

TAWA COMMUNITY NEWS



Christmas 2015

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

More regular community updates are available if you join more than 2100 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

'TOOT FOR TUCKER' IN TAWA

"Toot for Tucker" in Tawa has been run by the Tawa Rotary Club since 2011. It takes place each December with assistance from the local Lions Club, Scouts, Guides and Salvation Army, as well as Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade members operating the fire appliances.

This year saw around 50-60 helpers heading off on two consecutive nights to different corners of Tawa in three separate groups to collect non-perishable food and donations for the Tawa Salvation Army foodbank.

It's a lot of fun with the fire engine siren going, car horns tooting, air horns making a din, and numerous kids blowing whistles and yahoing.

Thanks to all who participated and to all those who contributed in any way. Over 5700 items were collected for the foodbank and more than \$700 in cash donations. It is a great community initiative and one which adds to the "neighbourly spirit" of Tawa!



TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards ceremony was held by the Tawa Community Board recently. This is the fifth successive year of the awards in Tawa, recognising "true leadership, citizenship, contribution to school life, etc" at each of the local six primary schools, plus the Intermediate.

The Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, presented each winning Year 6 (or Year 8) student with a small trophy, a laminated certificate, and a book voucher from Take Note Tawa.

A wooden shield with the winner's name engraved on it each year was handed back to the school principal or a staff representative. This is displayed on the wall in the office block in the schools.

A framed photo of each individual student receiving their awards from the Mayor has since been presented to them.

L to R, Back row (Year 6 unless mentioned otherwise): Tukasi Paongo, Year 8 Tawa Intermediate; Te Akonga Crawford, Year 8 Tawa Intermediate; Cr Malcolm Sparrow; Tawa Community Board Chair Robert Tredger.

Front row: Caroline Kaulave, Redwood School; George Harriss, St Francis Xavier; Nathan Cornell, Tawa School; Ben Farrand, Greenacres; Mayor Celia Wade-Brown; Fiona Rogge, Year 8 Tawa School; Charlotte Perris, Linden School; Melissa Latu, Hampton Hill.



TAWA LIONS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Thanks to everyone involved in another superb Tawa Christmas Parade, with a substantial number of participants and an impressive turnout to watch them all go by.

Great to see all the community groups taking part, school groups, church groups, dancing schools, the MG club (who are there year after year), Steve with his llamas, Tawa Community Board members, and, of course, the jolly fellow in the red suit on the last float. We should also add that the Tawa Music Centre are also regular participants in the parade, and it was good to see so many BigAir Gym performers displaying their skills!



Thanks to the Lions Club of Tawa for organising the occasion, a special end-of year event appreciated by local people.

TAWA GIRLS NATIONAL CHAMPIONS – AGAIN

Congratulations to the Tawa College 1st XI girls cricket team on defending their national secondary schools' 1st XI title last week. They beat Epsom Girls' Grammar by 10 wickets on Thursday to cap an emphatic undefeated campaign of five big wins, where they lost just five wickets and conceded only 372 runs in the Twenty20 competition.



The final was reduced to 12 overs and saw Epsom set Tawa 68 to win.



New Zealand A representative Melie Kerr (21 off 31 - pictured at left) and Makayla Mason-Jones (29 off 35) saw them home with an over to spare.

Captain Jess Kerr, Melie's older sister, said the win was built on solid all-round performances, but with particular importance on fielding, which shone through in their final match with four runouts.

NEIGHBOURS' DAY IN TAWA

Once again we'll be making a big weekend of "Neighbours' Day Aotearoa" in Tawa in March 2016. The aim is to have 50 or more streets in this neck of the woods getting together with their neighbours in some way or another any weekend that month – maybe just having fish & chips together, sharing brunch, or rolling out a few barbecues to cook and eat together. Watch this space!

