



COMMUNITY NEWS

April 2017

This community newsletter is sent out monthly on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website since 2002.

Other sources of online community information in Tawa:

www.neighbourly.co.nz • www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa • www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard

FOREST OF TANE WALK COMING UP

Come and celebrate with Northern Ward councillors the addition of the "Forest of Tane" to the Wellington Outer Green Belt with a community walk through this forest block.

Meet at 58 Kiwi Crescent entrance at 1.30pm on Saturday 8 April.

As Kiwi Crescent can become very congested, please either walk or park further away. Bring your own water bottle and good footwear.

Parts of the track are fairly steep and not yet developed to a public walking track standard, so a reasonable level of fitness is required.

The plan is to walk from Kiwi Crescent to the junction with the Meridian road and Te Araroa Walkway in Spicer Forest, and return by the same route.

An hour or more should be allowed for this distance. Walkers are free to go on further to Colonial Knob or return by other routes on their own.

This event is weather dependent and will be cancelled due to Health and Safety concerns if there is heavy rain. Any cancellation will be posted on Neighbourly and Facebook, and a councillor will be present at the entrance.



A TRADITIONAL EASTER GALA AT LINDEN SCHOOL

Saturday 8 April, 10am to 1pm at Linden School, 58 Ranui Tce. Join us for a fantastic couple of hours out, entertainment for all ages, young and old.



Delicious food, coffee, sweets. White Elephant, amazing stalls. Test your skills on the fairground games. Free easter egg hunt and easter bonnet parade. Little Driver cars, Ferris wheel, face painting, hair braiding and more. Raffles, competitions and prizes. Chocolate! Family Easter fun for everyone.

NOTE that 200L emergency water tanks will also be on sale at the gala 10am to 12pm for \$110 each. \$10 from each tank sold or ordered on the day will go to Linden School. Pre-order your water tank by emailing malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz

NEIGHBOURS' DAY IN TAWA

Neighbours' Day gatherings – barbecues or afternoon teas – have taken place all over Tawa in the past few weeks. They're a great opportunity to get to know neighbours better, and that's what building a "connected community" is all about! If an event took place in your street/neighbourhood and it's not listed here, please do let us know:

Balliol/St Hildas

Coates Street

Greyfriars /St Benets

Oriel Ave North

Peterhouse St (upper)

Roy Street

Sunrise Blvd (mid)

Wall Park

Bede Grove

Duncan St (mid)

Kereru Bend

Oxford St (lower-mid)

Ranui Tce (mid)

South Street

Tawa Commty Garden

Wilmshurst Place

Brasenose Place

Duval Grove

Mexted Tce East

Oxford St (mid)

Raroa Tce (mid)

St Aidans Way

Thomas Hook St

Cecil Street

Florio Tce

Oriel Ave (mid)

Pembroke St (upper)

Redwood Estate

St Edmund Cres

Victory Cres (upper)



RECENT COMMUNITY NEIGHBOURS' DAY EVENTS

Tawa Community Garden offered free sausages, free seedlings and a tour of the garden at their Neighbours' Day event last Saturday afternoon at their Coronation Park venue. See the photos at right.

A Neighbours' Day barbecue at Wall Park the following afternoon was organised by Northern Ward councillors in conjunction with the Tawa Community Board. Free sausages and various activities were enjoyed by a steady stream of people. See the photos below.

It was great to have the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade taking part at that occasion, and thanks to Tawa New World for sponsoring most of the food.



GOT YOUR WATER TANK YET?

The pic below shows a whole bunch of 200L emergency water tanks being delivered in Tawa last week. Avoid a trip into the CBD by buying one locally for \$110.

Email malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz for details and pick it up on a pre-arranged evening or Saturday morning (or at the Linden School Gala this weekend).



Get answers to your questions about the meaning of life

FREE introductory dinner for the ALPHA COURSE

on **SUNDAY 7th MAY** at **6pm**

EMMAUS CENTRE (behind St Christopher's Church)

Main Road/Lyndhurst Road, Tawa

Phone 232 5338 to book your place for dinner

For more information see alpha.org.nz

TREE FELLING COMING UP AT HAMPTON HILL SCHOOL

The Board of Trustees of Hampton Hill School would like to inform the Tawa community that there is planned tree felling that will take place on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th April on our school grounds and will let you know closer to the time the hours when this will occur.

