

THE APSLEY Advocate

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23 September 2026

Quota Club of Walcha Inc.

Ladies Day Out

Saturday 10th October

Ham at Walcha Bowling Club

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Walcha Netball Grand Final

And so, devastatingly, the netball season has come to an end. The bibs are washed, the whistles are silent and Aunty Maine has finally stopped yelling... allegedly.

What a day Saturday was! Walcha businesses got behind the green and gold, and by game time the courts in Armidale looked like we had moved in. Green and gold absolutely everywhere, with three Walcha teams taking the court and a whole town behind them.

Parents, grandparents, teachers, friends and supporters lined the sidelines, with some even Zooming in from afar. One thing was certain, our players and the opposition knew Walcha was there!

From our littlest Sapphires through to the ladies' team Pacifika, it has been a season full of improvement, determination, plenty of laughs and some seriously good netball.

The season finished on an especially high note at the ADNA presentation, with Walcha named Club of the Year and our very own Coach Kylie Marchant named ADNA Senior Coach of the Year.

Grand Final day saw all three Walcha teams take the court, with one premiership and two runners-up finishes.

Walcha Pearls 28 defeated VIP Dolphins 18, Division 4 Premiers.

The Pearls dominated from the opening whistle, keeping their composure and putting together some fantastic netball. Belle was impressive in the shooting circle, while the Petuha sisters brought plenty of energy and enthusiasm.

Playing the entire Grand Final without a single substitute, the Pearls never let their energy drop and finished with a well-deserved 28-18 victory.

VIP Fireflies 23 def. Walcha Opals 15, Primary 1 Runners-Up.

The Opals fought hard against a determined Fireflies side and never stopped working. Hugh was outstanding in defence, while Hannah and Flo



combined beautifully in the shooting circle.

Aria, Frankie and Savanah applied plenty of defensive pressure, with Lucy, Arlie and Lyzie working tirelessly through the centre court.

Although they finished as runners-up, reaching the Grand Final was a fantastic achievement and the Opals can be very proud of their season.

VIP Hotshots 38 def. Walcha Pacifika 22, Division 2 Runners-Up.

Pacifika may not have finished with the trophy, but they certainly provided plenty of entertainment throughout the season.

They fought hard for every ball, chased every interception and never lost their team spirit. A huge thank you also goes to Tom Wicks for giving up his time to train the ladies throughout the season.

While the 38-22 scoreline wasn't the result Pacifika had hoped for, the team can be proud of the season they have put together.

And with that, the 2026 season is done. What a year, Walcha Netball!



**MICHAEL McHUGH
BA LLB (Hons)**

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around the traps



By MAT LARKINGS

It is amazing how quickly a season can turn, and I think much of the New England is sitting on a bit of a knife edge at the moment.

Only ten days ago the countryside around Walcha was looking green and fresh and there was genuine optimism about what spring might deliver. Improved pastures in particular looked as though they had the potential to carry plenty of stock through the next few months.

Fast forward a week or so and temperatures into the 20s, combined with plenty of wind, have quickly dried out the topsoil. Pastures that were powering ahead are beginning to hay off and some of that early spring potential is starting to look stressed.

We certainly aren't in major trouble yet, but it is a reminder of just how quickly things can change at this time of year. A decent fall of rain in the next few weeks could turn the season around just as quickly, but without it, feed quality and quantity could disappear rapidly. Water may well be the deciding factor with more conversations I'm having are circling around the lack of ground water.

The big positive is livestock performance. Cattle and sheep grazing these pastures are doing exceptionally well and I think when some of these mobs eventually hit the scales there will be some very impressive weight gains recorded. With where livestock prices currently sit, kilograms are worth plenty of money, so converting this spring feed into weight while it is available remains incredibly valuable.

Something else worth mentioning is the confidence we are seeing around Walcha itself. Like plenty of small rural towns, we often hear the narrative that country communities are shrinking or dying. I don't think that tells the story of Walcha at all.

We are seeing new businesses opening, existing businesses investing and people willing to have a crack. That confidence deserves recognition and importantly, support from the local community.

It is particularly encouraging after what the town endured last year when our major arterial roads connecting us with the coast were closed for a significant period. The impact on passing traffic and tourism was enormous. For businesses relying on visitors coming through town, there were periods where tourism virtually disappeared.

