



COMMUNITY NEWS

March 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 2300 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

THE WINNING STREETS – WITH THANKS TO NEW WORLD & WCC

Four Tawa street names were drawn out of a hat last week by Mandy Russell, Tawa Community Centre advocate, to each win a \$25 New World voucher to be spent on 'extras' (like ice cream) for their Neighbours' Day event.

The draw was done under the supervision of a local Justice of the Peace! Many thanks to Tawa New World and the Wellington City Council who jointly sponsored the four vouchers.

Congratulations to the winning streets/neighbourhoods: Florio Tce, Brasenose Place, Ranui Tce (mid) and Carleton Tce.



Mandy Russell draws names out of the hat held by Malcolm Sparrow

THERE'S STILL TIME TO BE NEIGHBOURLY!

"There are three types of people in this world: those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who wonder what happened."

We can be very thankful for all those in the Tawa community who are "making things happen" by arranging a get-together in their own street for Neighbours' Day 2016, and for those who have done so in years gone by.

At this stage we have 30 local streets/neighbourhoods taking part this year or, in some instances, have already taken part. There's still time to be involved. Give me a call if you'd like more information or have a look at <http://www.tawa.link.com/neighbours.html>

TAWA HISTORIC WALK

A community walk will be taking place this coming Sunday, 13 March, leaving the Tawa Community Centre in Cambridge St at 2pm. The Tawa Historical Society in conjunction with Tawa Rotary will be hosting the walk which will follow the Southern Trail along the Main Road southwards to Willowbank.

The return leg will be via the Tawa Valley Pathway - Ara Tawa to Tawa Railway Station. Refreshments will be available at the conclusion.

Entry fee: \$2 (includes certificate).

Join Bruce Murray for an historic walk through Tawa

Tawa Rotary Club and The Tawa Historical Society invite you to join them on the 4.5km "Southern Trail" walk from the Tawa Community Centre to Willowbank Reserve, and then back along the Te Ara Tawa Walkway.

The "Southern Trail" is a flat walk catering to all levels of fitness. The walk will include 10 significant addresses of historical interest. Refreshments will be available to be purchased before and after the walk.



DATE: Sunday 13th March 2016
TIME: 2:00pm (rain or shine)
MEET AT: Tawa Community Centre
5 Cambridge Street
ENTRY FEE: \$2 (includes certificate)

Proudly Supported by



If you are interested in being part of an organisation that is dedicated to supporting local community initiatives, check us out at www.tawarotary.org.nz

CONNECTING WITH TAWA ON NEIGHBOURLY

Coming Up in Tawa or nearby (as listed in the 'Events' section on Neighbourly):

- Tue 8 March – Waste (Landfill Joint Committee) meeting in Tawa
- Tue 8 March – Movie Fundraiser for Rotary, End Polio Now project
- Wed 9 March – Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves AGM
- Thu 10 March – Mums 'n' Bubs Squash at Tawa Squash Club
- Sun 13 March – Tawa Historic Walk
- Fri 18 March – Women's Business Network meeting
- Sat 19 March – Greenacres School Mad Hatter's Easter Gala
- Sun 20 March – Tawa Plunket Community Fun Day
- Sun 20 March – Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade Sky Tower Team Quiz Night

Neighbourly enables local people to share information with each other and to become a more "connected" community – see www.neighbourly.co.nz



ARE YOU KEEPING UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TAWA?

CONCERNED ABOUT LANDFILL ODOURS?

An extraordinary meeting of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Landfill Joint Committee (Porirua and Wellington City Councils) will be taking place at the Tawa Community Centre at 5.30pm on Tuesday 8 March. That's the committee that deals with Spicer Landfill odours, amongst other things!

Members of the community are welcome to attend. There is a public participation slot at the start if you wish to speak, but you will need to "book a space" in advance by calling PCC on 237 1424.

To see the agenda, go to <http://www.pcc.govt.nz/DownloadFile/Council/Meetings/Current/Wastewater-Treatment-Plant-and-Landfill-Joint-Committee--WWTP-/2016/1316-07---8-March-2016/1316-07---WWTP---AG-8-March-2016>

Remember that any time you notice an unacceptable smell that you think is coming from Spicer Landfill, it is important to "log a complaint" with the Greater Wellington Regional Council on 0800 496 734.

TAWA JUNIOR FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

A reminder to register your children for the 2016 winter junior football season.

The registration form link is: <https://reg.sportingpulse.com/regofrm.cgi?aID=12787&pKey=6dca57092fab71a3d50f52dc459bf286&cID=63863&formID=54784>

Further information is available on the Tawa Football website at www.tawafootball.org.nz or by calling/texting 022 325 3900.



TAWALIN INDOOR BOWLS

Come along to our social club and enjoy an evening learning the skills of indoor bowls. No experience required as coaching is available. Club nights are at Redwood School Hall and start at 7.15pm on 7th March. Transport for those needing it can be arranged. For more information, phone Graeme on 232 5407 or Terry on 232 5263.

