

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## CLUB COMMITTEE 2020

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## CONTENT

President Report	- 1
Photos	- 2
Club Notices	- 3
Jokes	- 3-4
Fundraising	- 4
Demos	- 5
Birthdays	- 5
New Members	- 5
Member Profile	- 6
Rock n Roll Personalities History	- 7-14
Sale and wanted	- 15

## THE PRESIDENTS BOOGIE WOOGIE

Hi guys, it seems forever that I have seen you all in one way or another, 70 days to be exact!! Bit scary and I would say a number of you may have to go through beginner lessons again and also wear name tags lol.

On the 9th of May the national association had their AGM with a number of clubs from throughout New Zealand that were involved. First time ever we had to run the meeting through zoom so talking to 40 odd people from around the country was quite weird but it worked. A number of remits were discussed and voted on with a collection of changes mostly good but a few I didn't agree with but you all can see it all on the association website if you are interested in looking . Also senior and junior nationals were voted on where they should be hosted and that is also advertised on their website. Juniors next year will be in Porirua and Seniors will be in Wanganui. A great way to run the meeting and maybe it's the way to go in the future.

A couple of weeks ago I had a call from Chris Ramsay from the ILT saying there is a collection of furniture up for offer at the closed Clifton Tavern which I had asked a couple of months ago about. So James Phillipson and myself took a visit to the old local and decided on taking a number of pieces away including 7 large tables, 28 very comfortable chairs and a few other bits and bobs. I will head in this week to set it all up and get it all ready. Thank you to the ILT and Chris Ramsay for the kind and generous donation. Please support these guys as they have done so much for our club.

I will be in discussions with the committee this week with looking at the club slowly getting back up and running. I would like to see club nights starting back up first of all then moving onto using the hall for practicing. I feel we are at the safe level to move to the next stage but only and I really mean only that all members a bid by strict guidelines and rules including if you have even a slight sign for being unwell you stay away, staying hygienic and using sanitisers when needed. So watch this space and we will keep you all informed. If sports like rugby and netball can look at starting up then why can't we.

Well I can't really talk about anything else as there isn't anything to report but get those shoes polished off and shake the dust off the jackets, it's time soon to get back into it. See you all very soon.

Karl

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## PHOTOS

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO SENT THROUGH PHOTOS THAT WE CAN ALL SHARE, YOUNG AND OLD, KEEP THEM COMING FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS. SOME OF THEM ARE NOT FORGETTABLE.**



# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## CLUB NOTICES

**Club Night are cancelled until further notice due to Covid 19**  
**Hope to get back into Club Nights starting Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Keep eyes and ears open to confirm**

At our Wednesday Club Nights we are going to start to try to get more members to attend so we are planning on starting up monthly Raffles where if you attend a club night you put your name in a Club Night jar and at the end of the month we draw a name out and you will win the monthly prize, and a New Move taught so this will start on hopefully the first Wednesday back after Lockdown. So put your dancing shoes on and come on down. Remember Club nights are \$2 for a member and \$5 for a non member starts at 7.30 – 9pm.

Club Champs will be held at Stadium Southland on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Note change of Venue looking forward to another awesome Club Champs. More details to follow.

## JOKES/ FUNNIES

- Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- I use to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.
- I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- Still haven't decided where to go for Easter ----- The Living Room or The Bedroom.
- Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit, Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
- Homeschooling is going well. 2 students suspended for fighting and 1 teacher fired for drinking on the job.
- I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.
- This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog...we laughed a lot.
- So, after this quarantine...will the producers of My 600Pound Life just find me or do I find them?

