



**WANGANUI**  
**ROCK'n'ROLL**  
**club inc.**



# Prezzy's Report...

Just relaxing after an awesome Nationals. What a fantastic weekend of rock n roll. We all met at the clubrooms around 1/4 to 11 Friday. After arriving at Karen's to pick her up I realised I hadn't put in my outfit so off home we went to get it. Finally arriving at the clubrooms and I got a lot of laughs from everyone. At least we hadn't left Wanganui I thought. Nohe said the karakia for a safe journey before we all hopped in our cars and off we went. Had a lot of fun on the way with the Mence vehicle's occupants throwing eggs and spraying the cars with sticky string. We stopped at Otaki for lunch with the smoothies and had a bit of a lookaround then off to Porirua. The motel was fantastic. After all settling into our rooms we took off again to the supermarket for supplies before having tea and getting ready for the Friday night get-together. We had decided to get pink wigs if we could for a bit of fun and the atmosphere was electric. We all had a ball. Not a late night though, so back to our motel for a cuppa and a shower before bed. As usual I couldn't sleep for ages, and then it was time to get up to the 6 o'clock alarm. Showers, dress and off to the venue again. This time in white club shirts as a united team complete with pompoms and smiley bats. As usual the dancing was brilliant. First up was our Golden couple Alex and Shona who reached the semis. They were ecstatic cos that was their aim, so watch out for these two next year. We supported Brian and Karen from Rose City who danced in Masters; the best they have danced; good on you guys. Next up Scott & Kath in Platinum, dancing brilliantly as usual and ending 4th - fantastic guys. We were all in fine form, making heaps of noise and having a great time. The evening finished at 11.30pm and home to bed to sleep. Six o'clock up again and off to the hall for Triples and Same Sex. What a line-up for Best Dressed, well done all you ladies and men, you all looked great. First up Same Sex with Karen and Paula dancing first and eventually to a dance-off in the final put them in 4th place. Gilly and I danced in the last heat. We were going great till when Gilly dropped back into a dip I let go of her and we both fell onto our bums on the floor. What can you do but laugh, no good crying, all I could see was everyone laughing - ho hum. Next up Triples with Gilly, Paula and Scott dancing their way to second. Awesome as it was their first time dancing together as a Triples team. Next up Alex, Shona & Kath who danced their way to the semis. It was their first time together as a Triples team as well so watch out for them next year. Phil, Marlene and Diane were on next, dancing in the hardest heat and they danced really well, good on you guys. Top Teams and Senior Teams events were great and I really enjoyed the Novelty with Mr Vine showing off his lovely ankles and legs? Supper was great, MC was fabulous (hope to see you at Nationals next year Rob Connolly)

I would like to thank Miles and his team for a fantastic Nationals. Well done to you all. Hope to see some of you at Masters Games in February (look on our website for info on this). Best of all WE WON Most Supportive Club which we have been trying to win for many years. Once again, thank you Miles and we will see you all again soon.

Keep on a rockin

Donna

For photos and discussion check out our Facebook site:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10813298426>

and Masters Games, Newsletters and much more, our website:

<http://www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz>

# WOT'S ON !!

Feb: 5th Masters Games @ Games Village  
Mar: 5th West Coast Regionals @ our hall  
April 9th Jamboree @ our hall  
May 14th Birthday Hop  
June 11th Central Districts Fun Challenge  
July 9th Club Champs @ our hall  
Oct: NATIONALS LABOUR WEEKEND  
@ WANGANUI  
NOV: Central Districts Xmas Hop @ Rose City



**Central Districts Combined Christmas Hop**  
**Hosted by Rose City R & R Club**

**Saturday 20th November 2010**

**7.30p.m.**

**Venue: Longburn Hall, Longburn**

**Live Band FLASH BACK to dance to**

Entry Charge \$12.00 for Adults - \$6.00 for children

Free Entry to those who attended Fun Challenge



**Last Club Night for 2010 - 15th December**  
**Reopening - 12th January 2011**

# Castlecliff Club Ball

Sorry I left this too late to do a write-up and I have a mind blank on it now.

Twas a great night though as it always is.

You all should book it in for next year as the cost is reasonable, the music is always great and the supper is out of this world . . .



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*check out our website:*  
**[www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz](http://www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz)**

*and our facebook site:*  
**<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10813298426>**



# Masters Games Opening

Monday 2 August

A great night of "exposure" for the club when we were once again asked to model Games clothing at the coordinators meeting at Cooks Gardens Function Centre. Scott did the honours first with a swagger down the aisle, followed by the others in quick succession. What a professional bunch of models we have here; just look at

Donna's face. A pretty hot chick alright. What with Gilly bouncing her beach ball up the aisle in her little 'skirt', and Shane 'baring almost everything', the audience loved it.

Good show guys . .



Somehow, and I still have no idea how, I got myself talked into a modeling gig - along with Karen, Gill, Donna, Shane and John - presenting Masters Games apparel at the Official Masters Games Launch.

Everything was fine until, while waiting outside for the others, I noticed a lot of people entering the building, and I mean a lot, all dressed to the nines. What the hell had I got myself into? Fun, Donna had said, we always have a ball. Well, Madam Prez, anything in front of that many dressed up people was not going to be fun.

We squeezed ourselves in at the back of the crowded room (minus John, who seemed to be AWOL. Perhaps he had bottled? Can't say I blame him, wish I'd thought of that...) where we were met by one of the organizers and ushered to the bar for a beer. Gimme 6, and I might actually start to feel a bit better about all this.

