



# COMMUNITY NEWS

March 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](http://www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa) • [www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard](http://www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard)*

## STILL TIME TO ARRANGE A BBQ IN YOUR STREET

People in streets right across the country are getting together with their neighbours over a BBQ or afternoon tea this month – a very neighbourly thing to do! And it's a known fact that streets where neighbours know each other cope better with any disaster/emergency that might befall them!

It's just a matter of inviting 10-20 nearby households to an event in your street, rolling out a barbecue (or two), people cooking their own food and mixing together on the day. Simple really!

Email [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) if you'd like to discuss further and/or obtain a few balloons and name tags.

**BBQ**  
in **your**  
**street**  
in **March ?**



## ARA TAWA PATHWAY OUTING

55-60 people took part in last Sunday afternoon's very successful "Bike, Scoot or Walk" event along the Tawa Valley Pathway - Ara Tawa from Willowbank Park to Linden Park.



It was sunny but quite windy, much easier going on the return leg! Frujus and cold drinks were the reward for those who made it to Linden Park, cyclists getting there about three times quicker than walkers.

Thanks to everyone who took part and to the Tawa Community Board for sponsoring the event. Special thanks to marshals Steve Werner, Jack Marshall, Bale Nadakuitavuki, and Michele Rowe; to refreshment organisers Hamish Bell and Greg O'Connor; and to event organisers Peter Gilberd, Jill Day and Malcolm Sparrow.

## TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD BY-ELECTION RESULT

You may already be aware that the Tawa Community Board by-election resulted in Liz Langham being elected to the community board. Congratulations to Liz. Thanks to all the quality candidates who put their names forward for election.

Liz will be officially inducted on to the board this week. Read more about her in "2 Minutes with ...." later in this newsletter.

By-election results here: <http://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/elections/elections-2016/tawa-community-board-by-elections/results-by-election>



## WE BOUGHT A FOREST!

“Wellington City acquires Forest of Tane” is what the headline reads. We’ve done it! With Council support, Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves’ drive, and a brilliant turnout by the Tawa community, we’ve achieved a fantastic result! We can now develop a substantial walking loop and other tracks for people to enjoy – finally getting Tawa onto the map of Wellington walks – and we may even be able to create a dedicated mountain biking track. There’s huge potential there, now that the land will be owned by the wider community!

The forest comprising both pines and native bush was recently up for sale. It sits between Redwood Bush and Spicer Forest. The photo shows Friends of Tawa Bush president Wayne Pincott running the meeting attended by around 230 people.

Council was successful with its tender for this 36 ha. block, resulting in most of the western hills of Tawa now being in public ownership and available for the community to enjoy.



## PROGRESS WITH THE TAWA MEMORIAL

As advised in last month’s newsletter, construction of the Tawa Memorial is currently taking place at the northernmost end of Oxford St, alongside Grasslees 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”

Construction site on 6 March:  
Making good progress!



## 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](mailto:mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz) to order one. They are \$105 each.

Alternatively Malcolm Sparrow has a few tanks in stock. Email [malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz) for details.

They’re also available from the PCC Service Centre or the Second Treasures Shop at the Southern Landfill.

If you don’t already have your own water tank, you could get one now or you could wait till the next big shake. The problem then – if it’s anything like last time – is that the demand will suddenly exceed the supply, and you may have to wait weeks to get your hands on one! Good idea to do it now!



## MUMS 'n' BUBS SQUASH

"The Borough" has kindly sponsored Tawa Squash's Mums 'n' Bubs programme with weekly coffee voucher prizes and a monthly \$50 voucher. The squash is casual with Mums, some with kiddies and some without, coming and going at their convenience between 9.30 and 11.30am. Tawa is recognised nationally as an extremely welcoming and friendly club.

See display advt at right

## TAWA-LINDEN PLUNKET

See display advt below

## GREENACRES SCHOOL GALA

The Mad Hatter's Gala returns to Greenacres School on 25 March 2017, 11am to 2pm at 60 Raroa Terrace, Tawa. Come along and enjoy great food, excellent second-hand bargains, fun games and the chance to win some amazing prizes!

See display advt below right



## Mums 'n' Bubs Squash



**Every Thursday from 9:30 – 11.30am**  
at Tawa Squash Club, 67 Main Road, Tawa

**BURN THOSE CALORIES**

**FIRST WEEK FREE!**

**MONTHLY PRIZE: \$50.00 THE BOROUGH VOUCHER**

**WEEKLY PRIZE: COFFEE FOR 2 @ THE BOROUGH**  
(EVERY SESSION ATTENDED = 1 CHANCE)

Meet new people.  
Have fun and get fit.  
Fun for the kids.  
Warm & friendly environment.  
Rackets and balls provided.

