

THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION



A LOCAL NEWSPAPER - FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY

GENERAL NEWS

Website: uhconnection.co.nz

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

Upper Hutt Annual Plan Consultation Opens for Public Feedback: Consultation closes 27th of April

Council is calling on the community to share their thoughts on the city's Annual Plan 2025/26 and other key issues, including the Government-mandated Local Water Done Well reform programme, which will impact the management of water services and infrastructure in our region.

Mayor Wayne Guppy says the Annual Plan will also inform the community on changes to the average rates increase and seek public opinion on options for kerbside recycling.

Other concurrent consultation topics cover Fees and Charges, an Alcohol Fees Bylaw, Revenue and Financing Policy changes and the Gambling Venues Policy review.

"It's time to share your views on our Annual Plan and other important issues that will affect our city," says Mayor Guppy.

"This year, the Consultation Document looks a bit different from what you might be used to, and it covers several subjects, including the future of our water services.

"One of the most significant topics for consultation this year is the Local Water Done Well reform programme, which requires all councils to explore options for delivering water services."

Mayor Guppy says Upper Hutt is working closely with other councils in the region to determine the best approach for the future management of water services.

"We've been working with our neighbouring councils to navigate the complex water reforms mandated by the Government.

"We must make improvements to our water services to ensure the future well-being of our community."

Mayor Guppy also acknowledged the ongoing cost-of-living pressures many residents continue to face, such as high interest rates, inflation, insurance costs, and fuel prices.

In light of these challenges, Council has focused on reducing costs where possible while maintaining essential services and infrastructure.

MAHERE Ā-TAU 2025/26 ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26



Upper Hutt City Council

Council's financial strategy remains committed to ensuring that today's income covers today's expenses to avoid burdening future generations with unnecessary costs, says Mayor Guppy.

We want to maintain fiscal responsibility and avoid pushing costs onto future generations.

"We've made changes to our operating model and reprioritised our capital programme spending, which, along with other efforts, has allowed us to reduce the average rates increase to 15.78%."

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Mayor Guppy emphasised the importance of public engagement to help inform Council's decision making.

"We take great pride in providing transparent engagement, and it's essential that you have your say on the issues that impact your community," he says.

"I encourage everyone to take the time to read through the consultation booklet, consider the options, and join us for conversations at the community engagement events listed at the back of the document."

Consultation is open from 24 March to 27 April.

For more information on the Annual Plan, concurrent consultation topics, and Local Water Done Well, visit <https://letskorero.upperhutt.govt.nz/>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

24/03/25

Lorna Jane pop-up store opening in The Mall Upper Hutt

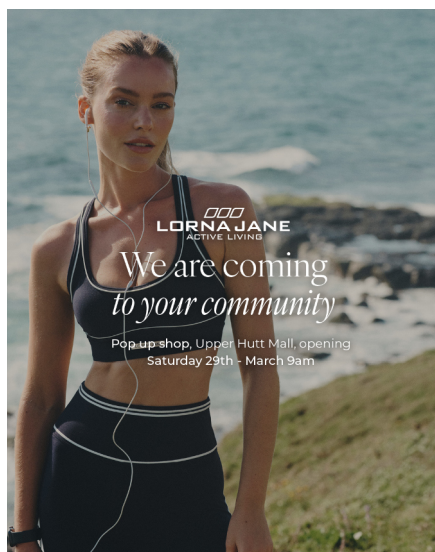
The Mall Upper Hutt are thrilled to announce that leading international active wear brand Lorna Jane will be opening a pop up store at the centre at 9am on Saturday March 29th.

We have made great effort to facilitate this and are delighted that this trial has been secured for Upper Hutt.

We urge the community to get out, welcome and support Lorna Jane and enjoy and hopefully retain the benefit of having such an admired brand as part of the retail landscape in the city.

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

21/03/25



The Upper Hutt Connection - Wednesday Edition: 26th of March, 2025

Public meeting at Trentham Masonic Centre shows just how bad it is for some to get the medical help they need.

A public meeting was held at the Trentham Masonic Centre on Islington St earlier this week to discuss the increasing problems regarding the lack of after hours and public healthcare in Upper Hutt.

Ever since the Silverstream Medical Centre, which was the last of the providers that helped run the afterhours clinic in Upper Hutt had pulled out, locals have had to make the trip down to Boulcott in Lower Hutt where the nearest after hours is based.

Mayoral candidate, Peri Zee said the now defunct facility had "saved" her epileptic son's life when he had his first seizure. She said she had no choice but to drive to the after-hours as the other options were a 40-minute wait for an ambulance to arrive from Wellington, or a half-hour car journey to Hutt Hospital while her son's face changed colour. "The staff [at Upper Hutt Medical Centre] are incredible, but they can only do so much in a broken system," Zee said.

Peri Zee said that the lack of service is more felt in the poorer northern suburbs like Timberlea where the distance between Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt is made worse by the lack of suitable public transport. Along with the fact that some areas of Upper Hutt lack a local pharmacy. She mentioned that she's had conversations with Health NZ and requested a meeting with health minister Simeon Brown, but says that the city now "desperately needs local leadership" to ensure change.