We spotted the missing John on our way to a back room

where it was explained to us that because this coming Games has a Beach Party theme, they would like three of us to model in beach/summer clothes. After a minor debate, it was decided Gill, Shane and I would be the beach bunnies. I couldn't help but laugh - me modelling beachwear on a scrawny bod that looks like it's never seen the sun? How funny is that?

Shane and I put on Hawaiian shirts and Lei, while Gill sported what was supposed to be a summer dress but which, on her, turned out to be a shirt. She wisely decided to wear trousers with it. Donna, John and Karen would model Masters gear but, due to the amount of different stuff, would quick-change and go out for a second time in different stuff.



# New Zealand Masters Games

Top Teams Song is:



## “Be My Guest”

by Fats Domino



146 beats per minute (medium Slow) - 1m57secs



We were then ushered from the room, around the outside of the building (and I would like you to remember that half of us were in beachwear. Outside. In August.), and into an area that would serve as our backstage. A vote was taken on the order of our appearances and it was decided 5 to 1 that I should go out first. Guess who the 1 was...

We were announced, so I took a deep breath, told myself that if I could dance in front of hundreds of people, surely I can walk in front of this lot (sound logic, except that this time I didn't have Kath with me to make me look good) and stepped out through the doors.

There I stood, bright lights, big crowd both seated and standing, thinking to myself: "Now what? Thank Christ nobody here knows me". Right then I heard a voice off to my right say "Hey, it's Scotty!" so I turned to Leigh Grant (who FYI also works at Transfield), said hi, and strutted my stuff down the aisle towards the back. Spotted Kelvie in the crowd taking photos. Stop. Pose. Turn. Pose. Strut back to the front. Turn. Pose. Turn to the door. Get the hell out of here.



Gill went out next, in her skirt-shirt complete with beach ball which, when I peeked through, saw had ended up somewhere in the crowd. The beach ball, not the skirt-shirt. Had she dropped it or thrown it, I wondered?

Shane headed out, strutted his stuff, struck some poses, one of which got a roar from the crowd. Turned out he had unbuttoned his shirt and flashed the bod. What we don't know is if the roar was one of approval or horror.

The three of us went back out and stood for some applause before ceding the stage to the others in the Masters gear. Donna was in her element, Karen was looking goooooood, and John was... there. Just joking John, you waz



lookin' sport-ee, dude. As each one came backstage, they quickly changed into another outfit and lined up for another go.



I dunno about fun, Donna, but it certainly was an experience. I can't wait until the next Games launch in two years time. So I can turn you down lol.

thankyou Scott

# Demo Trafalgar Square - 28 August 2010

This Demo took place in Trafalgar Square outside the Warehouse (where everyone gets a bargain) and would prove to be a demo with slight differences to the norm.

Firstly, we were not dancing for a particular audience; whoever happened to be there could stop and watch if they chose to. Which meant we also had to sacrifice some dancing room to allow those shoppers who did not want to stop access in and out of the nearby stores. We would have room for a maximum of 3 three couples at once.

Secondly, the floor was paved with concrete tiles that were a bit on the slippery side, and very hard. Due to that, we shied away from quite a few jumps that required a non-slip base or landing. Sliding moves were definitely going to be possible, but only if you didn't mind the judder, judder, judder as shoe heels slid over the grouting lines.

Thirdly, we were not going to be dancing to our own choice music. Instead, we would rock to the stylings of the two ladies (insert band name here if you know it) who often sing and play in that spot for the shopping crowds. We very quickly learned that their stylings included stringing a number of similar beat songs together, often merging 3 or 4 songs into 1 very long song, so routines very quickly went out the window. So did energy. There ended up to be quite a few mid-song partner changes as people dropped off for a breather and fresher people went on.

So, for about half an hour, we danced in non-set partnerships going on and coming off the floor as we pleased, always making sure there were at least two couples dancing at any one time. Thank you to all the people who gave up a piece of their Saturday morning to present our club to the public.

thankyou Shona



## HOW THE FIGHT STARTED.....

I rear-ended a car this morning.. So, there we were alongside the road and slowly the other driver got out of his car.

You know how sometimes you just get soooo stressed and little

things just seem funny?

Yeah, well I couldn't believe it.. he was a DWARF!!!

He stormed over to my car, looked up at me, and shouted, 'I AM NOT HAPPY!'

So, I looked down at him and said, 'Well, then which one are you?'

And then the fight started...

# Demo Churton School - 05 September 2010

A group of elderly people who regularly meet at Churton School invited our club to perform a demo for their afternoons entertainment, and an excellent representation from the club turned up to show off their talents, ranging from newcomers to demo veterans.

After spreading their tables out a bit further to give us more room down the aisle, everybody got up to a general dance to warm up those muscles and check out the floor. Like most floors we encounter while demo-ing, it was very grippy on the shoes which would make sliding moves just that bit more difficult.

With Dylan as DJ, Scott and I got up, accompanied by Shona & Alex, and Brandon & Tyler; all dancing to a slow song.

Gill & Donna, along with Karen B & Helen got up for some Same Sex action (should I perhaps rephrase that?) to a second slow song.

Up next was an Elvis Fast song, and Scott & I and Brandon & Tyler re-took the floor, this time with Brian & Karen DeVantier keeping us company.

