



This community newsletter is sent out usually twice each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website since 2002. The newsletter is supported by the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association.

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO

THE FUTURE OF TAWA STATION

75 to 80 people attended a special meeting late last Sunday afternoon to hear "arguments" for and against the restoration of the Tawa Railway Station building.

Angus Gabarra and Cr Peter Glensor presented the Wellington Regional Council's viewpoint that the less expensive and less time-consuming option is to demolish the current building and replace it with a modern shelter costing around \$600,000.

Bruce Murray represented the Tawa Historical Society whose contention is that the building is one of the very few left in Tawa of any historical significance and is worthy of preservation.

Allan Dodson of the Plimmerton Residents' Association told us how his community had rallied together to restore their railway station.

There was agreement that maintenance of the Tawa Railway Station building has been sorely neglected over the years, but questions were asked about the veracity of the Regional Council's claim that it could cost \$1.5m to restore, with closure of the station for as long as 18 months.



The meeting ended with a "straw poll" of those present. Around 25% voted for restoration of the railway station. Of the two-thirds or so who voted for demolition and replacement with a modern shelter, some saw absolutely no merit in preserving a "derelict building", whereas others would like to have seen the station saved if possible but the projected cost of restoration and likely length of closure meant that they saw no alternative but to go along with the Regional Council's recommendation.

Where do we go from here? The Regional Council has indicated it will liaise with the Tawa Community Board in regards to the design of the replacement structure. Whilst this will ultimately be at the discretion of the Regional Council, it will consider some input from our end-of-the line (no pun intended). We'll keep you posted.

As a matter of interest, we have received 33 emails on this issue. The breakdown of those for and against has been pretty much consistent with the percentages above.

WHO'S A 'GOOD SORT' IN TAWA? PLEASE LET US KNOW!

Most of us know someone who puts time and effort into this community on a voluntary basis - whether it's in a sports club or service club, in school or church life or whatever. Here's a chance to thank them publicly for what they do!

Contd on next page



WHO'S A 'GOOD SORT' IN TAWA? (contd)

The Tawa Community Civic Awards are held for that very reason – to give us the chance to acknowledge the many in this community who contribute (voluntarily) to improving the quality of life for those of us who live here.

These awards have been run by the community board in Tawa every two years since 2006.

At a special ceremony on Friday 22 June a certificate of appreciation will be presented by the Mayor of Wellington to each of those whose names have been sent to us (as long as they meet the basic eligibility criteria).

Nominations close on Friday 25 May.

Forms are available at the Library or go to this webpage: www.tawalink.com/tcca_2012.html. You can even fill in a Word document online if that's easier!

KNOW A 'GOOD SORT' IN TAWA?

IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO INVESTS TIME AND EFFORT IN THIS COMMUNITY - PRIMARILY ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS - NOMINATE THEM FOR THE TAWA COMMUNITY CIVIC AWARDS

The Tawa Community Civic Awards, previously held in 2006, 2008 and 2010, are being run again in 2012 by the Tawa Community Board.

The awards recognise and show appreciation to groups or individuals who enhance the Tawa community and make it a better place to live. Also included is the Tawa Rotary Young Employee Award.

You can nominate an individual or a group.

The ceremony will take place in June.

Simply fill in the reverse side of this form or go online at Wellington.govt.nz/tawa

Nominations close Friday 25 May

There are seven categories:

- WITH A CAUSE**
Education and recovery participation in arts, including music and creative drama activities
- EDUCATION AND/OR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT**
Learning and enhancing the development of young people and children
- HEALTH AND WELLBEING**
Initiatives and activities which enhance the wellbeing of people
- MENTAL AND ENVIRONMENT**
Learning or contributing to the environment, either a heritage project and/or nature
- SPORT AND LEISURE**
Encouraging and increasing participation in physical sport, leisure activities and recreational pursuits. This award is for those involved in creating the sport/leisure activity - coaching, administration, etc. - as opposed to being a participant
- YOUTH (15-24 YEARS)**
Initiation and recognition of young people who provide outstanding service to the community of Tawa
- TAWA ROTARY YOUNG EMPLOYEE AWARDS (15-24 YEARS)**
Recognising young and enthusiastic work/learning excellence. Responsibilities: The nominee must be a 1600 member of the full union.

