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Kia ora,

The cover picture for this newsletter is from Stacey Richardson and shows what a fun and vibrant day the Spring into Tawa festival was!

Find the latest news from our council, MP and community board. Read about the Pride In Work Awards, the four former Tawa students winning big with the White Ferns and an update about well known Peter Turney and how you can send him a thank you card.

We also have the regular book, history, and garden corners. The *5 minutes with ...* this month is with Riah Tahana-Dawson, the newest community librarian at Tawa Library.

Please keep sending all your news, events, and pictures to [newsletter@tawa.org.nz](mailto: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 December 9, 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!



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*See [www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html](http://www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html) for issues before 2022.*

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

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## SPRING INTO TAWA

### Wow what a successful day

The Mexted Motors Spring into Tawa festival has become a "mark your diaries event", and this year did not disappoint. Festival goers were treated with more stalls and food trucks than ever before, fantastic entertainment, many free children's activities and of course gorgeous weather.

This event could not be organised without our generous sponsors and funders who continue to support us. We also couldn't do this without the many people from the community who donate their time and volunteer to assist us on the day. Heartfelt thanks to all of you.



*Picture credits: Melissa Huggins, Jemma Woodhouse, Spring into Tawa and Arthur Garcia.*



## PRIDE IN WORK AWARDS

### Pride in Work Awards 2024

Seventeen local employees and volunteers received Pride in Work Awards at an Awards Dinner in Tawa last Tuesday. They were supported by a large gathering of family, friends and work colleagues.

Guest speaker for the occasion was local body politician, sportsperson and sports commentator Ken Laban.

The Tawa Rotary and Tawa Business Group Pride in Work Award allows Tawa businesses and organisations to acknowledge and celebrate the special pride each of the recipients takes in their work.

The 2024 recipients are:

**Rob Lemusu** (24/7 Fitness Gym); **Noelette Matthews** (Longview Home); **Arlyn Manlalo** (Longview Home); **Nicholette Gouws** (Longview Home); **Wanda Walker** (Linden School); **Olga Andreeva** (Nada Bakery); **Andrew Ciputra** (Tawa Dental Care); **Tirzah Fa'aatuatu** (Lead Management); **Sharon Johnson** (Tawa Community Patrol); **Pam Cordero** (New World Tawa); **Sophie Glendinning** (Orogen Limited); **Devin Glover** (The Fitness Portal); **Jean Hollier** (Tawa College Community Education); **Catherine Heath** (Tawa Village Bakery); **Kathryn Strachan** (Tawa Scouts); **Bev Sullivan** (Lowe & Co and Powell & Co); **Gemma Nash** (Tawa Community Centre).



*Picture credits: Tawa Rotary*

## TAWA CELEBRATES

### White Ferns' World Cup Win Brings Local Pride

Tawa College had a reason to celebrate with pride as four of its former students played a crucial role in the White Ferns' historic T20 Cricket World Cup victory. The team secured their first-ever title by defeating South Africa by 32 runs early this morning. The Tawa connection was on full display as Sophie Devine, Amelia Kerr, Jess Kerr, and Georgia Plimmer, all alumni of the college, posed with their medals and the coveted World Cup trophy, signing T-A-W-A with their



hands as a tribute to their hometown.



*Georgia Plimmer, Amelia Kerr, Sophie Devine, Jess Kerr and sign T-A-W-A with their hands after winning the T20 World Cup final. Photo: ICC*

The Tawa community rallied behind the four former Tawa College students ahead of the T20 World Cup final. A special mention and tribute were given to them during Tawa's highly successful annual spring festival, 'Spring into Tawa,' held just two days before the final. The festival became a platform for encouraging the community to support the team as they aimed for victory on the global stage, proudly representing Aotearoa New Zealand.

The impact of this win was felt deeply at Tawa College, where emotions ran high. Deputy principal Steve Conroy, uncle to the Kerr sisters, spoke about the immense pride the school has for these four remarkable women. "They're all so kind and lovely kids," he said, reflecting on their character as well as their cricketing achievements.

Conroy credited Robbie Kerr, the father of Amelia and Jess, for his coaching influence, and recognized Sophie Devine as a trailblazer. Devine, who laid the foundation for the younger players, inspired a legacy that Georgia Plimmer and others have followed. "They looked up to Sophie and Susie Bates, setting their own course, and now people like Georgia look to them for inspiration," Conroy explained. He added that the current Tawa College team, led by his own daughter Ava, is looking up to Georgia in the same way.

Ava Conroy, the captain of Tawa College's First XI, was beaming with pride for her cousins and the team's victory. "I'm proud of how they play, but even more

so because they're such amazing people and incredible role models to look up to," she said. Ava hopes their success will inspire other young girls to see cricket as a viable career path. "It shows girls that this is something you can pursue if you're enthusiastic about it."

