

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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11 May 2022

## More Walcha History



*This Saturday*

**14 MAY  
RUGBY**

AT PETER FENWICKE OVAL

*Rams v Pirates*



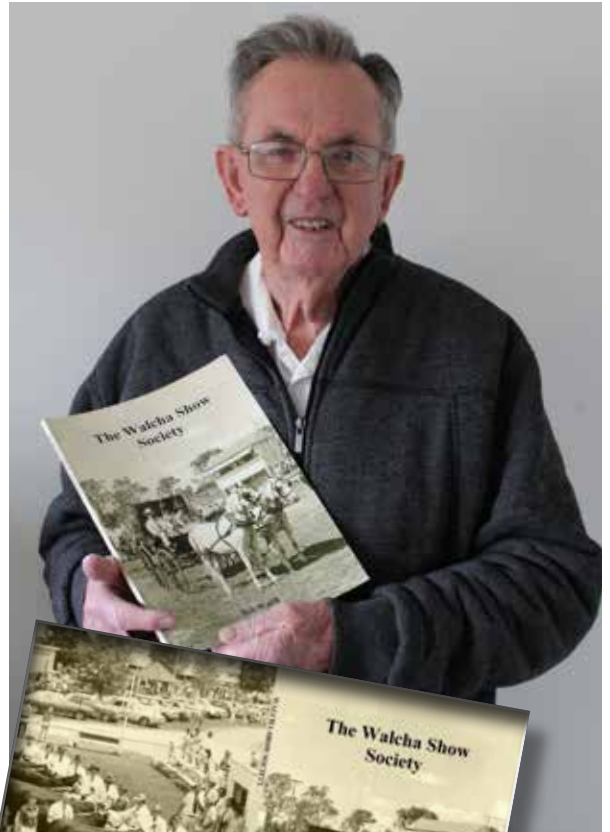
When Walcha staged its first show in 1878 the town had an estimated population of 350 people, with a similar number in the surrounding district. At that time public transport was provided by horse drawn coaches, while freight was hauled by both bullock wagons and horse wagons.

Local writer Bob Walsh has been very busy of late collecting stories, photos and more for his new book titled *The Walcha Show Society*. Bob's new book traces the history of the Walcha Show, from the difficult formative years through two World Wars and the Great Depression, up to the present time.

The book includes the story of Walcha's early connection with the Uralla Society, the setting up of the showground and the formation of the Walcha P. & A. Association. Bob also writes about the sideshows, entertainment, pavilion displays, showgirl competitions, the Showground Trust and the annual Central District feature at the Sydney Royal Show. The book includes other users of the showground, along with stories of some interesting happenings over the years, accompanied by photographs from the early days up to the present time.

### Like to purchase a copy?

The Walcha Show Society book is on sale at the Walcha Newsagency for \$25.00.



## thebigblackbuilding turns one

thebigblackbuilding has its 1st Birthday this Saturday 14 May.

"As the saying goes, 'time flies when you're having fun', and wow have we had fun!" says owner, Adam Iuston. Call down to the BBB from 5.00pm this Saturday and help them celebrate. They are having a party and everyone's invited!

## BEAT THE PLAGUE

Time to stock up! Baits now available at Walcha Vet Supplies.



6 Aberbaldie Road Walcha.  
Ph 6777 2588. [www.wvs.com.au](http://www.wvs.com.au)

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## around the traps



By **BRUCE RUTHERFORD**

A couple of half decent frosts this last week have sorted out the last of the tomatoes and anything else that is frost sensitive and clinging to life at the end of the warmer months. It was a sudden death for them, but also a reminder of the colder weather to come. I have to say it has been wonderful to go this deep into autumn without the frosts, something we do not normally see. There has been very little frost damage to pastures evident other than couch at this point, but no doubt it is only a matter of time now.

Rain is forecast across much of central QLD and NSW later this week, some of it has potential to be significant according to the forecasts. Farmers with winter cropping programs have been working around the clock trying to get seed in the ground before this event. However, with some central western districts a chance of receiving upwards of 75mm this weekend, some farmers are hanging off planting until the event has passed. If the rain is too heavy and crops are not out of the ground, there is a chance that some country will have to be re-sown. Who would be a cereal farmer! For us, a good fall of rain would be wonderful at this time of year as we would still get some pasture growth and it would give crops a lift. Looking forward to it.

