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Megan named Jumping Official of the Year

If you're looking for Megan Scrivener's diary, you might need to move quickly — there aren't many spare days in it!

Megan was recognised for her dedication to the equestrian sport of Show Jumping when she was named Jumping Official of the Year at the 2026 Equestrian NSW Awards, held in Sydney on Friday 21 August.

It's an award that caps off more than a decade of hard work in the judge's box.

Megan began her officiating journey in 2014 as a probationary judge and steadily worked her way through the national levels, reaching the highest national qualification, Level 3 in 2021. Not content to stop there, Megan has since added an international FEI Level 1 qualification to her CV and has her sights firmly set on progressing to FEI Level 2 in 2027.

These days Megan can be found officiating at events across NSW and around the country, including World Cup Qualifiers CSI1*-W, Young Rider CSI2*, Trans-Tasman events, the Sydney Royal Easter Show and State and National Interscholars competitions. And while she hasn't yet packed her bags for an overseas officiating assignment, she's certainly getting some international experience without leaving Australian soil. Over the years, she has worked alongside officials from Singapore, Germany, France, Mexico and most recently Brazil.

September will provide a welcome opportunity for Megan to spend a little more time at home before October gets underway. She is set to officiate at four FEI events across the month, travelling to Kurri Burri Polo Club in Richmond, AELEC in Tamworth, Stonewall on the Central Coast and SIEC at



Horsley Park. "I think I'll have about three days at home in October," Megan laughs. "The rest will be travelling and officiating."

Fortunately, when it comes to major events, judging is very much a team effort. With several judges in the box, there is always more than one set of eyes watching the

competition — something that helps ensure the best possible outcome for both horse and rider. "It can be quite stressful. For many competitors, their horses are their business, and when those horses can be valued at six figures or more, there is understandably a lot at stake."

What does Megan enjoy most about officiating? "The people." With many events running for four days, officials and event organisers spend a lot of time together, and those long days have resulted in some lasting friendships. "I've become great friends with so many people over the years and we always look forward to catching up at the 'next' event," she says. And while things are very serious once the competition gets underway, there's another side to life in the judge's box. "We have great fun when we aren't officiating. Lots of laughs ... a sense of humour is a must".

Megan is often asked whether she has her sights set on judging at the Olympics. Her response is typically delivered with a healthy dose of realism and humility. With so many highly qualified and extremely experienced officials around the world, she knows she is nowhere near the top of the list. "I'd be happy to be involved in any way," she says. "Even if I was just the person opening the gate into the arena for the competitors. Any job, I'd be happy!"

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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

Spring is officially here and hasn't the weather been exceptional as our daytime temperatures creep up towards 20 degrees and our nights; well, you don't really need to light the fire. Last week we received 15mm of rainfall across most of the district and the further south you went, the higher the total. Parts of the Tamworth region got under 40mm, totalling nearly 100mm for the month of August. Speaking with Milo who has just returned from Culcairn, he mentioned it look at picture the entire way, especially from south of Dubbo. We had a slight frost over the weekend, but the fogs have been thick, plenty of moisture in the air and hopefully a sign that moisture will continue to come with a chance of rain building over the next few weeks. What has been noticeable is that August is notorious for westerly winds, and I feel that we haven't had many windy days at all, obviously September can still be windy and just as I write the article, a wind warning for Thursday appears.

The producers who have decided to remain EU accredited will now need to comply with the EU deforestation regulations as of the 1st of January 2027, after the EU twice granted 12-month extensions. Under this EUDR legislation, EU importers must prove the land used to produce the beef has not been subject to deforestation or forest degradation since December 2020. As I've mentioned before, those who are EU will need to supply their geolocation of their property which can be done on your LPA account, currently there are around 3600 Australian beef producers who are EU accredited and nearly half are already EUDR compliant. A positive for Australian EU producers is that as of the 3rd of September, the EU has banned Brazilian beef and chicken imports due to its inability to demonstrate compliance with EU restrictions on antibiotic use in animals.

