

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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

1 April 2026

## Quota Book Fair



## Youth Club Hall

Monday 6th April to

Friday 17th April

**CASH ONLY**

Open daily

10.00am – 4.00pm

Walcha Quota Club

Contacts:

Sue Reardon 6777 2716

Chris Hamel 0437 772 333

## Walcha players deliver at Swan Cup

The Walcha Polocrosse Club had two of its own, Marlee Wall and Thomas Donnelly, travel to the Inverell Swan Cup over the weekend, where they represented Coopers Farm Gear in the Incentive competition.

Competing against a strong and experienced field, both Marlee and Thomas showed determination across the three-day event. From the opening chukkas through to the final matches, the pair worked hard putting together a solid run of games. Their efforts paid off, with their team finishing runners-up overall, an impressive result against tough opposition and both riders earning a cash prize.

Marlee Wall had an exceptional weekend, with her efforts recognised through the Best Number 1 award in the Incentive competition. This accolade highlights her extraordinary performance in the attacking position, where her speed, accuracy, and ability to read the game played a key role in her team's success.

Adding to the weekend's achievements, Marlee's horse, *Jenkins Watchmen*, better known as "Watchy" drew significant attention throughout the carnival. Demonstrating athleticism and consistency across all matches, *Watchy* proved to be a great value on the field. His performances did not go unnoticed, earning him two Best Australian Stock Horse awards, a remarkable achievement that reflects his ability.

Congratulations to Marlee and Thomas on their outstanding achievements over the weekend. Well done also to all Walcha members who competed in the club competition, continuing to represent the club.



**LAW EXCHANGE**  
PROPERTY & CORPORATE LAW

### MICHAEL MCHUGH BA LLB (Hons)

Acc. Specialist - Property Law  
Australian Legal Practitioner

Property Law & Conveyancing  
Company & Business Law  
Dispute Resolution  
Succession Planning  
Wills and Estate

17/429 Peel Street, Tamworth

**WALCHA**  
By Appointment

6768 0888  
0418 658 217

mmchugh@lawexchange.com.au  
www.lawexchange.com.au

## RECEIVE A FREE OLIGHT RECHARGEABLE HEADLAMP

When you order any of the following:

- 350 NLIS Cattle Tags
- 800 HDX TagFaster or FET Sheep Tags
- FOR NEW CUSTOMERS
- 200 NLIS Cattle Tags
- 400 HDX TagFaster or FET Sheep Tags

Plus a  
FREE  
Tagger



Call 6777 2588 • 6 Aberbaldie Road Walcha • www.wvs.com.au

**WVS**  
WALCHA VETERINARY SUPPLIES



# CIVIL CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS

## OUR PLANT:

- ✓ D6T Dozer - 18ft Stickrake + GPS + Lazer grade
- ✓ 5t,13t, 20t, 36t Excavator GPS, grabs, screen
- ✓ 2t -12t tipper & dog, 40t moxi, water cart
- ✓ Positrack, tractor, augur, post driver

## OUR SERVICES:

- ✓ Wet and dry hire options
- ✓ Driveways, dams, pads, quarry
- ✓ Sheds, bridges + farm infrastructure
- ✓ Design & Engineering services

CONTACT GLEN  
**0403 726 780**  
 OXLEYCIVIL.COM.AU  
 VISIT FOR A FULL RANGE OF  
 EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

**COMPETITIVE RATES**



# around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

Autumn is well and truly here with the deciduous trees showing off their colour change and the coolness starting to creep in of a night. We are dry and there doesn't seem to be a decent change on the forecast for us. Our problem is that if we manage to get a reasonable drop of rain anytime soon then it will turn cold, the frosts will start and we don't have a lot of feed in our paddocks. The days are shortening fast, daylight saving finishes this weekend and it is going to be a long winter for everyone. The Easter break ahead looks fine and warm so I hope everyone enjoys their four day weekend.

Fuel will be 26.3 cents per litre cheaper for everyone as of Wednesday after the government announced to halve the excise on fuel for three months. Aussies have been slugged with 52.6c cents per litre for too long. The current and previous governments haven't used the excise well enough to safeguard Australia from the current fuel crisis at hand as we are one of the countries with the least amount of fuel storage, we rely too much on others and we are extremely vulnerable. They tell us we have 30 days of diesel and 42 days of petrol on hand, yet we pay global pricing when the fuel would have been purchased at a lower value that we have in storage. Why would it worry the government if we are feeling the pinch at the fuel pump when the government has just taken double the fuel excise for the last few weeks. Fuel underpins every part of Agricultural production and these current price pressures are yet to be handed on to the end consumers, but it is coming.

The lamb and mutton market are on fire with just last week a pen of heavy export weight lamb in Ballarat cracking the \$500 per head and breaking the record lamb price. The previous record price was paid in Wagga of \$495 in early March, no doubt the competition is on to once again break the price given the positivity surrounding the lamb job. Store lambs are entering record territory as I can't remember at any time during my career, store lambs making over 660c/kg liveweight. Mutton looks firm with hook prices trading around the 800c/kg, the interesting part will be what will the price be in the winter months when our supply normally dries up. If you're a sheep producer the times are good, even the sheep prefer it a tad drier, and the wool market has improved. The way our season is shaping up we won't have may lambs left by winter and that would go for the entire Tablelands.

A huge yarding of cattle in Tamworth on Monday ahead of the long weekend and no sale for Tamworth next Monday meant the yards were at capacity with 6221 head yarded. The market across the board was a lot cheaper. Weaner steers back to the paddock topped at 530c/kg, heifer portion made to 434c/kg while the feeder steers topped at 534c/kg and the heifers to feed made 458c/kg. Heavy export steers topped at 436c/kg while a large run of cows topped at 369c/kg to average 349c/kg and be quoted 25c/kg cheaper than the previous week. Large runs of lighter condition cows met softer demand, dropping nearly 50c/kg and making a tad over 300c/kg.

Given the season and global pressures on our current beef and sheep markets I am still amazed at the values, regardless they are good. We are seeing plenty of interest from Victorian and South Australian buyers keen to acquire breeding stock after their last few years of offloading. They, along with Queensland are putting a floor in our weaner markets at present as the orders continue to flow. One bonus for us is that our stock are in reasonable order pre-winter and everything is weighing quite well so our returns are quite reasonable, it's just a shame our costs to freight anything has doubled, taking the cream off everything.



## FENCING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Protect your property and invest in your land with professional, durable solutions tailored for the rural landscape.

### FENCING SERVICES

Focused on large scale project & annual programs 'Heat On Ag' provides:

- Standard Steel Fencing • Exclusion Fencing • Security Fencing •

### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Enhance your land's health and meet your conservation goals:

- **Erosion Control:** Professional grading, drainage solutions, and ground stabilisation to prevent soil loss.
- **Tree Planting:** Large-scale re-vegetation and windbreak installation to improve shelter and biodiversity.

SAFETY, QUALITY, QUANTITY | LOCALLY OWNED

#### Contact:

**Dave Healey** (Quotes and Admin) ..... 0490 307 766

**Ben Fussell** (Operations Management) ... 0448 964 519

## THE APSLEY Advocate

**NEXT WEEK 8 APRIL  
NO ADVOCATE**

**NEXT ADVOCATE  
15 APRIL**

6777 1111 | 39w Fitzroy St, Walcha  
wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au

# 2026 Flu Season

## Be prepared!

By Dr. Deng Abiem

Influenza (flu) is a respiratory viral infection that is spread via droplets (coughing or sneezing) or by touching contaminated surfaces.

Flu cases are reported in Australia throughout the year, but they peak from April to October.

Symptoms may include fever, body aches, runny nose and sore throat. Whilst most cases are mild, some can result in serious illness requiring hospitalisation or death.

Annual flu vaccination is the most effective and important measure to prevent severe flu and protect our most vulnerable in the community. The flu vaccine can be co-administered with other vaccines such as COVID-19, pertussis and RSV vaccines. Extensive research has shown the flu vaccines are safe and effective.

Flu vaccination is recommended for all people aged 6 months and over.