There are now some real biosecurity threats to agriculture looming for Australia, coming from just to the north of us. Indonesia has announced this week they have discovered cases of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) which is a wake up call for us. It is not the first time in Asia and it has been eradicated before. So there is some hope. Other diseases we have seen recently to the north of us include Lumpy Skin Disease, (which from all accounts would have the same effect on markets as FMD if we had an outbreak), as well as African Swine Fever, (which is still running rampant throughout Asia and Europe). If we were to have an outbreak of any of these diseases, it would have a catastrophic affect on our export markets. We do have a lot of migratory birds fly into the north of Australia and there is very little we can do about the possibility they will bring in an exotic disease. However, the thing we can control is what comes in on ships and in containers or with passengers on a plane, so it would be good to see AQIS ramped up in an attempt to stop what many believe is an inevitable event at some point.

The election campaign has been so easy not to watch unfold! I find the media and the tidal wave of political spin a combination too hard to put up with. A lot of what I have heard is very much what I have heard every election. It does not change. Same old, same old ... while they are all promising to spend money nobody has, it would be great to see some real money go into telecommunications in the bush. If we want to attract city based professionals and tradesmen to the country, we have to have first class communications. It is something missing in this political debate. The first question a prospective city based property buyer will ask is about the quality of mobile phone and internet services. If they are not good, you have a battle with those buyers every time. Good mobile service and internet connectivity would go a long way to bridging a gap that will be forever, if not fixed. I really don't know why the Nationals have not pushed this issue harder for much longer.

Although the EYCI is still elevated at 1096 c/kg cwt, there are some signs that restockers are becoming a little more cautious about how they spend their hard earned. This rain event forecast through QLD and much of NSW this week may change their ways of thinking, but many of the secondary types have come off the highs of a month or so ago. Reports out of AuctionsPlus and several physical markets this last couple of weeks have indicated there is more caution from restockers when it comes to the secondary types of cattle. The last couple of store sales in Tamworth have reported that the cross bred types of heifers in particular have been harder to sell. AuctionsPlus has had similar experiences with the heifers selling to cheaper trends last week. The 280 to 330kg LW range of heifers increased in numbers by 72% on AuctionsPlus last Friday and sold at average \$199 per head lower than the previous sale. The clearance rate was only 52%, so that does tell you the appetite may be waning. The heavier class of 300 to 400 kg heifers sold at an average of \$109 per head less. The lighter steer lines also saw prices for the secondary types lower as buyers have become far more selective. This was always going to happen and the hope is that the season holds the market together for at least another 6 to 9 months to let buyers trade the cattle they have purchased since late last year.





# Voting opens for Election

With voting opening on Monday for the upcoming Federal election, Walcha residents can now cast their vote at Pre-Poll locations in Tamworth and Armidale.

## Where can you Pre-Poll Vote?

**Armidale** Shop 3, 106 Jessie Street (next to Centro).

**Tamworth** 515 Peel Street (Armidale end of Peel Street) or Unit 2, 383 – 391 Goonoo Goonoo Road.

Pre-Poll is open from 8.00am to 8.00pm weekdays, Saturday 14 May 9.00am to 4.00pm, Friday 20 May 8.00am to 6.00pm.

## Voting on Election Day (21 May)

Polling booths will be open from 8.00am to 6.00pm. Locations around Walcha where you can vote on Saturday 21 May:

- Walcha Central
- Kentucky Hall
- Yarrowitch School
- Nowendoc Hall
- Woolbrook School
- Bendemeer School
- Uralla Central

## How to Vote

**House of Representatives:** Voters in each electoral division elect one person to represent them in the House of Representatives.

In the New England there are 8 candidates standing, so you will need to number ALL boxes on the green ballot paper from 1 through to 8 in order of your preference.

**The Senate:** Each state and territory elects multiple Senators using a preferential voting system. At a Federal Election only half of the Senate positions for each state typically become vacant, resulting in six Senate vacancies per state.

On the white Senate ballot paper, either:

- Number at least six boxes above the line for the parties or groups of your choice, or
- Number at least 12 boxes below the line for individual candidates of your choice.

Polling officials are available to assist voters complete their ballot paper. If you make a mistake on a ballot paper you may return it to the polling official who issued it and receive a fresh one.



- 👉 A big thank you to the road crews who graded and fixed our roads in Woolbrook last week. A great job, much appreciated.
- 👉 To the well manicured lawns at the Walcha Cemetery
- 👉 To Dr Adrian Allen and his staff for organisation plus and caring at the Covid and flu vaccinations last Wednesday at the showground. We are lucky to have people like this in our little town.
- 👉 To Phoebe from The Fruit Shop for sourcing the ethical and best Tony's Chocolate and for all the coffees she's made – always with something nice to say. Walcha won't be the same without you. Safe travels.
- 👉 To Tyrone Smith for measuring and mowing the soccer fields.
- 👉 Jan Cross for playing music for the Mothers Day lunch at the Bowling Club.
- 👉 Dulcie Holt for the flowers for the Mothers Day decorations at the Bowling Club.
- 👉 To all of the Walcha Garden Club members and their husbands who volunteered to help at the Community Day clean-ups last Friday and Saturday at Apsley Riverview Hostel. Thank you.
- 👉 To people who sell green firewood to pensioners.

