

The poster features a blue background with diagonal stripes and colorful bunting flags. The text is in large, bold, white letters with a blue outline. The event details are on an orange background.

TAWA ROTARY CONCERT IN THE PARK

**SUNDAY 16th FEBRUARY
2:30pm to 6:00pm
GRASSLEES RESERVE, TAWA**

Rotary
Tawa 

 **TE TIRA PŪORO O TE TAUAARANGI
AIR FORCE BAND**

[View this email in your browser](#)

Kia ora,

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first Tawa News of 2025!

In this issue, get the latest updates from our community board, the council, local MPs, and various community groups.

This month's "5 Minutes With..." features Jesse Elias, the newest member of the Tawa Community Board. We're also looking for a volunteer to coordinate this section and writers for future articles. If you're interested, please get in touch!

Keep sending your news, events, and photos to newsletter@tawa.org.nz. We love sharing your stories, especially those celebrating our local residents.

Enjoy reading about all the great things happening in our community. We're excited for the Concert in the Park this Sunday!

Have a wonderful weekend from all of us at the Tawa Residents' Association. Our next meeting is on Monday March 10 at 7:30 PM at the Tawa Squash Club. All are welcome!

Monique

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



Share



Tweet



Forward

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

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

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Concert in the park 2025

Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon of music and fun at Tawa Rotary's annual "Concert in the Park" on Sunday February 16!

From 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM, Grasslees Reserve will come alive with the sounds of the Royal New Zealand Air Force's popular Jive Bombers dance band, featuring guest artist Moira Jean.

Enjoy performances from Tawa College's talented Blue Notes Chamber Choir, the Tawa Learners' Band, Te Rōpū Ngahau Tawa School kapa haka group, and the renowned Red Hackle Pipe Band.

Foxtail Events will provide interactive activities for kids. Bring a picnic or enjoy sausages from the sausage sizzle for a perfect family afternoon.

Don't miss this popular community event!



Photos: Tawa Rotary, Wellington Red Hackle

TAWA RSA

Purple Poppy Day

24 February is Purple Poppy Day. This is a day set aside to commemorate animals that were involved in war.

Tawa RSA will be holding a commemoration service at the memorial wall, at the end of Oxford Street, on **Sunday 23 February at 11.00am.**

All welcome, and bring your leashed and contained animals if you wish. Love to see you there.



AMELIA KERR CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2024

We are super proud of Tawa local and White Ferns all-rounder Amelia Kerr, who has been named the ICC's women's cricketer of the year!

Already having banked the women's Twenty20 player of the year honour, and player of the tournament in the White Ferns' T20 World Cup victory in the UAE, Kerr has been awarded the Heyhoe Flint Trophy.

The 24 year old becomes the first New Zealander to win the award, on the back of a career best twelve months, notably in the T20 format.

Read the full article here: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/sport/cricket/white-ferns/white-ferns-star-amelia-ker-named-icc-womens-cricketer-of-the-year-for-2024/6DUSRZ53ANA2TPV62G7YQD2LGQ/>



Picture from Facebook

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PRACTICE

WREMO emergency hub gathering Saturday 22 February, 11 - 1pm at Redwood School

A Community Emergency Hub is a place for the community to gather and coordinate efforts to help each other during and after a disaster.

Come along and find out more about the Redwood Community Emergency Hub and the types of help that may be needed after an emergency.

Have fun meeting together and practising various roles with an interactive earthquake scenario.

Open to all ages and abilities, no experience needed! Refreshments provided.

For more information, please email info@wremo.nz

We aim to make our community events inclusive to all people. If you are attending the event and have specific accessibility requirements, you can send us an email at info@wremo.nz with the event name and we will get in touch to see how we can meet your needs as best we can.

Register through Eventfinda: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2025/redwood-emergency-response-practice/wellington>

Location: Redwood School, 71A Redwood Avenue, Tawa, Wellington



TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

Tawa Community Board update

We begin the year by welcoming Jesse Elias to the Community Board, we are looking forward to having him join us. His first meeting will be the Board's first meeting of the year on Monday 17 February at 7pm. Read more about Jess in the *5 Minutes with* section.

We are excited to see the construction beginning on the Willowbank Playground renewal. Thanks to all who engaged on Council's plans for the play area, we were pleased to see most of the feedback incorporated into the final design. Please note it will be under construction until it opens mid-April (timing is weather dependent).

Applications are open for The Tawa Community Grants Fund, which is designed to assist projects within the jurisdiction of the Tawa Community Board area. To be eligible, applicants must show their project benefits residents of Tawa. Further criteria information and access to the application portal is available at the website below.

<https://wellington.govt.nz/community-support-and-resources/community-support/funding/council-funds/tawa-community-grants>

Lastly, this year is an election year for Local Government, so now would be a great time to think about if you would like to represent our community either for the Tawa Community Board or Council. More information on standing for these roles will come out later in the year before the election in October.

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-BGIt-O83-QAcjiL0Hdy-Imo](https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/landfill/spicer-landfill-odour/landfill-odour-complaint-form/?fbclid=IwAR3ferg_NetcTd31beBJd8Er73Uo4qPrb_B-BGIt-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/>

FROM THE COUNCIL

2025 promises to be a busy year at council with a long-term plan amendment, major issues including water reform, City to Sea Bridge and waterfront safety topped off with local body elections in October.

On reading this you should have or shortly will be getting your updated ratings valuation and rates bill. Across Wellington property values have fallen in every suburb since the previous valuations in September 2021 by a citywide average of 24.4%.

For Tawa ratepayers the average decrease is slightly above this amount but given the city has decreased across the board, the practical impact is that on average Tawa ratepayers will have only a slightly smaller increase in their overall rates bill compared to other suburbs. As Grenada North and Takapū Valley average valuations did not fall as much, we're sorry to say that some ratepayers will see somewhat higher rates.

If you receive your valuation and object to the change, you can call QV on 0800 787 284 or lodge online at www.ratingvalues.co.nz. You have three months to lodge any objection to your valuation.

In the next edition of Tawa News the Council will be around the start of public consultations on the long-term plan amendment so we'll have plenty to update you on then.

Councillor Tony Randle Tony.Randle@wcc.govt.nz

Councillor Ben McNulty Ben.McNulty@wcc.govt.nz

WILLOW BANK PLAY AREA

Please note Willowbank Playground will be closed from 13 February for construction of its renewal.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to engage with Council on the plans, we were pleased to see much of the feedback incorporated in the final design. Construction is expected to be complete in mid-April, but is weather dependent. We are looking forward to it!



METLINK

New bus route 59 in Tawa

Kia ora Tawa public transport passengers. We are hosting drop-in sessions for the new fixed route 59. This is your opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

Information drop-in sessions:

Tawa Community Centre - 5 Cambridge Street, Tawa

- Wednesday 19 February, 5pm - 6:30pm
- Thursday 20 February, 10am - 11am

Kapi Mana Bridge Club - 8 Linden Avenue, Linden

- Friday 21 February, 12pm - 1pm.

For more information head to our website: <http://www.metlink.org.nz/tawa>

QUALITY OF LIFE REPORT

Wellington: Still a fabulous place to be (but we've got work to do)

Wellington remains a fabulous place to live, with 70 percent of residents rating it highly in the latest quality of life survey despite the challenges posed by broader social and economic pressures.

Key findings from the two-yearly [Quality of Life survey](#) include:

- 81 percent of Wellingtonians enjoy a good quality of life
- Around 80 percent feel accepted and comfortable expressing their identities and participating in cultural activities.
- Around 75 percent are happy with their housing situation and their neighbourhood
- Around 70 percent report 'good' health and well-being
- 68 percent feel financially secure enough to pay unexpected bills
- 61 percent are satisfied with their work-life balance
- 48 percent use public transport weekly

Mirroring a nationwide trend, almost half of Wellingtonians consider housing affordability to be a problem.

Despite a majority reporting good health, 20 percent of Wellingtonians experienced delays in getting health advice and treatment – a problem seen in other New Zealand cities.

While night time safety in Wellington's CBD remains stable, daytime safety perceptions have declined. And while 60 percent of Wellingtonians understand the climate change risks, only 40-50 percent feel prepared for the associated risks such as flooding and drought.

Mayor Tory Whanau says the survey results give a clear picture of where Pōneke is doing well but also identify challenges that reflect broader social and economic pressures.

“It’s heartening to know that so many Wellingtonians feel positive about their quality of life. But we can’t ignore the challenges that some in our community are facing.

“It’s important to note that we are a city in transition, rebuilding important icons and creating people-focussed streets. Naturally that will impact on how someone is feeling about their city.

“We will use this data to guide our priorities and remain committed to tackling housing affordability, further improving community safety and health access, and addressing climate change to ensure Wellington remains a vibrant, inclusive and thriving city.”

The 2024 Quality of Life survey, a partnership of nine New Zealand councils (Wellington, Porirua, Hutt City, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton, Auckland, Tauranga and Waikato Regional Council), polled nearly 7000 residents aged 18 and over about their perceptions of quality of life.

The survey, conducted between 23 April and 1 August 2024, looked at Housing, Transport, Health & Wellbeing, Local Issues, Cultural, Community and Societal networks, Climate Change, Employment, and Council processes.

Media release from the Mayor’s Office



FROM THE BEEHIVE

News from Hon. Greg O'Connor MP for Ōhāriu

Parliament is back in full swing now following Rātana and Waitangi celebrations.

For the first time this year, Parliament as a whole group was welcomed onto the respective marae instead of going on as individual parties as has happened in the past. This has added to the intrigue, making it more like a parliamentary debate as each leader had their say, with the Treaty Principles Bill being the main focus.

For those in Tawa interested in politics, there is plenty happening. I remind everyone all are welcome to sit in the visitors' gallery any time Parliament is sitting. Even school groups I host there are intrigued with proceedings, and I recommend a visit.

Another feature of the year ahead is that electorate boundaries will be realigned, and we are all waiting to see what our Ōhāriu electorate will look like. This is done after every census to make sure each electorate has roughly the same number of voters.

greg.oconnor@parliament.ovt.nz

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 comment on is new play area for Flinders Place in Johnsonville.

Wellington City Council is in the process of amending the 2024-34 Long-term Plan (LTP). An LTP outlines to our communities how we intend to use rates, borrowing, and other funding to improve and maintain Pōneke for the next 10 years. You can keep an eye on updates here: <https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/ltp-amendment>

TAWA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Tawa Firefightger Skytower Team fundraising

Recently the Skytower crew were out in the sun at [New World Tawa](#) raising

funds for [Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand](#).

"It was great to see so many smiling faces from our local community and we really appreciate those of you who stopped by to say hello and donate to us. Thank you so much to everyone who donated today and to those of you who continue to support us."

[Tawa Volunteer Fire Brigade](#)



ZELATI

Zelati featured

Zelati Gelato, proudly made locally in Tawa, has been featured in Stuff's article on NZ's best ice creams!

"A huge thank you to our amazing community and everyone who's supported us on this journey – we couldn't have done it without you!"

Craving a sweet treat? Come visit Zelati at Kai Tahī Porirua, Oriental Bay, or Left Bank.

For those curious about the Tawa manufacturing site, it will still host occasional pop-ups, but it's not currently open to the public. You can however still make some purchases/orders through phone, Messenger or emailing info@zelati.com. Keep an eye on the pages for updates!

Zelati on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/zelati.gelato/>

Read the article here: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/travel/360525321/scoop-where-find-nzs-best-ice-creams?>



Zelati at Kai Tahu Porirua

HISTORY CORNER

History Corner - The hardware store

An important part of any growing community is the hardware store.

In Tawa, local man Sam Rolston met the local needs for such a shop during the 1940s and '50s, at a time when many people in the valley would have been building or adding to their new homes. His shop was on Main Road roughly where the Vet's clinic is located today.

In the accompanying photograph taken in the late 1940s and in the Tawa Historical Society's collection shows the hardware shop, with another, a dairy/green-grocer, attached to it.

Such photographs are extremely valuable to the Tawa Historical Society as we seek to track the history of the valley and identify the changes that occurred and when they happened. If you have any historical images from the early days of your family's life in Tawa please get in touch with us through our website www.tawahistory.org.nz

We look forward to hearing from you.

David Parsons, Chairman Tawa Historical Society



BOOK CORNER

Kia ora, it's great to be back

I hope everyone is enjoying the start of 2025.

I was wondering and pondering how to start the year off and thought I'd use a wonderful whakataukī or proverb from ***Aroha*** by Dr Hinemoa Elder:

"Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai.

Nurture the seed and it will bloom.

We all need love and care to fully realise our potential."

With this in mind, I've chosen some highlights from our ***Aroha Pēpuere Love February*** Collection.

What's in a name? a bilingual picture book by Renisa Viraj Maki, illustrated by Isobel Joy Te Aho-White (Ngāti Kahungunu, Kāi Tahu) and translated by Hona Black (Tūhoe, Te Whānau a Apanui, Ngāti Tūwharetoa). A wonderful book about the importance of learning correct pronunciation and asking for help, so that with understanding, patience and practice, you can make it happen.

The Marcus Rashford You Are a Champion Action Planner, a fun and engaging action planner packed with positive activities, brilliant advice and inspiring challenges that can help you reach your full potential.

Atomic Habits by James Clear, the inspirational book that has sold over 20 million copies worldwide and has been translated into more than 60 languages. WOW! I'd definitely recommend! It's a clear, simple and practical guide to creating bite sized great habits.

Ngā mihi nui anō!

Rowena, Paul & Team

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



TAWA CROP SWAP

Have you ever wondered what the CropSwap is about?

Well, it's exactly what you think it could be, an opportunity to swap and exchange "crop" things. And, it's an opportunity to reduce food waste.

Are you overwhelmed by produce or seedlings?

Do you enjoy baking or preserving, but it's too much for your household?

Are you interested in backyard gardening or food foraging?

Well, CropSwap is the place for you!

In September 2014, a bunch of backyard gardeners met in a private house, and experienced the joy of sharing their garden produce first hand. A tiny seed that fell into fertile soil and has spread around New Zealand, including here in Tawa. You can read more about the origins of crop swapping [here](#).

A CropSwap meeting brings together backyard gardeners, home bakers, and food foragers for swapping and sharing; produce, preserves, plants, seeds, vegetables, herbs, flowers, home baking, anything!

Enjoy chatting with other people about what's in your garden, what's not growing, or your latest favourite recipe.

Tawa CropSwap is monthly, on the last Saturday of the month (may vary to accommodate public holidays).

The venue will be Tawa Scout Hall for a few months, while the usual venue (Linden Community Centre) is being renovated. Come from 9:00am.

Enjoy a cuppa, while you chat and check out swaps from others.

Swapping starts at 9:30am.

By 10:00am everyone is off home with things for their pantry or garden.
Any leftover produce is placed in the community pantry.

To keep up with what's happening, there is a [Facebook Page](#) you can follow.
There is also a [Facebook Group](#) you can join, if you want to swap or share outside of the monthly meetings.



TAWA COMMUNITY GARDEN

The tomato and pumpkin plants are flowering well.

Our gardening sessions are:

1.30 to 3.00 pm

Sundays on the 1st, 3rd and 5th weekends,

Saturdays on the 2nd and 4th weekends.

Coronation Park, Oxford Street, Tawa.

All welcome



MARY POTTER TAWA

Happy New Year from Mary Potter Tawa

We would love to receive any of your homewares in good condition that you no longer want. Things for kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom, ornaments, plastics,

and good use quality homewares would be greatly received.

You are welcome to bring your goods around to the back entrance if your car is full.

We are open from 10 to 4 on weekdays and 10 to 2 on Saturdays.



KETE UPDATE

New Student Leadership Team!

We have missed the young leaders over the summer and hope the sun has encouraged many outdoor adventures. As 2025 starts, we're excited to meet a new leadership team (previous students are still welcome!). Applications close on 15/02/25 so if you're eager to be a part of exciting new projects for Te Taiao, it's not too late! We look forward to seeing the creativity in applications and to working with the next group of enthusiastic change-makers.

Reflection on 2024

In 2024, we had many planting sessions up at Takapū Valley, with schools, the SLT and the community. Hundreds of trees have been planted and seeing the transformation is incredible - kai pai tō mahi! A key highlight of the year has been watching the students gaining confidence in outdoor learning and using teamwork whilst developing inter-school relationships. Students shared their favourite parts of KETE: “the planting and learning about the wildlife,” and, “the trips and a bunch of leadership opportunities.”

Massive thank you for all the support and involvement of students, teachers, parents and local enthusiasts, which enabled and continues to enable this to happen.

