

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Thursday 25 July	Film Club
Sunday 28 July	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 2 August	Darts night
Thursday 8 August	Book Club
Friday 16 August	Music Friday night

COMINGS & GOINGS

We have recently lost two of our long-time members - **Marie Brophy**, and **Tom Ryan**. To get an idea of what the Club meant to people such as Tom, & Marie, have a look at <https://youtu.be/tFk7dagGOW8>, and watch to 2.27 minutes. I'm told by Tom's family, that he & Veronica were determined to join us on St Patrick's Day, and were still "buzzing" about it 3 weeks later!

We thank them for the memories, and send our condolences to their extended families.

"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 in August – date to be confirmed. 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!

IRISH DANCING DRESSES

I have received a message from Jeanne Lomax, who says "I have a number of Irish dancing dresses I am getting rid of". If you're interested in finding out more, send a message to dancingdresses@huttirish.org.nz.

COUNTY GAZETTEER

Vital stats for each Irish County

County Cork / Contae Chorcaí

Province: Munster

County town: Cork

Area: 2,899 sq mi (7,508 km²) (Rank: 1st)

Highest elevation (Knockboy): 2,316 ft (706 m)

Population (2022): 584,156 (Rank: 3rd)

Nickname: "The Rebel County"

Website: [Cork County Council](#) or [Pure Cork](#)



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

*Sheibheann pingin pingin
eile.*

(A penny gets another penny.)

July, 2024

LOOKING BACK

I was doing some 'housekeeping' on my laptop recently, and it occurred to me that I had a number of 'albums' of photos of recent HVIS events which I hadn't shared with you. Of course there are also some I HAVE shared, but I thought it was time I told you about them all, so you could decide for yourselves if you wanted to look at them or not.

They also recall how busy we have been, and how many people get involved in our activities! So here goes:

FUNCTIONS FOR OUR SENIORS

We've had 2 functions specifically for our older members & friends this year. In March we had a very enjoyable outing for lunch at The Pavilion in Days Bay.



Thanks go to Shirley & David Duffy for their organisation and driving! And [there are pictures](#), of course.

And then in May, we had a catered lunch at HVIS. Again, Shirley took the lead, and so

the event was a popular success! [See for yourself!](#)

ST PATRICK'S DAY

St Patrick's Day was a blast, as usual. The Embassy played a part with their 'official' functions, Wellington Irish Society did a terrific job of staging another great Parade.



The day itself was one to savour. Plenty of families joined the fun, and the weather allowed us to 'spill' outside in comfort, Shindig were in fine form in the evening, the food was superb I'm told. And [the pictures tell the story](#).

ANZAC DAY



Each year HVIS has a presence at Hutt City's Anzac Commemoration. We ask some of our youngsters to lay a wreath remembering those from New Zealand and Ireland who gave their lives in defence of our common freedoms. This year Darren McClure's children along with Leanne & Davey Rynne's represented us with pride and dignity as they laid a beautiful wreath prepared for us by Margaret Ricketts. [They all looked splendid!](#)

FUNDRAISER IRISH CONCERT FOR MSF

Some of us are appalled by the suffering we see occurring in Gaza. Alice Paul is one such. So, in her inimitable manner she organised at short notice a Sunday afternoon Irish Concert as a fundraiser for *Medecins sans Frontiere*.



We raised \$2,500, and have a collection of [photos](#) and [short videos](#), and fond memories. Well done, Alice, and everyone who played a part!

FUNDRAISER ART AUCTION

At the end of May, Alice Paul organised an Art Auction for the same cause – the work of *Medecins sans Frontiere* in Gaza.



We were gifted some small original works from an artist in Co Kerry, which we auctioned.

Joe Coffey was our Auctioneer Extraordinaire, a great choice.



The generosity of our members and friends meant we collected a further **\$2,000** for MSF. An outstanding effort! And, of course, [there were a few photos!](#)

VISIT BY SARAH ROWE

In late January we hosted Sarah Rowe, an Irish professional sportswoman who is a cross-code champion. She talked about what it took for her to achieve success, and to find a pathway to performance at the top level. Her talk was equal parts inspirational and instructional. And those attending were impressed. [See for yourself](#).



GFHA ANNUAL AWARDS



Desiree and I were invited to represent HVIS at the Wellington / Hutt Valley GFHA Awards, held this year at a vineyard near Masterton. It was a lovely occasion, held on a lovely evening, and a chance to join in recognizing [the](#)

[contribution of so many](#) to maintaining Gaelic sports in this distant corner of the globe.

Oh, and the wine was a bonus!

HVIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our **2024 Annual General Meeting** was held at the end of June.

The President's Report included the following observations:

"I'd like to pay tribute to the tapestry of people and events which gives life to the Irish society. [Y]ou will see the rich and diverse events we hold here as I thank all those involved in our club. ...

The danger in naming the many people who help and contribute to the life of the club is that I miss an amazing contributor; if this is so, you have my apologies. Thanks to all who help, this Society is kept alive by you all."

She finished by inviting our Patron, Anne O'Carroll, to nominate our newest Life Members – **Lynn & John O'Toole**.

A new Management Committee was elected unopposed. It is:

Patron: Anne O'Carroll

President: Desiree Mulligan

Vice-President: Lynn O'Toole

Secretary: Shirley Duffy

Treasurer: Kathryn Gahan

Committee: Joe Brophy, Mel Hargaden, Kieran Hegarty, Darren McClure, Maureen McLoughlin, Bryan Mulligan, Annie Wu.

FILM CLUB



This month we're re-visiting *Brooklyn* (2015). Ireland, early 1950s. Eilís Lacey (Saoirse Ronan) is a young woman working in a grocery shop. She has greater ambitions and moves to Brooklyn, New York, leaving her mother and sister behind.

The cast includes Saoirse Ronan, Emory Cohen, and Domhnall Gleeson.

The next screening will be on **Thursday**

25 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 8 August**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is *Three Things About Elsie* by Joanna Cannon. 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.

