



# COMMUNITY NEWS

Late February  
2014

*This community newsletter is sent out usually twice each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website which has been supported by the Tawa Residents' Association since 2002.*

## IT'S EASY TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR .....

Enjoying a barbecue with your neighbours can be as simple as inviting friends over.

### **Here are some basic tips:**

All you need do is to get two lots of neighbours to agree to meet with you for a barbecue in your front yard (or at the end of the cul-de-sac or on the grass verge) on a given date, put flyers into another 10 to 15 neighbourhood letterboxes and, Bob's your uncle, you're running a neighbourhood barbecue!

If no-one else turns up, that's not your worry! At least there'll be three lots of you enjoying a feed together! Usually there will be others who will join you and you'll have a great time!

You'll have a couple of hot barbecues going, everyone will bring their own food, and there's very little effort involved! Of course, if you wanted to, you could knock on a few doors in advance, but that's entirely your call. Better to have a simple no-effort get-together (barbecue or afternoon tea) than not at all! That's what Neighbours' Day in Tawa is all about - a bunch of easily-arranged neighbourhood barbecues. You could organise one in your street any weekend in March.



## LET'S ENSURE THIS MARCH THAT TAWA IS ONCE AGAIN THE MOST NEIGHBOURLY SUBURB IN WELLINGTON!

There is lots of helpful information at [www.tawalink.com/neighbours.html](http://www.tawalink.com/neighbours.html).

## NEIGHBOURLY STREETS

As at late February 2014, the following streets had indicated they will be holding a barbecue or afternoon tea in conjunction with Neighbours' Day in Tawa in March. One or two have already had their get-together in February.

- Balliol Drive • Brasenose Place • Colonial Grove • Duncan St (nos. 12 to 17) • Florio Tce • Greyfriars Cres (lower) • Kiwi Cres (lower) • Magdalen St • McKeefry Grove • Mexted Tce East • Pembroke St (upper) • Ranui Tce (Kowhai to Collins) • Ranui Tce (Intermediate school end) • Redwood Village • Rembrandt Ave • Romney Square • St Catherines Tce • St Edmund Cres • Sunrise Boulevard (mid) • Sunrise Boulevard (upper mid) • Turriff Cres (top)



**LET US KNOW IF YOUR STREET'S GETTING INVOLVED.** Email [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) and we'll supply you with a corflute promotional sign for your street, name tags for use on the day, balloons for hanging up, and "Everybody needs Good Neighbours' cards" for everyone to fill in!

## MORE ABOUT NEIGHBOURS' DAY

See the Wellington City Council site at: <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/community-resources/resources-for-neighbourhoods>

Also see the Neighbours' Day Aotearoa site at: <http://www.neighboursday.org.nz>

## MORE ABOUT THE NZTA PROPOSALS

On Saturday 22 February Robert Tredger (Tawa Community Board chair) and Malcolm Sparrow (Wellington City Councillor) went to the Information Day hosted by the NZTA (NZ Transport Agency) at Petone. The purpose of the exercise was to find out more about NZTA's proposals which are likely to have a major impact on Tawa people in one way or another.

Option C is to widen the existing state highway (SH1) from four lanes to six lanes through much of Tawa. Option D is to build a two-lane highway through the Takapu Valley to link up with the yet-to-be-built Transmission Gully.

In both instances a certain number of houses will be demolished. However many other residents will be adversely affected. NZTA has indicated that a decision will be made between options C and D by mid-2014. It is open to feedback from all and sundry through to the end of March. IT IS IMPORTANT that all of us express our views if we want to have any influence on the roading decisions that are made.



Stephen Mullholland from Takapu Valley perusing the proposed route through the valley.

What you may not know is that the link road from Petone to Grenada is likely to culminate in a roundabout (no. 1 on the map below) near the start of Takapu Road, east of the existing motorway. "..... upwards of 30,000 vehicles per day would use the [P2G] link road." However those continuing on in the direction of Porirua won't just "join up" with SH1 near Tawa. Many will turn left at roundabout no. 1, continue under the motorway, then turn right at roundabout no. 2 to head onto SH1 (the motorway).

