

THE APSLEY Advocate

CIRCULATION 1810 P 02 6777 1111 F 02 6777 1112 wtc@walchatelecottage.com.au walchatelecottage.com.au

21 December 2022

Walcha



thebigblackbuilding

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Wednesday 28th 6:30 - 3
Thursday 29th 6:30 - 3
Friday 30th 6:30 - 3
New Year's Eve 6:30 - 12
New Year's Day closed
Monday 2nd closed
Tuesday 3rd 6:30 - 3

**Merry Christmas & Thank you
for another great year**
Ph: 67772977



Komatsu named Yarrowitch resident Nick Colwell their top apprentice mechanic in the country at their awards night in Brisbane last week.

Nick started as an apprentice Plant Mechanic with Komatsu in January last year in their Gunnedah branch. "He is part of the Komatsu Apprentice Development System (ADS) and won the top award from 292 Komatsu apprentices Australia wide," Gunnedah branch manager, Tony Constable said.

Each year Komatsu recognise their apprentices for their achievements and each apprentice in their year group has the opportunity to be selected by their region as the Regional Apprentice of the Year.

This year Nick was recognised for hard work, dedication and ability and as a result, won the "Second Year Regional Apprentice of the Year" award. The criteria for selection is based on their performance, attitude and ADS requirements.

"Nick is an outstanding apprentice. His work attitude and attention to detail and ability to work as a team

is outstanding," said Matt Buttigieg, Komatsu's Technical Capability Manager.

"Nick has also been selected many times to work on major projects alongside his competent tradespeople over the last two years."

Nick travelled to Brisbane to attend the Komatsu National apprentice competition where he went up against fellow second year apprentices from around the country.

There were three elements that every apprentice was scored on, that saw Nick take out the win for the Second year apprentices;

1. A management interview to explain why he should be awarded apprentice of the year.
2. Theoretical assessment.
3. Practical assessment.

Nick's Mother Belinda O'Keefe and Gunnedah branch manager Tony Constable were on hand to witness Nick receive the Apprentice of the Year Award and are pictured above with him.

 **Wishing all of our valued customers**


MERRY CHRISTMAS

Closed: From 12pm Saturday 24 December to Tuesday 27 December, New Year's Day and Monday 2 January 2023.
Open: Wednesday 28 – Saturday 31 December and from Tuesday 3 January 2023.

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Walcha Races 2023

By Friday 3 February, all will be set for a big two days of racing for the 2023 Walcha Cup Carnival.

The Jockey Club Committee have been busy replacing the whole running rail fence under the guidance of Racing NSW who provided new plastic rails and posts for the Walcha course.

After many years, the marquee will make a return for the 2023 Races with a fully catered cocktail lunch by Swan Fine Foods. Tickets for the marquee are \$110 per person and include race entry, luncheon and drink on arrival.

Tickets for the Races and marquee are now on sale online. No tickets will be available at the gate.

walchacup2023.eventbrite.com.au



Yarrowitch Campdraft Results

Congratulations to the following competitors and thank you to all cattle donors and generous sponsors. See Facebook for more details.

SuperAir Maiden A: Winner Dean Turner (Lara) 176, 2nd Darcy Argue (Siena) 175, 3rd Sam Colwell (Dutchess) 174, 4th Jesse Stanton (Beyonce) 173, =5th/6th Scott Edwards (Mister G) & Jack Davidson (Davidsons Grace) 170. Cut out winner Laurie Argue. **Nutrien Boulton's Maiden B:** Winner Laura Macintosh (Brown Acres) 175, =2nd/3rd Richard Pfingst (Centenary) & Wyatt Young (Hazelwood Country Fair) 173, 4th Dan Maloney (One Skilled Cat) 170, 5th Jak Ferguson (Gamberlee Smash) 169. Cut out winner Andrew Burnes. **Byrnes Accounting & Financial Novice A:** Winner Ben McNaughton (Amac Omo) 177, =2nd/3rd Darcy Argue (Rhythm N Rose) & Carolyn Burnes (Branchvale Lady Di) 176, =4th/5th/6th/7th Mark Palmer (Palmer's Dynamic), Norman Stagg (Branchvale Agile Kitten), Kate Schiffman (Chisums Silver Spoon) & Billy Porter (Cuttabove) 175. Cut out winner Gav White. **Martin's Lime Novice B:** Winner Mark Palmer (Palmer's Capri) 175, =2nd/3rd Peter King (Amac Connie) & Carolyn Burnes (Hells Angel) 172, 4th Ben McNaughton (Millungeras Febe) 171, 5th Scott Edwards (Ghost of Abby) 170. Cut out winner Murray Wilkinson. **Gooch Agencies Open 4 Open:** Winner Tim McCarthy (TNL Hot Lap) 90, =2nd/3rd Stephen Creighton (Strike) & Tim McCarthy (Le Storm) 89, 4th Darcy Argue (Pretty Boy) 88, 5th Kylie Fowler (Melody) 87. Cut out winner Carolyn Burnes. **Betts Rogers Transport Ladies:** Winner Laura Macintosh (Conway) 260, 2nd Kate Schiffman (Nichollette) 258, 3rd Kelly Buckley (Minx) 150, =4th/5th Cassie Fordham (Smarty) & Rachael Flanagan (Brown Highwayman) 108. Cut out winner Kate Schiffman. **Mountain Motors Junior:** Winner Kody Kedzlie (Shine) 81, 2nd Riley Edwards (Pacman) 58, 3rd Hannah Traynor (Bullseye Banjo) 22, =4th/5th/6th Riley Edwards (Mr Mate), Hannah Traynor (CD Superstar) & Brock Pensini (Jazz) 21. Cut out winner Hannah Traynor. **Tony Williams Machinery Juvenile:** Winner Linc McCarthy (Le Storm) 89, =2nd/3rd Nicholas Edwards (Roanie) & Nicholas (Melody) 83, =4th/5th Olivia MacCallum (Henry Boon) & Harry Hagon (Binnia Mistaken Identity) 80. Cut out winner Harriet Sheilds. **OK Earthmoving & Ben Nevis Angus Three Round Open:** Winner Mr Peter Grills (Traveller) 270, 2nd Mark Palmer (Palmer's Dynamic) 264, 3rd Richard Pfingst (Cool Girl) 263, 4th Carl Green (Bushy) 261, 5th Stephen Creighton (Strike) 260. Cut out winner Jackson Noon. *Photo credit: EMJ Photography*

