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Kia ora,

This month, our cover photo features a beautiful shot of roadside sunflowers by Richard Herbert, adding a cheerful touch to our neighbourhood.

In this edition of Tawa News, we bring you the latest updates from our council, the Tawa Community Board, local MPs, and various community groups. Discover news about the recent Wall Park party, enjoy pictures from the Concert in the Park, and find out who the winner is of the Hot Cross Bun competition. We also have some positive developments regarding the paid parking plans. As always, you can dive into our regular History, Garden, and Book Corner sections.

Our "5 Minutes With..." segment this month features famous local ballerina, Jemima Scott. If you're interested in volunteering for Tawa News, we are still seeking someone to coordinate the "5 Minutes With..." section. Please get in touch if you'd like to contribute.

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

We hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful things happening in our vibrant community.

Have a good weekend from us all at the Tawa Residents' Association. Our next meeting will be on Monday April 14, at 7.30 pm at Tawa Squash Club. All welcome. The meetings are bi-monthly.

Monique

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





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Forward

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

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

WALL PARK PARTY

On Valentine's Day we celebrated the opening of the Wall Park Barbecue. A huge thank you to Tony Hased for his enormous efforts in making Wall Park such a fantastic place for the community. The park is now a wonderful space where people can socialise with friends and family while enjoying the fabulous play area, all thanks to the new BBQ facility.

In championing this project and delivering a BBQ for Wall Park, Tony brought together many people, including technical experts. We also couldn't miss out on thanking the great team at the [Tawa MenzShed](#) who built the shelter over the BBQ. Thank you all for giving your time to contribute to this wonderful addition to our community.





Picture credits: Tawa Community Board featuring Tony Hassed at the top picture. Tony has been the driving force in getting a BBQ for the play area.

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Another highly successful Concert in the Park

Close to one thousand people enjoyed yet another great February Sunday afternoon's entertainment at Tawa Rotary's Concert in the Park.

The concert, compered by Murray Cameron, featured a diverse lineup of musical performances, starting with the welcoming sounds of the Tawa Learners' Band.

The highlight of the afternoon was undoubtedly the Royal New Zealand Air Force's Jive Bombers, with guest singer Moira Jean, who treated the audience to two hours of dance-worthy music.

Supporting acts included the stirring sound of the award-winning Red Hackle Pipe Band, an energetic performance by Te Rōpū Ngahau Tawa School Kapa Haka and the polished singing of Tawa College's Blue Notes choir.

Tawa Rotary coordinator, Elizabeth Sutton, said that the concert, now in its third year, has become a significant and much anticipated event in the district's entertainment calendar. She expressed gratitude not only for the incredible community support but also for the contributions of local businesses that helped bring the event to life, including Lyn Calman of Ray White, New World Tawa, Mexted Motors, and Whittakers, as well as Foxtail Events, the Tawa Community Board, and Tawa Community Patrol.

The concert both showcased the remarkable depth of local talent and fostered a strong sense of community spirit, as friends and neighbours caught up and

kids played together (and scoffed sausages), making it a perfect way to spend a sunny, summer Sunday afternoon.



Picture credits: Tawa Rotary: A section of the audience, Red Hackle Pipe Pipe Band arriving, Jive Bombers, Te Rōpū Ngahau Tawa School Kapa Haka, audience.

HOT CROSS BUN COMPETITION

First place for Nada Bakery

Easter just got sweeter for Nada Bakery, who won first place in Baking NZ's Hot Cross Bun competition 2025. You can find them on 4/72 Main Road Tawa, be sure to pop in and congratulate them.

This win is extra special as the Wellington bakery celebrates 50 years in business! Nada Bakery has consistently performed well, placing 2nd in 2023, 3rd in 2024, and now taking the top spot in 2025.

“This win means the world to us,” said Michael Gray, spokesperson for Nada Bakery. “Winning first place during our 50th anniversary is the perfect way to honor our team, heritage, and loyal customers.”

The annual Baking NZ competition gathers top bakers from across Aotearoa to compete for the best bun. This year's entries were judged on appearance, aroma, crumb structure, spice balance, and overall flavour.

Baking NZ President Bernie Sugrue praised the high quality of this year's entries, saying, “Hot cross buns are a Kiwi Easter favourite, and this competition showcases the incredible skill and passion of New Zealand's bakers.”



NEIGHBOURS MONTH

March is neighbours' month

We have a great tradition in Tawa of neighbourhoods getting together over a BBQ and it is great to hear that people are still keeping the tradition going. There are many ways that you can get to know your neighbours and we encourage people to take the time now to have a catch up with your neighbours.