TAWA COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Tawa Community Board has \$15,000 to be made available to worthy local causes. The Tawa Community Grants Fund is designed to assist voluntary projects in Tawa. Grants may be for charitable, educational, welfare, community development, cultural, recreational, sporting, activity development, equipment or training programmes. Grants may also be given to people representing New Zealand in a recognised sporting or cultural event. Applications close 29 February 2016.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be based in Tawa
- not have excess reserve funds
- show that their project will directly benefit the Tawa community
- meet all criteria on the Tawa Community Grants application form

For further details, see <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/funding/council-funds/tawa-community-grants> or call the WCC grants team on 803 8525.

BIGAIR HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

We are taking bookings now! 5-year-olds and over.

December 21, 22 & 23 (Drop and Shop before Christmas)
January 11-29, 2016

Sessions:

Morning - 8.30am to 1.00pm - \$20
Afternoon - 1.00pm to 5.30pm - \$20
All Day - 8.30am to 5.30pm - \$40

Drop the kids off in the gym these holidays, and take some much needed time to yourself, while the kids use up energy in the gym.

Spaces are limited, so don't forget to book! Call 232 3508.



See BigAir's video from the Tawa Christmas Parade at <https://www.facebook.com/BigairGym/>

IHC'S UNIQUE VOLUNTEER FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMME

IHC is on the lookout for people to join IHC's unique volunteer friendship programme.

The programme is about making a positive change in someone's life and gaining a new friend in the process. It is about spending time doing what you want to do, when you want to do it, with a person with an intellectual disability. The relationship is one-to-one. This means you spend time with only one person, so you both get to know each other.

You and the person with the intellectual disability choose how you spend your time. It could be taking the dog for a walk, seeing a movie, or going to a café for a coffee. It is not time specific. There is choice. There is flexibility. The emphasis is on being out in the community having fun – together.

The programme also includes skill-based volunteering. These are shorter, focused projects based on goals the person wants to achieve. You work one-to-one with a person with an intellectual disability to develop a specific skill or achieve a specific goal. You set the time commitment to fit the project.

We offer a full induction and orientation programme for new volunteers. We also provide ongoing training with specific emphasis on understanding intellectual disability, communication and first aid.

We welcome applicants age 17 and above from all walks of life who have a clean police record, a warm heart and big desire to support others.

Please contact Johnston Connelly on 027 532 9260 or johnston.connelly@ihc.org.nz for more information.

TAWA RECREATION CENTRE JANUARY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

With Christmas and summer break just around the corner, take the stress out and organise your childcare for January now. Registrations are now open.

We have changed things around and now we are offering half day programmes. You will have the option of registering your child for half a day or a full day. You choose.

There is an awesome programme lined up including Fear Factor, Big Day Out at Nairnville Rec Centre, Our Great Tawa Rec Photo Challenge and Mega Inflatables at ASB Sports Centre. The list goes on.

Take advantage of our block course swim lessons in the third week at no extra charge. We have qualified instructors who will test and teach each child to their ability. Your child will have the same instructor for the whole week, where possible, to create continuity of each skill. You will see the progression made by your child at the end of the week.

Go to <http://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/get-active-indoors/recreation-centres/tawa-recreation-centre/holiday-programme> and receive a 5% discount for all online registrations. We are OSCAR approved.

Please contact us on 232 2260 if you do not have an account and we can set you and your family up.



**Celebrating Christmas 2015
with Tawa Churches**

Community Christmas Service
Hosted by Tawa Baptist and Salvation Army Churches
Tawa College Hall (Duncan St)
9.30 am Christmas Day

Anglican Church
St Christopher's: Cnr Main & Lyndhurst Rds., Tawa
Christmas Eve, 6pm Christingle Family Service
Christmas Eve, 10.30pm Carols and Communion
Christmas Day, 10am Family Worship & Communion

St Peter's: Cnr Collins Ave & Hinau St., Linden
Christmas Day, 8.30am Traditional Communion Service

Baptist Church, 225 Main Rd, Tawa
Christmas Eve, 7.30pm "Carols, Candles and Cake" Service

Catholic Parish (Our Lady of Fatima Church)
169 Main Rd, Tawa
Christmas Eve, 7.00pm Family Mass
Christmas Eve, 11.30pm Carols and Midnight Mass
Christmas Day, 10.30am Christmas Day Mass
31 December, midnight New Year's Eve Midnight Mass

