

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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5 October 2022

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## Michael Taylor named Australian Farmer of the Year

Early last month, Kentucky farmer Michael Taylor was awarded the Kondinin Group and ABC Rural Australian Farmer of the Year award.

Michael, a sixth generation wool grower, has a future-focused approach to farming and this was acknowledged at an awards ceremony in Canberra.

On the family run property 'Taylors Run', Michael manages 4000 sheep, production of sustainable superfine Merino wool, mixed Angus cattle herd, timber mill and farm stay accommodation. He has followed in his parent's, Jon and Vicki's, footsteps by caring for the land with regenerative goals, showing how you can integrate both a successful grazing enterprise and agroforestry program.

From winning numerous agricultural related awards, being an active member of the wool industry and a director for Southern New England Landcare, to collaborating with Italian haute couture designer Sofia Crociani and Australian brand Simple Chic, Michael could be called nothing less than diverse. His accolades and involvement with agricultural groups and organisations are too numerous to list.

Ben White, General Manager of Research at Kondinin Group, said Michael's ability to run numerous enterprises in synergy, while keeping the care of his land at the forefront, is highly commendable. "The diversification strategy Michael oversees on his multi-generational farming enterprise, and the success he is having adopting innovative practices, is remarkable. He deserves recognition for how the operation

is working in synergy in the now, with clear and motivated acknowledgement of the future needs of the industry," Ben said.

Both grower groups, and the family's ongoing close relationship with Italian wool processors such as GS Schneider and Reda, demonstrate Michael's commitment to bridging the gap between growers and customers through education and traceability.

Michael is the 12th winner of this award that continues to recognise excellence in farming and farming communities across rural and regional Australia. Congratulations Michael.



Senator for Queensland Murray Watt with Michael Taylor

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# Walcha Motorcycle Rally fast approaching

FRIDAY 17 – SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2022

Excitement is building for this year's Walcha Motorcycle Rally. With a great program of events planned for motorcycle enthusiasts and the community, it's going to be another rippa weekend!

Our MC, Ben Mingay, is back by popular demand. With a lightning quick wit, there'll be plenty of laughs to be had. Ben will belt out a few tunes on Thursday night at the showground, with the bar opening and a low-key evening as the campers start to arrive.

Rally ticket holders are being encouraged to spend time in town enjoying all that Walcha has to offer, with access to the free loop shuttle bus from morning until night.

The showground will come alive from midday on both Friday and Saturday with an array of events and activities for ticket holders to enjoy. These include: woodchopping by Australia's leading young axemen and chainsaw racing demonstrations, Eljay stunt rider Freestyle Show, Adventure rider legend Miles Davis skills and tricks demos, antique machinery display, burnout and tyre throwing competitions. There will be a delicious array of food on offer including Orange Duck Kitchen, Dales Downtown Meats smoker, Delilah & Co, Pizza on Wheels, Thunderbolts Café as well as a selection of motorcycle related exhibitors to browse.

Extra program items on Friday include BackTrack dog jumping, sidecar gymkhana and evening live music from Terra Firma, who have a great following in Walcha. On Saturday get your entries in for the Dirt bike barrel races, enjoy the street procession, show & shine, postie bike grass track derby, postie bike soccer, a vintage car display, demolition derby and live evening music by Al Buchan & the Buchaneers, back by popular demand.

Locals wanting to attend the showground, will again be able to enjoy a discounted ticket, which must be purchased prior to the event, and we will provide details of how to access this discount in the coming weeks.

To find out more about the Rally visit [www.walchamotorcyclerrally.com.au](http://www.walchamotorcyclerrally.com.au)



*Ben Mingay will be back this year as MC*



# Pay in person, not online to keep our office open

## In need of business or hobby farm insurance, or some public liability?

Then why not pop around to see Laura Welsh at NRMA, Mountain Motors. Laura is now qualified to quote on all of these services and more, so call in and see if she can help you with your latest insurance needs.

If you already are an NRMA customer, you might get a call from her in the future as she conducts her renewal calls – provided you have answered 'Yes' to their marketing question.

