

Community Celebration



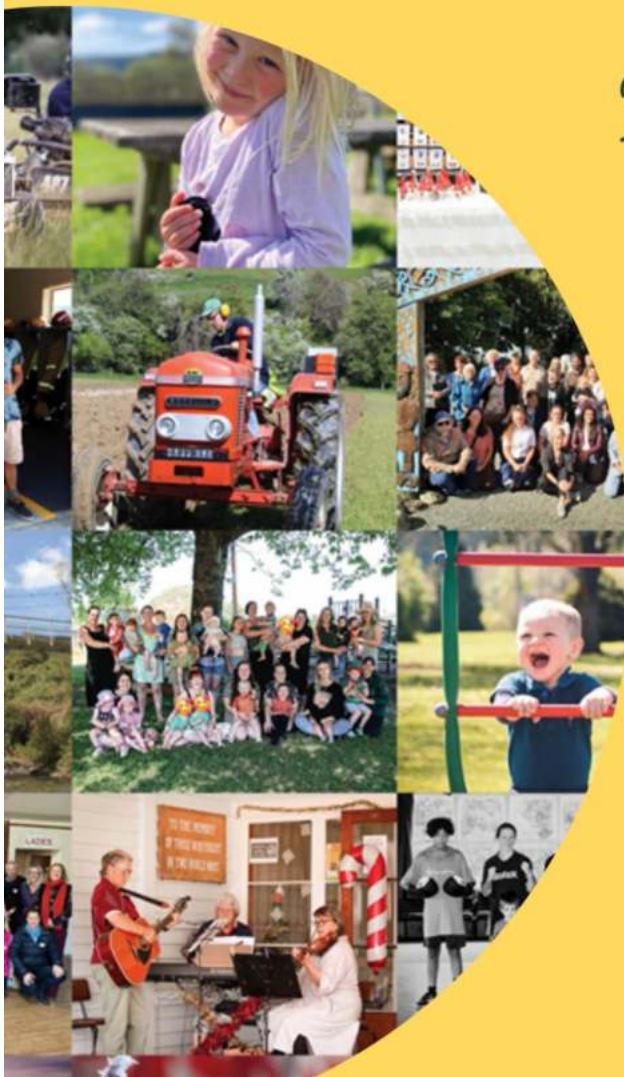
JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION
OF THE AWESOME PROJECTS
HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY
AND TO HEAR ABOUT NEW AND
UPCOMING PROJECTS OVER
SHARED KAI.

Friday 11th April

5pm - 8.30pm

Bring a plate or
something for
the BBQ
BYO drinks
Live Music
All Welcome

SHEDWOOD HALL





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PACKAGES (SAVE 10%)

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Material & adverts for Informer

All material is to be sent to either:
Informer, PO Box 15, Tapawera, 7055
or email– tapawerainform@gmail.com
To be received by 5pm
20th of the Month

If emailing a word document please send in Word as an attachment.
If sending an advert please save as a jpeg before sending.

Please check your emails to see your article/advert has been received as sometimes there needs to be alterations.

Advertising rates for Informer

Standard ad	Pay monthly	Pay annually
1/4 page advert	\$39	\$343
1/2 page advert	\$54	\$475
Full page advert	\$78	\$686

Adverts that require editing may cost extra

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All material submitted, whether editorial or advertising, is accepted at the discretion of the Editor and the Publisher.



Senior's Snippets April 2025 with Janine Leeden, 0277525975

We're into April already and what a busy month we have ahead.

Before I launch into all that is happening, I need to share the sadness our Seniors group feels at the loss of one of our friends, who passed away recently. Gwen Harris has been a regular attendee at our weekly Sit and Be Fit class (keeping me on my toes) for the last couple of years, she also came to the monthly Tea and Talk when she could, as well as joining in other events, when she wasn't gallivanting around the country with her niece, Barbara McKay from Golden Bay. Gwen has been adding a great flavour to our group and her wicked sense of humour and regaling us with her many adventures.

I think we'd all say that to reach 93 years old, be living relatively independently and embracing life and laughter wherever she could is a great achievement! We celebrated a morning tea following exercises on Friday 14th March to remember our dear friend. Thanks for



showing us a life lived to the full Gwen.

(This photo was from our Christmas party in November).

Sit and Be Fit will continue every Friday morning at 10-11am with a cuppa, chat and opportunity to join in our current favourite game – Mexican Trains afterwards. We meet at St Peter's Church on the Main Road. Great value for \$3 for the morning!

The **Positive Ageing Expo at Headingly Centre**, Lower Queen Street, Richmond on **Saturday, 5th April**. Tapawera Connect has paid the hire cost of the Nelson Tasman Transport Trust vehicle so that locals over 60 can travel in and enjoy a whole day of free entertainment and information. The NTCTT is also providing a regular shuttle between the venue and the bus interchange in Queen Street, if you need to pop into town for a short time as well. The van leaves Tapawera Community Centre at 10am and leaves the Headingly Centre at 2pm to return to Tapawera. Why not take advantage of the transport provided? **Please ring me to register your place.** At the time of writing there

are currently only four places left.

