

THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION



A LOCAL NEWSPAPER - FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY

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Website: uhconnection.co.nz

Facebook: The Upper Hutt Connection

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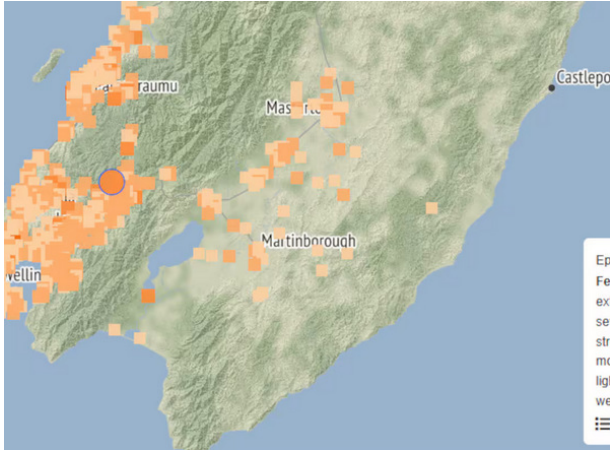
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GeoNet

4.2 earthquake hits near Upper Hutt shortly after midnight

GeoNet reported that the earthquake struck within 5 km of Upper Hutt, and was at a depth of 20km.

Source: *New Zealand Herald*

07/04/25

A bird's eye view of the Staglands redevelopment

Thank you to Andy from Above Ground Level Photography and Peryer Constuction for sharing this amazing drone footage of our Main Entrance and Cafe Redevelopment.

We hope that this bird's eye view gives everyone good understanding of the fantastic new building coming soon!

Source: *Staglands Wildlife Reserve & Cafe*

03/04/25



Andy Radka for Peryer Construction

Collision between car and motorcycle in Totara Park

Emergency services are at the scene of a collision involving a car and motorbike in Upper Hutt.

The crash happened at the intersection of California Drive and Tacoma Drive, about 10.55am.

One person has serious injuries.

The section of road is likely to remain closed for some time while the Serious Crash Unit carries out a scene investigation.

Source: *Wellington District Police*

02/04/25

After a long while, H2O Xstream has reopened its doors

This morning H2O Xstream opened its doors again to the public. A “thank you” to Emma for providing these photos.

Please check out <https://uhconnection.co.nz/general-news/after-a-long-while-h2o-xstream-has-reopened-its-doors/> to view all the photos.

07/04/25





Google Maps

Blenheim Street / Martin Street pedestrian crossing will not be coming back

With the opening of H2O Xstream Aquatic Centre on 7 April 2025 Council have made the decision not to reinstate the zebra crossing on Blenheim Street just south of the intersections of Fergusson Drive and Martin Street.

The crossing was painted over with black roadmaking paint on 2 November 2023 after the footpath was closed on the south side of Fergusson Drive for the pool upgrade.

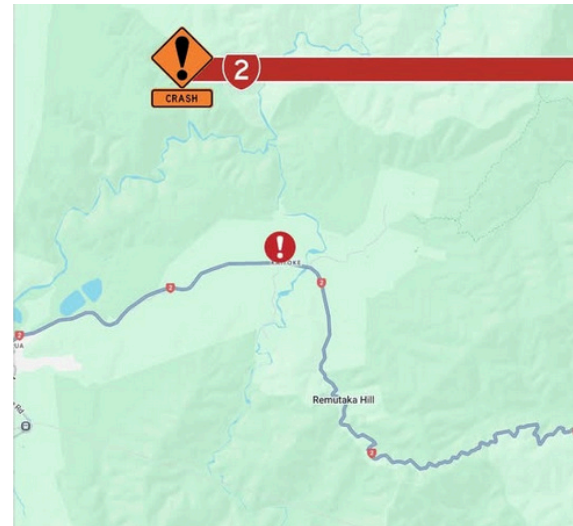
We need to look into a few concerns about where this zebra crossing is placed, including:

1. There are already multiple other crossing facilities close by to provide connection to the city
2. The current location has limiting factors that impact the safety, suitability, functionality and sightlines, particularly how close it is to the roundabout and vehicles driving to/from Martin St.
3. Traffic islands were removed to make way for work on Blenheim Street, including drainage, roadworks, and the construction of H2O Xstream. These islands also made it hard for heavy traffic to turn from Fergusson Drive north into Blenheim Street, causing damage to the kerb and island. They haven't been put back yet to allow time to figure out the best road layout and ensure the zebra crossing is safe. Pedestrian demand will play a big role in the final decision.

As any potential works have not been included in the LTP we are looking at the funding options available once the investigation has been completed.

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

03/04/25



NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

Crash near Waterworks Road blocks southbound lane

A serious crash happened around 12.30 pm on Thursday afternoon, near the intersection with Waterworks Road in Kaitoke. Road users are advised to expect delays.

Source: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

03/04/25

Easter Hours 2025: plan ahead and hop in for a visit

While we wait for the Easter Bunny to make its rounds, we recommend you get ready to stock up on books, magazines, board games, and more in advance.

Our opening hours over Easter

Central Library

- Thursday, 17 April – 9.30AM to 6.00PM (early close)
- Friday, 18 April: CLOSED (Good Friday)
- Saturday, 19 April: CLOSED
- Sunday, 20 April: CLOSED (Easter Sunday)
- Monday, 21 April: CLOSED (Easter Monday)
- Tuesday, 22 April: 9.30AM to 6.00PM (normal hours resume)

Pinehaven Library

- Thursday, 17 April – 9.30AM – 12.00 PM
- Friday, 18 April: CLOSED (Good Friday)
- Saturday, 19 April: CLOSED
- Sunday, 20 April: CLOSED (Easter Sunday)
- Monday, 21 April: CLOSED (Easter Monday)
- Tuesday, 22 April: 9.30 am – 12.00 pm (normal hours resume)

Mobile libraries (P reherehu and Mangaroa)

Both mobile libraries will be parked up and of the road while schools, kura, and ECE centres close for the term 1 holidays.