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

- Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.
- Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.
- I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
- I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyards. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.
- Classified Ad: Single Man with toilet paper seeks Woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.
- Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year" ... I'm offended.
- **Things to ponder....**
  - *Brilliant in its simplicity.....*
  - *A. Back off and let those men who want to marry men, marry men.*
  - *B. Allow those women who want to marry women, marry women.*
  - *C. In three generations, there will be no Greens.*
  - *Such an unfair world:-*
  - *When a man talks dirty to a woman it's considered sexual harassment.*
  - *When a woman talks dirty to a man its \$10.50/min (charges may vary).*
  - *My wife and I had words, but I didn't get to use mine.*
  - *Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you.*
  - *Wife to husband: You told me you'd spend your whole life trying to make me happy.*
  - *Husband to wife: I didn't expect to live this long!*
  - *As I grow older.... My mind doesn't just wander... Sometimes it buggers off completely.*
  - *As I have grown older, I've learned that pleasing everybody is impossible, but pissing everyone off is a piece of cake.*
  - ***The Ultimate: Isn't it weird that in this country our flag and culture offends so many people, yet our benefits don't.***

## FUNDRAISING

No Fundraising on the go at present to Covid-19. Hope to get something going in the near future once we are able to do so.

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## DEMOS

No demos at present organised again due to Covid-19

## BIRTHDAYS



### JULY

2<sup>nd</sup> Luke Hamblin  
4<sup>th</sup> Liliyana Ultee  
8<sup>th</sup> Nicola Fleming  
23<sup>rd</sup> Ashleigh Williams  
25<sup>th</sup> Sandy Pascoe  
27<sup>th</sup> John Brown

### AUGUST

3<sup>rd</sup> Sualo Lafoga  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nikola Crossan  
8<sup>th</sup> Sue Hewitt  
8<sup>th</sup> Courtney Manson  
11<sup>th</sup> Kate Cunninghame  
15<sup>th</sup> Cameron McIntosh  
18<sup>th</sup> George Hope-Johnstone  
22<sup>nd</sup> Zoe Gray  
28<sup>th</sup> Nola Calvert  
29<sup>th</sup> Brenda Gray  
30<sup>th</sup> Russell Falconer

## NEW MEMBERS

None

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## MEMBER PROFILE

### **Presenting : NATALIE ROONEY**



- 1/ **How did you get involved with the Rock n Roll Club?**  
**My daughter Lara was asked to come along and try it out with a friend and she really enjoyed it!**
- 2/ **Your favourite Rock n Roll Song?**  
**Jailhouse Rock**
- 3/ **Your Favourite Event?**  
**We haven't been to a National Competition yet, so am looking forward to that, but really enjoyed watching the Club Champs last year.**
- 4/ **What do you enjoy most when you are dancing?**  
**I'm not dancing yet as I have two left feet, but I love the music and seeing everyone dance.**
- 5/ **What would you do if Elvis walked in?**  
**Ask him to sing.**
- 6/ **What is your main aim in dancing?**  
**I just really want my children to love dancing and music and be able to share this with others.**
- 7/ **What other hobbies do you have?**  
**I enjoy all sorts of music, reading, walking the dog and relaxing at home with a good movie.**
- 8/ **Your favourite TV show?**  
**I don't really have one at the moment. But I always enjoy an Australian Drama.**
- 9/ **What would you do if you won 10 million dollars?**  
**Buy a house in Wanaka, give some to my family and some to Charity**
- 10/ **Who has inspired you the most?**  
**Di Lenihan, my music teacher at school.**
- 11/ **What do you enjoy about the Invercargill Rock n Roll Club?**  
**It's social and friendly and the children all seem to be having a great time – even when they're practising!**

