



The Rotary Club of Tawa Inc.

Tawarotaryclub@gmail.com



NEWSLETTER April 8, 2025

MEETINGS

Apologies to tawa.rotaryapologies@gmail.com by 12 midday on the Monday prior to the meeting. Please notify if you are bringing anyone.

08 April Meeting and Dinner at Sprig & Fern restaurant Tawa

DISCUSISON MEETING AND DINNER AT SPRIG & FERN

Tuesday 8th April 2025

This Tuesday we are meeting at Sprig & Fern Tawa from 6pm in their garden area annex. Dinner and drinks to be ordered and paid for individually from the menu. Notify attendance and/or apologies as usual by Monday 12midday.

PRESIDENTS PIECE

Dear Members,

Please see the paper below which is a repeat of the one emailed to you on Friday by Pat. We felt it was important enough for everyone to read again so a decision can be made regarding Tawa Rotary Club's future.

Our meeting this week will be Tuesday 8th at the Sprig and Fern 6pm in their garden area annex. Dinner and drinks to be ordered and paid for individually from the menu. Notify attendance and/or apologies as usual by Monday 12midday.

Please come prepared to once again discuss the options available to us and have a decision to be made (finally) for our future.

Judith Gray/Pat Waite
Co-Presidents

ANOTHER LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF ROTARY TAWA

From: Co-Presidents Judith Gray and Pat Waite - April 2025

The purpose of this paper is to summarise the three options and introduce another option as seen by the Board and to bring to members a recommendation so that the Club can make a decision and plan its future with confidence.

Recommendations

1. We believe that Tawa Rotary does have a future and recommend that we pursue Option One **“Continue as we are but work to rebuild the Club”** as described below.
2. That we move to a greater focus on projects and use these to invite the community to help. We need to actively seek opportunities to support local community groups. This is a critical part of developing our future.
3. **We should ensure that we have a member prepared to take on Club President for 2025/26. Without this our future is limited!! However, there is a way we could manage this in the meantime without asking too much from one person.**
4. The Board develop a plan for the year ahead setting out milestones they need to achieve. This will require a commitment from members to help the Board reach out to the community and bring back to the Club ideas/opportunities etc that could be assisted by Tawa Rotary. See ideas for future planning by the Club – appendix 2.
5. We continue to plan high profile events such as Pride in Work, joint meetings with Tawa Lions, neighbouring clubs etc. to join us for a meal etc. See Appendix 1 for current projects.
6. We mount a major membership drive to rebuild our club. We have already an application to join and a further three we are talking to who may be interested in joining us.

Discussion on Options available to Tawa Rotary.

We have discussed the future for Tawa Rotary for some time. A discussion was held at our Club meeting on 11 November following which a detailed summary of Issues to be considered was circulated to members on 23 November. A further paper outlining the steps needed to be taken “A case for Change - The Future of Tawa Rotary” was circulated to members in early February. Feedback from members was that they wanted to explore three options:

- 1) **Continue as we are but work to rebuild the Club.** This could include a different style of meeting. **Once a month, a Tuesday evening meal and formal meeting** at Sprig and Fern (ideal area at the back under awning with clear side curtains down and heaters if necessary). This is a **Project Meeting** with drinks and a meal if members wish. Discussions led by project managers. On occasion we could have speakers if we want to but not a necessity. Arrangements made by 2 members who are the “Club Services” Team – this could be ongoing or could rotate. On the intervening fortnight – **Sunday afternoon drinks and social time at Sprig and Fern 4pm – 6.pm.** An ideal opportunity to introduce people to Rotary in an informal setting.
- 2) **Collab with Plimmerton Rotary Club.** We have met with their Club President and Board Members and feel confident that they are committed to helping us. They are NOT planning a takeover – they are helping a fellow club who is having difficulties in **finding a leader** for the foreseeable future and in expanding membership.

