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Sunday 24 - 10 to 4 ANZAC Day - closed



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Two Walcha Polocrosse players returned from the National Championships in Ballarat last week with a winners and runners up trophy.

Thomas Donnelly represented NSW in the Under 21 mixed side and Marlee Wall played for NSW in the Mixed Junior No.2 side.

Being selected for the biennial championships is a huge honour, with Thomas and Marlee teaming up with players from right across NSW. "The team practice and bonding sessions in Ballarat helped immensely in getting to know the other players, and preparing for the Championships," Trish Donnelly

And there was time off the field to meet new people at the Championships with a State presentation night, as well as a 'Meet and Mingle' with an official presentation in the main pavilion. "Players, coaches and managers had to swap their playing shirts for their official uniform with ties and blazers for this function. Each team was introduced to their interstate counterparts," Trish commented.

The Championships games ran for three days, before the finals on 2/3 April.

Marlee Wall progressed through to the final on Saturday 2nd April against the Queenslanders. "The game was very entertaining and very stressing

for her mum and supporters, and could have gone either way. Queensland ended up winning by the tighest of margins 18 to 17."

Thomas's team played on Saturday afternoon against the PAA (Polocrosse Association Australia) which is a team made up players from all states who were not selected in a state team. Thomas came away with a great win, making them Under 21 champions, 32 points to 21.

Both Simon Wall and Tony Donnelly were Assistant Coaches to the Masters Men's team and Open Men's team, with Tony also umpiring two games, so they were all kept rather busy.

"We all had a great time, and most importantly Marlee and Thomas were able to experience the high end of polocrosse and gain invaluable friendships," Trish said.

Marlee's next state representative game will be at Warwick in the Barastoc competition for the Juniors, which is being held 6-8 May.

"We were hoping to have our local carnival on the 23rd & 24th April . But due to the grounds being wet and with player safety and horse welfare in mind, along with more rain predicted we had to make the decision to cancel. We hope to be able to run our carnival later in year."

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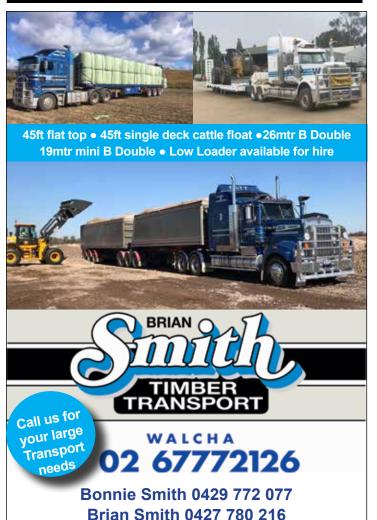
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around the traps



By BRUCE RUTHERFORD

A run of magnificent autumn days has erased memories of the weather over the last month, when the sun was barely seen. There are more of these sunny days to come this week and forecasts are for a fine Easter which will be welcome. It should be a great time to catch up with family and friends around the BBQ. During the week I was telling someone from way out in the east about our very wet March and soon realised they would have loved to have had just over 200 mm for the month. They had received over 400 mm in March, and that was on top of another 400mm in February! Spare a thought for them.

Northern weaner sales are well under way with a number of centres conducting sales in the last couple of weeks. From all accounts the calves are heavy, which is only to be expected in the seasonal conditions being experienced. At the Central West Livestock Exchange in Carcoar agents have had a couple of sales with yardings around 7,000 calves. Apparently the calves have been magnificent coming from all around the central tablelands districts and they have received plenty of support from buyers in all directions. Inverell, Armidale and Glen Innes have had sales in the last couple of weeks and they too have been extremely well supported by local buyers as well as from away. It seems if you are wanting to buy calves, it is a bit like buying milk, the price is the same wherever they are yarded. If you are looking to step into the heavier steers you have to compete with strong feedlot competition, and if you want the lighter calves, so does everybody else! Heifers are the surprise this year, in many cases making more than the steers. Restocker attention has turned to breeding this last six months or so and quality females are selling very well. In Glen Innes on Monday the lead pen of Angus heifers sold for \$2826 per head at 850 c/kg LW. Glen Innes yarded 3236 weaners in this sale and they sold at an average price of \$2137 per head right through. As a matter of interest, 2203 steers averaged \$2247 while the 977 heifers averaged \$1968. Outstanding results all round and a far cry from where we were a few years ago.

There are more weaner sales to go this month before the northern sales shut down in early May. It seems to me that if you are going to buy calves this year, you will need to do it in the next month as there are less numbers about and with this rain in the south, maybe numbers will dry up altogether down there. I have to say it is so disappointing we no longer have weaner sales in Walcha as our calves either go to Tamworth or on Auctions Plus these days. A sign of the times. There are very few weaners being sold locally with most ending up on Auctions Plus where they are selling very well.

