



COMMUNITY NEWS

Late April
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.

MEETING RE NZTA'S PROPOSALS FOR TAWA

A community meeting was organised by the Tawa Community Board recently to give local people the chance to find out more about the NZ Transport Agency's (NZTA's) proposals to widen the existing motorway through Tawa or to construct a new highway through the Takapu Valley. 160-180 people attended the meeting.



A subsequent report in "The Wellingtonian" newspaper concentrated on the comments made by the

the Hon Peter Dunne, without mentioning that there were several other presenters. I (the Ed.) considered it important to acknowledge those other presenters, and therefore sent the following letter to that newspaper:

"It was good to read about the meeting organised by the Tawa Community Board to better inform local people of NZTA's highway proposals in the Tawa area.

Hon Peter Dunne MP certainly played a significant part in this meeting in expressing his concerns about how well NZTA has or hasn't consulted with affected parties to date. However it needs to be pointed out that, in addition to NZTA's Rod James, there were various other presenters.

"Stop the Motorway Widening" representatives gave a powerpoint presentation pointing out the disadvantages of "Option C", widening SH1 through Tawa. A Takapu Valley resident presented the case for not proceeding with "Option D", instead looking at possible alternatives which would not have the same negative impacts as those proposed for the Tawa area.

Andy Foster, chair of WCC's Transport and Urban Development committee, spoke from the point-of-view of the council.

The Tawa Community Board also expressed its view, namely to proceed with neither Option C or D as there appears to be insufficient evidence to justify either proposal.

With around 160-180 people present, many parties contributed to making it a well worthwhile meeting."

ANZAC DAY OBSERVANCE FRIDAY 25 APRIL 2014

This year's Tawa Community ANZAC Day observance will commence with a parade which will assemble at the New World carpark at 9.30am and march off to the Tawa RSA at 9.45am. The Civic Service will be held in the Tawa RSA Hall, 89 Oxford Street, at the completion of the parade.

This is a Tawa Community commemoration and the public are most welcome to march in the parade, attend the service (around 10am) and pay tribute on this special day of remembrance.



JEMIMA SCOTT

Jemima (12) has been selected to go to the Australian Ballet School as an International Student. The costs of the programme are high and Sara (her mum) and Jemima have set up a site givealittle/jemimamelbourne - where every little cent would be most appreciated.

They went to Melbourne for their first trip recently, and Jemima has posted photos and an update of how it all went on the site mentioned above.

Many thanks to all those who may donate through this page. It is GREATLY appreciated.



TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE

The Annual General Meeting of the Tawa Community Theatre will be held at 4pm on Sunday 27 April at 8 Thomas Hook St, Tawa. New members welcome. Refreshments to follow.

Nominations are needed for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to six committee members.

Active participation in the administration of the Theatre is vital to its ongoing success.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN

Cooking & Craft and Science Holiday Programmes for children aged from 4 - 11 are being offered by Hayley Balmer, a teacher, in Redwood, Tawa from 28 - 30/4/14. Each 3 hour session is different and children can come for as many sessions as they like. All groups have limited places and a reservation is necessary.

For further details email hayley.balmer@xtra.co.nz.

HOP IN = HOLIDAY DROP IN



Holiday fun for caregivers and preschoolers.

An opportunity for adult company while your pre-schooler plays in a safe environment. Plenty of toys and activities! Morning tea available!

Everybody is welcome! Join us on Thursday 1 May, 10am to 12 noon, Tawa Union Church, Elena Place.

Enquiries to Heidrun on 232 2197 or Karen on 232 3436.



TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The term 2 programme is now up on the web site www.tawacommed.co.nz

Language classes now include Samoan, German, French, Spanish, ESOL and New Zealand Sign Language.

Fitness classes include Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi & Qi Gong, Bollywood or great a great workout while also learning Japanese Taiko drumming.

Cooking classes include Indian, Chinese, Italian Modern Asian, Cheese making, Vegetarian, Pickles & Sauerkraut and Breads including gluten-free.

Computer classes include Computing for Now, Xero, Excel, Word, Photoshop, Computer Keyboarding and Web Page Construction.

Craft classes include Needle Felting, Nuno Felt Collar, Sewing, Patchwork, Flax Weaving, Pottery, Mixed Media Art, Drawing for Beginners, Acrylic Painting and Woodwork.

