

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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25 February 2026

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## Walcha Pool set to reopen this Saturday



Excitement is building as the Walcha War Memorial Baths prepares to officially reopen this Saturday 28 February, with Walcha Council hosting a free community fun day to celebrate the milestone.

After 12 months of closure for reconstruction works, the newly refurbished facility is ready to welcome the community back. Families, children and long-time pool users are expected to turn out in strong numbers, eager to dive back in and enjoy the refreshed space.

The celebrations will run from 10.00am to 6.00pm, with the pool gates open all day. A BBQ will be available, the NSW Fire Service truck will be on display, and inflatable floaties will add to the fun for younger swimmers. A range of pool-based activities is planned throughout the day, creating a lively and welcoming atmosphere for all ages.

In preparation for the big day, Walcha Council's infrastructure and lifeguard teams have been working hard behind the scenes. From mowing and cleaning to completing pre-operational training and checks, every effort has been made to ensure the facility is ready for a safe and smooth reopening.

The day will mark a significant and positive moment for the community. The Walcha War Memorial Baths is once again set to be a vibrant hub for recreation, fitness and community connection, providing a place for locals to gather, stay active and enjoy time together for many seasons to come.

Following the reopening, normal operating hours will resume: Monday to Friday from 6am to 8am and 10am to 6pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm.



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# around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

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It has been nice to see some storms floating around the district over the past week and those who were lucky enough to land one did quite well for rainfall. Parts recorded nearly 100mm for the week, while sadly others hardly received any. Since new year's, people have received more than 150mm for the year and you can barely see it ... yes, its green but the pasture isn't growing.

There is a years' worth of rain predicted for the centre of Australia and if Lake Eyre fills, then it generally means good things for our season. We need to see some decent rain fast as things are going from bad to worse for those who missed out on the rain. March is around the corner, nights will begin to cool, and our growing period is closing for winter. The week ahead looks dry, but who knows with the current forecasts, you might just get lucky with a storm.

Australian sheep meat and goat meat will now see tariffs rise from ten percent to fifteen per cent for product sold into the USA. The USA was the biggest market for Australian protein in 2025 and this rise in tariffs will be another pressure point for sheep processors and exporters. Currently producers would feel less pain as the demand from processors for sheep, lamb and goat is outweighing supply. Margins are already tight for processors, but demand is good, especially from the USA, whose domestic lamb value was already at a near record high, up eighteen percent on the same time last year. Once again, raising these tariffs will make the US consumer pay more, especially if Trump can't stabilise their own domestic protein market. Regardless it's looking like a prosperous year for Australian Sheep producers, especially for lamb.

New Deputy leader of the Liberal party Jane Hume has shown her true colours surrounding the National Party after insulting everyone who lives in a rural community. She quoted, she would have to talk a bit slower and talk about the regions more often down in the cockies corner, if she were to join the National Party. People like Jane Hume have no idea what people in our rural communities go through and I say people with these views shouldn't be the Deputy Leader of the Liberal - National Coalition. She said she enjoys her coffee, well were the hell does the milk come from that goes in her coffee or the food that she eats, ridiculous!

It's going to be a huge week in the saleyard system with numbers bursting at the seams in our three major centres nearby thus far. Tamworth yarded 4500, Gunnedah 6000, while Inverell yarded 4500 as the country continues to dry out through these areas. The market in Tamworth appeared to be fully firm to a shade dearer for feeders under the weight of the numbers coming forward, with the best of the cows topping at 385c/kg, heavy exports making to 480c/kg and making over \$3000, feeder steers a shade dearer and topped at 508c/kg, while the heifer portion surged to top at 450c/kg. Weaners back to the paddock made to 526c/kg for some Angus steers. Weaner sales are just around the corner and decision have been made to bring weaner sales forward in both Inverell and Armidale due the lack of rain.

The first weaner sale for the tablelands was held in Tenterfield yesterday; 4600 weaners sold to solid demand with steers making from 500 - 560c/kg, while the heifer portion made from 360 - 420c/kg which is both on par with the current market values. The Nutrien New England Weaner Sale will be held on Friday 20 March in Armidale, a month earlier than usual. Nutrien Inverell will hold a weaner sale on the 26 March in Inverell, as well as the annual Nutrien Boultons Twilight Weaner, Feeder and Breeder Sale on AuctionPlus @ 6.00pm on the 26 March.

# Walcha Coffee Bronze Medal Trifecta



Walcha Coffee has tasted competition success once again, this time at the Golden Bean World Series 2026. Awarded three bronze medals across each of the categories they entered, marking another major milestone for the regional New South Wales roastery on the global stage.

