

THE UPPER HUTT CONNECTION



A LOCAL NEWSPAPER - FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY

The Upper Hutt Connection - Wednesday Edition: 1st of October 2025

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AI Generated

Help paint Wellington's streets pink: More volunteers needed for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ is calling on Wellingtonians to step up and volunteer for the charity's Pink Ribbon Street Appeal, taking place on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 October.

The Pink Ribbon Street Appeal is the Foundation's longest-running fundraiser, and it couldn't happen without the thousands of volunteers around the country who donate their time to collect donations for life-saving breast cancer research, education and patient support. More volunteers in the region are still needed for two-hour collection shifts across the two days.

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's chief executive, Ah-Leen Rayner, says local support is desperately needed for the charity's work to continue: "We don't receive any government funding, so we rely on the generosity of incredible volunteers to keep our vital work going.

"Giving up just two hours of your time is a small act that has a massive impact. Every dollar raised goes towards our mission to stop New Zealanders dying from breast cancer."

Each year, around 375 women are diagnosed with breast cancer across the Wellington region. The money raised from the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal funds ground-breaking research, life-saving education campaigns, and critical patient support.

Sign up to collect for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal at pinkribbonvolunteer.org.nz. Registrations close at 12pm on 16 October.

A "thank you" to Pui-Yi for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

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AI Generated

Send an article to The Upper Hutt Connection

I'm always welcome to any articles that are related to Upper Hutt. You can either send in articles by filling in the form on the website, via email, or by messaging The Upper Hutt Connection on Facebook.

To better understand why I encourage the sending of articles and events from members of the public, please visit the link: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/it-takes-the-people-of-upper-hutt-to-make-the-upper-hutt-connection/>

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

Mayor Wayne Guppy: The guy who's got life figured out – Interview of Mayor Wayne Guppy by Soren Neupane, content writer.

This is it. My somewhere starts in Upper Hutt.

I swept softly into the exit ramp to pull over for a coffee by the riverside little knowing that this pitstop would be a new vision for my future dreams. I was bit too early for my meet-and-greet affair with a family friend in Trentham and I had coffee in my thermos. This stop by the river seemed to be the best choice.

And on this Saturday morning I met Margaret, a retired school teacher, walking the river track with her dog. As the dog, now unleashed, scampered scooting around and doing what all happy dogs do, I struck up a 'Hi, beautiful morning' with Margaret. We started talking. She's lived here for forty years, and in that time she's turned down more than one invitation to move "closer to the action" in Wellington. Her reasoning is disarmingly simple: "Why would I leave a place where the mountains and the river say good morning to me every day?" Her statement reminded me of my village in Nepal.

This was my re-entry into the Upper Hutt space after a long time. The first time had been in 1995. Much had changed. I liked what I was seeing of Upper Hutt and pretty soon I found myself wanting to live in Upper Hutt.

So what would stop me from moving here.

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I had a few questions in my mind and I decided to bring them out with our Mayor Wayne Guppy.

Not his first rodeo

In Upper Hutt, daily life is defined by the outbound rush to Wellington, a deeper question is surfacing in my mind: how do you protect a city when its families are split by geography in possible scenarios? This was always my worry. So I asked the Mayor.

Mayor Wayne Guppy has an answer. If disaster strikes, the city will activate full civil defence mode, transforming schools into safe havens for stranded children. But the real innovation isn't logistical—it's educational. Children are being taught where to go, who to call, how to stay calm. Preparedness, in this case, begins with knowledge.

And in a city of many languages, translation becomes survival. Emergency instructions are being reimagined in multiple tongues, ensuring no one is left behind. It's not just policy—it's empathy in action.

Upper Hutt isn't just preparing for disaster. It's preparing to stay connected when it matters most.

And then I had this question of a possible Helipad for times when Rimutaka gets blocked because of some incident.



Soren Neupane

But Mayor Wayne Guppy doesn't flinch. "We've got the racecourse," he says. "The army camp. They're already designated landing zones." In other words, the infrastructure is there. The question isn't about concrete—it's about choreography.

Because what unfolds next is not a list of assets, but a philosophy of preparedness. Medical facilities? Accounted for. Defence Force support. On standby. Emergency protocols? Practised and refined. The city has rehearsed its isolation, like a theatre troupe preparing for a play it hopes never to perform.

But the most compelling part of the story isn't logistical. It's cultural. Guppy doesn't just talk about systems—he talks about people. About Christchurch, where strangers became neighbours overnight. About the New Zealand instinct to rally, to adapt, to improvise. It's not just resilience. It's muscle memory.

What matters is not the pad itself, but the network of trust, coordination, and improvisation that surrounds it. In Upper Hutt, the real emergency response isn't built on tarmac—it's built on community. Because when the hills close in, what opens up is something deeper: a shared understanding that in moments of crisis, the most powerful infrastructure is human.

My third query : AI educated adults in the Mayor's city

I am also a teacher of senior citizens in Wellington. I offers lessons on practical AI—translation tools, voice commands, smart searches, booklets, translations. My students are older adults, many retired, some sceptical at first. But what I've discovered is something quietly astonishing: they're good at it. Not just capable, but sharp. Curious. Fast.

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When Mayor Guppy is asked about similar classes in Upper Hutt he listens and nods. Al, he agrees, is not something to fear. It's something to harness. For staffing, for operations, for efficiency. But more importantly—for inclusion. The council, he confirms, is exploring seminars to raise AI awareness across the community. Not just for the tech-savvy, but for everyone.

I offered myself a way to scale these lessons so more people—especially older adults—can learn. Because what I see in my classroom isn't just skill. It's transformation. Confidence. Connection.

Mayor Wayne Guppy actively agreed, assuring his support in this campaign.

This isn't a story about machines. It's a story about people. About how the very generation we assume might struggle with AI is, in fact, quietly mastering it. And about how a city, if it's wise, will follow their lead.

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Margaret's dog ran back to her just letting her know that he was still in the playful mood and rushed back to wherever and around the path curve.

Sociologists would call Margaret's choice a "counter-ambition." In a culture that prizes acceleration and visibility, she has chosen deliberation and rootedness. And she is not alone. She also mentioned that Upper Hutt is full of people like her — people who measure success not in promotions or property values, but in the neighbour who checks in after a storm, or the fact that the river is never more than a short walk away.