**Only \$5 per week**

or \$40 Ten Trip Concession Card

e: [info@tawasquash.co.nz](mailto:info@tawasquash.co.nz) p: 04 2328200 m: 027 677 8274 [www.tawasquash.co.nz](http://www.tawasquash.co.nz)  
a: Tawa Squash Club, 67 Main Road, Tawa (next to St Francis Xavier School)

## Tawa Linden Plunket

1<sup>st</sup> Birthday

Toy Library Open Day!

Sausage Sizzle

Birthday Cake

Slides, Ride on toys to try and more...



Pre-Loved Toy sale

Balloons

Face Painting

Bouncy Castle

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
10am-1pm

Everyone is invited to come and help us celebrate one year in our new building with a birthday party carnival, and try out toys in the Toy Library.

Toy Library Open Day  
Membership Deal: Pay for 3 months and get another 3 months membership FREE

Table Top Sale: Sell a box of your pre-loved toys, clothes, baby and children's items. For more information email [tawaplunketve@gmail.com](mailto:tawaplunketve@gmail.com) Spaces are very limited!

Find us and like us on facebook to keep up to date:  
[facebook.com/TawaLindenPlunketToyLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/TawaLindenPlunketToyLibrary)  
[facebook.com/TawaLindenPlunket](https://www.facebook.com/TawaLindenPlunket)

**GREENACRES SCHOOL**  
60 Raroa Terrace  
Tawa

25 March 2017

# Greenacres School Mad Hatter's Gala

## Saturday 25 March

# 11AM – 2PM

Easter Egg hunt **LUCKY DIP** GARAGE SALE  
**Tombola** MARBLE RUN MYSTERY BOTTLES TOYS  
 Obstacle Course FACE PAINTING Entertainment  
 MINI JEEPS Dog Show Fire safety display  
**CAKES** Hair Braiding SMASH PALACE  
 Blow up toys Fill-a-bag & clothes  
 BOUNCY CASTLE **PAINTBALL** SQUASH GAMES ALLEY  
 Spin the Wheel GIANT SLIDE  
 Coffee Cart Merry & Round  
**CAFE** FIRE TRUCK Live auction PADDLE BOATS

## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Liz Langham

Liz Langham won a place on the Tawa Community Board in the recently-held by-election. She will be officially inducted on to the board this week.

Liz is married to John Langham, a doctor at the Linden Medical Centre. The fascinating thing is that both were head prefects in the same year at Tawa College in the mid-1990s!

She is very much involved in community life and will have a further role to play in that regard as the latest addition to the Tawa Community Board.

*Where were you born?*

Lower Hutt

*Where did you grow up?*

I spent most of my early years in Tokoroa before our family moved to Tawa when I was six where I lived until I left home at 20.

*Where were you educated?*

Strathmore Primary School (Tokoroa), Tawa Primary School, Tawa Intermediate, Tawa College. Victoria University, Massey University, University of Auckland, Te Wananga o Aotearoa.

*How long have you lived in Tawa?*

13 years as a young person and then another 10 since having my own children (we moved back in 2007 after our twins were born).

*What about family?*

I'm married to John. We met at Tawa College! We have four children – Simon and Micah are in their first year at Tawa Intermediate, Annika is in Year 3 and Akenese has just started at Hampton Hill School.

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

I've had a variety of jobs including Flute Teacher, Immigration Officer, Alcohol and Other Drugs Practitioner, Early Childhood Educator, Community Social Worker and School Guidance Counsellor. I've also done a variety of voluntary work. Over time I've realised that everything tends to come back to Social Work (transformation of people and their environments), Education and Music and that I enjoy blending these in different ways.

*What are your interests/hobbies?*

I enjoy making music with others (this term I'm playing flute with the Wellington Chamber Orchestra but I also love noodling around with my kids and making music with others at church), reading, being creative with fabric, pottering in the garden and walking.

*Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?*

Pass! I'm happy to leave sports to others (and John certainly runs enough miles for the whole family) ... although I did once read a great book called "How to watch a Game of Rugby" by Spiro Zavos (Awa Press) as a personal challenge to myself during a Rugby World Cup which did enhance my appreciation of the game.

*Favourite musical group and/or style of music?*

I have very eclectic musical tastes. I really appreciate Ann-Maree Keefe, Whirimako Black, the Mason Battley Group, Edmar Castaneda, Silvio Rodriguez, The Rend Collective ... I also really enjoy orchestral music. There is something so phenomenal about a large group of people working together to craft something beautiful and moving.

*Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

Omori which is at the south end of Lake Taupo. It is a place which holds many precious memories, is blissfully out-of-the-way and exquisitely beautiful.



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*contd .....*

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

Working with others to establish a well-regarded Early Intervention Alcohol and Other Drugs Service in Whanganui is probably my most significant work-related achievement to date.