Donald Trump last week once again changed the face of the global protein trade allowing 300,000 metric tons of product for ground beef to be imported with no out of quota tariff for 90 days. Trump is trying to reduce the cost of beef for the everyday American stating that commitment had been made from exporters to sell the trimmings at 25% less market value. He has stated the move will allow the American beef herd to grow again as it sits at a 75-year low while he has sustained backlash from the local American producers stating they are being undercut by this move. In another bold move, Trump is authorizing legal documents so that farmers can process and sell their own food to the everyday consumer. Trump is trying to change the monopoly that the big four processors have in the USA, those being Tyson foods, Cargill, JBS USA and National Beef Packing Co. Like Australia, federal legislation has pushed out the small processing facilities and their inability to be efficient to say the least, but how would they staff these facilities. Plenty of water is to go under the bridge but I also believe it's a step in the right direction if it is properly regulated. When you think of an area such as Walcha, the quality of the produce that is produced in our area, how good would it be to have our own district produce to sell to the wider market. It may not work quite as well considering most of our beef and lamb is exported, but the way society is progressing, people want to eat wholesome foods with a story, it's a selling point. There must still be some faith in the American beef herd with an Angus cow last week selling for \$460,000 USD, a whopping \$641,000 AUD.

The Australian housing downturn is far from over with an estimated \$1.3 trillion in residential wealth erased from our economy and the finger has squarely been pointed at the Albanese negative gearing and capital gains tax overhaul. Investors have left our market in droves, as of the 1 of July 2027, investors purchasing established homes lose the ability to deduct excess rental losses against wages and other related incomes. Labor has also replaced the 50 % capital gains tax discount with an inflation index, a minimum of 30% tax on real gains, so another cost for everyone. They are really turning the dream for anyone wanting to own their own home upside down, people will just become caretakers for the banks.

The EYCI continues to rally, lifting 35c in a week to sit at 987c due to a reduction in overall supply. Less restocker cattle, forecast of rain and the re-entering of feedlot buyers back into our markets have pushed prices higher creating a domino effect. Light Angus steers on AuctionsPlus, 167kg made \$9.11/kg while their sisters made \$7.33/kg, feeder steers topped at \$6.13/kg and exceptional well-bred Angus heifers, 330kg to join topped at \$6.38/kg.

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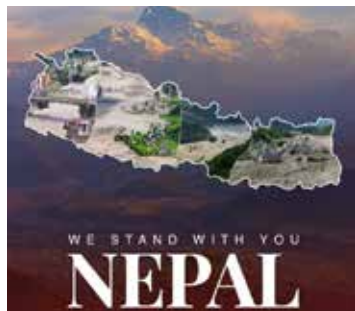
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From Walcha to Nepal

Standing together in a time of tragedy

By Ganesh Sedhain



CANDLELIGHT GATHERING

Join us this Saturday for a candlelight gathering at 5pm outside the Apsley Arms Hotel. Bring a candle and join us as we remember those who have lost their lives and stand by the families affected by this devastating disaster.

RAFFLE AND AUCTION

An auction will start at 7.30pm with an array of fantastic prizes, raffle tickets can be purchased all day with all proceeds from both going to those in need. \$5 from every meal sold will also be going to the Nepal Relief Fundraiser. For many of us living in Walcha, Nepal may seem thousands of kilometres away. But for Nepalese families living here in Australia, the devastating floods affecting Nepal are painfully close to home.

Recent flooding has brought enormous destruction to communities in Nepal. Powerful floodwaters, mud and debris have swept through vulnerable areas, damaging homes, roads, bridges and other essential infrastructure. Families have been displaced, lives have been lost, and many people are facing the heartbreaking reality of having to rebuild their lives from almost nothing.

For those of us with connections to Nepal, watching this disaster unfold from Australia brings mixed emotions. We are grateful to be safe here, but our thoughts constantly return to the people back

home. Members of the Nepalese community in Walcha are planning a fundraising initiative to support people affected by the disaster.

Walcha may be a small town, but we know from living here that the strength of a community is not measured by its population. It is measured by how people come together when someone needs help. We have experienced the generosity and community spirit of Walcha ourselves. Now, we hope that same spirit can travel beyond our town, beyond Australia and all the way to families struggling in Nepal. Every contribution, no matter how small, can become part of something much bigger when a community gives together.

For someone who has lost almost everything, support can mean clean drinking water, food, medicine, clothing, temporary shelter or essential supplies for children and elderly family members. Together, we may be able to help one family get through another day. This fundraiser is about more than raising money. It is about telling people experiencing one of the hardest moments of their lives that somewhere, even in a small town on the other side of the world, people care about them.

We invite the people, families, businesses and organisations of Walcha to stand with the people of Nepal during this difficult time.