It highlights just how important visitors are to regional communities. That is money flowing through accommodation, pubs, cafes, service stations, retail businesses and countless other small operators.

For a town like Walcha, sitting between the coast and the New England, maintaining reliable road access and encouraging people to stop rather than simply drive through is enormously important.

Finally, livestock markets might be showing the first signs of a correction after what has been an extraordinary run.

Friday's AuctionsPlus cattle market offered 18,616 head, up 6 per cent on the previous week, while clearance dropped sharply to 54 per cent. The AuctionsPlus Young Cattle Indicator also eased 10c to 527c/kg liveweight.

We are also starting to see larger numbers appearing through physical saleyards as producers take advantage of the strong market and, perhaps, become a little more conscious of where the season is heading.

None of that should necessarily be viewed negatively. Markets don't travel in a straight line and after the strength we have experienced recently, some consolidation is probably inevitable as numbers increase. What will be interesting over the coming weeks is whether buyers see any correction as an opportunity and step back in strongly, particularly if widespread rain arrives.

As always, seasonal conditions will have plenty to say about where livestock prices head next. Right now, there is still some grass in front of stock, cattle and sheep are performing exceptionally well and prices remain historically very strong. But as we have been reminded over the past ten days, in agriculture things can change very quickly.

Monday's Tamworth sales showed some definite pressure coming into the market as numbers increased. Cattle numbers lifted by 449 to 2,216 head, with all the major buyers operating. Despite an improved-quality yarding, the market was generally cheaper. Feeder steers and heifers were around 30c/kg cheaper, with feeder steers averaging 532c/kg and heifers 477c/kg. Restocker demand remained strong on the lighter cattle, with light steers lifting selling to 584c/kg. Heavy cattle were less affected, although cows generally eased 10–15c/kg.

The sheep and lamb sale also saw numbers increase, with 3,375 head yarded, including 2,025 lambs and 1,350 sheep. New-season crossbred lambs remained relatively firm, with 20–24kg lambs making \$282–\$306, while heavy lambs were around \$15 cheaper, with 24–30kg lambs making \$225–\$330. Extra-heavy lambs topped at \$340. Mutton remained reasonably solid, with heavy Merino ewes making \$156–\$235 and the best extra-heavy mutton reaching \$270.

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Glenburnie Rams take top honours at Merriwa Show

Glenburnie Merino Stud has enjoyed another successful day in the show ring, with the Walcha stud taking home a collection of major prizes at the Merriwa Springtime Show.

The Glenburnie team of March-shorn sheep performed strongly throughout the show, with the highlight being the Grand Champion Ram of the Show, awarded to an impressive 11-month-old ram lamb.

The young ram was among a strong line-up of entries and took out the top ram award, providing a great result for the Pittman family.

Paul Pittman attended the show with his son Bateson and his father, Wilson Pittman, making it a special occasion for three generations of the family to be there to see the Glenburnie sheep compete.

Glenburnie continued its success across the Merino classes, also being awarded Champion Extra Superfine Ram, Champion Superfine Ram and Champion Fine Ram.

The stud also received Reserve Champion Extra Superfine Ram, making for an impressive tally of results from the day.

The Pittman family said they had a very successful day out with their team and thanked the Merriwa show society for putting on an excellent show, as well as the other exhibitors and sponsors who helped make the day possible.

The Merino flock was registered in 2009, with the Poll Merino flock established in 2015. The stud has continued to focus on breeding high-quality superfine sheep, with its animals regularly competing at shows and events.

The results at Merriwa are another strong achievement for the

Pittman family and highlight the quality of the Glenburnie flock.

With the Grand Champion Ram being an 11-month-old ram lamb and the stud taking home a further four major awards, it was certainly a successful day for Glenburnie Merinos and another proud result for the Pittman family.



Bateson, Wilson and Paul Pittman with the Grand Champion Ram of the Show



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On the road with volunteer driver Phil

When Phil moved to Walcha nine years ago, he was looking for a way to connect with his new community. Six months later, he found it behind the wheel as a volunteer driver for Walcha Council's Community Care.

Since then, Phil has spent his days ferrying elderly Community Care clients to medical appointments in Armidale and Tamworth, helping them in and out of the car, waiting through appointments, then driving them safely home again. Often, his dog Diamond comes along for the ride, offering quiet comfort (and sometimes a welcome distraction) to clients facing difficult medical visits.

"All clients have different stories to tell," Phil says. "They're from a wide range of socio-economic groups, and I really enjoy listening to their stories and learning more about the history of Walcha."

For Phil, the reward isn't just in the driving. "It's rewarding to know I'm providing an important service to clients, and to be part of a local transport service. I enjoy volunteering as it positively impacts the community."

He's quick to encourage others to consider volunteering too. Drivers receive an 88c per kilometre reimbursement to help cover running costs, and the Community Care team offer plenty of support along the way.

"I'd encourage anyone with questions to reach out to them," Phil says. "You can make a massive difference to people's lives."

Community Care clients are registered with My Aged Care. More volunteer drivers are needed to help clients attend their medical appointments and more.

Contact Community Care on (02) 6774 2471 for information.



New England Renewable Energy Zone

Application for New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) network infrastructure project approval

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) is proposing the construction and operation of new 330 kV and 500 kV transmission lines, five energy hubs, associated infrastructure and ancillary works that will connect the New England REZ to the existing transmission network at Bayswater Power Station, near Muswellbrook.

For the purposes of clause 181 (6) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (NSW), EnergyCo gives notice that a State significant infrastructure application under Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* will be lodged with the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) is due to be placed on public exhibition for comment by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on its major projects planning portal in the coming weeks.

Details of the project application are available on the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure planning portal: planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects.

Application No: SSI-74175972

Proponent: EnergyCo

In accordance with the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure will display the environmental impact statement for the project and invite public submissions. The department will advertise the commencement of the exhibition.

For more information on the project, you can contact EnergyCo on **1800 061 114** (toll free), nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au or see energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne.

Information on the environmental planning and assessment process under Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* can be found at the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure website.

RAB CPP Morning

Regional Australia Bank Celebrates Community Partnerships in Walcha
Last Thursday, Regional Australia Bank's Walcha branch hosted a Community Partnership Program (CPP) morning, bringing together local community groups and organisations to celebrate the incredible work they do for our town.

The morning was a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to the local groups who continue to support Regional Australia Bank and, most importantly, to recognise the important role they play in making Walcha such a great place to live.

Through Regional Australia Bank's Community Partnership Program, money is returned to local communities through the organisations and groups that customers choose to support. This year, we are incredibly proud to be giving back more than \$49,000 to the Walcha community.

These funds help local organisations continue their important work, whether that be supporting sporting clubs, community groups, schools, charities or other local initiatives. Every dollar returned helps strengthen our community and contributes to making a difference locally.

Regional Australia Bank is proud to be part of the Walcha community and grateful for the ongoing support of our local customers and community groups. The CPP is a great example of how, by banking locally, we can all play a part in giving back and helping our town thrive.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our CPP morning, and to all of the local groups who continue to support Regional Australia Bank. Together, we are giving back to Walcha and helping build a stronger local community.

Come and see us. Walcha branch is open Monday to Friday, 10am–3pm.

Jorjie and Shae are more than happy to help with any of your banking needs, answer your questions or simply have a chat. We love being part of our local community and look forward to seeing you in the branch!

Kids Games and Youth Mashup

Attention parents and carers of anyone in school years K-9, Kids Games and Youth Mashup is on from Wednesday – Friday next week, and it's FREE!

Kids Games is for school years K-4 at Walcha Anglican Church, South St. from 9.30am – 12.30pm, drop off from 9am onwards. Each morning will be a load of fun including games, music, craft and Bible teaching time. Morning tea is provided.

Youth Mashup is at Walcha Presbyterian Church, Hill St for school years 5-9 also from 9.30am – 12.30pm. Arrive from 9am onwards. The mornings will be a mashup of epic games and good vibes. Take on the giant sling shot, tackle the laser course and check out what the Bible has to say.

Come along on Wednesday 30 Sept, Thursday 1 Oct and Friday 2 Oct or choose which days you can join us. Register using the QR code or when you arrive on the day.

Older youth in school years 9-12 are invited to 'Fireside' on Thursday night behind the Wood We Create gallery from 6.30pm – 9pm. Dinner, games, chill and chats about Jesus around the firepit.

Any questions, contact Neil Hunt, 6777 2543 or Graham Barnes, 6777 2539.



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St Patrick's athletes shine at Armidale Catholic Schools Gala Day

Last Friday, students from St Patrick's Primary School travelled to Inverell to represent our school in both netball and soccer at the annual Armidale Catholic Schools Gala Day. With multiple teams competing across different divisions, our athletes competed against all of the schools in the northern part of the Armidale Diocese in hot conditions.

In the Open Soccer Tournament, our Year 5 and 6 combined boys and girls team took to the field for six challenging pool matches. The team put on a fantastic display, securing four victories—including impressive wins over Holy Trinity (Inverell), St Philomena's (Moree), and St Joseph's (Tenterfield)—alongside one draw and a narrow, hard-fought loss to eventual finalists St Mary's (Armidale). Their strong performance earned them 6th place finish overall.

Our junior soccer teams also delivered great results. The Barbarians dominated their pool play with decisive wins over Tenterfield, Mungindi, and Glen Innes, alongside draws against Armidale and Guyra. Their only setback was a close loss to eventual finalists Moree. Though they narrowly missed out on a semifinal spot on a countback, they secured a fantastic 5th place overall.

Meanwhile, the Legends team enjoyed an outstanding run, remaining undefeated in pool play with four wins and two draws—highlighted by an incredible 14–0 victory over Tenterfield. Qualifying for the semifinals, the Legends faced Moree in a thrilling, high-stakes match that went down to the wire, ultimately falling in a dramatic penalty



Most of the students who competed at the Armidale Catholic Schools Gala Day at Inverell.

shootout to the eventual tournament champions to finish 3rd overall. On the netball courts, both of our Open division teams represented St Patrick's with distinction. The Opals swept through their pool matches undefeated to earn a place in the semifinals, where they fought hard in a tightly contested match against St Joseph's Primary, Glen Innes. The Diamonds were equally impressive, showing great grit in every match. Notably, many players on the Diamonds squad were eligible for the junior section but willingly stepped up to the Open division so St Patrick's could field two complete teams.

A special thank you goes out to those dedicated players for stepping up to the challenge, as well as to our staff members for their early morning start. Finally, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the wonderful parents who made the trip to Inverell to cheer on our teams from the sidelines!

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Soccer season done and dusted

As another junior soccer season comes to a close, we would like to congratulate all of our young players on their efforts and sportsmanship throughout the year.

Every player should be proud of the commitment, teamwork and enthusiasm they have shown each week, whether at training or on game day.

A successful season is only possible thanks to the dedication of many volunteers. We extend our thanks to our coaches, managers and committee who generously gave their time and encouraged our players to develop both their skills and confidence.

Congratulations to all teams on a wonderful year, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on the field next season.

Special Awards:

Tanner Wilkinson U6s Eagles Coaches Award

Ned Norton U6s Lions Coaches Award

Ava Betts U6s Bears Coaches Award

Alexa Baumer U7s Titans Coaches Award

Jack Norton Most Consistent,

Jordan Wilkinson Most Improved U8s Raiders

Jack Mansfield Most Consistent,

Archie Clarke Most Improved U8s Knights



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

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Walcha Basketball

Wow what a great way to finish the basketball season with two extremely close grand finals, both went down to the wire and could have gone either way.

The night started with the women's game between Topdeck and Bandits. The defense was fantastic which did result in a low scoring game but it was very exciting; right up until the final whistle either team could have won. Bandits did triumph 17 – 15, Topdeck were desperately unlucky as a 3 point shot taken just after the final whistle blew was successful. If the ball had left the shooters hands a few seconds before it did Topdeck would have won by 1 point. It certainly was a hold your breath until the end game.

Kim Lisle was the top scorer for Bandits with 8 points and Sonia Ussher scored 6. Top scorers for Topdeck were Apii Fontenella 5 points, Veja-Lee Petuha and Joscisca Matapakia both with 4 points each.

