

This newsletter has been sent out monthly since 2005. See www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html for back issues.

Other sources of online community information in Tawa:

www.neighbourly.co.nz • www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa • www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard

THIS IS A SUPPLEMENTARY EDITION. THE NEXT FULL NEWSLETTER IS SCHEDULED FOR EARLY APRIL.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

A huge amount has happened since the March newsletter was sent out just over a week ago! Most of the events featured in that newsletter have since been cancelled or postponed. See the list below.

It is even more important now to wash your hands thoroughly, don't touch your face, and stay home if you're sick or feeling the slightest bit unwell.

There are many neighbourhood get-togethers scheduled in Tawa over the next week or two in connection with Neighbours' Day. It is up to each to decide whether to proceed. At least with smallish street gatherings we are more likely to have some knowledge of those attending. Certainly anyone feeling even slightly unwell or who has been overseas recently and hasn't self-isolated for 14 days should NOT be mixing with other people.

For more information see <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

EVENTS CANCELLED (OR POSTPONED) IN TAWA

Linden's Kai Kitchen – suspended from Friday 20 March until further notice

Neighbours Day BBQ at the Tawa Community Garden – Sunday 22 March

Tawa Business Breakfast – Tuesday 24 March

Greenacres School Mad Hatter's Gala – Saturday 28 March

Neighbours Day BBQ at Wall Park, Linden – Sunday 29 March

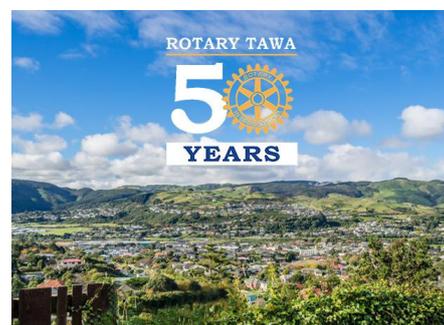
Tawa Rotary Club meeting with Mayor Andy Foster – Tuesday 31 March

CANCELLED

TAWA ROTARY SUSPENDS ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

At a special Board meeting on Tuesday night the Rotary Club of Tawa decided to suspend all its current activities including weekly meetings. Club President Judith Gray says that, as community leaders, the Board felt this to be the correct course of action to take in order to look after people and help slow the spread of Covid-19 through the community. Unfortunately this has also meant postponing the club's upcoming 50th Anniversary celebrations.

"However, if Rotarians can be of assistance to members of the Tawa Community during this time we will do what we can to help while also maintaining adherence to Government guidelines. Look after yourselves and your families and look out for your neighbours. To quote the Prime Minister, we will get through this."



CONGRATULATIONS TO TAWA-BASED BIG AIR!

In case you haven't already caught up on the news, the article in Stuff reads as follows:

"A Wellington team has won an international title at the National Cheerleading Association (NCA) All-Star Nationals, held in Dallas, Texas. Bigair Cheer was the only New Zealand team to compete there this year, and the second team ever to win a division."



"It's the holy grail of cheer," Coach William Davenport said, hosting more than 25,000 athletes, 30,000 spectators, 1400 teams from eight countries.

Read the full article at https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/sport/120175523/wellington-cheerleading-team-winners-in-dallas?fbclid=IwAR1Qiv0IldkdeQk2rGyu7V2zsk3oMopXi_F73wZLD3r5d_UTwy_yDOtkqrc

SLOW DOWN ON EXITING SH1

This is from our supplementary newsletter in May of last year:

"The intersection of Takapu Road and the motorway (SH1) southbound offramp isn't especially safe. It's a very short offramp from the motorway and many cars do not slow down to 50km/h as quickly as they need to.

The intersection is a little complicated with NZTA being responsible for the motorway offramp portion and Wellington City Council responsible for the Takapu Road portion.



Local elected officials have previously requested better signage from NZTA requesting motorists to reduce their speed to 50km/h immediately on leaving the motorway, but that hasn't yet happened.

Action is proposed to improve this intersection. At the minimum, increased signage requesting motorists leaving the motorway to slow down more quickly is likely to be installed."

That was 10 months ago. We have had advice in the meantime that NZTA is working towards improvements at this intersection subject to sufficient funding being available, and that was confirmed again this past Wednesday: "We have commenced finalising our design drawings so that our contractor can price them and install ASAP."

