COCCITE

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Second at Timbersports



Mitch Scrivener competing in the single buck (single sawing) at Stihl Timbersports®, assisted by his brother Austin.





Top: Mitch with his Stihl Timbersports® silver medal. Bottom: Austin Scrivener was a member of the Australian U21s team at the Royal Adelaide Show.

The Scrivener brothers, Mitch and Austin, have been on the go for more than a month competing at several major woodchop events across the country. In August it was Brisbane where Austin took out the Most Successful Competitor, followed by a twelve day stint at the Royal Adelaide Show. There Austin was part of the Australian Under 21s team that defeated New Zealand 3 - 0 in a Trans Tasman test series, while also picking up several individual places in Tree and Underhand events. Older brother Mitch won the 300mm Standing Block Handicap, with the highlight of his trip to South Australia being a sixth place in the 375mm Underhand Australian Title.

No sooner had they returned from Adelaide it was back in the car to head north to the Gold Coast where Mitch, who qualified earlier this year, was set to compete on 17 September in the Stihl Timbersports® 2022 Australian Rookie Championships.

Taking on the best Under 25 year old axemen from across the country, Mitch took to the Stihl stage at Kurrawa Beach to compete in a total of five Timbersports disciplines – the underhand, stocksaw, standing block, single buck and the spring board (an adaptation of tree felling).

Having qualified fourth with a broken ankle, Mitch was hoping to improve his ranking, and that he did. Mitch placed consistently across all disciplines, and a blistering single buck time gave him the maximum six points for that event, cementing his place amongst those on top of the leaderboard.

By the final event, fellow NSW axeman Curtis Bennett only needed to register one point to clinch the title, which he did. Mitch placed second and was awarded the silver medal for the 2022 Championships. Curtis will now represent Australia on the international stage in 2023, with Mitch the reserve.

Mitch has now headed to Melbourne to complete at yet again another Royal Show, but this time he will be flying solo. Younger brother Austin sustained an injury in Adelaide and unfortunately had to withdraw from the competition.

In the coming months the Stihl Championships from Kurrawa Beach will be aired on 7mate, or you can jump onto the Australian Stihl Timbersports® Facebook page to watch some of Saturday's action. For those who enjoy watching woodchopping, head to the showground at this year's Walcha Motorcycle Rally where the boys will be displaying their skills.



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Mayoral Column

Eric Noakes, Walcha Mayor



Financial Sustainability

As mentioned in last week's Mayoral Column we had our first of two workshops with Professor Drew last week with another planned for this week.

While I knew we were not in the best position in terms of sustainability, after the first workshop with Councilors it is undeniable that financially, our future is bleak at best. If we do not do anything.

As Professor Drew states "... a SRV (special rate variation) was absolutely necessary back in 2016 to mitigate the negative outlook of TCorp evaluation of weak financial sustainability", so this has not happened overnight and in fact has been compounding for over a decade. We will be talking with you in the next few months to come, about what the financial sustainability review has informed us, and what we believe we should be doing to ensure Walcha's identity now and well into the future.

One pertinent point made by Professor Drew was that our operating environment was one of the worst, if not the worst in New South Wales. We have an extensive road network and a very small rate base. Many people I speak to from time to time believe the rates they pay cover Council's costs to operate and as such should be directed on this road or that road, or having the waste facility operate seven days a week and so on. Yet the money you and I pay each year in rates, fees and charges amounts to around five million dollars. Our staff costs are considerably more than that, even with the recent reductions in management.

Your Council is a fifteen million dollar business, and what you and I pay covers about a third of the costs of the business of Council. This goes some way to explaining what Professor Drew means when he states the 'worst operating environment', as you can see we our largely dependent at the moment, on grants from either the state or federal governments. You can't keep blindly dipping into the well and expecting to find water — at some stage it will dry up if not replenished or replaced. Council's 'well' is full of negative numbers, and while some are about timing of payments and receivables, real cash is limited to today. We need to both plan for the future and be able to cover the costs arising from that future and that is what we will be discussing with you, as I say, over the next few months.

Derby Street

One project that has been promised for some time, but looked like being de-scoped due to a funding shortfall, is the entrance to town on both ends of Derby Street.

Rising construction costs and drainage issues have plagued this work for two years, but now due to hard work by the infrastructure team at Council, an application to a heavy vehicle safety program has seen the allocation of \$4,560m to complete the original vision. New kerb and gutter, asphalt finish and parking at the showground will enhance the entrance to our town.

