

THE APSLEY Advocate

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Amber reaches NSW Hospitality Awards Final

Former Walcha resident Amber Macpherson has been named a finalist in the 2026 NSW Accommodation Australia Awards, earning recognition as one of the state's leading young hospitality professionals.

At only 22 years of age, Amber has been selected as a finalist in the prestigious *Rooms Division Talent of the Year* category after an extensive nomination and interview process. The finalists were announced last week, with winners to be revealed at the NSW Accommodation Australia Awards gala event at the Fullerton Hotel on 16 July.

Currently employed as Manager on Duty at the Sydney Harbour Marriott, Amber has built an impressive career in the hospitality industry through dedication, leadership and a genuine commitment to guest service. Her employer's nomination highlighted her rapid career progression from Rooms Associate to completing Marriott's highly regarded Rooms Voyager leadership program in 2025.

Sydney Harbour Marriott General Manager Bernhard Langer described Amber as an outstanding team member whose dedication, initiative and operational excellence make her a deserving nominee.

Amber's role sees her overseeing operations at one of Sydney's busiest hotels which features 595 rooms and is the largest Marriott Hotel in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific (ANZP). Each day Amber is responsible for managing complex situations, coordinating teams and ensuring guests receive high-quality service. "Amber has a calm and solution-focused approach, particularly when dealing with challenging circumstances and unexpected situations," Director of Rooms Jade Bradshaw commented.

Beyond her operational responsibilities, Amber has become known for creating memorable guest experiences through thoughtful personal touches and innovative initiatives. "It's the little things that



make the difference in hospitality. Last month a country family brought their son to Sydney for the first time. They wanted to see Vivid so I organised glow sticks for him and had them ready when they checked in," Amber said.

She has also played a significant role in training and mentoring new staff, helping to develop the next generation of hospitality professionals. "Amber boasts a supportive nature and an ability to uplift team morale," Bernhard Langer commented. Amber's contributions extend beyond the hotel itself, serving as Technology Lead on the NSW Next Gen Marriott Business Council, where she works with emerging hospitality leaders to promote innovation and professional development across the industry.

Being named a state finalist is a significant achievement and places Amber among the top hospitality professionals in New South Wales.

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around the traps



By MATHEW LARKINGS

Well, the Chinese beef quota has officially been reached... and the world didn't end.

For weeks leading up to it there was plenty of noise suggesting the market would fall out of bed the moment Australia filled its safeguard quota into China. The reality? The quota has been triggered, exporters are now paying the tariff, and cattle prices have barely flinched. It's a timely reminder that markets are rarely driven by one headline alone. Supply, demand, seasonal conditions, processor competition and producer confidence all play a far bigger role than the doom and gloom that often dominates conversations around the traps, pardon the pun.

If anything, the resilience of the market should give producers confidence. Export processors have continued buying, domestic demand remains solid and quality cattle are still commanding strong competition. The feared collapse simply hasn't eventuated. That doesn't mean we won't see market movements over coming months, we always do, but it's another lesson in not making major selling decisions based purely on speculation. History tells us the biggest mistakes are often made when fear gets ahead of the fundamentals.

One of the highlights of last week was the incredible show of support from our local community during the NSW Parliament debate on the proposed Bayswater to Walcha transmission lines.

Regardless of where people stand on the issue, there can be no questioning the passion and commitment shown by our district. To see what is believed to be the largest public gallery representation in the history of the NSW Parliament debates was something every person who made the trip should be proud of. I know they had plenty of support from home with many logging in online as well. It sent a clear message that regional communities expect to be heard when decisions of this magnitude are being made. In my view, the response from the NSW Labor Government was disappointing verging on insulting. Many landholders and families who will be directly affected were left feeling that their concerns had been vaguely acknowledged and not genuinely addressed. For communities facing the prospect of transmission infrastructure across productive farming land, they deserve more than a brief hearing—they deserve meaningful engagement and genuine consideration.

Whatever happens from here, Walcha has shown what can be achieved when a community stands together. The professionalism, respect and determination displayed by everyone involved was something our district can be extremely proud of.

