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Rogers wins Major Prize at 2025 Sculpture by the Sea

One of Walcha's own has triumphed at this year's prestigious Sculpture by the Sea exhibition.

October 17 saw James Rogers announced as the recipient of the exhibition's major prize, the **Aqualand Australia Sculpture Award** for his sculpture 'Siren's Song'.

James is recognised as one of Australia's pre-eminent sculptors and has a strong history with Sculpture by the Sea having exhibited there 20 times previously, including in its founding year.

Sculpture by the Sea began in 1997 as a one-day event in Bondi, Sydney. Now, in its 29th year, it runs over 2^{1/2} weeks and has grown to be the world's largest free to the public sculpture exhibition. The event sees the 2km coastal walk from Bondi Beach to Tamarama Beach transform into a temporary sculpture park, this year featuring 100 sculptures by Australian and international artists.

Walcha has a long standing affiliation with Sculpture by the Sea and is able to boast that several local artists have exhibited there on numerous occasions; James Rogers, Stephen King and Ben Tooth. While Walcha's renowned Open Air Gallery also features many artists who have exhibited and won the major prize including; 2004-5 Václav Fiala (Czech Republic), 2012 & 2014 Peter Lundberg (USA), 2013 Stephen King (Walcha) and 2023 John Petrie NSW.

James' success at this year's event and the number of artists who have permanent works in Walcha's Open Air Gallery who can also lay claim to exhibiting in Sculpture by the Sea is



*James Rogers', 'Siren's Song'. Winner of 2025 Sculpture by the Sea, Aqualand Australia Sculpture Award
Photo Credit: Dan Varrica, Sculpture by the Sea*

testament to the quality and prestige of our own art assets and further cements Walcha's place as a shining beacon on the map of the art-world. Congratulations to James. If you would like to catch Sculpture by the Sea, the exhibition remains open until November 3.

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By SIMON NEWTON

Driving around our district I can see the colour running out of our grass as we wait for a much needed fall of rain. Temperatures are set to hit high twenties this week which will only put our moisture reserves under more pressure. Don't get me wrong, I still think we are in pretty good shape but some decent rain would just keep us moving forward, rather than backwards, with pasture growth. November is forecasted to be a wet month and we are lucky that it is only a week away. Another scary thought is that Christmas is here in under 10 weeks.

At long last, Prime Minister Albanese has been able to sit down with President Trump and confirm the USA's support for AUKUS while also talking all things business between Australia and the USA. Labor clearly has appointed the wrong Australian Ambassador to the US after Trump singled out Rudd during the Albanese/Trump meeting and told him he didn't like him. If that is not a red flag for Albanese to change our Ambassador. I'm not sure what is. Tensions appear to be high between Rudd and Trump, I think the government needs to make changes to keep our relations with the USA amicable. They have also signed a rare earths mineral deal which might put China offside as the USA/China trade war continues. It is critical that we keep our relationship with the USA sound for Australian beef and lamb producers. As of 2024 the USA were the largest importers of Australian beef worldwide with Canada coming in a close second.

Finally, we have seen some sense from the Labor government who have now ditched the proposed tax on unrealised capital gains in relation to superannuation accounts. The government is now moving towards a realised earnings model with tax being applied to an asset's capital gains if they are being liquidated. The government is looking to implement a two-tiered taxation approach with superannuation balances between \$3million to \$10 million being subject to 30% tax rate, while balances exceeding \$10 million will be taxed at 40%.

National Party member for New England, Mr Barnaby Joyce, has announced he will not re-contest his seat at the next election. Mr Joyce said his relationship with the party's current leadership had irreparably broken down and it is time for him to step away. Whispers of Mr Joyce taking up arms with the One Nation Party are swirling but it will be a 'wait and see' approach as he has also spoken about retirement from politics. Regardless of the outcome, Mr Joyce has been a great advocate for the people living in rural areas and the New England region.

Speaking with southern agents, their season is once again getting away from them with the dry, hot and windy conditions taking its toll on crops and pasture. Thirty-degree days and westerly winds have dried out numerous crops beyond getting them to harvest so the hay balers have moved in before all is lost. These westerly winds and extreme heat will no doubt brew up some wild storms with the BOM predicting a wild summer of storms ahead for the east coast of Australia.

