

# THE APSLEY Advocate

CIRCULATION 1920 – P 02 6777 1111 F 02 6777 1112 wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au walchatelecottage.com.au

11 February 2026

## All things vintage this weekend in Walcha



This weekend will see the town of Walcha come to life with the roar of New and Vintage Engines from all over the State for the Walcha Antique Machinery and Truck Show (WAMATS).

The committee have a jam-packed weekend planned with something for the whole family.

Friday will see the Tractor Run which will run from the showground leaving at 9am, travelling through Riverview and the hospital before embarking on Aberaldie Road, Niangala Road and back into town via Scrubby Gully Road. Please take care

while travelling these roads on Friday as these vehicles will be moving slowly.

Saturday our Swap Meet will start with the gates opening at 6am which will be followed by the impressive street parade which will see the streets turn back time with vintage machinery rolling through the centre of town from 10.30am. "The parade will run straight through the centre of town on Fitzroy Street and go back up Middle Street to the showgrounds," Secretary, Megan Tisdell said.

Following the parade there will be plenty to see at the showground with things to do for the whole family.

For the kids we have the SRC Kids Corner (pictured inset) consisting of the jumping castle, face

painting, colouring in competition, vintage vehicle cardboard parade and a balance bike race.

"We will have the SES doing demonstrations along with the RA & RG Nelson Tractor Pull and Steve Rollan's vintage sawmill.

The CWA Devonshire tea and the stationary engines will be in operation from around 9am with plenty of interesting engines of all types to see.

The Walcha Golf Club bar will be in operation from 11am to quench the thirst of show-goers.

Sunday will see more of our New and Vintage Vehicles moving around the showgrounds and town.

Entry to the show: Family \$20 (2 adults, 2 kids), Adults \$10, Kids 5 – 12 \$5, Kids under 5 free.



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## around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

The Walcha Race weekend didn't disappoint on multiple fronts, with the Walcha Jockey Club once again holding a great two-day event for the family. Punters came from near and far to enjoy a couple of days at the racecourse before the weather brewed up a storm for the locals on Sunday evening. The past two weeks of dry weather has really set the district back and will take some time to turn around, but the forecast is building for the weekend. On Monday 15 – 20mm fell across the Tablelands, which was a welcomed start to some rain, with over 50mm predicted for the weekend ahead. Places through the centre of Australia experienced in excess of three inches, which gradually pushed east and dropped a couple of inches throughout the Central West. Forecasters are predicting big rain and flash flooding for isolated areas throughout south-east Queensland and areas along the north coast of NSW, with the potential of rainfall totals exceeding 300mm.

If the rain eventuates this weekend for our district, it will mean an early start to our autumn sowing, with plenty of our local graziers going round and round the paddock this week trying to beat the forecast rain. The rain we have already had will only damage the dry feed we had in our paddocks and wreck the protein status of that feed. The livestock still look exceptional and, even though it has been a hot and dry summer for most, sheep graziers have had a good run with worms, especially barber's pole, which is an issue that will arise once we see decent rain. Cattle throughout our district are coming forward quicker than usual, especially feeder cattle. I'd say nearly two months ahead in comparison to previous years, which is a good thing for pasture growth heading into autumn and storing feed for our winter months.

The Reserve Bank decided to lift interest rates last week on the back of inflation figures, which was a real kick in the belly to a lot of people. The major economists state that inflation is not caused by individual spending, but by major government spending. The government is spending at a rate of knots that we cannot pay for. Our country is living outside its means, and the old saying should be implemented, don't spend more than you earn – basic economics that even our government does not understand. The worrying part for rural people is that if the government is overspending, we certainly aren't seeing the results in the bush.

Wool growers are finally starting to see some light at the end of the tunnel, with wool prices looking good for the future, especially ultra-fine wool. The wool market is extremely volatile at present, one week it's up by 100c/kg, the next week it's down by 70c/kg, which, believe it or not, I'm told is a good thing for future prices. Clearly, like the protein market, there is a world shortage and that shortage is set to continue for some time, with flock numbers alone in our area dropping by two to three per cent year on year for the past 20 years.