from a director



As a Director of Walcha Telecottage I am writing to express my disappointment in behaviour towards the staff at the Walcha Telecottage office recently.

- Over the weekend they have had a de-faced Advocate placed under the door of the business claiming the paper is biased towards those who are against the Wind Farms.
- They have received a hoax email sent as a Letter to the Editor stating that the Winterbourne Wind Project is all but cancelled.
- The Voice for Walcha office had a trespasser enter on Monday afternoon, who was found sifting through folders and taking photos. This has been reported to Police.
- CCTV cameras will be installed at the office in light of this recent behaviour.
- ALL letters received for the Advocate (with the author being able to be verified by name, address, phone number) have been printed in the Advocate to provide a platform for the community to discuss the Wind Farm projects. We have not denied the publication of ANY content supporting the Winterbourne Wind project.
- A member of staff has attended an Open Day for both Winterbourne Wind and Voice for Walcha.
- Advertisements and flyers for both Winterbourne Wind and Voice for Walcha have been printed in the Advocate.
- Voice for Walcha rent an office at the Telecottage on a commercial basis, as office rental is an income stream for the Walcha Telecottage.

Norm Bazeley

New England Fibre Testing transitioning

From Tim and Lou Beaumont

We would like to earnestly thank the Walcha community and our valued NEFT clients for their patronage and support over many years as I am retiring on 20 December 2022.

I took over the business from Bob Gill and family in 2003 and, along with my phenomenal staff have faithfully serviced the wool growers from far and wide over many years.

We are sincerely grateful for the hard work from all of our employees over the years, especially Wendy Stove and Di Green for their consistent commitment to excellence.

NEFT is continuing to offer this ongoing service to wool growers, as Angus and Elise Laurie have taken over the fibre testing business in a new location, with the continued support of Wendy Stove.

We wish the purchasers of the NEFT building every success in their new endeavour, providing a much needed child care facility to our community.

We also wish Angus and Elise well, as they continue the quality service that we have provided.



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WISHING OUR VALUED CLIENTS A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS:

Closing at 1.00pm
Friday 23 December

Reopening
Tuesday 3 January 2022



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letters to the editor



Wind farms

Am I the only person finding all the anti wind farm propaganda annoying?

It seems to me that the so called Voice for Walcha is determined to find every excuse or reason to oppose the scheme without putting up any alternatives. Some of the arguments used against the wind farms are just scare mongering. For example the disruption to the road to Tamworth.

When I went to school in Tamworth we allowed 2 hours and if the road between Woolbrook and Bendemeer hadn't just been graded the car and passengers were all shaken up and if you struck a truck on the Moonbi's you added 15/20 minutes to the trip. Allow the extra time and realise it's not forever.

I am also very sceptical about the so called survey of 500 people. It is a well accepted fact that surveys can be very misleading and this one would have been heavily skewed toward the anti wind farm lobby group as they were the ones encouraging people to participate.

Modern society is totally dependant on electrical energy. The recent blackout showed just how important it is. Shops couldn't open as the tills didn't work. Riverview was thrown into chaos as security doors wouldn't work etc etc. And society wants us to use electrical cars!!

I repeat comments I made in an earlier letter. If society wants to move from burning fossil fuel to create the energy modern living demands alternative forms of generation have to be used. Who wants to give up their washing machines, air conditioning, power tools (I dread the thought of going back to the hand drill and brace) not to mention that essential aspect of our lives, refrigeration. We need energy.

The wind farms will certainly cause disruption to our community and there are issues which should be looked at, however to constantly oppose without offering solutions is not helpful. I strongly back what Mayor Eric Noakes wrote in last week's Advocate, don't let this issue divide what was and should continue to be, a wonderful community. Let's accept what happens and learn to live with it and make the most of any opportunities it provides.

Don Murchie

Christmas wishes from Walcha Chiropractic

I would like to thank the Walcha Community for their generosity and support for our Toys For Treatment Day. Walcha residents have been dropping in donations all year filling our store room. Toys, games, clothes and books. We also received cash donations.

