

THE APSLEY Advocate

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14 December 2022

-wolka-

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Celebrations were called for on Saturday when three Walcha ladies were presented with their degrees at the University of New England, Faculty of Medicine and Health graduation ceremony.

After years of study, Kelly Wolfe was presented with Bachelor of Pharmacy with, Second Class Honours Division 1. Kristina Micallef and Nicola Hoy received their Bachelor of Nursing degrees and are pictured above being congratulated by Anna Barwick.

Kristina and Nicola began nursing together when they signed up as School-Based trainees in Year 11 at Walcha Central School. Over Years 11 and 12 they completed their Assistant in Nursing qualifications (AIN) and then were both accepted into UNE to complete their nursing degree.

Over the past three years while studying for this, they have both continued to work at Walcha Hospital as AIN's, so to graduate together was a very special day for Nicola, Kristina and their families.

Nicola has accepted a position at Armidale Private Hospital for the next two years, whereas Kristina will be nursing at Tamworth Hospital.

Many locals will recognise Kelly Wolfe from Kings Pharmacy where she completed one of her

placements during her Pharmacy degree.

Kelly will now work with Mathew Barwick, her supervisor to complete her Internship over 1874 hours to become fully registered as a Pharmacist. "I am learning lots on the job, and really enjoying being in a community-based pharmacy," Kelly said. "The nice thing about being at Kings Pharmacy is that I have the opportunity to get to know the customers and provide continuity of care for them."

She is also enjoying being able to broaden her skills at the Pharmacy, which includes administering vaccinations.

Kelly completed her degree over four years as a full time student whilst also raising her family, and with COVID in between!

Kelly is enrolled with Sydney University to complete a Graduate Certificate in Pharmacy Practice for her internship year. She will travel to Sydney to complete workshops and training as a part of this qualification, and has both a written and oral exam to become a fully registered Pharmacist.

A huge congratulations to all three for their outstanding accomplishments, particularly during interruptions due to lockdowns.

CHRISTMAS IS NEAR

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around the traps



By BRUCE RUTHERFORD

It is amazing just how quickly the surface water has disappeared following recent windy weather. The country has dried out quickly which points to just how soft it was when rain was delivered every week. I am thinking this has been a record year for rainfall for some districts, but I don't think Walcha has been a long way in front of average when I look at the records I keep. I think the period from April through to July was too dry to be breaking records, but that was offset by the period from August to November to an extent. Wet weather has been absent since early November and dry conditions combined with the wind have burned off native grasses rapidly, changing the look of much of the district as a result. Storms on Monday delivered quite decent falls of rain and I am sure there are plenty like me who have been looking for a decent fall this side of Christmas.

I have been talking with a few grain farmers recently and they appear to be in a better place than they thought they may be when I last had contact. They have certainly had a better time of it in recent weeks with some dry weather, but they would love to see a bit of heat to bring in the last of the crops in wet country. The interesting thing has been how much grain they have recovered from what appeared to be a hopeless situation not too long ago. They have surprised themselves! Most of the grain coming in has some water damage, but it is still going OK and feed quality grain is still attracting a good price. I am told that there will still be a lot of harvesters still going around in the northwest at Christmas time as they try to recover as much grain as possible. It has been a very trying time for a lot of the grain growers out there, but I am sure many of them have been able to strip more country than they ever thought possible a couple of months ago and the value of the water damaged seed has exceeded expectations.

Unfortunately, livestock markets are not finishing the year on the high we would like to see. Sheep, cattle and goat markets have lost their shine in recent weeks and months with significant changes to values. The mutton market has all but halved in value over the last couple of months and where carcass values were around 650 c/kg earlier in the year, they are now floundering around at sub 300 c/kg DW. Goats are another livestock class that has been hammered in recent times. Goats were selling above \$10 per kg DW not that long ago (with seemingly no end in sight). The same article is now selling around 360 c/kg DW which will really knock some holes in budgets in marginal country. There are an awful lot of western graziers have honed their operations for goat production as it was a market heralded as virtually unstoppable. Cattle markets are veritably shining by comparison although they too have suffered significant falls in recent weeks.

I am not sure what to make of all of these reduced values, but we are not being told there is anything but good news about demand for red meats and protein. It is apparently the case our product has been expensive when compared to product in global markets and I guess there are more numbers now available to processors. The real problem for producers will arise if we get pushed into a corner because of dry weather and numbers flood markets.

This will officially be my last "Around the Traps", although I am happy to chime in from time to time and lend a hand to whoever takes up the mantle. I am not sure when it was that I first proposed I would take on the job of writing this article, but I do remember things like memory sticks and even CD's did not exist! I used to type the article out for someone at the Telecottage (then in the old school building – now Walcha General Practice) who in turn would type it out again before printing. The floppy disc came along and we used that many times as a means of transferring the file to the Telecottage computer. The internet was then finding its legs and the old dial up connection was unreliable. I remember plenty of anxious moments trying to access the internet to forward the file on an email as emailing became part of my skillset. Emailing the file was such a huge step forward. I am also pretty sure mobile phones were only a new thing when this article first kicked off and as the local signal was so poor, many people didn't have one. How times have changed.

I have enjoyed writing the Traps over the many years I have been involved. I have enjoyed all the banter that goes with it. Over the years I have had many people contact me and make comment on the contents of the Traps that week. Good and bad! I have also had a lot of people who have encouraged me to keep writing, but it is time for a change, at least for me. I hope everyone has a very happy and safe Christmas break and that 2023 is everything and more than you wish for.



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Festival Friday

Two days to go!

This Friday the Walcha community are getting together for 'Festival Friday' at Walcha Showground from 3pm – 6pm.

Organised by Walcha Central School, 'Festival Friday' is a great way for the community, families and friends to celebrate as another school year draws to a close.

Walcha service clubs have put their hand up to assist in running free, fun activities including a giant inflatable slide, horizontal bungee run, putt putt golf, chocolate toss and super-sized bubble area. Try your hand at the traditional favourite, the knock 'em down, or see if you can hit the target on Headspace Armidale's giant dartboard.

The main attraction will be the free Slime Spectacular Fun Run at 5pm. Wear a white t-shirt and see if you can dodge the slime blasters, or enjoy the spectacle of watching participants being slimed. Our local fire brigade will be there ready to lend a hand for anyone wanting to rinse off afterwards.

Betts Transport are delivering over 2,000 Krispy Kreme donuts to the Showground! Boxes of Krispy Kreme donuts that have been pre-ordered can be collected in front of the function centre.

Barbeque food, cold drinks, afternoon tea and Krispy Kreme donuts will also be available for purchase.

Over 100 summer flower seedlings grown by the school's Dunghutti Diggers Garden Club will be for sale – an ideal school holiday activity or last minute Christmas gift.

Join the Walcha community this Friday for a free, fun afternoon - see you at Festival Friday!

Carols by Candlelight in the Presbyterian Church



Who doesn't love a great night of Christmas Carol singing? Carols by Candlelight in the Presbyterian Church will make a long-awaited return on Thursday 22 December at 7pm.

The Church was built in 1888 and the high vaulted ceiling was clearly designed with acoustics in mind. Sound and music reverberate beautifully within the building, making the church a perfect setting for such an occasion. There will be all the favourite traditional carols, with an ensemble of musicians. A choir made up of community members has been having so much fun rehearsing weekly to prepare several items. Those who have attended previously will agree it is a truly delightful evening and not to be missed.