Trump, just late last week, decided to lift tariff-free beef imports from Argentina to 100,000 tonne under a measure to fill their domestic supply shortfall. Argentina will now have an extra 80,000 tonne of tariff-free quota, which will be specific for ground beef, or lean beef trimmings, to produce burger patties. We all know how Americans enjoy their burgers. Mind you, I'm not partial to one either, but it may have a few ramifications for our 90CL price, affecting our boning cattle values in the short term, especially if it remains dry. Regardless, global supply is low, demand is high, and no matter how they shuffle the protein deck globally, someone will pay for the product.

2,680 cattle were yarded in Tamworth on Monday, with the feeder and cow market quoted firm to a shade dearer. Weaner steers sold to a top of 524c/kg, with heifers to 394c/kg. Feeder steers topped at 484c/kg, heifers at 430c/kg, while the best of the kill cows made to 370c/kg and bullocks topped at 450c/kg. A total of 7,009 sheep and lambs sold in Tamworth on Monday, with suckers selling to a top of \$270, while the heaviest export lambs topped at \$354. Heavy mutton held firm and topped at \$272 for XB ewes, while Dorpers topped at \$258.



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## Sam becomes an Aussie

Samuel Martin officially became an Australian citizen on Friday 6 February when Mayor Eric Noakes presented him with his Citizenship.

Sam has an English and New Zealand background and was joined by his family and friends at the Council Chambers to witness him officially becoming an Australian.

Congratulations Sam on this special occasion.

Sam is pictured above with his wife Jodie, children Ivy, Lucy and Max, and Walcha Mayor Eric Noakes.

## Save the date Uralla Junior Tigers is calling you

Uralla Junior Tigers are having a sign on day in conjunction with the Poss Family Fun Day at Uralla Woodville Oval on 21 February. Gates open at 11am, come along enjoy family fun day!

Calling all ages from 6 years to 16 years – we want you to be a part of an incredible club which focuses on kids playing footy, making friends and having fun!

If you're unable to make it, you can still register on **mysideline** and search for Uralla Juniors, or if you have any issues contact Allie Broadbent on 0412 988 032 or email at [urallajuniorsrugbyleague@gmail.com](mailto:urallajuniorsrugbyleague@gmail.com)

We look forward to upcoming season with Dan Broadbent former Walcha local as president, Brett Cohen, and Walcha resident Luke Brennan as Vice President for 2026.

Be sure to jump on and follow the Facebook pages: Uralla Junior Tigers and Uralla Tigers RLFC (seniors) for more updates.

Junior registrations are \$50 each or if you're eligible for Active Kids voucher the club is also taking these.



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## Walcha Chinese Restaurant update

We wanted to provide an update following the kitchen fire that has prevented us from trading since August.

Despite our best efforts to re-open at a new location in Walcha, we have unfortunately been unable to find a suitable commercial kitchen.

We are very eager to continue serving the community, and if anyone has any information about an available commercial kitchen for immediate use, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Robert via email [2354walcha@gmail.com](mailto:2354walcha@gmail.com) or phone **0447 032 768**.

Thank you so much for your continued support and kind thoughts during this difficult time, and we hope to be back as soon as possible!

**From the Li Family**

Walcha Chinese Restaurant



👍 To Sonia Ussher and Bonnie Brown for organising an alternative swimming carnival for Walcha Central at incredibly short notice. It was extremely well organised and run.

👍 A huge thank you to Walcha Council for funding transport and student pool entry for our 2026 Walcha Central swimming carnival, as well as for our Swimming and Water Safety program at the end of last year.

👍 To Lance Partridge for organising yet another foot race at Walcha Races and participating in it. What a legend! Thanks also to Betts Transport for sponsoring this event.

👍 To Aiden, Terry and Matty at the Waste Transfer Facility for their help and 'can-do' attitude.

👍 To our local fashion boutiques for their great range of dresses, making it easy to find an outfit for the Walcha Races.

👍 To the Chemist for helping me out with my husband's scripts much appreciated.

👍 To Tone for volunteering and helping over the weekend.

