OCAL NEWSPAPER - FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNIT.

GENERAL NEWS

Website: uhconnection.co.nz

Facebook: The Upper Hutt Connection

Contact the editor at: editor@uhconnection.co.nz

An update on the new water pipe installation on Chatsworth Road

Works are currently underway installing new water pipes on the first section of Chatsworth Road. Then, from early February, the crew will restart work installing a new water pipe from number 25 Chatsworth Road down towards Tiniroa Grove. They will be using the trenchless method of directional drilling, which will significantly reduce disruption.

Traffic management will be in place to maintain two-way traffic flow while this work is underway.

Source: Wellington Water

07/02/25



Cost of living crisis makes it impossible for some to pay their annual MedicAlert fees - You can help

Due to the rising costs of living, it has made it near impossible for some to afford to pay their annual MedicAlert membership fees. Those especially feeling the pinch are the elderly or those families with young children who need the membership.

The MedicAlert Foundation in New Zealand has set up a pay-itforward system on their website. Donate the \$65 (or any other amount you can afford) to help someone who needs this service if they have a medical emergency at: https://www.medicalert.nz/

Source: New Zealand Herald

10/02/25



The Upper Hutt Connection

Index:

Pg 1: General News Pg 3: Community Commentary /

Opinion

Pg 5: Community Events

Pg 9: Recipes

Pg 10: Worship Services Pg 12: Entertainment



Jpper Hutt Libraries

Making memories and boosting literacy with the Big Read

While we were patiently holding out for blue skies and summer sunshine, an amazing 185 local tamariki (kids) and rangatahi (teens) were busy reading, exploring, and logging activities in their Little, Big, and Even Bigger Read journals.

Today we are celebrating an incredible feat by our young readers: 342 journals were completed during our Big Read summer reading challenge in December and January.

That translates to a staggering 1,140 books read, and 1,400 adventures and activities enjoyed over the summer!

What is the Little, Big, and Even Bigger Read?

The Big Read (for short) is our annual summer reading challenge for families and whānau.

We joined Hutt City Libraries in 2022 to make the Big Read a valley-wide programme and to offer our communities a flexible and fun summer challenge, from Akatārawa to Wainuiomata.

Every summer, kids and families can choose from four journals depending on their age group. Each journal is a mix of reading stories (pūrākau) and activities (tākaro), with plenty of suggestions alongside free-choice options to suit different interests and reading levels.

The Big Read is about encouraging reading, imagination, adventure, and fun. There is no set reading time required, and we make all genres and formats count: fiction, nonfiction, comics, eBooks, audiobooks, and many

Why summer reading is important

Boosting literacy and keeping our young ākonga (learners) active and creative over the summer is at the heart of why we host the Big Read for families.

The "summer slide" is well documented and researched*, and describes the phenomenon of children's literacy declining during the long summer holidays. This impact can lead to a significant setback in learning, especially for kids who already struggle with literacy.

Not only is the Big Read designed to help prevent the "summer slide" – we also know that summertime is here to make memories together, which is why logging fun activities is part of the challenge.

Ka pai, pānui mai – well done, keep on reading

Thank you to everyone who took part and made reading an adventure this summer!

We are currently contacting participants to share exciting news about their prizes. It wouldn't be a reading challenge without fantastic prizes waiting at the end, of course.

School may be back, and no matter the weather: keep on reading, and let adventure find you. In your backyard, in your community, and in the pages of a great book.

https://natlib.govt.nz/creating-readers/summer-reading/summer-slide-and-summer-reading-research*

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries



Stock image

Local Water Done Well, Decisions made in 2025 will affect YOU!!!

To those who might be questioning why this article is being reproduced multiple times, I've been asked if I could run this until the end of March. Cheers, Ben Knowles - Editor / Operator @ The Upper Hutt Connection.

We would like to make people as informed as possible over an issue which will affect all residents and future generations in Upper Hutt and across the country.

