

# AFTERBURN REPORT 2016

WHAT HAPPENED ON THE Paddock



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



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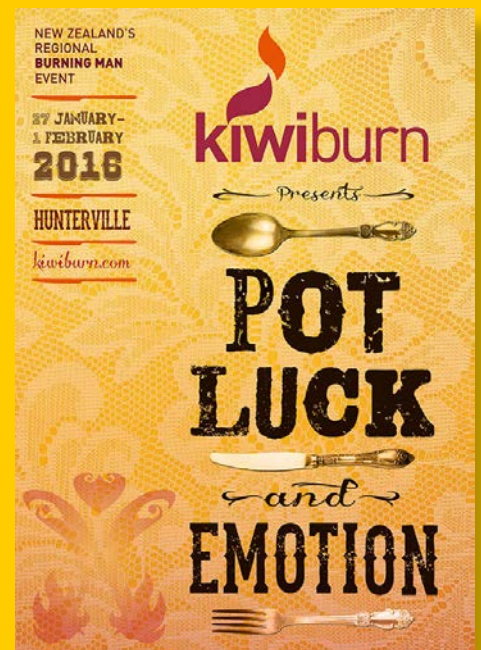
## A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER by Mark Stirling AKA Yonderman

Kiwiburn has had another milestone year. Our numbers reached well over 1000 people – around 1500 this year – and the event sold out for the first time in its 13 year history. We also had an unprecedented number of Theme Camps and art installations on site, and the event expanded to include another paddock, primarily for camping and car parking. With the expansion has come challenges such as traffic management, increased mainstream media interest, and the need for more volunteers. Capping ticket sales is a reality we are facing in the long term, as unbounded growth isn't yet viable from a volunteer resourcing point of view.

The happiness and success of Kiwiburn was marred by one serious harm incident. A review process is underway to establish the root cause(s) of the accident, and our processes will be updated accordingly.

As usual I give thanks to the multitudes of volunteers, artists, Theme Camp organisers and more who helped make Kiwiburn the success it was. Several of the Kiwiburn “officials” deserve special mention for their large contributions pre-, during-, and post-event. You know who you are, and I don't know what we will do when you eventually decide to call it a day.

Digest and enjoy this Kiwiburn Afterburn report. It is the summary of a milestone event from the oldest and best international Regional ever!



## II. ORGANISATION / OPERATIONS

### a) Organisation by Wendy Allison

2016 has been a year of firsts for Kiwiburn: the first time our population cracked 1000, the first time the event has sold out, the first time art has been burned outside of the main structures, the first legal wedding, and unfortunately our first serious harm incident. Almost all of these are the consequence of growth; growth of nearly 50% on last year's numbers. As Kiwiburn continues to grow and word spreads of our crazy five days on the Paddock, we'll continue to encounter these consequences and being prepared to deal with them as an organisation is an important focus for us in the year to come.

The population cap was a controversial decision, but in hindsight it was a sound decision. The ticket sales reaching their cap by December (and associated extra sale SNAFU in which they oversold by 150-odd tickets) indicated that many more tickets could have been sold, which would have overwhelmed our groaning infrastructure. I take my hat off to the Site Operations crew who coped admirably with the logistics of the unexpected extra population. The question of whether and how to continue constraining growth is a big one in everyone's mind for the coming year.

These considerations alongside feedback from the Census suggest that there are two main areas for the organisation to focus on in order to achieve sustainable growth: maintaining and growing our volunteer base, and improving processes and communication between departments.

Volunteering for Kiwiburn is both rewarding and draining and while we all do it because we love it, it's important to recognise that nobody can do it forever. We need to be considering succession planning.

The organisational structure that was developed two years ago continues to serve us well, but it has emerged that the Kiwiburn organisation is something of an ecosystem, with most roles being a combination of operational and administrative. On top of this, people's ability to carry out their tasks effectively is reliant on information-sharing and support between teams. Clarifying how this information is shared and ensuring team leaders are supported is another priority for this year.

The bottom line for this year is that it's clear Kiwiburn is experiencing a burst of popularity, which is fantastic. Sustainable growth supported by community involvement will be the theme for our work this year. We can't do it without you!

### b) Operations by Poppy Norman

The 2016 Operations team consisted of Poppy Norman and Karl Matthews. We both had various other managerial roles and this unfortunately meant that Ops was not given all the energy it needs. Because of a lack of time and energy operational issues were often dealt with reactively rather than proactively.

During build the Ops team held daily morning meetings with the build leads to discuss the day's schedule, weather, trips to town, resource sharing, and troubleshooting. We held a volunteer briefing session on the first day of build (and again later in the build period) to go over the Volunteer Guide that was sent to all pre-event volunteers. Once the event started our focus shifted to the day-to-day operations of the event. Meetings were held on Effigy days between the Ops Team, the respective Effigy leads and key staff, and our fantastic fire safety crew. These meetings were a great innovation that really helped make the burns a cohesive group effort, and I'd strongly recommend that they continue under a Burn Night Stage Manager and grow to include representation of the wonderful fire performers who put on a great show every year!