(Excerpt from TDC promo: Bring along any broken items, and the friendly Repair Café volunteers will help you mend them. Take advantage of free flu and Covid vaccinations, watch composting and Tai Chi demonstrations, and even get expert home heating advice – just a few of the 70 wonderful stalls waiting for you!)

Our next **WELLBY TALKING CAFE** will be back at the School / Community Library on **Tuesday, 8th April, 10-11.30am**. A \$3 koha will help with morning tea costs. Kelly will be in the library to help you with membership and sorting any book requests you might have. See you there! The **DIGI DROP-IN** girls will be there from 11am-1pm, helping you sort out any tech issues you might be having.

*There will be an **ANZAC Day Ceremony** again this year, **25th April, at 9am at the Memorial Hall**. Come along and remember the cost of freedom that we enjoy, that has been paid by far too many.*

Tea and Talk will be at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday, 29th 2025, from 10-11.30am. \$3 covers morning tea and a great time of catching up. We will have Chris Dunn, who works as a Registered Nurse in the Specialist Palliative Care Unit at Nelson Tasman Hospice one night a week and then as a Palliative Nurse Educator four days a week. The topic of the discussion will be **What is Palliative Care and what to expect when someone is dying**. This is something that touches us all at some point in life, whether caring for a family member or working in the health care industry. This will help demystify what to expect and hopefully deal with unfounded fears. As the saying goes: two things in life are guaranteed to us all - death and taxes.



The Tapawera Toy Library would like to thank the Toy Library Federation for another generous grant. This year we were able to purchase new toys for the library, and we were pleased to support a couple of New Zealand businesses with our toy purchases, such as Against the Grain.

Haven't seen us in a while or curious to see what is in that blue building? We are open every Monday from 10:30-11:30. If Mondays are busy for you, please contact us and we can arrange an appointment.

We look forward to your visit.

The Time of Your Life

**Free
entry!**

Positive Ageing Expo

Saturday 5 April, 10am–2pm
Headingly Centre, Richmond

Activities and advice to support you to age positively



Transport

Free shuttle service from Richmond eBus Interchange (outside Tasman District Council) every 30 minutes between 10.30am and 12.00pm. The last return shuttle leaves the Expo at 12.45pm.

Connect with the Nelson Tasman Community Transport Trust scheduled service from Motueka, arriving in Richmond at 10.30am, leaving at 2.00pm.

Activities

- Bring your broken items and the Repair Café volunteers will fix them together with you
- Composting demo
- Tai chi demo
- Home heating advice
- Flu and Covid vaccination
- Plus plenty of other stalls!

Supported by the
Nelson Tasman
Positive Ageing Forum



Positive Ageing and Positive Changing?

Our Tapawera transport trial with the small bus passenger service to Richmond on Tuesdays and to Motueka now on Thursdays started last April so the Nelson Tasman Community Transport Trust initiative has been going a year! A big thanks to the steady support from our local team of volunteer drivers, the Motueka isite for handling bookings and local and Trust coordinator backstopping. If you do want to use the regular bus service, you need to book your seat through the isite on 03 528 6543 now and the service will run up to and including Thursday 17th April. More details on our website at www.ntctt.org.nz. The Serena bus has also been used by groups and individuals for particular trips. A recent fun trip was around International Women's Day with a bunch of us having an evening out to a play at the Nelson Fringe festival which was a good social evening and cool that six of us could enjoy it together without taking more than one vehicle, saving on our money and carbon emissions. Thanks to Janine Leeden for doing the organising and driving!

The next organised trip is to the Positive Ageing forum in Richmond on April 5th which is an annual event organised by TDC with AgeConcern and other organisations putting together lots of activities and advice to help you age positively! See the poster advertised separately. Tapawera Connect have kindly paid the subsidised rate to support free travel to it for those of you from Tapawera who would like to go, with the Trust supporting travel to it also from Richmond & Motueka. We'll leave Tapawera at 10am and leave the Headingly Centre venue at 2pm to return. Please get in touch with Janine from Tapawera Connect on 0277525975 who is coordinating passengers if you'd like to go. First come, first served!

Whilst we've carried people who have valued the transport service, enabling them to go to town which would otherwise be more problematic for them, we haven't had sufficient patronage to demonstrate the value of continuing the service as we are also conscious of our emissions if we only carry few passengers. So there's a question mark as to what happens after Easter when the trial officially finishes. We'd really like people's input as to what might be next and whether the vehicle will stay in Tapawera. I will be at the next Tapawera Talking Café on Tuesday April 8th at the school library and we'll also canvas views at the regular Tuesday Tea and Talk session to briefly share how the trial has gone and what future options might make more of an impact on how we can support people's travel but also reduce our carbon footprint. Transport emissions are, for most of us, easily the highest proportion of our carbon footprint. If you can't make the Tuesday meetings but would like to make a suggestion, please email Jude and/or myself at Jude@ntctt.org.nz / jo@ntctt.org.nz.

There are some exciting developments in the Nelson region in terms of exploring and supporting carshare, rideshare,

eV use and employer supported travel initiatives. It would be good if we in the Tapawera area can also be on this bandwagon; connect better to reduce our transport costs and enable travel by those in our community who face constraints.

