



COMMUNITY NEWS

February 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

THERE'S STILL TIME TO VOTE IN TAWA BY-ELECTION

There are five candidates vying for one place on the Tawa Community Board (as shown below). Tawa residents should all have received voting papers in the mail before now. The candidates' profiles are available at <http://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/elections/elections-2016/tawa-community-board-by-elections>

Thank you if you've already voted in the current by-election. If not, your papers should be posted back by tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon, 14 February. After that date you can drop off your voting papers at the Tawa Library which is open till 5.30pm each week day, and through to 8pm on Thursday, or drop them in to the WCC Service Centre in the CBD. Voting closes midday on Friday 17 February.



Damian Hewett



Liz Langham



Stacey Richardson



Craig Robertson



Anna Scott

SPECIAL VOTES IN TAWA BY-ELECTION

If you've spoiled your voting papers or lost them or have some other reason for casting a special vote, you will need to call in to the WCC Service Centre in the CBD if you wish to cast that vote in person. Otherwise you can call 499 4444 for more info.

Bear in mind that time is running out in terms of returning your voting papers in the post!



BIKE, SCOOT OR WALK ARA TAWA

Join us on a "Bike, Scoot or Walk" event starting at Willowbank Park and heading up the Tawa Valley Pathway - Ara Tawa, stopping at Linden Park for refreshments, or continue on the pathway all the way to Porirua and back.

Join your local councillors and Tawa Community Board members at 1.30pm on Sunday 5 March on Tawa's much-heralded shared walkway/cycleway.

See details of the event at www.facebook.com/events/1365707406826718

Bike, Scoot or Walk

Ara Tawa Pathway

Sun 5 March 1.30pm

Meet at Willowbank

GETTING TOGETHER WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Will your street be one of the many in Tawa taking part in Neighbours' Day this year?

It's all about holding 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 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, the name and contact details of your organiser and the date of your event.

- Those streets that 'register' with us by Friday 3 March will go into the draw to win a \$50 grocery voucher for your street.



PROGRESS WITH THE TAWA MEMORIAL

Construction is currently taking place on the Tawa Memorial at the northernmost end of Oxford St, alongside Grassless Reserve.

A 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

The work related to the provision of this Memorial has been led since 2007-08 by the Tawa Historical Society, with strong support from the Tawa RSA, the Tawa Community Board, and the Wellington City Council.

Funding has come from the Environment and Heritage Fund of the Lotteries Commission, the Linden Tennis Club 1936-2016, Gordon Mygind, Tawa RSA Poppy Fund, Lions Club of Tawa, Rotary Club of Tawa, Mana Community Grants Foundation, and the Tawa Community Board. The Memorial sits on Wellington City Council land.”



Construction site on 13 February:
Still a long way to go!



A BID FOR TAWA

Tawa commercial ratepayers and businesses have voted in favour of the establishment of a Tawa Business Improvement District (BID). More than 70% of those who participated in the poll were in favour of proceeding with a BID.

The definition of a BID on the Council website is: “a partnership between [Wellington City Council] and the [Tawa] business community to develop projects and services that benefit the trading environment and which align with the [WCC’s] objectives. A BID is supported by a targeted rate, levied on and collected from non-residential properties within the defined boundary. A BID provides a vehicle for local business-led initiatives that support key city objectives of vibrant centres, business creation and development and increased employment.”



Featuring most of the team and one or two extras: (L to R): Gary Denton, Ant Simon, Judith Gray, Bruce White, Steph Knight, Karen Pettigrew, Tony Henderson-Newport, Richard Herbert, Malcolm Sparrow.

The Tawa Business Association which was set up to establish a BID has been working hard on this project for many months. In a nutshell, it is designed to generate additional revenue to enable the business community to spend as it sees fit, ultimately to enhance the business environment in Tawa.

BIDs have been established in three other Wellington suburbs – Miramar, Kilbirnie and Khandallah. The percentage of businesses in favour of the BID in Tawa was higher than in any of the other suburbs which have voted on this to date.

Well done to Ant Simon, Bruce White, Tony Henderson-Newport and to the rest of the team, as well as to Colin Bass from Bizlab Limited. A great result for the Tawa business community!

WORKING TOWARDS A MENZSHED IN TAWA

A MenzShed brings men together in one community space to share their skills, have a laugh, and work on practical tasks individually (personal projects) or as a group (for the Shed or community). MenzShed groups operate right across Australasia and there is a group of dedicated individuals looking to set one up in Tawa. They have the enthusiasm and a lot of tools and equipment but are still seeking a good site on which to establish a shed.



