

THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION



A LOCAL NEWSPAPER - FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY

The Upper Hutt Connection - Wednesday Edition: 4th
of June 2025

Website: uhconnection.co.nz
Facebook: [The Upper Hutt Connection](#)
Contact the editor at: editor@uhconnection.co.nz

To stay up-to-date on any amendments and last minute announcements, please check out The Upper Hutt Connection's blog: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/the-upper-hutt-connection-blog/>

CONTENTS

- [A reminder to clean up after your dog when it poops while out and about.](#)
- [An outstanding result for Bookfest 2025](#)
- [From pups to pros: New patrol and detector police dogs graduated yesterday](#)
- [Keep an eye out for Elizabeth \(Izzie\) – Missing since lunchtime Thursday 29th of May](#)
- [Karakia takes place at Akatārawa Cemetery to mark the start of the cemetery expansion project](#)
- [Local Elections 2025: How to vote and how to be a candidate](#)
- [Porirua City Council is including a non-binding referendum at this year's local election regarding the amalgamation of Wellington's councils, and Hutt City Council is considering the same. What is Upper Hutt's opinion on this?](#)
- [Recycling for Charity is looking for donations](#)
- [Short Story Competition 2025: Winners and shortlists](#)
- [There's a feral cat-shaped hole in the Predator Free target species list](#)
- [Waste to Worth: Good Carbon Farm Expands for a Greener Future](#)
- [Send in a general news article to The Upper Hutt Connection](#)

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

- [Finance and Performance Committee – 28th of May, 2025](#)

- [Ordinary Council – 19th / 20th of May](#)
- [Policy Committee – 21st of May 2025](#)
- [Risk and Assurance Committee – 14th of May, 2025](#)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- [BEST advocacy for beneficiaries and low-income earners – Government has created a perfect storm – Teresa Homan](#)
- [Bowling Club Land – C M](#)
- [Do you believe there has been a conflict of interest from Mayor Wayne Guppy and Cr Chris Carson regarding the Maidstone Terrace land? – NZ Empowered](#)
- [Have a Letter to the Editor to send to The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

SPORTS

- [Football results for the weekend: Saturday 31st of May / Sunday 1st of June](#)
- [Josh Hunt played his 200th Wellington Rugby Premier game on Friday, 30th of May](#)
- [Send in a sports article to The Upper Hutt Connection.](#)

GARDENING

- [Have a gardening article to share on The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

DEATH NOTICES / OBITUARIES

- [Has someone important to you passed away? Why not have an obituary on The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- [Free cookie for every hot drink bought in June at Lyd on Top](#)
- [Grey Power local election candidate meetings: Wednesday 20th of August / Wednesday 17th of September](#)
- [Remutaka Raptors vs The Chicxulub Impact: Saturday 7th of June, 6.00 pm](#)
- [Live Music in the Balcony – Thomas Loeffke: Friday 13th of June, 7.30 pm](#)
- [Weaving the Harakeke: 4th of June, 1.30 pm.](#)
- [Stay warm this winter – Improving comfort, affordability and sustainability with EECA: Wednesday 25th of June, 6.30 pm](#)
- [Taoist Tai Chi: Mondays, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm](#)
- [SeniorNet: Tuesdays 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm](#)
- [Playgroup at St. Hilda's: Wednesday mornings during term time, 9.30 am – 11.00 am](#)
- [St. Margaret's Playgroup: Tuesday Mornings, 10.00 am – 11.30 am \(term time only\)](#)
- [Rimutaka Baptist Church Playgroup: Fridays, 9.00 am - 11.30 am during term time](#)
- [Upper Hutt Baptist Church playgroup: 9.30 am – 11.30 am, Tuesday mornings](#)
- [Interested in promoting a community event on The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

AT HOME

- [Can't wear Converse etc because of flat feet? Here's how to insert your own insoles](#)
- [Do you have a household hint or tip that you'd like to share on The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

REVIEWS

- [Would you like to submit a review to The Upper Hutt Connection?](#)

GARAGE SALES

- [Holding a Garage Sale? Let others know using The Upper Hutt Connection.](#)

RECIPES

- [Recipes](#)

BUSINESS ADVERTISING FROM \$1 A DAY

- [Business Advertising](#)

WORSHIP SERVICES

- [Heretaunga Community Church](#)
- [St. Margaret's Presbyterian Church - Silverstream](#)
- [Rimutaka Baptist Church](#)
- [Silverstream Reformed Church](#)
- [St. Hilda's Anglican Church](#)
- [Promote your worship services on The Upper Hutt Connection](#)

ENTERTAINMENT

- [What's new at Monterey Cinemas? Week starting 5th of June, 2025](#)

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)



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A reminder to clean up after your dog when it poops while out and about.

We've all seen it before — a steaming pile of dog poop on the pavement, in the park, or even in our own gardens. It's not a pleasant sight, and it's certainly not something we want to step in. But beyond being an eyesore, there are actually some very good reasons why you should always use a dog poo bag. We'll take a look at three of those reasons.

1. It's the law

In New Zealand, it is actually against the law to leave your dog's poos on public property. This includes pavements, parks, beaches, and any other areas where members of the public are likely to be walking or playing. If you're caught leaving your dog's poop behind, you could be fined up to \$150. So not only is it gross — it's also illegal!

