

2011 afterburn report

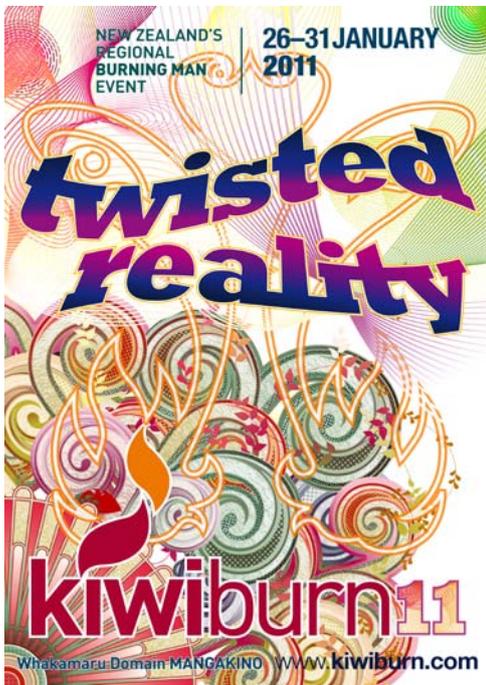
what happened on the paddock




kiwiburn
NEW ZEALAND'S REGIONAL **BURNING MAN** EVENT

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I. Introduction by Mark Stirling aka Yonderman, with contributions from Kathy Guidi and Pete Wyatt

It's Afterburn report time again and what an amazing time to put pen to paper. 'Elementality' was our seventh, 'Twisted Reality' was our eighth Kiwiburn, and fifth on the Whakamaru site in the central North Island. Despite the dodgy weather forecast, absence of many of our regular Wellington attendees, and some post-recession financial woes, we reached a record of 530 people, about 18% growth from last year. While this growth is our smallest to date, it is still significant given the above factors. It may also be heralding the start of a stabilisation in our numbers, given that the percentage of New Zealanders now attending Kiwiburn is about the same as that of Americans attending the relatively stabilised Burning Man main event (between 0.01-0.02%).

We again saw a richly diverse amount of art structures and theme camp installations at Kiwiburn 2011. We also welcomed a large number of folk from regional communities elsewhere in the world, most of whom had planned their travel to coincide with the event. What was significant about this year's Kiwiburn? This question involves taking a deep breath, a pregnant silence, and then "oh yeah!, there was this, this and this!!". Every Kiwiburn has been special in some ways and has been a big step in a continuum of development, integration, and enrichment. At this Kiwiburn, one of the big things I noticed was the Kiwiburn reigns largely passed on to the experienced younger members of the Excom. Karl, Hana and Poppy are well and truly a big part of the new leadership of Kiwiburn, while a number of the rest of us have tapered out from that responsibility.

I left the Excom this year after being there since the very beginning, and am enjoying my role being restricted to that of Kiwiburn founder and Regional Contact (now with the help of our fantastic new Co-Regionals Kathy, Lumos and Ants). Second thing I noticed was how well the event ran. We didn't have any incursions by non-paying people this year due to our increased investment in security. We also had more happening in the top paddock than ever before as a result of Jazelle's vibrant programme at Centre Camp, and the addition of new sound-and-theatre camps like yours truly's "Cape Carnival" (with campmates Jane, Rich, Michelle, Lynda, and Phillipa). Third thing was the impressive size of the man and beautiful intricacy of the Temple. Fourth thing was the daytime "lake scene" which was really hopping as a result of Lumos' reinstatement of a Pirate ship.

Fifth thing was the exciting pre-release screenings of Billy and Paul's Kiwiburn Documentary "Combust in Unity". A long time coming due to funding challenges, but a hugely valuable and entertaining record of our early Kiwiburn history. Well done Billy and Paul. I so remember you following us all around the paddock in 2008, and the visits to our homes and places of work. I hope you sell 100,000 copies, as I think every burner should have one!! ☺

Several issues have come up as a result of this year's Kiwiburn. The timing of the event clashed with Luminare, and we are actively engaging with those cool folk and other festival organisers to see if we can coordinate in future. It is a challenge during festival season with so many events. Other issues include whether we seek another site for Kiwiburn (a new site will have to be pretty stellar to beat what we have at Whakamaru), how we coordinate (and resource) interaction with the Australian Regional event "Burning Seed", and whether the concept of a South Island Kiwiburn should be reconsidered. We Regionals are actively discussing these issues at present, and we welcome your thoughts and feedback.

A big thanks to the Excom, MPW, artists, volunteers, and all those who made Kiwiburn 2011 what it was. I can't wait for the next one. And... a final big note of amazing congratulations to Kiwi and his team for netting the Temple build for Burning Man 2011! Amazing achievement Kiwi and team! Several of us saw Kiwi off to the USA at the Temple fundraiser in Auckland in late April and many will be travelling over for this year's Burning Man to see what promises to be Kiwiburn's finest hour. Enjoy!

II. Organisation/Operations by Kathy Guidi

We introduced many organisational changes over the past year. A desire to spread the organisational tasks among a wider group of people led Kiwiburn to implement the concept of Subcommittees. This allowed more people with specialty skills to participate in the day-to-day operations of Kiwiburn without having to serve on the Executive Committee (ExCom). Two new Subcommittees were created in addition to the already formed Art Grant Committee: a) The Media Subcommittee – deals with all on and off-paddock communications, and b) The Security Subcommittee – deals with matters relating to internal and external safety and security at Kiwiburn.

Additionally, due to comments submitted by several members of the community, the ExCom voted to change the bylaws and allow all Committee email communications to be ‘transparent’ – meaning anyone in the world could ‘look in’ on our conversations.

Both of these changes have made Kiwiburn much better and much more cohesive. Many people stepped up to join the Subcommittees and many people who were ‘watching’ reached out and contacted the Committees with input.

From an ExCom perspective, we had a great crew on board for the 2010/11 festival year. We did say goodbye to Jodi York, our Bean Counter (treasurer) and Shelley Watson in July 2010. We were sad to see these ladies go but appreciated their several years of service on the ExCom, and Shelley remains heavily involved on the Media Subcommittee. The only other change was the election of a new Bean Counter which was taken over by Kathy Guidi. The role actually expanded to that of Treasurership/Finance Team and we welcomed Rachel Margaret as our official bean counter/accountant with Kathy overseeing and handling the budgeting side of things.

