

TAWA COMMUNITY NEWS



March 2011

This community newsletter is compiled every month or so on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website since 2002.

THANK YOU FOR SIGNING THE EPETITION

Thank you to all those who signed the Tawa Community Board's **TURF IN TAWA** ePetition. A grand total of 1725 people added their names to the petition – a superb overall response!

- 78.67% were from Tawa (1357 people)
- 6.90% were from Porirua
- 5.97% from other northern Wellington suburbs
- 5.85% from elsewhere in Wellington and the Hutt Valley
- 2.61% from elsewhere in NZ and overseas

In recent years many winter sports fixtures have been cancelled in Tawa due to poor weather. An all-weather sports turf will ensure that sport can be played all year round for all ages.

The petition, along with more than 400 signatures on a paper petition, will be officially presented to the Wellington City Council on Friday 1st April. We'll keep you informed of developments.



Come and meet the
**TAWA
COMMUNITY
BOARD**
4.30pm Sun 27 March
Tawa Community Centre

COME AND MEET THE TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

This is your chance to meet the Tawa Community Board and establish whether you got your money's worth when you voted in the last local body elections? You did vote then, didn't you? To be fair, it is probably too soon in the piece to make any judgement in that regard.

However this is a useful opportunity to see who your local elected representatives actually are, to hear their ideas for Tawa (there are some good ideas afoot), and they will listen to any ideas you may have.

So do join the Tawa Community Board at this get-together at the Tawa Community Centre, 4.30-5.30pm on Sunday 27th March.

There will also be a brief presentation on progress on the Tawa Shared Walkway.

QUAKE CONCERT

The Tawa-based Wellington Male Voice Choir organised and featured in a hastily-arranged Tawa "Quake Concert" held on Sunday 6th March at Tawa College to raise funds for earthquake relief in Christchurch. Other groups involved in the concert were the Golden Strings orchestra (primarily children), the Vocal FX barbershop choir, the Tawa Orchestra, and the Tawa Filipino choir.

Around \$3800 was raised to be forwarded to the Red Cross in Christchurch. A brilliant effort!

See http://www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2011-09.html



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT TAWA INTERMEDIATE

Do you have an hour to spare during the school week? We're looking for some more volunteers to join our Community Links Programme at Tawa Intermediate. This programme is for students in our school who need to build up their reading mileage.

We need adults who will listen to them read, correct and encourage and also help the student's reading comprehension by talking with them about what they have read. If you are interested please call 232 5201 and ask for Elaine.



TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE'S DISASTROUS FIRE

You may have read in *Kapi-Mana News* last month about the disastrous fire at the Drama Hut in Kowhai Park. Tawa Community Theatre has lost 58 years of costumes, props and scenery, including a full set of World Wars One and Two military uniforms collected for the WW2 musical revue "Somewhere Over There" and "Dad's Army" - irreplaceable treasures and so many happy memories.

We have been using the Drama Hut for just on 58 years, for productions in the early days after the old Tawa Town Hall closed, and more recently for rehearsals and storage. *Kapi-Mana News* got the date wrong, as we have been on stage for 58 years in Tawa/Linden, not 40 as mentioned in the otherwise excellent article.

When Cafe Theatre came to Downstage Theatre during the 1960s in Wellington, Cafe Theatre came to Tawa/Linden. The Drama Hut was the "sophisticated hub of the community" (*Kapi-Mana News* quote), where patrons could enjoy canned spaghetti on toast served with sweet sherry, and a great night's entertainment ... all for under a pound and without needing to travel into the city.

The Drama Hut began life on the park in Lyndhurst Road and was moved to its present site when space was needed for the Rugby Club.

Our opening stage production for 2011 is on hold while we focus on the Drama Hut - a "production" we have to face and resolve before we are back under the spotlight at the Linden Social Centre.

We will be happy to receive any items of theatrical interest later when we have storage space available.

- article supplied by Rose Hudson, Tawa Community Theatre.

TELEVISION IN TAWA IS GOING DIGITAL

Changes are occurring to television broadcasting and herald an end to the old analogue television signal that New Zealanders have experienced since 1960. Around seven out of ten households in the Tawa area have already gone digital. If you use Freeview or Sky services you are already watching digital television. To watch digital television after September 2013 you won't need a new television, but you will need a set-top box (most new televisions have these built in) and a UHF aerial or satellite dish.

Community advisor, Guy Burns, is available to talk about the changes and answer questions you may have. Please contact him by phoning 472 3227 or emailing guy.burns@goingdigital.co.nz. Further information can be found at <http://www.goingdigital.co.nz> or 0800 838 800.

PIETER BRAUN'S FAREWELL

The Redwood School Board of Trustees invites the Redwood School community to a formal farewell function for Pieter Braun. This is an occasion to celebrate Pieter's time at Redwood, after 21 years as its Principal, and his career in teaching.