However you could be eligible for free flu vaccine funded under the National Immunisation Program for:

1. All children aged 6 months to under 5 years.
2. All adults 65 years and over
3. People aged between 5 to 64 years with increased risk of complications, indigenous peoples, people with chronic medical conditions and pregnant women.

Following your flu vaccination, it takes two weeks for you to develop immunity.

The prime time to get vaccinated is in the months of April and May.

**Walcha General Practice Clinic will be holding flu clinics on Thursday 16th April and Thursday 7th May 2026. Please call 6777 4293 to book in.**

# Who have you pinned your hopes on?

By Neil Hunt - Minister, Walcha Anglican Church

Who have you pinned your hopes on? Hopes for a purpose and peace in life that the different storms of life can't shake. Perhaps right now you're facing storms like the threat of sickness, a dry winter, financial stress, or the loss of a relationship. And of course, there's the war which has already caused havoc for so many.

Who can you pin your hopes on for this kind of purpose and peace? Your soul mate? A politician? Your family? Or perhaps you've pinned your hopes on yourself and your own achievements.

The shocking truth is, that no matter where we find somewhere to pin our hopes, death will eventually take that hope away. Death will rob us of every person or achievement we've ever pinned our hopes on.

But there is hope! The Easter story (and our service this Easter Sunday at Walcha Anglican) is about pinning our hopes on the one worth pinning those hopes on. The Lord Jesus has conquered death for all those who will pin their hopes on him. We'd love you to join us at 9:30am.



Last year's Easter Sunday Service under the willows at Walcha



## Stock and Property Watch

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

### Million Dollar Views

For Sale \$189,000



**213E – 215E Croudace Street,  
Walcha NSW**

**Land Size:**  
2,677 sqm

If you are looking for a residential block of land to build your dream home on, then this may be the block for you, a rare double block of 2677 sqm, situated in a highly sought after part of town, with million dollar northerly views over town, opposite Crown Land. Water and sewer services to the boundary.



**Peta Carter 0407 350 781 | Trish Donnelly 0427 652 883**

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

**WALCHA COUNCIL**  
**YOUTH SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**  
**APRIL 2026**

**STORYTIME** 📍 Walcha Library  
 ⌚ 10 - 11am Tues 7/4  
 Ages: Bubs - 8yrs

**PICTURE PLATES** Cost \$22  
 📍 Decorate at Walcha Library ⌚ 11am Thurs 9/4  
 OR  
 Collect a template and decorate at home  
 Return to library by end of holidays


**LEARN TO KNIT**  
 📍 Walcha Library with yarn bomb volunteers  
 ⌚ 10 - 12am Both Wed & Fri's

**LEGO CLUB**  
 📍 Walcha Library - All ages  
 ⌚ 11 - 12 Thurs 16/4  
 Questions? Contact Walcha Library 67742550 library@walcha.nsw.gov.au

**NETBALL CLINIC**  
 📍 Walcha Central School courts  
 ⌚ 10am - 12 noon Tues 14/4  
 Ages 8+ Cost \$5 Book online

**ROBOT PLANK WARS**  
 📍 Walcha Library  
 ⌚ 2.30 - 3.30 Mon 13/4  
 Ages 8+ Book online

**LINE DANCING FOR ALL AGES**  
 10am: Kindy - Grade 3  
 11am: Grades 4-6  
 12 noon: Grades 7-12  
 Cost \$5  
 \*parents of primary children must stay to supervise them  
 ⌚ Wednesday 15/4 45 min lessons  
 📍 Preschool (old room)

**LEARN TO SKATE WORKSHOPS**   
 Free fun for Walcha youth aged 12-18yrs  
 Great for beginners & intermediate riders  
 Boards, helmets & gear provided!  
**10am - 1pm Saturday 18 April**  
 Book online now Spots limited

**BROOKLYN QUARRY**

**Fix Your Farm Roads Properly.**


**Need tough rock that won't wash away?**

- Farm Road Construction
- Shed & Yard Bases
- Drainage & Erosion Control
- Dam Access Tracks
- Reliable Local Supply

**Premium Hard Basalt.**  
 Delivered Across the New England Region.

Bulk loads available. Fast local delivery.

Call Scott Blake: ☎ 0434 011 570  
 ✉ admin@brooklynquarry.com.au

  
**BROOKLYN QUARRY**

**ROCK YOU CAN RELY ON.**

# letters to the editor

On Sunday I joined a bus trip to Merotherie Road to see first-hand the construction of transmission lines, energy hubs and renewable energy generation projects. As a landholder under proposed transmission lines it was confronting.

The scale is enormous. Construction activity is constant, heavy and chaotic. The small country dirt road we drove down was deemed capable by EnergyCo of handling up to 1,000 vehicle movements per lane per hour.

The locals we spoke to were devastated. They have been blindsided by the sheer magnitude of what is unfolding. Lives have been disrupted in ways that are difficult to comprehend until you see it yourself.

Farmers have had to lease additional land to relocate livestock. A local doctor has put plans for a new surgery on hold as access through construction zones is too difficult. Local tradies were initially offered work, only to later be told they were no longer needed.

If you are travelling through the region, take a detour down Merotherie Road. See it for yourself. Get informed about what is planned for this area and how it might affect you.

The New England REZ is bigger than the Central-West Orana REZ (8 GW compared to 4.5-6GW, land area is 50% larger). This will be a fundamental change in land use. Apart from renewable generation, land will be needed for hubs, workers camps and other infrastructure. We need to be asking serious questions about where all this will be located. Under NSW law, land can be compulsorily acquired for transmission lines, substations/energy hubs and associated infrastructure.

Anyone who values our natural landscape and biodiversity should be hugely concerned at the industrialisation and destruction of habitat.

Walcha Guardians are pushing back hard, but we are up against it. I have seen first-hand the lack of regard for local voices. In the Merotherie road area, residents have serious questions about where the water is coming from for worker camps (currently 600 workers in the camp we saw, 1800 planned), dust suppression and multiple work fronts. EnergyCo refuses to say.

Those residents we spoke to deeply regretted not taking a firmer united stand. Walcha has some big advantages. We have *Voice for Walcha* and their deep knowledge of the REZ. We have *Walcha Guardians* standing strong against transmission lines with landholders in the Hunter. Most importantly, we have strong united opposition to the proposed transmission lines from the Council and wider Community.

If you want to help *Walcha Guardians*, ask your family and friends to sign our petition. We need 10,000 signatures in just three weeks.

No matter where you stand on renewable energy, there is one principle most would agree on: the communities that host this infrastructure should benefit the most. From what I have seen, that is not happening. We should learn from these communities—and demand better.

**Bec Onslow**

# thumbs

- 👍 To the Walcha Indoor Hockey Committee for a great Friday night of finals and Presentations. Thank you!
- 👍 To Council Parks & Gardens team for the up-keep of the Walcha General Cemetery. A pleasure to view.
- 👍 To Norm Goodwin for 51 years of dedicated service to Linmac. Enjoy your retirement.
- 👍 To the Touch Football committee. Thank you for volunteering your time to provide another cracker of a season. The community's highlight of the week for young and old. Hats off to Ben, Son, Jase and Amanda
- 👍 To Riverview residents and the Walcha Community Care Men's Group for travelling out to Yarrowitch School and participating in art and STEM activities with students and staff.
- 👍 To Norm Goodwin on your retirement. Thank you for your hard work, from the team at Linmac Co.
- 👍 To Peter Dunn the Captain at FRNSW Walcha 481 in reconition of 49 years service on April 1.

**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.**

# Autumn in Walcha – Tourism Insights

From Tourism & Visitor Information Services Coordinator, Lisa Kirton

Autumn is such a beautiful time of year in Walcha, and a popular time for visitors coming to experience the stunning Autumn colour.

## Autumn Colour – Photography Competition

This annual Walcha Tourism initiative is now underway, offering some great prizes for first, second and third place as well as acknowledgement for highly commended. So get out amongst Walcha's technicolour splendor and start snapping. Details of how to enter can be found on the tourism website *What's On* page.

