

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Thursday 22 August	Film Club
Sunday 25 August	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 6 September	Darts night
Friday 13 September	Cards night
Thursday 12 September	Book Club
Friday 20 September	Music Friday night

COMINGS & GOINGS

International travel is back on the agenda, it seems! **Catriona & Declan** have returned from an extended trip to Ireland, & **John & Lynn** have had a brief holiday in Queensland.

Later in the month **Elaine & Murray**, and **Sean, Anita & Isobel** are heading off to Europe. At least one of those trips encompasses a wedding anniversary! Safe travels, and enjoy yourselves.

“FAMILY STORIES” GROUP

A diverse group of about 15 members & friends attended the Telling Family Stories session last month. They all had a project they wished to pursue, or had in hand, and were looking for a bit of help getting to the next stage.

I have setup an email ‘group’ (storytellers@huttirish.org.nz) so we can all stay in touch and share ideas or progress.

We will be meeting again on **September 22**. More details to follow.

You’re welcome to join us, or drop me a note if you’d like to be added to our email ‘group’.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024-25!

HVIS’ Financial Year ends on 31 March, which means, of course, that your subscription for the new year is now due. Our thanks to those who’ve already paid their Subscription. For everyone else:

1. See the [website for Subscription rates](#)
2. Make payments by **DIRECT CREDIT** to account number **06-0529-0416815-00**. (Use your **family name** as the reference (or your phone number if you have to use numbers)
3. Tell us you’ve paid by [completing the Renewal Form](#).

You’re of course welcome to invite friends to the Club, but when you do, why not suggest they join up? Especially if they are

more or less ‘regular’ visitors. We have forms at the Club for new members, and the subscription rates are *LOW!*

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Remembering to pay the Subscription is a perennial problem for many of us. Yet there is a simple solution.

Why not set up an AUTOMATIC PAYMENT schedule for early April each year? Payment should be made to account number **06-0529-0416815-00**. **Please be sure to use your family name** as the reference, so we know who is making the payment! That’s it! Problem solved!

REMINDER

If you’re meeting friends or guests at the Club, they need to sign the Visitors’ Book when they arrive.

COUNTY GAZETTEER

Vital stats for each Irish County

County Donegal / *Contae Dhún na nGall*

Province: Ulster

County town: Lifford

Area: 1,880 sq mi (4,860 km²) (Rank: 1st)

Highest elevation (Errigal): 2,464 ft (751 m)

Population (2022): 167,084 (Rank: 13th)

Nickname: “The O’Donnell County”, “The Forgotten County”

Motto: *Mutuam habeatis caritatem* "Have love for one another"

Website: [Donegal County Council](#) or [Go Visit Donegal](#)



Notices:

Find us at:

<http://www.huttirish.org.nz>

Keep in touch at:

On Twitter, look for [@huttirish](#).

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/huttirish/ On Instagram, look for

[huttirish](#).

[huttvalleyirish](#)

Remember the Hall is available for Hire to members. All this helps your Club financially, so recommend us to your friends.

Don't forget the Club is open every Friday 7.30 p.m. to 1 am, and at other times by request.

Published by: Hutt Valley Irish Society,
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Hutt Valley Irish Society



The Irish Press

Is doimhin é poll an
Amhrais.

(Deep is the hole of doubt.)

August, 2024

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Calling all GOLFERS – whether you're a weekend hacker, a seasoned amateur, or a raw beginner, GREAT NEWS!

Brian Gahan has agreed to organise a follow-up to last year's brilliantly successful GOLF TOURNAMENT.

I don't have all the details as yet, but you will want to block out **Saturday 12th October** on your Calendar.

I understand it will be at Manor Park (so it's easy to get to!), and the 19th Hole will be at HVIS later in the day/evening!



BOOKING HVIS

We've had a bit of 'shuffle' of some of the responsibilities on the Management Committee, and one that you need to be aware of is for managing "Bookings" of the Club.

Lynn O'Toole has done a terrific job filling this role for quite a few years now, but, at her request, it has been picked up by **Mike Bignell**, who is outside the Committee.

His tenure has begun with a number of requests for bookings, both 'private' and for Club activities!