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

## Family Brick & Tile Home



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- *For an appraisal on your asset call us today.*

### To list your property please call:

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Residential

Bruce Rutherford 0428 660 328  
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# Regrowth

Welcoming all members of the community to join us as we meet over morning tea and lunch together.

## *Our day will include*

- How to cope with anxiety and stress
- Rural Fire Service experienced front line service presentation
- A collective project of 'putting the pieces together'
- A talk on how we can prepare emotionally when there is the threat of disaster
- The availability of financial assistance counsellors
- Other service providers to provide support

Register online:

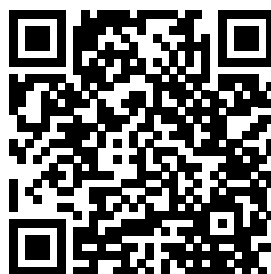
**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/walcha-regrowth-tickets-315858109107>**

For further information contact Donna Boughton 0437 961 137

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*Free RSVP*



*Where* **Walcha Showground,  
159N Derby St N, Walcha**

*Date* **Wednesday 18th May**

*Time* **9.30am - 2.00pm**





# Out & about in Walcha on Mother's Day



Four generations – Lloyd and Pauline Levingston with grandson Beau, great granddaughter Lyla, daughter Katie and great grandson Clay.



Stephen Bath enjoyed lunch with his mother June.



Samantha, Arizona and Stuart Bayley enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Walcha Bowling Club.



Tyler with his mum Josephine and grandmother Nellie Foster.



Caitlin was a great help to her mum Toni at the Royal Cafe on Mother's Day



Chris Gardiner with granddaughter Olivia, daughter Jenny, son Robert, grandson Brett and daughter-in-law Margaret.



Four generations – Yvonne Schlenert (front) with daughter Suzie, granddaughter Emma, great grandchildren Akira and Emmett, and granddaughter Natasha.



Ralph and Cheryl Jenkins enjoyed lunch with Herbert and Gwen Higgins.



Vaun Gegier had a very enjoyable day.

Your Learning Journey

Kindergarten to Year 12

Starts here



## Kindergarten 2023 Orientation



**Walcha Central School**  
invites children beginning Kindergarten in 2023 and their parents  
to our first Kindergarten orientation and experience event.

**Friday 10 June 2022**  
**9:15am – 10:30am in the school library**  
*Morning tea provided.*



For more information,  
and to RSVP by Friday 3 June  
phone 6777 2777







Local Land  
Services



## 1080 Aerial and Ground Baiting For Wild Dog & Fox Control 2022

**Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and Forestry Corporation of NSW wish to advise they will be carrying out 1080 poison aerial and ground baiting for wild dog and fox control, commencing 20 May and to be completed by the June 2022.**

This baiting program will be carried out in conjunction with the following Wild Dog Control Associations: Ashford, Atholwood, Bald Nob - Skeleton Creek, Baldersleigh, Boonoo Boonoo, Bundarra, Cataract River, Chandler River, Cooney Creek, Copeton, Deepwater - 10 Mile, Donnybrook - Leeches Gully, Dundee - Glen Elgin, Elsmore, Emmaville, Enmore - Blue Knobby, Jeogla, Kooreelah, Liston, McLeods Creek - Lower Rocky River, Mingoola - Mole River, Moona - Winterbourne, Mt MacKenzie, New Koreelah, Niangala - Nowendoc, Nullamanna - Wellingrove, Pyes Creek, Red Range - Pinkett, Rocky Creek, Rocky Dam, Rummeries Hill, Sandy Flat, South Valley, Steinbrook, Tenterden, Torrington, Upper Severn River, Wards Mistake, Wongwibinda, Yarrowitch - Tia, Yarrowyck and Yetman