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

## ROCK N ROLL PERSONALITIES HISTORY

### CHUCK BERRY

BORN	Charles Edward Anderson Berry, October 18, 1926 St Louis,
DIED	March 18, 2017 ( aged 90), Wentzville, Missouri, U.S
OTHER NAMES	Father of Rock N' Roll
OCCUPATION	Singer-Songwriter
SPOUSE(s)	Themetta Suggs (m 1948)
CHILDREN	Darlin Ingrid Berry * Aloha Berry * Charles Berry Jnr * Melody Exes Berry-Eskridge
PARENTS	Henry Berry (Father) Martha Berry ( Mother)
<u>MUSICAL CAREER</u>	
GENRES	Rock n Roll
INSTRUMENTS	Guitar, Vocals
YEARS ACTIVE	1953 – 2017
LABELS	Chess* Mercury * Atco * Dualtone
ASSOCIATED ACTS	Johnnie Johnson * T-Bone Walker * Muddy Waters
WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.chuckberry.com">www.chuckberry.com</a> ( <a href="http://www.chuckberry.com">http://www.chuckberry.com</a> )

CHARLES EDWARD ANDERSON BERRY ( October 18, 1926 – March 18, 2017) was an American singer and songwriter, and one of the pioneers of *rock n roll* music. Nicknamed the “*Father of Rock and Roll*”, Berry refined and developed *rhythm and blues* into the major elements that made rock and roll distinctive with songs such as “*Maybellene*” (1955), *Roll Over Beethoven*” ( 1956), “ *Rock and Roll Music*” ( 1957) and “*Johnny B. Goode*” (1958). Writing lyrics that focused on teen life and consumerism, and developing a music style that included *guitar solos* and *showmanship*, Berry was a major influence on subsequent *rock music*.

### EARLY LIFE:

Born in *St. Louis, Missouri*, Berry was the fourth child of four. He grew up in the north *St Louis* neighbourhood known as *The Ville*, an area where many middle-class people lived. His father, Henry William Berry ( 1895 – 1987), was a contractor and deacon of a nearby *Baptist* church; his mother, Martha Bell (Banks) ( 1894 – 1980), was a certified public school principal. Berry’s upbringing allowed him to pursue his interest in music from an early age. He gave his first public performance in 1941 while still a student at *Sumner High School*; he was still a student in 1944, when he was arrested for *armed robbery* after robbing three shops in *Kansas City, Missouri*, and then stealing a car at gunpoint with some friends. Berry’s account in his autobiography is that his car broke down and he flagged down a passing car and stole it a gunpoint with a nonfunctional pistol. He was convicted and sent to the Intermediate Reformatory for Young Men at Algoa, near

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

*Jefferson City, Missouri*, where he formed a singing quartet and did some boxing. The singing group became competent enough that the authorities allowed it to perform outside the detention facility. Berry was released from the reformatory on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday in 1947.

On October 28, 1948, Berry married Themetta “Toddy” Suggs, who gave birth to Darlin Ingrid Berry on October 3, 1950. Berry supported his family by taking various jobs in St. Louis, working briefly as a factory worker at two automobile assembly plants and as a janitor in the apartment building where he and his wife lived. Afterwards he trained as a beautician at the Poro College of Cosmetology, founded by *Annie Turnbo Malone*. He was doing well enough by 1950 to buy a “small three room brick cottage with a bath” on Whittier Street, which is now listed as the *Chuck Berry House* on the *National Register of Historic Places*.

By the early 1950s, Berry was working with local bands in clubs in St. Louis as an extra source of income. He had been playing *Blues* since his teens, and he borrowed both guitar riffs and *showmanship* techniques from the blues musician *T-Bone Walker*. He also took guitar lessons from his friend Ira Harris, which laid the foundation for his guitar style.

By early 1953 Berry was performing with *Johnnie Johnson’s Trio*, starting a long-time collaboration with the pianist. The band played blues and ballads as well as *country*. Berry wrote, “Curiosity provoked me to lay a lot of our country stuff on our predominantly black audience and some of our black audience began whispering ‘who is that black *hillbilly* at the cosmo?’ After they laughed at me a few times they began requesting the hillbilly stuff and enjoyed dancing to it.”

Berry’s showmanship, along with a mix of country tunes and R & B tunes, sung in the style of *Nat King Cole* set to the music of *Muddy Waters*, brought in a wider audience, particularly affluent white people.