Charlotte Murray, Steve's wife and a teacher at Tawa College for 27 years, recalled witnessing exceptional talent over the years, including Sophie Devine's rise. Sophie played for the boys' First XI, where she became the highest wicket-taker and won the prestigious Bruce Murray Stump Prize. Bruce Murray, Charlotte's late father, played thirteen tests for the NZ men's cricket team, and she believes he would have been incredibly proud of the White Ferns, not just for their skills but for the kind of people they have become.

The pride extended to the student body as well. Calla Rix, a student leader, shared the school's excitement, saying, "It makes us proud to see alumni of our school doing such amazing things on the global stage. Knowing they came from Tawa College is inspiring." Oriwa Duncan echoed the sentiment, emphasizing how the win puts Tawa College on the map. "It's great to see our school represented internationally."

Hamish Scott, another student leader, added, "It is a huge inspiration for current students, especially those into sports, to know they can go on and do incredible things. Coming from Tawa does not mean you cannot achieve greatness on the world stage."

Tawa's cricket legacy is stronger than ever, with the White Ferns' victory providing a beacon of inspiration to future generations. The community's pride in its past students - now world champions - highlights the incredible power of role models and the lasting impact they have on young athletes.

(This article credits the RNZ Media article 21/10/24)

Jose Henriquez

## **PETER TURNEY**

### **Do you miss seeing Peter Turney around Tawa?**

If you Google "Peter Turney Tawa", you'll find more than half a dozen online links to articles featuring the gentleman some fondly know as "Tawa's rubbish man".

Peter has done a superb job in keeping the streets of Tawa clean for the past

16 years or so. All of his own volition. For that selfless task he has been publicly thanked at the Tawa Community Civic Awards on four occasions over the years.

The article below appeared in this newsletter in October 2018. We thanked him again in this newsletter in December 2021.

Sadly Peter's days of being seen in the Tawa community are over. Ill health saw him hospitalised a few weeks ago and he has since been transferred to Te Hopai rest home in Newtown.

We would love it, if you could write him a thank you card. You can drop off your card at the Tawa Community Centre and it will be delivered to Peter.

Again, many thanks to Peter for the significant impact he made in this community over so many years!

With thanks to Malcolm Sparrow.

### **TAWA'S UNSUNG RUBBISH CRUSADER**

*The DomPost has lately been running various articles on litter and the people who go out of their way to keep their part of Wellington litter-free. We suggested they look at the great job Peter Turney does in keeping the streets of Tawa clean. He has received more than one **Tawa Community Civic Award** for his voluntary contribution locally. The following article and photo appeared on 'Stuff' recently.*

Tawa resident Peter Turney has been picking up rubbish in Tawa for about 10 years. He started cleaning up leaves and branches around the street in 2008, but noticed that rubbish was tied up in it.

Turney said he decided to make collecting litter part of his weekly routine, and now he walks for about four hours, several times a week to collect litter. "I've almost made it my job."

Turney sets out early in the morning with plastic bags from the council tied to his belt, and he aims to finish with at least two full bags. "I have an unwritten agreement that if I leave the bags by a particular litter box, they [the council] know it's me, and they'll take it to the landfill for me."

As a Christian, he felt it was his duty to protect the environment, and the four-hour walk kept him fit. "It saves me gym fees."

People would often stop to say hello, he said. "I find it very encouraging. Particularly when I am feeling tired, when they say things like that to me it gives me a new burst of energy."



### **TAYLOR PARK**

Two years ago new benches were installed at the popular Taylor Park Dog

Exercise Area. It is great to see how well used these are. The benches bring local dog lovers together for a chat and company, while the dogs can run and play as much as they like.

Tawa Rotary identified a need for seating in the dog park and made this one of its community projects to celebrate its 50th year of serving the Tawa community in 2022.

The Rotary-sponsored commemorative park bench was installed, as well as two additional bench seats provided by the Wellington City Council.



## **HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES**

### **Who will have the best costume?**

Stop into Take 10 Arvo's on Thursday 31st October to find out! Games, snacks, food and of course prizes. Will you bring tricks or just come for the treats? Free and open to all rangatahi, stop in and say hello 3pm - 6pm Thursday 31st October at the Linden Community Centre. We dare you, if you are not afraid!

### **Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade Halloween evening**

Hi folks. We're having a Halloween open evening Thursday 31st October.

It'd be great to see you! We'll be dressed up as fire fighters, what are you going to come dressed up as? (P.S. You can bring your parents too!) Also! The



Classic Kiwi Kai and Gorgeous Goose food trucks will be parked at the station for the event so if you're in need of a feed or a coffee they'll be there to look after you!