With decisions that need to be made in 2025, we have been told by the Upper Hutt Council that they will consult with the community in Mar/Apr 2025 on our preferred water delivery method. Water is a very precious resource and is vital to each and every one of us.

We have collated on a webpage as much information as we can and tried to present it as neutrally and hopefully as informative as possible.

We have included a recent email of questions we have sent to councils and others to ask for information and voice our views. We would encourage others to do similar with their views, concerns and questions.

Visit this site to know more. https://www.nzempowered.com/post/local-water-done-well

NZ Empowered Team

nzempowered@gmail.com

A "thank you" to Fabian for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

13/01/25

COMMUNITY COMMENTARY / OPINION



Upper Hutt City Council

A response to: Upper Hutt Bowling Club proposes a long-term lease of land at Maidstone Terrace and Railway Ave

Did you know that UHCC are looking at giving the UH Bowling Club a lease zoned for high density residential of land worth millions for around 40c sqm making our City a revenue of around \$162,000 over 33 yrs at around \$4900 per year. How much rates/rent will you pay over 33 years, and this is after the bowling club sells their land for and estimated \$5.5m...

We have a chance to start getting this city back on track and sort this crap out...

Please have a read and look into seriously submitting your thoughts.

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AiRvWJcR8iJcjJs7Rg cJUf2GZIroA

Let's show them we are aware and this does not make economical sense, we want better infrastructure amongst other things, also aren't many of our Councillors in business?

Would they jump at this if it was their business?.....

A "thank you" to NZempowered for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

10/02/25

THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ARTICLES

Hi everyone, did you know that it costs nothing to put up an article on The Upper Hutt Connection? It doesn't matter if you're a professional journalist or not (I'm certainly not!), any and all articles are welcome on The Upper Hutt Connection.

Schools and groups are most certainly invited too. Where privacy is a concern, I can create high quality AI images for you, protecting the students privacy. Please check out the images to see what I can do for you! The AI loves details - The more info you put in, the more detailed your image will be!

The Upper Hutt Connection is always looking for:

- General news articles
- · Community events
- Recipes
- Sports articles
- Garage Sales
- · Book, film, or restaurant reviews
- Promoting the worship services here in Upper Hutt
- And anything else you might think of I'm always open to suggestions.

Please visit https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-an-article-to-the-upper-hutt-connection/ to find my easy-to-fill-out forms, which make sending in articles a breeze.





CHEAP BUSINESS ADVERTISING

The Upper Hutt Connection also offers very cheap business advertising at only \$1 a day (billed at \$30 a month). There are no contracts, pay by the end of each month and your business will continue to be advertised.

Include everything you want in your advertisement, and it will still only cost you \$1 a day!

Please contact me at editor@uhconnection.co.nz if you're interested. I'd love to hear from you. :)

Cheers, Ben Knowles - Editor / Operator @ The Upper Hutt Connection









The Upper Hutt Connection - Wednesday Edition: 12th of February, 2025

COMMUNITY EVENTS: View all upcoming and regular events at https:// uhconnection.co.nz/community-events/



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Bryce Williams Law talks about elder law matters at Age Concern meeting: Wednesday 12th of February, 12.00 pm

Location: Heretaunga Community Church, 51 Lane Street Upper Hutt

Bryce Williams will be giving a talk at Age Concern next week. He'll be covering legal matters like family trusts, wills, executors, power of attorney, and why buying into a retirement village is different from buying a house.

A "thank you" to Bryce Williams for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

07/02/25



Al Generated - artspace.ai

Pinehaven Tennis Club Garage Sale: Sunday 16th of February, 10.00 am

Location: Pinehaven Reserve, 37 Pinehaven Road, Upper Hutt

Pinehaven Tennis club is holding a garage sale with proceeds going to new equipment for our Juniors

There will be a sausage sizzle and a small bake sale.

Pinehaven Tennis Club gave permission for this article to be on The Upper Hutt Connection.