Preserving Fruit - Learn the basics!

The basics of preserving fruit into long-lasting, delicious jam, sauce and chutney are the focus of a preserving workshop this month, offered as part of Tapawera's Food Resilience plan. Up to 8 (men & women) will learn how to give longer life to fruit that's plentiful right now. The workshop will be a friendly, informal session. Ingredients and recipes will be provided - they'll be easy to follow - and each participant will make and take home a sample of everything they make. That's a jam, a sauce, a chutney and possibly a jar of bottled fruit. And the best take-home will be the confidence and enthusiasm to make their own preserves.

If you have an apple or any other fruit tree, or if someone says 'Would you like some plums?' - say 'Yes please!' - this workshop is a great opportunity to learn the basics of how to turn them into tasty, long lasting food for when fresh fruit is out of season or beyond your budget. And if anyone in the community has spare jam jars with good lids they'd like to donate for this workshop, we'd welcome them. (Peanut butter jar size or smaller is great.) They can be left at the community centre (thanks Amanda and team!). Thanks to donors, in anticipation.

The workshop will be 6-9pm on Thursday 3 April in the Tapawera Area School kitchen. Cost will be \$10, or koha. Our preferred koha is your volunteer help in the community garden at its monthly working bee, the first Saturday morning in May - another worthwhile, fun, community activity!

Check Facebook for on-going details. Registrations will be accepted until midday Wednesday 2 April, by contacting Heather at one of the following: Ph 5224454; text 0220323407; email heather@heatherspence.nz Thanks!



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or email tapawerarugby@gmail.com, Alex 027 389 8661



Tapawera Community Connection Update

The year of the snake represents transformation, and Tapawera residents are embracing that with lots of new ideas and energy happening. Being new to this role, it is very exciting to be networking and meeting so many enthusiastic members of our wee community. This month I would like to highlight our food resilience projects.

Through the Community Led Development partnership, Tapawera Connect has recently supported the purchase of 40 rat and stoat traps and 4 possum traps, to be installed in the Shedwood Bush area. This aligns with the backyard trapping project already underway by Predator Free NZ, supports food resilience, and protects our native birdlife. *If anyone is interested in helping to check traps or support the backyard trapping programme, please contact me.*



Along our theme of food resilience, we have a new project underway to plant community fruit trees in our reserves, as a pollination pathway from the school community gardens to the river. We have received grants from TDC and our local garden club to purchase the trees and will be encouraging the community to join us in the planting process around July. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you are interested in being a part of this project.

For all those out there with extra fruit or vegetables on their hands, Heather Spence is offering a preserving workshop in April to show us how to preserve all that yummy goodness for future benefit. Have a look for her advert in this edition of the Informer.



You may have seen an advert for a Community Celebration on Friday 11 April, from 5pm to 8.30pm, at Shedwood Hall. This free event is open to everyone in the community, and it is looking like it will be a fun evening. I encourage you to come along, meet some other locals over shared kai and enjoy some live music.

Della Webby, CLDP Community Connector

Della.webby@gmail.com, 027 479 4420

Introducing our new Team Members

Della Webby
Community Led Development (CLD) Connector

In January, Della Webby transitioned to the Tapawera Community Led Development team as a Community Connector, after previously serving as the secretary. She also holds the role of Fundraising Coordinator for the new Community Hub. Della left her position as a Project Coordinator at Health New Zealand to dedicate herself to her new responsibilities.

Della, who has four grown children and two grandsons, has been a resident of Tapawera for about 13 years, having moved from Wakefield. She is an enthusiastic trumper, often found exploring the top of the south, particularly the Kahurangi National Park. With her grandparents having grown up in Stanley Brook and a family bach in the Baton Valley, Della feels deeply connected to the surrounding valleys.

Passionate about fostering community connections, Della aims to bring people together to share ideas and visions, believing in the strength of teamwork and social interaction. Her goals include realizing a new purpose-built community hub, supporting additional health services for the community, and promoting Tapawera as a wonderful place to live or visit.





ANZAC DAY

LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Tapawera Memorial Hall
25th April 2025
9:00am Start

Morning Tea Provided



Introducing our new Team Members cont.

Al MacKinnon **Operations Manager**

Al likes to work with proactive people who care about their community, and enjoys learning from people with different backgrounds, histories and perspectives.

He grew up in Kawarau in the Bay of Plenty, Fiji and then Gisborne where he finished High School. Al then joined the army and was sent to interesting places to work with interesting people. He later spent time with a charity supporting military communities around the Asia-Pacific, and moved to Wakefield with his wife in May 2024. Al says he is already seeing why people gravitate to the region and some people have never seen the need to leave.

Al sees community as a place where we have the opportunity to build unlikely alliances which support us day to day. This also means that help will come in times of trouble. He hopes that he will get to see unlikely alliances appear in the district as the community becomes more connected, and he hopes to find someone who will help him to be a better hunter!



Mark Soper **Community Led Development (CLD) Connector**

Mark joined the team as a part-time CLD Connector in March 2025.

