

*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*

## **LEARN WHAT TO DO IN A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

You're invited to pop along for 20-30 minutes or more to the "Community Emergency Hub Exercise" taking place over a three-hour period at Redwood School on Saturday 7 April. It's all about preparing ourselves as a community for the time when disaster strikes!

NOTE: The fire engine will turn up at 2pm on the day to squirt water for the kids!

# **REDWOOD COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUB EXERCISE**



**Come and see how you and your community can  
support yourselves during a disaster**

**When: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - 1pm - 4 pm**

**Where: Redwood School Hall, Redwood Ave, Tawa**

## **TAWA TOWN CENTRE UPGRADE**

STAGE 1: Pedestrian Crossing Upgrades

The first part of the Tawa town centre improvements has taken place with the upgrade of the two pedestrian crossings on the Main Road between Surrey St and Cambridge St. Both crossings have been widened and raised to improve safety and to make it easier for pedestrians to use.

*Continue to STAGE 2 on the next page .....*





## TAWA TOWN CENTRE UPGRADE

### STAGE 2: Plaza Improvements

From WCC: “We have advertised for a contractor to undertake the plaza improvements, street furniture and a vibrant paving design.

We hope to have the construction contract in place by early May, with work starting shortly after that. The duration of works will be confirmed once a contractor is appointed.

We are working to confirm the design for the special lighting poles and the new lighting cable net. We’ll need to do some more geotechnical testing over the next couple of weeks to confirm the foundation designs. More information to follow soon!”



## NEIGHBOURS' DAY EVENTS IN TAWA

Numerous Neighbours' Day get-togethers have taken place in Tawa over the past few weeks – barbecues and afternoon teas, etc. And more gatherings will be held in April.

Feedback like “Some who have been living around here for decades met for the first time ....” and “We are all keen to keep the neighbourly spirit alive ....” are what it’s all about!

And, as we keep saying, those streets where neighbours know each other, cope better with any disaster/emergency that might befall them!





## TAWALIN INDOOR BOWLS

Come along to our sociable club and enjoy an evening learning the skills of indoor bowls. No experience required as coaching is available. Club nights are Mondays at Redwood School hall and have started this month. Transport for those needing it can be arranged. For more information, phone Graeme Munro on 232 5407 or Terry Roche on 232 5263.

## GREENACRES SCHOOL MAD HATTER'S GALA

As in the Greenacres School newsletter: "What a fantastic gala we had on Saturday [17 March], the sun shone, the crowds came and heaps of fun was had! A huge thank you to our community for coming together with offers of help to make this such a great event. Our current total is \$27,500 which is a record amount and this means our major fundraising for the year is now done and we can start planning to replace the old wooden playground. Thanks so much!"



## LAUNCH OF PEST-FREE TAWA

Pest-Free Tawa (see <https://www.facebook.com/pestfreetawa>) was 'launched' at the above-mentioned gala. It is a new group which focuses on the residential backyard trapping of rats and mice in Tawa.

Pest-Free Tawa have a limited number of trap boxes currently available for households. Email [pftawa@gmail.com](mailto:pftawa@gmail.com) with your name, address and contact number and they will be in touch! A \$25 koha is appreciated. Traps can be delivered right to your door and come with instructions and support.



## BIKEATHON AT HAMPTON HILL SCHOOL

Hampton Hill School held its annual Bikeathon last Saturday, the aim being to raise funds to keep the bike track, pump park and bikes maintained and safe. Children were encouraged to take part riding laps around the bike track and to gain sponsorship from their family and friends. Some 2500 laps were covered on the day!

Dedicated parent helpers and local city councillors played their part in ensuring hot food was available for hungry participants – as in the photo below right.



## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Sandra Logan

Sandra Logan is well known in music circles in Tawa. As many of us are aware, Tawa does very well with its musical prowess and many talented practitioners of this “art form”.

Music concerts at schools in Tawa, particularly Tawa College, invariably see Sandra involved. There is even an old web page on the tawalink site entitled “Note-able Kids Musical Extravaganza” regarding an end-of-year concert under Sandra’s directorship – way back in 2004! Sandra continues to play a major part in seeing local students reach their potential in the world of music.



*Where were you born?* Tanzania, East Africa.

*Where did you grow up?* Three years in Tanzania, two in England, four in Auckland, the rest in Wellington.

*Where were you educated?*

Melons Bay School (Auckland), Karori Normal School, Samuel Marsden Collegiate School (my father was the principal there), Canterbury University (where I gained a BMus in violin performance).

*How long have you lived in Tawa?*

Our family moved here from Newlands in 2000 largely because of the excellent schooling offered in Tawa and especially because of the outstanding musical heritage, culture and opportunities at Tawa College. Our children went to Redwood School, Tawa Intermediate and Tawa College.

*What about family?*

Chris and I have been married nearly 32 years and have three awesome grown sons, two of whom are married and raising their first child.

