

Mark Your Diaries NOW!

Tuesday 17 March	St Patrick's Day
Sunday 29 March	Pot Luck Dinner

GREETING CARDS

We mourned the passing of Mick Talty in January. A card-loving granddad who was inordinately proud of his grandchildren.

We also had a few visitors from out-of-town, and it was lovely to see a few youngsters like Christy & Eleanor return home, if only briefly.

Oh, and Anne marked a milestone birthday, but as she's a lady, it's not proper for me to tell you just which!



ON A MUSICAL NOTE ...

This month, I thought I'd pass on some comments about Adrian Crowley. Who? you ask. I certainly did. Apparently he has a "prize-winning cult profile" in Ireland.

His latest album is called *Some Blue Morning* and has been described as "bespoke literary musings from the Irish Leonard Cohen". And if you're wondering, this album is his 7th!

His voice is described as a sardonic baritone, which is sweetened by breathy female backing vocals in classic Cohen-esque style.

What really grabbed my attention, however, was reference to a track which is a "noirscape" - a "macabre account of a beastly nocturnal encounter in moonlit woodland." Worth searching out?

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 the November Pot Luck will be the last for 2014. The next one will be at the end of March 2015.

Come along, and don't forget to check the Roster for 2015.

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 or you can find them on Facebook at 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

And the Club now has it's own WEB-SITE:
<http://www.huttirish.org.nz>

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

2015

Go n-éirí libh i 2015

(Best wishes for 2015)

ST PATRICK'S DAY

Arrangements this year are much the same as last year. We'll be open by 5:00 pm, with dinner available from about 5:30pm. There will be a brief display of our youngsters dancing and reciting poetry followed by live music through the evening.

Of course all members are welcome, and so are their friends, colleagues and acquaintances.

Remember it is a family occasion as well, and make sure you include the kids!

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Once again, Bernie Breslin is running the annual St Patrick's Day Golf Tournament.

The format is the same as previous years: Tuesday 17 March, with a 9.30 shotgun start, at Te Marua Golf Club. He promises prizes, a cash draw, and a light lunch.

If you're a slow starter to the day, breakfast will be available for just \$15 a head, starting from 8 o'clock.

You need to register with Bernie as soon as possible (call him on 04 5269835) if you want to book for yourself or if you have a team so he can book numbers. The last couple of years he has had a full house!

One final plea: he is always looking for sponsors, so if you think you can help out this enduring event, give Bernie a call.

HVIS SHOWCASE & TWILIGHT EVENING



In February HVIS took centre-stage in the Dowse Square. It was our chance to introduce ourselves to the wider community. The weather

didn't do its part to bring out the crowds, but nothing ventured ...

So we had Kieran & Tracey singing, dancers stepping & kicking, and Bridget, Fiach & Mary reciting, and Kevin orating.

And some of the GAA demonstrating their hurling &



Football skills while Dave gave a basic run-down of the games. We even had the Mayor have a go at hurling (but he decided he's a better Mayor than

he is a hurler)!

In the evening we gathered at the Club for an evening of music, chat & great craic. John O'Toole fulfilled his Presidential role (once he got himself untangled!) by welcoming a number of visitors such as the Mayor & Mayoress, and two visitors from Tempe Arizona, and complimented those involved in the earlier event.



MICK TALTY MEMORIAL CARD SCHOOL

Those who remember Mick knew him as a quiet but determined card-player - a regular at our monthly gathering of card-sharps.

So it was only fitting that we held a 'special' card evening to honour him. 5 tables of enthusiasts were whittled down over the course of the evening to a single winner.

Good fun, fine support, and generous sponsors - great craic!

NZ GAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Wellington & Hutt Valley GAA are hosting this year's NZ Championships, and will be competing against Clubs from Auckland and Christchurch. Competition will be in mens and ladies football and hurling, as well as exhibition camogie.

Games will begin at 10am on Saturday 13 March and finish by 2pm on Sunday 14 March. The draw is not yet announced, but you'll want to get yourself along to Upper Hutt's in **Awakairangi Park** for the weekend's action. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

And what would a Gaelic weekend be without a bit of socialising so The event sponsor pub **JJ Murphy's** in Wellington is hosting players and supporters for a bit of craic on Saturday night. \$15 meal deals for all

competitors and 15% off drinks before dancing the eve away with the live band - what more could you ask for?!

TAKING ON THE WORLD!

Huge congratulations to Etaoin Friel and Eimear 'Nails' O'Donnell who have been selected on the Australasian team to play in the World Gaelic Games in Abu Dhabi in March.

Etaoin and Nails will join over 400 players on 28 men's and ladies football teams from Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe, Middle East, New York, North America, South Africa and South America to compete the two-day event on March 6-7.

IRISH LESSONS

Interested in learning (or refreshing) Irish? Reply with expressions of interest to language@huttirish.org.nz or have a chat with Finbarr Murray at the club.

The classes have begun, but you can have a look (and listen!) to some of the [course content](#) on your own.

REMEMBER OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

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.

2016 TRIP

Remember that a group of HVIS members are already working on plans for a trip to Ireland in 2016. It will, of course coincide with the centenary of the 1916 Easter Uprising, and we expect there will be lots on in Ireland at that time.

If you're interested in either finding out more, or joining the group, please email trip@huttirish.org.nz

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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

We will be tweeting reminders about upcoming events, or if we need to get in touch urgently.

STAY IN TOUCH

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