History shows that communities that work together during tough times recover the best. So, let's get to know our neighbours and be ready to support one another when disaster strikes!

Have a look at this link for some great ideas on making connections in your neighbourhood <https://neighboursaotearoa.nz/>

TAKE 10 ARVOS

Take 10 Arvos closing

Sadly, Take 10 Arvos closed on 9 March. The difficult decision was made as due to various factors, it was not sustainable for Take 10 Arvos to continue operating.

We learned so much from the rangatahi who attended Take10. They are all unique, valued, and talented in many different ways and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to get to know each of them.

Seeing rangatahi develop friendships with one another, becoming more comfortable in their identities while they explored who they are and who they want to be, and enjoying the privilege of spending time with them is something that will be sorely missed.

For those who had been attending our programme for a longer time, we were inspired to see them step into roles of leadership and guidance, and we have loved seeing them grow into the strong and confident young adults they have become.

Our staff and volunteers contributed so much to Take10 Arvos, their

commitment and deep care about our rangatahi and the community is something that never faltered throughout the five years Take10 Arvos was in operation.

As volunteers, Albion, Rose, and Alice gave not only their time but also their kindness and empathy, creating connections with rangatahi and making a lasting impact on their lives.

Jess, our Youth Co-ordinator, who facilitated and ran Take10 Arvos, always did so with enthusiasm, warmth and affection, creating an atmosphere of fun and safety, where rangatahi felt free to be themselves and had the opportunity to flourish and grow.

We would also like to thank Beatrice, Jess's predecessor who was key in getting Arvos to a place where it was a trusted and safe space for so many rangatahi. Bea's infectious energy, and positive can-do attitude was loved by all.



PAID PARKING UPDATE

No paid parking In the suburbs

We are delighted to announce that Wellington City Council councillors agreed in December last year that they would no longer pursue metered parking in the suburbs. The continuation of free parking is a welcomed relief for business owners and residents alike.

WCC councillors also agreed to two requests for improved parking within the town centre. There will now be a loading bay for all vehicles by the Pink Pineapple, with a no right turn from this service lane out onto the Main Road, and nine P60 parking spaces (3 spaces by 169 - 171 Main Road and 6 spaces by 199 - 209 Main Road) will be converted to P120.

With thanks to the Tawa Business Group



RABBIT INFESTATION

Rabbit Infestation

The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves (FOTBR) is working with the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) on a rabbit control programme for Bing Lucas Drive and Gladys Scott Place residents. Over recent months the bush in both Wilf Mexted Reserve and Woodburn Reserve has shown signs of major rabbit damage with seedlings eaten and trees ring-barked. Residents of Bing Lucas Drive and Gladys Scott Place are reporting severe rabbit infestation. FOTBR and GWRC believe a community-led plan will be the most effective way of dealing with the problem.

GWRC, with FOTBR financial and logistical assistance, is providing on a cost-recovery basis a rabbit control programme using Pindone carrot poison. All residents on rural or lifestyle blocks in this area will shortly receive a FOTBR notice in their letter box inviting them to participate in the programme using GWRC certified operators.

To join the programme residents need to email their name, address and phone

number to secretary@tawabush.org.nz. A GWRC representative will visit each participating landowner and discuss/advise details of the poisoning process.

More information about Pindone carrot-based poison is available from the GWRC website at www.gw.govt.nz/environment/pest-management/pest-animals/pest-animal-control-methods/pindone/ which includes a link to the supplier website. For the programme to be effective and to reduce the risk of rabbit reinvasion we need as many properties as possible in this area to participate.

FROM THE COUNCIL

This month the Council wants your views in two important areas:

Local Water Done Well – Water Reform (<https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/water-reform-consultation>)

Wellington City is asking your views on which approach we should take for the future delivery and upgrade of our water services. The key options are:

- Wellington City joins other local councils in a Regional Water Entity for water services and upgrades.
- Wellington City has its own Water Entity to deliver water services and fix the pipes.
- Wellington City continues using Wellington Water for its water services and pipe upgrades.

Cr McNulty is leaning towards the Regional Option while Cr Randle favours “going it alone” but what do you think?

The Long-Term Plan Amendment and Annual Plan (<https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/ltp-amendment>)

There are several issues in the LTP Amendment including:

- Wellington Airport Shares - Should the Council sell all, some or none of its shares (the council recommends none)?
- Begonia House - Should the Council retain or demolish this greenhouse and café in the Botanic Gardens (the Council recommends doing the minimum to retain it)?
- The Bike Network Plan – Should the Council complete the programme over 10 years, over 20 years or just finish what it has started (the Council

recommends complete over 20 years)?