Local MP and Labour Party leader, Chris Hipkins was also present, saying that he'd heard from citizens giving their concerns around the difficulty of enrolling in "overflowing" practices, and with the very long wait times at Hutt Hospital and the Lower Hutt Afterhours, it was very much "hit or miss". He said that by improving the availability of urgent care across the Hutt Valley would ease the pressure on emergency departments where patients who should be seeing a GP were being forced to go. New Zealand Nurses Organisation's Wellington organiser, Jo Coffey said that due to the increased numbers and demand at the regional hospitals emergency departments, they were now turning in to "mini wards" with some patients having to wait up to three days to be seen.

Source: The Spinoff

22/03/25

Resurfacing Works start on Ward Street

On Sunday 23 March, resurfacing works on Ward Street will begin. The works will be carried out nightly from 6:30 PM to 6:00 AM

Right are the details of the scheduled work, including a map showing the specific areas affected.

Work Schedule

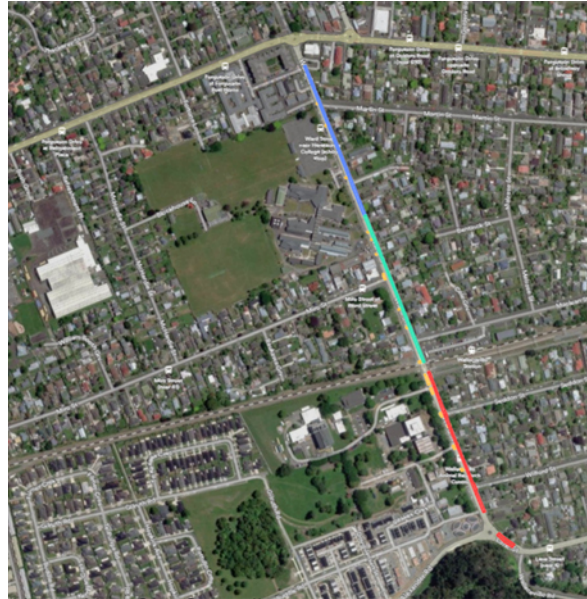
The resurfacing will be done in sections over multiple nights as follows:

- **Sunday, 23 March 2025:** Ward Street, between 8 Lane Street and Seddon Street (highlighted in red)
- **Monday, 24 March 2025:** Ward Street, between Seddon Street and 29 Ward Street (highlighted in green)
- **Tuesday, 25 March 2025:** Ward Street, between 3 Ward Street and 29 Ward Street (highlighted in blue)
- **Wednesday, 26 March 2025:** Ward Street, road patches on the westbound lane, between Alexander Road and Fergusson Drive (highlighted in yellow)

For more information, please visit: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/News/Resurfacing-Works-start-on-Ward-Street>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

20/03/25



Upper Hutt City Council

Upper Hutt man arrested in Operation Sove – Stokes Valley murder and arson

Hutt Valley Police have arrested a fourth person overnight in connection to the murder of Ian David Moller and the arson of his property in Stokes Valley late last year.

A 26-year-old Upper Hutt man has been charged with murder, arson, conspiring to commit arson and participating in a criminal group.

The man is due to appear in the Hutt Valley District Court today.

This arson was one of several fires that had allegedly been intentionally lit at the block of apartments where Mr Moller resided.

Police continue to investigate three incidents on Hanson Grove, on Thursday 10 October, Monday 14 October, and Tuesday 5 November.

All three of these incidents occurred in the early hours of the morning.

If you have information that may assist in our ongoing investigations, please contact Police.

You can report information to us on 105 either over the phone or online.

Please reference file number 241105/2249 and quote Operation Sove.

Source: New Zealand Police

20/03/25





Upper Hutt Motorcycle Collection

Upper Hutt Motorcycle Collection

The February outing of the UH Road Trippers group visited the MC3 Motorcycle Collection & Café, 47 Montgomery Crescent, Upper Hutt for a very interesting tour of the many 80's and 90's road bikes on display, many of which are rare and specialised.

Both the display and the café are open to the public. <https://www.facebook.com/MC3.Cafe/>

If you work in Hospitality, MC3 is looking for hospitality staff, barista, and a part time weekend chef.

The Road Trippers group are a bunch of people you can join with, who just like driving cars that are a little bit different. They have monthly outings to various destinations including visiting places of special interest, such as the motorcycle collection. Enquiries to Dave 021 216 1131, or Patrick 021 375 415 or email patrick.harlow@live.com

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

20/03/25



AI Generated

Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club moving to St. Pat's from the 1st of August

We have some big news to share about the future of our skating venue and the Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club. As many of you know, we've been working hard behind the scenes, and here's what's ahead:

Our Current Lease Ends – 31 July 2025

Our current venue will no longer be available after this date. The lease has been taken over by the business next door, and while they're looking to run a community sports centre, they've let us know they can't confirm any rink time for roller sports at this stage.

We'll reconnect with them once they're up and running to see what might be possible, but in the meantime...