Whether through a donation, attending our fundraising event, sharing our message or simply encouraging others to become involved, every act of kindness matters.

We may come from different countries and different cultures, but suffering has no nationality — and neither does compassion. From the hills of Walcha to the mountains of Nepal, let us show that distance does not stop us from caring. Together, we can send one simple but powerful message to the families affected: You are not alone.



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Yarrowitch Public School Book Week

Students and staff at Yarrowitch Public School recently engaged in the joy of reading during Book Week 2026, themed "Symphony of Stories." The week was filled with activities that brought literature to life for everyone involved.

Throughout the week, students participated in live webinars featuring former NRL star turned author, Sam Thaiday and celebrated illustrator Freya Blackwood. These interactive sessions gave students a unique insight into the creative processes behind their favourite stories and illustrations and helping to inspire a lifelong love of reading in our students!

At the end of the week, students dressed up as their favourite book characters, turning the school into a colourful celebration of imagination.



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Walcha Support Group making a difference in our community

For more than 37 years, Walcha Support Group has quietly been providing a helping hand to local people and families during some of the most difficult times in their lives.

The group supports people in the Walcha community in a number of ways, from providing financial assistance to those facing serious illness, to lending equipment to people who need it and offering a friendly and supportive place for members to come together.

The group's 2026 President's Report, presented by Carolyn Salter, highlights just how much work goes on behind the scenes throughout the year.

During the past year, the group donated to 23 local people who have been dealing with life-threatening or debilitating illnesses. While the amount varies from year to year, the assistance is intended to help with some of the unexpected costs that can come with illness, including travel to appointments and treatment.



Sue Reardon with equipment the Support Group lends to people

The group also purchased a bariatric aquatic wheelchair for the Walcha Pool, which was donated to the pool for community use and was gratefully received by Walcha Council.

Support Group members also hosted a discussion with the University of New England Focus Group on psychological wellbeing and intervention for cancer patients and carers. Nine people attended the discussion, which also included Associate Professor Kylie Rice, Dr Marissa Barnes and Dr Bernadette Harris from UNE.

The discussion looked at what support is needed within the Walcha community, including medical, psychological and related services. One of the suggestions to come from the meeting was the creation of an online website to help people navigate information and services available to cancer patients and carers, while the need for more social workers and psychologists was also highlighted.

Throughout the year, the group also sends Christmas and New Year cards to people nominated by members, particularly those who may be unwell or going through a difficult period.

Donations are an important part of allowing the group to continue its work. The annual luncheon was well attended, with the group thanking the many clubs, groups, businesses and individuals who support them through donations.

Members also acknowledged the efforts of Suzie Harrison, who held a final Bingo night for the group and has collected bottles and cans over many years, donating the proceeds to Walcha Support Group.

The group currently has 25 paid members, with around half generally attending its monthly meetings.

After more than three decades of supporting people across the community, Walcha Support Group remains an important local organisation, providing practical assistance, compassion and a reminder to those going through challenging times that they are not alone.

The group meets on the last Thursday of each month and welcomes new members who would like to get involved and help support others in the Walcha community.

Walcha Artist to Exhibit in Armidale

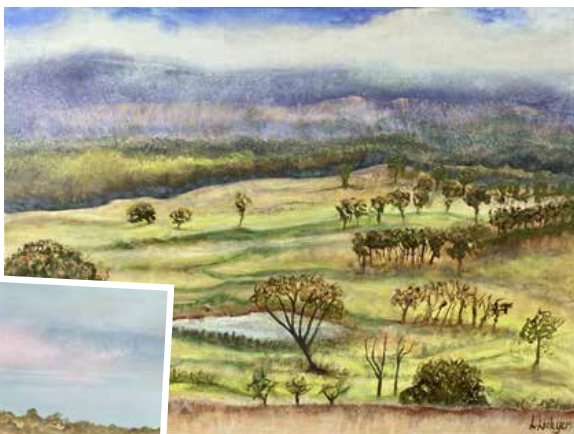
Walcha artist Linda Lockyer has been busy painting for her upcoming exhibition in Armidale.

The exhibition is entitled "The Hills and Trees of Home", and will open at 2pm on Saturday, 19th of September at the Armidale Art Gallery. Her paintings which have been created in a variety of acrylic and ink media are colourful, textured and reflect her love of the Australian landscape.

