



Holding a Burn during a Pandemic

-or-

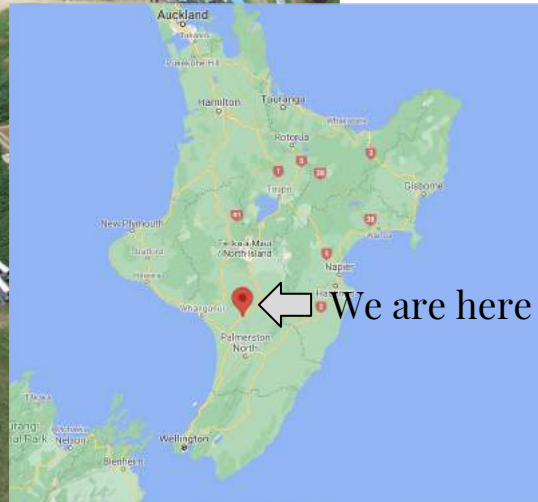
Fuck you Covid, we still set stuff on fire in a field

Kiwiburn Team • 5-6 June 21



Kiwiburn is a Regional Burn held in New Zealand since 2004.

It is the oldest Regional Burn (outside of US) and attracts participants to a Paddock near Hunterville on the North Island of NZ



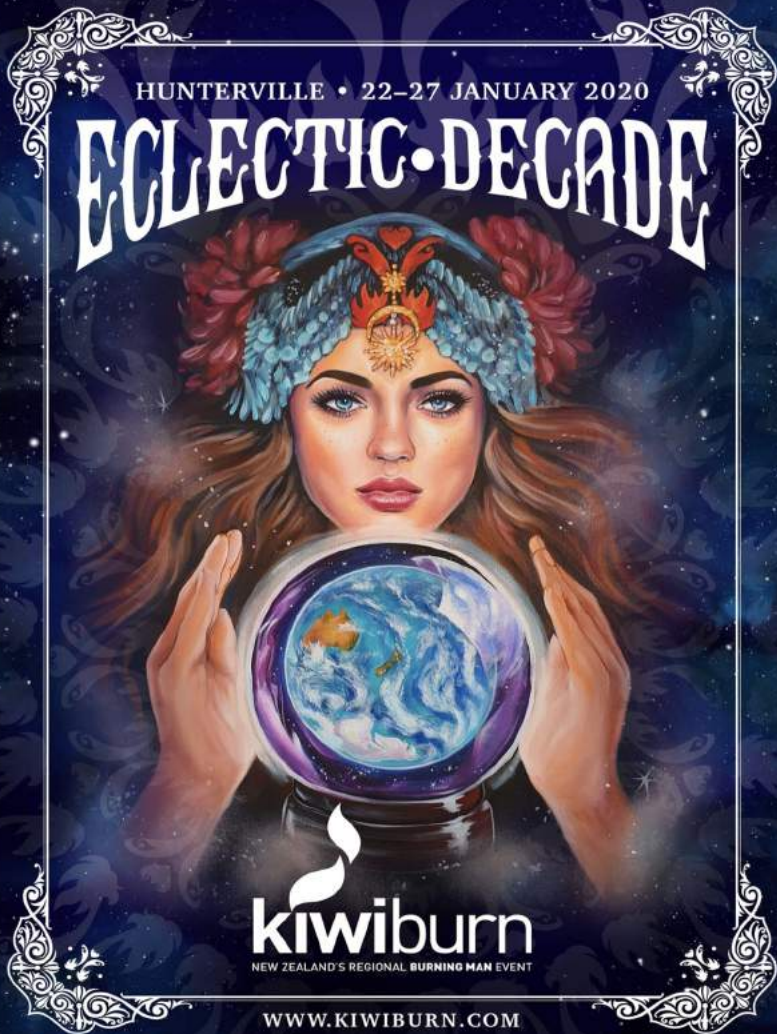
5 Days.