He has filled voluntary roles with the Wangapeka Whio Predator Trapping Group, Tapawera School Junior Bicycle Maintenance, the Shedwood Bush Regeneration Project, and is a Great Taste Cycle Trail representative.

Mark has biked and backpacked throughout Asia, Canada and the UK and jumped at the chance to help regenerate

and strengthen the health and prosperity of the greater Tapawera community.

He believes that the natural landscape, resilient nature of local people and a strong, compassionate CLD team are key factors that will drive this regeneration. Past experience with community art and garden groups, in Nelson, has also taught him the value of patiently growing a sustainable community project base.



Kelly Russell **Secretary and Administrative Support**

Kelly joined the Community Led Development team in February this year.

She has resided in Tapawera for 27 years, and lives in Kiwi with her partner Kieren and 14yr old son Lachlan. She has 2 other children, Shanna and Tyler who also live in the area.

If you have children at school you may have seen her in the school library where she works 4 days a week.

Kelly has loved living in Tapawera and thinks that there is so much value in raising a family and growing up in a small rural town. "Tapawera can be such a warm, welcoming, vibrant community. We just need to get involved and make things happen" says Kelly, which is why she has joined Tapawera Connect.

Kelly looks forward to seeing and helping with the amazing initiatives to come.



e ngā iwi e
haere mai!



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April 27th, 10.30-1.30pm
Tapawera Market

For more info call Wakefield Health Centre 03 541 8911 or for
specific vaccine bookings call Wakefield Pharmacy 03 541 8418.

Pride in our Town—Tony Stephens

Tony Stephens arrived in Tapawera in 1977 with his new bride, Trish, and their baby, Tracey. He began working for the power board as a fault man. Initially, they lived in a power board house in the village before settling in a beautiful spot overlooking the Mt Arthur range, where they still reside. Tony and Trish have since raised their three children in this picturesque location.

In 1997, Tony faced a challenging period, losing his father, his teeth and his job within two weeks. Despite these setbacks, he started contracting himself out and continued to do electrical work locally. He has now worked for four generations of the Higgins and Oldham families and still enjoys his work, although his daughter Renae now takes on the bulk of it.

Tony developed a passion for tramping and adventuring in the nearby Kahurangi National Park, initially exploring the Graham Valley and the Mt Arthur tablelands. Over the years he has not only tramped but has engaged in activities such as canyoning down Blue Creek Gorge, rock climbing and abseiling – including multiple traverses of the Mt Arthur twins, rafting and kayaking the rivers, exploring the extensive cave systems, and track cutting throughout the Kahurangi National Park. There are not many parts of this amazing park that Tony does not have a personal story about.



Harry Hancock was a local who made the biggest impact on Tony. They spent many miles together in the bush and remained close friends until Harry's death, despite Tony's dislike for the classical music that Harry loved. To this day, Tony is still great friends with Harry's descendants.

Tony's interests also include volunteer trapping in the Wangapeka for the Department of Conservation, maintaining Shedwood Bush and biking. He is well known for encouraging and supporting others to join him in his local outdoor pursuits.

Despite the proximity of Tapawera to three National Parks, Tony believes the local farming families in Tapawera are what makes our town extra special. They are well known for their salt-of-the-earth nature, country hospitality and strong support for one another. Most of these families have been in the area for generations and Tony hopes they will remain for many more to come.



Flu Vaccinations and Covid Boosters

The colder mornings are a reminder that winter is on its way and with it comes the Flu Season. Your best defence against the flu is to get a yearly flu vaccine. Flu vaccines are available for anyone aged over 6 months.

The nurses will have several clinics coming up so give us a call after the 1st of April and we can book you in.

People with the following conditions are eligible for a free vaccine:

1. Children aged 6 months to 12 years with chronic conditions
2. People 65 years of age or older.
3. Māori & Pacific peoples aged 55-64.
4. Refugees who have been through the quota programme 55yrs +.
5. People under 65 years of age who:
 - have some types of cardiovascular disease:
 - have either of the following chronic respiratory diseases:
 - ◇ asthma, if on a regular preventative therapy, or
 - ◇ other chronic respiratory disease with impaired lung function; or
 - have diabetes; or
 - have chronic renal disease; or
 - have any cancer, excluding basal and squamous skin cancers if not invasive; or
 - pregnant women (any trimester); or
 - some other rare conditions may also be eligible

If you think you may be eligible, please discuss with one of our Nurses or Doctors.

Non funded flu vaccines will be available at the same time. FLUAD@Quad is a non-funded flu vaccine available to the over 65s. This vaccine has additional ingredients that helps create a stronger immune response and costs \$50.00

There is a new Covid vaccine available for people over 30 yrs that have not had a booster or covid illness for 6 months or more. This can also be used as a primary course for people who have never had a covid vaccine. Flu and covid vaccines can be safely given at the same time.



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Talking Cafés are an opportunity to meet people, make new connections and learn more about your community.

Pop in for a quick cuppa, or stay for a longer conversation with friendly people. All welcome, no bookings required.