Last week we sold several lines of weaner calves on Auctions Plus. 45 unweaned steer calves from Niangala weighing in at 298kg LW sold for \$2200 while their 279kg LW sisters sold for \$2310. Another line of 69 EU weaned calves weighing 303kg sold for \$2280, while 22 unweaned steers weighing 251kg sold for \$1760. Other weaners from Walcha included 48 unweaned EU steers at 307kg sold for \$2230 and 55 EU weaned steers at 269kg sold for \$2220. The moral of that story is that buyers will pay something for weaned calves.

The federal election has been called for the 21st of May, the last possible date it could be held. It is going to be a very long six weeks I think, given the pollies have been electioneering for months already. It would be a good time to be a shareholder in NETFLIX and Stan in my view. I am not sure about everybody else, but I am very tired of all the spin before the election campaign has begun. Scott Morrison proved to be an asset for the Liberal / National coalition in the last election campaign, winning the election nobody believed would be won. However, I am not so sure he will pull a rabbit out of the hat this time. Because of his leadership style, (which is a bit autocratic) and the political spin he imparts on every interview or announcement, the voting public appear to have had enough. I think there would certainly be a few situations Scomo would like to go back in time and handle differently. That is not going to happen, and I doubt commentators in some media circles are not going to let anyone forget about those gaffs either. I am not sure about Albo as a leader either and would have to be convinced. He is no Paul Keating or Bob Hawke. The one thing we can be sure of is that this absolute spending frenzy is likely to continue, with either party. At what cost?

Walcha Golf Club celebrates 85 years

From A.J Cross

On 11th April 1937 at 1:30pm local Mayor Hargraves officially opened the Walcha Golf Club and at the end of the official speeches hit a 'screamer' down the fairway before a round of Canadian Mixed Foursomes was played. Last Sunday Ross King, grandson of 1937 President T.C. Fenwicke made a speech outlining some of the details from the opening day.

The land where the course is now situated was purchased from Mrs A.S. Gill at an exceptionally good cost which was very much appreciated at the time.



At a cost of around \$17 per acre the land $(99^{1/2} \text{ acres})$ ran into approximately \$1680 while the clubhouse cost \$8780 and course construction was \$300.

Designed by Carnegie Clarke the course was highly regarded from the start and not only has been rated the Number 1 sandgreen course in NSW but also described as the 'Augusta' of Sandgreens.

Back in 1936, it was the energy of the Club members that built such a great course and clubhouse which continues today.

In concluding, Ross mentioned that it was the effort of the club volunteers that make the club such a great one.

Last Sunday, Ross and Alex Gill (grandson of Mrs A.S. Gill) were the trophy donors for the mixed 4BBB Mixed Medley event to celebrate 85 years since the club opening.

2022 ANZAC Services



On ANZAC Day this year (Monday 25 April), the Dawn Service will commence 6am at the War Memorial on corner of Hill and Derby Streets.

The ANZAC March will gather at the corner of Hill and South Street at 10:30am ready for the march to the Memorial. The ANZAC Day service will commence at 11am at the War Memorial before the march through town and dismissal at McHattan Park.

Walcha Bowling Club will host a game of 2up from 2pm onwards.

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FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF COUNCIL BEING REVIEWED

BY MAYOR ERIC NOAKES



The recent decision by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to grant a 0.7% rate cap increase for councils in NSW has highlighted the extremely tight financial position that rural councils are being forced to endure. With inflation predicted to be in the vicinity of 3%, and with world events putting more pressure on this figure, the ability of councils to maintain, let alone improve services becomes impossible. The cost of this decision to Walcha Council's bottom line will be close to \$400,000.

From a ratepayers view it is easy to think that IPART have made a good decision, is understandable. Who wants to pay more rates? Councils are easy targets for their perceived inability to deliver services, whether roads, community facilities or waste, but like any household or business, outgoings can only be greater than income for a short period. Councils like Walcha have no ability to increase income, our rate rises are capped, we have no population growth or accompanying development by which our rating revenue would increase. On top of this we are expected to deliver dozens of different services whose costs are increasing exponentially. Unlike business we do not have the capability to borrow and pay back when things improve, as at no time in the future does our income increase to repay borrowings.

Over the last 5 years natural disasters and grant funded projects have further put pressure on reserves, these reserves have proved to be inadequate to fill this gap. Every time council are involved in a wind storm, flood, fire or drought recovery, it costs in the vicinity \$50,000 due to the structure of State Government funding requirements. We are responsible for a portion of the costs in closing roads, clean up etc. Most projects that council has had funded have cost overruns during the ensuing period and have cost more than budgeted, again due to grant conditions and increase in costs during delivery. We, as council must take some ownership of this also, at times through poor scoping and poor project management leading to delayed delivery.