- Cost savings across a range of capital projects needed to reestablish the Council's Insurance Debt Headroom.

There are a couple of further issues in Annual Plan where Councillors seek your views including:

- Should the Council help setup and fund the proposed Mātai Moana Reserve at the northern end of Miramar Peninsula at a cost of \$750,000/year?
- Should the Council make a change to its Short-Term Accommodation Policy that would result in residents who offer Airbnb type accommodation but do not live at the property paying commercial rates?

Finally, just as important to Tawa Residents is a survey by the **Grenada North Park** Upgrade Project about thoughts on the future buildings needed after Phase One is completed. The survey closes 31 March. You can read about the project and take the survey from this page: <https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/grenada-north-park-upgrade>

Do please have a read and put in a submission on any or all of these. The council does review every submission and, if you wish, you can also send your local ward councillors a copy.

Ben McNulty (ben.mcnulty@wcc.govt.nz)

Tony Randle (tony.randle@wcc.govt.nz)

FROM THE BEEHIVE

News from Hon. Greg O'Connor MP for Ōhāriu

While much of the political news relevant to Tawa will be at local body level this year, especially with the annual plan and local body elections, there is still plenty happening at Central Government.

Around now, the various cabinet ministers will be finalising Budget bids for their government departments, and hoping the Finance Minister will tick them off. Given that the economy is doing poorly, they are unlikely to be successful.

Meanwhile school lunches continue to dominate debate, as David Seymour realises that you can not feed hungry students for \$3 a meal. We can only hope also that we stay below Donald Trump's radar as he continues to dish out tariffs and threatens to take over countries. Tawa, with its strong sense of community,

is a pretty good place to be right now. The many good people doing great work for their fellow residents will help get us through trying times.

And by the time you read this, we will know what the new boundaries for the Ōhāriu electorate are; these boundaries are redrawn after every census to reflect population changes, and so with Wellington having had little population growth compared to other regions, it is anticipated we will have significant changes. I certainly hope I continue to represent Tawa, a place I have policed, lived and played sport in, and in recent years, been the MP for.

greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz

News from Hon. Barbara Edmonds MP for Mana

We're now another month into the year, and this National Government is still making life harder for our community. From rising unemployment to disgraceful school lunches and no clear plan for our inter-island ferry services—it's clear their priorities are all wrong.

2 weeks ago our Labour team announced our priorities for 2026. I'm proud to be part of a team focused on secure jobs, a strong public health system, and affordable homes. While National makes life harder, we're working on real solutions to ensure every Kiwi can thrive. I'm also proud to lead our economic team! With the Finance & Economy and Savings & Investment portfolios, alongside Ginny Anderson, Peeni Henare, Reuben Davidson & Cushla Tangaere-Manuel, we'll deliver an economy that uplifts our people.

Right now, hundreds of Kiwis are applying for the same jobs as mills and meatworks shut down. School lunch jobs are lost and more Kiwis are leaving for Australia. Unemployment has risen by 33,000, and the minimum wage hasn't kept up with the cost of living. Māori and Pasifika communities are hit hardest, with unemployment at 9.7% and 10.5%.

Many parents have seen firsthand how National's changes to school lunches have failed. A March 2024 Cabinet Paper warned of harm, yet they pushed ahead. Despite this, our community has remained resilient and will do everything they can to give our children every opportunity to thrive.

Times are tough and nobody should be left behind. If you're concerned, or have any questions email my team at mana@parliament.govt.nz.

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

Tawa Community Board's Community Grants Fund is open - applications

close on **Thursday 3 April**. This fund is designed to assist projects and services within the jurisdiction of the Tawa Community Board area (including Takapū Valley and Grenada North). The Tawa Community Board Grants Committee has up to \$15000 to allocate. To be eligible applicants must show that their project benefits the residents of our community (and not have excess unallocated funds). Further information can be found here:

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

New #59 Bus route

The Tawa Community Board has been keeping an eye on comments and feedback about the new #59 bus. It's great to see people finding the new service useful. We encourage people to share their feedback directly with Metlink as more feedback will help the service adapt to community need and improve community use. A few people have asked us how to catch the bus. If you follow the link it takes you to the information page about the service, which includes maps (showing where the stopping areas are). The Metlink App also has a helpful 'journey planner' feature. You can put in where you want to go and it will tell you when to walk to the 'stopping area' (note: it's best to go a few minutes early as the times are approximate).

