



# COMMUNITY NEWS

November 2015

*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 2020 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.*

## NZTA'S LONG-AWAITED DECISION

NZTA (NZ Transport Agency) released its decision very recently advising there will be no widening of SH1 through Tawa and no new road through Takapu Valley!!! This is very pleasing news for the many local residents who would have been affected (in many cases severely) by one option or the other. It vindicates all the efforts put in by many committed individuals who stressed that the third option, "abandon both proposals", was a viable alternative. And so it has proven to be!



160-180 people at the meeting organised by the community board in April 2014 to give local people the chance to find out more about NZTA's proposals

Well done to all the campaigners from the "Stop the Motorway Widening Group" and "Save Takapu Valley". One would assume there would have been huge sighs of relief and a massive burden lifted from the shoulders of both groups of residents!



Around 85 people at the meeting in June 2015 organised by the community board to bring local people up-to-date with NZTA's proposals

The strength of community opposition to this was evident at the two public meetings organised by a local councillor in conjunction with the Tawa Community Board, and in various smaller meetings in the past two years. The community board took a strong stand on this issue to obtain the best possible result for the local community (both Tawa and Takapu Valley). Quoting the late April 2014 edition of this newsletter: "The Tawa Community Board also expressed its view, namely to proceed with neither Option C (widening SH1 through Tawa) or Option D (a new highway through Takapu Valley) as there appears to be insufficient evidence to justify either proposal." Thanks also to the Hon Peter Dunne MP for his efforts.

NZTA now believes (thanks to "revised modelling") that if further capacity is ever required north of the Tawa interchange, that can be managed "within the existing highway footprint".

More information is available here: <http://us12.campaign-archive2.com/?u=349f3a3f8c40b81eff5202d71&id=ef17203933&e=074e189894>

## TAWA LIONS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Scheduled for Saturday afternoon, December 5, departing Tawa School at 2pm and heading north on the Main Road towards Surrey St. Bring along the family to see a range of floats including community groups, bands, clowns, MG cars and of course Santa.



# CONNECTING WITH TAWA ON NEIGHBOURLY

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

- Saturday 21 Nov – Tawa-Linden Plunket present: Keep calm and get your swap on!
- Tuesday 24 Nov – Move fundraiser – Water tanks for Solomon Island communities
- Monday 30 Nov – Start of week of Tawa College community service
- Saturday 5 Dec – Tawa Christmas Parade
- Sunday 6 Dec – Tawa Music Concert & AGM
- Tue 8 & Wed 9 Dec – Toot for Tucker

Neighbourly enables local people to share information with each other and to become a more “connected” community – see [www.neighbourly.co.nz](http://www.neighbourly.co.nz)



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

## THANK YOU FROM TAWA TEALS

“Tawa Teals” Leisure Marching Team would like to say ..... A big thank you to Marie Hook from Tawa Professionals DoubleWinkel Real Estate for her help and kindness in paying for the embroidery “Tawa Teals” on our new casual tops for marching.

– message received from the Tawa Teals Leisure Marching Team



## SELECTED FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH BRASS BAND

Nicolas Garrett (solo cornet), Tim Dawson (euphonium), both former Tawa College students, and Tamara Wetere (percussion), formerly Bishop Viard College, have been selected for the 2016 National Youth Brass Band. All are currently members of the Trust Porirua City Brass Band.

Congratulations! Your former schools and communities of Tawa and Porirua are so proud of you all. We wish you all the best.

– message received from Shona Murray, former HoD Music at Tawa College



## COMMUNITY MEETING COMING UP

Find out more about Council’s proposals to update the Tawa town centre at a public meeting at the Tawa Community Centre 7pm on Mon 1 December.

See: <http://wellington.govt.nz/have-your-say/public-inputs/consultations/open/tawa---town-centre-planning> and <http://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/projects/housing-choice-and-supply/town-centre-planning-and-supporting-services/tawa-town-centre-plan>

## **SPICER LANDFILL ISSUES**

Porirua City Council are now issuing regular updates on actions being taken to address odour issues at Spicer Landfill. A number of local people are on their emailing list. If you aren't and wish to be, please send an email to Motu Moafanua at [mmoafanua@pcc.govt.nz](mailto:mmoafanua@pcc.govt.nz)



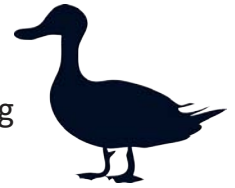
Relevant information is also available at:

<http://www.pcc.govt.nz/News---Events/Latest-News/Spicer-Landfill-Updates>

The next meeting of the Joint Venture committee which deals with the landfill will be held at the Tawa Community Centre at 3.30pm on Monday 14 December. Members of the community may speak in the Public Participation segment at the start, by calling PCC on 237 5089 and booking a "speaking slot".