**Baiting will be undertaken on the following NPWS managed lands:** Avondale SCA, Back River NR, Bagul Waajaarr NR, Bald Rock NP, Barool NP, Basket Swamp NP, Bluff River NR, Bolivia Hill NR, Booroolong NR, Bulagaranda (Mount Yarrowyck) AA, Burrall Yurrul NR & NP, Butterleaf NP & SCA, Capoompeta NP, Captains Creek NR, Cataract NP & SCA, Cathedral Rock NP, Cottan-Bimbang NP, Crooked Creek NP, Cunnamurra NP, Curracabundi NP, Donnybrook NR, Dhinna Dhinawan NP & NR, Forest Land FR, Gibraltar NR, Gibraltar Range NP, Guy Fawkes River NP & NR, Indwarra NP, Jobs Mountain NR, Kings Plains NP, Kooreelah NP, Kwiambal NP, Mann River NR, Maroomba SCA, Maryland NP, Mount Hyland NR, Mummel Gulf NP, New England NP, Nowendoc NP, Nullamanna NP, Nymboida NP, Oxley Wild Rivers NP & SCA, Serpentine NR, Severn River NR, Single NP, The Basin NR, Tomalla NR, Tooloom NP, Torrington SCA, Tuggolo Creek NR, Warra NP, Warrabah NP, Washpool NP & SCA and Werrikimbe NP

**Baiting will occur in the following State Forests:** Bald Knob, Beaury, Billilimbra, Boonoo, Brother, Butterleaf, Donaldson, Donnybrook, Doyles River, Enfield, Ewingar, Forest Land, Girard, Giro, Hanging Rock, Koreelah, Malara, Moogem, Mount Mitchell, Nowendoc, Nundle, Oakwood, Paddys Land, Riamukka, Spirabo, Styx River, Terrible Billy, Torrington, Tuggolo, Warra and Woodenbong State Forests

**Baiting will occur on the Travelling Stock Reserves:**

TSR 14257, TSR 67816 and TSR 810.

**1080 baits pose a high risk to domestic dogs. All domestic dogs should be kept under control and away from baiting areas at all times.**

**For further information please contact Northern Tablelands Local Land Services:**

02 6732 8800 (Glen Innes), 02 6770 2000 (Armidale), 02 6739 1400 (Tenterfield), 02 6720 8300 (Inverell), NPWS New England Area 02 6777 4700 (Walcha), NPWS Northern Tablelands Area 02 6739 0700 (Glen Innes) NPWS North Coast 02 6652 0900 (Coffs Harbour) or Forestry Corporation of NSW on 02 6585 3744 (Wauchope) or 02 6652 0111 (Coffs Harbour).

## What's the Goss

With A.J. CROSS



**Walcha Flippers member Cody Wellings represented TAS** at the recent NSW/CIS Secondary Swimming Championships at Homebush where he performed well. Cody touched down at 34:11 seconds in his 50 metre freestyle, 1 minute 20:28 seconds in his 100 metre freestyle and also produced a 44 seconds PB in his 50 metre backstroke. Good on yar Code.

...

**Walcha were represented at the Oxley Bowling Club Triples last Saturday** by Stephen Bath, Andrew McGuffog and Graham Marshall who finished third. Apparently the boys didn't get off to an ideal start when 'Pole' put the wrong bias on his bowl early on, before committing the same offence another couple of times during the day. By all accounts 'Guff' went out in sympathy with 'Pole' when he did the same thing on one occasion. Club President Tony Asmus, his partner Debbie Richards and his son Jason also took part in the tournament.

...

**A minutes silence was held for Doug 'Sparra' Taggart and Clarrie 'Clasha' Moran** before the Uralla/Walcha verses Narwan Group 19 Rugby League match last Friday evening. 'Sparra' played with Walcha in 1977, the year we were eliminated by Narrabri in the Group 4 Preliminary Final, while I had the pleasure of playing alongside 'Clasha' in Group 19 and Northern representative teams in the early to mid 1980's.

...

**Walcha Basketball tipped off in 1965** when the first Men's competition was conducted and the following year a Women's competition was also introduced. Like a few local sports Basketball has been struggling of late but it isn't too late to become involved this year. A meeting is being held Thursday 19 May at the Bowling Club from 6:30pm. Chief organiser Amanda Scott and Jenny Hoy are on the lookout for playing numbers, so if you are interested in having a run please contact either of them or just nominate on the Walcha Basketball Facebook page by Saturday 14 May.

...

**Congratulations are in order for the Brennan Boys** who won back-to-back local Golf Foursomes Championships last Sunday. Wayne and Willy took out the main prize by five shots from Don Brooks and Simeon Cross and actually produced the best nett score of 69, but weren't eligible for that trophy because players are only allowed to win one major trophy in the Championships.

...