The event, was held in Newcastle from Monday 16 – Wednesday 18 February, and is the world's largest coffee roaster competition for roasters, run by roasters.

The Golden Bean World Series is the grand final between all previous bronze, silver and gold medalists from the Golden Bean competitions: Australasia, The Americas and East Asia. This is where coffee roasters from both hemispheres go head-to-head to see who the World's best coffee roaster will be.

Walcha Coffee's, Cameron Hayton, is thrilled with the results, noting that "this was without question the toughest competition we have ever faced." Cameron went on to say "We are incredibly proud that a small regional roaster from Walcha can achieve this level of success on a worldwide stage. It shows what is possible when passion, producer relationships, and regional commitment come together."

*Cameron Hayton and Kelly Wolfe.  
Donning Walcha Coffee's three bronze medals  
won at the worlds largest roasting competition.*



## Stock and Property Watch

[www.nutrienharcourts.com.au](http://www.nutrienharcourts.com.au)

## Nutrien Boulton's Working Dog Sale

Sunday 15 March 2026

Nowendoc Recreation Grounds

• Pre-Works 8am • Sale 1pm • Vendor Meeting 10am to 12pm



### Pre-Works and Dog Sale

Pre-Works will run from 8am. Sale will commence at 1pm after the Vendor Trial. The sale will showcase a quality lineup of dogs, split into two categories, sheep dogs and cattle dogs

### Vendor Shoot Out

The Vendor Dog Trial will be held between the pre-works and the sale. Participation is open exclusively to vendors, who may compete using any dog of their choice.

### Trade Stalls

In between all the dog action you can take some time to shop at the trade stalls. There will be something for everyone!

Scan Below for more info and to nominate



**Come along and enjoy a great day out!**

Contact Maddie Davidson 0429 002 651 | Mat Larkings 0427 002 427

Nutrien Boulton's Walcha ■ 3n Derby Street Walcha ■ 6777 2044



# Postie Bike enthusiast rolls back into Walcha

- ✦ To Walcha Service NSW girls, particularly Lucy and Nat who worked tirelessly to sort my drivers license issues. We are fortunate to have such dedicated people in our community. Thank you ladies.
- ✦ To Brian and Katie Smith for allowing the use of your pool to conduct the Learn to Swim program for the past 12 weeks. It was greatly appreciated by the parents and children, and would not have been possible without your support. Thank you.
- ✦ To Juan Carey who looked after a sick friend who was a visiting WAMATS, and also for all the work he did for this great event.

**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.**

Scotsman, and Postie-bike enthusiast, Norman McKnight is back in Australia for yet another touring adventure.

While Norman has visited Australia some 24 times, it was about 15 years ago when he kicked off on his maiden Postie-Bike voyage. Norm's first ever trusty mechanical companion for these intrepid journeys was bought right here in Walcha through Peter Norbury Motors.

Norman reports that he has had a fabulous trip and that the Honda CT110 is a wonderful way to travel. This time embarking from Corryong in Victoria and finishing his trip in Armidale on Tuesday this week, Norman has taken two weeks to complete this journey, having traversed over 2,225km of roads.

At the time of this being written, Norman had just ridden in from Tamworth via the Limbri-Woolbrook Road and according to him this stretch of road is "world-class and one of the best roads he's ridden on in the world".

Norm has had fabulous adventures especially by this means of travel. It has enabled him to meet many interesting people and form friendship with people who have in turn visited him back in Scotland.

During his travels one major issue that Norm came across was that the lovely people and volunteers in local tourism offices no longer have the resources to provide travellers with concise road maps. In the age of Google maps, and more often than not a lack of mobile service in rural and remote areas, in his opinion he feels that this is one downfall with tourism in NSW.






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# Garden Festival giving

Walcha Garden Club gathered at Gerry and Mary Moran's beautiful garden on Friday 10 February, where it was announced that the 2025 Walcha Garden Festival had raised an impressive \$25,000.

Distributions were made to the following charities; \$15,000 to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service; \$2,000 to Walcha Hospital Auxiliary, Walcha Support Group and Friends of Riverview; \$1,000 to Walcha Quota Club, Walcha Rotary Club, Walcha Lions Club and Walcha Show Society Skin Check Van.

Thank you to all who helped with event, particularly to the gardeners for so generously

opening their gardens to nearly 600 visitors. People from Port Macquarie, Moree, Sydney, the Gold Coast and as far away as Yakandandah, Victoria, braved the windy, cold weather to support the weekend, raising much needed funds for our local community and Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. In appreciation, garden owners were presented with a beautiful book, collated by Mary Brearley, containing photos of last November's open gardens.