Tamworth yarded 2202 head of cattle on Monday, 900 less than the week before. The market was quoted dearer for feeder and kill cattle while restocking light cattle back to the paddock were a shade cheaper. Weaner steers topped at 516c/kg, heifers to 439c/kg while feeders steers sold to 500c/kg and the heifer portion topped at 450c/kg. Grown heifer to process were 20c/kg dearer and topped at 384c/kg while heavy cows topped at 382c/kg. Wagga cows yesterday topped at 398c/kg which would be the closest value between the two locations for some time. 3800 sheep and lambs were yarded in Tamworth on Monday with trade lambs topping at \$278 while heavy export lambs topped at \$314. The mutton market was slightly dearer topping at \$238 for XB ewes and dorpers to \$230. The lamb hook market has declined over the last few weeks with prices sitting around \$10.50-\$11 per kilo carcase weight while mutton has followed the same trend, down from \$7.50 to \$6.80 per kilo carcase weight.

Walcha Fire Station celebrates 75 years

This Saturday, 25 October, Fire Station Walcha 481 invites the entire community to come together and celebrate 75 years of protecting Walcha. The celebration is about connection, honouring those who have protected the community for generations and inspiring those who will carry the torch forward.

Your Community Needs You. Behind every emergency response in towns like Walcha stands a team of on-call (retained) firefighters — locals who balance everyday life with the call to serve. These are paid roles, open to people from all walks of life. Training, gear, and support are provided; what matters most is commitment and community pride. If you've ever thought about giving back or trying something new, this is the perfect time to come down, talk to the crew, and see how you could join the next chapter of Walcha's firefighting story.

This is more than a milestone — it's a celebration of local spirit, teamwork, and the people who step forward to keep our community safe. Offering an opportunity to experience what it means to be part of Fire and Rescue NSW.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE DAY

11:30am — Welcome & BBQ. Enjoy a classic sausage sizzle, proudly organised with the support of the Rotary Club of Walcha. Bring your family, grab a bite, and mingle with the local crew.

Demonstrations in Action. Watch the firefighters showcase their skills in structural firefighting and road-crash rescue — the same techniques used when responding to real emergencies. These live displays highlight the precision, teamwork, and discipline that define the modern fire service.

Experience the Power of a Fire Hose. Weather permitting, you'll even get the chance to handle a fully-loaded fire hose under supervision — an unforgettable glimpse into the strength and coordination needed on the fireground.

So, spread the word: bring your family, your friends and your neighbours to celebrate these brave protectors of Walcha.

Walcha Fire Station | 9W Hamilton Street.

11:30am | Saturday, 25 October



Left: A parade of Fire Engines from yesteryear
Right: Firefighters helping out in the 2025 snowstorm in August



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Business Networking Event this week

This Thursday, October 23, at 5:30pm Walcha Business Group is hosting a business get-together at Walcha Royal Cafe. Kalen Sowter will speak briefly on the Spon Vol (Spontaneous Volunteers) project and what that means for business and community.

When disaster strikes, ordinary people from all over are often inspired to give their time and energy to help those in need. These spontaneous volunteers bring very welcome goodwill but without a plan, can create challenges for local services and businesses.

Your feedback will help provide information to better support the coordination of community efforts assisting emergency management services, Council and businesses. Bring along your smart device to assist with a survey.

The event is open to businesses and community group organisers who may want to provide feedback on this topic. The evening will also allow time for networking. Drinks will be available for purchase, and some light nibbles will be provided.

If you have any queries, please reach out to Fiona Barden, Walcha Business Group President on 0429 690 679.

Special Story Time : Susea Spray

Walcha children of all ages were lucky enough to have a visit from author Susea Spray at the Walcha Library last Monday. Susea last visited the library in 2023 with her picture book *A Big Blue Boat*. She wowed the crowd again this week with another interactive workshop where 18 children, parents and carers packed the library to enjoy a reading of her new book *A Day on the Brine*, plus songs and craft fun for kids aged 18 months

to 12 years. Susea also works Auslan into her storytelling journey which was very engaging for young learners. Author visits like these are a great opportunity to support Australian authors, and library staff enjoy finding authors with ties to our community. Recently the library has also come across Marilyn Darks children's book *Cuba* and *A Crow's Tale* by Jennifer Purse, which are currently on display with Susea's latest book.