Tawa members would be free to attend meetings with Plimmerton Club, at Mana Cruising Club, weekly or fortnightly or whatever our members want to do on an individual basis. On the weeks that Plimmerton have their ‘committee meetings’ we have a Tawa Committee Meeting and plan/discuss our specific projects. There would be **NO merging of our finances or handing back of our charter** etc.

This would be a trial and may require alterations as we go along. It is a new concept for this District however we will not be the only club considering this, as Karori is also planning its future options.

There is an option that we could in time become a satellite club of Plimmerton Rotary but this is a not consideration at this stage.

3) Become a chapter of Mana Tangata.

RC of Mana Tangata (RCMT) is an “umbrella” club created by District 9940, that provides an opportunity for clubs that would have folded to continue as an important Rotary presence in their communities.

Recognizing that those clubs that would have folded, District 9940 created RCMT to meet the requirements under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 for those clubs that would have failed to meet those criteria. Those former Clubs are then added as a “Chapter” (circled on map) under RCMT. This allows them to continue to operate as independent entities - they are no longer a Club as far as Rotary International is concerned, but RI recognises RC MT as a Club, and as a Community Group for the Regionalisation Pilot.



RCMT.

RCMT has a President, Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and provides a consolidated report on behalf of the Chapters to the NZ Companies Office.

All the Chapters continue to operate in various ways as a presence in their communities. And the existing Charitable Trusts continue, with a Supplemental Deed has been produced to define arrangements with

Chapters do not have an executive (President, Secretary and Treasurer) and can adapt their meetings frequency and structure to suit their circumstances.

The sense from the members who were at the meeting on 25 March was they didn't feel that Mana Tangata quite filled their needs as Rotarians. It was agreed that the two Co-Presidents would bring to members a summary of the three options with a recommendation for members to consider and vote on.

We have come to the conclusion that Tawa Rotary should continue (at least give it our best shot) as a Club based in Tawa but with a wider reach; e.g. we are not constrained by boundaries that do not have an active Rotary Club; e.g. Churton Park.

Other Facts:

- We focus on projects within the boundaries of Tawa/Linden but outside where we see a need; e.g. Life Flight (a District Project), Other Wellington Projects (e.g. Lifting the Lid), Global Projects (End Polio Now).
- Plimmerton Club have extended an invitation to attend any of their meetings and to help us whenever or wherever it is needed. This is still a clear option on a weekly basis or it may be to hear a particular speaker or events such a Melbourne Cup Night.
- We continue to meet as suggested in Option 1 above and try a different way of being a local service club.
- We explore other membership options; e.g. business membership along the lines developed by Hutt Rotary, offer a discount for a partner membership, sponsor the first year membership.
- We continue with our Flagship projects as listed in Appendix 1 and use Tawa Bowling Club as a venue when appropriate.
- There is an option that we could in time become a satellite club of Plimmerton Rotary but this is not a consideration at this stage but may be an option if the above possibilities don't work out.
- Reversal of the process could take place if Tawa's situation changed such as, a member feels they could take on leadership of the club.

Summary

We envisage Tawa Rotary continuing to meet fortnightly (or more frequent if members wish); e.g. Tuesday evenings monthly and in-between Sunday afternoon monthly at Sprig & Fern as an example of changes we could make. We focus on projects and engage with the wider community to gain assistance with projects. We continue to operate key projects as listed in Appendix 1 and we use Tawa Bowling Club as a venue when appropriate. We rebuild our membership through reaching out to the community and networks we have.

Key to this approach is having someone take on the role of Club President for 2025/26.

Judith Gray
Co-President

Pat Waite
Co-President

Appendix 1 Our key projects

- Pride in Work
- Santa in the Plaza
- Concert in the Park
- Main Road Hanging Baskets
- Spring into Tawa
- P J Drive
- Food Bank Drive
- Peace labyrinth
- Dictionaries in Schools
- Books (maybe a Pop Up Shop?)

