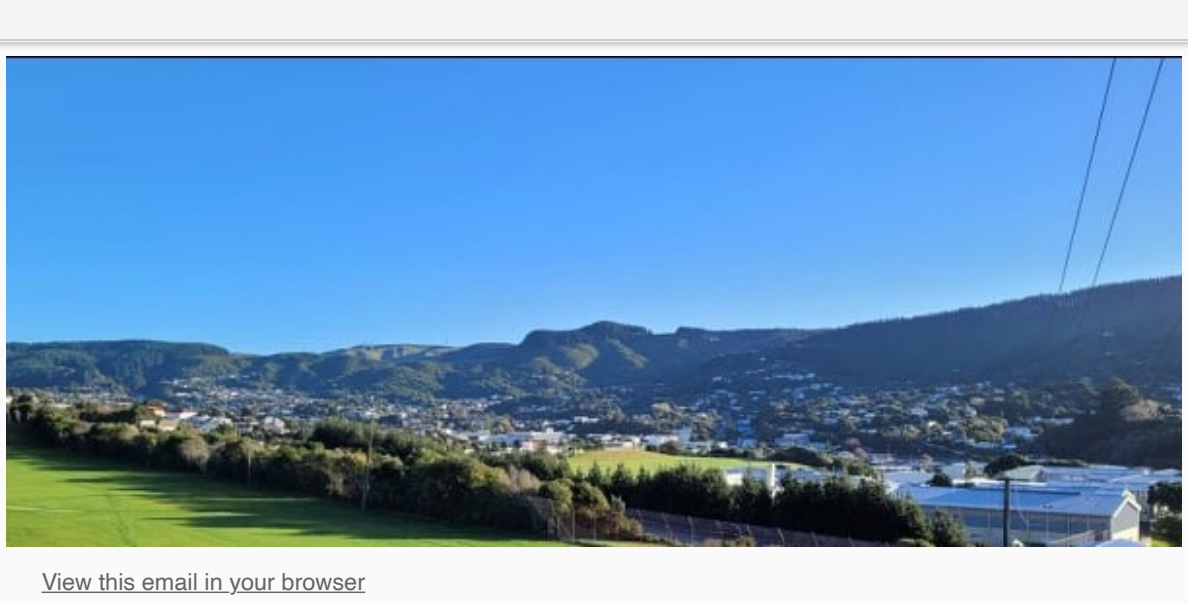


View this email in your browser

Kia ora,

Winter is coming and the days are getting shorter. Luckily we still have many sunny days to go out and enjoy our neighbourhood.

In this newsletter you will find pictures from the Anzac service, a goodbye to Linden Motors, fundraising news by Tawa College student Rumaysah, upcoming events, and a *5 minutes with* Elizabeth, an active local environmentalist!
We hope you keep enjoying to read about all the good stuff that is happening in our vibrant community.

If you have any comments, news, or pictures to share, please email us at newslettertawa@gmail.com!

Ngā mihi and greetings from us all at the Tawa Residents' Association. Our AGM is on June 13, 7.30pm at Tawa Squash Club, all welcome!