## CAREER:

### 1955 – 1962: Signing with Chess: “Maybellene” to “Come On”

In 1955, Berry travelled to Chicago, where he met , who suggested he contact *Leonard Chess* of *Chess Records*. Berry thought his blues music would interest Chess, but Chess was a larger fan of Berry’s take on “*Ida Red*”. On May 21, 1955, Berry recorded an adaption of the song ‘*Ida Red*’, under the title “*Maybellene*”, with *Johnnie Johnson* on the piano, *Jerome Green* ( from *Bo Diddley’s* band) on the maracas, *Jasper Thomas* on the drums and *Willie Dixon* on the bass. “*Maybellene*” sold over a million copies, reaching number one on *Billboard* magazine’s rhythm and blues chart and number five on its Best sellers in Stores chart for September 10, 1955. Berry said, “It came out at the right time when Afro-American music was spilling over into the mainstream pop.”

At the end of June 1956, his song “*Roll Over Beethoven*” reached number 29 on the *Billboard’s* Top 100 Chart, and Berry toured as one of the “Top Acts of ‘56”. He and *Carl Perkins* became friends. Perkins said that “I knew when I first heard Chuck that he’d been affected by country music. I respected his

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

writing; his records were very, very great.” In late 1957, Berry took part in *Alan Freed's* “Biggest Show of Stars for 1957”, touring the United States with the *Everly Brothers*, *Buddy Holly*, and others. He was a guest on *ABC's Guy Mitchell Show*, singing his hit song “Rock n' Roll Music”. The hits continued from 1957 to 1959, with Berry scoring over a dozen chart singles during this period, including the US top 10 hits “*School Days*”, “*Rock and roll Music*”, “*Sweet Little Sixteen*”, and “*Johnny B. Goode*”. He appeared in two early rock-and-roll movies: *Rock Rock Rock* (1956), in which he sang “You Can't Catch Me”, and *Go, Johnny, Go!* (1959), in which he had a speaking role as himself and performed “Johnny B. Goode”, “*Memphis, Tennessee*”, and “*Little Queenie*”. His performance of “Sweet Little Sixteen” at the *Newport Jazz Festival* in 1958 was captured in the motion picture *Jazz on a Summer Day*.

By the end of the 1950s, Berry was a high-profile established star with several hit records and film appearances and a lucrative touring career. He had opened a racially integrated St. Louis nightclub, *Berry's Club Bandstand*, and invested in real estate. But in December 1959, he was arrested under the *Mann Act* after allegations that he had had intercourse with a 14 year old *Apache* waitress, *Janice Esclante*, whom he had transported across state lines to work as a hatcheck girl at his club. After a two-week trial in March 1960, he was *convicted*, fined \$5,000 and sentenced to five years in prison. He appealed the decision, arguing that the judge's comments and attitude were *racist* and prejudiced the jury against him. The appeal was upheld, and a second trial was heard in May and June 1961, resulting in another conviction and a three year prison sentence. After another appeal failed, Berry served one and one half years in prison, from February 1962 to October 1963. He had continued recording and performing during the trials, but his output had slowed as his popularity declined; his final single released before he was imprisoned was “*Come On*”.

## 1963-1969: “Nadine” and move to Mercury

When Berry was released from prison in 1963, his return to recording and performing was made easier because *British invasion* bands—notably the *Beatles* and the *Rolling Stones*—had sustained interest in his music by releasing cover versions of his songs, and other bands had reworked some of them, such as the *Beach Boys'* 1963 hit “*Surfin' U.S.A.*”, which used the melody of Berry's “*Sweet Little Sixteen*”. In 1964 and 1965 Berry released eight singles, including three that were commercially successful, reaching the top 20 of the *Billboard 100*: “*No Particular Place to Go*” (a humorous reworking of “*School Days*”, concerning the introduction of seat belts in cars), “*You Never Can Tell*”, and the rocking “*Nadine*”. Between 1966 and 1969 Berry released five albums for *Mercury Records*, including his second live album (and first recorded entirely onstage), *Live at Fillmore Auditorium*, in which he was backed by the *Steve Miller Band*.

