



# COMMUNITY NEWS

February 2016

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 2200 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

## GETTING TOGETHER WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Will your street be one of the 50 or so taking part in Neighbours' Day this year?

It's all about a simple barbecue or afternoon tea with the nearest 7-20 houses to where you live. Quite easy to organise when everyone brings their own food and drink to the end of the cul-de-sac or a neighbour's front yard!

In Tawa we're encouraging everyone

<b>Balliol / St Hildas</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Brasenose</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Carleton Tce</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Colonial Gr</b>  <b>March 2016</b>
<b>Duncan St (mid)</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Florio Tce</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Greyfriars (mid)</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>McKeefry</b>  <b>March 2016</b>
<b>Mexted (West)</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Oxford St (mid)</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>St Edmund</b>  <b>March 2016</b>	<b>Sunrise (mid)</b>  <b>March 2016</b>



to organise a get-together with your neighbours any time from late February onwards. It's just a matter of rolling out a couple of barbecues, people cooking their own food, and maybe pooling desserts.

We will supply an advertising sign for your street (as shown), plus name tags and balloons – if you'd like all those. Simply let us know your street name and the date of your event.

## TAWA HISTORIC WALK

A community walk will be taking place on Sunday 13 March, leaving the Tawa Community Centre in Cambridge St at 2pm. The Tawa Historical Society in conjunction with Tawa Rotary will be hosting the walk which will follow the Southern Trail along the Main Road southwards to Willowbank.



Some of the 200 participants in a previous Tawa Historic Walk to the Tawa Lookout on a hot February afternoon

The return leg will be via the Tawa Valley Pathway - Ara Tawa to Tawa Railway Station. Afternoon tea will be available at the conclusion.

## CONNECTING WITH TAWA ON NEIGHBOURLY

Coming Up in Tawa (as listed in the 'Events' section on Neighbourly):

- Sat 13 February – Tawa Music Centre Enrolment for 2016
- Sat 13 February – Safer Plates Tawa
- Sat 13 February – Taiko Drumming Workshop @ Tawa College
- Sun 14 February – Junior Football Registrations 2016
- Sat 27 February – Incredible Edible Tawa
- Sun 13 March – Tawa Historic Walk

**Neighbourly enables local people to share information with each other and to become a more "connected" community – see [www.neighbourly.co.nz](http://www.neighbourly.co.nz)**



**ARE YOU KEEPING UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAWA?**

## TAWA COMMUNITY GRANTS

Tawa Community Grants assist voluntary projects in Tawa. Grants may be for charitable, educational, welfare, community development, cultural, recreational, sporting, activity development, equipment or training programmes. With \$15,000 available to allocate, the Tawa Community Board generally provides grants of between \$500 and \$3,000 to Tawa-based projects and organisations.

Applications are made online via Wellington City Council. The closing date is 29 February 2016. For further information see <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/funding/council-funds/tawa-community-grants>

Also closing on the same day is the Wellington City Creative Communities Funding Scheme for arts projects within Wellington. Exhibitions, productions, concerts, festivals, workshops and presentations that offer opportunities for community involvement in the arts can be eligible to apply.

To find out more, phone Mark Farrar or Phil Railton-Jacks via Council's contact centre on 499 4444 or email [funding@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:funding@wcc.govt.nz)

## INCREDIBLE EDIBLE TAWA

Incredible Edible garden plantings across urban towns and cities around the world is not just a craze but a transformation of a place into a truly vibrant community.

Pam Warhurst was the instigator of Incredible Edible Todmorton, a fantastic urban agriculture project which has seen edibles planted across Todmorton township in England.

Take a look at Pam's inspirational Ted talk to learn about how this came about: [https://www.ted.com/talks/pam\\_warhurst\\_how\\_we\\_can\\_eat\\_our\\_landscapes?language=en#t-172981](https://www.ted.com/talks/pam_warhurst_how_we_can_eat_our_landscapes?language=en#t-172981)

Pam will be speaking in Tawa mid-afternoon on Saturday 27 February (precise time to be confirmed). That will be followed by a question time and a site visit to Tawa Community Garden.

See Neighbourly for updates.