2. It's Bad for Your Dog (and You!)

Leaving dog poo around can actually be dangerous for both dogs and humans. Dog poop can contain harmful bacteria that can cause gastrointestinal illnesses in both animals and people. So not only is picking up after your dog the courteous thing to do — it's also the best way to keep everyone healthy and safe.

3. It's good for the environment

When dog poop is left on the ground, it can eventually end up in our waterways — and that's not good news for the environment. Dog waste can pollute our water supplies and cause problems for local wildlife. Picking up your dog's poo and disposing of it properly is one small way you can help to protect the environment.

So there you have it — three good reasons why you should always use a dog poo bag. Next time you're out for a walk with your furry friend, remember to bring along some dog poo bags and pick up after them. It's good for your dog, good for you, and good for the planet.

Source: littlegreendog.co.nz

30/05/25

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)



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An outstanding result for Bookfest 2025

The Trustees of Heretaunga Bookfest Charitable Trust (the Trust) express our appreciation to you, the public, for your support of Bookfest 2025, which was the 30th anniversary of the event. This support includes the donations of books, magazines and other items during the year, without which Bookfest could not happen.

This support continued with Bookfest and contributed to another outstanding result and funds raised for the Trust. This will enable the Trust to continue to make charitable donations to many deserving organisations within the community. This makes all our effort very worthwhile and is a tribute to the hard work of our team of volunteer helpers and the ongoing support of our sponsors.

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

03/06/25



New Zealand Police

From pups to pros: New patrol and detector police dogs graduated yesterday

Police Commissioner Richard Chambers congratulated five patrol handlers and their dogs and one detector dog team at the Dog Training Centre (DTC) in Trentham yesterday. (Thursday 29th of May)

The teams graduated and paraded out in number one uniforms and shiny shoes in front of whānau, friends and work colleagues alongside executives from the New Zealand Police.

Commissioner Chambers congratulated the newly trained dog teams, saying they would offer a valuable service on the front line.

"It is fantastic to see these six dog teams graduate today and head back out to districts. They will have an exciting career – our dog teams regularly deploy in tough situations and are remarkable at what they do."

He also thanked the DTC staff. "You continue to produce the best handlers and teams that our organisation and country could hope for."

Christchurch, Hawke's Bay, Timaru, and Auckland welcome the new frontline patrol dogs and Wellington District acquires the new explosives detector dog.

Inspector Todd Southall, National Coordinator Police Dogs, says "Congratulations to all our graduating dog handlers.

"These frontline patrol dogs are incredible and work alongside our officers doing some of the most dangerous jobs in police.

Our amazing detector dogs are trained to detect drugs, firearms, cash, and explosives. Both our front line and detector dogs are worth their weight in gold.

It's a proud day for all handlers, both experienced and new when they graduate. This ceremony marks the end of a demanding few weeks training to become an operational team. It takes patience and perseverance to complete and pass," says Todd.

"I wish the teams all the very best as they begin their operational duties in their districts."

New Zealand Police - 30/05/25

[**RETURN TO CONTENTS**](#)



Wellington District Police

Keep an eye out for Elizabeth (Izzie) – Missing since lunchtime Thursday 29th of May

MISSING

Elizabeth/ izzie aged 16 with epilepsy has been missing since lunch time Thursday from Upper Hutt. She needs her medication, family is worried about her. Please keep a look out as she could be anywhere. If you have any information on her location please contact Donna Eagle or police reference number is P062708594.

According to information on Facebook, she has last been sighted in Porirua.

Source: Facebook / Wellington District Police

30/05/25



Upper Hutt City Council

Karakia takes place at Akatārawa Cemetery to mark the start of the cemetery expansion project

Yesterday morning, a Karakia took place at Akatārawa Cemetery to officially mark the start of Phase One in a three-phase expansion project with.

The ceremony was led by Tautoko Ratu (Te Ātiawa/N. Toa Rangatira) our Kaitakawaenga Kaupapa Māori.

Vegetation clearing began yesterday as we make space for future needs. With 10–14 years of burial capacity remaining, this project is an important step for the Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt communities.

This is a joint project with Hutt City Council.

For more information about this project, click on the link: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/Projects-and-initiatives/Infrastructure/Akat%C4%81rawa-Cemetery-Development>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

30/05/25



Electoral Commission – Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri

Local Elections 2025: How to vote and how to be a candidate

Local Elections 2025 / NGĀ PŌTI Ā-ROHE 2025

Mark your calendar – the next local election opens on Tuesday, 9 September and closes on Saturday, 11 October 2025.

Our local elections are held every three years and this year's VOTE 2025 will give you the chance to vote for local and regional council members, as well as members to represent Upper Hutt in Hutt Mana Charitable Trust and Rimutaka Licensing Trust.

Whether you're looking for details on candidates, voting bin locations, or key dates, you'll find everything you need here to participate in shaping the future of our community.

NGĀ RĀ MĀTUA / KEY DATES

- 1 SEP 2024 – 1 AUG 2025: Check you are enrolled to vote
- 1 SEP 2024 – 1 JUL 2025: Consider running as a candidate
- 4 JUL 2025: Candidate nominations open; Public inspection for rolls opens
- 14 JUL 2025 | 4PM: Information evening for candidates (presented by electionz.com)
- 1 AUG 2025: **Candidate nominations closes at 12 noon**
- 6 AUG 2025: Public notice of candidates' names
- 9 SEP – 22 SEPT 2025: Voting papers posted to enrolled voters
- 9 SEP – 11 OCT 2025: Voting opens

Continued on Page 6

- 11 OCT 2025: **Voting closes at 12 noon.** Progress and preliminary results published
- 14 OCT – 19 OCT 2025: Final results declared

ME PĒHEA TAKU RĒHITA KI TE PŌTI / HOW DO I ENROL TO VOTE?

