



COMMUNITY NEWS

July 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 2620 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

THE 'NEIGHBOURLY' MEAL THAT WAS

Around 115 local people took part in our recent 'Neighbourly' pot luck meal, a wide range of ages and ethnicities – probably an accurate reflection of Tawa in 2016! It was a great opportunity to meet new people and enjoy an impressive selection of food.

The "Who am I?" activity meant we could easily bowl up to others we hadn't yet met and engage in smalltalk. It revealed a host of fun facts about people living in Tawa. People divulged details like:

"I have my own battleship" (even if it is less than 2 metres long!).

"I have modelled for the World of Wearable Art."

"I've been to Las Vegas twice to represent NZ at the Hiphop International Dance Championships."

"I am a drummer in a rock band."

"I was a stowaway on the Princess of Tasmania from Melbourne to Launceston."

"I've done some of the Rally of Cyprus course in a rented VW Polo – might have stretched the terms of the rental agreement just a tad!"

The pity was that we didn't have time to find out a few more of the details!

Many thanks to fellow Tawa Leads Robyn Parkinson, Stevie Haira and Sonja Farmer who played a big part in the smooth running of the occasion. And thanks to Neighbourly who sponsored our dessert and drinks, along with the prizes for the two competitions.

The winner of the "Who am I?" quest was Denis Tharmatheva who won a \$30 New World voucher. In second place was Kay Luck who won a Neighbourly mug and a cake of Cadbury chocolate.

Thanks again to all those who came along and enjoyed a very Neighbourly occasion.



COMING UP IN TAWA

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|-------------|--|
| Sat 9 July | – RSA Tawa Karaoke evening |
| Tue 12 July | – Learn how to make paper flowers |
| Wed 13 July | – Zendoodle & colouring holiday workshop |
| Fri 15 July | – Closing date for Open Space Plan submissions |
| Tue 19 July | – Learn how to make paper flowers |
| Wed 27 July | – Have your say on the Tawa town improvements |
| Thu 28 July | – Mindfulness course starts |
| Sat 30 July | – Have your say on the Tawa town improvements |

“SPRING INTO TAWA” MARKET DAY SURVEY

This year’s “Spring into Tawa” Market Day will take place on Saturday 15 October, one month later than usual.

The event is being revamped and the organising committee is looking for your feedback. “We’d love to hear from the community – this is your festival and we want to make sure it has the things you’re looking for. Please take a couple of minutes to fill out our survey!”

The survey is at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGM8VQV>



CLARIFICATION ON COMMUTER PARKING AT OUTLET CITY

We mentioned in last month’s newsletter that for Takapu Road commuters there is additional parking available at the southern end of Outlet City’s carpark.

Once you’ve driven into the Outlet City car parking area from the Main Road, take the first turn right. You’ll soon see signage indicating that parking is available for train commuters. That extends to the southern end of the car park (as per the photo) but only on the western side, the right hand side as you look at the photo. Parking on the left hand side of the photo is for Outlet City shoppers only.



RSA TAWA KARAOKE EVENING

Come along for an evening of entertainment at the Tawa RSA, 89 Oxford Street, Tawa on Saturday 9 July, 6pm onwards.

Everyone is invited!
All welcome.
Free entry!



Come along and sing a song or listen to others have a go.

GEODOME AT LINDEN SCHOOL

Linden School now has a geodome as part of its vegetable garden. A geodome works on the same principle as a glasshouse in “giving the plants a lot more heat and extending the growing season.”

Michelle Leslie (Kids Kai Time Charity), based in Masterton, raised funds to pay for this dome. Her dome-to-dish programme aims to help teach students about sustainability, gardening, growing own vegetables which are much healthier for you, and all the science and health that goes into food and nutrition.



LEARN HOW TO MAKE PAPER FLOWERS

Come and learn how to make paper flowers at the Tawa Community Centre on Tuesday 12 July and Tuesday 19 July 10am to 12 noon.

Cost \$8 per person – all welcome. Children under 9 years must be accompanied by an adult. Bookings essential. Contact Mandy Russell at the community centre on 232 1682 or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz



FEEDBACK ON TAKING CARE IN TAKAPU ROAD

This feedback was received from Craig Utting following the comments in last month's newsletter about "walking or jogging along Takapu Road on the inside of blind corners."

“Interesting the comments about walking on the inside of blind corners on Takapu Road.

When I was in the 6th form at Tawa College I did a Defensive Driving Course at school.

The teacher (who came in from outside the school, but I can't recall where from) also told us that we should always walk into oncoming traffic, i.e. on the right-hand side of the road. Since I grew up in the rural end of Johnsonville, I knew all about blind corners. The teacher came back the following week and apologised! Yes! You should always walk on the outside of blind corners!”

