

Tawa News – May 2023

TAWA LOCAL IN WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Fantastic news – from 20 July to 20 August, Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia will be the first countries to co-host a FIFA Women's World Cup™. This will also be the first time that the tournament will be hosted across two confederations (AFC and OFC). 64 matches will be played in 10 iconic venues, across two countries over the course of 32 days.

And did you know that one of the players for New Zealand is Catherine Joan Bott (born 22 April 1995), usually known as CJ Bott who is from Tawa! Her football career began in Tawa clubs and schools. Below is a brief article by CJ on her football journey and the upcoming World Cup.

“As a young Tawa girl, my mum encouraged myself and my two brothers to play sport, which soon turned into playing as much sport as humanly possible. Through community and school sport, I've tried my hand at multiple codes but football stole my heart, so from the age of 13 I dedicated my full self to it. I loved playing for Tawa in my younger years and truly believe that playing amongst the Tawa boys has shaped who I am as a player today. Those boys never held back against me, and from the get-go I was determined to never be beaten by a boy. My competitive nature, grit and fearlessness on the pitch is a result of my time at Tawa AFC.

In my senior career, I have been lucky enough to play my professional game in Germany, Sweden, Norway and now England. I'm currently signed for Leicester City in the top league in England as well as still representing the NZ Football Ferns nine years on. Playing for the Ferns is something I will forever hold close to my heart and although we are often the underdogs in international football, every time I put the fern on my chest, I am putting it on to win. With the FIFA Women's World Cup on our doorstep, it is a massive opportunity to expose New Zealand to a game that has come leaps and bounds in the last few years and I can't wait to show Kiwi girls where this sport can take them. The opportunities in women's football are endless these days and although there is a lot of work to be done in New Zealand, moments like this World Cup can and will change the trajectory of the game for the better and I can't wait to see that take shape. I hope Kiwis and our Tawa locals can get behind the team when we play in Wellington and see this for themselves. Get your tickets and I can't wait to see you all there!”

Check out all the teams and get tickets here: <https://www.fifa.com/fifaplus/en/tournaments/womens/womensworldcup/australia-new-zealand2023/teams>

The Jigsaw Library volunteers had an enjoyable morning tea to farewell Marilyn, who is moving to the coast, and to welcome new helpers Karen and Alison to the team.

The library is open every Thursday morning from 10am to 12pm at the Tawa Community Centre. This is a free service, there are over 700 jigsaws, including jigsaws for children.

We would love donations of XL pieces jigsaws. These can be dropped off at the Tawa Community Centre.





Local Police would like to acknowledge that last week's incident on Oriel Avenue caused some concern among residents. We would like to reassure you that this was an isolated event. Police responded to and resolved the incident in the quickest and the safest way possible.

Just after 8pm on 18 May 2023, Police were called to an address on Oriel Avenue after reports of unknown people entering the address and possible shots fired. A minor vehicle collision also occurred at the address at the time of the incident. Armed police responded as a precaution and cordoned off the area. A firearm was seized and thankfully, no one was injured during the incident.

We are speaking with multiple people who are assisting us with our enquiries. We are not looking for anyone else in relation to the matter and there is no ongoing risk posed to the public. We appreciate the patience and support of the community as we work to ensure that everyone can be and feel safe.

From Sarah Steed at the Community Policing Team Kapiti Mana

You can read an article in Stuff about the incident here: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/wellington/300883612/armed-police-called-to-tawa-address-after-possible-gunshots>

The Tawa community is super proud of Briana Trewern, who is a year 13 student at Tawa College. Briana recently won a gold medal in the under 18 category at the NZ National Canoe Marathon Championships in Auckland! She represented the Mana Kayaking Club on Saturday 20th May.

Here's her story:

"Being up to watch the sunrise at training on Porirua Harbour, doing something you love and being surrounded by people who share the same passion as you. I was lucky enough to get an opportunity to race at the NZ National Canoe Marathon Championships in Auckland recently.

I raced in the U18 category over 15km on the Waitemata, tough conditions made it a challenge with strong winds and a fast outgoing tide to create some fun waves, but everyone took it on. Each lap we had to portage, which is where you get out of your boat and run with your boat for 150 metres and carry on paddling. Not many people like to portage because you have been sitting down for the last thirty minutes and your legs feel weak, but I enjoyed the portages, because I used it as a little break to get a quick drink and something to eat.

Overall I was happy to finish the race 1st place to earn myself a National title with a gold medal round my neck, and what made the event even better was the few other club members won gold too. Big thank you to my awesome coach Mark Watson who is a local Tawa resident."

