

Tapawera & Districts Informer

September 2026

The Informer looks a little different this month. Having to compile it ourselves only heightens how much we appreciate the amazing work which Gill does as Editor. We look forward to her return! Some images have not copied over well; we sincerely apologise to those affected.

News from Tapawera & Districts Community Council (TDCC)

It should probably come as no surprise that the August monthly meeting of your community council (TDCC) was very positive, with constructive input. News included beautification funding available, the e-bike charging station installation proposal, and the change in how TDC is approaching the next Long Term Plan process. Our new meeting protocol of no video/audio recordings, and no accusatory or inflammatory commentary/questions, certainly set the tone for a welcoming and listening space. We anticipate this continuing.

Facilitated meetings with Tapawera Connect (TC): Two representatives from each group are working through several topics. The goodwill in the room at the facilitated meetings has enabled open conversations and growing understandings.

The Hub proposal as per the Long Term Plan will no longer proceed, and neither will the relocatable homes proposal. The Steering committee meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

Op Shop project: As with any building project, changes happen. In our case, once the internal lining was up, we decided it would be best to polyurethane the lining, and this work is now complete. Donations of materials and labour continue to flow in: Tapawera 4 Square has very kindly donated shelving, whilst bookshelves are coming (also donated). The security lights from TC are up.

We used the credit from returning four unopened bales of batts to cover the purchase of the polyurethane and Health & Safety items, including 1st aid kits. The H&S manual is nearing readiness for the committee to review. The Auditor has supplied a new process and work sheets for responsible money-handling which we will trial.

Three volunteers have generously stepped up so far, to run the Op shop, and we would welcome more. We will endeavour to have all volunteers 1st-aid trained, and will cover their course fees. TC have kindly offered to look into running a 1st aid course as soon as possible, which will be open to the community.

Dart Ford, Forestry trees, Tadmor gravel issue, Cycle trail/walking path: We have been dealing with these on several fronts, including at the TDC Long Term Plan consultation workshop on 13th Aug. Then on 21st August, Trish, Roy and John Gully (Ward Councillor) met with John Ridd (a General manager for TDC who reports directly to the CEO and understands rural issues) to cover off all the outstanding infrastructure issues, as well as work through the frustrations of communicating effectively with TDC. We visited many problem sites in the district, introducing John Ridd to places like Dart Ford, as well as sighting issues within the village. We took advantage of driving time for relevant discussions, and in return, John was able to clarify TDC processes and challenges. One which stood out was that Govt. is looking to pull back from emergency recovery funding, with the responsibility returning to regional and local bodies, but without extra resourcing.



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20th of the Month

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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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Community Centre: Books have been flying off the shelves in the community bookshelf, with non-fiction (especially biographical) very popular. The children's section is also well-used. TDCC greatly appreciates the box of donated children's books, and the jigsaw puzzles, left recently. Also, a big thank you to young Bella, who did a terrific job of re-stocking the children's section for us. Tapawera Library is about to undertake a refreshing of their book selection, and any they clean out will be coming to the shelves, which is very thoughtful of them.

TDC will be resealing the loop between Shedwood hall and the Community Centre, and have offered to do in front of the Community Centre at the same time. This work needs to be done, as the area is a risk for those with mobility challenges, and the current surface breakage is not particularly attractive. Council's offer is likely to be the cheapest option. Once the two seals are complete, it should not need to be done for another 12 – 14 years. The cost was estimated at approx \$7000 plus GST. last year, and is likely to be in that ballpark.

In another local initiative, a Tiny gallery where artists can display miniature versions of their work is coming to the village! TDCC have offered a site within range of our security cameras, and within the very active precinct in front of the Community Centre.

Beautification projects for the wider Tapawera area: We understand there may be funding available via TDC, so please let TDCC know of any potential beautification projects which you would like to see happen. Maybe there's a site that you believe needs permanent beautifying, tidying up or the adding of a seat, table or fence? Remember, it can be any public space in the wider Tapawera district.

Leading on from that, a member has asked us to explore the possibility of a dog park, and also a water fountain. We see merit in both ideas. We discussed placing the water fountain near the site of the proposed e-bike charging station, and making it viable for cyclists to refill their water bottles. In regards to the dog park, there is currently nowhere for locals or travellers to let their dogs off the leash safely. Some simple examples of successful spaces show us that the space wouldn't need a lot of input, with a good fence, shade, seating, water, and doggy-doo bags being the main criteria. For best use, any such space would need to be within walking distance of the village. We would welcome suggestions of a site, and also indications of support, or, if you have any concerns do please let us know.

Noticeboards and map: The Village Green and Kohatu noticeboard maps are out of date, and need to include the access from Totara street to Shedwood Bush, as that's the official access-way. TC and Mark Soper are working on the map, and will consult with TDCC during the design/mapping phase.

