

THE APSLEY Advocate

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13 August 2025

Golden moment in Walcha

Your chance to hold the Melbourne Cup this Friday

The 2025 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour will roll into Walcha this Friday morning with many opportunities for you to see the 2025 trophy up close, and even get a photo with it!

The program for the day includes:

9.30am: School Visit to Walcha Central

11.30am: School Visit to St Patrick's

The Cup will be on display and the Tour Team from Victorian Racing Club (VRC) will be making a presentation with Q&A trivia.

12.45pm: Community Lunch Walcha Men's Shed

Viewing and photo opportunities of the Cup for the Men's Shed members and their guests over an informal lunch.

2.30pm: Street Parade

The parade will be full of colour as the local school children dress up in jockey colours and parade through town.

The parade leaves the Post Office at 2:30pm and travels along Derby Street, around the roundabout and through to McHattan Park.

The tour will be led by Bernie Brady on a horse flying the Australian flag with the Melbourne Cup following on a beautiful horse and carriage with winning Melbourne Cup trainer Sheila Laxon also aboard.

The Parade will also feature school children from all local schools who will be dressed up for the occasion.

The mother of Melbourne Cup winner, *Knight's Choice* will follow. Norm Bazeley will be leading *Midnight Pearl* in the parade.

Local horse sports groups, Walcha Polocrosse Club, Walcha Pony Club and Walcha Campdraft Club will be in full force, all dressed up for this memorable occasion.

3.30pm: Post Parade Community Afternoon

Welcome speech by Mayor Eric Noakes. VRC to present a speech about the Cup history, followed by



a 10 minute presentation from VRC. The Cup will be on display until 4:30pm for public photos.

6.00pm: Civic Reception and Auction at Walcha Bowling Club


Cap off the day in style at the Walcha Bowling Club for a ticketed civic reception featuring guest speakers, a short clip showing the "Making of the Cup" and your chance to have a photo with the prized trophy.

Enjoy canapés, drinks, and a community auction supporting local non-profit community groups. Auction items include Lowes BP card, Grazag Armidale voucher, Marchant Bros load of firewood, Thunderbolt Equine voucher, Framed photo of Knight's Choice signed by Sheila Laxon, Melbourne Cup tour caps, and two tickets to attend the Melbourne Cup this year.

There are only limited tickets available at the door, so secure your ticket for only \$20 online at www.trybooking.com/1430616 or by using the QR Code.

If you are unable to purchase your tickets online the staff at Walcha Visitors Centre will be able to complete the online transaction for you.

The tour will continue on Saturday morning with visits to Riverview and Elizabeth Crosse Aged Care.


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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

Well it was a shock to return to the New England late last week to see the damage the snow had done from the weekend falls. I was told by locals who had lived here their entire life that it was the biggest fall of snow around the township for decades and I think maybe the early nineties was comparable. I was blown away with the destruction of the snow, it had windstorm feels from 2019 and if we thought it was wet before, it has gone to a whole new level. I've heard that a good fall of snow will bring spring on early and we can all only hope that is the case as we will grow a power of feed when it warms up. The extreme wet has made it harder for livestock producers, livestock have slipped in condition considerably and the need for supplementation has increased. The interesting part from the snow event to me was that the high-altitude country south of Walcha usually gets snow first, but this time didn't get a flake, well it didn't settle and they just got a bucketload of rain, like 100mm.

I travelled north to Mackay last week and I must say the country looked good the entire way up with plenty of feed and green crops. The livestock look well and there was plenty of water in table drains and dams the whole way which begs me to believe if the south of NSW and Victoria can get rain in spring, the livestock markets will hit some crazy restocking prices again. The BOM has released its forecast for the remainder of 2025 and it's given from the northern tip of Australia to Victoria above average chance of rainfall for the next few months. The forecast looks extremely wet and if a certain weather predictor forecast is anything to go by then we are in for a huge flood in November. Look how wet we got last week and how high the water was on the levee banks in town; the ground just can't hold any more moisture. Residents who live downstream along the Namoi River are still dealing with the excess water from last week's snow falls and rain from the hills with flooding from Tamworth to Wee Waa.