## Business Directory

Did you know that Walcha Tourism staff maintain a business directory for local businesses? If you are a local business and would like to be listed or if your current listing needs updating, please get in touch with us via email or telephone. The Business Directory can be found on our website under *Visitor Information / Businesses*.

## Walcha Events - What's On

The Walcha Tourism website's *What's On* page provides a comprehensive list of upcoming events. If you would like an event listed please get in touch with tourism staff at the Visitor Information Centre (VIC). You can use the *What's On* page to check out all of the great upcoming local events.

## Walcha Tourism Social Media pages

The Walcha Tourism Official social media pages continue to grow in followers and engagement. Please help us promote Walcha as an incredible place to visit by following the Walcha Tourism social media pages and sharing our campaigns and local event promotion with your friends and followers.

@visitwalcha - Facebook Official Walcha Tourism page

@walchansw - Instagram Official Walcha Tourism page

## Local Business Support

Please remember to support our wonderful local businesses where

you can. We are very fortunate to have a great range of services and retail on offer here in Walcha.

## Oxley Highway

A reminder that there are no planned closures of the Oxley Highway in 2026, so please help us spread the word that the Oxley is open.

## Hosting Visitors

If you are hosting visitors at any time and looking for inspiration on things to do then please come in and see us at the VIC. We have an excellent variety of information on retail, dining, accommodation, attractions, bushwalking, camping, fishing, kids activities, as well as a great selection of maps and brochures.

## Free Loan-a-Bikes

The VIC also has Free 'Loan-a-Bikes' - two adult and two kids bikes, as well as a bike trailer for toddlers that can be towed behind one of the adult bikes or pushed independently as a pram.

## The Visitor Information Centre (VIC)

Open every day except Christmas Day, our friendly and knowledgeable staff and volunteers are always happy to help – so please pop in and see us!

## Volunteer with us at the VIC.

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers interested in helping at the VIC. Please get in touch if you have some free time and would like to assist. Shifts are mostly on weekends with the flexibility to assist as much or as little as you like.

Phone 02 6774 2460

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

E: [tourism@walcha.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@walcha.nsw.gov.au)

REAL ESTATE & LIVESTOCK

[pitt.son.walcha@bigpond.com](mailto:pitt.son.walcha@bigpond.com)

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

*Pitt Son's*

OFFICE 6777 2000

Sam Payne 0428 667 404

Ron Vincent 0427 775 821

**\$420,000**

**FOR  
SALE**



## Great Location

- Lovely flat block
- Walking distance to shops
- Two bedroom with built ins
- Lounge room with wood fire
- Kitchen dining area
- Closed in verandah front and back
- Neat & tidy backyard with rainwater tank and workshop
- Very tidy shed with roller door

## Great views over town



**SOLD**



- Three generous sized bedrooms all with built-ins
- Kitchen combines with dining area and wood fire
- Spacious lounge room
- New bathroom
- Lovely sunroom on NE corner
- Second toilet
- Fully covered BBQ area
- Open Verandah on north side with great outlook
- Very large block

*Locally owned and operated*

ADVERTISEMENT



**Brendan Moylan MP**  
MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

## Walcha Show

It was great to get to the Walcha Show last month and see the community out in full force supporting the event. It is a great show and is a credit to Angus, Dale and the entire show committee. Without volunteers, we don't have these events so I encourage the community to continue supporting them and helping out any way you can.

## Fuel

Fuel shortages are being experienced across regional NSW where bulk suppliers and retailers have been unable to source fuel. Regional communities have been hit the hardest. Suppliers are being refused fuel at their normal terminals and are forced to look elsewhere and the prices are continually rising. Diesel is now more than \$3 per litre and unleaded more than \$2.50 per litre. Households are already under pressure already and our agricultural industry is feeling the enormous burden with the cost of running machinery and vehicles rising every day. Last week in Parliament, I called on the NSW Government to prioritise fuel supply to regional and rural areas, recognising that fuel supply is essential for the state's food and fibre production. The NSW Coalition has also put forward genuine measures to ease pressure but so far the Minns Labor Government has refused. I will continue to fight for the people of regional NSW.

## Drought

Regional NSW is copping it from every angle right now, and I'm hearing the same story everywhere I go. Farmers are battling sky-high fuel costs, fertiliser shortages, dry conditions and feral animals ripping through crops and livestock.

Record cattle and sheep yarding throughout the New England in the past few weeks show many graziers are reading the current seasonal signs and moving to destock ahead of what is increasingly looking like a hard winter ahead. On top of that farmers are trying to manage rising fuel costs, increased feral animal populations, higher fertiliser prices and increased interest rates.

And what's the Government doing? Not much. Sitting on its hands while hoping the problems will eventually go away. While farmers are out there trying to keep their businesses afloat, the Minister seems nowhere to be seen. Instead of real action, we're getting more reviews, more talk, and zero urgency.

The NSW Government needs to step up and ensure practical support is in place across the state before conditions deteriorate further. We don't need more reviews or roundtables; we need the Government to be proactive and forward-thinking when it comes to supporting regional communities. Enough is enough. Farmers need support. That means fixing fuel and fertiliser supply, getting serious about feral animals, and delivering real drought assistance.

## Brendan Moylan MP

MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

📍 Suite 1, 175 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350

☎ 02 6772 5552 (Armidale) 02 6752 5002 (Moree)

✉ northernmtablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

📧 brendanmoylanmp

📷 brendanmoylanmp

📍 Suites 2-6, 161 Balo Street, Moree NSW 2400

✉ PO Box 77, Armidale NSW 2350

🌐 www.brendanmoylan.com.au

🇺🇸 **NATIONALS** for Regional NSW

Authorised by Brendan Moylan MP. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.

# Autumn celebration coming up

Locals are encouraged to make the most of a vibrant 'Open' day in Walcha on Sunday 12 April, a fantastic opportunity to share Walcha with friends and relatives from near and far to enjoy a perfect autumn outing.

The town's "Sunday Welcomes @ Walcha – An Autumn Delight" initiative will see local businesses opening their doors between 10am and 2pm. It's an opportunity to enjoy a leisurely Sunday - browse for clothing, art, crafts, antiques and collectables, catch up over morning tea or lunch, and take time to rediscover everything Walcha has to offer.

With autumn colours settling in, it's also the perfect excuse to explore Walcha's blend of nature, history and public art, whether you're using the school holidays to host visitors or simply enjoy your own backyard.



Adding to the day, the Museum Open Day at the Walcha Pioneer Cottage and Museum Complex will run from 9am to 4pm, with free entry for all. The day offers a chance to step back in time and connect with the district's rich history.

Visitors can enjoy Devonshire teas and a sausage sizzle, and at 2pm a special book launch will be held showcasing *Captain Robert Andrew Wauch – Foxhall, Scotland to Wauchope, NSW* by author Rob Tickle.

Together, these events highlight what makes Walcha special—its strong community spirit, unique local businesses, and deep sense of heritage.

So, mark the date and make a day of enjoying all Walcha has to offer.

THE APSLEY  
**Advocate**

**NEXT WEEK 8 APRIL  
NO ADVOCATE**

**NEXT ADVOCATE  
15 APRIL**

6777 1111 | 39w Fitzroy St, Walcha  
wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au

# Walcha winners at NSW Sandgreens

By A.J. Cross

The New South Wales Veterans Golf Association held their annual Sandgreen Championships here last week on the Walcha course where a number of locals met with success both individually and Mixed Four Ball Best Ball.

Last Monday and Tuesday the individual champions were decided over 36 holes with the following results.

**Mens Scratch** Ron Hohn (St George) 151 (76,75). **Runner Up** Wayne Brennan (Walcha) 153 (78,75). **Ladies Scratch** Cheryl McDonald (W) 168 (82,86). **Runner Up** Chris Van Daalen (Beaudesert) 174 (89,85). **Mens Nett** Greg Cross (Ballina, formerly Walcha) 136 (67,69). **Runner Up** Graham Hunt (Boonah) 138 (70,68). **Ladies Nett** Margaret Davidson (W) 137 (69,68). **Runner Up** Anne Martin (W) 141 (73,68). **Day 1 Mens Scratch** Lee Fletcher. **Ladies Nett Winner** Pauline Carter. **Day 2 Mens Nett Winner** Owen Presnell.

