

THE APSLEY Advocate

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15 February 2023

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Street parade to kick off Truck and Machinery Show



The smell of fuel will be in the air this weekend with the Truck and Machinery Show roaring into town.

There will be something for the whole family to enjoy, with kids encouraged to decorate their pushbikes and take part in the street parade on Saturday morning. There are great prizes on offer for the three best decorated bikes, which will be judged at the showground following the parade. Have your pushbikes ready outside the Commercial Hotel for a 9am ride kids!

The weekend will kick off with a Tractor Trek on Friday, which will be a great spectacle. Around 40 tractors will make the round trip along Surveyors Creek Road to Walcha Road for lunch, and return along the Bergen Road to the showground, roughly a 63km round trip.

Saturday morning will see machinery of all shapes and sizes line up for the street parade. Leaving Lions Park at 9:00am, the parade will head down Fitzroy Street, with the kids on pushbikes joining in at the Commercial Hotel, leading the way through the CBD! The parade will continue onto Middle Street and up to the Showground. Why not come into town for the

Farmers Markets and watch the street parade which will be a lot of fun.

The action will then move to the Showground for the judging of the best decorated pushbike, fly over by David Salter and Official Opening by Mayor Eric Noakes at approximately 11:30am. There will be demonstrations from vintage chainsaws, machinery of all shapes and sizes, trucks, cars, bikes and engines.

If market stalls are more your interest while the men check out the machinery, there will be plenty to keep you entertained, as well as a number of food vendors, and the bar will be in operation.

Around 2:00pm Saturday there will be a tractor parade around the Showground, and again on Sunday at 10:00am.

Live entertainment will provide a great atmosphere on Saturday evening, and an auction of prizes donated by sponsors will start around 7:30pm.

Entry to the showground is \$10 adults, \$5 children (12 – 16 years) and \$20 family. Any enquiries can be directed to Greg Cavanagh on 0458 669 804.

Photo: Buggy Plowman Photography

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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

The district looks to be in pretty good shape considering the majority of the moisture that has fallen over the past six weeks has been from storm activity. The paddocks have a green bottom and still have a bulk of taller feed which is great for preserving moisture. Talking with multiple producers further north in the tablelands it was interesting to hear that the rain had been very patchy and their dams were getting quite low due to the lack of runoff. It's concerning considering the amount of rain and runoff that we had last year and the large amount of producers that still rely solely on dams for stock water.

The RBA increased the cash rate to 3.35 per cent last week and alluded that there will be more rate rises to come. The average national household mortgage is around \$600,000 and since the rise in interest rates began it means households are paying an extra \$16,500 a year in interest alone. As a nation this means we are paying an additional \$60 billion in interest payments. The RBA is trying to slow spending, and to be honest as far as I can see everyone is still out there spending away. The rise in property equity might be the cushion that we all lean on. We need to think about tomorrow and plan ahead, yes live in today but make some budgeting decisions that will soften further rate rises.

MLA has come out and projected the 2023 Australian cattle herd to hit 28.8 million head this year which is the largest herd since 2014 which I feel is well overstated. Overstating these numbers could impact our beef markets to an extent of lower beef prices as countries sit back and wait for the extra Australian beef to hit the world market. Yes we have had three consecutive years of good weather and herd rebuilding but there have been too many factors that have an effect the nation's herd rebuilding. Interestingly the Australian Bureau of Statistics complete a national census every five years of 125,000 farmers and they stated that the herd had risen only 1%, and sadly the Australian dairy herd had reduced by 10% in the 2021/2022 census. Surely these figures are more accurate, and also worrying as our dairy industry continues to shrink. No wonder a tub of yogurt is nearly \$10 now and milk on the shelf is \$1.50/L.

The largest implications that our economy is still struggling with pre-pandemic is the lack of labour which is still being felt throughout all industries. We are so short on skilled workers it is making it hard for business to run, even at reduced capacity. It is costly and inefficient. When we look at Agriculture, especially districts and areas such as ours, the young school leavers are not returning home or coming to work on properties anymore. Can we blame them considering the amount of money out there for other unqualified jobs? If we head into another dry spell I think our processing sector will struggle to meet the kill demand, in turn putting more pressure on prices. The government needs to do more on the labour shortage front, we all work long hours and do so as labour is hard to come by and expensive.

1,250 cattle were yarded in Tamworth on Monday which saw a firm to cheaper trend with better quality cattle selling to dearer trends. Weaner steers sold to 514c/kg, Angus feeder steers to 419c/kg, feeder heifers topped at 406c/kg, heavy export kill steers sold to 310c/kg while heavy cows were back 10c/kg and sold to a top of 286c/kg. 3000 lambs and 1000 sheep were yarded in Tamworth on Monday and once again lightweight restocking lambs met a cautious group of buyers selling to cheaper trends. Trade weight lambs sold to \$5/hd dearer, with heavy export lambs topping at \$218. Restocking young ewes made \$153 to go back to the paddock while the mutton was quoted as being \$5 – 10/hd cheaper. Dubbo yarded 14,440 lambs with trade weight new season lambs selling from \$158 – 212, heavy weight lambs in excess of 24kg sold from \$208 – 245 and the 7,700 mutton sold to dearer trends with merino and XB ewes topping at \$135 while merino wethers sold to \$144.



A verse for Val on her 65th wedding anniversary

- 👉 Walcha Council for your fantastic Community Care group and wonderful outings. We had a great day in Dorrig and were looked after beautifully.
- 👉 To the Voice for Walcha team for asking valid questions and informing Walcha residents of issues associated with wind turbines.
- 👉 Well done Simon Newton. Keep up the good work on The Traps.
- 👉 To those who volunteer their own time to keep local groups and organisations running. Too often all they hear are the complaints and don't receive the acknowledgment and gratitude they deserve.
- 👉 To people who play extremely loud music with no regard to their neighbours.

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.

The fine china was brought out last Wednesday for a very special morning tea to celebrate 65 years since Gavin and Val Noon tied the knot at St Patrick's Church in Walcha.

Both Gavin and Val now live in the Elizabeth Crosse Wing at Walcha Hospital and their fellow residents joined them to mark the occasion.



Gavin wrote Val a lovely poem to mark their Blue Sapphire anniversary:

It's 65 years since the day
That your father gave you away.
Five children came our way
That happy was the day
When with 13 grandchildren
We got to play.
We were already grey
When great grandchildren came to play
Of descendants 29 is the score
I guess there will be some more.
To my wife on this day
I have this to say
May we be with the lamb
On the final day.



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A/c - JP & SK Zorgdrager

40 EU Angus Weaner Steers
Contact Simon Newton - 0467 660 320

LINTON

**Poll Dorsets
\$uperBorder\$**

Upcoming Ram Sale

*Linton Poll Dorset
and Super Border Ram Sale*

Tuesday 21 February
Inspections from 10.00am

For more information contact:

Mat Larkings 0427 002 427

Miles Archdale 0428 660 326



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The Fruit Shop Walcha

Get your entries ready for the Show

With the Walcha Show just under four weeks away, it is time to finish those sewing projects that you have been doing throughout the year, and get them ready for entry.

This year our feature section is a 'Sashiko Article or Garment'. Sashiko is a Japanese style of embroidery.

All work must be finished and clean, and entries will be accepted at the Pavilion between 3:00 and 4:00pm on Wednesday 8 March or on Thursday 9 March between 8:00am and 10:30am.

Time to get your knitting and crochet done for the 2023 Walcha Show. Refer to the Show schedule or website for details of each class. Enquiries to Jenny Hill 0497 910 637.

Walcha Men's Shed official opening



By Gerry Moran

The Walcha Men's Shed commenced in Walcha in 2011 and operated at the original site in Derby Street until July 2022 when we moved into our new premises in Fitzroy Street Walcha.

After investigating many sites in Walcha, discussions were held with Scouts NSW on the possibility of the using the old Scout Hall to house the Walcha Men's Shed. These discussions resulted in a twenty year lease being granted to the Men's Shed on the condition that when the Scouts recommence in Walcha they can utilise parts of the building and yard to conduct their operations.

The funding for the new premises was gained through forming partnerships with the local Council, State Government, Scouts NSW, local businesses and the Walcha community. Initially the Men's Shed worked closely with Eric Noakes and Council together with Kevin Anderson to lodge an application under the Stronger Country Community Fund. Council were successful with this application to build the initial shed. The Men's Shed applied for another grant to complete the build and this was also successful.

The Men's Shed is appreciative of all the assistance and support of the local business houses and individuals who have contributed to enable this exciting project to its conclusion. Without this support and assistance this project would not have been successful.

