I recently attended the launch of Air New Zealand Hawke’s Bay International Marathon. It was a great occasion – with our region being the star of the show. The team behind the marathon know their stuff and it’s hugely exciting to see two large companies wanting to showcase Hawke’s Bay via this fantastic event.

More than 2000 people are expected to sign up for the inaugural marathon in May next year. The company behind it, Lagadere Unlimited Oceania, launched a similar marathon in Queenstown last year and were blown away by how many entries they received. Air New Zealand, as the major sponsor of the marathon, have said they will look to put on extra flights into the region in the days around the event which can only be a good thing. I’m not sure I’ll be dusting off my running shoes, but I will certainly be on the side-line cheering on the runners as they head off from Marine Parade. Our council is delighted to be able to support this event along with Hastings District Council, Hawke’s Bay Regional Council and Hawke’s Bay Tourism – and it is a great example of our new Regional Events Strategy in action.

Another recent highlight for me has been spending time with The Governor-General of New Zealand The Right Honourable Sir Jerry Mateparae and Lady Janine Mateparae during their regional visit to Hawke’s Bay. We hosted four events which they attended – the launch of our Napier Library animal reading programme, All Ears, which helps build confidence in young readers; an event for sponsors who are so generously helping to get a group of local kids to the International Children’s Games in Alkmaar next month; an evening to acknowledge the volunteers in our midst who do such fantastic work in our community; and finally the Napier City Council Business Breakfast at which Sir Jerry made a wonderful speech noting what a great place Hawke’s Bay is – offering a lifestyle like no other. I couldn’t agree more.

June 2015
Coffee with a Councillor

Maxine Boag

Your favourite meal to cook...
I live on salads, stir fry veges and Middle Eastern takeaways, but I love to grill or barbecue seafood – salmon and garlic prawn kebabs are my favourites.

What’s your coffee order?
Latte.

Favourite holiday destination...
Mahia Peninsula. I used to go to Opoutama as a kid camping, then as an adult I kept going back. I love the area and the people.

In the weekend I...
try and catch up with everything and everyone I haven’t had time for during the week as well as get ready for the coming week. I’ll do a couple of classes at the gym, there’s usually at least one community event to attend, and if I have time I’ll put my feet up and read a novel.

One of my goals for the next 12 months is...
to learn a few more waiata.

www.napier.govt.nz keyword: #councillors

Meet our Events Manager

Kevin Murphy

As someone who is passionate about bringing events to Hawke’s Bay, Napier’s new Events Manager Kevin Murphy is a face already familiar to many thanks to his previous roles.

Having spent the last decade with Sport Hawke’s Bay, Kevin played a large role behind the scenes in popular events such as The Big Easy, Phoenix Football game and City Showcase Emerging Artist event. He has also been behind the Blues Brews and BBQs Festival, assisted in the Art Deco event management, World Cup Rugby, World Cup Cricket and coordinated smaller events such as the Hawke’s Bay Sports Ball and sports tournaments.

“All roads in my past positions have led to events and tourism so it was a natural path to apply for the events manager role at Napier City Council,” Kevin says.

Now that Kevin has his feet firmly under his desk his aim is to coordinate events alongside promoters and event owners to ensure they have a good experience while hosting their events in Napier.

“The role is also about managing relationships and being proactive in seeking opportunities for us to host events that bring some benefit to the region. It’s also important to foster the events that are already here and being part of the process to help them grow.”

Kevin says the best part of his job is being part of the project management leading up to an event and seeing it right through to the end.

“Watching people enjoy themselves at an event and knowing that I have been part of creating a memory for them is a great feeling.”
Dog Registrations

Reggie the Dog would like to remind all dog owners that annual dog registration fees are due by 1 July 2015. To save time you can pay online at www.napier.govt.nz/pay-it or by internet banking and your dog’s new yellow tag will be sent to you in the mail. For other payment options use search keyword #makeapayment.

Did you know?

- You can save money on your annual registration for next year and beyond by becoming a Licensed Dog Owner? There’s a one off fee to pay of $50 (discounted to $5 if you’re over 65 years) which includes an inspection of your property. But the good news is if you pass it can save you 30% per year on your registration fee. Some conditions apply to be eligible.
- We offer a subsidy towards the cost of de-sexing your dog.

Our Animal Control team have a wealth of knowledge when it comes to your canine companion. If you have any questions contact them on 834 4177.