Although this period was not a successful one for studio work, Berry was still a top concert draw. In May 1964, he had made a successful tour of the UK, but

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

when he returned in January 1965 his behavior was erratic and moody, and his touring style of using unrehearsed local backing bands and a strict nonnegotiable contract was earning him a reputation as a difficult and unexciting performer. He also played at large events in North America, such as the *Schaefer Music Festival*, in New York City's *Central Park* in July 1969, and the *Toronto Rock and Roll Revival festival* in October.

## 1970–1979: Back to Chess: "My Ding-a-Ling" to White House concert

Berry returned to Chess from 1970 to 1973. There were no hit singles from the 1970 album *Back Home*, but in 1972 Chess released a live recording of "*My Ding-a-Ling*", a novelty song which he had recorded in a different version as "*My Tambourine*" on his 1968 LP *From St. Louie to Frisco*. The track became his only number-one single. A live recording of "*Reelin' and Rockin'*", issued as a follow-up single in the same year, was his last Top 40 hit in both the US and the UK. Both singles were included on the part-live, part-studio album *The London Chuck Berry Sessions* (other albums of London sessions were recorded by Chess's mainstay artists *Muddy Waters* and *Howlin' Wolf*). Berry's second tenure with Chess ended with the 1975 album *Chuck Berry*, after which he did not make a studio record until *Rockit for Atco Records* in 1979, which would be his last studio album for 38 years.

In the 1970s Berry toured on the strength of his earlier successes. He was on the road for many years, carrying only his *Gibson* guitar, confident that he could hire a band that already knew his music no matter where he went. *AllMusic* said that in this period his "live performances became increasingly erratic, ... working with terrible backup bands and turning in sloppy, out-of-tune performances" which "tarnished his reputation with younger fans and oldtimers" alike. In March 1972 he was filmed, at the *BBC Television Theatre* in Shepherd's Bush, for *Chuck Berry in Concert*, part of a 60-date tour backed by the band *Rocking Horse*. Among the many bandleaders performing a backup role with Berry in the 1970s were *Bruce Springsteen* and *Steve Miller* when each was just starting his career. Springsteen related in the documentary film *Hail! Hail! Rock 'n' Roll* that Berry did not give the band a set list and expected the musicians to follow his lead after each guitar intro. Berry did not speak to the band after the show. Nevertheless, Springsteen backed Berry again when he appeared at the concert for the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* in 1995. At the request of *Jimmy Carter*, Berry performed at the *White House* on June 1, 1979. Berry's touring style, traveling the "oldies" circuit in the 1970s (often being paid in cash by local promoters) added ammunition to the *Internal Revenue Service's* accusations that Berry had evaded paying income taxes. Facing criminal sanction for the third time, Berry pleaded guilty to evading nearly \$110,000 in federal income tax owed on his 1973 earnings. Newspaper reports in 1979 put his 1973 joint income (with his wife) at \$374,982. He was sentenced to four months in prison and 1,000 hours of community service—performing benefit concerts—in 1979.

## 1980–2017: Last years on the road:

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

Berry continued to play 70 to 100 one-nighters per year in the 1980s, still traveling solo and requiring a local band to back him at each stop. In 1986, *Taylor Hackford* made a documentary film, *Hail! Hail! Rock 'n' Roll*, of a celebration concert for Berry's sixtieth birthday, organized by *Keith Richards*. *Eric Clapton*, *Etta James*, *Julian Lennon*, *Robert Cray* and *Linda Ronstadt*, among others, appeared with Berry on stage and in the film. During the concert, Berry played a *Gibson ES-355*, the luxury version of the *ES-335* that he favored on his 1970s tours. Richards played a black *Fender Telecaster Custom*, Cray a *Fender Stratocaster* and Clapton a *Gibson ES 350T*, the same model that Berry used on his early recordings.

