

The Tawa Lions Christmas Parade took place this past Saturday afternoon with the weather well and truly playing its part. Great to see so many participants, and a big crowd there to enjoy the occasion! It was followed by carols and festivities in Tawa Plaza.

Many thanks to all those involved on the day, especially to the organisers who put in many hours behind the scenes to pull off a very successful event. Here are a few photos.



“TREAT YOURSELF IN TAWA”

The handout shown in the photo below is now available at the library, the community centres, Take Note Tawa and from various other local outlets. It contains a number of vouchers enabling you to treat yourself at a Tawa store or facility, providing an extra incentive to support a local business in the lead-up to Christmas (or early in the New Year)!



LAST KAI KITCHEN FOR THE YEAR

FESTIVE KAI KITCHEN!



Please join us for the
last Kai Kitchen for 2020!
Friday, 18 December, 1pm
Linden Community Centre



Kai Kitchen will start up again on 8 January 2021



COMMUNITY CENTRES TAKING A BREAK

The Tawa Community Centre will close this year at 1pm on Thursday 24 December, and will open in 2021 at 9am on Tuesday 26 January.

The Linden Community Centre will be closed during the same period, but will be open from 1pm on Fridays from 8 January 2021 for Kai Kitchen meals.



CORRECTION: PLEASE NOTE

In the recent Christmas 2020 newsletter we included an item on the naming of Ara Patukawenga.

The article included the following wording: “Te Patu-kawenga was a chief, and eventually a senior chief of Ngāti Mutunga, a north Taranaki iwi.” Our apology that the spelling of Ngāti Mutunga was incorrect in that newsletter. It is shown correctly in this paragraph.

Thanks to the eagle-eyed observer who pointed this out!

BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE CHRISTMAS



LIONS CLUB OF TAWA YOUNG ACHIEVERS' AWARDS

Lions Club of Tawa Young Achievers' Awards presentations were made recently to five Tawa College students. The purpose of the annual awards scheme for Tawa youth is to recognise outstanding achievement. The awards aim to identify and celebrate the hard work, dedication and commitment of Tawa's young people in the following five fields:

- Leadership and Innovation
- Arts
- Academic Achievement
- Sports and Recreation
- Citizenship

Winners are chosen for their academic achievements in the classroom, athletic prowess on the sports field, artistic flair in a chosen field, outstanding leadership, good citizenship and reaching their potential whilst displaying mentoring and support to their peers.

The awards have been renamed the Bob McCullough Young Achievers Awards after the late Bob McCullough (a past president of the Club) who was a passionate supporter of the awards.

Details of the actual winners and citations setting out why they were chosen are provided below.

LEADERSHIP and INNOVATION AWARD

Kiefer Hunt

In his role as Deputy Head Boy at Tawa College, **Kiefer Hunt** has presented speeches on kindness, gratitude and inclusiveness, and organised a successful Mental Health Week at the end of Term 3, along with another Year 13 student who we have nominated for the Citizenship award.

Kiefer has been at the forefront of organising a number of activities that celebrate the diversity of the student body at Tawa College. He is extremely effective at bringing people together and has demonstrated real leadership in a particularly challenging year. Kiefer has presented to our staff on the issue of student mental health and wellbeing. Kiefer is a positive role model to other students and demonstrates the school values of connection, reflection, respect and striving.

In the last week of Term 3 Kiefer and Andrea put together a daily video broadcast for all students and staff at Tawa College. The content was student friendly and gave permission for students to seek help or support others if there was a concern about their health and wellbeing.

Kiefer is an outstanding academic student who has attained NCEA Levels 1 and 2 with Excellence endorsement he is well on target to achieve a further Excellence endorsement in Level 3 this year.

Kiefer has a balanced approach to school life, is always positive and encouraging and has represented the school with dignity and pride on several occasions this year. Kiefer is a most deserving of the Tawa Lions Club Ninness Leadership and Innovation award.



Kiefer Hunt with Brenden Jacobsen from Ninness Funeral Home

ARTS AWARD

Yona Fernandez

Yona Fernandez has been heavily involved in choral and barbershop singing at Tawa College for many years. She is a member of the Blue Notes Choir which in 2019 received a Gold Award at the Big Sing Finale. She is a sectional leader of the sopranos in the Blue Notes Choir and a wonderful role model to the younger students in the group. She is also a member of our Girls Chorus, Maiden Tawa which has achieved regional and national honours, and also has been a member a mixed barbershop quartet that finished second in the virtual regional competitions this year.

Further to her contribution to music at Tawa College, Yona has also been an effective member of the Premier A Debating team.