The end of the year is often so busy, and we become focused on a number of things: buying Christmas presents, sending cards, end of year parties. Often we lose sight of the real meaning of Christmas. David Burge, a previous minister at the church, whom many will remember, is returning for the Carols, to share and reflect on why Christians still celebrate the birth of Christ, 2000 years later.

Young and old are invited to the Presbyterian church, on 22 December, 7pm, with their singing voices, and to stay afterwards for a light supper.

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- Two good sized bedrooms with built-ins
- Lounge room with gas and wood heating
- North easterly kitchen with wall oven, ceramic cook top, dishwasher and an abundance of cupboards
- Large bathroom with separate toilet
- Rear deck for entertaining with shade sail
- Fully fenced with double garage and carport

\$370,000

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VALUED CLIENTS A
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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Closing at 1.00pm
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Christmas at the Walcha Farmers' Market

Come on down to the Walcha Farmers' Market this Saturday, 17th December at McHattan Park, between 8:30am and 12:30pm. It will be a great chance to stock up on Christmas gifts and goodies to make your Christmas all the more special.



Walcha Library will be running Christmas storytime at the market, and they've invited Santa to join them! Howard, the Banjo Man will also be there to entertain visitors.

The market has two new stallholders this month: local Walcha business HEM Resin will have their beautiful handmade earrings and other personal accessories. Back to Nature Co from Armidale will be bringing their natural dog care products to Walcha for the first time.

In addition to the new stallholders, there will be many of your favourite stalls including 216 Collection, Beca Bakes, Carinya North Nursery, Deano's Smoked Trout, Ivan Thomas Woodwork, Kentucky Tree Nursery, Moodee & Sass, Nan's Homestyle Condiments, Sheetal Puri, Sienna's Seedlings, Shoreline Oysters, Sunhill Dairy Goats, Tildy Stories, Walcha Photography Club, Wild Apple Fun and the Walcha Farmers' Market Community Stall.

The Walcha Farmers' Market Community Stall will be well stocked with plants from the Walcha Men's Shed, and produce from the local community. If you have fresh flowers, plants, or produce from your garden that you would like to sell at the community stall, bring them along and they will be happy to sell them for you for a small commission.

Walcha Farmers' Market, 8:30am-12:30pm 17th December, McHattan Park, Walcha.

Festive day for golfers

Wednesday golfers celebrated the end of year with our Christmas lunch and Melanoma Charity Day on Wednesday, playing a three person ambrose for Cross's Butchery trophy.

Walcha Vet Supplies very kindly donated trophies also as part of our charity day.

The winners of Cross's trophy were Jenny Lisle, Prue Morgan and Lyn Laurie with a score of 63^{1/6}, just nudging out Cheryl McDonald, Lorraine Walshe and Kerrie Hollis with 63^{1/3}.

Second runners up were Donna Martin, Sue Partridge and Katie Smith with 64^{1/2} and sweepstakes went to Simone Sweeney, Alison Cameron and Pip Monie on 65^{1/6}, Penny King, Ruth Fletcher and Deb Richards, 66 points and Vicki Heffernan, Marg Parsons and Pauline Carter with 66^{1/2}.

NTP on 3 was Ruth Fletcher and NTP on 16 was Vicki Heffernan.

A fun day was had by all and thank you to all for making it so, and for your generous contributions supporting our charity which this year was for melanoma cancer.

Our last programmed golf day for this year is today and again another fun game which is a stableford event playing with just three clubs. It will be a club trophy.



You're invited to the
ELDERS WALCHA
Christmas Party
GOLF, BBQ & DRINKS
Friday 16th December
Walcha Golf Course
Golf starting at 2pm
Followed by BBQ & Drinks at 5pm
RSVP Friday 9th December
6774 2600
Elders Walcha would like to take this opportunity to
thank you for your continued support
throughout the year!

Elders

Voice for Walcha gets a Voice with Council

By John Heffernan

On Thursday December 7, *Voice for Walcha* was granted a session with Walcha Council, allowing the community group to raise several very important issues concerning Winterbourne Wind Farm.

The session opened with a report on the survey of Walcha community's attitude to the wind farm project. Then it followed with a video of a selection of individual community members expressing their feelings and opinions about the various aspects of the project. After that a number of significant failings were highlighted in the 4000 page Environmental Impact Statement published by Vestas, particularly in regard to the depletion of crucial local resources of water and gravel during the construction and post-construction phases of the project, plus a frank outline of looming road and traffic issues as well as a brief look at the major matter of decommissioning twenty years or so in the future. The session ended with a reaching out by *Voice for Walcha* to help Council adopt a clear realistic set of guidelines for renewable energy development in the future.

This was a frank, honest and open meeting that put a number of key, crucially important issues front and centre as needing Council's attention. In fact it was so important that *Voice for Walcha* has decided to make a podcast of it available so that the whole Walcha community can also be made aware of the important matters raised in the Council session.

There will be three audio sessions in the podcast plus a separate video, all of between seven and ten minutes each. The first audio is the Survey report by Kerry Field, an expert in communications analysis; very informative. The second audio deals with the Traffic Impact Assessment of the wind farm project; a real eye-opener! The third audio is *Voice for Walcha*'s reaching out to Council; an intelligent call to arms into the future. Then there is the video of some local opinions about Winterbourne Wind; definitely worth watching.

The podcast and video will be spread over two weeks. This really is something you should give some serious attention to.

To find out more, go to: <https://voiceforwalcha.com/podcast/>

Keep working on your EIS submissions

The *Voice for Walcha* drop in shop will be taking a break for the Christmas and New Year period, from 15th December until the new year – except for appointments. We will still be working behind the scenes, reading, answering emails and phone calls and helping with submissions –

so don't hesitate to contact us for help with your submission Email: us@voiceforwalcha.com

The submission period has been extended until the 22nd of January, but if you want to make a submission there is no time like the present – make it happen!

SAVE THE DATE: We will be holding an EIS Rally to support the community efforts to get those submissions made, on Thursday 12th January 2023, 5:30pm at the Walcha Bowling Club.

In the meantime, our website has plenty of information, podcasts, reference material and submission writing guidelines, so feast your eyes at www.voiceforwalcha.com



Deceptive and misleading practices by Vestas ...

[The Winterbourne Wind project developer]

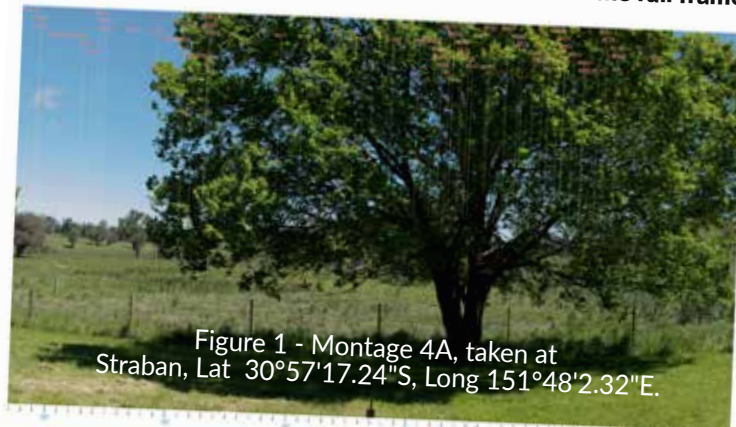
Why would a developer, or a consultant commissioned by the developer, create a montage of a site viewed from behind a bank of trees? Take photo 4, for example, on page 28 of the first Photo Montage series, "Appendix I - LVIA App. D Photomontages and Wireframes_1.pdf".

