



COMMUNITY NEWS

Mid May 2015

This community newsletter is sent out early each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website which has been supported by the Tawa Residents' Association since 2002.

More regular community updates are available if you join more than 1600 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

THE ROUNDABOUT BY THE BP STATION

There was a lot of discussion on Neighbourly late last month and in early May about the fate of the roundabout by the BP station. Major roadworks are being undertaken there right now.

We reported in the April edition of this newsletter "..... Council intends to remove the flower garden from the roundabout on the corner of Main Road/Tawa St/The Drive and turn the roundabout into a plain concrete one because of ongoing drainage problems with the current watering system."

A significant number of local people expressed their concerns about that proposal, primarily on Neighbourly, and those concerns were passed on to Council.



Summer shot of the floral display at the BP roundabout

On 1 May we were very pleased to be informed by Council: "We are working on an alternative design incorporating a garden on the roundabout. The aim is to have the garden above the road level and it will have a sealed bottom, to enable water to drain on to the channel at road level. The diameters of the roundabout and the inner garden will be more or less the same as current."

On 19 May we were advised by Council: "We have finalised the design it has a garden in the centre and also complies with the [safety] requirements. Both Traffic and Parks & Gardens are happy with it."

Tawa Community Board member Richard Herbert summed it up well: "A great example of the Tawa community working together for a good outcome."

TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards were started by the Tawa Community Board in 2011. The awards are for one Year 6 student at each of Tawa's six primary schools (and a Year 8 boy and Year 8 girl at Tawa Intermediate) based on showing "true leadership, citizenship, contribution to school life, etc". A ceremony involving all the schools takes place at the end of each year with the Mayor, Celia Wade-Brown, presenting the awards.

Around this time of the year we speak to the senior students in each of the schools, reminding them of the Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards and encouraging them to strive to be good citizens, etc, etc! This year the awards are being extended to the Johnsonville/Churton Park & Newlands/Paparangi areas. We have the privilege of speaking to the kids in 17 schools all up. The photo shows attentive students last week at Greenacres School in Tawa.



CONNECTING WITH TAWA ON NEIGHBOURLY

Coming Events in Tawa (as listed on Neighbourly):

Sat 23 May	– KCA Book Sale
	– Hampton Hill School pre-loved clothing sale
Sun 24 May	– First Aid course (Tawa College Community Education)
	– Pink Ribbon Breakfast (raising funds for NZ Breast Cancer Foundation)
	– Hats & High Tea (Rotary event)
Mon 25 May	– Seeds and seedling swap
	– Tawa Community Garden meeting
Sat 6 June	– Excel Beyond Beginner (Tawa College Community Education)
Sun 7 June	– Xero Basic (Tawa College Community Education)
	– Homeopathy for colds and flu
Tue 9 June	– Charity Knit for KCA
Wed 10 June	– NZTA proposals for Tawa (meeting)
Thu 11 June	– U3A Tawa mid-year meeting
Tue 16 June	– Tawa Emergency Response Plan meeting
Wed 17 June	– Homeopathy for colds and flu
Wed 24 June	– Spicer Landfill meeting

Organisations & Groups:

- there's a separate section on Neighbourly which currently lists details of 50+ Organisations & Groups

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?

KEY MEETINGS COMING UP

NZTA PROPOSALS FOR TAWA – Wednesday 10 June

A community meeting is being arranged to bring people up-to-date with what's happening with NZTA's proposals – in conjunction with the Petone to Grenada highway link – to either widen SH1 through Tawa (Option C) or build a highway through Takapu Valley (Option D).

At this stage NZTA have not advised their preferred option. Two or more “guest speakers” will address the meeting which will be held at 7.30pm on 10 June at the Linden Social Centre.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR TAWA – Tuesday 16 June

This is an opportunity for those in the Tawa community who are interested in compiling an “emergency response plan” specific to this community to get together to actually do it. The initial meeting will take place on the date mentioned above. Read a whole lot more about this a few pages further on.

SPICER LANDFILL COMMUNITY LIAISON MEETING – Wednesday 24 June

If you're concerned about ongoing smells attributable to the landfill, here's your chance to find out how the problem is being addressed. The landfill's annual Community Liaison Group meeting will be held in the Porirua City Council chambers, cnr Hagley St & Cobham Court, Porirua on 24 June at 7pm.

