

## Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Friday 5 June	Meet the Roses - HVIS
Saturday 6 June	Rose selection Ball
Sunday 14 June	Ireland Trip meeting
Sunday 28 June	Pot Luck Dinner

### GREETING CARDS

We've had a bit of coming & going recently; Charlotte Wright has returned from a spell dancing in London; the two elder Mulligan girls have gone to Europe (one briefly, one for 2 years); Christy O'Toole has taken up residence in Auckland; and his parents have been globe-trotting.

We were surprised, and delighted, to see Frank & Mick Gough recently. They stumbled onto the visit of Maria Walsh, and quickly felt right at home!

### ON A MUSICAL NOTE ...

Mike Scott, of The Waterboys, has long been a questing performer. One of his recent releases with The Waterboys combines his spiritual inquiries with his sense of history and love of poetry. It takes the form of an extended "Appointment with Mr Yeats".

It contains 14 tunes adapted from the Irish poet's works that are wedded to musical compositions largely by Scott.

It is a diverse but coherent offering; the opener, "The Hosting of the Shee," begins with Celtic reggae but becomes a Celtic rocker with swooping strings and layered guitars. On "News for the Delphic Oracle," cabaret music gets transformed into Celtic cinematic stomp. And so it goes on.

All round, the band have pulled off a gloriously wide-ranging celebration.

### MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

Membership subscriptions are due on 1 April each year. Make payments by **DIRECT CREDIT** to account number **06-0529-0416815-00** or by sending a cheque PO Box 31-469, Lower Hutt. NB: If you pay by Direct Credit please make sure you use your family name as the reference (or your phone number if you have to use numbers).

And don't forget that family memberships include "children under 18 years of age".

### POT LUCK DINNERS

Don't forget that Pot Luck Dinners are always on the last Sunday of the calendar month. So the next one will be at the end of June 2015.

Come along, and make yourself at home!

### YOUR LOCAL GAA CLUB

The Wellington & Hutt Valley GAA is a growing and active group drawing members from the whole region. All ability levels welcome, with both social and competitive leagues played. Check them out at [www.wellingtongaa.com](http://www.wellingtongaa.com) or you can find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WellingtonGAA](http://www.facebook.com/WellingtonGAA).

### CARDS OR MUSIC NIGHTS


Do you enjoy a game of cards? There's one on at the Club on the first Friday each month. Call Anne on 232 9962 to check dates, times, and other arrangements. Or come along on the third Friday of the month for our music session. No arranging needed - just turn up!


### Notices:

If you'd like you Newsletter by email, write to [info@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:info@huttirish.org.nz)

You can find us at:

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

 [facebook.com/hutt-valley-irish-society](https://www.facebook.com/hutt-valley-irish-society)

 [twitter.com/huttirish](https://twitter.com/huttirish)

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

Don't forget the Club is open every Friday 5 p.m. to 1 am, and on Sundays 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.



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# Hutt Valley Irish Society

*The Irish Press*



*The 2014 International Rose of Tralee, Maria Walsh, with Beatrix Murray*

*MOL AN LÁ UM THRÁNÓNA*

*(Praise the day in the evening)*

May, 2015

## ST PATRICK'S DAY, 2015

Another year, another St Patrick's Day, another set of memories (& photos to prove it really did happen!)

The fact it was a week-day was no deterrent to great craic. Nor was the plethora of competing events and venues. In the Hutt Valleys, there is ONLY ONE place where genuine Irish spirit continues unabated and undiluted.



Shindig played up a storm (don't they always?), our kids commanded attention with their recitations, Kevin surprised a few with his oratorical versatility, impromptu performances were warmly welcomed (why haven't we heard Noel Cassidy sing before?), and "mass participation" had nothing to do with the Church!

We also managed to win the annual Golf tournament! Well done to Joe Brophy (although we were a little disappointed he didn't bring the trophy with him to the Club - bragging rights are vital to the on-going success of this event!