Shedwood Bush Access: To allow safer access which caters to those with mobility challenges, yet still prevent stock getting out, we believe the stile needs to be replaced with a swing gate similar to those used in other sites. The Totara street access also needs extra signage as it can be difficult to identify. We hope to work with the relevant parties to get these changes underway.

Iwi links: With Iwi receiving land in our area from the long-awaited 10ths settlement, John Gully has offered to facilitate the process for TDCC to develop healthy communication lines with Iwi. We welcome this initiative.

In other news from our area, our TDCC meeting was advised that the Tapawera Emergency group, having held gatherings around the valleys and village, were now working on a draft emergency plan for the district, which would soon go out to the community for consultation. Do take the time to go through it and discover what it means for your family during an emergency.

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Of Library space, rivers and youth councils: John Gully (Ward Councillor) reported that TDC's proposal to shift the Motueka services Centre to the Motueka library met significant community opposition, so TDC are re-looking at the options. In response to a query, John agreed that this may result in a shift to the I-Site, or a smaller building located in the Library/i-site precinct to cater for the TDC centre. We've made it clear that we don't want to lose the Motueka option.

John also reported that river recovery is going well. TDC really appreciate John Ellis's involvement and expertise. There are 14000km's of river in Tasman; clearly 27000 ratepayers can't afford to cover the associated costs. TDC's budget for rivers was \$500k in 1985; in 2026 it's still \$500k! \$15 million has been spent on river recovery so far. John will be talking to RH Simeon Brown, highlighting how council's cannot afford the work needed.

There needs to be more extraction in rivers still, and there's lots of planting going on.

Key contractors are being told by TDC to use more locally-based knowledge and resources.

Regarding that 30kmh coned area between Mararewa and Kohatu, John reported that the work is on hold until temperatures rise to a point where the sealing work will be effective. We are watching...

John also raised the possibility of Tapawera having our own Youth Council. Such a group can promote worthwhile input into the community, whilst also getting to experience how to bring about change, and garner an understanding of how democratic processes work.

Recently a proposal that property owners would need to register their water tanks raised it's ugly head, but was quickly squashed by TDC's rural councillors, for which we are very grateful.

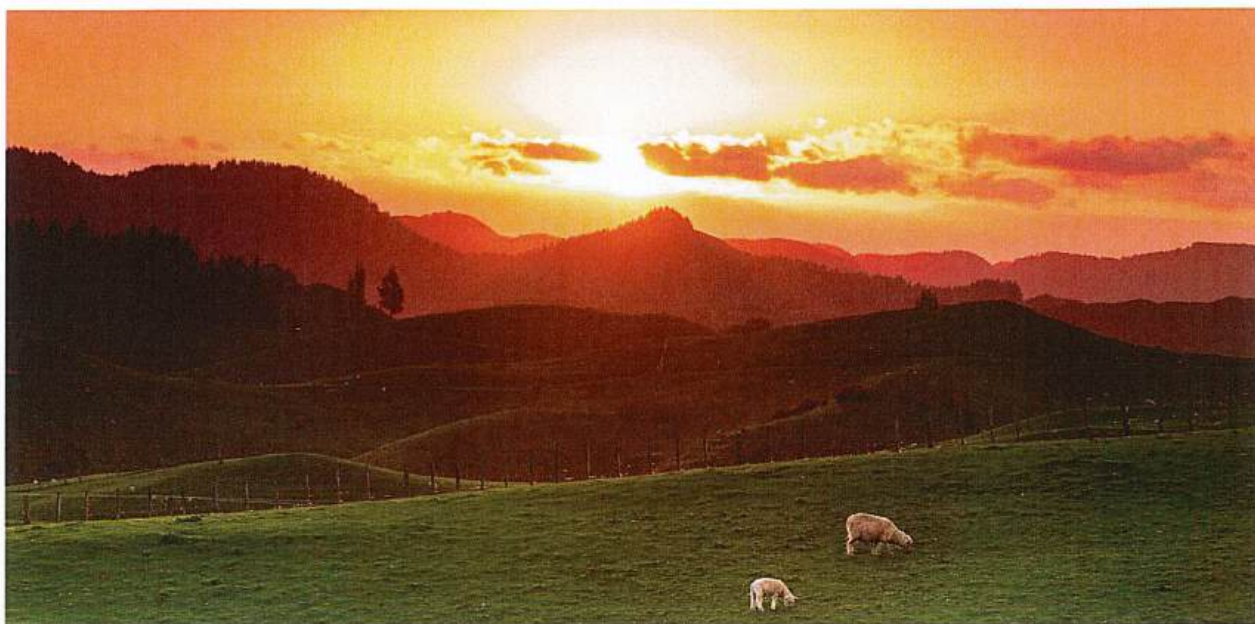
Long Term Plan: TDC have instigated a new process for the Long Term Plan, consulting with community associations through workshopping, prior to starting to draw up the LTP. Ngatimoti Association joined us for the Tapawera workshop, and we invited TC to attend also. The questions TDC had for us were 'What is needed to make Tapawera....

