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Kia ora,

I hope you have all had a good Easter and enjoyed the sunshine!
In this newsletter you will find out about the upcoming Anzac service, a safe zone for youth in the CBD, recycling inflatables and chip packets, plans for another community garden, news from our local service clubs, and a lot more.

We would love your opinion on the newsletter, so if you have a few minutes, please complete the survey here: https://forms.gle/vAvCUnQhoDFsiNLm6

We hope you enjoy reading about all the good stuff that is happening in our vibrant community.
If you have news or pictures please email us at newslettertawa@gmail.com!

Ngā mihi and greetings from us all at the Tawa Residents' Association,

Monique

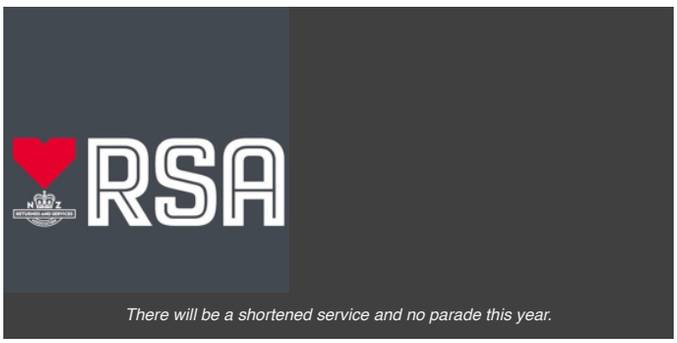
Share Tweet Forward

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

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

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

The Tawa RSA is pleased to advise that Anzac Day commemorations can go ahead this year. On Monday the 25th at 10am, there will be a shortened service at Tawa Memorial on Oxford Street. Unfortunately there will be no parade this year.
You are most welcome to pay your respects at this service.



There will be a shortened service and no parade this year.

FAREWELL PARTY

A farewell party was held for one of the regular users of the Linden Community Centre, Louise Barnhill. Louise has been with the Good Neighbour group for more than 30 years! She visited the centre twice a week to meet friends and play Rummikub and board games. She is leaving windy Wellington to move to sunny Nelson. The group members are all going to miss her. They wish her all the best and lots of fun in Nelson.

Louise is a much loved member of the group. "She is very bubbly, thoughtful, and always comes to the centre with her beautiful smile."
Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=719876262783126&id=100414371395988

MAIN ROAD TIDY UP

Over Easter, a few members of Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves undertook a little community service. They cleared up the blackberry and some other weeds besides the stream at 179 Main Road. Two bags of rubbish were collected from around the stream. A few flax and rengarenga were also planted. Thanks to Richard Herbert for the before and after pictures.

Read more about the activities and wonderful bush reserves around Tawa at https://tawabush.org.nz/

LINDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN

A community hui was held this month to talk about establishing a community garden in Linden. It was well attended and work will continue on this. If you are keen to get involved as well, please contact Leigh Keown, operations manager for the Vulnerable Support Charitable Trust. Her email is hello@vsctrust.org.nz. You can read more about the trust here: https://vsctrust.org.nz/who-we-are/

Plans are progressing for a community garden in Linden. Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/Linden-Community-Centre-100414371395988

BUS ON DEMAND UPDATE

After postponing the launch of the new Tawa On Demand bus, Metlink is now planning on launching the service in the second half of May. There will be a trial starting on May 9th. If you would like to be part of the trial, please email Stephen Hay at stephen.hay@gw.govt.nz.

Starting the second half of May!

RECYCLE INFLATABLE POOL TOYS

Now summer has come to an end, you might be wondering what to do with ripped airbeds, inflatable pools, and pool toys. A local couple takes donations of these for Ali, their daughter-in-law who turns them into fabulous bags!
You can read about Ali and see her bags on her website. If you would like to donate your items (please no mouldy items), you can email her through the 'Get in touch' button here: https://www.lillabean.co.nz

TAKE 10 SAFE ZONE

As Tawa is home to many families, chances are you know a young person or two. If they enjoy Wellington nightlife, let them know about Take 10 on Courtenay Place.