The Walcha Garden Club is now looking forward to organising the 2027 Walcha Garden Festival.



Mary Moran, Gwen Higgins and Walcha Garden Club President, Sue Law

# Walcha Gun Club's Two Day Open Shoot

Walcha Gun Club held their Two Day Open Shoot on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 February, with shooters travelling from a far afield as Queensland. With great prize money up for grabs the weekends scores reflected the high quality competition and all those who attended are to be congratulated.

■ For a full report and results see next week's Advocate.



Congratulations to local Cameron Turner who has a successful weekend competing in his first Open Shoot.

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\$510,000

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Join us for a weekend of fun activities

14–15 March 2026

The festivities begin on Saturday with a nocturnal guided walk, followed by Sunday's Ranger-led walks, speeches, celebratory cake, and a delicious lunch.

Enjoy a nocturnal guided bird walk on Saturday at 7 pm, where our guide will reveal the park's birdlife as the sun sets, offering a rare chance to experience the nocturnal environment of Werrikimbe National Park.

On Sunday morning, join us for a morning bird walk before the formal festivities begin. You'll have the opportunity to observe and learn about the park's diverse birdlife, starting at 8 am.

At 9:30 am, choose from:

- **Carabeen walk**  
Discover the yellow carabeen trees and the stunning Gondwana rainforest of Australia.
- **Platypus Pool walking track**  
Explore the banks of the Hastings River and its unique features.

Throughout the day, our Rangers will provide fascinating insights into the park's biodiversity and history. The newly renovated Mooraback Cabin will also be open for inspection.

We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you!

Register at Walcha NPWS office, call (02) 6777 4700,  
email [npws.nea@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:npws.nea@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
or visit [nswparks.info/werrikimbe-50](http://nswparks.info/werrikimbe-50)



Photo: Carabeen walk, Werrikimbe National Park (Josh Smith/DCEEW) BH 2024/0376 December 2024

# Communities fund botched energy roll out

Member for Northern Tablelands Brendan Moylan has said the evidence is undeniable; the Minns Labor Government has lost control of energy resources and costs in NSW.

Families, farmers and small businesses in the Northern Tablelands, and right across regional NSW, are now being forced to fork out millions of dollars to cover additional levies and increased bureaucrats' salaries.

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) has approved a nearly \$600 million additional levy on all NSW electricity bills over the next financial year to pay for "administration and other costs associated with REZs".

It was also revealed Essential Energy has nearly doubled the number of senior managers on the pay roll in the last two years.

Mr Moylan said "The botched roll out of renewable projects in the New England is dividing communities, and creating huge uncertainty. Our communities and farmers have been stuffed around enough, they have had transmission corridors changed, and timelines blow out without any clear communication or consultation."

The \$600 million levy follows on from an unrelenting rise in regional power bills. In the last two years alone, the average power bill in the Northern Tablelands has increased by 21 per cent.

Essential Energy blamed the rising costs on government taxes that go towards addressing climate change and promoting the energy transition for a lower emissions future. In addition, the number of senior bureaucrats employed by the state-owned Essential Energy has nearly doubled since the last state election.

"People in regional NSW shouldn't be paying higher power bills to fund a blowout in bureaucrats and cover for the government's botched renewable energy roll out," Mr Moylan said. "Energy policy in NSW needs a reset. We need an energy plan that prioritises fairer costs.

"The current government's approach to focus purely on renewables unfairly burdens regional NSW with all the heavy lifting and we are clearly seeing the evidence of that.

"Our energy future should not have to depend bulldozing massive power lines across prime agricultural land and dividing communities. Local communities, landowners and businesses should help decide how we get our energy. We need a commonsense approach to renewables, put them where they are actually wanted and where they make economic and practical sense."

# 50 years of Werrikimbe

Werrikimbe was gazetted as a National Park in 1975. The area is part of the traditional land of the Dungutti People. Europeans arrived in the Mooraback area in the 1850s, with grazing and forestry becoming major land uses.

Going on to be World Heritage-listed in 1986, this 33,292 hectare park is known for its pristine Gondwana rainforests boasting the most extensive footprint of Antarctic beech forests in NSW. Featuring significant ecological diversity and recognised as an important bird area, with over 120 bird species calling it home.

Along with 50 years of conservation, the park's diversity exists due to the varying climatic conditions, with the rugged eastern-fall escarpment marking the separation between the cool climate tablelands and the warmer coastal ecosystems.

Walcha is lucky to have such an incredible natural asset on its doorstep, so be sure to come along and celebrate.