Linda extends an open invitation to Walcha residents to come up and enjoy some of her new artworks which have been inspired by our local scenery.

The exhibition will run from 19th September until 17th October. Armidale Art Gallery is open on weekdays from 10am to 4pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 1pm.

Below are some examples of Linda's artworks. More examples of Linda's artwork can be sourced on her website: www.lindalockyerart.com



New citizens welcomed

Walcha Council warmly welcomed four new citizens as full members of the community at a special Australian Citizenship Ceremony on Monday 24 August 2026.

Masaki Murakami (Japan) and the Puri family - Raghav, Sheetal and Maanit (India) - each made the Pledge of Commitment before Walcha Mayor Eric Noakes to receive their citizenship certificates.

Congratulations to all four and Council thanks their family and friends who joined them to celebrate.



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Backing BackTrack to Build Positive Futures

It was great to welcome additional funding for BackTrack Armidale, which will share in \$700,000 from the NSW Government to expand programs supporting young men and boys.

The funding, shared with the Central West-based Boys to the Bush program, will strengthen existing early intervention and violence-prevention programs while creating new opportunities for young people.

For two decades, BackTrack has been changing lives by giving young people practical skills, support and, importantly, a sense of connection and belonging. This funding will help build on that work, including programs that encourage boys and young men to understand healthy relationships and their role in preventing domestic, family and sexual violence.

BackTrack founder Bernie Shakeshaft has rightly highlighted that meaningful change doesn't come from one-off messaging. It takes trust, connection and long-term support. This funding will also provide specialist training for youth workers and strengthen engagement with young people.

Gun Buyback Targets the Wrong People

I remain deeply concerned about the Minns Labor Government's firearms buyback and the impact it will have on law-abiding firearms owners across regional NSW.

The scheme offers flat payments that may not reflect the value of firearms, while questions remain around ammunition, accessories and the cost to the NSW Budget.

Farmers, licensed shooters and small family-run firearms businesses should not be made to pay for a policy that fails to target the real threat posed by organised criminals and extremists.

Regional communities deserve sensible laws developed with proper consultation. Any firearms policy must improve community safety while recognising that licensed firearm owners who follow the law are not the problem.

Brendan Moylan MP

MEMBER FOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS

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Walcha Farmer's Market continues to grow



The Walcha Farmers' Market continues to grow, bringing a wonderful variety of local produce, artisan products and plenty of community spirit to McHattan Park throughout the warmer months.

In her 2025–2026 President's Report, Denise Cox said the market successfully held nine markets during the season, with 35 registered stallholders and an average of 17 to 20 attending each market depending on seasonal availability.

Following a cold and wet start in September, the remainder of the season enjoyed plenty of sunshine and welcomed a number of new stallholders, including ArtNgrahics, Blooms by Belle, Belinda's Sourdough, Clara Rose Gifts, Healthy Take Home by Deb, Saddler's Cottage, Shingle Food, Fibre and Fabric, alongside many returning favourites.

A special thank you was also given to Coffee On The Go for stepping in whenever needed.

The Community Stall continued to be popular, offering locally grown produce and homemade goods. This year the stall was relocated to a new site, with new signage helping make the move a success. Committee members and volunteers also proudly showed off their new Walcha Farmers' Market red shirts.

The market welcomed several community information stalls throughout the season, including Walcha Council, Regional Bank and the local Fire Brigade, who had the important job of delivering Santa Claus to the Christmas Market.

There was plenty for families to enjoy, with face painting and Bec's creative craft activities adding to the Christmas festivities. Visitors were also able to learn about the benefits of worm farming, with one lucky participant taking home a worm farm donated by the Farmers' Market.

Music remained an important part of the markets, with Harold and Barb entertaining visitors each month. The season also featured Peter Law on guitar, a surprise walk-up bagpipe performance and the local Choir singing Christmas carols at the Christmas Market.

Denise thanked the committee, volunteers, stallholders and the wider Walcha community for their continued support, acknowledging the work that goes on behind the scenes to make each market a success.

After seven rewarding years as President, Denise has decided to step aside from the role but will remain on the committee. She said it had been a privilege to watch the market grow into the vibrant community event it is today and she has every confidence it will continue to flourish under new leadership. Archie Little has now taken on the Presidents role.

The Walcha Farmers' Market will return to McHattan Park on Saturday, 19 September.

