



COMMUNITY NEWS

November 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 around 2860 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

THE NEW TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

Six candidates put their names forward for election to the Tawa Community Board in October, the same number as the places available, therefore there was no need for an election. Four of those six – **Margaret Lucas, Graeme Hansen, Richard Herbert** and **Jack Marshall** – were on the previous board.

Robyn Parkinson, one of the newly-elected board members, was instrumental in setting up the Tawa Community Garden in Oxford St and continues to play a lead role in the operation of the garden.

Richard Herbert has been elected chair of the community board and **Margaret Lucas** the deputy chair. Congratulations to all concerned!

The other 'newbie' was **Jill Day** who also stood as a candidate for Council in the Northern Ward. When she won a place as a new councillor, she automatically vacated her place on the community board. That vacancy means a by-election will take place to find a sixth community board member. Publicity about that has now started. The by-election will take place in mid-February 2017.



Richard Herbert



Margaret Lucas



Graeme Hansen



Jack Marshall



Peter Gilbert

Jill Day

Malcolm Sparrow

The three successful councillor candidates in the Northern Ward were incumbent **Malcolm Sparrow** (chair of the Tawa Community Board 2010-13) and new councillors **Jill Day** and **Peter Gilbert**. Crs Sparrow and Day are the two Northern Ward councillors appointed to serve on the Tawa Community Board. So Jill does get to serve on the board after all, but in a slightly different capacity!



Robyn Parkinson

SPRING INTO TAWA 2016 - FEEDBACK SOUGHT

Feedback is still being sought from those who came along to Spring into Tawa 2016 to help us plan a bigger and better event in 2017. The quick survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TZ8GTVH> or find the link on Neighbourly or the Spring into Tawa Facebook page.

We'd really welcome your feedback! We've also sent a survey link to stallholders and participants.



TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD BY-ELECTION KEY DATES

Nominations open Thursday 24 November, with nomination forms and preliminary electoral rolls available at the Mervyn Kemp Library from Thursday.

Nominations can be received only by email or at the WCC City Service Centre. Nominations close Thursday 22 December at 12 noon.

If an election is required:

Voting will commence (including special voting) and start of postal delivery Thursday 26 January 2017. Special voting will be at the City Service Centre in Wakefield St.

A ballot box will be placed in the Mervyn Kemp Library for people to put their completed voting papers into.

Election day – Voting closes 12 noon Friday 17 February 2017. Official declaration by Thursday 23 February.

TAWA LIONS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE

The parade will take place on Saturday afternoon, 3 December, 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.



PROPOSED CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL CANCELLED

Unfortunately the organisers have had to cancel the proposed Tawa Christmas Festival which was scheduled to run straight after the Tawa Lions Christmas Parade on Saturday 3 December. Note that this does NOT affect the parade which will go ahead as planned.

The organisers were unable to secure the entertainment and carols service that would've been the centrepiece of the event. However they are committed to running this next year in conjunction with a range of other events. "We promise we'll have an amazing Christmas Festival in 2017!"

TAWA COLLEGE "COMMUNITY SERVICE"

It's coming up to that time of the year when Tawa College is offering its "community service" days. This year they're on Tuesday 6th to Friday 9th December. 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 (14 or 15 years old) will be working in the local community during the above dates. 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's no cost involved – this is simply an exercise in "community service" within the Tawa basin. This will be the eighth year this project has been undertaken.

To book students to help at your place, phone Tawa College on 232 8184 or contact the organiser at the College, Alex Geary, at ageary@tawacollege.school.nz or phone him on 232 2190 (evening) or 021 215 8189 (day) by Sunday 4th December. Please supply your name, address, phone number, what work you need doing, and which day or days suit best. First in, first served.

TAWA COMMUNITY PATROL TAKES DELIVERY OF NEW PATROL CAR



After two years of fundraising for a replacement Patrol Car, the Tawa Community Patrol completed fitting out its new vehicle recently prior to it commencing operational patrolling.

Chairman of the Tawa Community Patrol Charitable Trust, Peter Lockery, said that funding came from a number of generous sponsors – including Porirua Community Trust, ANZ Staff Foundation, Pelorus Trust, Transpower

CommunityCare Fund, Tawa Community Board, Rotary and Lions Clubs and the general public via the Spark “Give-a-Little” programme. The new Honda HRV, resplendent in its bright livery, was formally commissioned in mid-November at the Tawa Community Centre when the Patrol hosted dignitaries including the Hon Peter Dunne, Minister of Internal Affairs, NZ Police Officials and City Councillors.