The representative at St Vinnies who received all the goodies was extremely grateful. She said they forward it all to the dispatch warehouse where they are packed and distributed throughout the region, including Walcha, to people that need help. Thank you.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year. Remember that your health comes from nurturing what you have, your own body.

When you seek advice try and find independent accurate information. Consider Vitamins C, D and Zinc to support your health and immune system.

Consume plenty of good fresh rain water and get good rest and exercise.

Utilise the great range of fresh produce we have available here locally.

If you do happen to overindulge, let your body rest and work through it with gentle activities and fasting.

Thinking of you all at Christmas and in to the New Year.

Let's hope that the New Year brings a more balanced global perspective on health and wellbeing.

Sam Goor



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Yacht trophy returns home

By A.J. Cross

Back in August during one of his frequent visits to the Big Black Building for a regular coffee local 'sparkie' and air conditioning specialist Dave Stevens noticed a ships chronometer in an attractive timber box with an engraved brass plaque which read 'Winner L Abrahams Line Honour Great circle Yacht race challenge of 1980'.



A third generation sailor Dave immediately thought the trophy may have been won by Lou Abrahams a legend in his sport for over 50 years. Dave made contact with the Sandringham Yacht Club in Melbourne from where the trophy was presented and after a few phone calls, emails and identifying photos the trophy was on its way home.

Around that time, luck had it that SYC member John Panozza was travelling through Walcha and Dave handed over the trophy to him outside the B.B.B.

Dave grew up in a yachting family which included his grandfather who was a keen sailor from his teenage years, and was on the Steven family yacht 'Fegmhr' in the second Sydney to Hobart race in 1946.

How the trophy ended up in Walcha is anyone's guess but one thing for sure is luckily it was spotted by eagle eyed Dave who was very pleased to return it to its rightful home.

letters to the editor

Christmas Party fun in Walcha

Last Thursday 8 December a large group from Tamworth Caravan and Camping Club pulled into Walcha Caravan Park. They were here for their annual Christmas party. While here they shopped at the local supermarket, had morning or afternoon tea at the local cafes and several played in a charity golf day on Friday. On Saturday night they visited the local Tennis Club where they were served a beautiful meal. Also on Saturday they had a Christmas Light competition which lit up the caravan park.

They were so impressed with the town and the Caravan Park they are going to come again next year.

Maria Kirby

SAVE THE DATE



Thursday 12th Jan

5:30pm - Walcha Bowling Club

We are holding an EIS Rally to support the community efforts and to get those submissions in before January 22, 2023.

Keep an eye out on social media for more info.

Have you been affected by recent storms and floods?



Information and advice for flood affected communities is available online, over the phone and face to face.

We can support you with financial assistance, replacing lost documents, location of your nearest recovery centre, and more.



We're here to help.

Visit nsw.gov.au/floods or call 13 77 88

If you need an interpreter, please call 131450 and ask them to contact us.






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Greig Meyer is a Certified Financial Planner and principal of PKF Wealth based in Tamworth and Walcha. For more information or to make an appointment contact one of our friendly staff now.

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Tamworth NSW 2340	Walcha NSW 2354

Greig Meyer is an Authorised Representative of PKF Wealth TMW Pty Ltd

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Hearing answers on Wind Farm noise

By John Heffernan

For anyone interested in exploring low-frequency noise and infrasound associated with wind farms, I've prepared a video podcast on the issues. It's a series of five short sessions (between 5 to 7 minutes each) presented by pharmacist George Papadopoulos, dealing with almost two decades of his experiences with and research into low frequency noise at a number of wind farms across much of Australia.

The first session *Sounds of Silence?* deals with George's initial experiences with Wind Farm noise in 2005. In the second episode *Hearing More* George relates the experiences of others with infrasound, especially in the Crookwell area in Central NSW. In Episode Three *The Bigger Picture* George tells of his ten years as a travelling pharmacist, visiting Wind Farms throughout NSW, Victoria and South Australia, hearing peoples' experiences of Wind Farm noise. The fourth session *Digging Deeper* discusses research and methodology failings in this important issue. And finally, the last episode *Is Anybody Listening?* deals with matters of mental health linked with Wind Farm noise around the Canberra area.

Anyone dismissing low frequency noise and infrasound linked to Wind Farms should take in this podcast. George poses intelligent questions in a rational approach to a subject sorely needing that sort of approach.

