

Croatian Cultural Society Wellington Newsletter

August/kolovoz 2025



This Issue

This issue includes: SlavFest, upcoming events, Taste of Croatia (fritule!), Croatian food and drink orders, Croatian film, and news from the club, embassy and Croatia.

SlavFest 6 Sep - can you help?

We're looking forward to [SlavFest](#) on Saturday 6 September, where our club will have a stall. Come on down for a great day of music, culture and food.

We need volunteers, so please help our small core group to:

1. staff our stall – we will sell baking and some Croatian goods (help us for an hour or two from 10am-6.30pm)
2. bake some tasty dishes – we will have core recipes for people to make (a cake, biscuits and some filled breads), but you are welcome to make a favourite dish (we'd need an ingredients list, and it needs to be easy to serve). Dishes need to be dropped off at the club by 9am Sat 6 Sep.

It would be great to get extra help, so we can all show off Croatia to the wider community. Please contact Dave Guerin at 021 404 334 or dave@ed.co.nz with any offers of help.



SLAV FEST 2025

Festival dedicated to
**Slavic and Balkan culture, food,
traditions, music and dance**

6 SEPTEMBER 2025
Te Whaea – National Dance & Drama Centre
11 Hutchison Road • NEWTOWN • WELLINGTON

Time: 10am – 6:30pm

Organized by SlavFest Educational Charitable Trust. Supported by
Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council
Wellington City Council
creative COMMUNITIES nz
Ministry for Ethnic Communities
Te Tari Māiāwaka



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Upcoming Events

Sunday 24 August (2-4pm), Taste of Croatia

- Fritule - with Danica Rudelj

Saturday 30 August (3-5pm), Language Cafe

- 3:00pm – 3:45pm – Fun and learning for the children
- 4:00pm – 5:00pm – Language class for adults of all abilities.

Taste of Croatia: Fritule on Sun 24 Aug

Come along this Sunday 24 August at 2-4pm to enjoy fritule, a traditional Dalmatian festive dessert, often cooked at Christmas. Fritule are one of the most requested recipes we've had for Taste of Croatia, so come down this Sunday when Danica Rudelj will be sharing her recipe!

Danica will be making her dough beforehand, which will mean we will have more time to enjoy eating it. The pic below is of Jamie Oliver's version.

Let Dave Guerin know if you're coming to the 24 August session at dave@ed.co.nz or 021 404 334.



Croatian Food and Drink Orders

The club will be selling some Croatian products at SlavFest, and also getting some Croatian beer for the bar. We've set up an account at Euro-Dell in Auckland, which is owned by a Croatian family and imports quite a few Croatian products. We'll be making an order this week for SlavFest, but we're also keen to group together members' orders for hard-to-find things. For example, you can find ajvar and Vegeta in supermarkets, but not Croatian sour cherries, plum jam, rosehip jam or oblatne wafers. If you have something you're trying to find, let us know.

Croatian Film

[Fiume o morte!](#) is showing at the NZ International Film Festival on Aug 19 and 24. It is a film about an Italian general's short-lived control of Fiume/Rijeka just after World War 1. It is apparently the [most viewed Croatian documentary](#) of all time, and it involves a lot of locals recreating scenes.



Club News

- 1. Issues for the Exec** If members would like to raise an issue with the Executive, they are welcome to contact the Secretary to arrange a time to come along to an Executive meeting to present their views. The aim is to encourage member feedback, and deal with issues as they arise.

- Membership Applications** A new membership application has been received from Anna-Marie (Annie) Rattray. The 30 days for current members to offer any feedback on their nomination starts from today.

Advisory Councils

The Croatian Embassy has sent us the following notice:

“Please be advised the Central State Office for Croats Abroad on 18 July 2025 published two Public Calls inviting Croatian communities abroad to nominate members for the Advisory Council for Croats Abroad, as well as for the Young Croats Abroad Advisory Council of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

Information regarding the public calls, obligations of members of the Advisory Councils, conditions that are required as well as documentation that needs to be provided can be found on the links below

- <https://hrvatiizvanrh.gov.hr/vijesti/javni-pozivi-za-dostavljanje-prijedloga-kandidata-za-izbor-clanova-savjeta-vlade-rh-za-hrvate-izvan-rh-i-savjeta-mladih-hrvata-izvan-rh/6496>
- https://hrvatiizvanrh.gov.hr/UserDocsImages//dokumenti/Javni_natjecaji_i_pozivi//Savjet%20Vlade%202025_Javni%20opoziv%20zajednicama%20Hrvata%20izvan%20RH.pdf
- https://hrvatiizvanrh.gov.hr/UserDocsImages//dokumenti/Javni_natjecaji_i_pozivi//Savjet%20mladih%202025_Javni%20opoziv%20zajednicama%20Hrvata%20izvan%20RH.pdf

Deadline for submission of nominations is 1 September 2025 by which deadline applicants from Australia and from New Zealand must send the requested documentation to the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Canberra initially by email to the email address croemb.canberra@mvep.hr , and by registered post to: **Embassy of the Republic of Croatia, 14 Jindalee Crescent, O'Malley ACT 2606, Australia.**

PLEASE CLEARLY INDICATE WHICH PUBLIC CALL THE NOMINATION CONCERNS. For potential further questions please contact the Embassy by e-mail or phone +61 2 6286 6988.

Thank you for your cooperation and kind regards,

Embassy of the Republic of Croatia

Canberra

Tel. + 61 2 6286 6988

E-mail: croemb.canberra@mvep.hr”

News from Croatia

- Private Beaches** Here’s a good guide to [whether beaches can be private](#) in Croatia (generally, no).

2. **Fires** There have been multiple fires on the Croatian coast in the height of summer. Croatia Week reported a [major fire near Split](#), while we've seen video of a smaller one near Makarska. Good luck to the firefighters.
3. **Wreck** Divers are exploring a [Greek ship wreck near Vis](#) that may date from the 4th century BC.
4. **Thompson Concert** Marko Perković Thompson's concert in Zagreb broke records for attendance at a paid concert with [hundreds of thousands turning up](#). There were some very impressive drone light displays too.

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](#).