



COMMUNITY NEWS

August 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

UPGRADING THE TAWA TOWN CENTRE

WCC press release:

Find out more about Council's plans to improve Tawa's Town Centre. Local WCC councillors and staff will be in the Tawa New World atrium this Saturday, 12 August, from 10am to 12pm.

On Monday the plaza's beautiful cherry trees will be on the move! They will go to a new home in Grasslees Reserve where they will have three new trees planted alongside them.



For more information, see www.wellington.govt.nz/tawa-plaza-upgrade

NEWLY-FENCED DOG EXERCISE AREA

The 'opening' of the newly-fenced dog exercise area at Taylor Park in Tawa took place recently with a good turnout of pooches and their human companions.

After several days of appalling weather, the sun shone on the gathering but it was rather muddy under foot at Taylor Park. Consequently most of the 'attendees' walked their four-legged friends along the Ara Tawa shared pathway to Willowbank for a run around and a sausage (or three) for the dogs.

Thanks again to Wellington City Council for fencing the Taylor Park dog exercise area. There's little doubt it will be well used!

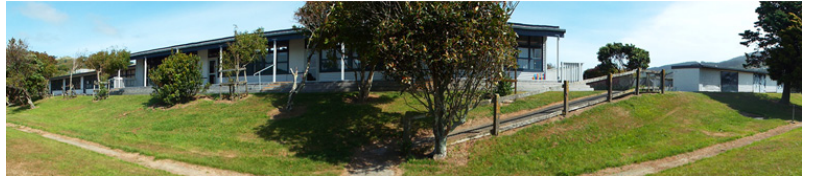


PROGRESS WITH TRANSMISSION GULLY

Keep up-to-date with progress on the construction of Transmission Gully at this website: <http://transmissiongullyproject.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/t/ABD57CE3918DADC0/BBE4B35E6A2A5F63025DA65DC0D0F53A> You can also sign up to receive the latest project news (by email) if you so choose.

LINDEN SCHOOL'S NEW FIT TRACK OPENING

You are invited to the grand opening of Linden School's new Fit Track which is currently being installed.



The Fit Track will be for the whole of Tawa's awesome community, young and old, to use and enjoy. It is suitable for all ages meaning everyone in our community, from pre-schoolers through to senior citizens, will be able to use and enjoy the equipment.

We are planning a fun community event on Saturday 19 August 12 - 3pm (with a postponement date of 20 August).

Come along to Linden School for stalls, fairground rides, food, entertainment & more. The opening ceremony will be at 1pm, followed by a demonstration on how the individual stations can be used. There will then be a chance to have a go, or enjoy some of the other fun activities happening around the school.

Everyone is invited: local schools, kindys, sports & social groups, basically the WHOLE community.

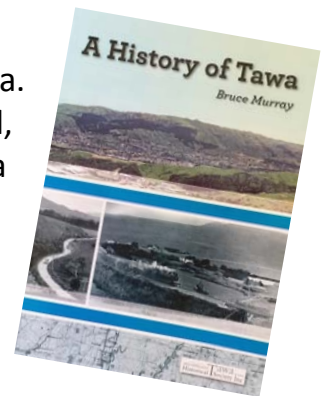
Linden School would like to thank the Wellington City Council and the Tawa Community Board for their funding support to make this exciting addition to our community possible.

TAWA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM

The Tawa Historical Society does a great job in documenting the history of Tawa. It has produced 16 books on diverse aspects of Tawa's history in a 13 year period, and its members were the driving force behind the construction of the Tawa Memorial which was opened in April.

It has worked with Wellington City Council over the years to see the following completed:

- series of plaques indicating the line of the Old Porirua Road through Tawa
- a plaque beneath the Memorial Oak outside Tawa School, on Oxford Street
- an information sign relating to Elsdon Best in Grasslees Reserve
- an illuminated heritage structure (the 'plinth') outside the Mervyn Kemp Library
- an information sign in the Tawa Cemetery
- decorative historical panels as part of the new Tawa Railway Station building



The Society's AGM will be held at the Tawa Community Centre on Monday 21 August at 7.30pm. New members are welcome. The guest speaker at the AGM is local Councillor Jill Day.