All of this work will take place behind the administration building and classrooms on the Rimu Street entrance to the School and may impact on the thoroughfare through to Hampton Hill Road. (Note: this is during the Term 1 school holidays).

TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Term 1 2017 saw record numbers of enrolments from people in the Greater Wellington area. Students travelled from Wainuiomata and Bulls to come to courses at Tawa College. Tawa residents are so fortunate to have one of only two schools in the lower North Island providing classes in their suburb. A large number of classes including the fitness classes filled up in term 1 and although in some situations additional classes were introduced, those who left it to the last minute missed out.

The term 2 programme is now out and can be collected from supermarkets and libraries. Full details can be found on the web site www.tawacommed.co.nz

A number of new seminars have been included this term as well as popular ones that have previously been run.

These include:

Sleep Workshop	Relationship Magic
Grief	Support for supporting long term illness
How we learn	Spurt: Children's Brain Development
Habits: Making and Breaking	

Repeat seminars from term 1 include:

Organic Gardening Worm Composting

Once a year Parents as Driving Coaches is also run, and this will be on Thursday 22 June.

NZ Sign Languages classes have been extremely popular. As these usually continue throughout the year it is not possible to take new students. This year there will be another beginner class starting on a Thursday night allowing for the chance of beginner students to start next term whether it be for an 8 week sampler class or to continue on for terms 3 and 4.

Two new art classes are available in the weekend on Print Making and Expressive Flowers. These will both be on a Saturday. These classes are also available for college students.

Languages have become popular and there will be beginner classes in Spanish, Italian and Maori.

Maori and Italian will also have level 2 classes for those who wish to continue a second term.

Thank you to all who have supported classes to enable them to continue and for the programme to grow.

Judith Havill

Tawa College Community Education Coordinator

TAWA MEMORIAL TO OPEN SOON

The notice on the fence at the construction site reads:

“On this site a Tawa Memorial is being erected, to be unveiled and dedicated on Saturday 22 April 2017. The Memorial commemorates those from the Tawa district who gave their lives in the service of their country and in the cause of peace in three conflicts:

the South African War, 1899-1902
World War 1, 1914-1918
World War 2, 1939-1945”



HAMPTON HILL BIKEATHON

Hampton Hill School's first fundraiser for the year was its recent bikeathon which raised more than \$5500. In addition to bringing in additional funds it was an opportunity for the kids to demonstrate their biking skills on the cycle track constructed at the school in June of last year.



HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOP

Kids' holiday craft workshop at the Tawa Community Centre, Thursday 20 April, 10am-12pm. Design a vase with colourful sand and make a bendy felted snake. \$22 per child, all materials supplied. More info at www.facebook.com/makeitactivities Bookings to jann.freitas@jinglebugs.co.nz

TAWA POP-UP MARKET

Held in the New World atrium on a recent Saturday, will continue on a monthly basis.

tawapopup@gmail.com



WCC YOUTH COUNCIL

Up to 20 young Wellingtonians from a variety of backgrounds are chosen to join WCC's Youth Council each year, with recruitment in July.

The Wellington Youth Council meets fortnightly to provide a voice for young people. They work on youth-related projects and advise Wellington City Council on issues that affect the city and the city's youth.

There are currently four Youth Council members who hail from Tawa. They are Dexter Munro, Jackson Lacy, Shine Wu, and Jack Marshall (who is also a member of the Tawa Community Board).

CONGRATULATIONS TO MIKE WOOD

– this article appears on www.capitalfootball.org.nz, and some additions have been made to it.

Capital Football has congratulated Mike Wood on being awarded Life Membership of Capital Football at its recent AGM.

Mike has dedicated over 50 years to football in the Wellington region, joining Stop Out in the 1960s before moving to Upper Hutt and then on to Seatoun.

He is best known for his time with Tawa AFC where he started coaching junior teams in the early 80s before becoming involved with the seniors and on the committee.

Mike has held a number of roles at Tawa AFC and in 1999 he became President, a position he still holds today.

