

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Friday 21 July	Music / Cards night
Thursday 27 July	Film Club
Sunday 25 June	Annual General Meeting
Sunday 25 June	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 7 July	Darts night
Thursday 13 July	Book Club

COMINGS & GOINGS

If you think **Elaine McAlister** is looking a little pleased with herself next time you see her, she has good reason. Hutt City Brass Band (of which Elaine is a member) are now NZ B-grade Champions! Congratulations!

I hear **Sonia Christiansen** has spread her wings (actually her flippers) a little further afield, and recently competed in the annual Ice Swim at St Bathans in Otago. Swimming 1km in 4degree water makes me wonder at her sanity!

Travel is in the air! **Brendan & Alice Paul**, and their sons (& families) have headed off to Sweden and Ireland for family gatherings. And at the end of the month **Lynn & John O'Toole** are heading to Ireland to catch up with family & friends. We wish them all safe travels, and warm returns.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2023-24!

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!**

REMINDER

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

COOK'S CORNER

The first ingredient of any recipe has to be: "find a man who can cook it" (*Kay Braid*)

Pride of Erin Soup

Ingredients:

1 green cabbage (about 1 lb.)	2 tbsp. butter
3 tbsp. chopped onion	1/4 cup chopped raw potato
1/2 tbsp. ground mace	2 tbsp. all-purpose flour
2 1/2 cups milk	2 1/2 chicken boullion
salt and pepper	1 cup heavy cream, whipped
2 tsp. fresh parsley, chopped	2 tbsp. grated parmesan cheese

Method:

Quarter the cabbage, cutting away and discarding the core. Cover with boiling water and let stand for five minutes. Drain and pat dry and shred. Set aside. In a heavy pan over low heat, melt the butter and simmer the chopped onion until tender without browning. Add the cabbage and potato and stir over low heat. Add mace. Stir in the flour to coat all ingredients, but do not brown.

Add the liquids, bring to a boil, and simmer for 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Dump in the blender and blend until almost smooth, but still a little lumpy. Reheat and add the salt and pepper to taste. If it seems too thick, add a bit of hot milk.

Serve with a scoop of whipped cream and a sprinkling of parsley and cheese on top.

Notices:

Find us at:

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

Keep in touch at:

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

On Instagram, look for [huttirish](#).

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/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.

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Hutt Valley Irish Society



The Irish Press

Is doimhin é poll an
amhrais.

(Deep is the hole of doubt.)

THE “NEW” MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Almost overlooked in the debates at our last Annual General Meeting was the election of the Management Committee. It looks like this:

Patron: **Anne O’Carroll**

President: **Desiree Mulligan**

Vice President: **Lynn O’Toole**

Secretary: **Shirley Duffy**

Treasurer: **Catriona Gill**

Committee: **Darren McClure, Mel Haggarden, Kathryn Gahan, Maureen McLoughlin, Bryan Mulligan.**

Murray Hill continues as Executive Officer (outside the Committee) assisting the Treasurer.

So now you know who to speak to if you have ideas or suggestions, or feedback on any Club-related matters! Don’t hold back!

TAKING A MOMENT TO LOOK BACK ...

The Annual Report was presented to the recent AGM, and traversed what happened over the previous 12 months, so we could see “see what we have achieved in this year.”

Some of the President’s comments:

“This club would not function without the amazing hard-working committee...”

But especially I’d like to acknowledge those who have gone before us who made this the Club that it is, founders, committee members, presidents, and members.

Children, elders, emerging leaders, committee, visiting speakers, new members, Embassy and Ministers of state ... this is the Hutt Valley Irish Society.

WHAT COULD YOU DO FOR THE CLUB?

We haven’t been inundated with offers to help, or suggestions for functions or activities, although a few brains are ticking away.

But if you notice that the carpark and frontage of the Club is looking a little tidier than it has been, look out Trish Regan and pass on our thanks. She put her hand up to keep it in presentable condition!

A DESIGNER OR SOCIAL MEDIA WHIZZ?

I’m still looking for some help. Specifically, I’m looking for someone with a flair for graphic design, and a Social Media Whizz. The Club has a social media presence, but we need someone to actively curate it. Please [get in touch](#) or have a word with me the next time you see me at the Club.

And to finish with an Irish saying for today as we celebrate our new roof:

Né thaircraib an díon ós do chionn isteach, Dalu need, faoin díon amab.
May the roof above you never fall in and those gathered beneath it never fall out.

QUIZ NIGHT



It’s Back! The Same, Only Different!

Saturday, August 5 we have the latest in our series of ever-popular **QUIZ NIGHTS.**

You can expect tricky questions, Irish accents, plenty of head scratching, Winners’ Prizes. Karl Hayes will be Quizzing us, and keeping us honest. And all for just \$10 per person.

So get your team organised and arrange to be at HVIS in time for a 7.30pm start.

FILM CLUB

And now for something completely different! Our next screening will be **The Dig**, which stars Moe Dunford, Emily Taafe, and Francis Magee.

After serving fifteen years for murder, Callahan realises the only way to get rid of Sean is to help him dig.

The next screening will be on **Thursday 27 July** 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 10 August**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is **The Dutch House** by Ann Patchett. 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.



TELLING FAMILY STORIES

August is Family History Month. National Library has a series of presentations in the Wellington on Tuesdays at 5.30pm – including one that sounds appealing for a lot of people: **What**

to do when you’ve done your DNA! (Tuesday 8 August, 5.30pm)

Hutt City Libraries are also holding a series of events to mark the Month. If you enjoyed the sessions at HVIS, or meant to go to them but couldn’t, you should see what is on offer at the Libraries. I am giving a presentation at Petone Library, but don’t let that put you off! There are other offerings, and a variety of sessions. Keep an eye out next time you’re at your local Library, or on the [Library’s webpages](#).

THE HVIS LIBRARY

No sooner had I mentioned last month the book **A Lucky Landing – The Story of the Irish in New Zealand** (Random House, 1996) by **Anna Rogers**, and lamented that we didn’t have a copy in our Library, than I was contacted by Doreen Shields. She had her late parents’ copy and was happy to donate it to our Library! Thanks **Doreen!**

So this month I can (again) recommend the book as an excellent compilation of well-researched materials. Rich in anecdote, and full of fascinating individuals, it is a highly readable book. And best of all, **we have our own copy!**

VIOLIN LESSONS

Maureen McLoughlin is hoping to put together a **fiddle club** at HVIS. She tells me she has been teaching violin in Wellington and Porirua now for over 20 years, and that her holistic approach guarantees a positive and enjoyable environment.

Various abilities and experiences welcome, eg. children and adult beginners, or those who have had some violin lessons, or those who play a little Irish fiddle music already. The plan is to buy a set of fiddles at some stage, depending on interest. If you would like to give it a go, text Maureen on **0272820228**.

SURVEYING THE IRISH COMMUNITY

Wellington Irish Society is leading a research project to find out what is important to Irish people in the Wellington region to determine how the community can best be supported, as well as to identify opportunities to collaborate with other Irish community and cultural groups to maximise their impact.

They want to hear from current Irish Society members, people in Wellington who are Irish-born or are of Irish heritage, people who have an interest in uplifting Irish community and culture, people who have a connection to Irish community and cultural groups.

If you’re not actively involved with any Irish community or cultural group, they would still love to hear from you. We would be interested to hear if this has been an intentional choice or if there have been barriers to your involvement.

If you have a Google account, [have a look at the Survey](#).