The feedback button is at the bottom of page at this link:

<https://www.metlink.org.nz/getting-started/tawa-fixed-route>

Tawa Community Board brings you the Tawa Community Civic Awards

There are so many people who make Tawa an amazing place to live. Tell us about the ones you know! We want to hear about all the people who volunteer their time, skills and resources to make Tawa such a great community. We would love to show our appreciation for them at the Tawa Civic Awards to be held in June.

Nominations are open now and close on **16 May 2025**. Please send your nominations to TawaCommunityBoard@wcc.govt.nz.

The key details we need are:

- Person's name and contact details (an email or phone number). This is very important as we need to be able to let them know about the celebration!
- Awards category you would like to nominate them for. This year we have six categories: ARTS and CULTURE; EDUCATION AND CHILD/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT; HEALTH and WELLBEING; HERITAGE and ENVIRONMENT; SPORT and LEISURE; RANGATAHI/ YOUTH (13-24 years). If you are unsure, just choose the one you think it most

appropriate.

- A short description of what this person (or group) does to contribute to the life of Tawa through their chosen area of involvement. You might like to highlight their positive attributes, the skills they bring to their role, and/or the impact they have had on an aspect of Tawa.

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-QAajiL0Hdy-lmo

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/>

HISTORY CORNER

History Corner – Tawa Anglican Church Hall

The wooden building that is currently the Church Hall is probably the oldest building of public worship in Tawa still in use. (A number of earlier church buildings in Tawa/Linden have gone or been replaced by new facilities). The current hall building became a church in 1946 and was first located on the church site in Ngatittoa Street.

A site on the corner of Lyndhurst Road and Ngatittoa Street (above the present Fire Station) was purchased by the Anglican Church in 1934. Plans for a church on this site were developed in the early 1940s, but did not proceed because of war-time building restrictions.

In 1946, the restrictions were still in place and permission was sought from the War Assets Realisation Board to release an ex-Army Lecture Hall located at the Ngati-Awa Camp at Paremata - for use as a church in Tawa. The building was purchased from the Army in July 1946 and moved to the Tawa site. It was dedicated as St Christopher's church in November 1946.

The Lyndhurst Road/Ngatittoa Street site was not entirely suitable because of access difficulties – e.g. vehicle access for funerals and weddings was not easy, the site was not central in the community, and there was not enough flat land for future development. In May 1955 the parish purchased two sections on the Main Road/Lyndhurst Road corner and sold the hill site.

The church was moved from the Ngatittoa Street/ Lyndhurst Road site to its present location in Lyndhurst Road in June 1955 as shown in the attached photograph.

Once on the new site, extensive alterations and additions were carried out to the building including the addition of a large room on the street frontage and a new entrance way. The building had a seating capacity of 160. It was dedicated in a service in June 1956.

Stained-glass windows above the altar (in memory of Gerald James Hammond Bell and donated by his wife in 1955) were later moved to the Arohata Prison Chapel and remain there today.

The church facilities were not able to cope with the increased numbers of parishioners and a very large children's ministry on a Sunday and the current brick church building was constructed and opened in December 1966, releasing the previous church to become the hall.

Some Hall Memories

In the late 1970s, the bell tower on the front of the hall was in poor condition so the bell was taken down and the timber structure removed. The north and south-facing walls were reclad at that time to replace rotted timber weatherboards. When the annex (between the church auditorium) was built in 1986, the windows on the east side of the hall were blocked and covered with painted softboard.

With the use of the hall changing and mid-week Pop-In groups growing, new storage cupboards were built in the front lounge and a new exit door built on the western side of the hall to provide access to the playground out there. Also, a window was added so observation of the playground was possible from inside the hall.

This beautiful old lady has served the church and the community so well through her life. It is due for demolition shortly as part of the Tawa Anglican Church building redevelopment project, currently underway.

A thanksgiving service for the hall will be held at Tawa Anglican Church on Saturday 5 April at 3.30pm.

David Parsons
Chairman, Tawa Historical Society



TAWA PROBUS

Next meeting 14 April with Murray Edridge, City Missioner

Because of Easter dates our normal monthly meeting is a week early in April, meeting on Monday 14th April, 9.30am, at the Tawa Bowling Club, Davies Street.

Our speaker in April is the Wellington City Missioner, Murray Edridge. Murray is the first lay person to lead the Mission. He stepped into the role in May 2018 and led the organisation through the significant challenge and opportunity of caring for those in need across COVID lockdowns, as well as the creation of the City Mission's new community hub complex in Mt Cook. Murray is a trained accountant and has spent many years working in the corporate sector, in education, and for social services, particularly focused on children and families.