The RBA would have met on Tuesday, and all indicators are pointing towards a rate drop once again after quarterly inflation data showed a drop in inflation. If they do drop the cash rate then once again it will fuel residential and rural property values. Ever since they started dropping the rates and livestock markets have improved, we have seen an increase in interest in rural property, to us residential has never slowed down.

They keep saying we need migrants to help with our labour shortages, but I still believe the people are here somewhere. I spoke to a young gentleman while I was away about his working plans and he mentioned he had applied for a mining apprenticeship with a company who had six apprenticeships on offer, that they had 1200 applications. It gets me thinking what the other 1194 people will do for work and if the government is doing enough to help get more people into trades and apprenticeships, or even just the mundane jobs that Aussies now refuse to do.

Last week's wet weather saw reduced numbers yarded in Tamworth, and Gunnedah sale cancelled due to flooding. This week the numbers came forth with Tamworth yarding 3600 cattle on Monday and Gunnedah managed to yard 4000 on Tuesday. Tamworth market was quoted firm to slightly cheaper with demand still red hot for restocking and feeder cattle. Weaner steers topped at 490c/kg, as did the heifer portion, feeder steers topped at 525c/kg while a standout sale was a pen of Angus steers, approx. 340kg topping at 602c/kg. Feeder heifers met strong demand from the south and topped at 476c/kg while heavy heifers to process topped at 458c/kg. Heavy cows slipped from the highs of the previous week to top at 432c/kg, with majority selling below 400c/kg.

7100 sheep and lambs were yarded on Monday in Tamworth with prices firm to dearer, especially in the mutton. Heavy trade lambs topped at \$345 for over 26kg, heavy lambs sold to a whopping \$468 and snatched the sale yard record, pity there was only 5 of them. Mutton bounced away with wethers topping at \$395, heavy XB ewes to \$280 while rams topped at \$160.

Make a date with MHERV



Who's MHERV when he's at home????

MHERV isn't home much because he's on the road visiting towns in rural NSW.

MHERV is the Men's Health Education Rural Van and Walcha will be its home on 22nd and 23rd August. MHERV is another great Rotary project that serves our district. It's free!

MHERV provides an opportunity for men (and women, actually) to get their blood pressure,

cholesterol and blood sugar levels checked by a registered nurse. It only takes 10 minutes and could save your life. Because men are not good at dropping into the GP for regular check-ups, MHERV is around to fill that gap. MHERV comes to you.

Every year about 41,000 Australian men die from preventable diseases.

MHERV has tested over 20,000 men since 2017 and 8,100 were found to be in need of treatment – that's more than 1 in 3. Of those, 615 were in immediate danger of stroke or heart attack.

Conditions like high blood pressure, high cholesterol and high blood sugar which often have little or no apparent symptoms, can build up and lead to sudden unexpected death or long-term incapacity. Don't let it happen to you. Just 10 minutes with MHERV could save your life. On its previous visits to Walcha, men needing urgent further medical investigation were identified. Tests may show no reason for concern – better to be safe, not sorry.

MHERV will be at the Walcha Men's Shed on the morning of Friday 22 August. Afterwards outside the Walcha Motel on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

Memorial Service this Saturday

Walcha RSL Sub Branch will be holding a Commemorative Service this Saturday to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, as well as to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day which falls on Monday 18 August.

President of our Walcha RSL sub branch, David Campbell would like to encourage the Walcha community to attend this service at 11am on Saturday 16th August at Memorial Park on the corner of Hill and Derby Streets.



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These properties are located approx 32 kilometres south of Walcha in the tightly held Ingelba district with an average annual rainfall of 975mm. The combined area of both properties is Approx. 634 acres, consisting of undulating to hilly country with scattered timber. Trap, Loam and Basalt soils have been sown to improved pasture and boast an extensive fertiliser history. Fences are well maintained and present in good condition.

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New Manager for Riverview

Walcha Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Kate Lisle as the new Facility Manager of Apsley Riverview Aged Care Facility, commencing in mid-September. Kate brings a wealth of clinical expertise, strong leadership and approach that is compassionate and resident focused.