## **DUCKS AT LYNDHURST PARK**

There have been ongoing conflicts between ducks and people, but mostly between people and people, at Lyndhurst Park for some time now, with various views having been expressed recently on the Neighbourly community forum.



Both Council officers and Police have been involved in dealing with this. The following message has now been sent by me, Malcolm Sparrow, to a number of people affected by the issue:

"I met with Council's Open Space & Parks Manager and a representative from Council's Issues Resolution Office last week to discuss the problem of both ducks and people at Lyndhurst Park. I have also spoken with the Police.

We are all working towards bringing about a satisfactory solution to this ongoing issue. Council have advised me they will "..... complete further investigations before providing clear information to members of the community as to how to proceed from this point onwards." I'm sorry that that statement isn't very specific, but hopefully we can be more specific when they provide the information either later this week or very early next week.

The Police recommend that "..... anyone who believes they are the victim of an offence should report the matter to Police. For non-urgent matters this can be done over the phone at 238 1400, asking for Crime Reporting Line." If you're not sure whether something is worth reporting, call them anyway.

The Police also advise that "It is not illegal to film in public places, day or night. It is illegal to film people in situations where they can expect privacy." Perhaps that last statement is open to interpretation!

I have spoken about this whole issue to a number of affected people both in person and on the phone in recent times ..... to those on both sides of the 'debate'. As I've already stated, both Council officers and Police are doing all within their power (and sometimes their powers are limited) to sort this out!

One thing members of the community can do is to ensure their dogs are always on the lead anywhere in the park. That must be adhered to. And ducks should not be fed anywhere in the park!

I will be in touch again when I have more to report."

Courtesy and consideration, restraint and respect could go a long way towards resolving this issue!

## **HEAD PREFECTS AT TAWA COLLEGE IN 2016**

The names of the head prefects for 2016 were announced at the college's academic prizegiving which took place earlier this month. They are Daniel Wrench and Massey Isa'ako (head boy and deputy) and Barbara Harris and Erin Lockhart (head girl and deputy). As a matter of interest, Erin Lockhart was the girl winner of the Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards at Tawa Intermediate School when the awards (a yearly end-of-year event) were first started in Tawa in 2011.

## BIKES IN SCHOOLS AT HAMPTON HILL SCHOOL

Funding for a further three schools to help implement Bikes in Schools projects has just been announced by Wellington City Council. Hampton Hill School is one of those schools and will receive a minimum of \$50,000 towards the cost of purpose-built bike tracks and bike storage, following on from a successful pilot last year at three other Wellington schools.



## CABARET

Aspire Cabaret 2015 will be on Friday 27 November at 7pm. This is being run as a fundraiser to send youth from Tawa



Salvation Army to the Amplify creative ministries camp in January.

The cabaret programme will include a performance by the Aspire jazz combo and the Aspire Academy Band, as well as a musical quiz on movie themes run by Aspire Big Band.

This would be a great night to bring your friends, form a team, and support local youth all in one evening.

Donation of at least a gold coin to enter, and refreshments will be available for sale throughout the evening. All proceeds to Tawa Salvation Army youth. Come support your local community and have a great night out.

Where: Salvation Army Tawa, 177 Main Rd, Tawa. No need to book. Arrive early for a good seat.

## TAWA-LINDEN PLUNKET ROOMS

As seen on Neighbourly:

Q. What has happened to the Plunket rooms [in Linden Ave]?

A. The old rooms/building has been sold and taken away. A new, bigger, better building is currently being constructed offsite and will be moved onto the previous location soon. The Tawa-Linden area has grown since Plunket first established a base here so we needed to expand and match the new needs of the area.



## LINDEN SCHOOL COMMUNITY FAIR

The fair took place at the end of October and featured a variety of stalls and entertainment including giant bubbles and near drownings of certain Northern Ward councillors, as shown here .....