The question needs to be asked whether this is likely to lead to traffic heading out of Tawa via roundabout no. 2 being subject to major delays. Is the proposed design the best available? You have an opportunity to learn more at the second "Information Day" which will be held at the Linden Social Centre on Wednesday 26 February, 3pm to 8pm.

You can also express your views on any of the NZTA proposals by forwarding a written submission to Petone to Grenada Link Road Team, Freepost 225938, PO Box 5084, Thorndon, Wellington 6145 or email [petone2grenada@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:petone2grenada@nzta.govt.nz). Also see their website.



## AN ARTIFICIAL TURF IN TAWA?

You may be aware that the Wellington City Council has proposed deferring funding for an artificial sports turf in Tawa for perhaps four or five years, or possibly indefinitely.

A representative from each of the local rugby and football clubs, along with Tawa Community Board members, Northern Ward councillors and the local college and intermediate school principals met recently with Cr Paul Eagle (chair of WCC's Community, Sport & Recreation committee) and three WCC officers to discuss the options available.

Although funding of more than \$1m for an artificial turf is likely to be postponed (despite an earlier "commitment"), improvements to the playing surface at Redwood Park are being considered, as well as assistance for improvements at Lyndhurst Park. More information will be provided when it becomes available.

As stated in our most recent newsletter: **"If Tawa people feel strongly about this issue, it is up to you to let the Council know your views.** Submissions to the Council on the draft annual plan (under which funding for the artificial pitch will be either included or excluded) can be made from 11 February through to 11 March." That is when individuals and/or groups in the community have the opportunity to express their views. Or feel free to tell the community board what you think (politely, of course)!

## REDEVELOPMENT OF GRASSLEES RESERVE

The question has been asked about what facilities there will be for younger children in the redevelopment of the playground currently well under way at Grasslees Reserve.

The answer from the Wellington City Council:

"The new playground is based on a nature play theme. The new play area will not have the same quantity of play equipment as previously but it will provide a more interesting play space for all ages of children. It will be divided into three spaces.

The toddlers' area is close to the toilet and away from the Porirua Stream. When this is finished it will have:

- a toddlers swing
- a toddlers slide
- a toddlers seesaw
- a spinner
- a wobble bridge

There will also be a boardwalk which young children can jump off into a large sand area. There will be rocks in the sand area near the seesaw for toddlers to use as stepping stones and balancing. There will be a rock stepping stone path joining some play areas together.

The area across the path and south of this will have a basket swing which adults and toddlers can use together. Some more adventurous toddlers may like to try the mouse wheel, and it is hoped that parents will join them in this activity as well.

With the more advanced age equipment the new playground will provide better progression for children as they grow.

The skate rink next to the playground will continue to provide a place for toddlers to start experimenting with wheeled play."

If all goes according to plan, redevelopment of Grasslees Reserve should be completed by late March or early April.



## RAILWAY STATION WORK

GWRC (Greater Wellington Regional Council) has advised that the following work is being carried out at the various railway stations in Tawa:

- Takapu Road - station shelters repaired and painted, plus repairs on the footbridge
- Redwood - repairs made to both platform shelters and cycle cone roof (shelters since been vandalised again)
- Tawa - additional community artwork panel being installed
- Linden - installation of CCTV complete, footbridge overhaul and platform renewal (lights & footpath)



## TAWA COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Tawa Community Board has \$15,000 to be made available to worthy local causes. If your club or group, school or church, is considering applying for a grant from the Tawa Community Board, you have very little time in which to do so. Applications close at 5pm on Friday 28 February - only days away!

The Tawa Community Grants Fund is designed to assist voluntary projects in Tawa. Grants may be for charitable, educational, welfare, community development, cultural, recreational, sporting, activity development, equipment or training programmes. Grants may also be given to people representing New Zealand in a recognised sporting or cultural event.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be based in Tawa
- show that their project will directly benefit the Tawa community
- not have excess reserve funds
- meet all criteria on the Tawa Community Grants application form



For further details, see <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/funding/council-funds/tawa-community-grants> or call the WCC grants team on 803 8525.