NRMA offer this service to ensure their customers have received their renewal documents by either post or email, while also checking that your policies are up-to-date and you have adequate cover for your needs. You can call in and simply ask the girls for a policy 'health check'.

If you would like to ensure that the local team will be on-hand to help customers into the future, it is a great idea to pay your policies locally in-store at the Walcha NRMA office. "While paying on the internet is easy and convenient, every policy renewed at the Walcha office or new business taken through the office goes towards keeping us open in the years to come," Carolyn Feltham said. The team don't want to be another statistic of a service being lost in a rural town. So if you receive a call from Laura, or one of the other girls in the office, be assured it is to help ensure that Walcha NRMA stays open by keeping the transactions flowing through the office.

We would like to thank all our customers who currently support our office already and look forward to servicing them all in the future.



NRMA Walcha's Laura Welsh

thumbs



- 👉 To Brian at New England Trophies, Armidale for making a medal for a Tigeroos supporter.
- 👉 To the wonderful leaders, helpers and cooks who made the Kids Games such a fantastic event.

**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.**

Bralca.com

## FULLY FUNDED Farm Mapping and Data Collection Course

**Tuesday 11 October, Walcha**

Fully funded training for Farmers in NSW. This course aims to develop knowledge and skills in:

- Safe collection of crop production and map data
- Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping
- Processing map data to create useful production maps
- Analysis of maps
- Exporting data for use in operations such as spray maps or variable rate sowing plans

*Funded by Ag Skilled 2.0 and supported by Tocal College.*

**Enquiries:** Call Sharon Leach 02 6951 2695 or email [sharon.leach@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sharon.leach@dpi.nsw.gov.au)



## Stock and Property Watch

[www.nutrienharcourts.com.au](http://www.nutrienharcourts.com.au)

# UPCOMING

## ON-LINE CLEARING SALE 28 OCTOBER – 31 OCTOBER 2022

**Further entries are invited.**

**For more information please contact:**

Mat Larkings ..... 0427 002 427



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# Call for applications to help boost the resilience of youth



Small and large grants are still available for community projects through the NSW Government's \$10.3 million Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative.

Funding is available to local councils, schools, not-for-profit organisations and Local Aboriginal Land Councils providing programs to enhance the wellbeing and resilience of young people in regional NSW.

The Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative supports local programs that help young people develop resilience, build community connection and improve their wellbeing.

**Grants up to \$50,000 are available.**

**Applications close 31 December 2022 or when funding is fully allocated.**

For more information about eligibility and the Program Guidelines, go to: [nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/regional-youth/children-and-young-people-wellbeing-recovery-initiative](https://nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/regional-youth/children-and-young-people-wellbeing-recovery-initiative)



# It's all fun and games these holidays!

The children of Walcha have had no excuse to say they are bored so far these school holidays.

With Kid's Games back on last week at the Anglican Church Hall and the Presbyterian Hall, there has been ample opportunity for them to get involved and enjoy some holiday fun. From craft activities and outdoor games, to delicious meals and snacks supplied from local businesses, the children who attended had a blast.



## Walcha Pasture Walk

Morning tea provided

**Join us for a pasture walk:**  
 Thursday 13th October 2022  
 577 Emu Creek Road, Walcha NSW  
 9:30am for morning tea  
 10:00am - 12:30pm  
 BYO Chair

**Key Topics**

- Benefits of pasture improvement
- Weed control for spring and summer
- Drones for weed control
- Upgrading farm water supplies

**RSVP 12 October 2022 to [emma.tilley@glenrac.org.au](mailto:emma.tilley@glenrac.org.au) or 02 6732 3443**

This event is supported by:

## TROUTFEST GUYRA

Friday 7, Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 October

- Antique machinery and car displays • Open Gardens • Book Fair
- Art amongst the vintage cars • Markets • Kid's activities
- Sunday – Poet's breakfast and 'Charlie Fittler's' Country Music

**\* PLUS Fishing all weekend for prizes \***

Programs and garden maps at the markets or on Facebook





## Walcha Pasture Walk Field Day coming up

MLA and GLENRAC will be running two farm pasture field days at Dundee and Walcha this month and all landholders are invited to attend.