It was then the men's turn to show us how it was done when Kings took on Tigers. It was a very fast game with both fantastic defense and some spectacular shooting. At half time Kings had a 3 point advantage leading 17 – 14. In the second half both teams came out with all guns blazing, The lead changed so many times in the second half that it was anybody's guess as to which team would win. With not very long to go Kings again snuck ahead by 3 points unfortunately due to a couple of missed opportunities by Tigers they could not claw back the lead and a basket right at the end sealed the deal for Kings winning 37 – 32. It was an absolutely fantastic game. Top Scorers for Kings were Jake Wellings with 12 and Lachlan Brown with 9. Top scorers for Tigers were Adam Barillaro with 8 points and then both Micah Hayton and Reece Martin with 6 a piece.

Thank you to Dean, Steven, Mick, Jayden, Lachlan, Bonnie, Kobie and Kix for coming into the comp to give us the numbers needed for four men's teams.

It is great to see so many young players participating in both the men's and women's competitions.

Jenny Hoy was very excited to have survived her 50th consecutive year of Basketball. 43 of those in Walcha.

Congratulations to all players on a super night of basketball.

A huge thank you to everyone who refereed the semi's and grand finals. It is not an easy task especially when a game is really close.



Help Kirra-Lee take sport and leadership to Peru

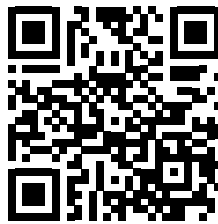
Final year Charles Stuart University student Kirra-Lee Murphy is fundraising ahead of her trip to Peru as part of the Peru Sports Leadership Challenge.

Studying Exercise and Sports Science, she will travel to Peru 7-21 November with Challenges Abroad, volunteering in local communities and helping deliver sports programs.

Sport has always been a major part of her life and the trip will allow her to put the skills gained through her studies and sporting experiences into practice, while learning about a different culture and community.

The cost of traveling overseas and participating in the program is a significant commitment, with funds needed for program fees, travel, accommodation and other expenses.

A street stall will be held on Saturday 26 September from 8am till 1pm. Donations can also be made through Kirra-Lee's GoFundMe page: <https://gofund.me/2fa8796b2> or by scanning the QR Code.



thumbs



- 👍 To the fantastic banner and the positive vibes regarding the future of the corner of South & Fitzroy St.
 - 👍 To Sue Jackson & Carley for the Art Exhibition at Walcha Gallery, "Along Campfire Road". Beautiful paintings & a most enjoyable night. Well done Sue!
 - 👍 To the Mackaway family for sharing their beautiful property, 'Tumble Downs', for the kids (and big kids) to race motorbikes on the weekend! And thanks to Armidale Motorcycle Club for hosting the comp.
 - 👍 To all the people who put their hand up to coach our kids for winter sport this year. Your effort and time is truly appreciated.
 - 👍 To our wonderful support group volunteers. Special mention to Chris & Sue. Thank you.
 - 👍 To Walcha Adventure Co. another new business to town, collaborating with Council and Walcha tourism to advertise the town and the area.
 - 👍 To the connections of 'To be Frank' on a great win.
 - 👍 To the Walcha Branch CWA for organising the Rural Health seminar at the Sports Club.
 - 👍 To the untidy garden at the Cemetery.
- 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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what's the goss

with AJ Cross



Congratulations to the Walcha Pearls on winning the Armidale District Netball Association Division 4 competition when they defeated VIP Dolphins 28-18 in Armidale last Saturday. Team members Arley Olsen, Emilie Davis, Belle Saxby, Madi Morris, Puna Matapakia, Georgia Clayworth along with the Petuha sisters, Xayphyn and Veja Lee were coached by Thea Dunn this season.

...

And what a season it was - The Pearls played 16 games throughout their competition where they won 15 while scoring an amazing 692 goals conceding just 164 at an average of around 43 goals for and 10 against per game. The only game they lost was the Major Semi Final against Dolphins after the majority of the team had played for Walcha in the NSW Central Schools Championships in Dubbo that week.

...

Bad luck to Walcha Pacifika who were defeated by VIP Hotshots 38-22 in Ladies Div 2 and Walcha Opals who lost to VIP Fireflies 23-15 in their Primary Div 1 Grand Finals last Saturday. Walcha's other team Sapphires, went down to PLC Red in their Primary Div 2 qualifying final a couple of weeks ago. A Mighty Effort by all 4 Walcha teams who were awarded 'Club of the Year' for their efforts in 2026. Good on ya Girls!