Turbines in the left hand distance can be shielded by trees in the montage, but the closer, centred turbines are hidden behind a large tree in front of the camera used in the creation of the montage. Why place the camera behind the tree?

This has occurred multiple times and indicates the contempt that the developer has for the community, and the inappropriateness of the EIS report in answering these concerns.

Photomontage 4A

This is NOT a cropped photo, it is taken directly from the report, and includes the full frame.



WINTERBOURNE WIND FARM | LANDSCAPE & VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX I (CONT.)

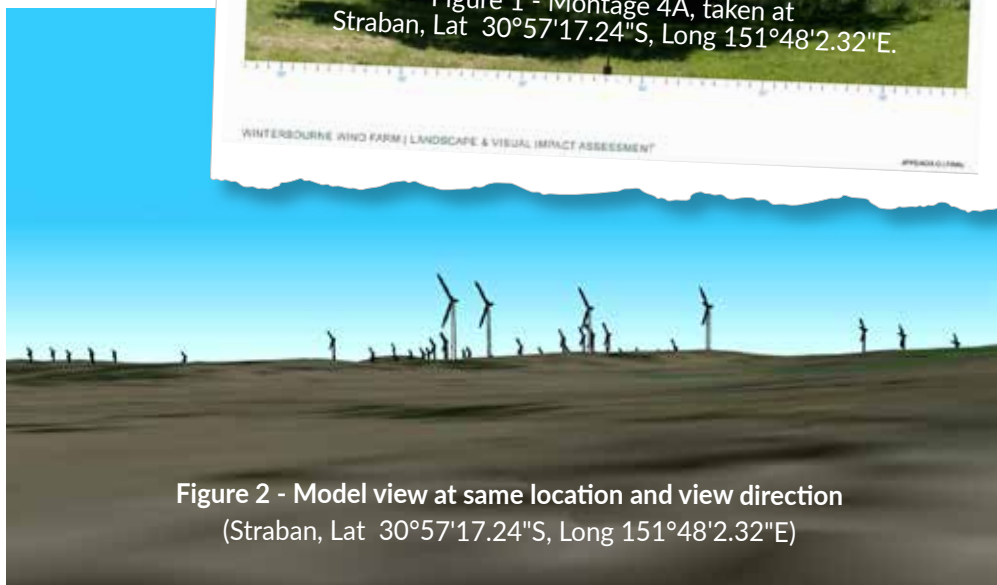


Figure 2 - Model view at same location and view direction (Straban, Lat 30°57'17.24"S, Long 151°48'2.32"E)



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UNTIL THE
NEW YEAR



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thumbs



- 👉 To Bruce Rutherford, Traps writer extraordinaire, for writing his column for over 25 years. We will miss your informative words of wisdom each week.
- 👉 To the Family Day Care Educators for the fantastic Christmas party.
- 👉 To Steph Sweeney for his generosity to Woolbrook School.
- 👉 To Walcha Council Community Care Christmas lunch held at the Bowling Club on Wednesday. Jess and Bec always do an amazing job, along with Veronica as a volunteer.
- 👉 Thank you also to Barb for her beautiful speech in recognition for all Community Care do for our community.
- 👉 To Diane at Walcha Taxi for her care with wheelchair passengers.
- 👉 To Emma Wauch and her helpers, as well as the tennis committee for a great job with the Junior Tennis coaching. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.
- 👉 To Walcha Council on getting the cycleway grant. This will be so beneficial for young and old.
- 👉 To Ben Ussher for all the amazing work he does both at school and in the community. We are lucky to have you.
- 👉 To yoga teacher Tess Dawson for her warmth and clear instructions during classes. I have found the yoga classes inspirational and life changing.
- 👉 The Phantom Flower Arranger can't put flowers in the McHattan Park toilets because the vandals break the glass jar. When will we have CCTV lights installed?

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.



WALCHA COUNCIL
Summer BREAK
HOLIDAY PROGRAM



WALCHA LIBRARY EVENTS

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & STORYTIME

Visit the Walcha Council Library stall at the Walcha Farmers Markets, McHattan Park for
Children's Christmas craft 9am - 12 noon
& Storytime with Santa at 10.30am
Saturday 17th December 2022



'THE COOL GUYS'

Tutankhamun School Holiday Workshop
Archaeology - craft - gaming
For ages 7 - 12

Monday 23rd January 10.30am

Book via Walcha Library 67742550



STORYTIME SPLASH

Listen to some stories about water safety, and enjoy songs and games with friends at the Walcha Memorial Pools
10-11am Friday 20th of January 2023



Free entry



WALCHA COUNCIL
Summer BREAK
HOLIDAY PROGRAM



LEGO MASTERS

Andrew and Damian from Lego Masters, present "Clicking Bricks" an interactive workshop to connect with aspiring builders and help take their skills to the next level. These workshops are for all ages (so bring parents along too!)
Wed 11th & Thurs 12th Jan 2023
@ Walcha MPC - Book now!

STONEY AQUAPARK

A full day bus trip to Stoney Aquapark for inflatable water fun!
Strictly for youth aged 12 & up
Friday 13th of Jan 2023
Places limited - Book now!

PAINTBALL

Includes FREE transport to Kootingal, BBQ lunch and 600 paintballs and all the gear for a morning session of paintball fun. Strictly for those aged 14 - 18 yrs
Wed 18th Jan 2023
Places limited - Book now!

DANCE FUSION

Bring a friend and learn some new dances this summer!
Walcha Motel Function Room
Tues 17th Jan 2023
10am & 11am classes - Book now!

POOL PARTY

Celebrate summer at the Walcha Memorial Pools
Wed 25th Jan 2023
2-6pm FREE ENTRY!
Inflatable obstacle course, music & games
No booking needed!

RESIN ART

Join local resin artist to make your own jewellery: for ages 8+ only
Walcha Handmade 11am
Mon 23rd & Sat 28th of Jan 2023
Places limited - Book now!

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



ALL BOOKINGS MADE ONLINE VIA

QR CODE OR LINK BELOW:

<https://forms.gle/RU2LxAXsnUf77soD8>

Santa comes to Day Care party

It was a Christmas party with all the trimmings for the Walcha family day care children when educators Natasha Foster, Chloe Carter, Megan Tisdell and Donna Lynch organised a Christmas party

recently. The children enjoyed showing parents some activities they do at day care as well as face painting, a special visit from Santa and a sausage sizzle.



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- The back yard is a feature with rear access and a large 3 bay lockable shed that also feeds a 5000 gal water tank. Shed is fully concreted and has power connected



Wishing you and your families all
a very Merry Christmas and
prosperous New Year

Thank you for your valued support throughout the year.
Let's hope 2023 delivers more great prices and this
magnificent season continues.

Best wishes from everyone
at the Pitt Sons office

Andrew, Sam, Ron, Troy, Stuart and Julie

WALCHA LAW

The Director and Staff wish you the compliments of the season.



Closing 5pm Friday 23 Dec

Re-opening
Monday 9 Jan at 8:30am.

