

Mayworth 2011 had something for everybody!

Mayworth organiser and host, Chris Watson, of Dare2Dance Tamworth, combined strong competition and workshops by top choreographers, with great socials and entertainment from around the world.

This year's event was the biggest so far with more competitors, workshops, vendors and socials than ever. Line Dancing, Swing, Rock & Roll, Zumba and Two Stepping helped make up the huge program. There were over 300 entries in the competition, representing more than 30 clubs. As well as more prize money - thanks to the generous support of over 33 sponsors.

"Together, if we all support each other and all line dancing events across Australia, New Zealand and the world, we can see the sport we love grow", said Chris.



50 & Over Large Team from China

This year Mayworth had an international flavour with participants from England, Scotland, Germany, China, Singapore, and New Zealand. There were two large teams competing from China, one team in traditional Indian dress - to conform with Mayworth rules, however, they had to borrow boots from their competition!



John & Jo Kinser mixing it up with Michael Jackson

And just to keep everybody moving, Zumba Instructor Shane Cook, conducted warm-ups before each day of the competition.



Open Trio Section Medal Presentation:
1st Allstars, 2nd Cowboys & Angels,
3rd Lennox Beach Bootscooters

Saturday night was the big one

The Pink & Black Ball, with social dancing to start the evening off, had everyone decked out in the evenings theme colours. Kelvin Dale (Red Hot & Country) and Rhys Pearce (Cowboys & Angels, W.A.) were host DJs for the evening, pumped and ready to set the pace.



The Ashby Cup

An annual highlight of Mayworth is The Ashby Cup Challenge.

This can be a mix of duos, trios or groups and showcases the amazing standard of line dancing we have in Australia.

Congratulations to the winners - Simon Ward and Maddison Glover from Illawarra Bootscooters. Their freestyle routine had humour and drama - take a look on YouTube at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=d1GdVZvRoEA>.



**'So You Think You Can Dance',
an event to raise funds for Breast Cancer,
was one of the highlights of Mayworth 2011.**

**Special guests from The Cancer Council attended
and well over \$1,000 was raised.**

The venue was decorated with bras adorning every table and railing - even pinned to the stage curtain. Where had they all come from?

The participants were given their genre and music at very short notice – just enough time for a quick visit to Spotlight and a rehearsal backstage before going out to perform. This led to some weird and wonderful routines, enjoyed just as much by the participants as the audience.

Participants :

Roxanne Smith & Mark Simpkin (Jive)

Noel Bradey & Wendy Hughes (Off Broadway)

Kelvin Dale & Luke Watson (Beatbox)

Kate Simpkin & Simon Ward (Burlesque)

Kevin Smith & Linda Burgess (Bollywood)



Kate & Simon doing a Burlesque routine



Noel & Wendy in a compromising Broadway position



Da Boys! Luke & Kelvin



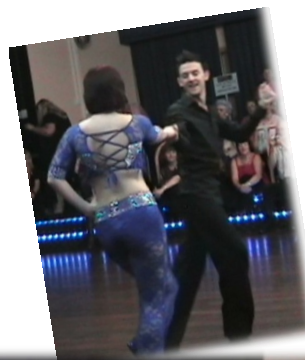
Roxie Jiving her stuff



More Saturday night fun!

In between competition events, Jo & John Kinser (UK), Philip Sobrielo (Singapore) and Sam Robbins & Nicola Lafferty (UK) added to the entertainment. Philip did a fabulous Michael Jackson impersonation in a Thriller routine, joined by Jo & John, Linda Burgess, Elise Spinks and Sam Robbins as excellent back-up dancers.

Jo & John also did a collation of their choreography with West Coast Swing styling. While Sam & Nicola, Latin Ballroom World Champions, did two of their winning routines.



“We had a fantastic time!”

Jo & John Kinser

“Loved Mayworth! Great dancing. Excellent competition. And we met so many nice, happy, generous people.”

Jo said there were just so many highlights. Apart from Mayworth, one of them was having vegemite for breakfast. Though John apparently doesn't agree with her on that one.

“One of the great joys of Mayworth was just meeting with so many dancers and making great friends. We took two line dance workshops where we taught some of our recent dances: Hollywood Tonight, Oh Oh and All Around the World, intermediate dances, Abidihidihop Hop which is a contra line dance, and Busy, an improver dance.

“We loved the amazing energy and the competitions - all the skirt work and hat tricks. And of course great choreography.



Northern Riders' Ngaire and Liz with Jo Kinser (centre)

“The only difference to competitions in the UK and US, is that we have different categories. For example Funky, where the competitors are judged the same way but allowed to dance with their whole body to express the style of the dance.

“We would particularly like to thank everybody who was so kind and generous during our visit,” said Jo.

Before flying home, they took time out to visit Noosa, Australia Zoo, Surfer's Paradise and Sydney.