In the late 1980s, Berry bought the *Southern Air*, a restaurant in *Wentzville, Missouri*. In 1987, Berry was charged with assaulting a woman at New York's Gramercy Park Hotel. He was accused of causing "lacerations of the mouth, requiring five stitches, two loose teeth, [and] contusions of the face." He pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of harassment and paid a \$250 fine. In 1990, he was sued by several women who claimed that he had installed a *video camera* in the bathroom. Berry claimed that he had had the camera installed to catch a worker who was suspected of stealing from the restaurant. Although his guilt was never proven in court, Berry opted for a class action settlement. One of his biographers, Bruce Pegg, estimated that with 59 women it cost Berry over \$1.2 million plus legal fees. His lawyers said he had been the victim of a conspiracy to profit from his wealth. During this time Berry began using Wayne T. Schoeneberg as his legal counsel. Reportedly, a police raid on his house found intimate videotapes of women, one of whom was apparently a minor. Also found in the raid were 62 grams of marijuana. Felony drug and child-abuse charges were filed. As the child-abuse charges were dropped, Berry agreed to plead guilty to misdemeanor possession of marijuana. He was given a six-month suspended jail sentence, placed on two years unsupervised probation and was ordered to donate \$5,000 to a local hospital.

In November 2000, Berry faced legal issues when he was sued by his former pianist *Johnnie Johnson*, who claimed that he had co-written over 50 songs, including "No Particular Place to Go", "Sweet Little Sixteen" and "Roll Over Beethoven", that credit Berry alone. The case was dismissed when the judge ruled that *too much time had passed* since the songs were written.

In 2008, Berry toured Europe, with stops in Sweden, Norway, Finland, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland, Poland and Spain. In mid-2008, he played at the *Virgin Festival in Baltimore, Maryland*. During a concert on New Year's Day 2011 in Chicago, Berry, suffering from exhaustion, passed out and had to be helped off stage.

Berry lived in *Ladue, Missouri*, approximately 10 miles (16 km) west of St. Louis. He also had a home at "Berry Park", near Wentzville, Missouri, where he lived part-time since the 1950s, and was the home in which he died. This home, with the guitar-shaped swimming pool, is seen in scenes near the end of the film *"Hail! Hail! Rock 'n' Roll"*. He regularly performed one Wednesday

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

each month at *Blueberry Hill*, a restaurant and bar located in the *Delmar Loop* neighborhood of St. Louis, from 1996 to 2014.

Berry announced on his 90th birthday that his first new studio album since *Rockit* in 1979, entitled *Chuck*, would be released in 2017. His first new record in 38 years, it includes his children, Charles Berry Jr. and Ingrid, on guitar and harmonica, with songs "covering the spectrum from hard-driving rockers to soulful thought-provoking time capsules of a life's work" and dedicated to his beloved wife of 68 years, Toddy.

## Death:

On March 18, 2017, police in *St. Charles County, Missouri*, were called to Berry's house, near Wentzville, Missouri, where he was found unresponsive.

He was pronounced dead at the scene, aged 90, by his personal physician.

*TMZ* posted an audio recording on its website in which the 911 operator can be heard responding to a reported "cardiac arrest" at Berry's home.

Berry's funeral was held on April 9, 2017, at *The Pageant*, in Berry's hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. He was remembered with a public viewing by family, friends, and fans in *The Pageant*, a music club where he often performed, with his cherry-red guitar bolted to the inside lid of the coffin and with flower arrangements that included one sent by the Rolling Stones in the shape of a guitar. Afterwards a private service was held in the club celebrating Berry's life and musical career, with the Berry family inviting 300 members of the public into the service. *Gene Simmons* of *Kiss* gave an impromptu, unadvertised eulogy at the service, while *Little Richard* was scheduled to lead the funeral procession but was unable to attend due to an illness. The night before, many St. Louis area bars held a mass *toast* at 10 pm in Berry's honor.

