

## Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Thursday 18 September	(Alice's) HVIS Choir
Friday 26 September	Music Evening
Sunday 28 September	Pot Luck Dinner
Friday 3 October	Darts night
Thursday 9 October	Book Club

### COMINGS & GOINGS

**John & Lynne O'Toole** are wandering in Europe, visiting children, and walking. Safe travels!

Speaking of Comings & Goings, **Paul Ohara** from the embassy will be 'Flying the Flag' in the Hutt Marathon on **Sunday, 21st September**. Keep a look out for him – he may need the support! Good Luck Paul, from all of us at HVIS.

**Brendan & Alice Paul** are looking a little more cheerful, partly because son Steve & family are back in Wellington.

On a more sombre note, if you haven't yet heard, **Rosaleen Carson**, wife of the late Eddie Carson, passed away recently. Her funeral was held on Monday September 15.

We have also lost **Treena Daly**, who passed away last week. If you have attended an event at the Embassy, or met Embassy staff at HVIS, you almost certainly meet the vibrant Treena. A service for Treena is being held 10:00am, Friday 19 September at Lychgate Funeral Home, Johnsonville. If you're going, the family asks that you wear bright or colourful clothing!

### 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](#).

### MUSIC EVENING

Shindig are again having to juggle commitments so they are delaying coming to the Club until **Friday 26 September**, so that, as Trevor put it, "in order for brother Kieran to be there."

But don't worry – the Club will be open as usual, on Friday 19 September.

### COUNTY GAZETTEER

#### Vital stats for each Irish County

**County Longford** / Contae an Longfoirt

**Province:** Leinster

**County town:** Longford

**Area:** 421 sq mi (1,091 km<sup>2</sup>) (Rank: 29th)

**Highest elevation** ([Carn Clonhugh](#)): 912 ft (278 m)

**Population (2022):** 46,751 (Rank: 31st)

**Motto(s):** *Daingean agus Dilis* "Strong and Loyal"

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



### 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

UÁ fhada an lá tagann  
an tráthnóna.

(However long the day, the evening will come.)



I don't quite know where to start!



The HVIS Management Committee, lead by Darren McClure, put a lot of work, thought and planning into the **Irish Cultural Festival at Brewtown, in Upper Hutt.**


We had planned it as a 'counterpart' of St Patrick's Day, with 6 months separating the two dates.

The question we all asked ourselves was: Would anyone care? Would anyone bother to turn up?

To our considerable relief, they did, in droves! I don't have any numbers for you, but if you were amongst those who came along, you will know there were hundreds who turned up for at least part of the afternoon.


So, what did I notice?

 The biggest line of customers was for the Face-painting. Congratulations to the Painters for their endurance – they were BUSY!


 I wonder if the GFHA folk under-estimated how busy they would be showing youngsters some of their sports' basic skills. Certainly every time I glanced their way, their pitches were full of activity.





Clearly the food was popular. I saw many people with food from the Trucks, and noticed the Soda bread samples seemed to disappear in a flash! I don't like queueing, so I missed out on Hot Chips.


 The **GENEALOGY** tables were always in use, and the Helpers answering questions seemed to be busy whenever I passed by.

**Shindig** got the afternoon's entertainment off to a rollicking start, setting the tone for audience participation early on.

 What is it about youngsters singing? The HVIS youngsters certainly wowed their attentive audience.

 The Traditional Dancing exhibitions by the Kerry School and the Gregan Irish Dancers were really popular, and I suspect the biggest cheer was for the Ryan Dorris Children's **RIVERDANCE** performance. It was hard to judge!

 I was worried that Aislinn Ryan would lose her voice trying to lead the traditional CEILI. But I have to say the participants seemed to enjoy themselves!

 Justin Reed's **UKELELE BAND**, and **Shenanigans Band** were popular, and did induce participation, albeit not always in tune!

Do we have photos? Of course we do. They're in [our Flickr store](#), and when I've got a few minutes, I'll add 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.

### WHAT DID YOU THINK?

Complete our (brief) [Feedback Form](#) to help in our planning for next year.

### LANGUAGE LESSONS

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

Arrangements are yet to be finalised, but they have bookings for Tuesday evenings starting in early October!

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



### CALLING HVIS SINGERS

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

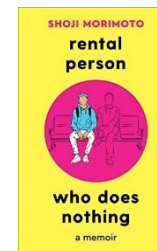
And they're always open to new 'members' wanting to give it a go!

If this appeals, [send Alice an email](#) or **call** (or txt!) her on **021 2288 293**. Their next gathering is Thursday 21st August

### 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 9 October**, from 7.30 pm. Their selection is **Rental Person Who Does Nothing** by **Shoji Morimoto**. 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

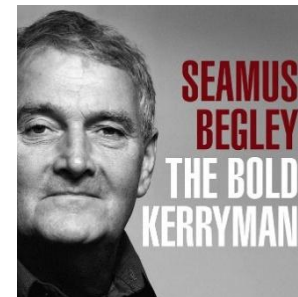
My thanks to those contributed to my Food Bank Appeal. I delivered this box of items to them the day after the August Pot Luck Dinner.



**BUT:** we can't stop there, so when you prepare your contribution to our next Pot Luck Dinner, **add to it a contribution for the Food Bank.**

You decide what to give, drop it in the marked box at the Club – we'll deliver it!

### MUSIC LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME



**Alice & Brendan Paul** are in the process of moving house, and Alice unearthed a box of **CDs** recorded by **Seamus Begley**. They are surplus to her needs so they are now sitting at The Club, waiting for anyone interested to uplift one of these wee gems and give it a good home! Help

yourself.