- a place where people can thrive?
- a place with a strong, diverse and innovative local economy
- a place with resilient, sustainable infrastructure
- a place with intergenerational financial stewardship
- a steward of the natural and built environmental

Naturally, we had a lot to say!

- Representation i.e. Richmond's 4 councillors can access meetings, sight issue areas, and reach constituents by bicycle if they wish, and certainly within 15 minutes. Our one councillor is often over an hour's drive from meetings, constituents or site visits, meaning the work takes an extraordinarily extended time to provide anything like the same service. We see this as hugely inequitable.
- We asked that TDC think local in all infrastructure work, and, when making policy across the region, that they rely on the principals of equity rather than equality.
- Tapawera & Districts electricity and internet infrastructure do not support economic growth, due to their service limitations (i.e. working from home depends on good internet, and larger business's need access to reliable power) so we asked TDC to enable these to expand.
- There are few opportunities currently for new housing, due to zoning constraints. In addition, local residents have to move out of their community once they lose the ability to drive. We believe it's healthier for those folk to be able to move into smaller homes, possibly supported, within the village, with easy access to shops and the medical centre, so families/friends can visit without travelling for 3/4's of an hour. We asked for zoning for growth, and retirement-size spaces.
- We strongly advocated for TDC to be proactive regarding infrastructure, and make long-term savings by doing permanent fixes rather than patching.

Overall, we were pleased with the workshop, feeling we'd been listened to; the TDC group certainly took away a lot of homework! They also told us that many of our messaging was directly in line with what the Murchison and Golden Bay groups had told them.



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Those Speed changes, particularly through Mararewa: The current TDCC committee were unaware that these changes were coming, and were not consulted. There were no signs advising of the changes, either prior or at the time. According to a letter from S Bryant, who was Chair of the Joint Transport committee when the changes were approved, one reason was due to the safety issues regarding the cycleway in that area. TDCC believes that the cycleway issue needs resolving urgently, regardless of the road speed. Another reason given for the speed change is the supposed high accident rate on that stretch of road, but anecdotal evidence from those who should know refutes this.

Whilst talking about that end of the village, the meeting pointed out that the school area needs a proper 'Kura' sign, preferably with flashing lights, which John will put to TDC.

So, as you can see, the TDCC meetings cover a vast range of topics and initiatives which directly affect everyone living here. Please do feel welcome to get in touch, and to join us for our monthly meetings, which we try to finish by 9'ish so that there's social time over a lovely supper, along with the opportunity for attendees to talk with the Ward Councillor.

Next meeting 15th September, 7pm, at the Rugby Club rooms. See you there!



Our 13th August meeting was the AGM which we again held at Wakefield Hotel. John, the publican, was a great host, even making room for our huge collection of auction items inside to keep us out of the rain and by the fire, as well as ensuring we were well fed.

Annual subscriptions of \$10 were due at the AGM. Please ensure you are up to date!

Surprisingly there were no new nominations for the office bearer's positions, but we had a hearty round of applause for the current / ongoing President, Linda Milsom; Secretary, Eve Heritage and Treasurer, Ann Steele who have agreed to continue on. Most of our Committee members will continue with the exception of Francine Currie - many thanks for your contributions to the Committee Francine. We welcome any other interested people. The lovely Jann Main, from Richmond, has agreed to join the crew; thanks Jann.

Next month we will visit Faye & Jim Shaw's small garden at Waimea Plains Retirement Village, Richmond. This will be followed by an optional visit to Jann & Geoff Main's small garden in Berryfields. Directions to get there will be sent to members separately. CARPOOLING IS REQUIRED as there is extremely limited parking in the Village and around Berryfields. There will be NO Auction for our September meeting, so plants can be held over to donate to the Tapawera Spring Show as part of Garden Club support. There will be a raffle, as usual. Please bring your lunch and a cup. No chairs necessary.

At our September meeting there will be details and an opportunity to register for our October meeting bus trip visiting various locations around Nelson. This will be our first bus trip for well over a year and places will be limited, so pay attention and get in quick! - Janine

Tapawera Creative Fibre.

The ladies at Creative Fibre are keeping busy, with the various projects they are working on. Finishing projects already started, then being side tracked with another challenge for a bit, is always a big part of our Creative journey. It seems we always have to have a project on hand, yet still leave room for a new creation. We are never too old to learn, yet need more time in our day!!

During May, we had a visit from the Kindergarten. What a busy bunch of children, with open minds and a willingness to try everything put in front of them. They succeeded at that, for sure. It was like the grandchildren visiting, yet on steroids.

We tried Rats Tails; you remember them, the cotton reel with the small nails in the top, that Dad made with Mums precious wool from her stash, threaded round the nails then passed over the previous thread. At first this was not understood so well, yet with perseverance by all, progress was made.