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

30/09/25



New Zealand Police

PLB use leads to swift rescue in Upper Hutt

Wellington Police's Search and Rescue squad was called into action on Sunday following a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) activation in the Little Akatarawa River area, Upper Hutt.

The Rescue Coordination Centre requested assistance after the beacon was activated by a tramping group deep in the bush. Upon arrival, Police SAR teams discovered a patient had fallen from height into a steep and narrow canyon, sustaining moderate injuries.

Thanks to a coordinated response involving Land Search and Rescue (LandSAR), Canyon Search and Rescue, and the Wellington Free Ambulance Rescue Response team, the patient was safely moved from the challenging location to a suitable site for helicopter extraction.

Wellington District Search and Rescue Duty Officer Constable Jago Dellow says this was a significant team effort in difficult terrain. "The combined expertise of our volunteers and emergency services ensured the patient received urgent medical care."

The tramping group was well-prepared and carrying multiple PLBs.

"If they hadn't had a beacon, it could have taken hours to reach an area with cell phone coverage," says Constable Dellow. "This incident highlights the importance of carrying multiple forms of communication and letting someone know your plans before heading into the outdoors."

As summer approaches, Police are reminding outdoor enthusiasts to plan ahead and be prepared:

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- Before heading into the outdoors, make sure you're properly equipped. That means packing enough warm clothing, food, and shelter to handle unexpected conditions — and carrying at least two reliable forms of communication. One of those should ideally be a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), which can alert emergency services even when you're far from cell coverage.
- Plan your trip carefully and always let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return. These simple steps can make all the difference in an emergency.

Source: New Zealand Police

29/09/25



<https://uhcl.recollect.co.nz/nodes/view/16611>

Postal History Corner: Brown Owl Post Office

Further to the article on Mobile Post Offices in the last Postal History Corner, early in 1988 following the closure of various Post Offices around the country, PostBank* initiated the operation of a mobile bank. Each Thursday the bank stopped at the Brown Owl mobile library stopping place from 9.00 am, to 10.00 am and at the mobile library stopping place in Bathurst Street, Heretaunga from 10.30 am to 11.30 am.

The Brown Owl Post Office opened on 2 August 1965 and closed on 22 January 1988.

In 1963 the Rimutaka Baptist Property Board wrote to the Post Office about the development of a shopping centre in the area known as Brown Owl. It was planned to build a total of eleven shops to serve the surrounding householders and the Post Office was invited to include an office. Eventually an office opened in Coffey's Bookshop with Mrs B Coffey acting as postmistress. When Mrs Coffey resigned, plans were to move the office to Mr Brian Rabbitt's grocery business at 115 Akatarawa Road, however on 10 April 1969 Mr R Wylie took over the post office agency which he operated from his dairy at the Brown Owl Shopping Centre. With the business being sold Mrs C J Berkett became postmistress on 8 April 1970, followed by Mrs J Willis from 1 June 1972.

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The office closed temporarily on 10 January 1973 and reopened in new premises in the shopping centre on 5 February 1973 with Mrs R M Fairhurst as the office's first full time postmistress. Mrs P McIntosh was appointed postmistress on 13 August 1980 through to closure of the office.

- *PostBank was formerly the Post Office Savings Bank and Post Office Bank Ltd later rebranded as PostBank. It was purchased by the Australia and New Zealand Bank Group (ANZ) in 1989 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Post_Office_Savings_Bank_\(New_Zealand\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Post_Office_Savings_Bank_(New_Zealand))

View all images related to this article at <https://uhconnection.co.nz/general-news/postal-history-corner-brown-owl-post-office/>

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

26/09/25



Contributor: Paula

The Lifestyle Secrets to Managing Menopause. How small changes in sleep, exercise, and nutrition can reduce symptoms and restore confidence for women in midlife.

Menopause is something every woman will experience, yet it feels like it's still just not talked about enough...yet. Women have been told to simply "get on with it" — to put up with hot flushes, sleepless nights, weight gain, and fatigue as if they're just part of the deal. It's all just part of Menopause.

But here's the truth: menopause doesn't have to mean the end of energy, strength, or confidence. With the right lifestyle changes, it can be the beginning of something powerful.

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As a women's health and fitness coach, I've made it my mission to change the way women experience this stage of life. Through my own training and certifications with My Menopause Transformation™ by Dr. Wendy Sweet (PhD), I've learned that many symptoms aren't just "inevitable." They're signals from the body that it needs a new approach — in how we eat, move, rest, and manage stress.

Why Sleep, Strength & Nutrition Matter So Much.

Sleep: One of the biggest struggles women face during menopause is broken sleep. This isn't just about feeling tired. Poor sleep disrupts our hormones, including insulin and cortisol. When those are out of balance, weight management becomes harder, cravings increase, and recovery slows down. If our woman can understand how to improve sleep routines, manage stress, and time exercise better, it can be life-changing.

Strength Training: As estrogen levels decline, women naturally lose muscle mass and bone density more quickly. That's why strength training is no longer optional — it's essential.

Lifting weights protects bones from osteoporosis, helps preserve independence as we age, and even boosts metabolism. It's about staying strong for life, not just for the gym.

Nutrition: What worked in your 20s and 30s often doesn't work the same way now. During menopause, the body needs more protein to preserve muscle, fiber for gut health, and anti-inflammatory foods to reduce hot flushes and joint pain. Nutrition is one of the most powerful tools we have for not just managing weight, but also regaining energy and balance.

Thriving, Not Just Surviving.

The message I want every woman to hear is this: menopause is not the end of it all. It's a biological transition, yes, but it can also be a reset button — a chance to take control of your health, build strength, and feel better than you have in years.

I've seen women transform their energy, confidence, and outlook on life simply by making small, sustainable changes. And I want more women in our community to know that this is possible for them too.

Menopause doesn't have to be a silent struggle. It's time we talk about it, support each other, and show that the path forward can be strong, vibrant, and full of possibility.

Coach P's 3 Tips for Thriving Through Menopause

1. Prioritise Sleep

Broken sleep disrupts hormones like insulin and cortisol, making weight harder to manage. Build a calming night routine, keep your room cool, and aim for consistency. Good sleep is the foundation of good health.

2. Lift Weights

Strength training protects your bones, builds muscle, and boosts metabolism — all crucial as estrogen declines. You don't have to lift heavy straight away; start small and build confidence.