A meeting is being held at 4pm on Thursday 23 February at the Tawa Community Centre. Members of the community are invited to come along and find out more. The group is looking for people (both men and women) who want to be involved in the development of the shed but most importantly people with skills or an interest in helping members of the community. The plan at this stage is to form an incorporated society which requires a minimum of 15 members.

GOT YOUR 200L WATER TANK YET?

200L emergency water tanks are currently available at the Tawa Community Centre. Call Mandy on 232 1682 or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz to order one. They are \$105 each.

Alternatively Malcolm Sparrow has a small number in stock. Email malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz for details.

They're also available from the Porirua City Council Service Centre or the Second Treasures Shop at the Southern Landfill.



SAVE TAWA'S FOREST

Public Meeting, 4pm Sunday 19th February at the Tawa Community Centre.

Are you grateful for the generosity and foresight of previous generations of Wellingtonians who set aside land to keep the hills of our city green, and provide a home for the native birds that sing in our gardens? Now it's our turn to "pay it forward" to future generations. Our group, Friends of Tawa Bush, is advocating for this, but we urgently need your support.

The unbroken green belt of bush and forest on the western hills gives Tawa much of its visual character, and is a valuable ecological and recreational asset to the Wellington region. However, much of this land is privately owned. A significant part of this land – a 36 ha. block known as the Forest of Tane – is up for sale, with offers closing on February 27th. This is the biggest forest in Wellington City not owned by the Council.

The pine forest (about 20 ha.) already has a surprisingly well-developed understorey of regenerating native bush, and there is strong regeneration of indigenous bush in the areas that have not been planted in pine trees (about 16 ha.). The land includes a gully area containing a residual tawa forest remnant.

The forest helps sustain native bird life - kakariki, kereru, morepork, bellbirds and NZ falcons are seen there.

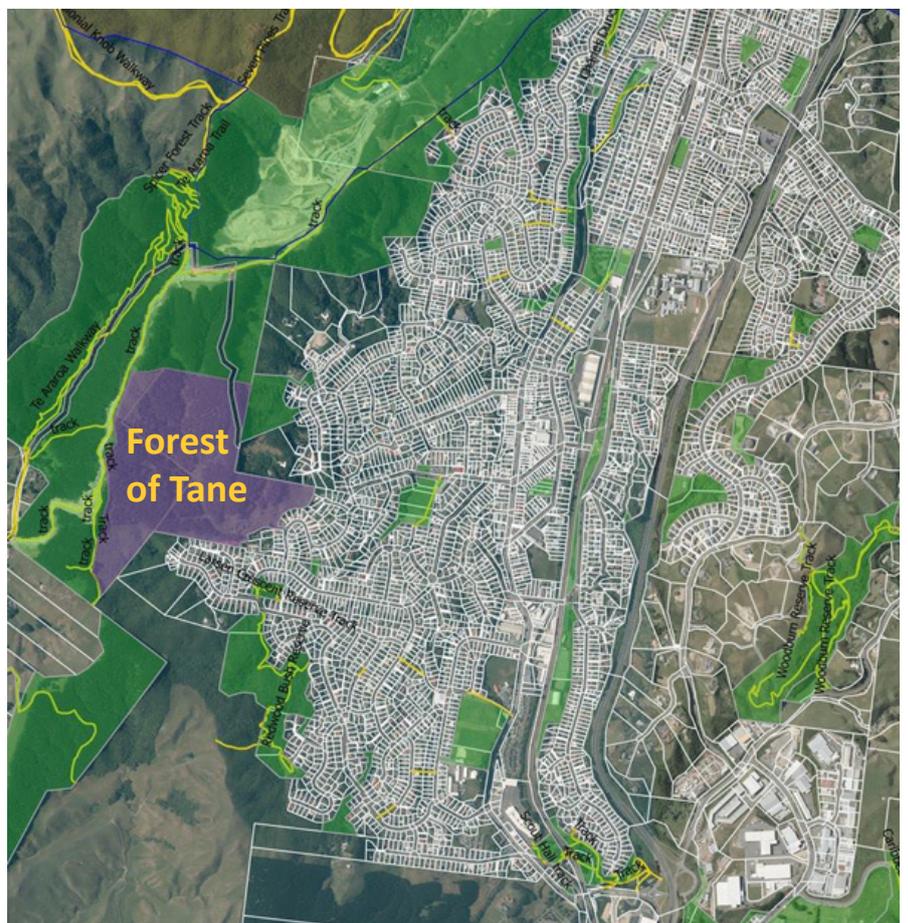
A number of small tributaries gather at the bottom of the block to form a sizable stream of good quality water.