Overall, the Operations team have been developing great strategies and plans but due to a lack of time the execution was somewhat lacking. There's work to be done in terms of defining role scopes and responsibilities, recruiting some new members and working on bringing people up through the ranks to take on these high-level roles, communication within the team, and making sure everybody feels supported and isn't overworked. But the direction we're heading in is the right one – a more cohesive, organised, supportive and prepared team.

### III. FINANCIALS by Karl Matthews and Brendan Stafford

This year we sold 1485 tickets (allowing for no-shows, children etc, we would estimate about 1500 participants on site). It feels like this was the first year of a new phase for Kiwiburn.

#### Ticket Sales and General Background

The initial cap of 1,200 sold out by 24 November. These early sales gave us a good level of comfort in authorising significant spending on infrastructure and capital items. A further 100 tickets were authorised for release on 16 January. The demand for this second round of tickets overwhelmed our ticketing system and a further 153 tickets were issued due to related technical difficulties. Last minute increases to various areas of the budget needed to be authorised to ensure that we had enough medics, security, toilets, and other infrastructure.

This dramatic demand meant that our previous modelling for ticket tiers was no longer valid. As such this may be a good time to review the ticket tiers.

#### Revenue and Cash Movement

Revenue for the year doubled from a little over \$130k last year to over \$200k this year.

Overall our net cash movement is looking healthy. So far we are tentatively looking at a cash surplus of about \$15k taking our bank balance from \$38k to \$53k. This includes various costs that are yet to be paid and will appear on the books for next year (for example, some of the Summit related costs). From this surplus we need to allow for next year's provisional tax which is estimated at about \$6k.

#### Spending

The cash movement might not appear to reflect our doubled revenue. There were a few increases to our normal costs but the most significant factor was extra spending on site improvements and fixed assets. Less significant increases to our normal costs included Site Safe training for the build crews and a good allowance for extra portable toilets, security, fire service donations, medics etc. to ensure the best experience possible for our increased population. Some of these increases were at short notice due to the ticket over-sales and costs may reduce slightly with more careful planning next year. Several areas ran slightly over-budget but in retrospect this was well managed and a very successful outcome in the circumstances.

#### Ice Sales

There were some significant challenges for the Depot team relating to ice sales this year including the hired refrigerated trailer breaking down leaving some participants disappointed when ice wasn't available. This is something to look closely at next year. Despite these challenges the team have done very well with the bookkeeping and remained calm and friendly in the face of adversity. Next year should see a few of the final wrinkles ironed out and we'll look into using a different trailer!

#### Art Grants

Kiwiburn provided over \$18,800 in art grants this year with some payments still to be made. This included \$4309 for the Effigy and \$5559 for the Temple. Art grants (including the community art project) and the innovation grant made up the remainder. Some of the larger art projects were partly pre-funded. It was fantastic to see the various art pieces large and small on the Paddock.

#### Team Roles

This year will be Karl's final year as Treasurer and we'll miss his energy and insight. Laura continues as our main bookkeeper, Xero expert and stalwart of the team. Brendan has spent the year learning the ropes and will step up as Treasurer from 1 April 2016. Kathy remains available as a mentor / advisor.

## IV. ART

### a) Art and Art Grants Programme by Rohana Weaver

This year the Kiwiburn Arts Committee (KAC) had \$10,800.00 to allocate in art grants. This included the new \$2000 Extra Large Art Grant, \$800 for the Community Arts Project, \$6000 for Large Art Grants and \$2000 for Small Art Grants.

Our Actual Allocation was as follows:

Large Grants:	\$4713.00
Small Grants:	\$3100.70
Extra Large Grant:	\$2000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9813.70</b>

We had a total of 10 applicants for Small Art Grants (9 Successful) and 6 applicants for Large Art Grants (all successful, with one allocation of the \$2000 Extra Large Art Grant to Nico Woodward's 'The Healing Hand')

This year has seen a number of challenges come to light as Kiwiburn grows and KAC continues to define and refine its processes. We have worked well to streamline our voting processes, which are now working more efficiently. Having more large and burnable art on the paddock has made it apparent that we need further communication with artists and relevant parties to enable these to happen safely and without stress or incidents.

The presence of The Artery, and its promotion of art on the Paddock was wonderful! We ran two successful arts tours through this and hopefully The Artery has helped to promote more grant applications for next year. Thanks Eryn outstanding job!

### b) The Effigy by Jaimie Waititi

With a crew of ten including myself we built a representation of Maui in bird form. The structure was of 6x6 and 1x6 timber and cladding was both found and bought materials, which were mostly organic/natural. As it was my first experience with Kiwiburn it was important for me to have past attendants or builders from either Kiwiburn or other regional burns. With those on the list we also had five newbies that were recommended to me by the burn community. When I decided on the crew I was looking for a range of skills that would benefit the entirety of the structure including lighting, engineering, muscle, build experience, design and artistic craftsmanship.

