October 2021
Supplement

TAWA Wellington COMMUNITY NEWS

This newsletter has been sent out monthly since 2005.

See www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html for back issues.

NEW TRANSPORT SERVICE IN TAWA

The October edition of this newsletter which was sent out on 8 October included the following wording:

“The possibility of a ‘feeder’ bus service to carry commuters from the back streets of Tawa down to the railway stations is currently being investigated. It would be great to see these buses starting to operate, but that will of course depend on how many people actually use such a service.”

Local councillors, in conjunction with the Tawa Community Board, have been requesting the Greater Wellington Regional Council (responsible for the oversight of public transport in Wellington) for such a service for quite some time.

On 16 October the following report (which has been abridged) appeared on Stuff:

“A ride-hailing trial for a new on-demand public transport system using multiple small buses and an app is set to commence in Tawa. It uses technology similar to popular ride-share apps to receive bookings, take payments and schedule pickup and drop-offs.

The trial, which is set to start in early 2022, is part of Metlink’s wider strategy to enhance the coverage and accessibility of its services to connect communities and get more people out of cars and traffic and on to public transport.

Metlink’s acting general manager Bonnie Parfitt said people would log into an app to book a spot on one of five smaller buses, which could hold up to 14 people, run by its existing bus operator Mana Coach Services.

The app would give an estimated pickup time – with a guaranteed wait time of no longer than 10 minutes – and an estimated arrival time at the destination.

Each journey would have a standard fare of $2.50. The buses would be fully accessible, with Super Gold cards accepted.

Takapu Road
FT4408
metlink

During off-peak hours, people would be able to book rides from their location within Tawa to anywhere in the area, extending to Porirua and Kenepuru Hospital. During peak hours the service would connect residents to nearby train stations.

The aim was to make public transport easier to use. Forty-four per cent of Tawa residents commuted by car, Parfitt said, and reducing this would help lower carbon emissions.

Metlink general manager Scott Gallacher said Tawa, including Grenada North, was identified as an ideal test location. “With 63 per cent of residents living in the eastern and western parts of Tawa, many people have to walk up to 30 minutes to reach a train station.

“With park and ride facilities at capacity, and steep hilly terrain, it’s not surprising that a significant proportion of Tawa residents prefer to drive to work instead of catching public transport.

“Offering passengers easier first and last mile access to the Linden and Redwood train stations is one of our key aims during the peak periods.”

NEW ZEALAND SHAKEOUT

New Zealand ShakeOut, our national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi, is taking place on Thursday 28 October at 9.30am.

Wherever you are during New Zealand ShakeOut, you can take part in the drill. Drop, Cover and Hold for up to one minute, and if you're in a coastal area, practise your tsunami hīkoi.

New Zealand
ShakeOut™
SPOTLIGHT
NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE DRILL

TAWA BUSINESS BREAKFAST

Nick Leggett, CEO of Transporting New Zealand, will be the keynote speaker at a Tawa Business Group Breakfast on Wednesday 27 October from 7am at The Borough. Under alert level 2 protocols, numbers attending will be limited to 50, so please hurry to book a place.

Nick will be speaking about the current transport needs for the Wellington region and how these shape the growth of local businesses.

The cost of breakfast is $30 per person and includes the presentation from Nick.

Please email info@tawabusiness.co.nz without further delay delay to book a place. Further details about the event, including payment details, can be found below.

TAWA
Business Group

Biz Connect
Referring Business | Supporting People

Tawa Business Group and Biz Connect
Business Breakfast

Guest Speaker: Nick Leggett, CEO of Transporting New Zealand

Join us for breakfast on Wednesday 27 October 2021

With Transmission Gully about to open soon, what are the current transport needs for the Wellington region into the future - and how could these shape our growth?

Nick Leggett brings a perspective tilted to the needs of road freight, fitting his role as CEO of Transporting New Zealand. However, through his wider background as a former Mayor of Porirua and various governance roles, he takes a wider view of what our regional needs are and how we must balance decision making across all modes of transport.

Nick is a former student of Tawa College and currently represents Tawa and Wellington North on the Hutt Mana Charitable Trust.