For more, go to: www.voiceforwalcha.com/podcast/



- 👉 To Walcha Vet Clinic for their compassion and thoughtfulness when I had to have my kitten put down.
- 👉 To Walcha Telecottage staff. Thank you for all the work you do for the community throughout the year.
- 👉 To Cross Bros. Butchery. What an awesome team you are with an amazing range of products and quality meat.
- 👉 To Sean at Walcha Taphouse. An awesome place for drinks and nibbles.
- 👉 To Margaret at Commonwealth Bank for your care and professional assistance. Thank you.
- 👉 To the Commercial Hotel. Compliments to the chef on our counter lunch meals. An amazing new chef, good food and drink in our lunch hour. We enjoyed every single bite, from some very happy locals.
- 👉 To the Big Black Building for their gift cards which solved my gift problem.
- 👉 Sam and Jodie Martin, and Betts Transport, for going above and beyond to bring Krispy Kremes to Festival Friday.
- 👉 Thanks you to Peter, Ann, Angela and Sam for a great year. Merry Christmas.
- 👉 To Col King for brightening my day with her magnificent garden.
- 👉 To Walcha Road Hotel for the great meals and hospitality! Well worth a visit.
- 👉 To all the houses that have Christmas decorations up in town – so lovely to see.
- 👉 To the gentleman who lives at Belltrees for picking up all the debris from the blown tyre following the burnouts.
- 👉 To the person doing the burn out in Fitzroy Street, you could have hurt somebody or property.
- 👉 To the Apsley Advocate for only printing one side of the Wind Farm discussions. Propaganda at its finest!

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.



FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Rural and Commercial Finance
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KEL PENFOLD

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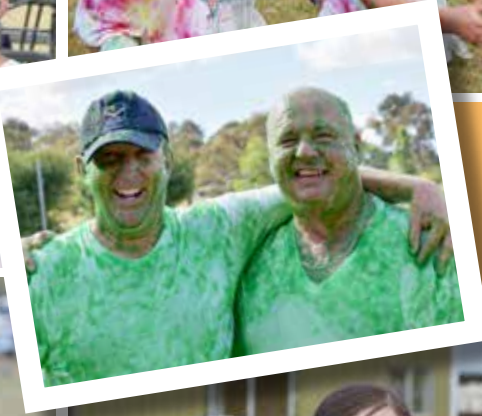
We thank the Walcha community for their continued interest and involvement during this critical time in our towns future.

We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and safe and happy New Year.



SO MUCH FUN FESTIVAL FRIDAY

Hundreds from the community gathered for 'Festival Friday', Walcha Central School's annual community festival. The highlight of the afternoon was the Slime Run.



Top row from left: Tom, Charlotte and Jasmine. Chloe Cox and Marlee Wall. Sophie Mulligan and Frankie Nivison.
Inset: Ben Ussher and Tony Bozza.
Bottom row from left: Slime Marshal - Aggie Micallef. Ella Lynch and Molly Furneaux. Freddie O'Brien and Patrick O'Connell.

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Home - large 1117m² flat block

- Open plan living area carpeted with wood heater
- Single bathroom with shower and vanity
- Main bedroom features a large walk-in robe
- Two verandahs
- Lock up garage with roller door.

CHARACTER AND STYLE



SOLD

Home - large 1117m² flat block

- Open plan living area carpeted with wood heater
- Single bathroom with shower and vanity
- Main bedroom features a large walk-in robe
- Two verandahs
- Lock up garage with roller door.

Merry Christmas

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

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

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

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

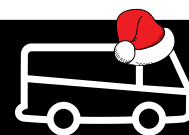


New England IT

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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.**

Christmas Message



From Graham Barnes, Walcha Presbyterian Church

The Bible speaks often about riches and poverty. The book of Proverbs teaches us that wealth can hurt more than it helps. Greed leads to ruin (Proverbs 20:21). It is always better to have poverty with righteousness, than wealth with injustice (Proverbs 16:8).

Christmas time is a story of riches and poverty. Think of King Herod, over and against the poverty of Mary and Joseph. Or the wise men bringing gifts to a child with no place but a manger. At the heart of the good news of Jesus Christ is this truth: "you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9)."

Christ becoming poor only makes sense if we first understand the riches, which He willingly left. He left the highest glory for the humiliation of the cross, in order to secure the forgiveness of all who look to Him. God is glorified in this. The world would overlook Him and there was nothing about Him to attract us to Him, but with the wise men, may we worship Him.

You are invited to join us worship God by singing Christmas carols, 7pm Thursday, Christmas eve (7pm at Anglican Church), or Christmas day services.

Photos: Anglican Carols. James Levingston



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

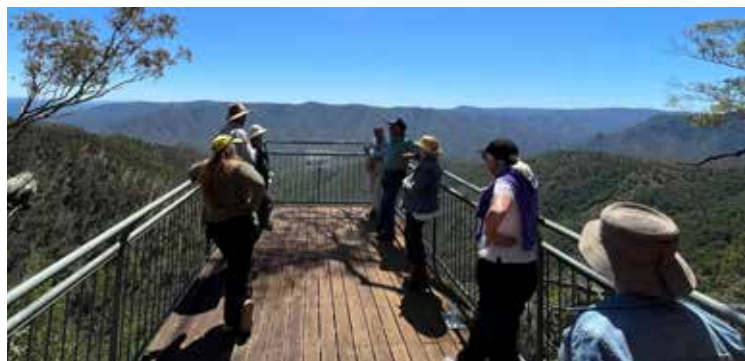
**WISHING EVERYBODY A
HAPPY AND SAFE CHRISTMAS
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

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

**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**


The Royal Cafe
Toni and the staff wish everyone a very Merry
Christmas & Happy New Year. Thank you for all
your continued support.
Closed 25 December
Re-opening 7am 28 December
Closed 1 January 2023

Walcha Visitor Information Centre thanks volunteers



On Tuesday last week Walcha Tourism & Visitor Information Services Co-ordinator, Lisa Kirton, arranged a family tour and lunch for the Visitor Information Centre volunteers.