Monique

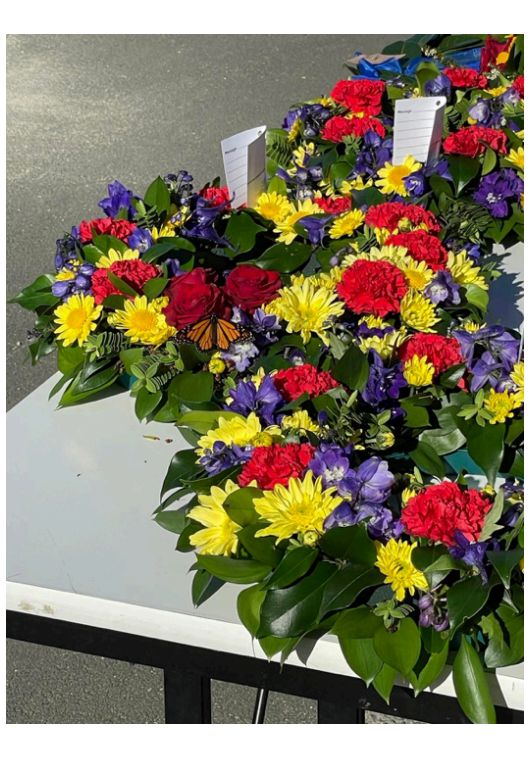
Share Tweet Forward

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

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

ANZAC SERVICE

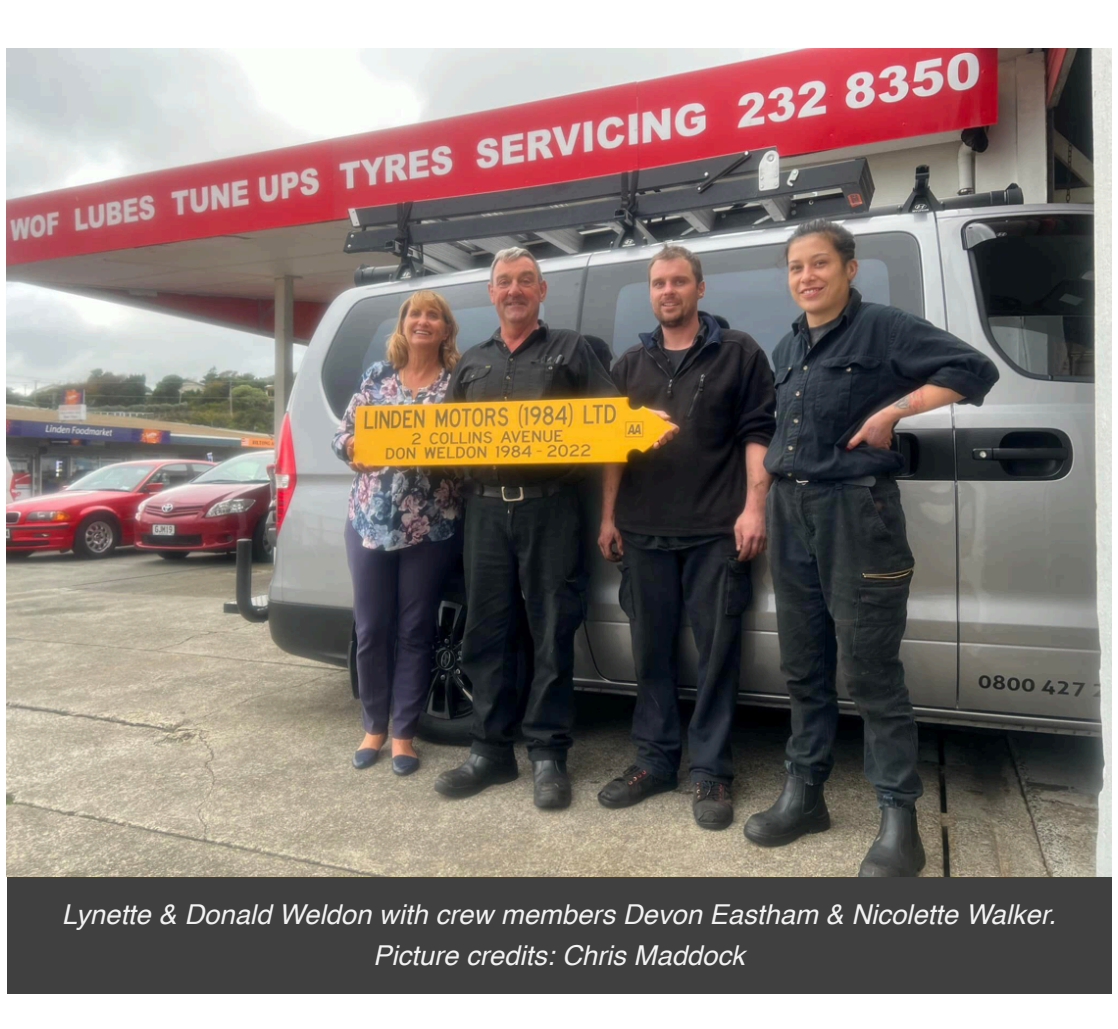
The Anzac Day service was well attended this year. Despite having no parade and a shortened service, many people came to the memorial at Oxford Street to pay their respects.



Picture credits: John Plunkett

LINDEN MOTORS LTD

Lynette and Don Weldon retired last week after many years of hard work at their garage, Linden Motors (1984) LTD. After 38 years, they are looking forward to spending more time with their family. A big thank you from Don to the community for supporting them all this time.
We wish Lynette and Don a happy retirement and all the very best for the future.