# U3A TAWA PREPARING FOR A YEAR OF STIMULATING COURSES

U3A – University of the Third Age

A New Year brings New Year's Resolutions. Every year I resolve ..... to lose weight, go to the gym, give up smoking (been there, done all that!) ..... but to get involved in more enjoyable and stimulating activities.

U3A Tawa again has a huge range of offerings for the first semester of 2016. There are classes/courses/groups in the following categories: Botanical, Arts and Crafts, Discussions, Health & Welfare, History, Literature, Music & Culture, Recreation, Travel and Computers.

Many of these groups have been running for years. This year introduces "Pain: Friend or Foe"; "More Aspects of Tawa History", "Science, Creation, Evolution", "Looking at Paintings", "Previewing NZSO Concerts" and "Ham Radio".



*"What shall I choose?"  
Gretta Dymond and Jenny Wharton  
make their selection from the  
array of food.*



*Some of the new committee:*

*(Standing) Digby Gudsell, Alan Martin, John Burke,  
Marie Thomson, Brian Wilson, Jancis Potter, Dave Smith  
(Seated) Carole Naylor, John Baldwin*

At the AGM and shared lunch on January 18th new courses were described and members were able to (re)-enrol and select which courses they wished to take. A new committee was elected including several new recruits to replace those retiring.

Join U3A Tawa for just \$15 per year (\$25 for a couple). Contact the Membership Secretary: Michael Holland. Phone 021 261 0912 or email [u3atawa@gmail.com](mailto:u3atawa@gmail.com)

Course booklets can be found at the Tawa Community Centre or at the Tawa Library.

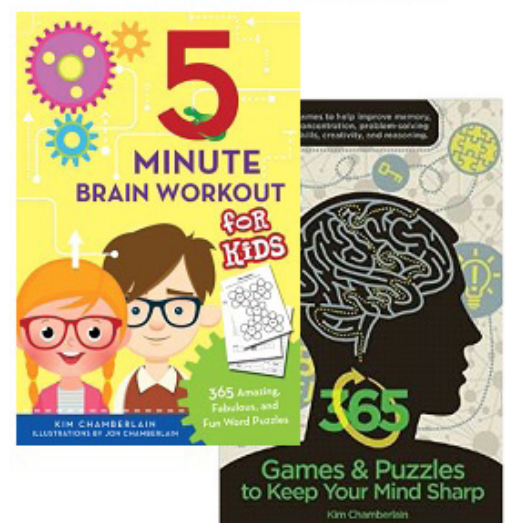
## BOOK LAUNCH BY TAWA AUTHOR

Tawa husband and wife team Jon and Kim Chamberlain, illustrator and author have recently released their children's book *The Five Minute Brain Workout for Kids*, by New York publisher Sky Pony Press.

The book offers 365 educational word puzzles to give kids a short daily brain workout. Children can learn about acronyms, anagrams, definitions, rhyming words, syllables, word structure, and more. It will help them learn new words, spell better, problem solve and have better concentration. There are ten levels of puzzles from easy to challenging, plus answers at the back. Suitable for parents and teachers, it's an educational way to keep kids occupied and help them improve their language skills.

Jon has illustrated the book with colourful kid-friendly graphics and has based many of the drawings on their friendly pet blue-tongued lizard, Ra, who is completely unaware that he is the model for the illustrations, and now world famous!

## Book launch!



**Wednesday 17 February 6pm**  
**The Children's Bookshop**  
**Kilbirnie Plaza**

*contd .....*

*“So much fun, my daughter loves it! I love anything that challenges my kids. I love that there’s ten levels of puzzles so kids can start out at an easy level and progress. With 365 puzzles it will keep her busy all year long.”*

*“What a fun way to get your students’ brains awake. Both parent and child are in for some brain-stretching.”*

Book launch for The Five Minute Brain Workout for Kids plus a Brain Workout book for adults: Wednesday 17 February, 6pm at The Children’s Bookshop Kilbirnie, Wellington. Includes talk by the speaker and illustrator, free signed illustrations and free refreshments. Books will be available to purchase.

