



This month's cover picture is from Harley Luf, isn't it vibrant? In this newsletter, you can read about local girl Glitter Mulan who recently took part in the Little Miss Aotearoa contest, the new BBQ that is being installed at Wall Park, and all about the Shut Up and Dance group.

Find the latest news from our council and local community groups and an update on the on demand bus.

We have the regular book, history, and garden corners. It's promising to be a really busy time in the garden in the coming weeks. You can read about the interesting life of Jancis, in the *5 minutes with ...* interview.

Please keep sending all your news, events, and pictures to newsletter@tawa.org.nz. We love seeing your stories, especially those that celebrate our local residents.

We hope you will enjoy reading about all the good stuff that is happening in our vibrant community.

Have a good weekend from us all at the Tawa Residents' Association. Our next meeting will be on Monday, June 10, at 7.30 pm at Tawa Squash Club. All welcome.

Monique

Big thanks to WCC for continuous financial support with the Residents' Association administration costs!



See www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html for issues before 2022.

See <https://tawa.org.nz> for recent issues.

LITTLE MISS AOTEAROA FINALIST

We are proud to announce that local girl Glitter Mulan B. Roa, was one of eight finalists for the Little Miss Aotearoa contest in 2024. She won 1st Runner up and has become the Little Miss Wellington Ambassador.

Winners will receive a \$500 cash prize, a certificate, a rhinestone crown, sashes, and an invitation to represent New Zealand at the international pageant. Little Miss Aotearoa aims to foster self-confidence and promote community involvement and environmental consciousness.

Glitter Mulan is 11 years old and enjoys singing, drawing, and swimming. She dreams of being a flight attendant and travelling the world. She aims to inspire others to embrace their individuality and aspires to combat global warming to protect the environment. Best wishes to her!

A big thank you to Wellbeingfloor, Bob Insurance Solutions, Sustainability Trust, Free for All, and Zowie Dee Custom Made Designs for their help and sponsorship.

You can read more about Little Miss Aotearoa here: <https://www.littlemissaotearoa.com/about>.



*Glitter Mulan in her beautiful outfit. Picture credits: Leodel Joy Bantayan.
On the right: Glitter Mulan is the one wearing red.*

WALL PARK BBQ

As a Tawa Residents' Association project, five years ago, students from Linden School and Tawa Intermediate surveyed Linden residents to see what they would like in a refurbished Wall Park. A BBQ was near the top of the list. It's only taken five years to get there, but the electric double BBQ and a new picnic table are about to be installed.

A big shout out to the Tawa Menzshed, who have designed and are building a flash canopy over the BBQ. There are a number of people/organisations who have combined to make the BBQ happen, including One Foundation, which has provided the funding, and, of course, Wellington City Council, which is doing the groundwork.

Depending on the weather, it should be up and running in the next three weeks. I think we should have a party to celebrate and, ultimately, a plaque to recognise all those who have contributed!



CELEBRATING PAISLEY GIFT SHOP

Paisley Gift Shop Tawa is turning 10.

Congratulations to owner Rebecca, who has run this wonderful gift store for the past decade.

Rebecca says: "As we celebrate this milestone, we extend our deepest gratitude to all our patrons, friends, and well-wishers who have stood by us through thick and thin. Your unwavering support has been our guiding light, propelling us forward with each passing year."



Rebecca showing a beautiful dress from her store.

Picture credits: Tawa BID

FROM THE COUNCIL

Kia ora Tawa,

After you're done reading this email, please put in a submission on the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

Consultation is open until May 12, and the plan has critical proposals that impact Tawa.

Included within the LTP is a proposal to introduce parking meters at \$5 per hour in suburban centres such as Tawa, Johnsonville, and Newlands.

Other LTP issues include the sale of airport shares to create a green investment fund; introducing new Council wheelie bins for rubbish, with separate ones for food scraps and garden waste; the level of investment in our water infrastructure; the future of Khandallah Pool; and much more.

We highly recommend you make a submission through WCC's [Let's Talk engagement website](#). Many Tawa businesses, as well as the Library, have paper copies of submissions available. We've also created a [short submission form](#) covering only the suburban parking proposal. Whichever format you prefer, it's imperative that you submit so that we councillors have a strong mandate to represent your views.

In positive news, the Council has started work on the Grenada North Sports Hub Upgrade with workshops with "key stakeholders" (i.e., the sports clubs). The concept design is to be done by July, with construction starting in 2025. Funding to complete the upgrade is already included within the LTP.

Ngā mihi,

Tony, Ben & John

tony.randle@wcc.govt.nz

ben.mcnulty@wcc.govt.nz



TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

Find the upcoming meetings of the board here: <https://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/committees/tawa-community-board>

Contact the board here: tawacommunityboard@wcc.govt.nz

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-QAcjiL0Hdy-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/>

JOIN COMMUNITY PATROL

Join us as a volunteer patroller.

Are you wanting to give back to your community? We are currently recruiting more volunteer patrollers. We have shift options that include both day and night patrols, across all seven days of the week.

If you:

- Live in the Tawa area.
- Are at least 18 years of age.
- Can patrol at least two 3-hour shifts per month.
- Can attend bi-monthly training meetings throughout the year.
- Are computer and smartphone literate.
- Can pass a police vetting check.

Full training is provided; you will be buddied up with an experienced patroller to teach you everything you need to know, and patrollers always patrol in pairs using our distinctively marked patrol car.

Want to know more? Complete our join form at www.tawacp.org.nz, and one of our recruitment coordinators will get back to you to discuss further.



ON DEMAND BUS UPDATE

Many of you will already know the great news that Tawa On Demand has been extended for another six months.

Metlink will be using this time to continue our evaluation of this service. Also, during this period, the central government should have clarified its position on funding for On Demand transport. While there are no guarantees, we hope this six month period will give us time to move past the trial phase.

You will see in the attached data that since November of last year, passenger numbers have plateaued at around 4,700 trips a month. At the same time, Seat Unavailable and wait times have increased. This is entirely due to the continual mechanical issues with the vehicles. This is super disappointing. This March, Metlink had the highest number of passenger boardings on our bus network since March 2017. I have no doubt that if we had the On Demand vehicles running at full capacity, our March numbers would have been massively higher.

We are trying to resolve these issues and now have much better visibility on the problem; hopefully we will start to see improvement soon.



HISTORY CORNER

A Familiar Spot

The location of this month's photograph should be familiar to all readers. Yes, it's a quiet moment on a section of Tawa's Main Road with the brick wall of the library visible at the right hand side of the picture and the Baptist Church hall visible in the far distance.

This image is one uplifted from the Tawalink website and is dated from the late summer of 2004. There have been many changes in the intervening years, with businesses coming and going, perhaps most noticeably *The Borough* restaurant and bar missing from this 20-year old view. Its outdoor seating area now juts out slightly into some of the parking spaces.

Next to the library was the Salvation Army Family Store. It is now located a few hundred metres to the south on the Main Road, opposite Mexted Motors. Next to that was the Quality Book Exchange, and a few shops further was the Video

book and video shops are long gone.

Hanging floral baskets now adorn the verandahs of the shops along the Main Road, a community board initiative to help make the area attractive and welcoming.

The image highlights the fact that our urban scenery is constantly changing. Don't forget to record it now before it changes again.

What do you think the scene will look like in 2044?

David Parsons
Chairman, Tawa Historical Society



CAN YOU HELP?

We received the following message from Mary, maybe you can help?

'I am the great granddaughter of George and Susannah Hall, who arrived in Wellington in 1867 and bought land at Tawa Flat.

My great grandparents are buried in Porirua Cemetery.

By my reckoning, there could be 100 descendants of my generation—maybe some still living in Tawa.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who shares my genealogy.'

Mary Dinniss (nee Hall), contact Mary by emailing:

maryd286@gmail.com

SHUT UP AND DANCE

Shut Up and Dance - What? When? Why?

My family moved to Wellington in 2014. I was a stay-at-home mom and part time teacher who wanted to dance! I didn't want to sit for exams, wear a leotard, or sell raffle tickets to raise funds for costumes for end-of-year concerts. I just wanted to dance! Finding fun classes for adults was difficult until I found Shut Up and Dance. I haven't looked back.

Shut Up and Dance is a fitness class that caters to everyone, from those who have danced in a previous life to those who have always wanted to dance but have been too afraid. Each week we learn a different routine from a musical, a music video, a film, or Tik Tok. We never know what it will be. Once we have learned the routine, we won't do it again for the rest of the year. The emphasis is on having fun and enjoying yourself.

There is a group of Shut Up and Dance-rs who regularly perform at Cuba Dupa and Spring into Tawa. These events give those of us who like to perform the opportunity to do so. While dance is the most important part of Shut Up and Dance, you will also find an amazing community of people in every class. We are different ages and stages of life, but we support each other through. This is

Shut Up and Dance holds classes in Johnsonville on Monday evenings, Papakowhai on Thursday evenings, and in central Wellington on Saturday mornings. You have to book in advance, and you can do that by visiting their website: <https://www.shutupanddance.co/>.

There are often introductory offers for first-timers.
If you think this sounds like you, be brave and come and join us.

From Helen Pine



BOOK CORNER

Do you enjoy reviews and interviews with authors? I do, and today I'd like to give a shout out to NZ book lovers. They are a wonderful team of, well, book lovers who review books and interview authors. Their website reviews are great. Two that I personally agree with:

A Different Light: First Photographs of Aotearoa, edited by Catherine Hammond and Shaun Higgins, is a book I also found fascinating.

<https://www.nzbooklovers.co.nz/post/a-different-light-first-photographs-of-aotearoa-edited-by-catherine-hammond-and-shaun-higgins>

The Women by Kristin Hannah, I've read it myself, and I think Karen's review explains it perfectly.

<https://www.nzbooklovers.co.nz/post/the-women-by-kristin-hannah>

They also have a yearly book award, with the winners announced on March 28. This year was a wonderful selection of books. Congratulations to the winners and appreciation to the judges for sharing their thoughts about the winners and those shortlisted.

<https://www.nzbooklovers.co.nz/2024-awards>

Talking about awards, the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards winners will be announced on May 15th, which is exciting! The longlist came out in February, and the shortlist in March. I find the articles, writers' tips, and comments on the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards Facebook posts, and the wonderful Ockham Sampler (which also contains the judges' thoughts), to be a fantastic help in choosing books to add to the reading wishlist. It definitely can't be an easy job deciding which books win.

<https://www.nzbookawards.nz/new-zealand-book-awards/resources/>

From Rowena

<https://www.tawabooksandpost.co.nz> <http://www.tawabooksandpost.co.nz/collections/book-corner>



MAY MUSIC MONTH

The staff at Tawa Library have planned some community performances at the Tawa Library every Saturday morning in May to help celebrate New Zealand Music Month.

Saturday, May 4th, 11 a.m.: Testore Jazz Trio

Testore Trio is a jazz trio that also likes to squeeze a few Neapolitan (Italian) tunes into its repertoire to mix things up a little. The line-up is Richard Prowse on violin, Daryl Prowse on guitar, and George Prowse on six-string bass. Testore Trio gets its name from a famous Italian double bass maker, Carlo Giuseppe Testore.

Saturday, May 11, 11 a.m.: Prog Folk with Patrick and Bradley

Hear a combo of original numbers and covers of electric folk/prog tunes from the 1960s and '70s, as well as some originals. Featuring acoustic and electric guitars, mandolins, flutes, and voices.

Saturday, May 18, 11 a.m.: Gemma Nash and Marianne Wren Duo

Enjoy a musical conversation between Gemma and Marianne as they swap seamlessly between instruments and harmonies. Expect to hear some fun and lilting covers of great female artists interspersed with original material.

Saturday, May 25, 11 a.m.: Tiffany Baker Plays the Harp

Tiffany Baker is an accomplished harpist who performs and teaches throughout the Wellington region. She's passionate about demystifying the harp by offering "Harp Encounter" lessons and performances, including live music, at various special occasions. Expect to hear a variety of pieces on a variety of harps. Everything from classical and Celtic to folk and modern.

CAROLYN'S GARDEN CORNER

I hope you have been enjoying these glorious days in your garden. The low-lying sun shining through the orange, gold, red, and brown autumnal foliage makes for a picturesque scene.

There is not much time for sitting back and enjoying the last flowers and leaves, for April and May are two of the busiest times in the gardening calendar.

We have had some rain, and this has helped soften the soil, making weed extraction so much easier. It also makes it a great time to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials so their roots can find their way into the still warm soil and establish themselves over winter. Although it may look as if not much is going on during the colder months, there is a hive of activity happening beneath your feet.

If the rain is still a bit sparse, make sure you keep the soil around the new plants moist but not soggy.

plants helps stabilise them in the ground and prevent wind rock interference with root establishment.

It is time for the big autumn clean-up! This is when I cut back on all the perennials that have flowered so well during the summer and early autumn months. I have left some of them a bit longer than usual this year, as birds, goldfinches in particular, seem to prefer feasting on the seeds while still attached to a growing plant. They will have to hurry up, though, as I need the space to plant 2,500 tulips next month.

Make leaf mould. After enjoying the gorgeous colours of autumn leaves on the trees, once they fall, you can make further use of them. Gather all the deciduous leaves you can find and put them into black trash bags with a few holes punched in them. If they are dry, give them a light sprinkling with the hose, and then tie the bag off. Every month or so, give the bag a bit of a shake to aerate it and stop the leaves from clumping. Left around the side of the house for 12 months, they will turn into crumbly leaf mould compost, which is great to put back in your garden.

Don't be tempted to do this with fallen evergreen leaves, though. They are too coarse and take a long time to break down. It is best to rake them out of your garden and put them in a more permanent compost bin to give them the time they need to decompose.

Make more plants for free!

Divide spring-flowering perennials. As perennial plants age, they tend to spread out with new growth around the centre and crown of the plant, leaving the middle dead or dying. Digging up and splitting these plants is a great way to get fresh new plants for free. Some plants have baby plants that easily pull away from the mother and can be planted in refreshed soil and carefully watered in. The old centre can be discarded.

Other species form a very hard, solid crown, and these need to be chopped into pieces. Make sure each part has fresh new growth with some of the older crown attached.

Take cuttings. This is another great way to multiply your stock. At this time of the year, cuttings are usually of semi-ripe wood, i.e., they are hard at the base with a soft tip.

Generally, cuttings are about 10cm long. Cut a non-flowering or flowered stem just above a leaf node on your chosen shrub.

This effectively acts as pruning the plant and will not leave a stub, which would die back and potentially cause disease to set in.

Once inside, the sooner the better, retrim the cuttings so that the bottom cut is just below a leaf node, as this is where the roots will form.

Pull off any leaves apart from the top two. If these are large, cut them in half to lessen water loss through transpiration.

If you wish, you can dip the end of the stem in rooting hormone to encourage the quick formation of roots.

Place several cuttings of the same species deep around the sides of a small terracotta pot filled with a very free-draining mix (you can buy special cutting mix).

Place the pot in a sheltered spot out of the full sun and, if necessary, mist regularly. Some people like to place a small plastic bag over the pot to maintain humidity. If you do this, make sure the bag is secured so that it will never touch the cuttings themselves.

Just some of the popular plants you can take cuttings of now are Geraniums (Pelargoniums), Lavender, Rosemary, Sage, Bay, Rhododendrons, Camellias, Coleus, Fuchsia, Forsythia, and early-flowering Salvias.

Prick out seedlings. If you sowed seeds at the beginning of autumn, it is likely they will have reached the true leaf stage by now.

Cotyledons. These initial leaves are present inside the seed and can provide nourishment to the embryonic plant. Once the seeds germinate, a pair of these seed leaves emerge and help establish the plant before the true leaves sprout

in miniature.

Once these true leaves appear, you need to prick out the tiny seedlings into fresh potting mix. The seed mix they were sown in contains very little nutrition, so to encourage good growth, they need fresh potting mix.

Handle the leaves only so as not to damage the roots. Sometimes the end of a plastic plant label comes in very handy when trying to transfer tiny seedlings. It is at this stage that you may discover you have been overly generous with your sowing.

It is hard to throw out excess, so if you have time and supplies, prick out as many as you can into punnets and give them away to whoever will take them from you.

Continue planting spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, anemones, muscari, hyacinths, and freesias. Wait until the end of May for tulips, as they prefer it colder.

Dare I mention the word feijoas? Yes, it is that time of the year when the office lunch desk becomes crowded with bags of this abundant fruit. Friends and family take the first bags of your excess fruit readily, but after a while, you may find they start to avoid you lest you try to pass another bag into their hands. There are several recipes online on how to process your harvest so you can enjoy its unique flavour out of season.

Happy gardening,

Carolyn

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067872369384>



On the left: Plant divisions potted up.

On the right: Trays of seedlings showing cotyledons and emerging true leaves, almost ready for pricking out.

FRIENDS OF TAWA BUSH RESERVES

New President of Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves

The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves (FOTBR) has a new president, John Burnet.

John takes over from Gary Beecroft, who has stepped down after serving as president for the last six years.

John is a long-serving member of the Friends of Tawa Bush and well known to many in the community for sharing his beekeeping skills and knowledge.

"I anticipate a continuation of the same emphasis that we have had over the recent years, i.e., restoration of the ecological corridor between Wellington and Porirua with improved recreational access to all of Tawa's reserves for walkers, runners, and bikers. We look forward to increasing numbers of kaka, kakariki, and kiwi in the not-too-distant future." John says.

The Friends of Tawa Bush acknowledged Gary's leadership, which saw the development of our own nursery, followed by the expansion of revegetation and pest control programmes in parts of Woodburn Reserve and the Forest of Tawa.

"My vision was to create ecological corridors linking the existing Tawa Basin

passionate hard work of a very dedicated group of conservation associates in the FOTBR," Gary says.

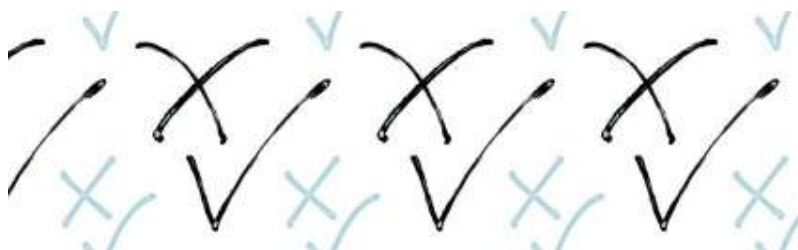
"I greatly appreciated the help and support all these people gave me. I really feel like we all made a difference. I must thank WCC Parks and Reserves Ranger Denise Clement for her very strong support and good advice and the many plants and materials she supplied to us, which allowed us to follow our ideas and activities." He acknowledged.

The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves were established over 20 years ago to protect the flora and fauna of Tawa's iconic forest remnant reserves and as a natural environment for the enjoyment and recreation of the Tawa and wider community.

It holds regular working bees throughout the valley. The volunteers focus on pest animal control, weed control, growing plants at the nursery, advocacy for Tawa native spaces, publicity, and education.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Have a look at all the Wellington City Council projects and proposals that you can give feedback on. Find them all here: <https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz>



TAWA BID

Wellington City Council (WCC) has opened its consultation on the Long Term Plan. This runs from Friday 12 April to midnight Sunday 12 May 2024.

It is advised that you read the consultation document as it covers important decisions on Water, Waste, Investments and other key proposals, one of which is a proposal to introduce paid parking in the suburbs. You can find further information and a submission form here: www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/hub-page/long-term-plan-2024-34 Please remember to be kind in your submissions – councillors are more likely to respond to positive and well-defined responses.

Tawa Business Group has heard plenty of people who are strongly against introducing paid parking, and we want to make sure that WCC hears your voices too. These stories may help you with your submission.

- These are already difficult times, and with the high cost of living and an increasing number of local redundancies, this is an extra charge that people cannot afford.
- The suburbs should not be subsidising the income shortfall from removing car parks in the CBD. Money raised in the suburbs should be used for local investment.
- Tawa has a different demographic than the CBD. Many older and less able people rely on the services that the suburb provides, and being able to park easily and directly outside their destination is important for them to be able to leave their homes and reduce feelings of isolation.
- The proposal for paid parking does not follow the 2020 Parking Policy, that says that paid parking will be introduced if occupancy is often over

Our three Northern Ward Councillors all voted against the proposal in February, but they lost on a vote of 10:7. Councillors changed their minds about reducing hours in swimming pools and libraries, so they can change their minds about this too, but only if you submit your feedback. The more submissions we make, the less likely it is to happen.