One of Berry's attorneys estimated that his estate was worth \$50 million, including \$17 million in music rights. Berry's music publishing accounted for \$13 million of the estate's value. The Berry estate owned roughly half of his songwriting credits (mostly from his later career), while *BMG Rights Management* controlled the other half; most of Berry's recordings are currently owned by *Universal Music Group*. In September 2017, *Dualtone*, the label which released Berry's final album, *Chuck*, agreed to publish all his compositions in the United States.

## Legacy:

A pioneer of rock and roll, Berry was a significant influence on the development of both the music and the attitude associated with the rock music lifestyle. With songs such as "*Maybellene*" (1955), "*Roll Over Beethoven*" (1956), "*Rock and Roll Music*" (1957) and "*Johnny B. Goode*" (1958), Berry refined and developed *rhythm and blues* into the major elements that made rock and roll distinctive, with lyrics successfully aimed to appeal to the early teenage market by using graphic and humorous descriptions of teen dances, fast cars, high school life, and consumer culture, and utilizing *guitar solos* and *showmanship* that would be a major influence on subsequent rock music.

Thus Berry, the songwriter, according to critic *Jon Pareles*, invented rock as "a music of teenage wishes fulfilled and good times (even with cops in pursuit)."

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

Berry contributed three things to rock music: an irresistible swagger, a focus on the guitar riff as the primary melodic element and an emphasis on songwriting as storytelling. His records are a rich storehouse of the essential lyrical, showmanship and musical components of rock and roll. In addition to the *Beatles* and the *Rolling Stones*, a large number of significant popular-music performers have recorded Berry's songs. Although not technically accomplished, his guitar style is distinctive—he incorporated electronic effects to mimic the sound of bottleneck blues guitarists and drew on the influence of guitar players such as *Carl Hogan*, and *T-Bone Walker* to produce a clear and exciting sound that many later guitarists would acknowledge as an influence in their own style. Berry's showmanship has been influential on other rock guitarists, particularly his one-legged hop routine, and *the "duck walk"*, which he first used as a child when he walked "stooping with full-bended knees, but with my back and head vertical" under a table to retrieve a ball and his family found it entertaining; he used it when "performing in New York for the first time and some journalist branded it the duck walk." He has been cited as a major reference to a variety of some of the most influential acts of all time:

\*Elvis Presley covered "Memphis, Tennessee", "Too Much Monkey Business", "Johnny B. Goode" and "Promised Land"

\*Jimi Hendrix covered "Johnny B. Goode"

\*The Beatles covered "Rock And Roll Music", "Roll Over Beethoven" and "Memphis, Tennessee" to name a few

\*The Rolling Stones have covered "Come On" and "Let It Rock" among others

\*The Beach Boys used the melody from "Sweet Little Sixteen" for "Surfin' U.S.A."

\* Carl Perkins covered "Roll Over Beethoven" and "Johnny B. Goode"

\*Electric Light Orchestra covered "Roll Over Beethoven"

\*Status Quo have covered "You Never Can Tell" and "Carol"

\*AC/DC have covered "School Days"

\*Bryan Adams, Keith Richards and Dave Edmunds have covered "Run Rudolph Run"

\*Faces covered "Memphis, Tennessee"

\*David Bowie slightly altered "Around and Around"

\*The Yardbirds covered "Guitar Boogie" as "Jeff's Boogie"

\*The Kinks have covered "Too Much Monkey Business"

\*Buddy Holly covered "Brown Eyed Handsome Man"

On July 29, 2011, Berry was honored in a dedication of an eight-foot, in-motion Chuck Berry Statue in the Delmar Loop in St. Louis, Missouri, right across the street from Blue Berry Hill. Berry said, "It's glorious--I do appreciate it to the highest, no doubt about it. That sort of honor is seldom given out. But I don't deserve it."