BOOK CORNER

Normal Woman, by Philippa Gregory, recently arrived as a Young Adult edition, which was super exciting for me as I have enjoyed Philippa Gregory's historical fiction and was keen to read her nonfiction research book.

The Young Adult edition is a fast paced, pick up/put down, read aloud journey through English history 1066 to 1994 and what normal woman did - very interesting and insightful.

Philippa wrote “This book is about ‘normal women’ but not ‘ordinary’ women. The normal women in these pages do extraordinary things as part of their normal lives. Being exceptional or heroic – or deviant and inadequate – is normal for women.”

Calls to mind a poem I enjoy, Introvert or Extrovert by Donna Ashworth ending with “am I introvert or extrovert? This question holds a trap like the universe, we are everything, no label speaks to that.”

If reading history in this interesting format is for you, here's some others you could add to your wishlist. I have: The graphic novel Sapiens series by Yuval Noah Harari and illustrated by Ricard Zaplana Ruiz; the large, illustrated Aotearoa series by Gavin Bishop; recently released Toitū Te Whenua, Places and People of the New Zealand Wars by Lauren Keenan; the illustrated edition of Silk Roads by Peter Frankopan, illustrated by Neil Packer.

Rowena

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



Tawa Community Education

Tawa community education courses

Our term 2 classes are being loaded on to the website and the full programme will be finalised by the end of March. We have added a Group Fitness class to our [exercise classes](#).

There are two new Saturday workshop classes being added to our [Food courses](#). One is High Tea and how to host, which looks great for planning for any special occasion, and Soups and Stews, which will give you an idea of using what is in the fridge to make a hearty winter meal.

Knitting and Fun with Flowers return this term. Check out our [website](#) for all courses.



TAWA RSA

Purple Poppy Day

The RSA held a small service to honour the animals that died in the wars and those that continue to support our soldiers in their current placements.

Last of the Summer Wine Dinner

An event will be held on Sunday 6 April to mark end of daylight saving. An autumn themed dinner, \$25 per head, children under 12 half price. Bar open from 4pm, live music from 4.30pm with a silent auction and quick fire raffles in the evening.

Booking and pre payment for meal is essential. Please pay at the clubrooms or

email tawa.rsa@xtra.co.nz to confirm your numbers.

Love to see you there

Poppy Day collection

Our collectors will be out on Friday 11 April. Funds collected are used for local veterans. Please give generously. If you know of any ex-service members please point them our way, as we can provide them with assistance.

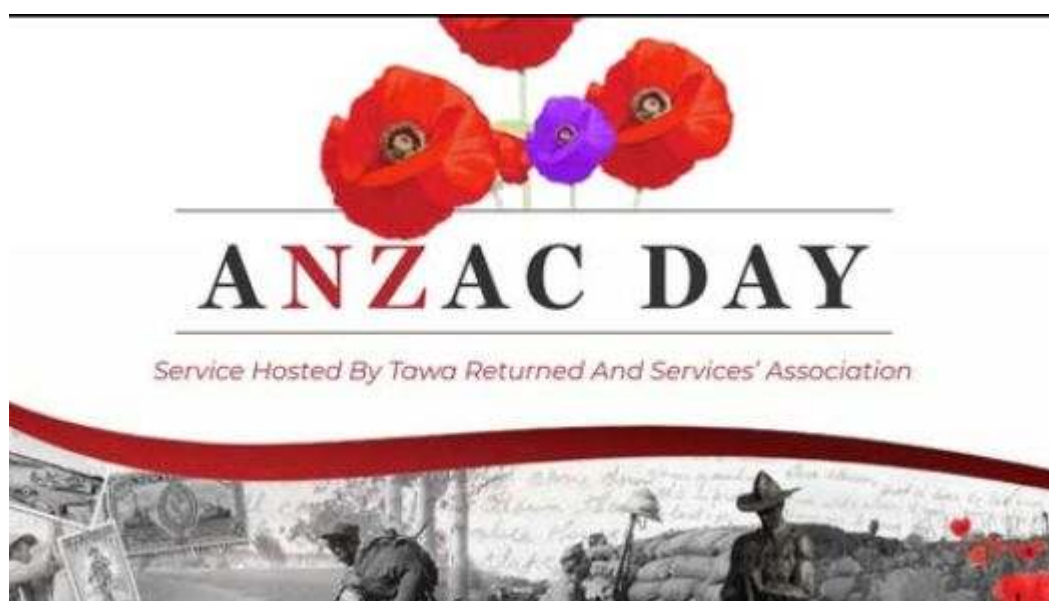
Annual General Meeting

Will be held on Sunday 13 April at 2.00pm at the clubrooms, 89 Oxford Street, Tawa

ANZAC Day Commemoration

The Tawa Anzac Day Civic service will commence at 10:00am at the Tawa War Memorial (Grasslees Reserve) Tawa.