By now, we had noticed that the hall was heating up and there were no doors or windows open. But there was not much we could do about that as Shane & Karen B, Donna & Gill, and Alex & Shona had their turn at a fast song.

Immediately after, all of our available Triples reps - Alex, Shona & I, with Phil, Marlene & Dianne - took the floor for a slow and a fast song. During the fast, Shona's ribbons gradually slid further and further down her pony-tail until eventually they flew off somewhere, and I was having some seriously annoying dress-strap issues, but we carried on regardless.

Brian & the Two Karens (sounds like a 60's pop band name!) got up for a Triples Slow, joined by Shane & Helen.

To finish up, everybody who wanted to just picked a partner and got back on the floor for a General Dance. I grabbed DJ Dylan to the floor. There was a great finish to this by Gill, involving dipping Donna and just sitting her on the floor. Very funny.

Thank you to everybody who came along and took part, it is very much appreciated.

Some stayed for tea and nibbles afterward but, it being a Sunday, most of us had further practices to get to...

thankyou Kath

I was walking down the road  
when I saw an Afghan bloke  
standing on a fifth floor balcony  
shaking a carpet.  
I shouted up to him, "  
What's up Abdul, won't it start?"



# Senior Nationals 2010

- Harbour City, Wellington

***Wow! what a great lot of contributions from members for this issue.***

***I began writing this article thinking it's my version of things once again, but after a couple of facebook and email reminders I was inundated with excellent write-ups, so have included them all to give readers an idea of what Nationals is like from everybodys point of view . . . me first haha . . .***

Us Smoothies left around ten thirty to do a bit of a shop in Otaki so we were ahead of the main bunch - luckily. From what I hear there was a hell of a lot of shennanigans both going there and back again this year, so we were lucky enough to miss the eggs and water bombs with only a minor skirmish in Otaki on the way back. Sue and John retaliated very well with the weaponry we managed to "acquire", so once again we left our mark.

We arrived at Amethyst Motor Inn around 3pm and immediately crossed the road to North City Shopping Centre to gather enough groceries to last the weekend.

Te Rauparaha Arena is an amazing venue with heaps of room and as the girls all agreed "the toilets were to die for". With around 30 toilets there was no queuing and I can vouch for that too in the mens' department - very clean, very nice . . .

Moving on to the dance hall. It was about 2/3rds of a huge area of stadium which was curtained off for our use with tiered seating at one end and the stage area at the other. Behind the stage was the rest of the stadium which was used for practice etc.

Three sets of T shirts were the uniform for the weekend; Black, plus pink wigs on Friday for



the social dance which went down very well; white club shirts for Saturday, and Sunday we wore our new blue T shirts. All stood out well in the hall with the blue ones probably the best overall in my opinion.

I took my togs as the Aquatic Centre was in the same building and I thought maybe I would get in a swim in the afternoons when we started to get very tired. I didn't, and neither did anyone else as far as I know, as the dancing was soo good it kept our minds on the job most of the time. Our guys made a great effort, with all our dancers putting on a great show and making us all very proud to be part of the Wanganui team.

Thanks mainly to Gilly I think for coordinating the making our smiley faces, and Donna and June for leading the team all weekend with the constant back and forth movement of them, together with cheering and harsh horns (brassing off some of our neighbours), we finally took out the "Most Supportive Team" award, which we have been trying to get for at least the last twelve years Jacky and I have been going to Nationals.

Back to our dancers. Scott, Gilly & Paula took the silver in the Triples and Scott and Kath took 4th place in the Platinum. We all have our own opinions as to where they should have all got in their respective events but I suppose, 9 judges can't be wrong?? Well done everybody. Monday morning and we were all invited to Alex nephews for a bbq brunch and wind-down before heading back home to good old Wanganui.

Another great Nationals - can't wait for next year when we are hosts !!!

## Gilly's bit . . .

This was one of the best nationals I have ever attended, not only was the venue and hosts fantastic but everyone from Whanganui had the best time ever.

Everyone from the first timers to the old hands were in total agreeance about this. On a personal note it was great to see dancers from when I first started making their mark. Alex, myself, Scott, Kath, Paula, Donna, Shona all were around when Whanganui first started with Alex being a founding member. Alex, Paula and I even competed in a top team in 1989 and Scott & Kath competed in the open. Karen GB made the swap from Triples to Same Sex with ease and her and Paula attained a creditable 4th. As for my partner Mama Burns, even tho' we had a little oopsie I really enjoyed myself (afterall isn't laughter the best medicine!) and

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for your donation  
of glasses  
- much appreciated.



we'll redeem ourselves at Masters. Last but not least Phil, Marlene and Di danced their first time in triples...these three made me very proud with their dedication and perseverance. I hope they continue to dance. I also have to mention the Rose City dancers Brian & Karen and Jackie & Alan especially the latter who as a novice couple took nationals by storm. What a great asset both couples are to their club.

As for the supporters....you are the best ever... without you we could not have danced. Thank you from all the dancers

Smoothies (Kelvie, Jacquee, Philly, Sue, John & Christine), Daniel, Rangi, Paul, Magoo (instigator), Shane(quiet activator), Pete (troublemaker), Smiley & Jan, Neil & Jackie, Taxi, Tom, Whitney, Ned, Karen, Shithead Stu, Butch & Karen, Dougie, Wendy & Eileen and those in the stands Tom, Tina, Deanna and Tom's son.