Voting opens from Tuesday, 9 September and closes at 12 noon on Saturday, 11 October 2025.

Update your details to receive voting papers:

In order for you to receive your voting papers in the post between 9 September and 22 September, you must enrol to vote. Now is the time to check if you are already enrolled and whether your postal details are correct. Click the link and follow the instructions: <https://vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update/enrol-or-update-online>

Who can vote?

You can enrol to vote if you:

- are 18 years or older; and
- are a New Zealand Citizen or Permanent Resident; or
- have lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months or more at some time in your life.

If you're enrolled to vote for the parliamentary elections, you're automatically enrolled for local elections too.

If you're enrolled to vote, you should receive your voting papers in the mail between Tuesday, 9 September and Monday, 22 September 2025.

Wherever you pay rates, you can vote

Here's a little something you may not know.

Wherever you pay rates, you can vote.

If you live elsewhere in New Zealand but own property in Upper Hutt, you may be able to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector and vote in both areas. Check you eligibility at: <https://ratepayers.electionz.com/Ratepayers> or download <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/elections/vote-2022/uhcc-local-election-ratepayer-enrolment-form.pdf>

What to do with voting papers

Once you have completed your voting papers, you can either drop them off in the secured voting bin around Upper Hutt, or freepost them using the prepaid envelope provided.

If you are posting them, check your envelope for the postal cut-off date.

More information to come about the location of the secured voting bins.

KA PĒWHEA AU E TŪ HAI KAITONO? / HOW DO I RUN AS A CANDIDATE?

Now is also the time to consider if you would like to run as a candidate for the upcoming local election.

Candidate nominations are open from 4 July and closes on 1 August at 12 noon.

How do I know if I'm eligible?

To be eligible to stand as a candidate, you must meet the following requirements. You must:

- be 18 years and above;
- be enrolled as a voter anywhere in New Zealand; and
- be a New Zealand Citizen.

You do not need to be a resident of the district(s) you choose to run but your two nominees must.

If you or your partner hold a contract of more than \$25,000 for the local council, you cannot stand unless you have prior approval from the Auditor-General.

How do I submit my nominations?

You will need:

- to complete an official nomination form sent to Council's electoral officials either electronically or in person before 12pm on Friday, 1 August 2025
- to include in your submission a passport sized photo and a 150-word candidate profile.
- to include nominations from two residents of Upper Hutt. You cannot nominate yourself, and those who nominate candidates must be over 18 years old and enrolled to vote in Upper Hutt.
- to give your consent for their nominations.
- to pay a \$200 deposit, which may be refunded depending on election results.

Your submission must be dropped off in person or emailed to our Election Officer **before 12 noon on Friday, 1 August 2025.**

Continued on Page 7.

Learn more on running as a candidate: <https://www.votelocal.co.nz/information-for-candidates>

Be sure to check out NZ Empowered's article for more information central to the Upper Hutt local elections: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/general-news/local-election-information-2025/> – Added by editor

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

29/05/25



RNZ (Radio New Zealand)

Porirua City Council is including a non-binding referendum at this year's local election regarding the amalgamation of Wellington's councils, and Hutt City Council is considering the same. What is Upper Hutt's opinion on this?

Porirua City Council agreed to ask the question from their communities in a meeting on the 29th of May – the reason being as they were already including a Māori ward referendum anyway. Lower Hutt Mayor, Campbell Barry said he would bring a decision on whether to add a non-binding referendum question to the local election ballot at a council meeting next month.

The text will read. *"Should Hutt City Council work with councils in Wellington, Upper Hutt, Porirua and the Wellington Regional Council to explore the possibility of creating one single council, that combines relevant services and functions regionally, while keeping appropriate local services and decision making local?"*

Source: RNZ (Radio New Zealand)

03/06/25



Chino Barrett-Lovie: Stuff

Recycling for Charity is looking for donations

Daniel Talbot who runs Recycling for Charity is currently looking for donations of old and obsolete tech from companies, government agencies, and the general public.

The public can drop their old tech at Recycling for Charity itself, at 1 King Charles Drive, Kingsley Heights, Upper Hutt. Mobile phones can also be dropped off at select hospitals in the Wellington Region.

Recycling for Charity sells old electronics and recycles e-waste, with its sole aim of giving back to the community. Through the years Recycling for Charity has been operating, Daniel has gifted \$20,000 to charities and community groups. He has also donated countless laptops, tablets, and computer equipment to those in need of them. The more old electronics he receives, the more people Talbot can reach, he said.

"I want to offer the same community spirit to more of New Zealand, but without the support it's never going to get to that level."

Source: Stuff

03/06/25



Upper Hutt Libraries

Short Story Competition 2025: Winners and shortlists

We are absolutely delighted to announce the winning and shortlisted entries from this year's Short Story Competition here at Upper Hutt Libraries.

With well over 160 entries and a fantastic diversity of storytelling, it was a true challenge for our judging team to decide on the finalists.

Congratulations to all entrants: you took the opportunity to travel on the wings of imagination – thank you for sharing your writing. We can't wait to see where your creativity takes you next year!

And if you're keen to try out something different: our Poetry Competition opens on 23 June 2025. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for details coming soon.