The engineers responsible for successfully seeking this funding deserve the credit and accolades for their proactive approach. On this subject I drove from Newcastle to Walcha last weekend and our section of Thunderbolts Way is much superior to Mid Coasts' and with a few sections to complete yet it is a much easier drive than four years ago.

around the traps



Don't panic, Around the Traps will be back on Page 2 next week. Bruce and the team are just having a well deserved writers break.



Walcha CWA ladies and friends gathered at McHattan Park last Wednesday to celebrate 100 Years of the CWA in NSW.

While it officially won't be until 2025 that Walcha's CWA Branch can celebrate their 100th year, the ladies were keen to unveil a lovely bench seat in the BBQ area at the park to commemorate the organisation's 100 years.

"With CWA Awareness week a few weeks ago, it was a good chance to have a get together. It was also a great chance for prospective new members to be welcomed," said Walcha's President Vicki McIvor.

Infamous for their baking, the morning wouldn't have been complete without some delicious scones, slices and cakes accompanied by a cup of tea. Life Member Fay Hawkins was also on hand to help Vicki unveil the commemorative seat.





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UPCOMING

ON-LINE CLEARING SALE 28 OCTOBER – 31 OCTOBER 2022

Further entries are invited.

For more information please contact:

Ellie Clarke 0438 995 313 Mat Larkings 0427 002 427



3n Derby Street Walcha. Phone 6777 2044

WALCHA COUNCIL SPRING HOLIDAY BREAK

Kids Games Tues 27 - Fri 30th September 9.30am - 12.30pm

Egyptian Adventure Walcha Anglican Church Hall, South St

Walcha Jumanji Games Walcha Presbyterian Church Hall, Hill St



Register via QR code
For more info call Ben 67772543 or Graham 67772539

Lego challenge Walcha Library Ages 8-11yrs Tues 27th Sept 3-4pm

Stargazing John Oxley Oval All ages - parent supervision please Tues 27th Sept 7pm

Storyplate Art - \$15 Walcha Handmade Ages 7+ Wed 28th Sept 2pm - 3pm

Mindful Munchkins Rover Spring Storytime
Walcha Library & Insect catcher craft McHattan Park All ages

Yoga & Meditation Walcha Motel Restaurant Ages 5-11 Thurs 6th Oct 11am - 1pm

Ages 9+

CNRL Robot Red

Tues 4th Oct Tues 4th Oct 10am 2-3pm

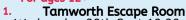
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to register

Book your place 67742550 or library@walcha.nsw.gov.au

Bus trip excursions





Wednesday 28th Sept 12.30 - 5pm

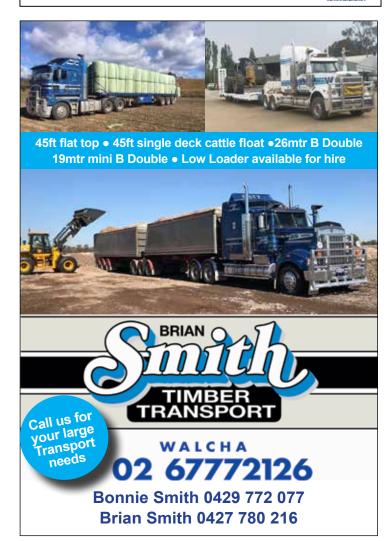


3. Armidale Sport & Rec and Cinema Friday 7th Oct 9am - 5pm

Free - limited places available

This program was supported by the Office for Regional Youth Holiday Break program and NSW Government





letters to the editor

Question for the Community

"Who is passing the buck in decommissioning a Wind Farm?"

Survey Results from the Recent Walcha Bowling Club Wind Farm Forum published by the Advocate on 7 September 2022 confirm 155 of those 161 completing surveys expressed real concern as to decommissioning arrangements. Decommissioning will present as a major issue for the Host Landowners and potentially the Community.

The obvious concern should a project come to the end of its project life, or become economically or technically unviable during its term, is who is going to clean up what are probably stranded assets. This is a real issue in Europe and the US, as many of the projects in those countries installed in the late 1990 and very early 2000 have come to the end of their project life. The EU is working on a common standard to address the issue. The US the same, and is landing as a recovery cost on a percentage of the installed costs – in large MW deployments this could be on or around US \$550k or more per turbine.