Even the journey there and back was packed full of fun with water balloons, tomatoes, whirly string and eggs being thrown at every opportunity. Thanks to our nephew and niece Mark and Karen who cooked breakfast for us.

thankyou Gilly

## Christine's bit . . .

The smoothies or should I say "wrinklies" took off in Walkers van at 10am. The Swazi shop in Levin was popular with Walkers. We had planned to do the shops in Otaki where John and Phil scored an Elvis buckle each and Kelvin scored a James Dean one. Caught up with the rest of the crew for lunch there as well. Stopping at Coastlands in Paraparamu I bought some tops and so did Sue. Jacky was very strong-willed and bought zilch, zip, nada, nothing.

We reached the Amethyst Motel in Porirua mid afternoon. It was an excellent



location being right opposite North City mall and ten minutes walk to the venue Te Rauparaha Arena. We were all lucky enough to have a double room each - very nice too I might add. Then we all decided to buy some groceries. I lost John when he held back to catch up with Karen and Butch on the top floor while I was looking for him on the bottom floor.

After having tea in our rooms we changed into our black T shirts and pink wigs with Kelvin opting for Jacky's "Paris Hylton" one. John put his on after going to the Managers Meeting. A woman from Harbour City came and spoke to Kelvin, telling him his hair was just like hers. Funnily enough it was too (just sexier - Kelvins words). The wigs looked very impressive on the dancefloor.

The theme for the weekend was Elvis so we had an Elvis impersonator on Friday night for a couple of items.

Us smoothies went to Walkers room after the Friday dance for some wine and port and some home baking thanks to Sue, Jacky and myself. We are all getting forgetful - didn't know whose glass was whose.

Saturday morning and I couldn't find my bottom teeth anywhere. I knew I put them in a safe place, but couldn't remember where!! John and I searched for over half an hour. Finally found them in my front pocket. I had visions of going in Best Dressed with no bottom teeth - whew!

Got to the hall finally to see Masters, Golden & Platinum which all our dancers did us proud with Kath and Scotty coming fourth in Platinum.

Sue had got two door keys/cards for her motel room, so she put a casserole on in her crockpot, leaving her card in the door to keep the power on while we were away. She didn't count on the cleaners coming in and removing the card. Lucky she went back later in the day and found it was not cooking so she put the other card in and found it was beautifully cooked by the time we got back for tea. Asparagus cooked in the microwave and new potatoes on Phil's little camp stove, followed by more wine - we ate pretty well when we were away.

All up early Sunday to get ready for Best Dressed.

Thanks to June and Karen for doing my hair (rnr club always think of us as one big family and this showed all weekend with everyone



helping others when they could). Lining up on the floor for Best Dressed I found myself next to Colleen Ryan who is always either the winner or very close to it. I said to her " I can't stand by you as you usually win" so me and my Ballentyne's frock moved further up the line. Fifteen of our ladies entered this event with a great variety of dresses. Marlene, June, Karen, Diane and Jackie Rutherford got called back for the next round with Jackie called back for the final.

Sunday was a great day with Triples, Same Sex, Top Teams and skits. Well done to our Triples of Scotty Paula and Gilly coming second. We were all thrilled, they looked so good. So did

Paula and Karen, having to dance-off against Noreen Dillon and Jasmine and getting fourth place. Our club finally won the Most Supportive Club after trying to get this trophy for the last 12 years I have been in the club.

Gilly and Shane made our happy faces and with the help of Pete and John, painted them yellow and black on both sides. The yellow hair was worth it eh John!

Sunday night and we were going to go out to a restaurant for tea. Kelvin said he knew of a nice restaurant a short way off; the Fisherman's Table near Paekakariki. "Not far" he said, "just down the road", and kept saying it till around twenty minutes later when we arrived . . . We did enjoy it though and had never been there before.

Monday morning breakfast at Alex nephews place close by, and for \$3 cost each it was a fabulous feed, heaps better than Breakers.

Stopping at Otaki we met up with "the others" and got bombarded with water from who we thought were the goody goodies. No way, they have been broken in well and truly by us guys now! Barry always thought Sue was the quiet one but I think he's changed his mind after the weekend away.

All in all a great weekend. Great dancing and great company.

thankyou Christine

## Alex bit . . .

Hi all I would like to say that this Nationals was one of the best I've been 2, had lots of fun and what was extra good was that we reached Shona's goal, to be called back to the semi finals. And furthermore we were praised by the 2 rock n roll gods Poko Cummings and Dave Sayers as well as some other oldies Wow! Dave gave me some good advice at the Harbour City Club Champs a while back and I think he was saying you must have listened to what I said, so thanks Dave. Shona said some time ago, I don't know when but I remember her saying a few times that her goals this year was to be called back again and that happened and I'm happy for her, so guess what our next goal is, I'll leave that one up to you all. I'm still buzzing to the point that I'm a bit worried I don't know what's wrong



with me but I am missing practices. As for the triples, and looking at the DVDs I think we were in there if we hadn't made mistakes and the meeting on the floor, but it was a good experience doing 3x the girls looked in sinc with each other, alsum and loved dancing with the girls, I got a lot of comments from other clubs which is encouraging, so lookout we are out to do the damage now, it is so good to see good old Whanganui have their names called out and get placed, well done, and its taken a while but we were finally given the best supporting club at the nationals. To everyone who danced and the supporters thanks a lot.