DRAFT AGENDA: a) Tabling of Landfill Operational Management Plan (this action is required by the consent); b) Powerpoint presentation, what's happened recently and what's planned at the landfill; c) Update on odour control initiatives; d) Questions from the floor.

FLOODING IN TAWA

As we well know, Tawa was severely affected by last week's storm, the worst I [the Ed.] have seen in the 18-and-a-half years I've been here. Unfortunately quite a few businesses on the Main Road saw their floor areas covered with water, resulting in major cleanups being undertaken. The same with some of the classrooms at Tawa School and no doubt elsewhere.

There were many photos and stories shared on both Facebook and Neighbourly. The best in a community comes out when we're together in a situation like this. I heard the local fire siren go off several times that day. Every time it does I think of all the local fire volunteers out there assisting in one way or another.

We had several reports of Tawa College students who pitched in to help deluged retailers in Tawa's Main Road shopping centre. The Tawa Central Dairy proprietor was very grateful for the assistance given by college students. Another three offered to help at Tawa Take Note whose premises across the road were also flooded. They worked hard for some considerable time.

Quoting an email sent to the college principal: "Four or five boys jumped to the aid of the Central Dairy owner wrestling with the doors to try and stop the huge amount of water entering the shop. They used anything they could get their hands on to stack against the inside of the doors – what a great job they did. There were also a couple of senior girls who helped out for some FOUR hours"

The efforts of all those who land up putting in many, many hours to bring things back to normal after an 'extraordinary' event such as happened last Thursday are certainly appreciated!

These photos show flooding in Lyndhurst Road, ferrying kids at Tawa School, cleaning up Main Road shops, the usually placid Porirua Stream as a raging torrent, and Linden Station under water. Thanks to the various contributors.



TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION

FIRST AID: Emergency Medic NZQA 26551 / 26552. On 24 May 8.30am-5pm. Fee \$135.

This course teaches the first aider to assess the scene for hazards, the casualties for life-threatening conditions and be able to provide first aid. Covers CPR, bleeding, burns, poisoning, etc, and is suitable for the workplace, home or childcare. Meets the minimum qualification requirements for the workplace first aider. Suitable for the new first aider or a refresher with new NZQA standards.

Enrol on line through the link <http://www.tawacommed.co.nz/node/131>

If you want to learn just CPR, you can come in the morning from 8.30am-12.30pm for \$40.

WREMO'S TAWA EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

When disaster strikes, it is ordinary members of the public, not emergency services, who will be first to respond. In the Canterbury quakes, most assistance came from people close by. Help for those in need came mostly from neighbours, existing community groups, or other voluntary organisations. This underlines the importance of emergency management being community-centred.

Self-activation, self-sufficiency, self-responsibility and self-management were identified as key traits that contributed to individual and community resilience in the days following the earthquakes. Essentially, individuals, organisations and communities have to own and be responsible for their own preparedness.



Photo: Wain McLeod

No one knows a community better than the people who live and work within it, so this is why we bring the community together to develop a Community-Driven Emergency Response Plan.

Individuals, organisations and communities will respond in an emergency, whether there is an “official” response or not, but by bringing together community leaders, residents and key stakeholders, we empower our communities to begin responding immediately, using a plan created by the people who best understand the local demands and resources available. Pre-agreed actions and authority mean that communities are empowered to start the work which would otherwise be waiting on local government officials to mobilise – the community response becomes the first part of the official response, and can then be supported by the local government response, not overridden by it.

In 2013 some of the organisations, community groups and businesses in Tawa got together to talk about what they could contribute to a community emergency response in Tawa.

In the two years since those meetings, WREMO has worked at improving the process of teasing out the answers for how a community can best look after itself, and take care of the key critical needs of a community in <https://mail.google.com/mail/e/814> a disaster, creating more than just a list of pre-identified resources and helpful people in an emergency, but building an action plan that anyone in the community can get under way from the Civil Defence Centres in Tawa.

We want you, as a resident or a business owner to come along to our next meeting, and see if you have something to contribute to this plan – or to just find out what the community is planning to do when it has to take care of itself.

