



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.

OPENING OF (PART OF) THE SHARED PATHWAY

The Mayor of Wellington will officially open the now-completed portion of the Tawa Shared Pathway at 1pm on Saturday 27 October at the back of Tawa Pool. The winning name for the walkway will be announced then. Pedestrian access across the railway tracks will be opened at the same time. That work has been started and will be completed over Labour Weekend.



Meanwhile progress with the pathway through Grasslees Reserve is being undertaken as we speak (so to speak). That will link the route between Duncan St across the railway line, past the back of Tawa Pool, and through Grasslees to Luckie St, meaning that the shared pathway will then run continuously from Redwood Station in the south to the northern end of Findlay Street.

Look out for an article which will feature possibly next week on the "Our Wellington" page of *The DominionPost* about an 86-year-old Tawa woman who enjoys cycling on the pathway.

THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MEETING THAT WAS

A community meeting entitled "Wellington Rocks" was held at the Tawa Community Centre on the evening of Wednesday 3 October, and attended by 80 people, plus four presenters.

We heard about a research project which looked at the actual risks to Wellington of having a major earthquake in the foreseeable future and why that risk may be less than thought earlier.

Neville Brown, WCC Programme Director for Earthquake Resilience, outlined the work that the Council has been doing for a number of years now in terms of earthquake strengthening city buildings and what has yet to be done, including remedial work at the Tawa Library.

We were also reminded of what we should be doing in our own homes and neighbourhoods to better prepare ourselves. A good place to start is to know those who live nearby and to put together a street plan to cover how the neighbourhood would respond to a major earthquake.

See www.tawalink.com/pic_week_2012-31.html.



GO TAKE A HIKE IN THE WELLINGTON RAIN FOREST!

The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves in conjunction with Greater Wellington Regional Council have arranged a tour of the Wainuiomata Water Collection area and walk through the beautiful pristine forest which is some of the best pre-European lowland rain forest in the lower North Island.

The tour starts at 9.00am at 10 Whitcher Grove, Wainuiomata on Sunday 11 November, and participants will be guided by a Greater Wellington Park Ranger. As you will walk up to 11 kms, anyone taking part should be moderately fit and be prepared for bush environment. The walk may take up to 3 hours. No dogs are allowed.

The tour is limited to 50 people, so the first bookings are all that can be accepted.

This is a beautiful walk that will be of interest to people who appreciate the importance of our native forest and the efforts of our forefathers to protect such an important resource. It is an example of what can be achieved to protect and restore the few remaining areas of indigenous forest that remain in urban Wellington. An experience not to be missed at Wellingtonians' back door.

People interested in joining the walk should email paice@wave.co.nz by 4 November and provide name(s) and contact home number. Enquiries to Brett Gillies on 232 5078 or Chris on 232 2407.

EVENING TAI CHI CLASS?

The request has been made for a Tai Chi class to be started in Tawa in the evening. Another four participants are needed before a class can begin. Contact us on info@tawalink.com if this might interest you.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN TAWA

AFS Pasifika are looking to bring international students into the Tawa community during the 2013 school year.

During the 2012 school year there have been five students from Germany, Italy and France who have spent time in our wonderful community. Next year we hope to bring more students to Tawa, but to do this we need host families to become part of our closeknit group.

AFS Pasifika strives to provide intercultural learning opportunities for the whole family through a variety of fun events that are designed to include the entire family. Our friendly volunteers provide support for both the students and the families, and we are lucky to have a positive relationship with Tawa College who do a fantastic job of supporting the students at school.

If you are interested in hosting a student, we are currently looking for host families for 5 and 10-month exchanges. To learn more please email afspasifikaporirua@hotmail.com and we will happily help you begin your intercultural experience.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR STREET COLLECTION IN TAWA

NZ Foundation for the Blind - Friday 26 October
To volunteer, see www.blindweek@rnzfb.org.nz or free phone 0800 120 250

This is being co-ordinated by the Tawa Lions Club. Enquiries to Alastair on 232 7936 or email communityactivities@xtra.co.nz.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER
SCHOOL FAIR
SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER 11AM - 3PM

HEAPS OF FUN ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE:

STALLS GARAGE SALE great bargains to be found TOYS Preloved Clothing	SWEETS FOOD STALLS Traditional food plus surprises BOOKS Children's and Adults	CARNIVAL Crockery Smash, Tombola, "Soft Toy" Shy, Duck Fishing and much more ACTIVITIES FUN FOR THE LITTLES FACE PAINTING Hair Braiding Quick Fire RAFFLES Petting Zoo Cherry Picker rides Hot Rod Rides CAFE Real Coffee, Cakes & Slices INFLATABLE SLIDES and bouncy castle CHILD MINDING available
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Main Road, Tawa. Parking and access also available from McKeefry Grove. **EFTPOS AVAILABLE**

FREE WI-FI ACCESS

Tawa Library now offers free wi-fi access Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 5.25pm, and on Saturdays from 10.00am to 4.00pm. It is available to anyone with a wi-fi-compatible device. There are no passwords or no time limits, but a maximum of 10MB downloads per session.