This “safe zone” for youth is run by Vulnerable Support Charitable Trust (VSCT). The project aims to reduce harm from alcohol and drugs by providing support in a non-judgemental environment. Every Friday and Saturday night, their mobile unit sets up outside St. James Theatre with beanbags, games, free water and lollies, and a phone charging station. Trained volunteers are there to provide advice and medical attention. Whether needing help or just a space to sober up, young people are welcome to head over and “take 10”. Keep an eye on the Facebook page for updates: https://www.facebook.com/take10wgtn

VSCT welcomes new volunteers, as well as medics and registered youth workers. They also run a number of other programmes, including Take 10 Arvo’s. For more information, head over to http://vsctrust.org.nz.

Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/take10wgtn

INNER WHEEL AND PROBUS

May is Membership Month for the Inner Wheel Tawa. Inner Wheel is an international women's service organisation who are very active in the Tawa community. They are seeking interested women to come and learn more about Inner Wheel. Please come along to a sip & chat at The Borough on Saturday 7 May, 4.00pm. For more information, please email tawaiwsecretary@gmail.com or phone 021 369 115.

Also looking for more members is Tawa Probus Club. They meet at the Tawa Bowling Club rooms in Davies Street, at 9.30am on the 3rd Monday of most months (except Dec and Jan), for social fellowship with morning tea and a key speaker.

Probus is a worldwide movement in 23 countries, originating in the United Kingdom in the 1960s with the formation of social clubs for retired people under the auspices of Rotary. The Probus philosophy – Fun, Friendship and Fellowship in Retirement – continues to live on after Covid. So if you are wanting to reconnect with our community after 2 years of isolation, we welcome new members, or just come along for a no obligation visit.

For more information, please visit https://probussouthpacific.org or contact Tawa Probus Secretary Richard Herbert by calling 027 445 5942 or emailing herbert.r@xtra.co.nz.

FREE LEGAL HELP REOPENED

Community Law Wellington and Hutt Valley provides a range of services, from drop-in clinics to community advocacy training. After having to stop the drop-in sessions due to Covid, they have just opened again from the 20th of April. It is best to attend a specialised drop-in session that matches your legal issue, but they will do their best to advise you at any session you choose to attend. Sessions are in Wellington, Level 2, 15 Dixon Street.
Read all about this service here: http://www.wclc.org.nz/our-services/

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:00 pm	Advice for Women 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm		General 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm		General 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
1:00 pm			Family 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm		
5:00 pm	General 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	General 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	General 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	General 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	
6:00 pm	Tenancy Service 5:30 pm - 7:00	Refugee & Immigration 5:30 pm - 7:00	Employment 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Kaupapa Māori 5:30 pm - 7:00	

Attend a free drop-in session at Community Law Wellington on 15 Dixon Street.

PYJAMA DRIVE

Once again Tawa Rotary, with the support of the Tawa community, is promoting its annual winter pyjama drive in the support of Foster Hope.
Many of the children taken into foster care have never had a brand new pair of pyjamas of their very own. Knowing that someone has shopped especially for them is a huge boost to their self-esteem. There is often a shortage of pyjamas, especially for young teenage age groups. Anything we can do as a community to help these youngsters feel loved and valued is invaluable.

There is a drop off point location for donations at New World Tawa.
Read more about Foster Hope here: www.fosterhope.org.nz

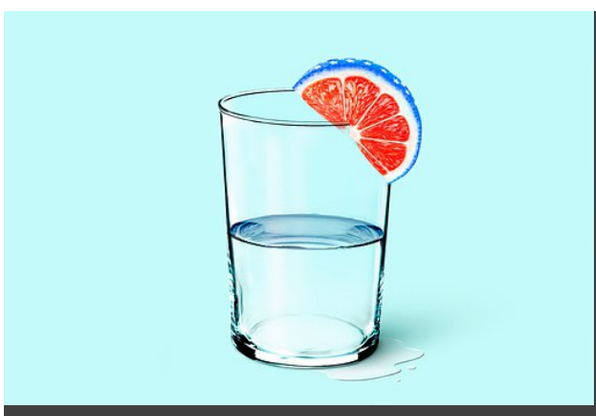
Drop off your donations at the New World in Tawa.
Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Tawa-77724753196

SUCCESSFUL PROJECT

The recent e-waste project by the Tawa Lions was a big success. Ray Lindsay, the project coordinator, sent us these pictures and informed us that the project raised over $2,000! This will go towards an item of equipment for the new Wellington Children's Hospital. Many thanks for your support, neighbours!

