Welcome to Proudly Napier.

This month the emphasis really is on the word ‘proud’ as we remember our residents who fought in World War I. Some returned from the battlefields, many did not. The pride and passion they had for their country saw so many New Zealanders sign up to protect what they believed in.

It’s hard to believe that 100 years ago our world and our city was so different. Today we have them to thank for fighting for our country and for their part in making Napier what it is today. There would be no family in New Zealand who hasn’t been touched by war. It’s shaped us as a nation.

The wealth of information about WWI gathered by our staff at both Napier and Taradale libraries is wonderful – poignant and insightful. Make sure you pop in and visit their displays.

MTG Hawke’s Bay’s latest exhibition focuses on WWI and its effects on the region’s people, both those who went to war and those who kept the home fires burning. From the Uttermost ends of the earth: Hawke’s Bay at War 1914-1918, follows the stories of men excited to be signing up to go to war, to having to face the reality of war. Memorabilia from the soldiers’ families is on display along with other items loaned from the community.

Please take some time to talk about the sacrifices our people made with your friends and family – it’s vital they never be forgotten.

Lest we forget.
Coffee with a Councillor

Michelle Pyke

Your favourite meal to cook...
When my kids come home they always request my BBQ sauce meatloaf (its secret ingredient is coffee!). It was a friend’s family recipe and has now become our family recipe. Also a good old fashioned chocolate self-saucing pud.

What’s your coffee order?
Flat White.

Favourite holiday destination...
Any spare time I have for holidays is usually spent in Auckland with my sister.

In the weekend I...
Use Saturday afternoons relaxing with a core group of girlfriends, we affectionately call it the ‘Saturday Sisterhood’. Sundays are spent out at the prison visiting my son. Incidentally, due to these weekly visits, I seem to have become an advocate for prison visitors. There have been times when I have helped with transport and issues that have arisen for families visiting inmates.

One of my goals for the next 12 months is...
Continue to write and finish my book. It is an autobiography so watch this space!

Meet our Animal Control Officer

Natalie Morgans

If you knew that someone had worked with animals for 13 years, you could quickly come to the conclusion that they loved animals...right? Well, that is exactly the case when it comes to Natalie Morgans, Animal Control Officer at the Napier City Council.

Natalie says she loves working with dogs because they are so honest and they just want to please. Even some of the worst behaved dogs can be turned around. “I've never been let down by an animal,” Natalie says.

With three of the 13 years now spent working for the council, she enjoys the variety of her role. One moment she may be caring for impounded dogs, the next dealing with barking dogs, or reuniting dogs with their owners.

Apart from the expected enforcement side of her role to ensure the safety of the public, she spends much of her time educating owners about how to best look after their dogs. That’s the really great part of her job, Natalie says, seeing a dog happier in its home because its owner has more knowledge to look after it properly.

Unfortunately there are some parts of the job that do sadden Natalie. People who take on a dog not understanding the commitment and care it takes can be to the detriment of the dog. Finding dogs that are injured, underweight or treated poorly is never easy to deal with. However with empathy and compassion often this is turned around.

Another key highlight for Natalie is working with school children to educate them how to be safe around dogs. From early May she will be a regular on the school circuit visiting Napier primary schools and delivering the Dogsmart programme which the Council has recently adopted from the Christchurch City Council. The programme teaches children how to better care for their own dogs and deal with dogs they don’t know.

When Natalie’s not looking after other people’s animals, she’s at home with her own three cats Sheeba, Bailey and Willow and Louie the poodle that she adopted during the 10 years she worked for the Napier SPCA.

“As long as I’m around animals I’m happy,” says Natalie. “I really enjoy my job!”
Remembering WWI

MTG Hawke’s Bay’s latest exhibition focuses on WWI and its effects on the region’s people, both those who went to war and those who kept the home fires burning.

*From the Uttermost ends of the earth: Hawke’s Bay at War 1914-1918,* follows the stories of men excited to be signing up to go to war, to having to face the reality of war in Palestine, Sinai, the Western Front, the Somme and Passchendale.