We also did 'Gods Eyes' as they were called in the Girl Guides. This involved 2 sticks crossed, in the middle like a +, then weaving wool under and over as you went round and round. An array of results was achieved here, with the group taking extras back to Kindy to perfect their skills. I hope the teachers are coping with the new found skills. A great time for all.

Some members visited Catherine's in June, to see how the carding machine works. It is a dusty, noisy beast, yet takes away one of the boring parts of preparing raw wool to spin with. Most of these machines, industrial size, came from England and worth the money invested in them.

July was a 'skills eye-opener'. Catherine thought it was a good idea to try some Nordic Knitting techniques. Various options were looked at, and Naalbinding was what we settled on.

First, we whittled our needles to do the Naalbinding with, making eyes in the top to thread them. This brought fond memories for one lady, as Granddad had taught her to whittle when she was younger. The rest of us watched and learnt. After a bit of a mess, we all succeeded and are very happy with the results. So onto the actual creations.

Getting it right the first time, was not so successful. With a lot of perseverance, that paid off; we made vessels, or sort of. We talked about the designs needed to make hats, mittens and such like to improve our skills base. Most of us were very happy with our vessel and finished with that, not doing other bits. We had fun, learnt some new skills, so are prepared to leave it at that! Catherine has proceeded with making mittens, fingerless gloves, hats and socks.



Our Area ran an Exhibition at Mapua in July. The Richmond group basically set everything up, with our group helping to run it on the Opening Day. We had a successful day welcoming the visitors, explaining various techniques for the visiting public, running 'Have a Go' session with Drop Spindle spinning, Weaving on a Lucet, demonstrating Naalbinding, all by Catherine, and Lynda did a marvellous job with Bobbin Lace, so much so that she enlisted a couple of new members for the Group in Mapua. No mean feat from either lady. Vicki and I made sure the visitors had the chance to win their choice of Raffle Prizes on offer, and that things ran well. A good day had by all.

During August we will be having Anne Grassham come to the group and teach us all about Diagonal Weaving; well maybe not all that Anne knows, yet hopefully a good amount of what is needed to create face-clothes, place mats etc.

We meet at the Memorial Hall, Main Rd, Tapawera, every Wednesday 10:00am to about 1/2:00pm.
Contact Details: via facebook; Tapawera Creative Fibre, email; tapaweracreativefibre@gmail.com
or by phoning Catherine {Group President} 027522466
Thank you. Janet Moffitt; Group Representative.



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they just need
the right support
to shine.*
”



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Tapawera Connect Update

There's plenty happening across Tapawera and the valleys! This month we're sharing a broader update on some of the projects we're involved with, what's been happening, and what's coming up. Some are led by Tapawera Connect, while others are led by local people and groups with our support. Here's a snapshot of what's been going on.

Community Gardens: There's plenty happening at the Tapawera Area School and Community Gardens. A big shout-out to all the volunteers who keep things growing, especially Sabine Reinert, who organises the monthly working bees, and Amanda Eyles, who has stepped up as community lead for the project.

The next step is getting the paperwork sorted and making sure all the i's are dotted and t's crossed around health and safety, responsibilities and how the space is shared. We're also looking forward to Tunnelhouse Tech refitting the tunnelhouse in September, which is a huge win for the project!

411 trees and counting! There's been some impressive progress at the native propagation area, with 411 native trees propagated so far.

Tapawera Connect is supporting Kate Radloff from Tasman Bay Guardians to work alongside the school and students, growing native plants for restoration projects around our local area. It's a great mix of hands-on learning for our young people and something that will have a lasting impact on our environment.

Plenty happening at Shedwood: It was fantastic to see such a good turnout for the recent Sam the Trap Man event at Shedwood Hall, with plenty of young people and visitors from outside the area.

The Shedwood Bush Betterers continue to put a huge amount of mahi into looking after Shedwood, from pest control and weed clearing to track maintenance and planting. They've already caught nearly 200 predators since late 2025, while Tapawera Area School and Kindergarten have planted more than 500 native trees. It was especially great to see younger people getting involved. Finding ways for the next generation to be part of Shedwood will be important in keeping this work going.

Lucky Docks and cycling: The proposed Lucky Dock e-bike charging station beside the Great Taste Trail and public toilets is progressing. Tapawera is one of 15 locations along the trail selected to receive a Lucky Dock station, providing secure bike parking and e-bike charging.

We'd love to see this become more than just somewhere to charge a bike. More cyclists stopping in Tapawera could bring opportunities for our young people, local businesses and the wider community, and we're starting to think about what those could look like.