We Have a New Home!

From 1 August 2025, the Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club will move to St Patrick's College in Silverstream.

- KiwiSkate will continue on Tuesdays and Saturdays, no change to days or times
- The wooden gym floor is ideal for both KiwiSkate and competitive training. We're incredibly grateful to St Pat's for welcoming us into their space!

What About Saturday Discos?

Unfortunately, we won't be able to run weekly discos at the new venue. BUT we are planning a few fun themed fundraising discos before we leave:

- Harry Potter Disco – 24 May
- Taylor Swift Disco – 14 June
- Final Public Disco – 12 July
- Final Club Members Disco – 19 July

Continued on Page 5.

Let's go out with a bang, we'd love to see you there!

Club Move & Working Bees

We'll be organising some working bees to help with the transition and there may be opportunities for members to repurpose or take items from the rink. Keep an eye out for more info on how you can get involved.

Fees, Fundraising & Our Future

We're reviewing our KiwiSkate fees and may be able to offer a small reduction from Term 3, depending on numbers.

But we're still facing significant financial challenges between now and 31 July and we need your help!

- Attend our events
- Volunteer when you can
- Share our updates to help spread the word

Every bit of support makes a huge difference

Got Questions? We've Got a Form!

Have questions about our move or what happens next?

We want to hear from you and make sure everyone's on the same page. Submit your questions here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO___UioS_tUOFFWNIBSSjRZSkIQUQ0MTBaWE1EUIBMWC4u

We'll keep everyone updated as we move forward together. Thanks for being with us through the changes. The journey continues, and we're so glad you're part of it.

Thank You, Skating Whānau

We're committed to keeping the spirit of skating alive in Upper Hutt, no matter where we roll next.

Source: Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club

24/03/25

Short Story Competition 2025: let your imagination soar | Entries close 6.00 pm, Wednesday 30th of April

Follow the rabbit, take the yellow brick road. It's time to spread your creative wings and let your imagination soar!

Our popular Short Story Competition for all ages is back. Entries are open until 6.00PM on Wednesday, 30 April 2025.

Our dedicated competition page has everything you need

- all competition details, including terms and conditions
- our online entry form, and a form to download and print if you prefer to submit your entry in person
- a detailed FAQ section about prizes, judging criteria, and more
- writing resources and activities for families and teachers to share with tamariki (kids) and ākonga (learners)

<https://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz/Programmes/Short-Story-Competition-2025>

No writer is an island: share and learn with others

We have two special events with experienced, published authors happening in April, as well as two writing groups which meet regularly at our Central Library.

Author talk with Chanelle Moriah

Saturday, 5 April 2025 | 2.00-3.00PM

Launching [Indigo Romeo Lima] by Cat Connor

Friday, 11 April 2025 | 6.00-8.00PM

Upper Hutt Writes

Saturday, 19 April 2025 | 11.00AM-12.30PM

It's Write Easy

every Friday | 1.30-3.00PM

Step out of your comfort zone, play with plot, and write your heart out. We can't wait to read and be inspired by your stories!

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

20/03/25

Weaving the Harakeke

Last Monday the 17th of March we had an official launch of our 2024 pilot hui called 'Weaving the Harakeke'. Our purpose: To have a kōrero as a community with representatives from Council kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) for an hour once a fortnight in a safe, collaborative space empowering actions leading to improved outcomes.

A huge thank you to our hosts at Ōrongomai and to all those who joined us. It was a heartwarming welcome followed by the whakapapa of the marae from Matua Michael. Sammie then shared the many many services Ōrongomai provide.

We took a group photo. Unfortunately, a few had unknowingly escaped to put the jug on. Looking forward to another year of conversations. It wasn't meant to be a hui but local politics never sleeps.

Monday the 31st of March our first hui coincides with Upper Hutt City Council's community engagement at Ōrongomai to informally discuss the Annual Plan currently open for consultation 6-7pm.

As requested. We will also be having a regular daytime hui in the library from 2-3pm on the 31st of March

If you have specific questions you want answers to then please email items for the agenda to **weavingtheharakeke@gmail.com**. This gives Council representatives the opportunity to have the information available then and there in most cases.

Be part of the conversation, actions and outcomes that affect you. If you want to find out what we covered and achieved last year. They can be found here.

<https://www.nzempowered.com/hui-central>

- 31st of March 2025: 2-3pm in the library
- 6-7pm Ōrongomai marae and every fortnight from then on. Same time, same location. Look for the banner.

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

24/03/25





Wellington Water

Whakawhirinaki (Silverstream pipe bridge) moves closer to completion

The Whakawhirinaki: Silverstream Bridge project is getting closer to the finish line!

With the new bulk water pipe now fully installed, the crews are on track to commission the pipe by mid-2025. This key milestone will see bulk water supply added to the network!

