September 2021

TAWA Wellington COMMUNITY NEWS

This newsletter has been sent out monthly since 2005.

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

TAWA COMMUNITY CIVIC AWARDS

Thank you to everyone who took the time to send in a nomination for the Tawa Community Civic Awards. We received around 70 nominations all up, but a number of those were 'double-ups' (two or three for the same individual or group).

The purpose of the event is to publicly thank all those who provide a community service – on a voluntary basis – in some shape or form in Tawa.

The awards ceremony at which the Mayor of Wellington will present certificates to all the nominees will be held on Thursday 23 September, assuming we are in Covid Alert Level 1 at that stage. If not, the ceremony will be postponed by a couple of weeks!

2018 Awards Ceremony

SAFETY MEETING SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE

As previously advised, the Tawa Community Safety hui scheduled for 19th August had to be postponed because that was the day after we went into Covid Level 4 Lockdown.

The Tawa Community Board is working on another date which will suit all six speakers (not an easy task!). It is likely to be some time in the future. We'll keep you posted!

INNER WHEEL QUIZ NIGHT POSTPONED

The Inner Wheel Quiz Night which was scheduled for early this month has been postponed. The intention is to run it in April or May next year instead.

TAWA ROTARY PRIDE IN WORK AWARDS 2021

Let's celebrate your employees' achievements!

The Tawa Rotary PRIDE IN WORK AWARDS, organised in conjunction with the Tawa Business Group, gives Tawa businesses and organisations the opportunity to publicly acknowledge employees who are outstanding performers in the workplace.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

- Open to Tawa businesses or Tawa organisations defined as businesses based in the area between Wellington's northern boundary with Porirua City and the southern end of Grenada North, and Takapu Road to the east and the western hills of Tawa.
- An employer's candidate(s) will be an employee who demonstrates an ongoing sense of pride in their daily work that puts them on an excellent standing with their employers; and/or their work colleagues; and/or the general public whom they serve. This employee will exceed the employer's expectations in their role and they will have gone beyond normal employment expectations, achieving excellent outcomes.

THE AWARD

All nominees will receive an award and will be invited to attend a dinner to be held in conjunction with the Tawa Business Group, on October 19th 2021. A presentation of certificates with a citation from the nominating employer and acknowledgement of their efforts will be a feature of the event.
There will also be associated publicity and local news coverage of this event as deemed appropriate.

GUEST SPEAKER

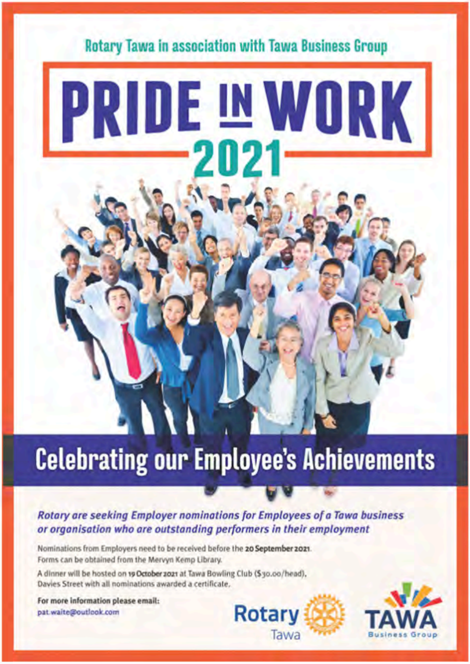
Our guest speaker is Prof Chris Gallivan, Massey University, and also CEO of Homes of Compassion. He is a poet of some renown and a Peter Blake Ambassador, amongst other titles.

NOMINATION FORMS

Nomination forms can be downloaded at https://tawarotary.org.nz/Stories/nominations-sought-for-tawa-rotary-pride-in-work-awards-2021 or obtained from the Mervyn Kemp Library. Completed copies should be emailed to Pat Waite: pat.waite@outlook.com to be received before 20 September 2021.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information, email Pat Waite: pat.waite@outlook.com



Rotary Tawa in association with Tawa Business Group

PRIDE IN WORK 2021

Celebrating our Employee's Achievements

Rotary are seeking Employer nominations for Employees of a Tawa business or organisation who are outstanding performers in their employment

Nominations from Employers need to be received before the **20 September 2021**.
Forms can be obtained from the Mervyn Kemp Library.

A dinner will be hosted on **19 October 2021** at Tawa Bowling Club ($30.00/head), Davies Street with all nominations awarded a certificate.

For more information please email:
pat.waite@outlook.com

Rotary Tawa

TAWA Business Group

EVENING OF CÉILIDH DANCING

This event will go ahead if we're in an allowable Covid alert level at the time.