Linden Samoan Assembly of God
St Peter's Church, Cnr Collins Ave & Hinau St., Linden
Christmas Eve, 8pm-12 midnight Service (In Samoan)
31 Dec. 9pm-12 midnight New Year's Eve Service (In Samoan)

New Life Church, 236 Main Rd,
Christmas Eve, 9.30am Community Service at Tawa College

Union Church, 6 Elena Pl, Tawa
Christmas Eve, 11.30pm Candlelight Carol Service
Christmas Day, 9am Christmas Day Service

Porirua & Kenepuru Hospital, 24 Upper Main Rd
(next to Hospital Museum)
Christmas Eve, 6.30pm-Christmas Carols (Kenepuru Hospital)
Christmas Day, 9.30am-Christmas Service (Chapel)

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Tawa Community Centre

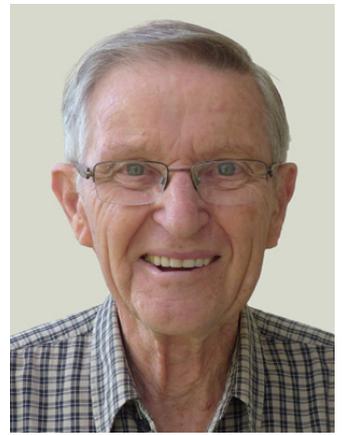
A friendly place to pop in
during the hours of
9am-1pm on weekdays,
or hire a room or hall
for your
community group /
birthday party / meeting
at reasonable rates.

Like us on Facebook at:
[https://www.facebook.com/
TawaAndLindenCommunityCentres](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 Fraser Jackson

Certain Tawa individuals are inextricably linked with the Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves and the Porirua Stream Walkway committee, the group whose vision and drive over several years eventually led to the construction of what is now known as the Tawa Valley Pathway - Ara Tawa. One of those individuals is longtime Tawa resident Fraser Jackson.



Where were you born?

Dunedin.

Where did you grow up?

Christchurch. My family moved there in my early primary school years.

Where were you educated?

After going to Boys' High in Christchurch, I studied mathematics, statistics and economics at Canterbury College [University], then to Auckland for a Masters degree in Economics and Econometrics.

Work experience over the years

I lived in Auckland after graduation and worked for Amalgamated Brick and Pipe and Crown Lynn Pottery which were on the same site in New Lynn. I was a part of their technical support group and responsible for experimental design and statistical process control methods, both of which were novel in New Zealand industry at the time. I joined Victoria University in my late 20s as a senior lecturer and lived in Lower Hutt initially, before moving to Tawa in 1964. We've been in the same house ever since.

I was awarded a Harkness Fellowship which took me to America for 18 months, to study econometrics, operations research tools and applications to transport economics at MIT in Massachusetts 1965-67. I became Professor of Econometrics at Victoria in 1968. Back home I explored a range of issues associated with containerisation of our trade and with evaluation of road transport projects. However my main interests were on behaviour of firms and households as units whose behaviour aggregates to the economy as a whole. I was Dean of Commerce for two periods and retired from the University in 1996 but have continued an interest in the areas I studied and taught.

What about family?

Married to Effie with four adult children, all did their primary and secondary schooling in Tawa. Also 13 grandchildren, two in Tawa and more than half overseas. "They're a great deal of fun."

What are your interests and hobbies?

Walking, photography and woodwork have been my recreational activities. I've recently become more interested in nature photography. [When questioned by the Ed. about a certain photo just inside the entrance to his house he explained] "It's a picture taken in May/June of a kohekohe tree along the Achilles/Brasenose section of the Redwood Bush track in flower with hundreds of flowers along its trunk. It is a 300mm x 900mm print constructed by stitching together 8-10 photographs."

Any favourite sports team?

I think team sports are amazing because of the levels of co-operation and commitment by the individuals involved. No particular favourite though.

Favourite style of music?