Parenting preschoolers full-time for eleven years also rates as an achievement, I think. I have been so blessed to be part of Playcentre and to have had the opportunity to learn, grow and contribute alongside my children through this time.

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

Complete the Oxfam 'Trailwalker' event;

Perform the entire Claude Bolling Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano;

Continue to grow closer to my Creator and let the way I live my life increasingly flow from that relationship.

## **TAWA-LINDEN WALKERS**

We meet outside Tawa RSA Hall in Oxford Street, Tawa each Tuesday at 9am for a 9.15am start. Most walks finish by lunch time. There are various walks round the Wellington Region. Friendly group. Enquiries to Claire 232 8764 or Janet 232 8716.

## **TAWALIN INDOOR BOWLS CLUB**

Come along to our social club and enjoy an evening learning the game of indoor bowls. No experience needed as coaching is available and transport for those needing it can be arranged.

Club nights are at Redwood School hall and start at 7.15pm. For more information phone Graham Tyler at 232 6349 or Terry Roche at 232 5263.

## **TAWA COLLEGE SEEKING READER-WRITERS**

As part of Tawa College's commitment to support students with their learning we are looking for positive people to act as a reader and writer on a volunteer basis for internal and external assessments. This role entails reading an exam paper to a student and writing down their answers. Training will be provided.

If you would like further information please email Alison Roberts, HOD Learning Support, on [aliroberts@tawacollege.school.nz](mailto:aliroberts@tawacollege.school.nz) or phone 232 8184 Ext 847.

## **TAWA RECREATION CENTRE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**

Registrations for our next exciting Scouts-themed programme are now open. We have had some awesome feedback with the content, so get in quickly to avoid missing out.

This will be your last chance to receive 5% online registrations. Go to <http://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/stuff-for-kids/school-holidays> and select Tawa Recreation Centre.

If you are not currently registered in our system, then give us a call on 232 2260 and we can create an account for you.

WINZ (OSCAR) subsidies:

You are able to access a subsidy towards the fees from Work & income NZ (if you are eligible under the "Working for Families" scheme), <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/oscar-subsidy.html> Bring this completed form into the rec centre once you have registered and paid.

# CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND PROPERTY?

– by the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade



In the last five months the disaster of a house fire has struck two Tawa families in two separate events. In both cases, thankfully, the residents were given warning by the smoke alarms installed in their houses, enabling them to escape without harm.

Two house fires in such a short period of time is very unusual for our suburb, and the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade would like to take this opportunity to challenge you all to the following fire safety quiz:

1. Do you have smoke alarms in bedrooms, hallways and living rooms?  
*For more information on smoke alarms check out [www.fire.org.nz](http://www.fire.org.nz)*
2. Do you test and clean your smoke alarms regularly, such as once a month?
3. Do you check smoke alarm batteries once a year?  
*Change your batteries when you change your clocks for daylight saving.*
4. Is your house number clear to read so that emergency services can find you easily?
5. Does everyone know what to say when they call 111?  
*Always give house number, street name, nearest intersection, suburb and city.  
Or give your Rural ID number if you have one.*
6. Has your household made and practised a fire escape plan with at least two exits out of every room?
7. Have you planned a safe meeting place outside, like a letterbox or a special tree?
8. Are the keys always kept in the deadlocks on doors and windows when you are at home?
9. Do you have a fire extinguisher and do you know how to use it?
10. Do you always stay at the stove when you are cooking?
11. Do you always keep a pot lid handy just in case oil or fat in a pan catches fire?  
*NEVER use water to put out an oil or fat fire. Instead, smother the flames.*
12. Are matches and cigarette lighters kept well out of children's reach?
13. Are heaters kept at least one metre away from furnishings like curtains, furniture or bedding?
14. Do you check your electric blanket is switched off before you get into bed?
15. Do you avoid overloading power points or multiboards by having only one appliance per socket?
16. If you have an open or solid fuel fire, do you have the chimney cleaned once a year?  
Do you use a fire screen on an open fire?
17. Do you have home sprinklers installed?  
*Fires are fast, home sprinklers are faster.*

If you have any questions at all, or if you would like any help or advice, please leave us a message on 232 7228 and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

## LINDEN SCHOOL GALA

An Easter gala is being planned by Linden School for Saturday 8 April. Keep the date free! More details to follow.

### 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



**That beautiful moment when  
you're in a restaurant and you  
see your food coming.**

*"If the world should blow itself up, the last audible voice would be that of an expert saying it can't be done."*  
– Peter Ustinov

*"Don't underestimate me because I am quiet. I know more than I say, think more than I speak and I observe more than you know."*

*"Rabbits jump and they live for 8 years. Dogs run and they live for 15 years. Tortoises do nothing and live for 150 years. Lesson learned!"*

*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](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.*



Double the fun (but just occasionally!)