25 Hectares.

2200 Burners.

1 Virus (well...the 1 we're talking about here)





January 2020

**Kiwiburn 2020 Eclectic Decade (yes, we were psychic)
goes ahead as planned**

News of this coronavirus had reached New Zealand

**A participant from Wuhan develops strong flu/cold
symptoms**

**On her 4th day, she reports to medics. They isolate her
and take her to get a test (the first in the area)**

**Amid uncertainty and lack of knowledge, Event
Organisers try to envision what comes next**

Her test comes back negative

March 2020 - 10 Months to go

First confirmed COVID19 Case as of 28 February

Kiwiburn call out for Art Theme begins

The Kiwiburn Newsletter, the Electric Fencepost (EFP) reports on a growing number of Burns being cancelled

25 March, New Zealand enters into a nationwide Level 4 lockdown

Kiwiburn Org. along with the rest of the country, ponders implications

Covid-19 coronavirus: Fifty new cases, state of emergency declared to police lockdown

25 Mar, 2020 01:24 PM

7 minutes to read



A state of emergency has been declared in New Zealand after 50 more coronavirus cases were confirmed today.

April/May 2020 - 8 months to go

Burning Man is cancelled, along many others

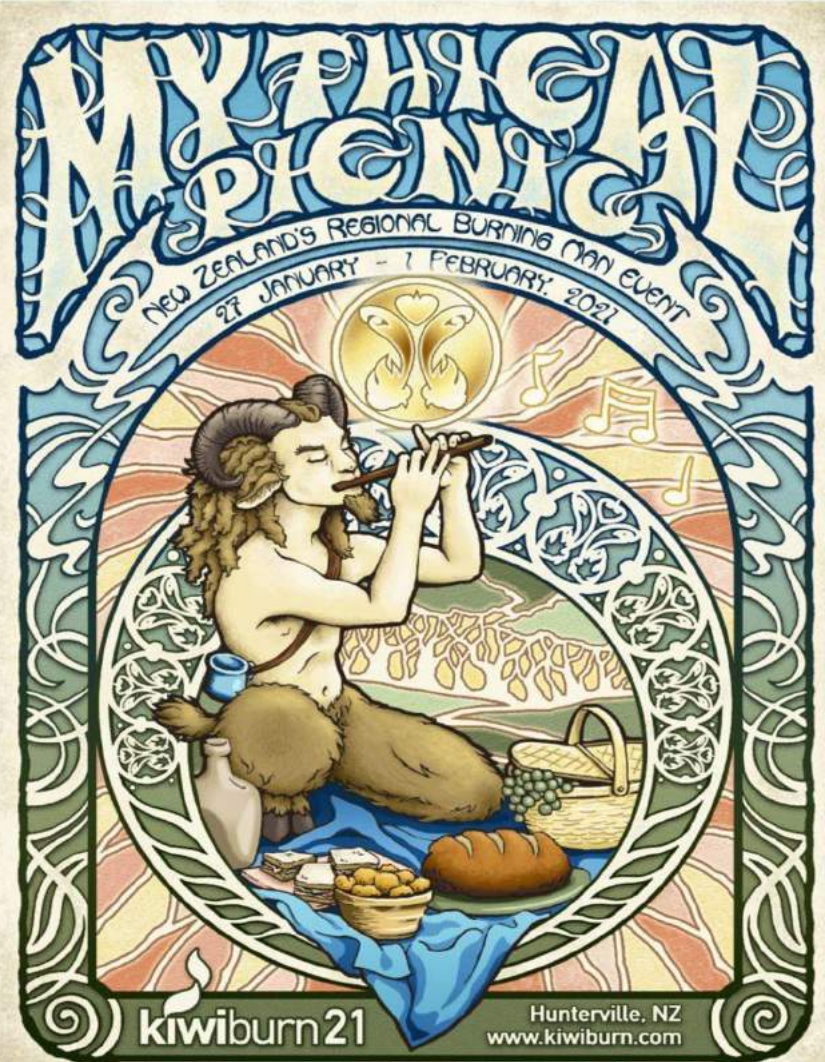
Kiwiburn chooses Art Theme and Poster

Kiwiburn supports the community virtually

28 April, New Zealand enters Level 3 of lockdown

11 May, New Zealand enters Level 2

Temple and Effigy applications open





June/July 2020 - 6 months to go

8 June, New Zealand enters Level 1 of lockdown

**Kiwiburn Org gets fresh blood with 6 new facilitators
(unrelated)**

Art Grants open

**New Executive Committee starts defining a burn in the
COVID19 world**

Kiwiburn supports and promotes the BM Multiverse

First drafts of a COVID19 policy are started

August/September 2020 - 4 months to go

Temple, Effigy Designs and Art Grants chosen

11 August, Auckland only lockdown at Level 3, rest of NZ at Level 2

30 August, Burning Man Multiverse launches

7 September, Kiwiburn engages in Community Consultation on COVID19 measures/policy

11-13 September, virtual ExCom Summit

23 September, Auckland moves to Level 2, rest of NZ to Level 1