Here's what the crews have been up to:

- Completed the pipe crossing, including finishing works on the pipe and underground chamber that connects the new Kingsley water pipe into the Silverstream pipe bridge.
- The new 200m long concrete-lined steel bulk water pipe was put in place on the bridge – one 12m section at a time connected with flexible joints.
- Earthworks are now underway on the final section at the embankment on the eastern side of the river where the pipe connects into the network.
- Meanwhile cyclists are already using the completed pathway on the western side between the bridge and Manor Park Golf Course, connecting to the existing cycleway.
- Work is also underway on landscaping the worksites on both sides of the river which includes planting more than 10,000 native species.

All up great progress which is bringing us closer to completing this critical water infrastructure asset later in the year.

Want to find out more about the project? Head to <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/projects/silverstream-pipe-bridge-project>

Source: Wellington Water

20/03/25



Upper Hutt City Council

Harcourt park paddling pool closes for the season on Wednesday 26th of March

We are wrapping up splash season at Harcourt Park on 26 March.

Summer was a bit of a rollercoaster, with rainy days, surprise cold snaps, and a few technical hiccups with the splash pad and paddling pool. But despite the ups and downs, many in our community still showed up, splashed hard, and made the most of it!

The Harcourt Park Splash and Paddling Pool will be closing for the season from Wednesday, 26 March, so if you want to get one last water play in, now's the time! (Fingers crossing that the weather plays ball this weekend!)

A huge thank you to everyone who came out and made a splash with us this summer. We will be working hard behind the scenes to fix the technical issues during the off-season.

We'll see you back next summer so do follow us for updates.

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

22/03/25

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

Ordinary Council: 12th of March, 2025

Topics for discussion included:

- Whirinaki Whare Taonga's half-year report, Statement of Intent and Trustee Interview Panel
- Confirmation of council minutes
- Adoption of committee minutes and recommendations
- Confirmation of the Hutt Valley Services Committee meeting minutes.



Upper Hutt City Council

Council Agenda – 12th of March 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/council-agenda-20250312.pdf>

Council Minutes – 12th of March 2025: https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/council-meeting-minutes-12-mar-2025_1.pdf

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

Hutt Valley Joint Services Committee: 7th of March, 2025

Topics discussed include:

- Update on the wastewater joint venture
- update on Silverstream Landfill and resource recovery
- update on Akatarawa Cemetery and the Hutt Valley Services forward work programme.



Hutt City Council

Hutt Valley Services Committee Agenda – 7th of March, 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/hvsc-agenda-20250307.pdf>

Hutt Valley Service Committee Minutes – 7th of March, 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/unconfirmed-hvsc-minutes-with-attachment-20250307.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

24/03/25

SPORT



New Zealand Police

Three P's in a pod

What do the Central Pulse Netball, Women's Phoenix Football and Hurricanes Poua teams have in common?

They all now have New Zealand Police German shepherd patrol puppies named after them.

Pulse, Phoenix and Poua were named after the local women's sports teams to help shine more light on women's top-level sport.

The 'P' litter pups, born about 12 weeks ago at the Dog Training Centre (DTC) in Upper Hutt, were 'gifted' in name to the three sporting codes thanks to an idea by Police Dog Trainer Sergeant Matt Fage.

"We wanted to acknowledge our local women's sports teams and it was great timing as three of our 'P' litter pups didn't have names," he says.

"It was perfect as we invited three of the Wellington-based women's codes – premier netball, A-League football and Super Rugby – to come and meet their puppies called Pulse, Phoenix and Poua this week.

"I think the teams were quite chuffed to be part of this and have a dog named after them.

"In the past we have named dogs after some of our All Blacks, and one of our police dogs was recently named after rugby Black Fern and Poua vice-captain, our Taranaki-based Constable Iritana Hohaia. But this is a first for these three Wellington women's rep teams."

Pulse centre-court player Whitney Souness says the team felt lucky to meet the pups at the DTC.

"It was a cool experience to see the training they do and what they get up to. Since I absolutely love dogs I felt very much in my element. Having one of the puppies named after our team is something really special to us."

Phoenix women's captain Annalie Longo says it's no secret she loves dogs and it's an honour to have a police dog named after the Phoenix women's team.

"My dog Tiger thinks it's a great idea as long as she remains the club's unofficial mascot!"

"The team enjoyed visiting the Police Dog Training Centre and appreciate the dedication and sacrifice involved in serving our community."

Hurricanes Poua player Kahurangi Sturmey, whose father is a police officer, says: "It's pretty special to have a police puppy named after our team and even more special that three of the P litter are recognising our women's provincial lower North Island teams.

"Thank you on behalf of the Poua – it's a real honour."

Inspector Todd Southall, National Coordinator Police Dogs, thanks Matt for getting this initiative off the ground.

"It's really great to have a partnership with, and acknowledge, these top-performing locally based athletes. We look forward to working with them in the future and wish them the very best for the upcoming season.

"We'll be keeping a keen eye on how their puppies are doing at their foster homes. The three 'P' puppies are being fostered out to homes throughout New Zealand to sharpen up on their socialisation skills before being tested for training and breeding in the New Zealand Police Foster Dog Programme."