Q. What has changed today?

The size and complexity of the decommissioning. This issue today presents as a more significant decommissioning exercise - the size of the wind technology is significantly bigger than the early days wind towers, predominately concrete, are now not less than 150m in height and proportionally wider in base, similarly blades are nearly double the length and the stabilizing base foundations can present between as much as 700 - 800m3 of concrete. Blades are not recyclable, therefore not acceptable for landfills. In a nutshell the economics are considerably higher than the case used to be.

Q. What hasn't changed?

The adequacy of providing for decommissioning in a policy and in a monetary sense. Despite the fact that the Government is talking up a big game for wind and battery, particularly in the New England - it has been completely idle in revising policy arrangements to more equitably ensure that the cost of decommissioning is adequately covered and consistent with good land stewardship and future resource recovery - re-cycling economics. Good land stewardship is returning the project site back to way the developers found it $\mbox{-}$ including massive amounts of concrete footings. This is the regime the mining sector is expected to embrace.

Q. Who is responsible?

This policy vacuum induces the flaccid response from Government 'well it's a matter of contractual privacy between the landowner and the developer'. The Developer says "yes as the wind farm owner we have it covered" and implied within that answer "that's providing we are still the designated wind farm owner in 30 or 62 years time, otherwise it's the developer at the time of end of project life".

Of course, as demonstrated by Winterbourne, these projects flip ownership regularly. So, who then is left holding the decommissioning card? Potentially the buck might stop with the host landowner, or at worst, the community. The prudent policy proposition is to secure a surety bond upfront as is the case in the mining sector. This requisites progressive government policy.

So, I think pertinent question from the neighbouring community is "hey neighbour as Host Landowner how are you ensuring the decommissioning buck doesn't stop with you?"

Mark Fogarty - Bushtricity Pty Ltd

letters to the editor

Questionable claims

Naturopath Phillip Alexander's recent letter about the alleged pernicious health effects of infrasound made many very questionable claims, citing fringe scientists' allegations. We are all exposed to infrasound every day from a variety of sources. Infrasound is part of the sound print of wind in trees, wind coming in open car windows, storms, ceiling fans, subwoofers and mechanical noise. Everyone living near the ocean is exposed to it 24 hours a day as part of the noise of waves. Are people sicker who live near oceans?

Anyone who has travelled in parts of the world where wind farms are very common and have been in place for many years will have asked themselves if wind farms are as unhealthy to nearby residents as people like Alexander imply, where are all the sick and dying people? Around the world hundreds of thousands of people live adjacent to wind farms. There is no evidence that these people have any greater incidence of any disease or symptoms than those who live well away from them.

Myfree online book Wind Turbine Syndrome. Acommunicated Disease published by Sydney University Press in 2017 has been downloaded nearly 30,000 times. https://open.sydneyuniversitypress.com.au/files/9781743324998.pdf The book shows that the main cause of people making health complaints about wind farms is their having been exposed to scare-mongering. We have all heard of the placebo effect in medicine, when many people start to feel better when they are given a dummy pill with no active ingredient in it. The nocebo effect is the opposite of this. It's where people start to feel ill if they have been told that an exposure might make them sick. As the saying goes, you can worry yourself sick.

We used to see epidemics of children fainting when they queued at school to be vaccinated and grew anxious if they heard kids crying. Most of that stopped when they moved the kids away from the sight and sounds of kids getting needles.

The government opened the office of The National Windfarm Commissioner in 2015. It has responsibility for receiving and investigating all complaints about wind farms. In the most recent reporting year, only 8 complaints (about any aspect of wind farm operation) were received about just 3 wind farms. But 122 complaints were received about 18 wind farms that were not even operating. Most complaints are therefore about concerns about future farms, not about those actually operating. With over 100 wind farms operating in Australia, the great majority receive zero complaints.

Simon Chapman AO PhD Emeritus Professor of Public Health University of Sydney.



- To Sarah Betts for her kindness and generosity in her donations.
- To the wonderful undercover BBQ facilities at McHattan Park.
- To Cynthia and her team for keeping the town's gardens looking great. We appreciate you.
- To Adam and his team at Dark's Plumbing for quick efficient service.
- To the new look Walcha Handmade shop.
- To the girls on the checkout at IGA, always a smile, we appreciate it.
- ♦ To the great basketball grand finals.
- Lovely to have our Farmers Markets back for the warmer months. A great morning out.
- To Michelle Burton for her great tuition for young upcoming artists at the Walcha Handmade and Arts North West 'Watercolour Postcards from Walcha' workshop.