18/01/25

IRD Mobile Office @ Upper Hutt Library: Thursday 13th of February, 11.00 am

Need help with your tax return, or do you have questions about KiwiSaver, Working for Families, or another service provided through Inland Revenue?

Book an appointment with a team member from IRD here to get information and support: https://www.upperhuttlibrary. co.nz/Events/IRD-Mobile-Office

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

30/01/25



Late Nite Sound Bite - Wayne Mason: Friday 14th of February, 5.00 pm performance 5.30 pm

Location: Whirinaki Whare Taonga (Expressions)

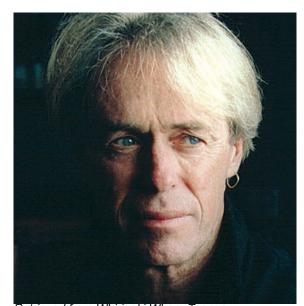
Admission: Koha

The party continues this Friday with this week's Late Nite Sound Bite performer, Wayne Mason!

NZ Music Hall of Fame Inductee, and member of the NZ order of merit for services to NZ music, Wayne Mason, is a musician that needs no hyperbole to attract an audience. We are honoured to host Wayne as the second feature artist of our 2025 LNSB season. Wayne is a living treasure of NZ musical performance, and famously, a hometown hero of Upper Hutt extraction. Indeed - he could be said to be a true taonga of Whirinaki.

Join us on Friday 14 February as he plays an intimate solo concert of repertoire from his 60+ year career in music. Open from 5.00pm, music beginning from 5.30pm. Koha entry.

Source: Whirinaki Whare Taonga



Retrieved from Whirinaki Whare Taonga

Playgroup at St. Hilda's: Wednesday mornings during term time, 9.30 am -11.00 am

Location: St. Hilda's Anglican Church, 35 Cruickshank Road, Clouston Park

Wednesday mornings during term time. First day for 2025, 12th of February.

Ages from babies to school age are welcome, depending on the circumstances.

A "thank you" to Jocelyn for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

07/11/24



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Music in the Mountains – Fourth Annual Music Festival in the beautiful Blue Mountains: Saturday 22nd of February, 3.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Location: 4 Avian Crescent, Blue Mountains

Music in the Mountains 4 – Family friendly outdoor music festival in the glorious Blue Mountains above Silverstream.

Saturday 22nd February from 3pm to 7 pm.

Come along with family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of live music, delicious food, wonderful surroundings and support the local community.

Entry is by koha. We have electronic payment available, but good old-fashioned coinage is appreciated!

Five local acts from the Hutt Valley and Wellington will be playing live sets and the entertainment will be kicked off by several performances from some of our local young people.

Music in the Mountains 2025 line up looks and sounds like this.....

- The Fabulous Pakehas: A four-piece ensemble, some of whom have entertained the MITM crowd in previous years with a different band. Vocals, drums and some truly stunning guitar work.
- Coco Favre: A Blue Mountains local and stunning vocalist, performing an array of songs accompanied by keyboard and guitars. Her set is heavily influenced by French, Spanish, Mexican and Central American acoustic ambience.
- Glenn Barclay: Acoustic guitar, vocals and possibly a Mandolin! Glenn will be playing contemporary folk originals and covers.
- The Upbeats: Local to Upper Hutt, this 60s pop styled four-piece band will play a mixture of covers and their original work.
- Thomas Johnson & Samuel R. Saffery: A keyboard and guitar duo that weave together thoughtful lyrics, catchy hooks and vocal harmonies.

This is also a BYO picnic event, but there is plenty of delicious kai on sale throughout the afternoon. Tacos for all tastes, nachos and of course the sausage sizzle. Soft drinks will be on sale too.

There will also be a range of raffles going on throughout the afternoon to win some fabulous prizes that have been donated by local businesses.

So, invite all your friends, bring your whānau and come along for a cracking musical afternoon in the beautiful Blue Mountains.