Another significant change taking effect this week is the introduction of the new Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) requirements for real estate transactions. While it may sound daunting, the changes are simply designed to strengthen Australia's safeguards against financial crime. If you're buying or selling property, you'll now be asked to provide identification and other information as part of the transaction process. My advice is simple—don't be concerned, just be prepared. Every local real estate agency should be equipped to guide clients through these new requirements and explain exactly what is needed. The process is straightforward when handled early, and the industry is committed to making the transition as smooth as possible for buyers and sellers alike.

Markets this week have opened with unsurprising smaller yardings statewide. The final TRLX prime sale for the financial year finished on a positive note. A reduced yarding of 1,040 head, made up predominantly of quality yearling and weaner cattle, met strong competition from all major buying groups. Feedlot demand continues to underpin the market, with yearling steers selling from 588–658c/kg to average an impressive 623c/kg, while restocker cattle lifted by 10–15c/kg across most categories. Cows bucked last week's trend topping at \$4.33. It was another indication that confidence remains in the cattle market despite ongoing seasonal uncertainty, with quality stock continuing to attract excellent competition.

Music, Markets and Winter Warmth

Discover Walcha WinterFest

From a giant snow globe and falling snow to handmade treasures and boutique shopping, Walcha WinterFest is a celebration of everything that makes winter in Walcha so special.

This July, Walcha is inviting visitors to embrace the season with Walcha WinterFest, a weekend celebrating community, creativity and the charm of winter in the New England region.

Taking place across Saturday 11 July and Sunday 12 July, Walcha WinterFest promises two days of entertainment, markets, shopping and winter experiences, showcasing why Walcha is proudly known as "10 degrees cooler".

The festivities begin on Saturday afternoon with the Twilight Winter Festival in McHattan Park from 2pm to 7pm. The park will come alive with music, firelight and winter fun, creating a magical atmosphere for all ages.

Country and soul duo The Texas Wedges, from Tamworth, will bring their ambient live music to the festival stage. Families can gather around the fire pits, enjoy delicious comfort food, sip on hot chocolate or grab a takeaway coffee while soaking up the festive atmosphere.

Children and the young at heart can experience falling snow from the snow machine, step inside the giant immersive snow globe — the ultimate selfie station, comfortably fitting up to six people — and take part in a range of activities including a scavenger hunt, lantern making, yarn animal creations and traditional lawn games such as Finska, cornhole and quoits.

Adding to the community spirit, many of the activities and food offerings are being supported by the young people of Walcha Central School.

The winter celebrations continue on Sunday with Winter in Walcha Markets, running from 9am to 1pm in McHattan Park. Visitors can browse a wonderful collection of locally made goods, handmade treasures and artisan products from talented regional stallholders.

The markets coincide with Sunday Welcomes @ Walcha, with local businesses opening their doors from 10am to 2pm. Visitors are invited to shop, indulge and explore, wandering through town to discover Walcha's unique mix of boutiques, fashion stores, antiques and curios, woodcraft, cafés and eateries. It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a leisurely lunch, pick up something special and experience the warmth of country hospitality.

Whether you're chasing snow-filled fun, live music, handmade treasures or simply a cosy country escape, Walcha WinterFest offers the perfect reason to rug up and head to the New England region.

Brought to the community by the Walcha Business Group, Walcha WinterFest is designed to showcase the very best of winter in Walcha and encourage visitors to make a weekend of it. For more information contact Fiona Barden, Business Group President, on 0429 690 679.



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Walcha rugby players score rep spots



Will Hall and Sinclair Little with their GPS jerseys last week

The strong season for The Armidale School's First XV has played out for representative honours for two Walcha district boys who pulled on jerseys for Athletic Association of Great Public Schools (AAGPS) at the NSW Schools Rugby Under 18 Championships in Sydney last week.

Sinclair Little of 'Oakburn' Walcha played as prop in the AAGPS Second XV, while Will Hall (flyhalf) played for AAGPS Third XV.

The boys trained in Sydney last week ahead of the two-day championships on Thursday and Friday which brought together the top rugby schoolboy

pathways. TAS teammates Fred Glover and Oscar Saunders joined Sinclair in the AAGPS Seconds and Henry Armstrong is also playing in the Thirds. Meanwhile TAS First XV second rowers, twins Cody and Dustin Uebergang from Inverell, packed down for Association of Independent Co-Educational Schools (AICES) in the same tournament.