Kate is well known in the community for her dedication and professionalism. Her appointment marks an exciting new chapter for Riverview, as residential aged care continues to evolve with both opportunities and challenges.

Walcha Council, the Apsley Riverview Advisory Committee and facility Staff are excited to welcome Kate to the team and look forward to working together to ensure the highest standards of care and support for residents and families.

Mayor Eric Noakes shared his enthusiasm:

"Walcha Council is excited that Kate Lisle has joined the Riverview Team and accepted the role as Facility Manager. Kate's clinical skills, leadership and engaging personality will be of great benefit to the facility as we build a caring and committed workforce. As a long-term resident of Walcha, Kate has built a reputation that will continue the caring leadership that Riverview has been recognised for. This is also a great time to recognise the leadership that Julie Blake brought both before and during the transition to Council. Your leadership has left an indelible mark on Riverview."

Acting General Manager, Christian Martin added:

"We are looking forward to working with Kate and the team to continue to support the residents and families into the future, and thank Julie Blake for her lasting contribution. We're grateful that Julie will remain with the team in a more direct care capacity in the future."

Walcha Council extends its heartfelt thanks to Julie for her outstanding leadership and dedication. Julie's contributions have been instrumental in shaping Riverview's culture of care and her continued presence in a hands-on role will be deeply valued.

With Kate stepping into leadership and Julie continuing her journey with Riverview, the future of aged care in Walcha is bright, resilient and deeply rooted in community spirit.





Yarrowitch Public School



Transition 2025

Starting Term 4
Wednesday Week 3 to Week 6 9am - 12pm

Yarrowitch Public School is excited to offer a Transition to School program for 2026 school age students. As a small rural school, we pride ourselves on our strong focus on literacy and numeracy, while also providing rich access to technology, hands-on problem solving and creative learning. Staff support and nurture each student to develop their individual talents through personalised learning, guidance and a focus on building confidence and curiosity. This welcoming and engaging program helps children feel confident and connected as they begin their school journey. All families are warmly invited to join us!

Please contact Yarrowitch Public School for further information.

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Buster the Bull with Emily and Alan Scrivener, Tony Perrett – QLD Minister of Primary Industries and Judge Jake Phillips from Angus Australia.

Buster takes out Grand Champion Angus Bull

On Friday 8 August, it was time for Stud Beef Breed judging at the 2025 Royal Queensland Show, with The Station Angus' bull 'Buster' competing in the Senior Bull Class. Judged by Jake Phillips of Angus Australia, The Station King T106, placed first in his class and then went on to claim the title of 2025 Grand Champion Angus Bull.

While his stay at the show was meant to end on Sunday 10 August it has been extended. Buster has attracted so much attention that the organisers of The Ekka were more than excited to keep him on the grounds for the remainder of the show. He, along with The Station Angus' other two bulls, have been moved to a special pen where the public have easy access to view the 'Heaviest Bull on Grounds'. Buster also took out the prize for People's Choice. Alan hopes to take Buster to Lismore's North Coast National Show in October to be a part of the Rodney Gibson Memorial Beef Cattle Exhibition.

thumbs



- 👍 To Walcha Council for their efficiency in this crazy time and removing the fallen trees.
- 👍 To the markets last Sunday, we wish you could continue all year round.
- 👍 To Uchhit at Walcha Council for his respect, certainty and clarity, what an asset to the Council.
- 👍 Huge thank you to Walcha Road Publican for providing free accommodation to people stranded during the snowfall.
- 👍 To Bevis Hoy for your kind letter, thank you.
- 👍 To Geoff, Ray and Julia Brazel for cleaning up the trees and debris from Wollun Road this week. A massive job! Well done and thank you for making it safer for us all.
- 👎 To the person or people who misuse the rural waste and recycling depots. On Saturday at Yarrowitch there were cans, broken bottles and unopened bottles of water in the general waste bins and on the ground, and mixed recyclables dumped in the Aluminium and Foil bin! Please don't be lazy, it isn't that hard!!
- 👎 To the people who don't clean up after their dogs at the John Oxley Oval, especially when it is on the playing fields.