So an excellent year for change!

Your committees consisted of the following people:

Executive Committee: Bruce Scanlon (Big Nob), Kathy Guidi (Treasurer), Allyn York (Committee Wrangler), Cass Edwards, Chris Hankins, Richard Parratt, Mark Stirling, Pete Wyatt, Karl Matthews, Hana Tuwhare, Poppy Norman, Ants Hiron.

Art Grant Subcommittee: Hippie Tim (Chairperson), Wendy Allison, Lynda Wixon, Linus Norman.

Media Subcommittee: Kathy Guidi (Chairperson), Shelley Watson, Hana Tuwhare, Dave Preece, Dave Ryan, Allyn York, Richard Parratt, Ants Hiron, Jeremy Byrne

Security Subcommittee: Hana Tuwhare (Chairperson), Bruce Scanlon, Jane Thompson, Poppy Norman, Chris Hankins, Jez Weston, Pete Wyatt, Morgan Cathcart, Nicola Treloar

Excellent work teams!

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Create an on-line calendar of tasks for the year so that no one Committee member has to remember when to bring up discussions.
- Continue to seek new people to join the Committees and help deal with yearly organisational tasks.

III. Financials by Kathy Guidi and Rachel Margaret

Several significant changes impacted this year's budget and financial operations. At the beginning of the year, the community and ExCom elected to extend Kiwiburn from three night/four days to five night/six days. Ticket sales were raised accordingly from \$50/\$60/\$70/\$100 to \$70/\$80/\$90/\$140 and a moderate increase was applied to locals from \$40 to \$60.

Our **budget** was based on a conservative 25% growth (580 people) and with that, we expected to bring in revenues of over \$60,000 requiring us to register and start filing GST. The ExCom also decided to invest a considerable sum into Kiwiburn by buying two large assets: a shipping container sited at Whakamaru Domain to store our infrastructure (\$2600 cost) and a bank of tools for use by MPW and art building crews (\$2500 cost). Both these items were purchased before ticket sales commenced. We also elected to increase art grants from \$3000 to \$7000 (133% increase). Other large and/or new budget items included the introduction and creation of an informational centre called The Depot (\$1000) and a sizeable increase to the budgets for Gate, MPW, and Temple. The hireage of service (Senjo Security, Event Medics, and the Toilets) all increased commensurate with the extending of the festival and were fixed costs regardless of the number of attendees. Finally, we budgeted \$4500 for travel expenses: \$2000 to bring the ExCom together for an annual summit and \$2500 to send one person to the United States to attend the Burning Man Regional Summit held in April each year. Both these items are discretionary, meaning we decide to implement them only if we feel there is enough money available to do so.

In **actuality**, we only saw an increase in growth by 17% to 530 people. This negatively impacted **revenue** by (\$12,000) from budget which was disappointing. As we all remember, the weather was pretty awful during the weekend pre-event and also the Friday of the event which may have impacted people's decisions to attend Kiwiburn. The increase in the Gate sales from \$100 to \$140 did reduce the number of Gates sales (from an estimate of 132 tickets to 80 tickets) which is good – we want people to pre-buy their tickets so we know how much money we have! We did have a glitch with the vendor ticketing system we used to record Gate sales which led us to not being able to accurately reconcile gate sales post festival by several hundred dollars. This will be addressed for next year. Lastly, regarding revenue, we received our first year of \$5000 renewed funding from the Taupo District Council. We are grateful for their continued support!

From the **expense** side of things, we came in about \$8000 under budget which is good! However, this is mainly due to not spending any money post-festival on the \$4500 travel expenses mentioned above. Overall, for everything else, our expenses were mostly in line with budget. All team leads did really well this year keeping to their budgets and only going over by wee bits which are expected and which is why we have a healthy Miscellaneous line item in the budget. This year that got mostly used by MPW as we did not adequately budget for on-site expenditures in getting the festival infrastructure in place both pre- and post- festival. Next year, we now know to factor that into the budget. My miscalculation of the budget for the toilets (\$2800 vs actual \$4200) was offset by my miscalculation for the Site fees (\$5000 vs \$2600 actual). And lastly, two art grant recipients did not show up this year which reduced our actual art grant disbursements from \$7000 to \$5800.

THE BOTTOM LINE is that we had a net cash movement of minus (\$1590) which reduced our cash balance from beginning of year at \$14,277 to end of year balance of \$12,687 – still a healthy sum in the coffers but less than what we had hoped.

Following are the details for revenue and expenses for this Kiwiburn 2011.

Kiwiburn Cash Summary Report

For period April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

GST INCLUSIVE

	2010 Actuals	2011 budget (based on 25% growth)	2011 Actuals
Income			
Bank Interest	\$74	\$277	\$206
ticket sales: first tier		\$6,143	\$6,960
ticket sales: 2nd tier		\$11,700	\$10,348
ticket sales: 3rd tier:		\$18,428	\$19,712
Gate sales:	\$29,160	\$20,475	\$8,140
sponsorship from TDC:	\$5,000	\$5,750	\$5,625
total income:	\$34,234	\$62,772	\$50,991
Expenses			
Administrative:			
Office Expense:	\$83	\$91	\$22
Accounting: (Xero software)	\$0	\$192	\$133
Art Grants disbursement	\$2,993	\$7,000	\$5,608
Bank Charge	\$83	\$25	\$57
Carbon Offsets	\$1,170	\$1,521	\$1,378
Capital Items:			
2010: Banners	\$1,270	\$0	\$0
2011: Tools	\$0	\$2,400	\$2,458
2011: Shipping Container	\$0	\$3,000	\$2,655
Cost of Goods:			
Gate:	\$313	\$1,350	\$1,655
Greeters:	\$200	\$500	\$300
Wranglers:	\$685	\$0	\$0
Man:	\$4,448	\$5,200	\$3,864
MPW Infrastructure/Site, crew items:	\$862	\$825	\$2,575
MPW Kitchen:	\$0	\$1,400	\$1,478
Temple:	\$2,213	\$3,000	\$3,000
Supplies:	\$1,856	\$500	\$253
The Depot:	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,237
Insurance	\$397	\$350	\$349
Miscellaneous:	\$501	\$1,500	\$583
Projects:			
On-Site blogging project	\$0	\$200	\$0
Paddock Post supplies	\$0	\$100	\$49
2011: Lighting for pathways		\$100	\$0
Rent: Council/SLAM/TDC Fees	\$3,008	\$5,000	\$2,657
Services:			
Event Medics:	\$2,500	\$4,830	\$4,830
Security Guard Hiring:	\$3,983	\$8,325	\$8,510
Hirepool for Toilets:	\$2,138	\$2,800	\$4,180
Centre Camp Marquee:	\$520	\$620	\$533
AV Hire:	\$75	\$0	\$0
Radio rental:	\$0	\$1,840	\$1,840
Printing:			
Printing: Tickets	\$413	\$500	\$0
Printing: Entry Signs		\$200	\$253
Printing: Wristbands	\$439	\$750	\$771
Printing: Event Guide	\$73	\$300	\$193
Print ads (Dam Advertiser):	\$28	\$31	\$28
Taxes:	\$1,455	\$0	\$72
Telephone (conf ph fees / ph cards):	\$181	\$300	\$345
Travel:	\$1,444	\$4,500	\$508
Utilities: (Power on site)	\$100	\$143	\$0
total expenses:	\$33,356	\$60,393	\$52,374
GST Paid on revenue:	\$0	(\$8,188)	(\$6,651)
GST claimed on expenses:	\$0	\$7,877	\$6,858
Sub-total:	\$33,356	\$60,083	\$52,581
Net Cash Movement:	\$878	\$2,690	(\$1,590)
Opening Bank Balance (April 1):		\$14,277	\$14,277
Closing Bank Balance (March 31):		\$16,967	\$12,687