As a newcomer to the festival and its community I couldn't have asked for a better crew. Being a manager was awesome. Great crew, great community, great project! Poppy, Karl and MPW were a great hand in the project, couldn't have done it without their work. I spent a lot of time pre-build with Jack and Christina developing the project and understanding the build side of things so I knew how to manage the crew accordingly. However, the lift was another story. I was keen to lift with everyone but the crane did just fine and I will consider this for next time. Now that I'm more experienced with the way things run at Kiwiburn and the nature of this kind of work, I know working with experienced people will improve the function of my role.

### c) The Temple by Ben Prince

Kiwiburn 2016 was an amazing experience. This year brought many surprises and difficulties that were mainly caught up in the 2D-3D aspects of the design. When geometry is drawn flat it is incredibly hard to explain the finer details, which made the crew confused most of the time despite my idea of keeping it simple.

My crew – a loveable bunch of nerds in their own rights – worked magnificently from dawn to past midnight on occasion and from 2 days prior to build plan and 1 day into the burn. There is no measure to the effort that was made by the crew, I simply wish I had had more time to draw things up with diagrams and 3D sketches to confirm my thinking.

Clean up was good despite some of the crew leaving to have fun somewhere else while we kept on going. I did not confirm a total clean up plan with MPW, but in the end we needed to ask them for help removing rubbish from site which I regretted. If I had my own vehicle I would have made better plans for cleaning up. Thanks MPW for a wonderful Kiwiburn and I hope we can make things bigger and better.

## V. ENVIRONMENT, SITE MANAGEMENT, AND MPW

### a) Set-up and infrastructure by Poppy Norman

MPW were onsite from the 8 January until the 6 February this year. This year we had more people involved with management of MPW which was great. It spread the workload out and gave Poppy time to work on her other roles. In previous years Karl has acted as the construction lead but due to other commitments he hasn't been able to give this role the attention it deserves. Having someone whose sole role is construction lead was awesome.

MPW began work onsite as early as the 8th of January and by the time the event started most of them had been working for about two weeks. The official plan was that apart from those who sign up to work during the event they would not be needed. However bump in, the tree incident and some other situations led to MPW being called on. Because they are shining stars they jumped in and did what was needed to be done.

### b) Crew Kitchen by Ben Curran and Cathleen Dorvilus

Kitchen is a hard job, and we're probably still not at the point where we have a surfeit of volunteers willing to do it. Not all of our volunteers were ready for the amount of work involved. We think getting in contact with people prior and letting know what exactly the kitchen entails is a great idea. That way, there will be no surprises. The kitchen also would not have worked as well as it did without the system of volunteers from the various crews to assist with dishes. This was easier when we had two volunteers rather than one, things got finished a lot quicker and people got back to their crews quicker.

Hopefully the greater numbers attending burn will help with volunteer numbers and expanding the kitchen, but I realise, budget-wise, this is probably a lot to ask for. It is, however, where I think we should be aiming.

All in all, it was exhausting and hard work, but we enjoyed running kitchen this year. None of it would have been possible without the beautiful team we created. Lydia and Adele were absolutely amazing to work with. I know we couldn't have done it without them. We also had a couple great volunteers from Effigy Crew (Dan, Jack and Ben) who were a BIG help!

### c) Pack Down, Clean-up, and Moop Report by Poppy Norman and Wendy Allison

#### Pack Down – Patrick Norton and Poppy Norman

This year pack down ran from Monday 1 February until Saturday 6 February, the quickest clean up ever. This is mostly due to the new separation between clean up and pack down. The pack down crew were only responsible for packing down and putting away all infrastructure.

The major challenge of this job is maintaining ones sanity. It is easy to get caught up in a frenzied state of activity and stub your toe. Also necessary but draining, is the constant moving of things from one staging spot to another as you slowly whittle down the confounding amount of pieces that tie Kiwiburn together. An efficient and user-friendly inventory system remains an enigma.

Graciously afforded us by the universe, is room for improvement. The shit got done, but it's the details that prove painful – often a truck, trailer and a couple crew members were off site on poorly timed dump-runs or other missions.

Also an issue, every year, is the scrap wood and broken pallets etc left over from build crews. Burning is not an option due to the fire-ban and extra mess it creates. Thankfully Medic Paul took a heap for firefighter training/Guy Fawkes. Unfortunately this meant we had to make about five trips to Marton to drop this stuff off which was a total time drain on both people and vehicles. This is not the solution. I'm not sure what is.

## Cleanup by Wendy Alison

In the past, cleanup has been done by MPW and our thanks go to them for carrying the can for so long. 2016 is the first year Kiwiburn has had a dedicated Cleanup crew, and thus we were able to focus entirely on the Leave No Trace aspect of our principles.