If you're interested in fostering a police dog, you can find out more here: <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/programmes-and-initiatives/fostering-and-adopting-police-dogs/fostering/faqs>

Source: New Zealand Police

22/03/25



Upper Hutt City Football's Women's 1st win against Wairarapa United in preseason friendly. 8-1

UHCF Women's 1sts v Wairarapa United in a preseason friendly.

Final score 8-1 to UHCF! Was great to see the team coming together for their first preseason game of 2025. Main season kicks off in t-minus 2 weeks

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

24/03/25



Upper Hutt City Football's Men's 1sts win against Napier City Rovers on Saturday. 6 – 2

Highlights of yesterday's game: UHCF Men's 1sts v Napier City Rovers. Final score 6-2 to Napier City. After a fast opening 10 minutes where we scored 2 goals, Napier pushed back to have the game at 5-2 at Halftime, strong hustle from the lads in the 2nd half to see the final game result at 6-2.

This marks the end of preseason as we gear up to Round One of the NZ National League's Central League where we take on Phoenix Reserves next week at Fraser Park!

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

24/03/25

Upper Hutt City Football Club Open Day: Saturday 29th of March, 10.00 am – 11.30 am

Location: Maidstone Park, 20 Park St, Upper Hutt

Our Club Open Day is happening next Saturday 29th March kicking off at 10am until 11:30am

On the day we will have a number of things including the guys from PlayerWISE set up with activities and prizes, the sausage sizzle going and the well anticipated junior boot swap!

Our boot swaps tend to be quite a hit where you can buy a pair for \$10 or it's free to swap your old pair for another pair.

We will also have Registration & Sporty Q&A

Look forward to seeing you all down there!

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

21/03/25





Rosa Posa Photos

Upper Hutt City Football looking for social and competitive women's players: Sign ups available until the end of March

UHCFC has seen an amazing influx of senior women's players this year and we're looking to fill the last remaining spots on a brand new competitive Women's 3rd team as well as our social Women's team. Whether you played last year, five years ago or thinking about starting up, we would love to welcome you to our team.

We boast a positive and welcoming culture with competitive and social teams across multiple divisions and a support team which is continuing to grow.

If you would like more information on playing with the UHCFC senior women's teams, contact katie@upperhuttcityfootball.org.nz

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

11/03/25

Upper Hutt Petanque does it again winning the Champion of Champions Singles Tournament

Hot on the heels of the success in the Wellington Petanque Association (WPA) Champion of Champions Doubles tournament yesterday, Upper Hutt Petanque Club hosted the Champion of Champions Singles tournament on Sunday 23rd March. Again there were 7 teams entered from clubs in the Wellington region. 7 rounds of games were played with each team sitting out for one round, 4 games before lunch and 3 after. The winners were in doubt until the last game was finished, a nail biter.



Upper Hutt Petanque

Upper Hutt Petanque wins WPA Champion of Champions today

Upper Hutt Petanque Club hosted the WPA Champion of Champions tournament on Saturday 22nd March. 7 teams played against each other in a Round Robin tournament format, at the end of which Upper Hutt took the trophy with 6 wins, followed by Silverstream with 4 wins, followed by Horowhenua, also with 4 wins. Silverstream were placed in front of Horowhenua since they beat them when they played each other. In this case the differential scores were not required to differentiate winners.

Source: Upper Hutt Petanque

22/03/25



Upper Hutt Petanque

However, Upper Hutt prevailed with 6 wins, followed by Naenae, also with 6 wins, followed by Kapiti with 3 wins. The final positions are circled at the bottom of the results page. Again, the final positions of the top two was based on who won when those two played each other, and not on the differential scores. Photos from both tournaments will follow soon!

Source: Upper Hutt Petanque

24/03/25

Wellington Junior Athletics Champs

Upper Hutt Athletics Clubs athletes excelled with 89 medals across two days of competition at the recent Wellington Junior Athletics Champs held at Newtown Park on March 16th and 23rd. Most notable was a new record in the 10 girls 400m set by Hazel Roos,

The club was awarded the trophy for most club points in the 10-15 grades across the interclubs in the 2024-25 season, an award the club had never previously won. In addition, Matthew Meiklejohn was awarded the top male middle distance runner across the interclub season, and Conor Sharkey the top thrower. UHAC concludes its summer season with its club champs on Wednesday.

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

24/03/25



Upper Hutt Athletics Club

COMMUNITY EVENTS: View all events at <https://uhconnection.co.nz/community-events/>



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Applications for Hutt Mana Charitable Trust funding are now open: Last date for applications, 28th of March

Hi everyone/Tena koutou katoa,

Just to let you know that applications for the Hutt Mana Charitable Trust March funding round are now open. Upper Hutt community, sports, education and similar organisations can apply.

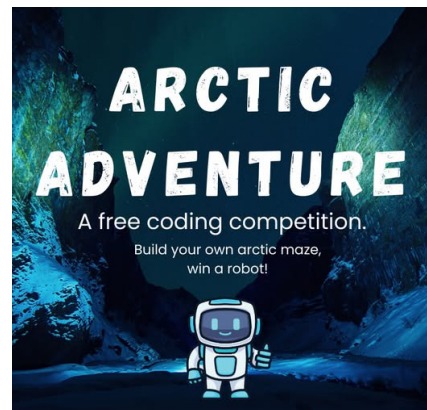
Here's the link: <https://hmct.org.nz/grants/>

Given the number of applications we receive and the pressure on the fund preference is given to applications of \$3000 or under.