An Evening of Céilidh Dancing

with live Irish Band : The Jimmies

Saturday 25 September
7:30pm - 11pm
RSA Hall, 89 Oxford Street, Tawa

Supper & non alcoholic drinks provided
BYO beer and wine

No experience needed
Flat shoes recommended

Tickets
$30 adults
$35 door sales
$15 up to 12 years

For tickets or more info contact:
Mary Clare 021973129

Fundraising for Tawa Anglican Church Building Redevelopment

LINDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE KEPT BUSY

Linden Community Centre reports that in the first 12 days of lockdown it distributed almost 60 food parcels to the north Linden community (Tremewan, Coates, Bell and Roberts Streets).

The community centre coordinator (see the "2 Minutes with ....." segment later in this newsletter) was working alone at the Centre to avoid any contact with other people. She dropped all the parcels in front of recipients' houses without physical contact.

Special thanks to Kaibosh who provided food boxes to the Centre even in Level 4 Lockdown. The photos below show some of the food parcel process.

DEFIBRILLATORS IN TAWA

Do you know where the various AED (defibrillator) sites are in Tawa? At some moment, when you least expect it, you might need to access one of these machines to help save a life!

There is an app you can download which provides details of all the AED locations throughout the country. Also see https://aedlocations.co.nz/

AED LOCATIONS IN TAWA

● ● ● = AED sites that may be available 24/7.
Please note that most of the sites below are available during business hours only.

This information is taken from the AED app. We cannot guarantee its accuracy.
If you know of anything that needs amending, please let us know at info@tawalink.com

Tawa Medical Centre
1 Rewa Terrace Tel 232 7193

Power System Consultants – Level 2
210 Main Road Tel 232 7680

Tawa Fire Station
16 Lyndhurst Road Phone 111

Mervyn Kemp Library
158 Main Road Tel 232 1690

Tawa Baptist Church ● ● ●
229 Main Road – house at left
Phone 111 for combination

Tawa Bowling Club
13 Davies Street Tel 232 6045

Tawa Pool
23 Davies Street Tel 232 7041

Tawa Intermediate School
1a Ranui Terrace Tel 232 5201

Linden Medical Centre
49 Hinau Street Tel 232 8376

Holyoake Industries
89 Main Road Tel 232 2722
Outside door of factory changing rooms

Unichem Simon's Pharmacy
189 Main Road Tel 232 8130

24/7 Fitness
35 Oxford Street Tel 234 8885

Connetics Limited
Unit 6, 10 Surrey Street Tel 570 5711

Tawa Community Centre
5 Cambridge Street, Tawa Tel 232 1682

Tawa Fitness Centre
1 Lincoln Ave Tel 232 8500

Tawa RSA Bowling Club ● ● ●
89 Oxford Street
Porch at front of building
Phone 111 for combination

Tawa College
38 Duncan Street Tel 232 8184

Ngahauranga Te Kohanga Reo
55 Victory Cres Tel 232 8424

Aquaheat
92 Main Road Tel 232 5179

Tawa AFC – Redwood Pavilion ● ● ●
Under verandah outside changing rooms, southern end of Redwood Park
Phone 111 for combination

Tawa Squash Club
67 Main Road Tel 232 8200

Outlet City
24 Main Road Tel 232 0226

Countdown Tawa
Orange AED Station by exit
5 William Earp Place

Heavenly Fitness
1 Achilles Close Tel 027 244 5185

Wellington North Badminton
Next to Taylor Park in Tawa Street

Z Tawa
18 Main Road Tel 232 8281

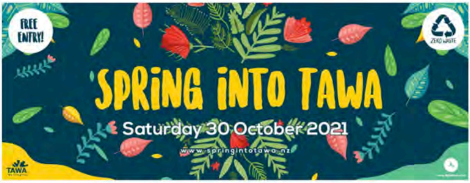
Countdown Warehouse eStore ● ● ●
Available 24/7, closed public holidays
14 Jamaica Drive, Grenada North
Tel 232 0376 Ext 20

SPRING INTO TAWA IN OCTOBER

Spring into Tawa is Tawa's annual festival, featuring an amazing range of stalls, food, activities and entertainment. This year's event will be held on Saturday 30 October 2021, 10am - 3pm.

Spring into Tawa is organised by a small committee of volunteers, on behalf of the Tawa Residents Association. The event is run as a not-for-profit event – all money raised from grants, donations and stallholder fees covers the costs for that year's event, or is held in reserve for future years, or for investing in ongoing costs and equipment.

For more information visit our website www.springintotawa.nz or follow us on Facebook for regular updates.



PROGRESS WITH THE TRACK

As we've previously advised in this newsletter, a new track is being constructed in Te Ngahere o Tawa (Forest of Tawa), access to which is gained from 58 Kiwi Cres. The "shared track" will be for walkers and uphill cyclists between Kiwi Cres and the Meridian road at the top of the hill.

The first half (or so) of this track has now been completed, and work is continuing on the upper portion.

