



*This community newsletter is sent out usually twice each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website since 2002. The newsletter is supported by the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association.*

## A PRIZE FOR THE BEST NAME FOR THE PATHWAY !!!

A competition is being held to come up with a name for what is currently known as the "Tawa Shared Pathway". The **Rotary Club of Tawa** is offering a prize – dinner vouchers or Warehouse vouchers worth \$200 – to whoever comes up with the best suggestion for a name for the walkway.



The path is now almost complete between Redwood Station and Linden Park. The exceptions are the route through Grasslees Park (where work is due to start any day) and across the railway line at the back of Tawa Pool.

A date for officially opening the first section of the shared pathway, with the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, "turning on" the pedestrian railway crossing has been set for Saturday 27 October at 1pm. The Tawa Stream Walkway Committee will announce the official name – the winning suggestion – at the opening ceremony. The winner will also be invited to be part of this occasion.

**ENTER THE COMPETITION:** The suggested name should reflect the history and the community that it passes through. Send your suggestion(s) to [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) or drop them in to the Library. The title of your entry should be "Name for Shared Pathway". Please include your own name, address and phone number. These details will remain confidential. Entries close on **Friday 14 September**. Only Tawa residents, adults or children, are eligible to enter. The winner will be photographed for publicity purposes. Any questions regarding the competition or the walkway should be directed to Brett Gillies on 232 5078.



**A BIT OF BACKGROUND:** Over the past two years the Wellington City Council has been constructing the Tawa Porirua Stream walkway/cycleway. This has been a large project involving the Tawa community, spearheaded by the Tawa Stream Walkway Committee, and it will be an asset for years to come. After completing the stretches from Redwood Station north to Linden Park, work will begin early next year on the the northern link from Findlay St to Kenepuru Station. As mentioned above, stage one of the walkway will be opened with the completion of the pedestrian railway crossing between the back of Tawa Pool and the College.

## WANT A STALL AT SPRING INTO TAWA MARKET DAY?

This year's "Spring into Tawa" Market Day will take place on Saturday 8 September.

At this stage we're almost full up with 57 stalls having been booked. There are only one or two left if you as an individual or your club or school or church wishes to be involved in the year's event. Applications should be in by this Friday, 24 August.

See [www.tawalink.com/springintotawa2012.html](http://www.tawalink.com/springintotawa2012.html) or email Malcolm on [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com).

In addition to all the stalls, the event will feature various musical items, singers and dancers, and will be hosted by NZ Radio Training School students.



## **TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO**

### **THE RE-BUILD OF TAWA STATION**

Members of the Tawa Community Board and the Tawa Historical Society met recently to discuss the "replacement structure" at Tawa Station. We have a list of suggestions we're taking to the Regional Council with whom we're meeting this coming week.

In a nutshell the three primary areas of concern are security, weather-proofing and "telling a story", i.e. something of Tawa in the new design, whether it be a tawa tree or photographic record or whatever. The details have yet to be sorted. Specifics such as lighting, ample seating, etc will also be part of the conversation.

### **THE AMALGAMATION QUESTION**

Board members Malcolm Sparrow and Robert Tredger attended the recent meeting at which the Wellington Region Local Government Review Panel, chaired by Sir Geoffrey Palmer, addressed Wellington City councillors on the issue of "amalgamation". You are probably aware that this is a hot topic and the panel is meeting with people all over the region to suss out what people are thinking.

At one extreme, the status quo could more-or-less be retained but with a greater "sharing of services". At the other extreme, all nine councils in the greater Wellington region, including three in the Wairarapa and the Greater Wellington Regional Council, could be amalgamated into one. Perhaps the ideal is something in between. Some are suggesting a referendum would be the most sensible way of determining the views of the majority.

It seems that the further a community is distance-wise from the perceived "centre of power", the less interested the residents of that community are in being swallowed up by a larger council. Case in point is Upper Hutt (and, to a lesser degree, Lower Hutt) whose residents, according to the newspaper, are less inclined towards the idea of amalgamation than most others throughout the Wellington region. Amongst other reasons, their concern is the loss of a "local voice". That's a good part of the reason why a community board is so important to Tawa residents, the most isolated community within Wellington City borders.

#### **But back to the issue at hand .....**

The Tawa Community Board is meeting with two members of the Local Government Review Panel next week to hear more about the amalgamation issue and to share ideas on where community boards fit into all of this.

The following week the Tawa Union Church will be hosting a public meeting for all of us to find out more. Further details appear on the next page of this newsletter. Like it or not, it's something which affects us all as ratepayers. We'd encourage you to take part.