A light supper will be served which includes refreshments, tea and coffee. Thursday 31st March 7-9pm, Redwood School Hall. Smart Casual Dress. The evening is for adults only. RSVP Isabel on 232 7704 by Thursday 24th March or office@redwood.school.nz



COMING UP:

SEMINAR WITH ANNA TULLEMANS - Wed 16 March

Parents/caregivers/students/friends/family/others who are interested: Anna works with and supports children and adolescents with ASD (Autism/Asperger) through implementing practical programmes in mainstream primary and secondary schools and conducting a range of workshops throughout New Zealand and Australia for teaching staff and parents. Anna is the mother of a son with Asperger Syndrome who is now successfully attending university. She will be speaking at St Francis Xavier School 7pm-8.30pm on Wednesday 16th March.

TAWA KEAS' BIKE-A-THON - Thur 17 March

Tawa Keas (part of the Scouts New Zealand organisation for both boys and girls aged 6 to 8) are raising funds for the Red Cross Christchurch Earthquake Appeal on Thursday 17th March in the form of a Bike-a-thon. The Keas are currently working on their Road Safety Badge and thought that they could use this opportunity to raise funds for those in Christchurch who have been affected by the recent earthquakes.

They will have one hour to safely cycle as many laps as they can. Each lap is approximately 230m. 100% of funds raised will go to the Red Cross Christchurch Earthquake Appeal, with a prize to be given to the Kea who raises the most money. The event will be held at Tawa School at 5.30pm. Postponement date Thursday 24th March. Call Alison on 232 9865 to sponsor a Kea.

REDWOOD SCHOOL ART AUCTION - Thur 17 March

It's both an Art Auction and Wine & Nibbles Night at 7pm in the Redwood School Hall, Thursday 17th March. Over 20 pieces of specially selected student art will be auctioned on the night. All of these pieces have been specially mounted by Frame It, Main Road, Tawa. Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the Redwood School office prior to the night or at the door.

LINDEN SCHOOL GALA - Sat 19 March

At Linden School, Ranui Tce, 10am to 2pm. Funds raised will go to the swimming subsidy, laptops for classrooms, and upgrading resources.

PLUNKET'S WALKING PROGRAMME - Sat 19 & Sat 26 March

Join us on a free buggy walk around the Camborne Walkway. The walk should take about an hour and a half, so bring a water bottle. Pets, other children and partners welcome. Meeting at the Camborne Walkway Mana bridge entrance at 9.15am for a 9.30am start, Saturdays 19th & 26th March.

Details of walks in April are available at http://www.tawalink.com/coming_events.html

TAWA CENTRAL KINDERGARTEN GARAGE SALE - Sat 2 April

At the Scout and Guide Hall behind Tawa Central Kindy, Oxford Street, Tawa on Saturday 2nd April from 9am-1pm (rain or shine). Sausage sizzle and bouncy castle. Contact Emma 232 2724 or 021 162 2269 with any quality preloved donations.

PORIRUA GRAND TRAVERSE FUN RUN & WALK - Sun 3 April

Porirua Grand Traverse Fun Run & Walk is a recent addition to the Porirua Grand Traverse and grew out of Tawa College's relationship with World Vision. The event takes place on Sunday 3rd April. Full details are available at <http://www.poriruagrandtraverse.co.nz>

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD SNIPPETS

You should have received in your letterbox last week a gold-coloured newsletter from the Tawa Community Board with brief profiles of members of the Board along with a number of items of community interest. One of those was the Citizenship Award at Tawa Primary Schools as detailed here

- **TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARD**

The Tawa Community Board has approved the establishment an annual award at each of Tawa's six primary schools, plus Tawa Intermediate, to be presented to the Year 6 or 8 student who has shown "true leadership, citizenship, contribution to school life, etc".

A special ceremony will take place early December when the winners from each of the six schools will be presented with the award by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor of Wellington (hopefully!). This will include a laminated certificate and book voucher for each child and a trophy to be retained by the school with the winner's name engraved on it each year.

This award is additional to the Community Board's "Tawa Community Civic Awards" held every three years to show appreciation to those who perform voluntary roles within the Tawa community, and the Tawa Borough Scholarship which is awarded each year to the Tawa College student who has demonstrated all-round ability and has given worthwhile service to the college and/or the Tawa community.

- **THE EPETITION FOR "TURF IN TAWA"**

Mentioned earlier.

- **GET-TOGETHER WITH THE TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD**

Mentioned earlier.

Cheers

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com
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232 5030 A/H or 027 232 2320

"Do just once what others say you can't do, and you will never pay attention to their limitations again." - James R Cook

"Wisdom doesn't automatically come with old age. Nothing does - except wrinkles. It's true, some wines improve with age. But only if the grapes were good in the first place." - Abigail Van Buren

This community newsletter is emailed to more than 900 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) every month or so. If there's anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please let us know. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.