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# COMMUNITY NEWS

June  
2013 - 2

*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.*

## THE STORM'S EFFECT ON TAWA

We're all aware of the storm which swept through much of the country last week and hit Wellington with a fury on Thursday evening, downing trees overnight and cutting power to thousands of homes.

Many households in Tawa, especially those on the flat and on the eastern side were in the dark for 12-15 hours or more. Several local schools were closed on Friday. In the case of Tawa College it was due to having no electric power. At others it was a matter of not all staff being able to get to school. Can't really have children there without teachers!

The Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade was busy with a big number of callouts – the busiest 24-hour period they've ever experienced! Once again we're very grateful for the work they do for the community, on this occasion all through the night in very unpleasant conditions.

It's taking time to clear all the various fallen trees and repair other damage. Tawa Terrace was cut off with trees lying right across the road, Willowbank Road/Middleton Road was closed for three days, and large pine trees were blown over at the southern end of Willowbank Park. The Council page in yesterday's *DomPost* featured a photo showing damage to a pedestrian bridge at Willowbank. There were lots of "lesser" incidents as well, such as damaged fences and displaced trampolines.

See [www.tawalink.com/pic\\_week\\_2013-15.html](http://www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2013-15.html) for 16 photos of the storm's effect on Tawa.



## THE PASSING OF ALLAN TODD – TAWA'S "ELDER STATESMAN"



"Allan Todd called to higher service" – that was the heading in Tawa Rotary's most recent newsletter, describing the passing last week of Allan Todd.

At the Tawa Community Civic Awards in July 2008 a special category of "Excellence in Community Service" was created for the sole purpose of recognising a person who was described by one of those nominating him as being "into everything". It was said at the time, "If Tawa had an elder statesman, he would fill the role admirably" – an apt description of a key figure in the Tawa community. Our condolences to his wife Marjorie.

With the backing of Rotary, Allan set up a committee about 12 years ago to establish U3A in Tawa, a group which provides a great service for almost 500 mostly older local people. He was involved with Rotary (and was president in the 2006/07 Rotary year), Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves, the men's group at the Union Church which he organised, and he had also been a Tawa Community Police Volunteer. Allan was active with the Wellington Male Voice Choir, Redwood Club, the Tawa Historical Society, and regularly volunteered with Tawa Rotary's major fundraiser at the Stadium.

For more about Allan Todd's role in the community, see [www.tawalink.com/allan\\_todd.html](http://www.tawalink.com/allan_todd.html) and [www.tawalink.com/story\\_of\\_a\\_suburb.html](http://www.tawalink.com/story_of_a_suburb.html). Tawa is the poorer without him.

## TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO

### NO BINS AT TAWA STATION

It's been asked why there are no litter bins at Tawa Station (or other local railway stations for that matter). Where do commuters finishing their coffee discard their empty cups? The answer is that we need to take them with us to dispose of elsewhere.

Between KiwiRail and the Regional Council there is a policy of no bins at stations, other than manned stations.

The chair of the Tawa Community Board, Malcolm Sparrow, met recently with the Security Manager for KiwiRail at Tawa Station to discuss this specific issue and to ask about the possibility of tidy Kiwis having somewhere at the station to dispose of unwanted rubbish. As anticipated, the answer was no.

The three main reasons for the "no bin" policy are these:

- people dispose of household rubbish in these bins at great cost to the station operator
- there is a substantial cost incurred over the course of a year in emptying them
- because of their isolation, fires are sometimes lit in the bins, and that's not good

As a matter of interest, the station is checked by the cleaning company on a daily basis and "tidied" when necessary.

### MEETING WITH LOCAL BUSINESS PEOPLE

A number of local business people have been getting together in recent weeks to discuss how to encourage Tawa people to better support local businesses and to determine what strategies might be put in place to boost Tawa as a shopping destination. The meetings to date have been initiated by the Tawa Community Board.

Representatives from Tawa Rotary are also involved. It's in the interests of the community as a whole to see local businesses prosper, thus the need to get together to work out ways of making this happen. Some useful ideas have already emerged which are likely to be put into action shortly. As they say, watch this pace.



## WELLINGTON CITY YOUTH COUNCIL 2013

Congratulations to Erin Lockhart of Year 10 at Tawa College on her selection earlier in the year for the WCC Youth Council of 2013. Erin sent off her application, went through the interview process along with 57 other applicants, and was one of nine students chosen to join the Youth Council this year. She has already been to two meetings and participated in a Youth Alcohol strategy workshop at Te Papa.

