



This community newsletter is sent out in the first and the third weeks of each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website since 2002. The newsletter is supported by the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association.

CHRISTMAS IS FAST APPROACHING ...



TAWA LIONS CHRISTMAS PARADE: The 2011 Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday 3 December at 2pm. It's always a special occasion in Tawa, involving bands, floats, community groups, MG & vintage cars, clowns and Santa.

Participants assemble at Tawa School at 1pm. The parade route is from Oxford Street on to the Main Road, through the town shopping centre, on to Surrey Street and ending at Tawa Junction carpark.

Pics from last year's parade can be seen at:
www.tawalink.com/2010_christmas_parade.html

TAWA ROTARY CAROLS: Community carol singing at Grasslees Reserve at 7pm on Tuesday 6 December. You're welcome to come earlier with your own picnic food. Enjoy the sausage sizzle, music, singing and Santa. Song sheets will be handed out, and there might even be a lolly scramble at the end. For pics from an earlier year, see: www.tawalink.com/carols_2009.html



TAWA ROTARY TOOT FOR TUCKER: On Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 December there will be a food collection for the Tawa Food Bank. Members of Tawa Rotary, Tawa Lions and Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade will be out in the streets of Tawa from 6.30pm to 8pm collecting donated non-perishable food items to build up Christmas stocks for the Tawa Food Bank. When you hear the horns or the siren, race outside and load up the passing trailer with as much as you can!

TAWA SCHOOL FAIR

Come and vote at Tawa School on Saturday 26 November and check out the fun of the fair at the same time, 11am to 2pm. Real coffee, great food, entertainment and the famous (well, in Tawa anyway) Spooky House. Entry is free. It will be on, rain or shine.

TAKE PART IN THE SILENT AUCTION NOW. Have a look at what's on offer on this webpage:
<http://www.tawa.school.nz/index.php/the-community/home-and-school/122-home-and-school-silent-auctions.html>

WIN FOR TAWA COLLEGE CHEERLEADING TEAM

You may have seen the writeup on the front page of the Kapi-Mana News about the Tawa College Cheerleaders' recent win in the Total Cheer "Dance and Cheer Internationals Competition" in Auckland. The team competed in the High School Division and gained 1st place with their polished routine. Captained by Courtenay Jamieson (Year 13), the team consists of 24 students and is managed by Michele Turfrey and Laura Boyd.



TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO

TAWA PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

These awards recognise "true leadership, citizenship, contribution to school life, etc" at each of Tawa's six primary schools, plus the intermediate school.

The winning student from Year 6 (or Year 8) at each school has been chosen and is being presented with their award by the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, at a ceremony at the Tawa Community Centre at the end of the month. Each child is to receive a trophy, a laminated certificate, and a handshake from the Mayor. A wooden shield will be retained by the school with the winner's name engraved on it each year.

More details are available on the front page of the Tawa Community Board's printed newsletter which will be delivered to each letterbox in Tawa over the next week.

GREENACRES SCHOOL MAD HATTERS' CHRISTMAS GALA

Greenacres' gala took place at the school over a 3 hour period on a sunny Saturday, 19 November, culminating in its famous hat parade. Cr Ngaire Best and TCB chair Malcolm Sparrow judged the competition. There was an amazing array of Christmas-themed hats and not very easy to say that one was "better" than the others.

In the end, these were the judges' choices, from Year 1 at left through to Year 6:



TAWA COMMUNITY GRANTS

A reminder that community groups applying for a grant from the Tawa Community Board need to have their application in by 31 January 2012. Download the form at www.wellington.govt.nz/services/grants/index.html

MUMS AND BUBS IN SQUASH

See the Tawa Community Board's printed newsletter (available late November) for a photo of TCB member Chris Reading with some of the "Mums and Bubs in Squash" team – recipients of a Tawa Community Grant earlier in the year.

NEIGHBOURS' WEEKEND IN 2012

It's still four months away but we're intending to make a big weekend of "Neighbours' Day Aotearoa" in late March 2012. The aim is to have at least 50 streets in Tawa getting together with their neighbours in some way or another over that weekend – maybe just having fish & chips together, sharing brunch, or rolling out a few barbecues to cook and eat together.

We'll be talking more about this in the weeks and months ahead.



REDWOOD SCHOOL DUATHALON

More than 300 Redwood School students took part in the school's recent duathlon which featured four races.

Preschoolers biked though the Tawa Pool parking lot and then ran back to the start/finish line just before the entrance to the pool.

Years 1 & 2 ran though the pool parking lot, through City Operations to the bike transition area just north of Tawa Junction. They biked both sides of Tawa Junction then ran back the same route they'd come.

Years 3 & 4 ran through the rose garden at Grasslees Reserve, through the pool parking lot, through City Operations and then biked the same as above, but two laps rather than one of Tawa Junction.

Years 5 & 6 ran up Davies Street (from Tawa Pool), right on McLellan to Duncan Street, down Duncan Street to the overbridge, across the overbridge and through the back side of Tawa Junction. They then biked three laps around both sides of Tawa Junction before running back through City Operations and through the pool parking lot.

Funds were raised by registration fee, student sponsorship and event sponsorship.

Awards were given to 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each year group, both boy and girl. Other awards were given, including one to the child who raised the most money in each syndicate.

The race was successful because children of all fitness levels could participate, with 86% of students in the school registering. Each child received a medal, piece of fruit and bottle of water when they crossed the finish line, with lots of parents cheering them on. A great team of volunteers and teachers (over 100 in all) worked for months to make it a very successful event.



The start of the Year 6 boys' race on a damp afternoon ... and the preschoolers about to head off.