Grief & Life Transitions

— WORKSHOP —

Kind
conversations.
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Loss of partner, friends, pets, health

Big changes can be
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Gentle, structured discussions

A safe space to share,
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Learn practical ways to support
yourself and others with
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*In a supportive community,
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Tuesday 29th September



10:00am



St Peter's Tapawera
Community Church
Main Road, Tapawera

FREE



To register, contact
Wakefield Health Centre 03 541 6229,
or Nicole (Health Improvement Practitioner)
027 319 6229



Rangatahi getting amongst it: The Rangatahi Explorers have been busy! A whopping 33 tickets were snapped up for the first Mako game of the season, with a huge shout-out to Tasman Mako for getting the crew kitted out in supporters' shirts.

The group also headed to the Aquatic Centre for Wave Rave, a super popular event and a great way for our young people to connect outside of school on a Friday night. Rangatahi Explorers is all about giving our young people opportunities to connect, try new things and stay engaged with community activities.

Photo Competition: A huge thank you to everyone who got behind our recent Photo Competition! We had 32 entries, capturing some pretty special parts of life around Tapawera and our valleys. We celebrated the winners at Pizza Plus earlier this month, and the photos are still on display. Make sure you pop in for a look next time you're picking up a takeaway!

We're looking for a new Trustee: We have a space around the Tapawera Connect Trust table and would love to hear from someone who cares about our community and wants to get involved. You don't need any previous governance experience. We're looking for someone who is willing to contribute, bring their own ideas and perspective, and work alongside the rest of the Trust.

The Trust meets monthly and helps guide the work of Tapawera Connect and where we're heading. If this sounds like something you might be interested in, have a chat with Kelly on 0275 224 295 or email secretary@tapaweraconnect.org. Expressions of interest close 30 September.

Our Community-Led Development meetings: Behind many of these projects is our Community-Led Development (CLDP) group.

We've changed the focus of these meetings. They're now a chance to share what's happening around Tapawera, talk about what our community needs, and work out what we can do together. We want these meetings to be open to people from across our community. From this month, minutes from our CLDP meetings will be available on the Tapawera Connect website. If there's something you think the group should know about, or you'd like to come along and talk about an idea, project or issue, please get in touch.

There's plenty happening, and plenty more to do. The best part is seeing more local people and groups getting involved and making things happen.

That's what community-led development is all about.

THURS 1ST OCTOBER 2026
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Anniversary 1976-2026

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10:30am - 2pm FREE FOR ALL AGES

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The months are flying by as it is, yet as I sit and write this article mid August, for September, I am already trying to plan activities around events happening in October! One of these is Mental Health Awareness Week, 12-18th October with the theme '**Belonging Matters**'. This is vitally important when we live in isolated rural communities, no matter what walk of life you are treading, for day-to-day well-being, let alone when an emergency arises. No doubt there will be more communication leading up to October, but in the meantime, here's just one question to ponder:

- How do I participate in my community to foster a sense of belonging in others?

Check out <https://www.tapaweraconnect.org/blog> for further reading.

WELLBY TALKING CAFE will be on **Tuesday 8th September** at St Peter's Church at **10-11.30am**. This monthly event is **open to anyone interested in connecting socially** with others in our community. It's a relaxed opportunity to sit in the warmth over a cuppa and get to know some new people or grow on the friendships already established. There is a koha of \$3 to help cover costs for the morning.

SEPTEMBER TEA & TALK is on **Tuesday 29th** at **St Peter's Community Church**. Our local Health Improvement Practitioner will be speaking on the topic of **Grief and Life Transitions** for anyone interested.

- Loss of partner, friends, pets, health, even living in a different region/ country than family.
- Gentle, structured discussions
- Emotional support skills

Don't forget, if you are starting to wobble when putting your pants on, or are just wanting some extra encouragement to stay active in mind and body, our **Friday weekly Sit and Be Fit** group could be just what you're after. We meet at the church from **10-11am** for a variety of exercises, including body, balance and brain challenges. Stay around afterwards for a cuppa and a game or two of Mexican Trains, which continues to exercise the 'little grey cells'.

Another event that I need to promote now is International Day of the Older Person on **Thursday, 1st October**. This coincides with Age Concern Nelson Tasman's 50th Anniversary Celebration. (See below) Wow, that's pretty amazing that this organisation has been so active in our region for 50 years! (Just think, the people they are catering for now were just teenagers, and oblivious to the needs of older people, when the organisation started!)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME, as it's school holidays, bring the grandies too!

Check out their latest online newsletter at: <https://dashboard.vega.works/MailViewer.aspx?xlInse3=66895271-B1A7-4A33-A118-C29E6DEB3057>

Special eBus services have been added to transport interested people out to Founders. I'm keen to organise carpooling to Wakefield to catch an 8.57am bus via Richmond interchange to Nelson bus hub and onto Founders. The return journey would get us back to Wakefield by 3.45pm for the shared drive back to Tapawera. If you have a Super Gold Card I understand the bus fares would be free, so a \$5 contribution for the return car share would help the driver/s. The entry to the event is free as well, so a very affordable day out for Seniors. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining the eBus explorers. A new learning to be had! Let's do this!