**Ladies Scratch Winner** Vicki Heffernan.

On Thursday and Friday the 36 hole Mixed 4BBB champions were named after the final 18 holes were played in very testing, windy, cold weather conditions.

**Scratch Champions** Wayne Brennan and Anne Martin (W) 154 (76,78). **Runner Up** Allan Laurie and Sue Partridge (W) 157 (75,82). **3rd** Willy Brennan and Margaret Davidson (W) 158 (77,81). **Nett Champions** Col Berry and Julie Hoad (W) 126 (57,69). **Runner Up** Graham Hunt and Donna Reeves (Uralla) 126 on CB (54,72). **3rd** Barry Hoad and Robyn Salt (W) 127 (58,69).

NSWVGA President John Daley thanked the Walcha Golf Club for hosting the championships and was full of praise for the way the course was presented.



Anne Martin and Wayne Brennan



Peter Taylor, Julie Hoad and Col Berry



John Daley presents Cheryl McDonald with back to back Ladies Titles

**ONE EMBER CAN END IT.**

**Embers are a bush fire's first attack.**

These small, silent sparks are carried on the wind and land where you're not prepared. They can even attack homes up to 20km from the fire front.

Protect your loved ones by cleaning your gutters, trimming the garden, and having a fire plan in place.

It's easy to get prepared at [myfireplan.com.au](http://myfireplan.com.au)

**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**

**RFS** FIRE + RESCUE NSW



**Design the life you want and let us take care of the rest.**



Wealth Architects Tamworth has been supporting clients across Tamworth and Walcha for the past 18 months under Paul Macfarlane, Principal and seasoned financial planner.

We're now pleased to welcome Andrew Beer to the team. Andrew brings a wealth of experience to the team, with deep expertise in financial planning, and long-term client care.

To discuss your financial, retirement, or investment goals, get in touch with our office to arrange a chat with Paul or Andrew.

**Tamworth**  
22 – 24 Bourke St Tamworth 2340

**Walcha**  
12 Derby St Walcha 2354

**P: 6768 4560**

Wealth Architects Tamworth is a Corporate Authorised Representative (001247176) of Insight Investment Services Pty Ltd, AFSL 309 996.



45ft flat top • 45ft single deck cattle float • 26mtr B Double  
19mtr mini B Double • Low Loader available for hire



Call us for your large Transport needs

**WALCHA**  
**02 67772126**

**Bonnie Smith 0429 772 077**  
**Brian Smith 0427 780 216**



## New exhibition at WGOA

Paula Jenkins "Moving Mountains" Exhibition opened on Friday night at Walcha Gallery of Art. Paula is pictured above on the opening night. This exhibition features a series of vibrant paintings from an amazing trip to Mt Cook National Park in the Alpine Region South Island NZ.

This exhibition is on at the until the end of April.

## Local representation at Tildesley Tennis

Walcha Year 7 student, Katie Rizzi was selected for the PLC Armidale Tildesley Shield tennis team, who travelled to Sydney recently to compete against the State's leading independent girls' schools in Australia's oldest tennis tournament.

Katie was in a doubles team alongside fellow Year 7 student Ariela Brown. They were accompanied by PLC's Head of Sport, also a Walcha local Lucy Donaldson (nee Hobbs).

Captained by Year 11 student Trista Dorrian, the current NSW Under 16 Girls Champion, while Year 12's, Sophie Bailey, also a previous NSW Under 16 Champion (won in Year 9), joined her in the singles competition.

Principal Mrs Nicola Taylor said "Katie's selection is a wonderful achievement, and we are very proud to see her representing both the College and her hometown," Mrs Taylor said.

The Doubles Teams were both were knocked out after the first round after they drew very tough opponents who were in Years 11 and 12 and more experienced.

Katie said, "I didn't know what to expect but the experience of playing tennis in Sydney was great and very enjoyable."

"It was a privilege. Playing older kids, in Year 11 and 12 was a challenge, but I'll be trying out for it again next year and would recommend it to anyone."



*Lucy Donaldson, Sophie Bailey, Katie Rizzi, Isabelle Scanlon, Carla Mazzella, Ariela Brown, Trista Dorian and Team Manager, Greg Cotterall.*

# Vikings Premier Touch Team

By A.J. Cross

It took four years for Vikings to return to the Walcha Touch Football A Grade winners circle but they did just that last Thursday when they defeated Coco Jumbo 7-2 in the Association's 50th Grand Final.

**Grand Final Results:**

**A Grade** Vikings 7 (Lee Harrison 2, Jason Latham 2 and Glenn Olrich, Harley Cox and Troy Hawkins all 1 each) def Coco Jumbo 2 (Mata Matapakia and Sam Feltham). **Player of the Match** - Jason Latham. **B Grade** Old Gold 6 (Trevor McKinnon 2, Hunter Linton 2, Alex Baldry, David Clarke) def Outlaws 2 (Micah Hayton and Jack Vanry). **Player of the Match** - Trevor McKinnon. **C Grade** Junior Roos 5 (Nathan Ross 2, Bently Brennan, Levi Olsen and Almaz Evans) def Apsley Ball Terrors 4 (Scotty Kirby 2, Alex Bruce and

Daniel Harrison). **Player of the Match** - Brax Kemp. **Juniors** Red 5 (Hunter Linton 3, Blake McKinnon, Rol and Roy Green) def Yellow 4 (Tyler Ross 3 and Rebee Wark). **Player of the Match** - Rebee Wark.

**Junior best and fairest:**

**Red** Blake McKinnon. **Yellow** Tyler Ross. **Green** Rachelle Beckhaus. **Blue** Kix Brown. **Orange** Tom McMaugh.

**Ultimate Team Mate:**

**Red** Dion Benson. **Yellow** Archer Clarke. **Green** Levi Williams. **Blue** Shaun Zordrager, **Orange** Myla Eveleigh.

President Ben Ussher was full of praise for referees Bonnie Brown (A), Lacey Newton (B), Hannah Dunn (C), Matisse Pascoe and Koby Brennan (Juniors).



A Grade - Vikings



B Grade - Old Gold



C Grade - Junior Roos




Juniors - Red

# RUGBY

Come & Try

FREE BBQ



WALCHA

JUNIOR RUGBY

ALL WELCOME

WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 3:30-4:30PM

PETER FENWICKE OVAL, WALCHA

JOIN US

MEET YOUR TEAMMATES

RUGBY XPLORER REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

telecottage

WALCHA

Yes we can print your invoice books!

Multiple colours & sizes available  
Duplicate + triplicate

Contact us for all your printing & design needs.



[wtc@walchateleccottage.com.au](mailto:wtc@walchateleccottage.com.au) | 6777 1111



# Small Schools Combined Swimming Carnival

Earlier this month excitement mounted as students from Niangala, Woolbrook and Yarwoitch public schools gathered at the Walcha Memorial Baths for the much-anticipated Combined Small Schools Swimming Carnival.

Despite modest enrolments, the schools pooled their energy and resources to provide a morning of fun and camaraderie with friendly competition across freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events, as well as novelty races.

For the participating schools, our carnival was not just about winning – it was about coming together and making a splash in more ways than one! This year's champions were Zoie Denny and Lexie McKern.

Congratulations girls.

Thank you to all the helpers who made the carnival a great success.

## Come and try BOWLS

Thursday 30 April 2026

9am – 1pm

Walcha Women's bowlers would love to see some new faces.

If you're free on Thursday mornings and would like to try out lawn bowls you are welcome to come down to the Bowling club any Thursday morning at 9:00am, but this month, we are holding a special introductory morning on Thursday 30 April.

We will be having a registered lawn bowls coach presenting an introductory session followed by a Devonshire tea then out onto the green for a "have a go session" under the assistance of the registered coach and our regular lady bowlers. Following this will be a free light lunch. All equipment will be supplied. We only ask you to wear flat soled shoes or you can go bare foot.

If you would like to join us, for catering purposes please call Marie Spink (0409 451 445) or Lee McCoy (0428 772 559) by Monday 27 April.



