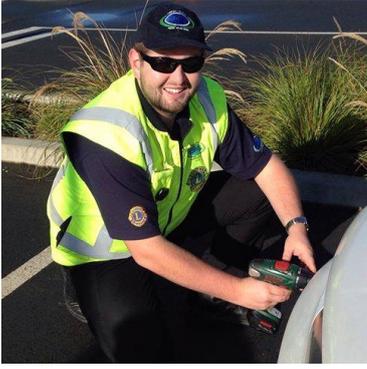


2 MINUTES WITH Michael Johnson



One of the ‘kingpins’ in the Tawa Community Patrol – who assist as eyes and ears for the Police in the local community – is Michael Johnson. He is often seen representing the patrol at local school fairs and at the annual “Safer Plates” event. In his mid-twenties, another of Michael’s passions is indoor bowls. When he started umpiring in his teens he was the youngest umpire in the world and possibly still is today.



Where were you born? Wellington.

Where did you grow up?

I have spent most of my life living in Tawa, here since I was two years old. I am currently looking to build or buy in Tawa with my partner.

Where were you educated?

I went to Redwood School, Tawa Intermediate and Tawa College and loved every moment. I then studied Criminology and Public Policy (Bachelors & Honours) at Victoria University.

What about family?

I live with my partner Kelsi. My parents (Allan & Sharon), brother (Scott) and Nana and Poppa (Pauline & Keith) all live in Tawa. Tawa is certainly our family home.

Work experience over the years

During university I worked at Bunnings Porirua in the nightfill team. Once I graduated, I worked at the NZ Customs Service for a short time before starting my career at NZ Police. I’ve been there for 4 years now and love every minute.

What are your interests and hobbies?

I am the Coordinator of the Tawa Community Patrol and love getting out in the community with this volunteer group. I’ve been community patrolling for 8 years now. I have also played lawn bowls at the Tawa Bowling Club for the last 12 years. I have been an International Umpire for the same time and love being involved in that side of the sport. I enjoy watching powerboat racing when I can.

Favourite sports team and/or sports person?

I really enjoy watching the national lawn bowls team – the Blackjacks, and always have time for the All Blacks. After last week though, Team New Zealand is my new favourite!

Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?

I recently went to Adele and loved it. I listen to anything really – Elton John, Michael Jackson, Michael Buble and give a rough attempt to sing along to anything on the radio.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

For the last few years, I have loved camping on Lake Karapiro with my partner and family watching powerboat races. Up around Whangarei and the Bay of Islands is another favourite spot!

What accomplishments/achievements in your life give you the most satisfaction/pride?

I hold a real sense of pride in the way the Tawa Community Patrol has developed in the last few years to become a key part of the community. We have a really good team of day and night volunteers who really do want to make a difference in Tawa.

With my international bowls umpiring, I have recently been selected to officiate at next year’s Commonwealth Games in Brisbane. I have previously umpired at the Youth Commonwealth Games in Samoa which was also very special. I also umpired at the World Bowls Championships last year which was certainly an experience.

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

I would really like to learn how to fly a glider, visit as many countries as I can, and re-visit the many cool spots around New Zealand that I visited as a child.

(Compiled July 2017)