TAWA POP-UP MARKET

Tawa Pop Up Market showcases a variety of stallholders selling beautiful handmade crafts and quality sourced products. Come and check out what our vendors will have on offer and support this new venture in Tawa.



The Market opens at 10am and is held in New World supermarket's atrium. The next Market will be held on Saturday 26 August. There is lots of free parking and ATMs close by. Plus the bonus of an onsite café at New World supermarket too.

SPRING INTO TAWA

If you're wanting a stall at this year's Spring into Tawa, email spring.into.tawa@gmail.com for more information or to register. This is our annual festival featuring community stalls, entertainment, crafts, food trucks, stalls and demonstrations, and is scheduled for Saturday 28 October.

Applications close on 30 August. Priority will be given to those who were at last year's event and then to those who apply first.



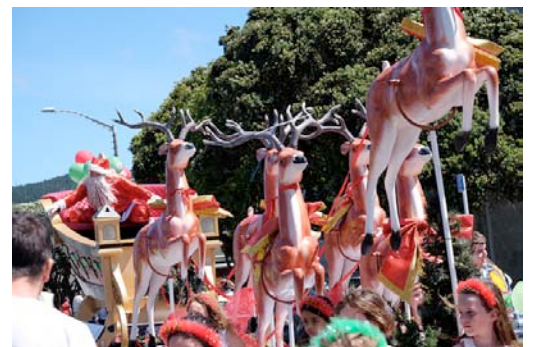
2017 TAWA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE



Yes folks, the Lions Club of Tawa is in full swing with arrangements for the 2017 December Christmas Parade, scheduled for 1pm on Saturday 2 December. That means YOU need to also start to think about how YOUR business, club, organisation, sporting group, church members can participate in the Parade and be active in your Tawa Community.

The Tawa Community Christmas Parade has been an annual event for over 20 years and its ongoing success always depends on the participation of the many Tawa organisations who continue to support it. Tawa Lions will continue to organise the event but we need YOU to participate with us.

If your club, group or organisation wants more information or wishes to commit to the December Parade, please contact Bryan on 232 2959, email tawawlions@lionsclubs.org.nz or visit our website <http://www.lionsclubs.org.nz/Clubs/202M/Zone-6/Tawa> for more information.



BEANIES, BEANIES AND MORE BEANIES

Give your grown-out-of and surplus beanies a new lease on life by dropping them off at ITM Tawa. Tawa Rotarians have moved from collecting PJs to collecting beanies for Foster Hope Wellington, the charity that provides a backpack of essentials for children going into foster care.

These youngsters are often removed from their families at night with little warning and sometimes taken directly from school, so they arrive at their new foster home with very few, if any, personal possessions. Please dig around for any spare beanies that would fit young children through to teens (or purchase or knit up some new ones) and drop them off at Tawa Rotary's collection point at ITM on the Main Road (southern end). One more child with a beanie is one more child that feels just that little bit warmer. And that little bit more loved.



Pictured: June Matthews of Foster Hope (centre) and Tawa Rotarians Elizabeth Sutton (left) and Gaylene Lines inspect the latest beanies donated by Tawa residents.

NEW CHIEF FIRE OFFICER IN TAWA

After ten years as Chief Fire Officer for the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade, Mike Farrand has stepped down. Many thanks for his dedicated service over the years.

As from 1 July, the new Chief Fire Officer is Dean Tutton (pictured). Dean has been with the NZ Fire Service for 27 years, having been presented with his Gold Star (for 25 years' service) in 2015.



KERERU DISCOVERY PLANT GIVEAWAY

Native plant giveaway #2 is coming this Saturday to Tawa. All the plants will help with feeding kererū in your own garden.

The plants will be available at the Tawa Lions Saturday Market at Outlet City on Saturday 12 August from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The plants have all been kindly donated by Wellington City Council. You're welcome to collect one (or more).



DEVELOPING YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Tawa Toastmasters club is sharing their leadership skills by making leadership training easily accessible to the community through a leadership workshop on Saturday 19 August. Information and registration is available here: <https://kapimana.eventbrite.co.nz>



CITY OF PORIRUA CADET CORPS

The City of Porirua Cadet Corps (army cadets) Unit Support Committee Treasurer and now also Secretary, Tawa resident Colin Judd, prepared and submitted a donation application to Pub Charity Ltd for \$7,500. Consequently the application was approved and the cadet unit is very grateful to have received 100% of funds requested.

