# NORMANDALE TIMES

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THE NORMANDALE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO

# LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS-MEET THE CANDIDATES

St Aidan's on the Hill · 7:30pm · Friday 19th September 2025

Yes, it's that time again, where political hopefuls plead their case for your vote. Come along to our Meet the Candidates event to hear what the latest lot of aspirant politicians have got to say about our suburb, our city, and our region (and engage in some ground level democracy along the way).

We have invited candidates for the Mayoralty, the Western ward, those standing 'At large' for Hutt City council, and those standing for Greater Wellington Regional council.

Candidates for each role will be asked the same set of questions, (different sets for different roles) and a limited time to answer. Those wasting time by playing the blame game or offering to cut rates will be cut off.

### SUBMIT A QUESTION TO ASK THE CANDIDATES

Let us know via our email normandale.residents@gmail.com any questions you would like put to the candidates – no guarantee yours will be chosen, but you never know your luck.

# TEA, COFFEE, AND BISCUITS PROVIDED!

### POTENTIAL QUESTION TOPICS:

Suburb infrastructure (e.g. pipe le	aks) 🗌 Rates	Riverlink	☐ Melling interchange
☐ Emergency resilience ☐ Housin	g intensification	☐ Public transpor	t Community safety
Candidate motivation	Regional grow	th Western	Hills representation

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**Disclaimer:** The opinions expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the committee. \***Note:** Copy deadline is the 25th of preceding month.

Next NRA meeting: 21st August 2025 7:30pm at St Aidan's on the Hill. All association members welcome.

# Predator Free Normandale

The 2nd half of the year has started with a bang for Predator Free Normandale. A weasel trapped in upper Normandale, and a stoat trapped by the Normandale Bridge. Not what we want in our neighbourhood, but we hope that means a few more birds can nest easily this spring. As for the first half of the year, here is a table of recorded pests removed from Normandale between January and June 2025.



Month	Hedgehog	Mouse	Possum	Rat	Weasel	Total pests
Jan 2025	3	30	1	21	0	55
Feb 2025	1	29	1	23	0	54
Mar 2025	3	43	2	47	0	95
Apr 2025	2	50	0	48	0	100
May 2025	0	29	0	33	0	62
Jun 2025	1	36	1	49	1	88
Total	10	217	5	221	1	454

For anyone interested in joining Predator Free Normandale to help increase bird life in the suburb, tunnels and traps are available for \$10 each. These can be picked up from Normandale School or contact Nicole at **pfnormandale@gmail.com**. Special thanks to Predator Free New Zealand for allowing us to be able to supply Normandale residents tunnels and traps at below cost price.

# Normandale Playcentre

# MOVIE Fundralser event

# The Roses

Wed 10th Sep, 5.45pm Light House Petone Arrive from 5pm | Tickets \$25

### JOIN US FOR SUPPER, RAFFLES, & SPOT PRIZES

As we fundraise to finish off our work rejuvenating our outside play area

Purchase tickets from Nicole normandalepcfun@gmail.com 021 632 090



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# HAVE YOU NOTICED?

The dairy on the corner of Oakley Street and Dowse Drive has re-opened. Please support Kishan and Yuti in this venture. You can contact them at quickmart.maungaraki@gmail.com



# Hutt City Council Community engagement - president's update

HCC's community engagement team is busy developing a new framework to improve the opportunities for us to have direct input into Council decision making, and as your President, I have been meeting them, along with other community group representatives. Currently a draft has been produced, with a supporting 'Action Plan'. In my view both are an admirable start. The overall aim is to promote a collaborative approach, with a devolution of power and decision making to community level, an approach that has been shown to work overseas, but which runs foul of the entrenched system.

It won't be straightforward, ideas like responding quickly to change by continuous evolution and adapting 'on the fly' as new information comes to light, is impossible in a regime that requires both budget and objectives to be set in stone a year beforehand via the Annual plan. Nonetheless there seems to be a genuine commitment by senior staff which means it should survive any changes at governance level as a result of the election. It is now up to communities to grab the opportunity and work together to ensure that ideas like the design of projects being community lead, and participatory budgeting where the community choose how funds are spent are adopted and used.

- Pete Matcham, Normandale Residents' Association president



# Normandale community garden- yay or nay?

The survey gauging interest in a Normandale community garden is still live! If you would like to be part of a community garden group in Normandale, or have a suggestion for where a plot could be, please use the link below or the QR code and let us know. https://tinyurl.com/nragarden

Community gardening involves a group of people sharing a piece of land to plant, grow, and tend to food, flowers, or herbs. It fosters a sense of community, provides a space for people to connect and learn about gardening, and can offer fresh produce. A community garden can be divided into individual plots that members use or work and produce can be shared. Every community garden is different. In New Zealand, community gardens can range from small urban plots to larger suburban or rural spaces.



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