TAWA SCHOOL READING LISTENERS WANTED

Tawa School is looking for helpers to come in and listen to students reading on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, between 9-10.30am. You would be listening to three students in a morning, to provide them with extra support and encouragement. Full training is provided. If you are interested, please contact Margaret on mrobertson@tawa.school.nz

TAWA FAMILY STORE MOVING TEMPORARILY

Tawa Family Store is ‘moving’ because of earthquake strengthening that will be taking place. We are having a shop sell-out of stuff. We need to clear the whole shop by August so everything must go. We've started by having a mid-winter Christmas sale. All the Christmas stuff must go, and for the rest of July grab yourself a bargain, whether it be clothes, furniture or whatever. Come in and support us – the less to move the better.

ZENDOODLE & COLOURING HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Zendoodle & Colouring Holiday Workshop is back for the July holidays!

Have a break, pop into the gym, get some quiet shopping done or meet up with a friend while your children are having fun being creative! Includes take home cool framed art piece!

Wednesday 13 July, 10-12 in the Tawa Community Centre Boardroom. Suitable for children age 6+. Includes workbook, all materials, framed art piece and healthy snack & drink! \$15.

Register to secure your spot as places are limited. Call or text Monique at 021 134 7541, or email monique@easynowmindfulness.com

Remember every last Sunday of the month we are colouring at the Tawa Community Centre, koha entry, 10-12!

MINDFULNESS COURSE

8-Week Mindfulness "Rewire Your Brain for Happiness" is back in Tawa!

Rewire your brain to feel more happy and relaxed, enjoy life! Mindfulness is scientifically proven to help with stress, depression, anxiety, sleep & chronic pain. By experienced psychologist.

Starts 28 July, 7.30-9pm, early bird \$179 includes all 90 minute sessions, downloadable practices and weekly emails!

Email monique@easynowmindfulness.com or text/call Monique on 021 134 7541, happy to help!

POLL ON NEIGHBOURLY

What do you call someone who lives in Tawa? This question was asked in this very newsletter exactly five years ago (July 2011). We're currently running a poll on Neighbourly to see what people think. The introduction states: "It may not be the most important issue we're dealing with right now, but if you have a preferred option, feel free to indicate in this none-too-serious poll. If you couldn't care less, that's fine too!"



The options are Tawaite (as in Tawa-ite), Tawainian, Tawanese, Tawaiian (as in Hawaiian), Tawetian, etc. Some have suggested that someone from Tawa should simply be called 'smart' or 'lucky' or just good old 'neighbour'. Fascinating stuff indeed (or not)!

GOT YOURSELF A 200L WATER TANK?

It makes sense for every Wellington household to have its own a 200L rainwater tank to provide a personal backup water supply. In the event of a disaster or a prolonged dry spell it could prove very useful! You have the option of filling it with water from your garden hose instead of connecting it to a downpipe.

The Tawa Community Centre obtains a supply of these water tanks from time to time. The cost is \$105. If you would like to buy one, please advise Mandy at the Tawa Community Centre. She will let you know when the next lot of tanks will be available. Email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz with your name, address and contact number.



If you require one reasonably quickly, please the Ed. know at malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz and we'll see what we can do.

TAWA TOWN CENTRE TO GET \$1 MILLION UPGRADE

This is a direct re-print of an article which featured recently in Kapi-Mana News:

Tawa residents can look forward to their town centre getting a \$1 million spruce up in the next 12 months.

The Tawa's town centre upgrade was set down for the 2018/19 financial year, but Wellington City northern ward councillors Justin Lester and Malcolm Sparrow said they pushed hard to get it brought forward.*



The work has leapfrogged other town centre upgrades in Wellington, including Karori.

“I’m delighted that the work could get moved ahead of time and it’s a fantastic chance to really get Tawa spruced up,” Sparrow said. “It is looking tired.”

Transport and urban development committee chairman and Karori councillor Andy Foster said after consultation regarding housing and the town centre, it made “simple common sense” to progress with Tawa’s upgrade before Karori’s. “It’s ready to go because the engagement has been carried out and they’re in a good position,” he said.

“Karori [town centre] is a much more complicated beast, whereas Tawa is not that broken. Credit must go to the Tawa community for letting us know what is needed.”

Public meetings were held in Tawa in 2015, and in April the council received 171 submissions, representing 280 people, regarding medium-density housing for the suburb and what improvements could be made to the town centre. Among the feedback was the concern about vacant shops, a desire for more seating, hanging baskets, trees and plants, doing more to attract new businesses, enhancing the Porirua Stream, and easing traffic congestion.

Councillors were also told that improved shopfronts, a roundabout at the Surrey St and Main Rd intersection and a better public space in front of the Plan B building were high priorities.

Lester said there would likely be further public meetings in the coming year to formalise what would be built. The recently-formed Vibrant Tawa would also have a big say in the project.