Re-charging and getting ready for a new library system

We have decided to stay closed over the full Easter weekend to give our team a four-day break. This is in preparation for several weeks' intensive training to learn the ins and outs of a new library management system (LMS) which we are bringing to you in June.

A significant amount of work has already gone into this upcoming change. For example, we have been busy ensuring that our catalogue records – that's over 100,000 listings! – will transfer smoothly to the new system.

We will share detailed news of the upcoming system changes with you soon.



Upper Hutt Libraries

To stay up to date with what's happening at Upper Hutt Libraries, subscribe to our bi-monthly FANMAIL newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/uhcc/fanmail-subscription>

Here for you 24/7: our Digital Library

Don't forget: our well-stocked Digital Library is open for you all day, every day!

We have thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks, comics, newspapers, and films available to keep you entertained and informed.

<https://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz/Digital-Library>

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

07/04/25

Keen to make a submission on the Annual Plan and Local Water Done Well? – Some helpful hints from NZ Empowered

Upper Hutt Council Annual Plan 25/26 and Local Water Consultation

For those of you who are wanting to put in a submission on the Annual Plan 25/26 and you haven't been able to get hold of a booklet like this yet here are the links to the consultation documents and a link to additional information if the booklet/document do not provide enough information.

Annual Plan and Supporting information: <https://letskorero.upperhutt.govt.nz/2025-2026-ap>

- Page 11 – Kerbside Recycling
- Page 12 – Schedule of Fees and Revenue Finance
- Page 13 – Gambling Venues
- Page 14 – Alcohol Bylaws

Local Water Done Well and supporting Information: <https://letskorero.upperhutt.govt.nz/lwdw>

NZ Empowered Local Water Done Well Site: <https://www.nzempowered.com/post/local-water-done-well>

Also here is the Council Agenda document from the 19/3/2025 with additional Information in it also. It has specific sections in it relating to the information areas: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/council-agenda-20250319.pdf>

Also here is the Council Agenda document from the 19/3/2025 with additional Information in it also. It has specific sections in it relating to the information areas: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-1/council-agenda-20250319.pdf>

- Page 47 – Revenue and Financing
- Page 80 – Gambling Venue Policy Review
- Page 149 – Alcohol Licensing Subsidies.
- Page 186 – Fees and Charges
- Page 270 – Kerbside Recycling

One of the councillors has mentioned if you wish to submit orally as the Annual Plan and Local Water is in three parts, If you submit 3 separate submissions one for each part you should be able to speak for the 5 minutes allowed on each submission.

End date for submissions is 27th April 2025.

If you are unsure on anything, contact a Councillor or the Mayor and ask questions. It's an election year, get to know and question your councillors: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/Home/Tabs/Council/Your-Council/About-Your-Council/Mayor-and-Councillors>

As a side note: The Rates Finder page which the council provides does **NOT** include the Greater Wellington Regional Council Rates.

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

07/04/25



Upper Hutt Bowling Club

Mayor Wayne Guppy declares "conflict of interest" concerning the Upper Hutt Bowling Club, after being questioned

At the Policy Committee meeting on Wednesday the 2nd of April, Mayor Wayne Guppy declared a "conflict of interest" with the deal for the long term lease of the land on Maidstone Terrace, after being questioned by the Operational Team of his potential conflict of interest. As patron of the club, it would be expected that Wayne Guppy would have declared this conflict of interest earlier, and not waiting until now, when the consultation is up to the voting stage, to state this conflict of interest.

Councillor Chris Carson declared his conflict of interest a while back, being an executive member of the club and took himself out of the discussions. It's questioned why didn't the mayor do this?

The video of the meeting can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/live/4I_8Ulim27I?si=SdWb5F4-UpLqZVwU

Source: NZ Empowered

04/04/25



Contributor: Sally

Laughter is good for you.

Imagine an opportunity to play as adults, to abandon reality, to be a little silly and take on some surprising challenges. Each week groups of over 65s are taking up the challenge and enjoying improvising and theatre games, and forging new friendships.

Social Drama for Seniors has returned to the Upper Hutt. Ten years ago a similar group called Unscripted ran a weekly session at the Upper Hutt Library, founded from a council community initiative. Meanwhile, Voice Arts began – a charitable trust providing access to drama-based creative programmes delivering social drama classes for seniors across Te Whanganui e Tara for the last 7 years, in community halls and in retirement villages.

After Unscripted finished up in Upper Hutt 5 years ago, many participants joined the Voice Arts sessions, travelling to Naenae's Rata Village for a weekly session. Social Drama is now running independently with classes in Upper Hutt, Naenae and Petone.

So what happens at Social Drama?

How: Each session is highly imaginative and different. It involves a series of improvisation exercises, story-telling and drama games. But no learning lines, reading from scripts or public performance. We are a supportive group and you participate at your own pace and nothing is compulsory. This is drama for the people!

Who: People over 65 with diverse life experiences, all walks of life, all abilities and with a sense of humour. The size of the group is between 10-20 people.

Sally Richards runs the group. She's an experienced facilitator, welcoming and wrangles the fun.

Why: This is an innovative programme. It supports cognitive improvement, community connection, memory recall, and self-esteem. Laughter is very good for you. That's the science.

What people say:

"The social drama classes are an unparalleled opportunity for older folk to come together to rescue their brains, socialize and learn. The classes are confidence boosters and everyone is encouraged and applauded."

"There is always laughter and jokes, as well as care, courtesy, kindness and empathy. Sally models these behaviours and traits. Social Drama is a powerful contributor to building a strong and positive community."