*[That paragraph was borrowed from the Tawa College June 2013 newsletter].*

As it happens, Erin was the girl winner (there's also a boy winner) of the Tawa Primary Schools' Citizenship Award for Tawa Intermediate in 2011, the year it was first set up.

The chair of the Wellington City Youth Council is Jack Marshall who also happens to be a Tawa resident and ex-Tawa College student. Jack is now in his first year at Victoria University, studying Law, Political Science and International Relations, and is likely to put his name forward as a candidate for the Tawa Community Board in this year's election.

It's very encouraging to see young people of this quality living amongst us!



## YOUR INVITATION TO A HIGH TEA

You are cordially invited to a benefit in support of Tawa Central Kindergarten and their upcoming refurbishments. Come and experience a High Tea with your friends and family on Saturday 6 July in the Tawa Baptist Church hall, 225 Main Road, Tawa.

Support the Kindergarten. Tickets \$20 from Tawa Kindy, 21 Oxford Street, or phone Nicki on 232 2012. (Gluten free by prior request).



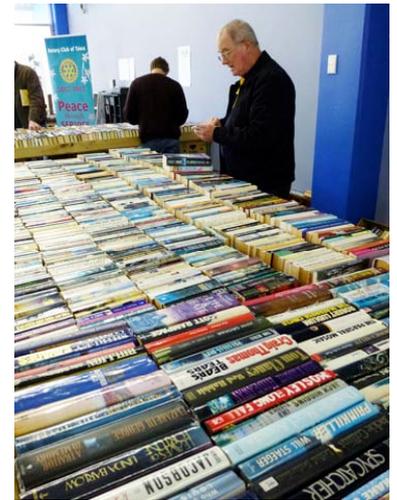
## TAWA ROTARY CLUB ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

Tawa Rotary Club will again be holding a book fair in support of Life Education Trust and other charities. The same venue as previous years will be used with plenty of parking available and, above all, thousands of books to choose from. These cover just about every subject and a very wide range of authors. There will also be other items, such as CDs and DVDs. Most books are only \$2-3 each.

Sale days are the weekends of 20 & 21 July and 27 & 28 July, with the store open from 9.00am till 4.00pm on the Saturdays and 10.00am till 3.00pm on the Sundays.

Meantime, if you have any unwanted but clean and well-looked after surplus books taking up space on your bookshelves, you are invited to take them in to Mexted Motors, Drummond's Pharmacy or Harcourt's Tawa Real Estate. These companies are supporting the project by providing convenient drop-off points.

This is "true" re-cycling; donors get rid of unwanted books, buyers get some real bargains and the charities concerned get more funds, all without the cost of processing the cardboard and paper via the Council recycling bins.



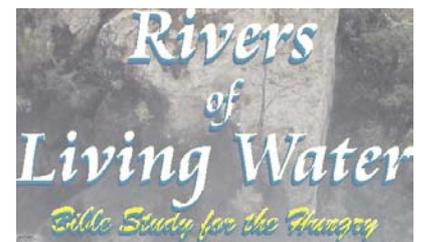
## RIVERS OF LIVING WATER AT TAWA NEW LIFE

Tawa New Life Church is launching "Rivers of Living Water" series of Bible studies starting with a no obligation, no charge, introductory session on Sunday 7 July at 6.30pm at Tawa New Life Church, 236 Main Road, Tawa.

The series will consist of 30 weekly studies in total, divided into 5 blocks and is open to anyone, though high school age and above is recommended. These interactive studies will have a discipleship focus and are intended for those who wish to grow in God and are able to commit to a six week complete study block.

Each of the 5 blocks will follow a distinct theme:

- Knowing God
- Walking with God
- Growing in God
- Bible Overview
- Walking forward



Further details from Tawa New Life Church on 232 6221 or via email [tawanlc@clear.net.nz](mailto:tawanlc@clear.net.nz).

## OPEN DAY AT REVOLVE FITNESS

Revolve Fitness, based in Tawa Plaza, will be having free blood pressure checks from 9am-3pm on Saturday 29 June at the gym. It's a day for all to come and check them out and have a look around. They will be happy to answer any questions. No obligation.