“There is a lot of potential here in Tawa and we want to make sure that \$1m is spent well,” he said. “While there might be a roundabout going in, this is about beautification, so maybe a town centre sign and information boards could go in.”

NOTE: * Credit should also be given to ‘Vibrant Tawa’, especially Bruce White, whose lobbying on behalf of the Tawa community also played a significant part in seeing this project brought forward. – Ed.



Mana Arts Society Winter Exhibition

Sat 16th/Sun 17th July
Sat 23rd/Sun 24th July

10:00 am to 4:00 pm



Free entry.
Everyone welcome!



Mana Arts Society Clubrooms,
Plimmerton Domain
Plimmerton

Directions

Take the left-hand turn from the Plimmerton roundabout, take the first left by Big Macs Furniture, take the right-hand turn over the bridge before the Palmers Garden Centre car park and follow the signs!

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE TAWA TOWN IMPROVEMENTS

From WCC's City Planning & Design team:

We are working to make Tawa town centre more attractive, vibrant and safe.

Following on from our community consultation last December, we have further developed the ideas to improve the town centre. We have a \$1 million budget to implement the improvements.

We would like your input to decide which improvements to fund and implement first. Improvements include revamping the public space by the Plan B House [Tawa Plaza], a new roundabout at the junction of the Main Road and Surrey Street, and many more.



Come to one of our drop-in sessions to discuss these ideas with Council staff. We will be in the Boardroom, Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street on the following dates:

Wednesday 27 July 4pm-8pm

Saturday 30 July 1.30pm-4pm

ANOTHER WIN FOR TAWA

The Tawa Titans won the Wellington Regional Lifeguard Competition, which was held at the at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre in June.

This win means Tawa have qualified to represent the Wellington region in the New Zealand National Lifeguard Sports Competition in August, and will take on the best pool lifeguard teams from across New Zealand for the title of New Zealand National Lifeguard Team of the Year.

Wellington holds the current national title, and will also host the 2016 competition as part of New Zealand's annual aquatics industry conference, the Just Add Water Seminar (JAWS). This competition is facilitated by the New Zealand Recreation Association as part of their annual Aquatics Awards.

The Tawa team consists of:

Steph Watts-Pointer, Rosalie Shields (team manager), Mikayla McPhee, Jason Perry, Nick Gillum (absent from photo).

There were five teams competing to represent the Wellington Region at the New Zealand National Lifeguard Sports Competition from the following:

Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council – Tawa Titans, Kapiti District Council, Hutt City Council, Wellington City Council combined.

Here is a dropbox link to more photos from the event, including potential photo captions: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lfqzbu55z947tpx/AAARU9wTzhqjQNwdNkSDejFZa?dl=0>



2 MINUTES WITH Erin Lockhart

Erin is this year's deputy head girl at Tawa College.

When the Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards were first introduced in 2011, Erin was the Year 8 girl winner for Tawa Intermediate. At this year's Tawa Community Civic Awards ceremony, she was one of six nominees in the Youth category.

Where were you born? Christchurch

Where did you grow up?

Moved to Tawa when I was 1, and have been here ever since.

What schools have you been at since you first started school?

Tawa Central Kindy, Redwood, Tawa Intermediate, Tawa College.

What subjects are you doing this year at college?

Media Studies, English, Classics, Legal Studies & Business Studies.

What are you hoping to do when you leave school?

Next year I plan to work half the year then go travel as much as I can, working as I go. I love film making and will try to emerge in the industry independently by making films and teaming with up-and-coming musicians and bands to produce music videos. No certainty at all that it will work out but I'm going to give it a go!

What does being a head student actually involve, any particular responsibilities?

Nothing too particular, just getting involved as much as I can both in school and out, with all sorts of different activities. It's been great fun getting to know a lot of the juniors and other students in all areas of school life so far this year and hopefully it continues.

What are your interests/hobbies?

I love horse riding, I do it as often as I can every week and volunteer at Riding for the Disabled on Saturdays. I also love running, gym classes at Athletes Village, dancing, football and as previously mentioned, film making and script writing.

What do you like about Tawa College?

I love that there is no limit to how much you can get involved in. There are all-comers type groups for everything so even if it's something new you can give it a go. I'm also very grateful to go to such a creative school, so many things about Tawa College are very unique to our school alone. Things such as TC News, AM Mayhem, Survivor, Tawa Goes to Town and Breakfast Club are all activities not all students get the chance to be a part of.

Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?

I really admire Valerie Adams. I love to watch her training videos and follow her healthy lifestyle, very excited to watch her compete in Rio.

Favourite musical group and/or style of music?

I'm not sure I can think of a favourite but some of my all-time favourite songs are by the band Bastille.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

Love tramping and snowboarding up Mt Ruapehu and the surrounding area.