We'd also like to put a big shout out to New World Tawa for their very generous act of supplying the lollies.

### **Tawa Library**

Are you a young witch, wizard, fairy, or other magical being? Join us for a charming spell this Halloween to create your very own wand!

When: Thursday 31st October, 3.30-4.30pm.

Recommended for children aged 5+ years with a caregiver.

Nau mai rā tātou katoa | Everybody is welcome.

### **The Borough**

Are your little ghouls and goblins ready for Halloween? We sure are!

We're hosting a Kids' Halloween Party with fancy dress, a spooktacular petting zoo, and creepy face painting!

When: Sunday, 27th October

Timings: General festivities kick off at 1pm and face painters and petting zoo are from 2pm.

How much: \$15 per child, pay on the day. This cost also includes food and drinks, so your little monsters can feast to their heart's content.

Bookings are essential for this fang-tastic event, so please call us on 04 232 7308, or email us at [events@theboroughtawa.co.nz](mailto:events@theboroughtawa.co.nz), or even better, book in at the venue.

Our party is suitable for all ages, but your little ones must always be accompanied by an adult.

The petting zoo is subject to weather (even the animals get a little scared of the rain)!



## FROM THE BEEHIVE

### **Opening Electorate and community office**

Nicola Willis was thrilled to have opened her new Ōhāriu electorate office in Johnsonville last week, together with Christopher Luxon.

"It'll be a great way to keep in touch with the community and it provides a place where people in the Ōhāriu electorate can come to be heard and seek assistance."

The Electorate and Community Office (ECO) has been set up to assist residents and businesses across Ōhāriu on local issues as well as specific concerns or challenges they face. The ECO is located at Shop 3, 34 Johnsonville Shopping Centre, Johnsonville. Opening times are all weekdays between 10am and 3.30pm. Book in to visit: contact number: 04 478 1640.



*Picture credits: Tawa Business Group*

### **Update from Greg O'Connor MP for Ōhāriu**

The Ōhāriu electorate I am MP for includes all suburbs between Wadestown and Tawa, however, over the last week it has been very 'Tawa centric'. The four Tawa College members of the White Ferns, Amelia and Jess Kerr, Georgia Plummer and Sophie Devine ensured Tawa College was very much a focus of the accolades around the team's achievements in winning the 20/20 World Cup.

The success of Spring into Tawa means it is now one of Wellington's premier street fairs.

And this weekend, we celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade.

For a small suburb, Tawa certainly achieves beyond its size.

Its success lies in the fact that the membership of the numerous community groups is made up of many of the same individuals, a fact very evident at the various community group stands at Spring into Tawa.

As MP I'm very proud of a suburb I have previously policed, lived in and represented at sport.

Greg O'Connor MP for Ōhāriu  
[greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz)

## FROM THE COUNCIL

A huge thanks and congratulations to the Spring into Tawa Festival. Their hard work (and the sunny weather) led to a successful event, and we were all there to help and share this great day.

Your councillors are all busy working on reviewing the major projects as a result of the need to amend our Long Term Plan, to meet the goal of having to cut or postpone some of them. That said, we will be sure that key Northern Ward projects, such as the Grenada North Sports upgrade, are only impacted if it is essential to meet the goal of restoring our Resilience Funding.

And it is sad that the Tawa On Demand bus service will be terminated due to a lack of funding support. We are working with the Community Board to ensure Tawa still has good a bus service.

Tony Randle [tony.randle@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:tony.randle@wcc.govt.nz) and Ben McNulty [Ben.McNulty@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:Ben.McNulty@wcc.govt.nz)





## TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

The Tawa Community Board enjoyed hosting a stall at Spring into Tawa alongside the Tawa Business Group and Residents' Association. It was great to meet so many of you, get signatures for our OnDemand petition and talk about your ideas for Tawa. We want to acknowledge the hard work of Stacey Richardson and the rest of the Spring into Tawa team for organising another amazing event for our community.

On 24 October the Board presented our OnDemand petition with an incredible 1871 signatures to the Greater Wellington Regional Council Transport Committee. We want to thank the community for their advocacy to support ongoing public transport in Tawa.

The Committee is looking at providing a bus service with a slightly different model, which will follow a fixed route through our hills, connecting them to the centre. They will be working with our community in the coming months to seek input into the new service, and we will keep you updated.

The Committee acknowledged that they would like to be able to offer OnDemand transport in the future if Government funding can be attained. While the OnDemand trial will end, we see this as a win for Tawa that we were selected for the trial and it proved successful enough to provide us with a new public transport option.

