



## COMMUNITY NEWS

June 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](http://www.neighbourly.co.nz) • [www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa](https://www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa) • [www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard](https://www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard)*

### **TAWA RESIDENTS' AGM AND UPDATE ON TRANSMISSION GULLY**

You will have noticed significant earthworks off the sides of the motorway passing through Linden. For an update on progress with Transmission Gully, you're invited to a talk which will follow a brief Tawa Residents' AGM on Monday 12 June, as set out below.

# Tawa Residents' Association

## ~ Notification of AGM ~

### All Welcome!

7PM, MONDAY 12 JUNE 2017

LINDEN SOCIAL CENTRE

*Guest speaker: An update on Transmission Gully  
from Belinda McKenzie-Dodds, Community Relations Manager for CPB HEB Joint Venture.*

### **CHANGES TO THE ROUNDBABOUT AT THE SOUTHERN END OF TAWA**

"Minor road safety improvements" are currently being carried out to the existing roundabout at the Main Road/ Willowbank Road/ Takapu Road/ Boscobel Lane intersection.

According to wording received by the Tawa Community Board at the end of January 2017: "The plan has been carefully developed after ongoing customer enquiries related to safety at this intersection, where approach speed is higher than desirable on the Main Road eastbound, and drivers are hesitant to give way to vehicles on the roundabout."

The new design addresses this concern with improved deflection for Main Road eastbound vehicles. Safety will be significantly improved resulting from improved driver behaviour." (That remains to be seen!).



## PRESENTATION OF 3D PRINTER TO TAWA INTERMEDIATE

Sir Richard Taylor, co-founder of Weta Workshop, spoke at the recent presentation of a 3D printer to Tawa Intermediate. The school's kapa haka group performed before Sir Richard gave a brief, inspiring talk to the assembled kids.

Credit to Vibrant Tawa chair Tony Hassed for driving this project in Tawa. Linden School has previously been the recipient of a 3D printer, and the intention is eventually to see one presented to each of the schools in Tawa.



## DOG EXERCISE AREA AT TAYLOR PARK IS BEING FENCED

Fencing of the dog exercise area at Taylor Park (south of Redwood Station) has now begun. It will be mostly completed by the end of June, with Council's intention that it is "open for business" some time in July.



## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM TRACKSAFE – REPEATED

We ran the message below in our November 2016 newsletter. It is just as relevant now because in recent weeks there have been more close calls at railway crossings in Tawa, particularly at Redwood Station, when children have either not realised a second train was coming or they have quite clearly ignored the ringing bells and crossed the tracks.

From Tracksafe: "Recently there have been a number of serious near misses between trains and students at Tawa level crossings.

Parents – please remind your children of the need to take care when crossing the tracks and to take heed of the warning bells and flashing lights.

It's particularly important to note that trains can approach from both directions and therefore NOT to assume that the path is clear because one train has passed through. We certainly don't want the serious near misses turning into anything worse!"



CCTV image of a girl riding her bike in front of a train at a level crossing in Tawa at the end of March.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO HARCOURTS TAWA

From their Facebook page:

"Wow what a week! The Harcourts National Conference was held in Wellington [a couple of weeks ago], ending with the National Awards function on the Wednesday night – Tawa office received Top National Office for Tenders (per sales consultant) – great result ... and a great night!"

## CONGRATULATIONS TO EL PORTENO

From WCC's Facebook page:

"We had 471 comments about cheese scones via Facebook,



Instagram and Twitter. After tallying them up we are pleased to announce the top 5 cheese scones in Wellington, as voted by you!"

1. El Porteno, Tawa (cheese scones shown at left)
2. Pravda Cafe
3. Ministry of Food Bar & Kitchen
4. Floriditas – Cafe & Restaurant
5. Nikau Cafe



## COLLEGE-MADE COFFEE



Coffee and hot chocolate have been on sale from 8am to 9am on Wednesdays and Fridays this past month (May) from the old Beanstalk Kindergarten, across the road from Tawa College, at \$2 each.

The hot beverages were being made by trained college students, as shown in the photo at right.



## TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD GRANT TO KCA

Tawa-based Kiwi Community Assistance was granted \$521 in the latest yearly round of Tawa Community Grants (April 2017) for "food safety equipment to support safe distribution of donated food". That was used to purchase an industrial water blaster to clean the food trays they use on a daily basis. See the pic.

In the financial year to 31st March 2017, KCA distributed over 125 tonnes of food in 9,457 banana boxes. Daily average distribution of food was 342.5kgs, with 357,246 meals served over the 12-month period.