Saturday (from 5.00pm) and Sunday, 14 – 15 March marks the 50 year celebration, it is FREE to attend but bookings are essential for catering.

Please see the accompanying advertisement for more details.

# Two action-packed days of family fun and agricultural excellence

The Walcha Show has gone from strength to strength and is now recognised as one of the leading Agricultural Shows in northern NSW. The 2026 Show will be on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 March, with a full and action-packed program planned across both days.

For something completely different and entertaining, there'll be a very special appearance of **Lu & Jarch broadcasting live on radio Triple M** from the Showground on Friday, 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Families will love the **Dinkum Dinosaurs** experience, featuring a hilarious puppet show combining ventriloquism, comedy, magic and amazing dinosaur puppets. Meet Turbo the Magic Dinosaur, explore the Baby Dinosaur Zoo, see fossils up close, and enjoy plenty of photo opportunities in this fun-filled interactive experience for all ages. Of course, no country show would be complete without the bright lights and excitement of **Side Show Alley**, with thrilling rides, classic carnival games and sweet treats for the young and young at heart.

The ever-popular **Speed Shear** will return on Friday evening, attracting strong competition from across the district and the state. The **Cattle Dog Challenge** and **Yard Dog Trials** will again be highly competitive and entertaining, with the best dogs in the district and from around NSW and their handlers lining up to showcase their skills.

Pavilions will be filled with delightful blooms, plump farm produce and vegetables, delicious cooking, preserves, jams and jellies, lovingly crafted arts and crafts, fascinating photography, and champion wool fleeces. Make sure you get cracking on preparing your entries and check the 2026 schedule booklet or our website for entry times and any changes to last year's schedule.

**Livestock competitions**—including cattle, sheep, horses, poultry and young judges—

are expected to be well attended. Returning favourites include **Dog Jumping**, the **Pet Competition**, **Ag Bike Competition**, **Peanut Scatter**, **Fireworks**, **Fashion Parade**, **Aviary Bird Competition**, and the **6th Annual Merino Flock Ewe Competition**. The ever-competitive **Woodchop** returns to the 2026 Show on Saturday.

Get involved in the team events – Friday evening, teams of three will compete in 'Team Penning' human style, and late Saturday afternoon and evening will see the return of the much-loved, ever-competitive **Tug-of-War** – fun for all ages, teams of seven. Get your teams together, jump on our website and fill out your entry forms. If you love **Line Dancing**, head to the bar area on Saturday afternoon and join in the fun.

Following their popularity last year, the **Professional Farriers Association NSW** are returning to Walcha, demonstrating their impressive blacksmithing skills. The Show will be well supported by **trade exhibitors** showcasing a wide range of agricultural machinery, rural services, lifestyle products and local businesses.

The 2026 Walcha Show will be officially opened on Friday evening by Brendan Moylan MP, Member for Northern Tablelands, with the Grand Parade taking centre stage in the show ring on Saturday afternoon. Walcha Pony Club, trade exhibitors, and sheep, cattle and horse competitors are encouraged to take part. The **Skin Check Truck** will return to the 2026 Show, thanks to our generous sponsors. Keep an eye out for the full two-day entertainment and event program on [www.walchashow.org.au](http://www.walchashow.org.au), Facebook, and in the Apsley Advocate.

**Angus Monie**  
Walcha Show Society President



**WALCHA SHOW**  
- SINCE 1878 -

# PAVILION ENTRIES

With just over two weeks until the Walcha Show, it's time to start organising your Pavilion entries. Here are important entry dates.

**MONDAY 9 MARCH**  
Photography: Entries 8.30am – 12 noon

**TUESDAY 10 MARCH**  
Wool: Entries in by 5.00pm

**WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH**  
**Handicraft and Preserves, Jams & Jellies:** Entries 2.00 – 4.00pm, or no later than 10.30am Thursday 12 March  
**Needlework:** Entries 3.00pm – 4.00pm, or 8.00am – 10.30am Thursday 12 March

**THURSDAY 12 MARCH**  
**Fine Arts:** Entries in by 10.00am  
**Flower Pavilion:** 10.00am – 5.30pm Thursday, or by 9.00am Friday  
**Knitting & Crochet, Handicraft, Needlework, Preserves, Jams & Jellies, Cooking, Vegetables and Farm Produce:** Entries by 10.30am

**No late entries accepted**  
[www.walchashow.org.au](http://www.walchashow.org.au)



## Preserves

This year the preserves section has seen some slight alterations, please read your schedule carefully. You will notice a reduction in jar/bottle sizes to 200g – 400g jars and 250ml – 375ml bottles. Please remember to clearly label your entries with the items name and date ONLY, for example: *Tomato Relish 2026*.