Winners and Shortlists

Step on through into captivating new worlds.

Ride the highs and lows of life alongside characters you won't forget after turning the page.

Have a laugh, reflect, enjoy – this is homegrown writing at its very best.

Adults

Winners

First place: *A Concussion of Memories* by Philip Luke
Second place: *Park Avenue Movers* by Colin Phillips
Third place: *Best Present Ever* by Andy Evans

Shortlist

The Missing Saltshaker by Laura Malin-Curry
Champion by Megan Scholtz
Catharsis by Sarah du Toit
Te Awa Kairangi: Birth of a River by Nick Cottrell
The Boy and the Bridge by Andy Dunn
By Right of Blood by Meenakshi Kannan
Where There Ought to Be Love by Gaynor Mills

Read the entries here (Teen and Adult categories):
<https://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz/files/sharedassets/libraries/v/1/annual-events/short-story-competition/2025-short-story-competition/2025-short-story-competition-teens-and-adults-booklet.pdf>

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

Teens

Winners

First place: *Six Months of Sunshine* by Erin Knox
Second place: *The Perfection of Humanity* by Anastasia Bradley
Third place: *Who's Holding the Eraser?* by Anastasia Wongcharupan

Shortlist

Windy Wrath by Rudransh Sahoo
The First Firework by Elizabeth Walker
They Do What? by Rhea Wilson
The Golden City by Keira Dempsey
Pieces of the Past by Aryanna Billington
The Hospital by Talyn Hislop-Croft
Through The Khidkee (Window) by Manvi Sharma

Children (ages 5-7)

Winners

First place: *Ra and Ua: Guardians of the Ngahere* by Piper Sutton
Second place: *The Time I Got Out* by Jackson McCullagh-Smith
Third place: *The Two Best Friends and the Magical Creature* by Reese Huang

Shortlist

The Boy Who Wanted to Be a Superhero by Dev Rama
The Easter Bunny and the Girl by Jocelyn Liang
Beach Story by Surya Age
My BeFFs by Hannah Saker
Hamsters by Archer Pentecost
The Blood Hand by Brooklyn Sheehan

Read the entries here (both children's categories):
<https://www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz/files/sharedassets/libraries/v/1/annual-events/short-story-competition/2025-short-story-competition/2025-short-story-competition-childrens-booklet.pdf>

Continued on Page 9.

Children (ages 8-12)

Winners

First place: *Behind the Blue Door* by Vicky Vu

Second place: *Planet Noodleopolis* by Hannah Scott

Third place: *A Whale's Mission* by Willow McIndoe

Shortlist

Why Chromebooks Always Run out of Battery by Sophia Le

Forest Showdown by Venkata Srinidhi

Sunrise Ride by Alette Gibbons

The Brave Old Man by Jacob Johnson

Bubbles and Fire by Paris Yiannoutsos

The Underwater Cave by Vida Kyle

The Vent Girl by Aoife Raggett

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

03/06/25



Department of Conservation

There's a feral cat-shaped hole in the Predator Free target species list

Predator Free New Zealand is wanting to know your opinions on whether feral cats should be added to the Predator Free 2050 target species list.

Feral cats are present in all areas of New Zealand and can adapt to any environment, from the coast to up in the mountains, feral cats can be found. Unlike our domesticated cats, feral cats will hunt anything they can in order to survive, these include any and all birds (native or introduced alike), lizards, bats, even seabirds. Unlike what you might think, feral cats aren't great at keeping down the rodent numbers. Rodents are by nature prey animals, fast moving, fast breeding, and cautious. Our native wildlife on the other hand never really had much in the way of predators, so it was never in their genes to be prepared for the danger feral cats pose to them.

To send your submission to the Department of Conservation, please check out <https://predatorfree.nz.org/submit/>

Source: Predator Free NZ

29/05/25

[**RETURN TO CONTENTS**](#)



Upper Hutt City Council

Waste to Worth: Good Carbon Farm Expands for a Greener Future

In 2023, The Good Carbon Farm captured local attention with its innovative sustainability project in Upper Hutt, funded in part by the Sustainable Stimulus Grant (SSG). Today, that initiative is gaining momentum, turning forestry waste into climate-positive solutions and laying the groundwork for long-term environmental impact.

Despite its modest size, the initiative punched above its weight. It drew interest from media, forestry professionals, and school-based food and gardening programs, and contributed content to the Sustainable Landscape Guide developed by fellow SSG recipient Urban Edge Planning.

Last year's SSG-funded project saw over 3 tonnes of forestry slash converted into biochar in the Akatārawa Valley, storing roughly 50% of the carbon that would have been re-emitted through natural decomposition. The biochar was then incorporated into local school and community gardens, creating micro carbon sinks, and triggering a reaction that makes soil more resilient. The core of the project centres around carbon storage. Using a controlled process, forestry waste is baked into solid form that creates biochar – capturing carbon dioxide that would have otherwise returned to the atmosphere.

The project has also enabled a major step forward for Gallops Ridge—investment in new production infrastructure now in operation, securing the ability to produce biochar in the Akatārawa Valley well into the future.

"This initiative aligns closely with our Sustainability Strategy," said Tim Harty, Group Manager Operations at Upper Hutt City Council. "It supports our goals around reducing emissions, building resilient communities, minimising waste, promoting education, and demonstrating leadership."

Continued on Page 10.