The field events will focus on the benefits of pasture improvement and provide information useful to local landholders on pasture management techniques, including cost effective control strategies, farm water infrastructure and drone technology for weed control.

The events will also present the findings from research conducted by the MLA funded Northern Tablelands Pastures Group (NTPG) at farm properties in the New England.

Three NTPG demonstration sites investigating pasture management strategies in the wake of the 2018 and 2019 drought will be profiled: Richard and Kerryn Ogilvie's properties near Ebor, 'Te-Angie' and 'Forest Lodge', which investigated pasture improvement using fodder cropping for weed control; and John and Caroline's property 'Bridgewater' in

Dundee, which trialled corn silage as a cost-effective fodder reserve.

"These events are a fantastic way to get together with your friends, meet new people and learn about a range of pasture management strategies which may help you in improving pasture productivity on your farm," said GLENRAC Sustainable Agriculture Officer, Emma Tilley.

The Dundee and Walcha field days will provide an opportunity to share findings from the recent research conducted by the Northern Tablelands Pastures Group, MLA and GLENRAC.

The day is free to attend, with morning tea and lunch provided. Attendees are asked to please BYO chair.

Walcha Pasture Walk, Thursday 13 October 2022, 9:30am – 12.30pm at 577 Emu Creek Road, Walcha NSW. Please RSVP to Emma Tilley by 12 October to [emma.tilley@glenrac.org.au](mailto:emma.tilley@glenrac.org.au) or call GLENRAC on 6732 3443.

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# Walcha Show Society Annual General Meeting

## Presidents Report 21 September 2022, Martin Oppenheimer

As I complete my three year term as President, I want thank the Walcha Show Society Committee for your support and energy which is a major reason for the Walcha Show being a continued success.

The Walcha Show was held on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 March 2022.

The Show was a success and a particularly good result with wet weather making preparations more difficult than usual. A combination of factors such as floods, fuel prices, shortages of staff and stock, some trade exhibitors and competitors pulled out in the week leading up to the Show.

The Horse and Cattle sections were down slightly on last year. However, entries in the Motorbike, Cattle Dog and Yard dogs, Shearing, Merino and Meat Sheep, however, were up. Spectator numbers at the motorbikes, shearing and Fashion Parade were excellent. The Pavilion entries and displays were outstanding.

Financially the 2022 Show was a success with an increased surplus, despite a reduced Gate and Bar on the record 2021 Show. The surplus was largely due to increased grant income. Thanks to the NSW Government for a grant of \$36,000 under the Country Shows 2022 package. Thanks also to the Australian Government's National Recovery and Resilience Agency for sponsoring the Walcha Show and having a display stand.

The Show Society has continued to help improve the Showground with works including energy efficient lighting in the Sheep Shed, new guttering and a new bridge behind the Bar, thanks Tim Norton and Max Ireland.

We have had successful Shows because of the energy of the Committee, Volunteers and support from local business sponsors. Also, because we have continued to provide better facilities, events and entertainment.

**Some highlights from the 2022 Show were:** Congratulations to Amy Kermode, Walcha Showgirl for 2022 and Amber Macpherson, Junior Showgirl. Thanks to Anna Barwick, NSW Premier's Woman of the Year for sashing the Showgirls. Michael Millner, President of the RAS opened the Show on Saturday.

The return of the Sports Shear, running on the same day as the Speed Shear. A new event 'The Cattle Dog Challenge' was a great success, as well as the Yard Dog Trials. A revised and expanded Motor Bike competition. The extremely popular Harrington's Circus. Members increased by net 44 to 388.

**Other issues:** This year we settled the Showground land ownership issue by negotiating an on-going, one year lease, to the Showground Land Managers (the Trust) for a peppercorn fee. This has reduced our liability for public risk and retained the Walcha Show Society ownership of part of the Showground. Thanks to Warwick Fletcher for his time and effort to find a satisfactory resolution to this matter.

**Succession at the Walcha Show:** In the Art Section, Chief Steward Carley McLaren handed over to Jess Healey. In the Preserves, Jams and Jellies section, Hazel Cameron is handing over to Audi Dunn. In the Announcers box Wainie Robertson handed over to Pippie O'Brien.