Applications close on 28 March. We look forward to receiving your application.

Paul Swain

Upper Hutt rep, Hutt Mana Charitable Trust.



Upper Hutt Library

Arctic Adventure – Fiero Code Challenge: Ends 31st of March 2025

Calling all young coders: the first Fiero Code Challenge of 2025 is here!

Your mission brief: design a fun maze game using Code Blocks (similar to Scratch).

Your reward: be in to win some seriously cool tech prizes like drones, code-able robots, and more!

- Projects are due 31 March 2025.
- Open for ages 8 to 18.

Read more and sign up through our website: <https://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz/Programmes/Arctic-Adventure>

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

BIRCHVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN

FREE SUMMER PRUNING WORKSHOP
WITH HANNAH FROM HERITAGE NURSERY
SUNDAY MARCH 30 2PM



SUMMER PRUNING IS IMPORTANT FOR BETTER
FRUIT PRODUCTION.
CHILDREN WELCOME
RATA PARK, BIRCHVILLE
CONTACT ALICE ON 0274104398

Contributor: Alice



Free

Free session of dancing

Wednesdays 7 – 8pm

**At Avalon Public Hall, Mabey Road,
Lower Hutt**

Square dancing for all ages

**Gentle exercise, good for the mind and a
safe place to meet people.**

Enquiries: Kathie Ph 04 528 9235

Wednesdays 26th of March and 2nd of April -
Contributor: Kathie

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.
Note that the playgroup will not be operating
on the 1st and 9th of April 2025, and will be
resuming after the school holidays on the
30th of April.

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.



AI Generated



HAVE A GO HOCKEY FUN DAY


DATE **26
MARCH**

Boys & Girls
Years 1-8

Venue
Maidstone Turf
Park Street, Upper Hutt 5-6pm

Contact Us
upperhuthockey@gmail.com

www.upperhuthockey.org.nz Facebook: Upper Hutt Hockey Club



Upper Hutt Hockey Club

Regional Public Transport Plan consultation: Closes 28th of March

Public transport plays a central role in the daily lives of many of us in the Wellington region. It is important that Greater Wellington and the Metlink group hear your thoughts on this key planning document for the public transport network.

Metlink has been involved in stakeholder engagements on the draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 (RPTP) since development commenced in 2023. This version of the RPTP is the final draft adopted by Greater Wellington's Transport Committee for public consultation. We have some important milestones in our public consultation process:

- 3 March 2025 – 28 March 2025 – Public consultation on the RPTP.
- 6 and 7 May 2025 – Public submissions on the draft RPTP will be heard by a hearings committee of Greater Wellington Councillors at the Council Chambers, 100 Cuba Street, Wellington.*
- 30 April 2025 – we will hold a drop-in session for those who do not wish to speak in a formal hearings format. Again, this will be held in the Council Chambers, 100 Cuba Street, Wellington.*
- During May and June 2025 Greater Wellington will consider and respond to submissions and the insights and information collected through the consultation process and prepare the final RPTP 2025-2035 for Council consideration.
- We will also be running public events where you can meet Greater Wellington officers and discuss aspects of the plan that interest or affect you, your communities or your organisation or business. The dates and times for these sessions are as follows:
 - Monday 10 March 12pm-1pm
 - Tuesday 11 March 2pm-3pm
 - Thursday 13 March 4pm-5pm
 - Saturday 15 March 9am-10amFurther event information and to register for one of these information sessions, visit Eventfinda here: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2025/rptp-online-information-sessions/virtual>
- Alternatively, you can email us for a link to the teams meeting: RPTP2025@gw.govt.nz

*Note that you are able to attend both the formal hearings and the drop-in session.

Following public consultation, the final RPTP will be presented to Greater Wellington Regional Council for adoption on 26 June 2025 and, subject to Council direction, will be formally adopted for the 2025/2026 financial year.



The Upper Hutt Connection

We would like your feedback on specific questions we have in the development of this RPTP. Our consultation brochure gives key information relating to each question. As part of the consultation, we also request information about your public transport context which is optional. This information will give us a more informed picture of how our strategic focus areas, policies and key initiatives are viewed across the region.

You will also be provided with the opportunity to provide more comprehensive comments on the plan.

Note that you can provide submissions to us via other methods if you prefer:

Email: RPTP2025@gw.govt.nz

Post to: Metlink RPTP Review 2025, Greater Wellington Regional Council, PO Box 11646, Wellington, 6011

Hand deliver to us at: 100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington.

To fill out the survey, please visit: <https://haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz/regional-public-transport-plan-2025-2035-consultation>

Source: Greater Wellington Regional Council

04/03/25



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Totara Park Trail Ride: Sunday 30th of March, 10.00 am

This is an old fashioned trail ride. 25K loops some cool new tracks really good hill climbs and some really good hard loops with A and B splits. The main track is suitable for all riders. A mixture of pine forest and bulldozer. Signposted from Totara Park bridge.