For more interesting and fun eBus organised trips through Age Concern, including to **Nelson Model Railway Exhibit** on **Saturday 5th September**, please visit: <https://www.ageconcernnt.org.nz/all-on-board>

So, as we head into Spring, there are lots of options to get out and connect with others. It's up to you to choose!



Join the **TAPAWERA CONNECT TRUST.**

<https://www.tapaweraconnect.org/>

**Are you passionate about the
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Would you like to help shape local
projects and support initiatives that
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Someone who cares about our
community and its future



Someone who is willing to contribute,
attend monthly trust meetings, and
work collaboratively with others



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APPLICATIONS CLOSE

31/09/2026

Together, let's connect, support and build a stronger community. ♥

Bread Making Workshop

At this informal workshop, we will be looking at
different ways of making bread:

*Baking bread in the oven *Using a breadmaker

*Making focaccia bread

10am, Saturday 19th September

Tapawera Area School Cooking Room

If you have any questions or would like to book a spot
please contact Jan: 027 391 5424 or

jan@tapaweraconnect.org



**Tapawera
CONNECT**



Get a Move On!



One of the most impressive international records that New Zealand holds is that it was the first country to give women the vote. That was in 1893 and led by Kate Sheppard. It followed nearly twenty years of campaigning and indirectly was linked to women's safety and quality of life with the argument that enabling women to vote would encourage policies that would protect and nurture families, e.g. rules around agreeing local liquor licences.

Having the right to vote and being able to vote freely is not a universal right in this world of ours. It's a precious opportunity to have a say in your future and that of our children and theirs. Its worth taking the time to find out about who might best represent your interests in Parliament and which Party has the policies and the values that might best safeguard your family's present and future. You've got those two votes. Use them.

Having an orange non-determinate person as the electoral commission's symbol can't be seen as racist, sexist or ageist although just a dog companion is maybe catist? But in the picture they are both elevated, connected and smiling so ideally we should feel the same going into the election of the next government! Whatever your sentiments, the message is clear. Get a move on and check whether you are enrolled where you live. All you have to do is go to vote.nz/enrol to check. Try and do it this month so that you don't find yourself out in the cold and not able to vote come November. We are super fortunate to live in a peaceful, temperate, creative place where we can work and play hard, and look out for each other when the going gets tough, as it will. Don't sit on the sidelines. Have your say.

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COME TO A TALKING CAFÉ

Connect with your community



Talking Cafés are an opportunity to meet people, make new friends and find out more about activities, services and support in your community.

Pop in for a quick cuppa, or stay for a longer chat. All are welcome, no bookings required.

Upcoming Talking Cafés
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Tapawera
2nd Tuesday of the month

Tuesday 8th September, 10.00am-11.30am
Tuesday 13th October, 10.00am-11.30am
Tuesday 10th November, 10.00am-11.30am

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For more details:
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or phone (03) 546 7681



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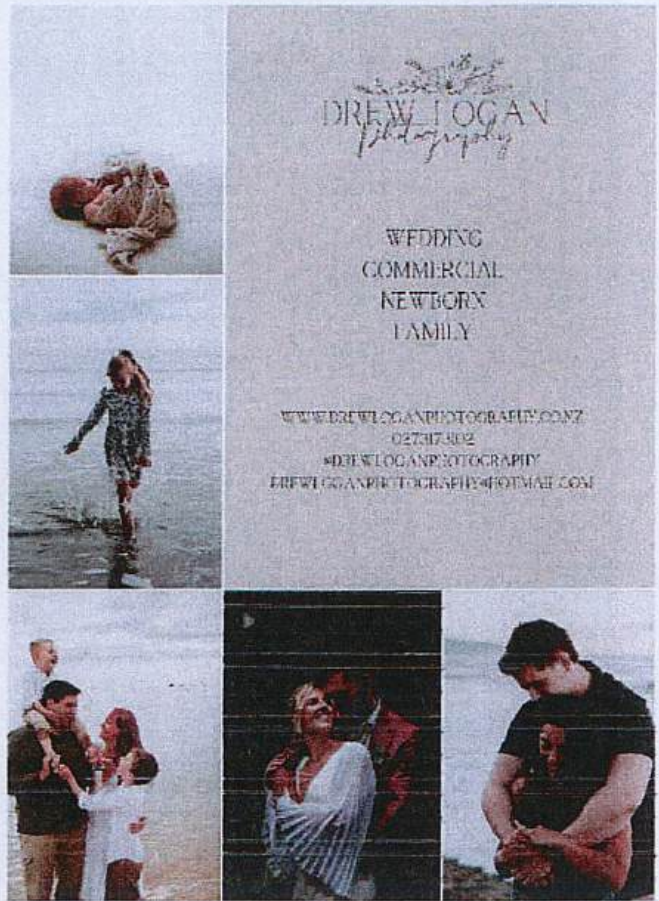
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(03) 522 4460 or 0276697744

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Tony Stephens

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0276249489

Renaë 0275616510

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Phone: 0223623195

Email: admin@tapaweraplumbingandgas.co.nz

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0275423331



Tapawera Area School

Kia ora, Moghrey Mie,

Week 3, Term 3, life moves quickly!