Any accomplishments/achievements in your life (to date) that give you much satisfaction/pride?

This year we won Stage Challenge for the first time in Tawa College history. I was a co-leader and considering the huge amount of effort that went in, it is by far my biggest achievement regardless of the placing.



YOUR THOUGHTS ON COUNCIL'S OPEN SPACE ACCESS PLAN

Wellington City Council is reviewing its Open Space Access Plan and is interested in your views. WCC's website states: "Walkers, runners and cyclists enjoy over 340 kilometres of walkways and tracks in Wellington City. To ensure these are well-managed and planned for the future we are doing a minor review of the Open Space Access Plan 2008. This plan guides the use and management of tracks and walkways in and between the city's open space network.

The review proposes opportunities for electric bike (e-bike) use within the open spaces network, and an updated implementation plan for track planning and development. We also wish to hear from you on a number of other matters, including:

- whether paper roads should be included into the open space network
- whether cyclists should be encouraged to use a bell
- if accessibility within the open spaces is adequately addressed"

The closing dates for comments is Saturday 16 July at 5pm. See <http://wellington.govt.nz/have-your-say/public-inputs/consultations/open/open-space-access-plan>

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



"To be content with a little is hard; to be content with much is impossible."

"Just because nobody complains doesn't mean all parachutes are perfect." – Benny Hill

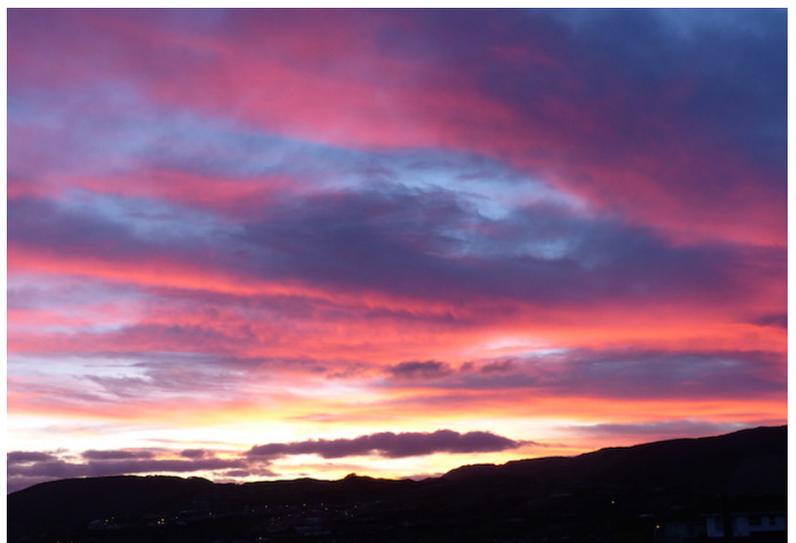
"I value the friend who for me finds time on his calendar, but I cherish the friend who for me does not consult his calendar." – Robert Brault

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.



Sunrise over Tawa's eastern hills on Sunday 3 July 2016



SCHOOL HOLIDAY DROP IN

Come along in the holidays between 10am - 1pm for some fun. We will have table tennis tables set up, puzzles, board games, a craft table, and a toy basket for younger kids. All children need an **adult** with them as this is **not supervised**. Please note that this is not a holiday programme, it is a casual drop in.

Every week day in the holidays at Tawa Community Centre

For more info call Mandy on 2321682 or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz



July School Holiday Classes at Tawa Community Centre

Tuesday 13 July

Paper flower making

10am-12pm

\$8pp

Learn how to make paper flowers with Gail and Adrienne. Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult. Please register at 2321682 or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz.

Wednesday 14 July

Zendoodle & Colouring Workshop

10am-12pm

\$15/child

Kids have fun and are creative with this colouring workshop. Price includes workbook, all materials, framed artwork and a healthy snack and drink. For children aged 7+. Bookings: 021 134 7541 or monique@easynowmindfulness.com.

Monday 18 July

First Aid with St Johns

10am

45-60min

Free but donation appreciated

Emergency Aware/Smart. 5-7yr olds

This covers recognising each emergency service, and understanding their roles including a game where we decide which emergency service we need in different circumstances. Identifying the different vehicles, looking at some ambulance equipment, discussion around calling 111, and a nice big story book. It takes around 30-45 minutes.

Emergency Ready. 7-9yr olds

This covers most of the above, plus more detailed practice in pairs calling 111. We would also cover some basic first aid in this group, I find they often enjoy practicing putting on a bandage, and we can talk a bit about oxygen, and blood ! This takes around 45-60 minutes.

Tuesday 13 July

Paper flower making

10am-12pm

\$8pp

Learn how to make paper flowers with Gail and Adrienne. Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult. Please register at 2321682 or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz.