



COMMUNITY NEWS

September
2012 - 2

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.

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING COMING UP

You may have noticed billboards at both ends of the Main Road (and at the start of Takapu Road) advertising a community meeting on "Earthquake Preparedness" at 7.30pm on Wednesday 3 October. The purpose of this meeting is for local people to find out how we can be better prepared for when an earthquake strikes the Wellington region.

Look after your family and neighbourhood by making sure you're there!

The Tawa meeting is being supported by the Tawa Community Board and the Tawa Community Centre. More information is available at www.wellington.govt.nz/services/earthquake/resilience/briefings.html.

Community Meeting re

EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

Wed 3 October

Tawa Community Centre 7.30pm

TAWA WENT TO TOWN, WELL AND TRULY!

Tawa's biggest community event, a musical spectacular known as "Tawa Goes to Town", took place this past Tuesday evening at the Michael Fowler Centre. It involved around 700 enthusiastic participants and almost 1650 in the audience.

Schoolchildren from Tawa's six primary schools, plus intermediate and college singers, are obviously at the heart of the show, but there is a whole range of ages, including the adult choir, and other talent involved - Shake the Fat aerobics group, Maori kapa haka performers, Tawa-based Red Hackle highland pipe band, Musical Island Boys barbershop quartet, instrumentalists and dancers, etc.



Another impressive aspect was to see a significant number of former college students returning to take part in the dancing and singing. Their memories of the event are obviously so positive they enjoy being involved again!



What other single suburb in New Zealand brings together an array of talent in such a huge event as this, with a budget of more than \$50,000?

The festivals have been held since 1979. This was the 22nd occasion and ably compered by Tawa's own Jason Pine, a broadcaster with Newstalk ZB, who first sang in the show as an 8-year-old Hampton Hill school pupil. He told us that his own 8-year-old daughter was singing in this year's festival.

Credit needs to be given to Murray Cameron (director) who first took part in the show himself as a school student, Jean Hollier (producer), Sara Scott (choreographer - the dancing and performing really was amazing), and Martin Burdan who has been the "piano man" since 1982.



Recognition was given on the night to Tawa stalwart Shona Murray who first instigated the music festival back in 1979 and has been at the helm ever since before stepping down in 2010. This was the first time she had sat in the audience to view it from a somewhat different perspective.

The whole community really threw itself into the festival – officially the Tawa Schools' & Community Music Festival – with hundreds of primary school children faithfully trekking to the college hall from the various corners of Tawa for an hour-long practice every Wednesday afternoon all of this term. Credit has to be given to their teachers for their patience, commitment and encouragement!

Lots of positive feedback has already been received to this 2½ hour event renowned for its down-to-earth, sing-along music. It's an amazing occasion, and we're looking forward to many more in the years ahead. *More pics on the last page of this newsletter.*

A PRIZE FOR THE BEST NAME FOR THE PATHWAY!

The Tawa Shared Pathway is now almost completed between Redwood Station and Linden Park. A date for officially opening the first section has been set for Saturday 27 October at 1pm, with the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, "turning on" the pedestrian railway crossing at the back of Tawa Pool. The Tawa Shared Walkway Committee will announce the official name – the winning suggestion – at the opening ceremony.

The judging panel has now decided on the winning name. The winner will not be notified until the name has been given the okay by the Tawa Community Board at its meeting on Thursday 11 October.



OPENING OF THE NEW WORLD SUPERMARKET

It's now little more than two weeks away – the new supermarket should be open for business on Tuesday 9 October. It's taken a while but we're very pleased that we're almost there!

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD INFO

THE RE-BUILD OF TAWA STATION

A draft of the new Tawa Station structure has been presented to the Tawa Community Board. It looks quite impressive, with a roof area not too different to the existing station, and with seating – both inside and out – for more than 30.

The existing building is likely to be demolished very soon after Christmas, and construction of the replacement structure will follow. (That's usually the order in which it happens).

Certain community board members have been meeting with certain historical society members to discuss the art designs that will appear on 16 panels at the re-built station – likely to comprise mostly past and present scenes relevant to Tawa Station and the Tawa community.

THE AMALGAMATION QUESTION

The Tawa Community Board is about to forward its submission to the Regional Review Panel expressing its reservations on across-the-board amalgamation. We agree that it makes sense to increase the sharing of services and to harmonise by-laws, etc, across the region but without the need for a "super city" as such.

Another concern with amalgamation is the prospect of local communities "losing their voice" and being replaced by one centralised behemoth out of touch with the many smaller parts making up the whole. Without its community board Tawa would undoubtedly be the poorer.

EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

The community board is playing a key part is promoting the community meeting on Wednesday 3 October to discuss how we can be better prepared for when the big one hits!

HOT RODS (AND MORE) IN TAWA

The Guide Dogs Fun Run, organised by Capital Rodders, started at the supermarket carpark this past Sunday afternoon. It was a spectacular collection of classy vehicles (and plenty of people along to see them), some of which are featured here.



HAMPTON HILL SCHOOL BREAKING GROUND

On a recent Monday at 7am parents, staff and children from the Hampton Hill School community met beside the hall for a groundbreaking ceremony. The schools Green Thumb Team have been working to get the school to focus on how they can learn more about sustainability, and growth in the wider sense including growing the learning community and growing relationships both within and outside the school.

Joseph Hicklin, one of the year 6s who has a passion for the environment, came up with a plan for the school. This plan was for each class to have a vegetable garden to share and learn from.



At 7am the gardens were placed and dug in next to the school hall, with everyone pitching in to help. The ceremony started with a blessing and the turning of the soil in each of the five planter boxes and a transfer of compost. At 8am everyone stopped for a shared breakfast in the school hall, which was followed by a final clean up.

The planter boxes will be filled with vegetables that the children will tend and eat from once the plants grow.

The Green Thumbs have a worm farm, compost for food waste, and recycling up and running school-wide. There are waste warriors who ensure the grounds are clean, and there are weekly reports and points for the groups in the school who are most environmentally conscious.



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR STREET COLLECTIONS IN TAWA

Pink Ribbon Appeal - Friday 12 & Saturday 13 October

To volunteer, see www.onlineregistration.co.nz/pinkribbon or free phone 0508 105 105.

NZ Foundation for the Blind - Friday 26 October

To volunteer, see www.blindweek@rnzfb.org.nz or free phone 0800 120 250

Both these collections are being co-ordinated by the Tawa Lions Club – call Alastair on 232 7936.

VOTE FOR TAWA SCHOOL

We've been requested to ask you to vote for Tawa School to win a Parmco kitchen prize pack. You need to go to this link: <http://www.letscookwithparmco.co.nz/class-of-2012>

Here's the blurb: "Gilpin Travel (of Auckland) has teamed up with celebrity chef Brett McGregor and Parmco kitchen appliances to launch Let's Cook, a three-week programme to get Kiwi kids into kitchens. We're thrilled that over 370 schools throughout NZ are taking part! Thousands of people have already voted for their school to win a Parmco kitchen prize pack, and the votes are rolling in thick and fast as communities show their support for their local schools. Vote for your local school at letscookwithparmco.co.nz, and you could win a luxury minibreak!"

FORMER TAWA COLLEGE STUDENTS HELPING IN CHRISTCHURCH

A news item featuring three former Tawa College students - now in the Engineering Department at Canterbury University - helping out in the earthquake-ravaged suburb of Bexley, can be read online at <http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/christchurch-earthquake-2011/7685270/Volunteers-muck-in-to-remove-fences>.



It was in *The Press* (Christchurch) on Saturday 15 September. The photo (courtesy of the Stuff website) shows Tom Shortt, Simon Fleming and Mitchell Patrick wrestling with a post.

TRAXIDE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

1-5 October 2012.

This is the seventh time that Tawa Anglican Church and Runrig will be putting on a holiday programme for primary school-aged children.

We would love to have your children join in the fun. We have great crafts and games organised, and Captain Dave will have his puppets, games and wild action songs.

The programme will run from 10am-12.30pm each day. For further info and a form please email hayley.balmer@xtra.co.nz. Places are limited so early booking is advised.

DR VICTOR SHIELDS IN TOWN

Dr Victor Shields, of Maltese extraction, is a psychologist and theologian who will be speaking in Tawa this coming week onwards. The venue is Our Lady of Fatima Church, cnr Lyndhurst & Main Roads, at 7pm.

25 September: Good Grief and Coping with Stress

28 September: Forgiveness and Gratitude

2 October: Fighting Back Adversity

5 October: How to say No without feeling Guilty

For more information please contact Tony 232 4809 or email malta_assn@hotmail.com.

CYBERSAFETY PARENT MEETING

This is open to anyone who wishes to go along. In the Tawa College hall 7-9pm on Tuesday 25 September. RSVP to secretary@tawacol.school.nz.



The poster features several logos and text elements. On the left is the 'STOP cyberbullying' logo with 'STOP' in large, colorful letters. In the center is a red circle with a diagonal slash, containing terms like 'RUMORS', 'gossiping', 'threats', 'name-calling', 'harassment', 'mean words', 'lies', 'insults', and 'teasing'. To the right is a black box with 'CYBER BULLYING' and three small icons representing different types of cyberbullying. Below these is the main title 'CYBERSAFETY PARENT MEETING' and the organizer '(Organised by the Tawa College P.T.A)'. A list of details follows: Date: Tuesday, 25th September 2012; Venue: Tawa College Hall, Tawa College, Duncan Street, Tawa; Time: 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.; RSVP: secretary@tawacollege.school.nz. At the bottom are three more logos: 'CYBER BULLYING AFFECTS REAL LIVES', 'TAKE A STAND AGAINST CYBER BULLIES', and 'CYBERBULLYING GOT2GO'.

STOP
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RUMORS
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harassment
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CYBER BULLYING
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CYBERSAFETY PARENT MEETING
(Organised by the Tawa College P.T.A)

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Time: 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
RSVP: secretary@tawacollege.school.nz

CYBER BULLYING
AFFECTS REAL LIVES

TAKE A STAND
AGAINST
CYBER
BULLIES

CYBERBULLYING
GOT2GO

TAWA COMMUNITY LIGHT PARTY

A safe alternative to Halloween.

