

Croatian Cultural Society Wellington Newsletter

June/lipanj 2024



FOOTBALL AT THE CLUB – 25 JUNE

Come down to the club to watch Croatia play Italy at 7am on Tuesday 25 June. It's the final group game for Euro 2024 and Croatia need a win (or maybe a lucky draw) to stay in the tournament. This is the third and final Euro 2024 group stage game.

Please share the event with your friends and family. Our Italian friends are welcome too, of course!

Entry is free to all members, and we ask for a gold coin donation from others (or a bank transfer). Tea, coffee, and light breakfast supplied.

Doors open 6.45am. Game starts 7am, and should finish by 9am. There will be a light breakfast, with tea and coffee. Wear your team colours!



THIS ISSUE

- *25 Jun (7-9am): Football*
- *29 Jun (3-5pm): Language Café*
- *29 Jun (5pm): Fistonich wine tasting*
- *New Executive*
- *Consular visit*
- *Membership applications*
- *New editor*
- *News from Croatia*



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NEW EXECUTIVE

A new Executive was elected at the 26 May AGM, and met on 9 June. The members are listed below with their elected role first, and then extra roles added at the meeting.

- Ivan Kolich (President – bar)
- Emilia Hrstich (Vice-President – seniors’ bus trip, and Intl Women’s Day events)
- Jude Urlich (Treasurer)
- Nick Barbalich (Executive)
- Dave Guerin (Executive, Website, Newsletter)
- Katrina Henderson (Executive, assisting Acting Secretary)
- Josip Kolic (Executive – club décor)
- Kay Parker (Executive – Acting Secretary and Membership Secretary)
- Ashley Tvrdeic (Executive – social media, Heritage Wall, My Story)

LANGUAGE CAFÉ

The much-loved Language Café will take place at **3-5pm on Saturday 29 June** in the club rooms.

- 3:00pm - 4:00pm - Learning activities for the children
- 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Language class for adults.

The Language Café is run by language teacher Maja Krtalić, who received a special thanks at our recent AGM.

This is a great opportunity to try learning the Croatian language in a relaxed and informal environment. Our library will also be open for you to browse, read and borrow novels, cookbooks, children's books, CDs and language resources.

Language Café has been running since 2021, and it usually takes place every last Saturday of the month from 3 to 5 pm. There is no need to sign up, just come along. While there is no cost, a plate to share for afternoon tea would be most welcome.

CONSULAR VISIT

There will be a consular visit by the Croatian Embassy on Mon 1 July. Please contact secretary@croatianculturalsocietywgtm.co.nz if you want to make an appointment, and you will be given the booking form.



FISTONICH WINE TASTING

Prominent NZ-Croatian winemaker Sir George Fistonich started a new operation, [Čuvar Winery](#), after the sale of Villa Maria. He had kept his own Hawkes' bay vineyards. Luckily for us, they'd like to share the fruits of their labours with us at a wine tasting at 5pm Saturday 29 June (sales rep Steph will be joining us).

Čuvar is offering their very best pricing, around half of normal retail, to members of the Croatian clubs in Auckland and Wellington. They'll be promoting their midrange Iris wines, along with the entry level Obliix ranges.

Ivo and Katrina tasted the wines and are happy to recommend them! Come on down to Language Café and then join the wine tasting.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Executive has received membership applications from Theresa Shaw and Donna Vitasovic. These are required to be notified to members one month before being decided by the Executive.

HELLO FROM THE NEW EDITOR

Hi, I'm Dave Guerin (my grandfather Ivan Anticich/Antičić came from Igrane) and I'm the new editor of the newsletter. It's a big job taking over from Mary Begovich, so this first newsletter is just a start. I hope to add more language items (not my strong point!) in future newsletters, and would welcome any contributions. Please let me know if you have any news or suggestions. I'm at dave@ed.co.nz.



NEWS FROM CROATIA

Eurovision

Croatia competed in the Eurovision 2024 final on 11 May, coming first in the televoting. We were beaten into second place overall by Switzerland, which had a higher score from the jury.

The song was *Rim Tim Tagi Dim* by Baby Lasagna, which is about a young, rural man who leaves his village for a better life in a foreign country, along with his excitement and anxiety. That story will be familiar to some of our members, and most of our ancestors. It's quite a banger, so [have a watch](#).



Summer Heat

Croatia Week reported that the [first heatwave of summer](#) arrived this week, with temperatures reaching up to the mid-30s. We wish all our members well who are travelling to Croatia this summer (and we're a bit jealous!).

If you'd like to share some stories or pics of your recent experiences in Croatia, just let us know!

Language Scholarships

The Republic of Croatia is offering [scholarships for language learning](#) in the 2024/25 academic year. They will pay for fees and a small accommodation allowance for up to 500 students for members of the Croatian diaspora, their descendants or spouses, and friends of Croatia.

Applications close 11 Jul 2024.

KEEP IN TOUCH

1. Follow our [Facebook page](#)
2. Listen to *From Croatia with Love* every Sunday from 12.30pm–1pm at FM106.1, or access episodes at the [Access Radio website](#).