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

100 days to go milestone approaching
We’re rapidly approaching another important milestone in our region’s build-up to RWC 2011 – on 1 June it’ll be 100 days until the start of the Tournament.

The occasion will be celebrated at Parliament by the Prime Minister, IRB representatives and other VIPs in attendance. RWC 2011 centres around the country will also be marking the day in a variety of ways – see the story over the page about Masterton’s plans.

Now’s the time to start thinking about what you can do to get involved in the biggest sporting event New Zealand has ever hosted – whether it’s dressing up your house or workplace, checking out business initiatives or making sure you provide a warm welcome to RWC 2011 visitors, get your thinking caps on and your countdown started!

Clean zone information released
The Ministry of Economic Development has released maps and information about RWC 2011 ‘clean zones’ and ‘clean transport routes’, under the Major Events Management Act 2007 (MEMA). These mean restrictions on some activities such as advertising. For more information see http://asp-uk.secure-zone.net/v2/index.jsp?id=582/619/1623&lng=en

Important information for licensees
Wellington City Council has developed principles to guide licensing decisions for activities in the CBD during RWC 2011. The principles include: how long marquees and other temporary structures can be in place; when traffic lanes can be closed; using plastic vessels or cans in outdoor areas; and rules for specific parts of the CBD. There is also guidance on relevant areas such as food preparation and special liquor licences.

The Council’s Director of RWC 2011 & City Events, Derek Fry, says: “We need to maintain safety, accessibility and the overall look of the city during the Tournament. This means some activities won’t be approved, but we’re working with the hospitality industry on what they can do where possible.” Businesses are encouraged to attend pre-application meetings with the Council to iron out issues before they seek approval.

For more information click on the RWC 2011 event mark at www.Wellington.govt.nz – then see the ‘Rules & regulations for events’ section.

Wellington Open Day coming soon
Positively Wellington Tourism is working with the tourism industry to open the doors of its attractions to Wellingtonians on Sunday 26 June, Wellington Open Day. It’ll be a great way to inspire and educate locals about what’s on offer for visitors during RWC 2011 and beyond. More information on locations and times will be available from 11 June at www.WellingtonNZ.com
**Team training venue changes**

The recent changes to the RWC 2011 match schedule, caused by the after-effects of the Christchurch earthquake, have also meant some changes to local team-training venues. Argentina and Scotland are now in our region for eight and 12 nights respectively. Argentina will train on Newtown Park (18–25 September), meaning USA will now train on Porirua Park instead (19–23 September), while Scotland will train on Hutt Recreation Ground (15–26 September).

![Porirua Park](image)

Porirua Park, where USA, Wales, Fiji and Canada will train during RWC 2011.

**Team profile – Argentina**

Los Pumas, ranked eighth in the world, are always a team to watch. Their fans are known for their exuberance and are sure to be a welcome addition to our region’s RWC 2011 celebrations.

Did you know?
- The emblem on the team’s shirts features an Argentine jaguar (*yaguareté*), not a puma. The *Pumas* nickname came about in the 1960s, when a South African journalist mistook the cat on the emblem for a puma — the error stuck and was eventually adopted by the Argentine team.
- Rugby was brought to Argentina by British immigrants, and the first match was played there in 1873. Argentina’s international debut was against a side known as the ‘Combined British’ or ‘Great Britain XV’ in 1910.
- Argentina’s best result at a Rugby World Cup was in 2007, when they came third.

Source: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

**Team profile – Scotland**

Scotland’s match with Argentina on 25 September promises to be a hard-fought affair. Scotland currently sits at ninth in the world rankings and, like Argentina, has taken part in every Rugby World Cup.

Did you know?
- Scotland and England met in the first Rugby international in 1871.
- Scotland and England have maintained intense rivalry over the years — although the Scotland coach, Andy Robinson, is English.
- The thistle on Scottish jerseys is the national flower, which goes back many years in Scottish history. Legend says the thistle helped defend the country from attacking Vikings — one of the Norwegians yelped when he stood on a thistle, which alerted the Scottish defenders.

Source: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

**Flag bunting available**

The NZ2011 office has developed some fantastic bunting, featuring the flags of all the countries competing in RWC 2011, for public use. This will be great for dressing shops, workplaces, community spaces, you name it, without contravening Tournament branding rules. Lengths of country-specific bunting will be available soon too. For more information, check out [www.WellingtonNZ2011.com/local-businesses/bunting-flags](http://www.WellingtonNZ2011.com/local-businesses/bunting-flags)

**The Big Game! – Wairarapa update**

In the March issue of *Right By Your Side* we profiled the great work being done by the Wairarapa community to get behind Georgia during RWC 2011. But other nations won’t miss out.

On 1 June, a draw will take place in the Wairarapa Bush Rugby Football Union club rooms to allocate RWC 2011 countries to blocks of businesses in the Masterton CBD. As part of ‘The Big Game!’ blocks will compete for the title of ‘best dressed’ and will come up with all sorts of ways to celebrate the food, national costumes, music and language of their adopted countries. For more information, email catherine@wairarapanz.com

**Important dates**

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