IV. Art

a) Art and Art Grants Programme

1. Art Grant Committee (AGC)

Overall the AGC functioned better than last year and things went reasonably smoothly. We held several Skype meetings which helped with the overall distribution process and selection of art grant recipients.

I think there is still room for a lot of improvement. We need to continue work that has started on making a manual for how the AGC operates as this will make life easier for current and future AGC members.

We did find that the splitting of the funding into categories based on the previous years' criteria versus the expanded criteria (including art cars and performance) this year was not useful, helpful, or relevant. The AGC recommends dropping the distinct categories and including all art grant funding within one category that is awarded through the broader criteria.

Lastly, we also could benefit from more Committee members. This year we had four which was an excellent group, but I feel we could have accomplished more with more support and keen helpers.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- More AGC members (This would mean more spread of the workload and more input of different viewpoints on art at Kiwiburn)
- More public awareness (We could really improve on the quality of art grant proposals we are receiving if the word was out there more that people can apply for grants from Kiwiburn. The amount of people with crazy ideas and no way to fund them is large and we need to find a way to tap into these avenues).
- Work on a procedures manual for the AGC and granting process.
- Get rid of funding split between new and old funding criteria

2. Art

The AGC funded 15 art installations on the paddock; two that qualified for funding did not show up. In total, we distributed \$5800 to artists.

Last year (2010), we had seven funded art installations on the paddock and three that qualified for funding did not show up. We distributed \$2400 in grants and gave out the additional \$600 to unfunded art that showed up and was wicked.

Art on the paddock: This year we had several unfunded installations on the paddock: the dream catcher at Happy Hippies; lasers, lights and mirrors in the tunnel; the smoke ring machine; the UFO art car; the blizzard cow art car; and the glowing double helix. This significantly added to the wide range of art that was at Kiwiburn.

With the Kiwiburn populace increasing by around 17%, I think we can be happy with the way art is progressing at the event. There was over 100% growth in funded art and approximately a 30% increase in unfunded art projects.

Despite these positive statistics, I still think there is still a lot of room for growth in the art grants area. For example we have not yet denied any applications and the quality of applications we have been receiving is not as high as it could be.

3. Artery:

This was the year we talked about doing an artery (an artists informational centre) and in the end I don't think it turned out anywhere near the potential it could have been. Most of the organisation of it was left until the last minute and I don't think it got used or was advertised well enough for it to succeed. Needless to say, there is room for A LOT of improvement.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Actually create an Artery at Kiwiburn
- Make it so we have a real presence on the paddock where we can show what has been funded, talk about the grant programme, and provide support.

b) The Man by Kiwi Chris Hankins

The building and designing of the Man was mostly done on-site this year and collaborated on with Karl. We had a significant budget and planned on building the biggest Man at Kiwiburn to date. Volunteers spent many many hours pre-festival to build it and the rain certainly did not help matters as building a 9 metre Man requires a lot of outdoor space! The Man was built in sections and provided a new challenge in determining how to erect it into place.

After one failed attempt to lift the Man into place, we sought the assistance of the local power producer Mighty River Power. We asked for and received Hiab lifting assistance to enable us to raise both the Man and Otto's Cow with Gun into place (standing around 8 to 9 metres high). It was truly an epic challenge given the conditions and time frame. We also had tractors and lift booms on site that were operated by Phil the farmer and Tima, a local farmer committed to the cause.

But it was all completed by Friday, just a wee bit behind schedule. The Man burn on Saturday night went smoothly with no problems and it was as beautiful and moving as ever.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- We've got ideas to build an even bigger Man so a bit more in the budget would be welcomed.

c) The Temple by Hippie Tim, Nick Leland, and Rohanna Weaver

Building the temple at Kiwiburn was a very rewarding experience for all of us involved with it. It was the first time many of us had worked on a large scale art project and the first time we had all worked as a crew. Overall it was a huge success!

Most of the crew arrived the weekend before the event. We had the Temple built and ready when the gates opened and feel that the community fully embraced it with loving arms. The large petals with flat surfaces made for a perfect canvas of which many participants took full advantage. The artwork and verbiage left on the Temple petals moved many.

The Temple burn, occurring on a separate night for the first time, definitely had a different feel to it. Having a separate night for the Temple burn is ideal for the future as we feel it is not compatible with the ecstatic nature of the Man burn.

We had a few technical difficulties with our main lighting system and it did not turn out as we had originally intended. However, we still managed to achieve the effect we wished for with an improvised system, but to lesser extent.

The whole experience has been a great learning experience and we look forward to submitting a proposal for Kiwiburn 2012.

We'd like to say thanks to our crew: Nick (Ponsomby), Rohana, Hippie, Frenchie, Tania, Krishu, Niki, Paulo, Jack, Jen, Chewy, Bex, Stephen, Henry, Mel, Kate, Jaine, Nick (sex god), Rachel and to anyone we may have missed, we couldn't have done it without you all! We'd also like to thank the Kiwiburn community for fully embracing the temple – you all rock!