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>

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for all the latest updates on new businesses in Tawa, special events, and useful Tawa-based information. You can find the Tawa Business Group on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/tawabusiness>, and on Instagram here: <https://www.instagram.com/tawabid/>.

TAWA RSA

Thank you to the community for supporting our recent St. Patrick's Day event. It was a great evening of music, Irish food, and quick fire raffles that was patronised by members of the community as well as our members.

The RSA is a family friendly community club that supports military veterans, and we invite any ex-service personnel to reach out if you want to join or if you need support. Additionally, you do not need to be an ex service personnel to become a member, and we encourage you to join and would appreciate your companionship.

We are planning more community events, so follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date with upcoming events. <https://www.facebook.com/RSATawa>





TAWA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Wellington Food Lovers Masterclass

Where: Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street, Tawa, Wellington

When: Thursday, May 16, 2024 Time: 6-8PM

Ticket Price: \$10, including a goodie bag valued at \$40!

Registration is required; please do so here: <https://wastedkate.co.nz/collections/wellington-city/products/wellington-food-lovers-masterclass-16th-may-2024>.

Kiwi households throw out an average of over \$1,500 worth of food every year. Come along to Kate Fenwick's Food Lovers' Masterclass to discover the top ten wasted foods in NZ, and why food is still being wasted even though the price of food is skyrocketing.

Why join us? You will:

LEARN the 'what, why, and how' we waste our valuable food. Gather useful tips, tricks, and life hacks to help you reduce your food waste. Advance your food storage skills and general food knowledge, and be inspired.

If you find yourself throwing out foods that you never got around to eating, the composter is overflowing, or the dog's getting slightly chunkier, then this session is a must-attend! We guarantee you will have plenty of 'facepalm' moments but also take home some new knowledge.

TAWA LIBRARY

Introducing Rongo Whakapā | Sensory Kete to the Library

With modern libraries being multi-use spaces, they can be noisy, bright, colourful, and bustling—all combining to create a bewildering environment for someone with sensory challenges or heightened sensory input. With that in mind, Wellington City Libraries have been working on producing sensory kete that can be issued or used in the library. This project will be piloted at the Tawa and Johnsonville Libraries and will be available in mid-May.

Each kete, which can be for adults or children, contains a number of cross-sensory items to handle and explore, and a book, "Let it Flow: Healthy Ways to Release Emotions" by Rebekah Lipp, that introduces mindfulness and suggests safe ways to release emotions.



TAWA INNER WHEEL

The Inner Wheel Tawa Quiz is back!

The quiz will take place at the Borough on Sunday, May 26 at 5.30 p.m.

Costs are \$12.00 per person. Get your team together and book your tickets by emailing carolynjcrutch@gmail.com.

The first three teams to book and pay receive a \$25.00 Borough voucher to spend on the night.

There will be fabulous raffle prizes and spot prizes .

Proceeds go to the Tawa Food Bank.

Last year's quiz was sold out. Don't miss out!

TAWA COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Did you know that we offer [defensive driving](#) courses? This can reduce the time of a restricted license or be used as an opportunity to brush up on driving skills. This course is an AA-certified course and includes both theory and practical sessions.

Under the [Art](#) category, you will find knitting, crochet, sewing courses, art classes, flower arranging, digital photography, woodwork, and jewellery. Our [food](#) courses this term include Indian street food, Asian cooking, Italian cooking, and cheese making. Guitar, ukulele, and keyboard classes are included in our [music](#) options.

This term, we have some [new courses](#). With many changes to legislation around rental properties, Jackie Thomas-Teague is offering Landlord Masterclasses. A local Tawa resident, Liz Langham, is offering two wellbeing courses, and our computer tutor, Carolyn Bates, is offering an introduction to artificial intelligence and ways to use AI to work smarter, not harder.

If you are wanting to learn a new skill during the colder evenings, please check out our website: <https://www.tawacommed.co.nz/Home>.