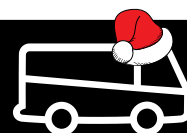
For urgent matters before 9 Jan,
please contact
Sophie on: 0427 780 392

It's Christmas,
I have beer, please don't disturb
and ruin my festive cheer!
Feel free to call me in the New Year.
Unavailable from 23 Dec back 3 Jan



New England IT
**ONSITE COMPUTER
SERVICE + SALES**
Tim Sutton 0414 874 523

WALCHA TAXI SERVICE



CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS:

Christmas Eve..... Closing at midnight
Christmas Day..... Closed
Boxing Day 8am - 10:30pm
Normal hours resume 8am 27 December

**Wishing you all a very merry
Christmas and a happy new year.**

WALCHA COUNCIL CHRISTMAS CLOSEDOWN 2022



Council's Office will be closed from **12:30pm** on Thursday, 22 December 2022 until 8.30am on Monday, 9 January 2023 for the Christmas New Year period.

Council's Work Depot will be staffed with a small crew available to carry out emergency work as required from 23 December 2022.

In cases of emergency after hours, please ring 0427 774 544.

Water & Sewer: in cases of emergencies after hours please ring 0427 774 544.

Service NSW will be closed from **12:15pm** on Thursday, 22 December 2022 until 8.30am on Monday, 9 January 2023.

Garbage & Recycling Collection Services to Walcha, Walcha Road, Woolbrook and Summervale will be on **Thursday, 22 & 29 December 2022.** Collection run and times may differ to usual collection times. All bins to be placed on the kerb on **Wednesday** evening for collection on **Thursday morning.**

Waste Depot will be **closed** Christmas Day, Boxing Day, 27 December and New Years Day. **It will be open** Thursday 22 December from 8:30am to 12 noon **ONLY** then Friday, 23 December and Wednesday to Friday, 28 to 30 December 2022 from 8:30am until 4:30pm as normal.

Walcha War Memorial Baths will be closed Christmas Day.

Walcha Library will be closed from **12:30pm** on Thursday, 22 December 2022 until 8.30am on Monday, 9 January 2023.

Walcha Community Care Office will be closed from 12:30pm on Thursday, 22 December 2022 until 8.30am on Monday, 9 January 2023.

Walcha Visitor Information Centre will be closed Christmas Day.

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

A LOOK BACK OVER 2022



From Mayor Eric Noakes

I feel 2022 has been a good year for your council and therefore this has a positive ripple effect through to the community. Excellent seasons again, farm commodity prices generally being favourable and there has been plenty of rain, but we still all remember the dry times and the issues it brought. COVID has appeared to have backed off a bit and most of the freedoms we were used to have returned, though it still hovers in the background. Our place in the mountains does not suffer severe flooding but winter has had trouble releasing its grip.

It has been a very positive year for Walcha Council. We started off with the induction of five new councillors, elected in December 2021, they came with vitality and a sense of direction bringing passion and new ideas for Walcha. All have proven to have a clear direction and vision to take us into the future and their ability to articulate this in the chamber makes this council a pleasure to lead.

We have been the successful recipient of over \$17m in grants, some that are allocated and others our staff have worked very hard to obtain. The amount of work required to successfully apply for grants and then acquit them still amazes me. We are very fortunate to have the staff in a small council like Walcha that are so efficient at this process.

As part of this positivity, probably the most important step your council took was to apply for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) to keep us financially viable. Much has been written about the history, reason and need for this so I won't rehash that. All of the background information is still easily sourced on council's webpage. This SRV forms part of council's long term vision, strategic direction and supports the sustainability review. Coupled with a positive response from the community of over 90% in favour we can move forward, and we thank you for your support. Walcha as a community has a bright and positive future but it will not come without a measured approach, community vision and at times some sacrifices. Funding for all councils under the current system is tight and only a diligent approach to both income and expenditure will see us remain sustainable. I believe we have the right people currently in the seats to deliver the vision, from the Councillors to the General Manager through to the two Directors under the revised organisational structure. They then lead a committed and capable workforce. Through our public engagement of this process we heard loud and clear that we have some housekeeping to do and I can promise you there are reforms in that area.

Any cultural and organisational change does come at some cost, both financial and personal, but if any business does not reinvent and restructure itself on a regular basis it will fall behind. The necessary and overdue changes currently taking place will streamline your council to deliver better outcomes in a very tight fiscal environment. Until other levels of government recognise the importance of Local Government in the delivery of services to communities and adjust the funding model that allows this to happen councils will continue to fall into administration and/or not be able to maintain their communities' critical needs. They seem to be happy to cap our income capabilities but are also happy to pass on costs they once bore.

The embankment for the new off creek storage is complete. There is still considerable work to be done around the pumping station and associated pipe and electrical work but with the project looking like it will come in on budget and time this is a credit to all involved, but most importantly to the Walcha Council team who have managed the construction process diligently. Aiming at a commissioning date around mid 2023, what is arguably the largest single infrastructure project Walcha Council has



WALCHA CHIROPRACTIC CENTRE

Closing 5pm Tuesday 20 December
Re-opening Tuesday 3 January
9.00am - 5.00pm

MERRY HEALTHY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR AND SAFE HOLIDAYS
FROM SAM, IAN, ALINA & STAFF

THE OFFICES OF

New England Accounting

Will close on
Thursday 22 December 2022
Re-open Monday 16 January 2023

**WISHING EVERYBODY A
HAPPY AND SAFE CHRISTMAS
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

THE GIRLS AT New Beginnings Hair Studio

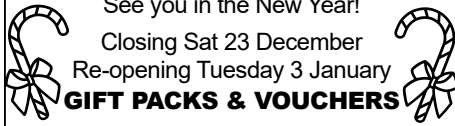
Are wishing all our clients a
Merry Christmas

Thank you for your support and friendship
this year. May 2023 be good to you all!

See you in the New Year!

Closing Sat 23 December

Re-opening Tuesday 3 January



GIFT PACKS & VOUCHERS

ever taken on will secure our water future.

Commonwealth and State Government funding has also had a positive impact on our ability to maintain and update our assets. The acknowledgment by governments that inflation and lack of resources has led to large increases in construction costs has seen the successful application for top up funding for bridges that will allow us to complete five bridges currently in the design phase. A successful application by the infrastructure team for more funding to complete the two ends of Derby Street will see this work start next financial year. The rest of the \$11m work on the Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy nears completion and our infrastructure team is chasing more grants to continue its upgrade.

Safety railing on the Blue Hogan bridge, while not everyone agrees with the look of the outcome (compliance) makes this a much safer crossing. This safety feature is complemented by the installation of solar lights on the levee banks to enhance both fitness and outdoor activity. The new picket fence around Peter Fenwicke Oval is a great replacement for the dated chain wire fence. Early New Year will see the skate park and Lions Park upgrades completed and offer the youth of Walcha great facilities. This project is complemented by the roll out of CCTV security on some of council's assets to protect them from vandalism. The need for this slowly infiltrates all communities and I see it as a sad day that it has come to this. Walsh and Middle Streets will also see large rehabilitation projects take place next year.

Walcha Council continues to take a strong advocacy role in the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors, a group we initiated to get better outcomes for councils facing the dynamic and disruptive changes from renewable projects. Understanding and working within our role this should lead to better outcomes for Walcha for those projects the State Government determines should proceed.