The project didn't stop in Upper Hutt. In April 2024 a similar initiative funded by the Mazda Foundation launched in Auckland, further showcasing the potential of community-scale biochar to tackle climate and food security issues.

Now, in 2025, The Good Carbon Farm is taking another bold step with the launch of The Good Carbon Store—an online platform allowing individuals to mitigate climate change through the gift of carbon storage. This new initiative aims to create a self-sustaining financial model for the charity, while celebrating its supporters through online acknowledgements and an interactive map.

The Store's revenue is expected to support three key initiatives in Upper Hutt over the next three years:

- Scaling up biochar production in the Akatārawa Valley
- Continuing supply to school and community gardens
- Building and deploying mobile biochar-making equipment across the region

You can view their website here: <https://www.thegoodcarbonfarm.com/thestore>

The Good Carbon Farm has also cultivated strong collaborations with Enviroschools, Garden to Table, Oke and other sustainability networks. Their journey—from grassroots innovation to scalable climate solution—is being shared through podcasts and public engagement efforts.

As biochar continues to demonstrate its power as a natural, circular, and regenerative technology, The Good Carbon Farm is proving that even small-scale projects can sow the seeds of big change.

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

28/05/25



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Send in a general news article to The Upper Hutt Connection

Do you have a general news article that you'd like put up on The Upper Hutt Connection?

If an article requires privacy in it's images (say for a school etc), I can easily provide a realistic AI image, protecting the identities of those in the article.

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-a-general-news-article/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted/

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance and Performance Committee – 28th of May, 2025

Topics for discussion included:

- Proposed Regulatory Levies (water services)
- Small Land Transport Projects Funding
- Financial and Non-Financial Reporting
- Debtors Report
- Update of the Sensitive Expenditure Policy

Finance and Performance Committee agenda – 28th of May 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/finance-agenda-20250528.pdf>

Finance and Performance Committee minutes – 28th of May 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/finance-minutes-20250528.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

03/06/25

Ordinary Council – 19th / 20th of May

The purpose of this meeting is to allow the respondents to the Draft Annual Plan 2025-2026, Local Water Done Well and concurrent Policy reviews to speak to their submissions.

Council Agenda – 19th of May 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/council-agenda-20250519.pdf>

Council Minutes – 19th and 20th of May 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/council-minutes-19-and-20-may-2025.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

28/05/25

Policy Committee – 21st of May 2025

Topics for discussion included:

- Proposed use of land adjacent to Maidstone Park for Upper Hutt Bowling Club
- Road Naming report: Roads off Sunnyview Drive
- Private road naming
- Update to Manual of Policies
- Group Managers report.

Policy Committee Agenda – 21st of May 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/policy-agenda-20250521.pdf>

Unconfirmed Policy Committee Minutes – 21st of May 2025: https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/risk-minutes-20250514_1.pdf

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

28/05/25

Risk and Assurance Committee – 14th of May, 2025

Topics for discussion included:

- 2023-2024 Audit Report to Council
- 2025 Annual Audit Plan
- AuditNZ enquiries of Government
- Strategic Risk Management
- an update of the Treasury Risk Management Policy.

Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda – 14th of May: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/agenda-risk-20250514.pdf>

Unconfirmed Risk and Assurance Committee Minutes – 14th of May: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/your-council/meetings/2025/cycle-3/risk-minutes-20250514.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council - 28/05/25

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The Upper Hutt Connection

BEST advocacy for beneficiaries and low-income earners – Government has created a perfect storm – Teresa Homan

As the service manager of BEST advocacy service for beneficiaries and low-income earners, for 22 plus years, I am concerned in the rising stress levels of our most vulnerable members of society. Those out of work, the sick, mentally unwell, those with addictions and the elderly. Their hand to mouth benefit income combined with limited access to doctors, mental health and addiction services is creating growing frustration and growing anger. This along with the latest benefit traffic light sanctions on people out of work, often unwell or living with an addiction, required to seek employment in non-existent jobs or jobs where they are no better off and open to exploitation through 90-day work trials. Then there is the restricting of emergency housing to the homeless who are sent away from work and income offices to find temporary transitional housing and in the meantime left to sleep in cars, our parks and public amenities. Now 18-year-old independent adults, not in work or training, are required to provide their parents income when applying for assistance. Those whose parent's income are at, a yet to be disclosed amount, will need to hope their parents will continue to provide for them, adding stress to the family dynamics. We are creating a perfect storm which will break, if we the voters, don't call a halt to the current governments war on the poor and most vulnerable in our communities. Our service, like most service organisation I'm sure, are dealing with at risk people in greater numbers than we have before. They come to us frustrated, frightened, angry and we do our best to assist them but often our hands are tied or the help we can give takes time to achieve leaving them literally at times out in the cold. It is becoming a risk for service providers in terms of staff safety as I am sure it is for those working at the coal face implementing the governments "get tough on beneficiaries" legislation. If the storm that is brewing is not dissipated, we will, I believe see consequences we didn't envisage but we will all be responsible for not calling a halt to the unjustified attack on our vulnerable, homeless community members.

Teresa Homan

Service manager

Hutt valley BEST

A "thank you" to Teresa Homan for sending this letter to The Upper Hutt Connection.