The cost includes a full buffet breakfast,

Remember to bring your business card to go in the draw to win a prize

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Wednesday 27 October 2021
Time: 7.00am – 8.30am
Venue: The Borough, 162/168 Main Road, Tawa, Wellington
Master of Ceremonies: Darcy Brittliff
Cost: $30 per person

Registrations will be accepted on a first in first served basis. RSVP's no later than Wednesday 20 October 2021 to Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz
Please make payment by internet banking prior to the event to:
Tawa Business Group Inc
02-0552-0038269-83

GUIDED COMMUNITY WALK

Members of Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves (FOTBR) and the wider Tawa community are warmly invited to participate in a guided walk in Te Ngahere o Tawa / Forest of Tawa on Sunday afternoon 7 November commencing at 2pm. The well-formed track has been recently completed, and members of FOTBR will guide people up to the ridgeline where there is a panoramic view of Tawa. The track passes through spaced out pine trees with abundant regeneration of native bush below, that includes recent plantings.

The walk will commence at 2pm from the entrance to the Forest of Tawa, between 56 and 60 Kiwi Crescent. The walk will take about 2 hours. Note that car parking will need to be on Kiwi Crescent.

Please indicate:
To have an indication of numbers of people wishing to participate in the walk, please email Geoff Mills, Secretary FOTBR, on secretary@tawabush.org.nz

Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves Inc.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BIG AIR TEAM!

The following report (which has been abridged) appeared on Stuff on 13 October:

"As the members of Wellington competitive cheerleading squad Big Air Elite gathered together to watch the livestream of the International All Star Federation Worlds, they had no idea they would end up winning the competition.

William Davenport, coach and owner of Tawa's Big Air Gym, said the team had submitted their two-and-half-minute routine of pyramids, tumbling, stunts and dance 10 'agonising' days before learning the result on October 3.

"It's pretty massive. We were all together watching the live broadcast when we found out. There was plenty of screaming and yelling and tears," he said.

Elite is made up of 20 girls and four boys. The team's ages range from 14 to 28.

After qualifying to compete in the event in 2020 the team's preparation was interrupted by the country going into lockdown in mid-August.

"When you train for something like worlds, then you want to have a plan in place, and that was going really well until the three-week lockdown," Davenport said.

Team member Isabella Zemba said after the gap in training, Elite had less than two weeks to regroup and record their routine, but they came back from lockdown in strong shape.

Gathering restrictions meant the team had to work hard to bring the energy of their routine across without the support of a big crowd.

Usually held in the ESPN Sport Centre in Orlando, Florida, the competition went virtual for 2021."

See the full report at https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/wellington/126643896/world-championshipwinning-big-air-team-all-cheers-after-massive-win

BIG AIR
gymnastics & cheerleading
Big Air

JERICHO ROCK-ARCHER/STUFF

Big Air Gym's competitive cheerleading squad has just won the International All Star Federation world cheer championship, despite only emerging from lockdown 10 days before the competition.

CIVIC AWARDS POSTPONED AGAIN

The decision has been made by the Tawa Community Board to postpone the Tawa Community Civic Awards ceremony from late October until the New Year.

The awards ceremony is a special occasion which now takes place just once every three years, with the Mayor of Wellington presenting a certificate of appreciation to each individual or group who has been nominated for an award for the voluntary role they perform in the Tawa community.

To retain the “personal touch” at the ceremony means waiting until we are in Covid Alert Level 1. Unfortunately that may not be until some time in 2022. Watch this space!

PRIDE IN WORK AWARDS

The Tawa Rotary “Pride in Work” awards, organised in conjunction with the Tawa Business Group, give Tawa businesses and organisations the opportunity to publicly acknowledge employees who are outstanding performers in the workplace.

Around 70 people took part in the awards dinner this past week, with presentations made to eight nominees from local businesses or organisations. Congratulations to each of those award winners!