The selections are on the back of a highly successful season for the TAS First XV which has been undefeated this year in pre-season games against Central Coast Grammar School, Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School and fellow AAGPS Third Grade competition teams Sydney Boys' High School, St Ignatius College Riverview, St Joseph's College and Shore School. Indeed, it is the highest number of AAGPS reps for TAS in recent memory, and particularly significant in having three players in AAGPS Seconds when TAS competes in AAGPS Thirds – a testament to the calibre of the players.

Sinclair and Will both came through the ranks of Walcha Junior Rugby, with fellow team mates from Primary School Jack Healey and Hunter Scrivener also playing at the rep carnival in Sydney. Jack was selected for Combined Catholic Colleges and Hunter for NSW Country.

At the end of the two days, two NSW Schools teams were selected to play at the Australian Schools Championships which will be held on the Sunshine Coast next week. Sinclair Little was absolutely thrilled to be named at tight head prop for NSW Schools II and Hunter Scrivener was selected in the NSW JRU Harlequins side.



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letters to the editor



Aged care bed shortage

I would like to thank the wonderful staff at Walcha Hospital for looking after mum, June Bath, while she was in the hospital for an extended stay.

We are extremely disappointed that she can no longer stay in her home town as there are currently no aged care vacancies at Elizabeth Crosse Wing (ECW) and she has been transferred to Emmaville MPS after living in Walcha for almost all of her 90 years.

Stephen Bath

Fresh ideas at Walcha Sports Club

A range of new things are happening at the Walcha Sports Club as the organisation seeks to move with the times and be more relevant and accessible to the people of Walcha.

A couple of weeks ago the club was used for a slide night and celebration of achievement by a group who recently walked the Kokoda Track. Around forty younger people came together for a casual night of feasting on delicious homemade nibbles followed by gourmet hamburgers washed down with beers and cocktails for the ladies. There may have been next day headaches for those who sampled one or two Kokoda Kamikazes, or Kokoda Mudslides or a Kokoda Bloodbath. There was music, laughter and slides on the big screen that reminded everyone about Aussie soldiers who fought in PNG 80 years and more ago for us to enjoy the freedoms we now take for granted.

The club is working hard on plans to redevelop the disused tennis court. The goal is to build a pickleball court, a competition standard croquet lawn and an all-weather surface boules rink.

Each month on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings at 7pm the Walcha Movie Club screens free movies with free ice creams, chocolates and chips. The bar is open and the seats are comfy. The movies are a mix of old gems, art house and just great movies.

The club is used every week for bridge which is as popular as ever and organisers are on the lookout for newcomers to the game to participate in evening lessons when the weather warms up.

Last Sunday the club held a lunch and games afternoon attended by around thirty people from all walks of life across the district. It's all part of the club's initiative to see more people taking advantage of the splendid facilities available. After a tasty lunch some brave souls took to the chilly outdoors for croquet and chip-in golf. The usually well-



contested boules failed to find a following this time, perhaps those cold steel balls were not the thing for the icy day. Inside the log fire and gas heaters kept everyone happy as they played carpet bowls, snooker, bridge, mahjong and canasta. All while the bar was open to keep spirits up.

The Walcha Sports Club wants to make its excellent facilities available to the wider community. It offers a warm and inviting environment for all sorts of functions. The currently expanding activities are just the start.

Enquiries are welcome to Secretary Andrew on 0412 667 789 or walchasportsclub@gmail.com

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Brendan Moylan MP
MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

Walcha transmission line corridor petition debate

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hundreds of farmers from Walcha and the Upper Hunter who made their way to Macquarie Street last Thursday to witness the debate on the petition to reject the new transmission line corridor Walcha to Bayswater.

It was incredibly disappointing the Minns Labor Government could not show you all the same respect by only sending one Minister to speak in the debate. Premier Chris Minns not only refused to speak, but he also hid in his office for the entire debate. Everyone who travelled seven hours to pack the gallery and witness the debate should be treated with more respect than what was shown in the chamber last week.

The petition was about far more than the proposed transmission line; it is about whether the government is prepared to listen to the concerns of the people they represent.

Regional NSW is tired of being ignored. We deserve an energy policy which unites the state and is cheaper, better and fairer for everyone.