The funds have recently been used to purchase 12 tents, 10 sleeping bags, 10 gas cookers, 10 foam mats, 10 back packs, 3 laptop computers and one printer.

Equipment will be used at various camps and activities. The computers and printer will be used by officers in the unit office situated in TS Taupo Building, Ngatitoa Domain, Mana mainly on parade nights, Wednesday night of each week, excluding school holidays.

Unit Commander, Captain Anthony Christenhusz, is very happy with the outcome and with the items purchased. Funds were made available with the invaluable assistance of North City Tenpin.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NADA BAKERY



Congratulations to Michael Gray and team at Nada Bakery for their Silver Award in the Chicken and Vegetable Pie section of the New Zealand Supreme Pie Awards in Auckland last week.

Over 5900 pies were judged. To be awarded with a silver is an awesome result!



A GRANT FOR YOUR ORGANISATION, CLUB OR GROUP?

The Hutt Mana Charitable Trust supports great community groups and projects in the Hutt Valley, Porirua City and Wellington North.

There are two grants rounds each year, opening on 1 February and 1 August, and closing on the last Friday of those months.

The closing date for the final grant round of the 2017 year is 25 August 2017.

Grants must be for the benefit of the communities within the Hutt Mana area which includes Tawa. For more details see <http://hmct.org.nz>

RAIL SAFETY WEEK NEXT WEEK

Rail Safety Week is a nationwide campaign that raises awareness of safe behaviour around railway tracks. It is coordinated by KiwiRail in close partnership with a number of other agencies.

Tawa has been identified as an area where education and awareness about safe behaviour around railway level crossings is essential. TrackSafe NZ has been working closely with local schools, KiwiRail, Transdev Wellington (who operate the passenger trains) and the Tawa Community Board to find ways to increase the levels of awareness of safety around the railway tracks in Tawa. There have been a number of close calls involving students from Tawa Intermediate – all related to the issue of the second train coming in quick succession after another train.

A number of senior students from Tawa School have been invited to the launch of Rail Safety Week at the Wellington Railway Station this coming Monday morning. They will be catching the 9.17am train into town from Tawa Station. Associate Transport Minister Hon Tim Macindoe will formally launch the week's events. Representatives from the Tawa Community Board will also be attending.

After the short ceremony and morning tea, students will be accompanied over to Parliament where the KiwiRail locomotive training simulator will be positioned. The simulator looks like a freight container but contains a classroom and cab, where new and experienced train drivers are tested on how they handle various situations and environments they face on the job. Students will be welcome to have a turn on the simulator, and take photos and video to share information with the wider school or their classroom peers.

For more info about Rail Safety Week, see <http://www.tracksafe.co.nz/media/rail-safety-week>



2 MINUTES WITH Stacey Richardson

Stacey has been very much involved in Tawa community life in recent years. She plays a vital role in keeping Tawa Residents Association's (Vibrant Tawa) Facebook page up-to-date. See <https://www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa>



When "Spring into Tawa" needed a new organising committee in 2016, Stacey took on the role of revamping that key event on the Tawa calendar and almost doubled its size, certainly in the numbers of stallholders, along with seeing the Main Road closed off for the festival and lots more entertainment provided. She and her team are already well-advanced in ensuring another successful festival this October.

Where were you born? Right here in Wellington.

Where did you grow up?

In Wellington – lived my childhood and teenage years in Crofton Downs.

Where were you educated?

Chartwell Primary School (now Crofton Downs Primary), Raroa Intermediate, Wellington Girls College and Victoria University where I graduated with a BA (Hons) in Political Science.

How long have you lived in Tawa?

I first moved to Tawa in 2011 with my then fiancée, now husband.

What about family?

My husband Stuart and I have one daughter who is five and has just started attending Tawa School. We also have my husband's two older sons who are 12 and almost 11, who spend part of their time with us here in Tawa.

Work experience over the years

I've worked in the public service for the past 15 years – in a wide range of roles from policy to planning and reporting and business management – in Te Puni Kokiri (the Ministry of Maori Development), then Education for almost 11 years and now I'm at the Ministry of Justice.

