



Lucy's got lots of heart

By JANIE SMITH

Running is her hobby but Lucy Sharp is putting her heart into a special race.

The eight-year-old has signed up to be a Heart Racer in the adidas Auckland Marathon to raise money for the New Zealand Heart Foundation, to help combat heart disease.

She has to run 5km every week for eight weeks and will do a final 2.5km on October 31, the day of the marathon.

It's the Epsom resident's first time as a Heart Racer but she's no stranger to racing.

Lucy has already completed two triathlons and is the cross-country champion for her age group at Three Kings Primary School.

Her mother signed her up for the marathon event and so far she has raised \$255 in sponsorship.

She has been building up her distances by running with friends at an after-school programme and is also part of a squad which trains on Sundays at the Auckland Domain.

"I like running because it gets you outside," she says.

Her dad Warren also takes her out running and says the sport is a family affair.

"I ran for 25 years and my father ran as well. I did it pretty seriously for a long time."

Now he encourages his kids to get involved with sport and fitness.

Along with running, Lucy also plays soccer, netball and tennis.



■ Go to www.hearttracer.org.nz/LucySharp/ to donate to Lucy's efforts

Heartfelt effort: Lucy Sharp has signed up to be a Heart Racer in the adidas Auckland Marathon. **Photo: JASON OXENHA**