Yona is our Head Girl in 2020 and has done an excellent job in this role in a particularly challenging year for our student leadership team. She regularly presents at assemblies and represents the college at external events.

Yona is an exceptional all round student who has achieved NCEA Levels 1 and 2 with Excellence Endorsement, and is on track to achieve the same again in her Level 3 results.

Yona is a most worthy candidate for the Lions Club of Tawa, Professionals Real Estate Tawa Arts Award.



Yona Fernandez with Tony Afendoulis from Professionals Tawa

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

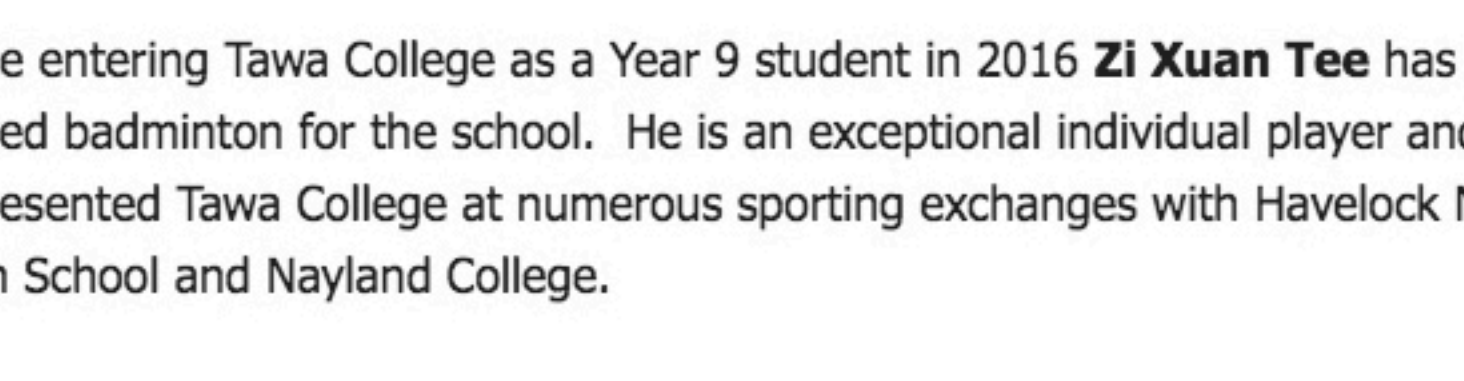
Jess Macdonald

Jess Macdonald is a highly capable academic student who would be a most worthy recipient of the Tawa Lions Award for Academic Achievement. She has achieved excellence endorsements in NCEA 1 and 2 and has already achieved 50 Excellence credits in her Level 3 studies this year. Jess also achieved Excellence endorsement in all of individual subjects in Level 2, and in three of her subjects in Level 1. In recognition of her outstanding academic achievements she has received two Tawa College academic medals for NCEA Levels 1 and 2.

Jess has enrolled at Otago University in 2021 and plans to study first year Health Science with the goal of entering medical college.

She has worked incredibly hard throughout all of her years at Tawa College and has a very planned and determined approach to her academic studies.

Jess is a polite, quiet and humble individual who will work hard to achieve her goal of becoming a doctor, and will give much back to society as a result. She is a most worthy candidate for the Tawa Lions Club Academic Award.



Jess Macdonald with Wendy McCullough
(presenting the Bob McCullough Young Achievers Awards)

SPORTS and RECREATION AWARD

Zi Xuan Tee

Since entering Tawa College as a Year 9 student in 2016 **Zi Xuan Tee** has played badminton for the school. He is an exceptional individual player and has represented Tawa College at numerous sporting exchanges with Havelock North High School and Nayland College.

Zi Xuan has also attended and represented Tawa College at College Sport Wellington championships, a Central 6 tournament, Winter Tournament week and National Championships.

He is currently a member of our Boys Senior A Badminton team which won the College Sport Wellington Regional Championship this year. He has won the Boys Singles title at both Tawa College and College Sport Wellington Championships on more than one occasion.

Zi Xuan is a dedicated sportsman who puts hours into training for his sport. Despite his commitment to badminton, Zi Xuan has equally committed himself to achieving well academically and has achieved NCEA Levels 1 and 2 with Excellence endorsement. He is well on target to do the same in his Level 3 studies this year, and has a 100% achievement record.