What are your interests and hobbies?

Apart from volunteering in the community, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, colouring, attending shows, baking and binge watching my latest favourite series on Netflix (currently working my way through Suits).

Favourite sports team and/or sports person?

I'm a cricket and rugby fan so All Blacks, Black Caps, Hurricanes and Wellington Firebirds.

Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?

I have quite varied musical tastes but particular favourites are Queen, Keith Urban (after I saw him play in Wellington last year) and Bon Jovi.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

I think we're incredibly lucky to have some amazing destinations in New Zealand – Taupo is a particular favourite. The mix of the mountains, the lake, the river is breathtaking, the people are great and there's so much to do and see! I've been lucky to spend a bit of time there and each time it surprises and amazes me.

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

My Kiwibank Local Hero Award for my work with Tawa Linden Plunket and being part of the team getting a new Plunket building for our community.

Seeing Spring into Tawa grow last year and start to become a regional and community event.

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Being part of the team that developed and launched Ka Hikitia – The Maori Education Strategy in 2008 which has paved the way for a focus in our education system on Maori enjoying education success as Maori – unfortunately the education system still doesn't perform as it should for Maori learners but it was an important step forward.

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

The “dream” holiday in the USA – probably a couple of months to see everything we want to see from New York to Florida to California to Seattle and everywhere in between!

Go on Safari in Africa – to see those majestic animals up close would be amazing.

Write and publish the novel I've had bubbling around in my head for a while but haven't managed to have the time to get into a clear story!



SEMINARS

• COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT & DEMENTIA

Tutor: Emma Fromings, Educator & Community Partnerships Leader for Alzheimers Wellington

Tuesday night 15 August from 7-9pm

Concerned about changes in a person's memory or thinking? Want to know more about Cognitive Impairment and Dementia? Come along to this two hour seminar with Emma Fromings, the Educator from Alzheimers Wellington who will discuss healthy brain, normal brain changes as people age, and the signs of cognitive impairment and dementia (including what to do if concerned.)

Fee: \$20

• FAMILY TRUSTS, WILLS AND POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Tutor: Robert Brace

Tuesday night 5 September from 7-9pm

Why should I consider having a family trust? If I die tomorrow or have a stroke, have I made proper arrangements or will I leave it to my family to try to tidy up all the loose ends? Learn how to make sure you and your family assets are simply protected and provided for.

Fee: \$20

WEEKEND COURSES

• GENEALOGY IN THE DIGITAL AGE: BEGINNER

Tutor: Jan Powell

Two Saturday mornings – starts 19 August from 9am-12noon

This course is for absolute beginners, or those who haven't been hunting for long. Learn how to check Births, Deaths & Marriages; Parish Registers; Census and Electoral Rolls; Newspapers; Shipping/migration; Use social media for genealogical research, and Genealogical Proof Standard.

Fee: \$80

• ROMAN BLINDS AND CURTAINS

Tutor: Luella Plimmer

Saturday 19 August from 9am-4pm

Make a Roman blind or Curtains for your home during this one day course. This is a condensed course so if you are making a large blind you may need to do the last finishing and stringing at home.

Fee: \$85

• ENHANCE YOUR HOME: EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR

Tutor: Rebekah Insoll

Saturday 9 September from 9am-4pm

Are parts of your home looking tired or dated? Learn how to change a room to make it more appealing yet reflect you. This course involves developing your 'eye' for what works (and what doesn't) in a range of rooms. You will apply this knowledge, along with your own preferences, to a range of room types. Some practical activities are included in the course.

Fee: \$90

YOU CAN ENROL for these courses and others such as Italian Language for Travellers, Japanese Cooking Homestyle, West African Cooking, First Aid from the website www.tawacommed.co.nz

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.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow
info@tawalink.com
027 232 2320



"If you walk the footsteps of a stranger, you will learn things you never knew."

"Sorry for being late. I got caught up enjoying my last few minutes of not being here."

"The greatest moments in life are not concerned with selfish achievements but rather with the things we do for the people we love and esteem." – Walt Disney

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

Some 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.

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

See www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html for back issues of the newsletter.