"We are so very fortunate to have over 20 wonderful ambassadors for Walcha at the Centre, who welcome visitors

and provide information, enabling us to open everyday except Christmas day.

"With the assistance of Tourism Officer, Corinne Annetts, we took the group out to Budds Mare for morning tea, where we met with National Parks and Wildlife Service Ranger, Sam Doak, for a Q&A and information session. After a short walk to take in the magnificent lookout, we headed back to Walcha to enjoy a delicious lunch at Embers Restaurant" Lisa said.

The annual Christmas family is a great way for the Visitor Information Centre volunteers to learn more about Walcha's attractions and offerings.


WISHING EVERYONE A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS
OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE
FOR ALL THOSE LAST MINUTE
PRESENTS AND GIFT VOUCHERS
HUGS + KISSES, LOVE SHELLY
OPEN AGAIN FROM 28TH DECEMBER



CLOSES
12:30pm Friday
23rd December

RE-OPENS
9am Tuesday 3rd
January

THE APSLEY
Advocate

First Advocate 2023
11th January

Deadline for bookings
Mondays 4.00pm



AGENCY
at Walcha Telecottage

Will be closing at:
12:30pm - Friday 23rd
December

Re-opening at:
9am Tuesday 3rd January

**CROSS BROS
BUTCHERY**
Taking **Christmas**
ORDERS NOW
☒ Ham
☒ Turkey
☒ Rolled Pork
☒ Whole Chickens
Christmas Trading Hours
Friday 23/12: 8am – 6pm
Saturday 24/12: 8am – 12pm
Christmas Day: CLOSED
Boxing Day: CLOSED
Tuesday 27/12: CLOSED
Wednesday 28/12: 8am – 5.30pm
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
6777 2239
crossbros@butcherywalcha.com

KINGS PHARMACY
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



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!

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!

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!

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>

New Walcha Squash champions crowned

For the first time in three years due to COVID, the Walcha Squash Club crowned five champions after they held their 2022 Grand Finals last Tuesday evening.

In A Grade, reigning champion Will Nicholls retained his title when he defeated Lachlan Brown in the final 3-0 (9-1, 9-3, 9-4). One of the matches of the semi-final series was when Michael Boyd scored more points than Brown 40-36 before going down 3-2 (9-5, 9-6, 9-10, 9-3, 7-9).

In the other A Grade semi Nicholls rounded up club President James Norton 3-0 who reckoned the score wasn't a real indication of the match but he did have his tongue firmly planted in his cheek at the time.

B Grade went to Lachie Laurie when he downed Shaun McKenna 3-0 (9-4, 9-4, 10-9) after Laurie beat Nat Brazel 3-1 and McKenna got around Ben France 3-0 in their semi-final.

The C Grade winner was veteran Charlie Brown who got the job done against Henry Williams 3-1 (9-7, 8-10, 9-3, 9-1) following their respective semi-final victories over Deanne Baines 3-0 and Robyn Broadbent 3-1

In D Grade Mark Barnes proved too strong for Alysha Laurie 3-0 (9-3, 9-3, 9-0) after their respective semi-final wins over Cameron Norbury 3-0 and Mel Brazel 3-0.

The ladies championship was won by Robyn Broadbent after she came back from losing the opening game to clinch the title 3-1 (5-9, 9-2, 10-9, 9-6) against Deanne Baines.

Club President James Norton has indicated the next competition will commence after Christmas holidays. Stay tuned.

Squash Champions below: Will Nicholls (A Grade), Charlie Brown (C), Mark Barnes (D), Robyn Broadbent (Ladies), Lachie Laurie (B).



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

at Walcha Presbyterian Church

7pm, Thursday 22nd December
with a light supper afterward.

Join with us to sing favourite
traditional Christmas carols
with our community choir.

David Burge, a past minister at
Walcha Presbyterian, will share
and reflect on why Christians
still celebrate the birth
of Christ, 2000 years later.

FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN

church notices



ANGLICAN Walcha

Christmas Eve Family Service: 7.00pm

Christmas Day: 9.00am

1 January: 9:30am Family Service

8 January: 9:30am Family Service

All welcome, phone 6777 2543 or email
walchaanglican@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN Walcha Sunday 9.30am.

Woolbrook 2.00pm. All welcome, phone 6777 2539.

CATHOLIC

Christmas Mass Times

Bendemeer: Christmas Eve Mass 4.00pm

Uralla: Christmas Eve 6.00pm, Christmas Day 8.00am

Walcha: Christmas Eve Mass 8.30pm

St Patrick's Presentation Night



Walcha Preschool
Friendship Award
Evie Whillock



Sportsperson
of the Year Award
Annie Patterson-Kane



Gudhurr Gurruman
Award
Nathaniel Morris



Carol Smith Creative Arts
Award
Athena Li



St Vincent de Paul
Award
Adelaide Laurie



Philip Rizzi
Encouragement Award
Josie Wauch



ADIG Outstanding Achievement
Award and Walcha Squash
Club Award
Connor Imberger



Catherine McAuley
School Spirit Award
Georgina Arundale-Fuller



Citizenship Award
Hugo Blomfield

Class Award
winners will
be pictured in
our January
Advocates



APSLEY ARMS HOTEL

CHRISTMAS DAY MENU

Entrée	Mains
King Prawns (5pcs)	Roasted Ham and Turkey
Schezwan Calamari	Garlic ginger Snapper
Sea-salt base Oysters	Lobster Mornay
Chicken Dumplings	Beetroot Gnocchi
Glazed Haloumi Fries	Eye fillet steak 300g