**Former Walcha Councillor Rachael Wellings** purchased a helium 'Happy Birthday' balloon for my favourite mother-in-law Ida Hoy while in Tamworth last week. Before leaving the Country and Western Capital one of the car windows was open and Rach's son Eli accidentally bumped the string securing it in place sending the balloon out the window into space. A second balloon was then purchased to help Ida celebrate her 89th Birthday last Thursday.

...

**Walcha Horse Racing** connections had a day out at Glen Innes Races last Saturday when local trainer George Woodward, along with former Walcha residents Craig Martin and Melanie O'Gorman, trained winners in all six races between them. George opened the meeting with a Quinella in Race 1 when his two horses Skipper George won from Barren Jack, before Cliffs of Moher saluted in Race 3 and then Blue Sky Moon took out the final race of the day. George's Man ran second in Race 4 to give the Woodward stable three wins and a couple of seconds. Not a bad day really.

...

**Graig Martin went back-to-back when Miss Nicolini won Race 4** and then Race 5 with Poet Lad, while Mel O'Gorman got the job done with Leagles in Race 2. Mel and Marto may not live in Walcha presently, but we can still claim them as a couple of our own. Can't we?

...

**What an amazing performance by Cronulla** last Sunday when they defeated the Warriors after playing the majority of the game with 12 players after their fullback Will Kennedy was sent off for a head high tackle in the first half. At one stage the Sharkies only had 11 players on the field when centre Jesse Romain spent 10 minutes in the Sin Bin for a shoulder charge. There is little doubt Sharks supporters, including our local fanatics, were extremely proud of their team's effort – and so they should be.

# Drive in movie night comes to Walcha

It's drive in movie night this Friday at John Oxley Oval.

Hosted by the Walcha Central School P&C and generously supported by Walcha Council, the night is for all ages and a novel, fun way to support our Central School and its students.

Relax in your car, savour tasty, hot food you can pre-order, and be entertained by two popular movies chosen for the night.

From 6.00pm the whole family can enjoy the perky charm and infectious energy of *Sing 2*, a movie that will leave a tear in your eye and hope in your heart. Gates open at 5.30pm.

Our second feature, *Respect*, is a sparkling retelling of the life of musical legend Aretha Franklin, featuring powerhouse performances and a rocking soundtrack. This can be your unique, date night experience from a bygone time. Gates open at 8.00pm, with the movie starting at 8.30pm.

You'll be able to watch from the privacy of your car or sit out side amongst others enjoying the event. Bring along mossie spray, pillows, blankets, folding chairs and flashlight. The movie audio will be accessed through your car radio, and packing a battery operated radio is also worth considering.

A big thank you to Chris Betts for providing a truck as our mobile screen, Cassie and Matt McKenna for the projector, and all the wonderful volunteers who are making this event happen.

Spots are going fast, so don't wait, book now. Tickets, snacks, dinner and raffle tickets can be purchased when booking online at <https://www.trybooking.com/BYHIG>.

Come along, it will be a great night out.

# Walcha Station Open Day

Saturday 14 May • Walcha Fire Station

Looking for something to do this Saturday between 10.00am and 2.00pm? Why not pop down to our local Fire Station in Hamilton Street and watch some great demonstrations, learn about fire safety and meet our local firefighters.

The day is a great opportunity to take a closer look at the fire truck and all its special equipment – always a winner with the kids. This year the organisers have arranged for an antique fire truck to be at the station, which may be of interest to both those young and old in our community.

There will also be some great giveaways for the children, so make sure you drop into the station and meet the crew. To find out more about the Fire + Rescue Open Day go to [fire.nsw.gov.au/openday](https://fire.nsw.gov.au/openday)



## WALCHA COUNCIL

### URGENT NOTICE – Oxley Highway now OPEN

Residents are advised, as at Monday 9 May 2022, the Oxley Highway between Walcha and Wauchope is now OPEN to through traffic until further notice. TfNSW advises motorists can expect minor delays due to works currently underway near Mt Seaview. For the latest traffic updates and information on changes to traffic conditions on the Highway please contact TfNSW on 132 701 or visit [Livetraffic.com](https://www.livetraffic.com).

Lacey Latham, Acting General Manager  
Walcha Council, PO BOX 2, WALCHA NSW 2354

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## RUGBY REPORT INVERELL V WALCHA

By Eric the Spider

**First Grade:** The Walcha Rams travelled to Inverell for the fourth round of the Central North competition. A perfect day for rugby greeted the Walcha side with the sun out and cool mild condition.