Kath Henshaw, Tawa Junior Club Captain, spoke of the time and energy Mike has contributed at the club, where he still puts in a good 20 hours per week.

Paul Houliston, Board Chair, thanked Mike for all of his work, and mentioned his time as a committee member with Team Wellington.

- In 2014 Mike won the Sport & Leisure category at the Tawa Community Civic Awards in recognition of his contribution to sport and recreation in Tawa.



Paul Houliston (Capital Football Board Chair) congratulates Mike Wood (left) on being awarded Life Membership of Capital Football.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIMON QUIRKE

– this article appears on the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade's Facebook page.

“Congratulations went to SO Simon Quirke at our last training night where he was presented with his certificates for completing the Volunteer Executive Officers course. This involves a mix of distance learning, assignments and extramural university papers covering areas such as staff, asset and project management.”

In the photo CFO Mike Farrand presents SO Quirke with his certificate.



Tawa Community Centre

A friendly place to pop in during the hours of 9am-1pm on weekdays, or hire a room or hall for your community group / birthday party / meeting at reasonable rates.

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TawaAndLindenCommunityCentres> or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz and put 'Join' as the subject to receive regular updates.

2 MINUTES WITH Stephen Mulholland

Stephen is the man from Takapu Valley who brings his llamas or perhaps the occasional alpaca to special community occasions in Tawa – like Spring into Tawa, the Tawa Christmas Parade, and various school fairs. They're always very popular and add that "something extra" to those occasions.

Where were you born?

Kansas, USA

Where did you grow up?

Mostly east coast USA, in the small central Atlantic state of Delaware.

Where were you educated?

For K-12 I attended Sanford School, which I very much enjoyed. It started as a boarding school, and slowly evolved into a regular day-student type affair. When I was young they still had boarders, many of them children of diplomats – as Delaware is roughly half way between DC and NYC [Washington D.C. and New York City] – so you got a chance to meet interesting kids from around the world.

I received my undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago, and my PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Did my first PostDoc at Harvard, and then my second at the Genetics Institute.

How long have you lived in Tawa?

We've been in Tawa nearly 14 years now.

Why did you come to New Zealand?

Our semi-joke answer when given this questions is "have you seen this place?" I'd been interested in NZ since my high school years. I'm pretty sure I saw some nature program on sheep mustering in the high country and it caught my imagination. We got the chance to come here on holiday in '99, and we used the holiday as an opportunity for a bit of reconnaissance. So we tried to spent a day or two in each major city, to see if it looked like a place we'd want to live. We were asked many times why we didn't move to Auckland, to which the answer was "if we wanted a sprawling city with terrible traffic we could have just stayed in the US."

Why to Tawa/Wellington in particular?

We liked Wellington. Ironically we ended up spending an extra couple of days here in '99 because the ferries were not running to due huge swells. But the weather wasn't that bad, not by -20C winter comparisons.

We were looking for a lifestyle block, and explored up all the little back roads up into the hills behind Wellington's various suburbs. Finding the place we did was luck as much as anything, but in retrospect we are very glad we live where we do. We can't think of a place in the Wellington area we'd rather live.

What about family?

I've been with my partner Tamara for 25 years. We met while still in University back in the States. No kids.

Work experience over the years

Back in the States I worked for a couple of biotech and pharmaceutical companies (I have a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics). Once we arrived in NZ and purchased our small alpaca farm I had to learn a whole new set of skills – including how to remove vast quantities of mature gorse and otherwise improve a run-down property. My science background and interest in llama and alpaca health has now translated into writing articles on camelid health, welfare, breeding, care, etc which have been published around the world. There is always more to do and learn. I got to learn a great deal about highway construction in NZ back in 2014 when we teamed up with Tawa residents to stop the P2G Tawa-damaging options [*to widen SH1 through Tawa and/or build a new highway through Takapu Valley – Ed.*].

What are your interests and hobbies?

Many and varied. I've played with a medieval group for the last 25 years, so if you need a skilled swordsman,

..... contd



Ziggy the llama with Stephen
at a Tawa event

contd

I might be able to help you out. I also co-lead a local volunteer urban search and rescue team. And I've started writing science fiction novels, with the hope of maybe one day turning that into a viable income source.