## St Patrick's hit the Cross Country track

Last Wednesday, students from St Patrick's Primary School gathered at John Oxley Sporting Fields for their annual Cross Country event.

Students from all year levels participated, demonstrating strong school spirit and endurance.

Congratulations is extended to all students who completed their races, with a special mention to those who qualified to represent the school at the upcoming ACS Cross Country Trials.

The school also wishes to thank the staff, parents, and volunteers who assisted with course setup, marshalling, and supporting the runners throughout the day.

Listed below is the St Patrick's Primary 2026 Cross Country results:

Juvenile Boy Champion.....	Finn
R/U .....	Jack M
Juvenile Girl Champion .....	Poppy
R/U .....	Eleanor
Junior Boy Champion .....	Archie
R/U .....	Campbell
Junior Girl Champion.....	Harriet
R/U .....	Tallulah
11yr Boy Champion .....	Will
R/U .....	Hudson
11yr Girl Champion.....	Lucy
R/U .....	Airlee
Senior Boy Champion .....	Benji
R/U .....	Shaun
Senior Girl Champion .....	Josie
R/U .....	Ellody

Congratulations to these students on their achievements and to Apsley House for winning the overall House Champion Trophy.



'Apsley' House Captain, Rebee, with the Overall House Champion Trophy.



## Show Results

### Horses ....cont.

**Walcha District Senior Boy Rider, Champion** Lachy Provost. **Walcha District Adult Rider, Champion** Shae Partridge **Reserve** Abby Partridge. **Walcha District Hack, Wauch Family Champion** Sybella Miller – Palmers Imprint, **Reserve** Abby Partridge – Cool Fantasy Black Cadillac. **Walcha District Galloway, 'Rosedale' Champion** Shae Partridge – SP Renegade, **Reserve** Sybella Miller - Dudass. **Walcha District Pony Hack, Nutrien Boultons Champion** Shae Partridge – Jegden Make Me Tango, **Reserve** Lachy Provost – Blue Boy. **Grand Champion Walcha District Hack Galloway or Pony**, Sybella Miller – Palmers Imprint. **Joan Oatley Memorial 1st** Shae Partridge – Cool Fantasy Black Cadillac. **Adult Rider, Champion** Shae Partridge - Cool Fantasy Black Cadillac, **Reserve** Shona Charleworth – Weswoods Estate Regal. **Show Hunter Horse Led, Champion** Bonnie Woods – Chromed by Shotgun, **Reserve** Kamilla Gent – Done Up Obvious.

**Show Hunter Horse Ridden, Champion** Bonnie Woods – Chromed by Shotgun, **Reserve** Braedee Young – Karaba Park Brooke. **EW King Memorial Champion Hack**, Sam Croft – Pip in Took, **Reserve** Beatrix Morton – One in a Million. **FW Nivison Supreme Champion Hack, Galloway or Pony**, Sam Croft – Pip in Took. **McCormack Family Trophy**, Miller Family. **Junior Boy Rider, Champion** William Barwick, **Reserve** Jack Provost. **Senior Boy Rider, Champion** Austin Kelly, **Reserve** Lachy Provost. **Show Hunter Galloway Led, Champion** Blau Haut-Chocolat, **Reserve** Harper Charlesworth - Weswoods Regal Caste. **Show Hunter Galloway Ridden, Champion**



Weswoods Regal Caste, **Reserve** Isobel Amos Blau Haut-Chocolat. **Open Pony Hack, Cameron Martin Champion** Kereena Park Liliana, **Reserve** Phoebe Grills - Dancer. **Pony Club Mount Rider and Equipment – Under 12 years**, 1st Evie Barwick, 2nd William Barwick, 3rd Phoebe Grills, 4th Benji Provost, 5th Lucie Saxby. **Pony Club Mount Rider and Equipment – 12 years under 17 years**, 1st Sybella Miller, 2nd Mia Goodwin, 3rd Lachie Provost. **Pony Club Mount Rider and Equipment, Champion** Sybella Miller – Palmers Imprint, **Reserve** Evie Barwick – Palmer Zulu.

**Junior Girl Rider, Champion** Braedee Young, **Reserve** Isabella Amos. **Senior Girl Rider, Champion** Chelsea Amos, **Reserve** Abbey Kelly. **Jill Martin Memorial Grand Champion Child Rider** Braedee Young. **Show Hunter Pony Led, Champion** Carol Purdey – Burnwood Eclipse, **Reserve** Carol Purdey – Burnwood Gracefully Yours. **Show Hunter Pony Ridden, Champion** Mark Jarvis – Time to Tango, **Reserve** Abbey Kelly – Jordon Dancer. **Grand Champion Hunter Hack, Galloway or Pony** Shae Partridge – SP Renegade. **O'Gorman Pty Limited Champion Open Galloway Hack** Len Partridge.

### Dog Trials

**CATTLE DOG TRIAL: 1st** Murray Wilkinson & Shade, **2nd** Heidi Cummings & Essy, **3rd** Will Nicholls & Graham, **4th** Anthony Mulder & Tonka, **5th** Zac Ede & Switch. **YARD DOG TRIALS - Open: 1st** Sam Gates & Rocky, **2nd** Mandy Carlon & Hank, **3rd** Justin Tombs & X, **4th** Michael Clarke & Walter. **Novice: 1st & 2nd** Tony Overton with Bonnie & Jazz, **3rd** Nikki West & Harry, **4th** Mandy Carlon & Hank. **Maiden: 1st** Angus Laurie & Clancy, **2nd** Lionel Lockyer & Jess, **3rd** Jane Marshall & Wicks, **Equal 4th** Todd Aitken & Rooster and Tony Overton & Jazz. **Encourage: 1st** Todd Aitken & Rooster, **2nd** Jimmy Ince & Boon, **3rd** Ben Gooch & Stella, **4th** Clayton Thomas & Max. **Locals: 1st** James Taylor & Freyer, **2nd & 3rd** Will Taylor with Rosco & Frank, **4th** Katrina Campbell & Roxy.

### Junior Judging

**Meat Sheep**, 1st Heidi Zwierns, 2nd Amelia Fiechtner, 3rd Oliver Starr. **Merino Sheep**, 1st Bella Day, 2nd Milah Purcell, 3rd Amelia Fiechtner. **Beef Cattle**, 1st Issie Cartmill, 2nd Heidi Zwierns, 3rd Matilda McCoy.

### Prime Lamb

**Trade Woolly**, 1st T Norton, 2nd C Norton, 3rd C Norton. **Trade Shorn**, 1st C Norton, 2nd C Norton, 3rd Maryland. **Export Woolly**, 1st T Norton, 2nd T Norton, 3rd Maryland. **Export Shorn**, 1st Maryland, 2nd August Newton, 3rd T Norton. **Champion Export Pen**, Maryland. **Champion Trade Pen**, C Norton. **Grand Champion Pen**, Maryland. **Champion Lamb**, T Norton. **Most Successful Exhibitor**, T Norton.

### Show Jumping

**421 - Dark's Plumbing U15yrs 45cm AM7**, 1st Abbie Kelly, 2nd Amelia Benson. **422 - Gwydir Kelpies 60cm AM7**, 1st Abbie Kelly, 2nd Georgie Blake. **422B – Junior**, 1st Austin Kelly, 2nd Georgie Blake. **423 - Walcha Taxi Service 75cm AM7**, 1st Dominic Magann (Jelly Bean), 2nd Dominic Magann. **423B – Junior**, 1st Georgie Blake, 2nd Georgie Blake. **424 - John and Vicky Heffernan 90cm AM7**, 1st Jess Bull, 2nd Ashley Cutler. **424B – Junior**, 1st Amelia Belson, 2nd Amelia Belson. **425 - 1m AM7**, 1st Ashley Cutler, 2nd Ashley Cutler. **426 - NEGS Equestrian 110cm Accumulator**, 1st Marijke Hartman (Ollie), 2nd Ashley Cutler. **427 - Jess Mathews Memorial Junior Six Bar**, 1st Amelia Belson, 2nd Amelia Belson. **428 - Richo's Rural Open Six Bar**, 1st Ashley Cutler, 2nd Marijke Hartman. **429 - Betts Transport Pty Ltd 60cm. Accumulator**, 1st Eden Faulkner, 2nd Fiona Magann. **429B – Junior**, 1st Sophia Wells, 2nd Austin Kelly. **430 - Tony Williams Machinery 75cm A2**, 1st Zoe Day, Dominic Magann. **430B – Junior**, 1st Indy Gent, 2nd Sophia Wells. **431 - Murray Rose Building Contractor 90cm A2**, 1st Ashley Cutler (Connie), 2nd Ashley Cutler (Mimi). **431B – Junior**, 1st Amelia Belson (Poppy), 2nd Amelia Belson (Jay Jay). **432 - Branga Plains Pastoral Co 1.05m - 1.10m Grand Prix**, 1st Ashley Cutler (Connie), 2nd Amelia Belson (Poppy).