## AWARDS TO VIRTUOSO STRINGS CHARITABLE TRUST

In our September edition we congratulated Dr Liz Sneyd of Tawa who won the Supreme Award for Porirua for her work with the Virtuoso Strings Charitable Trust (pictured below left). As it states on their Facebook page: “The Virtuoso Strings Charitable Trust is a registered charity managed by dedicated volunteers who run a Sistema-based music programme ..... giving talented kids in the Porirua area an opportunity to be part of something special.”

Virtuoso Strings Charitable Trust, featuring Liz Sneyd and husband Craig Utting, has since gone on to win the Education and Child/Youth Development category at the Wellington Regional Community Awards for the whole of the Wellington region. More congratulations on behalf of the local community!



STOP PRESS: they have now been further recognised by winning the Community Service category at this week's Wellingtonian of the Year Awards!

## TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICE



If you're senior, disabled or genuinely need a hand with essential work that needs doing at your place, then read on.

Year 10 students will be working in the local community on Monday 30 November through to Friday 4 December 2015. The students will be accompanied

by staff members and can garden, clean, pick up rubbish, paint fences, or any variety of labour that you might need doing. There is no cost involved – this is simply an exercise in “community service” within the Tawa basin. This will be the seventh year this project has been undertaken.



To book students to help at your place, phone Tawa College on 232 8184 or email the organiser at the College, Alex Geary, on [ageary@tawacollege.school.nz](mailto:ageary@tawacollege.school.nz) by Sunday 29 November.

Please supply your name, address, phone number, what work you need doing, and which day or days suit best. First in, first served.

## VIBRANT TAWA

The recent Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Assn AGM saw a “changing of the guard” with a number of new, enthusiastic locals joining the group as some valued, long-serving members stepped down.

Although the registered name will remain, the group also adopted a new, more modern trading name to reflect the group's energy and focus – Vibrant Tawa. The core members are Ray Lindsay, Tony Hassed, Peter Bowers, Robyn Parkinson, Bruce White, Robert Tredger, Richard Herbert, Steph Knight, Malcolm Sparrow, Susan Cottle and Dawn Deavin.

Vibrant Tawa's focus is on growing Tawa as a strong, lively, friendly community that is actively engaged with residents and businesses, as well as the many sporting, cultural, artistic and interest groups in the area. They welcome other enthusiastic locals to join them for, and from, various community initiatives.

Keep an eye out for another update in the new year, and feel free to get in touch if you have an idea or initiative or would like to contribute in some way. Email [vibrant.tawa@gmail.com](mailto:vibrant.tawa@gmail.com)

## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Mandy Russell

Mandy is a longstanding member of the Tawa community and has been the 'advocate' (coordinator) at the Tawa Community Centre for the past two years plus.

*Where were you born?*

Invercargill.

*Where did you grow up?*

Tawa. My family moved here when I was 6 months old, and apart from a couple of years in town, I've been here ever since.

*Where were you educated?*

At Redwood School, then from Year 7 onwards at Queen Margaret College. Two years at Whitireia Polytechnic.

*Work experience over the years?*

In reservations at Tranz Rail for five years, then a hotel reservationist for about six months. Studied at Travel Careers and Training which led on to working as a travel consultant for six years. Full time mum for a spell, then a short role at Plunket Car Seat Rentals. I was a travel tutor at Sir George Seymour National College for one year before taking on the Tawa Community Centre position in June 2013.

*What about family?*

Married to Steve with two children, Luke 11 and Makayla 9.

*What are your interests and hobbies?*

I am a runner who enjoys going off road and into trails. I have just completed my first ever marathon over the weekend, the Tarawera Marathon in Rotorua, which was truly an amazing experience, and I cannot wait to go back next year and complete the 50kms. I have great running friends who, without them, I could not have achieved this goal. I love to walk and bike with my family as well, and be anywhere near the beach.

*Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?*

I admire amazing kiwi runners like Mal Law and Lisa Tamati, to name a couple. I love watching competitive triathalons and mountain biking like the world champs and the Olympics. I enjoy going to local games like the Saints Basketball (my kids favourites as they throw chocolates to the crowd), cricket (I love the Basin Reserve) to watch the Firebirds, and Phoenix, Pulse and Hurricanes. No real favourite team, but here comes the travel again – I would love to go to the US Tennis Open in New York. I have been to the Australian Open and it was amazing.