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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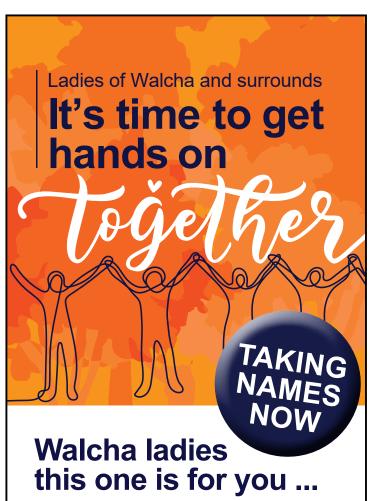
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Lets 'Get Ready' and get our hands dirty with a Ladies Tradie session. We will tinker in the shed and share snippets of tradie tips to improve your handy-person skills.

Local automotive specialist Dave Ledingham will join us for tips on vehicle basics and troubleshooting. Chainsaw specialist trainer Peter Berry will show you how to keep your garden gear going with tools of trade demonstrations and a Q&A.

Think ... let's get the gennie going and show you how to sharpen your chains on the saw! You never know when you might need it.

DATE: Saturday 29 October 2022

TIME: 9.00am - 1.00pm

WHAT TO BRING: Comfortable work clothes, sturdy boots, any PPE you may have e.g. safety glasses and gloves. Plus the manual from your car, truck, bike, mower, chainsaw, etc (if you have it).

WHERE: Woolbrook Stampede Ground INCLUSIONS: Morning tea and lunch

COST: FREE

RSVP: Contact Brooke Jeffery bjeffery@walcha.nsw.gov.

au or phone 6774 2500

Participants must be over 18 years







Book now for the Town and Country fund-raising luncheon

From the Walcha Town & Country Committee

Tickets are still available to the Town and Country fund-raising luncheon! We would love to see you there!

For \$100 per person you will get a delicious three course meal, drinks included in the ticket cost, access to a gorgeous garden with market stalls and the opportunity to listen to and engage with Keli McDonald, our keynote speaker.

A little bit about our speaker for this year's luncheon:

Keli is the CEO of the National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC), which provides a collaborative voice for women living in rural, remote and regional Australia. There are many facets to the NRWC, of note, providing policy advice to the Australia Government on matters relevant to the views and circumstances of rural women, and taking a leading role in ensuring that it helps as many rural, regional and remote women as possible to achieve their goals.



Keli McDonald, CEO of the National Rural Women's Coalition

We are excited to have Keli attend our luncheon and for the opportunity to participate and gain an insight into the workings of the NRWC.

Even if you can't make it to the luncheon to listen to Keli speak, the NRWC plays an important role in the lives of rural, regional and remote women, and is definitely a group to be conscious of and hopefully connect with.

Ticket sales wrap up on Monday 10 October ahead of the luncheon on Saturday 22 October.

Information can be found on our Facebook or Instagram sites, or email walchatandc@hotmail.com for further details.

Walcha Preschool celebrates Book Week



Recently Walcha's preschoolers had a wonderful time celebrating book week with their families, friends and wondeful educators. During the week children had lots of fun dressing up as their favourite characters, and were also able to explore some of the wonderful books that were available for purchase.

Walcha Preschool staff would like to thank all of the families who were able to attend a special morning tea with the children, and for participating in the music and movement time. The children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to spend morning tea with their loved ones, and to share with them their daily routine and show them around our beautiful Preschool.

Pictured above: 'Grug' – just one of the wonderful Book Week costumes at Preschool this year.

Exploration update from Nowendoc Minerals

Nowendoc Minerals is exploring for critical minerals within the southern tip of the New England region. We were unable to hold a Community Meeting at Nowendoc Memorial Hall because of the ongoing Covid19 problems, so instead of the meeting, Paul Smith reports here. In the last 12 months, a total of 186 bags of rocks and 88 bags of soils were collected along a total survey length of 47 km (each bag contained about 1 kg). Examination of those specimens has provided interesting results, especially with regards to critical metals.

As background, we are searching for critical metals which come to the crust when large volumes of molten rock rise from the mantle. These giant bodies come from depths greater than 50 km so they are hot and pressurised. They typically cool slowly to form layers of mafic-ultramafic rocks which are rich in iron and magnesium. The upper surfaces of these large bodies are characterised by elevated levels of titanium, vanadium and related metals. Denser metals settle under gravity into massive basal deposits so that, if conditions were just right, the bottom layers contain large deposits of nickel sulphide with copper and cobalt. Also, a mineralised ore body can have chromium and platinum-group metals (PGMs).