Childrens book author, Susea Spray, having a special story time with local children at the Walcha Library last Monday, October 13.

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Li family fundraiser

The Oxley Riders are coming together this Friday, 24 October, to host a fundraiser at the New England Hotel, to support to the Li family after the devastating fire at their Chinese restaurant on 20 August.

The fire caused significant damage to the restaurant's kitchen, forcing the Li's to close their doors while they wait for insurance to rebuild the kitchen. Unfortunately, the insurance process is taking longer than hoped, with work on the building not expected to be complete until after Christmas.

In the meantime, the Li family are unable to work, and the local community has stepped up to help ease the burden of living costs during this time.

The fundraiser will kick off at 7:00pm at the New England Hotel, with plenty of great auction items up for grabs, including a load of wood, a lamb, a car service voucher, building labour, and much more.

Tickets are just \$2 each, with the first prize in the raffle being a load of wood. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time this week at the New England Hotel.

Both the Li family and the New England Hotel are incredibly grateful for the local support and the generosity of those donating items.

Walcha Students in 2026 Leadership Group at TAS

Four students from the Walcha district will be setting the tone and spirit of The Armidale School into 2026, having been inducted to key leadership positions this term.

Emily Ussher was appointed both Captain of Athletics and Captain of Green House; Sinclair Little and Charlie Crawford are the Vice Captains of Abbott House, whilst Will Hall is Vice Captain of Croft House.

The students were presented with their badges at an induction ceremony at TAS on the first day of Term 4.

At the ceremony, Principal Ray Pearson said at the heart of good leadership was service. "Service should never be something required by the School. It should be something you choose because it reflects who you are and what you stand for," he said. "Leadership is service. Today, I congratulate those on stage for choosing to serve. You now have the opportunity to shape the culture of TAS and to leave a legacy through the time and effort you give in what will be your final, and perhaps most memorable year here. The kind of leadership we value here is confident but humble; strong but respectful.

"As John Quincy Adams once said, 'If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader'."



Left - Right: Emily Ussher, Charlie Crawford, Will Hall, Sinclair Little and Principal of The Armidale School, Mr Ray Pearson

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- Covered BBQ area
- Spacious car shed with roller door plus carport
- Well fenced dog run and various sheds



4 1 2

\$430,000

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Walcha High Country Guardians mobilise



With very minimal respect for the landholders involved or the wider Walcha community, EnergyCo rapidly announced, just prior to the October long weekend, that there was to be a change to the placement of the Transmission lines from Muswellbrook to the Central South Hub on the western side of Walcha.

With extreme concern and bewilderment, the affected landholders held a meeting where it was unanimously

decided to seek Council support to oppose this route and to form a committee to ensure that this decision by EnergyCo be overturned.

On Wednesday 15 October Walcha Council passed a Mayoral minute by resolution to not support the study corridor for this transmission project, as well as not supporting the Central-South Hub, other proposed substations and the proposal for over 65kms of dual 500 KV transmission lines within the Walcha LGA.

As a result, we have established the *Walcha High Country Guardians* group to respond to this diabolical decision by EnergyCo to re-route the proposed dual 550 KV high voltage lines from their previously verified and preferred route south-west of Walcha, to now be coming in more directly from the south via Niangala, Ingelba and areas just

west of Walcha township.

This betrayal of trust from a NSW Government Dept has wide ranging ramifications for the broader Walcha Community as well. The route that has now been selected was assessed by EnergyCo's own expert consultants only a few months ago for the second time and found to have "inferior outcomes" and "would affect a considerably greater number of dwellings".

Their conclusion was (quote): "In summary, with consideration to people and communities, environmental and land use, and efficiency and deliverability criteria, the assessment identified that the base case (i.e. preferred study corridor) would on balance, result in a better outcome compared to the TSR route options".

We urge all concerned local community members to help us in any way they can, to ensure that both of these parallel 550 KV Transmission lines which are 75 metre high obnoxious towers every 600 metres and closer in places, is never built.