Walcha failed to receive the kick-off cleanly knocking the ball on with Inverell capitalising on the mistake and immediately attacking the Walcha defence. Inverell looked to play an expansive game throwing the ball around, trying to stretch the Walcha defence. This tactic worked as Inverell's early possession was converted into a try under the post. Inverell lead 7-0. Walcha kicked deep and attempted to pin Inverell in their own half but missed tackles. Ill discipline hurt the Rams as Inverell were invited into the Walcha Rams half again. The Rams defence held strong with some solid tackling early on from Hayden "Jamillionaire" Jarman, who was really getting into the races of the Inverell attack. Inverell held the ball well though and continued to attack, finding a way through the Rams defence and scoring another try. Inverell lead 12-0. The Rams kicked off and finally started to get into their rhythm, holding onto the ball for a number of phases forcing the Inverell side to defend. The Rams showed great patience in the attacking 'red zone', redirecting their point of attack and moving the defence around. This ended when Harry "that guy with the chickens" Locke was put into space and cruised over for Walcha's first try. Walcha 7 trailed Inverell 12. Walcha continued to hang onto the ball and were punching holes in the Inverell defence. They soon found themselves back on the attack edging towards the try line. A big surge from Billy "squat rack" Porter manage to get the ball over the line for Walcha's second try of the afternoon. Walcha 12 Inverell 12. The remainder of the first half saw both teams competing for territory and trying to assert some dominance on the game. Unfortunately for Walcha Inverell manage to score a try late in the first half giving them the lead going into the second half. Walcha 12 Inverell 17.

Inverell carried this momentum into the second half managing to score a couple of quick tries early putting the pressure on the Walcha side. To the Rams credit they managed to wrestle some territory and possession back off Inverell and apply pressure of their own, but failed to capitalise. The Rams made too many handling errors with the ball and missed too many tackles in defence. Inverell managed to run away with the game, scoring a number of tries in the second half. Matt "nickname pending" Williams was tireless for the Rams, consistently charging into the Inverell defence. Archie "sheepman" Lawrence had his best game of the year, making a number of tackles and covering some good ground across the park. Henry "loved up Les" Leslie played well, executing the set piece and making a number of positive carries in attack. Sam "just carry" Lomax had another big game both in attack and defence, never giving up and getting the rewards with a try late in the second half. Edgar "mates call me braggy" Bragg had a huge game topping the Walcha Rams tackle and hit-up counts. In the end Inverell were too strong for the Walcha side running away with the game 53-17. A disappointing result for the Rams.

This week the Walcha Rams take on the Tamworth Pirates at Walcha and will be hosting the annual Sponsors Day lunch. The Rams would really love to have a Reserve Grade game for the Sponsors lunch weekend so if any players are looking for a game please reach out to Barry, Muzz or any of the coaching staff.



**Red Sponsors** New England Polaris, Walcha Vet Supplies, TA Fields Estates Pty Ltd, Karori, Marchant Bros Earthmoving & Transport. **White Sponsors** Glen Collin Pastoral, Supermoto Armidale, Agfix, S.N. Nivison (Jim), Branga Plains Pastoral Co, Ben Nevis Angus, Nerstane, Nutrien Boultons, Walcha Caravan Park, Davidson Cameron, Peter Norbury Motors. **Club Sponsors** TWM, Regional Australia Bank, Commercial Hotel, Dales Downtown Meats, DJ & CJ Kermode, MA Berry, Glenell Shorthorns, Peter & Rose McNeill, Pitt Sons, Ross & Debbie Keen, Greenwells Farming Pty Ltd, Yalgoo. **Rams Donors** Liddle Contracting, Old Woombi Poli Dorset, Angus Warden, Rose Valley Steel, Productive Pasture Solutions, Maryland White Suffolk, Cameron and Rach Greig, Peter Sendall.



## Australian selection for Austin

It all became real early this week for Austin Scrivener when he received documents from the Australian Axemen's Association for his selection in the national Under 21's Woodchopping Team.

The nine-man squad will attend the Royal Adelaide Show in early September to compete against New Zealand in a three test series. Austin, one of only two NSW axemen selected, will be joined by other team members from Victoria, Tasmania and Queensland.

Team Manager Mitch Argent said he will be responsible for determining the final team composition in Adelaide and will base this on performance and team balance. Austin is hoping in the lead-up to the Trans Tasman test series his winning form from the Sydney Royal and four events on the weekend at Grafton Show continues.



## Motorcyclists wanting to stay local, with a local

After the roaring success of the Walcha Motorcycle Rally in 2021, tickets are about to go on sale for this year's event. Taking place on Friday 18 and Saturday 19 November, motorcyclists are in search of accommodation within Walcha for 2 – 3 nights.