Revolve Fitness is also presenting a series of seminars over the next few months. Content consists of general exercise guidelines and nutritional advice about portion sizes, food types and how to eat healthily in 2013. Featuring guest speakers Nutritionist Jordan Crosbie and Exercise Consultant Lucy Newrick. At the Tawa Community Centre. Free entry!

Upcoming seminar dates: 16 July and 20 August.

## FREE HEALTH SEMINAR

FREE seminar – “Great Health for over 50s”

7pm Tuesday 16 July at the Tawa Community Centre

Featuring exercise and nutrition guidelines for Health and Wellbeing. Keep active and have the energy you want, with meal ideas and correct portion sizes.

## ZELATI OPENING IN TAWA

Zelati (Gourmet Gelato & Sorbet) Factory Store will be opening in Tawa on Monday 8 July (1-5pm). We will have a FREE TASTING DAY on Friday 5 July (2-5pm) and everyone is invited to sample our delectable products.



We had a successful launch at the Wellington Foodshow in May and excellent feedback from customers wanting to purchase our products within conveniently located outlets. Zelati products (700ml tubs) are selling very well at New World Thorndon and are now available at Moore Wilson's.

Zelati was established by Alberto Tuason, a qualified Gelato chef (Maestro Gelatiere/Sorbetiere), with formal training in Italy. Zelati offers customers healthy, nutritious and delicious products while enjoying a Gourmet experience. We currently have 8 flavours to choose from.

Zelati Freezeria is located at 207A Main Road, Tawa (just north of Subway). More information is available at [www.zelati.com](http://www.zelati.com).

## LAUNCH OF NEW VAN

Various community representatives and members of the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade met at the fire station recently to celebrate the launch of the local Fire Brigade's new Community & Operational Support Van.

This vehicle is owned by the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade, with the local Lions and Rotary clubs having played some part in providing funding. It will be available to assist at both emergency incidents and community events in the Tawa Fire District. A recent case in point was its attendance at the mishap featured above in Greyfriars Cres. Fortunately the young driver escaped uninjured.



The photo below records the launching ceremony, with Chief Fire Officer Mike Farrand leading proceedings. No champagne bottle was involved.



## DETAILS OF BUSINESSES IN TAWA

If you want to make contact with a local accountant, florist, hairdresser or travel agent (or whatever else), you'll now find details at [www.tawalink.com/businesses.html](http://www.tawalink.com/businesses.html). At this stage there is just a handful of businesses listed, but before long there could well be 50 to 100.

Businesses are invited to include their basic details (see the examples on the web page) free of charge. Email [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com).

Adios

### Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com

(loosely under the umbrella of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association)

[info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) [www.tawalink.com](http://www.tawalink.com)

232 5030 or 027 232 2320

*From the Editor .....*

The TawaLink website is operated by me. This eNewsletter is sent out "in conjunction" with the website which receives funding from the Wellington City Council to help cover operating costs. Accordingly it states on the front page of the website: "Supported by the Wellington City Council".

Because I have indicated my intention to stand as a candidate for the Council in the upcoming local body election, this newsletter will not be sent out under my name during the official campaigning period, starting mid-July. However it will still be compiled by me and emailed from my address.

This is because the Council itself cannot be perceived as being linked to any candidate in any way. Although the newsletter will continue to be sent out, from mid-July you just won't see my name in it.

On a totally different note, young Abby (the labby) continues to thrive. We lost power in last Thursday night's storm for a short time only (unlike many in other parts of Tawa). All three humans in the room weren't immediately affected as iPads, MacBooks, etc run on their own batteries. Meanwhile our canine companion continued to slumber in front of the gas heater behind us all, or so we thought. Of course we had no idea how long we'd be in the dark.



It was just a few minutes later when the power came back on. Little did we know that whilst it'd been off our wily young pup (who's now more than 19 months old) had pulled a swifty on us by tip toeing past, snaffling a slipper and was lying on the floor in front of us with it in her mouth. It was the first thing we noticed when the light returned. The slipper might have been somewhat worse for wear if we'd been left in the dark any longer! Rather amusing it was at the time, well to some of us anyway, if not the owner of the slipper. What a clever dog!

The photo actually dates back to last winter. Some things don't change!

*"A wise man knows much but says little, a fool knows little but says much."*

*"Never underestimate the effect you can have on others regardless of your position in the world."*

*"You can't keep people from having bad opinions about you, but you can keep them from being true."*

*This newsletter is emailed to around 1200 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 you do not 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](http://www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html).*