### Sheep

**Champion Ultrafine Ram** Shalimar Park. **Champion Ultrafine Ewe** Shalimar Park. **Champion Superfine Ram** Queenlee. **Champion Superfine Ewe** Westvale. **Champion Fine Ram** Shalimar Park. **Champion Fine Ewe** Shalimar **Reserve** Nerstane. **Champion Fine Medium Ram** Nerstane. **Champion Fine Medium Ewe** Nerstane. **Jnr Champion Ram** Arakoon. **Jnr Champion Ewe** Nerstane. **Jnr Champion Sheep of Show** Arakoon. **Champion Pair** Queenlee. **Champion Group of 3 Sheep** (1 ram and 2 ewes) Shalimar Park. **Grand Champion Ram** Queenlee. **Grand Champion Ewe** Westvale. **Supreme Sheep of Show** Westvale superfine ewe. **Most Successful Exhibitor** Shalimar Park.

### Handicraft

**Senior Champion** Amanda Cooper. **Junior Champion** Lachie Provost, **Judy Hobbs Memorial trophy** (most successful exhibitor by Walcha CWA) Amanda Cooper. **Hostel, Nursing Home, Day Care - Nancy Partridge Memorial Champion ribbon** Riverview.

### Photography

**Most Successful Exhibitor Overall** Lance Partridge, **Photo of the Show** Judy Lisle. **Monotone Print: Champion** Judy Lisle, **Reserve & Most Successful Exhibitor** Lance Partridge. **Colour Print: Champion** Judy Lisle, **Reserve & Most Successful Exhibitor** Lance Partridge. **Champion Digital Open** Yvette Stanton. **Special Section Automotive/Mechanical** Judy Lisle, **Print Jnr 12yrs & U: Champion** Emily Grayling, **Reserve & Most Successful** Eve Hayton. **Print Junior 13-17yrs: Champion** Kimberley Blake, **Reserve** Anna Blake, **Most Successful** Franki Nivison. **Walcha Tourism 'Out & About in Walcha' 1st & 3rd** Shelly Marchant, **2nd** Charlotte Mooney. **Walcha Show Photography Club Choices: Open Colour** Glenda Lawrence, **Open Monotone** Thea Dunn, **Jnr 12yrs & U** Lucy Martin, **Jnr 13-17yrs** Connor Sweeney.

### The Working Dog's Revenge - Sheep Penning Showdown

**Outright Winner - Team 'Linmac' -** Charlie Norton, Will Nicholls, Deanne Baines. 39.30 seconds over 2 runs.

# Touch Football Medal winners



**Father and son duo, Trevor and Blake McKinnon took out medals in their respective grand finals last Thursday.**

B Grade  
Player of the Match  
Trevor McKinnon  
and  
Red Best and Fairest  
Blake McKinnon



A Grade  
Player of the Match -  
Jason Latham



C Grade  
Player of the Match -  
Brax Kemp



Juniors  
Play of the Match -  
Rebee Wark.

## what's the goss

with AJ Cross



**Sad to hear my across the road neighbour in Apsley Street Margaret Lear** left this world last weekend and will be farewelled with a private cremation in the near future. Condolences to her daughter Cheryl all other family members and friends. May Margaret Anne Lear Rest in Peace.

...

**Former Walcha larrikin John 'Jive' Schaefer** also departed this world late last week after a short battle with cancer. Condolences to all 'Jive's' family and friends. A private cremation is planned to be followed by a memorial and celebration of life here in Walcha at a date to be announced. May John McCrae Schaefer Rest in Peace.

...

**A belated congratulations to horse rider Johnny Byrne** on winning the Vic Robson Memorial 'Stockmans Chop' at the recent Woolbrook Stampede which requires the competitors to use a whip to crack paper targets while riding horse back.

...

**Well not according to Meta AI** who describe the Stockman's Chop as likely an axe-throwing competition where each participant takes turns throwing an axe at a target typically a wooden block or alternatively chops through the block the fastest or most accurately. Slightly different than using a whip J.B.

...

**Congratulations to the Walcha/Uralla Cricket team** that defeated Easts by 71 runs in their Armidale District Grand Final last Saturday. Although Walcha/Uralla were defeated by Easts in the 2nd Grade 'Big Dance' the Under 13's won their T20 decider at John Oxley Sportsground last Saturday.

...

**What a sensational individual batting performance by Cooper Broadbent** who scored an unconquered 92 runs off 37 deliveries including eight 6's and nine 4's. The homeside were sent into bat, compiled 172 runs for a loss of two wickets off their 20 overs before restricting the visitors to 7 for 101. William Cox 30 runs and opener Eamon Barnes 16 runs also contributed to the Walcha/Uralla total. Great job Team.



...

**The 50th season of Walcha Touch Football** was finalised last Thursday when the 2025/26 grand finals were played at John Oxley Sportsground. Four people run Walcha Touch. President Ben Ussher, Secretary Sonia Ussher, Treasurer Amanda Latham and Groundsman Jason Latham who all deserve a big pat on the back for their ongoing efforts. 'Head Honcho' Ben thanked those players that have refereed during the season including Matisse Pascoe and Koby Brennan who officiated plenty of junior games.

...

**Happiest Birthdays to local sporting allrounder legend Stephen 'Normie' Goodwin** when he reaches the Milestone of 67 years on the planet this Easter Sunday. It will be a double celebration as 'Normie' retires from his Welder/Fabricator trade after 51 years on the job and 197 ute trays later when he finishes work tomorrow. Great Innings 'Moose'.

...

**Big Wigs of the Week** - Newie - Davie Fletcher 14 points; TBWCafe - Emma Hillier 12; B.C - Troy LeStrande, 'Dazza' Bird, Max Holstien 10; Apsley - 'Digger' Lordanic, Bec Smith, Steve Avery 10; Vet Supplies - Tahlia Bird, D.J Bird, Jason Scott 8. Special mention to Tony Martin who took the Raiders over his beloved Sharks and Kyle Goodwin who selected the Bulldogs instead of his team the Knights. Bad luck Boys.

...

**Having been a Sea Eagles supporter** for well over 50 years to say I'm not happy with the way Manly is going at the moment is slightly understating the fact. Since joining the competition in 1947 Manly have never received the 'Wooden Spoon' but there is always a chance it could happen in 2026. Lets hope not.

## Ladies Bowls

Another exceptionally close game was played in the Major Singles between Lee McCoy and Janice Rizzi last Thursday. It was level pegging all the way until the last few ends when Lee crept ahead to win 26-20. Lee now plays Lyn Burnell tomorrow, marker Jan. In the last of the Minor Singles Marie Spink won her game against Margaret Tickle. The Three Bowl Pairs Championship will commence soon. Names need to be on the board by 9 April. Posters are around town and on the board inviting people to join us on Beginners Day, 30 April. Invite your friends along for a fun day of bowls. We have been invited to South Tamworth's President's Day on Thursday 23 April. Names to be on the board by 14 April. There is social bowls tomorrow 9am for a 9.30am start.

## At the Nineteenth

Considering how much golf has been on offer over the past couple of weeks a good field of 26 players competed in a Par event for a trophy donated by Brian Lynch last Sunday where David Sweeney ran out the winner after registering +5.

