



COMMUNITY NEWS

October 2015

This community newsletter is sent out monthly 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 1900 other Tawa residents on neighbourly.co.nz. You can opt for daily updates or weekly updates from that site.

JOIN US IN ‘SHAKEOUT’!

Are you one of the 148,000+ Wellingtonians (region-wide) who has already signed up to take part in ‘ShakeOut’ this coming Thursday, 15 October, the International ShakeOut Day of Action? If not, there’s still time!

The aim is to get 1.5 million New Zealanders to sign up to take part. See <http://www.shakeout.govt.nz> to sign up – adding your name will help make Wellington’s numbers look good!

It’s all about knowing the right action to take before, during and after an earthquake.

On the day itself the national earthquake drill will take place at 9.15am when all those participating, wherever they are at that moment, will Drop, Cover and Hold for just a minute or two.



STARTING TO SOW THE TAWA COMMUNITY GARDEN



From Robyn Parkinson, Tawa Community Garden coordinator: “A beautiful morning for our first planting! [Saturday 10 October].

Seven adults and two kids helped finish digging the new beds and paths in our Stage 1 plot, and trimming the edges. We planted two varieties of ‘early’ potatoes.



We hope to plant two further main crop varieties with the kindergarten children during the week.

I love the mix of ages, abilities, gender (and probably a lot of other factors) in the folk turning up to put in the work! And the way we keep learning from each other or trying something new, no matter how long we’ve been a gardener.”

CONNECTING WITH TAWA ON NEIGHBOURLY

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

- Mon 12 October – Pain: Friend or Foe (5-week Tawa College Community Education course)
- Mon 12 October – Tawa Residents' Association AGM
- Tue 13 October – 8-week Mindfulness Training
- Fri 30 October – Hampton Hill School 50 Years Celebration
- Sat 31 October – Linden School Community Fair, Puff 'n' Stuff

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?

CONGRATULATIONS TO TAWA COMMUNITY PATROL

Earlier this month the Tawa Community Patrol won a "Safety in the City" award for their response to severe flooding in May 2015. This is a real credit to the patrollers involved and the patrol overall.

On May 14 this year, areas of Wellington experienced the heaviest hourly rainfall in more than 50 years, resulting in widespread flooding and damage. During this time the Tawa Community Patrol group flew into action doing what they could to help those in danger.

Michael Johnson, Allan Johnson and Darryl Smith of the Tawa Community Patrol group

left work early and got in the patrol car to go around shops on Main Road and in the Linden area, making sure that residents were okay and helping out where required. They acted with selfless disregard for their own need, for the good of their community.

They also went to the Takapu Valley area which was badly hit and offered support to motorists and residents. In the evening they patrolled Tawa's streets to make sure pothole lids had not been raised in the flood water, creating hazards.

In successive days after the worst of the flooding had subsided, two patrollers (Graeme Aiken and Mal Fyfe) again went around Tawa shops to see if any additional assistance was required from the patrol.

When their community was in need the Tawa Community Patrollers were there, ready to help. They were visible, they were helpful and they were full of initiative. Thank you patrollers.

– article as seen on the community patrol's website at <http://www.tawacp.org.nz/news.html>



From left: Acting Mayor Justin Lester, Tawa Community Patrol coordinator Michael Johnson, Tawa Community Patrol trustee Brett Gillies, Police Operations Commander Inspector Terry Van Dillen.

DEALING WITH LANDFILL SMELLS

The question is sometimes asked, “Is anyone taking action to solve the problem [of the smells coming from the landfill]?”

The answer is a categorical yes! Here’s a summing up of some of the action that’s taken place over the past while.

On the part of Cr Sparrow (and Cr Lester has also been involved):

- a visit to Spicer Landfill with Tawa Community Board member Graeme Hansen to inspect the site (and savour the aromas) firsthand.
- organising a Tawa public meeting in February in conjunction with the Tawa Community Board at which EnviroWaste (the landfill operator), PCC (Porirua City Council) officers and Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) officers advised what action they were taking to address the issue, and to answer questions from concerned residents.
- setting up a specific group on ‘Neighbourly Tawa’ (now with 40 community members) to share and discuss landfill concerns.
- encouraging concerned residents to attend the annual Spicer Landfill community liaison meeting in June, at which there were PCC officers, EnviroWaste representatives, GWRC councillors and officials, local MPs, members of the Tawa community, Tawa Community Board representatives, WCC (Wellington City Council) officers, plus two Northern Ward WCC councillors.
- ‘deputation’ with TCB chair Robert Tredger in August to discuss the situation further with Porirua Mayor Nick Leggett.
- involvement in the specifically-arranged Joint Venture (PCC/WCC) workshop early September with a considerable number of PCC and WCC officers and councillors.
- continuous communication with both Tawa residents and PCC.

And just last week the Tawa Community Board at its monthly meeting at the Tawa Community Centre heard Mayor Nick Leggett and PCC officers present an up-to-date report on the situation.

On Porirua City Council and EnviroWaste’s part:

The recent announcement was made of a combined Porirua City Council-Wellington Water \$6 million project to construct a sludge dryer at the Council’s Titahi Bay wastewater treatment plant. Drying will reduce the volume of sludge waste shipped to the landfill by 80 per cent.