This photo was taken during one of last term's Italian cooking classes. Food is looking delicious!

TEA AND TECH

Tea and tech, and scam prevention

When: Wednesday, May 23, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. (two sessions available)

Where: Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street, Tawa

This is free, but you must register by calling 04 499 6646 or register here: <https://www.acwellington.org.nz/events/teatech/>.

Baffled by technology? Want to learn more about avoiding online scams? Come to our Tea and Tech workshop. Tea and Tech is a free Age Concern event where friendly volunteers and staff will help you one-on-one with your tech device.

Want to learn how to do internet banking? Need to connect with the grandkids on WhatsApp? Bring your digital device and get help from some friendly people.

Come to Tea and Tech if you need help with:

- Getting connected with friends and family online (WhatsApp, Facebook, etc.)
- Doing online banking
- How to watch TV on the Internet
- Doing your grocery shopping online
- Using email and visiting websites
- Learning more about online scams and how to avoid them

SPORTS

Hello Tawa!

Our son Lachie, year 10 at Aotea College, has recently represented Wellington on the U14 baseball team. The team travelled to Auckland for a five game series in the hope of gaining a spot in the Asia-Pacific tournament in Korea. Unfortunately, this wasn't to be with Auckland taking out the series. So onward and upward, Lachie's next step is to travel to Australia. He has been picked by an Australian team to compete in the Down Under Winter Classic in July for baseball.

To add to the mix, he has also been selected by the International Softball Association (ISA) New Zealand U15 team, which will be held in Australia in September, so to help with his quests, we are selling kindling. These boxes are a lot bigger than the ones at the Warehouse or supermarket, which usually go for around \$16. Ours are \$20 a box. They were chopped by hand, so a lot of blood, sweat, and tears went into them. Can deliver from Sunday onwards. If you would like to support Lachie by purchasing some kindling, a donation, or kind words of support, we would love to hear from you! Email newslettertawa@gmail.com for details on picking up a box or getting a box delivered.



SHORT NEWS AND EVENTS

The North City Cricket Club clubrooms at 3 Gee Street in Linden are in need of a new roof. This comes at a substantial cost, and therefore we have created a give-a-little page to help raise some of the funds we need. Give a little or give a lot. Every dollar counts.

Thanks in advance from all of us at North City Cricket Club.

Donate here: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/raise-the-roof-at-north-city-cricket-club>.

Melissa is fundraising for her expedition on August 30 for 12 days of kayaking 30km per day through the stunning Norwegian Svalbard Archipelago. She is hosting a quiz night at the Tawa Squash Club on Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Don't miss out! Get a group of 8–10 of your friends or family together for a fantastic night out. Read more about it and register for the quiz here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSjCLMOYVJZqMGBUe62j6u6c0uXEmnRqNc2I5AHWNtpF5T8Q/viewform>



Don't forget to visit our **local community gardens** this weekend!
Find them here: <https://wellington.govt.nz/climate-change-sustainability-environment/sustainable-living/sustainable-food-initiative/community-gardens/community-gardens-open-sundays>



News sign at Linden Station. Spot the mistake!
Picture credits: Kathy Froy



Simon- Peter collects old glass and clay bottles like those pictured. Bottles with marbles in the neck, stone gingers, etc. He is looking to add more to his museum. If you have anything of interest, please feel free to send him an email. Good prices will be paid for the right ones.
Email: simonpetersvensson@gmail.com.



Many trees have been cut, changing the look of Linden.

Picture credits: Eric Raven



The old telephone exchange in Oxford Street. Picture credits: Matthew Whyte



Takupu Station bridge. Picture from Matthew Whyte in "I am proud to be from Tawa" Facebook group

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know about Tawa Toastmasters?

Tawa Toastmasters is a welcoming group aiming to enhance our public speaking abilities. They meet at Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge Street, Tawa, on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, starting at 7:00 p.m. Contact them here: 022 367 9648 or by email: tawa@toastmasters.org.nz.

make a positive impression when addressing audiences at work, weddings, and funerals. Toastmasters is where leadership skills are developed, and it's the most adept communicators who rise to leadership roles.