Runner up was Vicki Heffernan +2 on a countback from men's club champion Michael Stackman while the remaining three sweepstake prizes went to Simone Sweeney, Col Berry and Pauline Carter all on square with the card.

There was a report from a reliable source that ladies club champion Simone Sweeney outdrove former men's champions Simeon Cross and Willy Brennan at one stage during last Sundays 18 holes.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Nixon Bird (3) and Michael Stackman (18).

In Match Play Owen Presnell rounded up Dion Bird 6 and 5, David Sweeney downed Don Brooks 3 and 2 whereas Lee Fletcher got the job done against Tim Baumer 2 and 1. There was no 9 hole competition last Saturday probably because everyone was golfed out.

This Sunday is the annual Kanga Cup Ray Boyd Memorial to be played under a 4 person Ambrose format.

## Wednesday Golf

As the Vets Week of Golf was in progress last week it took some of our ladies away from the usual Wednesday golf, but we still went ahead with fewer numbers and played a par event for a Club trophy.

It is great to see Suz Lord return to golf after a lengthy break and she was our winner last Wednesday with a +2. Sweepstakes then went to Cark Street and Pip Monie both with +1, and Lorraine Walshe with -2.

Pip Monie also claimed the second shot on Hole 16 and no-one reached the sand on Hole 3.

Today we are playing stroke, along with the monthly mug and the second medal round for a trophy donated by IGA.

## Tennis

Round 6 of the 26 Summer Comp was played out on Tues the 24th March in great Tennis conditions.

Leader of the pack is D A Locke on 101 points. Michael Lockyer is in second position on 86 points and in third position is Jock Rutherford on 85 points. We had two Max scores this week Michael Lockyer and Jake Wellings both with an 18. Well done to our leaders and Max scorers.

The next Club meeting will be held on Monday 13th April at 6.30pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be an Eskimo Comp starting on the 28th

April. It will be Graded Doubles climb the ladder format. Nominations close on 21st April. Names to Trev 0459 799 119 and Hyde 0427 780 391. See you all at the net soon.

## Bowls

Thursday bowls: Adam Hall & Tony Batterham defeated Peter Hayes & Don Mahoney 18 to 10. Welcome to Don. John McCormack & Geoff Salt were defeated by Barry Kliendienst & Barry 24 to 6.

Twilight bowls came to an end last Friday. Winners were Jenny Hoy, Noel & Brian Goodwin who went through undefeated, great effort. Thanks to all who played we hope you all enjoyed yourselves and had fun. Thanks to all who filled in.

Our pennant players, played their last game on Saturday against Kootingal at home. They were narrowly defeated 63 to 53. All commitments for the season fulfilled and all who participated should be congratulated on your efforts. A special mention must go to manager Jamie Kerr for the time and effort he put into making the pennant season a success. Well done Jamie.

There were two games of B Grade Singles played on Sunday. Adam Hall defeated Mick Wall 33/11 and Matt Andrews defeated Stephen Bath 33/18

A Grade Singles commence on 18th April. There is a lot of interest in this event. The last 3 years have produced 3 different winners.

Commencing dates for triples, fours and pairs:

- Triples start 2nd May.
- Fours start 16th May.
- Pairs start 30th May.

## Cricket

Walcha/Uralla were defeated by Easts Yellow in the grand final of the Armidale District 2nd Grade competition played at Lambert Park in Armidale last Saturday.

The homeside won the toss and batted where they scored 177 runs off their 40 overs at a loss of seven wickets.

Walcha/Uralla opening bowler Matt Harper sent down 8 overs to capture 2 for 19 fellow opener David Ford took 2 for 43 off his 8 overs Cameron Mooney snared 2 for 17 off 6 overs whereas Veteran left armer Peter Mooney picked up 1 for 24 from his 6 overs.

The visitors got away to a good start scoring 35 runs from 7 overs before Jay Grills had his furniture rearranged for 14 runs.

His fellow opener Josh Wearne made 27 runs and number three batter Shannon Rafferty 25 helped to take the team total to 4 for 73 after 18 overs.

Skipper Ed Blomfield contributed 35, evergreen Barry Hoy an unbeaten 27 runs and Will Fletcher remained 11 not out when Walcha/Uralla finished their 40 overs at 9 for 159.

Well done to the Walcha/Uralla team who have now played in the past four 2nd Grade grand finals since joining the Armidale competition four seasons ago.

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

#### East Yellow

J FINLAY c J Wearne b M Harper .....	2
B GASH lbw D Ford .....	6
S BRENNAN b C Mooney .....	9
M HAYDON c B Hoy b M Harper .....	84
M FINLAY c J Grills b C Mooney .....	4
J DENT lbw P Mooney .....	28
B Paull lbw D Ford.....	14
J Kenny n.o.....	13
B MORAN n.o.....	8
Total 177 (40 overs) Extras 9	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts): M Harper 8-1-19-2, D Ford 8-0-43-2, C Mooney 6-1-17-2, W Fletcher 6-0-28-0, P Mooney 6-0-24-1, J Grills 4-0-24-0, E Blomfield 2-0-18-0.

#### Walcha/Uralla

J WEARNE c B Moran b M Finlay.....	27
J GRILLS b M Finlay .....	14
S RAFFERTY lbw M Haydon .....	25
W ARCHDALE lbw L Brennan.....	0
E BLOMFIELD b J Dent.....	35
C MOONEY lbw M Haydon .....	6
D FORD lbw M Haydon .....	2
P MOONEY b J Dent .....	3
B HOY n.o.....	27
M HARPER c S Brennan b J Dent.....	4
W FLETCHER n.o.....	11
Total 159 (40 overs) Extras 5	

Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts): M Finlay 8-1-19-2, J Kenny 3-0-26-0, L Brennan 5-0-18-1, B Moran 4-0-26-0, M Haydon 8-1-19-3, J Dent 8-1-20-3, S Brennan 4-0-29-0.

## Walcha/Uralla 2024 – 2026 Cricket Sponsors

### MAJOR SPONSORS

- Karori • New England Vets Cricket
- Winterbourne Wind • Origin New England
- SuperAir • First Contact Security

### SPONSORS

- JM Grills Tiling • Walcha Carrying Co
- Walcha Tyre Service • Commercial Hotel
- Transwest Fuels • Thunderbolt Gas
- Davidson Cameron & Co.

ADVERTISEMENT

**telecottage**  
WALCHA

## Design, print and secretarial services

- Photocopying and laminating
- Business cards and stationery
- Catalogues and flyers
- Invitations, cards, stamps and more ...

Phone 6777 1111

wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au



**Public Notices**

**DR GENEVIEVE FREER**  
Phone 6777 2068 | 0429 668 583

**Walcha Law – 02 6777 2066**  
**Bree Curtis – Justice of the Peace**  
Available by appointment only.  
No charge for JP services.

**Walcha Home Furnishing**  
**Now Open**  
**Buying and Selling**  
**Quality Furniture**  
**PH: Dave 0427 771 469**

**Raffle Results**

**Mens Shed wood raffle** was won by Jill Nivison. Thank you to all who supported our stall during very cold day.

**Public Notice (cont)**

**Walcha Council**  
**Draft Code of Meeting**  
**Practice on Public Exhibition**



Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 approved the Draft Code of Meeting Practice, Appendix 1 Public Forum Rules. This document will be on public exhibition on Council's website: <https://walcha.nsw.gov.au/public-exhibition-code-of-meeting-practice/> until Tuesday 28 April 2026. Council will accept submissions on the Code of Meeting Practice until Tuesday 12 May 2026.

Please note the only change in the Draft Code of Meeting Practice is the proposed Public Forum Rules which are contained in Appendix 1.

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

**Meeting Notice**

**Walcha Basketball AGM** Wednesday 15 April at 6.00pm, Apsley Arms Hotel. All welcome.

**Tennis club meeting** held on Monday 13 April at 6.30pm. All members welcome. Eskimo comp starting on 28 April, will be graded doubles climb the ladder. Nominations close on 21 April. Names to Trev 0459 799 119 and Hyde 0427 780 391.

