

This newsletter is sent out every 2-3 weeks on behalf of TawaLink.com (Tawa's community website).

25 September 2009

It's exactly three months till Christmas - just thought you'd like to know! In the meantime, here's a little of what's happening (and what's already happened) in Tawa ...

BY-ELECTION FOR TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

In case you're not aware, there is a vacant position on the Tawa Community Board which needs to be filled, which means that a by-election is taking place. Nominations must be in to the WCC Electoral Officer by 12 noon on Friday 2nd October. That's the end of next week. If you want to know more about this, contact Ross Bly on 801 3483. The postal vote itself takes place in November and concludes on Saturday 21st of that month.

TAWA COMMUNITY MEETING

Local people are invited to a second community meeting at the Community Centre on Tuesday 13th October, 7.00-8.30pm, in regard to setting up a liaison group to have some say in how the Tawa Community Centre operates. There was an initial meeting at the very end of June. This is a follow-on from that. Whether you came to the first meeting or not, you're welcome at this one. We're wanting input from all sectors of the community - come and have your say!

"SPRING INTO TAWA" MARKET DAY

The day was wet but that didn't stop the Tawa community turning out in droves. That's how it was summarised in the Kapi-Mana News (22nd September). The fact that it wasn't too cold worked in our favour, but the on-and-off rain did stop most of the various entertainers from performing - Red Hackle Pipe Band, Tawa Go Go Nuts drumming group, Tawa College street entertainers, etc. Despite that, we had more than 60 stalls and displays set up on the day (somewhat more than the 35 mentioned in a certain local newspaper), and most of those participating seemed pretty happy with the way things went. There's a bunch of photographs of "Spring into Tawa" Market Day at this address: <<http://www.tawalink.com/sit2009.html>>

TAWA COMMUNITY POT LUCK MEAL

Around 70 people took part in our pot luck meal earlier this month, when local residents were given the opportunity to rub shoulders with members of the Tawa Community Board. Who's on the board? What do they actually do for us? Those questions were answered on the night. We were also privileged to hear a short performance from the Tawa Go Go Nuts (Cook Island) drumming group, and learned a little about Cook Island life. Thanks to George Upu <http://www.tawalink.com/george_upu.html> and the boys!

TAWA HERITAGE SIGN

In last month's newsletter mention was made of the Tawa Heritage 'sign' (structure) which was going into place on the corner of the Main Road and Cambridge Street, just outside the library. The sign features four panels, lit at night, which tell of four

aspects of Tawa's history - its settlement, local government, the place of education, and Tawa's transport links. The structure was completed in the last week of August. It lasted about ten days before it was vandalised - one of the four glass panels was smashed and the inside wording damaged. It hasn't yet been replaced.

Fortunately I photographed all four panels very soon after they were in place. You can see them here: <www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2009-29.html>. It was the first of the panels, "Settling Tawa Flat", that was damaged.

DISABLED PARKING SPACES

Don't think about even stopping temporarily in a disabled parking space - unless, of course, you have a mobility permit (the orange card visible in your front screen or on your dashboard). Obviously those parks are *not* there for able-bodied drivers. But you might not know that even *sitting* in your car in a disabled parking space can land you with a fine. I saw it happen outside Take Note Tawa a couple of days ago. I don't have any sympathy for people who park illegally in these parks, but the parking warden I had a friendly chat with told me they have a "no tolerance" policy towards able-bodied drivers who even *sit* in such a park for a minute or two.

A fine was issued to the young woman in the offending vehicle, even though she argued that she hadn't prevented any disabled driver from parking there. As the parking warden commented, she wasn't to know whether a disabled/elderly driver had seen their disabled parking space occupied and had driven on along the road. So there we have it - move your able-bodied body elsewhere!

COMING UP ...

Monday 28th Sept - Friday 2nd October:

The Shed Holiday Programme at St Christopher's Anglican Church

Wednesday 30th September: **Speechcraft Course** with Kapi-Mana Toastmasters

Saturday 10th October: **Tawa Art & Craft Market Day** at Tawa Community Centre

Full details at <www.tawalink.com/coming_events.html>

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com <info@tawalink.com>

<<http://www.tawalink.com>>

803 8591 or 232 1682

"I'm always relieved when someone delivers a eulogy and I realise I'm listening to it." - George Carlin

"By perseverance the snail reached the ark." - Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"Recall it as often as you wish. A happy memory never wears out." - Libby Fudim

This community newsletter is emailed to around 700 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) every 2-3 weeks. If you do not already receive it and would like to, please send an email to info@tawalink.com requesting that your name is added to our list.