From my interactions with other councils over six years as Mayor one defining

MOBILE FIX

Pat, Nicole and staff would like to wish
their valued customers a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Closing

Friday 23 December

&

Re-opening

Monday 9 January



DARKS PLUMBING

**THANKING YOU
FOR ALL YOUR
SUPPORT AND
PATIENCE OVER
THE PAST YEAR**



Adam will be available for
Emergency work over the
festive period. **Phone 0428 587 304**

element I have always been proud of with Walcha is our community's ability to be united in the face of adversity. The motto by our current GM Barry "We are Walcha" has always been at the foundation of what makes us who we are. Untimely loss of lives, support for those who need it, devastating droughts, bushfires, amalgamation attempts and sporting challenges have seen us close ranks and have each other's backs. A shoulder to lean on. With respect to renewable energy I feel we are now being challenged by what is really an outside force, one we have limited input into but very little control over the outcome, yet it is dividing this community. Climate change and associated renewable energy policy evoke strong emotions in people, when this happens sometimes logic and the facts disappear into the mire and we lose track of who we are and our long term priorities. We must remember that any proponents and hosts are only taking advantage of Government policy, with that same Government having the final say on their licence to operate. Whichever way any project goes we need to hold onto our unity, We are Walcha, it gives us our resilience that we will need moving forward as there will always be a challenge to our unity. It would be nice to think that the New Year will bring a genuine undertaking that we aim our frustrations at those who can change outcomes and accept that we all have a diversity of opinion. The outcome will be decided in an office in Sydney, both sides can only fight the good fight but both sides cannot win. Surely we are a better community than to let reactive government policy divide us.

Finally on behalf of Sheree, myself and your councillors I would like to take this opportunity, to wish one and all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Christmas can be a challenging and difficult time for some as it's often a time to reflect on the past year. Counteracting this is the joy of catching up with family and friends, something that seems to not happen enough as our lives get busier. 2022 seems a blur, and the long tail on winter does not really evoke a feeling of the lead up to a traditional Christmas but I'm sure that the next ten days will rectify this. Stay safe and enjoy the spirit of Christmas.



THUNDERBOLTS WAY CAFE

Thanks for all of your support
throughout 2022
from Lisa and Jacki

Trading hours:

24.127am-2pm
25.12Closed
26.12Closed
27.12Closed
28.127am-7pm
29.127am-7pm
30.127am-7pm
31.127am-7pm
1.01Closed
2.017am-4pm
3.01Normal trading

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Boxing Day: CLOSED

Tuesday 27/12: CLOSED

Wednesday 28/12: 8am – 5.30pm

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*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year*

Trading hours

Thurs 15 Dec 9am – 5pm

Fri 16 Dec 9am – 5pm

Sat 17 Dec 9am - 12pm

Sun 18 Dec - CLOSED

Mon 19 Dec 9am - 5pm

Tues 20 Dec 9am - 5pm

Wed 21 Dec 9am - 5pm

Thurs 22 Dec 9am - 5pm

Fri 23 Dec 9am - 5pm

Sat 24 Dec 9am -12pm

CHRISTMAS DAY – CLOSED

BOXING DAY – CLOSED

Tues 27 Dec – CLOSED

Wed 28 Dec 9am – 5pm

Thurs 29 Dec 9am – 5pm

Fri 30 Dec 9am – 5pm

NEW YEARS EVE – 9am - 12pm

NEW YEARS DAY– CLOSED

Mon 2 Jan – CLOSED

letters to the editor

The Wind of Change

Something needs clarification. Winterbourne Wind is not a "community-based project", it never has been. It has never had the support of the broader community and only benefits a few directly involved who stand to gain financially.

The proposed community fund is almost an insult when looking at the projected total revenue generated by the project.

Our family moved to the beautiful quiet town of Walcha in 2010 for a change of pace and to live an off-grid lifestyle. Many of our good Walcha friends are "blow-ins" as well. People who have started businesses in the area, work the land, enrich the community through artistic endeavours, volunteer in community organisations and send their kids to local schools.

Over the past twelve years we have made a conscious effort to run an environmentally sustainable agricultural business.

The majority of our electrical power requirements are generated on-farm through our stand-alone solar system.

We try our best to minimise any waste generated going into landfill.

We are truly concerned about the environment and try our best to do our part.

We were shocked to find out in 2020 that our farm would be located at the centre of the proposed Winterbourne wind project. If this goes ahead our serene home will be surrounded by dozens of 230m tall turbines (almost 4 times the height of the Sugarloaf tower), every one of these bird chomping monsters equipped with aviation beacon lights.

We have been kept in the dark about the scale and magnitude of the Winterbourne wind project by Walcha Energy and our involved neighbours. There still seems to be no accurate information available about exactly what will be going where (Turbines, Substations and Power lines).

Why was all of this planned in secret?

Why, at "5 minutes to midnight", do we still know so little?

In the meantime, we're battling our way through thousands of pages of EIS & appendices...

Due to our opposition to the wind farm there is now noticeable strain in the relationships with our neighbours (as most of them are in favour of the project given the huge financial benefit that will be coming their way once they become turbine hosts). The animosity seems unjust as all we are doing is trying to defend our way of life, our home and our investment.

At a recent community meeting we were told "our emotions don't matter as we're trying to save the planet here". What a laughable statement. Your new-found 'environmentalism' isn't fooling anyone. Do you recycle your waste? How big is your existing solar system? What else do you do to minimize your carbon footprint!

I realise that Australia needs to explore alternatives to coal fired power generation, however, proposing to build a wind farm of industrial proportions (one of the largest in the world) in such a small community is absolute insanity. It will destroy the flair of the town, damage our fragile ecosystem, ruin our already terrible roads, kill-off tourism... The negatives are almost endless.

If Walcha wants to do its bit towards a sustainable energy future why don't we look at the development of a local micro grid with a mix of solar and - if needed- smaller and less invasive vertical axis turbines and local battery storage. That way, we can meet our own energy demands and generate feasible electricity for our local community. Other towns are doing it already, so why can't we?

The project will also have a huge impact on tourism which is vital for Walcha's economy. Do people really think that a wind factory of industrial proportions will bring tourists to town? How many people drive out to Sapphire Wind Farm on a Sunday to gaze at the towers?

Do we really believe that those "400 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs through the construction period" will bring us 400 new families and help us repopulate Walcha? Will the 39 FTE jobs during Operation, including approx. 16 site - based jobs for the life of the project" entirely go to local contractors and tradespeople?

The divisiveness of this project is ruining our beautiful community.

Stef Cook

Ann Berry Memorial Golf 3 Person Ambrose

Last Saturday the annual Ann Berry Memorial golf competition was held where Brian Lynch, John McCormack and Mark Hogan carded a 3 person ambrose score of 56 1/3 to be crowned the winners.

They had to survive a count-back with Mitch Crawford, Lee and Ruth Fletcher who finished up runners up and Front 9 Hole winners on 29 1/2 nett.

Back 9 Hole winners were Don Brooks, Barry Hoad and Crichton Barr also on 29 1/2 nett.

Sweepstakes went to Lachie Laurie, Troy Yarnold and Lachie Brown 59 1/2 Margaret Davidson, Owen and Julie Presnell 62, Kathryn Smith, Jed Wittig and Emma Clifton 62.

Mens NTPs went to Glen Olrich (1) Owen Presnell (3 and 16) Lachie Laurie (9) John McCormack (18) non golfer on 3 Troy Yarnold.

Ladies NTPS Mel Bird (1 and 18) Jenny Lisle (9) Cheryl McDonald (16) non golfer on 3 Ash Whitehead.

Long Drives Men's Handicap 0-20 Mitch Crawford 21-36 Peter Norbury and non golfer Steve Riley.

