

2 MINUTES WITH Robyn Parkinson

Robyn Parkinson has been instrumental in setting up the Tawa Community Garden at Coronation Park in Oxford St. (See the separate article about that in this newsletter.) She continues to play a lead role in the operation of the garden.

On a separate note, Robyn has put her name forward for election to the Tawa Community Board. On this occasion the number of candidates standing for the board is the same as the number of places available. Consequently there is no need for an election, which means she will automatically be a member of the Tawa Community Board from October 2016.



Where were you born? North Shore, Auckland – not my choice, and so long ago it wasn't a flash area like today!

Where did you grow up? Same, but with a 3-year stint in Jamaica as a preschooler.

Where were you educated?

Northcote Primary, Intermediate and College; Otago University, Victoria University.

How long have you lived in Tawa?

Not quite long enough to experience its 'borough' status (26 years). [Ed.: Tawa lost its independent 'borough' status when it was forcibly amalgamated with Wellington in 1989].

Work experience over the years

Plenty, mostly unpaid. Longest paid employment was with the National Library. I currently work as a self-employed gardener, along with a variety of volunteer work and family responsibilities.

What about family?

Married to Andrew, a primary school teacher. Four daughters, two studying at Australian National University (Canberra), two at Tawa College.

What are your interests/hobbies?

I'm a member of Well-LUG (Wellington Lego User Group, for adult Lego hobbyists). Come see our show this year in Upper Hutt – BrickCon 2016. Last year's saw over 8,000 people in one weekend. My youngest and I had a ball as exhibitors. This time is our third – getting experienced! See <http://www.expressions.org.nz/events/current-events/brickcon-2016/>

Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?

Mmmm. I enjoy watching the Australian Tennis Open, Olympic events not a supporter or fan as such.

Favourite musical group and/or style of music?

Varies. I enjoy most of what gets played at our place, from medieval chant to Imagine Dragons. Maybe not Halsey though. Prefer live music when I can get to it.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

Somewhere new to explore, scenic and uncrowded. Our last family holiday to the East Coast ticked all the boxes.

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

Achieving my parenting goal – to have a good relationship with our teenagers / adult offspring.

Bungy-jumping – the first summer A J Hackett ran one (1989).

And in more recent years, conquering fear to preach three sermons on Revelation.

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

Make new friends, keep the old, and continue to be happily married.

(Compiled September 2016)