As we grow we're always looking for opportunities to connect with Tawa community. More updates can be found on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#)



TAWA BUSINESS GROUP

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-specific information.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tawabusiness/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/tawabid/?next=%2F

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/tawa-business-improvement-district-bid-87a9a0288/

Looking for work? Our **Job Board** has heaps of Tawa-based vacancies. Find your perfect job here: [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>

PROBUS CLUB OF TAWA

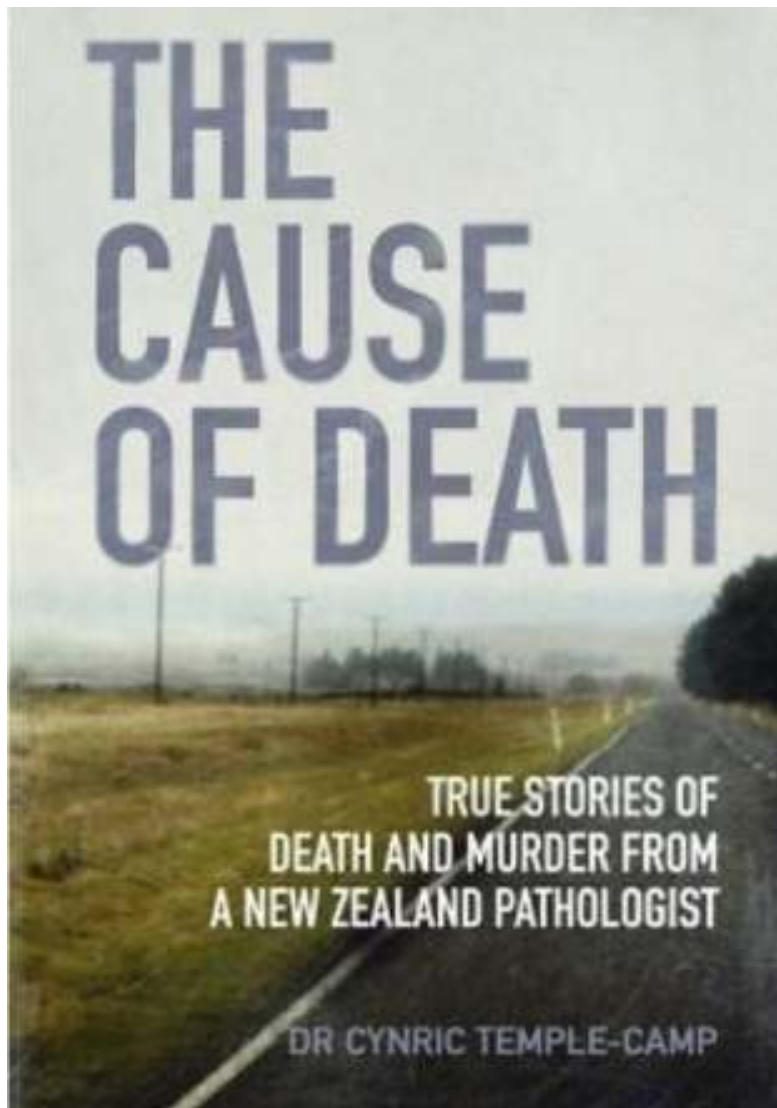
Speaker for the upcoming meeting is pathologist Cynric Temple-Camp

Probus Tawa starts the year with their regular monthly meetings on 17th February. The speaker for this meeting is Cynric Temple-Camp and this is promising to be very interesting!

Cynric has had an unusual career as a pathologist and working with the police to explain the mysteries of unexplained deaths. In 2017 he wrote a book about his work "The Cause of Death - True Stories of Death and Murder from a New Zealand Pathologist". Since then he has spoken at numerous groups about his work and some of the strange and shocking stories that he has come across during his work.

You've seen them at action in the various TV murder mystery series, and now you can hear from him in person at Tawa Probus - the strange and interesting investigative work of a pathologist.

Probus is a club for retirees to have fun, friendship and fellowship with members of their local community. Tawa Probus normally meet at the Tawa Bowling Club, Davies Street, 9.30am on the 3rd Monday, Feb-Nov. We welcome visitors and prospective new members.



MIGRANT WOMENS SOCIAL GROUP

Migrant Women's Social Group

Are you a migrant woman? Join our free community group at the Tawa Community Centre. We meet every Saturday 9.30am - 11.30am (during school term) and welcome all migrant women to connect, share stories and form lasting friendships. We look forward to meeting you.