The group's return to Upper Hutt Library is proving popular with new and returning faces. We are causing a little bit of a stir at the library! We hope that people will come along and see if this is for them.

When and Where:

90 minutes sessions (with a cuppa and a biscuit)

- Second & fourth Tuesday 3.30pm Upper Hutt Library (Free)
- Every Tuesday 10am St. Augustine's Church, Petone (\$5 koha)
- First & third Tuesday 1pm Te Mako, Naenae (\$5 koha)

During school term time.

For more information contact:
sallyjoanrichards@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/prof.le.php?id=100063696829425>

We are Supported by Hutt City and Upper Hutt Councils.

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



Upper Hutt City Council

New playground equipment for Timberlea this month

Timberlea Park it's your turn for a playground replacement!

This new playground will be safe but fun, sparking imagination and play!

Children can climb to the top of it using various nets, enhance motor skills with the central chimney, and enjoy hanging and balancing elements for an added momentum and physical benefits.

The viewing net platform offers 360 degree views to look over the entire park, a great reward for conquering the climb.

We're hoping to have this project completed this month!

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

04/04/25



The Upper Hutt Connection

Rail closures and bus replacements between Friday 18th of April and Sunday 27th of April

Kia ora Hutt Valley Line passengers. Rail closures and bus replacements will be in place between Friday 18 April – Sunday 27 April.

Here is everything you need to know.

- Easter Weekend (Friday 18 April – Monday 21 April) and ANZAC Weekend (Friday 25 April – Sunday 27 April): Buses will replace trains on all lines.
- Weekdays (Tuesday 22 April – Thursday 24 April), the Hutt Valley Line will be closed between Upper Hutt and Ava Station. Bus replacements will be operating.

Here is how the bus replacements will operate:

- Upper Hutt, Wallaceville, Trentham, Heretaunga, Silverstream and Manor Park passengers, bus replacements will shuttle between your usual station and Melling Station. You will then catch the train for Melling Station to Wellington, returning the same way.
- Pomare, Taita, Wingate, Naenae, Epuni, Waterloo, Woburn and Ava passengers, bus replacements will shuttle between your usual station and Petone station. You will then catch the train from Petone to Wellington, returning the same way.

For more information head to <https://www.metlink.org.nz/news-and-updates/easter-and-anzac-day-weekend-2025>

Source: Metlink

04/04/25

Roadworks planned on State Highway 2 near Totara Park from late April to late June

Roxanne Hilliard, Wellington Transport Alliance Manager, says safety improvements and road rebuild work are planned near Totara Park from late April until late June.

"Contractors will undertake various improvements, beginning with drainage work in April and May, a road rebuild in May/early June, and installing new median safety barriers and line marking from May to late June."

"This is a significant project, and we expect to be on-site for approximately nine weeks, weather permitting," Ms. Hilliard says.

She says the result will be a much better and safer stretch of State Highway 2.

"To rebuild the road, we will need to excavate the highway to around 300mm and rebuild it from the base up. This means drivers will experience an uneven surface during the day and can expect a temporary lower speed limit in place at times."

Ms. Hilliard says the planned drainage work is critical for keeping water away from the road to help prevent potholes.

And she says the median barriers will help improve the route's safety. "They are the most effective tool for preventing head-on crashes, which is how many people are killed or seriously injured on our roads."

"Contractors will install new barriers between Totara Park Road and Fergusson Drive. This continues work started in 2023, where median safety barriers were installed between the Whakatiki Street and Gibbons Street intersections," Ms. Hilliard says.

Ms. Hilliard says the project will require nighttime road closures while the work is underway.

"The size and scope of the project means this is unavoidable, but scheduling the works together means we make the best use of time and get all the work done in one hit."

Due to closures and detours, road users should expect nighttime travel delays in the area until the work is completed. Drivers are advised to plan ahead and allow extra time for their journeys.

These works are weather-dependent and may be delayed or rescheduled if bad weather occurs



Upper Hutt City Council

Works Schedule:

Late April – mid-May: drainage works

- Nighttime southbound closure
- SH2 open in both directions during the day under a temporary speed limit

Mid-May to early June: road rebuild works

- Full nighttime closure
- SH2 open in both directions during the day under a temporary speed limit

Early June to late June – median barrier works

- Full nighttime closure
- SH2 open in both directions during the day under a temporary speed limit
- Full nighttime closure
- Detour via Fergusson Drive and Totara Park Road
- SH2 open in both directions during the day

More Information:

- Research shows median barriers virtually eliminate head-on crashes and reduce deaths and serious injuries from run-of-road crashes by around 40 to 50 percent.
- Head-on crashes are the leading cause of death on state highways and account for approximately half of all deaths recorded. Safety barriers offer a second chance. They help reduce the chance of a simple mistake costing lives and destroying families.

Source: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

07/04/25



RCR Media

Upper Hutt Houses and Land for \$0.00

An important new documentary exposes current “climate change” laws, already in force in New Zealand, that allow for houses and land to be compulsorily acquired by government without any compensation to their owners. The existing laws are broad and far reaching, and could easily be applied to Upper Hutt residents just as they can be applied to anywhere else throughout New Zealand. A “climate change” major food of the Hutt Valley, similar to Cyclone Gabriel, from torrential rain in the Tararua ranges overflowing our river, could trigger moves to relocate Upper Hutt if there is major damage to bridges and stopbanks and a return to flooding of housing as was common in old Upper Hutt before we were a city.