A "thank you" to John Robinson for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.





Contributor: Jessie

CIRCLE OF SONG:

Every Tues from 1pm – 2.30pm, a community singalong is held at the Rimutaka Baptist Church.. The afternoon session delivers memorable songs of love, inspiration and appreciation that connect us all.

From Abba & Elvis to spirituals, country/folk & sea shanties, we roll with the music & laughter and sing out loud.

The Rimutaka Baptist Church has generously given us a wonderful room for the session, and there's a cuppa too for all who drop by.

Entrance and parking is at the rear of the church.

Enquiries Ph Kevin Meehan - 021311465

https://uhconnection.co.nz/community-events/circle-of-song-a-singalong-group-for-everyone-come-join-us-for-fun-friendship-and-song-tuesdays-1-00-pm-2-30-pm/

RECIPES



Niçoise Salad

The original recipe and name for this salad comes from the city of Nice (pronounced Niece) in south-east France. No direct proportions are given for the ingredients. Traditionally this salad uses cubed boiled potatoes, this simplified version uses pasta instead.

Ingredients:

- Dried pasta: 100g per person
- · Large tin of tuna
- Eggs (1 per person)
- · 1 Red onion, finely sliced
- Tomatoes, cut into wedges
- 1 Cucumber, guartered and then finely sliced
- Green beans (use frozen if desired, thaw and cook in microwave)
- · Capers or olives
- · Lettuce, finely chopped.
- An oil dressing, or mayonnaise (oil is traditional)

Method:

- Place the eggs in a saucepan, cover with water, and boil for six minutes. Drain, cover with cold water and then leave to cool.
- Cook the dried pasta according to cooking instructions on the packet.
- Place the pasta in a large salad bowl, and prepare the other ingredients one at a time, stirring each ingredient into the pasta as you go.
- Peel the hard boiled eggs, and cut the eggs into wedges. Mix eggs into the salad.
- 5. Serve with the oil dressing, or mayonnaise.



The Upper Hutt Connection

Cashew and Caramel Slice

Ingredients:

Base:

- 100g butter
- 1/8 cup sugar (I know that 1/8 cup measures don't exist, just do half a 1/4 cup)
- 1 cup flour

Filling:

- 100g butter
- 1/2 a 400g can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 150g cashews, roughly chopped

Method:

- 1. Preheat oven to 170°C
- Cream butter and caster sugar, then sift in the flour and stir to combine. Then knead to ensure all ingredients are properly mixed.
- 3. Press mixture into a greased slice tin. Bake in the oven for 10 minutes.
- 4. While the base is cooling, combine the butter, condensed milk, and golden syrup in a small saucepan and heat over a low heat until the butter has melted. Continue stirring until the mixture boils. Stir in the cashews.
- Spread the caramel mixture over the base and leave to set. Note that this topping doesn't set hard, it will always be a bit gooey, but it sets more over a few days.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Heretaunga Community Church

Live for Jesus, Share his Love

Our Sunday morning service is at 10am and everyone is welcome.

We would love you to stay afterwards for fellowship over morning tea.

Our Creche for children under 3 1/2 years runs every Sunday morning. Our Children's Church runs Sundays during school terms.

Services are live-streamed on YouTube: Heretaunga Community Church

Address: 51 Lane St, Wallaceville, Upper Hutt 5018, New Zealand

Email: admin@heretaunga.com

Website: https://www.heretaunga.com



Heretaunga Community Church

St. Margaret's Presbyterian Church - Silverstream

You will find us at: 4-6 Dunns St, Silverstream, Upper Hutt

The Minister: The minister at St Margaret's is Rev Rodney Ramsay. Rodney is on-site most days from Tuesday to Friday and anyone is welcome to drop in for a chat over a cup of coffee/tea.

If you have any need to contact Rodney he can be reached at the office number 5279604, on his mobile 0211259835 or via email at rodneyramsay62@gmail.com

Worship services: Our worship services take place on Sundays at 10.00am.