👍 To Rotary for a fantastic job catering at the Races, as well as catering for allergies with their menu.

👍 To the Lions Club, a great effort at the bar all weekend.

👍 To all of the beautiful and colourful fashions at this years Walcha Race Carnival. Some amazing outfits.

👍 To all the Australian flags I saw flying on my way to Sydney and back on the weekend.

👎 To all the people that leave their dogs on the back of utes in the hot sun. Especially those with steel back trays burning the paws of the dogs.

👎 To those who ride their e-Scooters around town too fast, disregarding both pedestrians and the road rules.

👎 To those who don't support our local businesses. If we don't support them we won't have them in the future.

**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 RACES

Crowds flocked to the Walcha racecourse on Friday to see the big grey *Mystery Lad* take home the 141st Walcha Cup.

The racecourse looked immaculate thanks to the hard work of Bill Fletcher and Brian Hoad who were recognised for their efforts by becoming Life Members of the Jockey Club.

Many people from all parts of NSW enjoyed the beautiful weather and atmosphere, and the Jockey Club are grateful to the many visitors and locals who supported their 2026 race meeting.



*WJC President Matt Onslow and Vice President Nick Hall present Life Membership to Brian Hoad and Bill Fletcher and thanked them for their tireless work in keeping the grounds and track maintained for the annual race meeting.*



*Best dressed Gentleman travelled from Newcastle. Runner-up Alex Bruce.*



*WJC Secretary Simone Timbs pins Life Membership badge on Brian Hoad*



*WJC Life Member Peter Wauch with Jason and Bob Charley of Port Macquarie*





Enjoying a day at the races were, right: Sheree Noakes, Rhonda Olrich, Chris Hoy and Belinda O'Keefe. Below left: Harley Cox and Scott Swain. Bottom right: Scott Schmutter, Tim Baumer, Ella Lynch and Charlotte Mooney.



Above and top row: Fashions in the Field winners – Jodie Martin and Jess Williams. Pre-School: Harrison Taiki and Elke Lordanic. Infants: Lucy Martin and Levi Harrison. High School: Arizona Bailey and runner-up Puna Matapakia.

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**WALCHA SHOW**  
From our Chief Stewards

## Handicraft

Correction: 5yrs and under Class 41 should read 'Article not mentioned'. Please read the schedule carefully as changes have been made.

Items which have previously won a prize at the Walcha Show are ineligible to be re-entered.

Please ensure all work that needs to be hung has secure hooks attached. Building blocks must be of solid construction, please ensure no blocks can fall off.

Entries taken on Wed 11 March 1.30pm to 4pm and Thurs 12 March until 10.30am. No late entries.

Enquiries to: **Helen Mansfield**  
6777 3916, 0428 773 916 or  
**Jenny Hoy** 0427 367 711

## Knitting & Crochet

Dust off those needles and hooks. Now's the time to share your creativity with the community. From delicate lacework and chunky blankets to stylish accessories and warm winter woollies, we want to see what you've been working on!

Before you enter please • Check rules, categories and deadlines • Make sure your entries are clean, finished and display-ready • Explore all the classes • Encourage young crafters – we'd love to see more entries in the junior sections! Entering is simple, so grab your yarn, finish those projects ... or start fresh!

**Jenny Hill** – 0497 910 637

## Needlework

There's still plenty of time to make something, if you haven't already.

Our feature section is 'Children's Wear' – using any type of fabric. Think tops, shirts, track pants, shorts, dresses, t-shirts, swimsuits, pinafores, pyjamas, art smocks, jackets, oodles and hoodies.

Anything that you have sewn or created we will accept and place it in the correct category for you.

Please carefully read section rules.

For any questions please contact **Cathy Lisle** 0427 681 120 or **Mary Brearley** 6777 2781.



**Sad to hear former Walcha Roos player Bruce Hollis** left this world during recent times. Personally I was fortunate enough to play footy with Bruce and his brother Noel in the late 1970's – two very tough hombres to say the least. Condolences to his wife Kerry along with all family members and friends. May Bruce Leo Hollis Rest in Peace.