### **UNPLEASANT SMELLS**

Within a space of a few hours on Wednesday of last week a couple of emails came through "complaining" about the unpleasant smells in Tawa which had drifted over the hill from the Spicer Landfill and which seem to have been more noticeable lately.

Cr Ngaire Best who looks after the Waste portfolio for the Council has been in contact with the manager of Waste Services to ascertain what's going on and what's being done to alleviate the problem. We don't yet have an answer but will let you know when we do.

### **SUNRISE BOULEVARD PARKING PROBLEMS**

Graeme Hansen (TCB deputy chair) has been liaising with Sunrise Boulevard residents concerned about the number of cars parked all day on both sides of the lower part of the street. As long as they are legitimately parked there may not be a whole lot the Council can do to resolve the issue as they seem reluctant to introduce yellow lines.

Graeme is continuing to work with both residents and Council to see arrive at some sort of "compromise". Watch this space.

## THE FUTURE OF WELLINGTON IS AT STAKE – LITERALLY !!!

As you will be aware, meetings are being held around the region to discuss the future of local government.

Tawa Union Church is hosting a meeting to at the church in Elena Place on Wednesday 5 September.

Details at right.

## FREE HEALTH CHECKS

See the graphic below.

Make the most of this opportunity to check your blood pressure, pulse and weight for free - at the Tawa Community Centre on Thursday 30 August, 10am to 12 noon.

## Discuss the future of the Wellington region

### Tawa community meeting

Sue Driver from the Wellington Region Local Government Review Panel will be present to discuss issues relating to the future of local government in the Wellington region.

Come along to join in the discussion.  
Tea and biscuits will be served afterwards.

**Wednesday 5 September, 7.30pm-9.30pm**  
**Tawa Union Church, 6 Elena Place, Tawa**

See [www.wellingtonregionreviewpanel.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonregionreviewpanel.org.nz) for more information and how to make a submission.  
Submissions close 5pm, 7 September 2012.

Wellington Region  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW PANEL



## Free Health Checks

First-Year Nursing Students from Whitireia will check your blood pressure, pulse and weight for free, under supervision of their tutor.

Thursday 30 August 10am-12 noon  
Tawa Community Centre  
5 Cambridge Street, TAWA  
Phone 232-1682 for details

ALL WELCOME

## YOUR ASSISTANCE URGENTLY REQUIRED

More volunteers are desperately needed to assist at the Tawa Community Police Base.

Volunteers are in charge of the office during their 3-hour duty

period, two to three times a month, whilst 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. 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 to have a chat with the duty volunteer.

## TAWA GOES TO TOWN - TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

"Tawa Goes to Town" is again the theme for this year's **Tawa Schools' and Community Music Festival** which takes place in the Michael Fowler Centre on Tuesday 18 September at 7.30pm. This vibrant multi-media show will feature 600 singers from Tawa's six primary schools, Tawa Intermediate, and Tawa College's Dawn Chorus, as well as an adult choir from the Tawa community and beyond.



The programme features a variety of songs, and includes arrangements of classics from the 60s, 70s, and 80s through to Gaga and Perry. Some songs are left as choral numbers, while others are accompanied by dancers, choralography, props and special effects.

Don't miss this showcase of song, dance, lighting, sound, involving a community coming together to form a spectacular evening's entertainment. A \$80 show for only \$26 a ticket for adults and \$14 for children under 14. Tickets are now available from Ticketek at this address - <http://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/show.aspx?sh=TAWAGOES12#.UC7qMkRLc3Y>

## BIG SING NATIONAL FINAL

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Tawa College's "Twilight Tones" choir who were awarded a bronze at the *Big Sing National Final* this past weekend.

Their conductor, former student Isaac Stone, "... is one of the most outstanding first year teachers I have seen in action," says former Head of Music at Tawa College, Shona Murray. "His integrity, humility ... and striving to be the best he can be in the classroom and as a choir director are obvious.

He chose to be a teacher, rather than a high-flying solo performer or composer (choices he could have made)." Both his conducting style and his rapport with the Twilight Tones received critical appraisal. And Tawa College continues its fine tradition of performing superbly well in the world of music.



## ROTARY BOOK FAIR



It's all over and it netted more than \$22,000 (\$24,400 gross). A total of around 12,000 books were sold. The fifth and last day of the fair, Saturday 18 August, "tacked on" because of the number of books still on hand, brought in \$2583.

A great fundraising effort on the part of Tawa Rotary and, in particular, Doug Burrus who was recognised by the community at this year's Tawa Community Civic Awards.

## WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE FOR THIS NEWSLETTER

Okay, the heading might be embellishing things a little but, in addition to the 1200 local recipients of this eNewsletter, it is sent considerably further afield - to "ex-pats" and those with an interest in Tawa in:

- the Wellington region ... Churton Park, Johnsonville, Karori, Lower Hutt, Newlands, Oriental Bay, Titahi Bay, Waikanae, Whitby
- other parts of NZ ... Auckland, Christchurch, Palmerston North, Whakatane
- other parts of the world ... Australia, Cyprus, Germany, Mexico, UK, USA



They're the places to which it is sent directly. We know that fact from a quick scan of our emailing list. We've also heard that it's forwarded (by local people) to the likes of South Africa.

If you live outside of Tawa - in a place different to those listed above - and receive this newsletter, please tell us. We're simply interested in knowing how many parts of the world are keeping themselves informed of what is happening in our little neck of the woods!

## McPHEE'S CELTIC CENTRE STORE TO CLOSE

McPhee's store on Tawa's Main Road (near the pedestrian crossing) will be closing as the end of this month. However business will continue online.



## POPULATION OF TAWA

The population of 'greater Tawa' (which includes Grenada North and the Takapu Valley) was estimated by the Wellington City Council in mid-2011 at 14,900. If you didn't already know that, now you do.

## PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS TO A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE!

In case you missed it last time, the fantastic offer below is still available:

At the Tawa Music Festival, "Tawa Goes to Town", you have the opportunity to promote your business to an audience of 2000 mostly Tawa residents for only \$100 + GST. Your business will feature on the big screens at the Michael Fowler Centre before the show starts. Don't let a chance like this go by! Email [info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) for more details.

Adios

### Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com  
(loosely under the umbrella of the Tawa Progressive  
& Ratepayers' Association)  
[info@tawalink.com](mailto:info@tawalink.com) [www.tawalink.com](http://www.tawalink.com)  
232 5030 or 027 232 2320

*"Time you enjoy wasting isn't time wasted."*  
– Beatrix Russell

*"Never get tired of doing little things for others. Sometimes those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts."*

*"Before you talk, listen. Before you react, think. Before you spend, earn. Before you quit, try."* – Ernest Hemingway

*This newsletter is emailed to around 1200 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa) usually 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.*

**WE'VE GOT THE BEST PARTIES**

**Celebrate with a party at our pools and recreation centres**

We have birthday parties suitable for preschool and school-age children, with party packs, facility hire, party pilots and more.

**Absolutely POSITIVELY**  
For more information visit [www.wellington.govt.nz](http://www.wellington.govt.nz)

## TEN REASONS WHY DOGS ARE BETTER PETS THAN CATS

1. Dogs will tilt their heads and try to understand every word you say.  
Cats will ignore you and take a nap.
2. Cats look silly on a leash or going with you on a jog.
3. When you come home from work, your dog will be happy and lick your face.  
Cats will still be mad at you for leaving in the first place.
4. Dogs will give you unconditional love until the day they die.  
Cats will make you pay for every mistake you've ever made since the day you were born.
5. A dog knows when you're sad. And it'll try to comfort you.  
Cats don't care how you feel, as long as you remember where the can opener is.
6. Dogs will bring you your slippers.  
Cats will drop a dead mouse in your slippers.
7. When you take them for a ride, dogs will sit on the seat next to you.  
Cats have to have their own private basket, or they won't go at all.
8. Dogs will come when you call them. And they'll be happy.  
Cats will have someone take a message and get back to you.
9. Dogs will play fetch with you all day long.  
The only thing cats will play with all day long are small rodents or bugs, preferably ones that look like they're in pain.
10. Dogs will wake you up if the house is on fire.  
Cats will quietly sneak out the back door.



*From the Ed. ....*

Having established the above, it can't be denied that there are some downsides to owning a dog. Not too many, but some. We've experienced one or two hiccups ourselves this past month with our Labrador "pup" who's now more than nine months old.

She used to have a nice comfortable bean bag on which she would snooze in the conservatory much of the day. Unfortunately the temptation to chew on it was too great, until one day – well, the picture tells the story. I'm not sure how many thousands or even millions of beans there are in such a bag, but quite a few!

And it was only last Saturday that Karen asked me if I'd seen her misplaced glasses. As it turned out, I had. I'd been in the backyard and had come across what I took to be a pair of old, dilapidated frames, broken on one side and missing both lenses. I hadn't given them any further thought until my dear wife asked about them. The penny dropped! Until our canine friend snaffled them off the conservatory table, their condition had been anything but dilapidated! We still haven't found the lenses (maybe she ate them), and I've yet to find out whether our insurance policy covers damage caused by domestic pets! Oh well, such is life .....



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