29 September, issue COVID19 Refund Policy and FAQ's





October/November 2020 - 2 months to go

**3 October, General Admission tickets go on sale.
Sells out on 10 seconds, despite absence of
international Burners**

7 October, all of New Zealand moves back to Level 1

Theme Camp registrations open until 30 October

9 November, general Art registrations open

**24 November, Updated COVID19 Policy and FAQ's
are released**

Pointy-finger says:

December 2020 - 1 month to go

1 December, release Gate Procedure to massive social media response

14 December, release What to Expect on Site

Effigy and Temple start preparations

Continued volunteer drives due to lack of international burners, delays and uncertainties

Offer additional tickets if people step up

16 December, AGM is held



Kiwiburn needs YOU!

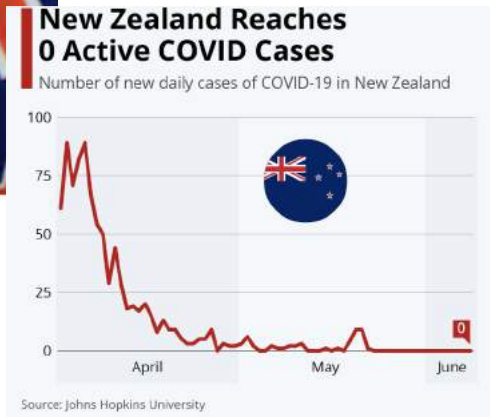
What made Burning in New Zealand unique:

- Strong compliance by general public (“Team of 5 Million”)
- Decisive leadership focused on an Elimination Strategy
- Easy to lock borders and control inbound passengers
- Low number of cases and deaths (as of 31 May: 2630 total, 17 active, 26 deaths)



What made Kiwiburn itself unique:

- Time
- A small event size
- A healthy financial situation
- ExCom leadership united in
 - keeping Burners safe
 - engaging with Ministry of Health
 - drafting and enforcing policies
 - No Burn unless nationwide Level 1



The Kiwiburn COVID19 plan:

Purpose:

- IF the event goes ahead, all volunteers know exactly what to do.
- All team leads have the action plan and have provided input.
- Provide peace of mind to the community, including those who are high risk or lived/work in close proximity to high risk people.

Three different action plans were developed:

- Preventative measures at all stages of the event
- Likely on-site Infection Plan - how to respond if a suspected or confirmed COVID19 case is identified at Kiwiburn.
- Alert Level changes at all stages of the event
 - Pre-Event
 - During build
 - Opening Day
 - During the event
 - Post event



SCAN HERE TO SIGN-IN WITH
THE NZ COVID TRACER APP



Kiwiburn 2021

136 Cooks Road, Hunterville

Sign-in. Stop the virus.