There are a range of ways to help:

- EnergyCo are holding their first information session where project team representatives will be available "to chat with you about the new study area" on 28 October between 10am and 2pm upstairs at Walcha Vet Supplies. The affected landholders have been invited to attend at 12 midday and anyone can attend to seek more information on the project.
- EnergyCo are inviting feedback from the wider community, and this can be done by emailing nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au
- We will provide further updates and suggestions regarding submissions for the project which are due by 28 November 2025
- We urge as many people as possible to do this and if they require further information, please visit the EnergyCo website and get in touch with any of the committee members whose contact details are listed below.
- There is also the option to write to Walcha Council, the ombudsman and local state and federal politicians.
- It is important that the NSW Government Minister responsible for this rollout be contacted with your thoughts and comments. She indicated on radio 2GB on Friday morning that she is willing to come to Walcha and we need that to happen so that she can see firsthand, that this absolutely absurd proposal is being considered in what is prime, productive agricultural land along with world recognised pristine State Forests and biodiversity areas with high conservation values spreading right from Walcha to Muswellbrook.
- We are considering a public meeting soon to brief the wider community, however in the meantime please reach out to our committee with any questions.
- There will also be an online petition circulating as well as paper versions which will require 10,000 signatures to stimulate more Parliamentary debate, and for those who are available, a visit to Macquarie Street in Sydney during the next sitting week to support Brendan Moylan's commitment to WALCHA.

We are in the process of building our media and communication systems and to date only have a Facebook page 'Walcha High Country Guardians' which we need people to support and share everywhere. Please contact us via Messenger or through the details below.

Contact details:

Anna Young: 0401 362 120
Gary Olrich: 0402 432 132
Tabitha Ham: 0438 451 110
Bruce Rutherford: 0429 660 328

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "PASTURE WONDERLAND"



Celebrate the 75th anniversary of the first aerial spreading of superphosphate in Australia on 'Mirani' by Mr A.S. (Poss) Nivison in 1950.

Please join us at the original Mirani airstrip on Saturday 22 November 2025, 11-1pm, for a static display of aerial agriculture through the years.

View the original Tiger Moth aeroplane at the Walcha & District Historical Society's Museum Complex, Derby St, Walcha (open 9-4pm).

Sausage sizzle at the airstrip available from Lions' Club, Walcha

Saturday 22 November 2025 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Mirani airstrip
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Walcha NSW 2354

RSVP by 15 November
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Bruce clocks up 50 years as a Lion

For 68 years Walcha Lions Club have been serving our community, and it was time for them to celebrate last Monday and cut their 68th birthday cake.

This year the theme for Lions is 'Strive for Growth and Happiness' with 1st District Governor Joe Pope and partner Louise travelling from Bellingen for the celebrations.

Walcha Lions Club are actively trying to recruit new members, as they only have 13 in their Club. "Being a Lion is filled with friendship, family and fun," local Lion Lloyd Levingston commented.

Joe Pope cut the birthday cake with Lions Lady Vicki McIvor and then had the pleasure of presenting service badges to many long serving Lions. A very special presentation was made to Bruce Davidson who has been a valued Lions member for 50 years. A huge congratulations to Bruce who has served in many roles including President on many occasions.

Other service badges were presented to:

Bob Burnell.....	4 years
Peter McIvor	16 years
Terry Olsen	22 years
Ian Bird	31 years
Lloyd Levingston.....	33 years
Phillip Hamel.....	44 years



thumbs



- To Walcha Farmers Market and the great worm farm display and demonstration.
- To the gardens out at the dairy.
- To Troy Lestrade for always helping out.
- To John Stuart and his team for their help standing the new light poles at the showground, much appreciated.
- To Neil Howard Electrical for their assistance with wiring up and assembling the new light poles at the showground.
- To Linmac Co. for their great customer service and new products. So grateful to have this business in our town.
- To Richo's Rural for their customer service and advice.

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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New England Renewable Energy Zone

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) is delivering the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) to provide clean, affordable and reliable power supply for homes and businesses across NSW.

Corridor update

We are updating part of the corridor that will connect the REZ to the existing grid at Muswellbrook.

We have identified a new study area between the Bayswater Power Station and the central south energy hub (substation) near Walcha which will allow for safer and more efficient construction with fewer environmental and road impacts. The move will also ensure the transmission lines do not affect aerial firefighting operations around Chaffey Dam and Lake Glenbawn.

We are inviting local feedback as we refine the study area in the coming months and complete further assessments.