Cheers Alex, Shona, Kath



## Paula's bit . . .

Wow what a ride, for me this year was about getting back into RnR slowly after 7 years being away and that didn't happen, I hopped onto the committee, entered in Nationals with Triples, with two great people, Gill Pirikahu and Scott Greenlees, and learn't how to do jumps. For those of you that don't know me, I have always been a restricted dancer, so Jumps for me was definitely a challenge, and I had two great partners cheering me along. We had many laughs and bruises in our practices and we even forgot our routine in Palmerston North in a competition during our venture to Nationals. By then I really had the bug and asked Karen Gadsby to have a go at same sex with me, she said ok, but wasn't sure if she would do Nationals, but we did.... we also had great laughs and bruises along the way and I had to learn jumps from the other side of the fence, (as a man) that was interesting!!

At Nationals we had a blast it all started with the "smiley faces" they looked great and we were noisy, Friday we all wore pink wigs and our black Wanganui rocker shirts, so you can imagine that we were definitely seen at Nationals. Check our website for photo proof.



Saturday was a little more serious as our first dancers were out on the floor strutting their stuff, and Scott and Kathrine made it onto tv, great for Wanganui. Shona and Alex danced their socks off, they were fantastic to watch and their hard work paid off and they made it to the semifinals, in the Golden section. While Scott and Kathrine made it to finals and came 4th place in the Platinum section. Moving to Sunday and it was my turn to dance, had a few hipcups in my first heat with Karen but made it through to the next stage, from there we made it to finals and then we had a dance off, the only dance off for the day, but we came home with a medal of 4th place. Then I was straight onto the floor for Triples and we danced the best we have ever danced, made it to finals and came home with a 2nd, and a big thank you to June who was behind the screen with all my clothes for quick changes for my dance off's and awards.

It just goes to show, aim big and win big

Cheers Paula

I would like to give a special acknowledgment to Phil, Marlene and Dianne, for all their hard work that they put into training for Nationals, their first time competing at National level and what an achievement just to get there. Hope you now have the bug to continue on.

## Scott's bit . . .

The sun rose bright and cheery on Friday morning heralded by an early bird warbling lustily outside the window. Right after that noisy little bugger was shot, and since I was now up, the checklist began. Shirts... check. Tie... check. Trousers... Check. Spare trousers (essential equipment for anybody who has ever had them split during a routine)... check. Black undies (to minimise arse noticeability in case the aforementioned trousers actually do split during a routine)... check. Jacket... check. Socks... check. Shoes... check. Nerves... double check.

Since everything else was pretty much incidental, there was a few hours to sit and stew in those nerves before the Mencemobile was due to turn up. Plenty of time to go through the checklist again. And again.

We pulled up at the Clubrooms promptly at 11am, the Mencemobile loaded to the gills with bags and clothes. Except for Donna, who somehow managed to forget her dress (checklist Donna, checklist. See above and amend as necessary for a female). Eventually she got sorted and we congregated inside the club. After a blessing from Mr Wallace,



everybody mounted up and drove off in the direction of glory.

Roughly 10 minutes later, the battle began...

A bit of a one sided battle really, as it appeared the Mencemobile was the only one locked and loaded with waterbombs, silly-string and eggs. Passing lanes became a favourite as we could fire broadside as we passed. Using the wind correctly, we quickly learned silly-string can be launched an amazing distance. Since we were now ahead of our targets, and they were staying well out of firing range, we tactically ducked down a side road, waited for them to pass and took off in pursuit once more.

Unfortunately, soon after, the traffic got heavier and we ended up following a cop all the way from Sanson to Foxton. Which meant we had to sit on the waterbombs for a bit. Petes went off spontaneously in his crotch (I don't even want to consider why) and soaked him and his seat. With no-one else to shoot at, we turned on each other, and an in-car silly-string battle ensued.

Just before Levin we managed to catch up to the Holloways and the Burnsmobile and the "no eggs" rule was suddenly forgotten and the Mencemobile began spitting out eggs like a chook on speed. This necessitated a quick stop in Levin to clean up the cars where our dead-eye egg-tosser Kath was captured and squirted.

After a detour down the beach in Kapiti, we reached the motel, which exceeded all expectations - well done for scoring that one, Donna. The first task after settling in was a mission to find groceries and a new supply of silly-string, both successful. Some food and some rest and the black shirted Wanganui Rockers made our way to the venue to check out the dancing floor. We were most pleased with what we found, a bit grippy on the soles, but very danceable, and a good sized area.

Saturday dawned warm and bright... who am I kidding? This is Wellington, it was quite overcast and a bit nippy. But we didn't care, we were in Nationals mode, and after a Taxi breakfast and checking and rechecking we had our dancing gear, we set off bright and early for the hall again. Excitement and nerves came to the forefront as we settled into our tables and the Nationals proper got under way...

This year we had Brian and Karen in Masters, Alex and Shona in Golden, myself and Kath in Platinum. The Platinum section had two couples scratched, bringing the field down for us nicely, though the quality of our competitors were still going to make it much tougher for us this year. Everybody put in a solid performance



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of glasses  
- much appreciated.



- I guess all those weeks of practice really paid off - and I was especially pleased to see the DeVantiers dance so well. Alex and Shona were looking smoooooth and made the Semi-finals in Golden - awesome stuff guys - and Kath and I achieved the Semis in Platinum. Due to the 2 Platinum scratchings, the Semis were essentially the heats all over again, so everybody got another go at it - but with worse songs (bloody Apache!). Kath and I were then called back for the Platinum Final where we danced our hearts out - gaining 4th place.