Mob: 022 365 6968

Facebook: Migrant Women's Social Group

Instagram: migrantwomennz

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Great variety of courses and workshops

The Tawa College Community Education courses are run at Tawa College and available to adults in our Community.

We have many one day courses coming up in term 1. [Future Proofing your Home](#) with a sustainability focus, is coming up next week on Thursday 20 February.

Courses listed here are happening on Saturdays or Sundays throughout March.

[Computer Courses](#): AI, Google Xero

[Create Your Career Action Plan](#), [An Introduction to Meditation](#), [Sewing Knit Garments](#), [Zentangle](#), [Jewellery](#), [Overlocking](#), [A Cushion Creations Workshop](#).

[Food courses](#): Cheesemaking, Baking with Yeast and Hot Cross Buns, as well as Italian cooking coming up on Tuesdays and Chutney and Jam making on two Wednesday evenings.



KAPI MANA BRIDGE CLUB

Learn to play Bridge at Kapi Mana Bridge Club

The Kapi Mana Bridge Club lessons for 2025 start on Monday February 24 at 7.30pm. The charge for the lessons is \$60.00, and that cost covers 11 lessons, lesson notes and membership of the Club through to 31 March 2026.

We run the lessons on Mondays, and once through those you play on Wednesday evenings.

You'll find the clubrooms in Linden, next to the Linden Social Centre, so no travelling into the city to learn, we're nice and handy.

Famous people like Bill Gates, Omar Sharif, Martina Navratilova and Snoopy all play bridge. If you're wondering why you would want to play this card game, according to research playing bridge has been found to have numerous health benefits and can significantly improve overall well-being. Bridge has been shown to enhance cognitive skills, including memory and problem-solving abilities. So, \$60.00 for our lessons gives you all that too, a total bargain!

If you want to find out more just send us an email [-kmbc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kmbc@xtra.co.nz)

This picture is of the graduates from our 2024 lessons.



TAWA U3A

Are you recently retired or no longer working full time and looking for a new interest?

Announcing some new interesting activities for 2025 . These include

- a lecture on the incredibly pressured post war years of President Truman,
- a house concert of Chamber music with piano, violin and cello
- play reading where you read a part in a variety of plays – and the roles are shared so each has a turn reading
- a lecture on the English Civil Wars which led to monumental changes for Britain and the world

U3A is an international organisation where people have fun, make new friends and share what they have and know. The details of some 40 other activities and courses are on the website - www.u3atawa.org.nz

TAWA COMMUNITY CENTRE

We held a successful **uniform drive** for Tawa College and Intermediate school uniform here last month – ngā mihi to everyone who donated! We still have plenty of Tawa Intermediate and a small amount of Tawa College uniform here at the centre available for koha. You are welcome to pop into the centre any time during the year to donate or look for uniform. All proceeds go back to the schools to support students with uniform.

Are you a parent of young children interested in **running a playgroup**? Our wonderful volunteer Tina has stepped down from running a Tuesday morning Koha Playgroup here at Tawa CC and without anyone to run it the playgroup will discontinue. We can provide the venue and some toys – if you're interested, please get in touch with us at tawacc@wcc.govt.nz or 04 232 1682.

Seed, Seedling, and Produce Swap

Connect with your local community and celebrate Neighbours' Month and Local Food Week at Tawa Community Centre by joining our seed, seedling, and produce swap. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out in your gardening journey, all are welcome. We'll provide a light morning tea. Wednesday 5 March, 10:30-11:30am

A reminder that our **recycling system** at Tawa CC has changed slightly – all plastic lids can all go in together, regardless of number. Any non-lid small plastics still need to be sorted as 2s or 5s. If you have any questions please ask a member of staff, we are happy to help.

LINDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Updates from Linden Community Centre

Linden CC is closed for renovations for the next few months. Regular groups have moved next door to the Kapi-Mana Bridge Club.

+Age Concern/ SAYGO - Exercise group for seniors (\$2 Koha): 12noon - 1pm, Tuesdays.