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Since the Temple has now become an established art piece central to the festival, it would be welcomed if the Kiwiburn temple budget could be increased and be more proportionate to the Man budget.

V. Environment, Site Management, and MPW: by Chris “Kiwi” Hankins, Poppy Norman and Ants Hiron

This year Kiwiburn became a five night/six day festival which gave us the opportunity to expand the event as well as the days on site for set up and tear down.

Previously we would arrive four to five days before the gate opening day but this year we started arriving a week and a half before. Otto was back in NZ to build another large scale art installation so myself, Otto and Niki formed the first wave.

First up was meeting with the new contact for SLAM, Doug Gartner. He was unfamiliar with what Kiwiburn was as he had not been well briefed by his predecessor. After a few days of discussions and him doing research, we struck a common ground of discussion over the use of the land and amenities that are part of SLAM's jurisdiction.

Discussions with TDC councillors Julie Gordon and Greg Hadley also took place along with Phil the farmer who grazes animals on the site and generally works the land as a run off property.

While all this was happening more of the MPW crew arrived as well as the Depot crew to start setting up new and old infrastructure components. Some of our infrastructure was stolen from the site last year which meant we had to reinvest money and time to replace these items on top of our new build projects.

Then it rained. We all know that we get rain during set up and the event but 2011 unleashed two cyclones upon New Zealand and us, two weekends in a row.

We had to make use of the volunteers and the timelines to work to by setting up dry work spaces under shade structures as well as having to construct the gate house components inside the shed whilst around twenty people had to squeeze in and carry on with their projects also; a test of everyone's patience indeed.

The rain was so extreme that it created floods over the entire site culminating in massive washouts on access roads which had to be repaired by contractors before the festival could begin. Crews were also dispatched with spades and shovels to prevent damage to structures and peoples tents during the worst of the rain. It was truly epic especially because it happened two weekends in a row with rain off and on during the weekdays also.

When the skies cleared and the gates were opened on the Wednesday morning we were almost ready as we had lost so many days set up time (see Section IV: Art, Item B – The Man for further info). After everything was in place and safe we could then relax and enjoy the fruits of our hard work.

During the festival, we had three large fires planned for The Man, Cow with Gun, and the Temple of Light.

This not being the first time we have burnt large art pieces doesn't mean that things will always go the way you planned. The Man did burn gloriously on Saturday night to hoots and hollers and lots of fire spinning. The Cow with Gun proved a bit more difficult to burn so it was decided to cut the guy wires and drop it to the ground where participants could break it apart to feed the base fire. This worked well and everyone had a chance to participate in the burn and to keep warm until way into the wee hours of the morning and into the new day.

For the first time, the Temple burn was held on it's own on Sunday night and was truly a memorable burn for lots of reasons and not least a Karakia which was an impromptu addition from Kaina (Shack Attack). The silence in the air around the temple burn was deafening and to have it broken by an amazing Maori prayer was truly spiritually uplifting... more of the same please.

The Temple burnt and once again participants were invited to gather up the outer non burnt material and place it on the fire.

All the big fires were attended by the Mangakino Volunteer Fire Brigade who have now become an important part of our Kiwiburn festival and culture. They love us and we love them. Thank you.

Post-festival take down went relatively quickly and well. A handful of core MPW crew were on-site for several days packing up the shipping container and we also negotiated use of half of the green shed with SLAM to store the Pirate Ship and other structures. There was not a lot of MOOP (matter out of place) to deal with and the paddocks were left in good condition by our community. I think we were all off the paddock within three days of the festival close. Another year and another job well done by the crew!

MPW Volunteers/MPW Kitchen by Poppy Norman and Ants Hiron

We planned to have work every day for 20 people. This was hampered by the 72 hours of non-stop torrential rain (yeah that kind of sucked). Also, we often struggled to find work for people that was more than 'wait and hold' type jobs.

We planned to forge a team from volunteers who had never met or worked together and we planned on creating an MPW 'atmosphere'. This was 100% successful as there's nothing like five days in a shed in the rain to bring people together.

We performed an ad-hoc 'MPW prize giving' that was very successful and will become an MPW tradition.

The Depot ran the MPW kitchen and fed all the volunteers for the entirety of set up. They each got three super yummy meals a day and this worked out well. We are keen to do this again next year.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Investigate the option of buying another shipping container for storage.
- Make a plan for tasks that need to be done so that all of our 20 people can be given something to do every day – we can create more work if we want to (making light art, building a centre camp structure etc.)
- Split our work load so that Poppy is in charge of organising volunteers by email, and Ants is in charge of managing people on site.
- Ants will get more involved in the budgeting and financials next year.
- Work on a plan so that MPW crew have space to work when it's raining – we need to increase planning for rain days overall.

VI. Paddock Safety

a) Health & Safety by Karl Matthews

H&S has three main purposes:

- To ensure participants have a safe and enjoyable event that isn't marred by personal injury or property damage.
- To enable us to get the permits we need to run the event.
- To ensure that if a serious accident were to occur, we can prove that we have taken "all practicable steps"¹ to minimise risk.

In addition to protecting Kiwiburn Inc, committee members, and participants from legal action, this also protects Taupo District Council and Fire Service staff, who have a degree of trust in us and sign off on permits accordingly.

Health and safety begins when theme camps and art installations begin to be registered around September. Participants are contacted by the H&S team by email and provided with a risk assessment form and other relevant information if it is decided there is a potential hazard. Risk assessment forms are completed and reviewed on site when the theme camp or art piece is set up.

Gathering the risk assessment forms and communicating with participants about potential risks was a smooth process this year; the community must be thanked for the high success rate in collecting forms.

The event went without any major incidents, however there were two injuries of note. Early in the festival a girl fell into a ditch and received fairly major scratches and abrasions from a blackberry bush. The injury was treated on site by the medics and the girl herself throughout the festival, without any further need for her to be moved to a hospital. This may have been caused by insufficient lighting of barriers around the many ditches around the Kiwiburn site. Participants may need further warning about the nature of the site in future and the need to provide personal light sources when using the site at night.

The second injury was minor: a participant was incorrectly using the art installation 'Circle of Wood' as a jungle gym and received a bloody nose as a result. She was treated by medics and cleared of a broken nose.