All of my children have done some music, largely because of the music environment in Tawa when they were growing up. Arising from that, I got quite interested in the music tones and sounds of early instruments, including those from the Baroque period. Apart from that I enjoy listening to barbershop and the social comment of much folk music.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

I like going on holidays with family, and they go to all sorts of places. I love the landforms in the Canterbury high country and passes, and the glaciated regions of Fiordland.

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

Most of the things I've achieved have been in a group situation, in which I've played a part with a group of people in one way or another and the outcome is a result of their joint endeavour. Some of those have been in the past 20 years, like the general work of the Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves. The work of the shared pathway committee is another example where many played a part in developing and refining the ideas and promoting it.

One of Fraser's photos of Kohekohe flowers on a small branch near Peterhouse St - June 2015



HANGING BASKETS REPLACED

The hanging baskets in Tawa's Main Road shopping centre were replaced by Rotary Club members at the end of November.

Photo (L to R): Tawa Rotarians Tony Heyward, Peter Lockery (top) and Pat Waite assisting with replacement of almost 50 hanging baskets in Tawa's Main Road shopping centre.



WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE COUNTDOWN ROUNDABOUT?

Wellington City Council has only just taken over responsibility for maintaining the roundabout at the junction of Takapu Road and William Earp Place, where you turn to head up to Countdown on Takapu Island. Right now the vegetation on that roundabout is looking pretty scruffy.* Some think it would be simpler and safer to fully concrete the roundabout. Others prefer vegetation on the roundabout if it is well-maintained. What is your view? Here are a few options:

- Concrete the roundabout
- Planting natives is the way to go
- I prefer floral, similar to the "BP roundabout"
- Any sort of planting, but definitely not concrete
- Get rid of the roundabout, bring on traffic lights!

* We've just been informed that a major weeding exercise was carried out by Council workers yesterday (Wednesday) and the roundabout is looking considerably tidier. However it is likely to be winter before the resulting gaps are filled by additional planting.

There's currently a poll on Neighbourly where you can cast a vote to indicate your preferred option. The result of the poll will be conveyed to Council but it will not necessarily have any bearing on Council's future maintenance of the roundabout.

TAWA CENTRAL KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Congratulations to the following winners of the Tawa Central Kindergarten Christmas Raffle. All winners have been contacted and collection of prizes has been arranged.

- New World Little Kitchen Pack – Jane Dagger
- Family Gift and Activity Pack 1 – Anna Morison
- Family Gift and Activity Pack 2 – Brenda Stade
- Pamper Pack 1 – Bronwyn Hutchison
- Pamper Pack 2 – Tony and Eileen Muollo
- Pamper Pack 3 – Danny Mather
- Christmas Cooking Pack – Dulani
- Drinks and Treats Pack – CK
- Gift Pack – Simon Rae
- Car Care Pack – Andie Gall

Tawa Central Kindergarten would also like to acknowledge and thank the amazing support of the family and whanau of the kindergarten, along with the many local Tawa businesses and other businesses for their support and donations towards this year's raffle:

- New World Tawa • On the Spot Drycleaners • Take Note Tawa • Streetwise Coffee Tawa
- Unichem Simon's Pharmacy • Devon Patterson Flooring • Frame It • Subway Tawa
- Rappaw • Kd One Skincare and Cosmetics • Healing Light Crystals • Revolve • Café Addict
- Unichem Drummond's Pharmacy • Fiona's Hair • Mani's Hair Design • Haircraft • Paisley
- Twisted Willow • Mac's Lotto • Staglands • Salon Savoy • Tony's Tyre Service Porirua
- North City Motors Tawa

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow
On behalf of TawaLink.com



“Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.” – Charles M Schulz

“There’s no happier moment in life than to awake Christmas morning and be a child.”

“My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?” – Bob Hope

“In the old days, it was not called the Holiday Season; the Christians called it ‘Christmas’ and went to church; the Jews called it ‘Hanukkah’ and went to synagogue; the atheists went to parties and drank. People passing each other on the street would say ‘Merry Christmas!’ or ‘Happy Hanukkah!’ or (to the atheists) ‘Look out for the wall!’” – Dave Barry

Please email items for this newsletter to info@tawalink.com

Queries to 232 5030 or 027 232 2320

Type in email Subject Line: “Item for Tawa newsletter”



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 half of the month.