What happens when your home becomes “unviable”? When authorities decide – pre-emptively – that your community is too risky to save? “Managed Retreat” sounds voluntary. But as this gripping documentary reveals, it’s often anything but. Award-winning filmmaker Alistair Harding pulls back the curtain on one of the most controversial and consequential issues facing New Zealand today. Through powerful interviews and on-the-ground stories, *Managed Out* explores how government policy, extreme climate modelling, and insurance retreat are quietly reshaping where – and if – New Zealanders can live. From the battle-worn streets of Matatā to the coastal towns quietly marked for retreat, this is a story of land, loss, control, and the very definition of home. Will your community be next? Watch now to understand the real stakes behind “Managed Retreat”—before it arrives on your doorstep.

Watch it here:

www.rcr.media RCR360 Episode 7 MANAGED OUT (57 minutes. I found it played better on my device than on my computer).

The Industry of Managed Retreat – An RCR Original Documentary by Alistair Harding

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

07/04/25

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES



AI Generated

City Service Committee: 26th of March, 2025

Topics for discussion included:

- Proposed parking changes for the H2O carpark Brown Street and installation of pedestrian islands at 836 Fergusson Drive
- Updates on Community Services
- Updates on Communications and Engagement
- Updates on the city's assets, planning and regulatory services

City Services Committee Agenda – 26th March 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-2/agenda-20250326.pdf>

City Services Committee Minutes – 26th March 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-2/city-services-minutes-20250326.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

08/04/25

SPORTS

Craig Harris and Georgia Lloyd play their 180th and 190th games in the weekend

As we are going into our second weekend of games for the 2025 season, we want to acknowledge two of our club members.

Craig Harris will be playing his 180th game for Upper Hutt Hockey Club in an open grade team. For the 2025 season, Craig is captaining our Accountants Plus Upper Hutt Premier Four Men's team. Craig has been a huge part in this men's team over the past few years, helping out with coaching, organising the boys and sharing his advice. Over the past three years, Craig has scored 15 goals – not bad for a defender Craig!

Georgia Lloyd will be playing her 190th game for Upper Hutt Hockey Club in an open grade team. For the 2025 season, Georgia is playing in our Premier Three Women's team. Over the past few years, Georgia has been a key player in our Premier Two Women's team, who last season took the step up to Premier One. Over the past few years Georgia has scored a whopping 33 goals.

Congrats Craig and Georgia, keep up the hard work and we are excited to see how many more balls you can put in the goal for the 2025 season !

Source: Upper Hutt Hockey Club

04/04/25



Hockey results for the 5th / 6th of April

Match Results				
1	P2 Men	VS	Kapiti	2
3	P3 Women	VS	Harbour City	1
3	Accountants Plus P3 Men	VS	Northern United	4
2	Reserve Women	VS	Hutt United	1
0	Reserve Men	VS	Hutt United	5

Upper Hutt Hockey Club

Last Saturday's (5th of April) Rams results

- Premier V Ories: 17-36
- Premier 2 V Ories: 12-38
- Colts V Ories: 34-14
- Pirates V Thirstys: 12-31
- Thristys V Pirates: 31-12
- Pressies V Johnsonville: 27-40

Source: Upper Hutt Rams RFC

07/04/25

Some scenes from Upper Hutt City Football's men's Dettol Central League Round 2 in the weekend

Photo highlights of our NZ National League Dettol Central League Round 2 match against Waterside Karori AFC.

Check the photo right for our Man of the Match

1. Connor McIndoe
2. Sam Twigg
3. Donal Gahan

Our next game will be at home on Saturday where we face Island Bay on our new turf. We will be holding an Orange Weekend to recognise five of our senior teams playing at home across the weekend! Make sure to come down and celebrate with us!

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

07/04/25



Upper Hutt City Football

Women's Weekend Results for Upper Hutt City Football

Opening weekend for women's football was full of excitement, thrills and mostly our women's players having fun.

Having our newly formed Women's 3rds team play at home against @vuwaafc_units whilst we came away with the loss of 4-0, there was a lot of learnings for our team who played together for the first time today!

The Monarchs played a great game against the new to Div 4 Wainuiomata AFC Women's team. With our ladies scoring the early 2 opening goals it was looking up, however with many goals on both sides Wainui pushed on to win the game 7-4!

Thanks to Imray's Snaps for spending time here at Upper Hutt this weekend and capture some great moments of the games!

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

07/04/25



Imray's Snaps

Upper Hutt Petanque defends the Jacques Cochonnet Trophy against Otaki

Upper Hutt Petanque Club have successfully defended the Jacques Cochonnet trophy from a challenge by Otaki Petanque Club, held on UHPC terrain in Maidstone Park, Upper Hutt on Saturday 5th April 2025. The teams gathered at 09:00 and play began at 09:30. All three rounds of games were played before a lunch was enjoyed by all, hosted by Upper Hutt. Nine games were played, three each of Singles, Doubles and Triples between the two clubs. The tournament is won by the club winning at least 5 of the 9 games overall.

Upper Hutt won all three games from the 1st and 2nd rounds, then two games in the 3rd round, losing the Doubles, making the win 8-1 to Upper Hutt. A great day of light hearted play was had by all and Upper Hutt retained the trophy again. Otaki were great sports and great fun to play with. The next challenge for the trophy is from Horowhenua Petanque Club at UHPC terrain at Maidstone Park within the next 6 weeks.

The winning team, pictured from left to right was Dave Gwerder (Singles), Derek Worsley (Triples), Adrienne Gwerder (Doubles), Moises Burgos (Doubles), Mary Khalil (Triples), and Brian Smith (Triples). The Otaki team, pictured from left to right was Linley Wistrand (Triples), Val Clark (Triples), Gary Brunton (Doubles), Shirley Macdonald (Doubles), Craig Watson (Triples), and Wendy Mohan (Singles).

Upper Hutt won the trophy from Kapiti on 1st November 2023 and have since defended it from challengers eleven times, making it twelve wins in a row. A new round of challengers from around the region will be drawn at the upcoming AGM of the Wellington Petanque Association (WPA).