All mains served with Seasonal Greens and Roasted Veggies

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per person.
Includes one glass
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pudding

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New years day!**

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On-property Ram Sale

1pm Thursday 2nd Feb 2023
Inspections from 10.30

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1049 Campfire Rd Woolbrook NSW





First dog trial a success

The Inaugural Walcha Utility Dog Trial held on the weekend of 10 and 11 December at Walcha Showground was a huge success. With an enormous number of entries for both the sheep and cattle trials, the competition was tough! Events ran over the weekend included Nursery, Maiden, Novice and Open trials where the dogs and handlers were put through their paces.

Everyone involved on the committee put in an enormous effort to ensure the weekend ran smoothly. The committee would like to thank all sponsors, stock donors, judges and trial organisers who ensured the success of the event.

Thank you also to the competitors who travelled near and far, wonderful to see so many highly skilled dogs and handlers.

SHEEP

Nursery

1st Jamie Kennedy (Frank) – 72
2nd Chris O'Brien (Pistol) – 31
3rd Janelle Wooldridge – 23
4th Ann Sant (Panda)

Open

1st Tony Overton (Tess) – 142
2nd Sarah Mortimer (Shuffle) – 116
3rd Brad Clark (Ginger) – 92
4th Jim Marshall (Gunna Fred) – 61

Novice

1st Maurice Metherell (Wilbo Suzie) – 78
2nd Will Nicholls (Graham) – 76
Equal 3rd Rick Gates (Slug) – 67 and
Ian Gardener (Bella) – 67

CATTLE

Maiden

1st Andrew McIntyre (Josh)
2nd Brad Clark (Don)
3rd Dick Chapman (Blue)
4th Tommy Cleaver (Gilbert)
5th Debbie Poole (DDP Poppy)

Novice

1st Phil Brown (Nil-Rain Music)
2nd Nathan Brown (Buckol Megan)
3rd Clinton Aspinall (Panda)
4th Andrew McIntyre (Josh)
5th Tommy Cleaver (Gilbert)

Open:

1st Rick Gates (Slug)
2nd Nathan Brown (Buckol Megan)
Equal 3rd Clinton Aspinall (Panda)
and Debbie Poole (DDP Poppy)
4th Dick Chapman (Lucky)
5th Tony Overton (Gwydir Tess)



what's the goss

with AJ Cross



As this will be the final column before the big bearded bloke arrives from the North Pole bearing gifts, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a 2023 that goes just the way you want it to. Sadly, some of us will be celebrating the festive season without loved ones for the first time including our extended family who will certainly miss Matriarch Ida when we sit down for Christmas lunch.

...

During recent times Walcha Roos President Michael Aspinall and Touch Footy Administrator Sonia Ussher were discussing the possibility of local authorities introducing a new rule where people who move into our town and who are valuable contributors should be barred from leaving. They suggested 'France's Law' would be a great name for the new rule which probably won't be approved before Anglican Minister Ben France, his wife Ruth along with their kids Fletcher, Hudson and Lincoln move to Tamworth early next year. On a serious note, thanks for what you have done for our township and all the best wishes to the France clan as they commence the next chapter of their lives.

...

A belated thumbs up to the organisers of the recent Walcha Central School assembly where students who had performed well during the year were rewarded for their efforts in the schoolroom or on the sporting field. The assembly ran like a well oiled machine which drew praise from more than one person in attendance. Congratulations to all prize recipients.

...

Gee I had an interesting conversation the other day with freelance sports producer and director, Peter Steep, who has covered ten Olympic Games during which time he was rewarded for his work with two Emmy's, the first in 2004 at Athens and then London in 2012. Peter also produces some of the big golf, cricket and tennis events around the world where he has met some outstanding sports persons who he still refers to as his friends.

...

Although he specialises in sports broadcasting, Peter has also filmed Clinton Foundation Documentaries and according to his brother and 'Mayor of Irishtown' Mick, he is one of the very few allowed to film Augusta Golf Course outside the main competition held there. After visiting his brother Michael not long back Peter returned home to the USA where he resides with his wife Gail. Our yarn didn't go that long but for a sports nut like myself, Peter held my interest during it.

...

Local veteran athlete Taddy Macfarlane competed in the recent Armidale Athletics Cross Country event where competitors were required to run from Dumaresq Dam up to the top of Mount Duval and back, a total of 16 kilometres. Taddy reckons it's the hardest race he has ever taken on which included him going 'Base over Apex' at the 12 kilometre mark injuring his hands which required medical attention. After he was patched up, Taddy soldiered on to finish 61st out of 93 competitors in a time of 2 hours 27 minutes, prompting him to declare some races aren't 'All Beer and Skittles'. Not bad for a bloke born in 1944. Good on ya Taddy.

...