Contributions will be received in person, by phone or email and must be accompanied by your name and contact details. They will be printed at the discretion of the editor.

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# Walcha Garden Club Annual Luncheon

**Friday 5th September**

Walcha Golf Club at 9.30am

**Guest Speaker: Angela Sole (Horticulturist)**

**Speaking on: Designing gardens  
with cool climate plants**

Plant Stall, Raffles and Lucky Door Prizes available

**Cost:** \$35 per person includes Morning Tea and Lunch

**RSVP:** 29th August

*Please advise of any dietary requirements*

## Payments

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# Celebrating dedication and friendship at Walcha MPS

**By Douglas Bellamy, Health Service Manager – Walcha MPS**

Walcha Multipurpose Service (MPS) recently marked International Friendship Day with a heartwarming service recognition ceremony, honouring the dedication and compassion of its staff and volunteers.

Service badges were presented to staff whose years of commitment have shaped the heartbeat of the MPS. Among those recognised were:

- Mary Boyd – 50 years
- Julie Bird – 40 years
- Helen Matthey (posthumous) – 40 years
- Fiona Wiggins – 30 years
- Kathy Rizzi, Kerry Kliendienst, Jacqui Dunn, Kim Holstein, Gary Bloomfield, Douglas Bellamy – 20 years
- Peter Connett, Amy Enriquez, Sally Heazlett, Kim Lockyer, Jalina Hayward, Jo-Anne Lee, Joanne Relf, Kate Lise, and Amelia Kuhr – 10 years

A moment of reflection was held to honour Helen Matthey, a nurse whose generosity and quiet acts of kindness left an indelible mark on patients, families, and colleagues. Her service was remembered as an embodiment of the resilience, care, and dedication. A true demonstration of the spirit of Walcha MPS.

Volunteers were also acknowledged with handmade gifts crafted by residents, some of whom are no longer with us, adding extra meaning to the occasion.

Among those recognised were: Linda Lockyer, Margy Morris, Linda Ballard, Mary Hoare, Graeme Fairweather, Albert Egli, Olive Chandler, Kerry Struck, Brenda Walker, and Jan Cross.



One particularly touching moment came with the presentation of a ceramic plate to volunteer Linda Lockyer, created by a late resident who found joy in Linda's musical visits.

"This MPS is more than a health service, it's a community within a community," said Health Service Manager Douglas Bellamy. "Through compassion, professionalism, and friendship, our people make a difference in the moments that matter most."

The ceremony served not only to celebrate long-standing service but also to reaffirm the collective spirit that sustains healthcare in Walcha. A spirit of care, connection, and unwavering commitment to community.

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# RUGBY REPORT WALCHA V BLUES

By Eric the Spider

## FIRST GRADE

In a fiercely contested Round 15 match of the New England Rugby competition, the Walcha Rams First Grade side went toe-to-toe with the Armidale Blues in Armidale on Saturday, ultimately falling short in a nail-biting 12-15 loss.

Despite a spirited and physical performance, the Rams couldn't overcome early disciplinary issues and a lack of precision in attack, leaving them just shy of victory in a match defined by relentless defence and territorial battles.

The Rams started strongly, executing their game plan with disciplined structure and powerful carries to pin the Blues in their own half. By turning the opposition around consistently, they controlled early territory. However, ill-discipline proved costly, as a series of penalties gifted the Blues valuable attacking opportunities. Despite this, Walcha's defence was nothing short of outstanding, with Cole Tweedy and Nathan Cullinan leading the way with bone-rattling tackles that set a physical tone. Ritchie Hunt delivered a masterclass in bruising hits, while Chaden Hawkins dominated in contact, ensuring the Blues' advances were met with fierce resistance.

Eddy Cordingley was exceptional out wide, shutting down the Blues' dangerous backline with clinical defending. Despite their defensive heroics, Walcha struggled to breach the Blues' try line due to their disciplinary lapses, opting instead for penalty kicks to stay in the game. At halftime, the Rams trailed 12-6.