The three major burn events passed without incident and for the most part were successful.

Moving forward, I feel Health and Safety has an excellent foundation set in place by previous health and safety teams and will continue to function well in the future.

Personally I will have to consider my position as Health & Safety officer. I am very aware that this is a difficult position to fill so I am willing to maintain a role, however I will need more assistance as I will have limited access to the internet until mid-October and will be involved with other projects for Kiwiburn 2012.

I would like to thank Poppy for her on-site support during the event, and the Kiwiburn community for excellent work completing documentation and creating an amazing event.

¹ This is the basic requirement imposed by the Health and Safety in Employment Act, 1992

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Better lighting along the ditches/areas where people could harm themselves
- Better communication to participants about the need to bring a personal light source for night time.
- Find new folks to take over or assist with Health & Safety for 2012

b) Medics by Kirsty Illston

The team had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed the event this year. This was our busiest year to date with 48 patients treated for numerous complaints ranging from burns to cuts to allergic reactions. A majority of the injuries we dealt with were of a minor nature. However, the main issue facing burners onsite when trying to be self-sufficient/reliant is maintaining a sterile environment in which to keep wounds clean. With increasing numbers of participants, we expect an increasing workload.

As well as treating on site, we also referred three patients to the local Mangakino GP although we have no record as to whether they heeded our advice.

We used a variety of first aid consumables this year with Panadol, Band-aids, Iodine and Saline being the most common requests.

We have to extend a big thank you to the MPW for vacating the green shed for the event; this allowed us to set up a first aid station that we feel worked exceptionally well.

c) Gate by Hana Tuwhare

Once again I really enjoyed running the Gate, although it would have been nice to have a bit more time to actually go to Kiwiburn. Next year it would be great to co-run gate and share the load.

Tickets: Ticketing was the biggest issue for Gate this year. It was the first year we decided to go with a commercial ticketing operator, Dash Tickets. We decided to do this as it would be a lot easier on our volunteers and would be more efficient at the Gate. The system seemed like it was going to work really well until it actually came time to use it. Because of the extra details we wanted to record (email addresses for newsletter), the system had to be designed slightly differently to what Dash usually has. What they promised was not delivered, or at least not communicated properly and this caused a few glitches at the Gate and there were a few times when we had a queue of people to process. However, we did collect 200 email addresses for the newsletter which is great!

Budget: The budget was right on track until construction started on site, as designs for the Mullet Shack (the gate structure) changed as better building materials were sourced locally. We also had the issue of last years gate tower being stolen during the year and this ended up being replaced with cheap wood. Overall, we went over budget by \$300.

Gate Festivities: The Gate was lucky enough to get the Sheep End's sound system this year which contributed to making the Gate a fun environment to work in which is something I think is important with encouraging people to volunteer. There were a lot of good party times and working times, but unfortunately there were a couple of moments where things got a bit out of hand. There was a similar problem last year. The master plan for the Mullet Shack was to have business out the front, party out in the back. This obviously didn't work all the time.

Other things worth mentioning:

- The Gate volunteers were great. A lot of people came back to volunteer for a second year and want to do it again. As far as I'm aware, they all enjoyed themselves.
- The after hours Gate volunteers with a radio worked well for letting in arrivals after hours.
- The in/out passes (for locals) worked well.
- There was an entrance and exit road this year which allowed for easier traffic flow.
- I found the front gates unlocked in the morning. I was never able to figure out if it was security leaving it unlocked when they left in the morning or not.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Find another person to co-run Gate with.
- Tickets: Explore/review the Black Rock Ticketing process as an option or go with a NZ ticketing operator and keep the process simple and straight forward (ie: maybe allow Greeters to collect emails and any other information we need).
- It would be good to have a sound system again, but with a lower wattage, and have the speakers facing out the back (away from cars arriving), so people hanging out at the gate are not tempted to be out the front.
- I would be tempted to open the gate at 10am everyday next year as there were never many people arriving that early. Although this poses the problem that there is no one at the gate to lock/unlock it for cars coming and going (Weds/Thurs Gate opened at 10am; Fri/Sat Gate opened at 9am)

d) Wranglers, MUDFOP and Security by Pete Wyatt and Bruce Scanlon

At the previous Kiwiburn (2010), we had not completely sorted out our security situation. Unruly local youth incursions on Saturday disturbed many participants and our hard working Wrangler core suffered significant volunteer burnout.

This year started off badly with the loss of our previous Security Chief, Polly Lind. Fortunately she had worked with Senjo Security to develop a staffing strategy that had done well for us on Sunday of Kiwiburn 2010, and with this same staffing strategy (four security staff each night from 8pm to 8am) we had a Kiwiburn 2011 that was devoid of incidents with unruly gatecrashers.

This was very fortunate indeed as perhaps due to Polly's departure, our level of Wrangler staffing was very low. We chose to let Wranglers self organise and this turned out well. Pete Wyatt and Adriaan Wessels (who has worked many such shifts at Africaburn) had several good chats about how and what is required of Wranglers at Kiwiburn and they did some casual shifts during the event keeping the Wrangler image alive. Pete also did a patrol of the whole camp with a trainee Wrangler when they heard of the big storm warning to show their faces and explain the Wranglers to everybody. Along with a couple of others, Pete was also involved in perimeter security at the various

burns and felt that they went really well. Marking the perimeter gave people an easy to see front line. Not having a strong wrangler presence did not appear to harm the event.

The change from short (6 hour), highly visible Mudfop shifts to longer (12 hour) on-call Site Manager shifts, also worked very well. With Senjo handling our significant problems, demands on the Site Manager were limited. With the change of the name and uniform to more respectable ones, we had several new people in the role this year though we could use more experienced veteran burners to take a shift as Site Manager, especially during the 7pm to 7am time slot.

The success of security at KB2011 has prompted the Security Subcommittee to recommend that the subcommittee is no longer needed. It is expected that we will keep our level of staffing with Senjo, continue to grow the Wrangler core in a gentle fashion, and use the 12 hour on-call Site Manager system.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Continue with the hiring of Senjo Security (4 men per night, 12 hr shift)
- Continue with the on-call Site Manager shifts (1 person/ 12 hr shift)
- Continue to grow the Wrangler core as a non-critical function.
- Solicit veteran burners to volunteer for a Site Manager shift

e) Senjo Security Report

This years' Kiwiburn from our side of things was a great success, Having four guards for the whole five nights covered all bases; we were able to have two guards on the gate and two guards patrolling the known hotspot areas for getting in.