3. Nourish Your Body

Shift your nutrition to match your changing body. Focus on lean protein to preserve muscle, fiber for gut health, and anti-inflammatory foods (think veggies, whole grains, omega-3s) to reduce symptoms.

Small, consistent changes add up — menopause isn't the end, it's a new beginning.

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

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Upper Hutt's pink glow-up for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Upper Hutt is set to turn pink this October, sending a message of support and hope during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The iconic Fantail Sculpture is joining more than 90 sites around the country lighting up in pink as part of the Global Illuminations campaign, helping Breast Cancer Foundation NZ to remind New Zealanders that early detection is the best way to save lives from breast cancer.

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The campaign also illuminates the charity's annual Pink Ribbon Street Appeal, taking place on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 October. Thousands of volunteers will be out in force shaking pink buckets to collect donations for breast cancer research, education campaigns and patient support programmes.

Breast Cancer Foundation's chief executive, Ah-Leen Rayner, says: "This October, we're calling on New Zealanders to back our vision of stopping deaths from breast cancer. While most people diagnosed with breast cancer survive and go on to live long, fulfilling lives, we still lose 650 Kiwis every year to the disease – our mission is to change that.

"With support from the people of Upper Hutt, and right across the country, we know we can make a bigger difference. Please take a moment to take care of your breast health, or remind the women you love to do so, and get involved with Breast Cancer Awareness Month in any way you can."

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ is urging all women to be 'breast aware' to give themselves the best chance of surviving breast cancer – that means getting to know the normal look and feel of their breasts, regularly touching and looking for any changes, and getting changes checked by a GP as soon as possible. For women aged 45-69, free mammograms are available through BreastScreen Aotearoa every two years.

The Foundation is still looking for volunteers to take part in its Pink Ribbon Street Appeal. For more information on this and other ways to get involved with Breast Cancer Awareness Month, visit breastcancerfoundation.org.nz/bcam

A "thank you" to Pui-Yi for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

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COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MATTERS

Ordinary Council, 17th of September 2025 – Minutes

Council minutes – 17th of September 2025: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/meetings/2025/cycle-5/council-agenda-17-september-2025.pdf>

The agenda for this meeting can be found at: <https://www.upperhutt.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/meetings/2025/cycle-5/council-minutes-20250917.pdf>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

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Wellington Water

Whakawhirinaki Silverstream Pipe Bridge: September Update

Wondering how we're progressing with works at Whakawhirinaki Silverstream Pipe Bridge?

Final works to connect the pipe bridge to the drinking water network are well underway, with excavation to the existing pipes completed.

Earlier this week, we were very fortunate to have Kura and Alishia Moeahu of Te Ātiawa lead a karakia ceremony at dawn to bless the pipe bridge before it goes online, honouring the history and deep significance of Te Awa Kairangi / Hutt River and the surrounding whenua to the local iwi, Te Ātiawa.

The actual cut-in works to bring the pipe bridge online is scheduled to take place late next week. This marks a significant milestone for the project – a step forward for the region's water supply resilience.

To carry out this work safely, traffic management on SH2 at Silverstream will remain in place until mid-October, while traffic management on Fergusson Drive will be in place until mid-November.

Watch this space for more updates on this important work. Find more info on the project via the link down below!

<https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/projects/silverstream-pipe-bridge-project>

Source: Wellington Water

25/09/25

LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS 2025

An opportunity for discussion: First Past the Post or Single Transferable Vote?

It has been brought up by a candidate in this year's Local Body Elections that Upper Hutt could change to the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system instead of the traditional First Past the Post (FPP) system. This page has been set up to function as a community discussion board. Feel free to put in your comments about either system on the page at The Upper Hutt Connection: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/an-opportunity-for-discussion-first-past-the-post-or-single-transferable-vote/>

Below is the information on each system, according to the Department of Internal Affairs' website.

Single Transferable Vote (STV)

Under an STV electoral system, voters rank candidates in their order of preference. A good example to consider is an election to select three councillors for a ward in a council election. Under STV, you would write '1' next to the name of your favourite candidate, '2' next to your second favourite candidate and so on.

STV means that you have one vote, but can indicate your preferences for all the candidates. Under FPP, you would place ticks next to the names of up to three candidates, which means you would have three votes.

The number of vacancies and votes determines the quota a candidate must reach to be elected. The formula for deciding the quota is total number of valid votes, divided by the the number of vacancies plus one.

First Past the Post (FPP)

Under the FPP (First Past the Post) electoral system, the candidate with the most votes wins. This is a very simple method of electing candidates and is widely used throughout the world. It was used in New Zealand for Parliamentary elections up until the introduction of MMP (Mixed Member Proportional) in the 1996 general election.

Although FPP is very simple, some people have argued that the results of an FPP election may not always reflect the wishes of the majority of voters.

For more information on FPP, please visit: https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Resource-material-STV-Information-More-about-FPP?OpenDocument

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



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Where you can return your voting paper in this year's local body elections

You can either post it into any NZ Post or DX Mail postbox by Tuesday 7th of October, 2025

OR you can drop your completed voting paper into any of the orange ballot bins at the following locations.

- Upper Hutt City Council: Civic Administration Building, 838-842 Fergusson Drive
- Upper Hutt Library: 844 Fergusson Drive
- Pinehaven Library: Cnr Pinehaven Road and Jocelyn Crescent
- New World Silverstream: 28 Whitemans Road
- PAK'nSAVE: Gibbons Street
- Maidstone Woolworths: Russell Street
- Upper Hutt Woolworths: Queen Street
- Mitre 10 MEGA: 9 Park Street

Source: <https://www.electionz.com>

09/09/25



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Want all the info on the candidates for council and mayor?

Check out: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/local-body-elections-2025/>



AI Generated

Want to have some influence on how the local elections turn out this year? Why not do the simple thing and vote!

It's kind of true what they say that if you can't be bothered to vote, then you don't really have a valid reason to complain if the election results don't turn out how you would have liked them to.

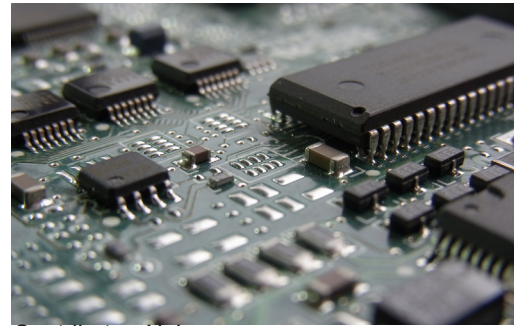
It may seem small but your vote really can make a difference in the elections. Whether you want things to remain the same, or if you'd like to see a change in who is a councillor or mayor, make sure to vote this year.