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](mailto: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-QAcjlL0Hdy-Imo](https://porirua.govt.nz/services/rubbish-and-recycling/spicer-landfill/spicer-landfill-odour/landfill-odour-complaint-form/?fbclid=IwAR3ferg_NetcTd31beBJd8Er73Uo4qPrb_B-BGlt-O83-QAcjlL0Hdy-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/>



## LATEST NOVEL MARIE MUNRO

### Tawa children's author publishes first novel

"An Amazing Chocolate Cake Summer," is the latest book by Tawa author, Marie Munro. As a novel for 9-14 year olds, it's a departure from her series of bilingual picture books.

Marie says that the novel has been eight years in the writing but based on an even earlier classroom story she told in the 1980s. Like the subject of that original short story, "The Chocolate Cake that Grew," it has also grown - into a 290-page novel with line illustrations and cover design by local artist, Anton Rayner.

It has two interwoven storylines. The first centred around a simple chocolate cake that, amazingly, not only brings a neighbourhood together, but also ends the enmity between 13 year old Alex and bully, Fish. The second storyline concerns the mysterious Miss Hartley who lives in the street but is never seen. Alex's sister and her friend Theo set out to discover who she really is.

Already receiving good reviews, Marie's new book is looking set to be a great Christmas read for young readers.

*"An Amazing Chocolate Cake Summer deftly combines the everyday magic of a*

*community coming together with the fantastical delight of a self-replenishing chocolate cake. A lovely summery read for children and children at heart."* –

Helen

Vivienne Fletcher

Locally, "An Amazing Chocolate Cake Summer" is available from Tawa Books & Post, Pataka, Welly Collective, and online.



## AED SIGNS

### Do you know where the defibrillators (AED's) are in Tawa?

There are at least 28 defibrillators in Tawa and the Residents' Association have signposted 14 of them. The location of each of the 14 is indicated by the green sign as in this sign outside Simon's Pharmacy – can you find the other 13?



## HISTORY CORNER

### History Corner – Who are you?

The Tawa Historical Society has produced a calendar for 2025, its theme being 'The people of Tawa'. The image for January is featured below. It was found in the Wellington City Archives and features a paper-boy on Tawa (Flat) Railway Station, probably some time in the 1950s.

Can anyone help identify him for us please? Is it you? Is he a relative? Was he a school-mate or neighbour of yours?

Please get in touch with the historical society through the newsletter editor if you think you can help.

If you would like a copy of the calendar, it is available at the Mervyn Kemp Library at a cost of \$15.

A reminder that the Wellington Heritage Week is from Saturday the 26th October until Sunday 17th November. As part of this, the THS is running a Tawa Talk and Walk event on Saturday 9th November from 1.30pm till 3.30 pm. Meet at Tawa Community Centre.



For a full list of events see <https://wellingtonheritagefestival.co.nz/>

David Parsons

Chairman, Tawa Historical Society



## COMMUNITY POLICE

### **Kia ora Tawa**

You are the eyes and ears of our community. Police are often response based, so we attend events reported to us by the community. We rely heavily on the information given by our wonderful public!

This information is most valuable in helping us to help you.

What - what are they doing / Is someone in danger?

Where - where are they, are they still there, which way did they go? Are they on foot/bike/car.

When - is it happening now, or is it historic (not now).

Who - please describe them as best as possible including male/female, height, weight, clothing, or anything easily identifiable or out of the ordinary.

We are all in this together. And remember

111 it's an emergency and needs immediate response.

105 it's important and Police should know about it (but not immediate danger)

Be safe.

Community Policing

## KETE UPDATE

**What a fabulous weekend we had! The weather was great and the people turned up.**

Our young student leaders took part in the Mexted Motors Spring into Tawa Day and ably acquitted themselves. They were able to explain the workings of the catchment and how everything that happens upstream impacts on the area downstream and into the harbour. They used the catchment model that Porirua City Council kindly loaned us for the day to show people the benefits that wetlands and riparian planting have in slowing down the flow of the stream, reducing erosion and helping to trap and clear sediment leaving a cleaner river.



Our stall also showcased some of the mahi the students have done during the last year: planting at Takapū, stream monitoring, tracking and trapping introduced pest species and litter management.



On Sunday we ran an extremely successful KETE Community Planting Day up at the head of the Takapū Valley. A good number of people turned up (around 60) including families and a lot of fun was had! Representatives from local community groups and mana whenua were in attendance as well as folk from much further afield. We think we managed to get nearly 700 plants into the ground which was an epic effort and of course helped by the beautiful weather.



Tracking and trapping programmes are continuing in our schools - enthusiasm is running high as pest species' footprints show up in the tracking tunnels. Great discussions are being had about various actions students would like to take in both protecting our native and endemic species and improving their habitat; lizard gardens have been a key topic of conversation so watch this space.

