

Alison Bayly Award Winner



Our congratulations to Alison Bayly for receiving a 2021/2022 Civic Award for voluntary services to the community of Tawa in the Health and Wellbeing Category.

As Chair of the Tawa U3A Board for the past two years, Alison has played an active role in encouraging the community to be more involved in some of the 40 to 50 courses run by U3A throughout the year. She regularly sets up between seven or eight of these, ranging from Tai Chi and Qigong* exercises to Theatre Visits and Write It groups.

As a keen gardener, Alison has also been an active member of the Tawa Community Garden. Her special interest is in growing fruit, vegetables and herbs and she regularly organises small groups to cultivate and care for edible plants in the Community Garden as well as in their own gardens. According to the season, much of the food grown is then offered free to the community.

The purpose of these Tawa Community Civic Awards, is "to recognise and show appreciation to groups or individuals who, - on a voluntary basis - enhance the Tawa community and make it a better place to live." Nominations for these awards come from the general Tawa community and ceremonies are held every two years, with the exception of 2021, when it was postponed because of Covid.

The list of projects undertaken in the past include the Norfolk pine lights, a BMX track upgrade, a playground at Duncan Park, seating on Main Road and the Redwood Bush Track, various grants and scholarships and a defibrillator for Tawa Community Centre. In addition, the Board actively supports Community Patrols, Tawa Community Police Base, market day and the restoration of Tawa Railway Station.

** Qigong, pronounced 'chi gong' was developed in China thousands of years ago as part of Chinese traditional medicine. It involves using exercises to optimize energy within the body, mind, and spirit, with the goal of improving and maintaining health and wellbeing.*