Appendix 2 Suggestions for projects, changes, initiatives etc. for consideration by members

1. Re-establish monthly Sprig & Fern late-afternoon Sundays to meet potential members.
2. Plan and hold in Tawa New World Atrium a "Did you know what is happening in Tawa" and invite local groups to set up a table with information; e.g. U3A, art groups, scouts etc. The monthly market days from last year have been discontinued so there is a gap we could fill and build a profile.
3. Put out a short weekly email to members with a brief on what is ahead to supplement the fortnightly newsletter from the Secretary.

4. Mexted Motors and Guardian Funeral Home are two examples of businesses who could be sponsors for Rotary; e.g. Guardian Funeral Home (Brad) have sponsored the rent for Inner Wheel now for 8 years.
5. Have a flyer to hand out to potential members.
6. Plan a monthly, or longer, meetings with high profile speakers and invite the community to join us; e.g. Amelia and Jess Kerr, Sophie Devine (attract younger people and their parents), Sir Ashley Bloomfield on his new role in Govt, John Allan new Chief Ombudsman. Rodney Strong an emerging writer of children's books (featured in Post of 2 April on how to become a successful writer), John Mowbray on collectibles especially stamps (perhaps hold an Expo Weekend and invite specialists on antiques, paintings etc.).
7. Rotate members for chairing a club meeting when held.
8. Engage a media advisor on how to build profile.
9. Hold a community meeting of those interested in specific projects such as proposed sensory garden in Tawa.

COFFEE AND SLICE AT THE WAITES

On Tuesday 25th March we had an enjoyable supper evening at the Waites house in Aotea.

Also present was Steve Haddock, Secretary of the Mana Tangata umbrella club and also a member of Rotary Porirua. Steve discussed with us our Mana Tangata worked and how it enabled Rotary Porirua to continue to exist in name without the burdens of an individual club.

WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK – 24-30 APRIL

World Immunization Week is fast approaching on 24-30 April. This is a critical time to raise awareness about the importance of immunization and the safety and effectiveness of vaccines.

Why do we believe so strongly in this? Rotary made a promise to the children of the world with the launch of the PolioPlus program in 1985 that we would eradicate polio from the world. Thanks to vaccines and the incredible support of Rotary members like you, polio cases have been reduced by 99.9%.

But we aren't done yet.

As we continue our work to eradicate polio worldwide, we need to remain vigilant so that we don't lose the progress we've made. No child should suffer from diseases like polio that a vaccine can prevent. Polio eradication is Rotary's top humanitarian project, and we need your help to educate your communities about the benefits of vaccination and tell the story of Rotary's efforts.



MARY POTTER HOSPICE STREET APPEAL

Carolyn is coordinating for Tawa Rotary volunteers for the upcoming Mary Potter Hospice Street Appeal. Can you spare an hour or two this May to help keep Hospice services free for your community? Make a bucketload of difference on Saturday 17 May, at New World Tawa from 8.30am - 5.30pm, in 1 hour slots.

So if you're able to provide an hour, please let Carolyn know at phone 021 369115, email carolynjcrutch@gmail.com.



TAWA RSA EVENTS

Our colleagues at the Tawa RSA have the following events for which public are very welcome to participate:

- **Poppy Day** this year is Friday, 11th April, a week earlier than normal due to Easter.
- **ANZAC Day** is Friday, 25th April. The Usual community parade from New World Tawa carpark assembling 9.30am, to a remembrance service at The Memorial at northern end of Oxford Street.



ROTARY ZONE 8 CONFERENCE



The Gold Coast is the Place To Be in 2025
Coolangatta is the venue for the 2025 Rotary South Pacific Zone Conference, from the 31st October 2025 to the 2nd November 2025.



TRUST PORIRUA CITY
BRASS PRESENTS

WAR

&

Peace



AN ANZAC CONCERT

2pm
April 25th
Aotea College

Tickets from
humanitix.co.nz