Your voting papers will be arriving in your mailbox between the 9th of September – 22nd September.

Voting closes on the 11th of October at 12.00 pm, voting locations and candidate profiles can be found at:

- Where you can return your voting paper in this year's local body elections: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/local-body-elections-2025/where-you-can-return-your-voting-paper-in-this-years-local-body-elections/>
- Local Body Elections 2025: <https://uhconnection.co.nz/local-body-elections-2025/>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Contributor: N.J

AI: A Cause for Concern and a Call to Action – N.J

As a local of Upper Hutt, I have noticed an uptick in the usage of AI generated images across local sites like the Upper Hutt Connection. I've even spotted my fair share of AI 'artists' and generated banners at the farmers market in Brewtown, an event that is meant to celebrate human made crafts and goods. Due to these immediate factors, I do my best to keep up to date with recent media coverage on AI, its capabilities and its effects on the world. Much of this news, however, is of the growing concern for the many risks AI poses. These risks which make me very concerned about its usage locally.

Firstly, AI is already taking job opportunities from local New Zealanders, with brands like Skinny replacing their usual advertisements with AI generated video and voiceovers under the guise that it helps to lower costs for their customers. These were positions that were once held by hard working kiwis who wrote scripts, managed the cameras, actors who gave us their colourful performances, directors who oversaw these projects and helped craft them into the ones we saw online and TV, editors who fine tuned every aspect until the shots were 'just right'. So many positions suddenly disappearing all for the sake of 'cheaper prices' (which are simply untrue, companies like Skinny have still increased their prices for things like broadband) and 'keeping up to date'.

But I also acknowledge that this is a particularly difficult challenge to fight under the current economy. More and more citizens (and companies) are concerned with pinching pennies with groceries, rates and household bills skyrocketing. But the economic concerns are not the only risks with this developing technology.

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Secondly, towns where AI data centres were built are already losing their freshwater resources. Chicago Sun Times covered in an August article, that Chicago is already thinking about using the water from the Great Lakes to make up for the data centres water usage. And it's affecting not only the city, but the Midwest farms and land around the area.

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/environment/2025/08/20/data-centers-ai-artificial-intelligence-chicago-illinois-great-lakes-michigan-drinking-water-jb-pritzker>

This is due to the large amount of water used to cool these facilities, a study from PUIIJ in 2023 showing that 10-20 prompts into ChatGPT uses 500mls of water: just above the size of a mini Pump water bottle.

<http://www.puiij.com/index.php/research/article/view/39>

And with one of these data centres already having been built in Auckland, I can't help but worry for the state of New Zealand. This is an immediate point of concern for myself with the Hutt councils discussions around water shortages.

Thirdly, AI is heavily energy intensive. MIT estimates that prompting an AI generator to make a 5 second video uses enough power to run a microwave for over an hour.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=v3QuC5P1hE&pp=ygUsTUIUIHdlIGRpZCB0aGUgbWFOaCBvbiBhaSdzIGVuZXJneSBmb290cHJpbmQ>

Keep in mind, that this is all energy added on top of what we already use in our day to day lives, like keeping the fridge running and charging our phones. Companies like OpenAI have said that ChatGPT receives 2.5 billion queries every day- how many microwaves could we run just on ChatGPT's daily energy usage? How many households could be using that energy instead? Hospitals? Local businesses? How would this affect our already costly power bills?

These are only a handful of the issues that AI poses. How are we expected to deal with all these issues on top of the ones we are already facing?

New Zealand may be headed down a dangerous path for our people and the environment, so I write this as someone who cares deeply about it and our future: I hope to see more coverage on the risks of AI. I hope the people of the Hutt and Aotearoa will challenge themselves to stay informed and fight for fairer conditions.

This makes events like our local elections all the more crucial to vote and have our say in. Where we have a chance to elect people who will stand for the regulations around the usage, safety, environmental and ethical issues of AI. A chance to vote for people who care not just about our immediate future, but one that can last for generations to come.

So Upper Hutt, I ask this, will you help secure our future?

A "thank you" to N.J for sending this letter to The Upper Hutt Connection.

25/09/25

Local Elections 2025 – Lew Rohloff / Upper Hutt Grey Power Association

Grey Power has serious concern that the ‘run away’ inflation of Local Government rates in recent years, in terms of impact on low to median income households has exceeded all reasonable measurements of fairness, equity and, indeed; affordability.

The ‘four well-beings’ provision in the Local Government Act 2002 requires Local Government to establish ‘affordability parameters’ in long term and annual planning procedures, not only for council activities but also for rating revenue impacting on households. Councils have the legislative power to adjust the proportionate impact of rating on households to ensure the affordability principle is not breached.

Councils have not conscientiously employed this legislated safeguard. Effectively, while elected to represent low to median income households, whether property owners or renters: the financial security of such people has been compromised to favour development and economic growth.

Over the many decades since the early 1980’s when Local Government began its divestment of internal planning and works teams and pursued its obligations through contracting via ‘public and private’ partnerships; ‘community outcomes’ in terms of ‘value for money’ and ‘delivery of public services’ have markedly deteriorated.

Councils and the Mayors who have led them have not demonstrated any sustained devotion to ‘leadership’ of a ‘people first’ orientation sufficient to reverse this undesirable social degradation.

This statement is derived from research based on anecdotes our vulnerable families are telling us. They identify the core contributing factors which are leading to rapid deterioration of public confidence in local government and, for that matter, central government’s failure to adequately resource it.

Readers who are Grey Power members together with their families and neighbours will shortly be faced with the responsibility of electing a new Council. Do not vote too soon. Take the opportunity to hear the emerging issues to form an impression of the likely ‘character’ of the council emerging and then, importantly, the best candidate to lead it.

The Local Government team we choose must have the character to resist ‘capture’ by developer interests and it must begin to prioritise people and families well-being.