## BOOK CORNER

### What a brilliant day Spring into Tawa was!

Ngā mihi nui! Many thanks to the organisers, volunteers, stall holders and everyone who came down and enjoyed. The sunshine was a great reminder that Raumati (Summer) is just around the corner. Wahoo!

Does Raumati mean a chance for tramping in the wilds of Aotearoa for you? Author Hannah-Rose's new book, *Wild Walks Aotearoa*, might be just the read before heading out, she covers 59 different tramps with a range of difficulty and her own experiences on the tracks.

An interesting RNZ interview with Hannah-Rose is a great listen too.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/nights/audio/2018960072/fifty-nine-of-nz-s-most-iconic-treks-and-how-to-tramp-them>

Another good read for younger tramping enthusiasts, *The Tramp to the Blue Range Hut* by Caz Bartholomew, a pick-a-path adventure written with the support of New Zealand Search & Rescue – I read, enjoyed and found the results interesting, thought provoking and informative.

Karen McMillan from [nzbooklovers.co.nz](http://nzbooklovers.co.nz) wrote, "It's a compelling and fun read that is also educational," and interviewed Caz.

<https://www.nzbooklovers.co.nz/post/the-tramp-to-the-blue-range-hut-by-caz-bartholomew>

<https://www.nzbooklovers.co.nz/post/interview-caz-bartholomew-talks-about-the-tramp-to-the-blue-range-hut>

Tramping not your thing, how about cooking for the whānau? From Christall Lowe, *Kai Feast*, a follow up from *Kai* and just as beautiful, with delicious recipes - the Kūmara Donuts are on my do-to-list. Another wonderful cookbook is Chelsea Winter's latest *Tasty* and we had the pleasure of taste testing the Ginger Bread – delicious!

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/te-manu-korihi/531345/christall-lowe-celebrates->



[maori-hospitality-in-new-cookbook-kai-feast](#)

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/529364/chelsea-winter-returns-with-tasty-cookbook-for-every-style-of-eater>

Happy reading and writing

Rowena

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



**TAWA RSA**

### **Spring into Tawa**

We had many people visit us at our stall and we could share what the RSA is all about. The winner of our "Guess how many poppies" competition was Rose Whitney. Congratulations Rose.



### **Remembrance Day**

There will be a ceremony to commemorate Remembrance Day at the Tawa Service memorial on Sunday 10 November at 11 am. You can find the memorial at the end of Oxford Street. We would love to see members of the public there.

### **Christmas Raffle**

We will be running a Christmas raffle for the club and the community. Cost is \$5 per ticket and there are Christmas hampers plus other fabulous prizes to be won. Tickets available for purchasing in the clubrooms or via email [tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz).

The draw will be on 13 December after 6pm when we also have a Christmas evening with ham or beef rolls, salad and sweet treats. \$10 per head. Book by emailing [tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz).

### **Sunday roast**

Join for a Sunday roast dinner event for Sunday 3rd November, 5.30pm, \$25pp. Please register by emailing [tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz)

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with events <https://www.facebook.com/RSATawa>

### **Tawa RSA is running a Community Bowls programme**

All members of the community are invited to take part, either as a work, family/ friends or community team. The format is three players to a team. (Player rotation is welcome as people often have other engagements cropping up.) At least one player should be a 'non regular' bowler.

We have a supply of bowls for those who need them. Footwear needs to have flat soles, i.e., no heels. We play this as a league. A light supper is served at completion of play.

Play each evening is one game, starting 6.00pm and finishing by 7.20pm  
The format is 'Bowls3five' which is the same format as that shown on television's Sky Sports channels.

Venue: Tawa Services Bowling Club, 89 Oxford Street Tawa.

Cost: \$15.00 entry fee per team (\$5.00 per player) payable each game.

Dates: Wednesday 22, 29 January, 5, 12, 19, & 26 February, 5, March (reserve day).

Please note your diaries to register a team early in the New Year to allow us time to prepare a draw, order food etc.

For further information, please contact Graham Allnutt, o/a Community Bowls, Tawa RSA, 027 3396667.



## CAROLYN'S GARDEN CORNER

**What gorgeous days we have enjoyed over the last week.**

It has almost felt like summer out on our lime chip terrace.

This is a fairly new addition to our garden, having been completed in spring 2022. We definitely wish we had stopped talking about building it and got on with it years ago.

Instead of still soft, sometimes muddy, lawn at this time of year, we can now enjoy lunch out there and keep dry shoes.

The limestone chip we used is self-compacting over time, so it is very easy to lay. Just smooth your ground as much as possible to a very slight incline. Lay three layers of weed mat and pour the lime chip on. Rake to an even finish, and it's done.

If it is in an area where puddles tend to accumulate, laying drainflo pipes in gravel under the weed mat, or creating sumps, is usually enough to solve the issue of sitting water.