NSW does not a record of having large mafic-ultramafic ore bodies containing nickel-copper-cobalt sulphide with platinum group metals. However, we believe that the southern tip of the New England region has potential to have these types of ore bodies. So we have been exploring outcrops of mafic-ultramafic rocks which formed more than 300 million years ago, when the region was several kilometres beneath the ocean. We have found several outcrops with high levels of critical metals: scandium, vanadium and titanium. Also, we found that some outcrops have palladium, platinum, cobalt, nickel and copper. The table has the levels of critical metals for a selection of rocks collected from various sites spanning distances as great as 80 km.

above, we have encouraging results. In general, rocks with high levels of magnesium, such as specimens 2 and 6, are indicative of ultramafic rocks. Specimen 4 has high levels of titanium, scandium and vanadium, so these rocks may have formed on the upper layer of a mineralised ore body. Rocks with high levels of palladium, such as specimen 6, could have formed towards the middle of a mineralised ore body. Our field work in the next



12 months will aim to focus on improving our understanding of promising sites, as well as exploring new areas.

Making a discovery is difficult and rare, but if an ore body with high levels of critical metals is discovered, it could open the way for new businesses and highly paid local employment. The direct involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples will be important in order to provide the governance to protect local communities and the environment. The region could be in a unique position to benefit from the manufacture of advanced materials and the products which are demanded by the emerging revolution in green energy and new technologies. (The project's website is nowendocminerals.com.au)

No.	Magnesium	Titanium	Chromium	Cobalt	Copper	Nickel	Scandium	Vanadium	Palladium
	%	%	g/t	g/t	g/t	g/t	g/t	g/t	g/t
1	5.9	0.11	142	44	10	264	49	213	0.017
2	12.6	0.20	2360	83	35	937	17	90	0.002
3	4.9	0.66	220	40	58	213	34	247	0.003
4	3.4	1.51	44	54	18	65	40	598	0.005
5	4.7	0.52	48	153	912	65	38	268	0.008
6	21.4	0.01	3910	111	154	2280	5	46	0.057

Table. Assays of metal content in specimens of mafic-ultramafic rocks from the southern tip of the Each rock tells a story and based on the geological model described New England region (g/t = grams of metal per ton of rock). Specimen 6 also had 0.076 g/t of

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\$330,000

Funding to better support Veterans

Local community groups can apply for \$3,000 grants for projects supporting local veterans or boosting awareness of their role in Australia's military history.

"Applications are now open for the \$100,000 Anzac Community Grants Program. We need to do everything we can recognise the sacrifice and service of our veterans who have protected our country through times of war and peace." Local MP Kevin Anderson said.

"Our military heritage enriches our communities, and this fund gives community groups an opportunity to better preserve and display that heritage. Whether it's restoring a medals' display cabinet, creating an interactive remembrance garden, or researching a local veteran; groups can apply for a range of projects that will better highlight veterans' service and sacrifice."

Grants cover four categories: local community historical research and education; preservation or display of war memorabilia; public commemorative events; and support to members of the NSW veteran community.

Applications are open to individuals and not-for-profit organisations including local government authorities, non-government organisations, ex-service organisations, and educational institutions.

Applications can be submitted online until 5.00pm on Friday 11 November 2022: www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/grants

Basketball season ends with some great games

Last Monday the local basketball season concluded with two very good matches. The night commenced with Minor Premiers Pacifika up against Bandits, who snuck into the Grand Final by just one point ahead of Longmires.

The first half was very close with rarely more than four to six points the difference, with Pacifika leading at half time 14 – 10. In the second half the Bandits came out with all guns blazing to try and get in the lead. Although at times they did look like they might gain the advantage, Pacifika stepped up another gear in the final minutes to come away with the win 29 – 21. Congratulations Pacifika on a great season.

The men's game was a real heart stopper between the Bulls and Hawks. The Hawks led for the entire first half, going to the break up 19-15. With 13 minutes to go Bulls hit the lead for the first time (26-25), and while they did not remain in front, it was a tousle to the end. With seven minutes remaining the Hawks were back in front to lead by four (32-28), minutes later it was the Bulls in front 35-34, and with only two minutes left on the clock they were still in the lead 39-36. The Hawks clawed back to a one point deficit and that's how it stayed for the dying stages of the game. Both teams missed opportunities late in the game, no doubt part of the pressure of a Grand Final.