For more information, please visit www.walchafarmersmarket.org.au, email info@walchafarmersmarket.org.au, or follow us on our Facebook page.

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LOT 4. BEN NEVIS WAR HAMMER W418

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RUGBY REPORT

Walcha v Tamworth Magpies

By Eric the Spider

MINOR SEMI FINAL

Walcha Reggies smashed Tamworth Magpies 112-0 in the minor semi-final at Bellevue Oval on Sunday. It was the best the side had played all year — a clinical attacking performance that never gave the Magpies a look in.

From the first whistle the Rams played with width, tempo and intent. Ollie Crawford was instrumental setting up the attack, pulling the strings at 10, putting runners into space and keeping the Magpies defence guessing. Time and again the ball went through the hands and finished out wide, exactly how they'd planned it. Will Jameson was at his finishing best, converting those well-worked team phases into points whenever the ball reached him.

Andrew Kelly was an absolute wrecking ball. He bounced would-be Tamworth defenders off at will, making metres every time he touched it and giving the backline a platform they could work off. Ben Fussell was huge in both set piece and broken play, making plenty of big carries that kept the Magpies on the back foot and created the quick ball the Rams thrived on.

Steve McAnally was everywhere, putting pressure on Tamworth across the park — first to the breakdown, first to the kick chase, and always in the Magpies' faces. Troy Tape and Harry Partridge did the tough work throughout the match. They grafted in the tight, won their share at the breakdown and kept the Magpies pack honest. Nothing flashy, just the hard yards that let everyone else play.

Henry "I havent been in the match report yet" King came off the bench and played well, giving good direction when he got on. He settled the attack, talked the boys into the right spots and helped keep the same high standard going.

By the time the final whistle went it was 112-0, 18 tries scored, and the 2nds booked their spot in next Saturday's preliminary final against Armidale Blues. A complete team performance and a statement win. That's the standard now.

Walcha 1st grade beat Tamworth Magpies 50-22 in the minor semi-final at Bellevue Oval. They won it convincingly in the end, but it was an arm wrestle in the early exchanges with the Rams giving away too much territory and possession and making it difficult on themselves.

Tamworth used that cheap ball well and spent long periods camped in Walcha's half. The Rams were pinged at the breakdown, and invited pressure they didn't need. For 20 minutes it was a real grind. The Magpies weren't creating a heap but they didn't have to — Walcha were handing them the field position.

The Rams kept hammering away though, making inroads through the Tamworth defence with strong carries and quicker recycle. Once they cut out the cheap penalties and started winning the collisions, the game changed. Ritchie Hunt was at his burrowing best, making a number of big carries close to the ruck that sucked in defenders and gave the backs room to work. He was hard to put down and kept the Magpies pack honest.

Chaden Hawkins carried strongly throughout the day and put in a really big shift. He got over the advantage line time and again, worked hard on both sides of the ball and was one of the main reasons Walcha started to get some go-forward. Matty Tisdell linked the forwards and backs well from 9, directing the game and keeping the attack on the front foot.

Eddie Pitt had a good game at fullback, making good kick/run decisions and giving the Rams better field position when they needed it. He wasn't forced into too many heroics but he was solid under the high ball and chose the right option more often than not. Out wide Michael Paull was excellent, making good metres in attack and covering well in defence. He finished a couple of well-worked phases and was equally busy coming in off his wing to shut down Tamworth's wider plays.

Nathan Cullinan was excellent in defence again, putting on some big hits and organising out wide well. Whenever Tamworth looked like they might get around the edge he was there to shut it down and talk the line into position. That defensive organisation was a big reason the Magpies never really got a roll on.

The second half opened up and the Rams pulled away. Tries came from close range and out wide as the Magpies tired and the scoreboard stretched to 50-22.

A good result after a messy start. The 1sts now play St Albert's in next Saturday's preliminary final at Bellevue.

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Spare a thought for our Nepalese friends at the Apsley Arms Hotel who are dealing with the tragedy of the Nepal Floods, 'Pub Boss' Ganesh Sedhain who previously lived just 20 kilometres from where the Avalanche and Flash Flooding occurred has been and is in the process of organising a Relief Fundraiser for his home country this Saturday at the Apsley Arms which includes a Monster Raffle and Auction. Ganesh would love your support if able and there should be more details elsewhere in this Apsley Advocate. (Page 3)

Congratulations to the Walcha Rams on qualifying for the New England Rugby Preliminary Finals this Saturday at Bellevue Oval in Armidale. Last weekend Walcha scored 162 points against the Tamworth Magpies at the same venue while conceding just 22 points in two grades. In 1st Grade Walcha clipped the Magpies wings 50 to 22 whereas the Reggies ran riot touching down for 18 tries to win 112-0. Best of luck this Saturday Boys.