There are also classes in Defensive Driving, Gardening, Fishing, Family Trusts, Roman Blinds, First Aid, Music (Keyboard, Guitar, Ukulele, Song Writing).

A REVAMPED TURF IN TAWA

We've now achieved a great outcome following discussions held a few weeks back around the "Turf in Tawa" issue. As advised in a previous newsletter, 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 with Cr Paul Eagle (chair of WCC's Community, Sport & Recreation committee) and three WCC officers to look at the various turf options available.

Council officers have now agreed to carry out substantial work at Redwood Park within the next 12 months to improve its playing surface, meaning fewer disruptions for local football when the weather turns nasty. The local football club and other parties at the table (around 18 on the night) are very satisfied with this compromise, the best possible result in the circumstances! Thanks to all involved.

SUPPORTING LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS

As in previous years, four members of the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade are competing in the Firefighters Sky Tower Stair Challenge in order to raise funds for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand (LBC) - the national charity dedicated to supporting patients and their families living with blood cancers like leukaemia and related blood conditions. They receive no government funding.



The climb is in Auckland on Saturday 17 May. Members of the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade have been out doing bucket shakes at Dressmart and will be doing some at New World Tawa as well.

Members of the community can donate online (and receive a tax receipt by email).

See <http://my.leukaemia.net.nz/TeamPage.aspx?EventID=43889&LangPref=en-CA&TeamID=69358>

Tawa members competing are Senior Firefighter John Pitchford (4th time - at right in photo), Station Officer Mark Osborne (3rd time - at left in photo), Firefighter David Logan (2nd time), Senior Firefighter Craig Robertson (1st time).

WORKSHOPS FOR ORGANISERS OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

There are two great workshops for organisers of community events and programmes coming up:

GET SET GO - Find out everything you need to know about running a community recreation programme or event. Friday 23 May 2014, 9am-12.30pm.

SPREAD THE WORD – How to effectively promote your community event or programme. Wednesday 11 June 2014, 9am-12.30pm.

Held at Newtown Park function room. \$40 voluntary organisations, \$60 government or business organisations. For info and registration contact : daphne.pilaar@wcc.govt.nz.

WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE?

Have you ever wondered what Catholics believe and why? Perhaps a friend or relation is a Catholic and you are intrigued by what they do or say. Perhaps it is Pope Francis who has caught your attention, with his calls for simpler living and redress of inequality in the world. Would you like answers to some of the questions you have about the beliefs and practices of Catholics? Perhaps you would like to think about the possibility of becoming a Catholic yourself?

There will be a no-obligation information evening on Sunday 18 May from 7pm at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, corner of Main Road/Lyndhurst Road in Tawa, with a teaching programme later for those who wish to follow up on the evening.

Wine & fruit juice from 7pm for 7.30pm start. There will be a short presentation followed by a question time. You are warmly invited to this no-obligation evening. You are welcome to bring your spouse or a friend if you wish.

COMING UP WITH TOASTMASTERS IN TAWA

SPEECHCRAFT COURSE

Become a Better Speaker and a Confident Presenter with this fun 6 week course (limited places) designed to help you improve your public speaking and presentation skills from 7 May – 11 June 7.30pm – 9.30pm at Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge St, Tawa. Contact Maya to register now on 478 9466, or email maya.fengshui@paradise.net.nz.

LIBRARY DISPLAY

From 25 May – 5 June you can find out the history of Toastmasters in Tawa (local club since 1972 – more than 40 years), the Toastmasters Story, and pick up a free magazine to take home with you. All at the Mervyn Kemp Library, Tawa.

OPEN MEETING

On 9 June Tawa Toastmasters are holding an open meeting (free entry) with high profile guest speaker Kim Chamberlain. Kim is an experienced coach for women and a professional communicator and has lived and worked internationally on three different continents; in Europe, Africa, and now has returned to Wellington. Kim took her first steps towards public speaking at Tawa Toastmasters years ago and will give a talk on presentation techniques that she learned outside of toastmasters.

During this evening you will also hear other experienced speakers of our club present and you will get a feel of what Toastmasters is all about. An opportunity not to be missed!

To find out more about these special 3 TREATS see the following websites:

<http://tawa.toastmastersclubs.org/> <http://www.successfulspeaking.biz/home/>

A BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD WITH STREETBANK!