The night finished with a couple of beers and a QF, but not too much, as most of us had to do it all over again the next day.

Sunday saw a large group of gorgeous gals and a couple of dapper guys competing in the Best Dressed competition. Floral patterns were definitely in this year, with dots a close second favourite.

Into Same Sex - where Paula and Karen Burns (Gadsby? Mence?) proved that a brief timing issue needn't be a drawback if the rest of the performance is solid. Gill and Donna showed off a neat sit-down move that I don't remember them ever doing at practice - going into it was great, coming out of it needs a bit of work, girls. Paula and Karen were called back for the Semi's and, after an awesome performance, they were called back once again for the Finals.

Paula quickly got changed for the Triples, who were being called to the marshalling area, before learning that she and Karen were to have a Dance-off in Same Sex. After a quick dress change back into SS gear, they went out and danced their routines for a fourth time. Coming off the floor through the tunnel a voice was clearly heard to utter "Quick, get this orange shit off!" before Paula was whisked away to again don her Triples outfit and get herself smartly to the marshalling area.

Paula was able to catch her breath and cool down a bit during the Best Dressed Triples walk-around, before taking the floor with Gill and myself in the first Triples Heat. Alex, Kath & Shona appeared in the 3rd heat, and Phil, Marlene & Dianne in the 4th heat. Alex, Kath & Shona were called back for the first Semi-final and Paula, Gill & I for the 3rd Semi-final. Due to this being our first attempt with Triples, and the fact that I thought I had mucked up the Semis, I got a major surprise when we got called back for the Final for a last go at it. This would now be Paulas 7th dual-routine appearance of the day, Gills 4th, and both danced like they were as fresh as daisies, no sign of any wilting around the edges.

Due to this (I reckon), we managed to secure 2nd place, with Paula and Karen snapping up 4th place in Same Sex. After a minor mix up with the Triples medals, we settled down for a deserved rest. Now we could have a proper drink...

Monday morning proved to be the best weather of the weekend and we packed up our gear before packing ourselves off to a nephew of the Pirikahus for a cooked brekkie, with plenty of yummy bacon, scrambled eggs and hash browns for everybody. Club War II started immediately after, with Kath being ambushed and water bombed as she tried to get to the car. The culprit Burnsmobile roared off quickly with the Mencemobile in close pursuit, hurling waterbombs, tomatoes, and eggs as we went.

This continued to, and onto, the motorway, where Kath got off an awesome egg shot from across the car that went past me and Shona, through the window and bullseye onto the Burnsmobile. We raced onward into Plimmerton where, stopped at the lights, both Danny and Kath got out of their respective cars in heavy traffic and began hurling eggs at each other. At the green light and the beeping of horns, they jumped back in and the battle got mobile once more. A woman in an Audi decided to jump the queue and get between us just as Pete sprayed a large quantity of silly-string out of our sunroof and she copped the lot. Serve her bloody right...

Soon after, the Burnsmobile drew alongside and fired a broadside of eggs, one of which came in our window, buzzed millimeters in front of Magoo's nose and landed, unbroken, in Pete's lap. Lucky shot for June, very lucky for Magoo, and really, really lucky for Pete. Of course, being the kindly chap he is, he resolved to give them back their wayward egg at the earliest opportunity. But it would have to be later as Magoo slowed down for a speed camera that Danny didn't notice.

Magoo decided to stop at a service station in Waikanae to wash off the egg and had barely started when a cop drew up in front of us and proceeded to tell us off for our antics. The Burnsmobile hid around the corner of the building and the Holloways drew up long enough to have a good laugh as Magoo talked to the cop and I carried on cleaning off the egg. I then got told off from the garage attendant for using the windscreen brush as a car



cleaner, saying that's what car washes are for. As if a car wash would clean off egg. Friendly people in Waikanae...

After passing through Otaki, Kath and Shona decided they just had to go back to the Bendon store and shop for bargains. The vote was called and as there were two women and three men in the car, the outcome seemed certain until my arms were grabbed by the girls from either side and raised before I knew what was going on. So we turned around and went back to find the Smoothies, Neil and some others engaged in a water bomb/pistol fight in a little park. Loaded with waterbombs, I crossed the busy road and neared, using parked cars as cover, until I was close enough for a sneak bomb attack directly into the group. This quickly deteriorated into waterbombs criss-crossing the road as a water pistol-armed Neil became the main target.

Eventually, the girls finished shopping and we got back on the road...

After a quick lunch in Levin, Kath was again ambushed and waterbombed and the culprits raced off to the Burnsmobile as we scrambled for the Mencemobile. Unfortunately, we got caught at the lights, but Magoo had unleashed a plan so cunning you could pin a tail on it and call it a weasel... During lunch he had sent Tom off on a mission to tape a crushed can to Danny's tyre and the plan came to fruition as we were freed from the lights to see Danny pulling over ahead and getting out to check his vehicle over. So we pulled up alongside and unleashed silly-string hell on their asses. We looped around for another go, but Danny managed to race off before we could get back, the Burnsmobile dripping colourful bits of string along the highway as it went.

This proved to be the last strike of the war as we turned off down towards Tangimoana Rd and we never saw the Burnsmobile again...

Nationals were definitely over for another year, and we were already looking forward to next the one in Wangas (assuming we can afford the travel costs).