If you want to have your yard looking its best to entertain in, enjoy meals al fresco, or simply relax in comfort this summer, now is the time to be getting on

with projects such as this.

Painting/staining the fences, outdoor furniture, water blasting paths, walls, and putting in some colourful blooms make an enormous difference to how a space feels. If you like to be outdoors in the evening, think about investing in good lighting, an outdoor sound system, and a form of heating to keep off the chill that can still linger.

It is time to pot up summer colours such as petunias and geraniums for sun and begonias and fuchsias for shade. These are all fairly easy-care options to brighten up your space. Use a good quality potting mix (not necessarily the most expensive), and I like to add a sprinkle of water storage gel to lessen the watering burden as the days heat up.

In the flower garden, dahlias and the huge range of perennials and annuals in the nurseries can be planted out safely now. Rather than just randomly poking them in, try and think about different combinations of flower and leaf shape, colour, and form. You can create very different looks all while using the same planting palette. Leave spring bulb leaves to die off as long as you can bear. I usually wait until about the third week of November, except for bluebells. Their large leaves smother sprouting perennial sunflowers in my garden, so they are removed fairly soon without seeming to cause much harm to future flowering. They are the plant world's super spreaders, so I also remove the stems before the seed has a chance to drop.

In the vegetable garden, I am sowing seeds and setting seedlings of salads, carrots, celery, beetroot, radishes, herbs, and potatoes. I prefer to hold off another couple of weeks before planting out crops that prefer warmer temperatures, such as tomatoes, zucchinis, cucumbers, beans, peppers, etc. These would easily catch up to and overtake any planted earlier and be affected by sudden cooler temperatures that can still happen at this time of year.

Once you have your planting done, give everything a very good watering, and then lay compost as mulch between the plants to feed the soil, retain water, and keep weeding to a minimum. This will also stop the surface of our clay soils from baking hard and cracking in the heat of summer.

Happy gardening,

Carolyn

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





*Before and after. It is time to get your outdoor space sorted for summer.*

## 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>

One of the projects you can give feedback on is the revitalisation of the heart of our city, the precinct around Te Ngākau Civic Square.



## TAWA BUSINESS GROUP

Thank you to all of you who stopped by our stand to say hello at Mexted Motors Spring into Tawa on Saturday. It was great to hear that so many of you have heard about our job board. An outstanding day, which is a credit to the Tawa Residents' Association and their fabulous event committee, the generosity of the sponsors and the volunteers who stepped up on the day.

As we head towards the end of the year, we have our annual Christmas window display competition, which kicks off on Monday 11 November. Many businesses throughout Tawa will be decorating their windows and you can follow the trail

and vote for your favourite. Be in to win as there are some fabulous prizes this year including a first prize of a \$500 New World voucher.

Flyers will be available in all your favourite retailers, or you can visit our website when the competition goes live.

Remember to take the opportunity to catch up on your Christmas shopping and support local.

You can follow us on our social media channels for all the latest updates on new business activity in the Tawa business improvement district boundary, special events and useful Tawa-based information.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/tawabusiness/](http://www.facebook.com/tawabusiness/)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/tawabid/?next=%2F](http://www.instagram.com/tawabid/?next=%2F)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/tawa-business-improvement-district-bid-87a9a0288/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/tawa-business-improvement-district-bid-87a9a0288/)

Our **Job Board** changes every week so there's still time to find your perfect job before Christmas. Check out the latest jobs in Tawa here: [Job Vacancies in Tawa \(tawabusiness.co.nz\)](http://www.tawabusiness.co.nz/job-vacancies-in-tawa)

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>

## TAWA COMMUNITY PATROL

Remember to share any info about local incidents or crimes through our anonymous report. Your input helps us fine-tune our patrol routes, ensuring we stay on top of things we might not otherwise hear about!

Find the form here: <https://forms.office.com/r/4K4RpCasWz>

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Our weekly full term courses have started for term 4, but there are places available in most of our weekend workshops throughout November and some shorter evening courses.

Here is a list of what you can still enrol for: [Crochet for Christmas](#), [Face Painting for Christmas](#), [Papermaking for Christmas](#), [Cheesemaking](#), [Christmas Cake, Make and Decorate](#), [Vegan Cooking](#), [Vietnamese Cooking](#), [Artificial Intelligence](#), getting started, [Self Defence](#), [Landlords' Masterclass](#), [Xero Course](#), [Overlocker Basics](#) and [Defensive Driving courses](#).

For all courses please check out our website: [www.tawacomed.co.nz](http://www.tawacomed.co.nz)

We are starting to plan our programme for next year. If you are interested in tutoring a course in 2025, please contact Jean Hollier at [comed@tawacollege.school.nz](mailto:comed@tawacollege.school.nz). We are particularly looking for someone to run a DIY course, and a Maori language and culture course. Any other subjects will be considered.