...

The Walcha Touch Football Association held their Annual General Meeting at the New England Hotel last Thursday evening where President Ben Ussher, Secretary Sonia Ussher, Treasurer Amanda Latham and Ground Manager Jason Latham were all returned to their positions. Junior Comp co-ordinators are Sonia Ussher and Matisse Pascoe while the judiciary consists of Geraed Oversby, Willie wicks and Ian Crawford who hopefully won't need to convene during the upcoming 51st season.

...

Well done to the local mountain bike rider Melanie Benson who competed in the eight day adventure 'Ride for the Chopper' with a 67 kilometer final led from Lake Keepit to the Tamworth Westpac Helicopter Base late last week. Mel must have handed the 560 kilometer trek without too many difficulties as she is already planning for the next 'Chopper' outing. Way to go Mel.

...

The Walcha Snooker Club will be conducting a friendly competition this Sunday 27th September where cash prizes will be on offer to the winners. You don't have to be a seasoned cue master to join in all the fun just an attitude of having a good time at the Walcha Bar and Grill when all the action commences at 1.30pm.

...

The Bowling Club held their annual Footy Tipping party last Saturday afternoon where quite a few of this years participants enjoyed a few beverages and snacks. Big Wigs of the 2026 competition were D.J. Bird and Barry Kliendierst on 272 points where as Carly Goodwin tied with her husband Kyle for 3rd place.

...

Not sure where you stand on 'double dipping' in regards to sharing a dipping sauce with other snack eaters but I witnessed a bloke who not only did it at the B.C. party last Saturday he then triple and quadruple dipped. For more information see 'Bikie' Brazel or his good friend Amanda Jane who were sitting at the same table when it happened. Lets just say the sauce was delicious.

...

Wishing every success to punters who think they are capable of selecting the winner of this years NRL competition but at least there should be a couple of great qualifying finals when the Dolphins take on the Roosters Friday night and the Panthers do battle with the Knights on Sunday afternoon. Best of luck to all supporters who are still cheering on their teams but remember the further you advance in the final the bigger the disappointment if or when your team happens to lose.

...

A final reminder to Apsley Tipsters your 'End of Season' party is on this Saturday from 12 noon.

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)



Wednesday Golf

Last Wednesday the ladies held their AGM before playing their round of golf.

Simone Sweeney took on the Presidency and Vicki Heffernan the Vice Presidency once more.

Pauline Carter stood down from the Secretary's job and Pip Monie was elected in as our new Secretary.

Anne Martin remained as our Treasurer. Jill Burnell also remained as our NEDGA representative and Cark Street as our publicity officer.

Two players being Bec Hall and Jenny Lisle tore up the field with great scores of 44 stableford points. Bec was the winner after counting out Jenny.

Next sweepstakes went to Simone Sweeney with 42 points and Cark Street with 38 points. Cark counted out Jill Burnell and Sal McCormack both also on 38 points.

Sue Partridge claimed the second shot on Hole 7 and Jenny Lisle won the second shot on Hole 18.

This Wednesday is a stroke round, monthly mug and putting playing for Jenny Lisle's trophy. It is also the first round of the Secretary's eclectic.

Bowls

Thursday Bowls Results: Noel Goodwin & Tony Batterham defeated Greg Carter & Peter Halliday 25/8. Brian Goodwin, John McCormack & Mark Hogan defeated Barry Kliendienst x2 and Geoff Salt 20 to 12. Brian, John & Mark won the vouchers.

Pairs played last week. Kyle Goodwin & Mat Hamel were in fine touch defeating Stephen Goodwin & Gordie Bird.

Kyle and Mat will now play Barry & Miles in the final. Twilight bowls start on Friday 9th October and will finish on 11th December. The sheet is on the board. Three to a side, get a side and have a crack. The 90th Birthday Fundraiser will be played on Sat 24th October. Two bowl triples. Sheets are on the board. Don't be short.

Tennis News

Round 3 of the Spring Prelude Comp was played out on Tues 15th September in pleasant conditions.