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the non-dancing silent (usually) partners who tolerate their spouses spending nearly every night of the week at a little hall in town in the close company of other people of the opposite sex (or the same sex in some instances. And yes, I'm aiming my personal thanks at you, Magoo, and also at Tash, who had to put up with me being battered, bruised and knackered out by three other women before she could have a turn. Oh, and everyone says cheers for the awesome muffins, Tash). Without the support and understanding of you all, none of us would be able to compete at a national level. Your physical presences and vocal support at the competition itself are also greatly appreciated by the dancers and the entire club. Also, thank you, and well done, to every single supporter with us at the Nationals for helping secure Wanganui the Best Supporting Club trophy after years and years of trying. 12 years, I believe, wasn't it June? The smiley faces were a nice touch; they really stood out and made us noticed. I think there were only a couple of bangs on the head with them the entire weekend. They made good bats too...

And to those rotten buggers who stole our horns because we were too noisy...

Paaaaaaarrrrrrrpppp!!!!

Thank you, Harbour City, for a fantastic Nationals.

thankyou Scott

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**Wanganui Rock and Roll Club – fun times to be had by all!**

For photos and discussion check out our Facebook site:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10813298426>

and Masters Games, Newsletters and much more, our website:

<http://www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz>

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# A Contribution from Claire . . .

Hi, for those that don't know me my name is Claire Edmonds. I have been a member for 2.5 years now and it's certainly been a fun time. Even after a rotten day, heading along to rock and roll for a club night is always guaranteed to put a smile on the dial!

From the first night when I started at a 8 week beginner course, and learnt the basics and a bit more, I can certainly remember laughing a lot, learning a lot more (or should that be the other way around!) and meeting some amazing people. One of the most memorable parts of the beginner course was learning how to do the comb! Neil was most amused at my reaction and the comb has been one of those fun moves ever since. (And a move which I still find quite entertaining). The patience, and willingness, people show when teaching new moves or helping you practice is amazing and certainly most appreciated.

I really enjoy that I can go along to rock and roll week after week and always feel welcome or have a huge break and be made just as welcome when I go back. It is nice to see new faces and great to see those familiar ones. Someone once told me that you have to ask people to dance, not just sit and wait to be asked, and it has been such a good bit of advice. I haven't come across anyone who is not approachable or willing to get up and dance either at practice or at a hop. If you don't feel like dancing there is always someone to chat to. Of course dancing with different people is a good way to learn different styles as well.

This year I decided to approach Barry and see if he was keen to go in the Masters Games, the main emphasis being that we want to have fun. Practicing has been lots of fun, we have both learnt lots (and I know we both have a lot more to learn) and the offers to help with coaching have been much appreciated (and of course will be taken up!) I am really looking forward to participating in the Masters Games and if the team spirit I have seen leading up to the Nationals, and which is also evident in the videos and photos, is anything to go by then its bound to be a great time. I already have my dress and petticoat fabric ready to make up - oh and can't forget the frilly knickers too!

There are usually people from the rock and roll club out at a club on Friday or Saturday night and it's a great fun night, lots of dancing, talking and laughing. Rock and roll can be just about Wednesday club night or about more.

I often have to turn up to hops or events on my own and can honestly say I have always found it hard to walk in on my own but once I get there someone always suggests you sit with them and of course there is always someone to dance with.

Rock and roll has given lead to employment as well. I met a lovely lady and now look after her daughter while she works. I have also begun to make rock and roll petticoats, frilly knickers and will happily make to order. Check out my website or contact me direct. I also make baby bibs, change mats and much more.

**www.missbelle.co.nz or phone Claire on 0274 370 346**

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There has been a bit of checking out eye colour going on lately as I have been quizzing Barry on what colour my eyes are to see if he is looking at me when dancing. Apparently Kath didn't know what colour eyes Scott had! Its become a bit of a joke about knowing eye colour. Anyway, Paula and I came up with a tip for the newsletter.

***Free tip : If you are not looking at your partner then you don't know what they are doing or what colour eyes they have!***

thankyou Claire

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Tamara is one of our younger members who has been in Denmark for several months now, studying gymnastics . . .

## Tamara writes . . . . November 8

Hey guys,

I have still been enjoying life here at the school they are still keeping me very busy with lectures gymnastics and of course homework.

Daylight savings has just come around here so now we are exactly 12 hours behind so it's nice and easy to work out the time back home. It gets dark here really early by around 4pm it starts getting dark. I can't believe I'm going to miss a whole summer in NZ!

We had a study trip to Copenhagen. On the trip I learned a lot about Denmark because all of the international students had to research different areas of Copenhagen that we would visit on the trip. It's a pretty cool city. They have an amusement park in the middle of the city!

We celebrated Halloween here last weekend. The holiday definitely makes more sense on this side of the world. Some of the students here also made some really cool pumpkins. I'm so sad I didn't get to see any fireworks this year! They don't celebrate Guy Fawkes.

I had to give a half an hour presentation on NZ last week. I really hope I represented NZ well. I called home the other day and they seem to think I'm getting a bit of an accent my really good friend here is from Canada so it's really hard not to pick up on it.

I just had a week holiday where I went to Estonia. It was really different from what I was expecting they have really built up town areas, fancy buildings and shopping malls, etc. then you drive 2 min down the road to where they live and it all seems to change. They have a lot of huge big apartment buildings where a lot of people live in pretty small apartments. The outside of the buildings are pretty shattered. No one seems to take much care of them although this might be caused by the weather conditions. It is minus 35-40degrees in the winter and its over 30degrees in the summer. I even went to some houses where they didn't have flushing toilets. But I had a really nice time. The people were really nice and while I was there I coached some gymnastics to kids. It was fairly challenging because they didn't understand English. I also went ice skating and the people I was staying with took me horse riding.