This meeting will be held at Tawa Community Centre on Tuesday 16 June at 7pm.

You’re not on your own in an emergency, you’re with your family, your neighbours and your community.

Please RSVP to your local Emergency Management Advisor – Kerry McSaveney – kerry.mcsaveney@gw.govt.nz as we have a little questionnaire for you to fill out before the meeting.

MANA ARTS SOCIETY NOTICE

Mana Arts Society Queen’s Birthday Weekend exhibition: Saturday 30th May to Monday 1st June 10.00am – 4.00pm each day.

The exhibition will be held at our clubrooms in the Plimmerton Domain. If you’re coming from Tawa take the left exit on SH1 at the Palmer’s Roundabout, then first left towards Palmer’s and turn right over the bridge before the car park. The clubrooms are the first building on the left.

Admission is free and all works are for sale.

KEEPING TABS ON SPICER LANDFILL ONLINE

Message from GWRC (Greater Wellington Regional Council):

GWRC has created a webpage to provide the public with more information about Spicer Landfill and their compliance with their resource consents.

You can view the webpage here:

<http://www.gw.govt.nz/spicer-landfill-information-on-gwrc-s-compliance-programme/>

At the public meeting held earlier this year at the Linden Social Centre, GWRC committed to getting more information out to the public about Spicer Landfill, in order to increase transparency about our role in regulating the landfill.

The webpage is intended to be a point of communication directly with the community, where you can go to find out:

- How to notify GWRC of an odour
- How GWRC assesses and investigates odour complaints
- PCC and GWRC's responsibilities regarding compliance and
- Updates of the latest news and developments at the landfill



It is our hope that this webpage will help to provide more clarity for members of the community, and increase the consistency of information delivery regarding the Spicer Landfill site.

PRESCHOOL MUSIC CLASS IN NORTHERN TAWA

Thursday mornings 10.00-10.45am at Linden Social Centre. Let your little one explore music with melody and song, movement and rhythm, instruments and sound.

\$100 for the term or \$15 casual rate. For more information and to book, contact Felicity on 027 272 2580 or fab-music@baker.org.nz

Felicity Baker BMus

FAB-Music@Baker.org.nz • <https://www.facebook.com/pages/FAB-Music/1482234778717300>

The Baker Bunch • Music@Baker.org.nz • <http://www.youtube.com/BakersBunch>

Harp and Violin • Harp and Cello • Violin and Cello • String Trio • String Quartet



TAWA ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

The Tawa Zone Cross Country, involving all six of Tawa's primary schools, was held at Redwood Park on Tuesday morning. The children placed in the top 10 in each group go through to the Wellington Zone event on 16 June.



BOOKS BEING COLLECTED FOR ROTARY BOOK FAIR

This year's Tawa Rotary Book Fair will be held on the weekend 27-28 June and the following weekend 4-5 July inside the mall, next to Tawa New World.

Tawa Rotary is now collecting donations of books, DVDs and CDs, which can be dropped off into the box outside New World Tawa. Other drop off points are Mexted Motors, Harcourts and ITM Tawa.



WORKSHOPS AT TAWA ANGLICAN CHURCH

Bookings essential. Phone Tawa-Linden Anglican Church office on 232 8448 or email admin@tac.org.nz

All workshops are \$10 except for cake decorating which is \$15, running from 7.30-9.30pm.

LESS MESS: Wednesday 27 May

Does the chaos in some areas of your home keep you from living life to the full? Would you like there to be less mess and more order? Would you like to reclaim and maximise the space in your home?

Presenter: Professional Organiser, Steph Knight of Less Mess Ltd



CAKE DECORATING: Wednesday 10 June

Would you like to learn how to decorate cakes so that they look stunning?

Presenter: Lisa Snaddon



RAISING CHILDREN OF CHARACTER: Wednesday 24 June


Develop a strategic plan to train your children. Parents come to be resourced for your most important role. Presenter: Hayley Balmer



Book Sale!