Coalition's energy policy plan

Last week the NSW Nationals and Liberals unveiled an energy plan which supports a common-sense and balanced mix of coal, gas and renewables while reducing the impact of the New England Renewable Energy Zone. This does not mean the Coalition is abandoning renewable energy altogether, but it is doing in a way which is more sustainable and gives greater consideration given to our scarce water resources, community impacts, cumulative impacts, land use, agricultural productivity, and social licence. The reality is under the Minns Labor Government there has never been a credible plan to support this scale of development with the water, housing, roads, healthcare services and other infrastructure that would be required.

The Coalition's plan ensures that the cities pull their weight which ensures our region, our communities and our farmers are treated fairly.

Feral animal control boost planned

The NSW Coalition has committed \$300 million to a biosecurity and control program for management of feral animals, including a feral pig-targeted bounty scheme to protect our critical primary industries sector and conserve our environment. Invasive species and biosecurity threats have become commonplace and feral pigs have a major impact on the farming sector. Current measures are failing to properly address the scale of the problem and the Coalition's plan features a range of targeted, commonsense programs including more boots on the ground, more trapping, support for baiting, shooting and trapping programs, more requirements for public land management and more.

Brendan Moylan MP

MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

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Polding Cross Country Trials

Congratulations to Archie and Josie for their outstanding performances at the Polding Cross Country Trials in Sydney last Wednesday. Representing both St Patrick's and the Armidale Diocese against top runners from five other northern NSW dioceses, both students ran exceptionally well. Josie secured an impressive 24th place in the Under 12 Girls event, while Archie placed 41st in a competitive Under 10 Boys race. Representing our diocese is a massive achievement, and both students should be incredibly proud of their accomplishments. Well done to you both!



Archie and Josie share a quick moment together before the start of the Polding Cross Country Trials.

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RUGBY REPORT WALCHA V TAMWORTH

By Eric the Spider

Walcha's Reserve Grade side delivered their most complete performance of the season on Saturday, dismantling Tamworth Magpies 45-0 at home. From the opening whistle the Reggies dictated terms, retaining possession and working through their phases with discipline and control that left the visitors chasing shadows for most of the afternoon. The home side set the tone early, building through the forwards and using quick ball to stretch Tamworth's defence. Multiple tries came from sustained pressure, with Walcha's forwards and backs linking effectively. Troy Tape was clinical, crossing for two tries that highlighted the side's ability to finish opportunities created by the forward platform. By halftime the scoreboard already reflected a commanding lead, built on territory and a willingness to hold the ball through multiple phases. Hunter Thornbury had a strong game at 10, marshalling the backline with composure. He controlled the tempo well, distributing accurately and setting his outside men into space without overplaying his hand. His decision-making helped Walcha maintain momentum and kept the Magpies under constant pressure.

In the second half Walcha continued their territorial dominance, but Tamworth showed some fight late in the piece. The visitors threw everything at the Walcha line in the final quarter, looking to salvage some pride with a series of forward drives and wider attacks. The Reggies' defence was equal to it. Harry Partridge was the standout enforcer, repeatedly putting in massive hits on Tamworth's bigger forward runners and forcing errors. His work alongside the rest of the back row shut down any momentum the Magpies threatened to build. Steve McNally put in a tireless shift at flanker. He was involved in everything — carrying strongly in attack, covering across the field, and putting in the hard yards at the breakdown to secure or contest ball. His presence around the park gave Walcha the continuity they needed to keep turning over possession and launching fresh attacks. The standout individual performance came from Ben Fussell. In what was easily his best game in Rams colours, Fussell produced a string of destructive, rampaging runs that regularly gained big metres and created second-phase opportunities. He was hard to contain and provided the sort of go-forward that sets the tone for the entire team. While the attack clicked for long periods, it was the defensive effort across the full 80 minutes that defined the result. Walcha's line held firm even when Tamworth finally found some rhythm, forcing turnovers and regaining field position through committed tackling and smart positional play. This was the type of performance Walcha Reserve Grade has been building towards — structured, physical, and ruthless in execution. A 45-0 home win against decent opposition is a strong statement, particularly with several players stepping up to deliver their best football of the year. The Reggies will look to take this momentum into the coming weeks as they take on Glen Innes away next weekend.