Some exciting new classes have been added to the schedule including the condiment collection and a class for Pesto/Herb Based Sauces. I am also pleased to announce that with the generous support of the Cameron family we have added the Hazel Cameron Memorial Trophy. The trophy will be awarded to the most successful exhibitor in the condiment section. Hazel always made it her mission to get an entry in every class of the condiment section so it was only fitting that it go to the highest point scorer in Classes 11 – 41.

**Audi Dunn, Chief Steward:** 0459 260 111





**The Walcha Tennis Club** will be holding their Seniors Tournament this weekend in two divisions over 30 years and 60 years plus. 'Coffee To Go' run by 'Walcha Young Citizen of the year' Logan Stace will be operating at the courts on Saturday. Tournament organisers would like to thank all businesses that are supporting the event with sponsorship. Hope the weather is kind to all involved.

...

**Walcha sporting legend Barry Hoy** has been playing in the NSW Veterans Cricket Over 55's Championships this week where he captained a Presidents XI selected from various clubs. They won their opening game against Mid North Coast/Far North Coast, 286 runs to 235 runs with 'Baz' contributing 24 runs.

...

**While fielding in that match at mid wicket** instead of his customary role as wicketkeeper 'Baz' suffered a nasty gash above his right eye, but by all accounts took an absolute screamer catch during the North Coast innings to dismiss Darren McCudden who reckons no other player on the paddock would have tried to field the ball – let alone catch it.

...

**Playing off a handicap of six, Will Archdale** is equal leader of the 2026 Walcha Mens Golf Club Championships with eight time champion Simeon Cross who won his last A Grade title in 2004. Three strokes off the pace is 2017 Champion Wayne Brennan, while reigning champion Lee Fletcher is currently on 83. A total of 26 players teed off across the three grades in Round 1 of three rounds last Sunday. Best of luck in Round 2 to all players competing.

...

**Best of luck to the 20 plus Walcha Central Primary School students** participating in the Armidale PSSA Zone Representative Swim Trials at Monkton Aquatic Centre tomorrow from 9.00am. Qualifiers then move onto the North West trials in the near future.

...

**Before writing the Walcha/Uralla Cricket report** each week I usually tune into the Play Cricket App, but Club President Wayne Boyd does also send me the relative results each week as a backup. Anyway last Monday when I couldn't find last Saturdays results for 2nd and 3rd Grades a phone call was made to Apsley Advocate Sporting Editor, Joscisca Matapakia, to explain my dilemma. Jojo couldn't understand my confusion as the results were right there on Play Cricket ... but it may have had something to do with me thinking I was one week in front of myself. Funny how the mind works sometimes.

...

**A reminder to all NRL Footy Tipsters in town** your competitions kick-off this weekend when the opening two games are played in Las Vegas. Although the 'Newie' nominations are filling up fast there are a few spots left, while the Bowling Club and Apsley Arms have plenty of spaces to fill. Due to a lack of interest the Walcha Bar and Grill have canned their competition but anyone who was interested is invited to join the Apsley comp .

...

**Two out of three ain't bad** according to singer Meatloaf, but not in the week Newie 777's horse racing competition where each punter is required to select the winner of Race 7 in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Last Saturday I picked winners 'Piggyback' at Randwick and 'Dominant Darcy' at Doomben, but my third selection 'Treasure the Moment' ran third after leading halfway down the straight. Back to the drawing board I suppose.

...

**Hooray! After extensive renovations** the Walcha Pool is scheduled to be opened this Saturday where a free Community Fun Day is planned to celebrate the re-opening. Gates open at 10 am and stay open until 6.00pm that evening at no charge to all pool users. Apparently the outside temperature is meant to reach 22 celcius which is slightly warmer than some opening days since the pool was initially opened in October 1970.



## Registrations OPEN

Join us in 2026



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## Tennis

Round 1 of the 2026 Summer Tennis Comp was played out on Tuesday 17 February in pleasant conditions.

Out in front of the pack is Michael Luchich and Peter Tape on 18 points. A great maximum score. Next close on their heels is Todd Whillock with 16 points followed by Jock, Hyde and Trev with 15 points each.

Our next Club meeting will be held on Monday 9 March at 6.30pm. The annual Seniors Tournament will be held this weekend (28 Feb and 1 March). Anyone that can help with cakes and goodies please contact Sandra Laurie or Jen Hoy to organise drop off. Any help will be gratefully appreciated. Thanks.