Source: Upper Hutt Petanque

07/04/25



COMMUNITY EVENTS

2025 Autumn U-Play School Holiday Events: 14th of April - 24th of April

Explore, play, create!

Whether it's golden sunshine or rainy days, our autumn line-up of free and low-cost holiday events brings you lots of options to keep the kids busy, active, and entertained.

We have partnered up again with several local sports clubs to offer exciting have-a-go judo sessions, indoor bowls, and more.

The team at Upper Hutt Libraries is keeping you puzzling, guessing, and exploring with code cracker challenges. For extra sprinkles of fun, Whirinaki Whare Taonga is hosting a dazzling programme of shows and craft activities.

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

The full list of activities includes:

- StoryTots (at Pinehaven and Upper Hutt library)
- Kiwi Icons Code Cracker
- Judo: (ages 7 - 12), and (13+)
- Wheke Wonders
- Over-5s indoor play
- Indoor Bowls
- Your Time Starts Now
- Under-5s indoor play
- Darts
- Aya and the Butterfly
- Friendship to the Max (at Pinehaven and Upper Hutt library)
- Multi-Sport Day with Junior Cricket Upper Hutt
- Dazzlehands
- Dazzlehands in Te Reo Māori

For more information on the above events, to sign up to the U-Play newsletter, and to download the calendar of the events, please visit: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/Community/U-Play>



Upper Hutt City Council

2025/2026 Long Term Plan – Let's Korero events: 9th of April / 16th of April / 22nd of April

Lets Korero Events – Feel free to come and chat with us, ask questions and provide feedback

9th of April 2025:

Local Businesses, Upper Hutt Central Library: 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm

Registration is necessary for this event – register here: <https://hvchamber.org.nz/arlo/events/595-consultation-with-businesses-2025-2026-annual-plan-recycling-fees-and-water-management/>

16th of April 2025:

Community Korero, Upper Hutt Central Library: 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

22nd of April 2025:

Facebook Live Video, <http://www.facebook.com/UpperHuttCityCouncil/>: 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

04/04/25

Custom Paint Works Stockcar Eliminator, TQ & Production Saloon Champs: Saturday 12th of April, 6.00 pm – 10.00 pm

Please note that all events at Wellington Family Speedway are weather dependent (if no weather)

The Capital Pools & Spas Stockcars are going head to head in a brand new format brought to you by Custom Paint Works. The Eliminator will see the drivers compete over three heats for grids in the final Eliminator race with the highest on points of the front and the lowest at the back. Each lap the last-place car will be forced to retire leaving only the champion eliminator on the last lap. Then see the return of the TQ Midgets to Wellington with a full field of the pocket rockets set to go wheel to wheel for the Wellington Title. Finally the sedans of the AVKiwi Production Saloons hit the track for their Autumn Champs!

It's gonna be an epic night of action.

See your favourite drivers from: (Support classes TBC)

- FH Group Superstocks
- Capital Pools & Spas Stockcars
- A&K Plumbing Saloons
- AV Kiwi Production Saloons
- Prowash Wellington Streetstocks
- TQ Midgets

TICKET PRICES:

Student/Senior discounts and family concessions are available again this year. Prices are as follows:

- Adult: \$25.00
- Child: 10-16 y/o: \$10.00
- Child Under 10: FREE
- Students & Seniors (With ID or Gold Card): \$15.00 (available at the gate only)
- Family (2 adults & up to 4 children): \$60.00

Source: Wellington Family Speedway

24/02/25



Whirinaki Whare Taonga

Forget-Me-Knot: 3rd of April – 12th of April

Venue: The Studio, 52 Ward Street, Upper Hutt

Dates:

- Thursday 3 April, 8pm
- Friday 4 April, 8pm
- Saturday 5 April, 3pm
- Sunday 6 April, 3pm
- Wednesday 9 April, 8pm
- Thursday 10 April, 8pm
- Friday 11 April, 8pm
- Saturday 12 April, 8pm

by David Tristram, and directed for Heretaunga Players by Ruth Sarratt, 3rd to 12th April 2025.

Robert Zeinfeld is not the man he thought he was. Then again, he can't actually remember who he was. Or can he? Inspector Monroe doesn't know whether to believe Robert or not. Trouble is, the deeper he digs, the more confused he gets, until he finds himself wrestling a plot with more twists than a buckled slinky! Mrs Zeinfeld is no help. Funnily enough, neither is Mrs Monroe!

This wickedly witty comedy from David Tristram will leave audiences weak with laughter, and debating the question "is he, or isn't he?" all the way home.

Forget-Me-Knot is performed at The Studio, 52 Ward St, Upper Hutt April, 3rd to 6th (Wednesday to Sunday) and 9th to 12th (Thursday to Saturday). Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th are matinées starting at 3pm; all other performances start at 8pm.

Tickets \$23 | Booking fees apply to all sales | Bookings required

Book through iTicket.co.nz: <https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2025/apr/forget-me-knot>

Source: Whirinaki Whare Taonga

10/03/25



Contributor: Sharon

Geek Fest 2025 – calling all stallholders: Geek Fest is on the May the Fourth

Calling all stallholders – Apply for Geek Fest 2025 at Brewtown, Upper Hutt!

- Date: May 4th, 2025
- Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Location:** The Greenspace, Brewtown, Upper Hutt

Geek Fest 2025 is just around the corner, and we're inviting YOU to be a part of the ultimate geek event! If you've got geeky clothes, collectibles, art, or any other amazing merchandise, this is your chance to showcase your products to an enthusiastic crowd of fans!

If you'd like to join the fun and be part of the market stalls, apply now and let's make Geek Fest 2025 the best one yet! Spaces are limited, so don't miss out!