Do you have a spare room, empty shearer's quarters or a caravan in your backyard that you would like to rent out for the weekend?

Walcha has limited accommodation – some motorcyclists had to stay in Armidale and surrounding towns when Walcha booked out in 2021. We had overwhelming feedback last year about how friendly the Walcha community is and they're looking for options to be able to stay local with a local this year. Renting out a spare room, caravan or shearer's quarters is a great way to meet some of these friendly people, while also earning a little spending money. Accommodation options are promoted through the official event website [www.walchamotorcyclerrally.com.au](http://www.walchamotorcyclerrally.com.au)

Over 1,000 people are expected to come to the Rally this year. Keep an eye out in the Advocate in the coming months for other ways that you can get involved, including volunteering at the event or cheering on the street procession (route to be advertised in the Advocate). Heavily discounted tickets for locals will also be available.

If you are interested in providing Home Stay accommodation and would like further information please contact Lisa at the Walcha Visitor Information Centre on 6774 2460 or email [tourism@walcha.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@walcha.nsw.gov.au)



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## Bowls

**Draw this weekend:** Saturday: Mixed Pairs A McGuffog & W Moore v R Kerr & J Hayes.

## Ladies Bowls

The final of the Three Bowls Pairs Championships will be played this Thursday 12 May between Veronica and Pat v Debbie and Jan Cross, after the latter had a comfortable 25-15 win over Lyn and Esther.

There will also be Social Bowls. Don't forget our Presidents Day is on Thursday 26 May.

## Wednesday Golf

On Wednesday we played a Graham Betts Stableford qualifier for Loretta Blanch's trophy. A stunning Autumn day brought out a good field of players and the winner with 36 points was Cheryl McDonald on a countback from Jeanette Wark with 36. Sweepstakes were taken out by Simone Sweeney 35, Sally McCormack 33, Donna Martin 33 and Margaret Davidson also with 33. Great to see one of our newer players, Kerrie Hollis, take out the NTP on 3 and also a great second shot on 18 went to Sue Partridge.

Today we are playing Stroke, Putting and Monthly Mug for Donna Martin's trophy. It is also the third round of the Mabel McKenzie trophy.

## At the 19th

Club Captain Will Brennan and former Club Champion Wayne Brennan defended their Men's Foresomes Championships title when they carded a 79 off the stick last Sunday. The dynamic duo finished a comfortable five shots in front of the runners-up Don Brooks and Simeon Cross who took out the nett section of the Championships with a 70 nett.

Sweepstakes went to Jack O'Hara and Deon Lawrence 71<sup>1/2</sup>, Miles Archdale and David Sweeney 75<sup>1/2</sup>, Lee Fletcher and Alex Gill 80 on countback from Margaret Davidson and Jenny Lisle.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Wayne Brennan (3) and David Sweeney (18).

Trick shot of the day was executed by President Allan Green who somehow failed to reach the ladies tee on the first hole!

Last Saturday Lee Fletcher accumulated 16 stableford points to win the weekly 9 Hole Competition on a countback from Matthew Palmer.

Ladies winner was Jenny Lisle after she compiled 18 points, while Sue Partridge was the next best on 14 points.

This Sunday is a Stroke Medal Round for a prize supplied by Lachie Fletcher.

A reminder the annual Werris Creek Open is scheduled for Sunday 19 May.

## Rugby League

**Mens:** Uralla/Walcha Rugby League Club kicked off their 2022 Group 19 campaign against Narwan with one win and one loss at Woodville Oval last Friday evening.

In the main game the homeside opened the scoring with a try to Bryce Johnson, which was converted by Harley Carlon giving them a 6-0 lead. Narwan responded with two converted tries of their own to take a 12-6 advantage into the half time break.

During the second stanza, Narwan scored another two tries to run out winners 24-6. Walcha players Jock Abraham, Steve Eveleigh and Harley Cox all contributed to the team effort. Mitch Eveleigh and Drew Bird are also part of the squad but didn't play last Friday.

**Ladies League Tag:** The Ladies League Tag fixture was ten minutes old when Caitlin Hollis crossed for a try. Jordie Hoy touched down five minutes later and when Joscisca Matapakia converted Uralla/Walcha lead 10-0.

Narwan bounced back with a converted try before Nicola Hoy touched down and when Joscisca converted the girls held 16-6 lead going into half time.

The visitors were the first to score after 'oranges' before Nicola Hoy raced 70 metres to score under the posts midway through the second session – which Joscisca converted.

Just before full time Joscisca scored an unconverted try to finalise the scoring at 26-10. Coach Josh Lordanic was very happy with the performance by his team, which will only improve the more the side plays together.