Long Drives Ladies 0-20 Anthea Combie, 21-45 Margaret Davidson non golfer - Emma Clifton.

Straightest Drives Bob Denniss and Ruth Fletcher.

Men's Best Second Shot into the 14th Jed Wittig while the best Ladies Second Shot on the 7th went to Emma Clifton.

church notices

ANGLICAN Walcha 18 December: 7.30am Holy Communion and 10.00am Family Service.
All welcome. Phone 6777 2543 or email
walchaanglican@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN Walcha Sunday 9.30am.
Woolbrook 2pm. All welcome. Phone 6777 2539.

CATHOLIC Sunday 10.00am Mass.

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Johne's Disease

By Destinee Day, Walcha Vet Clinic

What is it?

Johne's (pronounced 'yo-nees') disease is a chronic wasting disease. It is caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*. The infection causes thickening of the intestines, leading to the reduction of normal absorption of nutrients and loss of condition (even when on good feed). Death occurs due to starvation or euthanasia is performed on humane grounds. It is found in cattle, sheep, goats, deer and camelids.

How is it spread?

The disease is spread when a susceptible animal eats or drinks something which has been contaminated by infected faeces. Young animals are much more likely to be infected. The bacteria can also survive in the environment for several months (up to 12 months). Infected animals only shed bacteria intermittently and only show visible signs of infection as they get older. It is referred to as a "silent but costly disease" because a Johne's diagnosis is often not made until a significant proportion of the flock are already infected and deaths are occurring. Prevention is the only defence, as Johne's disease has a long incubation period and there is no treatment or cure.

What does it look like?

Due to the slowly progressive nature of the infection, stock may be infected for years before they show any signs of disease.

Bovine Johne's Disease (BJD) - cattle are usually infected when less than 12 months of age, but clinical disease is often not seen until the affected animal is at least 4 or 5 years old. Signs typically appear after a period of stress e.g. calving, poor nutrition or lactation. They usually develop chronic diarrhoea, lose weight and become emaciated (while still maintaining a good appetite) and they can develop bottle jaw. It is important to note that Bovine Johne's disease is more prevalent in the dairy industry, but does occur in the beef industry.

Ovine Johne's Disease (OJD) - sheep can become infected at any age, but young sheep are more susceptible. Infected sheep continue to eat and drink normally until they are too weak to graze and die. A classic sign of Johne's is a mob with a distinct tail (a portion of the mob in much poorer condition than the rest), and the sheep all ranging in condition. Scouring is not a common feature of the disease in sheep (but occasionally can occur).

NOTE: OJD is almost always due to the sheep strain of the bacteria, while BJD is almost always due to the cattle strain of the bacteria, however cross species transmission (sheep strain of bacteria infection in cattle and vice versa) does happen, but very rarely.

But isn't Johne's a "down south" problem?

While Johne's disease has normally been diagnosed in high rainfall areas like south eastern NSW (e.g. Yass and Wagga) and VIC, there have been cases diagnosed in areas where it has not been seen before. It has been diagnosed in the New England and even in Walcha. It is crucial to be vigilant when buying stock in and monitoring your current stock.

So how do I make sure I don't get Johne's on my property?

The main way Johne's disease will arrive on property is on the back of a truck. Introduction of infected animals may result in infected stock on the property, as well as the risk of it spreading to neighbours stock. Johne's is no longer being regulated (since 2018) so it is up to the producer to be aware of this and have an integrated approach to biosecurity (not only to prevent Johne's, to prevent a number of diseases).

Consider:

- Implementing and maintaining a thorough biosecurity plan
- Only purchasing animals with an animal health declaration as well as a vendor declaration
- Actively ask about properties Johne's status and history that you are purchasing any animals from
- Only introducing low-risk stock onto the property
- Having appropriate quarantine for new stock if there are any concerns they are carrying something upon arrival
- Implement grazing management strategies to prevent the spread of bacteria on farm
- If purchasing vaccinated stock, ensure they were vaccinated before 16 weeks of age, and not as they got onto the truck (sheep mainly)
- Vaccinating stock (mainly sheep) – there is a cattle vaccine but it can only be supplied by the State Chief Veterinary Officer and is usually only used in herds where a diagnosis of Bovine Johne's has been confirmed

Vaccinating Sheep

The sheep vaccination is called "Gudair". It offers protection against the development of clinical Ovine Johne's disease and a reduction in faecal shedding of the organism in sheep. A single 1ml dose provides protection for life BUT vaccination is recommended between 4-16 weeks of age, as this timing allows for protection prior to exposure to the disease. These animals are then called approved vaccinates and can be identified with a V in a circle on their National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) eartag. While the vaccine can be given to sheep of any age it is less likely to be as effective or economical in animals older than 16 weeks. This is a killed vaccine, so starting a vaccination program cannot introduce the disease onto your property.

Safe use of the vaccine is important, severe tissue reactions can occur if humans are accidentally injected with the vaccine (e.g. if accidentally injected into the hand it can lead to the loss of fingers or the use of the hand). To assist in preventing human injury, the Gudair vaccine should be administered with a safety vaccinator gun which covers up the needle when not in use. Correct vaccination technique is also important to prevent tissue reactions in the lamb, follow the instructions on the packet including recommended needle size.

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HOURS**

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Advocate

Last Advocate 2022

21st December

First Advocate 2023

11th January

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Mondays 4.00pm

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12.30pm - Friday
23rd December

RE-OPENS

9am - Tuesday
3rd January

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NEW STALLHOLDERS WELCOME

what's the goss



with AJ Cross

Some players who teed off in the annual Ann Berry Memorial Golf day or the 98 people who hit on my Facebook post may be wondering why Willy Brennan, Peter Norbury and Lachie Fletcher aren't listed as the winners of the event after they received their trophies last Saturday.

...

Last Sunday night captain Willy was lying in bed thinking about things including what handicap they used in the Ann Berry Memorial. He suddenly thought they may have taken off the wrong handicap and his fears became reality when he checked the score cards the next day. Willy decided the only way to deal with the situation was to disqualify his team which is what he did paving the way for John McCormack, Brian Lynch and Mark Hogan to claim the main prizes on count-back from Mitch Crawford, Ruth and Lee Fletcher.

...

It wasn't the most memorable few days for Willy and Peter who took out the Vets 4BBB Christmas Medley Bradmans Bat on Thursday after they compiled 32 points. When Will and 'Granite' declared how many points they had carded Braddon Jackson asked them if they were playing with a hockey stick. There was an incident on the second fairway where 'Granite' hit Will's ball and a penalty had to be incurred which certainly didn't help the points scoring.

...

At the recent Veterans Over 60's Division 2 Cricket Championships local player Bill Duncan and semi-local Steph Sweeney played for the NSW Waratahs and the NSW Wombats respectively when the tournament took place in Geelong late last month. The boys actually played against each other in a minor playoff match on the last day where Bill was named 'Player of the Match' after scoring an unbeaten 39 runs.

...

Batting at number 3 Steph attempted to glance a ball from Bill off his hip and after he had executed the stroke took off like a scolded cat just before he hit the deck at pace, after he re-injured an old war wound. Being the sensitive bloke he is Bill 'raced' up to see how his little mate was before telling him that's what happens when you aren't local with reference to the yarn printed in WTGoss a few weeks ago when I named Bill a local and Steph an ex-Walcharite.

...