Now we have a purpose built Men's Shed to cater for the bloky needs of Walcha men. The Shed has a large lunch room, woodworking area, industrial area and a large nursery. Men are able to do as much or as little as they wish, but all enjoy the lively discussions held over a cuppa at morning tea.

The Shed is currently open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm and would welcome new members. There are some exciting developments currently under consideration however we need additional members to assist us with these projects.

Our official opening will be conducted by Adam Marshall on Friday 24th February at 2:00pm followed by a tour of the facility and afternoon tea, The community is invited to attend.

If you wish to attend could you please advise us at info@walchamensshed.org.au or telephone 8069 5179 for catering purposes.

Kristina begins her nursing career



Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson last week announced that 31 graduate nurses and midwives will begin their careers at Tamworth Hospital this year, in a major boost to the local health workforce.

Walcha nurse Kristina Micalef (pictured far left) is one of the new graduate nurses, who is starting her career in Tamworth.

Minister for Regional Health Bronnie Taylor said more than a third of the record number of graduates beginning their careers with NSW Health have chosen to work in our rural and regional hospitals.

"It is so wonderful to see so many nurses and midwives either choosing to move to the bush or returning home so they can care for their communities," Mrs Taylor said.

"As someone who spent the best part of their nursing career at a regional hospital, I know the skills and experience these new nurses will gain will set them up for success into their future nursing career."

2023 Walcha Show Young Woman Competition



Can you see yourself as an ambassador for our community? Are you interested in rural and regional affairs?

Are you keen to increase awareness of the contribution young women and rural youth make in country NSW?

Would you like to strengthen your interview, presenting and networking skills?

Plus make new friends and create new opportunities?

If you said yes to any of the above and are a young woman aged 18 – 26 years we would love you to enter The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman Competition being held at the Walcha Show Saturday 11 March 2023.

If interested please contact Pip Monie 0403 908 664.




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FRIDAY 10TH & SATURDAY 11TH MARCH



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Fashion Parade
Flowers

Poultry
Wool Display
Yard Dog Trials
Mad Cow Bucking Comp

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\$22,000 grant for Kentucky Hall

Photo caption: Funding secured to air-condition the 83-year-old Kentucky Memorial Hall, with committee members Dan Ward, left, Susan Smith, Fay Smith, Beatrice Bashford, Fay Lulham, Margaret Ward, Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall, Chris Everleigh and Garry Bashford. Children Lily and Avah Chaffey in the front.

ALMOST 83 years after it was constructed, the iconic Kentucky Memorial Hall will soon have a split system air-conditioning system installed, thanks to a \$22,000 grant from the State Government, announced today by Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall.

Mr Marshall said the Kentucky Memorial Hall Committee had long wanted to air-condition the hall, especially in the winter months, for the comfort and enjoyment of locals and visitors who regularly use the hall.

"This is wonderful news for users of the Kentucky Hall and will ensure everyone is comfortable no matter what time of year or day an event is being held," Mr Marshall said.

"Currently, the hall committee makes use of portable gas heaters in winter, which aren't really up to the job of heating such a vast space, are expensive and a fire risk for the hall.

"The funding will allow the committee to purchasing and fit the air-conditioning units and also purchase another battery for its rooftop solar system, which was installed in a previous project, to run the air conditioning off-grid.

"Kentucky is a small community with a huge heart and its hall is the focal point of everything that happens in the district.

"Congratulations to the hall committee on another great project to improve the hall."

President of the Kentucky Memorial Hall Angus Carter warmly welcomed the grant and said heating the large area had always been a problem with several methods trialled in the past.

"Our community will now be able to congregate in a comfortable environment making the day and night functions more pleasant," Mr Carter said.

"The heating and cooling system will help on so many different fronts such as education, mental health and community activities including elections, dances, school concerts, playgroups, weddings and family gatherings.

"It will entice increased community use and encourage interest in local history, some of which is recorded in the Hall, with displays featuring the early days of orcharding and the names and photos of servicemen and women from the district who served in the war.

"Not only is the Hall used by the local Kentucky community, but Uralla and Armidale groups are also attracted by its facilities and spaciousness.

"We are also doing our bit by relying on solar and becoming energy efficient."



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Records smashed at St Patrick's carnival

Last Friday St Patrick's Primary held their annual swimming carnival in conditions that were ideal for lots of participation and fast times. With endless cheering throughout the day, all of the students participated in a wide range of events from novelty to the championship races. The overall championship points score was close throughout the day with the Red House being crowned the champions for 2023 as they defeated the Blue House by twelve points.