ZAPDOG PHOTOGRAPHY

From left: Judith Gray, Tawa Rotary; Kareen Holland, Tawa Business Group;
Stacey Richardson, nominated by Tawa Residents' Association;
Peter Bowers, nominated by Tawa Squash Club,
Colin Thoms, nominated by Tawa College;
Lindsay Shaw, nominated by Village Bakery and Café;
Priyanka Chettri, nominated by Enliven Longview Home;
Lynda Campbell, nominated by Nada Bakery;
Donna Waru, nominated by Linden School;
Tracey Souness, nominated by Tawa College;
Karyn Meade, Tawa Rotary president; Pat Waite, Tawa Rotary

Guest speaker Prof Chris Gallivan from Massey University, also CEO of Homes of Compassion, provided an inspiring address.

On the same night a Paul Harris Fellowship was bestowed upon Murray Lucas. A Paul Harris Fellow is "a person who has been recognised as having done something significant for others". Murray Lucas has played an admirable role as principal of Tawa College for almost 20 years. He will be stepping down at the end of this year, and this award is recognition of his significant contribution in the Tawa community.

Murray Lucas
PAUL HARRIS FELLOW
SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
ZAPDOG PHOTOGRAPHY
rotary-18.jpg

NEW-LOOK COMMUNITY BOARD

There have been some 'changes' to the Tawa Community Board lately. The board comprises a maximum of six elected members and two appointed councillor representatives.

Malcolm Alexander who was elected to the community board in a by-election in May 2021, resigned recently. Malcolm Sparrow, who was first elected to the board in a by-election in 2005 and had served on it as one of the local councillor representatives, is no longer on the board as a result of his resignation as a Wellington city councillor earlier this month.

One might describe it as "the demise of the Malcolms"!

The Tawa Community Board as at 20 October is shown below. From left: Cr Jill Day, Jackson Lacy, Robyn Parkinson (chair), Anna Scott, Richard Herbert, Graeme Hansen.

PASSING OF FRASER JACKSON

We have just received word that Fraser Jackson has passed away in Auckland. He moved to a rest home there to be closer to family just one year ago after living in Tawa for 56 years.

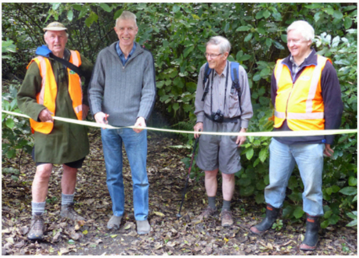
Our “2 Minutes with ..... Fraser Jackson” interview in December 2015 started with the following introduction:

“Certain Tawa individuals are inextricably linked with the Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves and the Porirua Stream Walkway committee, the group whose vision and drive over several years eventually led to the construction of what is now known as the Tawa Valley Pathway – Ara Tawa. One of those individuals is longtime Tawa resident Fraser Jackson.”

See http://www.tawalink.com/2mins/fraser_jackson.pdf
There is also a U3A farewell to Fraser at https://www.u3atawa.org.nz/pdfs/U3A-Oct-2020-newsletter.pdf

One of my [Ed.] abiding memories of Fraser is when I was first elected as a Wellington city councillor in October 2013. His words of advice to me at that time were to the effect that there was a moral and ethical component to every decision I made as a councillor, and it was important that I always bore that in mind. I like to think I did!

R.I.P. Fraser Jackson.



The photo above right features four Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves stalwarts at the start of the community walk in April 2017 to celebrate WCC’s purchase of the Forest of Tane (now known as Te Ngahere o Tawa).

L to R: Peter Saxton, Wayne Pincott, Fraser Jackson, Richard Herbert.

2 MINUTES WITH ..... ?

There will be two more monthly editions of this newsletter in 2021. Who would you like to see featured in the “2 Minutes with .....” segment in those newsletters?

Over the years we have featured well-known Tawa residents and some who are not at all well-known. The key is that they either reside in Tawa and/or have a very strong link to this community.

People are very interesting – where they come from, what it is they do, what their interests are, and so on. This is your opportunity to let the editor know whose ‘profile’ you might be interested in reading. Please send your suggestion(s) to info@tawalink.com or text 027 232 2320 within the next two or three days. Thanks.

MEN
to the left
because
WOMEN
are always right!

Ngā mihi

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