

This community email is sent out every month or so on behalf of TawaLink.com, Tawa's community website.

Hello again

We're fast heading into autumn and it's a tad chilly outside as this is written. Hopefully though there's still plenty of good weather ahead!

Having left the Tawa Community Centre at the end of last year, the writer of this newsletter is taking up a new challenge, the world of real estate - in Tawa, of course. His involvement in community matters, e.g. the TawaLink website, the Tawa Community Board, this newsletter, etc, will continue unabated.

In case you weren't aware, there are now fewer than two weeks to go before the end of term 1 for the 3,250+ students and whatever number of hardworking teachers in our midst. The first item below is about one of those many Tawa students

BREANNA INTO THE FINAL

She succeeded with 'parable', 'renaissance' and 'amethyst', but 'insouciant' proved too much of a handful (or should that be mouthful?) for Breanna Kennedy to spell. Anyone ever heard of that word, let alone know its meaning?



Breanna (13) is in year 9 at Tawa College and you may have seen in last Tuesday's *Dominion Post* that she was placed third in the regional final of the NZ Vegemite Spelling Bee. Around 60 other contestants from the lower North Island took part, including two others from Tawa College.

The national final took place this past Saturday at Wellington High School. Breanna competed with 11 other year 9 students from throughout New Zealand to win a trip to Washington DC for the US Spelling Bee in June. Unfortunately she didn't make it past the second round on the day. However well done to Breanna in getting as far as she did!

BEGINNING BRIDGE AT KAPI MANA

Kapi Mana Bridge Club will hold introductory sessions for anyone wanting to learn (or brush up on) this very popular card game. The first of ten sessions at 7.30pm on Monday evenings will start on 12 April.

All generations can enjoy the game. While it is quite straightforward to get started, it is a challenging game to master. The sessions are very hands-on with participants involved in playing the game from the first evening. Bridge is both an excellent exercise for the mind and a great social outlet.

Call David 233 1866 or Barbara 236 7424 for details, or simply turn up at the Clubrooms, 8 Linden Avenue, Linden for the first evening on 12 April. The \$50 cost includes 10 sessions, notes and club membership to 31 March 2011.



As the owners of **Village Gifts**, Sasi and Chris would like to say thanks for accepting our new business as a part of your retail community.

If you still haven't been along for a look we hope that you will do so very soon. Come and browse. If you find something you like you could take advantage of our layby plan.

Many folk have called in and expressed their approval and willingly accepted our business cards to pass on to their friends and family. Your recommendations and support are helping us to grow, especially in such tight economic times.

Your continued support and patronage of your local retailers will assure the vitality that Tawa has always been noted for. Visit us in the Main Road shopping centre at 188b Main Road, Tawa.

In brief

Redwood Station

The completion date for the new platforms at Redwood Station is likely to be late April, earlier than perhaps first thought. It will be further down the track (pun not really intended), in fact next year, before we see the new trains serving Tawa.

Tawa-Porirua Stream Walkway

Wellington City Council is presently making application to the NZ Transport Agency to gain a subsidy to assist in the funding of the walkway. The Walkway Committee in conjunction with the Council will shortly hold a public meeting to describe the propose walkway route and its design.

Caltex Station

A resource consent was granted by the Council for the underground tanks to be removed and that has now taken place - for a few fascinating pics, see: www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2010-09.html. There is no known substance to the rumour doing the rounds that a certain BK fast food restaurant will be set up on that site!

Takapu Island

No further news on this one. What we do know is that there is no proposal at this stage to build additional carparks there to alleviate the shortage at Takapu Road Station.

Grants to Tawa groups

The Tawa Community Board's Grants committee met earlier this month and, from a total pool of \$15,000, approved the following grants to local groups:

Beanstalk Kindergarten - \$350 to purchase more educational equipment

NZ Red Cross Central Region - \$2500 to deliver 4-hour 'People Saver' courses to schools in Tawa

Tawa Bowling Club - \$600 towards printing costs of a booklet for the Club's 50th Anniversary

Tawa College - \$1000 towards cricket uniforms for the 1st XI boys' team

Tawa Community Patrol - \$1500 to enable 3 people to attend the 2010 Nation Training Seminar

Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers Assn Inc - \$1500 for ongoing maintenance of Tawalink website

Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers Assn Inc - \$1044 for replacement of coloured globes for Christmas lighting

Tawa Schools' & Community Festival - \$4000 towards music festival scheduled for September 2010

Tawa Senior Citizens' Club - \$250 for club's ongoing administration costs

Tawa Squash Club - \$750 towards purchasing an additional 20-30 chairs

Tawa Swimming Club - \$700 towards purchasing swimming caps for all club members

Tawa-Linden Playcentre - \$395 towards purchasing new outdoor climbing equipment

Vocal FX Wellington Mens' Barbershop Inc - up to \$400 for conference registration fee

TAWA INTERMEDIATE

For people with an interest in Tawa Intermediate there are now two new ways of keeping up with what is happening at school. From the school's website www.tawaint.school.nz you can subscribe to the weekly newsletter and you can also follow the school on Twitter. The link for this is also on the home page of the website.