...

**Last Friday was the 141st running of the Walcha Cup** where a good crowd enjoyed pleasant weather conditions while catching up with old acquaintances. Heard a bit of whisper that it was the first time in 57 years local racing enthusiast Brian Turton wasn't in attendance at the racecourse for the Cup.

...

**Congratulations to hard working committeemen Bill Fletcher and Brian Hoad** who had Life Membership bestowed on them by the Walcha Jockey Club last Friday. The great condition of the racecourse track last weekend was thanks to the time and effort of both 'Billy' and 'Combo'. Well deserved Boys.

...

**Happy Birthday to South Street resident Dick Bowden** who reaches the milestone of 90 years on the planet this Friday 13 February. When Dick and I were in the Musical Society together he somehow talked me into being his Ex Services Club snooker partner. Although we didn't win many championship games, we enjoyed each others company ... well I hope Dick did! Have a great 90th young fella.

...

**What a fantastic effort by four junior cricketers** who played for the Walcha/Uralla 3rd Grade team last Saturday. Henry Blomfield (13 years old), Harrison Swan (11), Owen Morley (14) and Will Cox (12) all contributed to nail biting one wicket win over TAS. Good on ya boys.

...

**Walcha Central School held their annual swimming carnival** at the Monkton Aquatic Centre in Armidale last Thursday while renovations continue at the Walcha Memorial Baths. The weather was great for

the competitors who enjoyed themselves, with some a little more competitive than others. Well done to all involved.

...

**Eight time local Golf Champion Simeon Cross** turned back the clock when he spearheaded the Walcha Veterans Pennants team to a big win when Round 2 of the New England pennants competition was held here last Thursday. 'Simone' shot a par 70 off the beater which included a double bogey and two birdies. More details about Walcha's win in 'At the Nineteenth'.

...

**When quizzed if he was going to keep his scorecard** with 48 stableford points registered on it, Simeon replied that he had a better card at home from when he shot a then course record five under par 65 in early February 2002.

...

**Gee there is a battle royale going on** within the Goodwin family with regards to who the most successful lawn bowler is between father Steve and son Kyle. When 'Normie' recently won his 11th A Grade title he drew level with Kyle, who has vowed it will be on for young and old in the 2026 Singles Championships. Time will tell.

...

**The weekly 777's horse racing tipping competition** at the New England Hotel was won by Johnny McCormack, Wayne Brennan and 'Red' Hoy after they all picked the winners of Race 7 in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Well done chaps.

...

**On the subject of tipping competitions** NRL punters are reminded that all the main Rugby League action kicks off for 2026 when the Newcastle Knights take in the North Queensland Cowboys and the Canterbury Bulldogs do battle with St George Illawarra Dragons in Las Vegas on Sunday 1 March. Make sure you get your names in at the relative venues well before then if you are interested in entering.

## First time Footrace winners

By AJ Cross

The 26th running of Walcha Jockey Club Footrace took place last Saturday where two athletes competing for the first time won their respective Men's and Ladies events at the Racecourse.

Rural contractor Alex Baldry became the first runner to stop the clock under six minutes in the past five years when he greeted the judge in 5 minutes 46 seconds to take out the Mens 1,600m race.

In the Ladies race, TAS year 12 student Emily Ussher completed her 1,500 metre journey in 5 minutes 54 seconds to finish over a minute ahead of runner-up and last years winner Bella Crawford.

Runner-up in the Men's section for the second year on the trot was former Wallaby halfback Sam Payne, under a minute behind the winner and just over 30 seconds in front of Glen O'Brien in third place.

Next best was Henry Williams, followed by James 'Rhyce' Burns along with veterans Taddy MacFarlane, Bernie Brady and Lance Partridge.

Race organiser Lance, who completed his 26th Footrace last Saturday, would like to thank sponsors Betts Transport, the Walcha Jockey Club, race caller Mick Wall, race starter Sam Martin and all ten athletes who competed in the race.



Above from left: Sam Payne, Alex Baldry and Glen O'Brien.  
Right: Emily Ussher and Bella Crawford.