Congratulations are also in order for local Rugby Player and former Walcha Jillaroo Shae Partridge who was a member of the Tamworth Pirates Womens Seniors squad who defeated Narrabri 28-24 last Saturday at Quirindi to win the Central North Womens premiership. Good on ya Shae.

Best of luck to our up the road Thunderbolts Way neighbours Uralla Tigers when they do battle with Inverell in their Group 19 Rugby League Grand Finals at Woodville Oval this Sunday in both A Grade and Reggies. No doubt there will be plenty interest shown not only by Tigers supporters but further a field.

Best of luck to the Uralla Tigers U/14's Rugby League team when they take on Glen Innes in their semi final at Woodville Oval from 11.30am this Saturday. Seven Walcha players are team members Captain Bentley Brennan, Flynn O'Connell, Nate Bloomfield, Cooper Broadbent, Charlie McKern, brother Nathan and Tyler Ross whereas Roos premiership winner Luke Brennan is coach of the team. Go Gettum Guys.

Heard a bit of whisper Cross Brothers Butchery Co-Owner, 'Mollydooker' and my Godson Jonathon Cross experienced some problems with his vehicle while visiting Armidale recently with his sons Byron and Hudson. Word had it Jonnie thought the battery was low in his car key but even when he attempted to open it manually still no dice. Not long later it suddenly dawned on Jonnie he was attempting to open someone else's vehicle. Surely one of the three members of the family would have sparked to what was going on.

The 'Early Bird Gets the Worm!' Tonight's 'Man's Not a Camel' Trivia Fundraiser to be held at the Newie is booked out and has been

for sometime. Proceeds go towards local law enforcer Jed Wittig and car salesman Cameron Norbury who are once again participating in the Mystery Box Rally raising vital funds for Cancer research. Anyone who missed booking a spot at the Trivia Night can still donate to the cause.

The Walcha Snooker Club held a competition at the Walcha Bar and Grill last Sunday where Clint Davey, Martin Wratten, Leanne Presnell, Daniel Harrison and Terry Olsen played a round robin to determine who played in the final. Clint and Martin both won three of their games to qualify before Clint defeated Martin in the decider.

Big Wigs of the Week - Newie - Suzie Foster; B.C - Suzie Foster, Tom Wicks; Apsley - Sophie Cooper, Jess Litchfield and Tim Rumbel All Picked the Card - (Wow!); T.B.W Cafe - Martin Wratten, Brett Gardiner; Vet Supplies - Apie Fontanella (All 14 points). Best of luck to all Tipsters in the Final Round this weekend.

How's the form of the bloke who marks the B.C cards when he marked the Round 26 running total down as 330 on the card of Ross Ballinger by mistake not that Ross would mind too much that would have put him 68 points in front of his nearest rivals. What's more it didn't take long for B.C staff member Rebecca 'Ruby' Taiki long to point it out.

Finally - Happy Fathers Days to all Dads this Sunday.



AHOY THERE K-4 STUDENTS!

KIDS GAMES

WED Sept 30 THURS Oct 1, FRI Oct 2
9:30am - 12:30pm - Arrive from 9
Walcha Anglican Church (South St)

FREE

BIBLE • MUSIC • GAMES
DRAMA • CRAFT • FOOD

Kids Games is hosted by Walcha Anglican and Presbyterian churches and introduces kids to Jesus as we meet him in the Bible.
Register for 1, 2 or all 3 days online via the QR code, or on the day.

More info Neil Hunt 6777 2543
WalchaAnglican@gmail.com

All leaders have verified Working with Children Check Numbers



Youth MASHUP

FOR YOUTH IN SCHOOL YEARS 5-9

WED 30 SEPT, THURS 1 OCT, FRI 2 OCT

9.30AM - 12.30PM Arrive from 9am

Walcha Presbyterian Church (Hill St)

BIBLE • GAMES
FUN • MUSIC • FOOD **FREE!**

Youth Mashup is run by Walcha Anglican & Presbyterian Churches, introducing youth to Christ Jesus as we meet Him in the Bible.