NEW WORLD SUPERMARKET UPDATE

The following has been sent to us on behalf of Foodstuffs:

George Sutherland, General Manager Brand, Foodstuffs Wellington, says New World Tawa is expected to open in early September rather than the anticipated July opening.

July was the original date but was subject to the realities of what contractors discovered once they gained access to the site following the end of the Woolworths' lease.

Once contractors had access to the site, they discovered more work was required than had been expected. The majority of this was related to structural, flooring and foundation improvements.

Asbestos was discovered in the building and this is not unusual for a building of this type and age. The site is now clean of the asbestos which was dealt with by industry experts as required by the Health and Safety in Employment Act and the Department of Labour. Asbestos on its own was not the reason for the delay. It was just one of a variety of factors that needed addressing in a building of this type and age.

New World as a brand is committed to providing a top quality environment for its customers and we regard a few extra months' work as acceptable in delivering on that commitment.

We ask for the Tawa community's patience, and trust that our alternative arrangements of the Temporary Supermarket in Tawa Mall and our bus service to nearby New Worlds continue to suit your grocery needs in the meantime.

COUNTDOWN PROGRESS

The community board has emailed Countdown asking where they're up to with their plans to construct their supermarket at Takapu Island. We'll bring you details once we've heard back.

The following has just been received from a passenger on Countdown's temporary shuttle service to Johnsonville: On Thursday morning (10 May), the driver of this shuttle gave to each passenger (I was one), a Countdown (Progressive Enterprises)-written leaflet that said the "Free shuttle bus service ends Saturday 19 May". It then went on to add, "Thank you for your continued support while we re-build your Countdown Tawa store. We look forward to seeing you at Countdown Johnsonville, Johnsonville Mall or Porirua ... Online shopping available at countdown.co.nz ... If you have any questions, please contact Customer Support Freephone 0800 40 40 40".

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO (contd)

SUBMISSION TO THE CITY COUNCIL'S LONG TERM PLAN

The Tawa Community Board is completing a submission to the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan.

The main areas of interest to Tawa for which funds have been earmarked are:

- the Tawa Shared Walkway
- the artificial turf in Tawa (2014/15)
- \$650,000 for an upgrade of Grasslees Reserve

These projects are all important to Tawa and we're emphasising that we would very much like to see them completed within the time frames previously agreed to.

You too can forward a submission emphasising the above points! They all help the cause! Go to <http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/publicinput/2012-05-longterm.php>

HANGING BASKETS

Progress is being made in regard to getting hanging baskets installed outside the shops on the Main Road between Drummond's Pharmacy and the Library. The next step is to get an irrigation system in place. The plumber has been booked to do this. Watch this space.

PROGRESS WITH THE POOL

We promised that we'd let you know once we have information about the likely re-opening date of the pool. And we will.

THE REDWOOD CLUB - DAYCARE FOR THE ELDERLY

We need volunteer help!!!

Can you spare a few hours a week to help with:

- driving the Redwood van to collect members and bring them to the club?
- general kitchen duties?
- making and serving cups of tea?
- sitting and chatting with members?

Or do you have a hobby or skill that you could show to members and staff?

If the answer to any of these is 'Yes', please phone and let us know on 232 5521 and ask to speak to the Registered Nurse.

CONNECT AT THE BNZ IN TAWA

BNZ Connect evenings are a great way to bring our business community together. At 5.30pm on the first Tuesday of every month, local business people in the community gather at the BNZ Tawa store for a free networking evening. It is a great opportunity to meet like-minded business people from our local community. If you have not been to one, please contact Rosemary Silva, the BNZ Tawa's new store manager for more details.

Two other points of interest:

- the BNZ Tawa store has a community wall - where business or community activities can be advertised for FREE.
- there is a FREE internet facility at the BNZ Tawa store which is available for anyone to use.