Collowing a desktop review by Professor Joseph Drew, who has delved into the last 11 years of Walcha Council's finances and the trend that has developed, a pattern of a decline in council's financial stability has emerged. He discussed the initial findings of this review with us through the week and we look forward to working with him to produce plans to ensure our long term financial sustainability. A direct quote from Professor Drew is "I'm going back eleven years in financial data and can confirm for you that this problem is at least 11 years in the making, it is not something that has suddenly arrived over the last 3 years." Professor Drew is an Associate Professor of Public Policy and Local Government at UTS Sydney. One of his principal areas of study is Local Government Financial Sustainability.

Over a minimum of these 11 years council has maintained a tenuous financial position through the revaluation of assets, conversion of assets to cash and reduction in unrestricted cash. This trend can only be maintained for a short period and under the management of highly credentialed General Manager Barry Omundson and the formidable team he has assembled in this area we must start to halt and turn around this trend to secure our long term stability and autonomy.

Generally there are two ways to improve your financial bottom line. Increase income or reduce costs. From 2014 to 2019 our staff increased by 33%. While some of this is due to regulation and

statutory compliance, has there been a corresponding increase in service delivery? More projects have been delivered and therefore more staff have been required but we must work to find the economic tipping point of wages versus delivery.

Census information tells us our LGA has a falling population base, this puts more pressure on, as we have a large area and therefore a long road network to maintain. Our water and waste water treatment plants could service a much larger population and therefore have maintenance costs in proportion to their size, not user base. Rubbish disposal is coming under increasing pressure from the EPA and this is also coming at an additional cost burden.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework was introduced in 2009 and all councils were to be compliant by 30/6/2012. In many areas we are still not compliant, which as explained to me by the Office of Local Government is not uncommon - it is a very demanding process, but we must aim to be compliant into the future.

Of higher concern is Walcha's submission to the IPART Assessment of Council *Fit For The Future* Proposal in 2014. Under sustainability it states, "In its proposal, the council relies on the successful application for and adoption of a permanent Special Rate Variation (SRV) from 2016 to 2017 of 15.6% cumulative over 2 years(10.5% above the rate peg)". As the lead in time for a SRV is around 2 years this should have been started in 2014. If this proposal had been implemented as stipulated by council's submission and documented by IPART many of the current issues would have been averted.

oving forward we, like a number of non-metropolitan councils over the last 12 years, are investigating the implementation of a SRV. These permit councils to apply for a rate increase above the rate capped by IPART. Over this 11 years there have been 168 SRV applications by 103 Councils, there are only 128 councils in NSW. The 2014 State Government Report states that 84% of respondents to a survey on Walcha's position and future wanted to remain a stand alone council yet 57% did not want an increase in rates to provide essential services. This was always going to be an untenable outcome, but should not have been a reason to not follow through with council's commitment.

The purpose of this article is to make you, the community aware of our current position. It is not to reflect on what could have been done or should have been done. Decisions made in the past should have been made with the best information and intention at the time, but at times tough decisions that can be unpopular need to be made for long term outcomes. Hindsight should only be used to not repeat outcomes and we need to look forward, be honest and transparent with the community and work toward a sustainable outcome.

Despite what I have written this is certainly not an irretrievable position, other councils are in a similar position. We now have the right people in the council to understand and reverse the downward trend and the newly elected councillors have a grasp on the issues. We must focus on core business, we cannot be more than what our community expects and needs. There needs to be, and will be public engagement over these issues.

In the words of J.F. Kennedy, "There are risks and costs to actions, but they are far less than the long range risks of comfortable inaction."

Questions and answers with massage therapist Brett Dwyer

How long have you been a remedial 1. massage therapist?

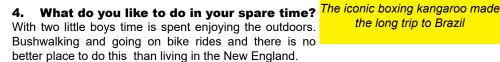
I finished my diploma of remedial massage in 2000 which only feels like the other day.

What prompted you to pick this career?

My father competed in cycling races around country NSW and I would massage his legs prior to him competing - I was still at school. I never thought these early days would lead to where I am today.

3. **Career highlights:**

In 2016 I was selected for the Rio de Janiero Olympics to be part of the medical headquarter staff - doctors, nutrition experts, physiotherapists, recovery experts and massage therapists providing athlete care to our Olympians. It was one of the biggest teams with over 460 athletes and staff. The 2018 Commonwealth Games on home soil up on the Gold Coast was also special as that Australian spirit really shone through.





the long trip to Brazil

thumbs

- To the Walcha Community supporting Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.
- To Walcha businesses doing home deliveries.
- To the Commercial Hotel for the amazing meals they are serving up.
- To the Bowling Club for putting on a great night for the hockey presentation.
- Thank you to Donna and Jasmine Lynch for their kindness, generosity and friendship. You are both absolutely fantastic people.
- To the two young lads who helped the ladies load their cars after the Swap
- To the great Swap Meet at Langford.
- To Walcha Council Community Care for a fantastic trip to Nundle.