Help protect yourself, your whānau, and your community with our contact tracing app.

Search NZ COVID Tracer app now:



Unite
against
COVID-19



MANATŪ HAUORA

Civic Responsibility in Action:

- Financial Aspects:
 - Full automatic refund with option for voluntary donation via separate Give-A-Little page
 - Delay/defer capital expenditure where prudent
- Mandatory agreement to COVID19 policy with ticket purchase
- Change in Kiwiburn Policies:
 - Terms and Conditions
 - Code of Conduct
 - Survival guide
 - FAQ's and ticketing/refund information
- Continued community feedback, publication of policies and changes
- Monitoring nation/worldwide developments re: COVID19
- Contact tracing

Communal Effort in Action:

- Constant updating of our substantial COVID19 Plan
- Full government/agency support and awareness
- Changes at Gate:
 - Provision of testing pop-up tent, provided/staffed by local health board (no tests were done)
 - Questionnaire of all who enter site, reviewed by Ministry of Health
 - Provision of isolation and holding areas
 - Express lane accessible via prior arrangement
 - Limiting social interaction as part of traffic plan
- Acquisition of biblical amounts of hand sanitiser and relevant dispensers

- Normal entry lane
- Express/contactor entry lane
- Normal exit lane
- Path to Q Lot - Basic covid screen fail
- Path to testing then exit - Q lot doctor screen fail
- Path to D lot – ticketing or other issue
- D lot to event – issue resolved
- D lot to exit – issue not resolved

- Covid testing station
- Q Lot
- Covid screening process area
- Ticket/wristband process area
- Gate HQ
- D Lot
- Porto



What if's?

- Evacuation versus isolation on site depending on timing?
- How do we feed 2,000+ people?
- What PPE is required and how to distribute it?
- Do we need special skills on site?
- Who supplies these special skills?
- Will people be honest re: cold/flu symptoms or where they've been?
- Which Government agencies would be involved and when?
- How to keep participants on site, maintain social distancing and be isolated in safety until cleared for evacuation by health authorities?
- How could participants contact family and friends in such a situation?
- How to disseminate info to all on site?
- Do we isolate a potential case, and if so where/how?
- Is it ethically and morally correct to send someone to a local motel while they wait for a test result and/or get better?
- What are we forgetting?