For more information on the above please feel free to contact Rosemary Silva on 029 222 0225 or on her direct dial no. 232 0012.

TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESS RELEASE

Hello Campers, hello and welcome to FUNFRALL at ROCKINGHAM-BY-THE-SEA, your home away from home where our Yellow Coats are waiting to introduce you to a fun time ... fun for all, twisting and shouting all the wonderful songs from the 1960s ... Shout, Do you Love Me, The Game of Love, I Only Wanna Be With You, and many more.

Forget the shock of last year's devastating fire which destroyed most of our resources and our Drama Hut.

Like the mighty Phoenix we have risen from the ashes, and with a bit of blood from careless builders, a bit of sweat from our rocking, twisting and shouting Yellow Coats, and tears of laughter and joy from us all, the Thespian Phoenix will soon be flying high to bring you Tawa Community Theatre's TWIST AND SHOUT – 17 to 26 May at the Linden Social Centre.

TWIST AND SHOUT is set in the Holiday Camp FUNFRALL at ROCKINGHAM by-the-SEA where the Yellow Coats are awaiting the arrival of their new camp director Robbie Hood, and a group of new campers. The dastardly Mayor is trying to extract a holiday tax from the campers, they rebel and romance is in the air.

Forget the wintry blasts outside and warm up in our very own centrally heated "holiday camp" in Linden Avenue, to enjoy a great night out, rocking, rolling (hopefully not on the floor), twisting and shouting so many hits from the sixties, brought to you by TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE, our first big show since the fire.

See poster below.

BRIAN WEBB KINDERGARTEN GARAGE SALE

From 8.30am on Saturday 19 May at the kindergarten, Victory Cres, Tawa. See poster below.



BRIAN WEBB KINDERGARTEN
Garage Sale
Saturday 19th May
From 8:30am
at
Brian Webb Kindergarten
28 Victory Cres
Tawa

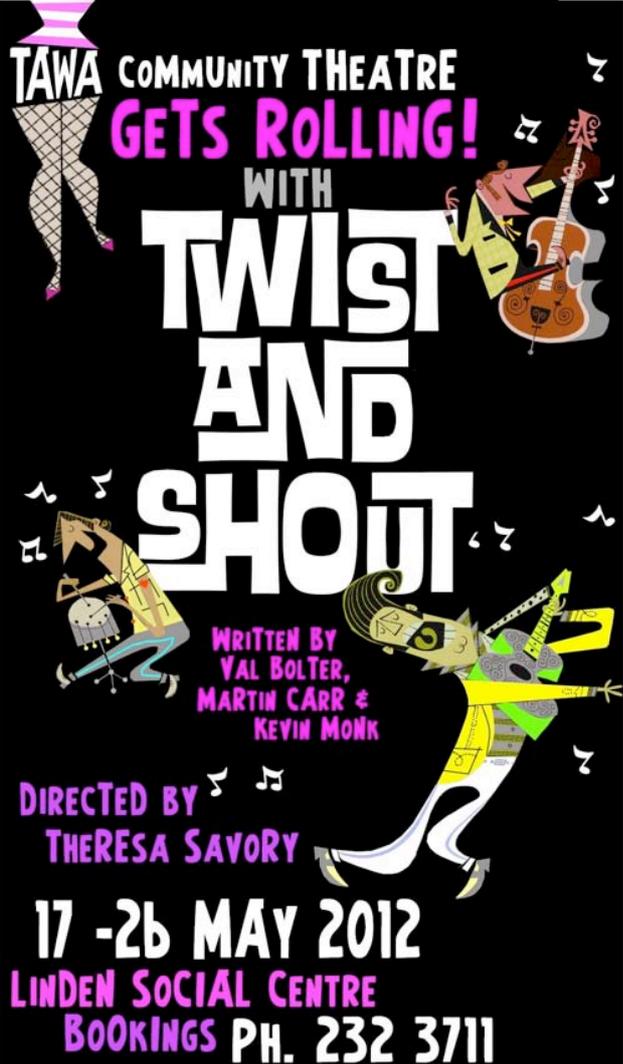
We would appreciate your Garage sale items,
Books/Puzzles/DVD's/CD's/Board games etc.
(No CRT TV's or Computer Monitors please)