Look for a candidate who:

- 1. In the legitimate interests of lower-income households, campaigns for central government funding of the ‘growth’ component in capital costs of infrastructural assets and treatment charges for ‘safe’ drinking water.***
- 2. Identifies an acceptable solution to the unsustainable ‘user charges’ on essential public services which government requires vulnerable households to bear at proportions far exceeding traditional benchmarks.***
- 3. Undertakes to inform communities of the adverse implications of legislative reforms and is prepared to facilitate and lead ‘public interest’ deputations to government ministries.***

Grey Power Upper Hutt is making this statement to acquaint all candidates with the attributes sought from those who advance to represent their community for the next triennium.

Our monthly meeting to be held on Wednesday 17th September will provide an opportunity to hear Mayoral Candidates’ responses to our ‘public interest’ expectations.

Authorised by: **Lew Rohloff**

Vice President / Grey Power Upper Hutt Association

Note to readers: This letter will be published regularly up until the 11th of October.

SPORTS



Moonshine Table Tennis Club

Moonshine Table Tennis Club's first doubles tournament: First victors, Anna Gorman and Pele Pereira

We recently organized a doubles tournament which had players of different abilities playing together for a trophy donated by club member Dong Wang. The trophy will be contested annually. The initial winners were Anna Gorman and Pele Pereira.

A "thank you" to Geoff at Moonshine Table Tennis Club for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

24/09/25



Remutaka Roller Derby

Remutaka Roller Derby play against the Bonnie Brawlers in Dunedin

What a fantastic weekend in Dunedin! We had so much fun playing against the Bonnie Brawlers and while they took the win, everyone on the track played a great game and brought the intensity! Congrats to Frightening McQueen for taking out MVJ, MxComBoBulator for taking out MVB, and Steam Pud for receiving the Captains Award.

Thanks so much for having us @dunedinderby and we can't wait to play you again!

Source: Remutaka Roller Derby

29/09/25

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



Lilia Alexander / Blossom Valley

Blossom Valley 2025: 6th of September – 5th of October

Location: Aston Norwood Gardens, Kaitoke, 1747 State Highway 2, Upper Hutt

Blossom Valley started in 2021 after two years of growing numbers turning up to see the blossoms. Numbers started at 3000 and have steadily grown to in excess of 30,000 each year with guests arriving from all over New Zealand and a growing number from around the world including us in their travel plans.

WellingtonNZ set up during COVID to promote local events sponsored us for two years enabling a trial of the now very popular After Dark experience where literally 14 acres of gardens are lit up for the Blossom festival.

Blossom Valley 2025 runs from September 6 through October 5. As always the Stables food area will be available and this year sees the return of the Japanese Streetfood style of catering. There is also the introduction of the flexipass which enables guests to pick the day they want to come. This means you can wait for the perfect day and best blossom to make your visit.

Blossom Valley is a family friendly annual event which enjoys a diverse range of ethnicities visiting and ages literally from 1 day old to 100 years. We are really excited to once again host this event at Aston Norwood Gardens, Kaitoke, Upper Hutt.

Tickets are available at Blossomvalley.nz

A "thank you" to Mark at Aston Norwood for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

18/08/25

Note to readers: This event is going to be run until the 5th of October.

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Staglands Wildlife Reserve & Café

Celebrate the opening of Staglands' new Main Entrance and Café with 1/2 Priced Kids Entry these school holidays! 20th of September – 5th of October

Staglands' new Main Entrance & Café is officially open!

To celebrate this exciting milestone, ALL KIDS GET ½ PRICE ENTRY these school holidays. Gather the whānau, come and explore our beautiful new space, and be part of the celebrations.

Offer valid: 20th September – 5th October

Not available with any other offer.

www.staglands.co.nz

A "thank you" to Wendy at Staglands Wildlife Reserve & Café for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

04/09/25



Upper Hutt City Council

Compost 101: Tuesday 14th of October, 6.00 pm

Location: Upper Hutt Library

Keen to stop sending your food scraps to landfill, but not sure of the best approach? It's daunting- there's tumblers, worm farms, bokashi bins, DIY pallet composts... how does anyone know what path to go down?

Demystify compost with Derek from Tawai Community Garden. Learn about the different composting options, and which is best suited for you.

Presentation / Q&A facilitated by Derek from Tawai Community Garden

Register here: <https://au.openforms.com/Form/f9b67caf-ea16-4552-8d4f-da4ef0b40f97?gl=1%2A1q3d9dn%2Aga%2ANDE3NTYwMDg0LjE3NTgwNTUyODI.%2AgaLSF0ZJ4RZ0%2AczE3NTgyMjgyMzkkbzEkZzEkdDE3NTgyMjgyODUkajE0JGwwJGgzMzYzODQ3Njc.&fbclid=IwY2xjawNChaFleHRuA2FibQlxMABicmlkETFrSUPOYzZPT21CldHRThyAR7x7DhQpSDu4E6ZUv2YEKB4ouOr7Q6eHXf9et6YI90dzXptqqsZSjNQ5uaQRA aem TA0IN5ogvTmKNIGT zG9Cw>

Source: Upper Hutt City Council

26/09/25

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING EXPO 3

Saturday 15 November 2025, 10am - 3pm
Lower Hutt Events Centre
 30c Laings Road, Hutt Central, Lower Hutt

Free entry.
All are welcome.

NZDEAFEXPO 3

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Expo 3 is a vibrant community showcase of services, businesses, and products connected to Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities throughout Aotearoa. The event highlights Deaf-led businesses and organisations and providers committed to supporting Deaf accessibility, inclusion, and wellbeing.

Would you like to book a stall?
 Get in touch to find out about our range of pricing options.
 Contact: Janine - deafexpo03@gmail.com

Deaf and hard of hearing expo: Saturday 15th of November, 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

A "thank you" to Rhea and Upper Hutt City Council for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

29/09/25



Retrieved from Whirinaki Whare Taonga

Dinosaurs: Surviving Extinction | Saturday 20th of September – Wednesday 10th of December

Step into a world where ancient giants roamed the earth! Explore the remarkable journey from ancient dinosaurs to modern birds through fossil discoveries and reconstructions. This exhibit focuses on three key dinosaur groups—Ceratopsians, Ornithopods, and Theropods and features fossil specimens, life-like artwork, and interactive elements revealing how dinosaurs lived, behaved, and gave rise to the birds we see today.

