

## Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Sunday 16 March	St Patrick's Day Parade
Sunday 16 March	Welcome to Minister of State
<b>Monday 17 March</b>	<b>St Patrick's Day</b>
Monday 17 March	Golf @ Judgeford
Sunday 30 March	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 4 April	Darts night
Thursday 10 April	Book Club
Friday 11 April	Cards Night

### COMINGS & GOINGS

Emma & Steve Kelliher (& family) had a hair-raising encounter with wild recently while visiting Steve's family in Australia earlier this month. Fortunately they made it home safely.

### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024-25!

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!*

### POT LUCK ORGANISERS 2024

Our thanks to those who have volunteered to 'host' one of monthly Pot Luck Dinners. These remain one of our most popular events.

Download the Hosts' [CHECKLIST](#)

### 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?

Could you help out on the **Management Committee**? All positions from President to Committee Members are up for election at the **AGM** in June. Give it some thought!

What about **helping behind the Bar**? We have a small group of volunteers, but "the more the merrier"! We'll be employing staff for St Patrick's Day, but there is plenty of scope to help at other times, especially **Fridays**, & other **Functions**.

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

### 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 Kildare** / Contae Chill Dara

**Province:** Leinster

**County town:** Naas

**Area:** 654 sq mi (1,695 km<sup>2</sup>) (Rank: 24th)

**Highest elevation** (Cupidstown Hill): 1,243 ft (379 m)

**Population (2022):** 246,977 (Rank: 7th)

**Motto(s):** **Meanma agus Misneach (Irish)**  
"Spirit and Courage"

**Nickname:** The Thoroughbred County

**Website:** [Kildare County Council](#); [Kildare Failte](#)



### 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](http://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.*

Published by: Hutt Valley Irish Society,  
12 Raroa Rd, Lower Hutt, Phone: (04) 569-6139

[info@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:info@huttirish.org.nz)

# Hutt Valley Irish Society



*The Irish Press*

Is deacair a bheith ag  
feadaíl agus ag ithe  
mine

*(It is hard to whistle and eat at the same time)*

## ST PATRICK'S DAY, 2024!

Just in case you've not yet noticed, St Patrick's Day this year is on a **MONDAY!**

One of the consequences of this is that Wellington Irish Society is staging their Parade on **Sunday 16 March**.

### PARADE

Like last year's successful event, the Parade **begins** about **1pm**, and will wend its way to **Queens Wharf**, under the Sails.

The **Concert** starts about **1.30pm**, and will go on until about 4pm, with a wide range of performances, including our own *HVIS Children's Singing Group*.

Of course, they need helpers throughout the day, so if you're able to lend a hand, [contact them](#) ASAP.

As in previous years they welcome people joining in, so in particular if you have kids, why not give it a go?

And if you feel in need of refreshing drink afterwards, **HVIS** will be **open** throughout the evening.

### SO WHAT'S ON AT HVIS?

#### A State Visitor

We are welcoming **Minister of State Jerry Buttimer** at HVIS about 3.30pm after the Concert on the Waterfront on **Sunday 16 March**. Jerry has responsibility for Community Development, Charities, and Rural Transport.



He plans to spend an hour or two at HVIS and is keen to meet a cross-section of our Members. So come along and help him get to know the vibrant Irish community in our part of the world.

#### The Day Itself

- ✦ We'll be open from **2.30pm** right through the **EVENING**
- ✦ There will be **CANOPIES** up **OUTSIDE** for shade
- ✦ **Kids' GAMES** will be available
- ✦ **The BAR** will be open inside
- ✦ Food **AT DINNER-TIME** – stew, potatoes, cabbage & bacon
- ✦ **KIDS PERFORMANCES** – singing, recitations
- ✦ **IRISH DANCING** demonstration
- ✦ Live **MUSIC** – *Shindig* will do their thing!



## AND ELSEWHERE?



The **Annual St Patrick's Day Golf Tournament** is being held at Judgeford Golf Course; Registration from **8am**, with Shotgun start at **9.30am**. Entry costs **\$45** (includes a light lunch). Help them out with catering & player numbers by registering with [match@jgc.nz](mailto:match@jgc.nz) or call (04) 235 7633. Download the attached [Flyer](#) and [Entry Form](#).

The prestigious **Wellington Cup** will be presented to the winner at HVIS during the evening.

### ROSE OF TRALEE

We are still keen to hear from anyone interested in entering the Rose of Tralee – an event which is a celebration of young women of Irish birth or descent. Entrants will go the National Final in May, at which a NZ Rose will be selected to represent the country at the International Festival in Tralee, Co Kerry, in August.

The entry criteria are on the [Rose website](#).

If you, or someone you know, would like to enter, [get in touch](#).

### OFFICIAL WELCOME



The Embassy held an 'Official Welcome' for TD Jerry Buttimer a few days ago. While most of the occasion was networking opportunity, with delicious food and drink, and a small group of trad musicians providing background accompaniment, the show as stolen, as it were, by a group of **HVIS youngsters**.



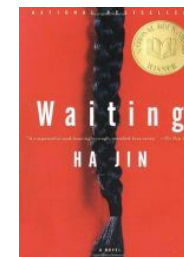
Marshalled & lead by the irrepressible **Alice Paul**, the youngsters sang a short selection of songs, and while a little over-awed by the audience, managed to charm them with their determination to give it their best! Jerry agreed they were brilliant!

**Well done, kids!!**

### 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 April**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is **Waiting** by **Ha Jin**. 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.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The Lower Hutt suburb of **Alicetown** was probably named in honour of **Alice Jane Fitzherbert**, daughter of an early settler. She married a handsome young man, **Patrick Alphonsus Buckley**, from near **Castletownsend**, County Cork. **Buckley** and **Fitzherbert** Streets in Alicetown and **Buckley** Street in Melrose are named for the two families. The couple owned property on which they built a house in Belmont.



Buckley had an interesting career, involving the military and law. Politics called, and he was a central figure in both local and national political circles, holding a variety of senior offices. He finally retired from political office in 1895 to

become a Supreme Court Judge, but died shortly thereafter.

He also gave his name to **Fort Buckley**, part of Wellington's harbour defences. See [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort\\_Buckley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Buckley)