The second half became a gritty battle for territory, with Walcha forced into defensive mode for long periods. Dan Coulthurst was immense in the tight exchanges, repelling wave after wave of Blues attacks with unyielding resolve. James Anderson shone as a leader in the forwards, organising the pack with constant communication and maintaining high energy levels to keep the Rams competitive. At fullback, Eddie Pitt delivered one of his finest performances in the Rams' jersey, proving a rock under a barrage of high kicks from the Blues. His precise kick returns consistently put Walcha back in favorable field positions, giving them a platform to fight back.

Despite their defensive resilience, Walcha struggled to maintain possession and lacked the patience and precision needed to mount consistent attacking pressure. The Blues capitalised on their opportunities, holding firm to secure a narrow 15-12 victory.

The Rams' defence was a highlight, not conceding a single try in the second half, showcasing their physicality and organisation. However, their inability to control the ball and build sustained attacking phases ultimately cost them the game. In a match that slipped away, the Walcha Rams demonstrated heart and grit, setting the stage for a strong response in their next outing as they aim to reclaim their winning form.

**Points** 3 Matty Tisdell, 2 Nathan Cullinan and 1 Ed Cordingley.

**Players** Player Eddie Pitt.

## SECOND GRADE

In a pulsating encounter on Saturday, the Walcha Rams Reserve Grade delivered a commanding performance to defeat the Armidale Blues 29-22, reinforcing their position as competition front runners.

After several weeks sidelined due to wet weather, the Rams were chomping at the bit to return to action, and their enthusiasm was evident from the opening whistle in this thrilling clash in Armidale. The Rams exploded out of the blocks, asserting their dominance with powerful carries that set an aggressive tone. Their scrum, a cornerstone of their game plan, overwhelmed the Blues early on, paving the way for Irish import Enda Love to crash over the try line close to the posts, opening the scoring for Walcha. The home side's forward pack, led by the relentless carries of Jack Power, consistently put the Rams on the front foot, creating momentum and testing the Blues' defence. However, the Armidale Blues were not to be outdone, responding with two quick tries that showcased their resilience and attacking flair. Their swift counter

attacks briefly swung the momentum, putting the Walcha Reggies under pressure. Undaunted, the Rams regrouped, with five-eighth Will Hyles orchestrating play masterfully. Hyles' vision and precise direction of the backline ensured the Rams maintained excellent field position, setting the stage for a stunning fightback. The Rams regained control with two electrifying tries before halftime. Archi Lawrence, a powerhouse in the forward pack, produced a rampaging run, dragging defenders over the line in a display of raw strength. Moments later, the backs showcased their finesse, moving the ball through slick hands to find Troy Hawkins, who brushed aside multiple defenders with deft footwork to score a brilliant try. At the break, the Rams held a commanding 24-10 lead, setting up a thrilling second half contest.

The second half unfolded in challenging, slippery conditions, with both teams battling for territory. Josh Gollan was immense in the second row, anchoring the scrum with brute force, while Josh Moloney was a defensive juggernaut, making countless tackles to thwart the Blues' advances. In the backs, Andrew Kelly's tough, bruising carries consistently broke the line, keeping the Rams on the attack. Fullback Nick Rogers was a calming influence, his clear communication and sharp decision-making guiding the team through tense moments.

As the game tightened, the Rams' cohesion and grit shone through. The final score of 29-22 reflected their superior teamwork and determination. Every player stood tall, contributing to a hard-earned victory that preserved the Rams' unbeaten season and cemented their place at the top of the competition. This performance underscored the depth and talent of the Walcha Rams, who look poised to continue their dominant run into the finals.

**Points** 3 Troy Hawkins (Players player), 2 Archi Lawrence and 1 Enda Love.

## NEXT WEEK

The Walcha Rams take on the Armidale Barbarians at Peter Fenwick Oval in their last round game of the season before finals.

A win for first grade will see them clinch the minor premiership, joining reserve grade who already have an unassailable lead at the top of the Reggies Ladder.