- + Age Concern/ SAYGO - Lunch hub: 1pm -2pm, second Tuesdays every month
- + Tuesday Craft Group (\$2 Koha): 1pm -3pm, Tuesdays
- + Community Connections: 9:30am -12noon, Tuesdays, fortnightly
- + Bake and Connect: all welcome, fortnightly, start on Wednesday next week 19 February with a guest speaker from Te Waka Whaiora.
- + Gretta's Craft group (\$2 Koha): 10am - 12noon, Thursdays
- + Nurtured at Home: 9:45am - 11:15am, Thursdays
- + Food giving away, all welcome: 12noon - 12:45, Fridays
- +Age Concern - Safe driving course: 8am - 2pm, Wednesday, 26 February
- + Rummikub group is now welcoming new seniors, all genders. The group plays at Tawa Community Centre on Wednesdays, 1pm - 3pm.

Breads are inside the pantry everyday, outside the Bridge Club, come and help yourselves.

Any questions, please contact Linden Community Centre via email:
lindencc@wcc.govt.nz

TAWA LIBRARY

New self-check kiosks have been installed

The new self-check kiosks are proving to be quite popular. Yes, Pirate is still one of the languages!

Regular programmes have started and we have a new one from this Friday - Discovery Time. This replaces the previous Tinker Time. Discovery Time will be run in the afternoons from 3.30-4.30pm and will focus on the world of STEAM where the children will get involved with experiments, technology and crafts!

Nga mihi, Wendy



DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that caps and lids can no longer go in your household recycling?

Luckily Tawa New World started a Caps & Lids Recycling Initiative. You can now bring them in with your soft plastics and pop them in the dedicated boxes!.

Just make sure the lids are nice and clean before dropping them off. Please no coffee cup lids or glass.

The collection boxes are located just after checkouts, next to the Lotto counter. You can find more information at capslids.recycling.kiwi.nz

Plastic lids can also be dropped off at the Tawa Community Centre, as well as your clean **tetrapacks** (you can keep the lids on these).



SHORT NEWS AND EVENTS

Take 10 Arvos has moved to Linden School, same days, Tuesday and Thursday, 3 pm – 5 pm, just a different location for this term.

Take 10 Arvos aims to support rangatahi and provide a safe and fun space for them to come to after school. Read more here: <https://vsctrust.org.nz/take10-arvos/>

Neighbours' month is coming up.

Whether you live in an apartment building, a marina or a suburban street, how can you grow your community connections this March?

Tea is for Together: This year, Wellington City Council has 100 morning tea packs to give away to help you bring your neighbours together. [Fill in our online form](#) to request a pack for your group of three or more neighbouring households.

<https://wellington.govt.nz/community-support-and-resources/resources-and-facilities/community-resources/neighbours-month>



New water feature on Mahoe street, this was on Tuesday 4th February. All fixed now we hope! Picture by Shelly Turner.



Returning Shooting Stars class at Nairnville Rec!

A fun and engaging preschool class designed for kids aged 2-5!
This session helps develop essential motor skills, ball recognition, and basic ball-handling techniques, all while having a blast in a safe and supportive environment. Perfect for little ones to build confidence, coordination and social skills through play!

Nairnville Recreation Centre

Mondays weekly (in term): 10:15am - 11am

\$9.50 session

Find our other preschool programmes and classes here - <https://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/classes/preschoolers>

Tawa Salvation Army upcoming activities:

- * Mainly Music on Thursday Morning in two sessions 9.30 & 10.30 with a morning tea at 10am for both sessions. \$3 or \$5 per family.
- * Great Gamers from 3.15-4.45pm on Thursday (Term time) - For ages 10-110yrs. The kids would LOVE some more 'grey-haired' people to play games with, families and individuals welcome. Free
- * Mastering your Money course on Friday morning from 10-12pm (6 weeks) - Contact Vanessa at the church office 04 232 8023 if you'd like to come along.
Free



Anyone lost a leather purse with 'salzburg' on it?

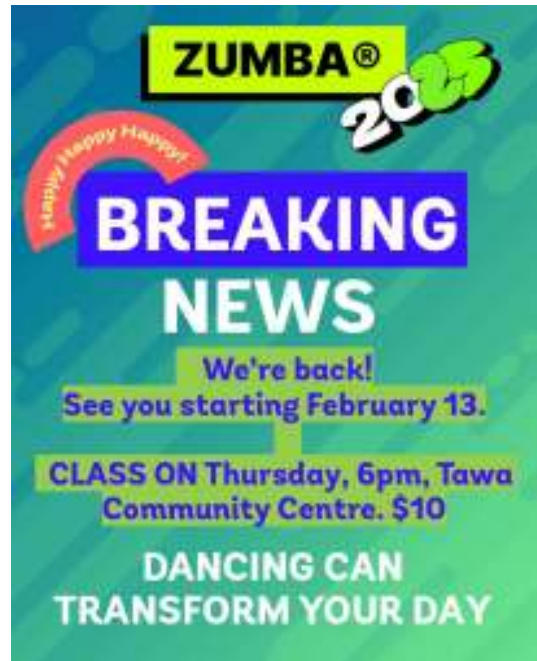
Found at the top of peterhouse street. Looks well loved and figure might have some sentimental value! Email newslettertawa@gmail.com



Pop-In Playgroup have been busy getting their new location for Pop-In ready to go for 2025.