## Tennis

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Summer Competition. The format will be four-a-side Graded Doubles. The comp starts on Tuesday 17 February and concludes on Tuesday 31 March. The first team past the post will be the winner. Play will commence at 7.00pm. Please do not nominate if you are not prepared to be at the Club House by 7.00pm. A two game penalty will apply if your team can't start at 7.00pm and your opposition side is ready to go. Nominations close on Friday 13 February. Names to Trev 0459 799 119 or Hyde 0427 780 391.

## Wednesday Golf

Last Wednesday saw the first day back playing competition golf for the ladies.

A 4BBB draw for partners was played for Simone Sweeney and Ark Street's trophy.

The winning pair were Jenny Lisle and Lorraine Walshe with 45 points, closely followed by Anne Martin and Jill Burnell with 44. The following sweepstakes were won by Julie Hoad and Julie Olrich with 43, and Donna Martin and Bec Hall also with a 43.

Simone Sweeney had her eye in and cleaned up both nearest the pins on Holes 16 and 3.

This Wednesday we are hoping to welcome some beginners to golf and that they will continue to play throughout the year.

We are playing par for a trophy donated by Margaret Higgins.

## Ladies Bowls

Congratulations to Pam and Dennis Makeham and Geoff Salt who gained fourth position in the Open Triples Carnival. Our street stall is being held this Friday. All saleable good would be appreciated. Marie has notified the ladies manning the stall. Don't forget to have your name on the board by tomorrow if you wish to play in the Minor Singles which commence on 19 February. There is Social Bowls tomorrow.

## Bowls

South Tamworth bowlers had a good day at the Walcha Open Triples Carnival last Thursday. South's players took out the first three places. The Walcha side of Geoff Salt, Pam and Denis Makeham sneaked into fourth spot.

A great day was had by all. Congratulations to organisers and players on a successful day

Mixed Pairs Championships are getting close, the first games start on the 1 March, so why not get yourself a partner and have a go.

Sheets are on the board for all championship games

Thursday Bowls and Twilight Bowls will be back to normal this week.

Pennants start this Saturday at Walcha against North Tamworth

Teams for this weekend:

- Kyle Goodwin, Fred Cameron, Greg Carter and Sari Andrews.
- Stephen Goodwin, Matt Hamel, Mat Andrews and Geoff Salt.
- Jamie Kerr, Brian Goodwin, Barry Kliendienst and Dason Andrews

Roll up at 12.45pm for 1.00pm start. Good luck everyone.

## At the Nineteenth

A 4BBB Stableford round was played last Sunday for trophies donated by Brain Smith Timber Transport and it was captain Willy Brennan and his Queenlander mate Warren Kimber who ran out the winners after they accumulated 48 points.

Runners up were Barry Hoad and Don Brooks 44, while Darren Bird and Nixon Bird 44, Miles Archdale and Ross King 43, Michael Stackman and Jamie Bowden 43 collected the remaining sweepstake prizes.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Jenny Lisle (3), Warren Kimber (9), Michael Stackman (16) and Lee Fletcher (18). Last Saturday the consistent Pete Whellan went back to back when he won his second 9 hole competition in a row after he racked up 16 points but had to survive a countback with John McCormack before he was declared the winner.

No N.T.P winner on 3.

Walcha bounced back from running fifth in the opening round of the New England Veterans Pennants competition to win the second round here at Walcha last Thursday.

The hosts scored 295 points well clear of Glen Innes 243, Uralla 242, Guyra 241 and Armidale 226.

Stand out performance was handed in by Simeon Cross who scored an incredible 48 stableford points to win the Men's Division 1 odd the back of a Par round 70. Runner up was David Sweeney on 36 points.

Other Local golfers were also successful including Penny King who finished runner up in the Ladies Division 1 with 38 points.

In Ladies Division 2 Pauline Carter scored 42 points to win from Robyn Salt on 41 points, while in Men's Division 2 Don Brooks won with 43 points just ahead of runner-up Willy Brennan 42 points.