The First Sunday of each month is a Communion Service and the second Sunday is a Family Service.

Our services are fairly traditional, and we have a very warm and welcoming congregation. All are welcome.

Our services are live streamed on Zoom. If you wish to receive the link, please text Lynley McInnarney at 027 278 0010 or send an email to mcinnarneys@gmail.com

We offer children's church for primary school age that happens during the main church service.

St Margaret's runs a teenage youth group on Friday night in the church hall and lounge. Youth group runs from 6.30pm to around 8.00pm.

Other contact details: The Lay leader (Session Clerk) at St Margaret's is Chris Rosanowski and he can be contacted at rosanowskic@gmail.com

Please visit our website for further information including the hire of our facilities.

https://stmargaretssilverstream.org.nz



St. Margaret's Presbyterian Church - Silverstream



Silverstream Reformed Church

Location: 8 Blue Mountains Road, Silverstream

What we Believe:

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour and the Sovereign Lord over all of life. We are fully committed to the Bible in its entirety as the Word of God. We believe that theology is important, it is vital for the health of the church, and without sound doctrine the church decays. Throughout history, the church has confessed what it believes by faithfully summarising the truths of the Bible in written forms known as creeds and confessions. These confessions do not hold the same authority as the Bible, but they help to summarise the Bible's teaching. Ultimately, the Bible remains our only rule for faith and life.

Who we Are:

Our Church is a family church, with a mixture of young families, retirees, couples, single people and youth. We have approximately 200 members, from different backgrounds, meeting together because we share a common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

Service Times:

Our worship services are on Sunday at 10 AM and 4 PM, and we would love to see you there. Our friendly greeters will meet you at the door and answer any questions you have.

Like to know more? Visit our website at: https://silverstreamrcnz.co.nz/

Silverstream Reformed Church sent this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

11/12/24



St. Hilda's Anglican Church

St. Hilda's Anglican Church

Location: 35 Cruickshank Road, Clouston Park, Upper Hutt

Email Church Office: sthildasuh@gmail.com

Who we are:

A congregation of faithful followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, who draw on the Anglican tradition to support a lively expression of our faith.

Our recently unanimously agreed vision statement is: St Hilda's – a vibrant, faith-based presence within our community.

What we do:

- We are a community of people who come together to worship God, to grow in relationship with one another and with the wider community.
- We offer loving service to God, one another, the people of Upper Hutt and the world.
- · We are disciples of Jesus, the Lord of Love.
- We believe in the Christian Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Live. We are inspired and guided by the Holy Bible. We seek to grow in faith.
- We welcome newcomers to our parish family with warm hospitality. We provide a wide range of activities, both spiritual and secular. We encourage all to develop their relationship with Christ through our worshiping community.
- In recent years we have turned our focus outwards to serving our community.

Continued on page 12

Weekly services:

Sunday 9.30am: Traditional NZ Anglican Worship

This is a comfortable, family-friendly feeling service, although it follows the traditional liturgical format. The service order alternates between the three ANZPB Eucharistic (communion) liturgies. There is always a sermon with a liturgical assistant leading the worship; when a priest is not available. The communion is led by one of our leaders licenced for reserved sacrament.

Thursday 10.00am: Traditional Communion Service

The service order follows ANZPB with the Sunday sermon being repeated here. Our services are supported by a good tech suite, including two large monitors installed at the front of the church, and a quality sound system.

Prayer books remain available in the pews for anyone who prefers to use them.

Sue sent this article to The Upper Hutt Connection / Source: St Hilda's Anglican Church Upper Hutt

ENTERTAINMENT

Film Review: September 5

Went to see the new film September 5 yesterday.