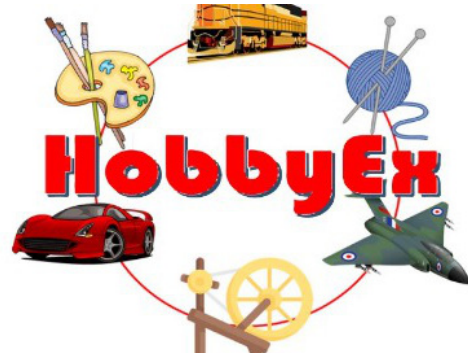
Proudly toured by Gondwana Studios.

Proudly supported by Earth Sciences New Zealand and The Lion Foundation.

Entry by donation.

Source: Whirinaki Whare Taonga

29/09/25



Retrieved from Whirinaki Whare Taonga

HobbyEx: Saturday 18th of October / Sunday 19th of October, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

HobbyEx is a celebration of hobby and craft groups from the Hutt Valley. Come along to learn more about creative pastimes, how you can get involved, and see the amazing items they produce. This year's event is also hosting the plastic model society national competitions with entries from Whangarei to Invercargill covering a wide range of subjects. A portion of funds raised will be donated to Youthline Wellington, supporting at risk young people.

Adult \$10 | Children (5-13) \$5 | Under 5 year free |
Family (2 adult and up to 4 children \$20 | Door Sales only

For more information contact Rob Jelas at rob.jelas@gmail.com or Grant Matchett at grant.matchett@outlook.com

Source: Whirinaki Whare Taonga

29/09/25

WANT TO LEARN TO SKATE?

First 3 weeks FREE!
(7th - 25th of October)
New sign ups only

Come learn at St Pats
Silverstream old Gym
Tuesday > 5:30pm - 6pm
Saturday > 1:30pm - 2:15pm

NEW SIGN UPS ONLY = \$101.50 FOR THE REST OF TERM 4 THEN \$145 FOR ONGOING TERMS

UPPER HUTT ROLLERSKATING CLUB

UHRSC

Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club

Learn to skate with Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club in Term 4:
Tuesdays, 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm /
Saturdays 1.30 pm – 2.15 pm

Come along to St Pats old gym and join our kiwiskate lessons on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:00pm and Saturday 1:30-2:15pm! Come to one or both and learn some cool moves on wheels

We start back on Tuesday 7th Oct and Saturday 11th Oct, with first three sessions free for new sign ups!

Not sure how to get to us? Check out our profile for an informative video on how to find the St Pats gym: <https://www.facebook.com/upperhuttrollerskatingclub/videos>

We would love to see you there!

Source: Upper Hutt Roller Skating Club

25/09/25

Mainly Acoustic Music Club
www.mainlyacoustic.co.nz \$15 \$20 \$10 Cash only Keeping Music Live Text Only 0211 205 961

BOTTOM BUNK CLUB

Folk-punk with angsty punchy choruses

TUES 14 Oct '25

Mayfair Café 7.30 - 10 pm
116 Main Street

The PJs
A cappella maestro-esses

Wilson Murdoch
Irish ballads

Mike Baines
Songs you'll know - Songs you won't

Mainly Acoustic Presents: Tuesday 14th of October, 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm

Source: Mainly Acoustic Music Club – Upper Hutt

29/09/25



Remutaka Raptors VS Nelson Bays Roller Derby: Saturday 11th of October, 2.00 pm

Location: 6 Railway Avenue, Maidstone, Upper Hutt

The Remutaka Raptors will soon be taking on Nelson Bay in what is sure to be a great game packed with loads of action!

Come along to G16 Studios & Events Centre for a great afternoon of Roller Derby!

Doors open at 2pm, first whistle at 2:30pm.

Entry is \$10 per person, gold coin for under 12s.

We can't wait to see you trackside (unfortunately this time there won't be a livestream)!

Source: Remutaka Roller Derby

29/09/25



Tawai Park Community Garden's Bloom-In-Spring: Sunday 5th of October, 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

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

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SCOUTS[®]
New Zealand

ORGANIC COMPOST

St Joseph's Scout Group Fundraiser

\$10.00 - 40L bags
Delivered from 12/10/25

Back by popular demand - we've done a deal with a "top shelf" supplier of certified organic garden compost to give you a great product at a great price this spring.

We are getting it delivered in bulk, the scouts are adding their labour to fill 40L bags and we'll deliver to your door.

(Order & Pay Online to St Joseph's Scouts).

All profits go to support our youth.

Please think of them and your garden by ordering heaps.

Order here!

ph 0226524002 / fundraising.stjosephs@group.scouts.nz

St. Joseph's Scout Group Certified Organic Compost Fundraiser: \$10 per 40 litre bag – delivery day, 12th of October



Holistic Health

Time in Nature: Monday mornings, 8.30 am – 9.00 am

Time in nature is good for us. This free event has been created for anyone who would like to harness the health benefits of a short walk through the bush, up the back of Maidstone Park.

It's a way to use our time productively. Get off our phones. Ground. Breathe. And set intention for the upcoming week.

Spring has arrived with fresh energy. Are you ready to get back to basics for some health affirming movement? Come join me!! I'm an Upper Hutt based Registered Naturopath and Medical Herbalist (NMHNZ & NZAMH).

All welcome. A reasonable level of fitness is required or a willingness to take short breaks as needed. It's a hill walk through bush with beautiful views. Meet up location is at the lawn roller next to the tennis courts.

Hope to connect with you soon. This will be a weekly event.

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

30/09/25



Upper Hutt Art Trail

Upper Hutt Art Trail: 11th and 12th of October, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Studios are open **10am to 4pm**, with over **60 incredible artists**.

- Pinehaven Potters: Art Collective – *Silverpine Scout Den, 37-65 Pinehaven Road, Pinehaven*
- Nikau Labyrinth: *Pinehaven Reserve, 37-65 Pinehaven Road, Pinehaven*
- Louise Whyman Donoghue: *8 Tapestry Grove, Silverstream*
- Upper Hutt Spinners & Weavers: *Art Collective – Trentham Railway Station, 81 Ararino Street, Trentham*
- Alan Wills: *10 Hector Grove, Trentham*
- Elle Cole – *Doodlebum: Community Gallery Hub – Fergusson Intermediate, Hikurangi Street*
- Karin McCombe-Jones: *Community Gallery Hub – Fergusson Intermediate, Hikurangi Street*
- Neli Chaneva: *Community Gallery Hub – Fergusson Intermediate, Hikurangi Street, Trentham*
- Clare Jaurigue – *Dream Catcher Art: Community Gallery Hub – Fergusson Intermediate, Hikurangi Street, Trentham*
- The Chicken Wire Lady: *Community Gallery Hub – Fergusson Intermediate, Hikurangi Street, Trentham*
- Rapture Tattoos: *581A Fergusson Drive, Trentham – Black door beside the bakery, upstairs studio. Not wheelchair friendly.*

Continued on Page 20.