## LINDEN COMMUNITY CENTER

Are you a food truck owner, or know anyone who is keen to have a food truck at the Linden Pre-Christmas Market on Saturday 2 November from 11am till 3pm? Please contact Tricia, the market coordinator, on 021 058 7825 for more details.

The 3 Steps for Life by St John is coming up on Tuesday 29 October from 10am -11:30am. There is no registration required and a morning tea will be provided.

This is a free one-hour training session that will give you lifesaving skills and

confidence to help if someone has a cardiac arrest in your community. You will learn how to take action by calling 111, how to start CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and how to use an AED (Automated External Defibrillator).

## **TAWA COMMUNITY CENTER**

Can you donate a festive treat or presents for KCA to include in Christmas food parcels for local families in need of some support?

Some great ideas are:

- Christmas crackers
- Jelly
- Sachets of gravy
- Mince pies
- Christmas chocolates and lollies
- Chippies for treat
- Toiletries

Treats can be dropped off at Tawa CC during office hours from Monday 18 November to Wednesday 4 December.  
(poster attached)

A reminder that every week Helen, a wonderful WINZ advocate, is here from Poverty Free Aotearoa for free drop-in sessions. Helen is here every Tuesday 10am-1pm, you can also contact her on 020 495 0190.

## **TAWA LIBRARY**

### **Kia ora**

Life gets busy at times and all one needs is a sit down with something relaxing to do. Visit the library for some 'Calm Colouring' every Tuesday and Friday afternoon from 2 till 4.30pm.

Use our colouring sheets, pens and pencils or bring your own. All ages are welcome to sit and enjoy being calmly creative.





## **TAWA INNER WHEEL**

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets at SIT! The draw was made at Sprig & Fern with both S&F employees and members of the public drawing the winning tickets out of the bucket. The money made will go towards helping worthy causes in our community. All prize winners have been contacted now. Here's one of our co-presidents with the wonderful staff at Sprig & Fern after the draw was made.



## TAWA ROTARY

### Successful Book Fair

This year's Tawa Rotary annual book fair raised more than \$14,000 over nine days for the Life Flight Trust and Tawa community and youth projects.

Co-President and coordinator, Pat Waite, said that the Club was very pleased with the outcome and grateful to the Tawa community and organisations for their support.

More than 5000 donated books came in for the fair and went out again.



*Picture credits: Tawa Rotary*

## TAWA PROBUS

Probus is a worldwide club for active retirees to overcome social isolation and to enjoy fun, friendship and fellowship with members of their local community.

Tawa Probus meet at the Tawa Bowling Club, Davies Street, 9.30am on 3rd Monday, Feb-Nov, for a meet and greet and an interesting speaker.

We also organise an outing each month to a local event and/or café luncheon. We welcome visitors and prospective new members.

Probus in New Zealand is celebrating its 50th Anniversary when the first club in NZ was established at Kapiti in November 1974.

For our November meeting our speaker is Cr Tony Randall, Northern Ward WCC Councillor, who will enlighten us on some of the goings on within the WCC, and in our local area also. For further information please contact Richard Herbert, [herbert.r@xtra.co.nz](mailto:herbert.r@xtra.co.nz)

## SHORT NEWS, EVENTS, PICTURES





Picture from: Lara Maher



Picture from Jin Ling





Both pictures from: Nina Olivier Loots

**Tawa CropSwap** on Sat 26 October at Linden Community Centre from 9:00-9:50. Come any time after 9:00am for a cuppa. We start swapping our items at 9:30am. We're packed up by 10:00.

We always have interesting things (produce, plants, seeds, cuttings, anything home or garden) to swap.

If you've nothing to swap please bring a can for the food bank shelf.

All welcome.

**Tawa based Wellington Red Hackle Pipe Band** would like to invite their

supportive community to come and enjoy a night of entertainment on Saturday 2 November.

This is a variety concert fundraising for the Pipe Band. There will be Highland and Irish dance performances as well.

Raffles and refreshments are available on the night.

Cash door sales on the night (unless sold out prior.)

Tickets are on sale now.

Order yours via email at: [WRHPB.events@gmail.com](mailto:WRHPB.events@gmail.com) or on the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/C4ux7UUoDhxcNpa9/?mibextid=9l3rBW>

Attention ladies; Come on down to our second hand **women's & children's clothing sale** at Connect Church Tawa (236 Main Road, Tawa) on 2 November from 9am - 12pm.

All the proceeds from the entire Sari Saturday event will go to the children's home we support in India.