The final score saw the Bulls take the win 41 to the Hawks 40. It was a great game played in really good spirit. Congratulations to Bulls on the win, but congratulations must also go to Hawks who played the entire game with only four players – a fantastic effort.

It was great to see new players take the court this season in both the men's and women's competitions. The organisers would like to thank those who refereed and did bench throughout the season for the finals.

Walcha Basketball is hoping to get a Primary School Comp going in Term 4. See the sports page for more details.

What's the Goss



With A.J. CROSS

This weeks 'Whats the Goss?' comes from Darlington Beach Resort just north of Woolgoolga, where Linda and myself are bunkered down with daughter Rachael, her husband Josh and their five kids, along with Brian and Margaret Wellings. The sun is out, temperature in the mid 20's, company is great and most importantly the beverages are chilled. Sadly by the time you read this we will be back in Walcha.

•••

Have axe will travel! Local axeman Mitchell Scrivener and his younger brother Austin, haven't spent much time at home recently thanks mainly to their chosen sport. Last week they returned from the Adelaide Show on Tuesday, before heading off to the Gold Coast on Friday where Mitch was to compete in the finals of the Stihl Timbersports® Rookie series. Mitch finished the overall competition with a silver medal behind winner Curtis Bennett who is now off to Europe. Then Monday Mitch was back on the road again to compete for five days at the Melbourne Royal Show from Wednesday (today)! Talk about dedication.

•••

Congratulations to former Jillaroos speedster Shae Partridge who was a member of the Pirates team that won the Central North Women's 10's competition last Saturday after defeating Narrabri 32 – 24 at Gunnedah. Shae was named 'Player of the Match' following the Grand Final, which probably had something to do with scoring two runaway tries from around the 80 metre mark. Good on ya Shae.

••

A blonde moment or not? You be the judge! During recent times good friends Millie Kuhr and Amie Eveleigh visited Apsley Arms Hotel where they decided to sample a cocktail drink each. When asked by 'Head Honcho' Ganesh if they wanted to view a menu (as in cocktail menu of course) Amie politely replied 'Nah we aren't hungry thanks.'

•••

Talk about missing the boat. With no NRL on TV last Thursday night Rugby Union had a great opportunity to show off their product through a Bledisloe Cup to a wider than usual audience on Free to Air TV Channel 9. Sadly the match was determined by one of the most disgraceful decisions in history when the Wallabies were penalised for wasting time even though the clock was off just a minute before full time. Other than that the game had its moments, but little doubt that fringe viewers won't put themselves through that again.

•••

An inaugural Over 55's Veteran Cricket Championship was hosted on the Central Coast recently where teams from eight regions were invited to compete, including Central North of which local legend Barry Hoy was a member. Central North won both their leads up games to qualify for the Grand Final against a strong Riverina and Western side, who compiled 225 runs in the decider and then restricted Central North to 145.

•••

In the opening match 'Baz' belted 40 runs before scoring just one run in the second one and then 10 runs in the 'Big One'. In the Grand Final Barry cracked one out of the middle of the bat and was unlucky to be caught at square leg, half an inch off the ground by a fielder who split the webbing on his hand doing so. As they headed to the sheds together 'Baz' mentioned to the fielder in typical fashion, 'At least we get to walk off together.'

•••

Still on cricket – best of luck to the Walcha Boys who are heading to Gloucester this weekend to compete in the inaugural Wingnut Cup Over 50's competition. Wayne Boyd, Stephen Haslem, Barry Hoy, Bill Duncan and 'North Haven' ringin Steph Sweeney will represent New England in a carnival organized by Stan Gilchrist father of Aussie legend Adam Gilchrist.

•••

The Dungog Warriors scored a try with just 20 seconds remaining on the clock to seal the Northern Conference premiership of the Newcastle and Hunter Rugby League with a 22-16 over Stroud/Clarence Town. Warriors Captain/Coach Matt Hinton who was named 'Player of the Match' singled out his front rower Jackson Partridge as best forward on the ground and 'Players Player' after the grand final. Jackson is the son of former Walcha Roos player and coach Gregory 'Doey' Partridge and his much better half Michelle. Way to go 'Jacko'.

Walcha boys at Country Rugby Union Championships

On 10 and 11 September, five Walcha boys played with the New England Lions at the NSW Country Rugby Union Championships. In preparation for the championships, which were held in Coffs Harbour at the International Stadium, the boys had been attending training sessions in Armidale for six weeks prior.