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

For back issues of the newsletter see 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.



A SUMMARY OF EVENTS IN TAWA IN 2015

(as gleaned from this past year's community newsletters)

2015

JANUARY

Early in the month Tawa takes the number one spot in New Zealand in terms of Neighbourly (the online community forum) members, overtaking various Auckland suburbs in which Neighbourly had commenced three months earlier than the rest of New Zealand.



FEBRUARY

A community meeting is held at the Linden Social Centre to discuss unpleasant smells in Tawa attributed to Spicer Landfill.

The Tawa Community Board organises a public meeting to provide local residents with information about the proposals for "Reorganisation of Local Government in Wellington" (i.e. the amalgamation issue).



MARCH

Around 48 street gatherings of some shape or form – barbecues, afternoon teas or similar – are held in Tawa under the 'umbrella' of Neighbours' Day during the month.

Fairs are run at both Hampton Hill and Greenacres Schools.



APRIL

A public meeting is run by Council to discuss proposals for Medium Density Residential Housing in Tawa and to gain community feedback.

A record crowd takes part in the local ANZAC Day parade and service.



MAY

A major downpour on Tuesday 14th results in serious flooding in Tawa, causing damage to a number of businesses on the Main Road and private residences elsewhere, resulting in major cleanups being undertaken. Glowing reports come through of Tawa College students who pitch in to help deluged retailers in Tawa's Main Road shopping centre. At the same time junior students at Tawa School are evacuated in inflatable rafts.

"Modern, bright shelters" are constructed at Takapu Road station to replace the old wooden ones which have been removed.



JUNE

Around 85 people attend a community meeting to bring local people up-to-date on NZTA's proposals to either widen SH1 through Tawa or to build a new highway through the Takapu Valley.



JULY

Tawa Rotary's annual book fair nets more than \$20,000.



contd

AUGUST

Fame – The Musical runs for a number of nights at Tawa College and receives high acclaim: “Blown away by the incredible singing, dancing, playing, characterisation and acting!”

85 Neighbourly Tawa members get together to enjoy a pot luck meal and the opportunity to meet new people.

SEPTEMBER

Another successful Spring into Tawa Market Day.

OCTOBER

The first planting in the new Tawa Community Garden at Coronation Park in Oxford St takes place. Around 12 months of meetings and planning had taken place to get to this point.

Flowers return to the roundabout at the Main Road/Tawa St/The Drive intersection after a community uproar some months earlier at the prospect of the roundabout being reduced to nothing but concrete.

Hampton Hill School turns 50 and celebrates accordingly.

The Linden School Community Fair is held.

NOVEMBER

The Tawa Borough Scholarship is awarded to Josh Nightingale at Tawa College’s end-of-year academic prizegiving.

Neighbourly Tawa tops the 2000 member mark – the first suburb in the country to reach that milestone!

Prince Charles visits Tawa College.

NZTA makes its long-awaited announcement that there will be no widening of SH1 through Tawa and no new highway through Takapu Valley.

Virtuoso Strings Charitable Trust, featuring Liz Sneyd and husband Craig Utting, win the Education and Child/Youth Development category at the Wellington Regional Community Awards and, in the same month, also win the Community Service category at the Wellingtonian of the Year Awards.

The Tawa Primary Schools’ Citizenship Awards ceremony is held for the fifth successive year, with the Mayor presenting awards to a winner from each of Tawa’s six primary schools, plus the Intermediate.

DECEMBER

The Tawa Lions Christmas Parade involves big numbers of participants again.

Tawa College 1st XI girls cricket team wins the national secondary schools’ finals for the second year in a row.

Two nights of “Toot for Tucker” see more than 5700 items collected for Tawa Food Bank.

55th community Christmas service is yet to take place in the Tawa College hall.