Favourite sports team and/or sports person?

I've always preferred to play rather than watch, partly because the sports I like (see sword fighting, above) don't show up on TV very often.

Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?

A difficult question! My music depends on both my mood, and what I'm doing. I enjoy classical music (particularly German and Russian composers), but if I need to ramp up the energy, blasting out some Queen on Rush is a good option. I have a particular like for Mongolian Opera, which I know is a bit odd, but it is actually quite good once you get used to it!

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

We've made it to many corners of this lovely country, except the Coromandel and the Chathams. Some of the best experiences have been on the little tracks that are too often ignored. The small regional and local parks and walks that can lead to a magic spot, little-known, where you can find a tree, a waterfall, or a view that is magical.

What accomplishments/achievements in your life give you the most satisfaction/pride?

When I manage to save a life. Thus far this has been animal lives, when you are there to stop the bleeding, open the airway, untangle the limb or otherwise save the day.

What are three things you would like to do before you die?

Only three? And is this a question of dreams, or practical realities? This is also a question that is prone to change with time, as what I want now is different from what I wanted a decade ago.

At the present my moderate-to-long term goals are to write a big pile of novels telling great stories that people will enjoy, and to help the evolution and maturation of the alpaca industry in New Zealand.

WHEN DID TAWA FLAT CHANGE ITS NAME TO JUST TAWA?

We asked Bruce Murray, the "walking encyclopedia" of Tawa history, this question. Here is his answer.

"Tawa Flat got its name as early as 1854 when, on an official form, John Woodman (1831-1911) gave his address as "Tawa Flat". By the 1930s the simple word 'Tawa' had begun to be used for the district. For example, the recreation hall that was bought by Stephen Mexted from the Works Department camp in Glenside once the two railway tunnel had been driven, was labelled publicly as the "Tawa Hall", and not the "Tawa Flat Hall". It became, till 1963 when it was demolished, Tawa's de facto Town Hall.

By 1958 there was growing talk in Tawa as to whether or not the name of the district should remain as Tawa Flat or should be changed. (Perhaps newcomers to the area – the 1956 population of Tawa was 4,015 – thought that having 'Flat' tacked on to Tawa lowered the tone of the place.) So a referendum was held, even though "Tawa Flat" had been used for more than a century.

Three options were given: *Tawa Flat*, *Tawanui*, and *Tawa*. *Tawa* was voted in by a small majority, and the name was officially changed when, on 23 February 1959, the Tawa Flat Borough Council became the Tawa Borough Council."

On a slightly different note, the Tawa "floral sign" which uses hedge plants to spell out the name 'Tawa' at the southern end of the Main Road, was an initiative of Doris Mills, the Mayor of Tawa 1986-87.



NEW HOUSING AT TAKAPU ISLAND

We received an email just yesterday from a local resident asking about “new housing activity” that has started taking place off William Earp Place (the road leading up to Countdown on Takapu Island).

We’ve been able to obtain the following information from Council but haven’t had a chance yet to get details from the owners of the current development.

Consent has been granted for a 26-unit development at 4 William Earp Place. This development does not use all of the subject site. The go-ahead has been given for earthworks to commence (see photo), with the developer’s management plans having been signed off. Council does not have details of the developer’s intended timelines.



Between William Earp Place and the railway line.

Council has also consented a retail development at 8 William Earp Place to the south of Countdown. This development would use much of the useable land area to the south of Countdown.

The area is zoned ‘Business 1’ under the district plan. This area is mixed in terms of ‘permissiveness’.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow
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Now to
mow the
top of the
hedge ...



“Don’t give up on your dreams. Keep sleeping.”

“Some people are like clouds. When they disappear it’s a beautiful day.”

“Success is going from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm.” – Winston Churchill

This newsletter is emailed to around 1250 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa), usually in the first week of each month.

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.

Back issues of the newsletter are available at www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html

PLEASE BE AWARE that many of the items/articles in this newsletter have been sent through by members of the Tawa community and have been published ‘unedited’. They may not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.



Upgrade at Brasenose Park nearing completion.