Lynette & Donald Weldon with crew members Devon Eastham & Nicolette Walker. Picture credits: Chris Maddock

TAWA COLLEGE FUNDRAISER

Last term, the Tawa College Amnesty International Group held very successful fundraisers for Ukrainian relief, raising over $1400! The funds will go to UNICEF and Amnesty International, organisations that are intent upon improving the state of the Ukrainian humanitarian crisis. As the leader of the TC Amnesty International, it was amazing to see how the school body came together over one issue we were really passionate about. We dedicated a whole week to just spreading awareness about the crisis in Ukraine and how we, as the youth, could help. As young members of the community, standing up for what we believe is right is essential to the future of Tawa, of New Zealand, and the world! We hope to see even more unity and success throughout the rest of the year.

From our Tawa College reporter, Rumaysah Farun

Picture credits: Tawa College Photographers

BUS ON DEMAND UPDATE

After a successful trial, the Tawa On Demand bus started May 16th and received lots of positive feedback from our neighbourhood! Several people were excited to report seeing the bus drive by.

The On Demand service does not have a set route, and has flexible pick-up and drop-off locations. Using the app, you can request a ride for $2.50.

Find all the information about the On Demand bus for Tawa and how to get the app here: https://www.metlink.org.nz/news-and-updates/plans-and-projects/metlink-on-demand-pilot-tawa-suburb/

Watch a video about getting the On Demand bus here: https://youtu.be/TkRF-vC_AKU. Picture credits: metlink.org.nz

SCIENCE WEEK

The annual Primary Science Week took place in the third week of May. This year's national theme was Antarctic science, featuring Zoom calls with Scott Base and webinars with Antarctic scientists. One syndicate at Tawa Intermediate even erected a tent and wore clothes that would be used on Scott Base!

Tawa College Science Department once again held an open evening in support. In their two labs, Tawa Kahui Ako students got to engage with cool equipment and kitchen science experiments. What a fantastic way to encourage curiosity and scientific thinking in our younger students.

Picture credits: Carol Brieseman

CIVIC AWARDS

Tawa Community Board members have been out and about getting the recipients of the 2021 Tawa Community Civic Awards their certificates. Congratulations to all the nominees! One of the recipients is our own TRA president Tony Hassed, in the category of Education and Child/Youth Development!

You can see all the nominees here: https://www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard/posts/336574918505843

Board chair Robyn Parkinson presenting the certificate to Tony Hassed at a recent community meeting.
Picture credits: Mandy Russell

SKATE PARK UPGRADE

Great news for our local skaters of all ages. This year, Tawa Skate Park will be upgraded from an ageing relic to a contemporary space which skaters of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels can enjoy. Read all about it and check out the design here: https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/tawa-skate-park.

If you have any questions or thoughts about the design, please send an email to tawaskatepark@wcc.govt.nz by 5pm, Tuesday 7 June 2022.

A long overdue upgrade for the skate park is planned.

SPRING INTO TAWA

Spring into Tawa is back this year on Saturday 29 October. This fabulous day with over 100 stalls is organised by a small committee of volunteers, on behalf of the Tawa Residents Association.
Once again, the focus will be on reducing the impact on the environment and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

If you would like to volunteer on the day or be a part of the organising team, please email spring.into.tawa@gmail.com.

We're excited to have Spring into Tawa back this year. Read more about Spring into Tawa on the website: https://springintotawa.nz

TAWA BOARD AND COUNCIL ELECTION NOMINATIONS

Are you a Tawa/Linden local with a big heart for our community? Have you thought about joining the Tawa Community Board or the local council? They are looking for candidates! The elections will be held again in October.
Formal nominations will open on 15 July and close at noon on 12 August. The Tawa Residents' Associations will organise a Meet the Candidates evening in September.

Read the latest information about who will run for local council here: https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/wellington/128283502/six-months-out-from-wellington-city-council-elections-who-is-running

Candidates are needed for the Tawa Community Board and the Council for the Takapū/Northern General Ward.

SPIKE IN STOLEN VEHICLES

There has been a spike in stolen vehicles across the Wellington region since February, with cars regularly stolen or broken into in Tawa as well. Did you know the most targeted cars are the Mazda Demio, the Nissan Tiida and the Mazda Atenza?