## LOCAL DEFIBRILLATORS

You might be interested to know that defibrillators can be found in the following locations in Tawa:

- Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade, Lyndhurst Road
- Tawa Medical Centre, Rewa Tce
- Linden Medical Centre, Hinau St
- Tawa Pool, Davies St
- Power Systems Consultants, Level 2, 210 Main Rd (above Mani's Hair Design, Tawa Paza)
- Tawa College, Duncan St (temporarily)
- Mervyn Kemp Library, cnr Main Road & Cambridge St
- Tawa Community Centre, Cambridge St
- DressSmart, southern end of Main Road

Portable defibrillators are the only proven way to resuscitate a person who has had a cardiac arrest, prior to treatment being provided by medical experts.

## BRIDGE LESSONS

Learn this popular card game. The Kapi-Mana Bridge Club is holding a series of 10 lessons starting from 17 March at 7.30pm at its Club Rooms, 8 Linden Avenue, Tawa.

Cost is \$50 which covers lessons, learning materials and Club membership to 31 March 2015. To register or for more information contact David on 233 1866.

## TAWANUI INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Tawanui Indoor Bowls Club starts its 2014 season in the Tawa Bowling Club pavilion (next to the swimming pool) in Davies Street on Monday 10 March at 7.15pm. Coaching and transport can be provided where required. A warm welcome is extended to new and former members. Please wear flat soled shoes. Families are most welcome to join this sport, suitable for nearly all ages.

Just come along and join in or, to enquire further, please ring Bev on 232 5260 or Peter on 232 5554.

## TAWALIN INDOOR BOWLS

Club nights start on Monday 10 March at Redwood School hall at 7.15pm. If you would like to try indoor bowls, new members would be very welcome. Coaching is available, plus transport if required. Interested? Then please contact any of the following: Jan Ferguson 232 7538 or Graeme Munro 232 5407 or Terry Roche 232 5263.

## PARENTING COURSE

The Parenting Children (0 - 10) Course. Children do not arrive with an instruction manual. No role we undertake is more important than parenting. This course will equip parents with long term strategies to build a healthy family life.

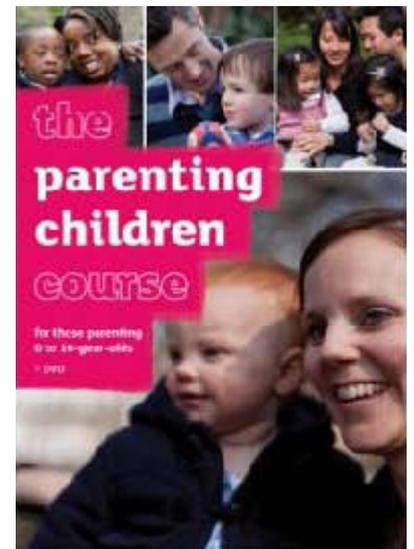
Topics covered include:

- Building strong foundations
- Meeting our children's needs
- Setting boundaries
- Teaching healthy relationships

Dates: 9 March - 6 April 2014 (5 weeks) Time: 3 - 5pm

Contact: Tawa Anglican Church office on 232 8448 to book (admin@tac.org.nz).

Free onsite Children's Activities, so bring the whole family.



## FREE WORKSHOPS

Venue for all workshops: The Emmaus Centre, St Christopher's Anglican Church, Main Rd, Tawa.

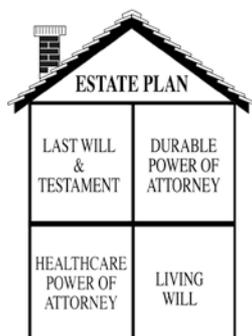
Bookings: phone Tawa-Linden Anglican Church office on 232 8448 or email admin@tac.org.nz

### EARLY CHILDHOOD OPTIONS

There are so many options to choose from that it can be bewildering for parents as they try to decide on the best childcare for their pre-schooler. Come along to have the choices demystified and be informed about what is available in Tawa.