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

Favourite food?

My wife cooks a good chicken korma.

Brett operates out of 37w Fitzroy St, Walcha on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10-5pm. Bookings can be made by phoning Brett on 0414 349 625.

"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick..." Jesus Christ of Nazareth How's your Spiritual health?

Over 4 consecutive Wednesday nights 7.30pm at the Walcha Tennis Club Starting April 20th

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Enquiries

Amanda Cooper, Principal, Walcha Central School walcha-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

RubyHillsWind

Walcha Community Information Drop-in

WalchaEnergy invite the community to the **RubyHillsWind** renewable energy drop-in days to the following venues.

Woolbrook Hall 26th April, 2022 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Walcha Show Ground 27th April, 2022 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Information to be presented

- Project Plans
- Project Maps
- Environmental Study / Vegetation Maps
- Types of infrastructure
- Walcha Community Funding Proposal
- Project Approval Process

For more information please contact



Dan Muller: 0402 551 826 - dan.muller@walchaenergy.com.au

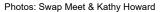
Mark Waring: 0407 812 053 - mark.waring@walchaenergy.com.au

Felicity Hurt: 0419 613 471 - felicity.hurt@walchaenergy.com.au

HUNDREDS GATHERED FOR SWAP MEET

Walcha Swap Meet 2022 was held last Sunday at Langford, with organiser Adam luston saying it was a huge success. People came from all over the region to buy, sell or swap goods.

"We will definitely be back at Langford for 2023. I would like to say a huge thank you to all involved in making it such a great day," Adam said.





















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What's the Goss

With A.J. CROSS

Talented, sport all-rounder Shaun McKenna has been a busy little beaver during recent times including travelling to Sydney where he represented North West at the State C.H.S Swimming titles in the Open Mixed Relay along with his Walcha Central School team mates Charlotte Mooney, Jasmine Lynch and Hunter O'Connell late last month. Last week Shaun headed to Tamworth for the North West squash trials where he gained selection after winning 4 of his 6 matches and is now off to Sydney in June to play in the State CHS titles. On top of that Shaun is a member of the North West Blue Heelers AFL development squad which is affiliated with the Sydney Swans Academy. He has been picked in an U/15's representative team to compete at Coffs Harbour in June and July. Wonder what Shaun does in his spare time.

Another talented sporting all-rounder Cameron Mooney has also been on the move of late having also competed at the PSSA swim titles in Homebush early last week with his Walcha Central School mates Alex Gunn, Fletcher France and James McLaren where they placed 36th in the 11-13 years 4x50 metre relay. Earlier in the year Cameron was selected in the NW PSSA Cricket team after already making representative level with the Armidale and District team. Good on ya Cameron.

Still on North West selection, lawn bowler Sariann Andrews participated in selection trial in Tamworth last week and has been named in the team to compete at the NSW CHS titles at Penrith late in June where positions in the NSW squad are up for grabs. At the time of going to print, Sariann was waiting on news on how she went at the zone 3 trials played in Manilla last weekend.

Well done to the Walcha Rams who opened their 2022 Central North account with a solid 46-16 win over Scone here at the Park last Saturday. By all accounts the boys didn't have it all their own way in the first half but came home with a wet sail. Go the Rams.

Although things are still a bit sketchy the Walcha Roos/Uralla Tigers combined Rugby League team have been drawn to play Glen Innes in the opening round of the Group 19 Competition on April 30th. A decision on who will host the home fixture (Roos or Tigers) hadn't been made at the time of going to print. Any players interested in having a run (boys or girls) are more than welcome to do so. For more information please contact Roo's President Michael Aspinall.

The second round of the 2022 Ladies Golf Championships were played last Saturday where the daily prize was donated by Walcha Gallery of Art which went to the player with the best nett score on the day. Club Champion Cheryl McDonald claimed the trophy to the disappointment of her younger sister Donna Martin who is believed to have her eyes on the prize. Apparently there was only a shot or two difference in the scores. The final round of the Championships is scheduled for today.

Talk about excited when I finally 'picked the card' in the Footy Tipping competition last weekend - well up until I was informed by BC tipping organiser Gordon Michie that no less than 14 tipsters had done a similar thing. But I was the only one at the Apsley Arms to do so. The first in five rounds at the 'A'.