Memorabilia from the soldiers’ families is on display along with other items loaned from the community.

The exhibition is housed in the Bestall Gallery, named after Leo Bestall who was instrumental in the formation of the original Hawke’s Bay Museum and Art Gallery in 1936. He was its first director, from 1944 until his death in 1959. Leo served in both WWI and WWII, and some of his personal items gifted to the Hawke’s Bay Museums Trust collection are part of the exhibition.

One of the exhibition’s related hands-on activities is poppy making, in the MTG Century Theatre foyer. You can make a poppy, add the name of someone you know who was a part of WWI, or someone you would like to remember, and add your poppy to the poppy wall in the Octagon Gallery. Instructions and materials are provided.

Associated events later in the year include a WWI singalong with Ngaire Ulyatt at the MTG Century Theatre on 14 June, and a lecture by Kay Morris Matthews on women in WWI, with a focus on the East Coast and Hawke’s Bay regions, at MTG Century Theatre on 5 July.

What’s in a Name?

Last Friday the Napier City Council unveiled the first new street signs for the city marked with the Poppy symbol.

The new signs, for Gallipoli Road and Flanders Avenue in Onekawa, are part of the nationwide Places of Remembrance project, instigated by the New Zealand Poppy Places Trust. The project encourages people to share what they know about the places and events in New Zealand military history that relate to street names, memorials and other local sites, believing that their significance is in danger of being forgotten if we don’t record them now.

The Council supports the Trust’s plans to gather these stories and is helping to identify significant places, and collating the information for the Trust to share on its website, www.poppyplaces.nz.

To share information about Napier’s street names, memorials and sites commemorating New Zealand’s participation in military conflicts, please email PoppyPlaces@napier.govt.nz

Poppy Places
**NZ Chamber Soloists**
This Chamber Music NZ concert features works by Rachmaninov, Babajanian, and John Psathas – one of NZ’s most renowned composers who the ensemble has had a long-standing musical relationship with. The concert is at 8pm on 13 May and will be preceded by a free one-hour talk run by a local music specialist. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the musicians and the music before experiencing it live.

**Give me shelter**
Introducing artist Tim Thatcher, now resident in Napier. This series reflects his ongoing interest in sculpture and how he draws on sculpture and structure as subject matter for his paintings. Tim will be giving a floor talk about his work on 24 May. The exhibition runs until 23 August.

**Artist’s Proof**
This exhibition is drawn from a major collection of artist’s proofs gifted to the Hawke’s Bay Museums Trust by Dick Frizzell. The exhibition runs to 23 August.

**Free Radicals**
This exhibition of paintings covers the 70s and 80s when many artists stood against convention, highlighted political and social upheaval and tested where art might fit in the post-modern era. It includes recent acquisitions by the Hawke’s Bay Museums Trust, works by Philip Clairmont, Jeffrey Harris, Paulinev Thompson, Robyn Kahukiwa and Gavin Chilcott. It is on till 4 October.

Napier City Council is thrilled with the initial response from ratepayers opting to receive their rates notices by email since the initiative went public on 30 March.

Since then the number of people choosing this option has increased by 125%.

An email service was initially introduced by the Council four years ago for property owners living overseas or outside the region and has grown steadily in response to customer demand.

Hawke’s Bay’s Councils – Napier, Hastings, Central Hawke’s Bay, Wairoa and Hawke’s Bay Regional Council – worked together on a new initiative, instigated by the Regional Council as part of their development of an email service for their annual rates. Partnering with local councils offered the opportunity to increase the uptake of the ‘rates by email’ service across the region, via a single application process for ratepayers.

It means if ratepayers sign up to receive their local authority rates by email, they can now also choose to receive their annual regional council rates by email.

Visit [www.napier.govt.nz](http://www.napier.govt.nz), keyword #ratesbyemail for more information.

Email rate notices are optional. Ratepayers who do not want to receive their rates by email will continue to receive them in the post.