Established in 2008, the Tawa Community Patrol is the “eyes and ears” of the NZ Police. It has grown to 38 members, carrying out patrols of residential, business and industrial premises, schools and railway station car parks in the Tawa, Linden and Grenada North areas. Recently Police have referred prospective recruits to the Patrol to gain a ‘taste’ of patrolling, exercising observation skills and recording suspicious activity.

Any residents interested in volunteering for the Community Patrol are invited to contact Alan Johnson on 232 0158.

LATEST FROM THE TAWA COMMUNITY GARDEN

Got any broken crockery, or a bucket of stones from your place you don’t know how to get rid of? We can help! At the Tawa Community Garden we have a new raised bed made of fancy retaining wall stones (kindly donated by Firth). See the front of the photo – it’s a ‘keyhole’ style bed, designed for drought conditions. We need a layer of stones or broken crockery at the bottom for drainage – feel free to contribute yours!



This month the Tawa Community Garden (at Coronation Park) has given away free plants to Tawa Central Kindergarten, and to visitors to our weekly working bee. We’ve planted sunflowers in front of the kindy (can’t wait to see the kids’ faces when they flower!) We’ve had volunteer help from someone stuck at home while their workplace in town gets checked out. That’s what we’re all about – being there for the community, whenever you need it.

There’s no pressure to be committed or do heaps of work. Everything there has been done in the last 14 months simply because a lot of people have helped when they could. The Garden is part of public reserve, and it is for everyone – come visit anytime! Updates and working bees advertised on Neighbourly and our Facebook page, or for more info email tawa.community.garden@gmail.com

NORFOLK PINE LIGHTS

We’ve been advised that the Christmas lights on the Norfolk Pine outside the library have reached the end of their life so they have been replaced. “The new bulbs will have a great Christmas feel as they will change from red to green and vice versa every 15 seconds.” The lights have been turned on within the past few days. Check them out sometime!



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM TRACKSAFE

Recently there have been a number of serious near misses between trains and students at Tawa level crossings.

Parents please remind your children of the need to take care when crossing the tracks and to take heed of the warning bells and flashing lights.

It's particularly important to note that trains can approach from both directions and therefore NOT to assume that the path is clear because one train has passed through. We certainly don't want the serious near misses turning into anything worse!



THE TAWA MEMORIAL

Earlier this month the Tawa Historical Society received the good news that they have been granted all the funding needed to go ahead with building the Tawa Memorial at the northern end of Oxford Street in central Tawa, adjacent to Grasslees Reserve. A final grant of more than \$81,000 is being made from the Lottery Grants Board's Environment and Heritage fund.



This is the culmination of work which commenced as far back as 2008, and has involved co-operation with various groups. In particular the Tawa Historical Society is "..... grateful to the Tawa RSA and the Tawa Community Board who have been on much of this journey with us. We are grateful to our donors – originally the Mana Community Grants Foundation and the Tawa Community Board, and more recently the Linden Tennis Club, the Tawa Lions Club, the Tawa RSA Poppy Fund, and Gordon Mygind."

The Memorial will recognise the 13 Tawa men who have died in the service of country. The hope is to have it constructed in time to be dedicated and unveiled on 22 April 2017.

CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES IN TAWA PLAZA

A recent poll on Neighbourly related to "The possible removal of the cherry trees in Tawa Plaza".

The wording accompanying the poll read as follows: "As part of Council's upgrade of Tawa Plaza, there is a proposal to remove the cherry trees in the plaza. One suggestion has been to keep them but do away with the concrete surrounds. That probably won't be possible. Would you like to see the trees retained or if they need to be removed as part of improving the overall feel of the plaza, is that acceptable?"

272 people participated in the poll, with 61% preferring to "Keep the cherry trees".

It may be that Council officers come up with truly innovative designs for the plaza – transforming it into an appealing area worth spending time in – but that can only be accomplished with the removal of some or all of the trees. What then? We've been advised the officers will be coming back to us again shortly with their proposals and to further "sound out" the views of the community.

SPRING INTO TAWA

"Spring into Tawa", Tawa's annual street gala, took place mid-October, a bigger and better event than ever. The Main Road in the central shopping area was closed to accommodate a record number of stalls and other entertainment. Once again the weather wasn't on our side but that didn't stop the crowds turning out and enjoying the occasion. Many thanks to Stacey and her dedicated team for all their efforts! Here is a selection of photos from the day.



FROM HARCOURTS TAWA

"Congratulations to Cameron Chin who was the winner of our Spring into Tawa competition – guess the number of balloons in the Harcourts car. Thanks to everyone who came and saw us and had a guess – there were 10 correct guesses of 72 balloons [with the winning name being drawn out of a hat].