If you have any of the above items that you can give to the Kindergarten to help make this event a success please contact: Kindergarten phone number 232 5305
or
Drop your items off to
Brian Webb Kindergarten
28 Victory Cres
Tawa

Proudly sponsored by:



storage solutions
self storage
0800 MORE SPACE



TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE
GETS ROLLING!
WITH
TWIST
AND
SHOUT

WRITTEN BY
VAL BOLTER,
MARTIN CARR &
KEVIN MONK

DIRECTED BY
THERESA SAVORY

17 -26 MAY 2012
LINDEN SOCIAL CENTRE
BOOKINGS PH. 232 3711

AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMMES INFORMATION EVENING

Tawa College, Thursday 24 May at 7pm.

If you have ever had any interest in an intercultural experience, then AFS Pasifika chapter invite you to join us for an information evening and photo exhibition. AFS is the industry leader in cultural exchanges and the volunteers are eager to share information to both students and parents regarding student exchanges, hosting an exchange student, scholarships that are available, exchanges for over 18s, and being involved at a chapter level.

An AFS intercultural experience may be more achievable than you think, so if you are interested in attending please email the number attending to afspasifikaporirua@hotmail.com. We will confirm the room where this event will be held once we have an idea of the attendance numbers.

AFS HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

"Through AFS we recently welcomed Mariana from Costa Rica into our family. She will be staying with us for about 10 months and is attending our local high school. She has quickly settled into Kiwi life and begun to share her rich culture with us as well. What an amazing experience to be able to share our home with someone from the other side of the world and to be able to offer that sort of life-changing experience to another person."

- Shelley Dalton, AFS Host Parent 2012

AFS is a not-for-profit organisation and we have students arriving from all over the world who require host families for 2 months from July. We provide an extensive support network to assist the student and their family and have fun events for both the hosted students and their host family to join in. If you would like to find out more about hosting a student through AFS, please contact us at afspasifikaporirua@hotmail.com.

AFS HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

AFS Pasifika (the local chapter including Tawa), participated in a successful basketball tournament with the other chapters in the Wellington region on 5 May. The students of the chapter which included students from Tawa College, Porirua College, Bishop Viard College and Aotea College along with exchange students from Colombia, Costa Rica and Germany played hard, but fair before attending the Saints basketball game vs the Hawks.

After becoming basketball players it was a highlight to meet with New Zealand basketball legend and Saints coach, Pero Cameron.



AFS Pasifika prior to the tournament



The students of Pasifika with Pero Cameron

TAWA CRAFT MARKET

The next Tawa Craft Market will be held at the Tawa Community Centre on Saturday 19 May from 9.30-1.30pm. Opportunities are available to operate a stall or to run the fundraising BBQ. All community groups, schools, kindies, etc, are welcome. Contact Toni Stoker on 232 4370 or email inot_ynotstoker@xtra.co.nz

POT LUCK DINNER

The Tawa Community Centre is hosting a Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday 19 May from 6-8pm. Bring enough food to feed yourself and your family and we'll pool it so you can sample a variety of dishes. Everyone welcome!

TAWA ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Tawa Orchestra's Concert "From Great Britain", at 2pm on Sunday 27 May at Tawa College Hall, will feature music (from the four countries) including Hamish MacCunn's "The Land of the Mountain and Flood", arrangements of Andrew Lloyd Webber's music from "Cats" and "The Phantom of the Opera", "Themes from 007", and music from "The Lord of the Dance" and of Elton John from "The Lion King", Beatles' tunes, and Elga's "Pomp and Circumstance March No 4", and surprise guests.

Admission by donation. For further information, please email jillene.everett@xtra.co.nz or call 027 210 4790.