## Wednesday Golf

Last Wednesday a field of twenty five played Stableford for Betty Borthwick's trophy.

The end result was a little confusing with James Norton being announced the winner with 42 points, only to donate it back (maybe because he forgot to wear a skirt!)

Deanne Baines was also up in the winners circle with 43 points, but was unable to take out the prize as she hadn't put three cards in prior. This resulted in Jenny Lisle being announced the winner with 40 points.

Runner-up was Margaret Davidson on 40 points. Sweepstake winners were Jill Burnell 36, Robyn Salt 36, and Pauline Carter 35.

Cheryl McDonald was nearest the pin on Hole 3 and Pauline Carter on Hole 16.

This Wednesday we are playing stroke, putting and monthly mug for a trophy donated by Lorraine Rennie.

## Ladies Bowls

Our apologies to Bruce Rutherford as he did not win the raffle prize as reported last week, instead it was Bruce Flanagan. Last Thursday two games of pairs were played with Janice Rizzi and Rosie Aitken winning against Joy Sly and Pam Makeham 15 – 12. In the other game Debbie Richards and Jan Cross had a win against Lyn Burnell and Lee McCoy. Tomorrow Carmel Ryan will play Lee McCoy in the Minor Singles, marker Jan Cross. Dates to place on your calendar – Thursday 30 April 'Come and Try Day' for those who would like to give bowls a try. It will be a fun day with lunch included. President's Day is Thursday 28 May. There is Social Bowls tomorrow 9am for a 9.30am start.

## At the Nineteenth

The opening round of the 2026 Men's Club Championship was played last Sunday where Will Archdale and Simeon Cross both shot a six over par 76 to lead 2017 Wayne Brennan by three stroke on 79.

In B Grade Angus Warden carded 82 off the beater and leads Andrew Crawford by just a single shot on 53 with 'Molleydooker' Darren Bird in third position on 87. While in C Grade Bill Fletcher is currently on top of the leader board on 95 three strokes in front of Brian Lynch 98 with Tim Baumer third on 101.

Captain Willy Brennan supplied the prize for the overall competition which was won by Angus Warden on a countback from Simeon Cross after both players registered 68 nett.

Sweepstakes went to the runner-up on 68, Darren Bird 69, Will Archdale 70, Wayne Brennan 70, Andrew Crawford 71, Sue Partridge 71 and Jack McLaren 73.

Sharpest shooters at the Pins were Jock McLaren (3),

Andrew Crawford (9) and Simeon Cross (16) whereas no player was clever enough to reach the beach on the home hole 18th.

In Match Play Darren Bird defeated Andrew Crawford 2 and 1.

Not enough players to conduct the Weekly 9 Hole Competition on Saturday but Jenny Lisle, Jock McLaren and organiser John McCormack played a social round.

This Sunday is the second round of the Men's Championships where Club Secretary Anthea Nivison is the trophy donor.

## Cricket

For the second weekend in succession Walcha/Uralla Cricket Club won one grade and lost the other in their 2025/26 Armidale District competition matches.

Here at Peter Fenwicke Oval in 2nd Grade, the hosts won the toss and sent Easts Green into bat where the visitors scored 148 runs before they were dismissed in their 40th over.

Opener Matt Harper was the most successful Walcha/Uralla trundler capturing three wickets for 27 runs off his 8 overs and received valuable support from Daniel Boyd 2/18, Peter Mooney 2/20, Cameron Mooney 1/21, Ed Blomfield 1/22 and Jay Grills 1/23.

The home side passed their assignment inside 22 overs losing four wickets in doing so.

Openers Josh Weame and Jay Grills put on a first wicket partnership of 67 runs to get the ball rolling before Grills was caught for 29.

Weame top scored with 46 the consistent Boyd remained 40 up not out and Blomfield retired on 18.

In 3rd Grade Walcha/Uralla were sent into bat by Ex Services at Rologas and were dismissed for 64 off 32.2 overs after losing their last seven wickets while adding just 11 runs.

Young opener Owen Morley batted throughout the innings remaining unconquered on 12 runs, his father David Morley and Blaine Moore both made 11 runs, while Nathan Swan was the only other visiting batter to reach double figures on 10.

In reply Ex Services were aggressive in their run chase, reeling off the required runs in just 8 overs for a loss of two wickets captured by Owen Morley and Will Cox.

Two rounds remain in the respective competitions where on Saturday 2nd Grade travel to Armidale to take on Armidale United at Rologas and 3rd Grade do battle with TAS 2nd Grade here at Peter Fenwicke Oval.