Come to the library to try it out, or ask staff for further details on 232 1690 or enquiries@wcl.govt.nz

ART & CRAFT EXPO

9am to 3pm, Saturday 27 October, at the Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge St - free entry. Some tables still available (closes 19 October). Enquiries to Aileen at aileenwood@hotmail.com.

Pottery, cards, crochet, paintings, jewellery, and much more. Hosted by Tawa Art and Craft Society (Inc).

TE KOHANGA REO O NGAHAURANGA MARKET FUN DAY

Te Kohanga Reo o Ngahauranga are having a Market Fun Day on Saturday 27 October from 9.30am onwards at Linden School. Plenty of goodies, fun and entertainment to be had. So come along and join the fun in helping us celebrate the milestone of Kohanga Reo being around in the community for over 30 years.

- Venue: Linden School, 58 Ranui Terrace, Tawa
- Time: 9.30am onwards
- Date: Saturday, 27th October 2012

Enquiries to Frankie on 232 8424 or email Whanau@k09c043.kohanga.ac.nz

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

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.



RE-OPENING OF TAWA POOL

Tawa Pool is re-opening Saturday 17 November. Join us and The Breeze from 1.30pm to 5.30pm.

Free entry, fun activities, bring the whole family. Dress up in 70s disco outfits, there will be prizes for best costumes.

Competitions, inflatables, sausage sizzle, face painting, roller blading, paint the mural on the skate ramp fence and more!



TAWA SCHOOL FAIR

Check out the fun of the fair at Tawa School on Saturday 24 November. Real coffee, great food and entertainment. Entry is free – rain or shine.

OPENING OF NEW WORLD TAWA

The new supermarket opened its doors for the first time at 9am on Tuesday 9 October. At the opening the chair of the Tawa Community Board gave a brief (3½ minute) speech to a bunch of people waiting to get inside. He thanked the "decision-makers" for the Tawa Temporary Store which served the community for 11 months whilst the Tawa community had no supermarket, and for the bus which transported people to New World Porirua, even though its patronage was really quite low. He also expressed his appreciation for the good rapport to date between the supermarket managers and the community board. The ribbon was then cut by the nana of Cameron & Nicole Hogg, the managers of New World Tawa.

By that stage most people were simply interested in getting inside to see the long-awaited supermarket. The first customer to the checkout counter, a Linden resident, bought a hot chicken and made the claim that he was also the first customer when New World Porirua opened. We'll take his word for that!

In the five times the writer has been inside the new store to date, it has been very busy, but without long waits at the checkouts. All good so far. It's a very impressive set-up, and hopefully will be well patronised by the local community.

Photos (first two): the Tawa Temporary Store little more than an hour before it closed for good (left), and the final hurrah at 7pm on Monday 8 October 2012.

The remaining photos were taken in the new supermarket. Opening speech (Malcolm Sparrow); patient customers just before 9am Tuesday 9 October; first double trolley out of the block, featuring Emily J with manager Nicole Hogg; the first customer, buying a hot chicken (served by Josie); community board member Robert Tredger talking to customer Alf Levick; and ribbon-cutter nana Hogg.



TAWA CHARITY NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS

Do you live in the Tawa area and have a few hours to spare during the daytime or at the weekend, including school holidays?

Kiwi Community Assistance (KCA) is looking for reliable Tawa locals to assist with sorting donations and preparing food parcels for families in need.

To learn more about KCA please see the website www.kca.org.nz, or email admin@kca.org.nz.

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

"Sometimes the most clever thing to say is nothing at all."

"The ultimate goal should be doing your best and enjoying it." – Peggy Fleming

"A budget is a complete record of how you managed to spend more than you earned."

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.



Abby the chocolate labrador is now 11 months old and turning into a very mature and sensible canine companion. Yeah right!

Check out this space in another 18 months' time. I'm hoping to be able to express those sentiments at that stage, if not sooner, and with a straight face. However that isn't the case just yet, or anything like it.

I watched "Good Sorts" at the end of TV1's news segment this past Sunday night. It featured a 12-year-old golden retriever who provided highly-valued assistance to his disabled owner. The dog was able to perform everyday tasks like pulling open her sliding door and fetching her the TV remote. At that point I thought of Abby fetching our remote. That's something she does when it's left lying around. The difference is that she's not intending to be helpful. Anything but. Who knows what'll happen to it if we don't retrieve it in time!

I left her lying at the top of our stairs recently. I actually expected to see her still there a couple of minutes later when I checked. Silly me. In the meantime she had discovered one of our cordless phones – where I don't know – and had run off outside with it. Fortunately I spotted her on the back lawn and managed to retrieve it, thereby dispossessing her of her "newly-acquired toy". The phone's clear plastic panel now has a crack in it, otherwise it's none the worse for wear. Fortunately it's my office phone. As Karen remarked, "It's now easy to distinguish between that one and the kitchen phone." I guess that's the silver lining in this particular cloud – no thanks to our fine canine friend.