What should Tawa look like in five years time? Are you interested in shaping the future of Tawa? Have you got a vision on what our community could look like? Why not come along to a meeting of the Residents Association and listen to and participate in the future of Tawa?

We're looking for a couple of strategic thinkers to contribute to our enthusiastic team. One and a half hours, starting at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month upstairs at the Squash Club, is all that is required.

Please contact Tony Hassed on 021 374 592 or email tony@hassed.nz if you would like to know more, or just come along to our meeting and see for yourself.

Read the latest annual report on the website here: <https://tawa.org.nz/tra-meetings/>





Thanks to a grant from [Hutt Mana Charitable Trust](#), we have been able to arrange a refresh of our patrol vehicle livery, bringing our 'look' into line with many other Community Patrols around NZ (known as the 'national livery' as recommended by [Community Patrols of New Zealand - CPNZ](#)). We're grateful to the Hutt Mana Charitable Trust for enabling us to undertake this work, smartening up our vehicle presentation and enhancing our visibility in the community. The installation itself was completed by the team at Fine Signs in Petone. Give us a friendly wave if you spot us patrolling out in the community!

After incidents, we always attempt to increase patrols in affected areas as reassurance to the community. Our patrollers are volunteers who already have busy schedules, but we always welcome people to join us. We are currently recruiting for more night patrollers in particular. Anyone interested should visit our website at www.tawacp.org.nz to find out more or to complete an application form.



Picture credits: Darryl Smith

TAWA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade had a busy month! Not only did they answer 24 calls so far this month, on 6 May, they joined in at the United Fire Brigades' Association of NZ Combat Challenge Nationals. They had a lot of members running, some individuals and also a relay team. Two Tawa members had to face off against each other. Here is a video of FF Itani vs FF Calitz: <https://fb.watch/kJ8AvuiQ1k/>

The brigade also had a team competing in the Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge on 20 May. The team raised

\$10,363.00 for [Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand](#). This year is the 19th Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge and the 1,000 firefighters competing from around NZ have managed to raise almost \$1.4 million this year for this amazing charity!

If you would like to donate to the team, you can today by following this link: https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz/t/tawavolunteerfirebrigade?fbclid=IwAR3ZdNfDVrA28nCCS3109wmVvnCWEkDpNSAhcesSi_2X2IEHkBORNySEczU

Redwood School held a Whānau Science Evening on the evening of 11 May. The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves (FOTBR), Pest Free Tawa (PFT) and KETE (Kids Enhancing Tawa Ecosystems) were invited to demonstrate how our work is enhancing and protecting Tawa's birdlife and bush reserves. FOTBR members Damian Hewett and Joanne Youthed brought along four seedlings – a Tawa, Kahikatea, Totara and Matai – all iconic trees, but not all well represented in Tawa bush reserves. Most people we spoke to enjoyed hearing about them and touching the vastly different foliage they all had. For many, this was the first time they had seen a Tawa tree!

It was great to engage with the school community and educate them on the work FOTBR undertake to protect Tawa's ecosystems. Most people had been in Redwood Bush Reserve and some knew of the botanical walk, but for those wanting to learn more there was a pamphlet detailing the walks in Tawa.

Alongside our stall was PFT, whose current goal is to get one in five households in Tawa trapping pests. A large map of Tawa sat upright on a table, with coloured pin-heads drawing in the crowd. Each pin represents a household involved in backyard trapping – and there are over 750! It was great to see rangatahi asking their parents to sign up for a trap, promising their parents they would check it themselves.

KETE Coordinator Sue Lum was delighted to share a room with FOTBR and PFT. This demonstrated the collaboration between our organisations and showcased how working with our tamariki and rangatahi can ensure that future generations are engaged, empowered and enthusiastic about restoring te taiao (the environment). Tawa has a bright future!



WATERMAIN RENEWALS UPDATE

Wellington Water, on behalf of Wellington City Council, has carried out initial investigations for the project to improve the performance and resilience of Tawa's drinking water network. The Main Road Watermain Renewals project is the first of three in Tawa that Wellington Water is carrying out over the next two years.

It involves renewing an ageing section of asbestos cement watermain between number 68 Main Road and Redwood Avenue. The project will improve the drinking water network's resilience, reducing the risk of emergency repairs and/or

outages, providing a more reliable water supply for the area. The construction part of the project starts in June with laying the replacement watermain and is expected to take around four months to complete.

During this period, the northbound lane of Main Road will need to be closed from 68 Main Road to Redwood Avenue. A detour along Redwood Avenue will be put in place for northbound traffic – as shown in the map (below). Parking will be removed on one side of Redwood Avenue to assist with the flow.

Wellington Water Chief Advisor - Drinking Water, Laurence Edwards says they have been working closely with the community to find ways to minimise the impacts as much as possible. This includes meeting with St Francis Xavier School and Redwood Primary School to organise and send out details to parents on how to safely drop off and collect their children who attend these schools. “Again, we know that this project, and the other work we are doing to improve the stormwater network and reduce the risk of flooding in central Tawa, is disruptive. We appreciate the community’s ongoing understanding as we carry out this essential work on behalf of Wellington City Council.”

For more information on these projects, please visit: <http://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/projects>



Following on from last month's History Corner (*the plea to record local history before it disappears – do you recall it now?*), here is a lovely example of someone who did record the building of their house in green fields about 80 years ago.

Can you pick the location of this house under construction in the late 1930s?

The house was located at 16 Tremewan Street in Linden, and it even had a name – *Merryn Downs*, based on an idyllic location described in a Rudyard Kipling poem of the same name. The life-cycle of the house was recorded on film by its various owners and an album containing those photographs has ended up in the Tawa Historical Society collection.

Sadly the house no longer exists even though at the end of its life it was still quite robust. The property was one of those purchased by *Waka Kotahi*, the land being required for part of the motorway interchange where the Transmission Gully route (SH1) links with the old route north (SH 59). The motorway interchange would fill the background of this

view today, along with a few houses located on the top end of Collins Avenue. And sheep would no longer be able to safely graze on the slopes in the background.

David Parsons

Chairman Tawa Historical Society

Contact David on tawaparsons@xtra.co.nz



Picture credits: Tawa Historical Society collection

White Pepper opened on 216a Main Road at the end of April. A family-run restaurant, Disha and Ajay specialise in Indian street food and snacks with their signature dishes being dabeli, vada pav and aloo tikki with chole.

The restaurant is open seven days a week, 5pm to 9pm on Monday to Friday and 10am to 9pm on Saturday and Sunday. They are also available for takeaways, catering and venue hire.

Hear from one of the customers: "Had the the most amazing Indian food today at White Pepper restaurant in Tawa. Best Indian food I have personally ever had! They have just opened today, worth a try and awesome customer service."

Find their menu here: <https://www.whitepepper.co.nz/menus>



Water

Do you know the average person in New Zealand uses approximately 220 litres of water per day? This water is used for things like washing machines, dishwashers, showers, and flushing toilets. Following a disaster such as a major earthquake, Wellington's water supply network could be out of action for up to 100 days due to damaged pipes. The best

way you can plan at home is to store enough water for about seven days until Wellington Water can set up water stations around the city.

Storing 1,540 litres per person would be a difficult task! So WREMO recommends storing 20 litres per person to cover basic needs such as drinking, cooking, hand washing, brushing teeth, and sponge bathing, and don't forget the pets! Water can be stored in juice/soft drink bottles, 10-20 litre water containers available from hardware stores, or water tanks. Wellington City Council offers 200 litre tanks for \$115 at The Tip Shop at Southern landfill. Tawa Community Centre also stocks these tanks on occasion, so try them if you are interested. They are \$118 at the TCC. For more information about water storage and treatment, visit: <https://wremo.nz/get-ready/home-ready/store-water/>

From Heather McCaskill at WREMO



Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) has been around since the 1970s and has inspired countless other Role Player Games, video games, and now after the recent movie its popularity has exploded once again.

D&D is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game where you can create your own character and embark on adventures in a world of swords and sorcery. The game is played with a combination of storytelling, improvisation, and dice rolls to determine the outcome of events. The game is designed for 2-8 players and is played with one player acting as the Dungeon Master, who creates the story and controls the non-player characters. The players create their own characters and work together to complete quests and overcome challenges.

If you've ever wanted to try it, or if you are already a frequent adventurer, we are now carrying a range of beginners to advanced D&D kits and books.

From Rowena, Paul, Gaylene, Dana & Sharon

<https://www.tawabooksandpost.co.nz>





Student Leadership Team (SLT)

Ko au ko te taiao, ko te taiao ko au

We kicked off our planting season with the Student Leaders' Team coming up to Takapū Valley to meet up, connect with te taiao, be grounded in the area and learn about our catchment, and grow our planting skills. A big thanks to Amanda Dobson (EnviroSchools) who brought along her catchment model to demonstrate the impact of humans through deforestation and farming on the catchment, and how our work through riparian and wetland planting helps improve the health of the stream.

Thanks also to Luke Barnsley and 'Jobs for Nature' at Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira for coming along. Luke explained the importance of the area from a Ngāti Toa perspective and gave us some history, whilst his team members helped out with moving around a huge number of plants and digging holes.



Community Planting

Planting is in full swing up the valley. We have had approximately 250 students from 3 schools up so far – the students have been well engaged and only a few plants have failed the 'pūkeko tug test'! Each school will have their own sign with their school logo/crest on attached to their particular area at the planting site. We also have an updated sign for the entrance to the site.

Transpower staff held two 'volunteer days' at the planting and provided a great deal of muscle in moving plants around the site, planting and matting plants. This year, Transpower kindly sponsored the purchase of 30 red raincoats so that students could be kept dry in the rain.



From Sue Lum, KETE Programme


Time is marching on in the gardening year and there is much to be done. It's not work if you enjoy it though, is it? If we wish to have a continuous show of flowers and plenty of produce to feed us through the year, myriad tasks need to be completed on time and usually several months in advance.

In my garden, June is usually the quietest month in terms of what there is to see and harvest. It also tends to be the busiest as plantings and preparations for our large spring display really ramp up. I will be planting thousands of tulips in our, and our clients, gardens this month so that in October they will be ablaze with rainbows of beautiful blooms (fingers crossed!). We will be having open days so you can come and enjoy them to.

Seeds of calendulas, stocks, larkspurs, wallflowers, linaria have all been pricked out (transplanted into punnets) where they will grow on until the ground is ready to receive them. If the ground is too wet, you can always pot them on again, in a few weeks, into individual containers and grow them as instant colour to be popped in empty spaces when the weather warms up.

Some early winter bulbs are starting to bloom and this often confuses people thinking that they are spring bulbs flowering early. This is not usually the case as so called "spring bulbs" begin their flowering season in late May, early June with the two most common being Jonquills Paperwhite and the golden Soleil d'or.





Keep up vigilance against slugs and snails, particularly in the vegetable garden as they multiply rapidly and eat your crops even faster. They are particularly fond of all the brassicas which are the most prominent crop family in our winter food beds. Brassicas, silver and rainbow beet, spinach and spring onions are the only crops I would plant now, and even then, expect growth to be very slow unless you can cover them to increase the temperature around them.

Fruit trees are coming into nurseries, so if you are intending to plant some, prepare the ground by adding lots of compost and loosening the soil before it gets too wet to dig. Adding support stakes before planting ensures you don't hammer them into tree roots after planting. As a general rule, dig a hole twice as wide as the rootball but to the same depth. So there is not a hard pan at the base of the hole, lightly fork the soil. I also like to push a fork deep into the bottom of the hole and wriggle it around. This will give sturdy support to the weight of the tree while also allowing better drainage and some loose soil for the roots to break into.

Happy gardening!



Tawa Community Board member Janryll Fernandez is off overseas with his family, meaning there is now a vacancy on the Board. Nominations opened on Thursday 25 May for this role, and they will close at Midday on the 22 June. The Board will hold an information session for anyone who is interested in finding out more about what the Community Board does and what is involved with putting yourself forward (or supporting someone else to do so). This session will be on Sunday 11 June at 4pm at the Tawa Community Centre in the Board room. The Board are very happy to have a

chat with anyone who is interested, so please do feel free to contact us at tawacommunityboard@wcc.govt.nz.

Wellington City Council manages the by-election process, so all relevant information will be found at the WCC website: wcc.govt.nz.

Key by-election dates

Nominations open: Thursday 25 May 2023

Nominations close: Midday, Thursday 22 June 2023

Voting papers mailed out to electors: Thursday 27 July 2023

Voting closes: Midday, Friday 18 August 2023



**Tawa Community Board
by-election**
Hui for prospective candidates

The Tawa Community Board invites anyone who is interested in knowing more about what the Board does and standing in the by-election to come along for a chat.

4pm, Sunday 11 June 2023
Boardroom, Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street, Tawa
For more details and to RSVP, email JN.Day@wcc.govt.nz.

Tawa Community Board
Te Pōari Hāpori o Tawa

The **Willowbank Park bridge** upgrade is nearly complete. This improves the access to the walkway through Willowbank. It replaces the older bridge that Tawa Rotary had built over 30 years ago.

Please report any Spicer Landfill **odour complaints** on the Porirua Government website, here: https://porirua.govt.nz/services/rubbish-and-recycling/spicer-landfill/spicer-landfill-odour/landfill-odour-complaint-form/?fbclid=IwAR3ferg_NetcTd31beBJd8Er73Uo4qPrb_B-BGlt-O83-QAcjiLoHdy-Imo

If you see a **water leak**, please check here to find out if it has been reported yet: <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/resources/maps/job-status-map/>

If it is not visible on the map, you can report the leak here: <https://services.wellington.govt.nz/report/>



Picture of the bridge at Willowbank Park from Helen Challands

Update from Councillor McNulty

Kia ora Tawa, speed limits are changing! A single issue update from me this month, but it's a big one.

As always, remember that Fixit is available report any problems to Wellington City Council ([Fixit - Wellington City Council](#)) and feel free to get in touch if you're having any issues dealing with the council (ben.mcnulty@wcc.govt.nz).

Speed Management Plan

WCC are proposing that the default speed limit of roads within our city is lowered from 50km/h to 30km/h. This change has been driven by the Road to Zero Strategy from Waka Kotahi which mandates local authorities to implement 30km/h zones around all New Zealand schools.

The Speed Management Plan is out for consultation from Wednesday 24th of May through to Friday 30th June and will be one of the largest consultations WCC have undertaken.

WCC officers have worked on the basis of schools having walking catchments of 1km for primary schools and 2.25km for secondary schools. Given the high geographic concentration of schools within Wellington, when those radius areas are overlaid most streets fall into 30km/h zones, hence an all of city default approach has been proposed.

Whilst I know there is often cynicism about the appetite of the council to engage with the community via consultation, I can assure you that on this piece of work both council officers and councillors are listening intently to see if we have got the balance right. The Mayor has also committed to pushing the final policy to reflect the wishes of community consultation.

So whatever your opinion may be, I highly encourage you to make it known via the below link:

www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/smp

We encourage our politicians and councillors to reach out to us with news.

From local MP Greg O'Connor:

"How times have changed. I recently enjoyed the company of a couple of Tawa College students enjoying a pre-school coffee while sitting on a kerbside table at a local café. The topic drifted to votes for 16 and 17 year olds, and we conducted an informal survey of passing locals. It was about 50/50, but I would be very happy to have these very well informed and well considered students vote.

We also discussed this week's Budget, and cheap public transport came up as desirable. They will be happy at that

provision in the Budget, and later in life, they will also celebrate the dropping of the \$5 prescription charge per item, extending early childhood education to 2 year olds, lowering household energy bills, and building more public housing to go with the 14,000 already built.

The aim of the Budget was to target the expenditure to those most in need, without stoking inflation. Of course flood recovery and climate change was funded, as were electric vehicle charging stations.

And as a local aside, I entered a Nada pie in the traditional Budget day pie off. That's where my MP contemporaries all bring the best pie from their electorates. Unsurprisingly my Nada pork, apple and apple cider featured very highly in the results. Parliament is hard work but people still need to have wee distractions like this."

You can contact Greg with any concerns by emailing greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz or calling 477 3332.

From Mana **MP Barbara Edmonds:**

No update this month. Contact Barbara at mana@parliament.govt.nz or 237 9842.



The Beehive is the executive wing of the New Zealand Parliament buildings.

Tawa Business Group is looking for a support person/social media star! You can find the details on the job board. The role is for about 15 hours per week, with one day likely to be Friday.

The job board is updated every week with new vacancies within various businesses and organisations throughout Tawa. If you're looking for a change or a new challenge, check it out: <https://www.tawabusiness.co.nz/jobs>.

Free Composting Workshop, Tawa Community Centre, Sat 17th June, 10:30-11:30am

Composting done responsibly creates a great resource for your garden while reducing your household waste, carbon emissions and protecting native species. This workshop will answer all your curly compost questions, including how to make sure you're not attracting rats. If you're a Wellington City Council resident, we will give you a rat-proof compost kit free of charge (thanks WCC for hooking us up). Suitable for everyone from complete beginners to more experienced composters wanting to improve their knowledge and keep those pests away!

Registrations are essential and places are limited; please email tawacc@wcc.govt.nz or call 04 232 1682 if you would like to attend.

The **Cambridge St Table Tennis** club are looking for new members! This is a group for intermediate players that meets at the community centre on Mondays and Fridays. For a trial session please contact Ram on 021 267 4724.

NEW SPRING INTO TAWA SPONSOR

Spring into Tawa 2023: only 154 days to go!

We're thrilled to announce that Spring into Tawa now has a naming rights sponsorship agreement with Mexted Motors for three years.

Both Spring into Tawa and Mexted Motors are icons in the Tawa community.

As Tawa's biggest annual event, Spring into Tawa is an important part of our community – providing an opportunity for

people to gather and connect, promote their organisation and services, sell their goods, and have a great day out.

We're really excited and humbled by this partnership with Mexted Motors

– thanks to Mark, Nicole and team for their support. Our event will now be called Mexted Motors Spring into Tawa.

Stallholder applications for this year's event will open on 1 June. We've had to operate a waiting list the last couple of years – so if you're interested in having a stall, email us on stallholders@springintotawa.nz to be added to the email list to get notified when applications open.

We'll soon be putting a call out for entertainers to perform on the day – if you're keen to perform, please email us at entertainers@springintotawa.nz

We're still looking for some more volunteers to join our committee and help to organise this cool event. Get in touch with us on info@springintotawa.nz if you're keen to join us.

Stay in touch with us as planning progresses on Facebook and Instagram!

See you at Mexted Motors Spring into Tawa on Saturday 28 October.

As always, Tawa Rotary Club is looking ahead. Upcoming plans include the always much anticipated **Bookfair** which will be held at the Tawa Scouts Den, Coronation Park late September to early October. Public notices including drop off points will be seen closer to the time.

We are currently working in collaboration with **Life Flight** on fundraising for their much-needed equipment to maintain their continuous operations. Such a worthwhile organisation to partner with – you never know when you might need them!

Tawa Rotary **Quiz Night** will be on Tuesday 27 June at The Borough. Pit your brains against some of the best in Tawa! Money raised will be going towards Rotary's global project which is supported by The Gates Foundation END POLIO NOW. Tickets available from Elizabeth Sutton, call 027 446 3641 or email the address below.

Tawa Rotary has some really exciting projects happening and we'd love more members to help. At the same time, increase your circle of friends and social activities. Contact us now to learn more by emailing: tawarotaryclub@gmail.com



*One of the helicopters from Life Flight Trust. Since the start of this year, LFW has already flown over 130 patients! Infants requiring emergency care, accidents where time is critical, and flights to specialist hospitals.
Picture credits: <https://www.facebook.com/LifeFlightTrust>*

The community garden at Oxford Street has regular working bees. On the most recent one, they spent a pleasant afternoon tidying up the garden, adding mulch and transplanting strawberry plants. The working bees are every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month and every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 1.30pm till 3pm.

Keep an eye on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com>

[/tawacommunitygarden](http://tawacommunitygarden) and email tawa.community.garden@gmail.com if you are keen to join in.

Winter will soon be upon us and the evenings are already getting cooler. Need to build up your stocks of firewood? Tawa MenzShed is running a fundraiser project to sell boxes of firewood to assist with shed development and as a service to the community.

Banana boxes of firewood sell for \$10.00 each and can be delivered within Tawa. The firewood comprises cut up pallets, and off-cuts from other MenzShed activities.

To place your orders please contact Faith on 027 322 1372, or email Richard at herbert.r@xtra.co.nz. Payment either on delivery or to the MenzShed bank account: 02 0552 0040123 00 – reference “your surname” “firewood” “your address” (house number and street name only).

Stay safe. Keep warm.



Sadly, we had a second flood in the back of the shop due to torrential rain a few weeks ago. We now have spotless floors but we'd love your donations!

Clothing, linen, toys and homewares would be greatly appreciated. You can always drive to the back of the shop if you have a car full. Just past the doctors, you will see the back of our shop.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Sara and Janneen



Casual Driver Position

Are you a night owl who likes helping people?

Do you enjoy meeting new people and working in a fun environment?

Are you over 25 with a full drivers licence?

If so, this could be the role for you.

Take 10 Support Zone operates on Courtenay Place every Friday and Saturday night, and we are looking for a competent, friendly driver to drive a manual vehicle to and from Courtenay Place and be part of the support crew through the night.

What you get: flexible hours, meals and refreshments provided, great training opportunities, and the chance to make a positive difference.

If this sounds like you or you would like more information, get in touch: [Hello@vsctrust.org.nz](mailto>Hello@vsctrust.org.nz)



A group of 29 senior swimmers (aged 13 to 17) from Tawa Swimming Club competed this week at the Swimming New Zealand Division II National Competition. They swam brilliantly and were amazing ambassadors for our community-focussed Club – kind and considerate, supportive and encouraging (and they cheer very loudly!). And to top it off, the club won the Top Club Trophy, which is based on points from placings. Tawa Swimming Club placed first out of 72 clubs from around the country – a great achievement and the first time they have won this award.



One of the locals in our bush reserves, a Ngahere gecko. It is listed as an At-risk/Declining species. This is male with his

tail intact. To help protect these cool geckos please do not pick them up, and keep your cats inside at night. Picture credits: Damian Hewett



The Main Road hanging baskets were recently refreshed for the winter period, and some new plants were also put into the planter boxes outside the library to replace a few that had died over the summer.

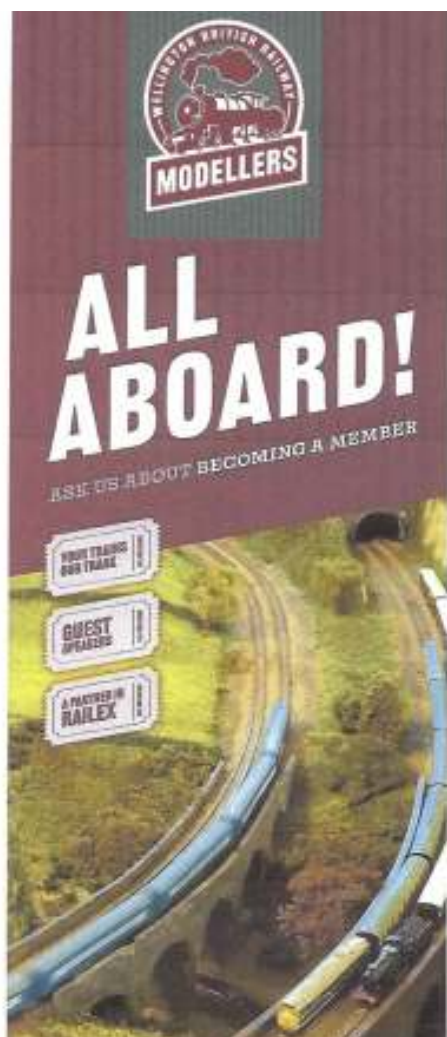


Winter is coming, but there's always something flowering in our neighbourhood! Pretty kowhai flowers, picture credits: Caillie Evans





Donna is moving her Healing Light Crystals store to the Kapiti Coast, more details to follow. Her store will be open until the end of June. Make sure you pop in to say goodbye! Picture credits: <https://www.facebook.com/HealingLightCrystals/>



Wellington British
Railway Modellers Inc

Show and
OPERATING SESSION

FREE ENTRY

1 pm until 4-30 pm
Date: 05 June 2023

Location:

Clubrooms,
Nassau Park Pavilion,
Nassau Avenue,
Granada North Park
Granada North Village

For more information call:
021-438630 or:
<https://www.wbrm.org.nz>

Interested in model trains? This is the event for you!

The Tawa Services Bowling club is proud to bring you the quiz to end all quizzes.

With great prizes and serious competition.

This is the way for you and friends to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Proceeds from the event will go towards Green Maintenance for the club.

Where? Tawa RSA Clubrooms 89 Oxford Street
Tawa
When? Sunday June 11 2023 at 2pm
Cost? \$5- per team member
Team Size? Between 3 and 6 members per team

Registrations are available at the RSA Notice Board

Please return registration form and money to Paul Malcom or
Lynette Campbell or leave at the RSA Bar for collection.

Be in Quick – Limited to 15 teams.



Another quiz night, hosted by the Tawa Services Bowling Club in June. **Get in touch:**

Tawa Orchestra Presents

Clair de Lune

An afternoon of French classics

Featuring the
Suite Bergamasque
by Claude Debussy

Come and enjoy an afternoon of French classics! This Saturday at 2.30pm.

Henri Duparc - Aux étoiles

Claude Debussy - Suite Bergamasque (arr. Hubert Mouton)

Gabriel Fauré - Masques et Bergamasques Suite

Gabriel Fauré - Sicilienne, Op. 78

Entry is by Koha. The concert will take place in the Tawa College School Hall. It will last for about an hour, with a short interval.





Have you spotted this cute art at Moore Wilson's? Picture credits: Eric Raven



A get together for parents or caregivers raising children with any impairments or support needs, each month on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Come and meet other parents of disabled children for support, friendship and fun. Hot drinks and nibbles provided. This meeting is for parents/caregivers and is not suitable for bringing the children along to. To RSVP and for more information, contact Sue on 027 808 3947 or email suet@parent2parent.org.nz.



A new safe crossing was installed on Oriel Avenue this month.



Have you spotted Uncle Matt's Corner in one of the Tawa bushes?

Did you know that every Friday, WCC publishes a fun list of five great activities to do, places to explore or things to discover in our awesome city? Tawa was featured recently, check it out here: <https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/our-wellington/2023/03/friday-five-explore-tawa>



5 minutes with Wendy Jacobs from the library

Can you tell us something about your life growing up?

I was born and raised in Port Elizabeth, South Africa (the friendly, windy city). I come from a fairly large family of six girls – my poor dad – four of whom are still over there. We lived on a large section with geese, turkeys, chickens, dogs and cats. My dream (when I win Lotto) is to be able to own a property like this in NZ. We have had cats, dogs and tropical fish as a start.