Upcoming Tapawera Talking Cafés

Tapawera School Community Library

Tuesday 8th April, 10.00-11.30am

Tuesday 13th May, 10.00-11.30am

Wednesday 10th June, 10.00-11.30am

For more details:
wellby.org.nz
or phone (03) 546 7681

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Tapawera Netball Club April News

It's that time of the year again when you will read more and more from us as the months go on. This year is an exciting one as the club continues to grow. This year we have two teams for the Senior grade and two Secondary School teams. It is exciting to have two secondary teams this year! We are excited to watch these girls grow. Some of our primary-aged school girls have combined with Wakefield School again, due to insufficient numbers to make up the teams.

Tapawera Blue Rock Hops Team

Thank you to our sponsors **Blue Rock Hops Ltd** for the support of both **Glen & Sara and Brian & Sarah Clayton**. This team consists of Emma Bannister, Renee Macdonald, Kiahna Telfer-Eggers, Tegan Cornell, Mel Heine, Shakaia Macdonald, Toni Derbyshire and Kelly Collins



Coach: Belinda Grice

Manager: TBC

Grade: 2

Training: Tuesday, 7 pm

Coach/Manager comments: "Tapawera Blue Rock Hops is looking to build on our success last season. We welcome back members from last year and welcome three ladies joining the team this year Kelly Collins, Mel Heine and Kiahna Telfer-Eggers. Looking forward to another great season"

Tapawera Fry Contracting

We are looking forward to hitting the ground running this year with a few new ladies! I can't wait to see where this team goes. Once again thank you to **Tapawera Fry Contracting, Kevin & Andrew Fry** for sponsoring this team for a second year, we truly appreciate it! This team consists of Aroha Collins, Kate Mytton, Shaye Leah, Lane Williams, Shimiela Streeter-Mantell, Geinty Wells, Netanya Wells, Hayley Warren, Tameka Bennett, Karla Te Tau, Barbie Takimoana and Lissie Anglesey



Coach: Laura Fry

Manager: TBC

Grade: 6

Training: Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Tapawera Four Square Team:

This is a team that has been together for a couple of years and last year just grew from strength to strength. Thanks to our new sponsors **Sharon and Murray Williams** supporting us with your business **Tapawera Four Square**. This team consists of Alyse Clarke, Paige Derbyshire, Keetah Jones, Atlanta Linstead,



Kasey Mitchell, Breeze Streeter-Mantell, Ella Walker, Jaidyn Webb and Lydia Wedderburn.

Coach: Toni Derbyshire

Manager: TBC

Grade: TBC

Training: Wednesday 3:20 pm

Homestead Farms

This is a new team for us this year and we are excited to watch them grow as players and a team as they begin to learn how everyone plays and bonds together across a range of ages. Thanks to our new sponsors **Phil & Jocelyn Riley** for your support as **Bushend Farms**.



Coach: Rochelle Holloway

Manager: TBC

Grade: TBC

Training: Monday's and Wednesday's 3:20-4:30 pm.

This team consists of Sarah Holloway, Maddy Pronk, Tasha Owen-Wright, Harmony Stretch, Brylee Biggelaar, Natalie Doig, Holly Bright

Are you a business and love to support a cause? We are looking for donations for prizes for our quiz night. If you have something you would like to donate please don't hesitate to email us we would love to represent your business at this night.

Last but not least QUIZ NIGHT! Please get your team registered by emailing the club.

We have a Tapawera Netball Club Facebook page where we will update you on how our teams do throughout the season. We also have a new email address so feel free to reach out to us at tapaweranetballclub1988@gmail.com at any time.

Lissie Anglesey,
Club Secretary

TAPAWERA NETBALL CLUB
PRESENTS

QUIZ NIGHT

BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES

QUIZ STARTS AT 7:00PM
FRIDAY, 4 APRIL
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Paul Sutherland
Photography

Thursday 17 April, 9.30am - 3.30pm, Moutere Hills Community Centre

Format:

- Presentations from key stakeholders and organisations
- Q&A sessions and table talk
- Organisation stands

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Topics:

- Farm data management tools
- Integrated farm planning
- Financing options
- ETS possibilities
- Pest management techniques
- Smart energy.... and more!



The March meeting was held at Nicky's Restore Balance Retreat in Woodstock, Motueka Valley. It is an extensive property with large well established trees, woodland walks and ponds as well as chalets and a yoga studio to enjoy. Nicky gave an interesting talk on the background of the property.

Welcome to new members Angela Wollallo and Marian Boyd. The three raffles of Heuchera plants in baskets and daffodil bulbs were won by Elwynne, Jennifer and Sue.

April's get together is a trip around six gardens organised by the Waimea Garden Club. They came to some of our gardens last October and this is a return visit by us. The date is Thursday April 10th and we will be car pooling this time. Passengers to pay drivers \$10 each towards petrol. Please take a chair, lunch, cup and cash, as we will have a raffle and there will be plants etc to buy along the way, but no auction. Eve will notify members about time etc, and drivers will be given an itinerary. It should be a great day out, the area is Wakefield, Brightwater and Appleby. Morning tea will be provided.

The Autumn colours are certainly starting to appear now with the temperatures cooling down. It is time to plant bulbs for a colourful Spring showing.