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

Chris (who plays viola) and I met in the National Youth Orchestra, formed a string quartet that expanded to become Charis Ministries. I’ve played professionally with a few orchestras, the longest involvement being as a first violinist with Orchestra Wellington (1985-present day). Although I had been (and continue) teaching violin privately, it was when I came to Tawa that the passion for teaching in schools developed.

In 2001 I started a violin programme (including running an orchestra) at Redwood School and this, under the encouragement of then Principal Pieter Braun, expanded into Note-able Kids in 2003, encompassing other tutors, instruments and schools in the Tawa valley.

In 2004 Shona Murray asked me to join the Itinerant Music staff at the College teaching violin and viola. This, and directing Heartstrings – the College string group (ably helped by husband Chris) – has meant a wonderful continuity for students coming up through the schools in the valley.

I also enjoy all the volunteer involvement with our church family at The Rock.

*What are your interests and hobbies?*

Getting into the NZ bush, listening to our native birds, exploring new places especially quiet less populated campsites, photography, reading, watching uplifting movies and heart-to-heart chats over coffee.

*Favourite sports team and/or sports person?*

Not very sporty, sorry, although I love canoeing, tramping and bush walking. I leave the sports watching to my family!

*Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?*

I enjoy most classical music, some favourites are Dvorak’s Slavonic Dances, Ravel’s String Quartet and

..... contd

*contd .....*

Bach's Solo Violin Sonatas and Partitas. I have some great Spotify playlists which change but currently include various artists like Mercy Me, Shane and Shane, Michael W Smith.

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

Lake Waikaremoana in Te Urewera National Park.

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

I love seeing "the lights come on" in people, whether it be in students during a lesson or in friends who might be struggling with something.

I love watching people grow and mature. It was a special joy seeing the first of my students to achieve excellence in NCEA Lev 3 music who had started with me at Redwood when only a young child. There have been numerous since.

I witness first hand over and over what a tremendous difference learning and being involved in music makes; providing a sense of belonging, socialisation skills, serving others with your gifts, developing kindness, sensitivity, perseverance, tenacity and creativity; all skills so desperately needed in our world.

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

Always continue growing in ability to learn, play and teach.

To remain quick to say yes to the varied assignments that are given me along the way until the day I die. Continually grow closer to my Creator and share life with others on that journey.

## **READING TUTORS REQUIRED AT TAWA SCHOOL**

Tawa School's programme to support children who need extra assistance with reading, by using adults as tutors to listen to individual children read, has been a great success. We require some more tutors for the programme, one for Wednesday and a couple of tutors who are available to fill during the week (Monday to Thursday) when one of the tutors is unavailable/sick. Tutors spend 1 - 1½ hours, one morning per week (between 9.00 - 10.30am) listening to the children read. No experience is required. We train adults to be reading tutors.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Tawa School on 232 6453 and ask to speak to Margaret Robertson.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO ROTARIAN PAT WAITE**

*As seen on the Rotary Club of Tawa's website:*

"Our congratulations to Tawa Rotarian and Past District Governor Pat Waite on receiving Rotary's highest honour – the Service Above Self Award – presented by Rotary International President Ian Riseley on 6 March 2018. Outstanding news and very well deserved recognition of the significant time and talents that Pat has shared to help others.

This award is internationally competitive and is granted to no more than 150 Rotarians worldwide, and no more than one from each district, each year. It has been 21 years since the award was last made in our District (lower North Island). Congratulations Pat on a very well-deserved award."

Photo credit – Svendsen Photography. From left: Melva Waite, Pat Waite and Ian Riseley.





## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

This is for students aged 16 to 18 years in the January of departure on exchange and who want the excitement and reward of 12 months in another country.

As a Rotary Youth Exchange student, you'll spend a year living with up to four host families and attending school in a different country!

When you participate in Rotary's long-term Youth Exchange programme, you'll

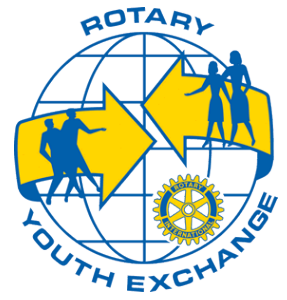


learn a new way of living, a great deal about yourself, and maybe even a new language. You'll also be an ambassador, teaching people you meet about your country, culture, and ideas.

You can help bring the world closer – and make some good friends in the process. More than 8,000 young people each year have experiences like these through Rotary Youth Exchange. It's the opportunity of a lifetime. Are you ready for it?

Find out more by contacting Gaylene Lines of the Rotary Club of Tawa at [gaylene.lines@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gaylene.lines@xtra.co.nz)

NOTE: Applications for 2019 Exchange Year close 30 April 2018.