Came across an old paper clipping the other day of local saddler Bernie Brady running down the main street nude (well almost he had socks, shoes and a G-String on). Bernie had made statement that he would run down the main street nude if someone in Walcha would donate \$1000 to the Westpac Helicopter to help fundraising for the Walcha Road Runners which he was a member of. Former Walcha Shire President Evan Barnet came up with the cash and I was there to take the photo. Bernie did cheat a bit it was around 5:30am on the 21st April 2005.











Top: Thomas and Marlee in action at the National Championships. Top right: Tony Donnelly umpiring at the Championships.

Above: Thomas hoists his winners trophy (3rd from right); Marlee with her National silver trophy (Far left).

Photos: Laura Amy and Andrew Frank Event Photography

Easter fun at the Farmers' Market

Enjoy your Easter break with a visit to Saturday's Farmers' Market. Bring along the children to join in the fun activities we have for them.

The Ukelarrikans will be back to entertain with their lively music from 9.30am, ushering in the Easter hat parade at 10am, with some nice prizes to be won. This will be followed by the Easter egg hunt, which is always popular with kids.



Strolling through the market, you

will find freshly picked produce and handmade goods. On site, is Rotary's popular breakfast BBQ and a steaming espresso from 'The Float' will brighten your morning. Add some delicate macarons and delicious tarts to your shopping bag, along with rich honey, smoked trout dip, cheeses and spicy condiments.

Why not drop off any homegrown produce or baked treats to the Community Stall and we will sell them on your behalf. You can pick up some new season vegetable seedlings there to add to your Winter garden bounty.

It's also great to see the Guyra Potato man is back, with freshly dug varieties to bake with your Sunday roast. So come join us this Saturday in the relaxed and enjoyable surrounds of our local Farmers' Market.

WALCHA GARDEN CLUB CLIPPINGS

April is a wonderful time to ready the garden for the coming cold months. As leaves fall off the trees and dry then run the mower over them so they will break down more easily. An addition of mown leaves to your compost heap will be most beneficial too. Clip and trim any perennials that have finished flowering. Some gardeners just lay the trimmings on top of the plants to help protect from frost and remove the clippings at the first signs of growth in spring. Remember to mulch around your plants to reduce any weed growth and to retain valuable moisture. Clean up any fallen rose leaves to reduce black spot and mildew. Dispose the leaf litter into your green waste bin or place in a black plastic bag and leave in the sun for a few days to kill any black spot or mildew spores on the leaves.

If you have not already begun to prepare an area for spring flowering bulbs, then now is the time to start as good preparation is the key to a successful flowering in spring. Choose a sunny position with friable free draining soil. To get the most enjoyment from them plant them along an entrance path or a spot you can see them from your house. Bulbs are all about visual impact. Try mass or drift planting. With such a colourful palette to choose from try different combinations to enhance your garden. Such a pink, white, mauve, and purple under a pink flowering cherry tree. Bulbs do not like soggy soil. Dig over the proposed area well. Bulbs like cool soil so hold off planting until towards the end of April otherwise they make think they are in spring and try to germinate. Bulbs have shallow root runs, so they are well suited to planting closely in pots. Usually after the first season of flowering, bulbs should be planted out into the garden for future flowering. Tulips are the only bulbs that require pre chilling prior to planting. Some nurseries pre chill tulip bulbs so they can be planted immediately. If your tulips have not undergone this process, then you may have to pre chill them in your fridge's crisper in paper bags for 6 weeks prior to planting. It is best to keep them away from fruits and vegetables as they give off gases which may ruin your bulbs. Autumn is the time to fertilise your bulbs with blood and bone or chicken manure. Water in well. Your much anticipated colourful show will be here by early August until mid-October.

In the veggie garden it is time to clean out the last of the summer season producing plants. If you still have green tomatoes on the vines, then just pull them up and hang upside down in a warm place and your tomatoes will ripen over time. Tidy up around your rhubarb and strawberries. It is a wonderful time to plant parsley too. Leave picking pumpkins until after a couple of frosts. This helps the skin to go hard and improves their flavour. Remember to leave their stems intact for keeping purposes. Store in a cool, dry and well-ventilated spot. Jerusalem artichokes can be dug up once the plant has died off. This also applies to potatoes. Clean up old fruit from under fruit trees then spread wood ash around the base of the trees to suffocate coddling moth and cherry slug larvae.



The celebrations continue

From Jane Morrison

Thank you to who have supported us with the events so far. The talk at the Library History Centre was a success and all had an interesting evening listening to Bob Walsh talk about his book "Walcha Stories". Our High Tea was another success



although the numbers were down due to COVID. All there enjoyed the costume display of Men's Clothing (we have not shown them before) and stayed to have a feast of savoury and sweet goodies.

We will start again after Easter on Wednesday 20th April at 5pm with a talk in the Library History Centre on local Family Histories presented by Melanie Oppenheimer and Nerida Hoy. Vic Galvin will be present if anyone would like to enquire about their family.