**Walcha Garden Club members** visiting Guyra Garden Club gardens Friday 10th April, 26. Cars will be departing McHattan Park at 8.30am. BYO own lunch, chair & cup. For catering purposes RSVP by Tuesday 7/1 to Diana Lisle 0429 799 083.

PKF New England North West  
Accountants and Business Advisers providing  
a full suite of professional services to  
our clients.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**Change to office hours- Effective**  
**from April 2026**

Mon to Thurs ..... **8.30am - 5pm**  
Friday ..... **open by appointment only**

**To discuss your requirements please contact**  
**the Walcha office on 6777 2377**

**Easter Opening Hours**

	Good Friday	Closed	
	Easter Saturday	Closed	
	Easter Sunday	Closed	
	Easter Monday	Closed	

**telecottage**  
WALCHA

**Easter Opening Hours**

Thursday.....	9.00am - 4.30pm
Good Friday .....	Closed
Easter Saturday .....	Closed
Easter Sunday.....	Closed
Easter Monday.....	Closed
Tuesday.....	9.00am - 4.30pm

wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au | Phone 6777 1111



## LUX ELECTRICAL

LEE HARRISON  
 0448 840 461  
 leeharriselectrical@gmail.com

LICENCE NO. 480795C  
 CCTV | SECURITY SYSTEMS | RE-WIRES | LIGHTING & POWER | SAFETY  
 SWITCH UPGRADES | RENOVATIONS | INSTALLATIONS & MAINTENANCE  
 FULLY LICENCED & INSURED

### Nick Moore PLUMBING & EXCAVATION SERVICES

WALCHA & SURROUNDING AREAS

Highly qualified and experienced plumber  
 All aspects of Plumbing and Gas Fitting  
 Wood heater installation  
 Roofing and Guttering  
 Gold License No 59555C

**Nick 0418 691 306**  
 nickmoore203@yahoo.com.au  
 Katy 0422 034 660

## WALCHA LAW

- PROPERTY • ESTATES • WILLS
- POWER OF ATTORNEY & ENDURING GUARDIAN DRAFTING
- FAMILY LAW & MEDIATION

**Sophie Thomson**  
 Director/Solicitor

**James Levingston**  
 Consultant/Solicitor

**6777 2066**  
 info@walchalaw.com.au

– Local lawyers for over 76 years –  
 Incorporating Patterson Byfield and Bryen

## New England IT

### ONSITE COMPUTER SERVICE + SALES

**Tim Sutton 0414 874 523**

## A G W RURAL CONTRACTING

GPS Equipped boom spraying  
**Andrew Wauch 0427 549 748**

## CHIROPRACTOR

**Samantha Goor**  
 B.Sc. Anatomy (NSW) M Chiroprac (Macq)  
 Tuesday & Friday from 9.00am  
**6777 1340**

## MOBILE-FIX AUTO+AIR

Mobile Repairer & Airconditioning Specialist  
 Licensed Vehicle Repairer  
 Lic.No. 96696 RTA Lic. No. AU23616

**PATRICK STAGE – WALCHA**  
 Mob. 0428 780 077 Ph. 6778 0595

### AQF3 ARBORIST

Tree lopping & removal  
 Truck  
 Bobcat  
 Post hole digger  
 Trencher  
 Woolshed Cleaning

**Scott Kermode**  
**0427 100 889**

## TREETOP services

treetopservices@bigpond.com

**Andrew: 0427 549 748**  
**Toni: 0421 972 354**

## JK PACIFIC TILING

WALL & FLOOR TILING  
 WATERPROOFING

**0419 972 129**  
 Email: jake.kerby@hotmail.com  
 ABN: 76781656814 Licence no: 335540c

### ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS ON THIS TRADE & PROFESSIONS PAGE

Small Trade Ad \$30 • Large \$40

**DISCLAIMER** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are submitted on the condition that The Walcha Telecottage as the publisher of The Apsley Advocate may edit and has the right to, and license third parties to reproduce in electronic form and communicate these letters. They are published at the discretion of the Editor and Board. The Apsley Advocate is printed by The Walcha Telecottage, PO Box 116 Walcha NSW 2354. Phone 6777 1111 Fax 6777 1112. The Walcha Technology Co Operative Limited, the Editor and Staff of this Newspaper have published any article here-in in good faith and bear no responsibility in respect to the accuracy of the information contained in such article. Any person or persons publishing material in this Newspaper do so in the knowledge that they shall personally accept any responsibility for the accuracy and other correctness of such articles and also accept full responsibility for the legal consequences if it be found that the article contains any inaccuracies in the contents of any such articles.

**DEADLINE MONDAY 4.30PM** Editor: Anthea Nivison. News: Susie Crawford. Advertising/Sport: Joscisca Matapakia and Kate Connors.

## church notices



### ANGLICAN

**April 3rd Good Friday - Walcha**  
 9:30am

**April 5th Easter Sunday - Walcha**  
 9:30am

**No Niangala Service Easter Sunday**

**April 12th - Walcha** 9:30am;  
 Nowendoc 2pm

**April 19th - Walcha** 9:30am  
 Anglican Church  
 Phone 6777 2543  
 or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

### PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha: every Sunday 9:30am  
**Youth Group** every Saturday 5pm - 7pm, during term.  
**Good Friday - 9.30am**  
**Easter Sunday - 9.30am**  
 We'd love for you to join us.  
 All welcome.  
 Phone 6777 2539.

### CATHOLIC

**Holy Thursday:** 6pm Mass  
**Good Friday:** 3pm Solemn Passion  
**Holy Saturday Mass:** 6.30pm  
**Easter Sunday Mass:** 10am

# Marchant

BROS. PTY. Est. 2000



## BULK WATER DELIVERY AVAILABLE

### A FULL RANGE OF AFFORDABLE TRANSPORT & EARTHMOVING

Dam construction/maintenance, stick raking, gravel available, road building, site prep, pipe laying and all timber work. Check out our website for the full range of machinery, attachments and services available.

## FIREWOOD AVAILABLE DELIVERING NOW

Earthmoving and Heavy Haulage Transport  
 Jason 0427 490 487 • Jamie 0429 771 351  
 02 6777 2024 marchantbros@bigpond.com  
 www.marchantbros.com.au

# WALCHA BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB

"Let the good times roll"

## WHAT'S ON?

**Thursday 2** 12.00pm – Close  
**BOWLS** 9.00am Ladies, 1pm Social

### BISTRO

- Curried Prawns with Rice
  - Homemade Lasagne
  - Bacon & Cheese Chicken Parcel
  - Home deliveries • Town limits only
- FOR CATERING NEEDS CALL:**  
 Dianna – 0412 536 760 or 5722 6003

### Friday 3

### CLOSED

Good Friday

**Saturday 4** 11.00am – Close

5.00PM BISTRO

**Sunday 5** 11.00am – Close

12.00PM BISTRO

Raffle tickets from 12pm, drawn 1pm.

## MEMBERS DRAW

FRIDAY SATURDAY  
**\$250 \$200**

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

### Easter Sunday

Sunday Raffles as normal with a Sunday lunch time special Roast pork with vegetables.

### Easter Hours

The Club will be closed on Good Friday, other trading hours over the weekend may vary. The Raffles will be held on Thursday night this week at normal time.

### 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



# OK EARTHMOVING

## SPECIALISING IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE

- Bulldozers
- Excavator 2t - 30t
- Truck and Dogs
- Gravel supply
- Graders
- Rollers
- Skid steers + multiple attachments
- Forestry mulching
- Land development
- Large Dam construction

Peter O'Keefe : 0429 944 821  
 Will O'Keefe : 0488 925 845



Proudly servicing Walcha and surrounding districts for over 30 years



Husqvarna Winter Catalogue OUT NOW!

Your local hub for everything metal, mechanical and practical

- METAL FABRICATION
- ALL SMALL ENGINE REPAIRS
- FUEL, GAS AND TOOLS

## NEW SUPPLIER!



- ☑ Ratchet Straps
- ☑ Jumper Leads
- ☑ Chain
- ☑ Split Pins
- ☑ Hose Clamps
- ☑ Hitch Pins

Phone 02 6777 2822 • admin@linmacco.com.au