Our top four are Sam Payne on 70, Hyde Thomson and Ed Blomfield tied on 52 and Emma Waugh on 44. Thanks as always to our floaters Barry Hoy and Dougal Payne. A special thanks to Michael Luchich for all his help organizing the Night Comp.

The Spring Night Comp will be a five week comp starting on Tues 27th October and will conclude on Tues 24th November. Start time is 6.15pm sharp please arrive at the Club house by 6.05pm. The format will be four a side graded doubles. Names to Michael Lockyer on 0487 898 051 or Hyde Thomson on 0427 780 391. Nominations close on Saturday the 17th October.

The Street Stall is booked in for Saturday 17th October. Anyone that can help man the stall or supply baked treats to sell on the stall please let Sandra Laurie know on 0428 770 954.

The next Club Meeting will be held on Monday 12th October at 6.30pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. See you all at the net soon.

Ladies Bowls

The 3 bowl triples concluded last week. Results will be in next week's column. Please write your name on the board if you wish to play for the Ivy Makeham Singles Trophy commencing 15 October. Don't forget our 90

birthday celebrations on Saturday 24 October. See the notice on the board for further information. Names to go on the board if you can help out on the day and also wish to play. Twilight bowls will commence on 9 October. There will be social bowls tomorrow 9.00am for 9.30am start.

At the Nineteenth

With a number of members representing Walcha at the NSW Vets 4BBB Championships in Narromine last weekend a field of 26 players teed off in the Monthly Stroke Round where 'Molleydooker' Julie Hoad carded a 65 nett to win a trophy donated by Andrew Crawford.

The A Grade Mug went to Simone Sweeney on 67 Nett, B Grade was taken out by Barry Hoad on 69 whereas John McCormack collected the C Grade Mug for some reason despite Julie Hoad having a better score.

Club Champion Michael Stackman shot a four over par 74 to win the best Scratch Score from Lee Fletcher 73 and Kyle Goodwin 76.

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Simone Sweeney (3), Angus Warden (9) and Timmy Baumer (16) while no player was accurate enough to reach the 18th beach.

Sweepstakes went to Sue Partridge 67, Lee Fletcher 67, Andrew Robertson 68, Barry Hoad 69, Rose Baumer 69 and Michael Stackman 69 on countback from Allan Green also on 69.

The Putting competition was won by Lee Fletcher whereas Anne Martin picked up the coveted 'Pink Shirt' for most putts with 33 jabs.

In Match Play it took 21 holes before John McCormack defeated Lee Fletcher.

Last Saturday John McLaren won the weekly 9 hole competition after accumulating 20 stableford points on a countback from Anne Martin who won the N.T.P on 3.

This Sunday is the annual Bywell Cup for prizes supplied by Tim and Janie Fenwicke and Family.



Yarrowitch Public School




Transition 2026

Starting Term 4
Every Tuesday starting from 20th October to 24th November - 9am till 3pm

Yarrowitch Public School is excited to offer a Transition to School program for 2027 school age students. As a small rural school, we pride ourselves on our strong focus on literacy and numeracy, while also providing rich access to technology, hands-on problem solving and creative learning. Staff support and nurture each student to develop their individual talents through personalised learning, guidance and a focus on building confidence and curiosity. This welcoming and engaging program helps children feel confident and connected as they begin their school journey. All families are warmly invited to join us!

Please contact Yarrowitch Public School for further information.

☎ 6777 7582

✉ yarrowitch-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 <https://yarrowitch-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

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Blake O'Reilly 0448 213 668

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STOCKLIVE

classifieds

Raffle Results

Friends of Riverview - 1st Di - taxi, 2nd M.Barillaro, 3rd Di - taxi and 4th M.Cawley. Thank you for your support.

Public Notice

Walcha Law – 02 6777 2066

Bree Curtis – Justice of the Peace

Available by appointment only.

No charge for JP services.

Walcha Chiropractic will open from 9-12 Tuesday 29 September 2026 due to power outage. Customers will need to bring cash as we will have no eft facilities.

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PH: Dave 0427 771 469

Public Notice (cont)

Walcha Council

Walcha Waste Transfer

Facility Closure for a

Planned Power Outage

Tuesday 29 September 2026

Essential Energy has advised Walcha Council of a planned power outage between 9:00am to 4:00pm on Tuesday 29 September 2026.