30/05/25

Bowling Club Land – C M

I read the article about the bowling club move to Maidstone Terrace and the potential cost to ratepayers. Is the bowling club currently paying rates on its land? Won't those proposed 40 (!) new houses planned for the bowling club site be paying rates? Won't that offset any potential cost to ratepayers? I'm not saying I think 40 new houses are a good idea (I live in the area) but surely the increased rates take from those new houses offset the potential losses from the lower lease costs of the land at Maidstone Terrace. The current bowling club site is prime land and if my rates increases are anything to go by, the council will make a lot more money from houses than the bowling club. Disclaimer, I'm not a member of the bowling club.

A "thank you" to C M for sending this letter to The Upper Hutt Connection.

Do you believe there has been a conflict of interest from Mayor Wayne Guppy and Cr Chris Carson regarding the Maidstone Terrace land? – NZ Empowered

Before we start this is not about bagging anyone or choosing what the Maidstone Tce land could be used for. What we are asking is after reading the following and watching the clips we would like you to ask yourself.....

View video clips and all information at: <https://www.nzempowered.com/post/conflict-of-interests-or-not-what-do-you-think>

Do you believe there has been a conflict of interest from Mayor Wayne Guppy and Cr Chris Carson?

A conflict of interest is a breach of the councils code of conduct (Rules and Processes). Have a look at the sections of the Standing Orders in the link below and decide if you believe that Mayor Guppy and Cr Carson have broken the rules by participating in the discussions, debate and voting of the use of the Maidstone Terrace Land.

The meeting to vote on the decision happens on the afternoon of Wednesday the 4th of June. If you have a submission to send to the council, please send it before this date.

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

30/05/25



AI Generated

Have a Letter to the Editor to send to The Upper Hutt Connection?

Do you have a Letter to the Editor that you'd like put up on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/letters-to-the-editor/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted/

SPORTS

Football results for the weekend: Saturday 31st of May / Sunday 1st of June

Here's our weekend fixtures wrap up. Was a tough battle for both our 1st teams this weekend with their Cup journeys ending.

The Saints continuing their winning streak with a 6-2 win against Brooklyn Northern United firmly securing their spot at the top of the O45 Masters 2 table!

Some very tight fought battles for our TDP and CDL teams across the weekend with some narrow losses however the U16 Amazons and U17 TDP coming away with 9-0 wins both against Te Kotahitanga.

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

03/06/25

Saturday RESULTS		
UHCF Men's First	1-2	Western Suburbs
UHCF Taranui	DEF	Tawa Grizzly Bears
UHCF RJs	1-4	Stop Out (Blacks)
UHCF Antiques	0-2	Eastbourne Hammer Thirsts
UHCF Marauders	3-1	EFC OG's
UHCF Saints	6-2	Brooklyn United Postmasters
UHCF 4ths	3-7	Miramar Memphis Meltdowns

Sunday RESULTS		
UHCF Women's First	0-5	Waterside Karori
UHCF Women's Reserves	1-3	Miramar Rangers AFC
UHCF Women's 3rds	1-2	IBU Whai Repo
UHCF U13 Orange	0-1	Te Kotahitanga FC U13 CDL
UHCF U14 CDL Meerikats	0-1	Petone Football Club
UHCF U15 Orange	0-2	Te Kotahitanga FC U15 CDL
UHCF U16 CDL Amazons	9-0	Te Kotahitanga FC U16 CDL
UHCF U17 Orange	9-0	Te Kotahitanga FC U17 CDL

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)



Upper Hutt Rams RFC

Josh Hunt played his 200th Wellington Rugby Premier game on Friday, 30th of May

The Upper Hutt Rams celebrated a massive achievement that began nineteen years ago, in 2006, when a young Josh Hunt made his premier debut for Upper Hutt.

On Friday night, Josh ran out for his 200th Wellington Rugby Premier game, a massive milestone of games played, which are proudly shared between the Rams and our friends at Northern United Rugby Football Club, where Josh has played in the blue and white for 42 games.

And adding in the countless games he has played in other games, Josh is a true legend of our club.

Source: Upper Hutt Rams RFC

30/05/25



AI Generated

Send in a sports article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

Do you have a sports article that you'd like put up on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-a-sports-article/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

GARDENING



AI Generated

Have a gardening article to share on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Do you have a gardening article that you'd like put up on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-a-gardening-article/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

DEATH NOTICES / OBITUARIES



AI Generated

Has someone important to you passed away? Why not have an obituary on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Do you have an obituary that you'd like put up on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/put-up-a-death-notice-or-obituary/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

COMMUNITY EVENTS: To view all upcoming and regularly occurring community events, please visit <https://uhconnection.co.nz/community-events/>

Free cookie for every hot drink bought in June.



Lyd on top
Hot drinks and Delicious Eats

OPEN TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

9:30AM-2:30PM

RIMUTAKA BAPTIST

CARPARK

GLUTEN AND DAIRY

FREE FOOD OPTIONS

AVAILABLE



Find me on Facebook

Contributor: Lydia

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

Grey Power local election candidate meetings: Wednesday 20th of August / Wednesday 17th of September

The following Grey Power candidate meetings for this year's local elections are scheduled for:

- Wednesday 20 August, 1.30pm, Mayoral Candidates.
- Wednesday 17 September, 1.30pm, Councillor Candidates.

Meetings are held at Upper Hutt Baptist Church

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

03/06/25

Remutaka Roller Derby Presents



VS

Saturday 7th June, 6:30pm whistle
Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club

Remutaka Roller Derby

Remutaka Raptors vs The Chicxulub Impact: Saturday 7th of June, 6.00 pm

Location: 6 Railway Avenue, Maidstone, Upper Hutt

Remutaka Roller Derby will be hosting its final game at the Upper Hutt skating rink against a mash up team – The Chicxulub Impact!