On the 23rd April we will have another Open Day. There will be a costume display (different from the High Tea), again Devonshire Teas will be available for \$5 and we will also have a \$5 sausage sizzle, entry is free.

We hope to see you come and see the wonderful artefacts and the attractions for the day.





RUGBY REPORTWALCHA V SCONE

By Eric the Spider

The 2022 Rugby season kicked off this weekend for the Walcha Rams where they hosted Scone at the Rugby Park. Excitement was high for the game as a few new fresh faces were being combined with some younger players returning to the Rams in what looks to be a very competitive squad. Unfortunately the Walcha Rams were unable to field a reserve grade.

The first grade game kicked off with the Rams fairly slow out of the gates. Scone held the ball well for the entire first 10 minutes putting the Rams defence under pressure. To their credit the Rams defended with venom, driving the Scone side back on a number of occasions. Some trademark tackling from Edgar "mates call me bragsy" Bragg and Billy "squat rack" Porter held the Scone attack at bay. Scone pieced together a nice attacking raid up the right hand touch line which resulted in Walcha conceding a try. Scone took the early lead 7-0. Not panicked, Walcha began to work themselves into the game holding onto the ball and putting together a few phases. Big carries from Toby "from Congi" helped get Walcha across the gain line and gain some excellent territory deep in the Scone half. Walcha then perfectly executed a line out move which saw the ball swing back to the blindside and Henry "loved up Les" Leslie steam over the line for Walcha's first try. Walcha's superior fitness began to shine as they held the ball and directed Scone around the paddock. A sneaky pick and drive from 60m out from Wally "slippery Somerton sheep breeder" Davidson saw Walcha run in its second try of the afternoon to take the lead. The game started to open up in Walcha's favour. Some reckless carries and excellent support lines from the new recruit Matt "haven't thought of a nickname yet" Williams saw him run in 2 tries under the post and Walcha were looking the goods as Scone began to tire. The score at halftime Walcha 24 Scone 16.

The second half began with Walcha holding onto the ball well and looking to up the intensity of the game. A quick tap was taken which unleashed a steaming Troy "T-Bone Malone" Tape down the left wing to score a brilliant try. The forwards controlled the game well with good metres from Ritchie "The Wombat" Hunt and Ross "I hate first grade" Monie getting the Rams onto the front foot. A solid off season from Sammy "fastest in the club" Colwell enabled him to get through big minutes in the centres as well as slide into prop to give the piggies a hand. Walcha finished the game off with a crossfield kick which saw Jim "sausage dog pimp" Boyd leap into the air above the pack coming down with the football over the line

The Rams proved too fit and strong for the Scone side running away winner Walcha 48 Scone 16.

Walcha have a week off now over Easter and then take on the Quirindi Lions at Quirindi for Round 2.

R1	April 9	Scone	(H)	R10	June 25	Scone	(A)
R2	April 23	Quirindi	(A)	R11	July 2	Quirindi	(H)
R3	April 30	Moree	(H)	R12	July 9	Moree	(A)
R4	May 7	Inverell	(A)	R13	July 16	Inverell	(H)
R5	May 14	Pirates	(H)	R14	July 23	Pirates	(A)
R6	May 21	Вуе		R15	July 30	Bye	
R7	May 28	Narrabri	(A)	R16	Aug 6	Narrabri	(H)
R8	June 4	Gunnedah	(H)	R17	Aug 13	Gunnedah	(A)
R9	June 18 Barraba/Gwydir (A)		R18	Aug 20	Barraba/Gwydi	r (H)	













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Bowls

Congratulations to new Bowler Jason Asmus who is the B Grade singles champion after defeating Gordie Michie in a great game of bowls 31-28!!

No bowls will be drawn this long weekend, championship games will be drawn the following weekend.

Dads Army: After a couple of wet afternoons, Dads Army got a chance to have a game of bowls on Thursday. Eight players fronted and two games of pairs were played. Brothers, Noel and Brian Goodwin had a good win against Barry Kliendienst and Warwick Hogan while in the second game Eric O'Keefe and John McCormack had a 20 all draw with Mick Bullen and John Watts.

Eric and John won the chooks on the toss of a coin and Max Holstein won the raffle.

Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday there was only one game played in the Major Singles with Taina having a 25-17 win over Lyn, this puts Taina into the final to be played on the 28th April.

The draw for 14th April is Esther v's Sari, marker Pam and Debbie v's Veronica marker June with the winners to play on the 21st April.

Also last Thursday there was a game of pairs with Veronica and Esther having a close win over Pat and Wendy 11-10.

Players keep in mind our Presidents Day on the 26th May. Our monthly meeting is on the 21st April at 1 pm.