Walcha First Grade produced a commanding performance to defeat Tamworth Magpies 50-12 at home on Saturday. The Rams were in control from start to finish, sticking rigidly to their game

plan and exposing the limitations of a big but disjointed Magpies side. The forward pack was the foundation of the win. Walcha completely dismantled Tamworth's forwards, winning the physical battle across the park and dominating the set piece. The scrum in particular was the best it has been all season, providing a steady platform and forcing penalties and turnovers. Sam Martin had a strong game controlling the set piece, organising the packs effectively while also getting around the paddock with a number of strong carries that gained valuable metres. With the forwards doing the hard graft and working the bigger Magpies pack around the field, Walcha created the space needed for their backs to operate. The attack from set piece was excellent, with several tries coming directly off structured plays. The backs linked smoothly, spreading the ball wide when opportunities presented and splitting the Tamworth defence out wide. This clinical finishing turned territorial dominance into a healthy scoreboard lead. Defensively Walcha were equally impressive. Chaden Hawkins was brutal in defence and direct in attack, producing one of his best games of the year. He hit everything that moved and provided the sort of punchy carries that kept the momentum firmly with the Rams. In the backline, Hamish Heeney was a standout, putting on some massive hits and stealing the ball on a number of occasions to shut down Magpies attacks before they could develop. Andrew Kelly also had a good game for Walcha. He defended solidly throughout and offered some punch in attack, making strong runs that complemented the forward effort and helped maintain the tempo. The Magpies managed two late tries but they were largely consolation efforts against a Walcha side that had already done the damage. For long periods Tamworth struggled to get out of their own half as the Rams dictated the pace and territory. Walcha's discipline in sticking to their structures prevented the visitors from building any sustained pressure, even when the game opened up slightly in the second half. This was a mature, complete performance from the Rams. The forward dominance laid the platform, the set piece provided control, and the backs capitalised efficiently. Walcha will take plenty of confidence from this result heading into the next block of fixtures. A 50-12 win at home against Tamworth is a solid marker of where this First Grade side is at — physical, structured and clinical when it matters. Next week 1st Grade have a bye.

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what's the goss



with AJ Cross

Congratulations to the Walcha Central School Under 14's Rugby team that took out the New England Regional 7's NSW Rugby High Schools competitions at the U.N.E in Armidale last week. They defeated Glen Innes first up then accounted for the more favoured larger schools ASC and O'Connor before rounding up TAS in the final. By all accounts Walcha's Ethan Olrich played well for TAS in the decider.

...

Walcha - Flynn O'Connell, Kobie Brown, Bentley Brennan, Ryder Towney, Tyler Ross, Eli Wellings, Cooper Broadbent and Charlie McKern only had the luxury of one replacement to come off the bench while all the other teams had plenty of reserves which makes their achievement even more meritorious. Good on ya boys.

...

Still on Rugby well done to former Walcha Cricketer of the Year and TAS student Sinclair Little on his selection in the NSW Schools 2nd squad as a front rower to compete in the Australian Schools Championships on the Sunshine Coast later this month. Both Sinclair and Will Hall represented AAGPS at the NSW U/18 School Championships in Sydney late last week.

...

Former Walcha Junior Rugby player Hunter Scrivener, who has played a few games for the Walcha Rams this season, has been selected in the NSW JRU Harlequins squad to compete at those National Schools Championships after playing well at the recent NSW U/18 competition in Sydney. Hunter currently resides in Kempsey.

...

Well done to local athlete and TAS student Emily Ussher on finishing 6th in her independent Schools State Cross Country Championships recently and in doing so qualified for the NSW All Schools Championships to be held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre in Horsley Park on Tuesday July 21st. Best of Luck Emily.

...

The Cross Brothers Butchery 3 person Golf Ambrose Fundraiser for Rotary Exchange student Matisse Pascoe, was set to be played this Sunday but has been rescheduled to the following Sunday due to very ordinary weather conditions forecast for this weekend. It will be interesting to see how 'Lennox Walker' impersonators Willy Brennan and Simeon Cross go with their predictions

...

Walcha Golf Club handicapper Don Brooks 'drilled' his drive off the 1st tee at the Manilla Open last Sunday and took out the 'Straight Drive' competition. What really happened was 'Brooksy' topped his tee shot and barely made it to the first peg holding the straight drive rope in place before coming to rest a couple of inches away from the straight string. Good enough for a box of golf balls though Don.