That's all for now will be in touch again soon

Love Tamara

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# HALL HIRE & PRACTICE CHARGES

**ALL ARRANGEMENTS ARE TO BE MADE WITH DONNA BURNS - PH 343 9554**

**GENERAL HALL HIRE \$200 + (\$200 Refundable Bond)**

Bookings and Key collection see Donna

**CLUB MEMBERS PRACTICE SESSIONS**

One Month Periods: \$5.00 per person per month in advance if PRIVATE Practice is required  
ie: no other dancers present without permission of Hiree,  
the charge is \$10 per hour in advance for 4 hours \$20 per hour thereafter

**Times can be booked on Wednesday practice night or by phoning Donna**

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# COMMITTEE 2010 / 2011

**President:** Donna Burns 343 9554, **Vice President:** Shane Williams 343 6791

**Secretary:** Jacky Adam 345 5972, **Treasurer:** John Williams 344 6309

**Bulletin Editor:** Kelvin Adam 345 5972, **Advertising:** John Williams/Donna Burns

**Demo's:** Kath Mence & Shona Hood **Hall Maintenance:** Barry Barnes,

**Hall Bookings:** Donna Burns 343 9554, **Fundraising:** Marlene Holloway,

**Competitions:** June McGrath (coordinator) & committee

**Catering Coordinator:** Christine Williams 344 6309 with members help

**Events Coordinators:** All Committee, **Masters Games:** Jacky & Kelvin Adam

**Block Courses:** June McGrath / Alex Pirikahu,

## **FULL COMMITTEE:**

Donna Burns, Jacky Adam, Kelvin Adam, Christine Williams, John Williams, Gill Pirikahu, Alex Pirikahu,

Kathy Hylton, Shane Williams, Marlene Holloway, Karen Gadsby, June McGrath, Doug Broughton,

Barry Barnes, Dianne Butters, Paula Mosen, Michael Wallace, Scott Greenlees

**NON COMMITTEE HELPERS:** Danny Burns, Andrew Mence, Helen Cowen, Jan Barnes, Phil Holloway.

**TUTORS:** Head Tutor - Gill Pirikahu, Danny Burns, Kathy Hylton, Shane Williams, June McGrath

**TUTOR HELPERS:** Kath Mence, Karen Gadsby, Non-Committee Helen Cowen

**Coach:** Non-Committee Paul Searle

Mailing Address: PO Box 4252, Wanganui

Hall Address: 74a Victoria Avenue, Wanganui

email: jackel03@xtra.co.nz or kelvin@haprint.com

*check out our website:*

**[www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz](http://www.wanganuirocknroll.org.nz)**

*and our facebook site:*

**<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10813298426>**

## MEMBERSHIP

Family: \$50 Couple: \$45 Adult: \$35 Child: \$20

(some conditions may apply)

***Have a look at our Facebook site for videos and photos of club members in action around the countryside- Join up and interact with each other via the net - it's great fun, and so easy . . .***

**<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10813298426>**

***see Kelvin or Gill if you want some of your photos loaded onto it***

# New Zealand Masters Games

## 4 February until 13 February 2011

with Rock n Roll on Saturday 5th February.

It will be held in the Games Village as it was in 2009

CHECK OUT THE EVENTS COUPON JUST PUBLISHED AND ENTER NOW BY LOGGING ONTO

<http://www.nzmg.com/>

There are over 60 sports to enter, not just Rock n Roll, and the entertainment in the Games Village every night is unbelievable.

### ROCK 'N' ROLL

**Date:** Sat 5 Feb 2011  
**Time:** 10am  
**Venue:** NZMG Village, Springvale Park  
**Age Groups:** 30+ Men & Women  
**Sports Fees:** \$10 for first event  
 \$4 each additional event  
**Notes:** This competition will be run strictly to NZRRA rules  
 Entrants may dance in a younger age group  
 Partner Required is NOT an option. You must enter your partner's name where applicable  
 Times may vary and will be finalised on receipt of entries  
**Contact:** rocknroll@nzmg.com  
 Jacky Adam  
 06 345 3145 wk  
 06 345 5972 hm

### ROCK 'N' ROLL

Competitor Last Name:  First Name:

**Best Dressed:**  Male  Female  Couple  Triples  Top Team

Best Dressed Couple - Partners Name:

**Restricted:**  30+ Partners Name:   
 40+ Partners Name:   
 50+ Partners Name:   
 60+ Partners Name:

**Non Restricted:**  30+ Partners Name:   
 40+ Partners Name:   
 50+ Partners Name:   
 60+ Partners Name:

**Top Team:**  30+ Team Contact:

**Same Sex:**  30+ Partners Contact:

**Triples:**  30+ Team Contact:

ROCK 'N' ROLL



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supporting our Community

## NEXT Newsletter

Will be out probably Feb/March 2011.  
 All contributions whether they are articles, clear photos, jokes or anything of interest are most welcome and should be given to Kelvin, the newsletter editor as soon as possible to avoid missing deadlines.

**CONTRIBUTORS MOST WELCOME!!!!!!**

You can email Kelvin at  
 jackel03@xtra.co.nz  
 or kelvin@haprint.com if your articles are able to be emailed - saves retyping