Local woman Jo Montague was walking her dog Toru (the three legged foxy) up the old track recently, pre lockdown, when the workers were in the process of taking down the construction barriers for the new track. They said she was welcome to try it out – Jo and her canine companion would be the first to walk it (at least officially!). One of the workers took this photo for her.

Continuing up the hill .....

Walkers Up & Downhill ↑
Bikes Uphill ↑
Bikes Downhill →

NANA'S SHED BOOK LAUNCH

Tawa's Nana's Shed Books recently launched its latest bilingual children's book, "This Dog – Ko Tēnei Kurī", with a book signing event at SoulyNZ (in Tawa Plaza).

Created by Ian Munro and Rebecca Utting with translation by Piripi Walker, this story is about a blackbird that thinks he owns the dog who lives in what he considers his backyard. The dog in turn chooses the blackbird to be his friend.

Ian said that the story was inspired by a blackbird in his own backyard and that Rebecca had brought it to life with her colourful, lively illustrations.

Publisher Marie Munro said she was excited to add a new writer and illustrator to the team and that their book was already selling well nationally.

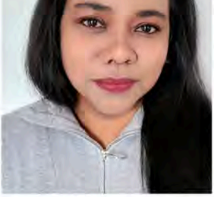
A colouring competition for children 5 years and under, held in association with the launch, was won by Robert H of Tawa.

"This Dog – Ko Tēnei Kurī" can be purchased locally at SoulyNZ, Tawa Books & Post, Pātaka, and at bookshops nationwide or online: www.nanasshed.co.nz

Pic: Ian Munro and Rebecca Utting signing books at the launch.

TODAY ONLY
all
Nana's Shed Books
titles
$20.00

2 MINUTES WITH ..... FIEZA IBRAHIM



Fieza Ibrahim took on the role of coordinator at the WCC-managed Linden Community Centre two years ago. In the time since, the Centre has gone ahead in leaps and bounds. It is best known for its weekly Kai Kitchen when a team of volunteers help Fieza prepare a free lunch (there is such a thing!) for the local community every Friday – other than the Christmas break and during lockdowns!

Where were you born?
South of Malaysia, Johor.

Where did you grow up?
Kota Tinggi, Johor, Malaysia.
Also known as a historical tourism town of Malaysia.

Were were you educated?
All my education was in Malaysia – MARA University of Technology:

i. Master's of Science (MSc) in Information Management
ii. Bachelor of Science (BSc Honors) in Information & Records Management
iii. Diploma in Information Management (Community Centre and Library)

How long have you lived in Tawa?
I've lived in Tawa from 2017 and before that in Johnsonville from 2012.

What do you like about Tawa?
Lovely people, yummy food from cafes and restaurants, amazing public facilities, wide range of free activities for the community and lots of green surroundings.

What would you like to see improved in Tawa?
A mall with food court area – great for mums with bubs, seniors and kids to hang out in any kind of weather.

What about family?
Married to Fahimi Ali. He completed his PhD at Victoria University focusing on information sharing and decision-making during disasters. He is also a member of the Red Hackle Pipe Band as the drummer (snare and bass drum). His fondest memory as a pipe band member was when he performed at the New Zealand Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2016 at Westpac Stadium.

We are blessed with one son – Daem. He is 7 years old and goes to Redwood School. He is so proud to mention that Dr Ashley Bloomfield is from that school too. Daem is a very busy boy. He learns language classes for Malay and Arabic languages. He also enjoys a horseriding class, karate class and archery class. He has started to follow his dad's interest in learning to play the bagpipes with Dave Welsh, a world-class bagpipes player from the Red Hackle Pipe Band. He is progressing well and at a basic version of bagpipes called the 'Goose'.

Hopefully he will be able to join the Tawa Christmas Parade this year or next year on his bagpipes.

Work experience over the years?
I was a Radio Announcer with Radio TV Malaysia. I was also a Radio Programme Producer for many community development related programmes. I also did lots of reporter work and news reading. My first job in New Zealand was the facilitator for Mothers Network Wellington where I facilitated discussions on important topics with diverse groups of new mothers.

In September 2019 I joined Wellington City Council working under Library and Community Spaces, managing the Linden Community Centre where I have really enjoyed working. In my current job I not only manage venue bookings but also do community reachout and organise free community programmes and events. Some big annual events which the Linden community looks forward to joining each year include school holiday programmes, kids' festival and kids' costume party."

What are your interests and hobbies?
I love to cook a wide range of Malaysian dishes for friends. Singing is my therapy from stress. Photography is my interest too.

Favourite sports team and/or sports person?
I was a state level high-jumper at school but after leaving school, sports were not on my list. But of course, who doesn't love the All Blacks!