THANKS FOR TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICE

The latest Tawa College newsletter included two letters received from grateful members of the Tawa community following the Year 10 community service programme at the end of Term 4, 2015. That was the seventh year this project has been undertaken in Tawa (as mentioned in the November 2015 edition of this newsletter). The letters to the principal, Murray Lucas, read as follows:

"I wish to praise the boys and teacher who came to my place yesterday to do the weeding. They all did a wonderful job and though I told the boys to go when it rained they kept at it. They were a polite and friendly group and did a wonderful job as can be seen when I look at my garden. Thank you for the help each year. It is very much appreciated."

"Please convey my heartfelt thanks to the teacher and students who came to my home on the 4th of December and cleaned my windows, gutters and did the weeding. They are indeed a credit to your college."



Photo from an earlier year

OPENING OF TAWA COMMUNITY GARDEN

Around 80 people met in Tawa on the Saturday before last to hear an inspiring talk by Pam Warhurst CBE, a British community leader, activist and environment worker best known for founding the voluntary gardening initiative, Incredible Edible, in Todmorden, West Yorkshire.

That was followed by the official opening of the Tawa Community Garden (just around the corner in Oxford Street) by the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, and Pam Warhurst.

A special word of thanks to the Tawa Community Garden group who have put considerable time and effort into this project over the past 16 months, and the leadership and guidance provided along the way by Robyn Parkinson. The concept of a community garden in Tawa was originally birthed on the Neighbourly website around October 2014 and developed from there.



GREENACRES SCHOOL MAD HATTER'S EASTER GALA

Come and join in the fun at our Mad Hatter's Easter Gala on Saturday, 19th March 2016 at Greenacres School.

The Mad Hatter promises another gala full of exciting activities, delicious food, and fantastic bargains. There will be something for everyone.

Mini jeeps, paddle boats, kids' gaming zone, paint ball, spin the wheel, garage sale, live auctions, mystery bottles, face painting, delicious food, tombola, lucky dips, pre-loved clothes, books and toys, cake stall, fire service, games alley, hair braiding, classic car rides and lots, lots more.

The gala is a wonderful opportunity for the wider community to come together and support our school, while having a great time doing it. The gala is the major annual fundraising event for Greenacres School and funds raised will contribute towards developing our outdoor creative learning and playing areas.

We appreciate your support.

Wet or fine, come have some fun and grab a bargain – see you there.

Also check out our Facebook page for all the details: <https://www.facebook.com/TheMadHattersGala/>



DEBATING OPPORTUNITY

Tawa College's "Speak Up" group is looking for people who could volunteer their expertise and help adjudicate a debate.

There are six teams who debate locally every fortnight as a way to develop key communication skills. We need people who can help adjudicate a debate between 4.00pm and 6.00pm at the college. You don't have to be an expert adjudicator, but some experience in debating or public speaking would be wonderful.

If this sounds like something you could help out with, once-off or regularly, then please contact the school office on 232 8184 or scoats@tawacollege.school.nz

BRIDGE LESSONS BEGIN ON MARCH 14

Do you want to learn this popular card game?

The Kapi-Mana Bridge Club is holding a series of 10 lessons starting from Monday 14 March at 7.30pm at its Club Rooms, 8 Linden Avenue, Tawa.

Cost is \$50 which covers lessons, learning materials and club membership to 31 March 2016.

To register or for more information contact David on 233 1866 or email kmbc@xtra.co.nz



TAWA LINDEN PLUNKET NEW BUILDING - WE DID IT!

Those who drive down Linden Ave regularly will have noticed a big change in the past few months. In early December, Tawa Linden Plunket celebrated a major milestone in its 10 year plus journey to rebuild the Plunket rooms and moved their brand new building on to the site. The building was constructed during 2015 by students at Whitireia Polytechnic and with the amazing support of Bunnings Porirua. Since the building was moved to the site, much work has occurred to prepare the building for use – and it's finally time to open the building to the community. The building is fit for purpose – containing two clinic rooms, a large function space available to hire and our Toy Library, all under the same roof! There are still some finishing touches to make to the building over the coming weeks and months, including some landscaping and construction of a play area for young children on site.

Clinic appointments for young children resumed in the new rooms on Monday 29 February, and other services including B4 School Health Checks, SKIP and PEPE free parenting classes and PINs (Plunket in the Neighbourhood) Coffee Groups are returning to the rooms from this week. There will be an official opening of the building on Sunday 20 March followed by a Community Open Day. Everyone is invited along between 11am - 3pm to tour the new building, enjoy activities such as the bouncy castle, ride on toys, face painting and balloon twisting, to see Big Blue, the Plunket Mascot and enjoy our sausage sizzle and bake sale. The 20th will also mark the re-opening of the Toy Library, now located inside our great new building. Those who join the Toy Library on the day will receive a special deal – two quarters membership for the price of one! The open day is your chance to see our great new community facility in action and have a great day out.

