

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Friday 17 May	Music Friday night
Thursday 23 May	Film Club
Sunday 26 May	Art Auction
Sunday 26 May	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 7 June	Darts night
Thursday 13 June	Book Club

COMINGS & GOINGS

Congratulations to the McAlister-Hill family on the recent graduation of Ryan. Don't they look grand!



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!*

BOGUS FACEBOOK PAGE

I understand some HVIS members have received messages requesting they sign-on to a HVIS Facebook page.

This may seem an odd request, if you're already a "friend" of HVIS. That's because it is! This "new" page is **NOT OURS**; it is a scam, attempting to obtain your details and access to personal data.

If you do receive such a request, DELETE IT – do not accept it

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!

"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 Sunday 23 June. Come along if you're interested in joining the group.

COUNTY GAZETTEER

Vital stats for each Irish County

County Cavan / *Contae An Cabhán*

Province: Ulster

County town: Cavan

Area: 746 sq mi (1,932 km²) (Rank: 19th)

Highest elevation (Cuilcagh): 2,182 ft (665 m)

Population (2022): 81,704 (Rank: 25th)

Motto(s): "Manliness and Truth"

Website: [Cavan County Council](#) or [Cavan Tourism](#)



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.

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Hutt Valley Irish Society



The Irish Press

Bíonn caora dhubh ar
an tréad is gile.

(There tends to be a black sheep (even) in the whitest flock.)

FUNDRAISER ART AUCTION

I mentioned last month that we raised over \$2,500 at our recent Concert for MSF.



Their need for assistance hasn't diminished, so we're holding another Fundraiser.

But this time it is an ART AUCTION. We have been gifted some small original works from an artist in Co Kerry, which we will auction.

And we would encourage all our members to look in the cupboard under the stairs, or in the spare bedroom and donate any pictures which are now surplus to your requirements. Drop them into the Club, bring them along before the auction, or contact our ['Art Curator' Alice Paul](#) to arrange to drop them off or to have them collected.

When is this happening, you ask? Sunday 26 May at HVIS. Doors open at 2 pm so you can view the items, the "Action" begins at 3 pm. Entry is by Koha (\$10 per adult maybe?). And the whole affair is **CASH ONLY!**

Yes, the Bar will be open throughout, and everyone is welcome to stay for our regular monthly Pot Luck Dinner afterwards.

HVIS LIBRARY

Have you had a look at the books in the HVIS Library recently? Ever? You might be surprised at the range of books available.

There are serious History books, light fiction (Marian Keyes, Maeve Binchy), biographies, language learning, coffee table picture books, books about HVIS.

The latest acquisitions are a set of book for youngsters 8-12, as well as Peter Burke's book True to Ireland, about a group of New Zealand Conscientious Objectors in World War 2.

Any member is welcome to borrow the books, and we don't have an "Issue" system. So next time you're at the Club, have a browse, and if anything takes your fancy, take it away, read it, and return it.

HVIS QUIZ NIGHT

It's BACK!! The **HVIS Quiz Night** returns on **Saturday June 22**.

So get your team organised – the sharper the better! We can accommodate as many as 10 teams, of 4-8 people, and it'll be 'first in, best seated'.

Entry is \$10 per person, there'll be prizes galore, and SERIOUS HONOUR for the winning team! Possibly including an entry to our Photographic Hall of Fame!

HVIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is **official notice** that the **2024 Annual General Meeting** of the Hutt Valley Irish Society will be held at HVIS, 12 Raroa Road, Lower Hutt at 3 pm on Sunday 30 June, 2024.

Our Rules require a minimum of 25 Members to be present for there to be a 'quorum', so if you can spare us some time on that afternoon, please get along to be part of the AGM, and help us out!

But in addition to "making up the numbers", have you thought about offering yourself for the Management Committee? In addition to the Offices (President, Vice-President, Secretary, & Treasurer) we also need up to **6** other Committee members, and this year we have been down on numbers, so it would be encouraging if others put their hands up to "take a turn".

The role isn't onerous – we meet once a month (as a rule) and it takes just a couple of hours one evening. Of course there is a little additional reading, and sometimes we have to act outside normal meeting cycles, but that isn't common.

If you would like to be nominated, or to nominate yourself, you need to contact the secretary@huttirish.org.nz before the close of Friday, 28 June.

"BE OPEN TO BEING ENCHANTED"

We are offering a guided Workshop on Celtic Spirituality, drawing out our Irish indigenous wisdom. It will be lead by facilitators Sr Mary Leahy and Fr Jeff Drane.

Set aside the evening of Thursday 20 June, at HVIS. 6.30 pm for a 7 pm start.

Light tea provided from 6.30pm, so to help with catering, please RSVP to celtic-spirit@huttirish.org.nz.



EMBASSY OF IRELAND YOUTH COUNCIL

The Embassy of Ireland is calling for volunteers to join the Embassy's Youth Council. They ask: Are you aged 16-21? Are



you passionate about current affairs, and want to grow your personal skills?

It's an opportunity to be involved in online mentoring, community engagement, attend events, meet ViPs, and much more!

Send the embassy a video, a poem, an essay, a drawing – that shows who you are and what motivates you, and why you

would like to join. Be sure to include your contact details: name, phone number, email address.

Send your application to: PO Box 11498, Wellington 6142, or to YouthCouncilNZ@dfa.ie

And do it by Friday 31 May, 2024!

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**, & other **Functions**.

Could you help out on the **Management Committee**? Catriona, our Treasurer is going to Ireland for 3 months shortly, and so has resigned from her role. Could you be her successor? All positions from President to Committee Members are up for election at the **AGM** in June. Give it some thought! We can always use extra help.

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

FILM CLUB



It's time for something completely different!

Room (2015). A 5 year-old boy is held captive in a room with his mother since his birth, so he has never known the world outside. When, finally, they enact a risky plan to escape, ultimately bringing them face-to-face with what may turn out to be the scariest thing yet: the real world.

The next screening will be on **Thursday 23 May** 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 13 June**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is **The Girl Before** by **JP Delaney**. 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.