Our Senior students in Year's 11-13 only have 11 weeks left of school until the end of the year. That sounds pretty scary to most but I am pleased to say the progress being made by all of our students completing their various levels of NCEA is outstanding with over 50% already having achieved their NCEA, the required year universities, all on track to achieve these goals and grades too.

It is not all about our senior students though, our primary school students and middle school students are also working hard and achieving lots.

You will have received your students reports at the end of last term and we be able to see their overall progress especially with their attitude to work and the "Not Yet" approach. This means that it is ok to not get something right first time or to make a mistake, it is all part of the learning journey of "not yet but next time

In the specifics of Reading, Writing and Maths, do not panic if your child was not yet "At or Above" as these are the end of year grades/assessments and so if a student is already there that is awesome but they still had 20 weeks (half a year) left to achieve these goals when these first reports were written and each teacher has a plan for his or her own class with additional help from various sources within and outside of school to help achieve these benchmarks.

It has been great to see the progress made in Years 9 and 10, with a number of students already achieving the CAA official Reading, Writing and Numeracy examinations up to three years ahead of time.

I am sorry to let our community know that Sandy Phyn, our school caretaker, will be leaving our school at the end of this week after many years of service. We thank him for all he has done for our school and community over this time and wish him well in the future

Some announcements of changes to previous years' arrangements for the end of Year for our Senior Students.

This year, the last day for our Year 11-13 students is Friday 6th November, after this they are on study leave for external exams but also are extremely welcome to come into school to revise or complete further internal assessments.

On **Thursday 5th November at 6.30-9.00pm** we will be having our **Senior Prize Giving** at the Shedwood Hall. This will be in the form of a sit down meal for all Year 11-13 students, families and staff and the presentations and awards forming part of this evening. More Details to follow and we hope you can all attend to support your children.

On **Friday 6th November at 2.00pm**, we will be holding a **Leavers Assembly** in the school gym to provide a chance for our school students and whanau to farewell those students who will be leaving our school at the end of the year.

On **Friday 11th December** it will be our **Junior Prize Giving, Years 1-10** at school from 10.30-12.30 to finish the school year for the rest of the school. Again, we sincerely hope you can mark this in your diary and attend this event to support all of your children.

On **Wednesday 9th September, from 6.30-9.00pm**, the school will be hosting a **3 x 3 basketball tournament** in the gym for parents, students, staff and community teams, for a bit of fun and to see who really are the stars in Tapawera. During this time the BoT will also take the chance to canvas opinion on what the community would like to see from a new Principal for the start of 2027. It is an important chance to have your say, have fun playing and supporting the basketball and maybe even a coffee and some food provided too!

School will be closed for a Mid Term Break on Friday 21 August. Finally, a reminder that school will also be closed on Monday November 16th for our final Teacher Development Day of the year

Slant as shee
Andy Ashworth

Red Nose Day

Our students enjoyed a range of fun activities organised by our House Leaders as part of Red Nose Day. It was great to see everyone getting involved and having fun with friends! We also raised over \$140 for Child Health Resource



Shakaia MacDonald got her Silver Badge for SVA-Student Volunteer Army

Police Programme in our school

A big thank you to Nelson Bays School Community Officer Constable Hamish Wybrow, who spent time with our students teaching them about road safety.

Students learned how to cross the road safely, practised making safe decisions around traffic, and took part in a range of fun, hands-on activities. These practical learning experiences help build the knowledge and confidence our tamariki need to stay safe in their community.

Thank you, Constable Hamish, for sharing your time and expertise with our kura. We really appreciate your ongoing support!



Hanging Planters

Our amazing students in Year 7 and 8 have been designing and making these awesome plant/garden displays for within school and around our local business community.