WATER FLUORIDATION

Wellington's water company has revealed it stopped adding fluoride to the water supply last year, without letting the public know. Wellington Water's board chair Lynda Carroll said fluoride was stopped at one plant in May last year and at another in November. There will be an inquiry and you can read all about the problems here: https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/463487/inquiry-announced-into-lack-of-fluoridation-in-wellington-water



There have been a number of problems around the fluoridation of our water.

GOVERNMENT CANDIDATES

Are you interested in what goes on in your local community and motivated to get involved, or do you know someone who would make an ideal representative for your community?
Local government elections are occurring later this year in October. Nominations for potential candidates for both Wellington City Council Northern Ward councillors and Tawa Community Board members will be sought closer to that time. But now is the time to find out what's involved and start thinking about whether this is a role for you. See https://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/elections/2022-elections for more information, or talk to one of our current local government representatives.

Picture credits: https://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/elections/2022-elections

LOCAL CONSULTATIONS

Wellington City Council needs your input!

Too much rubbish is ending up in landfills and our environment. Have your say on the following three proposals to transform recycling in Aotearoa New Zealand:
1. A container return scheme that encourages people to return their empty beverage containers for recycling.
2. Improvements to household kerbside recycling.
3. Separation of food scraps from general waste for all businesses.

Have your say here: https://consult.environment.govt.nz/waste/transforming-recycling/?fbclid=IwAR3cpxEXqHyFVYCY0qTrTF7aeilM6GJhIZLbNkHAEL4TK1cwkv2wwIpYC20

Check out the Southern Landfill and council housing issues in the Annual Plan, feedback closes 15 May.
https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/hub-page/annual-plan-2022-2023

Pages to check on for our region's consulations:

Wellington City Council
https://wellington.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultations

Porirua City Council
https://poriruacity.govt.nz/your-council/getting-involved/public-consultation/

Greater Wellington Regional Council (you can also join their regular online citizen panel):
https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/get-involved/have-your-say/

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Check the website regularly to have your say on local issues: https://wellington.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultations

SHORT NEWS

The tree at Arthur Carman park has been taken down. Many people in the area have fond memories of climbing and playing in and around the tree. Picture credits: Vicky Christian.

There is now a new external defibrillator located beside the blue piano outside Linden Community Centre. It is available 24/7. To use it, ring 111 for the code. Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/Linden-Community-Centre-100414371395988

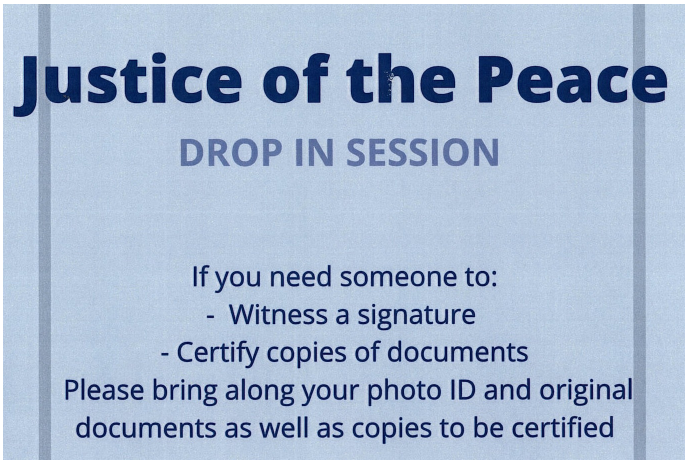
There is a preloved children's toys and clothing sale at Linden Community Centre on Saturday April 30, from 9am till 12.30pm. Tawa College's cricket team is holding a BBQ to raise funds for their events too. It is a cash-only and koha entry event. Picture credits: Amanda Roberts-Pow.

The jigsaw library is open every Thursday morning, 10am–12pm. Come pick up some puzzles and have a chat! The plan is to extend the hours if there are enough volunteers, and to add a table to puzzle together with a shared morning tea. You can also donate puzzles, including children's jigsaws.