The 2016 MOOP map can be viewed here: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=z7a6wwukGjSU.kq7dFveuYT2s&usp=sharing>

One of the purposes of the MOOP Map is to hold theme camps and artists to account for their MOOP footprint – in future those with a consistent green record will get priority for placement and/or grant considerations, so there is an incentive for everyone to work on this issue. This year, the response from theme camps and artists has been amazing, with even those who got a green rating considering ways to do even better! Some theme camps also reported the MOOP they collected from their public areas – from this it's clear that camps are dealing with Kiwiburn rubbish on a daily basis and taking away far more than what we found. The most switched-on camps have a dedicated person in charge of cleanup, and a cleanup plan.

Another purpose for the MOOP Map is to inform Kiwiburners of areas we need to collectively work on if we truly wish to Leave No Trace. As you will see from the map, it was the public areas that had the worst levels of MOOP. As a community we really need to think about how to improve this – particularly the swimming hole and the Keyhole.

## d) Noise Management by Oliver Macro

Following on from the 2015 event, Noise and Sound Management was once again approached with a pre-emptive form of logic. The sudden increase in population has meant a record number of registrations for sound camps and related sound installations in 2016. Placement strategies and inter-camp communications were specific in order to successfully manage the diverse auditory phenomena on site. Sound camp placements were typical of the past two years at our present site. Placements were as far apart from each other as conditions would allow, with larger camps in key locations, and sound systems carefully orientated away from each other. As in previous years at our Hunterville location, this strategy proved highly effective, with even the largest camps being almost completely inaudible in many areas of the site itself.

Routine checks of the site did not show any major issues, and only two sound related incidents that were brought to my attention during the event: the first was a camp in the quieter end of lower paddock, who brought a PA system more powerful than their registration had indicated, the second was an unauthorised sound system in the Forest. Both issues were dealt with through discussions with myself and/or the duty Site Manager.

Overall, I consider this year's efforts in sound management were a resounding success. Both the preparation prior to the event and the cooperation and engagement of those responsible for the sound equipment on site were key to achieving this. Well done to all involved!

## e) Traffic Management by Oliver Macro and Patrick Norton

### Internal Traffic Management by Oliver Macro

With the significant population growth, and our limited available space, on-site traffic and placement of participants vehicles had to radically evolve in 2016.

A strict policy for controlling on site traffic was developed for 2016. All vehicles were restricted to the designated parking area, with the exception of vehicles being slept in, used for Theme Camp storage, or otherwise permissible by exception.

The system worked well, however miscommunications in the arrival process caused a few moments of confusion. We'll need to fine tune this process and set up a dedicated crew in the future, and should look to secure a reasonable budget for demarcation equipment, and crew shelter. A reliable and dedicated volunteer has stepped up to the plate, and I'll be collaborating with him throughout the year to get the new department up and running.

### External Traffic Management by Patrick Norton

The role of Traffic Management relates to the Council required Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for public roads affected by the festival. When, where and what traffic management is needed may be subject to change from council or other road authority.

This role is straightforward but requires some ungodly timings. The signs were put up initially at 5am on the Wednesday morning before Gate opened and removed 48 hours later. Then reinstated at 11pm Sunday night for 24 hours through Monday exodus. The signs need to be checked periodically to make sure they haven't fallen over or something. It takes two people approximately two hours to set up or take down the road signs. Next year we'll be seeing if we can negotiate different terms for the TMP to make life easier.

## VI. PADDOCK SAFETY

### a) Health and Safety by Paul Chaffe

So let's start by ignoring the obvious and discuss the rest of the event, all in all it was a great event with very little for the Health and Safety person to do, theme camps and crews were really good at getting Health and Safety forms filled in pre-event and structures and art installations on the whole followed what they had written down, unlike last year there were no issues with laser light installations, the burn perimeters were well controlled with no one breaking them and the cliff face above the swimming hole although slightly less stable than last year was well sign posted and on the whole people heeded the warnings.

This burn saw a couple of firsts in fire safety, it was the first time we had burner volunteers help us provide burn safety and it was the first time Kiwiburn had a 24/5 fire fighting capability on site. This is an area we'd like to look at expanding next year, to the point we are thinking of introducing a non-traditional theme camp: 'Kiwiburn Safety Third!' The camp would be based around the Medics station with burners volunteering pre-event, registering their skills and attributes with us, and those meeting NZ/AS Standards being offered the opportunity to assist with burn perimeter safety as well as onsite emergency fire response. If the community is interested then we would seek expressions of interest via the Kiwiburn Facebook Group.

### b) Medics by Paul Chaffe and Kirsty Illston

More participants equals more work for the medics with over 150 participants being treated on site. The most serious injuries we dealt with this year (other than those associated with the tree fall incident) were lacerations. Due to the nature of the event many participants choose to go bare foot and many of these same participants end up visiting us with cuts to the feet. There was the same demand for Panadol and other over the counter pain relief medications, band aids and antiseptic creams.