## **TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

Tawa College Community Education Term 1 programme is available on the website, and brochures are in supermarkets and libraries. You should have also received one in your letterbox.

There is an exercise programme special where you can attend two courses and get the second class at a reduced price. There are now two daytime Pilates classes on Monday and Wednesday at the Tawa Community Centre as well as Pilates, Yoga, Bollywood and Belly Dancing at night at the college.

A new programme (not advertised in the brochure) is a 40-minute, two nights per week course run by personal trainer Hayley Schofield-Hardiman. She will focus on small group personal training sessions to improve your fitness level and gaining body strength while having fun with great outdoor bodyweight exercises. All fitness levels are welcome, with exercise modifications for everyone available.

Great cooking classes include Middle Eastern Persian, Indian, Chinese, Japanese Bento Boxes and Cake Creations.

A new area of the programme will feature a number of one night seminars. These topics include:

- Change your Thinking, Change your Life
- Cognitive Impairment & Dementia
- Early Literacy
- Money & Kids
- More Hours in Your Day
- Overcoming Stress
- Raising Children of Character

Later in the year the programme will also include:

- Family Trusts, Wills & Powers of Attorney
- Parents As Driving Coaches

All enrolments and further information about these and other courses can be obtained from the web site at [www.tawacommed.co.nz](http://www.tawacommed.co.nz)



## **TAWA MUSIC CENTRE ENROLMENT**



If your primary or intermediate school-aged child is interested in learning a musical instrument this year, come along to Tawa Music Centre’s enrolment day on Saturday 13 February 9.00-10.30am at Tawa Intermediate School Hall. Full details are in the prospectus which your child will bring home from school this week. Enquiries to 233 0541.

## RESTORATIVE PRACTICE TRAINING

On Wednesday 27 January 148 staff (teachers and support staff) from Primary Schools and the Intermediate School in Tawa attended a training day on Restorative Practice essentials. All schools have already made progress in this but the aim of the day was to develop a shared understanding and vision in this area.

The format was workshops plus plenary sessions involving lectures and small group activities. Participants appreciated the presentation but also enjoyed the opportunity to meet the staff from the other schools in the Tawa community. There was evidence of comradery, and staff appreciated the chance to meet up with each other prior to school starting. They also enjoyed a healthy morning tea and lunch.

Presenters were Mark Corrigan from the Ministry of Education, Rachel Clark from Waikato University, and Steve Conroy, Jamie Cooper, Jules Nicholas and Robyn Chester from Tawa College.

Attendees included the Chair of Victoria University Restorative Practice, Chris Marshall, as well as a research assistant and a Ministry of Education Liaison Officer.

We were very grateful for the financial contribution from the Tawa Community Board.



Keen to try a new sport? Join us for a Fun Floorball Night at Tawa Recreation Centre



Fun for all ages!  
\$2 entry

Monday <b>1 Feb</b> 4pm-5.30pm	Thursday <b>4 Feb</b> 4pm-5.30pm	Thursday <b>11 Feb</b> 4pm-5.30pm
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**Junior League starting Monday 15 Feb**  
Register a team with your friends!!



For enquiries or more info, call  
Tawa Recreation Centre  
04 232 2260

See you there!

## MANA ARTS SOCIETY FIRST ANNUAL SUMMER EXHIBITION



**Dates**  
Saturday 13th/Sunday 14th  
February  
&  
Saturday 20th/Sunday 21st  
February

**Location**  
Clubrooms at Plimmerton  
Domain. Take the left hand  
turn on SH1 by Palmers  
Garden Centre and follow  
the signs!

**Time:** 10am to 4pm

## SECURE YOUR NUMBER PLATE

Tawa Community Patrol will be installing tamper-resistant screws for \$5 in the Countdown Tawa carpark from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 13 February.

Police, Fire Service and Safekids Aotearoa will also be offering free advice for you and your family to help keep your home and vehicle safe.

Profits will go to the Tawa Community Patrol.



## VOLUNTEERS BUSY IN THE COMMUNITY



members, including Pat Waite (project organiser), in moving rocks and soil at Tawa-Linden Plunket's revamped quarters in Linden Ave. It's the same site as before but the building is new and there is considerable work still to be done to the outside grounds.