\$40 lunch included. sign in on the DAY

- Full riding gear.
- No dogs
- No quads.
- 14 and up must be supervised by adults at all times.

Any questions: Grant 0212150525

Source: Wellington Motorcycle Club

21/03/25

Take a Walk On The Wild Side - CIRCLE OF SONG

Songs of inspiration, love & appreciation of life

Tues 1.00 - 2.30

Instruments and players welcome.

Remutaka Baptist Church

Akatarawa road

Contact kevin 021 311 465



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Upper Hutt Community Rescue Open Night: Monday 31st of March, 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm

Location: Te Kupenga o Rongomai – Maidstone Sports Hub, 11 Railway Ave, Upper Hutt

NZRT9 Open Night – Action-Packed Fun for All Ages!

Ever wanted to know what it's like to be part of a real-life emergency response team? Now's your chance!

Join us for a hands-on, family-friendly open night where you can:

- Try out real first response gear
- Take on action-packed challenges
- Experience rescue scenarios firsthand
- Chat with the team and see if you've got what it takes to join NZRT!

Whether you're keen to become a responder or just want a fun night out with the family, this is your chance to get up close and personal with all things first response!

Bring the kids, bring your mates, and let's see if you've got what it takes, And keep an eye out for our giveaway! See you there!

Upper Hutt Community Rescue gave permission for this article to be put up on The Upper Hutt Connection.

13/03/25

AT HOME

The cost of a hot shower

Everyone knows that hot water for showers and baths can be expensive, but just how much does it really cost, and how much might you save having shorter showers, or maybe having a bath instead?

The costs given here are a guide only. That is because there are several variables in the calculations such as the flow rate of the shower head, and how long you stay enjoying that lovely hot shower.

If you want to be even more accurate than this guide, you can measure the flow rate of your shower head by counting how many seconds it takes to fill a bucket. For example, a 10 litre bucket that takes 30 seconds to fill, is using 20 litres of water a minute. You might want to change that shower head for one that uses less water. "Economy" shower heads typically use less than 10 litres of water per minute, and can be purchased cheaply at a hardware store.

How much water bath tubs hold also varies from house to house. You can work out the exact amount by filling the bath to the level you like by measuring it out of the tap using a bucket of known capacity.

Spoiler alert: the cheapest shower or bath is a cold one – BRRRR!!!

The cost of hot water for a shower or bath has been calculated for this item at a bathing temperature of 40 degrees Celsius (C), and assumes the water has been heated from 8 degrees C (average cold water supply temperature over a year). The amount of energy required to heat a litre of water to 40 degrees C is 0.04 Kwh (rounded up from 0.0372) – which in other energy measures is also equal to 133952J, 31893cal, 37Wh and 127 btu.

The unit cost of a kilowatt hour (Kwh) varies from customer to customer, but it is somewhere around 37 cents per kilowatt as of March 2025. This may seem to be outrageously expensive, but to prove its reasonableness simply divide the actual amount you pay by the number of kilowatts your energy account says you use, and you will get a similar answer to 37 cents per unit. About half the cost of delivered energy is the daily infrastructure charges (pipes and wires) and GST.

You now have the numbers you need to work out your own costs using your own water usage, and kilowatt costs.

Here are some examples. Substitute your own numbers to work out your exact situation. Note how you can simply manipulate the times within an example to work out other shower length scenarios.



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Example 1:

- Shower flow rate 6 litres per minute for 3 minutes = 18 litres x .037 kwh/l x 37 cents = 25 cents
- Shower flow rate 6 litres per minute for 5 minutes = 30 litres x .037 kwh/l x 37 cents = 41 cents
- Shower flow rate 6 litres per minute for 8 minutes = 48 litres x .037 kwh/l x 37 cents = 66 cents

Example 2:

- Shower flow rate 10 litres per minute for 3 minutes = 30 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 41 cents
- Shower flow rate 10 litres per minute for 5 minutes = 50 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 68 cents
- Shower flow rate 10 litres per minute for 8 minutes = 80 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 110 cents

Example 3:

- Shower flow rate 15 litres per minute for 3 minutes = 45 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 62cents
- Shower flow rate 15 litres per minute for 5 minutes = 75 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 103 cents
- Shower flow rate 15 litres per minute for 8 minutes = 120 litres x .037 kwh x 37 cents = 165 cents

Continued on Page 17

Baths

A "standard" bath filled to about 200mm deep before you get into it, uses about 160 litres of water. $160 \text{ litres} \times .037 \text{ kwh} \times 37 \text{ cents /kwh} = \2.20

Making Dollar Savings

Saving money on hot water is directly related to how many litres of hot water are used.

A low-flow shower head allows a reasonable length of shower with minimal water usage and can be a good solution for families where controlling usage might be difficult.

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

20/03/25

RECIPES

Hi everyone, sorry but no room for a recipe this week. Check out the meals, baking, and desserts section on The Upper Hutt Connection for inspiration.

