots to take home the cash for their charity; finalists only found out who they were playing on behalf of once they had played their last chip – creating an exciting energy amongst players and viewers alike. The eleven charities who were represented at this event were the Cystic Fibrosis Association, Ronald McDonald House, Child Cancer Foundation, Cholmondeley, Canterbury Charity Hospital Trust, Diabetes Christchurch Inc., Canterbury Down Syndrome Association, Christchurch Children's Holiday Camps Trust, Heart Kids Canterbury, Key to Life, REACH Child Cancer.

Christchurch Casino CEO, Brett Anderson says "Another great charity poker night, this time held in Sixty6 on Peterborough with eleven deserving charities and their supporters in attendance. For the Casino it is a pleasure to host such an event and talk to those involved with the charities and get a better understanding of the challenges faced by them. Congratulations to REACH Child Cancer, Heart Kids Canterbury and Diabetes Christchurch Inc."

#### Results:

1<sup>st</sup> shared place went to Reach Child Cancer (played on behalf of by Nick Henare) who received \$4,000 and to Heart Kids Canterbury (played on behalf of by Pat Lodge) who received \$4,000 and 3rd place went to Diabetes Christchurch Inc. (played on behalf of by Lynne Taylor,) who received \$2,000.



All charities received a charity auction pack with a fun gaming night from Christchurch Casino and a voucher from Champs-Elysées Day Spa.

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