Representing Walcha in the 13s New England Lions were Campbell Smith, Hunter Thornbury, Julian Jenkins and Koby Brennan. They played three games on Saturday against Illawarra, Central West and North Coast. Unfortunately the 13's were defeated in all games, and on the Sunday, despite a valiant effort, they were defeated by Mid North Coast in a play-off.

In the 12s New England Lions, Freddie Street played three games against Central West, Illawarra Red and Central Coast. While they were also unfortunately defeated in all games, the 12s drew their fourth game with Western Plains. Freddie was one member of his team who contributed to putting points on the board.

On Sunday the 12's were beaten by Illawarra Blue and Western Plains in the playoff.

Despite some stiff competition, all the boys played well and enjoyed the experience of playing rep rugby union.



Above: Freddie Street took to the field representing the New England Lions in the 12 year age group.

Left: Members of the New England 13's Lions were Campbell Smith, Hunter Thornbury, Julian Jenkins and Koby Brennan.



Tennis

Our main Spring Comp starts on Tues 11 October and finishes on Tuesday 13 December. Nominations close on Saturday 1 October. Names to Trev 0459 799 119, Hyde 0427 780 391 or post on the Tennis Club Facebook page. The format will be a four-a-side graded Doubles Comp, played on Tuesday and Thursday if numbers permit, 7pm sharp start. Hope to get plenty of players and floaters.

At the Nineteenth

Last Sunday a stableford round was played for a trophy donated by former Walcha Mayor Alex Gill where Local 'sparky' Drew Bird collected the prize after he accumulated 41 points.

Runner-up was the consistent Mick Stackman on 35 points, while the remaining sweepstakes prizes went to Club Secretary Jenny Lisle 34, Andrew Robertson and Simone Sweeney both 32, Jamie Bowden and Lee Fletcher both 31. Sharpest shooters at the pins were Alex Gill (1) and Drew Bird (16).

In match play Andrew Robertson downed Club President Allen Green 3 and 2, while Mick Stackman rolled Nixon Rind 6 and 5

Last Saturday organiser John McCormack won the weekly 9 Hole event after he compiled 16 stableford points to finish a very comfortable five points ahead of runner-up Mark Hogan. Ladies winner was Margaret Parsons after she racked up 16 points to also finish five points clear of runner up Kerry Hollis.

This Sunday is a stroke medal round for a prize supplied by Andrew Crawford.

Last weekend eleven players represented Walcha at the NSW Men's 4BBB Championships where Deon Lawrence and Steph Sweeney were the best performed, finishing runners-up in the overall Nett division. On the first day Jack O'Hara and Peter Norbury were runners-up in the Nett section.

Wednesday Golf

Elders donated Wednesday's trophy for the 27 holes Foursomes Championships. It was probably the best day weather wise since last Summer. It was wonderful to see a good roll-up of players.

The gross winners were Julie Olrich and Cheryl McDonald with a great score of 131. The nett winners were Margaret Davidson and Jenny Lisle with 105^{1/2}. Julie Olrich and Cheryl McDonald were first sweepstake winners, also with 105^{1/2}. The second sweepstakes went to Lorraine Walshe and Sally McCormack with 108^{1/2}.

Margaret Davidson was the closest to the pin on Hole 3 and Sally Rutherford claimed the second shot on Hole 9. Today is another stroke event with putting, monthly mug, and it will be the 6th Medal round.

Bowls

10 Years of Twilight Bowls

Twilight Bowls will commence on Friday 7 October, 2022. If you have been looking for an activity that is fun to play, come along and make new friends, have a meal out and you maybe lucky enough to take home a Meat or Fruit & Veg tray. Make your own team of three players, or you can be put into a team. Bowls can be supplied, but you will need to wear flat soled shoes. Age is no barrier, there have been players from 12 years to 84 years.

A sheet for teams, individuals or floaters is on the board at the Bowling Club or phone Noel on 0429 995 280.

Ladies Bowls

Due to inclement weather last Thursday there were no ladies Bowls played.

Walcha were represented in the District Senior Fours at Uralla last Wednesday by Lyn, Esther, Jan and Wendy and unfortunately were knocked out in the first round.

At our monthly meeting it was decided to call nominations for the Ivy Makeham Singles which close on the 6 October, with play to commence on Thursday 13 October.

Junior Basketball

Calling for interested junior players and helpers. Basketball is hoping to get a Primary School competition going in Term 4.