Thanks to all Stewards and volunteers, with special thanks to Andrew Crawford as Ringmaster. Miles Archdale for managing the Bar, the Police and security incident free. Henry King, Glen O'Brien and Ross King for conducting efficient waste disposal and recycling during the show, including skip bins for the first time. Greig Stier and Mark Guyot for preparing trade spaces on a wet muddy ground plus Mark for working the scanners at the gates.



Past President (2020 – 2022) Martin Oppenheimer congratulates Daniel Kermode on becoming the new President of the Walcha Show Society

**Thanks:** A special thank you to Senior Vice President Daniel Kermode, and good luck for the future. Treasurer Bill Fletcher, for doing an extremely important job. Thank you to Secretary, Dale Webber, who has done an outstanding job once again. Thanks to all the Executive, Committee and Volunteers for your continued support. In conclusion I want to thank the Walcha community for supporting the Show. Especially our sponsors and businesses who provide financial support, prizes, machines and people to make the Show happen.

## Looking forward to 2023

The 2023 Walcha Show will be held on Friday 10 and Saturday 11 March. In 2023 we have a busy schedule:

- Hosting the Young Women Zone 4 Final in Walcha 25 February
- Online registration again for some events on Showday Online
- Tap and Go machines at the two main Gates, Office, and possibly bar
- Marketing video and website makeover is underway
- New sheep pens for the Sheep sections
- New toilet and shower amenities block near the Horticulture Pavilion
- Possibly resurfacing the main arena
- Possibly new waste removal arrangements with Walcha Council.
- The Woodchop will return
- Working Dog training sessions
- A bigger and better Pet Section
- New entertainment features

It's time to start thinking about your exhibits for the 2023 Show!

Thank you.

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# What's the Goss

With A.J. CROSS



**Last week there was mention made of the Walcha Swimming Club awarding life membership to Angus Warden and myself.**

I would like to thank the Flippers Committee who made the decision, one I really appreciate as no doubt Gus does too. To be awarded four life memberships is something I would have never dreamed of, but to have Rugby League, Cricket, Touch Football and now Flippers is unbelievable – all of which I will treasure equally.

...

**There certainly would have been some sombre moments** out at the 'Smith Creek' property on Thunderbolts Way last Sunday night when Penrith put the cleaners through Parramatta in the NRL Grand Final. There wouldn't be many households where all family members follow the one footy team, but that's not the case with Peter Mooney, his wife Yolanda and kids Charlotte, Bella and Cameron who cheer for the Eels. One thing about it, at least there would be no stirring going on with the Mooney's – well at least with the footy anyway.

...

**Newie Publican Peter Berry** was fairly confident of his beloved Parramatta winning their first premiership in 36 years last Sunday, but sadly that wasn't the case for him. On a brighter note, 'Perky' became a grandfather for the first time when his daughter Tamika presented her partner Blaine Moore with a girl Mia Louise last month 'Poppy Perc' is certainly a handle Peter is very happy with.

...

**There was a prediction it was going to be on for young and old** at the Cross Bros Butchery last week, which was exactly what happened. Waiting for his opportunity shop assistant and Parramatta supporter Simeon decorated part of the front window with Eels memorabilia, while his son – head butcher Jonnie, who is a Panthers fan, was at home having lunch.

...

**You can only imagine how the conversation went** when Jonathon returned to work, but in the end told his old man that he wasn't going

to make him take the Parra stuff down because it was going to hurt more when he had to after the Eels get belted. Did hear a whisper it was an early night for the Parra bloke – see 'Simone' for more details.

...

**'Quiet Valley' resident Sandra Laurie** was having all sorts of trouble locating her mobile phone last Monday morning as she prepared to leave our house after watching the footy with us the night before. When all avenues were nearly exhausted my favourite sister-in-law finally found the 'dog and bone' in her back pocket!!

...

**This Saturday the Walcha Golf Club** is conducting the Vicki Szpitalak Memorial Day to be played under a three-person format, which will commence with registrations from 9.30am for a 10.00am tee off. It's a shotgun start, a sausage sizzle lunch is on after, followed by nibbles after you finish playing. Come on, grab a couple of mates for a fun day out.

...