### Walcha/Uralla v East Yellow 2nd Grade

#### East

J FINLAY b P Mooney.....	16
B GASH c J Grills b C Mooney.....	4
B PAULL c D Ford b M Harper.....	9
S BRENNAN c B Hoy b E Blomfield.....	33
L BRENNAN c J Weame b P Mooney.....	4
J DENT c B Hoy b J Grills.....	20
M HAYDON c S Rafferty b D Boyd.....	32
M HAMMOND c C Mooney b D Boyd.....	5
X DENT st B Hoy b M Harper.....	1
J KENNY b M Harper.....	0
J KENNY n.o.....	14
Total 148 (39.2 overs) Extras 10	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): M Harper 8-2-27-3, D Ford 6-1-15-0, C Mooney 5-1-21-1, P Mooney 5-0-20-2, E Blomfield 5-1-22-1, J Grills 3-1-23-1, D Boyd 7.2-1-18-2.

#### Walcha/Uralla

J WEARNE c M Hammond b J Dent.....	46
J GRILLS c S Brennan b J Dent.....	29

B DWYER c S Brennan b J Dent.....	0
S RAFFERTY b X Dent.....	0
E BLOMFIELD retired n.o.....	18
D BOYD n.o.....	40
C MOONEY n.o.....	4
Total 150 (21.2 overs) Extras 13	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): J Kenny 4-0-31-0, J Kenny 3-0-24-0, X Dent 5-0-30-1, J Dent 6.2-2-20-3, M Haydon 2-0-38-0, L Brennan 1-0-5-0.

### Walcha/Uralla v Ex-Services 3rd Grade

#### Walcha/Uralla

B MULLEN b D Matthews.....	3
O MORLEY n.o.....	12
D MORLEY b G Kennedy.....	11
B MOORE lbw G Kennedy.....	11
N SWAN c&b S Goodare.....	10
C LAURIE lbw W Roberts.....	2
H WILLIAMS c U Bajracharya b W Roberts.....	1
S HASLEM c? b W Roberts.....	0
H SWAN lbw W Roberts.....	0
W COX c D Emery b G Kennedy.....	2
B JEX c M Harris b G Kennedy.....	0
Total 64 (32.2 overs) Extras 12	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): D Emery 4-2-2-0, D Matthews 4-2-5-1, B Smith 7-0-22-0, G Kennedy 5.2-1-13-4, K Smith 2-0-6-0, W Roberts 6-1-8-4, S Goodare 4-1-6-1.

#### Ex-Services

G KENNEDY c S Haslem b O Morley.....	5
U BAJRACHARYA c B Moore b W Cox.....	22
M HARRIS n.o.....	31
S GOODARE n.o.....	3
Total 65 (8.3 overs) Extras 4	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkt): B Moore 2-0-9-0, O Morley 3-0-35-1, N Swan 1-0-14-0, W Cox 1.3-1-4-1, B Mullen 1-0-1-0.

## Bowls

Thursday Bowls: Tony Asmus and Greg Carter defeated Geoff Salt & Barry Hoad 18/13. Barry Kliendienst and Mat Andrews x 2 defeated Noel Goodwin, John McCormack and Tony Batterham 16/10.

Our pennants players travelled to Inverell last Saturday and were defeated by the home side in the three games. They had a good day and showed fight from an impossible position.

This Saturday they travel to Kootingal which will complete the first round of pennants. Players will receive particulars through the week. Good luck

The 2026 Championships will commence this Sunday 1 March, starting with the mixed pairs at 9.30am.

**First round draw:** Noel & Lyn v Adam & Julies. Pole & Rosie v Mick & Carmel, KC & Janice v Denis & Pam, Brian & Ester v Kyle & Sari.

**B Grade Singles** commence Sunday 29 March, nominations close 23 March.

**A Grade Singles** commence Saturday 18 April, nominations close 12 April.

**Triples** commence Saturday 11 April, nominations close 5 April.

**Fours** start Saturday 16 May, nominations close 10 May.

**Pairs** start Saturday 30 May, nominations close 23 May.



## Funeral Notice

### STINSON, Peter Ralph

10.12.1937 – 17.2.2026

Late of Old Bar, Formerly of Walcha  
Adored husband of Juanita

Loving father to Donna, Michael, Grahame and their Partners. Cherished grandfather and great grand father.

Respected friend to many.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Peter's funeral service

To be held in the chapel at Manning Great Lakes Memorial Gardens, 183 Pampoolah Road, Taree, On Wednesday 25th February 2026, Commencing at 12 noon.

Live stream will be available via MGLMG website.

