

Tawa COMMUNITY NEWS



April 2011

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

PRESENTING THE EPETITION



The "Turf in Tawa" ePetition containing 1725 names was officially presented to Wellington City councillors by Tawa Community Board member Margaret Lucas on Thursday of last week, along with a paper version with 510 signatures, a total of more than 2200 signatures.

Tawa Community Board chair Malcolm Sparrow spoke to the meeting of councillors, covering the reasons for the ePetition and emphasising the strong local support for an artificial turf. He also raised the issue of "equity", the fact that three out of the four existing artificial turfs are located in the southern half of the city, and none are in the northern suburbs where 42,000 people reside.

Bernie Kyne (pictured above), year 12 at Tawa College and in the girls' 2nd XI football team, spoke next in relation to sporting types needing an artificial turf on which to play when bad weather affects the state of local grounds resulting in the cancellation of many matches. She did well (as they say).

Margaret rounded things off by mentioning the number of schools in Tawa, the stronghold that sport has here, and the "prudence" in having artificial turfs spread more evenly throughout the city. She also pointed to the example of Tawa College and the Council working together in administering the Tawa Recreation Centre, and suggested there could be a similar sort of partnership in setting in place an artificial turf.

Others in the "Tawa support party" at the meeting were Robert Tredger (Tawa Community Board), Murray Lucas (Tawa College principal) and Ian Baker (Year 12 Tawa College).

Councillors agreed yesterday to the installation of an artificial turf in Johnsonville in 2013/14, followed by Grenada North/Tawa in 2014/15. Not as soon as we'd like but there is the possibility that this could be brought forward if additional community funding can be identified earlier. If any of you has a spare half-mill lying around, that could come in very useful at this point! Anyway your community board is continuing to work on this and will keep you informed.

MEETING WITH THE TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

The Tawa Community Board's Community Plan - what the board hopes to achieve in the period October 2010 to October 2013 - was covered at a recent community get-together, and a brief presentation on the Tawa Shared Walkway was given by Brett Gillies, chair of the walkway committee.

In addition to seven members of the community board (one was absent), there were 64 people present, a superb turnout. A good number of questions were directed to the community board and, not surprisingly, real concern was expressed about the prospect of the local supermarket being out of operation for around nine months from later this year. (See more about that under "Snippets from the Tawa Community Board").



See the Tawa Community Plan at www.tawalink.com/2011photos/tawa_community_plan.pdf. You have until 28 April 2011 to let us have any feedback on this.

EMAIL FROM TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE

Could you please convey Tawa Community Theatre's sincere thanks for the wonderful support and messages of goodwill we have received from the greater Tawa community since the disastrous fire which damaged our Drama Hut so badly and destroyed most of our equipment.

Our first production for 2011 is on hold at this time, however there are plans in place for us to rise again ... like Edmonds Baking Powder ... so watch this space. Audition notices will be advertised after Easter. After 58 years of continuous performance in Tawa and Linden we look forward to celebrating our 60th birthday in about 18 months ... hopefully in our reconstructed Drama Hut in Kowhai Park.

- Rose Hudson, Tawa Community Theatre

TAWA KEAS' BIKE-A-THON

We had fantastic weather on Thursday 24th March for the Kea Bike-a-thon for Christchurch. [Keas are part of the Scouts New Zealand organisation for both boys and girls aged 6 to 8].

In total the Keas raised \$940 and cycled/scooted over 150km (657 laps – each lap approx 230m) in just 1 hour. An awesome effort by the Keas and we hope that the money can be put to good use by the Red Cross for the people in Christchurch.



Thank you to the Tawa community for supporting the Tawa Keas with our Bike-a-thon for Christchurch fundraiser.

- article and photo supplied

The photos below can be seen somewhat larger at www.tawalink.com

PIETER BRAUN'S FAREWELL

A formal farewell function for Pieter Braun took place in the Redwood School hall on Thursday 31st March. Pieter is retiring at the end of this term after serving as principal at Redwood since 1991.

Noteable Kids, an orchestra led by Sandra Logan and comprising Tawa College and Tawa Intermediate students, provided the music – and very capably too, especially the theme from "Mission Impossible".



Andy Fenton, former chair of Redwood School's Board of Trustees, MCed the evening. Kim Paver, current chair, presented a gift of a MacBook Pro to the departing principal. He in turn presented the school with an aerial shot of the school itself, photographed from a helicopter.

The gathering was made up of current parents, former students, current and former staff (some of whom had travelled considerable distances to be there), current and former board members, teaching colleagues of Pieter's, three MPs, a local councillor, community board members, and various other friends of the school.

Redwood School is the biggest primary school in Tawa and is held in high esteem in the community, providing a "traditional" education (i.e. it teaches the basics well), much of the credit for which must be given to its long-serving principal, Pieter Braun. May he have a long and happy retirement, and may his successor maintain the same high standards at the school!

HOMESTAYS NEEDED

Homestays are needed for two exchange students - two girls, both aged 16, one from Germany and one from Brazil. They can go to separate homestays and a small weekly allowance is paid to help with costs. These are awesome girls who would love to fit into any family, full of life and keen to enjoy the New Zealand experience. For more information phone Lesley on 528 5224.