Special congratulations go out to Harry and Lilah who both won our inaugural "Dash For Cash Races" as well as Annie who broke the Senior Girls 100m Freestyle Record with a time of 1.27.03. The previous record was set by Nicola Armstrong in 2007 with the time of 1.27.47. Also, Airlee Tate should be proud of herself as she smashed a 33 year-old record in the 8 years girls 50m freestyle. The previous school record time was set by M Watts with 59.92 seconds. Airlee's time was 57.87 seconds. Great stuff Airlee!



Below is a list of our 2023 Swimming Champions
Congratulations on your achievements.

Juvenile

Boy Champion Harry Fletcher
Boy Runner-up Levi Williams
Girl Champion Mila Tate

Junior

Boy Champion Shaun Zorgdrager
Boy Runner-up Will Lisle
Girl Champion Grace Smith
Girl Runner-up Grace Fletcher

11 Years

Boy Champion Angus Fletcher
Boy Runner-up Henry Blomfield
Girl Champion Lilah Tate
Girl Runner-up Emily Zorgdrager

Senior

Boy Champion Lachie Provost
Boy Runner-up Hamish Clark
Girl Champion Annabelle Patterson-Kane
Girl Runner-up Addison Smith

Congratulations to Annie, Lachie, Angus, Grace S, Grace F, Jessica and Addison who have qualified to represent St Patrick's at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Friday 24 February at Gunnedah. We wish you all the best!

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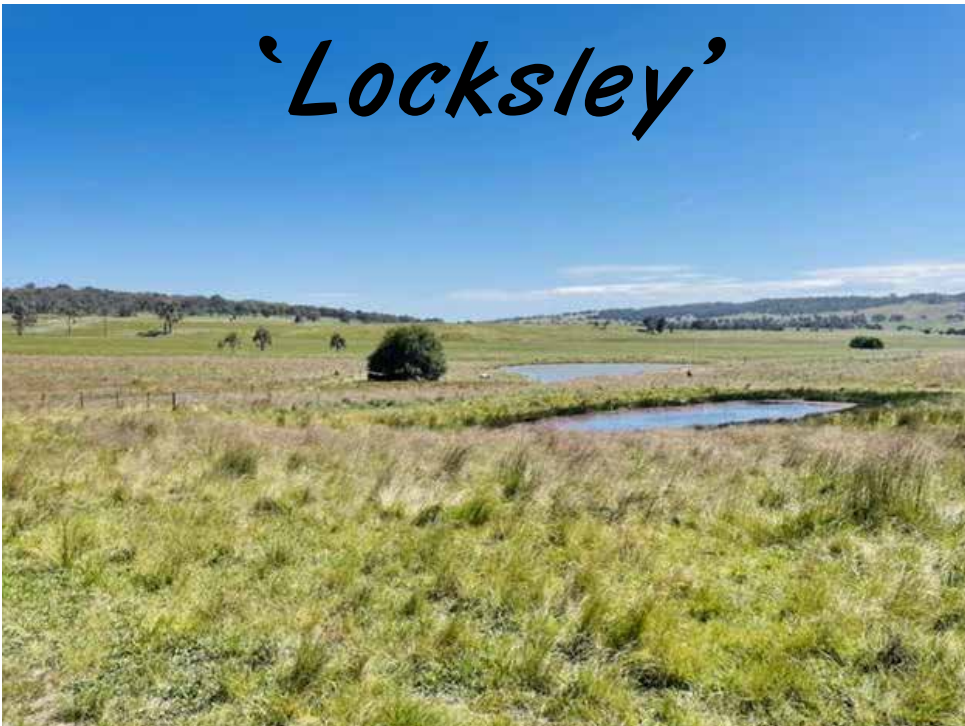
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SEALED ROAD FRONTAGE

LIFESTYLE BLOCK

AUCTION

THURSDAY

9 MARCH

AT WALCHA VET SUPPLIES

- Rainfall – 800mm or 32"
- Carrying capacity 80 cows and calves
- Semi-improved pastures and native
- An old wool shed
- Predominantly heavy black basalt
- 4 paddocks with excellent fencing
- 10 dams
- 12km from Walcha
- Property is fitted with power
- Steel cattle yards

Maximise on farm results with DLF Seeds tall fescue varieties

Throughout the New England Tablelands, tall fescue is one of the most valuable pasture grasses sown by local farmers due to its ability to perform and persist in hot summer climates with challenging and varied soils.