Still on cricket the Walcha/Uralla team didn't have it all their own way against Armidale City/UNE last Saturday in their 2nd Grade game in Armidale. When the opening delivery of the 19th over was bowled Bill Duncan found the boundary to get the visitors home by three wickets. Bill also mentioned that both his fellow veterans Barry Hoy and Wayne Boyd reckon the trio would probably be better off running around assisting the Walcha/Uralla Third Grade side.

...

Two out of three ain't bad most of the time except if you have entered the three 777's tipping competition at the Newie each Saturday where you are required to select the winner of horse race 7 at Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The past two weeks 'Yours Truly' has picked two of the three correctly with Eleven Eleven letting me down last Saturday. As no punters got the job done last weekend for the princely sum of \$2 you can have a shot at the new jackpot total of \$254 this Saturday.

...

On the subject of horse racing local trainer George Woodward won Race 8, the Roberts and Morrow Chartered Accountants Showcase Race in Armidale last Sunday with his horse 'Super Looka'. Wouldn't surprise me if 'Super Looka' lines up at the Walcha Cup Carnival on 3-4 February.

...

How sad to hear about the two young members of the Queensland Police Force who were gunned down while on duty earlier in the week. Most people go to work knowing they are going home safely at the end of their shift but there are some who face dangerous situations which unfortunately happened in Queensland. A big thank you to all members of our Police Force on the work they carry out as they grieve the loss of their two colleagues.

APSLEY ADVOCATE

Final paper for the year is next week 21st December

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as soon as possible.



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Bowls

Dads Army: The results of the two games of pairs played last Thursday was very similar to last week with one very close and the second a run away scoreline.

The chook winners, Eric O'Keefe and Garth Clare defeated Tony Asmus and Geoff Salt 16-10 in the close game while in the second game Barry Kliendienst and John Watts were never a chance in their 24-7 loss to Noel Goodwin and Jason Asmus. Noel won the raffle.

Next Thursday there will be no Dads Army as we will join the ladies for mixed bowls and Christmas party to commence at 9:30am.

Ladies Bowls

In a game of triples last Thursday Debbie Richards, Marg Tickle and Janice Rizzi had a comfortable win over Pat Laurie, Esther Hunt and Jan Cross.

Looking forward to everyone getting together tomorrow with mixed bowls, presentations and our Ladies Bowls Christmas Party.

Tennis

The 2022 Spring Comp Semi-Final was played out on Tues 6th Dec in perfect conditions. Bolt: M Lockyer, D Clarke, M Ireland and T Tape (F) defeated Laver: DA Locke, C Bruce (F), A Pendlebury and P Palmer 32 to 26 in a great close match. Ebden: D Sweeney, P O'Brien, J Hoy (F) and M Luchich defeated Nadal: H Thomson (F), S Blake, A Barillaro and A Marsh 34 to 20. Congrats to Bolt and Ebden you will play out the Grand Final on Tues 13th Dec at 7.00pm. This will run in conjunction with our Christmas Party. All members are welcome to attend the party and have a social game of Tennis. See you all at the net soon.

Cricket

Walcha/Uralla v Armidale City UNE

Armidale City/UNE

M BRYANT b M Harper.....	9
G BAKER b B Duncan.....	13
A GLEE c R Grewal b S Rafferty.....	24
P GILBEG not out.....	47
L MEPHAM not out.....	18
Total 126. Bowling(overs/maidens/runs/wkts) R Grewal 4-0-24-0, B Duncan 4-0-18-1, J Grills 3-0-31-0, M Harper 4-0-18-1, S Rafferty 4-0-13-1, D Boyd 1-0-7-0.	

Walcha

J GRILLS c M Bryant b G Baker.....	12
S RAFFERTY c M Conroy b G Baker.....	5
D BOYD b D Tillbrook.....	37
R GREWAL c ? b M Conroy.....	32
B HOY c L Mephram b D Tillbrook.....	7
M DUNCAN not out.....	16
B HARPER c Fred b M Conroy.....	8
B MANSFIELD b M Conroy.....	0
D HUNT not out.....	6
Total 130. Extras 7. Bowling(overs/maidens/runs/wkts)A Singla 4-0-36-0, A Baker 4-1-19-2, S Butler 3-0-29-0, D Tillbrook 2-0-13-2, R Watson 2-1-0-18-0, M Conroy 3-0-13-3.	

Walcha/Uralla defeated Armidale City/UNE by three wickets with 11 deliveries up their sleeve when they played their 2nd grade Twenty/20 match at Lambert Park in Armidale last Saturday.

Batting after winning the toss the home side compiled 126 runs at a loss of three wickets off their 20 overs thanks

mainly to an unbeaten 47 by number four batter P Gilbey. Three visiting bowlers took wickets Shannon Rafferty 1/13, Bill Duncan 1/18 and Matt Harper 1/18. In reply the visitors lost seven wickets before they passed their assignment after Player of the Match Daniel Boyd top scored with 37 runs which included three 4's and one 6. Veteran Bill Duncan belted four boundaries in his unbeaten 16 while opener Jay Grills was the only other batsman to reach double figures with 12.

Last Saturday the Walcha/Uralla 3rd grade team was forced to forfeit due to lack of numbers but hopefully they will be able to field a team to take on Guyra in Armidale this Saturday.

Walcha/Uralla are drawn to play Ex Services at Peter Fenwicke oval in their 2nd grade match from 1:15pm this Saturday.

At the 19th

A 4BBB Stableford Medley was played last Sunday for trophies donated by Brendan Blake from New England Accounting and Taxation Services where 'Waterloo Mayoress' Penny King and her husband Ross accumulated 50 points to win the event.

Runners up were Col Berry and Cheryl McDonald on 47 points after they finished ahead of Michael Stackman and Drew Bird 46, Alex Gill and Crichton Barr 46, Will Brennan and Margaret Davidson 45, Bill Heazlett and Andrew Robertson 45, Don Brooks and Rose Baumer 44, Neil Dark and Owen Presnell 44, Lee and Ruth Fletcher 44, Jeff Etheridge and Jenny Lisle 44, Peter Berry and Bob Denniss 44.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were were Craig Morgan (1 and 18), Barry Hoad (3), Alex Gill (9), Allan Green (16). Bradman's Bat went to Allan Green and Margaret Parsons on a countback from Brian Lynch and John McCormack after both duos compiled 38 points.

In matchplay Michael Stackman defeated Andrew Crawford 3 and 1.

This Sunday is a stableford round where Jamie Bowden is in charge of supplying the prize.

Flippers News

No less than 28 Swimming Club members gained full points on offer last week including Jess Patterson-Kane for the third week in a row and Lachie Provost for the second week in succession.

Amongst the 28 were the Mooneys, Charlotte, Bella and Cameron, Jazz Hayton, Alex Gunn, Hannah Swain, Fletcher and Hudson France, Kobie Brown, Jessica and Dustin Wellings, Eddie Harris, Ethan and Isaac Olrich, Ivy Pritchard, Airlee Tate, Bree Smolders, Eliza Nivison, Hamish Clark, Adelaide Laurie, Ben Lockyer, Charlie Lisle, Elsie Laurie, Emily Zorgdrager and Savannah Duncan.

Swimmers of the Week are Eamon Barnes, Millie Laurie, Charlie Lisle, Kix Brown and Eli Wellings for refusing to give up in their medley. Movers and Shakers this week were Adelaide Laurie and Savannah Duncan (Tadpoles to Frogs), Nathan Ross (Turtles to Crocodiles).