View the new study area on EnergyCo's interactive map at energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne-rez-map

Upcoming community information sessions have your say

In addition to direct engagement with landowners, we are holding a series of drop-in information sessions so you can speak with our team, ask questions and share your feedback. You can drop in anytime during the sessions.

Walcha Tuesday 28 October: 10am–2pm

Walcha Tuesday 11 November: 3pm–7pm

Walcha Veterinary Supplies, 6 Aberbaldie Road

Muswellbrook Wednesday 29 October: 3pm–7pm

Muswellbrook Library, 126 Bridge Street

Scone Thursday 30 October: 3pm–7pm

Scone Motor Inn, 55 Kelly Street

Tamworth Monday 3 November: 3pm–7pm

Tamworth Community Event Centre, 3 Darling Street

Nundle Tuesday 4 November: 3pm–7pm

Nundle Thursday 6 November: 10am–12pm

Nundle Memorial Hall, 101 Jenkins Street

Gundy Wednesday 5 November: 3pm–7pm

Gundy Soliders' Memorial Hall, 10-12 Duke Street

Timor Thursday 6 November: 3pm–7pm

Timor Community Hall, Waverley Road

Uralla Monday 10 November: 3pm–7pm

Uralla Courthouse, Corner of Maitland and Hill Streets

Armidale Wednesday 12 November: 3pm–7pm

Armidale Town Hall, 127 Rusden Street

Guyra Thursday 13 November: 5pm–8pm

Guyra Bowling and Recreation Centre, 192 Bradley Street

You can also share your feedback with us by using the contact details below or by making arrangements with us to provide your feedback in person or via post.

More information

To learn more, visit energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, you can contact our team on 1800 061 114 (toll free) or by emailing nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au.



what's the goss



with AJ Cross

Due to upcoming commitments this may be the last column for a few weeks but then again stranger things have happened - we will have to see how things pan out. Just hope the Australian Kangaroos get the job done against Great Britain when the first full Ashes Rugby League Tour in 23 years kicks off this weekend at Wembley Stadium early this Sunday morning (Aussie time).

...

Don't forget the Walcha Chinese fundraiser being held this Friday at the New England Hotel in conjunction with the Oxley Riders. There will be a monster raffle, some great items will be up for auction along with a 100 ticket \$500 Club at \$5 per ticket where the winner will pocket \$250 and the other \$250 goes towards the fundraiser. Proceeds from the night will go to Robert and Suzie Li and family to help them cope while the Restaurant is being rebuilt after the recent fire in the kitchen.

...

Three Walcha golfers travelled to Nyngan last weekend to play in the NSW Womens Sandgreen Championships - Julie Presnell tied for 12th in the Nett Division on 136 (68,68), Rose Baumer tied 61st on 148 (76,72) and Anne Martin tied 71st on 150 (73,77) out of 93 players who teed off in the tournament.

...

Didn't Walcha Golf Club life member Col Berry have an enjoyable 3 Days of Golf here last weekend. Col kicked off winning Division 2 of the Vets Open last Friday then finished runner up with Cheryl McDonald in the Mixed Open on Saturday before winning the Mens Open Nett Division with Simeon Cross on Sunday. Not a bad weekend Col.

...

Still on golf, nominations for the 3 days were disappointing to the point where less than 100 players registered overall for the weekend. The Veterans attracted 41, the Mixed just 14 and the Mens only 36 prompting Club President Miles Archdale to suggest that next year the 3 Day events will be rescheduled back to the original month of March.

...

The Walcha Flippers Swimming Club held their AGM at the Bowling Club last week where President Yolanda Mooney handed over the reigns to Henry King after serving as the Club's 'head honcho' for five seasons. Secretary Anna Mulligan, Treasurer Arianne Taylor, Vice President Angus Warden, Publicity Officer A.J. Cross, Marshaller Rachael Wellings and her assistants were all returned to their positions. Race Recorder Kelly Makeham and Patron Bruce Hunt were also voted back in subject to their approval.

...

The Walcha/Uralla Cricket Club held their AGM at the Uralla Bowling Club last Monday night where President Wayne Boyd, Secretary and Curator Daniel Boyd, Treasurer and Junior Cricket Co-ordinator Ed Blomfield, Publicity Officer and Recording Secretary A.J. Cross, Vice President Jay Grills, Patrons Peter Boyd, Rob Laurie and A.J. Cross were all reappointed.