Photos: Progress with the Transmission Gully on-ramp at Kenepuru (northern edge of Tawa) – photos supplied by Tommy Secker



### 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)

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

# Tawa Recreation Centre Holiday Programme | April 2018

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 16 April	Tuesday 17 April	Wednesday 18 April	Thursday 19 April	Friday 20 April
<b>Super Sports Day</b>	<b>Easter Delayed</b>	<b>Master Piece and Inflatables</b>	<b>Dodgeball Day</b>	<b>Outdoor &amp; Indoor Sports</b>
You love playing sports so much that we are starting the holidays off with a gnarly day of nukemball, capture the flag, K.O, multi-sport and so much more. Wear suitable clothing and sports shoes so you can give it your best.	On this EGGstravaganza day we will have fun games such as an egg and spoon race. Then put your engineering skills to the test and see if you can make a gadget to save your egg in our egg drop competition. You will then be hunting for real chocolate eggs in our Easter egg hunt. How many will you find? Will you find the golden ticket?	Today's challenge is to create a masterpiece depicting the theme which is 'Wellington' using the resources we give you. You could build a 3D model of the Beehive or cable car, paint a picture of the beach, or a sculpture of something you saw at Te Papa?? You will then burn off your energy on our inflatables.	You love dodgeball so are you ready for Tawa Rec's dodgeball extravaganza? We will be playing dodgeball, mayhem, kill the cone and leaders dodgeball. End the day with a showdown between the leaders and children, have you got what it takes?	Head along for some fun-filled outdoor games such as rob the nest, cricket, football and seaweed and we are also playing indoor sports like floorball and volleyball. Don't forget to wear sunscreen and bring your sunhat and lots of energy.

Monday 23 April	Tuesday 24 April	Wednesday 25 April	Thursday 26 April	Friday 27 April
<b>Net Sports and Crazy Free Play</b>	<b>ANZAC Biscuits and Inflatables</b>	<b>ANZAC day - No programme</b>	<b>Team Sports &amp; Wheels</b>	<b>Happy, Healthy Kids Day</b>
We are playing what you enjoy - nukemball, badminton and volleyball will be on the list, it'll be net-tastic! We will get the equipment out, you just have to turn up and go CRAZY!	Let's commemorate our country's heroes by baking delicious ANZAC biscuits in their honor. Spend the afternoon bouncing your socks off on our inflatable and free play!	No Programme	Be prepared to battle it out in your team, who will take victory? Start the day by making a team banner and chant, then head on down to the gym for a day full of team sports which will include relays on wheels. Bring your own wheels or ride ours for a turbo charged afternoon of fun.	Do you ever wonder how to make your day a bit better? Come and learn some techniques on how to relax your mind and body, think positively and make a nutritious fruit kebab. Then wrap this relaxing day up laughing away with a funny movie!

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 19th February 2018.  
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

Ngā mihi

Malcolm Sparrow

info@tawalink.com 027 232 2320



*"Life is a circle. The end of one journey is the beginning of the next."*

*"Grandparents are there to help the child get into mischief they haven't thought of yet."*

*"The fact that children can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact that music can make beautiful children."* – Cheryl Lavender

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.



## ON A PERSONAL NOTE:

March 2018 has been one month I'll never forget. On Monday 5 March my first grandchild, Natalie May Allen, entered this world. Three days later my dad departed it – after the arrival of his seventh great-grandchild. He was 91 and had had a great innings up till mid-January when he went into hospital, never to come out again.



A few hours old

Karen and I had been in Christchurch over the Christmas/New Year break and had visited him and my mum at home several times, taken them out for lunch and for a walk or two. My siblings and I subsequently visited him in hospital and said our good byes to a father whose life was spent serving both God and people.

Four children, twelve grandchildren, and (as at 25 March 2018) nine great-grandchildren – not a bad legacy! Mum and Dad both celebrated their 90th birthdays with great family get-togethers,



In Tawa 16 months ago

and we were with them to toast their 65th wedding anniversary in mid-January. What more could you ask for! And to top it off they received congratulatory messages from Elizabeth, Patsy and Jacinda!

NEWS ITEM as seen at <http://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2018/03/police-rescue-woman-in-labour-stuck-in-wellington-traffic.html>

“A woman in labour hitched a ride to hospital in a police car last week after becoming stuck in Wellington traffic.

Becca Allen’s mother was driving her and her husband, Ben Allen, south on SH1 Ngauranga Gorge in peak-hour traffic when she realised they’d they’d come to a standstill. “The traffic was just not moving,” the 29-year-old [Tawa School] teacher told Newshub. “We were kind of next to the police car and it just got to the point when I thought, yeah okay, we might need some help.”



She says with her labour moving so fast, her mum pulled in front of the police car and waved it down. Mr Allen, 34, then went up to the officer, known only as Constable Georgia, in laid-back Kiwi fashion. “He stayed super calm, and said ‘hey my wife’s in labour – can you do anything to help?’”

A post on the New Zealand Police Facebook page says Constable Georgia “promptly put his wife into the back of the police car, and turned on the lights and sirens. They reached the hospital within 10 minutes to meet staff waiting with a wheelchair.”

Ms Allen gave birth a few hours later to a “lovely baby girl named Natalie”, police say.

Ms Allen sent Newshub an adorable photo (at right) of baby Natalie and her new toy police puppy, appropriately named Georgia.”