## Major Sponsors



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**Club:** Merlanie Pastoral Co, D&C Kermode, DW & AM Cameron, Thomas Foods, Walcha Vet Supplies, Ben Nevis Angus, Walcha Law, Commercial Hotel and Law Exchange.



**Former Walcha resident Jan Sullivan** (nee Drew) recently passed away peacefully at the age of 70 years young, and will be farewelled today Wednesday 13th August at St Alban's Anglican Church in Quirindi commencing at 11:00am. Condolences to her husband Jim along with all other family members and friends. Janet Lorraine Sullivan Rest in Peace.

...

**Small world sometimes!** Not long back Lilli Eather-Goodwin who is currently residing in London could have sworn she saw Kate Natty stroll past the coffee shop where Lilli is employed. The simple reason – it was, and by all accounts the pair have made arrangements to catch up with each other.

...

**Former Walcha residents** Andrew Dunn and his 18 year old daughter Stella, who now lives in Port Macquarie flew to Finland last week to compete in the world Benchrest Shooting Championships. Benchrest is a precision rifle shooting discipline where shooters aim at targets at 50 metres 100, 200 and 300 yards where rifles are fired from rests which support both the rifles fore-end and the rifle's butt. Stella has been selected in both the Australia junior and senior teams while Andrew was picked in the senior.

...

**Well done to the Walcha Golf Club** members and volunteers who helped clean up the front 9 holes of the course last weekend allowing golf to resume today. There has been a whisper that a number of members have been crying themselves to sleep after being told the two small trees overhanging the second fairway 50 metres in front of the Ladies tee didn't survive the recent snow carnage.

...

**Club Handicapper Don Brooks** wasn't an oarsman in the 'crying themselves to sleep' boat however as word has it he took great delight in cleaning up those two trees which have caused plenty of disappointment for a lot of players for quite sometime. A wake has been mentioned! The course clean up is far from over with a working bee scheduled for this Friday from 8.30am for those people who can lend their assistance.

...

**The Walcha Baa Baas** are holding a reunion for the players who toured New Zealand 30 years ago along with all the players who have pulled on a red and white guernsey since. Organiser John Burnell has indicated that the show will go on rain, hail or shine with all the action kicking off at the clubhouse this Saturday from 11.30am.

...

**Last week while I was grocery shopping** Walcha Newsagency co-owner Bill Duncan left a book on the drivers side mirror of my car thinking I might like to read it. Unfortunately I

didn't see the book and drove off reaching the roundabout before it fell off the mirror. Having caught what happened out of the corner of my eye I wheeled around to retrieve 'Reilly - a life in rugby league' a story about a champion player for both England and Manly. Mal Reilly was as tough a player as they came but to get run over at a roundabout in Walcha - who would have thought.

...

**Congratulations to 2AD 'Senior Sports Star of the Week'** Lee Fletcher who after winning his first Walcha Golf Club Championships earlier this year went on to take out the NSW Mens Veterans Sandgreen Championship here at Walcha in April. Good on ya 'Lethal'.

...

**Big Wigs of the Week NRL Round 23** - Newie - David Campbell and Charlie Brown somehow picked the card - how?; Vet Supplies - D.J. Bird; B.C - Adam Hall and Normie Goodwin; Apsley - Libby Withers and Normie Goodwin all 14 points. T.B.W Cafe - Tracey Crisp and Cindy Swanton 12 points.

...

**Haven't been speaking to my godson Jonnie Cross** about if he is still going ahead with a 'gap year' away from supporting his beloved Panthers after they got off to a woeful start this season. Now Penrith have bounced back and are currently in the Top 4 there is a fair chance he might have changed his mind about the 'gap year'. Next time you visit Cross Brothers Butchery ask him.




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## New President of Historical Society

From Melanie Oppenheimer

After longstanding service, Kate Hoy (President), Jane Morrison (Secretary) and Kerry Dickson (Treasurer) stood down from the Walcha and District Historical Society at the recent AGM. The newly elected representatives are Melanie Oppenheimer (President), Shelley Marchant (Secretary) and Mary Brearley (Treasurer). The incoming executive would like to thank Kate, Jane and Kerry very much for their valuable leadership and hard work over many years.