LINK TO APPLICATION FORM: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyjo98tK07w5XlorVc9f7VKG46XHN1ddGi_F3u1t1a1Ms5g/viewform?pli=1

Here's what's in store for our attendees:

- Geeky Clothes & Fashion
- Collectibles & Memorabilia
- Live Music
- Cosplay Fun
- Competitions
- Market Stalls featuring unique, geeky products

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

03/04/35



Maidstone Park Miniature Railway

Maidstone Park Miniature Railway New Members, and Family Day: Sunday 13th of April, 1.00 pm

Location: Maidstone Park, Park Street, Upper Hutt

All Aboard for a Day of Miniature Railway Fun!

Ever wondered what it's like to drive a model locomotive? Or maybe you're just curious if model engineering is the perfect hobby for you? The Maidstone Society of Model Engineers is hosting a New Members and Family Day, and we'd love for you to join us!

Why Come Along?

- Take the controls and drive a miniature train under supervision
- Get hands-on with steam, petrol, and electric locomotives on display
- Meet a welcoming community of railway and engineering enthusiasts
- Discover a rewarding hobby that mixes creativity and precision engineering
- Rides are just \$2 each (cash only, no EFTPOS).

No experience? No problem! Just bring your enthusiasm, and we'll handle the rest.

Come for a ride, stay for the passion—see you there!

Source: Maidstone Park Miniature Railway

15/03/25

Nominations for Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards now open: Nominations close 31st of May

Every year, we team up with Wellington Airport to recognise the work of community groups in Upper Hutt. The focus of the awards is to celebrate volunteers for their valuable contribution to society.

In the first round, the Wellington region's five councils (Wellington City, Porirua, Kaitiaki, Hutt City, and Upper Hutt) recognise their local volunteer organisations in six different categories.

For the second and final round, winners from each region progress to the Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards (WARCA) for the overall award in their category, and the opportunity to be named Supreme Winner. The winners are announced at an annual celebration dinner.

The awards have been run since 2004, recognising hundreds of community groups across the region. Nominations are open during April and May each year, and there is \$50,000 in awards and prizes to be won.

Nominate and be in to win

Which community group has made a difference for you? Know a volunteer-led initiative that deserves to be recognised?

Nominate a group today and go in a prize draw to win a Bed and Breakfast package for two from Rydges Wellington Airport (one night's accommodation; breakfast for two; and a \$150 dining voucher for Peloton or Whiskey Lima Golf).

<https://www.wellingtonairport.co.nz/community-hub/community-awards/community-awards/nominate-group/>

For more information, please visit: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/Community/Awards/WARCA>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

02/04/25



Bristols Automotive Specialists

Open Day at Bristols Automotive Specialists: Saturday 12th of April, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm

Bristol's Automotive Specialists Open Day – Saturday 12th April! 10am – 2pm

Car enthusiasts and the local community are in for a treat this Saturday as Bristol's Automotive Specialists hosts its highly anticipated Open Day!

From 10am to 2pm, visitors can enjoy a sausage sizzle, exciting prizes, and a chance to meet the team behind Bristol's trusted automotive services. Whether you're a car lover, a loyal customer, or just keen to check out what goes on under the hood, this event is for you!

"We love connecting with our community, and this is a great opportunity for people to bring their cars, have a chat, and enjoy a fun day out," says Dave, owner of Bristol's Automotive Specialists.

Got questions about your car? Wondering about maintenance tips or servicing advice? Bring your questions along! Our team will be happy to chat and share their expertise.

There's plenty of parking at Heretaunga College and at Wallaceville Railway Station so bring a car, bring a mate and come along—the more, the merrier!

- When? Saturday 12th April, 10am – 2pm
- Where? Bristol's Automotive Specialists, 40 Ward Street, Upper Hutt

For more details, follow Bristols Automotive Specialists on Facebook. See you there!

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

17/03/25



Whirinaki Whare Taonga

Rosewood Troupes April 2025: Sunday 13th of April

Location: Whirinaki Whare Taonga

Session One: 1.30pm

Jazz Troupe Under 10 Years, Contemporary Troupe 12 Years & Over, Jazz Troupe 15 Years & Over, Contemporary Troupe Under 12 Years, Lyrical Troupe 12 Years & Over, Hip Hop Troupe 12 Years & Over

Session Two: approx 2.30pm

Tap Troupe 12 Years & Over, Lyrical Troupe Under 12 Years, Jazz Troupe 10 – 12 Years, Jazz Troupe 12 – 15 Years, Entertainment Troupe

General Admission \$7.50 per ticket | Booking and transaction fees apply | Gillies Group Theatre

Purchase tickets at: <https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2025/apr/rosewood-troupes>