Happy Gardening

Shirley.



Library News

It has been a quiet couple of weeks in the library with swimming sports and athletics going on.

We are having a bit of a tidy up in the library so your child may come home with a book they are allowed to keep. If they do, just check first that there is a cancelled stamp on it.

Wellby Talking Cafe was on this week and went very well with 15 attendees. Lots of wonderful conversation. We would love to see you there if you think you would be interested. It is on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Also Digi Drop In is on at the same time. If you have any digital questions or problems the lovely ladies from Tasman District Libraries are most happy to help you out.

The Scholastic book club catalogue has just gone out again and orders are due in Wednesday 19 March.

We are behind the tennis courts and open 10.30 - 1.30 week days

Ph 035224557 ext 213



'Monthly Motivation Quotation'

Brought to you by thelmahouse.nz
'Dream Coaching'

*"Don't be pushed around by the fears in your mind.
Be led by the dreams in your heart."*

Community Food Stall – New Location!



The community food stall has now been relocated from outside the school to outside the Community Centre Op Shop.

Everyone is welcome to leave excess produce in the stall, or take food as required.

Free produce provided by our local community.

Love Food, Hate Waste.

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Tapawera Community Craft and Market Day

Last Sunday of the month



Across the road from 4 Square
on the village green, 10am to 2pm.

Bring along your crafts/produce
/unwanted items to sell.



Enquiries to Amanda Beer on FB messenger or via the Tapawera and Surrounding Valleys FB page.



From the Principal's Desk

Tēnā koutou e te Whānau ki te Kura o Tapawera

Principal's Perspective: Every Day Counts!

Regular attendance is fundamental to ensuring our tamariki are reaching their full potential, both academically and socially. At Tapawera Area School, we are committed to providing a rich and engaging learning environment. However, students can only benefit from these opportunities if they are present and participating. Each day missed is a missed opportunity for learning, growth, and connection.

In Term 4, 2024, **59% of our students are attending 90% or more of the time.** While this is a foundation, we know we can do better. Attendance at 90% or above means students are present for at least 9 out of every 10 days. Even missing one day a fortnight can have a significant impact on a child's learning.

Why is Attendance So Important?

Academic Success: Consistent attendance allows students to follow the curriculum, build on their knowledge, and avoid falling behind.

Social and Emotional Development: School is a place where students develop vital social skills, build friendships, and learn to interact with others.

Establishing Routines: Regular attendance helps students develop a sense of responsibility and establish healthy routines that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Future Opportunities: Good attendance habits are valued by employers and further education providers.

What Can We Do Together? Prioritise School Attendance:

Make school attendance a priority in your family's routine.

Communicate with Us: If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, please notify the school office promptly.

Seek Support: If your child is experiencing difficulties that are affecting their attendance, please reach out to their teacher, the school office, or myself. We are here to help.

Celebrate Success: We will be celebrating and acknowledging improved and excellent attendance within the school.

Let's work together to ensure that every student at Tapawera Area School has the opportunity to thrive. By prioritizing attendance, we are investing in their future and creating a positive learning environment for all.

Welcome to new teaching staff:

Gary O'Shea who is teaching in the senior Science

classes.

Meeka Inglis who will be teaching Textiles and Digital Applications.

Kirsty Griffith who is supporting our ORS students.

Mark Stephens who is teaching in the workshop with Materials Technology students.

A warm welcome back to Susan Fenemor who was on leave last year.

Head students and House Leaders

The year has got well underway and a number of opportunities have been grasped by our students. We already have our Head students in place and James Snackers and Shakia-Lee MacDonald have both been positive leaders in a number of areas of the school.

The process to find our House Leaders is well underway and names such as Izak Walker, Tamati Bright, Lachlan Wills have come forward for Baton House, Jada and Mela Jelinek for Tadmor and Kate Mytton, Joseph Butcher, Kiana Collins and Leroy Wills for Motupiko.

The Tabloids Sport Event allowed many of our students to work together for a fun afternoon. This is an opportunity for Tuakana Teina to show itself in its full potential as we come together across the different ages in an Area School. Often the enthusiasm and effort put in by our younger students allows us all to think back to our earlier days with a sense of nostalgia.

There is however, the competitive element to all of this and there have been questions from students eagerly anticipating the final results. Baton House came away with the prize like a phoenix rising from the ashes. Well done for group 18 led by Shakaia for taking out the team event.

1st- Group 18 - Shakaia (Motupiko)

2nd- Group 4 - Alyse (Baton)

3rd Equal Group 7 - Jada (Tadmor)
and Group 2 - Tamati (Baton)

The Tabloids winning house overall is:

1st - BATON 377

2nd - MOTUPIKO

3rd - TADMOR





The TOSI Tournament team has been selected and will be travelling to South Westland area School in the last week of term. The team which has been taking

part in fitness and skills tests to win their place are:

James Snackers, Taine Collins, Izak Walker, Riley Hook, Joseph Butcher, Hunter Page, Roman Streeter-Mantell, Bronco MacDonald, Levi Bennett and Logan Walsh.