- Brianne McLean: *NZ Motorcycle Centre, 19 Nicolaus Street, Trentham*
- Upper Hutt Art Society: *Art Collective – 50 Ward Street, Wallaceville (big orange building)*
- Graham Mulvay: *80 McParland Street, Elderslea*
- Susan Skelton: *7 Benzie Avenue, Wallaceville*
- Mary Amour: *61 Lane Street, Wallaceville*
- Bruce Winter: *61 Lane Street, Wallaceville*
- G16 Studios: *Art Collective – 6 Railway Avenue, Maidstone*
- Wellmade Craft Festival: *Whirinaki Whare Taonga Arts / Culture / Events, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Dawn Duthie: *Community Gallery Hub – Whirinaki Whare Taonga, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Jo Kreyll: *Community Gallery Hub – Whirinaki Whare Taonga, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Liz Gibson: *Community Gallery Hub – Whirinaki Whare Taonga, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Rachael Hay: *Community Gallery Hub – Whirinaki Whare Taonga, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Ruth Nicholas: *Community Gallery Hub – Whirinaki Whare Taonga, 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt CBD*
- Val Neill: *5 Exchange Street, Ebdentown*
- Emma Hill: *21 Riversdale Road, Clouston Park*
- Cherie Gurney: *3 Pokaka Street, Birchville*
- Gemma Goodwin: *4 Pokaka Street, Birchville*
- Karen Pearce: *4 Pokaka Street, Birchville*
- Nadine Jäggi: *102 Gemstone Drive, Birchville. Please park out on the street and walk up the shared driveway.*
- Nycki Proctor: *31 Plateau Road, Te Marua. Please park on the street. The driveway is not suitable for wheelchairs.*
- Mandi Lynn: *191 Plateau Road, Te Marua*
- Elaine Howlett: *3 Paton Street, Maymorn*
- Mark Ayson: *10 Paton Street, Maymorn. No wheelchair access. Three steps to access studio.*
- Tanya Green: *17 MacLaren Street, Maymorn. Steps up to enter. Not wheelchair friendly.*
- Mangaroa Farms Art Collective: *Art Collective – Mangaroa Farms Shop Kete Kai, 108 Whitemans Valley Road, Whitemans Valley*
- Jenny Sparrow: *Community Gallery Hub – Wallaceville Church, 7 Whitemans Valley Road*
- Jess Ryan: *Community Gallery Hub – Wallaceville Church, 7 Whitemans Valley Road*
- Juno Ryan: *Community Gallery Hub – Wallaceville Church, 7 Whitemans Valley Road*
- Kate Winters: *79 Gorrie Road, Mangaroa Valley*

A “thank you” to Tanya for providing this information to The Upper Hutt Connection.

26/09/25



**ŌRONGOMAI
MARAE**

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING 2025**

MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2025
KERERŪ ROOM, TE PŪNA MĀTAURANGA
TIME: 7:00PM

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI!

All whānau, uri and community members
are warmly invited to attend our
Annual General Meeting.

For more information, contact:
SAMMIE HEEMI
SAMMIE.ORONGOMAI@GMAIL.COM

Ōrongomai Marae Annual General Meeting: Monday 13th of October, 7.00 pm

Ōrongomai Marae – Annual General Meeting 2025

Kia ora koutou

Ōrongomai Marae invites all whānau, uri, and community members to our AGM.

- Monday 13th October 2025
- 7:00 PM
- Kererū Room, Te Puna Mātauranga

Come along to hear updates and stay connected with the kaupapa of our marae. Nau mai, haere mai!

For more info, contact: Sammie Heemi – sammie.orongomai@gmail.com

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

30/09/25



Upper Hutt City Football

Upper Hutt City Football Bob Bamford Tournament: Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of October

Our annual Bob Bamford Tournament is this weekend at Maidstone Park

For almost 40 years teams have been coming together to compete in this tournament in preparation for Napier U19s Tournament.

Since 2015 we have recognised Bob Bamford or “Wobbly Bob” as he was more fondly known within the club with our annual tournament ensuring his legacy lives on as we shape the next generation of players.

Check the Upper Hutt City Football Facebook page for more updates throughout the week including teams, pool groups, and fixture times. Games will kick off from 9:30am on Saturday and continue on Sunday.

We look forward to seeing you all down at Maidstone Park this weekend

<https://www.facebook.com/UpperHuttCityFootball>

Source: Upper Hutt City Football

29/09/25



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 Church - Silverstream

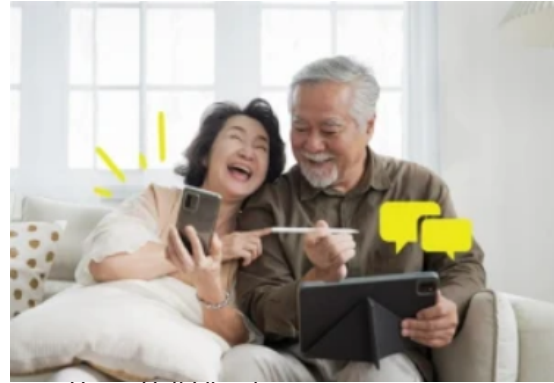
St. Margaret's Playgroup: Tuesday Mornings, 10.00 am – 11.30 am (term time only)

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

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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 Newell for sending this article to The Upper Hutt Connection.

29/04/25



AI Generated

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.

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

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



AI Generated

Strings Attached Ukulele Group

We need a few new players/performers for our ukulele /singing/ performance group, based in Upper Hutt. More than anything we love people with enthusiasm who are keen to interact with an audience. We perform mostly at retirement villages but have also performed at birthday parties and celebrations of life. We focus on songs from the 50's to the 80's but most importantly we are there for our audiences and what they enjoy.

- you need to be able to hold a tune.
- the ability to play a ukulele would be great but if you don't we can teach you!

If you are keen or know of someone who would be an asset to our group' please ring Virginia on 0273920920.

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

28/07/25

The Upper Hutt Womens' Carers' Group

Our group consists of women who have someone in their lives who has had a stroke or has Alzheimers, that they are caring for.