*Favourite musical group or style of music?*

I love kiwi music, and my favourite would be Six60.

*Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

I love Rotorua/Taupo as it has so many amazing lakes – for swimming, and trails to walk and bike on.

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

Being close to my family and my children. They are singlehandedly the best thing I have done. Having my family unit makes me the most happy. For me there is not one thing I can pinpoint that I can look back on, but where I am now, and the life experiences that I have had, and what I can pass down to my kids.

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

Mine seem to be all about travel – and that I want to do more of it!

I have lots of places I want to get to, so I need to compile a list!!

Included in that travel is wanting to complete the New York Marathon. Second to that would be to run the Great Wall of China Marathon.

Taking Steve (and the kids) to Disneyland is on my list of must do's. We went to DisneyWorld before we had our kids, and he has been hanging out to go there ever since.

I would also like to complete the major great walks of NZ – walking or running. If I could get one done every year or so I would be really happy. There are also a few others that I would like to complete too ..... as long as they don't have any scary swing bridges, then I will be just fine. Otherwise I will be looking out for a very long detour!!



## HANGING BASKETS TO BE REPLACED SHORTLY

It costs around \$1500 every six months to maintain the hanging baskets in Tawa's Main Road shopping centre.

The Rotary Club of Tawa "looks after" the baskets and applies for funding from the Wellington City Council or the Tawa Community Board. Replenished hanging baskets will be installed by Rotary Club members later this month.



## TAWA ROTARY "TOOT FOR TUCKER"

Members of Tawa Rotary, Tawa Lions, Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Salvation Army will be out in the streets of Tawa on the evenings of Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 December to collect donated non-perishable food items to build up Christmas stocks for the Tawa Food Bank.

When you hear the fire engine's siren in your street, you'll know what's happening. And you'll already have your goodies ready to bring out!



## PRINCE CHARLES' RECENT VISIT TO TAWA COLLEGE

A big occasion for the school and the Tawa community. Thanks to Olivia Melhop for the photos.



With head boy Joshua Nightingale and principal Murray Lucas.

Head boy (left) and head girl Briana Boele van Hensbroek.



Deputy head girl Jess Kerr behind Prince Charles who's speaking to Tawa stalwart Charlotte Murray.

Head boy and head girl.



The prince, the college's senior leadership team and head prefects.

**Thursday morning, 5 November**



# TAWA RSA

89 OXFORD STREET TAWA

# CHRISTMAS DINNER



TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS FARE  
CATERED FOR BY STEPH & HER TEAM.  
SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER  
6PM—8PM

## THOMPSON LOUNGE

ONLY \$20.00 PER PERSON



Bookings are essential please phone: 04 232 5788

Or email: [tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz)

Keen to try a  
new sport?

## Join us for a Fun Floorball Night at Tawa Recreation Centre



Fun for all ages!

**\$2 per session**

Thursday  
**19 Nov**  
4pm-5.30pm

Thursday  
**26 Nov**  
4pm-5.30pm

Thursday  
**3 Dec**  
4pm-5.30pm



**See you there!**

For enquiries or more info, call  
Tawa Recreation Centre  
04 232 2260



## TIME TO MOVE ON .....

After 80 years of combined service in pharmacy, Chris and Lesley Reading are retiring and have sold Drummonds Tawa Pharmacy.

They have been there for 15 years after taking over from Bruce Drummond in 2000. Previously they owned The Oaks Pharmacy in Cuba Street, Wellington.

Lesley has been a long term member of Inner Wheel, and Chris a past president of Tawa Rotary, Justice of the Peace and former member of the Tawa Community Board.

They intend to stay in Tawa for a while before moving to Masterton to a lifestyle property they own.

They would be happy to see and farewell their old customers: *“Many thanks to you all for many years of loyal patronage, we will miss you all. Please join us on Monday 30th November for a piece of farewell cake.”*

### 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  
On behalf of TawaLink.com



*“Don’t miss the doughnut by looking through the hole.”*

*“A truly rich man is one whose children rush into his arms even when his hands are empty.”*

*“A wise individual can see more from the bottom of a well than a fool can from a mountain top.”*

**Items for this newsletter should be sent to [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com). Queries to 232 5030 or 027 232 2320.  
Please type in email Subject Line: “Item for Tawa newsletter”.**

*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 half of the month.*

*If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.*

*For back issues of the newsletter see [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.*