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD SNIPPETS

• **WHEELIE BINS FOR RECYCLING**

Wellington City Council is introducing wheelie bins for fortnightly recycling of plastics, paper and metals. Around 36,000 140 litre wheelie bins are currently being delivered throughout the city, around 1100 wheelie bins per day. Wheelie bin delivery should be concluded around the end of this month. Many of us in Tawa have now got ours. Some haven't.

From early May 26,000 sets of bags will be delivered to those households or streets deemed unsuitable for wheelie bins. The Council estimates that 12,000 of the city's 57,000 households won't be able to use wheelie bins because of steep or difficult access. Those residents will be given a see-through recyclable bag for their plastics, paper and metals. Bags have been designed to take the same capacity as a wheelie bin (i.e. 2 bags @ 70 litres each = 140 litres). Six months' supply of bags will be delivered the first time around.

The move is expected to increase the amount Wellington recycles by 46 percent, from 12,300 tonnes a year to 18,000 tonnes, as well as reducing the amount of litter and broken glass on the streets. Less will be blown away because the wheelie bins have lids.

NOTE: Glass will still be collected using the existing 45-litre green bins on alternate weeks to the wheelie bins. If you don't have a glass crate (the existing green recycling bin), call the Contact Centre on 499 4444 before the end of August and you should be provided one. "Ask and it shall be given you."

The exciting new recycling service starts in the week beginning Monday 16th May.

In November the Council will review the mix of bins/bags and make any adjustments necessary.

• **UPDATE ON THE SUPERMARKET**

The community board is continuing to liaise with Foodstuffs to ensure that the "transition" from Woolworths to New World goes as smoothly as possible. Foodstuffs are talking about setting up a "convenience store" before the end of November (when Woolworths closes) in the currently vacant part of the mall. They're also suggesting they will be communicating with the community to keep local people informed of developments.

It should be borne in mind that although the Tawa Community Board will be working on the best possible outcome for the Tawa community, ultimately it will be Foodstuffs who call the shots. This is a commercial undertaking and any decisions made are theirs, although the community board will of course be endeavouring to "exert a strong influence".

• **PRESENTING THE EPETITION**

Mentioned earlier.

• **MEETING WITH THE TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD**

Mentioned earlier.

Tawa Community Board

From left:

Cr Justin Lester

Cr Ngaire Best

Alistair Sutton

Robert Tredger

Malcolm Sparrow (Chair)

Chris Reading

Graeme Hansen (Deputy)

Margaret Lucas





Tawa Returned and Services Association (Inc.)

ANZAC DAY OBSERVANCE – MONDAY 25 APRIL 2011

This year's Tawa Community ANZAC Day observance will commence with a parade which will assemble in Woolworths' carpark at 9.30am and march off to the Tawa RSA at 9.45am.

The parade will be led by the Red Hackle Highland Pipe Band and will include representatives from NZ Police, Tawa College, NZ Fire Services Tawa Station, and local Girl Guides units.

The Civic service will be held in the Tawa RSA Hall, 89 Oxford Street, at the completion of the parade (approximately 10am). The public are most welcome to march in the parade, attend the service and pay tribute on this special day of remembrance.

INTRODUCE YOUR CHILD(REN) TO FOOTBALL

Come enjoy the beautiful game of football with our fun and energetic coaches on Wellington's best football facility! No muddy fields or cancellations!

Ages/Gender: boys and girls born 2001 to 2005

Day/Time: Friday nights 6.00-7.30pm

Dates: May 13th to July 1st (8 sessions)

Location: Olé Football Academy in Porirua

Training cost: \$80 for 8 x 90 minute sessions

Academy Fee: There is a \$30 annual academy fee for first time participants. This includes an official Olé Training t-shirt provided by Under Armour which is to be worn for training and can be used for all Olé programmes throughout 2011. Players who already have a t-shirt from Term 1 2011 Skill Builders can use it for all 2011 and do not have to pay a 2011 Academy Fee.

Contact: www.ole.co.nz or 237 0506.

CAN YOU ASSIST?

This eNewsletter is sent to a total of 1065 email addresses. Around 45 are "out-of-town". The remainder are Tawa-based. However a small number bounce back every month because people have changed their email address and forgotten to tell us. That's where YOU come in. If you enjoy speaking to people on the phone and have an hour or so available each week, you could be the very one who helps us by calling to obtain those updated email addresses. Please contact Malcolm on info@tawalink.com if this sounds like you.

WANTED BY THE TAWA POLICE

More volunteers are needed to assist at the Tawa Community Police Base. Volunteers are in charge of the office during their 3-hour duty period, while the Community Constable (currently in absentia) is out and about on crime prevention and investigation.

Good communication skills are essential and confidentiality is paramount. Duty shifts are 10am to 1pm or 1pm to 4pm. Volunteers can choose a day of the particular week and whether morning or afternoon. Full "on the job" training is given until solo duty commences, when any guidance required is always close to hand.