The day and format will be dependent on numbers, ages and availability of people willing to help (not Monday as the hall is already booked, other activities will be taken into consideration e.g. swimming, cricket practice etc).

If your child is interested please contact Amanda Scott on 0488 226 722 as soon as possible.

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Opening of the new trap and layout for the Gun Club

Walcha Gun Club are pleased to announce that they now have a new trap and layout. This means that they now have two layouts that meet National Standards.

New club President Kevin Bourke said, "It was great to have neighbouring clubs come and support the opening. We would like to thank Danny and Vicki Hoy, along with the monetary support received from the closure of the Walcha Ex-Services Club and member input."

The Club's September shoot was sponsored by Lockman's Doors and Glass, Armidale.

Event 1. AA: Dave Edmonds/John Lisle. A: Jamie Poole/Kevine Bourke/Bill Fletcher. B: John Smith/Archie Davidson. C: Brett Chittick.

Event 2. AA: Dave Edmonds, A: Kevin Bourke. B: Archie Davidson. C: James Abell.

Event 3. AA: Greg Hope. A: Kevin Bourke. B: Archie Davidson. C: James Abell. **Overall High Gun:** Archie Davidson.

Good luck to Archie Davidson and John Lisle who will be competing at the NSW State Titles on the October long weekend.

Walcha Gun Club's next club shoot will be on Saturday 8 October commencing at 9.00am. All welcome.



Pictured taking aim – Archie Davidson and Jodie Henshall. Archie will compete at the NSW State Titles next month.

advocate classifieds



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If you are interested in applying for these positions, please contact Julie Blake (Facility Manager) or speak to our office staff for a full job description.

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Public Notices

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Walcha Tennis Association Spring Comp starting Tuesday 11 October. Nominations close 1 October. Contact Trev 0459 799 119 or Hyde 0427 780 391, or post on the Tennis Club Facebook page.

In Memoriam

Heather Margaret MCDONALD 24/9/2019

Loved always – Margaret, Rod, Thomas, Serena, William and great grandchildren.

Thank you

The Laurie Family wish to thank everyone who attended Peter's Farewell Service. We were very moved to know how much he was respected by the community. Many thanks for cards, flowers, phone calls and cooking. Please accept this as our personal thanks.

Raffle Results

Walcha CWA Street Stall: 1st Fay Hawkins, 2nd Megan Marchant, 3rd Albert Egli. Thanks to everyone for the kind donations.

For Sale

Walcha Men's Shed Plant Sale. Seedlings, including onions, broccoli, beetroot and much more. Call at the Men's Shed on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 9am and 3pm.

Meetings

Walcha Flippers Swimming Club AGM Wednesday 21 September, 5.00pm at the Walcha Bowling Club. All welcome. New members encouraged.

Walcha Indoor Hockey Association wishes to advise that its Senior Hockey AGM will be held on Monday 26 September at the Apsley Hotel from 6.00pm. We would love to see some new faces. All are welcome. Team nominations to Jordie 0427 727 990 or Peta 0407 350 781 before Monday 26 September.

Walcha Support Group Inc. Thursday 29 September, 1pm at WCCC rooms Middle Street. All welcome.

In Memory

'Wally'

Passed on Thursday 15 September. Much loved Golden Retriever of Sam, Stuart and Arizona.



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church notices



ANGLICAN Walcha Sunday 25 Sept, 9.30am Family Service. All welcome. Contact us on 6777 2543 or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha: Sunday - 9.30am Everybody welcome to join us.

For info call Graham Barnes 6777 2539

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Wednesday 21 Open 4pm

Thursday 22 Open 12pm

9.00am Normal trading

- 1.00pm Social Bowls all welcome
- 1.00pm Ladies bowls

Friday 23 Open 2pm

9 00am 2.00pm BINGO

- 6.00pm Bistro
- Homemade Rissoles • Honey Chicken & Rice
- Prawn Twister & Feta Salad

8.00pm Fruit & Veg raffles followed by Members Draw Saturday 24 Open 11am

6.00pm Bistro

Sunday 25 Open 11am

12.00pm Bistro open

1.00pm Meat, fruit & veg raffles

Twilight Bowls Starting 7 Oct 5:30pm

sheet on board for names

MEMBERS DRAW

TOM'S



Monday to Wednesday 4.00pm to close Thursday 12 midday to close
Friday 2.00pm to close
Saturday and Sunday 11am to close
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