Source: Whirinaki Whare Taonga

08/04/25

Take a Walk On The Wild Side - CIRCLE OF SONG

Songs of inspiration, love & appreciation of life

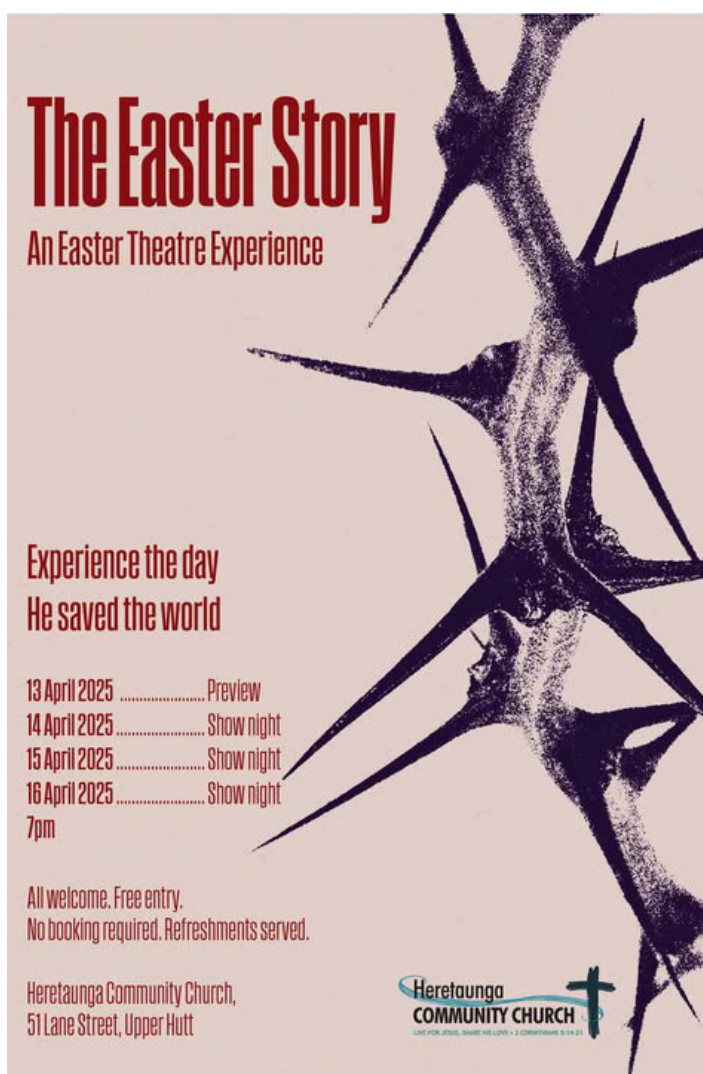
Tues 1.00 - 2.30

Instruments and players welcome.

Remutaka Baptist Church

Akatarawa road

Contact kevin 021 311 465



The Easter Story; An Easter Theatre Experience – 13th – 16th of April, 7.00 pm

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.

07/11/24

The mini ANZAC museum is back at The Hub Social: 2nd of April – 26th of April

ANZAC Display at The Hub Social – 496 Ferguson Drive, Trentham Upper Hutt.

Pop in & take a look around.

Hours:

- Tuesday – Friday: 5am – 2pm.
- Saturday: 8am – 2pm.
- Anzac day: 4.30am – 2pm.

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

03/04/25



The Hub Social



AI Generated



Upper Hutt City Football school holiday programme: 14th – 17th of April, 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

It's back for the April School Holidays!

Our popular football programme run by former U13 Talent Development coach, Kris Pinnock.

The programme is open to all players born between 2013 and 2018 (U7s-U12s).

- When: 14-17 April 2025
- Where: Te Kupenga o Rongomai (Maidstone Sports Hub), Green Room
- Cost: \$50 per day
- Time: 9.00am-3.00pm (drop off from 8.30am)
- How to register: <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/349496>

Questions or more info?

Please contact Jonathan Winkworth, jonathan@upperhuttcityfootball.org.nz

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

31/03/25



AI Generated

Weaving the Harakeke: Monday 14th of August, 6.00 pm

Location: Kereru Room at rongomai marae

Our purpose: To have a kōrero as a community with representatives from Council kōwhiri ki te kōwhiri (face to face) for an hour once a fortnight in a safe, collaborative space empowering actions leading to improved outcomes.

This is our second hui for the year. Minutes from the daytime hui in the library last Monday the 31st of March will be available later today. Please send any items for the agenda to weavingtheharakeke@gmail.com or look for the Facebook group of the same name.

Currently our topics include.

- Frequency of the hui. There have been requests for a daytime hui which was well attended in the library. Unfortunately, Monday is not available at the library so other days are being explored. I am going to propose one hui in the evening and one during the daytime per month. Bring your thoughts and ideas.
- Annual Plan is currently out for consultation.
- Water Done Well is still ongoing.
- Decisions made by Greater Wellington also affect us.

Our intention is to create action plans from discussion points.

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

07/04/25

Upper Hutt Baptist Church playgroup: 9.30 am – 11.30 am, Tuesday mornings

If you're looking for a Tuesday activity for your little ones then come check out UHBC Playgroup at Upper Hutt Baptist Church, corner of Milton St and Fergie Drive.

We run 9.30am – 11:30am each Tuesday morning and you can drop in anytime that suits.

Lots of fun stuff to play with and a different activity each week to stimulate young minds.

Morning tea for children and adults provided.

Everyone welcome

Gold coin donation

Hope to see you there



Contributor: Cushla

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

28/03/25

SITUATIONS VACANT

Trentham School Teacher Aide Position: Applications close Friday 11th of April

We are seeking a Teacher Aide to support the learning and wellbeing of students with additional needs. Our Teacher Aides are highly valued for their role in ensuring all students can engage with their learning. They work with students individually, in small groups, and within classroom settings.

Key Responsibilities:

- Support students with additional needs
- Assist in individual, small group, and classroom settings.
- Collaborate with teachers and other staff members.
- Adapt to varying tasks based on student needs.

Key Attributes:

- Empathy, patience, and a sense of humour.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment
- Well-organised and adaptable.

Requirements:

- Previous experience as a Teacher Aide is preferred but not essential.
- Police vetting for the successful candidate.



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Hours of work:

- The position will likely be 3-4.5 hours per day.

How to Apply:

- Please email your CV to b.garner@trentham.school.nz by Friday 11th April at 3pm.

Trentham School gave permission for this article to be put up on The Upper Hutt Connection.

RECIPES

Stuck for an idea to what to do for dinner? Check out the different recipes in the meals, desserts, and baking sections below.

