

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Friday 21 November	Music Evening
Sunday 30 November	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 5 December	Darts night
Saturday 6 December	Adults Xmas Party
Thursday 11 December	Book Club
Sunday 14 December	Seniors' Afternoon Tea
Sunday 21 December	Kids' Xmas Party

COMINGS & GOINGS

A couple of our members have suffered deaths in their respective families recently. Please join me in sending our condolences to our Patron, **Anne O'Carroll**, whose sister passed away, and to **Sherie Wright** who lost her mother.

You might recall me having a gentle dig at the **Rynnes** & the **Bignalls**, about their daughters performance at the TIIDA Nationals. It prompted a couple of lovely photos!



Normally one wouldn't disclose a Lady's age, but when it is such a **memorable milestone**, I hope **Mary Regan** and her family won't mind me telling you she will be **99** next month!

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 25-26!

Our thanks to those who've already paid their Subscription. Now is also the time to renew your membership of HVIS for the financial year beginning 1 April 2025:

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!** And remember: an **AUTOMATIC PAYMENT** is Easy as ...!

HVIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Did you know we have our own **YOUTUBE CHANNEL?**



You can find it at youtube.com/@huttirish/videos.

There are more than 170 videos!

You might even find videos which have your children/family in them – a special Xmas gift for family overseas, perhaps?

HOSTS FOR 2026 POT LUCK DINNERS

I have been remiss in not asking for Volunteers for Hosting Pot Luck Dinners in 2026, but I'll have a list available for you to put your name on at the next Dinner (30 November).

If you're not able to be at the next Dinner, but would like to put your name forward, [send me a message](#).

Please have a think about which month(s) you're able to volunteer to act as 'Host'. Perhaps you could work with someone else if you're unsure about it. It's not complicated, & we have guidelines to help you with what's needed.

COUNTY GAZETTEER

Vital stats for each Irish County

County Mayo / Contae Mhaigh Eo

Province: Connacht

County town: Castlebar

Area: 2,158 sq mi (5,588 km²) (Rank: 3rd)

Population (2022): 137,231 (Rank: 18th)

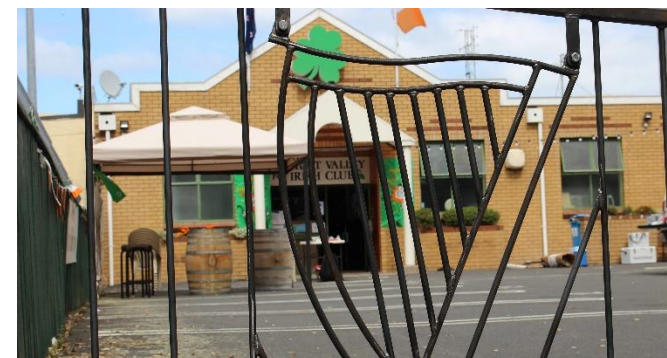
Highest elevation: [Mweelrea](#), 2,671 ft (814 m)

Nicknames: The Maritime County, The Yew County

Motto(s): *Dia is Muire Linn*

"God and Mary be with us"

Website: [Mayo County Council](#)



The Irish Press

*Níor chaidh fial riamb
go hIpreann.*

(No generous person ever went to hell.)

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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November, 2025

SEASONALITY

It's fast approaching the time of year when we all have to plan ahead carefully. With a myriad of events and sometimes conflicting commitments, managing calendar over the next 3-4 months can sometimes be tricky.

So I thought I'd help out by setting out a few events you should etch into your personal calendar.

HVIS XMAS SEASON

HVIS has a long tradition of celebrating Christmas, in style! And 2025 promises to fit right into that tradition. Once again, we plan three separate celebrations:

 **ADULTS' XMAS PARTY is set down for SATURDAY, 6 DECEMBER.**

Once again, Shindig will be providing the live Music, as we know you all love to join in the sing-alongs, and they get your feet tapping. It's always a great way to get into the swing of the season!

You're welcome to bring friends along, but we have to charge **Non-members \$20** entry (helps cover Band costs & supper!).

SENIORS' XMAS HIGH TEA is set down for SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER. 

A grand chance for a 'slap-up' afternoon tea (enough sugar to set you up for the next 10 days!), and to have a good catchup chin-wag with long-time friends!

If you need some **help with transport**, give Shirley a call on **027 216 9838**.

We might even be able to stretch to providing a bit of entertainment!

 **KIDS' XMAS PARTY is set down for SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER.**

The auld fella has been persuaded to put in an appearance again this year (we just have to work out the transportation!), so there is no need to change a successful formula. Registration is essential (so the Elves know who'll be there!), and as well as contributions to afternoon tea.

Always **NOISY**, but ALWAYS grand **fun!**

Register kids at huttirish.org.nz/kids-xmas-form.html. HIVIS subsidises the gifts, but you need to match that with **\$15 a head** (to a maximum \$45 per family)

The fun starts at 2.00 pm, afternoon tea about 2.45 pm and Santa usually arrives about 3.00 pm.

WIS CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DANCE

WIS and Wilton Bowling Club have teamed up for a Christmas Dinner and Dance. **Saturday, 13 December, at Wilton Bowling Club.**

5.00 pm doors open for a 'meet and greet' and a complimentary glass of liquid refreshment!

6.00 pm. Dinner begins (Special Christmas Menu)

7.45 pm. Irish dance display via the *Gregan Irish Dance School*.

8.00 pm – 11pm. Dance the night away with *The Young Once* band.

Tickets are **\$48.50** and are limited, call/text **Jim Bowler: 021 1462381** ASAP.

LATE NEWS! WE HAVE A HAMMY WINNER!

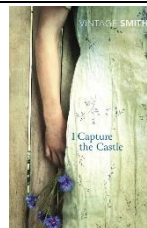
Friday saw a special Cards Night at the Club. The game was "45" – a new experience to many.

And there was a HAM to be won, and as a Xmas Gift, *first-time player David Duffy* took home the Prize!

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 11 December**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is *I Capture The Castle* by **Dodie Smith**. 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.



HV FOOD BANK

My thanks to those who have contributed to my Food Bank Appeal.

If you're coming to the Club ANY TIME, WHY NOT BRING ALONG A CAN OR A PACKET FOR THE BOX?



And when you prepare your contribution to our next Pot Luck Dinner, **add to it a contribution for the Food Bank.**

LANGUAGE LESSONS

Our thanks to **Sinéad Donnelly** and **Finbarr Murray** for their Irish language expertise. I sat in on the last of their 'lessons' and from my observations, those who attended really appreciated their time and efforts.

If you'd like to encourage them to run more such sessions, or have a question, send them a message to language@huttirish.org.nz

THE "UNIVERSITY OF REVOLUTION"

I have been doing a little research recently, and had cause to investigate the Fron-goch Internment Camp, used, after the 1916 Easter Rising, to hold approx. 1,800 Irish 'Rebels'.

I was having difficulty envisaging the site, as the images I could find online were not especially helpful.

But help was an email away.



That's our Special Correspondent, on task!



NEW TAP

If you've not been to the Club recently, you won't have seen the "new addition"!



All the more reason you should get along soon – it's VERY impressive!