Saturday 23rd May
9am to 4:30pm at
the Tawa Community Center Hall

Adult fiction & Non fiction only
Nothing over \$5
Raising funds for:



Kiwi Community Assistance
Kiwis working together to reduce poverty in our communities

Thank you for your support



50th JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Friday 29th May – Sunday 31st May 2015
(Queens Birthday Weekend 2015)

To be held at
Tawa Squash Club
67 Main Road, Tawa
and
Porirua Club
Lodge Place, Porirua

Friday 29th May
From 5 pm Jubilee Registration
Live relaxing background music
Mix & mingle with finger food
(Normal Club night will run concurrently
Juniors 5-7 pm, Seniors 7-9 pm)

Saturday 30th May
From 10 am: Late Registrations
11 am – 4 pm Jubilee Casual Squash Day
(All welcome to play or watch)

5:30 pm Dinner & Dance
Porirua Club, Lodge Place, Porirua
7:30 pm Guest Speaker – “Stu Davenport”
8:45 pm Cutting of the Cake
9 pm – midnight Live Band

Sunday 31st May
11 am – 1 pm BBQ Brunch
11:30 am Official Photos

Registration forms can be found at
www.tawasquash.co.nz and select
50th Jubilee



60 SECONDS WITH Folau Vea

Folau is this year's deputy head boy at Tawa College.

Where were you born? Wellington Hospital, NZ.

Where did you grow up? In Tawa.

What schools have you been at since you first started school?

Hampton Hill School, Tawa Intermediate, Tawa College year 9 then to school in Tonga (Tupou College) year 10, and came back in year 11 to Tawa College.

What subjects are you doing this year at college?

Music, Biology, Statistics, Child Care and Physical Education.

What are you hoping to do when you leave school?

I'm hoping to become a nurse or to become a professional rugby player.

What does being deputy head boy actually involve, any particular responsibilities?

Being a good role model and basically setting a good foundation or a good example for the younger generation and making sure everything is okay and everything runs smoothly.

What are your interests/hobbies?

Main interest would have to be rugby, and family has always played a big role throughout my life. I also like chilling with mates and playing the playstation.

What do you like about Tawa College?

What I like about Tawa College is that we are a mixed culture school and that everyone gets along with each other even though we come from different families and different backgrounds. What's there not to like about Tawa College?!

Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?

Favourite team would have to be the Hurricanes. Favourite player would have to be the Wallabies captain Michael Hooper.

Favourite musical group and/or style of music?

50 Cent or The Notorious B.I.G., both my favourite hip hop rap artists.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

Auckland.

Any accomplishments/achievements in your life (to date) that give you much satisfaction/pride?

Being Tawa College Deputy Head Boy!



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.

FROM THE REDWOOD CLUB

I am proud to write about the wonderful work that the Redwood Club Day Activity Programme is doing in the local community. We are reliant on volunteers from the community to ensure this worthwhile day programme for the elderly continues. There are a number of dedicated paid employees also.

The Redwood Club is funded by the Capital and Coast DHB. It is open Monday to Friday except for public holidays and a break over the Christmas period. It was established in 1989. It is run in the Tawa Union Church Hall at 83 Redwood Avenue, Tawa. (Many of the Tawa Union Church members are volunteers.)

It services a large catchment from Newlands and Johnsonville to Plimmerton and Whitby, from Titahi Bay to all of the Porirua district and areas in between.

The folk who belong to club are called members as we endeavour to create a sense of community and belonging. We currently have 68 members who come from diverse backgrounds and cultures. The age range also varies considerably.

The members come to the club for the day to enjoy social interaction, stimulation and most importantly fun outside of their home. It also allows the members' primary carer to have a break, which for many is critical.

The members participate in a varied programme of crafts, physical activities such as bowls and indoor golf, music therapy, art and pet therapy, special outings, word puzzles, current events, etc. We have had visits from other clubs. We also go on a drive each day. The members are served morning and afternoon tea and a main meal including desert! The day is filled with fun and laughter. Members can be transported to and from the club in the Redwood Club 12-seater van.

The club is overseen by The Redwood Day Care Charitable Trust. Those on the Trust give of their time and energy to ensure that the club is managed well.

Well done to the Tawa community for your wonderful support of the Redwood Club. You can be very proud of this community effort.

- Suzanne Thornton, Clinical Manager

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com (supported by the Tawa Residents' Association)



"It always seems impossible until it's done." – Nelson Mandela

"If life's a journey, mine is between the computer and the fridge."

"Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, only today of its strength." – Charles Spurgeon

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.

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.