TAWA LIONS RAISING FUNDS

Tawa Lions are raising funds towards the Ronald McDonald House rebuilding project. In mid-2009 the Lions Club made a commitment to support this project by accepting a 'room' target of \$25,000 over three years.

"Tawa Lions has already made an initial contribution of \$10,000," said Tawa Lions president Brenden Jacobsen. "That came from the proceeds of our successful Tawa Lions Saturday Market. Other activities will be carried out to raise funds towards the House rebuilding project in addition to using further market proceeds."

The Lions Club recently erected a fundraising barometer at Dress-Smart that will show the amount of funds raised.

Members of the public wishing to donate to this worthy cause may do so at the Tawa Lions Saturday Market held at Dress-Smart each Saturday. More information about the campaign can be gained by visiting www.givealotoflove.org.nz. The photograph shows (left to right) Lions David Miller, Ross Pedder (up ladder) and Ray Lindsay finishing the erecting of the fundraising barometer.



TAWA MONTESSORI PRIMARY

Tawa Montessori Primary is now accepting enrolments for the next three years. Children who have attended Montessori Preschool will be given preference. Children start at age 6 (year 2), but those children leaving Montessori pre-school at 5 years old can join the Tawa School new entrants class for year 1 and then move to the Montessori Primary from year 2.

Please direct enquiries to the Chair of the Trust Board, Rachel Dawson on 232 6453 A/H 232 3787 or email ritchandrach@xtra.co.nz.

COMING EVENTS IN TAWA:

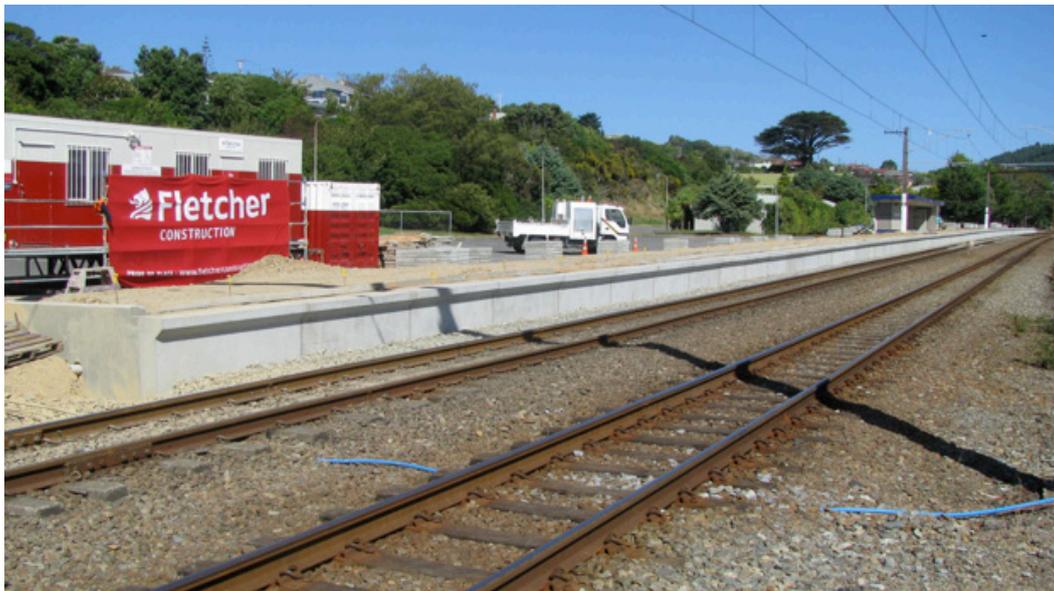
Not a lot on the calendar, but see www.tawalink.com/coming_events.html.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow - *on behalf of TawaLink.com*
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This newsletter is sponsored by:

Malcolm Sparrow <i>Selling houses in Tawa</i>	232 1602 02 232 232 00	
Thinking about selling your house? Please feel free to call me personally for a chat or for an appraisal.		



Platform upgrade at Redwood Station - Friday 19 March

P.S. Ok, so if you have a more interesting photo (people shots are great) for next month's newsletter, you're welcome to send it through.

"The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire." - Ferdinand Foch

"Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask, 'Where have I gone wrong?' Then a voice says to me, 'This is going to take more than one night.'" - Charles Schulz

"We act as though comfort and luxury were the chief requirements of life, when all that we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about." - Charles Kingsley

This community newsletter is emailed to more than 700 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) every month or so. If there's anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please let us know. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.