For more see [www.huttirish.org.nz/paddyday2015.html](http://www.huttirish.org.nz/paddyday2015.html)

## OUR NEW ROSE OF TRALEE



By now you will have heard that our new Rose of Tralee for 2015 is Esther Welsh. Esther is a Hutt Valley girl, but has an impeccable Irish 'pedigree' - her great grandfather was from Ballymena in Co Antrim.

When not nursing, Esther is an avid performer, with many qualifications in ballet, jazz and tap over the last 16 years, including completing her Solo Seal Diploma.

Esther enjoys movie nights, cooking with her flatmates, running along Petone beach to keep fit. She is also able to play the bass guitar and has an interest in photography. She would like to use her nursing skills

overseas exploring the world connecting with a variety of people.

She is looking forward to the National Final in early June. If you'd like to send her a message of congratulation or support ahead of the National Final, write to [huttrose@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:huttrose@huttirish.org.nz).

## ANZAC DAY

This year, for the first time, the Hutt Valley Irish Society laid a wreath at the Hutt City Civic commemoration. It was a mark of remembrance of all those of Irish birth &/or descent who served and lost their lives in both World Wars.

The wreath was especially made for us by friends of Ann Coffey, and featured flowers in the colours of the Irish flag - green, white, and orange. It was laid by David Duffy (whose great-uncle served in an Irish regiment on Gallipoli!). It was carried to the Cenotaph by two of our younger members, Mary Gahan and Molly Janes, who looked resplendent in their school uniforms.



For more, see <http://www.huttirish.org.nz/anzac.html>

## NZ VISIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROSE

It's not everyday one gets to rub shoulders with an international fashion icon! But those who took the opportunity to come along to the Club a few weeks ago did just that.



The current International Rose of Tralee, Maria Walsh, made a flying visit to NZ, and we found time to grab her for a few hours to meet some of our members.

She was formally welcomed onto our 'marae' with a moving powhiri, performed (with a little assistance) by our members Desiree Mulligan & Ati Keepa, and the response in fluent Gaelic was provided on her behalf by our own Finbarr Murray.

Once the formalities were over, it was an opportunity to 'mix and mingle'. As one might expect, Maria took the opportunity to meet everyone, to 'share' her crown with anyone who was interested (several of the youngsters found it fitted them!!), and traded banter with some of the Irish 'lads'.



She even took the opportunity to turn the tables on our usual camera operators! Selfies everywhere!

See [www.huttirish.org.nz/maria-walsh-visit-2015.html](http://www.huttirish.org.nz/maria-walsh-visit-2015.html)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is your formal notice of our next AGM. It will be held on the afternoon of our June Pot Luck, 28 June, at 2:30pm.

The agenda will be: Apologies; Minutes; Annual Reports; Election of Officers; General Business.

Any further Notices of Motion must be received in writing by the Secretary ([secretary@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:secretary@huttirish.org.nz)) no later than Sunday 14 June. Nominations for the Committee or Officeholders must be received in writing by the Secretary no later than Friday 26 June.

Voting is open to **FINANCIAL MEMBERS** only.

## 2016 TRIP

HVIS members are planning on a trip to Ireland in 2016. It will be timed to coincide with the commemoration of the 1916 Easter Uprising, and we expect there will be lots on in Ireland at that time.

The group is almost at the stage of making bookings, but it's not too late to get involved if you want - **BUT YOU'LL NEED TO BE QUICK!** If you're interested in finding out more, please email [trip@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:trip@huttirish.org.nz) as or come to the next meeting. **A meeting will be held at the Club on 14 June at 7pm** to discuss options and dates.

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

If you are a Twitter user already, or have been thinking about opening an account, look for @huttirish.

## STAY IN TOUCH

And you can find us on Facebook - just search for Hutt Valley Irish Society. Like us and stay in touch!

## **REMEMBER OUR SPECIAL OFFERS**

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Get in touch with Shirley (on 566 7323) if you're interested in joining her craft afternoons.

Call Bryan on 04 938 9525 (evenings) if you want to buy one of the tiles on our wall - a snip at \$150 each.

We also have a range of T-Shirts for sale. Their slogans are good for a laugh, and guaranteed to start conversations! And for just \$30. Order through Darren on 021 029 32132.