We meet once a fortnight for two hours. We offer a supportive listening environment with lots of laughs as we walk our challenging journeys together. If there are women out there who feel we could be of support, please contact Jenny on 0284340102 for further details.

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

28/07/25



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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/>

New recipe added this week: Chicken Cacciatore



AI Generated

Business Advertising

A webpage on The Upper Hutt Connection at only \$1 a day

Is your business lacking a website, and you don't want to bother with setting one up yourself? The Upper Hutt Connection can offer you a webpage on The Upper Hutt Connection at only \$1 a day (billed at \$30 a month). Include all the text, images, links etc that you like.

Advertise your business in The Upper Hutt Connection's Wednesday Edition for only \$10 a week - be seen by all 1,016 subscribers.

Would you like to advertise your business weekly in The Upper Hutt Connection's Wednesday Edition? You can have your business advertised at only \$10 a week (billed at \$40 a month). Include a small paragraph of text along with a small image – OR an image alone, with all your business info included in the image itself. A small line of text can be included for a link to your website, etc. If you have a request where you'd like your ad to be placed in the Wednesday Edition then please say – otherwise I'll use my own judgement.

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.

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.



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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.

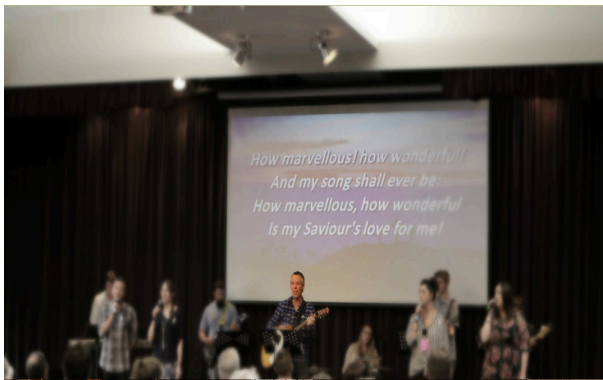
Our Creche for children under 3 1/2 years runs every Sunday morning. Our Children's Church runs Sundays during school terms.

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 minister@stmargaretssilverstream.org.nz

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 the second and fourth Thursday of the month in the church hall and lounge during term time. 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 contribute to the pantry, feel free to drop off at the church.

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



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.

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



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

ENTERTAINMENT

What's new at Monterey Cinemas? Releasing 2nd of October, 2025

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

HIM

Running time: 96 minutes

Rated: R16 (Bloody violence & offensive language)

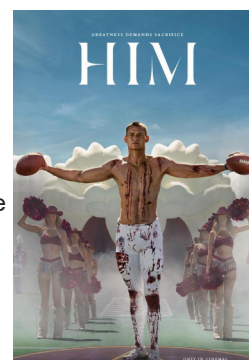
From Oscar® winner Jordan Peele and Monkeypaw Productions, producers of the landmark horror films Get Out, Us, Candyman and Nope, comes a chilling journey into the inner sanctum of fame, idolatry and the pursuit of excellence at any cost, featuring an electrifying dramatic performance from Marlon Wayans (Air, Respect).

HIM stars former college wide-receiver Tyriq Withers (Atlanta, the upcoming I Know What You Did Last Summer) as Cameron Cade, a rising-star quarterback who has devoted his life, and identity, to football. On the eve of professional football's annual scouting Combine, Cam is attacked by an unhinged fan and suffers a potentially career-ending brain trauma.

Just when all seems lost, Cam receives a lifeline when his hero, Isaiah White (Marlon Wayans), a legendary eight-time Championship quarterback and cultural megastar, offers to train Cam at Isaiah's isolated compound that he shares with his celebrity influencer wife, Elsie White (Julia Fox; Uncut Gems, No Sudden Move). But as Cam's training accelerates, Isaiah's charisma begins to curdle into something darker, sending his protégé down a disorienting rabbit hole that may cost him more than he ever bargained for.

Book here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/him>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt20990442/videoplayer/vi2251147289/?ref=mv_sr_srsq_1_tt_6_nm_2_in_0_q_Him



Him

NIKKA ZAILDAR 4

Running time: 139 minutes

Rated: PG (Coarse language)

A Punjabi man's disinterest in wrestling changes when he falls for a Haryanvi woman passionately involved in the sport.

Book here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/nikka-zaildar-4->

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt31307640/videoplayer/vi2919745561/?ref=mv_sr_srsq_1_tt_4_nm_0_in_0_q_Nikka%2520Zaildar



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SUNNY SANSKARI KI TULSI KUMARI

Running time: 134 minutes

Rated: PG (Mild drug references & occasional coarse language)

The film is based on a humorously convoluted premise of a bereft lover trying to appease his bruised ego and win back his love interest by sabotaging her wedding and reminding her of how well they fit together.

Sunny Sanskari, an extravagant, over-the-top, middle class boy has fallen in love with Ananya – an intelligent, career driven, sophisticated girl who is way out of his league. Ananya rejects Sunny's marriage proposal and breaks his heart, saying that she wants to focus on her career. However, a short while later, an Instagram post tells him that Ananya is getting married to Vikram Singh from Delhi.



Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari

Through a comical series of events, Sunny teams up with Vikram's childhood sweetheart – Tulsi to sabotage the wedding. As their plan unfolds, Sunny and Tulsi end up spending a lot of time together, faking a relationship to make their respective ex-flames jealous. They succeed in their mission and the marriage is called off. Ananya wants to rekindle her love story with Sunny and Vikram begs for forgiveness and proposes marriage to Tulsi. But, unprepared for his growing fondness for Tulsi, Sunny walks away from Ananya.

Having finally matured, he seeks contentment from the idea that Tulsi has been reunited with the love of her life. But, in a parallel world, Tulsi realised that she never really wanted to fight for Vikram's love – that was Sunny's idea. She had, in fact, fallen in love with Sunny.

In an extravagantly dramatic plot twist, Tulsi and Sunny's love story finds its happy ending, helpfully nudged along by the unravelling of some comical misunderstandings.

Book here: <https://www.montereyupperhutt.co.nz/movie/sunny-sanskari-ki-tulsi-kumari>

View trailer at IMDB.com: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt30742355/videooplayer/vi2904344601/?ref=nr_srsq_1_tt_1_nm_2_in_0_q_Sunny%2520Sanskari

Source: *Monterey Cinemas Upper Hutt*

30/09/25