The tree incident was the most challenging incident we have dealt with in a number of years at Kiwiburn. The team responded quickly and professionally to the injured participant and the Ambulance and Fire Service were called immediately. Although the participant looked unharmed she had suffered a number of serious injuries and required immediate hospitalisation. My hat goes off to the numerous burners who came to the aid of the young lady and assisted the medical team, fire service and ambulance service.

### c) Gate by Jasmine Hunter

This was my first year as Gate Manager after taking over from Karl Matthews.

It was initially planned that the role would be shared between 2-3 Gate Managers but this didn't happen in the end. In my opinion the pre-event organising is best done by one person with the responsibility shared by two Managers or a second in command during the event.

This year we implemented a new option for the vehicle re-entry charge of \$20. Vehicles were given the option of either paying the \$20 re-entry fee or donating the equivalent amount in the form of a beverage or food item. The intention was to build supplies for the MPW clean up crew and save going off-site for more groceries for Gate Crew.

### d) Paddock Relief by Jeanne Waldron

I received all the information for running Paddock Relief in November, so my experience running Paddock Relief this year was very last minute and was a bit stressful, especially as I had no idea what I was in for. Thankfully I had Pete for advice, we got lots of volunteer emails through reminders in Electric Fence Post and from the volunteer coordinator.

We ended up with 33 volunteers including some friends I had recruited and seven volunteers who joined during the burn. It was hard coming onto Paddock Relief inexperienced with a basically inexperienced crew: most of the crew were new, only four had worked paddock relief before, and some were new burners. Having a Red Earth (Australia) and a Black Rock (US) Ranger plus a planner and infrastructure leader from Burning Seed (Australia) was an incredible help and I learnt a lot from them. I was very lucky to have the rangers, a diving specialist and an NZ soldier to teach us some things, at first we were all a bit unsure of ourselves and what we were doing but by the end of it we rocked as a team and most have remained in close contact and friendships have been ongoing between crew. There are quite a few who want to come back next year.

Paddock Relief did a lot more call outs picking mostly intoxicated people up and getting them home or to somewhere safe. There were not as many needing the use of the tent as there were 2015. Also this year a lot of people came up to us out roaming a told us of someone who need help and we would assist. A lot of people were ready to look out for each other. The crew interacted well with others when out roving building great rapport.

Unfortunately, we took a lot of flack being called Paddock Relief with some very sexual innuendos coming up. The crew and I have agreed to change the name to Black Sheep Rangers – Black Sheep to recognize the history of Paddock Relief and the Wranglers at Kiwiburn, and Rangers to reflect a shift towards the ranger role, which is universal across all burns.



## e) Security

### Security and Site Management

The 2016 event was very successful in terms of participant safety and security. Much of the event went without reported incidents and overall the behaviour of participants was exemplary which we attribute to the wonderful culture within our community. We did have two serious complaints which resulted in the eviction of two participants, but these were handled relatively smoothly utilising the strong policies and procedures that are already in place.

Kiwiburn had been using volunteers from the Hunterville Volunteer Fire Service for a donation over the past two years. However it was decided that it was in the best interests of the participants on site, and the volunteers working as Paddock Relief and Site Manager to hire professional security guards for the first time since leaving the Whakamaru site. The safety of everyone on site is our number one priority, and we felt that we were not well enough equipped to handle potential incidents of a violent nature. We were very impressed by the level of professionalism and experience that Armourguard brought to the table, and would be happy to have them back again next year. They did come at a considerable cost, becoming our third largest budget item, however in our opinion it was money well spent.

Paddock Relief made great strides this year to becoming a round the clock presence on site. Their development is critical to the effectiveness of our overall participant safety. Having visible eyes and ears throughout the event site makes spotting and reporting of incidents easier for participants. The training and procedures that are being developed within Paddock Relief are outstanding and made a huge positive impact out some of the incidents that occurred during the festival. Paddock Relief are always recruiting for new volunteers so be sure to sign up for a shift or two next year!

## Armourguard Security

The supervising guard coordinated other guards via Armourguard radios, and when assistance was required via Kiwiburn event radios (usually via the Site Manager). However there were a couple of incidents where organisers at theme camps and Paddock Relief staff directly requested assistance from patrolling guards (who advised the supervising guard what they were doing).

There were two evictions during the event. Other minor actions occurred where security were asked to intervene where intoxicated patrons appeared angry or uncooperative. These were calmly dealt with requiring no further action.

All security staff worked well as a team. Security staff built a rapport with participants, site office, theme camp organisers, paddock relief and site managers. We received several positive comments: “you guys have made us feel safe”, “Its great I don’t have to manage security, you manage yourself” (from a Site Manager), “I was impressed with how you handled that” (Site Manager after forced eviction). Security staff adhered to the workings of the event (the principles on Kiwiburn web site, including non-violence and acceptance of diversity).