Wednesday Golf

Last Wednesday was the beginning of the Championships, along with the first round of the Vets Championship, a stroke event. This was played in conjunction with putting, monthly mug and the second medal round for the Drews Seafood trophy.

The winner with a great round was Sue Partridge 68 nett. Sweepstakes went to Pauline Carter 70. Simone Sweeney 71, Donna Martin 73, and final sweepstakes, Cheryl McDonald 74.

Putting was won by Jenny Lisle with 23 putts. Nearest the pin on 3 was Julie Presnell and Vicki Heffernan cleaned up on 16.

The monthly mugs were won by Simone Sweeney -Division 1, Sue Partridge - Division 2, and Pauline Carter took home the Division 3 mug.

Saturday saw the second round of the Championships playing for the Gallery of Art trophy.

Our captains took out the top two awards with Cheryl McDonald the winner with 74 nett, with Donna Martin the runner up with 76. Next sweepstakes 78 for Julie Olrich, Jenny Lisle 79. Penny King 80 and Katie Smith 81. Ruth Fletcher was the sharpest shooter on Hole 3 and second shot on 18 went to Alison Cameron.

Today is the final round of the Championships and the second round of the Vets Championship.

The trophy is being donated by Paperdolls. Good luck to all involved.

At the 19th

The Walcha Golf Club celebrated 85 years of existence last Sunday with a 4BBB Medlay Stableford round where trophies were donated by Alex Gill and Ross King.

Although Ross combined with his wife Penny, to register the best score of 47 points, they weren't eligible to win, as the trophy donors can't collect their own prizes, but they did receive a Sweepstakes ball each.

A three way countback was then called for to determine the winners where Don Brooks and Jack O'Hara got the nod from David and Simone Sweeney, Dion and Nixon Bird after the three duos racked up 42 points each.

The remaining sweepstakes went to Gavin White and Kyle Goodwin 41, Jeff Etheridge and Owen Presnell, Miles Archdale and Donna Martin both on 38.

Sharpest shooter at the third pin was Rose Baumer. Inclement weather last Saturday caused the weekly 9 hole competition to be cancelled.

This Sunday is the annual 'Kanga' Cup in memory of late club member, mollydooker and volunteer Ray 'Kanga' Boyd to be played under a 4 person ambrose format commencing with a 12 noon shotgun start.

NEXT APSLEY ADVOCATE

WEDNESDAY 27TH APRIL

Tennis

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The 2022 Summer Comp Semi-Final was played out on Tues 5th April in pleasant conditions. Barty: D Sweeney, Chris Bruce, Jen Hoy (floating for Melinda Clark) and Graeme Wall defeated Groth: Todd Whillock (floating for Michael Lockyer), Adam Barillaro (floating for Steve Blake), Pip O'Brien and Ann Pendlebury (floating for Matt Ireland) 31 to 18. Well done Barty taking the win and well done to Groth who put a good fight having to field a team that had not played together during the preliminary rounds.

Stosur: Kris Wall, Emma Wauch, Justin Gibson and Deb Wall (floating for Pip Palmer) defeated Gavrilova: Tom Gough, Trevor Gibson, Charlotte Lyon and Linda Lockyer in a great close match getting up 32 to 28.

The 2022 Summer Comp Final was played out on Thurs 7th April in cool sometimes misty conditions. Stosur: Kris Wall, Emma Wauch, Justin Gibson and Deb Wall (floating for Pip Palmer) defeated Barty: David Sweeney, Chris Bruce, Jen Hoy (floating for Melinda Clark) and Graeme Wall 32 to 24. Congratulations to Stosur our Summer Comp Champs and well done to Barty for making the Final and putting up a great fight.

The next Club Meeting will be held on Mon 9th May. Happy Easter and I will see you at the net soon.



2022 Summer Comp Winners - Stosur Deb Wall (floating for Pip Palmer), Kris Wall, Emma Wauch and Justin Gibson.

church notices 🔫



ANGLICAN - Walcha

15th April 9:30am - Good Friday Service. 17th April 9.30am - Easter Sunday Church on the lawn

24th April 9.30am - Family Service All welcome. COVID restrictions apply. Contact us on 6777 2543 or email walchaanglican@

PRESBYTERIAN - Walcha

Good Friday - 9.30am Easter Sunday – 9.30am 24th April - 9.30am Everybody welcome to join us.

For info - Graham Barnes 6777 2539

Good Friday – 3pm Stations of the Cross with Bill Heazlett

Easter Sunday - 10am Mass

Holy Thursday - 6pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Good Friday - 11am Stations of the Cross & 3pm Solemn Passion

Easter Vigil (Saturday) - 6pm Mass

Easter Sunday - 8am Mass

advocate classifieds

Public Notices

Walcha Council **Nominations for Council Advisory Committees**

Council is seeking nominations from community members to serve on the following Walcha Council **Advisory Committees:**

- **Beautification Advisory Committee**
- Arts Advisory Committee
- Motorcycle Rally Advisory Committee
- Community Care Advisory Committee

No particular qualifications are necessary though a commitment to the activities of each Committee and a willingness to be actively involved in issues or events of the Committee are essential.