Check out the meals section as there are a couple of new recipes in there. Easy egg-fried rice & Potato Fritters. Keep an eye out for a Shrimp Rissoto which I'm going to make for dinner tonight (I prepare the Wednesday Edition on Tuesdays), if it's a success, I'll be putting it up.

Cheers, Ben

<https://uhconnection.co.nz/recipes-meals/>

<https://uhconnection.co.nz/recipes-baking/>

<https://uhconnection.co.nz/recipes-desserts/>



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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!

Examples of the AI images I can provide can be found here: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-an-article-to-the-upper-hutt-connection/the-upper-hutt-connection-ai-image-gallery/>



AI Generated

The Upper Hutt Connection is always looking for:

- General news articles
- Community events
- Letters to the Editor / Opinion (Community Commentary)
- 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.

BUSINESS ADVERTISING

Advertise on The Upper Hutt Connection at only \$1 a day – billed at \$30 per month. No contract – make sure you pay each month and your business will continue to be advertised on The Upper Hutt Connection.

\$1 a day advertising means a page all to yourself on The Upper Hutt Connection along with a small image and blurb on the homepage linking to your page. You can include as much content as you like, including images, social media links, etc.

If you ask, I'll also include a mention in The Wednesday Edition. This will have to be a shorter ad in order to fit with everything else, but it will include a link to your page on The Upper Hutt Connection.

The advertisement can be included in any section you want in the Wednesday Edition, just say where and I'll find a place to slot it in. If you don't say which category, I'll just put it in any place that works as I'm assembling it.

As for restrictions on who can advertise, the only exclusion is the sex industry. Everyone else is welcome to advertise on The Upper Hutt Connection.



AI Generated

If you're interested in advertising on The Upper Hutt Connection, please email me at editor@uhconnection.co.nz

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

Please note that advertising on The Upper Hutt Connection is only open to those based in Upper Hutt – That is as north as the Remutaka Hill, the border of Akatawara Road between Upper Hutt and Kapiti, and as south as Reynolds Bach Drive, Stokes Valley.

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.

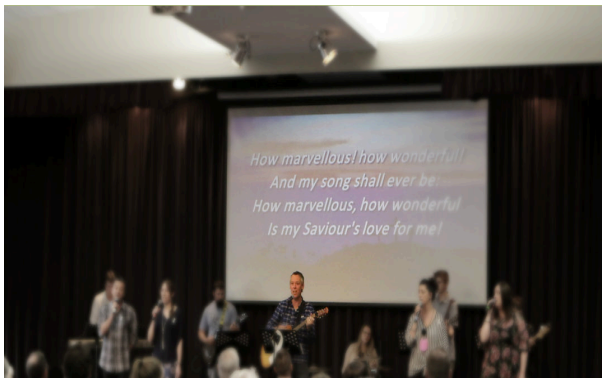
Our Creche for children under 3 1/2 years runs every Sunday morning. Our Children's Church runs Sundays during school terms.

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 rodneyransay62@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 Life. 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 21

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

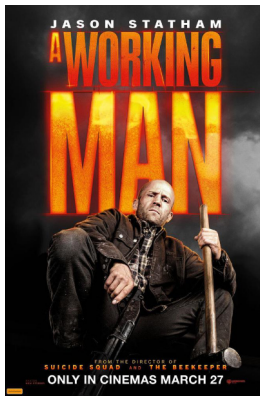
The service order follows ANZPB with the Sunday sermon being repeated here. Our services are supported by a good tech suite, including two large monitors installed at the front of the church, and a quality sound system.

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

What's new at Monterey Cinemas? Week starting 27th of March, 2025



A WORKING MAN

Running time: 116 minutes

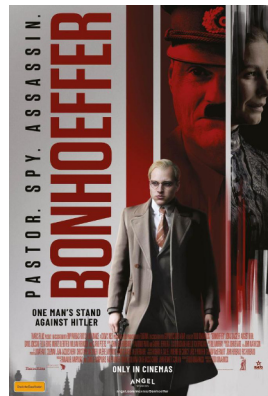
Rated: R16 (Violence & offensive language)

Levon Cade left his profession behind to work construction and be a good dad to his daughter. But when a local girl vanishes, he's asked to return to the skills that made him a mythic figure in the shadowy world of counter-terrorism.

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/a-working-man>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9150192/videooplayer/vi2302265625/?ref=nr_srsq_2_tt_8_nm_0_in_0_q_A%2520working%2520man

To view all films coming out this week, please visit: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/coming-soon>



BONHOEFFER: PASTOR. SPY. ASSASSIN.

Running time: 132 minutes

Rated: M (Violence, offensive language & content that may disturb)

Berlin during the Third Reich, examining Bonhoeffer's determination to live his life with uncompromising political and spiritual courage, while speaking truth to power, in his attempt to save countless Jewish lives.

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/bonhoeffer-pastor-spy-assassin>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt26237514/videooplayer/vi3007039001/?ref=nr_srsq_1_tt_5_nm_3_in_0_q_Bonhoeffer

Source: Monterey Cinemas

25/03/25