

## Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Thursday 16 October	(Alice's) HVIS Choir
Friday 17 October	Music Evening
Saturday 18 October	Quiz Night
Sunday 26 October	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 7 November	Darts night
Thursday 13 November	Book Club

### COMINGS & GOINGS

I understand **John & Lynne O'Toole** are back home from their travels around Europe. Welcome Home!

And **Adrian & Kirsten** keep us up-to-date with **Conor's** escapades on his wanderings about Europe.

**Finbarr Murray** told me that **Carrig** and **Conor Rynne** went to the Chess Nationals in Christchurch during the recent school holidays. Representing HIBS, they were part of the highest-placed team from outside Auckland. Well done boys!

And when you see either **Dave** or **Leeann Rynne** or **Rosie** or **Mike Bignall**, ask how their daughters got on at the TIIDA Nationals. Because I haven't heard (yet!).

### 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 ...!

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?



HVIS runs on the efforts of **VOLUNTEERS**. So we're always looking for people to help out.

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](#).

### HOSTS FOR 2026 POT LUCK DINNERS

We have 2 more Pot Luck Dinners left in 2025, and we have Hosts for those already arranged.

But 2026? Not so far.

So I'll have a list available for your to put your name on at the next Dinner (26 October). 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

### COUNTY GAZETTEER

#### Vital stats for each Irish County

**County Louth** / Contae Lú

**Province:** Leinster

**County town:** Dundalk

**Area:** 319 sq mi (826 km<sup>2</sup>) (Rank: 32nd)

**Highest elevation (Slieve Foye):** 1,932 ft (589 m)

**Population (2022):** 139,100 (Rank: 17th)

**Motto(s):** *Lugh sámh-ioldánach*

"Lugh equally skilled in many arts"

**Website:** [Louth County Council](#); [Visit Louth](#)



#### 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)

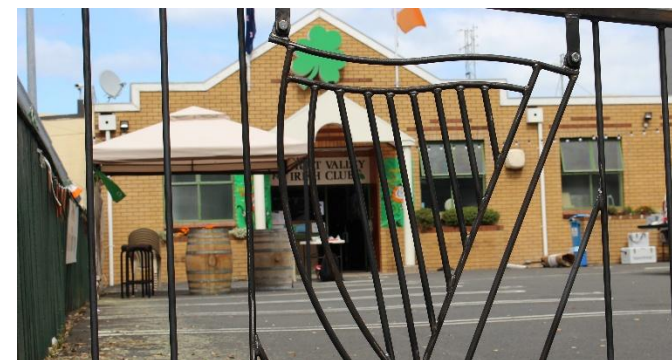
Remember the Hall is available for Hire to members. All this helps your Club financially, so recommend us to your friends.

Don't forget the Club is open every Friday 7.30 p.m. to 1 am, and at other times by request.

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# Hutt Valley Irish Society



*The Irish Press*

IS Í AN DIAS IS TROIME IS  
ÍSLE A CHROMAS A  
cheann.

*(The heaviest ear of grain bends its head the lowest.)*

October, 2025

## CULTURAL FESTIVAL IN UPPER HUTT



Do we have photos? Of course we do! I'm sure you all know me better than that, after all this time.

I've added them to [our website](#).

And when **David Duffy** has had a chance, we'll have some video and a few more stills to add to the record.

### 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!

More details next month.

**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 old friends!

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

More details next month.

**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 needed (so the Elves know who'll be there!), and a contribution to afternoon tea.

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

More details next month.

## 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 *The Young Once* band.

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

### A CELTIC CHRISTMAS BY A TASTE OF IRELAND

"Some the world's finest Irish dancers and musicians bringing the spirit of Christmas to life, in a show that will make you laugh, cry, and sing into the night."



The show plays across NZ through November, and in Wellington on 21 November. You'll need to [BOOK Tickets](#).

### BRITISH AND IRISH FILM FESTIVAL



If you're a 'film buff' you probably already know that the Festival is on again in Wellington. So all I need to do is remind you of a link to the [PROGRAMME](#) so you can [BOOK your TICKETS](#).

### CALLING HVIS SINGERS

**Alice Paul's** group of "singers" are learning a variety of songs – in Irish and Irish songs sung in English.

And they're always open to new 'members' wanting to give it a go!

If this appeals, [send Alice an email](#) or **call** (or txt!) her on **021 2288 293**. Their next gathering is Thursday 16 October.

## WELLINGTON FOLK FESTIVAL

This year's Festival is the 60<sup>th</sup> year it has been held – a GREAT achievement!

It's on over Labour Weekend, at Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre, Moores Valley Road, Wainuiomata.

I'm told they offer Full Weekend passes, Day passes and Evening passes, available from the Registration Caravan at the entrance.

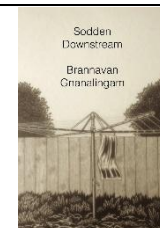
Why not join them for three nights and two days of the best acoustic music?

For more information: [www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz)

### 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 November**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is ***Sodden Downstream*** by **Brannavan Gnanalingam**. 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. The last Pot Luck was really quiet/small, so there isn't much in The Box.

**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**.

Every little helps, and there is a 'clear and present' need to be met. Who better than the Irish to understand the damage a chronic food shortage can do?

### LANGUAGE LESSONS

Sinéad Donnelly and Finbarr Murray are running another series of Irish language lessons at HVIS.

They are at HVIS each Tuesday evening this month.

If you'd like to know more, or have a question, send a message to [language@huttirish.org.nz](mailto:language@huttirish.org.nz)