We gathered together last Friday for an informal handing over and look forward to our new roles including the snow storm damage at the Museum Complex.

The next meeting of the Walcha Historical Society will be held on Saturday 20 September at the Tennis Club. Come along at 12.30pm for a cup of tea with the meeting to commence at 1pm. New members always welcome. Contact us at enquiries@walchadhs.com.au



Back: Shelley Marchant, Melanie Oppenheimer, Mary Brearley.  
Front: Kerry Dickson, Jane Morrison, absent Kate Hoy



# Ladies Day raised \$10,000

Walcha Central School Principal, Amanda Cooper was thrilled to receive a very generous donation of \$7000 from the Walcha Rugby Club on Monday.

The money was raised at their very well supported Ladies Day against Robb College recently. "We raised \$10,000 altogether with the sale of raffle tickets and our jersey auction," Club Treasurer Janelle Archdale said.

Janelle explained that the remaining proceeds were donated to the Small Schools: Yarrowitch, Woolbrook and Niangala who each received \$1000.

Walcha Central School is using the money to provide Technology for the students in Primary School, with the High School providing Wellbeing Programs for their students.

The Rugby Club was thrilled to be able to support such wonderful causes in the community, and thanked everyone for their amazing support of their Ladies Day.

*Walcha Rugby Club Treasurer Janelle Archdale presents the donation to WCS Principal Amanda Cooper and School Captains*



advocate sport



## Ladies Bowls

There was no social bowls played last week, the weather was miserable. Don't forget the street stall this Saturday 16 August. Saleable goods most welcome.

One of our bowling ladies, Hazel Cameron, has passed away. Her funeral is 2pm on Thursday 21 August in the Presbyterian Church. The Lady Bowlers will be joining a guard of honour when leaving the church. Lady bowlers please wear bowls uniform.

The AGM will now be held at 10am in the club house on this day, 21 August. Nominated names are on the board. There will be social bowls tomorrow 9am for 9.30am start.

## Bowls

We will have another try to finalise the Triples on the 23 August 9.30am. Anyone wishing to arrange their comp game is welcome to do so. Let's hope the weather is a bit kinder for the next few weeks.

## Netball

Following a long break off the court due to school holidays and 2 matches being abandoned due to wet weather, Round 10 of the Armidale District Netball Association competition saw the Walcha Opals playing against VIP Dragonflies in the Primary 1 Division, with the Opals conceding to a final score of 7- 16. Walcha Pacifica romped home against the Uralla Cougars with a convincing win 37-15. The Diamonds and Sapphires will return to the courts next week following a bye in Round 10. Player of the Week for Opals was Lucy Rizzi.

## At the Nineteenth

There was no golf action over the past week due to the damage caused by the recent heavy snow fall but hopefully the front 9 holes of the course will be open today for play in the weekly Wednesday competition.

That has been made possible by the efforts of some

members and volunteers helping clean up the front part of the course last weekend.

This Friday August 15th a working bee is scheduled between 8.30am and 1.00pm where members and volunteers interested in helping out are requested to bring any appropriate cleaning up equipment please.

After the final blows are struck around 1.00pm workers will have enough time to freshen up for the Melbourne Cup Street Parade at 2.30pm.

You know the old saying - 'Many hands make a light work!' and it's a given that the Walcha Golf Club directors would be delighted if you could lend your assistance this Friday.

The annual Mixed Foursomes Championships for the Mr and Mrs T.C. Fenwicke where Col King is the trophy donor is scheduled for this Sunday where the new tee off time is 10.30am

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# Thunderbolts Way is OPEN!!

All roads lead to Walcha once again, so please be sure to include us on your next road trip.

After a tough 12 week period for our beautiful and beloved town, the pressure has eased somewhat with this news.

Closed since mid-May until now due to extensive repairs of some pretty serious scars (landslides, bridge and road damage) caused by the heavy rain and subsequent streams transforming into

unstoppable torrents that also went on to cause the devastation of the Taree floods.

The news of Thunderbolts Way re-opening is beyond exciting (and relieving) for our community and local businesses.