The land has tracks which could be combined with existing Council reserve tracks to form a 2.5 hour bush loop track with multiple entrances and exits, and provide quick, direct walking access to Spicer Forest Reserve, and the Te Araroa/Colonial Knob Walkway tracks, from residential Tawa. Colonial Knob is Wellington City's second highest peak and has spectacular views.

The land agent is promoting the Forest of Tane for, "an immediate forestry return, and potential subdivision investment available." In other words, cut down and log the forest, and replace it with 'lifestyle' rural residential sections.

Friends of Tawa Bush was founded in the late 1990s by residents concerned that a stand of remnant native forest on the hills of Tawa was being felled by a developer. We succeeded in convincing the Council to acquire the land, and it now forms the Larsen Crescent reserve. Twenty years on, we're now facing a similar challenge.

Friends of Tawa Bush wants the Council to acquire and protect the Forest of Tane, and provide public access. To do this, it's important



for the community to demonstrate the support we know is out there. Please attend our public meeting on Sunday 19th February to show councillors you support this proposal.

Apart from the ecological and recreational benefits this land will provide if the Council buys and protects it, the Council will avoid considerable costs in the future, as any form of tree harvesting or residential development is only going to compound the effects of recent flooding events downstream. These have already affected Lyndhurst Park and Main Road neighbours and businesses, and add to the risk of more serious flooding in the Linden area in future. If the Council doesn't protect this land, it could cost the Council millions in future flooding recovery costs and/or mitigation costs in stormwater system upgrades.



How can you help?

1. Attend a public meeting (details earlier) to show councillors this matters to you.
2. Email the Mayor and councillors asking for their support.
3. Tell your friends and neighbours – share this notice with them.

Footnote from the Ed.: Your Northern Ward councillors have been liaising with WCC officers about this matter. A considerable amount of work has been going on behind the scenes and “important measures” are being taken this week. That’s all we’re in a position to say at this stage.

TAWA RSA - TAWA SERVICES BOWLING CLUB OPEN DAY

Our Bowling Club is holding a CLUB DAY • OPEN DAY • HAVE-A-GO-DAY on our natural green at 89 Oxford Street, Tawa, on Saturday 25 February 2017.

We invite all members of the community to come along and take part (Have-a go!). Just a gold coin collection to help cover the afternoon tea, and, hopefully, some coins for the raffle is your only outlay.

Casual dress and flat-soled shoes / no heels is ideal.

Please arrive prior to 1.15pm to allow us to organise teams ready to start at 1.30pm. Play for the day will finish at 4.00pm.

This is a good relaxing way to have a casual introduction to the game of bowls and to meet new friends.

Our Cotula green is in tip top order at present too. We welcome all visitors on this day (or any other playing day too).

Any enquiries, please phone:

Graham Allnutt, President Tawa Services Bowling Club – 027 339 6667 / 232 4056 or

John Somerville, Secretary – 021 187 1064 / 232 8257



TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD'S NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

The Tawa Community Board now has its own Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard – we encourage you to 'like' the page.

From L to R in photo: Margaret Lucas (deputy chair), Jack Marshall, Cr Jill Day, Richard Herbert (chair), Robyn Parkinson, Cr Malcolm Sparrow, Graeme Hansen.

By this time next week there will be a new board member.



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 18 February 9.00-10.30am at Tawa Intermediate School Hall.

Full details are in the prospectus which your child has brought home from school, or will be bringing home this week. Enquiries to 233 0541.



SECURE YOUR NUMBER PLATES

Tawa Community Patrol (alongside Police, Fire Service, WCC and other community patrols) will be installing tamper-resistant screws for \$5 in the Countdown Tawa carpark from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 25 February.

Profits will go to the Tawa Community Patrol.

Want anti-theft screws on your number plate?

**SAFER
PLATES.**

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 28 February 2017. For further information see <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/funding/council-funds/tawa-community-grants>

To find out more, phone Mark Farrar, Senior Advisor WCC Funding Team on 803 8525 or 021 227 8525 or email mark.farrar@wcc.govt.nz

INTERESTED IN PLAYING RUGBY THIS YEAR?

Tawa Rugby Football Club is looking for new players. Training takes place on Wednesdays at 6.30pm at Lyndhurst Park. Ladies' rugby training is at the same time. New players are welcome.