The Head of Security agrees that Armourguard were excellent to work with. They quickly adapted to the event and handled themselves professionally at all times. If called they were there immediately. Our hat goes off to them – 2016 was a much clearer year this year procedurally, meaning the evictions we did have went very smoothly.

## g) Fluffers

This was the second year that we have had fluffers at Kiwiburn. No one volunteered to take on the responsibility of running fluffers so it was co-managed by myself, Milena and Hannah. Hannah and her five year old son Levi did most of the fluffing and planned and shopped for it once. Milena also did some planning and shopping and I helped where I could.

With a lack of a dedicated fluffer vehicle and that the site vehicles were constantly busy with other things meant that fluffer runs had to be done on foot. Due to Levi’s age it was a big task for him and Hannah to go around the whole site and fluff four crews. On the days that this was too much for Levi Milena, myself or other members of MPW took on the responsibility of fluffing.

“Being able to bring a five year old to be on a build crew at a Burn is one of the greatest opportunities I have ever experienced. It gave Levi real life experience of watching building, and being in a role of service. It enabled him to understand and embody elements of the Ten Principles. I believe there was some worry about having a child onsite, but it seemed that everyone adjusted and enjoyed having Levi on the crew, and being able to play and see the experience through a child’s eye. Indeed having children on the team is the ultimate expression of ‘Radical Inclusion’. Well done Kiwiburn.” – Hannah

## VII. COMMUNITY SERVICES

### a) The Depot

Aside from a few minor and major issues, the Depot went really well this year. Julia was a great co-manager, as usual. We had fantastic volunteers and a great set up. This was the first year that the Depot has been separate from the Site Office. The role of the Depot is still being developed as a separate entity to Site Office. Most of the difficulties I had, both before and during the event related to a lack of clarity around delineation of the roles of the Depot compared to other operational parts of Kiwiburn. This is to be expected under the circumstances, and will hopefully be clearer for next year. The Depot is supposed to sell ice, provide information for volunteers (including displaying rosters of all the volunteer teams), provide information to participants, and run the lost property. It is a central point-of-contact during the event and people often came up to us with a wide variety of inquiries. It makes sense to have this function separate from the Site Office, so that the latter can focus on internal operational functions.

Difficulties included trouble with the ice supply and replenishment. This was something that we didn't think carefully enough about before the event in light of the growth in participant numbers. We ran out of ice several times during the event and had to rely on people to generously give up their time and pick up the ice I ordered into the local Hunterville Four Square. The ice trailer also stopped working, making ice difficult to store. None of this was ideal. We need a much better ice situation next year.

In future it would also be beneficial to expand some of these services (e.g. looking after event volunteers more during the event), and minimise others (e.g. excessive lost property). In terms of the volume of lost property the major problems were theme camps not bothering to drop it up until after most people had left and people dumping rubbish. Theme camps need to be more organised if we want people to claim their stuff. It needs to be clarified if Kiwiburn is responsible for dealing with rubbishy lost property left at theme camps or if the theme camps should be taking responsibility for it because they have set up an area that tends to accumulate that sort of thing.

### b) Town Planning and Placement by Oliver Macro

As with all of my relevant departments, the record population growth Kiwiburn has seen in 2016 has radically affected town planning management and operation. Town Planning was where the biggest changes were to be found.

2016's addition of two extra large burn-scheduled art pieces and their burn perimeters, alongside our significant population increase, provided a major challenge in layout for the registered camps and art installations, as well as the infrastructure that comes with them. The resulting layout was rather tight, with the perimeters of both Upper and Lower paddocks being loaded with all manner of camps, and the spaces between filled with art installations. Whilst the planning stages proved challenging, and the placement phase slightly nerve-wracking, the end result meant activity could be found all over at all times of day and night. To me, it felt like the first time that Kiwiburn was well and truly alive, all of the time, all over the site. This is a highly satisfying experience, and a healthy indicator of a job very well done.

As I see it, the next step for Town Planning is to expand, and on that note lies my primary area of concern. Kiwiburn has run out of available space with which to expand, and continue with the regulated increase of our population. To grow past this point we are going to require the use of extra paddock space, and reconsider the overall layout and spread of the town.

### c) Art and Theme Camp Registration by Anne Starkey Taylor

Given the massive increase in population, it was expected that the role would be hugely busy and we recorded a whopping 40 Theme Camps, 36 Art Installations and 100 Events. The best part of this volunteer job is being the first person to see what will be happening on the Paddock!

This year the registration process was not without issue. Theme Camp registrations are copied to two email addresses (Art and Theme Camps and Town Planning) to ensure nothing is missed, but we had one Theme Camp registration go astray (possibly due to a web-glitch or email link error on that day). Fortunately this was resolved pre-Kiwiburn and space was allocated for the Theme Camp in question.