...

My favourite son Ben celebrated his 29th birthday last Sunday despite the Facebook post indicating he was 39 years old. He received a nice present late in the day when Bradman Best scored a try to give his beloved Knights victory over West Tigers at Newcastle. No doubt there would have been some friendly banter going on between the Walcha boys who were in attendance but probably not much from Tiger's supporters Troy and Jake Lestrade

...

Last Sunday I picked up my much better half Linda and her sister Sandra Laurie from Tamworth airport after they arrived home from their holiday in Sri Lanka where one of the highlights was viewing some elephants and leopards in the wild. Usually the girls are full of conversation when in the presence of each other but by the time we reached Bendemeer the chatter had just about ceased. May have had something to do with getting only about 3 hours sleep in the past 30 hours due to plane flights.

...

Big Wigs of the week - Bec Smith (nee Hoy) who picked the card at the Apsley Arms; TBW Cafe - Emma Hillier, Cindy Swanton, Bec Bullock, Tracey Crisp (Go Girls); Vet Supplies - Raya Kirby, Tahlia Bird and her father DJ; Newie - Emma Hillier, Josh Coughlan, Billy Porter, Wilba Haslem, Filbert Green, Pete Steep; B.C - G.J. Natty, G.J. Carter, D.J. Bird, kitchen girls Di and Cheryl, Mary Haines (all 14pts). Special mention to Donna Britten who correctly selected the Cowboys over the Panthers but sadly that was the only one she got right at the B.C.



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Wednesday Golf

The Foursomes Championships were played last Wednesday.

Our gross winners with 136 points were Margaret Davidson and Jenny Lisle, closely followed by Cheryl McDonald and Sue Partridge with 138 points.

The nett winners with 100^{3/4} points were Alison Cameron and Sal McCormack.

Sweepstakes went to Lorraine Walshe and Pauline Carter with 110^{1/4} and Vicki Heffernan and Jill Burnell with 111 points.

27 holes and not one player reached the sand on Hole 3! NTP on Hole 9 was Cheryl McDonald and Anne Martin claimed the second shot on Hole 7. Today is a Graham Betts stableford playing for Nick Hall's Adcock Partners trophy.

At the Nineteenth

A field of 26 players teed off in a stableford round for a trophy donated by Gavin White where New England Hotel Publican Peter Berry accumulated the winning score of 41 points last Sunday.

Runner up was Angus Warden 39 while the remaining sweepstake prizes went to President Miles Archdale 38, Cheryl McDonald 38, Will Archdale, Simone Sweeney and Jim Nivison (all 36), James Norton, Jock McLaren and Margaret Davidson (all 35).

Sharpest shooter at the 16th pin was Lee Fletcher whereas no player was accurate enough to hit the 9th beach.

In Match Play Peter Berry defeated Brian Lynch 3 and 2. Four players represented Walcha at the Manilla Open last Sunday where Club Champion Michael Stackman and Handicapper Don Brooks carded a Par Round of +5 which included the best score for the Back 9 holes. Michael also won the NTP on the 17th. Col Berry and Simeon Cross finished a shot behind them on +4.

Last Saturday nine players competed in the weekly 9 hole competition of which three Armidale visitors participated including winner Jarrod Butler who racked up 19 stableford points off a handicap of 6.

Runner up was Pete Whellan on 17 points while no one was clever enough to reach the 3rd beach.

Members are reminded of a change to the program where this Sunday is a Stroke/Medal Round for a prize supplied by Doug McDonald instead of the advertised Cross Brothers Butchery 3 person Ambrose which has been shifted to the following Sunday. There is also a committee meeting this Sunday.

Bowls

Thursday bowls: Brian Goodwin & Garry Natty were too good for Ross Ballinger & Tony Batterham 16/11. John McCormack & Greg Carter x2 were too solid for Noel Goodwin, Mark Hogan & Peter Hayes 17/10.

Competition Pairs:

Barry Kliendienst & Miles Lawrence must have played well to defeat Graham Marshall & Garry Natty 29/12.

Old foxes Stephen Goodwin & Gordie Bird were back at their best to down Michael Hoy and the in form Mick Wall. Information is on the notice board for upcoming comp games.