KIDSGAMES

KidsGames after-school programme will be held on Friday afternoons from Friday 11 May until 29 June, 4 to 6pm at Tawa Intermediate. To receive a registration form please email Metua at parr@family.net.nz. Entry by donation.

Find out more about KidsGames through the website at <http://kidsgames.com>. The local KidsGames programme is being run by Tawa Anglican, Catholic and New Life churches.

Adios

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

"Laughter is timeless. Imagination has no age. And dreams are forever." - Walt Disney

"Enjoy the little things in life, because one day you will look back and realise they were the big things."

"Time is more valuable than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time."
- Jim Rohn

This newsletter is emailed to around 1100 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) usually in the first and the third weeks of each month. 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.

On a personal note

The Southern Lakes district is superb in the autumn. I actually think it's superb most other times of the year as well. But its autumn colours are worth seeing, and that's the main reason Karen and I were there for six days at the very end of April.

The flight from Wellington provides great views of the Southern Alps, particularly Mt Cook, from the right hand side of the plane, and a brilliant outlook over Lake Wanaka before descending amongst the hills (quite closely really) and the golden colours below to touch down at Queenstown Airport.

We spent a few hours at Arrowtown on the day of its well-supported Anzac Day parade before a brief stop at picturesque Lake Hayes and onwards to Te Anau. After an overnight sojourn it was a 20-minute drive to Lake Manapouri the next morning to join our pre-booked excursion to Doubtful Sound. We hadn't been there before, and as it's no. 2 on the list of 101 places for Kiwis to see in their own country, it was a must-visit. There were 22 on our outing, foreigners slightly outnumbering North Islanders.

Lake Manapouri is claimed by many to be New Zealand's most beautiful lake. It is in a rather spectacular setting, and I can understand why it's "up there". It took us an hour by boat across the lake to reach West Arm and the Manapouri Power Station, NZ's biggest hydroelectric plant. It's not accessible by road although, once there, Doubtful Sound is reached by a shingle road from West Arm. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

We boarded a tourist coach (actually a "Japanese import" bus) driven by Toby, one of our two guides for the day, for the drive down inside the mountain to reach the actual power station. The Manapouri project was a huge undertaking in the 1960s, and creating a two kilometre access road through solid rock was a mammoth feat. A plaque inside the mountain remembers the 16 men who lost their lives during the whole project.

It took around 40 minutes to travel 18 kilometres over the Willmott Pass to reach the start (or end, if you prefer) of Doubtful Sound in one of the remotest spots in the country. We had one photo op en route before descending to the sound. Quite magnificent really, as seen in the photo.

The 3-hour cruise on the sound took us right out to the Tasman Sea for a glimpse of seals (not as close-up as at Cape Palliser) and, very fleetingly, a couple of dolphins on the return leg. Majestic surroundings however and worthy of the 150+ photos taken on the voyage. We get a little carried away sometimes.

The day's outing with Doubtful Sound Cruises took almost 9 hours in all, enhanced by a very informative commentary from young Toby who certainly knew his stuff. I'd recommend it.

On our way back to Queenstown the next day we stopped briefly to see the Kingston Flyer, the resurrected steam train, pulling in to its base at the bottom of Lake Wakatipu (so to speak). One of us stayed in the car to avoid the cold wind outside, the other braved the conditions to enjoy the spectacle and shoot off a number of photos.

Over the next few days we spent time in Glenorchy at the head of Lake Wakatipu (enjoying a very scenic drive to get there), rode up the gondola for one of the world's best views and a few rides on the luge (a repeat of two years ago), and went with a commercial operator into Skipper's Canyon (on a narrow and rather "scary" road with big drops below) for a jetboat ride on the Shotover River. Great fun but not long enough.

I've said it before - that part of the country is probably my favourite and I very much enjoy going there. Unfortunately that isn't often enough.



PHOTOS (from top): Flying in over Lake Wakatipu; Autumn colours at Lake Hayes; Doubtful Sound; Nearing Glenorchy on Lake Wakatipu; Shotover River in Skipper's Canyon; countryside between Queenstown and Arrowtown.