This is a fun night of entertainment, food, face painting and talent quest for children aged 5-12.

When: Wednesday 31 October 6pm–8pm (starting with a sausage sizzle for tea).

Where: Tawa New Life Church, 236 Main Road, Tawa.

This is a free event – sponsored by Wellington City Council, Tawa Community Board, and many local businesses, but tickets are essential to gain entry and can be picked up from 9 October onwards at:

Baptist Church Office (corner Main Road and Victory Cres) 9-12 Tues-Friday

New Life Church Office (next to Pink Pineapple) 12-5 Tues-Friday or 10-1pm on Sat 27 October or contact Michele McDonald, Light Party coordinator, on 232 4924.

NEW ZEALAND SHAKEOUT

There is a nationwide earthquake drill taking place at 9.26am on Wednesday 26 September. Its purpose is to reinforce Drop, Cover & Hold, the correct actions to take during an earthquake. People who live, work or play in a tsunami zone would then need to evacuate to higher ground.

As a country, we are aiming to get one million people signed up to Shakeout on this day. Wellington City Council will be participating in the event and is encouraging its networks to sign up as well.

It takes only a minute to register. More information online at www.shakeout.govt.nz or see [facebook.com/wemonz](https://www.facebook.com/wemonz)



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per class -
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All ages and abilities
welcome!

For more information contact Enliven Community Support on 04 439 4967 or email taichi@psc.org.nz. You can also find more information and a timetable of our classes at <https://central.enliven.org.nz/exercise-programmes>.



SPRING INTO TAWA

The annual Market Day took place on Saturday 8 September. Although the weather wasn't very kind, the rain mostly stayed away and the crowds turned out regardless. Once again it was a very successful event. Here are a few pics.



Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com

(loosely under the umbrella of the Tawa Progressive & Ratepayers' Association)

info@tawalink.com www.tawalink.com

232 5030 or 027 232 2320

“Going into the unknown is how you expand what is known.”

“Judge each day not by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant.” – Robert Louis Stevenson

“Men get together and insult each other but they don't really mean it. Women get together and compliment each other but they don't really mean it either.”

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.

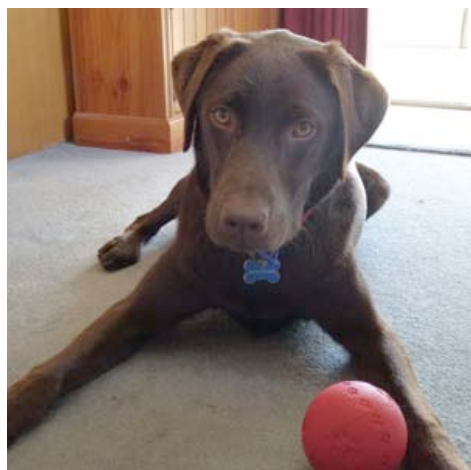
From the Ed.

From time to time I've tacked on a few comments at the end of this newsletter about the Labrador pup we have the privilege of bringing up. On the whole I like to think we're not doing too badly!

She's now 10 months old with a lot of maturing yet to do. On the physical side we hope she doesn't grow too much more but, in terms of character, she's still rather scatterbrained. There's plenty of room for improvement! I guess that's all part of the fun of raising a dog.

Previously I've commented on needing to keep an eye on her when she's "loose" inside the house. That hasn't changed. If I happen to leave my wallet on the armchair, as I did just yesterday, we'll be extracting it from her jaws a moment later. And more than once I've wondered out loud how old she'll be before she can walk past a slipper (devoid of wearer) without feeling the urge to pick it up and trot off with it. Might be a while yet I suspect. More often than not it's a matter of trotting off with said slipper (or shoe) in her mouth, then turning around and facing the owner, as though to indicate that the ball's now in our court to demand it back. At that point she'll wait for us to extract it, although occasionally she yields to the temptation to make more of a game of it and run off with her catch. If that situation arises she'll quickly return if a few bikkies are offered in exchange.

With a bit of cunning she'll have figured that any time she feels like a few bikkies, all she needs to do is to run off with something worthwhile in her mouth, and she'll be "rewarded" with a treat for handing it back. Fortunately I don't think she's clever enough to have thought that one through. Here's hoping she never does!



MORE FROM "TAWA GOES TO TOWN" (Re-live the event at www.r2.co.nz)

Thanks to these local businesses & groups who advertised on the overhead screen before the show began:

Janine Archer, Feldenkrais Practitioner. Feet & Ankles series starts 25 Sept - info@movesmoother.co.nz

Little Bohemian Coffee House, 139 Main Road, Tawa, www.facebook.com/littlebohemiancoffeehouse

Origin Electrical Ltd, phone 232 4337 or 027 449 2362. For all your electrical needs.

Tawa Community Patrol, local "eyes & ears for the Police". More info at www.tawalink.com.