...

In Veterans Cricket locals Barry Hoy and Bill Duncan along with former Walcha player Craig Stoddart represented Central North at the NSW Veterans over 60's Division 1 Championships at Maitland last week. The boys copped a belting from Port Jackson on Day 1 when they came up against five current Aussie players and went on to lose all four of their matches. Another local Dale 'Fox' Brazel played for Central North Division 2 where he scored a handy 41 runs on the last day when he opened the batting against Port Jackson.

...

Best of luck to Walcha Central School sporting allrounder Kix Brown when he competes at NSW PSSA Athletics Championships in Sydney this week. Go get 'em Kix.

Wednesday Golf

A field of seventeen played par on Wednesday for Cathy Lisle's trophy. Our winner with a great score of +5 was Sal McCormack, closely followed by the runner-up, Pauline Carter, with +4. Sweepstakes went to Cheryl McDonald with +2, Anthea Macpherson +1 and Jenny Lisle also with a +1.

Polly Locke was nearest the pin on Hole 3 and Pauline Carter was closest to the pin on Hole 16.

On Friday the NSW Medal playoff for the N.E. District was played at Glen Innes. Our congratulations to the winners and it was wonderful to see our Anthea Macpherson soundly winning the C Division. Great play Anthea and best of luck in Sydney.

Today we are playing stableford for the Patron's trophy.

Ladies Bowls

The Ivy Makeham Memorial Singles trophy continued last week with Wendy Moore losing to Lyn Burnell. Margaret Morris lost to Rosie Aitken and Marie Spink lost to Pam Makeham. Tomorrow Pam Makeham v Rosie Aitkin. Lee McCoy and Lyn Burnell played their game last Tuesday. The winners of these two games play the final next week.

Last Saturday Lyn Burnell, Jan Cross, Carmel Ryan and Pam Makeham played in the Regional Fours at Kootingal against South Tamworth ladies. Marie Spink, Janice Rizzi, Lee McCoy and Rosie Aitken played against the South Tamworth team in the afternoon. All the girls had a most enjoyable day in spite of their losses.

There are a number of invitations to various clubs. Please see the notice board and put your name down if you wish to play.

There will be social bowls tomorrow for those not playing for the Ivy Makeham trophy 9.00am for 9.30am.

In reply Walcha/Uralla passed their assignment in just 13.4 overs where opener Matt Jackson lead from the front with an unbeaten 58 runs off 31 deliveries including ten 4's and one 6.

Three Walcha boys - Cody Wellings, Freddie Street and Charlie Crawford played for TAS 3rds last Saturday.

This Saturday Walcha/Uralla 3rds host TAS 2nd XI here at Peter Fenwicke Oval while our 2nd grade team travels to Lambert Park in Armidale to do battle with the newly formed Armidale United.

Walcha/Uralla v TAS 3rd Grade

TAS

C WELLINGS c N Laurie b B Ussher.....	1
J WOOD c W Archdale b D Morley	1
FILL IN b B Ussher	4
J ROGERS b N Swan.....	47
V TOAKLEY c M Jackson b N Swan	10
X STEPHEN c M Jackson c N Swan	2
A BYRNE b W Archdale.....	1
G BRYANT c N Laurie b N Swan	0
F STREET n.o.	2
C CRAWFORD c M Jackson b N Swan	0
FILL IN b W Archdale	12
Total 97. Extras 17. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt) B Ussher 7-1-41-2, D Morley 3-0-22-1, N Swan 7-1-12-5, W Archdale 7.3-2-17-2.	

WALCHA/URALLA

D MORLEY b V Toakley	8
M JACKSON n.o.	58
N SWAN b V Toakley	13
W ARCHDALE n.o.	12
Total 101. Extras 10. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt) V Toakley 4-1-18-2, J Rogers 3-0-32-0, C Wellings 3-0-17-0, Fill in 3-0-22-0, J Wood 0.4-0-8-0.	

Bowls

Thursday results: Brian Goodwin & Geoff Salt defeated John McCormack & Mat Andrews 22/10. Barry Hoad, Barry Kliendienst & Tony Batterham were too good for Noel Goodwin, Peter Hayes & Warwick Hogan 18/6. Barry & Tony won the chooks.