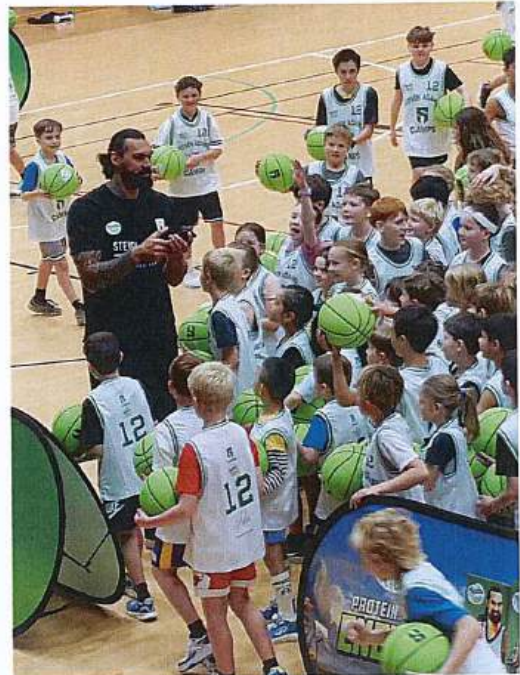
If you would like one for your business, just let Andy Ashworth know and I am sure we can build some more. A donation of just \$5 would be appreciated just to cover costs and it is just our way of saying thank you to our wonderful community.

Incredible Opportunity at the 2026 Steven Adams Community Camp on Thursday.

Out of more than 3,000 hopeful young athletes across the region, 500 kids were selected to attend the prestigious Steven Adams Community Camp at Saxton Stadium yesterday—and three of our very own Tapawera Area School students made the cut!

A huge congratulations to Aylah, Meeka, and Arlo for being chosen to represent our school community. Throughout the action-packed day, NBA star Steven Adams and his team of coaches worked hands-on with the students, teaching essential basketball fundamentals, teamwork, discipline, and—above all—having fun on the court.

Aylah, Meeka, and Arlo had an absolute blast soaking in the atmosphere, sharpening their skills, and learning directly from one of New Zealand's



Year 5/6 Netball Tournament

What an awesome day out for our Year 5/6 team! The girls played four fantastic games—facing off against two really tough opponents and coming away with two brilliant wins. Every single player gave 100% effort in every quarter!

A huge THANK YOU to Atlanta for coaching the team this year. The girls have improved so much over the season, and you should be so proud of everything they've achieved!

It was such a fun day, and so great to see our parents on the sideline cheering on our tamariki.

What a great final hit-out to wrap up an amazing season! High fives all around!

Knitting Club

We're looking for anyone who is keen to lend a hand with our Knitting Club!

14 Mondays 12.45–1.30pm School Library

Our students are working hard to create a knitted piece to enter in the Spring Show, and we'd love some extra helping hands to support and encourage them.

If you're able to come along on a Monday lunchtime, we'd love to have you!

If Mondays don't work for you but you'd still like to help, please email me at jorr@tapawera.school.nz.

Thank you for supporting our talented young knitters!



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 Milsom
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)

Kohatu Life Group

Sharing faith and fellowship
Meeting Wednesdays @ 10:30am
during school term
Contact: Ian & Karilyn 0274 950 470

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: tapaweratdccc@gmail.com

Tapawera Connect

Contact: Rachel Moffit ph. 027 460
8728, email: rachel@tapaweraconnect.org

Tapawera Creative Fibre

Meet: every Wednesdays, 10am-2pm,
Memorial Hall
Contact: Catherine Hesketh ph. 027 522
4266

Tapawera Jujutsu Club

Contact: Tony Hammersley ph.
02108811607

Tapawera Op Shop

Currently closed

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: Kelly
Library ph. 5224337/ext. 213

TESSI

Contact: Bruce Whyte ph. 0211567851

Visual Arts Society Tapawera

Contact: Dallas Robinson ph. 5224984

Yoga with Josie

Wednesdays 6-7pm school music room
(school term only).
Contact: Josie Orr: 027 612 5813

Wakefield Police

Senior Constable Jamie White -
jamie.white2@police.govt.nz
Senior Constable Matthew Berquist -
matthew.berquist@police.govt.nz
Sergeant Craig Clayworth -
craig.clayworth@police.govt.nz

**What's on
September**

- 2 Tapawera Creative Fibre group,
10 am Wednesdays, Memorial
Hall
- 2 Kohatu Life Group, 10:30am
Wednesdays, Ph 0274 950 470
- 4 Sit and Be Fit, 10am Fridays, St
Peter's Church
- 5 Trip to Nelson Model Railway
Exhibit (refer Age Concern)
- 8 Tapawera Talking Café, 10-
11:30am, St Peter's Church
- 8 Digi Drop-in Session, School/
Community Library, 11am-1pm
- 10 Garden Club, 11am
- 15 TDCC monthly meeting, Rugby
Club rooms, 7pm
- 20 Articles for Informer close 5pm
- 29 Grief & Life Transitions
workshop & Tea and Talk, St
Peter's Church, 10:00am -
11:30am
- 29 Bible study, St James Church,
797 Tadmor Valley Road, 6pm

**GP & Nurse at
Tapawera Clinic**

(during school term time):

GP clinics - Mondays
9am - 12 midday

**Nurse clinic - alternate
Tuesday mornings - phone
541 8911 for dates**

Wakefield Police

Non-emergency line - 105 (can ask to
be put through to on-duty officer)
Emergency - 111