The biggest problem we had was that the Art Registrations webpage was not linked to the Art and Theme Camps Coordinator's email. This initially caused some delay with processing registrations as I was unaware that the link was not working. The eventual solution was for me to log in to the Art Grants webmail to search for new registrations. The positive outcome is that I was taught some web skills and am now able to log into the back-end of the website to check activity – this will be a good safety check going forward (although we will ensure that the Art and Theme Camps email address is properly linked).

The support and communication received from Town Planning was invaluable and I would like to do a shout-out to Oliver who just makes the whole process such a pleasure!

## d) Greeters by Marla Percival

First of all... a Huge, massive thank you to MPW for providing us with an awesome shade structure on such short notice. The shelter we had used on previous years was found to be quietly, and rather rapidly, deteriorating. It was rather rotted so they were able to whip the awesome shelter we had up for us. You guys are life savers!

This was my first year as Greeters manager and I have to say thank you to everyone for helping me out/being patient. My team of cuddle monkeys were amazing. Thank you to each and every one of you, you rock.

I brought the paddles back to the paddock this year, by request. Unfortunately there were a large number of paddles that ended up broken – and one that was made very scary looking – I'm thinking I will leave then behind next year maybe? The wheel of misfortune was fixed to a working condition (thankyou to whoever did this!). There were no incidents and we all had loads of fun. Thank you everyone for an awesome time and I hope to see you all next year!

## e) Centre Camp by Hana Tuwhare

The aim for Town Hall this year was for it to be utilised a whole lot more, which was a success. Personally contacting burners via email and Facebook was the most effective way to encourage people to host an event. The close approximation to The Artery, The Depot and the Washing Line also made a huge impact on this space being used. Using the dome, a much more inviting structure, also helped.

As I have previous experience within Kiwiburn I was able to figure out where to direct queries. But I realised if I hadn't had the experience before, it would have been difficult to know how to do do-ocracy effectively (i.e. do managers have use of MPW tools?). I realise this is part of the learning process for newbie managers, but it could be good to have something that gives more information about the overall functioning of Kiwiburn to new people, like what assistance is available to them.

## f) Artery by Eryn Gribble

The Artery returned to the Paddock this year, the first time since 2012! With the "town village" vibe we were in good company placed between the Depot and Town Hall, this ensured it got lots of foot traffic and was a central hub. I was initially concerned about it being a "dead space" having its own tent – but Artery was a constant hive of activity. The events were a highlight of the Artery. The arts tours were silly, long and a lot of fun. Feedback from these was overwhelmingly positive and we had countless suggestions we should run "one a day".

This year was all learning! e.g. how all the behind the scenes stuff work, who to communicate with regarding different things, and what Kiwiburn provides infrastructure crews with. I feel the future of Artery as has been cemented and we're on to a good thing!

Artery supported greeters in their role of sharing some of the unique aspects (like the principles) to our community especially to new burners, of which there were many this year. We heard loads of comments as people flicked through the portfolios of previous builds reminiscing about past burns or discovering more of our history. Many parents commented it was great to have a safe space for kids. It achieved everything it set out to do. Artist support on paddock was not in huge demand but as the role expands to deal with more placement – this might change. Really stoked with how it all went down. Back pats all round to everyone involved!

## g) Innovation Grant by Pete Lumos

This year misunderstandings and mistakes by me meant that the grants process did not happen properly, after many discussions it was decided to proceed with Hippy Tims local digital network project. This project is NOT about improving internet access on the paddock, rather it provides a framework that allows participants and art works to connect in a digital way for interesting possibilities and interaction. This project will grow as more people become aware of its possibilities. For next year we have set up diary reminders and updated our process to improve things.

**Flags:** Some of our participants created good flags that were put up around the paddock and in the forest but we needed more bamboo poles and the person who was going to help with this did not show up. I was unable to do the job as well as I would have liked. There is a crate filled with flags and ropes packed away in the container for next year.

**Paddock lighting:** Some of last year's lights had been damaged but I had purchased some more loo lights to replace broken ones and some extras but the increase in loo numbers meant we still only got about 30% of them. Some of our lights and batteries were also used to help Temple and Effigy during build and to look even more awesome when the sun went down. Gate, Greeters, Town hall, Artery and Paddock Relief all received the new modular light controllers that I built to allow me to easily setup a reliable solar powered light and sound system. These were easy to modify and add to once we got a better feel for what was needed in each case, users had simple switches to control the lights etc and there were USB charging facilities for the phones and ipods.

## VIII. COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY by Media Subcommittee

We like to engage the local community and had a lot of interest from local media wanting to write articles about Kiwiburn. *The Manawatu Standard* and *The Wanganui Chronicle* sent journalists and photographers and our media liaison took them around the site, with several articles published. After a Serious Harm Incident, *The Manawatu Standard* came again to get more information.

TV3 News was keen to come on site on the Sunday, requesting permission only a day before, which was politely declined. The TV1 show, Seven Sharp, submitted a request for filming a 3 minute 30 second segment and were turned down after a vote by the ExCom before the event (note: The Census asked our community if they were happy with TV crews on site and the majority indicated they were not comfortable).