In the Mens Division 3 Bill Heazlett was the winner with 40 points after he snuck home from runner-up Andrew Robertson 39 points.

N.T.Ps to Graham Price (G.I.) (3), Jenny Lisle (9), Cheryl McDonald (16) and Simeon Cross (18).

This Sunday is a Stroke Medal Round where Club Handicapper Don Brooks is in charge of supplying the prize.

## Cricket

Walcha/Uralla returned to the winners list in both their Armidale and District competitions last Saturday.

Here at Peter Fenwicke Oval 2nd Grade defeated Armidale City/UNE by seven wickets when they chased down the visitors total of 112 early in their 25th over.

All five batsmen used reached double figures, opener Josh Weare leading the way on 42 runs, and along with opening partner Graham Barnes scoring 16 runs, put on a first wicket stand of 59 runs.

Brett Dwyer 15 and Daniel Boyd 17 both remained not out, whereas Cameron Mooney contributed 10 runs.

Earlier the visitors were dismissed in 30 overs with Daniel Boyd snaring three wickets for 5 runs off 5 overs, Matt Harper 2/14, Cameron Mooney 2/22, Graham Barnes 1/8 and Jay Grills 1/27.

Up at Wakefield in Armidale TAS 3rd won the toss and batted where they made 109 runs before being dismissed in their 29th over.

Man of the Match Ben Ussher captured 5 for 30 off his 8 overs, David Morley 2/6, Owen Morley 1/6, Harrison Swan 1/7 and Nathan Swan 1/24.

In reply the visitors passed their assignment with just one wicket up their sleeve at 9 for 110 with a late 10 unbeaten

runs by number 11 batter Ben Ussher saving the day. When skipper Nathan Laurie was dismissed for 12 runs Walcha/Uralla were looking down the barrel of defeat at 8 for 87 and then 9 for 100 before hanging on for victory. Opener Brian Mullen scored 19 runs, Henry Blomfield 14 and David Morley 14 also assisted the team total. This Saturday 3rd Grade host Hillgrove here at Peter Fenwicke Oval, while 2nd Grade head north to take on Easts Green at Rologas No 1.

## Walcha/Uralla v Armidale City UNE 2nd Grade

### Armidale City UNE

M BRYANT c G Barnes b M Haper .....	14
D TILLBROOK c E Blomfield b C Mooney .....	6
J RYAN lbw M Haper .....	1
A SCOTT b G Barnes .....	7
L JARVIS b C Mooney .....	7
P GILBEY c&B J Grills .....	10
M SCULLY c B Hoy b D Boyd .....	47
L STONESTREET b D Boyd .....	7
B WRIGHT r.o G Barnes, E Blomfield.....	0
J HEWITSON c J Weare b D Boyd.....	3
S BUTLER n.o.....	1
Total 112 (30 overs) Extras 9	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): M Harper 6-1-14-2, C Mooney 5-1-22-2, G Barnes 3-1-8-1, J Grills 5-0-27-1, E Blomfield 6-1-29-0, D Boyd 5-1-5-3.

### Walcha/Uralla

J WEARNE c J Ryan b S Butler .....	42
G BARNES c A Scott b S Butler .....	16
B DWYER n.o.....	15
C MOONEY lbw J Hewitson.....	10
D BOYD n.o.....	17
Total 114 (24.1 overs) Extras 14	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): B Wright 4.1-1-13-0, D Tilbrook 3-0-18-0, S Butler 8-3-31-2, P Gilbey 2-0-12-0, M Scully 4-0-14-0, J Hewitson 3-0-22-1.

## Walcha/Uralla v TAS 3rd Grade

### TAS

J WOOD lbw B Ussher .....	0
X STEPHEN b B Ussher.....	0
T CAMERON b B Ussher .....	31
A JAYAWARDENA lbw B Ussher .....	3
A BYRNE b B Ussher.....	2
H USSHER c N Swan b D Morley.....	14
N STONE c O Morley b N Swan .....	10
V TOAKLEY b D Morley.....	9
C BOLCH c O Morley b H Swan .....	15
C ROSE b O Morley.....	2
G BRYANT n.o.....	3
Total 109 (29 overs) Extras 20	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): B Ussher 8-0-30-5, N Laurie 4-1-24-0, N Swan 6-1-24-1, D Morley 3-1-6-2, H Blomfield 2-1-3-0, W Cox 2-0-3-0, O Morley 2-0-6-1, H Swan 2-1-7-1.