Aaron Kemp, DLF Seeds Sales Agronomist says, *"Deciding to grow tall fescue is a no brainer as its deep tap root system, explosive early spring growth, and strong summer performance make it an excellent choice for lamb, beef backgrounding and breeding systems. However, knowing which tall fescue variety to sow may not be as straight forward and understanding what traits maximise a varieties performance can help make that decision easier."* says Aaron

By understanding the traits within different tall fescue varieties, farmers can improve the overall return on investment, maximise results and optimise their operation. The different leaf types, flowering date and level of insect tolerance are factors that enhance or hinder tall fescue performance.

Leaf type has a significant impact on feed utilisation. Typically, early flowering in tall fescue has been associated with broad leaved, coarse types that have been difficult to manage. Sowing a soft leaved, fine tillered variety will significantly improve the amount of feed stock can ingest, improving liveweight gains.

"Feed utilisation is the key to livestock growth, so I often recommend newer, finer, softer leaf tall fescues such as DLF Seeds Hummer MaxP or Quantica MaxP summer active tall fescues. These varieties are complete game changers when it comes to livestock utilisation, especially when compared to more coarse types such as Demeter. Softer leaf fescues are also more forgiving than the coarse leaf varieties when managing the spring flush and as pastures get rank."

To maintain acceptable utilisation on coarse leaf types, stock needs to be kept on a very tight grazing rotation which reduces feed intake. Fescues with a finer, softer leaf such as Hummer MaxP and Quantica MaxP are more flexible, allowing for a more varied rotation while not sacrificing quality." Says Aaron

In the summer of 2013 and 2014, ^DLF Seeds undertook an extensive grazing trial (Summer active fescue utilisation) in Leigh Creek, Victoria. This demonstrated that the utilisation of Demeter dropped after two weeks of regrowth, while the finer, softer Hummer MaxP maintained livestock utilisation for up to 4 weeks.

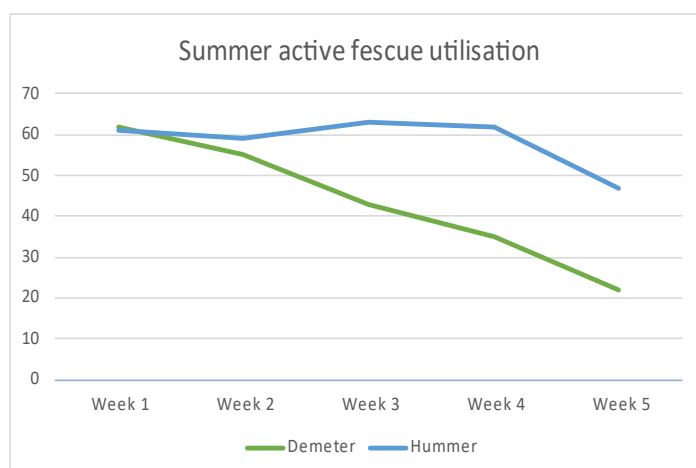


Figure 1: 2013 Summer active fescue utilisation

Selecting a variety that combines a soft leaf (for increased utilisation) with an early flowering date can significantly increase yield and maximise return on investment. This is because the flowering date of tall fescue is linked closely to winter production.

As the days start to get longer coming out of winter, an early flowering variety such as Hummer MaxP or Quantica MaxP will build dry matter and produce stronger late winter and early spring yields. "Later flowering types will be slower out of the blocks in spring and produce a spike later. I always recommend using an early flowering variety in environments with cold winters. It can help bring forward your spring flush, snapping your feed budget out of winter earlier." Says Aaron

Insect pressure can significantly impact the performance of a pasture. Selecting a tall fescue variety containing MaxP® endophyte extends the pasture's insect tolerance markedly, which leads to increased persistence. MaxP® endophyte helps control pests such as African Black Beetle, Argentine Stem Weevil Larvae, Root Aphid and Field Cricket*.

An endophyte is a fungus found naturally in many grass species. It protects the plant from insects; in return, the plant gives the endophyte a place to live and reproduce.

"Endophytes such as MaxP will protect your pasture from insects from 8 weeks onwards, and using a seed treatment like Superstrike® will provide your new pasture with protection from sowing to the first six weeks." Explains Aaron

"Another benefit of sowing tall fescue with MaxP is the increased persistence and performance. On top of that, the ability of MaxP to handle a pest attack may also help the plant manage other stresses like moisture stress.