**Eleven golfers represented Walcha** at the NSW Veterans 4BBB Sandgreen Championships at Narromine recently with mixed success. Steph Sweeney and Deon Lawrence produced the best nett score 84 stableford points (44,40), only to be counted out to runners-up. Best Walcha Scratch Score was carded by the Brennan boys, Wayne and Willy on 55 points (27,28), while Owen Presnell and Doug McDonald were the next best Walcha team on 51 (25,26). Peter Norbury and Jack O'Hara, Neil Dark and Don Brooks, along with Col Berry who teamed up with Mal McIntyre, also teed off in the championships.

...

**The Walcha Cricket Association** has every intention of holding their own competition this season hoping to field four teams despite some concerns about playing numbers. Some local cricket committee members are travelling to a meeting in Armidale tonight to discuss any alternate options including entering the Armidale competition. Stay tuned for further developments.

...

**Newie Footy Tipping Party** has been scheduled for Saturday 5 November, where a BBQ Spit and beverages will be on offer for those tipsters who can or want to partake.

## advocate sport



### Wednesday Golf

After conducting our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, we played a par event for Rose Baumer's trophy. The back nine was closed because of the wet, so we played the front nine holes twice.

Deb Richards was our winner on the day with a score of +3. Well played Deb. Sweepstakes went to Jenny Lisle square, Jill Burnell -1, Rose Baumer -2, and Cheryl McDonald -2.

Nearest to the Pin on hole 3 was won by Deb Richards, and second shot on hole 9 went to Cheryl McDonald.

The results of the election of office bearers at the AGM were as follows:

Co-captains..... Cheryl McDonald and Donna Martin  
President.....Cark Street  
Vice President..... Simone Sweeney  
Secretary.....Alison Cameron  
Treasurer.....Sue Partridge  
Patron.....Margaret Davidson  
Vets delegate..... Sally McCormack  
NEDGA Reps ..... Penny King, Simone Sweeney  
and Jill Burnell  
Handicapper ..... Lorraine Walshe

Today we are playing the first round of the Secretary's Eclectic for a trophy donated by Jenny Lisle.

### Bowls

**Dads Army:** Using the wrong bias was a big feature on Thursday afternoon for several players. Playing north to south was blamed, but the lack of concentration was my problem.

Ten players who turned up to play were graded into a game of triples and a game of pairs. Brian Goodwin, John Watts and Geoff Salt scored a four on the last end to defeat Barry Kliendienst, Mark Hogan and Peter Hayes 18 – 12. In the pairs Noel Goodwin and Barry Hoad defeated John McCormack and Eric O'Keefe 22 – 13. Brian, John W and Geoff won the chooks and Adam Hall won the raffle.

### Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday Lyn, Debbie and Pat played Janice, Jan and Veronica and won 21 – 11. The score does not indicate how close each end was with many bowls surrounding the jack most ends and often the winning bowl was shot out of its position. The Ivy Makeham Memorial Singles trophy will be played on 13 October, 9.00am for a 9.30am start. Could all names be on the board by 12 noon on 6 October. There will be social bowls tomorrow, and as we are now in daylight saving, it is 9.00am for a 9.30am start.

### At the Nineteenth

A mixed 4BBB stableford was played last Sunday for trophies donated by John and Janie McLaren where Craig and Prue Morgan ran out comfortable winners after accumulating 47 points.

Runners-up were Col Berry and Julie Hoad on 43 points while the remaining sweepstake prizes went to Don Brooks and Pauline Carter, Lee and Ruth Fletcher both on 41 points. Sharpest shooters at the pins were Margaret Davidson (3) and Kyle Goodwin (18).

An individual competition was played for players without partners and it was Miles Archdale who won the par event with -1 from his son Will on -6.

Last Saturday Mark Hogan compiled a total of 16 stableford points to win the weekly 9 hole competition, runner-up was Lee Fletcher with 13 points, but only after he counted out Max Holstien.

Ladies winner was Pauline Carter after she racked up 12 points, runner-up was Vicki Heffernan on 9 points while no player was clever enough to reach the beach on the third hole.