The Plunket Rooms now feature a great function room space available to hire. There are commercial, community and koha hireage rates available. This space is large, open and bright – and perfect for birthday parties, meetings, craft sessions and classes and lots more. The meeting room opens to a decked area and has kitchen facilities attached. Contact tawaplunketeve@gmail.com for more information on hireage rates and opportunities.

Tawa Linden Plunket would also like to thank the generous community. During the first week of March we were running our Annual Appeal to fundraise to complete the finishing touches on the building. Special thanks to New World Tawa – through their donation through the checkout support of Tawa Linden Plunket, over \$1,000 was raised. Thank you Cameron, Nicole and team at New World Tawa for your amazing ongoing support of Tawa Linden Plunket.

For more information please check us out on Facebook!



Come Along & Celebrate
The Opening Of
Tawa & Linden Plunket
SUN MARCH 20TH
11am - 3pm

Sausage Sizzle
Ride On
Bouncy Castle
Toys
Face Painting
12 Noon - 1:30pm
Cake Stall
Balloon Twisting
1:30pm - 2:30pm
Big ♥ Blue

Eftpos will be available on the day
For more info contact tawaplunketeve@gmail.com
4 Linden Ave, Linden, Tawa

Plunket
Tawa-Linden Toy Library

SINGING JOURNEYS

five new fascinating evenings for all who like to sing.
Pianist and facilitator: Guy Jansen with guest musicians
7-9 pm, Thursday 10 March to Thursday 14 April
(omitting 24 March, Easter week)
Music Centre, Tawa College Community Education

Full details on website: www.tawacommed.co.nz/Music
Not a choir and no music reading ability or audition required.
Come with friends and sing your heart out. Total cost \$75.

Register your interest a.s.a.p. at comed@tawacollege.school.nz



HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE CONVENTION CENTRE & MOVIE MUSEUM

Wellington City Council is currently inviting your feedback on its proposal to fund a combined Convention Centre and Movie Museum. The total capital cost to Wellington City will be \$134.4 million, comprising \$65.6m for the Convention Centre and \$68.8m for the Movie Museum.

For every \$1 spent on this project, Council forecasts a \$5.80 return on investment to the city. Councillors are excited by the potential this combined venture has for Wellington and, at this stage, have given unanimous backing to it.

“The combined project can be delivered within Council’s Financial Strategy and can be delivered within the rates targets set out in the Long-Term Plan.”

During the current “consultation period” (15 February to 15 March) you have the opportunity to provide feedback to Council. Go to <http://wellington.govt.nz/have-your-say/public-inputs/consultations/open/the-movie-museum-and-wellington-convention-centre>



FRIENDS OF TAWA BUSH RESERVES AGM

For all Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves – members and non-members – we’d like to invite you to the FOTBR AGM on Wednesday 9th March at the Tawa Community Centre starting at 7.30pm.

The AGM itself will be brief. Following this, former local lad and Porirua Harbour Strategy Coordinator Keith Calder will be giving a speech entitled “Hijacked by the Broken Window Theory – Tawa and the Future of Porirua Harbour”. He will bring us up to speed about the Porirua Harbour clean-up.

MUMS ‘N’ BUBS SQUASH

Autumn has arrived and Mums ‘n’ Bubs squash is up and running again every Thursday morning from 9.30-11.00am. Deemed the fittest sport in the world by Forbes magazine, this programme caters for all levels from those who have never lifted a racket to those who are very competent. And the kids get to have a run (crawl?) around on court too chasing balls and balloons when the Mums have had enough. Only \$5. For more details look under ‘Events’ on Neighbourly or call Peter, Club Manager, on 232 8200 or 027 677 8274 or email info@tawasquash.co.nz

RAISING CHILDREN OF CHARACTER

One night Tawa College Community Education seminar on Monday 14 March 7-9pm. Fee \$20. Develop a strategic plan to train your children. Parents come to be resourced for your most important role. Aimed at parents of 2-14 year olds. To enrol, see <http://www.tawacommed.co.nz/Seminars>

TAWA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE SKY TOWER TEAM QUIZ NIGHT

The Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade Sky Tower Team is holding a fundraising quiz night on Sunday 20 March at 1841 in Johnsonville. Tickets are just \$10 each and all proceeds go to Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ to help them deliver services in the community. This organisation receives no government funding, and the Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge is one of their major fundraising events.

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
On behalf of TawaLink.com



"Kind words do not cost much, yet they accomplish much."

"Man is a clever animal who behaves like an imbecile." – Albert Schweitzer

When I'm bored I send a text to a random number saying "I hid the body now what?"

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 and the third weeks 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.



Farewell speeches at closing down of "Today's Girl" in Tawa