Please note the OXLEY HWY, 80km EAST of Walcha (between Gingers Creek and Forbes River Road) is still under weekly scheduled closures due to ongoing roadworks.



The Gloryvale Bridge

church



## ANGLICAN

**August 17**

9.30am Family Service

**August 24**

9.30am Lord's Supper

**August 31**

9.30am Combined Service with Presbyterians at Anglican Church

Phone 6777 2543 or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

## PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha, every Sunday 9.30am, Youth Group every Saturday 5pm – 7pm, during term time. All welcome. Phone 6777 539.

## CATHOLIC

**Sunday Mass** 10.00am

advocateclassifieds



## Funeral Notice

~ Cameron; Hazel Sophia ~

née Melville  
4th August 2025

of Lagoon Street, Walcha.  
Beloved wife of Ron (dec).

Loved partner of John Graham.

Loving mother & mother-in-law of Graemne & Robyn, Kenneth "Fred" & Tracey (dec) and Phillip & Petrina.

Loved grandmother of Simone, Michael & Brooke, Christopher & Joshua and Corey & Sophie.

Loved great-grandmother of Spencer, Reuben, Hunter, Luca, Ollie & Gracie.

Loved sister, sister-in-law and aunty of her family.

Aged 87 years.

A Funeral service to be held at St Pauls Presbyterian Church, Walcha on Thursday, 21st of August 2025 commencing at 2pm.

## Jason Norris

A Memorial Service will be held at Valla Nature Reserve (end of Ocean View Drive, Valla Beach) on Friday 22 August 2025 at 10.00am.

Followed by a wake at 11.30am at Golden Sands Tavern, 31 Bowra Street, Nambucca Heads.

## In Memoriam

**Graham Stackman**

3.10.58 – 6.8.75

50 years have gone since you left us.  
But still remembered. Loved by your sisters and brothers.

In Loving memory of  
**Saylem Macquarie Slater**

20-12-2002 to 12-8-2018

Miss you, Miss you.

## Public Notice

**DR GENEVIEVE FREER**

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## Position Vacant

### Cleaner Wanted

Seeking someone to clean an office in Walcha once a week. Hours are flexible. Must have ABN.

If you are interested please contact Cathy on 6656 8890 or email [griftonadmin@fcnsw.com.au](mailto:griftonadmin@fcnsw.com.au)

## Position Vacant (Cont)

### National Parks & Wildlife Service Office Cleaning Contract

Two separate cleaning contracts for twice a week cleaning at:

- 145 Miller Street, Armidale
  - 174W North Street, Walcha
- Must have ABN and Insurance

For More Information contact:  
Cecilia Brennan: 6777 4720



## Meetings

**Walcha Little A's** AGM Wednesday 27 August, 5.00pm Apsley Hotel.

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# BOWLING

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**MEMBERS DRAW**

**No members draw this Friday**

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER FOR 2024/2025 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN

## WHAT'S ON?

**Thursday 14** 12.00pm – Close

**BOWLS** 9.30am Ladies, 1pm Social

**Friday 15** 2.00pm – Close

Melbourne Cup Civic Reception

**Saturday 16** 11.00am – Close

**5.00PM BISTRO**

**This week only** super Saturday night special: Homemade Rissoles

**Sunday 17** 11.00am – Close

**12.00PM BISTRO**

**Raffle** tickets from 12pm, drawn 1.00pm.

### Thinking of holding a function?

Call Di for a range of catering options, including the most delicious desserts.

Dianna - 0412 536 760 or 5722 6003

The Club will be closed for normal business on Friday 15th August to cater for the Melbourne Cup Civic Reception. Ticket holders only will be admitted. There will be no Bingo, raffles or member draw

### Live Music

**6th September**

7:30pm - 10:30pm

Matt Barratt

### Sunday Happy Hour

\$5 SCHOONERS 3pm

FOOTY ON THE BIG SCREEN

### Other Happy Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday

4pm - 6pm \$6 Schooners

Do you live in Walcha Shire? If so you MUST be a member to enter the Club  
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