Hutchinson Funerals (02) 6552 1060

## In Memoriam

### In loving memory of Richard Mumford

Gone 3 years, Love you dad  
Not forgotten

## Public Notices

### DR GENEVIEVE FREER

Phone 6777 2068 | 0429 668 583

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** for Nigeria on Wednesday 4 March in Anglican Church South Street starting at 12 noon followed by light lunch. Everyone welcome.

**Demonstration of 'staging'** your cut flower entries and information on the floral art classes at the Walcha Show will be held this Saturday, 28 February, at 9.30am for a 10am start the Walcha Showground Flower Pavilion. BYO chair and lunch. Enquiries J Ireland 0427 776 469. Walcha Garden Club members are asked to assist with setting up the Flower Pavilion commencing 9am at Walcha Showground on Friday 6 March. Enquiries: D Lisle 0429 799 083

## Walcha Home Furnishing

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## Expressions of Interest

### Walcha Council

#### Call For Expressions Of Interest – Shaping

#### Walcha's Identity: Walcha 2050



Walcha Council is inviting expressions of interest from community members who would like to volunteer their time, ideas and local knowledge to help shape Walcha's future identity.

We are seeking a diverse group of community-minded individuals who are passionate about sharing their perspectives on what makes Walcha a unique and special place to live, work and visit. A community forum is being planned with a maximum of 80 people to discuss, answer questions and generate ideas under the guidance of a professional facilitator. Details are as follows:

#### First Community Session

 Walcha Vet Supplies

 Tuesday, 31 March 2026

 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

For more information please call 02 6774 2500

If you are interested please send us your expression of interest by the **04 March 2026** - email [council@walcha.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@walcha.nsw.gov.au) or write to: PO Box 2 Walcha 2354 . Elected members of the Council will be determining the final list of invitees to this meeting. It needs to be emphasised that this is just the start of what is expected to be a long term project.

Be a part of defining Walcha's future together!

**Stephen Parry, General Manager  
Walcha Council, PO Box 2, Walcha NSW**

## Position Vacant

### Walcha Council

#### Small Council, Big Opportunities



- Full-Time Community Care Coordinator
- Full-Time Communications manager
- Part-Time Tourism Officer
- Part-Time Library Officer
- Full-Time Heavy Vehicle Operator

For more information about these positions or to apply please go to <https://bit.ly/WCvacant>

**Stephen Parry, General Manager  
Walcha Council, PO Box 2, Walcha NSW**

## For Sale

**Mercedes ML 270 CDI** 180,000km, new tyres, good condition, rego CZ30EO. \$5000 not neg. Call James 0491 113 508.

## Garage Sale

**Garage Sale** Saturday 28 February from 8am. 68E Jamieson Street. For more info contact Karrin 0455 861 900.

## Public Notice (Cont)

### Walcha Council

#### Notice Of Proposed Development

#### Application Number: 10.2026.6



Walcha Council has received an application from Winterbourne Wind Pty Ltd seeking development consent for the redevelopment and expansion of the Walcha Caravan Park, 113N Middle Street, Walcha. The proposal includes the demolition of existing structures (9 existing cabins and ancillary buildings) and the construction of new accommodation cabins, and associated engineering and servicing upgrades to support the expanded facility. The redevelopment will include the retention of 6 existing cabins and the construction of 36 new accommodation cabins including associated access and amenity improvements.

Development application 10.2026.6 is "integrated development" under section 4.46 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The proposal involves works in proximity to a prescribed waterway requiring approval from the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEE) under section 91 of the Water Management Act 2000.

The application and the documents accompanying the application can be viewed on Council's website [www.walcha.nsw.gov.au](http://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au) and at the Walcha Council office during business hours on or before 27 March 2026.

Any person may make a written submission in relation to the development application. Submissions must be received by Walcha Council in writing before close of business on 27 March 2026.

**Stephen Parry, General Manager  
Walcha Council, PO BOX 2, Walcha NSW**

## Meeting Notices

**RSL meeting 5.30pm** Thursday 26 at the Walcha Bowling Club. All welcome.



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## church notices

**ANGLICAN**  
March 1 - 9.30am Walcha Service  
2.00pm Niangala 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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**6777 1340**



**Andrew: 0427 549 748**  
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WALCHA

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## WHAT'S ON?

**Thursday 26** 12.00pm – Close

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

**Friday 27** 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

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Dianna – 0412 536 760 or 5722 6003

**Saturday 28** 11.00am – Close

**5.00PM BISTRO**

**Sunday 1** 11.00am – Close

**12.00PM BISTRO**

Raffle tickets from 12pm, drawn 1pm.

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\$250**

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

Don't forget to sign up for our footy tipping contest

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