It was a nice afternoon for the twilight bowlers on Friday. New bowlers are settling in well, looks like there could be a champion or two among them. Games next Friday at 5.30pm.

Games drawn for this weekend: Sat 25th John Byrne & Graham Marshall v Jason Asmus & Tony Asmus. Mat Hamel & Mick Steep v Noel Goodwin & Brian Goodwin. There are only a few competition games left to complete the championships. Good luck to all bowlers.

Cricket

Walcha/Uralla 3rd Grade commenced their Armidale District Cricket Association season in style when they defeated hosts TAS 3rd Grade by eight wickets at Wakefield in Armidale last Saturday.

The home team batted first and were dismissed for 97 runs off 24.3 overs which could have been a whole lot less had it not been for TAS number 4 batter Jack Rogers who contributed 47 runs off 26 balls including seven 4's and two 6's.

Star with the ball was spinner Nathan Swan who sent down 7 overs to capture 5 wickets at a miserly cost of just 12 runs.

All Walcha/Uralla trundlers took wickets- Will Archdale 2/17, opener Ben Ussher 2/41 and David Morley 1/22 while skipper Nathan Laurie took 3 catches and Matt Jackson 2.

Walcha Central School wins Northern Schools Pig Competition

Thursday 16 October saw the Northern Schools Pig Competition held at the Bingara Showground. Hosted by Bingara Central School and Stage 5 Agriculture, the day consisted of both pig judging and educational classes. The students had presentations covering; industry standards and biosecurity from a Department of Primary Industries representative, commercial production from a local Bingara pig producer and marketing the final product, pork, from a local butcher which made for a very informative and interesting day.

The event, now in its fourth year, brought together nine schools with

over 90 students exhibiting 38 pigs. The Walcha Central School team included: Brax Kemp, Lachie Provost, Nixon Smith, Cooper Broadbent, Jacob Wellings, Matisse Pascoe, Charlie McKern, Layla Smith and Riley McKinnon.

Representing their school well amongst some hot competition and taking out some of the top prizes; Matisse Pascoe placed first and Riley McKinnon placed second in the pig judging classes.

Thank you to Jeff Pritchard for generously donating the pigs. Congratulations to the WCS Agriculture team on a successful show!



Above: Matisse Pascoe and Riley McKinnon, taking home the chocolates! First and second place in the pig judging classes. Left: Walcha Central School team: Brax Kemp, Lachie Provost, Nixon Smith, Cooper Broadbent, Jacob Wellings, Matisse Pascoe, Charlie McKern, Layla Smith and Riley McKinnon.



Public Notice

DR GENEVIEVE FREER

Phone 6777 2068 | 0429 668 583

Walcha Hospital Auxiliary Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Tuesday, 4 November 2025.

12.30pm - Tennis Club

\$40 incl. drinks-nibbles-lunch-dessert

\$2 or \$1 Sweeps – cash only

Cash or card on entry

RSVP - Mon. 27th Oct. Limit-60

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Walcha Council

Draft Code of Meeting

Practice on Public Exhibition



Council at its Ordinary Meeting

held on Wednesday 24

September 2025 approved the Draft Code of Meeting Practice. This document will be on public exhibition on Council's website: <https://walcha.nsw.gov.au/public-exhibition-code-of-meeting-practice/> until Friday 31 October 2025. Council will accept submissions on the Code of Meeting Practice until Friday 14 November 2025.

Stephen Parry, General Manager

Meeting Notices

Amaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council (ALALC)

Notice of Annual General Member Meeting

08.11.2025 | 10am | Amaroo LALC Cafe

1. Welcome/Open Address

2. Minutes of previous member meeting

3. Receipt of the Annual Report of the activities of the ALALC

4. Receipt of the Audited Financial Statements for the previous financial year

5. New Membership Applications

6. Election for Vacant Board member position (Casual Vacancy)

7. Next member meeting date and time

PLEASE NOTE: In relation to the election for Board members: A voting member of Amaroo LALC is not entitled to vote, nominate, accept a nomination or be elected to office in elections for Board Members if the voting member has not attended at least 2 meetings of the Amaroo LALC in the preceding 12 months as a voting member. All questions relating to this meeting or voting rights should be directed to the Chairperson, Ms Katrina Bloomfield at the Amaroo LALC Office on (02) 6777 1100 or via email to chair@amaroolalc.com.au during business hours.