Keeping our Paddock safe for KIWIBURNERS

Unite
against
COVID-19

January 2021 - The Event

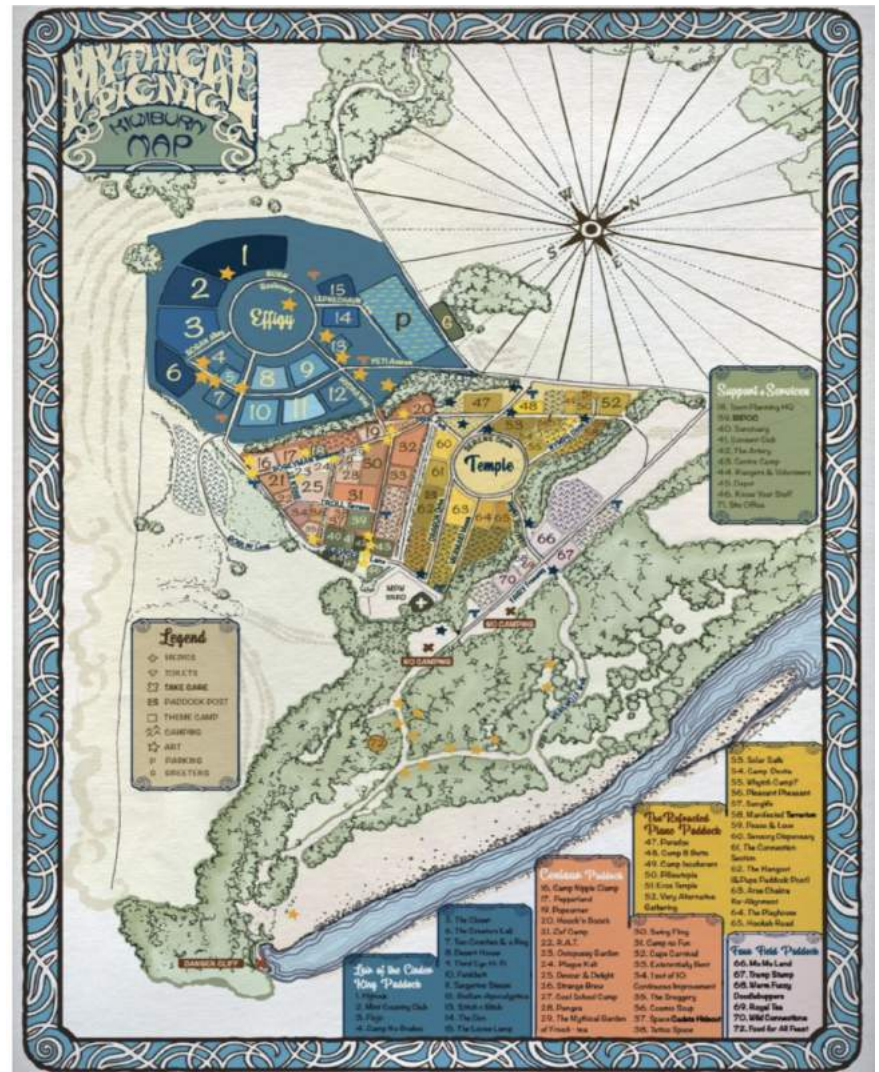
4 January, release of extra 200 tickets

6 January, first crew on site, more arriving every day

24 January, 3 days from Gate, a positive community case is reported in Northland. Effigy and Temple are nearly finished, 100+ Early Entrants on site.

- Everyone is informed immediately
- Organising personnel agree on a way forward
- No one is allowed off site
- Registered early entry crew will be allowed to enter
- Gate updates screening, especially regarding those from Northland

25 January, no change to levels across NZ



Kiwiburn 2021

27 January, Gate Opens

30 January, Effigy Burn

31 January, Temple Burn

1 February, Collexodus

We did it!

Postscript:

14-17 February, Auckland goes into level 3, rest
of the country into Level 2

28 February - 7 March, Auckland goes into level
3, rest of the country into Level 2





Learnings:

- **Trust and involve the community**
- **Involve all relevant agencies**
- **Constantly update policies and the community**
- **Talk to other Burns and events**
- **Be prepared to not go ahead, even at last minute**
- **Have a sound financial management strategy**
- **Maintain good morale and appreciate the people!**

Enormous input required from lots of teams:

- **Gate, MPW, event management and all other on-site teams**
- **Art Grant recipients**
- **Effigy and Temple Crews**
- **Theme Camps**
- **Every participant who showed up, was patient, truthful and in good spirits**
- **Web Services and Communications team**
- **Volunteer teams and crew support**
- **ExCom**

Thank you to all who made Kiwiburn 2021 possible.

This presentation was brought to you by:

Andy “Money Daddy” Justice

chair@kiwiburn.com

Andy “Firecracker” Sondalini

eventmanager@kiwiburn.com

Julia “Flying Squirrel” Damrow

communicationsfacilitator@kiwiburn.com

On behalf of our New Zealand Burner Community, we thank you for your attention.

Useful links:

<https://kiwiburn.com>

<https://kiwiburn.com/the-event/getting-ready/covid-19-faqs/>

<https://kiwiburn.com/about/the-organisation/policies/covid-19-policy/>

<https://kiwiburn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/COVID-Community-Survey-Responses.pdf>

<https://kiwiburn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/KB21-MoH-Screening-Questions-Google-Docs.pdf>

<https://kiwiburn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/COVID-Action-Plan-for-KB21.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZj1pkEVcmk>