The rock critic *Robert Christgau* considers Berry "the greatest of the rock and rollers", while *John Lennon* said, "if you tried to give rock and roll another name, you might call it 'Chuck Berry'." *Ted Nugent* said, "If you don't know

# MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

every Chuck Berry lick, you can't play rock guitar." *Bob Dylan* called Berry "the Shakespeare of rock 'n' roll". Springsteen tweeted, "Chuck Berry was rock's greatest practitioner, guitarist, and the greatest pure rock 'n' roll writer who ever lived."

*When asked what caused the explosion of the popularity of rock 'n roll that took place in the 1950s, with him and a handful of others, mainly him, Berry said, "Well, actually they begin to listen to it, you see, because certain stations played certain music. The music that we, the blacks, played, the cultures were so far apart, we would have to have a play station in order to play it. The cultures begin to come together, and you begin to see one another's vein of life, then the music came together."*

Among the honors Berry received were the *Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award* in 1984 and the *Kennedy Center Honors* in 2000. He was ranked seventh on *Time* magazine's 2009 list of the 10 best electric guitar players of all time. On May 14, 2002, Berry was honored as one of the *first BMI Icons* at the 50th annual *BMI Pop Awards*. He was presented the award along with BMI affiliates *Bo Diddley* and *Little Richard*. In August 2014, Berry was made a *laureate* of the *Polar Music Prize*.

Berry is included in several of *Rolling Stone magazine's* "Greatest of All Time" lists. In September 2003, the magazine ranked him number 6 in its list of the "100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time". In November his compilation album *The Great Twenty-Eight* was ranked 21st in *Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time*. In March 2004, Berry was ranked fifth on the list of "The Immortals – The 100 Greatest Artists of All Time". In December 2004, six of his songs were included in "*Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Songs of All Time*": "*Johnny B. Goode*" (#7), "*Maybellene*" (#18), "*Roll Over Beethoven*" (#97), "*Rock and Roll Music*" (#128), "*Sweet Little Sixteen*" (#272) and "*Brown Eyed Handsome Man*" (#374). In June 2008, his song "Johnny B. Goode" was ranked first in the "100 Greatest Guitar Songs of All Time".

The journalist *Chuck Klosterman* has argued that in 300 years Berry will still be remembered as the rock musician who most closely captured the essence of rock and roll. *Time* magazine stated, "There was no one like Elvis. But there was 'definitely' no one like Chuck Berry." *Rolling Stone* magazine called him "the father of rock & roll" who "gave the music its sound and its attitude, even as he battled racism - and his own misdeeds - all the way," reporting that Leonard Cohen said, "All of us are footnotes to the words of Chuck Berry." Kevin Strait, curator of the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC, said that Berry is "one of the primary sonic architects of rock and roll."

On June 25, 2019, *The New York Times Magazine* listed Chuck Berry among hundreds of artists whose material was reportedly destroyed in the 2008 *Universal Studios fire*.

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## ROCK N ROLL GEAR FOR SALE OR WANTED

Remember that there is some gear and material sitting in the supper room at the hall for all to look at and to get in touch with appropriate people. Thanks

If you want or have anything for sale and you want it advertised in the Newsletter or you have anything of interest. Please either ph Jeanette on 0276233253 or [hopefamily@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hopefamily@xtra.co.nz). Thanks.

This includes anything you want advertised or any photos are appreciated as this helps for me to have a great looking newsletter.

## **WANTED**

Mens dance shoes preferably a wider fit, size 10-11. Contact Jeanette on 0276233253

### **Club Night**

Every Wednesday at  
7.30pm  
All Welcome  
Members \$2  
Non -Members \$5

### **Out and about**

Level One have just released their new menu. If you are thinking of trying it out, The Invercargill Rock „n“ Roll Club have a „company card“ set up. All you need to do when paying is mention the number (#3728) and we will accumulate points.