

17 December 2009

## **WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND ALL THE BEST IN THE NEW YEAR - FROM TAWALINK.COM**

Just over a week till Christmas, as I'm sure you well know!

Two regular community events which happen in Tawa in the leadup to Christmas each year are the community carols and the Christmas parade. Both have now taken place, the carols just a couple of days ago in the St Francis Xavier hall as it was a tad cool outside. Thanks to the respective service clubs for all the work that went into organising these. Photos of the Christmas parade can be seen here:

<[http://www.tawalink.com/2009\\_christmas\\_parade.html](http://www.tawalink.com/2009_christmas_parade.html)>

## **TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD NEWSLETTER**

The Tawa Community Board has compiled an end-of-year newsletter which is being distributed to Tawa households this week. However if you have a 'No Circulars' sign on your letterbox, you're likely to miss out. For that reason, a copy of the newsletter is available on this site in pdf format. The newsletter also has the photos in glorious technicolour, which isn't the case with the printed version.

## **TAWA COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Community groups applying for a grant from the Tawa Community Board need to have their application in by 29 January 2010. Download the form here:

<<http://www.wellington.govt.nz/services/grants/index.html>>

## **TAWA COMMUNITY CIVIC AWARDS**

In 2010 the Tawa Community Board is again likely to be organising the Tawa Community Awards which recognise the immense contribution volunteers make to our community. These awards have previously been held in 2006 and 2008. More details in the months ahead.

## **TAKAPU ISLAND ROUNDABOUTS**

As previously advised, the NZTA is part-way through a safety audit at the Takapu Island roundabouts. The piece of land at the right as one enters Tawa from the motorway (heading north) has been progressively lowered over the past little while, ensuring that we can see traffic heading towards us from under the 'motorway bridge'. Whether it's been lowered enough has not yet been determined.

Regarding Takapu Island itself, no applications for building or resource consent are in the works, meaning that not a lot will be happening there in the foreseeable future.

## **TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF REDWOOD STATION**

Tranz Metro advises: "We're getting the Redwood platform ready for the arrival of the new 'Matangi' trains in 2010. In order to do this, we will be closing this station from 8 February 2010 for around 4 months." They don't advise how all the cars that usually park at Redwood Station will squeeze into the carparks at Takapu Road Station or Tawa Station. Could be interesting!

## **TAWA INTERMEDIATE - THE CHAMPIONS**

Just in case you haven't heard, Tawa intermediate Girls' Cricket team are the New Zealand Champions and holders of both the Wellington and Milo Shields. They played Heaton Intermediate (of Christchurch) in the semi-final, winning 127 – 125. In the final (played in Palmerston North), Viscount School (of South Auckland) bowled Tawa out for 108. Viscount School then made 102 runs in their 25 overs, giving Tawa Intermediate the victory. The last over was apparently very tense! Full report and team photo here: <<http://www.cricketwellington.co.nz/news/tawa-intermediate-wins-milo-shield/6175/article.aspx>>

## **TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY WORK DAY**

In the first week of December more than 250 Year 10 students from Tawa College were involved in giving a hand to senior and disabled Tawa residents with work they needed doing. I personally saw some of them digging over a garden, pulling weeds, and washing a house (as well as spraying water in a few other directions). Around 60 or so different households were visited, and the young people (mostly aged 15) were involved in various chores they may well have never had the pleasure of doing before. All good experience and a great scheme on the part of the College, the second year it's been run. Photos here: <[http://www.tawalink.com/pic\\_week\\_2009-39.html](http://www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2009-39.html)>

## **TAWA SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB**

Tawa Scottish Country Dance Club are running a beginners class to teach the ballroom dancing of Scotland, commencing on Thursday 28 January at St Luke's Centre, Redwood Ave at 7.30pm. Come and have a go! No experience required. No partner required. Just wear some soft shoes. A course of 5 classes over 5 weeks - \$20.

It's fun! You meet new people. It's good exercise for mind and body, but you do need a reasonable level of fitness. Enquiries to Maureen Robson on 478 8055 or Jan Bruce on 232 8363. Email [maureen.robson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:maureen.robson@xtra.co.nz)

## **NEW MINISTER AT TAWA UNION CHURCH**

Tawa Union Church is looking forward to the arrival of its new minister, the Rev Clare Lind, who moves to Tawa with her family at the beginning of February. A special service will be held on Thursday 4 February at 7pm at the Centre in Elena Place. There will be an opportunity to meet them at supper following the service. You are welcome to attend.

## **CHRISTMAS DAY IN TAWA**

A long-established Tawa tradition (stretching back several decades) is the Combined Christmas Service at Tawa College. This regularly attracts hundreds of local people enjoying a little of what Christmas is really all about - and reflecting on the reason for the season! It starts at 9.30am.

## **ON A PERSONAL NOTE**

Tomorrow (Friday) I'll be driving from Christchurch to Hokitika with a friend, where we'll spend a few hours before carrying on down to Haast for the weekend. In case you didn't know, it's the 75th anniversary of scheduled airline services in New Zealand, beginning on the West Coast. We'll return via Wanaka & Tekapo, some of my favourite parts of the country. Back to Tawa for two days before heading south to red-and-black country again with the whole family for Christmas and the New Year.

Wherever you are this Christmas, on the beach or in the snow (or somewhere in between), may it be a very happy and enjoyable occasion!

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*"He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree."* - Roy L Smith

*"Drive carefully these holidays. Remember it's not only a car that can be recalled by its maker."*

*"Christmas is a necessity. There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves."* - Eric Sevareid

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.