KCA urgently needs more volunteers as they expand their food rescue operations. Food rescue team members are needed in Porirua, Johnsonville, Tawa and Churton Park between 9am and noon Monday to Friday. For more info please email [admin@kca.org.nz](mailto:admin@kca.org.nz)

Water blasting: Robyn Parkinson, Jill Day and Malcolm Sparrow



## AT TAWA POOL THIS SATURDAY



## GET YOURSELF A 200L EMERGENCY WATER TANK THIS WEEKEND IN TAWA

We're being told that in the event of a major disaster we'll probably need to "look after ourselves" for the first seven days! That being the case, it makes sense to have our own 200L emergency rainwater tank to provide a personal backup water supply.

The Ed. will be making 200L water tanks available for \$110 each on Saturday 10 June from 9am to 9.30am at his home address of 9 Brasenose Pl, Tawa.



You can reserve one and pay for it electronically by emailing [malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt](mailto:malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt). Otherwise feel free to turn up on the day and pay cash – assuming he has some left! For transportation purposes, a tank will fit across the back seat of almost any car.

## Tawa Recreation Centre Holiday Programme | July 2017

Duncan Street, Tawa | For ages 5-12 years | To book phone 04 232 2260 or visit [wellington.govt.nz/holidayprogrammes](http://wellington.govt.nz/holidayprogrammes)

Monday 10 July	Tuesday 11 July	Wednesday 12 July	Thursday 13 July	Friday 14 July
<b>Trip Day Cinemas &amp; Te Papa</b>  Let's head on down to see the latest fun flick at the movies then explore the exhibitions at our world famous museum	<b>Fear Factor &amp; Crazy Free Play</b>  Face your fears in our icky, sticky, gooey, fun Fear Factor challenge and come out on top. How much fun can you have in one afternoon? Go crazy on our inflatable, cars, trikes and more!	<b>Pokémon &amp; Inflatable Fun</b>  Create your own Pokéballs and join in on a scavenger hunt for prizes – can you collect them all? Burn off your energy by hopping, skipping and jumping away on the inflatables	<b>Ninja Skills &amp; Amazing Race</b>  Test your ninja skills in our fun spy courses and complete some top secret missions as well as entering the Tawa Rec Amazing Race. You have to solve each puzzle as fast as you can in a race to the finish line to win!	<b>Party Time &amp; Sports</b>  Bake and decorate some delicious party cupcakes, play some fun party games at the biggest Tawa Rec party ever! Then enjoy the rest of the day playing nukemball, floorball and dodgeball
Monday 17 July	Tuesday 18 July	Wednesday 19 July	Thursday 20 July	Friday 21 July
<b>Trip Day Lotsa Follies Zoo</b>  Spend the day at Lotsa Follies Petting Zoo with all the farm animals and take part in the interactive activities. Bring your togs for river boating and a spare pair of clothes, then finish the day with your favorite - multisport	<b>Dodgeball &amp; Wheels</b>  You have to be in to win in the Tawa Rec dodgeball tournament. You will also need your skills for other dodgeball favorites like Mayhem and Leaders Dodgeball, then spend the afternoon riding around on our wheels or bring your own	<b>Mad Science &amp; Kids' Choice</b>  Make an awesome lava lamp for your bedroom; learn how to make an erupting volcano and gooey slime. Then it's 'Kids' Choice' games afternoon – what games will we play? You choose!	<b>Mission Inflatable</b>  Makes sure you bring your bouncing beans because you will be jumping around in a sports hall full of inflatables, there will also be relays and other team challenges	<b>Travel to Japan</b>  You will be making some sushi and drinking green tea, paint your name in Japanese script, learn a bit of their language and play exciting Japanese games

Bring a packed lunch, water bottle and sunhat every day.

 Follow us on Facebook

School holiday programmes also available at:

ASB Sports Centre  
72 Kemp Street, Kilbirnie  
For ages 5-14 years  
To book phone  
04 830 0500

Karori Recreation Centre  
251 Karori Road, Karori  
For ages 5-12 years  
To book phone 04 476 8090

Nairnville Recreation Centre  
Cnr Cockayne Road and Lucknow Terrace, Khandallah  
For ages 5-12 years  
To book phone 04 479 2022

Bookings open Monday 22 May.  
All holiday programmes are OSCAR approved.

Cost per day	Time	Recreation Centres	ASB Sports Centre
Before care	7.45am-8.30am	\$8.50	\$8.50
On-site day	8.30am-3.30pm	\$35	\$38
Trip days	8.30am-3.30pm	\$45	\$48
Aftercare	3.30pm-5.30pm	\$14	\$14



## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Tracy Wellington

Many locals will have heard of the Tawa-based charity KCA, or by its full name Kiwi Community Assistance. Not everyone will know that Tracy Wellington is the driving force behind KCA, the never-say-die visionary who has taken what started as a small home-based concern to where it is today, a major outreach on our own doorstep, operating out of a warehouse in Grenada North and distributing more than 350 kgs of food throughout the Wellington region every day.

*Where were you born?* Kingston, Jamaica.