Prior to the service, there will be a Veterans and Military Parade forming up at 09:30am and marching off at 09:45am. The people wishing to partake in the parade will meet at the New World carpark at 35 Oxford Street, Tawa.



CAROLYN'S GARDEN CORNER

As I write this we are crossing our fingers for fine weather over the next two days.

Tomorrow we are welcoming a garden group from Karori and the following day

will be our last open day for the season.

We began our open days a few years ago at the behest of friends who claimed our garden was too beautiful not to share. Very flattering but nerve wracking at the same time.

I admit it was very scary those first few open days. So many thoughts barrelling through my mind, what if it pours with rain, what if no one comes or even worse what if lots of people come and they don't like it?

Gardeners put a lot of themselves into their plantings. It is often so much more than their hobby or their job. It can be an all consuming passion which involves lots of dreaming, planning, hard work and money but we think the end result is usually worth it.

We love to share the joy of the flowers or show our pride in our bountiful harvest with fellow enthusiasts. We also love to visit other gardens and covet what they have.

Having a deadline is also a great way to urge you on to complete those long dreamed of projects about the place.

Opening our garden has been such a rewarding experience. We can now greet regular visitors like old friends and it is wonderful to meet and welcome new people. If you have a garden you're proud of why not give opening a go? I'd be first in line to visit.



March is the month of Michaelmas and Monarchs in our flower garden. It is when our backyard slope erupts into a sea of lavender, pink and mauve. The Michaelmas daisy, formerly known as Asters but now by the mouthful *Symphyotrichum novii belgii* or *novae angliae*, forms an inconspicuous evergreen mat most of the year so it is quite startling when it bursts into bloom.

Monarchs love the flat open faced daisies so I also plant swan plants nearby for them to lay their eggs on. These will hatch into the last batch of caterpillars which will become this year's overwintering butterflies.

The NZ moths and butterflies trust <https://www.nzbutterflies.org.nz/project/tagging> has a programme of tagging Monarch butterflies in the interest of seeing how far they travel and seeking out their overwintering places.

It was with great excitement last week we spotted a tagged butterfly in my garden. As you can imagine the identification letters on the circular stickers are pretty small so you have to hope the butterfly stays still long enough to read it. You then have to remember the six letters long enough to get inside to log them online.

I waited with great curiosity to find out where “my” butterfly had come from. I had to laugh the next morning when an email informed me it had flown the great distance to my garden from the next street over.

Happy gardening,
Carolyn



Birds, bees, butterflies and other insects bring life and movement to you garden so lets plant more flowers and encourage them to take up residence.

FRIENDS OF TAWA BUSH RESERVES

Kiwi comeback

Jurassic Park was a great comeback yarn, but it's no match for the real-life story of the Wellington kiwi comeback!

Come to the FOTBR AGM on Wednesday 16 April, 7.30pm at Tawa Community Centre, and hear the kiwi success story first hand from our guest speakers from Capital Kiwi, Paul Ward and Jeff Hall.

See the latest video on the Te Ngahere o Tawa, Forest of Tawa here: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/655660350174480>

Follow FOTBR on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556141938886>



COMMUNITY GARDEN

We have green and purple beans to pick at the community garden in Coronation Park in Oxford Street.

It is best to hold the plant with one hand while picking the bean with the other hand.

This prevents the plant from being broken or pulled out of the ground.

Garden sessions for March/April 2025:

- Sunday 30 March
- Sunday 6 April
- Saturday 12 April
- Sunday 20 April
- Saturday 26 April

Approximately 1:30-3pm. All welcome.

Follow the garden on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/tawacommunitygarden>



KETE UPDATE

A couple of weeks ago our senior KETE student leaders undertook the first of their planned stream monitoring sessions, working with Mountains to Sea Wellington to hone their skills.

Each session involves carrying out monitoring at two sites on Te Kenepuru (Porirua stream), four times a year. For the seniors, this will be at Grasslees Reserve and Tawa Junction. For the juniors it will be two sites at Willowbank.

Each team takes and records measurements of temperature, clarity, conductivity and general stream conditions, then samples the invertebrate populations through kick sampling with nets, identifying and recording the species present. As always there was a great deal of excitement and engagement in the activity, even though the weather was less than pleasant given the wind.