The Newie 777's tipping competition didn't go off last Saturday and has jack-potted again and will continue on as per usual during the festive season for those interested. Last Saturday I mentioned to Anthony Martin 'Eagles Forever' was running in Race 7 at Gawler that afternoon and I might invest \$5 each way.

...

'Marto' helps me spot horses with 'Eagles' or 'Devils' in their name but he forgot to remind me to lodge the wager before I left the pub. Let's just say disappointment wasn't a strong enough term when I watched the race at home shortly after and 'Eagles Forever' saluted paying \$37.60. Enough for a grown man to cry himself to sleep really.

...

See ya next year when the Apsley Advocate resumes normal transmission on the 11 January. Merry Christmas to the girls who translate my handwriting to print each week – which I greatly appreciate.

Ho! Ho! Ho!



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Bowls

Dads Army: Several of our members joined the Ladies on Thursday for their Christmas party which included a game of bowls in the morning.

This Thursday we will be playing our usual comp with prizes of hams for the winners and raffle. There could also be a few chooks on for special prizes.

Everyone is invited to come along including women.

Names to be in by 12:45 so a draw can be made prior to starting at 1pm.

Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday the Lady Bowlers held their Christmas Party and Presentation of the trophies for the 2022 year. The Dads Army men were invited to join us for bowls prior to lunch. There were 28 bowlers put into teams of triples and pairs with the winners drawn from a hat they were Geoff Salt, Debbie Richards and Sari Andrews.

Walcha Ladies had two players presented with their 10 year Certificate from Bowls NSW, they were Joy Sly and Janette Goodwin.

Our Club Champions for the year were: Minor Singles Jan Cross, Singles Champion Taina Hall, Pairs Jan Cross and Pat Laurie, Three Bowl Pairs Jan Cross and Debbie Richards, and The Ivy Makeham Trophy Esther Hunt.

The lucky door prize winner was Esther Hunt. Ladies Bowls now goes into recess until the 12th January.

Cricket

Walcha/Uralla v Ex Services 2nd Grade

Ex Services

R WILLIAMS b R Crewal	1
M NORTON lbw B Duncan	8
S ISLAM lbw R Crewal	0
F AFNAN c, b S Little	0
R MILLER b S Little	0
P MAHBAB c B Hoy, b Palmer	4
B SMITH run out D Boyd	2
O HIRA c, b D Boyd	3
C DONAVAN not out b	0
Total 30. Extras 10. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts) S Little 3-0-12-2, R Grewal 2-0-6-2, B Duncan 3-0-8-1, M Palmer 3-1-3-1, D Boyd 2-0-0-1.	

Walcha/Uralla

M HARPER b R Williams	3
B MANSFIELD not out	9
J GRILLE c & b S Islam	13
S Little not out	1
Total 32. Extras 6. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts) S Islam 4-2-11-1, R Williams 3-5-0-21-1.	

Walcha/Uralla v Guyra 3rd Grade

Guyra

J LOCKYER c Brazier b Hamilton	0
J LENEHAN b Hamilton	1
G LOCKYER c Endacott b C Stoddart	12
J VARKO not out	39
S BROWN lbw Brazier	21
T FOSTER run out	5
Total 101. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts) J Robinson 4-1-15-0, Hamilton 4-1-3-2, McFarlane 3-0-13-0, Basik 3-0-29-0, Stoddart 3-0-12-1, Brazier 3-0-20-1.	

Walcha/Uralla

N ENDACOTT not out	43
J MCFARLANE not out	46
Total 104. Extras 15. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts) T Foster 4-0-13-0, B Landsborough 2-0-14-0, T Lockyer	

2-0-19-0, S Brown 2-0-10-0, L Brown 1-0-16-0, L Foster 2-0-15-0, c Brennan 2-0-9-0, J Lenahan 1-0-7-0.

The Walcha/Uralla cricket teams recorded comfortable victories in both their 2nd and 3rd Grade fixtures last Saturday.

In second grade here at Peter Fenwicke Oval the homeside dismissed Armidale Ex Services for just 30 runs inside 12 overs. No visiting batsman reached double figures whereas sundries top scored with 10.

Openers Randy Grewal 2/6 and Sinclair Little 2/12 met with early success before receiving valuable assistance from Daniel Boyd 1/10, Matt Palmer 1/3 and Bill Duncan 1/8 helping dismiss their nine player opposition for 30 runs.

In reply the homeside passed their assignment in less than eight overs after Jay Grills top scored with 13 runs whereas opener Brian Mansfield was next best on 9.

Walcha/Uralla lost two wickets during their run chase.

The third grade team travelled to Armidale to play Guyra on the Rologas field where they easily won by 10 wickets. Batting after winning the toss, Guyra compiled 101 runs at a loss of five wickets.

Best of the Walcha/Uralla trundlers was opener Ben Hamilton who claimed two wickets for just three runs off his four overs while Craig Stoddart and Mitchell Brazier both snared a victim each.

Openers Josh McFarlane 46 (seven 4's and one 6) and Nic Endacott 43 (seven 4's) remained unbeaten when the run chase ended in the 16th over. Merry Christmas to all Walcha/Uralla cricketers and supporters. See ya next year.