Presenters include: Beanstalk Kindergarten, ABC Childcare Centre, Tawa-Linden Playcentre & PORSE

Date: Wed 19 March 2014, 7.30 - 9.30pm



### ESTATE PLANNING

We don't like to think about dying but it is one of life's certainties and it is good to be prepared so that those left behind can be well cared for and your wishes can be respected. WILLS, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND BEQUESTS are important topics to be addressing whether you are young or old. Come along to be informed about them.

Presenters: Denise Brown from Public Trust and Tony Biss from the Anglican Diocesan Office

Date: Wed 26 March 2014, 7.30 - 9.30pm

# QUIZ NIGHT

## AT THE GYM

Tuesday the 18th of March, 7.30pm at Revolve Health and fitness Gym

Spot prizes, nibbles and non-alcoholic drinks provided

Teams of any size (minimum of 2 people)  
Gold coin entry per person or \$10 per team  
Children are welcome  
5 rounds of 10 Nutrition and Health related questions

Contact us to register your team with a maximum of 7 teams on 0274848780 or [jordan@nutritionx.co.nz](mailto:jordan@nutritionx.co.nz)




29 March 2014

Greenacres School  
62 Raroa Terrace  
Tawa

# Greenacres School Mad Hatter's Gala

Saturday 29 March  
11AM – 2PM

Easter hunt LUCKY DIP GARAGE SALE  
AIR TRACK MARBLE RUN MYSTERY BOTTLES TOYS  
Trains Merry round PLANTS  
BOUNCY CASTLES FACE PAINTING CAFE  
Hair Braiding SMASH PALACE CAKES  
GIANT Slide Fill-a-bag clothes  
CLASSIC CAR RIDES Football Hot Rods  
Spin the Wheel SILENT AUCTION Pony RIDES GAMES ALLEY  
1.30pm EASTER HAT PARADE

## SOS – VOLUNTEERS WANTED

At Kiwi Community Assistance we need more volunteers to assist us with the work that we provide our charity partners. We have roles on the following days:

- Tuesday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am (location Tawa)
- Thursday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am (location Tawa)
- Saturday afternoons 4pm to 6pm (food rescue and must have a full driving licence) once a month or fortnightly
- Sunday afternoons 2pm to 4.30pm (food rescue and must have a full driving licence) once a month

These positions are for a minimum of 3 months and full training is provided. Please email us: [admin@kca.org.nz](mailto:admin@kca.org.nz).

**VOLUNTEERS  
WANTED**

## WANT TO HELP MAKE TAWA A SAFER COMMUNITY?



The Tawa Community Patrol is a voluntary organisation helping to make Tawa an even safer community. Acting as the eyes and ears of the New Zealand Police, the Patrol operates both day and night operations, and is made up of Tawa citizens wanting to make a real difference.

New Day and Night members are always welcome. For more information about joining the Tawa Community Patrol, email [tawacp@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:tawacp@hotmail.co.nz). Visit the Tawa Community Patrol on Facebook.

## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Nathanael Roach

Nathanael is this year's head boy at Tawa College. Nathanael has been described as "..... a very talented and already successful young man". His older sister Elyjana was head girl at Tawa College three years ago.



*Where were you born?* Wellington Hospital

*Where did you grow up?*

In Ascot Park [Porirua] for 8 years, then moved to Cannons Creek for about 18 months, then moved back to Ascot Park.

*What schools have you been at since you first started school?*

I was home schooled for 4 years, then went to Pauatahanui from years 5-8, then came to Tawa College for year 9 and have been here since.

*What subjects are you doing this year at college?*

General maths, Physics, English, Music and Media Studies.

*What are you hoping to do when you leave school?*

Either a Bachelor of communication, a Bachelor in industrial/organisational psychology or a Masters in civil engineering.

*What does being a head student actually involve, any particular responsibilities?*

I provide another line of communication between the students and the teachers, getting involved, making appearances and just helping where I can.

*What are your interests/hobbies?* Movies, music, dancing and food.

*What do you like about Tawa College?*

The atmosphere in the school and the sense of community the students have.

*Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?* Don't really follow sports.