HANDYMEN

In our last newsletter we included the following from a reader:

"From time to time I need basic home maintenance work done around the place, and may not have the time or skills to do it myself. The problem is that standard tradesperson rates are just too expensive, and the jobs do not normally require that level of skill. Are you aware of anybody who may do this sort of general handyman work on a part-time basis, or over a weekend to earn some extra dollars, etc? If so, I'd be keen to hear about it."

We got three responses, one of whom wishes to remain low-key. The others were:

Stan's Handyman Services. Stan advises his rates are reasonable and that he offers discounts for pensioners. He can be contacted on 232 5431.

Eli (Bocs) Bocacao. He runs a VIP home services lawnmowing franchise, but "... has general knowledge on carpentry ... the 'affordable' but quality handyman you are looking for." His number is 232 4755.

Just in case anyone in the Tawa community is currently looking for handyman services!

WANTED BY THE TAWA POLICE

More volunteers are needed to assist at the Tawa Community Police Base. Volunteers are in charge of the office during their 3-hour duty period, while the Community Constable is out and about on crime prevention and investigation.

Good communication skills are essential and confidentiality is paramount. Duty shifts are 10am to 1pm or 1pm to 4pm. Volunteers can choose a day of the particular week and whether morning or afternoon. Full "on the job" training is given until solo duty commences, when any guidance required is always close to hand.

Being a police volunteer is one of the most worthwhile vocations in the community, with job satisfaction from helping Tawa residents and businesses a just reward. For more information please ring Jim Higgins, Base Controller, on 232 6289 (before 10am or evenings) and/or call at the base at the Tawa Community Centre in Cambridge St and have a chat with the duty volunteer.

SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP

You are invited to attend a Free Suicide Prevention Workshop. Learn three simple steps to help save a life from suicide.

Tawa Community Centre is hosting a free one-hour suicide prevention training workshop with clinicians from Otago University – find out about the myths and facts around suicide prevention. Resources available to take away, tea/coffee and biscuits served. All welcome.

11am or 5.30pm, Thursday 1 December 2011, at Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street.

Register by emailing hinetai.parekura@wcc.govt.nz or melanie.lapalme@wcc.govt.nz or phoning 232 1682.

HAVE A GO – SPRINGFEST

Photo showing the Zumba session at the Heart Foundation's SpringFest sports day held at Waitangi Park in Wellington on Saturday 12 November (as mentioned in the early November eNewsletter).



ART EXHIBITION

Tawa Community Education Art Class will be exhibiting and selling their paintings. They make ideal Christmas gifts. Take the opportunity to come along and see the artists at work and have a cuppa and a chat.

When: Saturday 3 December, 10.00am to 4.00pm

Where: Tawa Community Centre (end block nearest supermarket carpark), Cambridge St. Follow the signs.

SITUATIONS VACANT - TAWA COLLEGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Tawa College Community Education is planning its programme for 2012 and is looking for new courses and tutors.

During the year students have requested a number of courses which include Cooking courses in Italian, Thai, Moroccan, French; Cheese Making, Bread Making and Baking, Languages such as French, Italian and Maori, Music including Drums, Singing for non-singers, DIY and Embroidery.

Any other suggestions where Community Education can be involved in Life Long Learning in the Community are always welcome.

If you have skills in any of these areas (or in any other area) that you would like to share with the community and teach at night or in the weekend please contact the Coordinator, Judith Havill, email comed@tawacollege.school.nz or phone 232 7163.

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR MEMORY?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR MEMORY WORKS?

Where: Tawa Library, Main Road, Tawa

When: Tuesday 13 December @ 11am

or in case you forget to go on the above date ...

Where: Johnsonville Library, Broderick Road, Johnsonville

When: Wednesday 14 December @ 11am

Presented by Alzheimers Wellington

ACTIVITIES AT THE LIBRARY

Baby Rock & Rhyme:

Friday mornings 9.30-10.00am at the Mervyn Kemp library

Tea & Tales - join us for stories and light refreshments:

Tuesday 6 December at the Mervyn Kemp library 10.30-11.30am

LITTLE BOHEMIAN

Little Bohemian is a new cosy coffee house in Tawa. As a local family we're aiming to create a friendly place to spend some time and enjoy a quality coffee. We are serving the award-winning Flight Coffee 'Bomber' blend along with quality leaf teas, fair trade hot choc and a small range of delicious sweet treats.

Open 8-4 Mon-Fri, 9-12 Sat-Sun

139 Main Road, Tawa (next to Tawa Hair)

Email: lilboho@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/littlebohemiancoffeehouse



A festive poster for a Christmas Party. At the top, a cartoon phoenix is shown rising from a green building labeled "TAWA" which is surrounded by flames. The text below reads: "TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE CHRISTMAS PARTY SUNDAY 4th. DECEMBER, 5.30PM UNTIL OUR TRUSTY PHOENIX INVITES MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO OUR NEWLY RESTORED THEATRE HQ : THE TAWA COMMUNITY THEATRE DRAMA HUT IN KOWHAI PARK, 27HINAU ST. LINDEN (BY LINDEN RAILWAY ST. OVER BRIDGE) BRING A BOTTLE, SOME NIBBLES, ETC. AND TOAST THE GREAT RESTORATION WORK AND TO OUR 58th YEAR ON THE STAGE! SEE YOU THERE!" The poster is decorated with colorful stars and a festive font.

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com
(loosely under the umbrella of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association)
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"I never had a policy; I have just tried to do my very best each and every day." – Abraham Lincoln

"Voting is a right best exercised by people who have taken time to learn about the issues." – Tony Snow

"The difference between a democracy and a dictatorship is that in a democracy you vote first and take orders later; in a dictatorship you don't have to waste your time voting." – Charles Bukowski

This community newsletter is emailed to more than 1000 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) in the first and the third weeks of each month. 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.