September 5 is about the ABC's news team's coverage of the Israeli hostage situation at the Munich Olympic Games in 1972. Although it's a drama, it comes across as very realistic. None of it came across as over the top – it all seemed as it could have happened. The hostage situation, and the shootings which occurred, were also something that the government of Germany didn't need, as the memories of the atrocities of the Second World War were still fresh in people's minds. Germany was showing that the Nazi era was in the past – and then this unfortunate event happened.

For the whole 90 minutes, there was never a dull moment in the film.

The Upper Hutt Connection

07/02/25



September 5

What's new at Monterey Cinemas? Week starting 13/02/25

For all films coming out this week, check out https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/coming-soon

BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY

Running time: 130 minutes

Rated: M (Offensive language & sexual references)

Bridget Jones first blasted onto bookshelves in Helen Fielding's literary phenomenon Bridget Jones's Diary, which became a global bestseller and a blockbuster film. As a single career woman living in London, Bridget Jones not only introduced the world to her romantic adventures, but added "Singletons," and "Smug-Marrieds" into the global lexicon. Bridget's ability to triumph despite adversity led her to finally marry top lawyer Mark Darcy and to become the mother of their baby boy. Happiness at last.

But in Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy, Bridget is alone once again, widowed four years ago, when Mark (Oscar® winner Colin Firth) was killed on a humanitarian mission in the Sudan. She's now a single mother to 9-year-old Billy and 4-year-old Mabel, and is stuck in a state of emotional limbo, raising her children with help from her loyal friends and even her former lover, Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant).

Pressured by her Urban Family —Shazzer, Jude and Tom, her work colleague Miranda, her mother, and her gynecologist Dr. Rawlings (Oscar® winner Emma Thompson) — to forge a new path toward life and love, Bridget goes back to work and even tries out the dating apps, where she's soon pursued by a dreamy and enthusiastic younger man (White Lotus's Leo Woodall). Now juggling work, home and romance, Bridget grapples with the judgment of the perfect mums at school, worries about Billy as he struggles with the absence of his father, and engages in a series of awkward interactions with her son's rational-to-a-fault science teacher (Oscar® nominee Chiwetel Ejiofor). The returning cast includes Oscar® winner Jim Broadbent and BAFTA winner Gemma Jones as Bridget's parents and, as a new character, Isla

Book here: https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/bridget-jones-madabout-the-boy

Fisher (Now You See Me, The Great Gatsby) as Rebecca, Bridget's neighbor.

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt32063050/videoplayer/vi412141849/?ref =nv sr srsg 1 tt 6 nm 2 in 0 q Bridget%2520Jones

CAPTAIIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD

Running time: 125 minutes

Rated: M (Violence & offensive language)

Marvel Studios' "Captain America: Brave New World" follows Sam Wilson, who after meeting with newly elected U.S. President Thaddeus Ross, finds himself in the middle of an international incident. He must discover the reason behind a nefarious global plot before the true mastermind has the entire world seeing red.

Book Here: https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/captain-america-brave-new-world

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt14513804/videoplayer/vi1185794329/?ref =nv sr_srsg 1 tt 8 nm 0 in 0 q Captain%2520America

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Bridget Jones: Mad About

the Boy

Captain America: Brave New World

Continued on Page 14

HEART EYES

Running time: 100 minutes

Rated: R16 (Horror, graphic violence & offensive language)

For the past several years, the "Heart Eyes Killer" has wreaked havoc on Valentine's Day by stalking and murdering romantic couples. This Valentine's Day, no couple is safe...

Book Here: https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/heart-eyes

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt32558992/videoplayer/

vi3459696921/?ref =nv sr srsg 1 tt 6 nm 2 in 0 q Heart%2520E



Heart Eyes

CHHAARVA

Running time: 155 minutes

Rated: R16 (Violence & cruelty)

A historical drama based on the life of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, the son of

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Book Here: https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/chhaava

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27922706/videoplayer/

vi2473969177/?ref =nv sr srsg 1 tt 8 nm 0 in 0 q Chhaa

Source: Monterey Cinemas Upper Hutt

11/02/25