This is a good way to get fit, socialise and be part of the Tawa team.

For more information contact Steuart Ogilvie on 021 670 341.





Tawa College
Adult and Community Education



Classes for 2017 start the week beginning 13 February and enrolments are now beginning accepted on the web page www.tawacommed.co.nz

There are a number of new tutors this year offering new classes or taking over a class that has been popular in the past. New Tutors are offering classes from a range including Italian, Pottery, Mosaics, Organic Gardening, Worm Composting, Ukulele, Tai Chi, Sweet Easter Goodies Rag Rugs, Oil Painting, Landscaping, Interior Design, Yoga and Self Defence.

There is a renewed interest in learning a second language reasons varying from travel to brain stimulation to just learning for interest. Classes are offered in New Zealand Sign Language, Maori, Spanish, French and Italian as well as English for non English Speakers.

A high demand for Fitness classes has seen the introduction of extra daytime classes with Yoga Monday morning and Pilates Wednesday and Friday mornings. In the evening you can choose from Pilates on Monday, Bollywood, Belly Dancing or Tai Chi Tuesday, Bollywood, Pilates or Yoga on Wednesday, Pilates or Yoga on Thursday and Self Defence on Saturday.

The range of seminars have been increased and these include topics such as, Family Trusts, Wills & Powers of Attorney; Break Free from Emotional Eating; Cognitive Impairment & Dementia; Organic Gardening; Overcoming Anxiety, Stress & Depression; Supporting Family & Friends with Cancer; Worm Composting; Change your Thinking, Change your Life; and What is Real Life Healing Food.

Don't forget all the cooking classes Indian Cooking, Mumbai Street Food, Middle Eastern, Japanese & Bento, Asian & Dim Sum and prepare for Easter with Sweet Easter Treats.

Check out the website www.tawacommed.co.nz for the full range of courses, further details on each course and to enrol.

Judith Havill

Tawa College Community Education Coordinator

BRIDGE LESSONS

Learn this popular card game.

The Kapi-Mana Bridge Club is holding a series of 10 lessons starting from 13 March at 7.30pm at its Club Rooms, 8 Linden Avenue, Tawa.

Cost is \$50 which covers lessons, learning materials and Club membership to 31 March 2018. To register or for more information contact David on 233 1866.



Brenda Stickley, Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner, M.S., Dip Tertiary Teaching getmoving@xtra.co.nz
021 163 8211 www.getmovingwithbrenda.co.nz

Weekly Group Classes

Remember when movement used to be fun, free, easy? Want to feel that way again? These classes are for anyone who wants to move youthfully through life whatever their “age” right now. Discover that it is possible to regain lost movement, relieve pain and muscle tension and improve overall function. Get back to enjoying your life. The theme for this term is Balance – Can you still pull on your socks while standing? Maybe you have lost more of your ability to balance than you realise. Monday 9.15am or Monday 7pm or Tuesday 5.30pm or Wednesday 9.15am. \$135 for 8 classes. Linden Social Centre. New term starts Monday 13th February.

Upcoming Workshops – please check for details on the website

Pelvic Floor Restore – Workshop for Women

– One in three women suffer “accidental” leakages and think they must put up with it. Incontinence and other conditions related to weak pelvic floor function can be improved and eliminated in 80% women. Learn what to do and how to do it. Regain healthy pelvic floor function and improve your life. Saturday 4th March 1.30pm to 5.30pm.

Stop tech neck aches and pains. Do you spend a lot of time working at a computer and experience neck shoulder and back pain? Learn how your postural and movement habits can be the cause your problems and learn how to get yourself out of pain and improve how you function. Saturday 1st April 9.00am to 1.00 pm.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Fun, Friendship, Fitness - Come and have a go!

Introductory Lessons

4 lessons over 4 weeks

for just \$25

No partner required

Just wear soft shoes

Mondays 7.30pm from 13 Feb

Baptist Church Hall

229 Main Rd

Tawa

Find out more by calling

Ann: 021 814 513 or Philippa 021 434 163

LINDEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

www.lindenscd.org.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



"Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it."

"Every day may not be good, but there's something good in every day."

"My goal for 2017 is to accomplish the goals of 2016 which I should have done in 2015 because I made a promise in 2014 which I planned on keeping back in 2013."

**DO NOT
READ
THE NEXT
SENTENCE.**

YOU LITTLE REBEL. I LIKE YOU.

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.