Doors open 6pm, first whistle at 6:30pm.

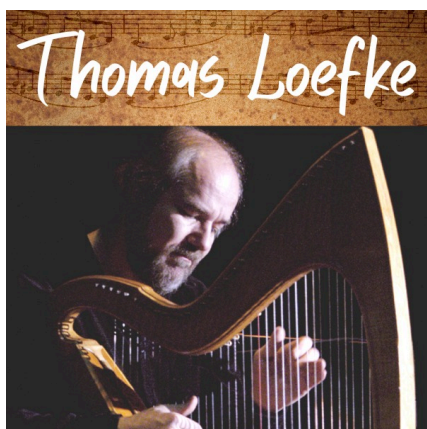
Entry is \$5 for adults, gold coin donation for kids – Cash or bank transfer only.

Come and enjoy some great derby, and send of the rink in style!

For more information email us at remutakarollerderby@gmail.com

Source: Remutaka Roller Derby

28/05/25



*Retrieved from Upper Hutt
Cosmopolitan Club*

Live Music in the Balcony – Thomas Loeffe: Friday 13th of June, 7.30 pm

Location: Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, 11 Logan St, Upper Hutt

Live Music in the Balcony – Featuring International Harpist Thomas Loeffe

Join us for an unforgettable free performance in the Balcony, featuring internationally acclaimed harpist Thomas Loeffe.

Thomas learnt his craft in Dublin from Ireland's leading harpists — Máire Ní Cháthasaigh, Helen Davies, and Áine Ní Dhúill. Performing professionally since 1984, he has won multiple international awards, including first prize at the prestigious O'Carolan Harp Festival.

Known for his captivating solo work and collaborations, Thomas regularly tours with Riverdance violinist Máire Breatnach, the Colorado-based duo Acoustic Eidolon, and Faroese fiddle player Angelika Hansen as part of the duo Norðan.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience world-class harp music in an intimate setting.

Source: Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club

28/05/25



AI Generated

Weaving the Harakeke: 4th of June, 1.30 pm.

Weaving the Harakeke is on today at 1.30 pm at Upper Hutt Library.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)



Upper Hutt City Council / Warmer Kiwi Homes

Stay warm this winter – Improving comfort, affordability and sustainability with EECA: Wednesday 25th of June, 6.30 pm

Location: Upper Hutt Library

Say ka kite to cold winters in your home and come to this free workshop to find out how you can warm up, reduce your energy bills, & make your home more sustainable.

Our guest speaker Paul Bull from EECA (Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority) will share some top tips to make your home more energy efficient, from full retrofit to free hacks.

If you're an owner occupier, find out about the grants available which can cover up to 90% off insulation and 80% off heating.

If you're a landlord, get clear on what your obligations are under Healthy Home Standards to make sure your tenants are comfortable and safe.

If you're a renter, get clear on what your rights are and what to do if your home isn't up to scratch.

Source: Upper Hutt Libraries

03/06/25

Taoist Tai Chi: Mondays, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

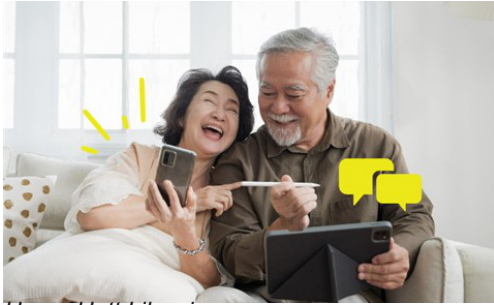
Taoist Tai Chi sessions

Mondays 6.30-8.00pm.

Trentham School Hall.

Start any time.

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



Upper Hutt Libraries

SeniorNet: Tuesdays 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Location: Upper Hutt Library

Not completely comfortable with technology? Wondering how you are going to cope when everyone is using their mobile phones?

Come along to Upper Hutt SeniorNet, every Tuesday at 1.30 – 2.30pm at the library where a happy group of older people meet to discuss technology and learn how to be confident in the digital world.

Just turn up and say hello!

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

29/04/25



AI Generated

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

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.



St. Margaret's Playgroup: Tuesday Mornings, 10.00 am – 11.30 am (term time only)

Tuesday mornings during term time 10-11.30am. Come along and join in the fun with your preschool children. Meet other parents and carers, relax and enjoy a cuppa while the kids play. (Please note all children must be accompanied by an adult!). Looking forward to seeing you. Start's Tuesday 13 May 2025.

A "thank you" to St. Margaret's Church – Silverstream for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

06/05/25

Rimutaka Baptist Church Playgroup: Fridays, 9.00 am - 11.30 am during term time



Contributor: Kerry



Contributor: Cushla

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

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

28/03/25



AI Generated

Interested in promoting a community event on The Upper Hutt Connection?

Do you have a community event coming up that you'd like Upper Hutt to know about? Why not advertise it on The Upper Hutt Connection

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/advertise-a-community-event/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

AT HOME: Household hints and tips



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Can't wear Converse etc because of flat feet? Here's how to insert your own insoles

Coming from one who has flat feet/fallen arches themselves, it's only been recently that I've been able to expand my range of footwear when coming across this simple little technique. The only extra bit of equipment you need besides your sneakers, and your insoles, is a hairdryer.