Here's how you can help prevent your vehicle being stolen:

- Ensure your vehicle is locked, and all valuable items removed or concealed from view when you are not with it.
- If possible, park your vehicle in a garage, but if it must be parked on the road, try to park in a well-lit, busy area.
- There are anti-theft devices available for both your vehicle and trailers that will help prevent theft. For example, a lock like this: https://www.supercheapauto.co.nz/accessories-seat-covers/safety-security/steering-wheel-locks

If you notice suspicious or concerning activity around vehicles, please contact Police on 111 if it is happening and 105 after the fact.

The Mazda Demio is the most stolen car in New Zealand. Picture credits: https://www.stuff.co.nz/motoring/128198311/the-mazda-demio-is-still-the-most-stolen-car-in-nz

NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

Linden is getting a community garden, and it needs a name! This is a chance for the community to get involved. If you have a suggestion for a name, you can email Leigh: hello@vsctrust.org.nz.
The winning name will be decided by a panel of local Linden residents, and the winning name's owner will receive a prize.

If you have a good name for the new community garden in Linden please send it in! Picture credits: Leigh Keown

WELLINGTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

The Wellington Male Voice Choir have their concert "Songs of the Sea" coming up at Queen Margaret College, 53 Hobson St, Thorndon on Sunday 29 May, 2.30pm. Tickets can be purchased through their website https://www.wellingtonmvcnz.org for $20, door sales $25.

The Wellington Male Voice Choir is a community choir of the Welsh tradition, although these days they sing a great variety of repertoire under the musical directorship of Mark Stamper. The current concert is based on songs, ballads and shanties of the sea and seafaring, including New Zealand's own "The Weller Man".

The choir has weekly practices in Tawa at the hall of the Tawa Union Church. New members welcome, please see https://www.wellingtonmvcnz.org for more information and contact details.

Picture credits: https://www.wellingtonmvcnz.org

FROM THE BEEHIVE

We encourage our politicians and councillors to reach out to us with news. This month, we received a message from our Ōhāriū MP Greg O'Connor.

"Budget Day is the centre point of the parliamentary cycle, and last week's Budget concentrated on addressing the cost of living issues which are dominating the whole world. Many Tawa residents will benefit from the $350 dollar payments to those earning less than $70K and who don't qualify for the winter energy payment i.e. lower paid workers. There is also a law change to stop supermarket chains from using the law to stop rival supermarkets from being built nearby, preventing good competition and lower prices. The thirty cent reduction per litre of petrol and the diesel equivalent will also continue, as will half-price public transport. Community Service Card holders will receive a permanent 50 per cent concession on public transport.
There are also incentives to get older high-emitting cars off the road. And speaking of roads, while we love Transmission Gully, spare a thought for Takapu Valley residents for whom that clunk you feel as you go over the Cannon Creek Bridge is quite intrusive. I'm working with Waka Kotahi on their behalf to see if it can be mitigated."

You can contact Greg with any concerns by calling 04 8278768 or emailing greg.oconnor@parliament.govt.nz.

The Beehive is the executive wing of the New Zealand Parliament buildings.

PROBUS AGM

At the recent Probus AGM, Ross Armstrong was appointed as president for the coming year. Earlier past president Max George was presented with a life membership for the wonderful contribution he has made to the club over many years.

Probus is a worldwide fellowship organisation aimed at those who are seeking fun, friendship, and fellowship in their retirement. They meet on the 3rd Monday of each month, 9.30am at the Tawa Bowling Club rooms in Davies Street. At the June meeting, the speaker will be Nick Leggett from Transporting New Zealand.

Tawa Probus president Ross Armstrong receives the chain of office from former president David Belcher.

TAWA ROTARY

Rotary is also meeting again. You can join for the monthly get together at the Sprig & Fern on the first Sunday of each month, 4-6pm. All welcome.

Some of the recent Rotary achievements are: replacement of the hanging baskets on the Main Road, collection of winter pyjamas for Foster Hope, selection of candidates from Tawa College for the Rotary Innovative Young Minds Course, and donations of funds raised for the new Children's Hospital.