At the 19th

Last Sunday the final round for 2022 was played, a stableford competition for a trophy donated by Jamie Bowden where veteran John McCormack accumulated 43 points to claim the prize.

Runner-up was part time local Steph Sweeney after he racked up 41 points while the remaining sweepstakes prizes went to club champion Andrew Bowden, Col Berry and Sue Partridge all on 40 points, Bill Heazlett and Barry Hoad both on 37 points.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Doug McDonald (3), Rose Baumer (9), Pauline Carter (16) and Andrew Bowden (18) who also played the best second shot in A Grade on the 14th hole while Steph Sweeney won B Grade and Andrew Robertson C Grade in the second shot competition.

The 'Eagles Nest' sponsored by Dark's Plumbing was robbed by Andrew Bowden and Willy Brennan who both collected a dozen balls each after eagling the 8th hole.

Last Saturday Ross King compiled 18 stableford points to win the weekly 9 hole competition from his much better half Penny on 17 points. NTP on 3 went to Crichton Barr. The final 9 hole round this year is scheduled for this Saturday where a ham will be up for grabs to the winner.

New Years Day is a stableford round for Barry Hoad's trophy while Sunday 8th, AJ Cross is in charge of supplying the prize. Merry Christmas to Golf Club members and supporters. See ya next year.

Flippers News

The Walcha Swimming Club held its last swim meeting of 2022 last Tuesday and now go into the holiday recess before resuming the first day school resumes 31 January 2023.

A couple of days before that, the second Harwood Swim Clinic is scheduled for Sunday 29 January.

Swimmer of the week was Albert Green for picking up full points on offer and not giving up in his 200m freestyle.

Movers and shakers were Emily Zorgdrager who was elevated from Tadpoles to Turtles by passing Frogs on the way, Hamish Clark Frogs to Turtles, Anthea Taylor and Dustin Wellings Turtles to Crocodiles along with Alex Gunn Crocodiles to Sharks.

No less than 43 members gained full points, a few too many to list in this report but congratulations to swimmers that did.

When the second half of the Flippers season commences the program consists of Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly either over 25 or 50 metres.

President Yolanda Mooney would like to thank the Walcha Community for their support in the 'Return and Earn' program to assist with squad training breakfast each Thursday morning while swimming club is operating, which has already landed a ute load of recycling.

Merry Christmas to all club officials, Flippers members and supporters. See ya next year.

Positions Vacant

Human Resources Support Officer



Council is currently recruiting for a Human Resources Support Officer to join the team. The key focus of this position is to provide support and assistance to the Human Resource Manager in respect to the various human resources functions, including recruitment, training, performance management, injury management and return to work.

This position is a permanent full-time (35hours/week) position in Council's organisational structure, however flexible working arrangements for the successful candidate will be considered, including compressed working hours, or part-time/job share arrangements.

The salary and conditions will be in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award 2020, Band 2 Level 2, commencing at \$1,211.50 per week plus super. Council is an EEO employer and offers a smoke free workplace.

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

Further information may be obtained by contacting Council's Human Resource manager, Felicity Stace, on 02 6774 2500.

Applications close 5pm Sunday 8 January 2023.

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



Positions Vacant

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Disaster Risk Reduction Coordinator



Walcha Council is searching for a Disaster Risk Reduction Coordinator to join our Infrastructure and Development team for part time fixed term contract ending June 2024.

This position is funded by Resilience NSW to support councils to help coordinate and facilitate community led projects, activities and events that contribute to the community's recovery, resilience and future disaster preparedness. The position will require working with a range of community and organisational stakeholders to achieve broad community participation in the recovery process that will build the strengths and capacities of the community.

The position holder will work collaboratively with the council team, senior leaders, committees, government agencies and the community to successfully deliver the work of the role.

The salary and conditions will be in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award 2020, Professional/Specialist Grade 8. Council is an EEO employer and offers a smoke free workplace.

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

Further information may be obtained by contacting Council's Director Infrastructure and Development, Phil Hood on 02 6774 2500.

Applications close 5pm Sunday 8 January 2023.

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

Public Notices

A Drop in Centre for teens & pre-teens will open on Wednesday 28 December at Fenwicke House as a safe place to meet up. It will be open 7 days throughout the holiday period. Cameron from Walcha Roasted Coffee will provide barista training on the day. All will be welcome, free of charge.

Public Notices

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



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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.

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

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.

Agistment wanted for 25 – 30 heifers, close to Walcha. Call Rob McKenna 0413 003 135.

Live-in helper required for elderly lady. Food and bed supplied, washing and ironing included. Phone 0447 987 978.

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Thursday 22 12.00pm – Close
Ladies bowls in recess until Thursday
12th January
Friday 23 2.00pm – Close
Bingo starts again 6 January
Twilight Bowls starts again 13 January –
5.30 for 5.45pm
6.00pm Bistro
• Parmesan Crumbed Fish
• Homemade Rissoles
• Buttermilk Chicken Burgers
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delicious dessert.
6.00pm Tickets available for raffles
7.30pm Free Bingo
8.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw
Saturday 24 2.00pm – Close
6.00pm Bistro
Drawing of Christmas Raffles –
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CLOSED Christmas and Boxing Day
27 December: 3pm to close, NYE 2pm to close,
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