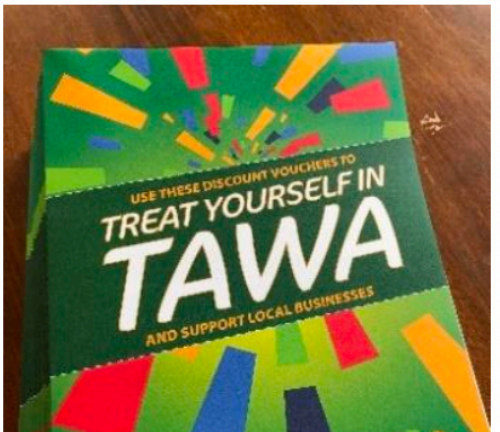
Tawa MenzShed is offering boxes of cut up pallets at $10 per box – free delivery within Tawa. To place an order please contact Richard Herbert on 027 445 5942, or email herbert.r@xtra.co.nz.

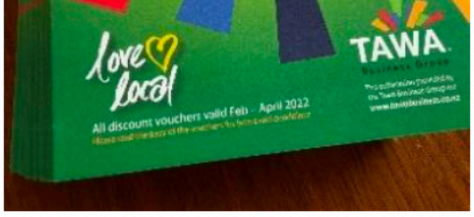
Good to see that soft plastics recycling is back at the entrance of New World Tawa! Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/newworldtawa

The Inner Wheel Club of Tawa is holding their quiz night on Sunday 22 May with proceeds going to Tawa Community Patrol. For tickets, contact Carolyn Crutch on carolynjcrutch@gmail.com or call 021 369 115.

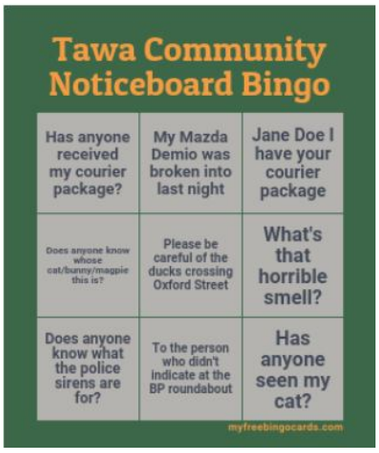


The free JP service is going strong at Tawa Community Centre on Tuesday mornings, 10am–12pm. The service saw 53 people through the centre in March.





Don't forget to use your vouchers before they expire!



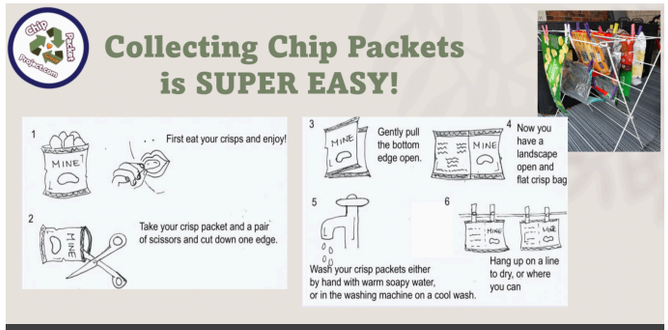
Bingo in the Tawa Community Noticeboard Facebook group. Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/groups/701254429944972/posts/6039299256140436/

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that you can now recycle chip packets?

The Chip Packet Project is a great initiative that recycles empty chip packets and turns them into thermal foil blankets! The aim is to make 30,000 blankets and pillows by winter, and it takes at least 30 large chip packets to make just one blanket.
If you love chips and want to support this initiative, please wash and dry the foil and stockpile them if possible and just contact the CPPNZ's coordinator for Wellington Harita Gandhi on h.gandhi@hotmail.com to arrange a pick up time.
Read more about it here: https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/300534676/making-a-difference-how-recycled-chip-packets-are-helping-aucklands-vulnerable

A sleeping bag made from recycled chip packets. Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/chippacketprojectnz/photos/a.104168438686143/1543602770002292



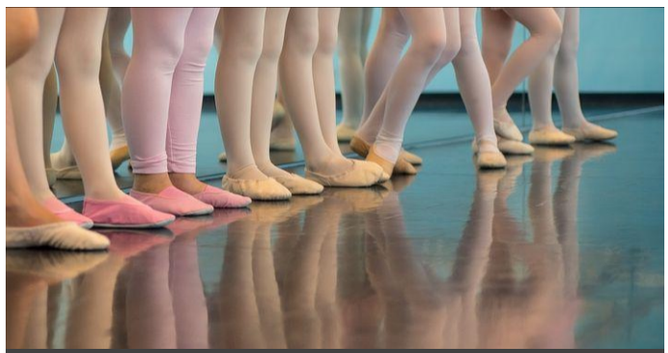
First, eat your chips!