### Walcha/Uralla

B JEX lbw A Jayawardena.....	0
B MULLEN c? b J Wood.....	19
C LAURIE b A Jayawardena.....	0
O MORLEY b V Toakley.....	1
D MORLEY c A Jayawardena b A Byrne .....	14
N SWAN c A Jayawardena b A Byrne .....	3
N LAURIE b A Jayawardena.....	12
H BLOMFIELD c N Stone b A Jayawardena .....	14
H SWAN b N Stone.....	0
W COX n.o.....	4
B Ussher n.o.....	10
Total 110 (33 overs) Extras 33	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): A Jayawardena 8-1-15-4, V Toakley 8-2-15-1, T Cameron 2-0-13-0, N Stone 6-0-22-1, A Byrne 4-0-12-2, J Wod 3-0-16-1, G Bryant 1-0-9-0, C Rose 1-0-1-0.



## Funeral Notices

### Irene Edith Simpson

4th February 2026  
née Hogno  
of Walcha.

Beloved wife of Barry Simpson (dec).  
Loving mother & mother-in-law of Sandra  
& Ian Paton and Peter & Suellen Simpson.  
Loved grandmother and great-grandmother  
of her family.

Aged 88 years

A Funeral service to be held at  
St Andrew's Anglican Church,  
Walcha on the 16th February 2026  
commencing at 2pm followed by  
interment at the Walcha General  
Cemetery.

**Piddingtons Funerals**  
Phone 02 6772 2288

### HOLLIS, Bruce Leo

At Moonby House Nursing Home, Moonbi  
7th February 2026

Formerly of Walcha and Yarras.  
Much loved husband of Kerry.

Dearly loved father and father-in-law of  
Kelly & Bernie, Amanda and  
Timothy & Amanda.

Loved Pop of Tayla, Edward,  
Harrison, Amelia and Henry.

Aged 78 Years

The family and friends of Bruce are  
warmly invited to attend his Funeral Service  
to be held in the Acacia Function Centre,  
415 Burgmanns Lane, Hillvue commencing at  
10.30am, Saturday, 14th February 2026.

Those wishing to view the Livestream  
may do so from 10.30am following the link  
on the Shaun Hamilton Funerals Pty Ltd  
Facebook or Website page.

**Shaun Hamilton Funerals**  
Tamworth 6766 1966

## Public Notice

### DR GENEVIEVE FREER

Phone 6777 2068 | 0429 668 583

**Tennis Summer Competition** nominations  
now open. Four-a-side Graded Doubles.  
Tuesday's, 17 February and 31 March.  
Names to Trev 0459 799 119 or Hyde  
0427 780 391 before Friday 13 February.

**Walcha Jockey Club** would like to apologise  
and acknowledge the following sponsors for  
the Graziers Cup for our Friday meeting.  
These names were not acknowledged in the  
facebook. **Grazier Cup Sponsors** – Oakburn  
Pastoral Company, Europambela Grazing  
Co, Peter and Helen Wauch, Peter and  
Denny Sendall, Yalgoo Partnership, Linden  
and Mandy Gunn and TA Field Estates.

### DR GENEVIEVE FREER

Phone 6777 2068 | 0429 668 583

**Blackberry spraying.** Call 0428 776 494.

**Niangala Prawn and Chicken night.**  
Saturday 28 Feb, 6pm. \$60 pp, BYO. RSVP  
by 20 Feb. Email niangalacommunity@  
outlook.com or call Gail 0429 692 335.

**The Barber Shop will be closed** this  
Thursday 12 and Friday 13.

### Walcha Home Furnishing

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furniture**

PH: Dave 0427 771 469

## Meeting Notices

**Walcha Garden Club** meeting Friday 13  
February 2026, at Gerry and Mary Moran's  
garden, 151W Evan's Street Walcha,  
commencing 9.30am. Please BYO chair, cup  
and lunch. Enquiries S Law 0467 450 243,  
D Lisle 0429 799 083. New members most  
welcome.