All leaders and volunteers have verified working with children check numbers.

For more information contact Graham Barnes 6777 2539.

Register for all three days or choose your days using the QR code. (You can also register on the day)



Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday Pam Makeham, Janice Rizzi, Marie Spink, Esther Hunt, Wendy Moore and Jan Cross travelled to Tamworth City Bowling Club and had a very enjoyable game against the visiting clubs. However, there were no winners among the Walcha team. The raffles eluded them also. The 3 Bowl Triples Championship commences tomorrow with Team 1 Esther Hunt, Marg Tickle and Wendy Moore playing Team 2 Lyn Burnell, Carmel Ryan and Marie Spink. Team 3 has a bye. There will be social bowls tomorrow for those not participating in the triples and for prospective new members 9.00am for 9.30am start.

Wednesday Golf

There was much jubilation on Hole 16 while playing Jill Burnell and Vicki Heffernan's draw for partners, 4 Ball multiplier on Wednesday.

After Maddie Lance drove her ball to the green and no-one seeing where it finished, a bit of a search party eventuated looking for her ball.

It was suggested after sometime we look for the ball in the hole and hallelujah there it was. Maddie was stoked, and hugs and congratulations were in order! Great work Maddie.

The winners of the multiplier were Penny King and Sue Partridge with 64.

Sweepstakes were won by Margaret Davidson and Maddie Lance with 56.

The second shot on Hole 9 went to Maddie and she of course cleaned up the second shot on 16 with her hole in one.

Penny King took out the second shot on Hole 18 and there was no-one able to claim the NTP on 3.

This Wednesday is a stableford round playing for Alison Cameron's trophy.

Netball

On the last Saturday of netball before finals, Walcha certainly didn't go quietly!

PLC Red 12 def. Walcha Sapphires 3

There was enough hair and face glitter on the Sapphires this week to dazzle the opposition and, honestly, I reckon it might have been the best game they've played all season.

Allow me to be a mum of a player and not a hard-hitting sports journalist for just a second... these girls are amazing. They turn up and put in every single week, darting around the court, defending their little hearts out and getting better and better in the shooting circle.

The scoreboard doesn't always tell the story of how well these little legends played. And in some sort of Steven Bradbury moment... THE SAPPHIRES HAVE MADE THE FINALS!

Strap yourselves in. Here we come!

Walcha Opals 33 def. TAS Primary 3

Another huge effort from the Opals!

A 33-3 scoreline is pretty hard to argue with. Strong defence, great movement down the court and plenty of goals. This team just keeps delivering and is heading into finals looking very dangerous indeed!

Walcha Pearls 30 def. NEGS Red 8

Well... there's not much arguing with that scoreline either!

The Pearls wrapped up the regular season with another commanding win. They've been a force all year and Saturday was no different.

Job done. Finals next!

VIP Hotshots 50 def. Walcha Pacifika 22

What a game from Pacifika! The ladies played arguably their best game of the season, holding the lead 32-31 at three-quarter time.

A few things didn't fall their way in the final quarter and the Hotshots managed to pull away, but it was a cracking game to finish the regular season.

I'll leave the final word to Apii:

"If Aunty Maine stops yelling at me on the court, I might get a few more shots in."

Great advice, Apii. No notes.

And just like that, the regular season is done and all four Walcha teams are heading into finals!

Bring on Saturday! If you're free, come along and cheer on our Walcha netballers. Game times will be posted on the Walcha Netball Facebook page.

At the Nineteenth

The opening round of the 2026 Mens 4BBB Championships attracted 20 players last Sunday where they played for daily prizes donated by Jim Nivison and Jock McLaren.

Winners were Tim Baumer and Daniel Boyd after they accumulated 47 stableford points which gives them a very comfortable five point lead over Lee Fletcher and Bruce Rutherford going into the final Nett round next Sunday week.

Sweepstakes went to Cheryl McDonald and Rose Baumer 44 pts, Lee Fletcher and Bruce Rutherford 42, Jim Nivison and Angus Warden, Margaret Davidson and Sue Partridge, Allan Green and Kyle Goodwin (all 41).

In the Scratch section of the event Daniel Boyd and Tim Baumer are co-leaders with Lee Fletcher and Bruce Rutherford after both teams carded four over par 74.