Reading Programme a hit

The Governor-General, Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae and his wife Lady Janine Mateparae were on hand to see the new All Ears reading programme in action at Napier Library on 10 June.

The reading programme is aimed at building the confidence of young readers by having them read aloud to a dog as well as teaching children how to be safe around animals.

Overseas studies have shown reading to animals is proven to remove stress and peer pressure often experienced by children who are still learning to read.

Unlike many other animal reading initiatives, All Ears is a one on one programme in which the child reads to the dog once a week for a full school term – allowing the reader and the dog to get to know each other. It is also designed to educate the children about being safe around animals.

All Ears is a co-operative project between the Napier City Council Animal Control team and the Napier Library.

Junior readers participating in the programme are recommended by local remedial teachers with the first four students participating from Napier Central School.

The project has recruited its first dog to be part of the programme – a 9 year old Harrier hound called Lady Venice.

“Reading dogs aid young struggling readers by sitting quietly with each one and ‘listening’ as the child reads aloud to them,” said Napier Libraries manager Sheryl Reed. “Though typically self-conscious reading to another person, children with reading difficulties are much more relaxed with a friendly dog who doesn’t criticise their efforts or laugh at their mistakes.”
The start line for the recently announced Air New Zealand Hawke’s Bay International Marathon will be Napier’s iconic Marine Parade.

The inaugural event kicks off on 14 May next year and will showcase the best of the region, says Hawke’s Bay Tourism General Manager Annie Dundas.

“We’ve worked hard to make this come to fruition. The organisers, Lagardère Unlimited Oceania, produce truly world-class events and this is a huge coup for the region.”

With key sponsorship from Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Hawke’s Bay Regional Council and Hawke’s Bay Tourism, Ms Dundas said it was a great example of the newly established Regional Events Strategy in action.

“We are confident it will showcase our region to runners and supporters from around New Zealand and the world.”

The team behind the marathon wanted to expand into the North Island after the huge success of last year’s inaugural marathon in Queenstown which attracted close to 6,000 runners, with 90 percent of them from outside the Queenstown region.

Lagardère Unlimited Oceania Chief Executive Officer Dave Beeche said the marathon wouldn’t be all hard slog.

“The Hawke’s Bay region offers a beautiful setting for the marathon course with bike trails, wineries, orchards and olive groves, presenting a course that will be as pleasing on the eye as it will be easy on the feet for those taking part. Participants can cross the finish line and then sit back and enjoy the food, wine and local hospitality on offer. What better reason for a weekend away with friends in stunning Hawke’s Bay, either as a runner or a supporter.

“Like Queenstown, this will be positioned as a premium event experience at a fun weekend destination, where it’s as much about achieving your running goal, as having a great weekend away with friends or family in a stunning location.”

The Hawke’s Bay event will also include 21km and 10km races and a 3km kids’ race.

Entries for the inaugural Air New Zealand Hawke’s Bay International Marathon are on sale now at www.airnzhbmarathon.nz

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**What’s On**

The July school holidays are coming up quickly and there’s choices galore as to how to keep your little ones occupied.

**MTG Hawke’s Bay**

For younger children there’s an exciting new ‘Cheeky Charlie’ booklet and for the older kids there’s a brand new activity trail! Learn how to make a poi - a drop-in activity in the main foyer. Adult entry by donation with kids who are participating in these activities (and kids are always free!) www.mtg Hawkesbay.com

**Oamaru Aquarium of New Zealand**

July 7, 8, 9: Daring Divers: Learn diver’s sign language, play deep sea themed games, explore real scuba gear and find out what divers encounter under the sea! July 14, 15, 16: Penguin Party: Meet Dora, our littlest Little Penguin! See her up close and hear the story of her rescue. Play games and learn about penguins of the world. 6 - 12 years old, $29.00 per child. Bookings at www.nationalaquarium.co.nz

**Napier Municipal Theatre**

13 July 10am: The Wiggles are coming to town. Get your tickets from the Theatre Ticketing Office or at www.ticketek.co.nz

**Napier Aquatic Centre**

17 July 12pm: Join the Edge Pool Party for games, barbeque, inflatable aqua run, prize draws. Entry $5 per person.

**Did you know...**

If you need to pay for a ticket to an event, dog registration, a parking infringement notice or some other type of bill to Napier City Council, you can now pay online with a credit card.

To find out more, go to www.napier.govt.nz/pay-it

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**Join us for the Hawke’s Bay International Marathon on the 14 May 2016**

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**Napier City Council**

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