Coming up: Pride in Work Awards October, a visit to Circa Theatre, and Kerry Prendergast's review of walking the Te Araroa Trail. New members always welcome, just contact Denise Garcia on 027 7217003.

The hanging baskets were refreshed this month and look great. Picture credits: Tawa Rotary

TAWA BUSINESS GROUP

Tawa Rotary and Tawa Business Group have teamed up to organise an evening with Brad Olsen on the implication of the 2022 Budget. Brad Olsen is the principal economist and director at Infometrics, and passionate about using economics to make better informed decisions.

The event will be held at Tawa Bowling Club on Tuesday May 31st, starting with a meet & greet with cash bar at 5:45pm. The free presentation begins at 6:15pm. To RSVP, email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz.

After Brad's presentation, there will be an opportunity to join the Tawa Rotary

Club and Brad for dinner, for $25. To RSVP, email Pat at pat.waite@outlook.com.

SHORT NEWS

The Air Force Heritage Flight of New Zealand announced a flypast program for this coming Saturday, 28 May 2022. Consisting of the superlative Supermarine Spitfire and three modern Beechcraft T-6C Texan IIs of the Central Flying School, the formation will fly from Ohakea to Masterton and the Hutt Valley before returning to Ohakea via the Kapiti Coast. Flying over Tawa at 11.17!
Picture credits: https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/news/air-force-heritage-flight-spitfire-coming-to-lower-north-island/

The update of Linden Railway Station is coming along nicely. There's a new storage area, and the crew are painting the ceiling and the steel beams. Picture credits: Eric Raven

The bridge and ramp at Tawa Station are also being upgraded. Picture credits: Nate Geldard

A new No Right Turn sign was installed at the Redwood Station carpark. If you are coming from the direction of the BP station, driving on Tawa Street towards Duncan Street/Taylor Terrace roundabout, you cannot turn right into the carpark.

Linden Community Centre organised a fundraising morning tea for the Breast Cancer Foundation. Based on the great feedback, this programme will be back next year and will definitely be bigger. Thanks to all those involved! Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/Linden-Community-Centre-100414371395988

It's great to see one of our local Tawa neighbours brightening up the CBD! Has your clothing style also changed over the last two years? Picture credits and full article here: https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/style/128542176/how-a-pandemic-and-two-lockdowns-have-changed-new-zealands-fashion-sense?cid=app-iPhone&fbclid=IwAR3CA-vN_HXExz1PxAbMYUE-FKazm3k4Jx6z-YPEFGq7Ys78OLC92sxnX3Q

On Saturday the 11th of June, Tawa Hockey Club is celebrating 50 years! There will be an all day celebration, and in the evening a 70s themed party. Everyone is welcome, more details and the latest updates can be found here: https://fb.me/e/cxOpZXKCP
Picture credits: https://www.facebook.com/tawtitanshc

The monthly I Am series starts this Sunday, May 29th with an interesting first speaker, bishop Justin Duckworth. Hosted by the Tawa Anglicans, at 7pm, St Chistopher's Church Tawa with koha for charity.

The Pop Up Market is back in the atrium of New World this Saturday, May 28th, from 10-2pm. There will be over 20 stalls featuring locally produced and designed handmade products. Picture credits: Jemma Luu

DID YOU KNOW...