Students found that on the day they tested, the conditions were reasonably healthy, a good range of indicator species were found including a quantity of mayflies, caddis and dobsonfly larvae.



Part of KETE's reason for the stream testing is to help look after the hauora of the stream and ultimately the mauri of Te Awarua o Porirua in line with Ngāti Toa's aspirations of restoration the harbour to a clean, healthy ecosystem. Please think about how you can help to contribute to the stream's health – it was distressing to see a substance discharged into the stream over the weekend resulting pollution which will have killed invertebrates (e.g. aquatic insects) which are vital for stream health.

If you notice events like this, please contact Greater Wellington Regional Council's hotline.

They will respond and come out and try to find the source.

Read about reporting here: <https://www.gw.govt.nz/environment/environmental-incidents/>

To report an environmental incident call: 0800 496 734

TAWA BUSINESS GROUP

Tawa Business Group

Those eagle-eyed amongst us will have noticed there are some new parking signs along the Main Road. WCC has approved converting nine P60 spaces to P120 to allow for some extra time shopping, to have a more relaxing trip to the hairdresser's or beautician, or to chill for longer in one of the cafes and bars. There are 3 spaces opposite the library and a further six spaces outside Madam Saigon.

In addition to this, you can now only turn left coming out of the service lane near the Pink Pineapple. Over the next few months, there will be a P10 loading bay added to this lane.

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](#)



ADOPT

Dogs ready to adopt

There are quite a few people in our neighbourhood fostering dogs. They are doing excellent work, caring for and training dogs in their loving home. Some of the dogs are now ready to be adopted.

JoJo

Jojo is an almost five-year-old terrier mix looking for a forever home. She is medium energy and loves exploring new places. She's learning to walk on a leash and enjoys playing fetch. Jojo gets along with some dogs but prefers her own space.

Jojo knows basic commands and needs positive reinforcement to build trust. She loves cuddles and enjoys chewing treats or playing with toys.

If you're interested in meeting Jojo, please see her profile on Trademe under Ellie's Canine Rescue and contact them. <https://www.trademe.co.nz/a/marketplace/pets-animals/dogs/dogs-to-adopt/listing/5130575125?bof=7o5byNje>

Nikau

Nikau is a 9 months old, medium size, lab x staffy puppy. Nikau is extremely intelligent, loving, loyal and protective. He's active and would suit a home with another dog or a family who has a lot of love to give. He's still young and learning how to walk on a lead but he's curious and adventurous and enjoys being out and about.

If you are interested to meet him, please have a look on his profile on Trademe under Ellie's Canine Rescue and contact them. <https://www.trademe.co.nz/a/marketplace/pets-animals/dogs/dogs-to-adopt/listing/5070872475?bof=7o5byNje>



JoJo and Nikau waiting for their new homes

U3A

U3A is searching for a new conductor

Jancis Potter started up the U3A Singers group in 2013. Over the years they have regularly entertained at Rest Homes and concerts for Tawa residents. The choir has now grown to number over 30 singers who love singing with her.

Unfortunately Jancis is no longer able to continue conducting and we are now searching for a new conductor so the choir can continue singing for the enjoyment of others.

Fundraiser market

As most skilled musicians need to earn a living, we need to raise money to pay for their skills. Jan Machin from Off Beat Fashions has offered her excess stock of Women's and Girls' clothing, Pacifica themed men's shirts, craft fabrics, quilts, cushions etc. for us to run a **Clearance Sale/ Market Stall** which will take place at **Tawa Anglican Church**, cnr Main Road and Lyndhurst Road on **Saturday 26 April, 10am to 2pm**.

Please come and buy. We need your support.

Enquiries: Gail Milner (Choir coordinator) 027 417 4422.

TAWA RECREATION CENTRE

Closure period extended

Tawa Recreation Centre has been closed since mid December 2024 for required seismic strengthening and water tightness maintenance. The closure period has been extended to mid May 2025 due to weather and additional maintenance work that has been discovered.

We are doing everything we can to get our full services up and running as fast as possible and keeping our current stakeholders informed.

Please email the facility for further information tawa.rec@wcc.govt.nz

TAWA COMMUNITY CENTRE

School holidays are coming up!

Here at Tawa Community Centre we will be doing our usual LEGO on Tuesday afternoons (2-4pm) and movies on Thursday afternoons (2-4pm). Come and join us for some dinosaur-related fun! Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

LINDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

The renovation work is still going on, hopefully everything will be on track and the centre can be reopened in June.

The regular office hour groups are happening at the Bridge Club

Bake and Connect is on Wednesday mornings, 9:30 – 11:30, fortnightly.