Anyone interested in serving on these Committees should pick up a nomination form from the Council Office or download it from our website : https://www.walcha. nsw.gov.au/news. Current Committee Members are encouraged to apply. Nominations must be submitted to Council by 5:00pm Thursday 14 April 2022. For further information please contact Council on 67742500.

PO Box 2 Walcha NSW 2354

Walcha Council

Barry Omundson General Manager

Walcha Council **Community Care**



Temporary Closure Council Community

Care rooms will be closed for the next two weeks due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the area, including our client base. All Transport, Meals on Wheels and Independent Social Support Services are still available and the opening hours will remain 9am - 5pm on all weekdays excepting public holidays. If you require any support during this time please call 02 6774 2471. Regular services will resume on 26/04/2022. Thank you for understanding and stay safe.

Walcha Council PO Box 2

Barry Omundson General Manager

Walcha NSW 2354

Walcha General Practice Flu Vaccine Clinics are in May at the Showground

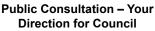
Covid Winter Booster for over 65 years done at the same time

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Walcha Junior Indoor Hockey are calling for registrations for children school years K-12. More information is available on the registration form https://tinyurl.com/485s5vyj Anticipate season start Thursday 12th May, NO LATE players accepted. There may be a "Come and Try afternoon" Thursday 28th April, need to register first.

Walcha Council

DRAFT Community Strategic Plan - Walcha 2032



Residents of the Walcha Local Government Area are advised that Council is placing the DRAFT Community Strategic Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days inviting public submissions until close of business Friday, 29 April 2022. Council will be available at the Street Stall Booth from Monday 11 April to Thursday 14 April 2022 between 10am and 2pm for discussion and consultation on this document. Please familiarize yourself with the Plan and then consult with us to facilitate the planning for the future of Walcha. The Plan is available on our website: www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/ news.aspx or alternatively you can view a copy at Council Chambers.

Walcha Council PO Box 2 Walcha NSW 2354 Barry Omundson General Manager

Walcha Indian Cuisine

Operating hours:

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Contact: 6777 2186 or 0416 048 153 no voice mail.

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Walcha Darts are hoping to get up and running 28 April. Team nominations to Emma on 0427 016 911 by 15 April. Anyone looking to join a team please contact Emma. Let's get our Thursday night darts back on track!

For Sale

Rinnai Gas Heater, 3 burners, free standing. Phone: 6777 2428

Easter Opening Hours

Staces Fast Freight - will not be operating on Easter Saturday 16 April.

Kings Pharmacy

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

Raffle Results

Lions Club: 1st load of Wood - Goodooga Walker, 2nd meat tray - Vicki McIvor.

Westpac Rescue Helicopter raffle: 1st Bill Heazlett - 2nd Mel Benson.

St Patrick's School P&F Easter raffle: 1st wood - Noni Young, 2nd fuel voucher -Amanda Scott, 3rd meat voucher - Beau Brazel, 4th Easter basket - Peta Carter. Thank you to the community for your generosity and to Walcha Tyre Service.

CWA Street Stall: 1st wood - Peter McNeill. 2nd Meat gift voucher - Jo Wicks, 3rd Fruit -Trish Donnelly. Thank you for all the support. Wood kindly donated by Marchant Bros.

Meetings

Walcha Support Group Inc., Thursday 28 April at 1pm in WCCC rooms. All welcome.

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WALCHA BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB

Thursday 14

NORMAL TRADING HOURS 9.00am For 9.30am – Ladies bowls. 1.00pm Social bowls – All Welcome 2.00pm FREE BINGO

6.00pm FREE BING

Menu: Seafood Medley, Curry chicken & rice or Savoury beef with cheese crusted cobs.

7.00pm EASTER RAFFLES, Fruit & Veg raffles followed by Members Draw.

Good Friday 15 CLOSED

Saturday 16

NORMAL TRADING HOURS
6.00pm Bistro

Sunday 17

NORMAL TRADING HOURS 12pm Bistro open for lunch 6pm Bistro open for dinner THURSDAY 14 APRIL

MEMBERS

DRAW \$300

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER FOR 2021/2022 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN

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CLUB OPENS 11AM 12.00pm Bistro

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Monday to Wednesday 4.00pm to close Thursday 12 midday to close Friday 2.00pm to close Saturday and Sunday 11am to close Phone 6777 2077 Do you live in Walcha Shire? If so you <u>MUST</u> be a member to enter the Club.

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