I was very sporty at school and had to do everything – tennis, hockey, netball, cheerleading – whatever the school offered, I would be there. Unfortunately, none of this continued... sigh.

Can you tell us something about your life after finishing school?

After school, I worked for auditors for eight years as a PA/audit clerk before having my firstborn. I moved on to a PA position at an insurance company and moved up the ranks to consultant. I remained at this company for 13 years and left them when we decided to move to New Zealand in December 2000.

My husband came to NZ three months before us, and myself and our two children, then aged 7 and 13, arrived in Auckland on 6 December 2000. After being in Wellington for 22 years, I still feel homesick from time to time – missing family, the weather, the beaches. Coming from a large family, I miss the gatherings we used to have (including the family squabbles at each one), and also the phone calls – with the time difference between the countries, it is not always easy to find the right time to chat!

What can you tell us about your current daily life?

I have been working at the Wellington City Council for 22 years already – wow, that time has gone by quickly. We arrived in Wellington in December 2000 and in February, I started a job at the Johnsonville Library as a shelver. Needless to say, I wanted more and in June of that year I was appointed to customer service, and I have never looked back. My current title is Coach, which is more or less the same as a Team Leader, looking after a team of customer service staff on a day-to-day basis. I am also responsible for our two wonderful community centres – Tawa & Linden – and it pleases me every time I see the joy on people's faces, whether they are there for Kai Kitchen, a cup of coffee, a water tank, or a puzzle.

I enjoy reading (of course) and have lately gravitated towards e-books which I am finding extremely handy when travelling. My other passion is crafts, in particular decoupage. I learnt this art a few years back and fell in love. I do not spend as much time on it as I would like to, but I do find it extremely relaxing.

We have two cavoodles, one 11 years and one we recently adopted who is 5 years old, so daily walking is needed. On weekends, my husband and I can be found somewhere in the region where the dogs are allowed off-lead! Our little family of four is slowly growing with both 'children' now married, one 4-year-old granddaughter and another on the way! My daughter and son-in-law live in Wellington, while my son and daughter-in-law (plus grandies) live up north in Okaihau (just outside Kerikeri). We all get together for a family holiday once a year, always trying some place new. Last year we spent a few weeks on the South Island, exploring Milford Sound, Queenstown, Lake Hawea, Mt Cook, etc.

If you live in Tawa, how long have you lived in Tawa?

I don't live in Tawa but have worked here on and off for the past 22 years. We live in Woodridge, Newlands.

What do you like about Tawa?

I really enjoy walking around the village at lunch time, a) because it is flat and b) because people actually do greet you! The On Demand bus works very well and I often use this to get from the library to Linden Community Centre.

What would you like to see improved in Tawa?

I would love to see some spaces for the youth after school that are supervised, but not necessarily 'homework' centres. We often have large groups visiting the library to hang out with each other, but we cannot always accommodate them.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

Without a doubt this has to be The Tutukaka Coast in Northland. The white sandy beaches and the peacefulness of the small villages provide a wonderful way to unwind.

What accomplishments in your life are you the most proud of?

Coming to New Zealand, first time flying internationally with two children. My beautiful children as they are today – both grown up, running their own lives. One as a public policy consultant and the other owning a computer store.

I started and continue to run the Wellington Oodle Owners Family (WOOF) Facebook group for all owners of poodle cross breed dogs. We are almost at the 2,000 mark which is awesome... a plug for the group here!

What are two or three interesting things about you that local people may not know?

I have cuddled lion cubs! We were extremely lucky when we visited a game park, and the cubs were being seen to by a vet. A few of us were allowed to 'help' by holding the squishy, squirmy cubs.

I do not enjoy boats as I suffer terribly from motion sickness. No more ferry trips to the South Island for me (or my hubby).

We went to Rotorua for Easter last year and I was very sceptical about walking the Tree Tops in the Redwoods Forest – it seemed so high off the ground! I am pleased to announce that "I did it!" The walk was amazing, and I would recommend it to others.

What are three things you would like to do in the next 10 years?

What would I like to do? Retire – lol – again, when I win the Lotto.

Visit my family in South Africa again – we have not been there since 2009 and it would be interesting to see how people and things have changed.

Have my family visit me to see this beautiful country.

The Tawa Residents' Association monthly meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be on Monday 12 June.

Feel free to come along! We are always open to new people joining the committee, helping out, or sharing ideas.

We meet upstairs at the Tawa Squash Club on the second Monday of the month, 7.30pm.

You can find the agenda on our website here: <https://tawa.org.nz/tra-meetings/>

We look forward to meeting you!

Elizabeth, Jackson, Monique, Miriam, Peter, Richard, Susan, Janryll & Tony