Cheers, Ben

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

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

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



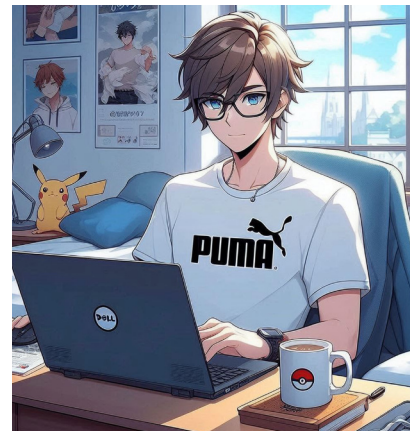
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THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ARTICLES

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.

Running for council or mayor in the 2025 local elections? Promote yourself on The Upper Hutt Connection!

Upper Hutt local body elections are coming up this October. If you're planning on running for council or for the position of mayor, The Upper Hutt Connection is more than happy to help you get your name out there.

Have a page for yourself on The Upper Hutt Connection where you can have all the text, images, social media links you like! YouTube videos and Tiktok videos, Facebook and Instagram posts, Twitter etc, are also welcome. You can update your page at any time.

Just send me an email with all the text, images, etcetera, that you'd like in your profile. I'll handle the rest. You can contact me at editor@uhconnection.co.nz

Come October, I'll also release a special Local Elections version of The Upper Hutt Connection's Wednesday Edition where all your profiles will be available to the public, all in one place.

I hope to hear from you!

Cheers, Ben Knowles – Editor / Operator @ 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.



AI Generated

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.

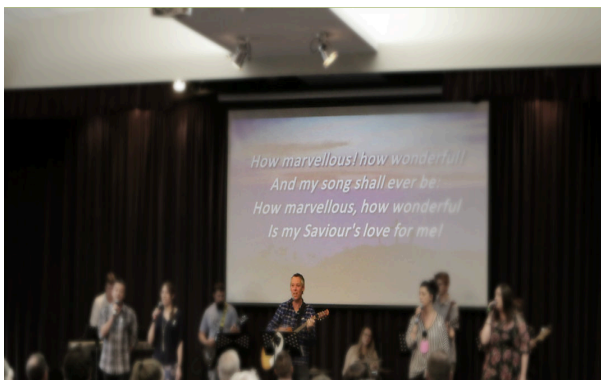
Our Creche for children under 3 1/2 years runs every Sunday morning. Our Children's Church runs Sundays during school terms.

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 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 worshipping community.
- In recent years we have turned our focus outwards to serving our community.

Continued on page 26

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 10th of April, 2025

View all films releasing this week at <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/coming-soon>

DOG MAN

Running time: 95 minutes

Rated: G

When a faithful police dog and his human police officer owner are injured together on the job, a harebrained but life-saving surgery fuses the two of them together and Dog Man is born. Dog Man is sworn to protect and serve—and fetch, sit and roll over.

As Dog Man embraces his new identity and strives to impress his Chief (Lil Rel Howery, Get Out, Free Guy), he must stop the pretty evil plots of feline supervillain Petey the Cat (Pete Davidson; Saturday Night Live, The King of Staten Island). Petey's latest plan is to clone himself, creating the kitten Lil Petey, to double his ability to do crime stuff. Things get complicated, though, when Lil Petey forges an unexpected bond with Dog Man.

When Lil Petey falls into the clutches of a common enemy, Dog Man and Petey reluctantly join forces in an action-packed race against time to rescue the young kitten. In the process, they discover the power of family (and kittens!) to bring even the most hostile foes together.

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

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10954718/videoplayer/vi3176449561/?ref=nm_sr_srsq_1_tt_8_nm_0_in_0_q_Dog%2520Man

Continued on Page 27



Dog Man

THE AMATEUR

Running time: 123 minutes

Rated: M (Violence)

Charlie Heller (Malek) is a brilliant, but deeply introverted decoder for the CIA working out of a basement of ce at headquarters in Langley whose life is turned upside down when his wife is killed in a London terrorist attack. When his supervisors refuse to take action, he takes matters into his own hands, embarking on a dangerous trek across the globe to track down those responsible, his intelligence serving as the ultimate weapon for eluding his pursuers and achieving his revenge. The f lm also stars Rachel Brosnahan, Caitriona Balfe, Jon Bernthal, Michael Stuhlbarg, Holt McCallany, Julianne Nicholson, Adrian Martinez, Danny Sapani, and Laurence Fishburne. "The Amateur" is directed by James Hawes. The screenplay is by Ken Nolan and Gary Spinelli based on the novel by Robert Littell. The f lm is produced by Hutch Parker, p.g.a., Dan Wilson, p.g.a., Rami Malek, Joel B. Michaels, with JJ Hook serving as executive producer.



The Amateur

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/the-amateur>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0899043/videooplayer/vi479381785/?ref=mv_sr_srsq_1_tt_8_nm_0_in_0_q_Amateur

THE CHOSEN: LAST SUPPER

Running time: 112 minutes

Rated: PG (Violence)

Jesus rides into the holy city as king, but f nds His Father's house has been turned from a place of prayer into a corrupt market. As the Jewish High Priest schemes against the would-be Messiah, Jesus strikes f rst—turning the tables on religious corruption.

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/the-chosen-last-supper>



The Chosen: Last Supper

THE KING OF KINGS

Running time: 101 minutes

Rated: PG (Supernatural themes & violence)

Charles Dickens embarks on a heartfelt journey to mend his relationship with his son, Walter, by sharing the ultimate story of hope and redemption: the life of Jesus Christ. Through young Walter's vivid imagination, the story comes to life, from the nativity to the resurrection, weaving themes of sacrif ce, love, and eternal triumph. The King of Kings is a visually stunning animated retelling that brings the timeless story of Jesus to a new generation, inspiring faith and wonder in all who watch.

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/the-king-of-kings>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7967302/videooplayer/vi1918355737/?ref=mv_sr_srsq_1_tt_7_nm_1_in_0_q_King%2520of%2520Kings



The King of Kings

Source: Monterey Cinemas Upper Hutt

08/04/25