Picture from Dede Ardh

### **Understanding School Boards**

The MOE Community Partnerships team will be hosting a webinar in term 4 for our ethnic communities on Thursday 7 November from 6:30pm . The topic is "Understanding School Boards."

Please help spread the word by sharing the attached flyer with families, community groups, organisations and any other groups that could benefit from

this kōrero.

You can register using the link in the flyer or the link <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/6308e7ce-bf6d-4693-b928-75a2204a1e33@e6d2d4cc-b762-486e-8894-4f5f440d5f31/registration>



What happened here? Picture from David Riddle.

**5 MINUTES WITH ...**





**Five minutes with Riah Tahana-Dawson, the newest community librarian at Tawa Library.**

**Where were you born?**

Originally, I'm from Tāmaki Makaurau; I have iwi ties to Waikato Tainui in Kings Country, and Ngati Kuri, which is in the far north, through my Pāpā. I moved down here to Wellington in 2016 for university and never left. I am the first in my family to move away to an entirely different city, the first in my family to graduate with a university degree.

My littlest sister decided to really one up me by moving away a few years later, though - she decided to move to Sydney! I like to think I really inspired her choice.

**What schools did you go to?**

I went to Catholic schools all my life in both Manurewa, South Auckland and Mt Albert, Auckland - a mixed school throughout primary and intermediate, and then a single gender all girls' school throughout high school. I found the girls' school really beneficial academically and a little limiting socially. Even then, I know I would not go back and pick a mixed gender school if given the choice.



My mother was raised Catholic, being from an Irish Catholic background. Faith is a real strong hold for her - my father converted for her, as did my grandfather for my grandmother.

Their liberal, progressive Catholicism mixed well with their political ideals: the firm belief that everyone needs help, everyone exists in a larger community outside themselves, and there should be no barrier for access when it comes to needs.

Although I am not a practising Catholic anymore, I still like to say I am "culturally Catholic." I love a stained glass window, shooting a prayer up to Saint Anthony whenever I misplace my keys, and I love a statue of Mother Mary.

### **Family, pets?**

I come from a massive family, being in the middle of five, which is actually pretty small compared to the families I knew growing up around me. My Pāpā is from a big Maori family, so we have big Christmases every year! We are always very loud at the dinner table, always talking over each other. You have to learn how to speak fast and loud to get your point across. Since all the kids have moved out, my parents adopted a cavoodle dog named Molly.

I also have my own little family consisting of my partner of 8 years and myself. We live in Hataitai, we are going to spend the next few years saving, and we are looking for a place closer to our workplaces - hopefully the next flat is cat-friendly so we can have a pet!

### **Tell us something about life after finishing school. What do you do for work?**

I'm a librarian and recently started a role in Tawa Library as a community librarian, which I am so stoked and excited to be a part of as Tawa is such a diverse, amazing community.

When I was 18, I didn't really have any idea of what I wanted to do, so I decided to take a gap year and work before going to university. I had already gotten into Victoria University early, so it was just a matter of deferring my admission. I volunteered at the local op shop and worked part time at an intermediate school, saving all my money for university.

4ish years later, I was nearing the end of my BA degree at Victoria University. I knew I wanted a job that felt good and earned me a living wage. I had picked two jobs for myself: I was going to be a librarian, or I was going to be a mortician. Whichever came first.

That might sound like crazy polar opposite jobs, but at their core, they are both jobs that help people through a tough time and give you an active role in the community. You have to do extra study to become a mortician - with a few years in the funeral industry before that - and every funeral home I was door knocking at wasn't hiring or taking on any new apprentices, or I was simply turned away because it was assumed I wasn't strong enough to move bodies.

I was tired of working multiple part-time jobs: I had cleaned houses, cleaned restaurants after hours, babysat, nannied, worked at an after-school care, been an assistant director for a play for Pride, catered weddings, worked the collection booth for graduation at other universities, cleaned dishes at a bakery - and I loved the freedom of part-time work, but it was lacking the stability I needed.

That was until, in 2019, I applied for a year-long contract working at Porirua Libraries in the Children's Department as a library assistant. It was my first full-time job, and I haven't looked back since! Librarian came first.

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

Since I am so new, I don't think a lot of people will know me! I work Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at Tawa Library. Some fun things about me: Both my sister and dad are stand-up comedians; my favourite brand is a New Zealand brand called Kowtow, and I work for a small poetry press here in Wellington called Landing Press on the side.

**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 9 December, 7.30pm at the Tawa Squash Club, 67 Main Road.

We look forward to meeting you!

Jose, Mike, Miriam, Monique, Peter, Richard, Susan, Sheryl, Steph, Tim and

Tracey

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Monique  
The Tawa Residents' Association

This email was sent to [chris@owdjim.gen.nz](mailto:chris@owdjim.gen.nz)  
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