### Photographers

Photography Liaison, Robert Jensen, once again offered guidance to new amateur photographers and liaised with them before, during and after the event. He and his wife, Krissy, set up Camp SMILE as a drop-in place for photographers for chatting, charging batteries etc. A Google Drive has been set up as a resource for collecting images of past Kiwiburn events. Each relevant photographer is allocated their own folder to upload to in folders of each year. We hope to use some of them to create galleries on our website.

### Social media

#### Our social media presence continues to grow:

- We manage and monitor a community-driven Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kiwiburn/> with approx. 3,900 group members, up from 2,600 last year. Our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/Kiwiburn>, is the official Facebook presence for Kiwiburn, used to make announcements and share information, showing up in newsfeeds as 'Kiwiburn: New Zealand's Regional Burning Man event'. The Page has more than 5,350 likes, up from 3,000 last year. Updates are made year-round, 2-3 times a week as needed.
- Our Twitter followers have grown to 200 from last year's 115. Twitter is not our most used communications channel, though it helps maintain momentum throughout the year. It is linked to our Facebook page, so Page updates also appear in the Twitter newsfeed.
- We used our Instagram account for people to post their photos of Kiwiburn, taken on smartphones, using the hashtag **#Kiwiburn2016**. An increased number of users uploaded images and movies this year, though intermittent internet access onsite may limit some people.
- Kiwiburn has a Pinterest page for people to view, though it is rarely updated. <http://pinterest.com/kiwiburn/>
- Our channel on You Tube carefully sorted into years for easy viewing and updated each year: <http://www.youtube.com/user/Kiwiburn>

### Poster

Kiwiburn ran its annual competition to design the poster used for promotion. The response from the community was good despite the challenging theme. An anonymous shortlist was made and voting by the ExCom determined the winner, Shelley Watson, a graphic designer and media subcommittee Team Lead.

### Website

The website underwent a complete overhaul in 2015, being rebuilt in Wordpress by Andy Ellis. This included. After extra ticket sales crashed the site in January, budget approval was given for site stability to be strengthened.

## IX. FUTURE VISION by Wendy Allison

It's been 10 years since I first became involved with Kiwiburn. Back then, the event was three years old and we were faced with a crisis – we could no longer just turn up in a paddock and do our thing in an underground way – we'd been found out, the event had lost its original home, and its future was uncertain. The choice that arose from our attempts to find a venue in the North Island was to go above board with council permits, ticket sales and risk management strategies, or to give up. We stepped up and learned what we needed to to make it happen. I remember being utterly amazed when nearly 100 people actually paid money to come to this little event we'd organised. We honestly thought it'd be just the 14 of us sitting in a paddock going "Well that was fun."

And now, looking at what it's turned into, I'm no less amazed. It's fifteen times the size, with a budget that has more zeros than most of us see in a year, and we're starting to come to the attention of the mainstream. This is fantastic, but it also brings with it more choices, and more requirements to step up.

I believe the main choice facing Kiwiburn now is not that dissimilar to the one we faced back in 2006/7 – step up to the challenge, or give up and go home.

Kiwiburn has reached the brink of maturity, and this is mainly thanks to the work of a small and dedicated group of people who have stuck with it through some pretty tough times, stepping up every year, sacrificing jobs, relationships, and stability in the name of do-ocracy. This has been fantastic for Kiwiburn, but it's not sustainable and for many of these people, the time has come to move on. This means it's time for new people to become involved and carry Kiwiburn into the future. We need to step up again.

My vision for Kiwiburn's future is for all of our structures and processes to work together like a well-oiled machine. For our manuals to be comprehensive and up-to-date, and for our volunteers to be well supported so that when someone new says "I want to help", they are able to step into a position and do it with maximum confidence and minimum disruption to their life. For new people to be encouraged to grow their roles and gain skills that enrich their default lives so they want to stick around from year to year. And for all this to happen seamlessly, so our old hands can retire confident in the knowledge that Kiwiburn is in good hands.

I know that isn't a very exciting-sounding vision – no unicorns, no fireworks, no world domination. But I believe that the unicorns and fireworks come from within the community, and the foundation of our community is the people who dedicate themselves to making Kiwiburn happen. I'm excited about making sure we can continue to make Kiwiburn happen into the future, and that's vision enough for me.

IS THAT IT? THAT WAS OVER QUICKLY. KIWIBURN'S ANNUAL AFTERBURN REPORT IS TRADITIONALLY MORE COMPREHENSIVE, NOT HIGHLIGHTS. KEEN ON THE NITTY GRITTY? WANT TO KNOW MORE? ARE YOU A DETAIL PERSON? YOU CAN READ THE FULL AFTERBURN REPORT [HERE](#).

AND VOLUNTEER [HERE](#). ANYTIME.