Ultimately, the persistence and performance of tall fescue beyond the first summer is also closely linked to insect pressure, and the presence or absence of endophyte can make or break it." Says Aaron

MaxP endophyte is safe for sheep, beef and dairy cattle, and there are currently no known adverse animal health effects in these stock classes.

"Endophytes are not well understood, and this is caused by the issues seen with the wild or standard endophytes compared to the novel endophytes, like MaxP. Wild endophytes can cause ill thrift, acute toxicity issues and more. But unlike wild endophyte, MaxP has no known animal health issues." Explains Aaron.

A 2015 sown Tall fescue trial in Armidale was run on hard, Ironstone country and demonstrates the advantage of varieties with MaxP endophyte and illustrates the positive impact MaxP has on persistence towards the end of the trial.

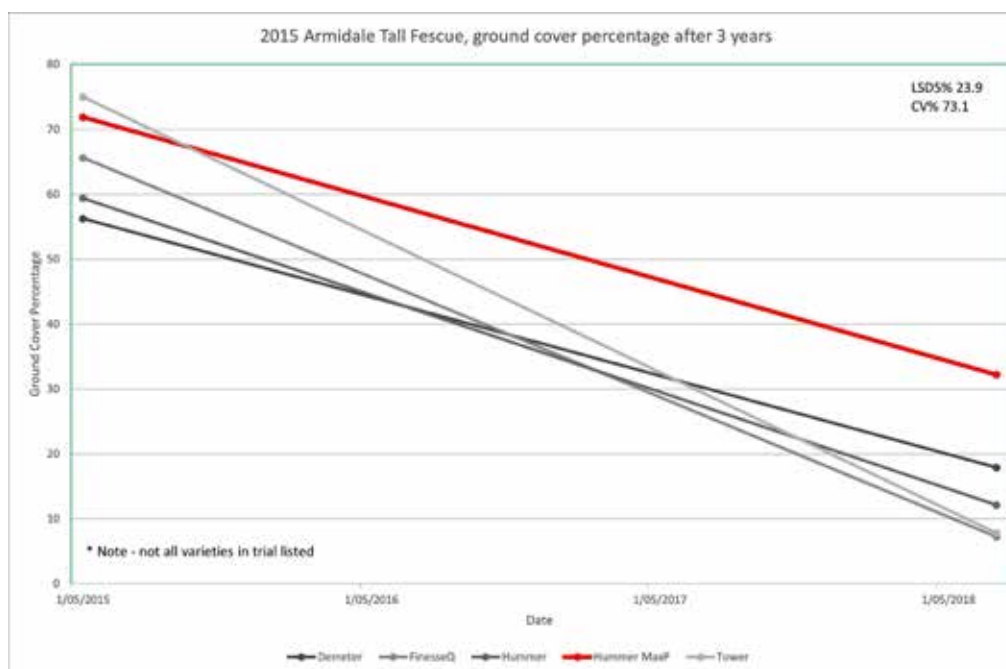


Figure 2: 2015 Armidale tall fescue, ground cover percentage after 3 years

Figure 2: 2015 Armidale tall fescue, ground cover percentage after 3 years

Figure 2 demonstrates the ground cover percentage of varieties, with Hummer Max P maintaining a much greater ground cover through the final year than varieties with no endophyte.

In summary, utilisation and livestock performance can be improved by selecting a tall fescue variety with a finer, softer leaf. Total yield or dry matter production can be increased by establishing an early flowering variety for improved late winter and early spring growth. Insect pressure can be reduced and persistence enhanced by selecting tall fescue with a proven novel endophyte such as MaxP.

"At the end of the day, if you aim to maximise your on-farm results, Hummer MaxP or Quantica MaxP tick all the boxes. For New England, I recommend sowing a variety with MaxP endophyte, a softer leaf and early flowering date. All of which help maximise the results of your tall fescue selection and optimise your return on investment.", concludes Aaron.

DLF Seeds varieties are available from all rural seed suppliers. If you would like to know more about DLF Seeds varieties, Quantica MaxP, Hummer MaxP, MaxP endophyte, or other tall fescue varieties such as Tower, visit dlfseeds.com.au, contact your local DLF Seeds Sales Agronomist Aaron Kemp on 0427496032 or, contact our customer service team on 1800 619 910.