Pop-In sessions will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30am in the Emmaus Centre Tawa Anglican Church.

First session Tuesday 11 Feb.



Our February Meeting will feature a presentation from Chris Blair called "Family at the Wairau Bar"



Date : Wednesday 12 February 2024
Cuppa from 7:00pm
Meeting Starts 7:30pm
Helen Smith Community Room
Pataka, cnr Parumoana and Norrie Streets, Porirua
Visitors : \$5



5 MINUTES WITH ...



Five minutes with Jesse Elias

Can you tell us something about your life growing up?

I was born in Kenepuru Hospital, then lived much of my childhood in Titahi Bay. I went to Saint Pius X School for primary, then did a year at Titahi Bay Intermediate, until moving to Tawa Intermediate, and then Tawa College.

In my schooling I had realised my interest in Kapa Haka and had been a part of the Kapa Haka Roopu during my time at Tawa College. Kapa Haka had become a key part of my schooling through college, and was a place that I had put much of my energy into. This love that I had for kapa haka has definitely been something that has pushed me towards my current studies.

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

Since finishing at Tawa College, I have been studying for one year at Te Wānanga o Raukawa. I am working towards a Bachelor of Te Reo Māori within a full immersion course. I had come into the course with little ability to speak Māori but over the last year have been growing in my ability to converse in Māori. I look forward to the completion of my degree, when I expect to be able to speak Māori fluently.

What can you tell us about your current daily life?

In my day to day life I fill my schedule with my studies, part time work and youth work, which I do within St Christopher's Church. In my spare time I love to listen to music, I almost always have some sort of music playing in the background whenever I am doing any task. A hobby that I am trying to pick up this year is running, this is as all of my friends who are runners seem to love it. I hope to start loving it soon too.

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

I have been living in Tawa since 2018. My Dad had moved here from Titahi Bay and so I have been between Tawa with my Dad and Titahi Bay with my Mum up until I moved into a flat with my friends in Tawa at the start of 2023.

What do you like about Tawa?

Something that I love about Tawa is the tight community that we have here. Tawa is definitely a place where you can't go down to the supermarket without running into someone you know.

What would you like to see improved in Tawa?

I would love to see Tawa embrace Te Reo Māori and open spaces for people to speak Māori with others in the community, no matter how much or how little you can speak. Something that could look like a designated time at a cafe where you know you can go and meet other people and speak Māori with them there.

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

I think my favourite place would have to be Otaki, even though I am there four days a week for study. Otaki is still one of my favourite places because my grandparents live there and the house and area is very nostalgic.

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

I think one of the accomplishments I am most proud of is that I had once biked 600 kilometres from Tawa, to Port Waikato. I am especially proud of this since in the lead up to leaving for this bike trip with my friend, I had definitely not trained enough. But mainly through my stubbornness I was somehow able to make it to the end in one piece.

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

I love skipping stones, any chance I get with a flat body of water I always have to skip a few. Over the years I have naturally gotten pretty good at it and would say I've become a proficient stone skipper.

I am an avid op shopper. I have gotten almost all of my clothes second hand, as well as many of the items that fill my room. This includes a constantly growing selection of paintings that line my walls.

I also enjoy shooting film photography when I get the chance. I have a little

point and shoot camera as well as a SLR camera, which I hope to get more use out of this year.

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

One of my dreams is to get a van and then turn it into a self contained vehicle, and spend a couple of months travelling around the country. I would love to do some travelling overseas as well, my top three places I would want to visit are Iceland, Peru, and Japan. I also hope to find a career in this time that I'll be able to utilise Te Reo Māori within it.

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 March 10.

We look forward to meeting you!

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



Monique
The Tawa Residents' Association

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