Are you seeking confidence in public speaking? Do you value camaraderie? Consider joining Toastmasters. It's the finest investment you can make in yourself.

Read all about it here: <https://tawatoastmasters.nz/>.

5 MINUTES WITH...



5 minutes with Jancis Potter

Can you tell us something about your life growing up?

I lived in Tawa until my early 20s; the old family house still sits at No. 1 Kereru Bend but is now surrounded by 3 townhouses (where the gardens, chookhouse, and dad's shed used to be).

I went to Tawa Flat School (as it was called back then) and then to Wellington Girls' College (a 15-minute train trip on the new "Multiple Units"). The 1955 Class of 3L1 still meets every few months (about 15 from the Wellington area) and every year or so with girls from further afield.

Music was always the dominant factor in my life. I took piano lessons from the nuns at Hill Street Convent, Eudora Henry (yes, honestly, that was her name!) and later from Maxwell Fernie. I also had lessons at various times on the organ, the violin, and the cello. I was teaching private piano pupils from my last year at school and throughout the course of my life at various times.

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

A brief marriage to Alan Loney, the poet, was followed by working for 10 years in Television One as a technical operator. Here I met my present husband, David, who was a technician and later producer/director.

TV1 was a small organisation in those days, based in Waring Taylor Street, with no one over 35. It was a great place to work—seeing behind the scenes with politicians and pop stars (Gene Pitney used to come into the control room and pinch my chewing gum!) I was involved with some of the first NZ TV dramas, documentaries, and light entertainment shows. There would be a party somewhere every weekend. It was a fun place to work when we were young.

When David was made a producer, we moved to Christchurch for two years, where I worked as a videotape editor.

We moved to Pukerua Bay in 1972, buying our second house on 6 Te Kura

music play groups for pre-schoolers and their moms, and group piano lessons for children and adults.

At the end of the 1970s, we made the huge decision to abandon city life and go back to the land to become self-sufficient on a plot of ten acres and build an energy efficient house. Martinborough was the ultimate destination, and we started with a block of land—bare apart from a derelict cow shed and a number of pig pens. (They're still there.) Over the course of the next several years, we built the unique energy-efficient house that we designed together and featured an internal bridge, a large music room housing my Bechstein grand and an upright piano.

I spent about five years teaching at various schools in the district as well as at home, while at the same time helping to build the house and work in the acre of vegetable garden that supplied the Organic Food Coop in Wellington. (Not to mention hand-milking Sally, our beloved house cow, chasing sheep around the paddock, and drip-feeding "007," the neighbour's boar, to bring him several blocks around the road to service our sow.)

At the age of 45, I returned to the university to complete a BA and then to Teachers' College for a Dip Tch. At Kuranui College in Greytown, I taught music, English, and French (all part of my degree), but also typing (what were they thinking?) until, five years later, I was appointed HOD Music at Wairarapa College.

As well as class work, I was musical director for over ten musical productions, took the choirs and orchestra, and encouraged the rock bands. (One highlight was travelling to Auckland with "Atlas Woods" for the finals of Rockquest, where they were the winners in 1997.)

How long have you lived in Tawa?

After retiring in 2007, a whole new world opened up. We started travelling—we had an overseas adventure every two years or so, to many European countries and to Canada. In the last few years, we've done a few wonderful river cruises through France, the Netherlands, and Germany until COVID, and now we've lost the desire. I did a bit of acting (major roles in "Twelve Angry Men," "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie," and two Roger Hall plays); then I took over the direction of community choirs, first in Martinborough, then when we moved back to Tawa in 2011, the Tawa U3A Singers, and lately Ngaio's Cantate Choir. For the past six or so years, I've teamed up with fellow pianist Chris McGrath to present house concerts featuring works for two pianos.

Life has never been so fulfilling. Never imagine that retirement is the end of the road . . . ; it's just the beginning.

NEXT TRA MEETING

The Tawa Residents' Association's monthly meetings are open to the public. 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 every other month, at 7.30 p.m. The next meeting is June 10.

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

We look forward to meeting you!

Elizabeth, Jackson, Judith, Monique, Miriam, Peter, Richard, Susan, and Tony



Monique
The Tawa Residents' Association

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