Not far off the pace are Club Champion Michael Stackman and Murdoc Chawner, Allan Green and Kyle Goodwin, Willy Brennan and Miles Archdale all on 77 whereas Wayne Brennan and Don Brooks, Simeon Cross and Col Berry, Angus Warden and Jim Nivison, Will Archdale and Will Nicholls are all on 78.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Jimmy Nivison (3) and Lyn Levingston (18).

Last Saturday Mark Hogan racked up 21 stableford points to comfortably win the weekly 9 hole competition from runner up Lorraine Rennie on 16 pts. No N.T.P on 3.

This Sunday is a stableford round where former Walcha Mayor Alex Gill is in charge of supplying the prize.

Then the following Sunday the final round of the 4BBB Championships is scheduled.

Polocrosse

This past weekend was Gulgong's annual Family Fun carnival, held at the Coolah grounds due to wet weather. It was a very well attended weekend with 32 teams competing in the various grades. Our very own Goodwin family entered a section consisting of Danny, Cherie and Mia. They joined forces with a local Gulgong family consisting of Dave Deutscher and his two sub-junior sons, Digby and Charlie, to create the Good Deutch's team.

The team played a total of four close games over the weekend and whilst they only came away with one win, there was plenty of smiles and lots of fun had throughout. Mia was in great form throughout the weekend in the number 1 position, consistently putting the ball between the goal posts and Danny was doing his part as the number 3, making sure the other team was working for any goals they scored. Cherie is new to the sport and had fun supporting her teammates wherever she could.

The family fun day is a fantastic initiative to grow what is a wonderful team sport and a great way for families to come together and compete.





Public Notice

Walcha Council

Woolbrook & Nowendoc Waste Facility Fob Access



Council reminds Woolbrook and Nowendoc Waste Facility FOB holders that FOBs which have not yet been updated for the 2026/27 financial year expired on 31 August 2026.

Expired FOBs will no longer provide access to the waste facilities until they have been reprogrammed.

FOB holders who have not yet updated their FOB are asked to please bring it to the Walcha Council Office for reprogramming.

Please call Council on (02) 6774 2500 for further information.

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

Position Wanted

Looking for a permanent full-time senior station hand/overseer/managers role preferably ideally with a house on the farm and would rather work direct with owner than in a team. I work better on my own, I've got all aspects covered with livestock and farm maintenance from low stress mustering with dogs and horses, buggies, quads etc experience in animal welfare and husbandry in sheep and cattle, yard work, drafting, marking, tagging, drenching etc, weed control, fencing and welding. I'm hard working honest, respectful and reliable. I'm a carpenter by trade. I have my own vehicle and work dogs, just looking for a chance and opportunity to prove myself, please don't hesitate to call Josh 0498 777 127.

Raffle Results

WADPA Wood raffle 29/8/26 winner Linda Ballard drawn by Phillip Parish.

Public Notice (cont)

Walcha Home Furnishing

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PH: Dave 0427 771 469

For Sale

Laver pullets, all breeds, 20 weeks. Delivered Friday 04/09/2026. Phone Jim 0428 194 105.

Meeting Notice

Walcha Creative Arts AGM, Saturday 19 September 1pm at the Creative Shop. New members welcome.

**DEADLINE FOR
STORIES, ADS AND
CLASSIFIEDS**

Monday 4:30pm

letters to the editor



Is there an individual or group in the community that would be interested in taking on the recycling collection that I used to do? That is, milk bottle tops, plastic bread tags and tea bag tags. A woman in Armidale is collecting them now. Another woman from Armidale will come to Walcha to pick them up when there is a big lot if you can't get them to Armidale. It does save a surprising amount of waste going into our landfill which is a good thing. If there is anyone interested in doing this please let me know on 0418 691 244. Thank you.

Suzie Harrison



thumbs



- 👍 To Shell at CommBank - always a friendly face.
 - 👍 To Jo at the Bowling Club for her wonderful organising.
 - 👍 To Pole Bath for always helping out.
 - 👍 To Gary from Mountain Motors for fixing my oil leaks so promptly. An awesome job.
 - 👍 To the Walcha Support Group for their amazing kindness and generosity in their assistance after my fall and recovery
- 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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or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha: every Sunday 9:30am

Youth Group every Saturday 5pm -
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BINGO 12.30pm

Friday 4 3.00pm – Close

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5.00PM BISTRO

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12.00PM BISTRO

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