Shakaia-Lee MacDonald, Shimiela Streeter-Mantell, Jada Jelinek, Mackenzie Mayo, Mela Jelinek, Alyse Clarke, Kiana Collins, Breeze Streeter-Mantell, Lexus Wilson and Paige Derbyshire.

Year 12 Outdoor Education trip to Murchison

On Sunday Riley, Jada, Mackenzie and Izak travelled to Murchison to take part in a two-day Kayak program with NZOIA (New Zealand Outdoor Instruction Association).

After starting off in the pool with a rolling session we moved to the Buller River for paddling stroke practise. We camped that evening at Cam's property and were in bed exhausted by 9pm. Thanks Riley for singing us to sleep then singing us awake in the morning!

At 8am next morning we were ready for another session on the river, we learnt to ferry glide across the current and fine-tuned our exits and entries into eddies.

After lunch we travelled downriver through the beautiful scenery. There were plenty of rapids which were a bit scary but also really fun. Our instructors were awesome, our kayak skills improved so much.

Then it was back to Tapawera and our own beds - time to recharge the batteries and get organised for our school Athletics day - what a busy start to the week!



What's Happening for our Akonga at our Kura?

Here's what's going on:

Trades Academy

(Year 12 & 13 – Every Friday)

The Top of the South Trades Academy (TOTSTA) offers secondary students the opportunity to train for a career while still in school. This hands-on, practical learning takes place every Friday at NMIT.

Our students are gaining experience in a variety of fields, including:

Arts and Design

Automotive

Beauty Therapy

Creative Design for Hair & Make-up

Hairdressing

Hospitality

Sport and Exercise

Maritime Careers Day

Two of our senior students are heading to a Maritime Careers Day, where they'll explore career opportunities in aquaculture, port operations, and the fishing industry. They'll also experience sailing along the stunning Nelson coastline, visit Haulashore Island, and take a behind-the-scenes tour of Port Nelson to see local businesses in action!

Gateway Programmes

Two senior students have begun their Gateway placements, gaining real-world industry experience every Friday. This includes:

BCITO Building – Hands-on learning in the building and construction industry

Sport with Stoke Rugby – Engaging in practical sports industry experience

Victory Boxing

Students have the fantastic opportunity to participate in Victory Boxing, a program focused on developing life skills such as honesty, respect, determination, and care for others—all while keeping active and having fun!

Coming Soon: Fantastic Futures Careers Day

An exciting event for all Year 11 & 12 students! Small groups will visit various businesses and industries, taking part in interactive activities. A wide range of employers and organizations will be attending, including:

NMIT

Oaklands/Raine Farms

Kernohan Engineering

ITM

Sealord

One Forty One

Sea Level Wines

Marine Farming Association

Go Hort

Nelson Marlborough Health and Careerforce

Primary ITO

Ministry of Primary Industries

New Zealand Defence Force

...and many more!

These experiences provide fantastic opportunities for students to explore career paths, gain hands-on experience, and connect with industry professionals. Stay tuned for more updates!



Year 7-8 Fundraising for Wellington

In term 3 of this year, Room 7 is heading to Wellington! As a part of this trip, we are organising a shirt fundraiser. Each child will be issued a shirt and it is their responsibility to look for sponsors/donations to go towards their shirt. The amounts available range from \$1 - \$40.

In return for their sponsorship/donation, they will be able to leave an appropriate 15-character message on the back of your child's shirt. The bigger the amount, the bigger the message!

If you would like to support any of our tamariki please let us know.

A huge thanks to Tapawera 4 Square who have already donated \$10 per child. YAY! You guys are awesome.



THANK YOU

To our Staff, Parents/ Caregivers and Community Members – Thank you.

We have been busy catering for lunches for a local hop garden. The lunches and baking have been very well received and appreciated.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the donations of lunch ingredients, wonderful baking and help. We couldn't do it without your support.

Tapawera Friends of the School.

Library News

The library has been buzzing with activity already this year! We have had some fun events, including the Wellby Talking Cafe, the Tasman District Library Digi Drop In, and our regular Chess Club.

The Wellby Talking Cafe was a hit, with about 15 people of all ages joining us for some lively chats, laughs, and yummy snacks. We'd love for you to come check it out sometime – it's held once a month.

Our first Digi Drop In was also a success! A few people came by with questions about all things digital. This is a fantastic resource for our library and community, and we're excited to keep it going. You can join us on the second Tuesday of each month from 11am to 1pm.

Chess Club is back in action every Tuesday morning! We've had lots of kids come along to sharpen their skills. We're also lucky to have Rob and Laree visit sometimes to share their chess expertise. If you are interested in playing

a game with our students, just give us a call at the library. We'd be thrilled to have you!

We've welcomed many new families to the district, and it's been wonderful to see so many new faces at the library. It's such a valuable resource for our community, and we're delighted that more people are taking advantage of it. If you would like to become a member and explore what we have to offer, we're located behind the tennis courts.

We are open five days a week from 10:30am to 1:30pm. If you are a member and the library is unattended, you can simply ask at the office for a key and write down the books you borrow on the sheet provided at the library desk.

Feel free to contact Kelly or Cindy if you have any questions.