Other steps already under way:

- increased depth of clay cover over the filling areas
- extra cover added at the end of each day
- more trees planted on the Tawa boundary
- two permanent, and two mobile, deodorant spray machines deployed using information from an on-site weather station
- gas capture wells and flares – these were installed to destroy gas in 2009 and 2012, with additional wells put in in 2013. There are now 22 wells on site.



..... contd on next page

Contd from previous page

One more comment on the landfill issue, a note of clarification. A certain local councillor was quoted in a local newspaper recently, and unfortunately five key words were left out of the quote.

The quote in its entirety was: *“We have been told that measures to reduce tip smells – such as increased clay, extra tree planting and two deodorant machines – were a sign “everything possible was being done.””*

The words in *italics* were left out of the quote in the newspaper. The exclusion of those words results in a slightly different meaning to what was intended!

HAMPTON HILL 50 YEARS CELEBRATION

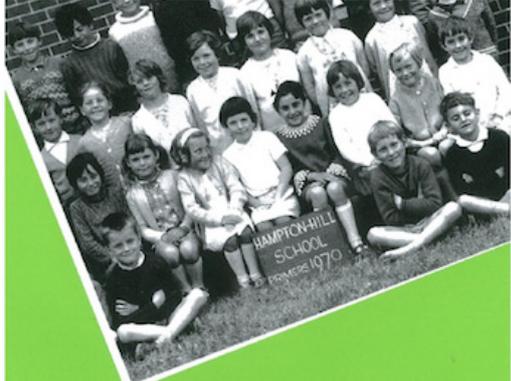
Friday October 30, 5.30pm to Saturday October 31, 12.00pm.
A fun weekend catching up with old friends from Hampton Hill School.

Friday night is in the hall and marquee – live music, catch-up time, old photos, canapes and refreshments, candid photos by a professional photographer, and lots of talking and stories. Informal and relaxed evening.

Saturday morning is at school with our current families and a more formal time with morning tea, speeches, decade photos, tree planting, entertainment and a school walkabout.

To register, check our website: www.hamptonhill.school.nz or email Jan at celebration@hamptonhill.school.nz

We have an “Expressions of Interest” list – stay informed! Send an email to us.



Hampton Hill School is turning 50!

If you are a past student, or ex-member of staff, come and celebrate with us this October...

Friday 30 October 2015 A special evening for past students and staff to catch up over old photos and memorabilia. Canapes and refreshments will be served.

Saturday 31 October 2015 A morning of activities for past and current families to celebrate the school's birthday. Official decade photographs will be taken.

For full programme details and to register your attendance, please call Jan Berland at Hampton Hill School (04 232 6509) or email an email to celebration@hamptonhill.school.nz register online: www.hamptonhill.school.nz



Linden School Community Fair
Puff 'n' Stuff

Saturday October 31
10am - 2pm
58 Ranui Tce

A fun event for the entire community!

Entry spot prizes, Competitions, raffles, prizes. Mini cars, Kid's Beauty shop, Gumboot and Paper Plane throwing competitions, a variety of stalls, Entertainment, Fun activities, Books, toys, white elephant, plants, vege and flower seedlings, garden gifts, food and drinks, Caffe L'affare coffee, cakes, sweets, ice cream, candy floss, Hot Rods, Fire, Police, Llamas, Dunking Pool, rides and attractions, bouncy castles.



Check out our facebook event page: Linden School Community Fair - Puff 'n' Stuff!

LINDEN SCHOOL COMMUNITY FAIR

Saturday October 31, 10am to 2pm, a fun event for the entire Tawa community, particularly focusing on pre-school and school-age children and their families.

We will be having the usual school-run stalls, e.g. cakes, sweets, books, plants, face-painting, raffles and other games, rides for the children, competitions, displays, and of course a range of food and coffee.

We have also invited a number of community groups to provide displays, information and promote safety in the community (e.g. fire, police, ambulance, Civil Defence), keeping active, healthy living and other things that will be of interest to those living in the Tawa/Linden area.

There will also be a wide variety of entertainment for the duration of the fair.

Come and join us on our Facebook page to keep up-to-date with all the exciting details as they become available.

TAWA GIRLS AT U18 GIRLS WORLD CUP CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Jess Kerr was named Player of the U18 Girls World Cup Cricket Tournament and sister Amelia Kerr (both Tawa College students) was Runner Up. They were the first two players named in the 'All Stars' World Cup Team 2015.

P.S. Australia beat New Zealand in the Final on Saturday a week ago in Brisbane.

Thanks to (proud grandmother) Shona Murray for the info and the photo.



Jess Kerr - U18 World Cup
Player of the Tournament

Melie Kerr Runner up U18 World Cup

Player of the Tournament

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REDWOOD CLUB

The Redwood Club is a Day Activity Support Programme for the elderly run in Tawa. It has a strong community focus.

- We need volunteers who enjoy working with the elderly.
- We need more drivers to pick up members in the 12 seater van.
- We also need helpers to assist with kitchen duties and the activity programme.

Please phone Suzanne on 232 5521.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

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

“Caution: cape does not enable user to fly.” – label on a Batman costume

“Never pick a fight with an ugly person. They’ve got nothing to lose.” – Robin Williams

“When you focus on problems, you’ll have more problems. When you focus on possibilities, you’ll have more opportunities.”

Items for this newsletter should be sent to 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.

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.