During the hours of security over the five nights we had only about 30 car loads of undesirable locals that arrived at the gate trying their luck, most of them when turned away were okay with only a few becoming abusive and threatening (a great help this year was a lot more drive-bys from the local police, which from our side was great to see). To our knowledge there was only one group that got in to the event that shouldn't have been there and when the boys arrived for their shift this group was pointed out and escorted out by our security with no problems.

The only other little hassle we had was on the first night about 5am there was a lot of banging in one of the stalls (the one with all the welded art work) and when the guards went to investigate they found a group smashing up stuff and while they were there the owner woke up quite angry and wasn't to happy that security had come over because it looked threatening. Our guards explained to him that we were there to not only look after the outer boundary but to also make sure that everyone onsite is safe and if it had of been uninvited undesirables doing the smashing and banging that he would of been glad to see security there helping out.

All in all I think the organisers of Kiwiburn once again did a great job this year to give all involved another great festival and we look forward to hopefully working with the team at the 2012 event.

VII. COMMUNITY SERVICES

a) **The Depot** by Poppy Norman and Ants Hiron

This was the first year of The Depot. Our goal was to create a place where participants and volunteers could go with questions, information, lost property, something to chat about, and basically anything else. The Depot organised and sold ice and it also was the central hub for radio and tool sign-outs.

The Structure We built a box out of cheap MDF. The roof leaked so we had to build a second one on top of it. It was warm and dry and totally sweet. It was pretty cramped with a large desk, shelves all over the place, radio charging units and all the tools (plus some sweet armchairs). We had two openings in the front that we spoke to participants through and we also had an awning with seating out the back.

Tools and Radios We used a sign in/out sheet for both the radios and tools. This method worked well with the radios but did not work well with the tools. This was because people often did not sign tools out or the person who signed the tool out passed it on to another person.

Ice In previous years, participants would pre-order ice in the mornings and Kiwiburn staff would go to Mangakino once a day to buy ice to fill the orders. This year we bought ice in bulk from Mangakino, stored it in freezers in the green shed, and sold the bags from the Depot. The demand for ice was huge and we had to make at least one run a day into Mangakino.

Other things worth mentioning:

- A huge thank you to Ash who spent a lot of her burn running The Depot, she was AMAZING! Also to the other volunteers who helped make this possible.
- The notice board and 'write board' worked well to provide people with a central place to communicate.
- The budget we were given this year was reasonable and we will be asking for a similar amount for 2012. In future this amount should go down as there will be no or limited building costs.
- UNICORNS RULE! Especially when they puke.

Ants and I are well keen to do it all again in 2012, but better!

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Increase the size of the Depot – build another 'box'. This will be built behind the 'box' from 2011 with an awning between – we will use the space for MPW tool storage and for freezers etc.
- Build a roof that doesn't leak
- Make The Depot more secure
- Get more sweet pictures of unicorns (and maybe some bunny pics as well)
- Depot staff to be more vigilant with signing out tools
- Educating tool users about the importance of keeping the tools on them and if they must pass it on to someone else to remember who that person is
- The Depot needs to purchase its own freezer/s. This year a lovely lady lent us a few and it would be much better if we had our own.
- Store ice closer to The Depot so staff don't have to walk to the green shed (and potentially disturb the Medics) to get ice.
- Pre-organise daily ice deliveries so we don't have to go into town each day

b) **Town Planning/Placement of Theme Camps** by Allyn York

Town planning is a constantly evolving beast. Not only right up until the festival, but also during the festival as there are invariably (no matter how hard we try otherwise) elements that are still in flux. This year we improved upon our placement process by working closely with the Health & Safety team and the Theme Camp Coordinator -- the plan being that once a theme camp registered and took care of their H&S reporting, then they would be placed.

That was the theory, but as they say "In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. In practice is something else though". Each theme camp was entirely different to work with. Some got their information in early, others, not so much. But in the end I think we got all of the theme camps placed pretty well. And part of what made it work well was being very pro-active. As soon as a theme camp was registered on the website, I took what information I had and placed them on the map in a tentative fashion awaiting confirmation of their details, conversations with them directly, and/or through the Theme Camp coordinator. In the future, it might help to have the Theme Camp Coordinator and Town Planner be the same person, or at least working closely together. There ends up being a fair amount of overlap between the two roles.

The biggest challenge we had was with Madagascar which was a damn shame because they are such nice people and they worked so hard to be as accommodating as possible. They checked in with us frequently, both before set up and after they were in place. They wanted to rock out and so we had lots of discussion about where was going to work best for them. I'm still uncertain if any other place would have worked better or if the same issues would have existed, but we did get some noise complaints from the surrounding communities which we addressed immediately. If we remain at the current location and if we get Madagascar again (or another sound camp of similar size), placing them at the end of The Far Side (where Headless Duck was this year) might mitigate the sound volume issues somewhat, then again, it might just echo off of the hill. We won't really know until we try.

We now have a pretty good map of the paddocks which will serve us well so long as we remain at the current location. All of the various drafts and final versions have been forwarded to Poppy who has now taken over the role of Town Planner.

The Town Planner frequently receives requests for theme camps to be placed under the cover of trees. Because that is also popular for general camping, I've made a policy of not placing any theme camps in The Forest nor along the tree-line in Portal. I would like to see this policy continued because I think it makes a lot of sense, but at the end of the day it's in someone else's hands now.