Ladies Bowls

Last week two of our new bowlers joined us for a great game of bowls. Wendy Moore and Sheree Noakes lost

to Debbie Richards and Lee McCoy in a game of pairs. Janice Rizzi, Jan Cross and Pam Makeham, in a very close game of triples, lost to Olive Chandler, Marie Spink and Margaret Tickle. As there are no championship games for a while we invite all new players to join us for a game 9.00am for a 9.30am start.

Polocrosse

Over the weekend the Walcha Polocrosse Club travelled west to the Galloping Gully carnival with 2 open teams and 2 Sub-Junior players. The Walcha 1 team consisted of Marlee Wall, Kerri-Lea Harris, Kersten Wall, John Donnelly, Dan Daley and Simon Keen. The team lost their first game to Narrabri 1 and won their second game against Cassilis in the C Grade competition on Saturday. The Walcha 2 team consisted of Will Nicholls, Danny Goodwin, Patrick Keen, Mia Goodwin, Deanne Baines and a ring in from the Guyra Club, Sarah Hancock. Walcha 2 were in the E/F Grade competition and went down in their first game against Narrabri 4, however they made a comeback in their second game against Inverell/ Guyra.

Freddie Nicholls made his polocrosse debut in the Sub-Juniors (under 12's), with Pat Daley taking him under his wing. The 2 boys joined ranks with the Guyra Subbies and won both of their games on Saturday.

Unfortunately, all games on Sunday were called off due to rain over night and therefore no presentation was held. The team will head to Narrabri Carnival next in 2 weeks time.

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Meeting Notice

Walcha Garden Club meeting Friday 3rd July commencing 9.30am at the Walcha Tennis Club. Guest speaker Warren Yeoman. Contact S.Law 0467 450 243 and D.Lisle 0429 799 083.

Walcha Hospital Auxiliary AGM 16th July 2026 6pm, Walcha Council Community Care Centre. R.S.V.P. 9th July to Vic Mclvor 0427 772950 or walchahospitalauxiliary@outlook.com

Oxley Riders AGM. Being held upstairs at the New England Hotel 3pm Saturday 18th of July 2026.

Amaroo Local Aboriginal Land Council (ALALC)

Notice of General Member Meeting
19.07.2026 | 10am | Amaroo LALC Cafe

- Welcome/Open Address
- Attendance/Apologies
- Roads to Home
- Minutes of previous member meeting
- Membership
- Grants
- Proposed Land Dealing, Sale of Asset 116E Apsley Street
- Section 66a – Employment of LALC Board Members Policy (Approved Work Policy for Board Members)
- Membership Policy
- Board Member Remuneration Policy
- Housing Policy
- Housing
- Next member meeting date and time

Light refreshments provided.
All questions relating to this meeting should be directed to the Chairperson, Ms Katrina Bloomfield at the Amaroo LALC Office on (02) 67771100 or via email to chair@amaroolalc.com.au during business hours.

Save the Date

Save the Date - Ladies Day out. Saturday 10 Oct 2026.

New stock of Hay just arrived

Large round bales of Oaten Hay good grain \$240 +GST. Small bales of Lucerne Hay suitable for horses \$24+GST. Phone George 0427 018 493.

Garage Sale

Sat 4th July, 60w Apsley St (old convent house) entry via Catholic Church gates South St, undercover, 9am-2pm, M/W& Kids/ misc/household/elec +designer brands.

thumbs



- 👍 To Walcha CWA branch members who travelled to Nundle CWA Branch for a 80th birthday celebration and delicious lunch. Awesome time experienced by all thank you.
- 👍 To the Apsley for delicious meal on Sunday with kids eating for free.
- 👍 To Cafe Graze for their delicious soups!
- 👍 To the people who drive around town in the early morning without their headlights on.

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

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DEADLINE MONDAY 4.30PM Editor: Anthea Nivison. Advertising/Sport: Joscisca Matapakia, Kate Connors and Kersten Wall.

church notices



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July 5 - Walcha Service 9.30am
Niangala Service 2.00pm
July 12 - Walcha Service 9.30am
Nowendoc Service 2.00pm
July 19 - Walcha Service 9.30am
July 26 - Walcha Service 9.30am
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