Zi Xuan is captain of his badminton team and is an excellent role model to younger students, both in his dedication to his sport but also to his school work. Badminton is a sport with a lower 'profile' than rugby, football, cricket or netball. The fact that Zi Xuan has steadfastly gone about achieving to an exceptional level in his chosen sport is highly commendable. He has an outstanding work ethic and is a most worthy candidate for the Tawa Lions Club Sports and Recreation Award.



Zi Xuan Tee with Wendy McCullough
(presenting the Bob McCullough Young Achievers Awards)

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

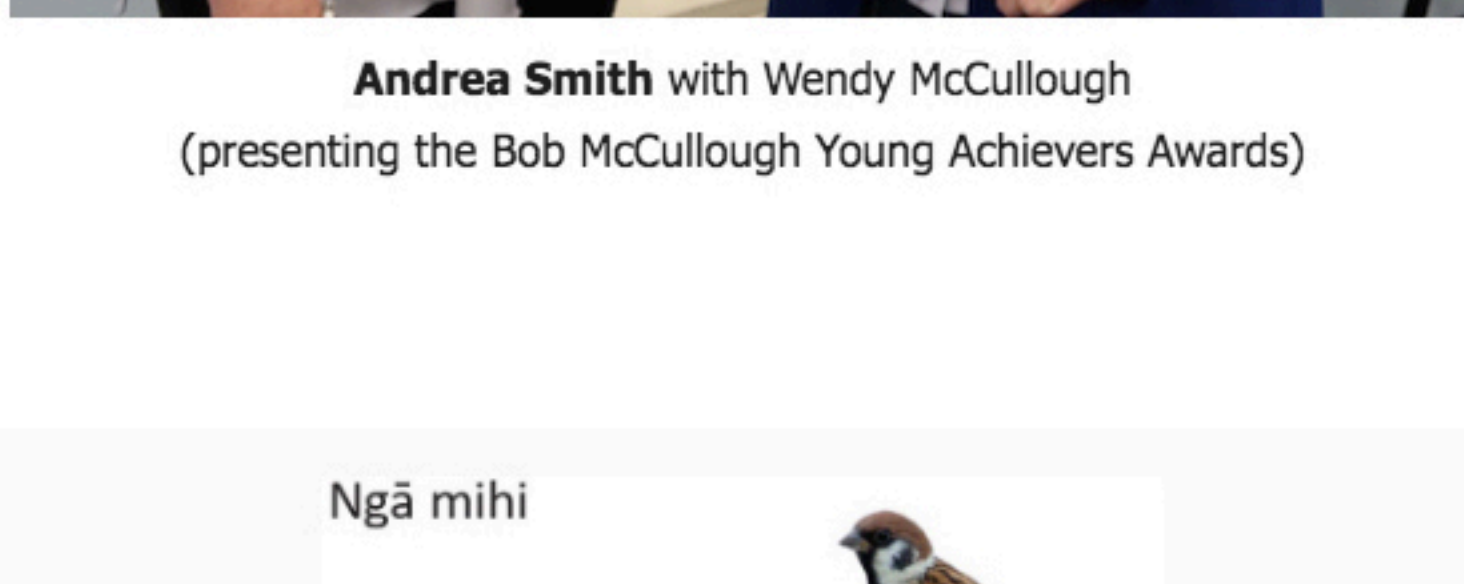
Andrea Smith

Andrea Smith enrolled as a Year 10 student at Tawa College after emigrating from South Africa in 2017. She is an outstanding example of a student who lives out the Tawa College values and school motto of "Do Justly".

Throughout her time at Tawa College she has been a positive influence on others, helping out when students require guidance and empathy. She is a good listener and is prepared to advocate for others. In 2020 she was selected as a Prefect, and despite the challenges that 2020 have presented, has been an excellent member of the Prefect team.

This year has been particularly challenging for everyone, and there have been significant impacts on the mental health and wellbeing of our students. Andrea along with other members of our Prefect group in 2020 put together an outstanding Health and Wellbeing Week in the final week of Term 3, to boost the spirits of not only students but also our staff. Andrea was pivotal in the planning and implementation of daily events throughout the week, which involved lunchtime concerts and events for everyone to take part in. The week came at a time when everyone needed positive energy and it was a wonderful example of citizenship in terms of making sure that everyone was supported and appreciated. This was an entirely new initiative, well thought out, and well implemented.

Andrea is a thoroughly empathic, caring and thoughtful young woman. She is happy to put the needs of others first and to support her fellow students through times of adversity. She is an outstanding role model to others and is most deserving of the Tawa Lions Club Citizenship Award.



Andrea Smith with Wendy McCullough
(presenting the Bob McCullough Young Achievers Awards)

Ngā mihi

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