The other request that we get, usually from theme camps who have never been to KiwiBurn but have heard about it from someone and therefore know we have a lake, is to place their camp/installation/whatever with lakeside access. This just is not doable. We don't have enough frontage space. Something that might help with this is to publish the site map on the KiwiBurn website and have a link to it from the theme camp registration page so that when camps register they have a clearer idea of what they are asking for and what the parameters are.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Closer collaboration between the Town Planning Group and Theme Camp Coordinator and Health & Safety
- Improve the Theme Camp Registration process by including a link to the Site Map so that theme camps can understand what their placement options are.
- Attempt to better place loud sound camps.

c) Greeters by Pete "Lumos" Wyatt

Overall, Greeters went very well apart from one person who volunteered for two shifts and did not show for either. Julia and her team did a lovely "Alice thru the looking glass" tunnel. I made a point of calling on every shift and everyone was having lots of fun and doing a good job despite the weather. Having the couple of couches made waiting between cars more comfortable. Several Greeters had gone to lots of effort in their uniform, the Transformation and bell ringing went down well, and I feel the whole Greeters thing is a positive point of difference between us and other festivals. In the budgeted expenses was an external sensor spot light and loud hailer that will be available for future events. Freebees obtained included a lovely new bell (so we now have two) and new paddles.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Next years' budget will have to allow for repairs or replacement of the greeters marquee as it suffered damage in the big winds.
- The Greeters volunteer roster should include room for writing the persons surname and mobile contact number so we can find them on the paddock if they are late for their shift.

d) Centre Camp by Jazelle Alderdice

For Kiwiburn 2011 we tried something new which was combining activities from both Centre Camp and Shambala Healers Camp. Last year we noticed quite a bit of crossover anyway in our timetables and it also saved the extra effort of having to put up two structures.

On the positive side, this seemed to work pretty well overall. Combining the two meant that Centre Camp was fully utilised, heaps of great stuff happening, with a wide range of events from talks, discussions, workshops, dance parties, and performances. Also I was able to dress it up a bit more, soften the edges, warm the space up with suitable objects, rugs, and lighting which would otherwise have been over at Shambala.

Although I had not figured out how to use the Kiwiburn website on-line contributions form (I'm slightly technologically challenged), it seemed to work okay that people emailed me their offerings to run events and I emailed them back with possible time slots. Many folks simply rocked up and then made use of the white board roster we provided and then chose an available time slot themselves on the spot.

I did have some difficulties when emails from the centrecamp@kiwiburn.com email alias did not always forward properly to my personal email due to some spam issues. Unfortunately, this meant that I did not receive people's emails in a timely fashion and folks thought I was not responding to their awesome offerings. Not too sure how to rectify this.

We experienced a wide range of awesome events including some stimulating talks about Psychedelic Drug Culture in NZ use and also about Enlightenment and Spirituality. We had awesome wee groups of Ukulele bands along with their percussion mates. Groups for untangling the meanings and relevance of the dream life of the dreamer, proved to be powerful and healing. Process groups for 'how ya doing on the paddock today?'. The favourite afternoon sessions of Bodyworkers and Bodies Unite was a treat and restorative after a hard night. Laughter Yoga serenaded us infectiously across the paddock in its crazy abundance. Annie provided a Shamanic healing workshop regarding finding your power animal. Scarlett provided a workshop for a big group using Tantra principals' to increase connection to sacred self/god. Max had us all doing Acapella like a bunch of crazed gospel groupies and they sounded pretty good! A highlight that blew us all away was in hearing the astonishing Sam Rogers (onemouthband) with his wonderful and talented singer friend Nicolle, as they provided an exceptional concert that had us all amazed at the range of sounds one man could produce with his mouth.

The evening it rained heavily the Hippy Dream Weavers provided a hippie dance revival party, in Centre Camp from about 10pm-till midnight which attracted a good turnout for a journey down memory lane to those old classic rock and pop songs from the 70-80s and we all stayed dry and danced till we needed a jaunt in the rain to cool off. Of course there were many other crazy and spontaneous workshops and healings and offerings taking place around the theme of centre camp and I really want to say thanks to all of those wonderful people and to the energy and heartfelt love in the spirit of gifting which they gave to make them happen.

It was also excellent having the sound system and the microphone organised and it enabled those offerings and performances that required them, so thanks for organising this. It was all there waiting in the storage shed and easy to set up.

So overall another totally amazing wild and wonderful Kiwiburn that I had such a good time at!

I will be back so I look forward to seeing you all again, home on the paddock next time!

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- It would be nice if Kiwiburn could eventually have a more intimate space for Centre Camp. Rather than a marquee, could Kiwiburn purchase/build a dome or a yurt? It would enable us to facilitate a more contained and deeper experience for people especially for those more intimate workshops.

VIII. Communication and Technology by Media Subcommittee

The Media Subcommittee was created this year to handle the growing requirements of Kiwiburn. The Committee deals with all on and off paddock communications.

a) Public Relations by Shelley Watson

All goals from last year were implemented and achieved throughout this year.

Media Kit

A Media Kit was created, available in PDF format, on the Kiwiburn website, for anyone interested in knowing more about Kiwiburn. Purposely concise, it features history, background info on KB and Burning Man, philosophies, people, art and imagery. It's downloadable from the new Media section of the website.

Radio Stations/Online Event Guides

Having established and researched event listing websites that seemed a good fit with Kiwiburn the previous year, we had a good base to work from. From September 2010, information about Kiwiburn was posted to about 18 sites including various radio station gig guides, Mukuna, Real Groovy, Eventfinder, WorldDJ, Under the Radar, Obscure, Biggie, NiceUp and Outdoor Styles.

Eventfinder was once again the best managed of these sites as their system makes it easy to track traffic to the Kiwiburn listing. For the 2011 event, we had approx 1,000 views per week – a total of 20,000 views the Monday before the event, 24,000 by 24 hours later and over 44,000 views by the last day of KB. In 2010 they introduced an online ticketing system which would be worth investigating further.

Facebook

Kiwiburn has a presence on Facebook and several people administer the KB Group page. And as soon as the event artwork is finalised each year, we create a Facebook event page and use it to message people about news and updates like when tickets go on sale, etc. This year approx. 1,670 people were invited (three times as many as last year) and, of those, 325 people indicated they were attending (twice as many as last year) and as usual there was a vibrant comment page. (<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=120841491270212>)

Forums

Kiwiburn's Forum seems to be used more closer to the event, thought not as widely as it could be. Important notices, updates, and information are posted there for the community.

Newsletter

Started in April 2010 by Kiwiburner David Preece, the Electric Fence Post is a great tool for getting information out to the KB community quickly and in a fun way. (See Section B below)

Publications

To help create interest and get free publicity, a generic Media Release was created with the help of a recent PR graduate and sent to the local regional newspapers, thought not until January. Local newspapers visited Kiwiburn and photos and articles were written.

For the fifth consecutive year we've put public notices about KB in the Dam Advertiser, the weekly Mangakino booklet. We do this in the two weeks prior to Kiwiburn so the locals know when it's on and have the information they need. It costs \$12 per insertion. It is good for us to keep in touch with the local Mangakino community.