The above sign was observed recently on the exit from the motorway. The ideal would be for NZTA to put an official "Reduce Speed Now" sign in place. However they have not done so despite earlier requests. The reality is that some motorists are still not slowing down quickly enough.

Another crash took place at this intersection last Wednesday morning which "resulted in a vehicle having its passenger door fully caved in and left another vehicle facing the wrong way." Sign or no sign, it is the responsibility of all drivers to drive with care and particularly so on leaving SH1 at this point!

REDWOOD CLUB MURAL

Staff and Members of the Redwood Club in Tawa were treated to a special gift at the end of the Christmas holidays. On their return to the Club they found a beautiful 2.4m by 1.2m mural attached to the outside wall of the Redwood Hall entrance way, creating an interesting and colourful space.

The Redwood Club Trustees and management committee, Tawa Union Church Council and Rudy Lopez (the artist from Whitby) discussed the project, and Rudy painted the mural featuring kereru in a Tawa tree, and tui in flax bushes overlooking the sea and Kapiti Island. The familiarity and beauty of the scene, the lovely colours and interest that Rudy has interpreted from our vision helps create the soothing and cheerful atmosphere that is so important for our members.

Most Redwood Club members have cognitive impairment and other disabilities. The Club provides professional day support and care for them and their families. Tawa Union Church owns the property and established the Redwood Club 30 years ago as a community outreach programme, the services of which are now contracted to the Capital and Coast District Health Board. Rudy's stunning painting is a fitting asset for our members and all who use the facility.



Above: the recently-completed mural, with Whitby-based artist Rudy Castañeda Lopez.

Below: morning tea at the 'unveiling' of the mural.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your help at The Redwood Club in Tawa. The Redwood Club provides a day programme for the elderly of the area, and we rely on volunteers to make this happen. Can you help us?

1. Driving our van to collect our members in the morning. This is for approx 2 hours – 0830 to 1030. We also need volunteers to drive members home locally in the afternoon. This is from 1530 to 1615.

These are relief positions, which is a great way to ease into the club and see how it works. Please think about helping out in these roles, and talk with us at Redwood Club for possible options.

2. Helping with morning and afternoon teas – 1000 to 1300 or 1445 to 1530.

We need your help to provide our services, and we know that you will enjoy being part of The Redwood Club whanau if you offer to volunteer! If you can help us – please give The Redwood Club a phone call on 232 5521. We would love to hear from you.

ANOTHER COVID-19 MESSAGE

This message has just come through from Greg O'Connor, MP for Ōhāriu:

Kia ora. I am aware there are a variety of messages and rumours circulating around Covid-19. Please find attached a message with all the necessary links to primary and trusted information sources.

New Zealand is in a unique position to minimise the impacts of the virus, but we need to ensure we are well-informed and are tapped into the best information sources. Please circulate this message.

See <https://mailchi.mp/f3c1c70c5080/a-campaign-update-1351017>



“Uncertain times” – pharmacy supplies at the window, not in the store.



Main Road / Lyndhurst Road intersection, central Tawa.

ASSISTANCE IF YOU'RE SELF-ISOLATING

There are local Coronavirus Support Groups on both Facebook and Neighbourly.

The Wellington Volunteer Student Army is also offering assistance. See <https://www.vuwsa.org.nz/sva?fbclid=IwAR17Veu7GrUAeNUY-dCJgysrLy3guwmxsPwrPEbSnmfeSLgYEIXaCoYMFPg> to make a request for support.

You may be in a position to assist your neighbours yourself. The form at right is available on Neighbourhood Support's Facebook page. If you want to be proactive, you could print a few copies and do a letterbox drop in your own street. Over to you!

Ngā mihi

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KIA ORA NEIGHBOUR!

If you are self-isolating, I can help provide support.

My name is:

My address is:

My phone number is:

If you are self-isolating, I'd be happy to help with:

- Shopping
 Urgent supplies
 A friendly call
 Other: _____

Just call / text me and I'll do my best to help out (for free). COVID-19 is contagious so we both need to take precautions to ensure we are only spreading kindness. The Ministry of Health website (www.health.govt.nz) has the latest info. Let's both keep up-to-date. If your symptoms worsen you can phone the NZ COVID-19 Healthline on 0800 358 5453, or 111 in an emergency.



Creating safe, resilient and connected communities.