Another 31 PB's were swum last week taking the season tally so far to 122. There have been very good roll ups for squad training on Thursday morning, varying from 18 to 31 swimmers.

A 'Return and Earn' recycle bin has been set up at the pool by 'Head honcho' Deon Lawrence to help cover the cost of the squad breakfast which is offered to all participants each Thursday. Recyclable containers only please- NO RUBBISH thanks.

Vets Golf

The Walcha Vets held their annual Christmas 4BBB Medley where sisters Sue Partridge and Pauline Carter racked up 51 Stableford points to win the event.

Runners up were Lee and Ruth Fletcher on 48 points. Jenny Lisle and Viciki Heffernan were third on 45 while Mark Hogan and John McCormack were next best on 44. Their prizes were either hams or turkeys.

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Simone Sweeney (3), Uralla visitor Crewy Cameron, Max Holstien (16) and Bill Heazlett (18).

Sweetstakes to Cark Street and Simone Sweeney, Col Berry and Don Brooks, Margaret Davidson and Lyn Laurie, Crichton Barr and Andrew Robertson.

A total of 34 players teed off free of charge and enjoyed lunch at no cost thanks to the generosity of the Primary Health Network.

Organisers would like to thank Mike and Sheila Faulkner along with the Commercial Hotel for their continued support of the Vets Christmas event.

classifieds



Positions Vacant

LINMAC ENGINEERING Fabrication Apprenticeship Opportunity

We would like to offer a position for an apprentice to join our team.

To be successful in this role you must:

- Be reliable and punctual
- Be keen and enthusiastic about the trade
- Great work ethic
- Team player
- Attention for detail
- Excellent communication and written skills

To apply please email a cover letter and your resume to:

enquiries@linmacengineering.com.au

or drop it into us at 211N Pakington St Walcha

Wanted

Agistment / Lease around Woolbrook, Niangala, Bendemeer or Walcha wanted for 15 cows and calves or a small mob of sheep. Phone 0473 878 144.

Cottage/House wanted to rent for approx. 6 mo. south of Walcha for person working in Nowendoc area. Call Brayden 0407 531 326.

Give Away

Free Kittens - Vaccinated and wormed. Phone 0427 828 404.

Lost

Lost from "Fairview", Walcha one merino wether. Phone 0429 772 512.



Garage Sale

Household goods, new ladies bike, new rangehood, new camping gear, hall stand and smaller items. 161 Oxley Drive, Walcha on Saturday 17th Dec 9am.

Public Notices

Barber Shop - Open all this week. Next week will be open Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st Dec. Will be closed from 22nd December and will re-open Tuesday January 10th. Thankyou to all my customers for their support in 2022. Merry Christmas to you all.

WALCHA COUNCIL CCTV INSTALLATIONS



2022/2023

Residents are advised that beginning 01 December 2022 and throughout 2023, Council will be installing 24/7 CCTV at various locations throughout Walcha including Council owned buildings, facilities, venues, parks and reserves. At every location where CCTV has been installed the below signage will be clearly visible.

All CCTV is being installed in accordance with Council's CCTV Policy and Code of Practice as adopted by Council in April 2022. The Policy is available for download on Council's website. If you have any queries specific to this CCTV installation please direct these to Council's General Manager on (02) 6774 2500.

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



Public Notices

DR GENEVIEVE FREER
Phone 6777 2068 0429 668 583

SHORELINE OYSTERS

Now taking orders for Christmas. Drop off 23rd Dec from 12pm at McHattan Park. Also at the Farmers Markets Sat 17th Dec. Phone 0447 520 604.



Notice of Aboriginal Stakeholder Consultation

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) has been engaged by Walcha Energy to undertake an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to accompany the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Salisbury Solar Farm.

This notice is an invitation for Aboriginal organisations or people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or place(s) in the area of the proposed works to register an interest in a process of community consultation with Walcha Energy regarding the proposed activity. Interested Aboriginal organisations are invited to contact ELA in writing to:

Kate Storan, Eco Logical Australia
Level 3, 101 Sussex St, Sydney NSW 2000
E: kate.storan@ecoaus.com.au
P: 02 9259 3753

Expressions of interest should include current contact details. Closing date for registration is 30 December 2022. Please note Aboriginal people who register an interest will have their details forwarded to Heritage NSW, Department of Planning and Environment and the Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) unless they specify that they do not want their details released.

Please note that under Heritage NSW guidelines registration for consultation does not guarantee employment.

Client contact details:

Mark Waring, Walcha Energy
0407 812 053
mark.waring@walchaenergy.com.au

**TIA CHURCH
CAROLS**
Sunday 18 December at 4pm
Everyone welcome
Bring drinks, nibbles & chair for a get-together after carols.
Tea/coffee provided

WALCHA COUNCIL 2023 STREET STALLS



Applications, IN WRITING, are invited from local organisations for the allotment of dates for STREET STALLS, FETES, MARKETS AND THE LIKE in Walcha on FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS ONLY, in 2023.

By Council Policy, each organisation is limited to two (2) Street Stalls per year, to be held only in the street stall shelter, provided that where a surplus of dates is available they may be allocated at the discretion of the General Manager.

Applications are to state specific dates and to give alternate dates where possible. However, organisations should be aware that dates are allocated in order of receipt of applications.

Organizations are also requested to provide the names, addresses and telephone numbers of current Executives of their organisations so that a current register can be kept at the Walcha Council Office for quick contact and community use.

Bear in mind that when holding Street Stalls all organisations are liable to ensure that they obey the current COVID rules at the time of your allotted date.

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

Thankyou

Jackie Byrne

On 13 November we lost a daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and a friend to many. Jackie was farewelled on Thursday 24th by a large gathering at the Presbyterian Church. An emotional service by Graham Barnes and Shaun Hamilton Funerals. A wonderful service for which we were truly grateful. A large crowd attended, many cards, phone calls and flowers. Too many to thank personally. Please accept this as our personal thanks to all. Thanks to family and friends for supplying cakes and slices. Jackie will be missed by all. Love you a thousand skies. Thank you all, Byrne and Cotten families.

Marchant Est. 2000

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WALCHA **BOWLING** & RECREATION CLUB

Monday-Wednesday 4pm – Close

Thursday 15 12.00pm – Close

9.00 for 9.30am Ladies Bowls.

1.00pm Social Bowls – all welcome

Friday 16 2.00pm – Close

2.00pm Bingo

5.30 for 5.45pm Twilight Bowls

6.00pm Bistro

• Creamy baked fish

• Roast Lamb

• Caramelised pineapple & pork salad

• Normal menu available, takeaway and delicious dessert.

6.00pm Tickets available for raffles

7.30pm Free Bingo

8.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw

Saturday 17 11.00am – Close

6.00pm Bistro

Sunday 18 11.00am – Close

12.00pm Bistro open

CHILDREN U/10 KIDS MEAL

FREE WITH ADULT ORDER

1.00pm Hams, Meat, fruit & veg raffles

Christmas Hams,
 Meat, Fruit and
 Veggie Trays!

**MEMBERS
 DRAW
 \$250**

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER FOR
 2022/2023 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN



Do you live in Walcha Shire?
 If so you **MUST** be a member to enter the Club.
 Social Membership \$15 – Full Membership \$105
 PHONE 6777 2077

**CHRISTMAS PARTY
 BOOKINGS
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