DANCE CLASSES

We are lucky to have a good choice of dance schools in our neighbourhood! There is the Tracey Odell School of Modern Dance and you can find their timetable here: http://traceyodelldance.com/timetable-1

We have Hayley Johnson Dance who also offers education in dance and you can find the timetable here:
https://www.hayleyjohnson.com/timetables

And we have the MJDC Dance Academy, which is under leadership of Megan Joslin. You can find the timetable
here: https://www.mjdcdanceacademy.com/timetable and this month we have an interview with Megan in our *5 minutes with...*



There are many different dance classes for all ages in Tawa!

5 MINUTES WITH... MEGAN

5 Minutes with Megan Joslin, owner of the dance school MJDC.

Can you tell us something about your life growing up?
I was born and raised in Wellington. I started dance when I was 5 years, old starting in classical ballet and then slowly branching out to other styles. I lived in Churton Park while attending Churton Park Primary School. In about 2008, myself and my family moved to Ohariu Valley where my family lived and managed a lifestyle block. At age 8, I suffered a significant back injury that resulted in many years of push backs, significant pain, and the possibility that I would no longer be able to dance. 10 years later, after undergoing several medical procedures and 2 spinal surgeries, including being the surgeon's youngest patient for a lumbar disc replacement, I overcame many obstacles to continue to follow my love and passion for dance.

As much as dance was my whole life, I was a very sporty child with a passion for hockey, netball and horse riding. While I was living in the Johnsonville area, I attended Newlands Intermediate and College. From there I went to Whiteria to study nursing while dancing with AMDC for the Fringe Festival in 2018.

Can you tell us something about your life after finishing school?
After school, I kept dance in my priority list. But with lots of family and doctors saying that I shouldn't be dancing anymore and pushing my dreams to have a career in dance further away, I decided to go study nursing for a little while until I got lots of opportunities with AMDC. I started learning how to teach in 2018 and performed in Fringe shows. In 2020, the owner of AMDC decided to take a step down from the school and gave me all the courage I needed to open my own school in Tawa.

What can you tell us about your current daily life?
I currently work at Combined Taxis in Newtown doing call taking as well as statistics and data. I start my work day at 7am, 5 days a week. When I finish at 3pm, I end up going straight to the studio for classes, usually starting at 4pm. I don't have a lot of time in between for hobbies on teaching days, but I do prepare for classes, usually on my breaks at my morning job. On my weekends I put all my time towards friends and family.

What do you like about Tawa?
I grew up in the Johnsonville and Churton Park area. I attended a few different dance schools in Tawa and very quickly found my passion for dance. The community is definitely my favourite thing about Tawa. I love that everyone here is willing to drop everything to help and support neighbours in any possible way.

What achievements in your life give you the most pride?
Definitely getting all my qualifications to teach dance. Ballet was always my passion and I finished two different syllabuses, RAD and NZAMD. Despite all my injuries in my past, I'm super proud of myself for getting the opportunities for Fringe and even planning to do a couple in the near future.

What are three things you would like to do in the next 10 years?
In the next 10 years my aim is to get the dance school big, a place where kids can call the studio a second home and a place they love to be at. At MJDC we want kids to find their passion and dance for love of the artform in many different styles.

NEXT TRA MEETING

The Tawa Residents' Association 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 of the month, 7.30pm. In the current situation we might meet online on Google Meet and we need enough members present to have the meeting. You can email vibrant.tawa@gmail.com for updates on the meeting or other information, or keep an eye on the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa
You can find the agenda on our website here: https://tawa.org.nz/tra-meetings/
We look forward to meeting you!

Tony, Robyn, Peter, Susan, Richard, Jill, John, Anna, Jackson & Monique

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TAWA Wellington

Monique
The Tawa Residents' Association

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