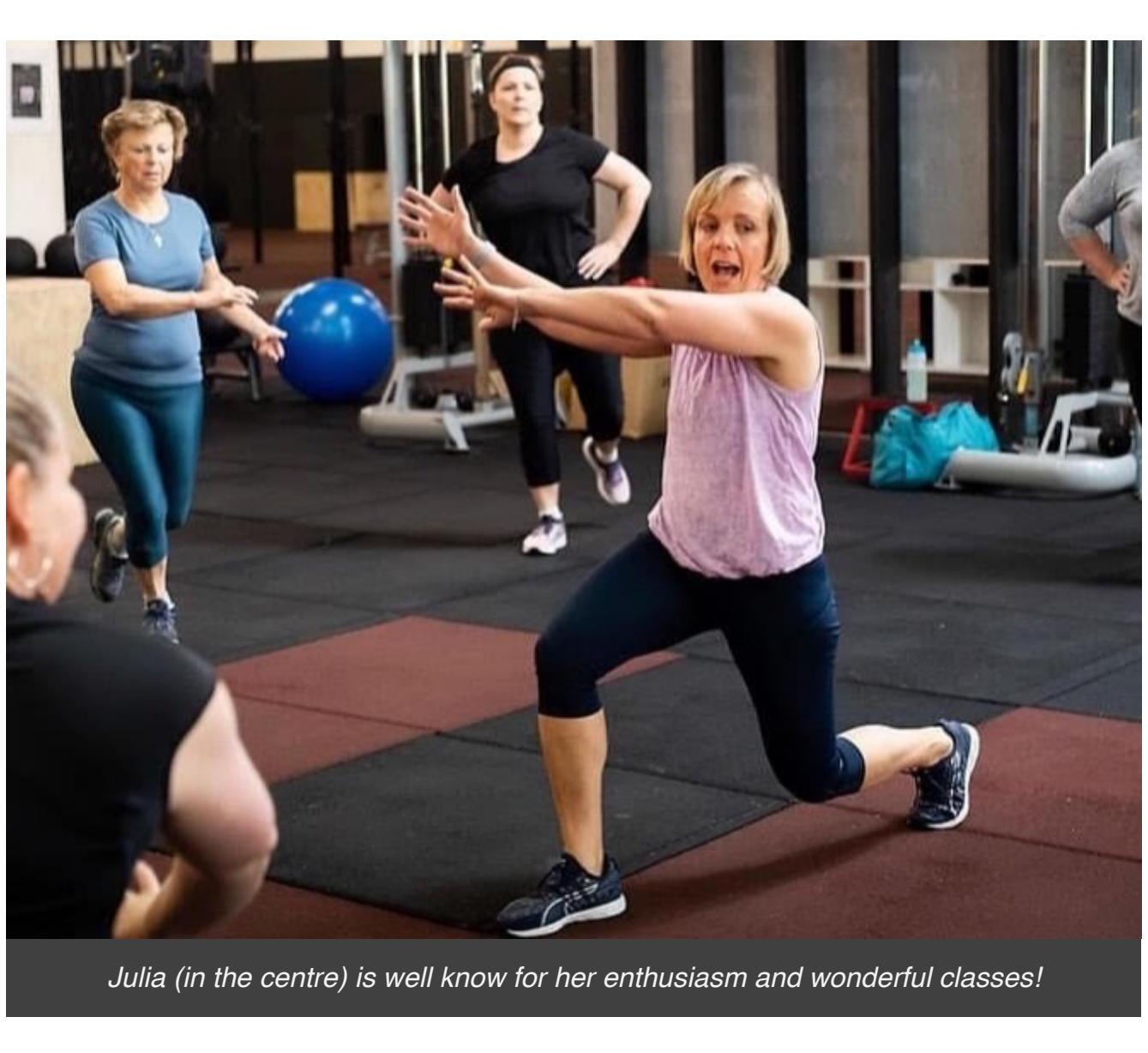
There is a new app that tells you where to get the best price for your groceries? All you do is scan the barcode of the product you want to buy, and the app tells you which supermaket has the best deal for you! You can download the app and read instructions here: https://grocer.nz
Read all about it in this article here: https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/new-app-grocer-helps-kiwi-shoppers-compare-grocery-prices-from-different-supermarkets/YJR7IGMLBJDPF4YTLKRTKFHWDU/

Add your favourite supermarkets to the app and find the best deals to save some money.

CLASSES

Julia from https://heavenlyfitness.nz started the MoveFIT classes back up and running at Tawa Emmaus Centre, which is at Tawa Anglican Church on Tuesday at 11am & Thursday at 2pm.
These exercise classes are low impact, they are suitable for anyone who wants to exercise in a friendly and supportive environment. Classes run for 45 minutes and cost just $6.

MetaFIT is now held at Tawa Rugby Club on Friday at 4.30pm and Sunday at 5pm. This is a great family exercise class and your first class is always free. Bring a friend and work up a sweat together! Contact Julia at fitnessheavenly@gmail.com or 027 2445185 for more information, or just turn up!



Julia (in the centre) is well know for her enthusiasm and wonderful classes!