Census

Another objective from last year successfully followed through by one of the burners. Once the data is available, we may be more able to determine how people hear about KB, and target PR accordingly.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Expand the PR role within Kiwiburn so there is more capacity to get things done quicker: It would be great to have a small team of people (at least two) to work on public relations and media liaison. Media Releases should be ready to go earlier (September and October) so they can be sent to publications.
- Continue to create an Event page on Facebook and update the Kiwiburn Group page and send out notices when we need to communicate with/inform the community and put the event on online listings from May/June onwards.

b) Electric Fence Post Newsletter by David Preece and Hana Tuwhare

The miracle of do-ocracy gave us a semi-regular newsletter this year. The “Electric Fence Post” (EFP) managed to send out ten editions between the two burns, to approximately 250 subscribers. We provided publicity for burner projects including Megatropolis; The Temple of Light and Combust in Unity. We broke actual news including the name and date of the burn itself; the transparentisation (a real word, for sure) of the committee system; the deaths of Paul and Alfred and the birth of Mango. We helped find and inspire volunteers to fill volunteer roles before, during and after the burn. And, in the last couple of weeks leading up to the burn itself, we were busy sending out last minute information, ride share info, and (successful) pleas to buy tickets.

It was flaky at times, getting the time and energy together to do this, and having two of us meant that one could pick up the slack when the other became buried by life. Having said that, it would be unfair to not credit the remainder of the media subcommittee who were involved in the visual design of EFP as well as checking each outgoing edition for facts, spellings and overall tone. Thanks, guys.

We have finally managed to extract the Gate email addresses from Dash Tickets and have integrated them into our database giving us approximately 500 subscribers. From an organisational perspective it would be nice to synchronise the Facebook and EFP mailouts – possibly even have them be the same thing – but there is no crushing need. There was also talk of integrating the EFP list server in with the main Drupal site – this remains a possibility but clearly we need to coordinate with Jeremy (webaite) and see whether or not he still feels this is the way forward.

In the meanwhile Hana and I enjoyed gifting EFP to our community for the 2010/11 burn ‘season’ and look forward to carrying on in much the same fashion for this year.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Synchronise EFP and Facebook mailouts
- Integrate EFP list server in with the main Drupal site if needed
- Find better solution for gathering participant email addresses at Festival (ie: move from Gate to Greeters)

c) Technology (Website, Sys Admin) by Shelley Watson, Kathy Guidi, and Jeremy Byrne

We listed two goals in last years’ Afterburn Report: Update and improve the website, and update our ticket sales and gate processes.

Website

We undertook a huge effort to revamp the Kiwiburn website. Shelley, Hana, Kathy, and Jeremy worked over several months to make improvements. With a lot of the information on the site being date specific, the text needed to be edited to become more generic and in many cases, to be changed from a personal point of view and rewritten accordingly. Some of the information was re-ordered and sections dropped, renamed or changed and new ones created to be more intuitive for visitors. The home/front page was changed to include a news feed/blog so the page was less static. The site’s third-party stylesheet was heavily modified for maintainability, and unnecessary markup was manually stripped from every content page to make future updating and editing much simpler. For the first time ever, we were able to blog live from Kiwiburn, sending out information pre-, during, and post- festival.

In early December the website was hacked, probably through a vulnerability in the Gallery software, so that malicious Javascript was inserted into a large number of site pages. However, the hack was cleaned up and the vulnerability patched within a few hours and was unlikely to have resulted in any impact on site visitors.

The website is such a large and evolving beast and updating it is an ongoing project that will be further fine-tuned in 2011.

Ticketing Sales/Gate Process

Another first for Kiwiburn this year was the using of a third-party vendor system to handle our ticketing process. We went with Dash Tickets, a local New Zealand operation and all web and retail outlet sales were handled by them. Overall, this worked out very well with minor glitches on the ‘roll-over’ dates moving from one tier to another tier for pre-sales.

As mentioned in the Gate Section of the Afterburn Report, we did run into further glitches once at the festival. Due to some of our own unique requirements, their scanning and processing systems did not go as smoothly as we’d hoped. So there is still much more room for improvement.

Other

There were no other big technological changes implemented this year except for moving to an online accounting system which was discussed in the Financials Section. We continue to make good use of the conference phone system which is now located in Auckland where the majority of ExCom members reside.

Recommendations/Improvements for Next Year:

- Source more recent imagery for the website. And re-read all the updated text with fresh eyes and tweak where required.
- Continue refining the structure of the website.
- Discuss the best methods of updating of the front page newsfeed of the website so it's as relevant as it can be.
- Continue to improve the ticketing process
- Improve website presentation in a variety of browsers.
- Fully integrate and replace old News blog with front page newsfeed.
- Investigate improved integration of Forum and Gallery with main site.
- Investigate integration of front page newsfeed with EFP and Facebook postings.
- Perform a security audit of website software and target outdated software for updating.

IX. Future Vision by Bruce Scanlon, aka Big Nob

Kiwiburn gets better every year and 2011 was no exception. If I could pick one thing that really stood out for me, it was the significant art and theme camps from people who weren't at all connected to the original core 2007 Kiwiburners. And of course we went to 5 DAYS!

In last year's Future Vision I expressed hope for the following:

- movement away from everyone talks about everything organisational model—CHECK
- positive relationship with SLAM—CHECK
- successful security solution—CHECK
- good walkie talkies—CHECK

A recurring theme in these Future Visions is that our greatest challenge is to deal with our success, and this year is no different. Our greatest difficulty was budgeting. When preparing for the event, the wide range of possible attendance suddenly meant that the financial outcomes ranged from bankruptcy to making a big pile of money, all depending on the growth in attendance, which we never know until the day the man burns.

Sure enough, while we had been growing by 50% or higher, in 2011 our growth was a more moderate 17%. The reduced net income has meant that we have cancelled some post festival expenditures in order to maintain our bank reserves. While this possibility was anticipated, it wasn't fun.

My vision for next year then is aimed at having more fun. This means continuing to find new ways to support our volunteers, budgeting so we grow our cash balance rather than see it shrink, and providing an experience that keeps more people coming and doing more stuff.

Next year is about balancing these sometimes competing desires. The prospective theme "Disaster Holiday" captures this idea perfectly. Even if things don't go as anticipated, we're still going to have heaps of fun!