We encourage our members (& their friends) to make use of the Club – it is good to see it in use, and generates both income and membership!

So if you have an event – Birthday, reunion, meeting, gathering - you think might be suited to being held at the Club, please use the bookings@huttirish.org.nz email address to get in touch with Mike to talk over dates and arrangements – it's that easy!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

HVIS runs on the efforts of VOLUNTEERS. So we're always looking for people to help out. Which means it is time for you

to ask yourself: **What can I do to help?** Working in the Kitchen, cleaning, catering, helping with events, music, opening up, lighting, publicity, social media management, maintenance, governance. Any / all of the above? Do you have an idea for a specific event? Can you organise it?



What about **helping behind the Bar?** We have a small group of volunteers, but "the more the merrier"! There is plenty of scope to help serve, especially **Fridays**, & at other **Functions**, such as at private-hire functions.

Give it some thought! We can always use extra help.

Let us know [how you can help](#).

ROSE OF TRALEE

The New Zealand Rose, Keely O'Grady, is currently in Ireland for the [Rose of Tralee International Festival](#).



Keely was one of three Canterbury Roses at the NZ Selection earlier this year. She is a 21-year old student, studying a degree in Speech & Language Pathology. She hopes to become a speech-language therapist.

She spends her spare time dancing (Irish, of course!) or hanging out with her flat-mates. She has been competing in Irish dancing since she was 6, and says "My lifelong goal is to perform with a show and tour worldwide."


Her Dad is Irish and she has family connections in Dublin, Wicklow, and Kilkenny.

The International Festival comes to a climax with the two "Selection Nights" in Tralee, on August 19th and 20th. Both evenings will be broadcast live on RTE.

You can meet the Roses at <https://roseoftralee.ie/2024-roses/> and, by clicking on a photo, read the profile of each Rose.

Good Luck, Keely! You go with the best wishes of the entire New Zealand Irish community.

STORYWORTH

I try to avoid advertising in HVIS  STORYWORTH Newsletters – except for events I think our members will be interested in!

But this advert is a little different. It is a website-based service. The founder says "My Dad was born in 1930, so he has a lot of great stories. ... I built Storyworth in the Fall of 2012 to make it really easy for my Dad to record these stories."

One of my daughters bought a subscription to it for my birthday, and another for Desiree. Each week an email arrives

with a question for me to write an answer to. And that will be repeated each week for a year. And then all of my "stories" (or answers) will be gathered into a "book" which after my final edits, will be printed and sent to me, or my daughter(s).

I like the 'discipline' that the weekly email brings (I've got behind a little already!!) and the fact that I can tailor the questions as I wish. I can also add photos, or other illustrations if I want. And no, it's not all about "family history", although it could be! It's about the kinds of questions kids ask their parents.

Have a look at <https://www.storyworth.com> – or suggest your kids look at it!

WORKING BEE

We had a Working Bee at the Club recently, and got a lot done. Perhaps the most 'long-term' effect will be the clearing work on the drainage in the carpark. It is to be hoped the work done will facilitate drainage of rainwater, and reduce the likelihood of water backing up into the building.

To all those who gave of their time, and who put in considerable effort, our collective **THANKS!** Give yourselves a 'pat on the back'!

FILM CLUB



This month we're having a look at **Kneecap** (2024). Kneecap is set in West Belfast in 2019. Fate brings together disillusioned music teacher JJ with self-confessed 'low life scum' Naoise and Liam Og, changing the sound of Irish music forever. Under the name Kneecap, their band begins moulding the language to fit their tough, anarchic, hedonistic lives.

The cast includes Móglaí Bap Or Naoise (as Naoise Ó Cairealláin), Mo Chara Or Liam Óg (as Liam Óg Ó Hannaidh), Dj Próvaí Or JJ (as JJ Ó Dochartaigh).

The next screening will be on **Thursday 22 August** at 7.30pm. As usual the Bar will be open, there is no cover charge, and all members and their guests are welcome.

BOOK CLUB

"Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while." - Malorie Blackman

The Book Club is holding its next meeting on **Thursday 12 September**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is **Tin Man** by Sarah Winman. If you're interested in joining the group, or maybe starting your own, get a copy of the book to read, and just turn up to their session.