*Robert Tredger at work*

Many hours of weeding and tidying up the gardens in Duncan St near to the Tawa Railway Station were carried out recently by several community-minded individuals who initiated this clean-up themselves. At the risk of omitting someone, the names mentioned on Neighbourly are Amelia & Trevor, Matt Whyte, Helen & Gill, and Richard Herbert. Many thanks to all of them. Their efforts are appreciated!

Also putting in the hard yards recently were a number of Tawa



## 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](mailto:mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz)

and put 'Join' as the subject to receive regular updates.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com



*“A toy that can’t be broken can be used to break other toys.”*

*“The young man knows the rules, but the old man knows the exceptions.”*

*“When nothing seems to help, I go look at a stonecutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps 100 times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet at the 101st blow it will split in two, and I know it wasn’t the last blow that did it, but all the blows that have gone before.” – Jacob Riis (photographer).*

*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 and the third weeks 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](http://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.*

#### **FROM THE EDITOR .....**

The comment was made a little while ago by a self-appointed “political commentator” who lives on the other side of the city that, in relation to city councillors, “If we don’t know what you’re doing, we assume you’re not doing much.”

One could debate the merits of jumping to such a conclusion. I don’t have sufficient space here to do that. However I did state the following in a Facebook posting more than twelve months ago: *“Even though you read more in the news media about some councillors than you do about others, the reality is that only headline-grabbing activities are of interest to the media. Most of us just get on and, with little fanfare, attend residents’ meetings, Council briefings, workshops, portfolio-related activities, school fairs, etc, as well as deal with constituents’ concerns, meet people for coffee, and visit businesses, schools and churches, etc. We play a part in ensuring improvements of whatever nature in our own wards (and across the whole city), as well as help organise various community initiatives. It’s what the job is all about .....*”

Having said that, there are those who do wish to know in more detail what their elected representatives spend their time doing, and they’re quite entitled to. With that in mind I have recently posted “Looking back on 2015” on my Councillor Facebook page. It provides lots of photos and details of my past twelve months. For anyone who’s interested, the page to go to is <https://www.facebook.com/malcolmsparrownorthern/>

#### **SUMMER BREAK**

Most of us are well and truly back into work again but, for those of us who managed to get out-of-town for a little while and recharge the batteries, it was great to be able to do so. Karen and I were fortunate enough to spend a couple of weeks away, enjoying a pleasant sailing across Cook Strait into the superb Marlborough Sounds and driving to Christchurch for our Christmas – New Year break. On the return leg we stopped in Kaikoura for a couple of nights.

Highlights included a visit to Diamond Harbour, a day trip to Ashburton, riding the tram around the Christchurch CBD (such as it is) and bike rides on McLeans Island and through Bottle Lake Forest. I also got to ‘inspect’ the new multi-million dollar children’s playground in central Christchurch. And in Kaikoura we took a few hours to walk right around the peninsula from South Bay to the township (pictured).



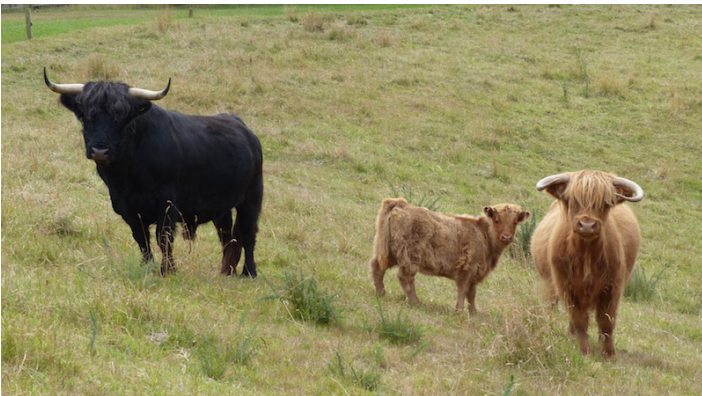
# JANUARY 2016 IN TAWA



Tawa Community Garden



Outside "The Roundabout"







From the southeast

## OVERLOOKING TAWA

From the northwest