**Walcha Rugby Union Football Club** notice  
for special general meeting for acceptance of  
amended constitution, as per changes made  
and recommended at previous meeting in  
2025. Tuesday 24 February, 5.30pm at the  
Rugby Clubhouse.



## Field work taking place for the New England REZ network infrastructure project

EnergyCo is leading the development of the New England Renewable  
Energy Zone (REZ), part of the NSW Government's plan to upgrade the  
electricity network to power our state now and for the next generation.

The New England REZ will deliver a critical electricity supply to NSW  
energy consumers and will include new network infrastructure to transfer  
power from renewable energy projects to consumers, including power lines  
and substations.

### Ongoing field work from Muswellbrook to Armidale

To support and inform the planning and design of the New England REZ, a  
program of field investigations will continue from February to June 2026.  
This is part of our work to inform the design and environmental assessment  
for the REZ network infrastructure project.

You may see workers carrying out geotechnical investigations, surveys,  
traffic counting, site inspections and other activities in various locations  
from Muswellbrook to Armidale, including Rouchel, Gundy, Pages Creek,  
Barry, Niangala, Walcha, Bendemeer and Uralla.

Most activities will be carried out in publicly accessible areas, such as road  
reserves. Where investigations need to be carried out on private property,  
we will consult with landowners directly to seek access permission. This work  
helps us identify potential constraints and minimise impacts to landowners  
and the environment as we plan the transmission route.

### Contact us

Information is available on our website at [energyco.nsw.gov.au/nerez](http://energyco.nsw.gov.au/nerez)  
including work notifications, fact sheets and more. You can also register  
for email updates to stay informed about our activities.

If you have any questions, get in touch with our team on  
1800 061 114 (9am-5pm Mon-Fri) or by emailing  
[nerez@energy.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nerez@energy.nsw.gov.au).

We look forward to hearing from you.







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Toni: 0421 972 354



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**Samantha Goor**  
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**church notices**



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**DEADLINE MONDAY 4.30PM** Editor: Anthea Nivison. Advertising/Sport: Megan Scrivener, Joscisca Matapakia and Kate Connors.

**ANGLICAN**  
February 15 - 9.30am Walcha Service  
February 22 - 9.30am Walcha Service  
**Anglican church**  
Phone 6777 2543  
or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Walcha: every Sunday 9:30am  
**Youth Group** every Saturday 5pm - 7pm, during term.  
All welcome.  
Phone 6777 2539.

**CATHOLIC**  
**Sunday Mass 10.00am**

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# WALCHA BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB

*"Let the good times roll"*

## WHAT'S ON?

**Thursday 12** 12.00pm – Close

**BOWLS** 9.00am Ladies, 1pm Social

**Friday 13** 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

### Friday Night Select Menu

- Crab Claws on Crispy Noodle Salad
  - Creamy Lamb Chops
  - Hawaii Chicken Parmigiana
  - No home deliveries this Friday night
- FOR CATERING NEEDS CALL:**  
Dianna – 0412 536 760 or 5722 6003

**Saturday 14** 11.00am – Close

**5.00PM BISTRO**

**Sunday 15** 11.00am – Close

**12.00PM BISTRO**

**Raffle** tickets from 12pm, drawn 1pm.

**MEMBERS  
DRAW  
\$150**

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER  
FOR 2025/2026 TO BE  
ELIGIBLE TO WIN

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday 14 Feb Valentine's Day come and enjoy Valentine's at the club with Tom's cocktail night and seafood share board for two
- Wednesday Night 6:15 – 7:15 line dancing lessons \$10 per person
- Saturday 21 Feb The Club's 90th birthday celebrations with music by Disco Dave

### DO YOU LIVE IN WALCHA SHIRE?

If so you MUST be a member to enter the Club Social Membership \$15. Full Membership \$120. PHONE 6777 2077



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