As a result, the Walcha Waste Transfer Facility will be closed on this day. The outage will affect the gatehouse and associated systems, meaning staff will be unable to operate the facility or process incoming waste.

To accommodate the closure, the Walcha Waste Facility will open on Monday 28 September 2026 for this week only, during normal operating hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm. The facility will then resume its usual operating schedule following the planned outage.

The onsite recycling centre remains accessible and can be used as normal during the power outage.

Council thanks the community for its understanding and encourages residents to take advantage of the additional opening on Monday 28 September if required.

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



Meeting Notice

Walcha Polocrosse AGM Thursday 1st October 6.30pm at the Apsley Hotel.

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service
Walcha Volunteer Support Group AGM
28th September, 2.30pm, Eastgate Village Kitchen Block, 60E North Street, Walcha. New members most welcome. Olive 0428 772 067.

Walcha Garden Club meeting Friday, 2nd October, 26, at the Walcha Tennis Club commencing 9.30am. Enquiries: S.Law 0467 450 243, D.Lisle 0429 799 083.

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Walcha Council Library & Youth



SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2026

Feelgood Fitness Fun

9.30am: 5-8yrs
10.30am: 8-12yrs
12 noon: 12yrs & up/highschool
Peter Fenwicke Oval
Fun new group fitness activities for local youth!
BOTH TUESDAYS 29/9 & 6/10

Mandala Art

1pm-3pm Ages 8+
Walcha Library
THURSDAY 1/10

Lego Club

2.30-4pm
Ages 5+
Walcha Library
FRIDAY 2/10

Storytime

Teddy Bears Picnic
Walcha Library
10am All ages
TUESDAY 6/10

Robot Castle Siege

1.30-2.30pm Ages 6+
Walcha Library
WEDNESDAY 7/10

Dance Party

10am - 11am
Ages 5-15yrs.
@ the old preschool building on
THURSDAY 8/10

Creative Craft @ the library

10am - 11.30
Ages 7+
FRIDAY 9/10

Activities have limited places
Book online via
CNRL Events page or QR code
or visit, call or email
Walcha Library staff

<https://cnrl.events.mylibrary.digital/>
67742550
library@walcha.nsw.gov.au



EXCURSIONS

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Tamworth Escape

Wed 30th Sept
Escape Room & Cinema
Bus leaves Walcha Library
1pm return by 6pm
Ages 16yrs + only

Teen getaway!

Wed 7th Oct
Bus to Tamworth to visit
the Cinema & get lunch
Bus leaves Walcha Library
10am return by 5pm
Ages 12yrs +

Register NOW!

At Walcha Library or email
library@walcha.nsw.gov.au
Limited seats available on
these FREE excursions

THE APSLEY Advocate

Power outage deadline!

This **Friday 25 September** at 4.00pm for all stories and adverts.

The Advocate will be printed early due to a scheduled power outage.

Contact us today

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Brendan Moylan MP

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Authorised by Brendan Moylan MP, Suite 2-6, 161 Balo Street, Moree NSW 2400. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.



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church notices



ANGLICAN

September 27 - Walcha Service 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.

We'd love for you to join us.

All welcome.

Phone 6777 2539.

CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass 10.00am

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WHAT'S ON?

Thursday 24 12.00pm – Close

BOWLS 9.00am Ladies, 1pm Social

BINGO 12.30pm

Friday 25 3.00pm – Close

Free Bingo drawn at 6.30pm

Raffles drawn at 7pm

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIALS

- Creamy Garlic Prawn Crepes
- Creamy Lamb Chops
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Saturday 26 11.00am – Close

5.00PM BISTRO

Sunday 27 11.00am – Close

12.00PM BISTRO

Raffle tickets from 12pm, drawn 1pm.

MEMBERS DRAW

DRAWN AFTER THE RAFFLES

FRIDAY \$500

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER FOR 2026/2027 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN

AGM rescheduled for Sunday
 18th October at 9.30am

Twilight Bowls commences
Friday 9th October.
 Please have names down by
 Friday 2nd October

Club available for catering of
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