

27 October 2009

Hello again.

Trust you had a pleasant and possibly relaxing Labour Weekend. I'm sure you don't need me to tell you that the year is fast racing away, and we'll be hit with all the Christmas advertising very soon (after all, there are now fewer than 60 sleeps to go!). Tawa College is already holding various end-of-year prizegivings, and its senior students have little more than a couple of weeks of official schooling left before they go into study mode in preparation for exams starting mid-November. Lucky them!

There are quite a number of items of interest mentioned below (well, some will be of more interest than others to you), and various events coming up within the next few weeks .....

## **MEET THE CANDIDATES – TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD BY-BY-ELECTION**

By now you should be aware of the by-election taking place for a vacancy on the Tawa Community Board. The postal vote itself takes place from the very end of October and concludes on Saturday 21 November.

A total of eight people have put their names forward for the by-election. If you're keen enough, you can see their profiles at <http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/elections/tawa/tawaby.html>. Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association is hosting a "Meet the Candidates" evening (your chance to meet these fine specimens and grill them accordingly) at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 November at the Tawa Community Centre.

## **TAKAPU ISLAND UPDATE**

The roading and roundabouts adjoining (on the north side of) "Takapu Island" are now basically finished, and the planting of the roundabouts is currently taking place. Traffic appears to be flowing well. If you have any comments to make, they can be directed to Robert Tredger, Tawa Community Board chair, at [tredger@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:tredger@slingshot.co.nz).

In regards to "Takapu Island" itself, nobody seems to quite know what's actually happening. This is a private development and little, if any, information its finding its way back to the Council in regard to the next stage, so what exactly is happening next is anyone's guess. So there we are - unfortunately you're no more enlightened at the end of this paragraph than you were at the start!

## **PARKING IN LINCOLN AVE**

The Tawa Community Board advises that it is working with the Wellington City Council in trying to sort out a solution to residents' concerns about traffic volumes, drop-offs, and parking outside the Big Air facility at the eastern end of Lincoln Ave. Large numbers of children take part in classes there - which is a good thing - but the resultant traffic involved in dropping off and picking up is causing a few headaches for some. We'll keep you informed of developments.

## **TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD'S ADVOCACY PLAN - YOUR CHANCE TO BE HEARD!**

The Tawa Community Board is putting together an "Advocacy Plan", the intention being "... to clarify what actions and outcomes the community wants to see happen in Tawa, and what assistance the community needs from the council or other agencies to achieve these goals." There's more to it than that, but that's the gist of it.

A meeting is being held at the Tawa Community Centre at 7pm on Monday 2 November to give us in the community an opportunity to contribute to this. Those involved in sports clubs in Tawa, along with Grenada North business owners, are specifically invited. However anyone else who wants to have a say is welcome along. If you want to know more, contact Dennis Sharman on 232 5185 or email [d.sharman@sharman.co.nz](mailto:d.sharman@sharman.co.nz).

## **TAWA-PORIRUA STREAM WALKWAY**

As most of you would have read in various local newspapers in the first week of July, the Wellington City Council approved the funding allocation of \$4 million over 10 years for local tracks/cycleways etc throughout the region and expenditure of \$250,000 during the 2009/10 fiscal year. At present Council officers have engaged consultants to review the best method of making a funding application from outside transport funding agencies to assist in covering the cost of the Tawa route.

Council officers have organised a display of the proposed Tawa- Porirua Stream walkway and a write-up in the Tawa Library in the internet computing section. Please visit the library and study the proposed route.

WCC have also put on their website a page about the Tawa- Porirua stream project. To read, please go to <<http://www.wellington.govt.nz/projects/new/porirua-stream.html>>.

- Brett Gillies

## **PORIRUA HARBOUR PUBLIC SEMINAR**

There is a series of three different meetings taking place at three different venues on three different nights in regard to Porirua Harbour issues. The meeting at the Linden Social Centre, Linden Ave, 7-9pm on Wednesday 28 October will be focusing on the Wellington (and Tawa) part of the Porirua Stream, and what's being planned for the future.

"This seminar will tell the urban stream story beginning with environmental science leader Juliet Milne on stormwater and stream contamination, followed by consultant ecologist, Dr Paul Blaschke on Porirua Stream planning and eco-restoration priorities, concluding with Greater Wellington biodiversity coordinator Tim Porteous on catchment restoration."

## **TAWA COMMUNITY LIGHT PARTY - ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY**

The annual "light party" is a fun event with entertainment, food, music and a Talent Quest for children aged 5-12. This is a safe and positive alternative to Halloween. Held at the Tawa New Life Church (Main Road, opp Lincoln Ave) from 5.30-8pm (sausage sizzle for tea). A FREE event but because it's so popular (more than 300 kids each year), tickets are needed to gain entry. These can be obtained by calling Sharon Ross on 232 7649 or from the New Life or Baptist Church offices from 9-12 Tuesday to Friday.

## **"SENIOR" AND NEED SOME WORK DONE?**

Could you do with a hand with some work that needs doing at your place, or know someone else who might? If you're senior or disabled or simply need a hand in some way, we can help. For a few days in early December a number of Year 10 Tawa College students will be working (under adult supervision) in the local community. If you need weeding done, windows cleaned, scrub cleared, car washed, fence painted, or other work done around your house, then give us a call now. In case you were wondering, there's no cost involved - this is a simply exercise in "community service" within the Tawa basin.

This "project" was a roaring success on its first time around last December. See <[http://www.tawalink.com/pic\\_week\\_2008-44.html](http://www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2008-44.html)>. For that reason, it's happening again. To book students to help at your place, phone Malcolm Sparrow on 232 5030 (leave a message), text 027 232 2320 or email malcolm@tawalink.com. First in, first served!

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO NATHANAEL LUCAS**

Nathanael Lucas, a year 13 Tawa College student, has been chosen as a World Vision ambassador to visit Cambodia in December because of his hard work in helping run 40 hour Famine events at Tawa College earlier in the year. A total of five students were chosen from throughout New Zealand to see how 40 hour Famine funds are helping the people of Cambodia. Well done, Nathanael! A whole lot more detail is given on page C4 of last Friday's Dominion Post. According to that article, "He plans to come back from his trip and tell people about the poverty first-hand."

## **TAWA LIONS CHRISTMAS PARADE**

All kinds of groups are invited to be part of Tawa's Christmas Parade which takes place at 2pm on Saturday 5 December. That's just over five weeks away. It would be great to have even more participants than usual involved in this - sports teams wearing team colours, clubs/groups in uniform, ethnic groups in national costume, etc. Now's the time to start thinking it through and getting organised!

## **COMING UP:**

Wednesday 28 October: **Porirua Harbour (Porirua Stream) Public Seminar**  
Saturday 31 October: **Tawa Community Light Party**  
Sunday 1 November: **Tawa Orchestra recital**  
Monday 2 November: **Tawa Community Board's Advocacy Plan meeting**  
Tuesday 3 November: **Meet the Candidates standing in the by-election**  
Saturday 7 November: **Brian Webb Kindergarten Garage Sale**

Full details at <[http://www.tawalink.com/coming\\_events.html](http://www.tawalink.com/coming_events.html)>.

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*"The greatest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing you will make one."* - Elbert Hubbard

*"Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."* - Ralph Waldo Emerson

*"There is nothing wrong with good schmaltz, nothing wrong with good heart ... The critics think I'm kind of corny. Well, I am corny. As long as people respond to it, I'm okay."* - Walt Disney

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 3 weeks or so. If you do not already receive it and would like to, please send an email to [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) requesting that your name is added to our list.