Favourite musical group and/or individual singer(s)?
Of course, the Red Hackle Pipe Band, LOL, and the legendary entertainer P Ramlee from Malaysia, Mariah Carey and Celine Dion.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?
Depends on the season.
For summer it is just the other side of Wellington – Cape Palliser, Castle Point and Martinborough.
For spring it's Hamilton and Palmerston North for cherry blossom.
For winter it's always been Ohakune and Ruapehu.
For autumn, which is my favourite season, I always choose the South Island, and the favourites are Arrowtown, Cromwell and Twizel.

What accomplishments/achievements in your life give you much satisfaction/pride?
Of many, this has always stuck in my head and made me smile whenever I think about it. There was one refugee in Tawa who stayed at home for about almost 20 years not interacting with anyone because she felt not good in English. I managed to convince her that we can always be part of the community even if we don't speak good English. Interestingly, I managed to change her perception and now she is one of the strongest contributors to the community in every community programme in Linden.

Another achievement is when I changed Linden Social Centre – which was run only for bookable events – to Linden Community Centre, a vibrant community hub where people can drop in and connect with each other.

What are some interesting things about you that local people may not know?
I really like to sing. I always wish there was a small karaoke outlet somewhere in Wellington where I can sing without any audience and disturbing neighbours, LOL.

What are three things you would like to do before you die?

1. Travel the world
2. To master Te Reo and Japanese language
3. Say sorry to everyone for anything that I have ever said and did that has offended them

MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL M.P.

Tawa has again shown the strength of its community during this latest COVID-19 Lockdown. Knowing there was an active case down the road in Johnsonville certainly brought the threat close to home. Our anxious wait for the daily numbers at 1.00pm has turned us all into armchair epidemiologists, virologists, statisticians and politicians. Actually with the confusing plethora of experts being wheeled out and not always agreeing, we can be grateful that the decisions being made in The Beehive are based on the most up-to-date data, and the best local and international peer reviewed research. Many of the media commentators have little more knowledge that the rest of us.

Delta has changed everything, and vaccination is the key. Our outbreaks have occurred in some of the hard-to-reach poorer communities, where living conditions tend to be more crowded, a great breeding ground for the virus. The fact that representatives from many different churches were all at one hotspot and are being extremely helpful has assisted considerably in upping testing and vaccination rates.

That didn't occur in Sydney and Melbourne and they are now accepting they have to live with the virus. Eliminating the virus here this time will allow us to make our reopening decisions under our own conditions, not forced on us by an inability to beat this particular outbreak.

As MP, I'm making sure everyone knows what assistance is available to keep everyone well, employed, and businesses viable. All information is available on the COVID website https://covid19.govt.nz/

As usual the community groups have stepped up, as of course have our essential workers who are the true heroes of the Lockdown.

Spare a thought for our Auckland colleagues who are, as PM Jacinda Ardern says, doing the "heavy lifting" for us in Level 4.

Look after each other and contact my office using the details below if you need assistance to navigate the bureaucracy.

Ngā mihi
Greg O'Connor, M.P. for Ōhāriu
Tel 478 3332 or email greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz

LIFE IN TAWA

First signs of spring – mid-August in Balliol Drive.

Busy Ara Tawa pathway between Redwood Station and Willowbank in Level 4, Sunday afternoon 29 August.

awa
Books
&Post
Store Services

"Even the ducks are sheltering in Level 4 Lockdown, awaiting the 3pm announcement." Photo and caption supplied by Karen Harris.

Empty Tawa Station carpark, Tuesday afternoon 31 August, the last day of Level 4.

PREMIUM
Coffee
ADDICT
ESPRESSO
Open

Supporting local business in Tawa Plaza – takeaway coffee on the first day of Level 3 Lockdown.

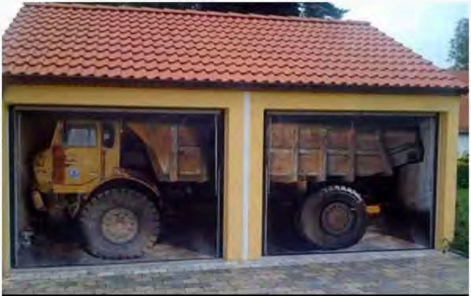
Rumour has it that on the second day of Level 3 Lockdown (Thursday) a local resident joined the long line at McDonald's which slowly snakes its way around the carpark (as pictured). After a 20 minute wait and not more than a third of the way to the "ordering booth", it was time to abandon the quest and head back to Tawa for fish & chips instead! Little more than 15 minutes total wait there!

I just found out I'm colour blind. I'm shocked. It totally came out of the purple.

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself. It is thinking of yourself less." – Rick Warren

"A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it."

"Every time you get upset at something, ask yourself if you were to die tomorrow, was it worth wasting your time being angry?"



Need a weekend project? Check out this garage door artwork!

(Not in Tawa as far as we're aware).

Ngā mihi

Malcolm Sparrow
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