Phone: 03 522 4337 ext 213

Email: library@tapawera.school.nz

Ice Skating Rink In Tapawera

Ice skating opportunities for all students, for which we thank Gemma Walsh for organizing this unique experience.



Book Discussion Group

Meet: 4th Thursday in month, 10am
Contact: Adrienne Baigent 021408892

Federated Farmers

Contact: Harry Matthews - Field Rep -
0275078901

Golden Bush Garden Club

Meet: 2nd Thursday of month
Contact: President, Linda Milson
02102510945, or Shirley Percy 5224924

Golf

Meet: every Sunday, Ladies 9 hole
every Tuesday
Contact: Gary Oldham ph. 0278080578

Historical Society

Contact: Barbara Carleton ph. 5224317

Informer

PO Box 15 Tapawera
Email tapawerainformers@gmail.com

Justice of The Peace

Peter Phillips ph. 5224313
John Ellis ph. 021 522429
Brent Hodgkinson ph. 5224381
Susan Fenemor ph. 0275224009 (text
during school hours)

MENZSHED

Contact: John Wilmshurst ph. 5224616

Netball

Contact: Susan Fenemor ph.
0275224009 (text during school hours)

Ramblers

Meet: each month
Contact: Shirley Percy ph. 5224924

Shedwood Hall bookings

Contact: Tania Higgins ph. 5224587

St Andrews Church Stanley Brook

Services every Sunday. Cup of tea
afterwards.
Contact: Lee Winter ph. 5224160

St John – Tapawera

For emergencies Dial 111,
Email info@stjohn.org.nz

Tapawera & Dist. Community Church

St. Peter's Tapawera: no services at
present
Contact: Church office 03 541 8883
wakefieldanglican.xtra.co.nz
Urgent enquiries to Andrea 0024169386

Tapawera Food Bank

Contact: Suzzi Lankshear ph.
0277491063

Tapawera & Dist. Community Council

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of month,
7pm Tapawera Community Centre,
email: TapaweraTDCC@gmail.com

Tapawera Community Centre

Email: Nicola Allan
nicolaallan434@gmail.com or
TapaweraTDCC@gmail.com

Tapawera Connect

Contact: Phoebe Quinlivan ph. 021 211
6730 or 522 4929, email:
tapaweraconnect@gmail.com

Tapawera Creative Fibre

Meet: every Wednesdays, 10am-2pm,
Memorial Hall
Contact: Dallas Robinson ph. 5224984

Tapawera Jujutsu Club

Contact: Tony Hammersley ph. 5224609

Tapawera Music/Country Music Club

Meet: Alternate Sundays, Tapawera
Hotel 7:30pm
Contact: Elaine Douglas ph. 5418612

Tapawera Op Shop

Open: Tue 11am-2pm, Wed 10am-2pm,
Sat 11am-2pm, last Sun of month 10am-
2pm
Contact: Amanda Beer ph. 0278024612

Tapawera Playcentre

Meet: Mon & Thur, 10am -12:30pm
Memorial Hall ph. 5224456

Tapawera Rugby Football Club

Bookings: ph. Judy Benjamin 5224445

Tapawera Sport & Recreation Society

Contact: Judy Benjamin ph. 5224445

Tapawera Volunteer Fire Brigade

Contact: Dean Millar Chief ph.
0279651399; Ted Oakly Deputy Chief
ph. 0210704033

TAS / Community Library

Mon-Fri 10:30am-1:30pm. Contact:
Lareen Bonnington ph. 5224149
Library ph. 5224337/ext. 213

TESSI

Contact: Bruce Whyte ph. 5224550

Toy Library

Open Monday or via arrangement: 10:30
-11:30am contact Jan Barker:
0273915424 or 5224102

Visual Arts Society Tapawera

Contact: Dallas Robinson ph. 5224984

**What's on
April**

- 3 Fruit preserving workshop, TAS
kitchen, 6pm-9pm
- 4 Netball Club Quiz Night, Rugby
Club Rooms, 7pm
- 5 Positive Ageing Expo,
Headingly Centre, Richmond,
10am-2pm
- 8 Tapawera Talking Café, 10-
11:30am, School/Community
Library
- 8 Digi Drop-in Session, School/
Community Library, 11am-1pm
- 10 Garden Club, trip to gardens in
Wakefield, Brightwater and
Appleby
- 11 Community Celebration,
Shedwood Hall, 5pm-8.30pm
- 15 TDCC monthly meeting,
Community Centre, 7pm
- 17 Innovative Farming Solutions,
Moutere Hills Community
Centre, 9.30am-3.30pm
- 20 Articles for Informer close 5pm
- 25 ANZAC Day Ceremony,
Memorial Hall, 9am
- 27 Craft and Market Day, Village
Green, 10am-2pm
- 27 Hauora Whānau Day,
Tapawera Market, 10.30am-
1.30pm
- 29 Tea and Talk, Memorial Hall,
10:00am - 11:30am

Wakefield Police

Constable Jamie White –
jamie.white2@police.govt.nz
Constable Matthew Berquist –
matthew.berquist@police.govt.nz
Non Urgent (CRL) – Call 105
Happening Now – Call 111