*Where did you grow up?*

Jamaica, North Wales and The Wirral in England.

*Where were you educated?*

Kingston, Jamaica; Pensby Girls' School in England; Sight and Sound in London where I did a Business Administration, Business Finance and Business Secretarial course.

*Work experience over the years .....*

I've done a lot of different things over the years, from import/export, to engineering, HR, and accounting, to now running the charity my husband and I started, Kiwi Community Assistance. Several of my accounting roles were with large charitable organisations, so I got to see how these worked (and what didn't work!), which gave us a head start when we started our own.

*How long have you lived in Tawa?*

I came to NZ in 1993, to Wellington in 1998, and we bought our house in Peterhouse St in February 2009.

*What about family?*

My husband is Phil Davies and together we have a 10 year old daughter, Katie, who is in year 6 at Redwood School.

*What are your interests and hobbies?*

My life revolves around KCA, so I don't have a lot of time for other interests and hobbies. I do enjoy socialising, and a glass of wine now and again, and love the fact we have some great neighbours to enjoy doing both things with. We also have 9 bantams (a mixture of Silkies and Pekins), and a cat that is scared of birds. When Phil finally gets around to finishing some of the landscaping, I might get some gardens in as well!

*Favourite sports team and/or sports person?*

Jamaican track and field athletes (but not Usain Bolt).

*Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?*

I went to the Adele concert in March which was good, but it took me about three days to dry out afterwards! I listen to lots of music from a wide selection of genres. I like Andrew Bocelli, Michael Jackson, Trance Music, Techno, whatever is playing on ZM radio. I also used to go to a lot of NZSO concerts.

*What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

I don't really go away for holidays but did enjoy our time in the Hawkes Bay about four years ago. Loved the scenery, lots of kid-friendly things for Katie to do, plenty of vineyards for me to visit and wines to sample.

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

I have been truly blessed to have a great support network of family, friends, the general public who believe in what our charity tries to achieve. I get a great deal of satisfaction knowing that the work our charity does is helping over 30,000 people a year.



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contd .....

*What are three things you would like to do before you die?*

It's not common knowledge but my health hasn't been the best for the past 2-3 years. I would love a new spine as I live with chronic pain with problems with my back.

I would also love to have the time and resources to introduce my 10 year old to my family in Jamaica. Unfortunately my current lifestyle doesn't provide me with a lot of free time.

So my final wish would be to catch up with the people that I have met on my journey of life from when I lived in Jamaica, United Kingdom and NZ, from my childhood to my adult life.

## HOBBY LOUNGE SETS UP IN TAWA

"We want to create a space where people or groups can come and work and have fun creating things together.

We want the space to be not just a creative space but a positive environment with noise and laughter as people experiment with hands on hobbies and crafts.

Many new clubs and organisations are springing up in the creative area of cosplay, larping, movie making, costume making, scrapbooking, etc with very limited places to work on these projects out of private homes.

We want to create a space where people can learn from each other in the art or craft that interests them, and in doing so gain advice and skills from like-minded people. The space will also act as a small gallery to display work created for sale or as commissioned works."

The Hobby Lounge is in Tawa Plaza. For details, contact Sam Malcolm on [sammalcolm01@gmail.com](mailto:sammalcolm01@gmail.com)



## TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PATHWAY

The Kenepuru to Porirua leg of the shared pathway (known in Tawa as the Tawa Valley Pathway – Ara Tawa) will be closed for up to three months from around now. The sign at right indicates the pathway should already be shut but that isn't yet the case.

Having checked with Porirua City Council, we can advise the actual closure of Te Ara Tawa pathway will occur this week.



Where the overhead bridge is about to be built.



Looking back the other way towards Kenepuru Drive.



## WELLINGTON SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS NEXT WEEK

The finalists in the Sport Wellington Sportsperson of the Year Awards (2017) were announced recently. The awards ceremony takes place on the evening of Wednesday 14 June.

Four Tawa people are listed as finalists in their categories:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Amelia Kerr (current Tawa College student)    | – Sportswoman of the year (Cricket)           |
| Danielle Watson (Tawa College graduate 2016)  | – Emerging Sportswoman of the year (Kayaking) |
| Kathryn Henshaw (former student Tawa College) | – Volunteer of the Year (Football)            |
| Jo Murray (former student Tawa College)       | – Leadership Award (Athletics)                |

All the best to each of these finalists!

### 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  
[info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com)  
027 232 2320



*"I'm an idealist. I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way."* – Carl Sandburg

*"A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."* – Winston Churchill

*"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'"* – Erma Bombeck

**That's the real  
trouble with the  
world, too many  
people grow up.  
They forget.**

-Walt Disney

This newsletter is emailed monthly to around 1250 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa).

Some 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.

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

See [www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html](http://www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html) for back issues of the newsletter.



Near Queenstown