AUTHORISED: Katrina Bloomfield, Chairperson
– Amaroo LALC

Meeting Notices (cont)

Walcha Support Group Thursday 30 October at 1.30pm WCCC Rooms Middle St. Relaxation 12.30pm BYO Lunch 1pm Meeting 1.30pm. All Welcome.

Amaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council (ALALC)

Notice of General Member Meeting

01.11.2025 | 10am | Amaroo LALC Cafe

1. Welcome/Open Address

2. Attendance/Apologies

3. Minutes of previous member meeting

4. New Membership Applications

5. NAIDOC Wrap-up

6. Housing

7. Roads to Home

8. Next member meeting date and time

All questions relating to this meeting should be directed to the Chairperson, Ms Katrina Bloomfield at the Amaroo LALC Office on (02) 6777 1100 or via email to chair@amaroolalc.com.au during business hours.

Position Vacant

Casual after school work available in Walcha local office. Looking for a friendly, patient, reliable, honest student able to learn communication, telephone, filing, computer, first aid and willing to follow instructions.

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The Manager, 63W Hill Street, Walcha.

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Layer pullets, all breeds, 20 weeks. Delivered Friday 31/10/2025, Phone Jim 0428 194 105.

Local success at Walcha's 3 Days of Golf

By A.J Cross

The Walcha Golf Club held their annual 3 Days of Golf last weekend where local players won all three events.

Commencing with the Veterans Open on Friday Pauline Carter registered the best score on the day when she accumulated 45 stableford points to win the ladies division.

In the Mens Division

1 Doug McDonald racked up 37 points to sneak home from Uralla's Rowan Chandler who chalked up 36 points, while in the Men's Division 2 Col Berry scored 41 points to pip Bill Fletcher at the post on 40 points. On Saturday Club President Miles Archdale combined with Vicki Heffernan to win the Mixed Open after notching up 47 points just a point clear of runners up Col Berry and Cheryl McDonald on 46.

The Mens Open was played on Sunday where the Brennan Boys Willy and Wayne won the scratch with -2 from 12 time Walcha Club Champion Tim Stackman and his son Isaac on -3. In the Nett Division Col Berry and Simeon Cross won with +10 just ahead of runners up Will Nicholls and James Norton on +9.



*Scratch winners - Willy and Wayne Brennan
Nett winners- Simeon Cross and Col Berry*

Front 9 holes went to Allan Green and Allan Laurie +5 whereas the Back 9 was taken out by Jon Izzard and Owen Presnell +6.

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Armidale's Angus McDouall (3) and Miles Archdale (16). Long drives were caressed by Tim Stackman (A) Barraba's Kerian Darlington (B) and Allan Green (C). Next Sunday is the monthly Stroke Medal round where Cheryl McDonald oversees supplying the prizes.

The Walcha Golf Club would like to thank the sponsors who supported the 3 Days of Golf John Wall Engineering, Peter Norbury Motors, Nutrien Boultons, Drummond Golf, Origin Energy and Betts Transport.



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DEADLINE MONDAY 4.30PM Editor: Anthea Macpherson, Susie Crawford. Advertising/
 Sport: Megan Scrivener, Joscisca Matapakia and Kate Connors.

church notices



ANGLICAN

October 26: 9.30am Walcha Service
 Phone 6777 2543 or email:
 walchaanglican@gmail.com

CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass 10.00am

PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha - Every Sunday 9:30am
 Youth Group every Saturday 5pm – 7pm,
 during term time. All welcome.
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Thursday 23 12.00pm – Close

BOWLS 9.00am Ladies, 1pm Social

Friday 24 2.00pm – Close

2.00PM BINGO 6.00PM BISTRO

6pm Raffle tickets meat & vege trays

7.30PM FREE BINGO

8.00PM Raffles and Members draw

BISTRO

- Seafood board
- Beef & black bean sauce
- Crumbed chicken enchilada roll

Home deliveries - town limits only

CATERING NEEDS

Dianna - 0412 536 760 or 5722 6003

Saturday 25 11.00am – Close

5.00PM BISTRO

Sunday 26 11.00am – Close

12.00PM BISTRO

Raffle tickets from 12pm,
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