Streetbank is a website that gives neighbours the opportunity to lend, give away or offer items and skills to anyone living within two or three kilometres of their home. People simply sign up with their postcode, add at least one item or skill they would like to share, and they can see everything offered by their Streetbank neighbours. All for free.

Streetbank works like a giant garden shed, tool-kit, fancy dress chest, skills bank, DVD collection and library all rolled into one. With thousands of members across the UK and starting to grow in New Zealand, the organisation is living proof that community spirit is alive and well.

People can make use of it however they wish. Some want to save money, for others it's about living more sustainably and for others still it's about getting to know their neighbours. In a world where the annual average usage for a household drill is 14 minutes, it makes sense to share more on a purely practical level, if nothing else.

And share more is exactly what Streetbank members are doing. People have lent each other lawnmowers, bikes and gorilla costumes; they've given away microwaves, sofas, pianos and freshly baked bread; they've helped each other move house, grow vegetables, write CVs, hula hoop and that's just the start.

Streetbank, although practical, fun and economical is, at heart, about reconnecting community, alleviating loneliness, and making society a little less independent.

Time to check out who's in your Streetbank neighbourhood and get sharing today: www.streetbank.com.

streetbank
share things with your neighbours



60 SECONDS WITH Robert Tredger

Robert has been Chair of the Tawa Community Board since November 2013. He was previously Chair for the 2007-10 triennium.



Early life Born in Middlesex, near London, and grew up there.

Lived in Tawa since 1987, when I first came to New Zealand.

Family Married to Dianne, and we have two sons - David in computer security in Wellington, and Matthew at Canterbury University studying psychology.

Work experience over the years

Spent 33 years working for NCR Systemedia Division, 20 years in Africa and the Middle East before being transferred to New Zealand in 1987. Now retired apart from community board and other local roles.

Interests & hobbies Trustee and Patroller of Tawa Community Patrols, Rotary Club of Tawa, Tawa Stream Walkway committee, Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves, Tawa Historical Society, Probus Club of Tawa, and walking marathons as well as training others to do so.

Which sports team(s)? Southland Stags - because most of the team are born and bred in Southland and they produce some wonderful players. My wife's family have lived in Southland for five generations.

Favourite holiday destination in NZ The West Coast of the South Island, all the way down, through Otago and across to the Catlins - the wild side of the South Island. I love it down there!

On the Tawa Community Board since 1995

Why the community board, and what do you do on it?

Having spent many years living and working in countries where democracy was not highly rated, and then settling in NZ, buying a house, finding a wife and starting a family, I thought it was time to put something back into the community. I stood for the Tawa Community Board 19 years ago and have been on the board ever since. Currently Chair, have previously been both Chair and Deputy Chair, and served in various other positions.

Responsibilities on the community board Tawa Grants, Tawa Borough Scholarship Trust, Communications, Tawa Community Civic Awards, and liaison with Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves.

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 and put 'Join' as the subject to receive regular updates.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com (supported by the Tawa Residents' Association)



“The trouble with being a good sport is that you have to lose to prove it.”

“If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.”

“Wisdom doesn't automatically come with old age. Nothing does - except wrinkles. It's true, some wines improve with age. But only if the grapes were good in the first place.” – Abigail Van Buren

Items for this newsletter should be sent to 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 no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.

Back issues of the newsletter are available at 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.

On a personal note

“The Southern Lakes district is superb in the autumn. I actually think it's superb most other times of the year as well. But its autumn colours are worth seeing, and that's the main reason Karen and I were there for six days at the very end of April.”

The above is what I wrote in this newsletter two years ago. Easter 2014 for us was pretty much a repeat of that, although for not quite as long. The Queenstown/Central Otago region is my favourite part of the country, and I very much enjoy being there in the autumn.

One of the highlights this time around was a ride on the Shotover River jetboat. As I say on my Facebook page on which I posted a number of photos, “It's a fun ride and well worthwhile, heading through narrow canyons and superb terrain. Just a pity you can't take photos en route!”

Other highlights are the beauty of the surroundings (mountains, lakes, autumn-coloured trees, etc), and walking the likes of the Arrow River trail. It's just brilliant being there to take it all in. God's own country indeed!