5 MINUTES WITH... ELIZABETH

5 Minutes with Elizabeth Werner.

Can you tell us something about your life growing up?
Kia ora, te whānau. I was born in Te Whanganui-a-Tara/Wellington and Tawa has been my home for 21 years! I attended Tawa Montessori Preschool, Redwood School, Tawa Intermediate, Tawa College, and I am now finishing my Science degree at Victoria University of Wellington, Te Herenga Waka! My degree is a Bachelor of Science double majoring in Ecology and Biodiversity with Environmental Studies; I will admit having the first year free has been a big bonus!

From a young age I knew that I wanted to dedicate my life to protecting our planet. Everyday on my walk to Redwood School I would pick up all the honeybees and bumblebees I found sitting on the footpath. I didn't want them to get squashed so I carefully cradled them in my hands and took them to school to show my teacher, before placing them in the old lavender garden. This has been an important memory for me as it started my deep interest for conservation and strong sense to protect nature!

During college I became actively involved in environmental activities in our community — trapping pests, bird counting, tree planting, and giving talks to local schools, at events and conferences about how to involve rangatahi/youth in conservation! I began volunteering at Zealandia Ecosanctuary, giving mini talks to the public about some of the incredible species which can only be found in Aotearoa! My favourite talk to give would have to be on the lovely elderly takahē couple, Nio and Orbell, as I was lucky enough to work with around 50 of these rare round birds in 2021 (I was a BLAKE Department of Conservation Takahē Ambassador).

Can you tell us something about your life after finishing school?
My highlights after finishing college would have to be:
Going to university to study in an area I'm passionate about.
Having the honour of being a BLAKE DOC Takahē Ambassador, where I travelled down to Queenstown then Te Anau to work with Takahē Recovery. I helped raise awareness for this flightless species by speaking to Jesse Mulligan on Radio New Zealand while sitting outdoors in an open takahē pen at the Burwood Takahē Centre, I wrote blogs for DOC and Zealandia Ecosanctuary, and gave talks about the species at Zealandia!

More recently I had a summer internship at GNS Science, where I was involved with training artifical intelligence to analyse what was being said in news reports on climate change during the 2020 Westport flooding event.
And in 2020 I was nominated as a tap soloist for a national competition called the Performing Arts Competitions Association New Zealand. I have been tap dancing for 15 years, so this was a special milestone for me!

What can you tell us about your current daily life?
Well it's quite busy! During the day I'm either studying, completing an assignment, attending a lecture, lab, or tutorial for uni, volunteering for conservation, working a part time job, going to dance classes, or walking outdoors to reconnect with nature. Observing wildlife, especially bird species, is something I've always enjoyed!

How long have you lived in Tawa?
Tawa has been my home for 21 years — this reflects my age!

What do you like about Tawa?
I love that Tawa is surrounded by bush reserves and streams that are protected by local community groups. Without Redwood Bush, the Forest of Tane, and our eight other reserves, we wouldn't have such a diverse range of birds, reptiles, insects, plants, and fish in Tawa. It's amazing how accessible nature is for our community!

What would you like to see improved?
I would like to see a youth hub in Tawa, I think a place where our young people can meet, chill, and feel safe would benefit our community. A youth hub somewhere along the Main Road would be ideal because it's close to shops, carparks, and is a central location to travel to. It would be nice for youth to meet others who live locally but don't normally get the chance to socialise. We have many youth church groups but not everyone goes to church, so having something for everyone would be awesome!

What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?
It would have to be Nelson, I have whānau living there so there are many happy memories associated with the place. It's also a good place for fossicking as I've heard! However, this could change as I see more of Aotearoa in my life time!

What accomplishments in your life give you the most pride?
I think reaching university to study science has been a huge achievement in my life thus far! I have two learning disabilities, one of them is dyslexia, so I have pushed and believed in myself to reach where I am today. There have been many challenges, but the main thing is to not give up and know that it is possible to achieve what you set out to accomplish.

What are two or three interesting things about you that local people may not know?
I have been interviewed on Radio New Zealand twice! I love birds especially kākāpō! Lots of people know this, but not everyone!

What are three things you would like to do in the next 10 years?
Save up for a house deposit (fingers crossed)! Buy an electric car to reduce my carbon footprint! Work in conservation and continue being a kaitiaki/guardian for our environment.

Follow Elizabeth's environmental pages here:
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentalElizabethWerner/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/enviroelizabeth/

NEXT TRA MEETING

The Tawa Residents' Association monthly meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be the AGM on Monday 13th June.
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.
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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