This Saturday is Vicki Szpitalak Memorial Day, a three person ambrose event with tee off time at 10.00am while Sunday is a stableford event for a prize supplied by 'Willow Tree' Mayor David Sweeney and the Quirindi Open is also scheduled.

# Walcha well represented in New England Junior Hockey

Walcha players strongly represented in the recent Hockey New England Under 11's final series.

The Harlie's Jellybeans were both the minor and major premiers of the Under 11's competition, going through the whole season undefeated and only conceding three goals over the entire season.

Walcha players Sophie Mulligan, Olivia Mulligan, Jess Patterson-Kane, Annabelle Patterson-Kane, Angus Fletcher, Grace Fletcher, Anna Blake and Josie Wauch all played alongside others from Armidale to form the team.

After going into half time in the grand final 1 – 0 down the team lifted in the second half, scoring an early goal from a short corner. With the game locked at 1 – 1 with less than two minutes on the clock, Angus Fletcher slotted the winning goal in a very exciting finish.

Georgie Blake, Willa Street, Aggie Street, Frankie Nivison and Eliza Nivison were part of the Harlie's Frogs team. They were very unlucky to be knocked out in the Semi Finals after playing a great season.



advocateclassifieds



## Public Notices

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**Woolbrook Public School P&F Fundraiser**  
Pizza & Pasta night at Walcha Road Hotel,  
Wednesday 19 October 5:30pm. Bookings  
essential. Phone Nat Clifford 0412 445 650.

**Church Service at Woolbrook Church,**  
2.00pm this Sunday. For info Graham Barnes  
6777 2539.

### RICKS ODD JOBS & YARD MAINTENANCE

We value our existing clients and will endeavour to meet your needs, however due to the predicted, unprecedented rain over the coming months our gardening services will be affected. We will not be able to take on new clients. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

## Meetings

**Walcha Garden Club** Friday 7 October at  
Walcha Tennis Club commencing at 9:30am.  
Enquiries to D Bazeley 0403 464 865 or  
D Lisle 0429 799 083. New members welcome.

## For Sale

**Laver pullets** All breeds, 20 wks. Delivered  
Friday 21 October. **Ph: Jim 0428 194 105.**

## Position Vacant

### Administration/NRMA Customer Service Officer

**MOUNTAIN MOTORS / NRMA WALCHA**

A busy local Automotive repair Workshop, BP Service Station and NRMA Insurance Sales and Road Service Office.

Due to the continual growth of our organisation, we are actively seeking applications for a Full Time Administration officer / NRMA Insurance Sales Consultant. This position is open to a trainee or experienced person. Wages are paid under MTA Award, plus discounted insurance products and free road service.

Prior to commencement the successful applicant will be required to have a National Police (criminal history) Check and sign a Non Disclosure Agreement.

#### Overview

You will operate closely with all functions of the organisation. You will be the first point of contact for clients as well as offering administration support to the business services team using Xero and NRMA system. This is a great opportunity to join a tight knit team committed to successful outcomes. Assisting with day-to-day workflow of the team, your role and responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

- Provide administration support to other members of the team
- Service NRMA Customers (full training provided)
- Maintain office petty cash
- Order and maintain all office supplies and equipment

- Greet and welcome clients as soon as they arrive at the office
- Ensure reception area is tidy and presentable
- Provide basic and accurate information in-person and via phone/email
- Perform other clerical receptionist duties such as filing, photocopying as required
- Providing accounts payable and receivable with assistance where required, including processing invoices for authorisation and payment, raising purchase orders, creating invoices and reconciling bank accounts.
- Relief duties when other administration employees are absent.

#### Desired Skills and Experience

(Training will be provided if required)

- Proven work experience as a Receptionist, Front Office Representative or similar role
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite
- Professional attitude and appearance
- Solid written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to be resourceful and proactive when issues arise
- Excellent organisational skills
- Multitasking and time-management skills, with the ability to prioritise tasks
- Client service attitude
- Strong attention to detail

#### Please forward resume to:

admin@mountainmotors.com.au  
by 21st October, 2022.  
Enquiries Phillipa 02 6777 2542





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**Tuesday & Friday from 9.00am**

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## church notices



**ANGLICAN** Walcha Sunday 9 October  
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