The photo shows the winner receiving his microwave prize."



2 MINUTES WITH Malcolm Andrews

Tawa was an independent borough from the 1950s through to 1989 when it was forcibly amalgamated with Wellington City. At that point the Tawa Community Board was set up to replace the Borough Council.



There is only one member of the last Tawa Borough Council still residing in our midst. He is Malcolm Andrews, top right in the Tawa Borough Council photo from 1986 (at left). Bottom left is Kerry Prendergast who subsequently became Mayor of Wellington and, bottom right, the late Graeme Sutton who went on to serve the Tawa Community Board for 20 years.



Where were you born? Leeston, Canterbury

Where did you grow up?

As my father was a primary school headmaster, with a preference for country schools, my childhood years were spent around Canterbury and North Otago. I came to Wellington for my first job after leaving school.

Where were you educated?

Wakanui School (mid-Canterbury), Dunback School (north Otago) and Cust School (north Canterbury), and then Rangiora High School.

How long have you lived in Tawa?

We have been Tawa residents since 1978, and are now in our fourth home having moved as family needs have changed.

What about family?

My wife Lyn and I have been married for 44 years. We have a daughter Fiona and son Bryan who were both educated in Tawa and are living in the Wellington area. Completing our family are four granddaughters – Tylah-Jayne, Morgan, Alessandria and Helena.

Work experience over the years

Like lots of country teenagers, I was fortunate to have after-school jobs with local farmers and the local country store. Upon leaving school I began work at Civil Aviation, but a change of calling saw me as a professional photographer before moving into retail for 13 years with Hannahs. Lyn and I then went into business with Express Card Shop in Porirua but the onset of seven day trading and impact on family time prompted another change. I moved to purchasing / sales roles in the manufacturing industry, firstly at Rheem drum factory in Tawa, and when that closed went to Interlock at Miramar until that was sold, and then to my current role at Vega Industries, Porirua.

What are your interests/hobbies?

I enjoy photography, play indoor & outdoor bowls, follow most sports, enjoy gardening and value all family events and happenings. I am a member of Rotary Club of Tawa, have served on various school and sports club committees and was a Councillor in the last triennium of the Tawa Borough Council.

Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?

I regard myself a Cantabrian, so Crusaders and All Blacks are my favourite teams. I admire Richie McCaw for his team leadership and the values he displays.

Favourite musical group and/or style of music?

I enjoy most genres of music that are easy to listen to, but don't have any real favourites.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

My parents' goal was "see New Zealand first", and so continuing in this vein we are still exploring what this country has to offer, although I do have an affection for "the mainland".

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

Serving the community and others has been important to me, but being part of, and keeping an eye on, the personal growths and achievements of our close and wider family will always be of greatest importance.

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

Continue to be married to Lyn

Explore more of NZ (hopefully venture afar)

See our granddaughters enjoy a good start in their lives

TAWA RECREATION CENTRE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Duncan Street, Tawa | For ages 5–12 years | To book, visit wellington.govt.nz/holidayprogrammes or phone 232 2260.

- Action packed for girls and boys taking part in elements of the SCOUTS/Adventure Plus awards programme
- Your child will learn about being prepared indoors and outdoors
- Existing SCOUTS members may gain credits towards their badges
- Introduction to SCOUTS through adventurous experiences to lead lives that make a positive difference

TAWA LIGHT PARTY

Thanks to all who attended this year's Tawa Light Party on 31 October. The children had a great time and this event could not happen without the support of the Tawa Community Board and all our wonderful sponsors. We had 200+ children playing games, dancing, face painting, performing in talent quest and stage challenges and getting lots of treats to eat and take home. Here are some pics from this year.



TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES IN 2017

Details on classes can be found at www.tawacomed.co.nz

If there are courses you would like to take in 2017 that have not been offered in 2016, email your ideas to comed@tawacollege.school.nz

Email if you would be interested in becoming a tutor.



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
info@tawalink.com
027 232 2320



"In just two days from now, tomorrow will be yesterday."

"Quitting Facebook is the new, adult version of running away from home. We all know you're doing it for attention, and we all know that you'll be back."

"Religion hinges upon faith, politics hinges upon who can tell the most convincing lies or maybe just shout the loudest, but science hinges upon whether its conclusions resemble what actually happens." – Ian Stewart

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.

On a personal note

The next Tawa community eNewsletter will be sent out a week or so before Christmas. In the meantime I'll be taking a couple of weeks to check out a few northern hemisphere Christmas lights.