

## Park yourself in Upper Hutt

IT ISN'T hard to get away from it all in Upper Hutt. The area is full of parks, rivers and walkways and includes open spaces such as Trentham Memorial Park, Tunnel Gully, Kaitoke Regional Park and Harcourt Park.

Paul Lambert, the city's promotions manager says the fact that much of the Greater Wellington Regional Council's summer outdoor programme is held in Upper Hutt shows the many options on offer in the area.

"A family can get together for an easily-arranged camping experience at Kaitoke Regional Park or Harcourt Holiday Park. Both venues still attract a steady flow of visitors to check out the *Lord of the Rings* film locations based there," he says.

The childrens' paddling pool at Harcourt Park in Akatarawa Rd has opened for summer and it also has a playground and the Harcourt Park Soundstage.

Just 14 kilometres along the Akatarawa Valley is Staglands Wildlife Reserve and Cafe, and these offer a special experience for people of all ages.

"You can feed and freely interact with a wide range of birds and animals. The cafe is available for refreshments or take a picnic."

Public transport makes it easy to get to Upper Hutt with the railway station and adjacent bus terminal very close to the centre of town and the civic centre amenities.

"Upper Hutt Central Library has been newly upgraded and is now very popular for its Wi-fi and public internet facilities. It is an ideal location to drop into their Rotary Lounge to relax and plan your day in Upper Hutt while checking out the magazines and books on hand."

Just along Fergusson Dr is Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre.

"This is a real focal point for arts in the city," Mr Lambert says.

"There are two top quality galleries for visual art enjoyment and The Mount Marua Gallery in hosting The Doll Show until January 23."

The NZ International Festival of the Arts is staging a concert by Maisey Rika in the Genesis Energy Theatre on March 14 as part of its *Art on the Move* project. Rika is an award-winning singer-songwriter who fuses English and Maori lyrics into her own eclectic style.

The Civic Centre is also home to the H2O Xtream pool complex with three large slides, lane and



**Summer joy:** Upper Hutt's H2O Xtream pool complex has three slides, lane and wave pool, sauna, steam room and a poolside spa.

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Mr Lambert says the summer events programme in Upper Hutt caters for all tastes with the annual stone carving symposium at Maidstone Park from January 14-23 and Wellington Cup Week at

Trentham Racecourse on January 21, 23, 28.

Trentham Memorial Park hosts Big Truck Day on February 5, and the Pelorus Trust Upper Hutt Summer Carnival is on February 25.

The Karapoti Mountain Bike

race is on Saturday, March 3, and for motorsport fans, the speedway season continues at Te Marua till April.

Full details of all events phone Upper Hutt i-SITE Visitor Centre on 527 2141 or go to:

[wowupperhutt.com](http://wowupperhutt.com)



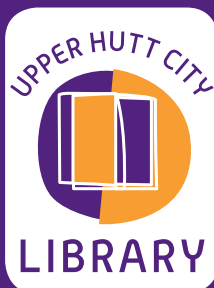
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## EXPRESSIONS

### Whirinaki

EXPRESSIONS ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE  
836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt  
Ph 04 527 2168 | [info@expressions.org.nz](mailto:info@expressions.org.nz)  
Open 10am - 4pm Tuesday - Sunday  
[www.expressions.org.nz](http://www.expressions.org.nz)



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## WOW What's on Where in Upper Hutt



Saturday 14 - Monday 23 January  
Saturday 21, Monday 23, Saturday 28 January  
Sunday 5 February  
Saturday 25 February  
Saturday 3 March

Stone Works - Maidstone Park  
Wellington Cup Week - Trentham Racecourse  
Big Truck Day - Trentham Memorial Park  
Pelorus Trust Summer Carnival - Trentham Memorial Park  
Karapoti Classic - Akatarawa

For more information call Upper Hutt i-SITE Visitor Centre; tel: 04 527 2141 or visit: [www.wowupperhutt.com](http://www.wowupperhutt.com)