*Favourite musical group and/or style of music?*

Oooh, big question, too many things to cover, but the most of the time I'm listening to Drake, Alicia Keys, Matt Corby and John Legend, but I'll listen to anything that isn't rock.

*Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

That's a hard one ..... Probably Lake Taupo, not the city side, the other side, just cause it's a nice change from always seeing the city :)

*Any accomplishments/achievements in your life (to date) that give you much satisfaction/pride?*

Getting [to be] head prefect, though I don't really think about it that much.

### **Tawa Community Centre**

A friendly place to pop in during the hours of 9am-1pm on weekdays, or hire a room or hall for your community group/birthday party/meeting at reasonable rates.

Like us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TawaAndLindenCommunityCentres> or email [mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz) and put 'Join' as the subject to receive regular updates.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow  
Wellington City Councillor (Northern)  
On behalf of TawaLink.com (supported by the Tawa Residents' Association)



*“Don't look for the light at the end of the tunnel. Go light it yourself.”*

*“If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes.” – St Clement of Alexandra*

*“Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard there is nothing you can do about it.”*  
– Golda Meir

Items for this newsletter should be sent to [info@tawalink.com](mailto: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 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 would like to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be added to our list.*

*Back issues of the newsletter are available at [www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html](http://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.*

#### *Musings from the Ed.*

For a while I was quite often writing a paragraph or two about my chocolate labrador, Abby, at the end of this newsletter. That was mostly because in the first two years of her life she was regularly getting into mischief. We couldn't afford to leave anything lying around in case she might “snaffle” it. Over the months we have retrieved pens, paper clips, coins, documents, USB sticks, socks, scissors, slippers, shoes and spectacles out of her mouth, all at different times of course! And who knows what we didn't manage to retrieve in time?

She is now more than 2 years and 3 months old. We can't afford to “relax” entirely but she has certainly improved over the passing months, thus the shortage of tales to tell! Having said that, she will still quietly walk off with a slipper if she has half a chance. However in the warmer months those chances are few and far between.

Her naughtiest action in recent times was to help herself to a packet of chocolate almonds on a recent Saturday afternoon. The box was more than half full but had been left well within her reach. It was only when I discovered the freshly-discarded remnants in the back yard that I cottoned on to what had happened! Can't say I saw her licking her lips, but there was no doubt in my mind that she was the culprit.

Chocolate can be harmful to canine types. We immediately Googled the quantity of chocolate a 25+ kg dog could consume before it would adversely affect her. Based on the fact that a labrador is born seemingly with a cast iron stomach, we weren't overly concerned, but preferred not to take any risks. As it turned out we ascertained we were well within the limits, so to speak, which provided a reasonable amount of comfort.

No immediate or delayed ill effects were experienced from her chocolate encounter and, at the time, I'm sure she thoroughly enjoyed her ill-gotten gains! However another lesson was learned on our part, and we'll ensure that we consciously place chocolate, along with most other temptations, out of her reach. No guarantees though that complacency won't set in and we'll have another story to tell of how our beloved pet got one over us once again!

– Malcolm Sparrow



**SAMPLE**



**This is *your* invitation  
to join us at the top of street  
at the Colonial Grove barbecue  
on Sunday** [blacked out to prevent gatecrashers!]

when a few of us will be rolling out our barbecues to  
the top end of the cul-de-sac (outside )  
and cooking and eating together, **IF WET WE WILL GO FOR  
THE NEXT FINE SUNDAY**

Bring your own food, drink, and deck chairs.  
Also bring a dessert (or cake) to share with others.

(It'll be 28 degrees that day! It could happen!)

hope you can join us

Any queries to:

***Everybody needs  
good neighbours!***



**SAMPLE**



## **Time to have Another street BBQ!!**

**Everyone welcome - Turriff Cres  
on Saturday** [blanked out to prevent gatecrashers!]

**We have a large BBQ, but another small one would  
be good any offers? - So all the guys will be able to  
gather round and cook, while the ladies relax 😊**

**Bring your own food, drink, and deck chairs.  
(It's going to be hot day – yeah right!)**

**So come along and join us 😊**

Any queries to

Reply to email:

***Everybody needs  
good neighbours!***