Walcha players made up the majority of the team numbers with a few surprise inclusions – Bonnie Smith, Rachel and Annabelle Green all having a run.

**This Saturday:** Uralla/Walcha will host Armidale at Woodville Oval with the Ladies League Tag to kick-off proceedings.

# Garden Clippings

A big thank you to all the members and husbands who came along last Friday and Saturday to the Walcha Garden Club Annual Community Day at Apsley Riverview Aged Care Hostel to remove overgrown areas and tidy the gardens. Seventeen members and five husbands attended. Sixteen loads of clippings, dead shrubs and unwanted tree seedlings were removed. Members trimmed and reshaped shrubs and gardens whilst their husbands undertook major tree maintenance. Special thanks to Norm Bazeley, Steve Lisle, Herbert Higgins, Col Wake and Caspar Ozinga for bringing their utes, trailers, and heavy pruning gear. We could not have achieved so much without your assistance. We hope to hold another working bee towards the end of May.

Walcha is looking an absolute picture in all it's Autumn glory. The trees throughout our township and district have had a wonderful season and as a result the leaves are a little late in changing colour. It is great to see passing travellers trying to capture the magic of autumn in Walcha. Some special trees to keep a look out for with wonderful autumn tones include the Swamp Cypress (*Taxodium Distichum*) along the levee bank walkway on Hill Street (pictured top left). A deciduous tree that is native to southeastern United States. It has lime green lacey needles in spring that change to russet red in autumn. It is quite a hardy tree and will adapt to a wide range of soil types whether wet, dry, salty or swampy. It has small, round, purple cones. With the right growing conditions, it will reach twenty metres. A beautiful specimen tree. Currently blooming in the Apsley Riverview Hostel grounds is a very pretty Silk Tassel Tree (top right). It is a very distinctive evergreen tree with long tassel-like flowers, glossy leaves with a woolly underside.



## Greenhills Orchard visit

If you have fruit trees in your garden and would like some advice on how to prune them, you may like to join our Garden Club visit to Greenhills Orchard at Arding on Friday 3 June. Warren Yeoman has offered to host our club in the morning. After our visit we shall be able to enjoy lunch at the Top Pub in Uralla. Travel arrangements will be advised at the end of May. Non members are most welcome.

## Annual Garden Club Luncheon

Another date to keep in your diary is the Walcha Garden Club Annual Luncheon on Friday 16 September. Our guest speaker is Simon Rickard who has been head gardener at both 'Heronswood' and the 'Garden of St Earth' in Victoria, an author, botanical tour guide, garden workshop presenter, cool climate plant specialist just to name a few of his achievements. We would like to encourage members to start potting up plants for our plant stall at the lunch.



## advocateclassifieds



## Positions Vacant

### Walcha Council Works Engineer 2 x Positions Permanent Full Time



These positions are responsible for the development and implementation of works programs and projects associated with the Local, State and Regional Road network within the Walcha local government area, and other associated infrastructure works within the capabilities of the position.

The salary and conditions will be in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award 2020, between \$74,000 and \$80,000, plus Superannuation & Civil Liability. Council is an EEO employer and offers a smoke free workplace.

To apply, visit Council's website at <https://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/council/positions-vacant>.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Council's Director of Infrastructure Phil Hood on 02 6774 2500. Applications close Sunday 22nd May 2022.

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

### Walcha Council Tourism Manager Permanent/ Part Time



The key focus of this position is to coordinate the day-to-day operations of the Visitor Information Centre and to develop and coordinate the overall marketing and tourism events, activities, and associated product development for Walcha Council. This position is permanent part time with minimum hours of 22.5 hours.

The salary and conditions will be in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award 2020, Grade 6 Administrative /Technical /Trades Band 2 Level 3. Council is an EEO employer and offers a smoke free workplace.

To apply, visit Council's website at <https://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/council/positions-vacant>.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Council's Director of Community & Tourism Karen Kermode on 02 6774 2500. Applications close Sunday 22nd May 2022.

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

## Public Notices

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## Wanted

**Home and garden help** needed in town. Phone 0447 987 978.

## Meetings

**Woolbrook RFS AGM** Saturday 21 May 2022 at Woolbrook Hall 10.00am. All welcome

## THE APSLEY Advocate

**Deadline Mondays 4.30pm  
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### PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha Sunday - 9.30am  
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For info call Graham Barnes 6777 2539

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### Friday 13 May

2.00pm BINGO

6.00pm Bistro

Menu:

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7.00pm Fruit and Veg raffles  
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### Saturday 14 May

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