

RIGHT BY YOUR SIDE

ISSUE 14
JULY 2011

Welcome

Welcome to the newsletter about the Wellington region's planning and preparations for Rugby World Cup 2011. Coordination of the region's RWC 2011 planning is handled by Wellington City Council. For more regional RWC 2011 information check out www.WellingtonNZ2011.com

Festival information at your fingertips

Have you checked out the exciting array of Festival of Carnivale events online yet? The listings are at www.wellingtonnz2011.com/rwc-2011-wellington/events and you can search by date or type of event. It's a jam-packed programme so start planning your time now!

The Festival of Carnivale runs from 9 September to 9 October and is proud to be part of the national REAL New Zealand Festival.



There will literally be dancing in the streets during the Festival of Carnivale – image from Java Dance Company's *Dancing in the Street*, one of many street performances in the programme.

Our volunteers are all ready to go

All 689 volunteers for our region have been appointed, with more on a waiting list, under the national RWC 2011 volunteer programme. Regional organisers continue to be amazed by the passion, commitment, experience and skills of those who put up their hands to be part of the programme. The Tournament will be a great experience for all those involved, and for the visitors who will interact with our wonderful volunteers.

The volunteers have been readying themselves with online training, as well team leader or role-specific training. The final round of venue-specific training will take place in August.

During the Tournament, Wellington City volunteers will be based in the Boat Shed and Rowing Club buildings on the waterfront, right at the heart of the action. If volunteers have any questions or want to meet the team before the Tournament, contact ken.bailey@wcc.govt.nz. A resource centre will also be open on a part-time basis on the ground floor of the Wellington City Council buildings at 101 Wakefield Street.

Got your tickets yet?

The final phase of ticket sales, which began on 4 July, is in full swing. Time's running out, Wellington region supporters, so remember – you gotta be there!

More information about ticketing is available at www.rugbyworldcup.com/tickets. Remember there are rules you need to be aware of if you're looking to sell any of your tickets, including restrictions under the Major Events Management Act 2007. For full terms and conditions see <http://tickets.rugbyworldcup.com/pdf/RWC2011ticketConditions.pdf>

Last issue of Right By Your Side

This is the last issue of *Right By Your Side*. Thanks to everyone who forwarded issues on to their networks or who sent us their feedback – we really appreciate it.

To keep receiving local RWC 2011 information by email, have you signed up to Positively Wellington Tourism's fantastic *KNOW Business* newsletter? – see www.wellingtonnz.com/know_wellington/know_business for more information.



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Team profile – Canada

Our region will host Canada – known as the Canucks – for four nights during RWC 2011. They'll be training on Porirua Park from 29 September to 2 October and playing New Zealand at Wellington Regional Stadium on October 2. Let's make their brief stay memorable!

Did you know?

- Rugby was introduced to Canada by immigrants and members of the army and navy. The first recorded game took place among artillery men in Montreal in 1864.
- Dave Gallaher's New Zealand 'Originals' team played in Canada on their 1905 tour.
- The Canadian women's team is consistently among the top five women's rugby teams in the world.
- Because many grounds in Canada are under snow or ice for significant periods each year, a split season is necessary.
- The RWC 2011 squad is coached by former All Black player and selector Kieran Crowley.

Sources: www.rugbycanada.ca and www.wikipedia.org

Clubs gearing up to host

Sunday September 11 will be an auspicious day. Not only will South Africa take on Wales at Wellington Regional Stadium in Wellington's first RWC 2011 match, but the Eastbourne Rugby Football Club will be hoping to have a South African connection of its own as part of its 90th anniversary celebrations.

The club, whose players wear the same green and gold colours as South Africa, has reissued a longstanding hosting invitation to the players, management and supporters of the South African and New Zealand teams. In addition to being Eastbourne RFC's 90th anniversary, it will also be the 90th anniversary of the 1921 Springbok series, when the All Blacks stayed and trained in Eastbourne. South Africa, on their first visit to New Zealand, were invited to enjoy club hospitality on that occasion but they had to decline due to travel and timing. The club is waiting to hear back from the two teams but no matter what, the 90th anniversary will be celebrated in style!

Many other clubs around the region are in the process of finalising their plans for events and activities during RWC 2011.

The Old Boys University Pink Ginners v San Francisco's Olympic Club match on 22 September

may not draw the same crowds as USA's RWC 2011 match the following day, but promises to be a great celebration of Rugby's international ties. Similarly, the Poneke Pies Masters Festival on 29 and 30 September will showcase some warm club hospitality and no-doubt still-sizzling on-field skills.

Wellington Rugby Football Union is working with clubs on their programme of activities. For more information, contact william.strang@wrfu.co.nz

Wairarapa hearts Georgia

Regional partners in the Wairarapa have been doing a great job of setting up ties with Georgia and keeping the rest of the region informed about their progress. So we're pleased to congratulate Catherine and the team on the success of their Project Georgia Facebook page www.facebook.com/Projectgeorgia – nearly 700 'likes' and counting! We're sure they'll keep up the great work and give the Georgian team an amazing welcome during their seven-night stay in Masterton.



Important dates

30 July	New Zealand vs South Africa Tri-Nations test match, Wellington Regional Stadium
27 August	Wellington's Indoor Community Sports Centre community open day – come along between 10am and 3pm to check out this great new facility on the former Cobham Park
9 September	RWC 2011 kicks off!

If you no longer want to be on this mailing list, please contact RWC2011Wellington@wcc.govt.nz to unsubscribe. This is the final issue of the newsletter but we may very occasionally send out relevant information. We don't share our distribution list with any other parties. For back issues of the newsletter, go to www.Wellington.govt.nz/services/events/rwc/rwcmedia