Food is given out for free on Fridays, 12pm – 1pm.

TAWA LIBRARY

News system live

Our new system called Spydus went live on Wednesday and we'd like to thank all our customers for their patience as we worked through the changes over the past two weeks. There are still many reserves/holds to process and we are hoping to have these all up to date soon.

You can check out the new system on our catalogue here [Welcome to our New Catalogue](#)

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know about Love Food Hate Waste?

Reducing food waste is one of the top and most accessible actions households can take to limit climate change. Love Food Hate Waste can help you with that.

You can find lots of advice, as well as a great selection of recipes, a free seasonal meal planner and recipe book on the website here: <https://lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz/home/our-recipes/>

Read more about the organisation here: <https://lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz/about-us/>

SHORT NEWS AND EVENTS



Join us for the Tawa Intermediate 50th birthday party picnic. 5-7pm Wednesday 9 April at the school. Carnival atmosphere. Open to all, but would especially love to see previous students.

This is a whanau friendly, alcohol, smoke and vape free event.



Empty aluminium drink cans and foil trays

Anthony and his family are collecting empty aluminium drink cans and aluminium foil trays to recycle, as a fund raiser to get Anthony and his Team to the Special Olympics National Summer Games in Christchurch this December. It's a huge event with over 1400 athletes, coaches and support crew expected to attend.

If you have 1 can or 1,000 cans (coke, sprite, etc) we will take them all.

Drop off bin is on Lane Crescent, opposite BestStart kindy (where we have our annual Christmas Lights Display).

Pop-In Play group Christine Darnell

Pop-In playgroup in Tawa has been running for almost 45 years. Many of you will remember Christine Darnell who has been part of Pop-In since its inception.

Christine is taking a well deserved break from Pop-In and we are putting together a book of memories and thanks for her.

If you have any memories or photos to share please send those to teresa.pohl@tac.org.nz, drop by Pop-in on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings or the Tawa Anglican Church office Tuesdays to Fridays (8.30am to 2:30pm)



Kiwi Community Assistance

We currently have no size 4 girls winter clothing in stock. We are also running low on all other children sizes.

With the change of season we need your help to pass on recently laundered winter clothing to families working with our partner agencies.

If you can help please drop your donations off at one of our drop off points.

<https://www.kca.org.nz/drop-off-points> (Tawa Community Centre has a drop off box)



Spotted in Tawa, pretty letterbox!



Tawa/Linden gets some fabulous sunsets!

5 MINUTES WITH JEMIMA SCOTT



5 minutes with Jemima Scott

I was born at Wellington hospital and I have lived in Wellington, Auckland, Amsterdam, Munich and Melbourne!

I attended Redwood School and Tawa College. When I was at school, being able to do all my training for ballet whilst still spending time with my friends was important to me.

I travelled a lot due to my dancing and I love it. I am very organised and like to have everything planned before I go so I enjoy the planning aspect of it all. It's awesome being able to see new places and just going for a walk not knowing what you will find.

I joined the RNZB in 2021 at 19, and I didn't have huge experience as to how a ballet company worked. I quickly learnt all the ropes and was very lucky to receive lots of featured roles. Given these roles at a young age has helped me develop so much in my career and I have wanted to push even harder. I was very excited when I was promoted to soloist this year (2025).

Most Sunday nights my whole family has Sunday night dinner at someone's house and it's so much fun to all come together (it's also very loud). I have three older brothers, two nieces and a nephew and they are so funny! I love hanging out with them. My nieces and nephew love putting on swan lake music and dancing around.

I dance from 9-6 Monday to Friday sometimes Saturdays. During 9-6 I do pilates, ballet class, rehearsals and then some days I will be in the gym for just under an hour. It is a very physical job which is an aspect a lot of people don't know. I love the feeling of coming home knowing you really pushed yourself throughout the day. It's very satisfying. When we are in performance mode we start at about midday and work till the show is finished around 10pm. We do two shows on Saturdays and sometimes we perform a matinee on Sunday.

I lived in Tawa from when I was born till about age 16 then I moved back to Tawa in 2023

I like that Tawa is a good distance away from the city and it has almost everything you need on the Main Street. Also where I live in Tawa it's quite sheltered so there's not much wind and it gets really hot on the deck!

Some accomplishments I am most proud of are going overseas to train for ballet on my own, being promoted to soloist with RNZB and dancing major roles for my family and friends to come watch!

Picture credits: Stephen A'Court

Jemima dancing Grand Pas Classique in RNZB Tutus on Tour

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 14 April.

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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