Being a police volunteer is one of the most worthwhile vocations in the community, with job satisfaction from helping Tawa residents and businesses a just reward. For more information please ring Jim Higgins (photo below), Base Controller, on 232 6289 (before 10am, or evenings) and/or call at the base at the Tawa Community Centre in Cambridge St and have a chat with the duty volunteer.



MORE TAWA PEOPLE



Who are Dawn Jamieson and Jim Higgins? One was born in Wellington, the other in Wales. One likes apple crumble, the other apple pie. One has lived in Tawa since 1947, the other since 1958. One used to travel by steam train to school, the other trained on Tiger Moths. Read all about these and other interesting Tawa people at www.tawalink.com/tawa_people.html.



COMING UP IN TAWA:

END OF FIRST TERM - Fri 15 April

PLUNKET'S LET'S GET WALKING PROGRAMME - Sat 16 April

Join us for a free buggy walk and be part of a fantastic free Plunket fitness event. Every week throughout the summer Plunket will be hosting a buggy walk. Join us this week for a few laps around Aotea Lagoon and then let the kids have a play afterwards. Meet at the duck pond in the rose garden at 9.45am for a 10am start. Buggy walks are subject to change. Check with tawaplunket@gmail.com or see Tawa Linden Plunket on Facebook.

OVER 60s LUNCH - Mon 18 April

From 11.30am in the Emmaus Centre (back of St Christopher's Church). Lunch is followed by a time of "entertainment". A donation of \$5 towards costs is appreciated. Please contact the church office on 232 8448 or Christine Goodin on 233 9464 or email christinegoodin@xtra.co.nz for transport or further information.

PLUNKET'S LET'S GET WALKING PROGRAMME - Weds 20 & 27 April

Join us for a free buggy walk and be part of a fantastic free Plunket fitness event. Every week throughout the summer Plunket will be hosting a buggy walk. Join us this week for a walk along the riverside as far as it goes and back again. Meet behind Pirate's Cove Golf, Wineera Dr, Porirua at 9.15am for a 9.30am start. Buggy walks are subject to change. Check with tawaplunket@gmail.com or see Tawa Linden Plunket on Facebook.

START OF SECOND TERM - Mon 2 May

TAWA LINDEN PLUNKET QUIZ NIGHT - Sat 7 May

At the Cricket Clubrooms in Gee Street, Tawa. Doors open 6.30pm, quiz starts from 7pm. Strictly BYO all drinks, alcohol and soft drinks. Light supper included. Spot prizes. There are tables still available. Book at tawaplunket@gmail.com or see Tawa Linden Plunket on Facebook. Lots of fun so get the babysitter booked now.

FRIENDS OF TAWA BUSH RESERVES WORKING BEE - Sun 8 May

Join with us for our monthly members working bee on the 2nd Sunday afternoon of each month 1.30-4pm. For further information contact Richard Herbert on 232 6828.

TAWA LINDEN PLUNKET PRE-LOVED CLOTHING SALE - Sat 14 May

At the Tawa Community Centre. Doors open from 1.30pm until 3.30pm. To book a table contact Carrie on 232 7227.

"THE HILARIOUS HYPNOTIST" - Wed 18 & Thurs 19 May

Enjoy an evening with "The Hilarious Hypnotist", Dave Upfold, at 7.00pm on two successive nights. Venue Tawa College – fundraiser for the History Trip to the USA. Cost \$20 each, but you can purchase five tickets for the cost of four. Good family fun. The show will be tailored to the audience so every performance is different. For ticket sales prior to the night please contact either Jacqui Kerr-Bell on 236 7677 or daly4@xtra.co.nz or Fiona Allan on 232 3270 or the.allans@xtra.co.nz.

See full details of "Coming Events" in Tawa at www.tawalink.com/coming_events.html

DID YOU KNOW?

The traditional Tamil year started yesterday on 14 April 2011, known as Kaliyuga 5113. I wasn't aware of that until two days ago. Tamils are an ethnic group native to Tamil Nadu in the southeast of India, one of the country's 28 states, and are also native to the northeastern region of Sri Lanka. According to *Wikipedia* there are 77 million Tamil people, and a very small percentage live in Tawa. (That last statement isn't from *Wikipedia*).

Cheers

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com
(loosely under the umbrella of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association)
info@tawalink.com
www.tawalink.com
232 5030 A/H or 027 232 2320

P.S. Have a very pleasant Easter break, probably the most important time of the year on the Christian calendar.

Yours truly and his wife will be heading over to Nelson and Takaka - pleasant part of the country. One thing some of us have learned in recent weeks is that if you ever want to go to the end of Farewell Spit - which can only be done with a commercial operator - avoid Easter as it's no go then. Because the timing of Easter is based on the full moon, and the moon affects the tides, tours to the end of Farewell Spit simply don't take place at Easter. Darn, will have to go another time. It's on the "bucket list".



"Victory is sweetest when you've known defeat." - Malcolm Forbes

"Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy."

"Exercise is a dirty word. Every time I hear it, I wash my mouth out with chocolate."

This community newsletter is emailed to more than 1000 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.