The insoles inside most pairs of Converse and Vans, and other similar sneakers are secured with glue. Using the direct heat from a hairdryer, have it on the lowest heat setting, and apply the heat directly to the insole, probably giving about 10-20 seconds on each section. By now, you should be able to begin gently lifting the insoles up out of the sneakers. If they haven't become loose enough to remove, then repeat the process.

Once the insole is removed, give the sneakers time to cool down again to room temperature, I give it overnight to make sure the glue has dried completely again, and is no longer sticky. You can now put your insoles in your new sneakers and have them the right fit for your feet. I've made very thin liners for the insoles out of grease-proof paper for ease of removing the insoles in and out, but this isn't an essential thing.

Notes

- The above procedure may not be necessary, even if you do have flat feet / fallen arches, as I've recently noticed. Wear your new sneakers for a good while, go for a walk in them. If your feet feel fine, and the sneakers aren't causing them discomfort, then keep them the way they are.
- I don't recommend using this process with slip-ons as you really need to have open access to the entire shoe, to properly remove the entire insole. I speak from experience when it comes to this. Attempt this only with lace ups.



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Do you have a household hint or tip that you'd like to share on The Upper Hutt Connection?

I welcome your household hints and tips.

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz.

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

REVIEWS



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Would you like to submit a review to The Upper Hutt Connection?

Been to see a film? Read a good book lately? Or found a nice place to eat out? The Upper Hutt Connection would welcome your reviews.

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/send-in-a-review/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

GARAGE SALES



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Holding a Garage Sale? Let others know using The Upper Hutt Connection.

Planning a garage sale? Let others know by promoting it on The Upper Hutt Connection. Let me know before Tuesday, and it will be in the Wednesday Edition!

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/holding-a-garage-sale/>

Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

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 on your page, including images, social media links, etc.

Advertising in the Wednesday Edition

A small ad can be placed in the Wednesday Edition each week at the additional cost of \$40 per month, a total of \$70 per month. (Business advertising at \$30 a month + \$40 a month for the Wednesday Edition)

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.

Restrictions

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.

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.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

RECIPES



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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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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.

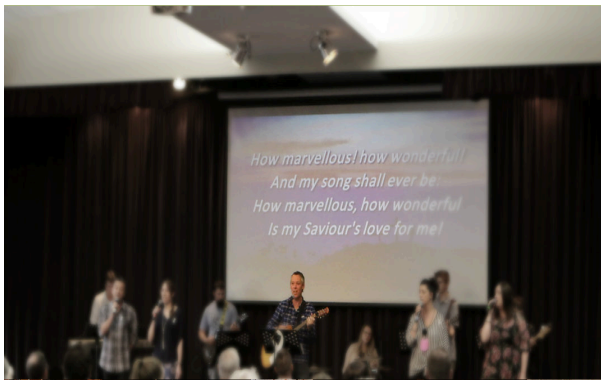
Our Creche for children under 3 1/2 years runs every Sunday morning. Our Children's Church runs Sundays during school terms.

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

Rimutaka Baptist Church

Location: 2 Akatarawa Road, Brown Owl, Upper Hutt

We would love to get to know you, so come along to one of our groups and meet others in your community.

Tuesdays

5 Loaves and 2 Fish Food Pantry: 11am – 12noon – Free

Food is available for those who are needing extra assistance. If you have food to contribute to the pantry, feel free to drop off at the church.

Singing with Kevin and his guitar: 1.00 pm – 2.30pm – Donation

No experience needed. It is purely a fun time. Kevin 021311465 for more information.

Wednesdays

Community craft session: 10.30 am – 12noon – Free

Bring along your craft and join us for morning tea.

Community Lunch: 12noon – Free

All welcome

Bible study: 7.00 pm – Free

All welcome to learn more about the Christian faith.

Fridays

Rimutaka Playgroup: 9.00 am – 11.30am – Donation

All caregiver and preschoolers are welcome. This is a fun, friendly, safe environment. Morning tea is provided.

Youthgroup: 7.00 pm – Donation

Contact the church for details

Sundays

Church Service: 10.00 am

All welcome, and please stay for morning tea after the service.

Sunday online recording available on YouTube from 5.00 pm



Google Maps: Sky Stream Media

Room Hire

Contact us if you would like to hire out either the hall, foyer area or conference room.

All Enquires: 04 5268708

Email: rbc.office@xtra.co.nz

A "thank you" to Kerry, and Rimutaka Baptist Church, for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

23/04/25



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 24

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

Promote your worship services on The Upper Hutt Connection

Would you like others to know about your church, or other places of worship in Upper Hutt?

Any articles and community events will be put up free of charge on The Upper Hutt Connection. Please email your articles, and any images you'd like included to editor@uhconnection.co.nz - or you can fill out the form at: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/promote-your-church-or-place-of-worship/>



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Please include your first name / surname / initials that you wish to be credited by. Sorry, but pseudonyms aren't accepted.

ENTERTAINMENT

What's new at Monterey Cinemas? Week starting 5th of June, 2025

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

FROM THE WORLD OF JOHN WICK - BALLERINA

Running time: 125 minutes

Rated: R16 (Bloody violence & offensive language)

A young woman with killer skills who uses said skills to get revenge when her family is killed by hitmen.

Book Here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/ballerina>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7181546/videooplayer/vi2809121049/?ref=mv_sr_srsq_3_ft_7_nm_0_in_0_q_Ballerina

Source: Monterey Cinemas Upper Hutt - 03/06/25



From the world of John Wick - Ballerina

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)