*MaxP provides limited control of Field Cricket

^PGG Wrightson Seeds, AusWest and Stephen Pasture Seeds are now DLF Seeds.

RubyHills Renewable Energy Project

Welcome to the first edition of WalchaEnergy's 2023 community newsletter regarding the RubyHillsWind project.

It's was a busy 2022 and 2023 will be no different as we continue to develop the proposed RubyHills renewables project in preparation for the Scoping report submission.

We reported in our last community newsletter that we had planned to have the project Scoping report submitted year end 2022, however due to meeting delays with the DPE, we now expect the Scoping report will be submitted late March. This Scoping report will be publicly displayed for a period of 18-24 months at; www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects, or Google Ruby Hills Wind Scoping Report.

WalchaEnergy plan to present to Walcha Council again (in the near future) to outline and discuss how we can work together in achieving the needs for both council and the wider community key concerns.

Walcha Energy will also be reviewing its community funding proposal with Local Councils and the State Government. Information regarding this review will be circulated and communicated to council.

Energy Co. (Government department responsible for delivering the REZ's in NSW) last year released an EOI, (Expressions of Interest) requesting renewable energy developers within NSW submit an application to become a generation partner. All WalchaEnergy projects have been selected as an eligible electricity generation partner with Energy Co. This now triggers key design discussions between WalchaEnergy and State Government to ensure network infrastructure is built for purpose and considers the work that has been done in the region. This is a significant step for our company giving us the ability to provide sensible input and advice in shaping the network.

ISSUE 4, FEBRUARY 2023

► At a glance

UP TO 140
WIND TURBINES,
860 MEGAWATTS



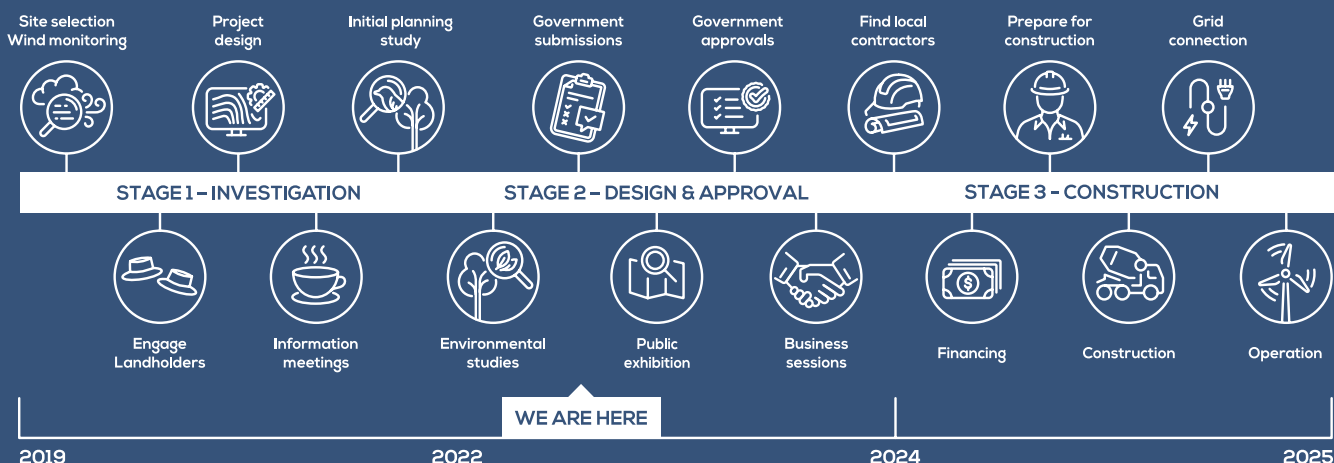
10-15
FULL TIME
EMPLOYEES



RubyHillsWind 

We want to hear from you –
so please contact us via email
info@walchaenergy.com.au or
call us on 0419 613 471 (admin)
or drop into the office at
13W Fitzroy Street, Walcha.

Indicative project timeline



Sponsorship

WalchaEnergy have supported many events over the last 12 months and look forward to supporting our community into the future. WalchaEnergy recently supported the inaugural Walcha Utility Dog Trial, the Australia Day award winning event Walcha Motorcycle Rally, the principle sponsor of the upcoming NSW State Veterans Mixed Sand Green Championships and the Walcha Show.

Community Engagement

Our Community consultation has been and will remain consistent and ongoing.

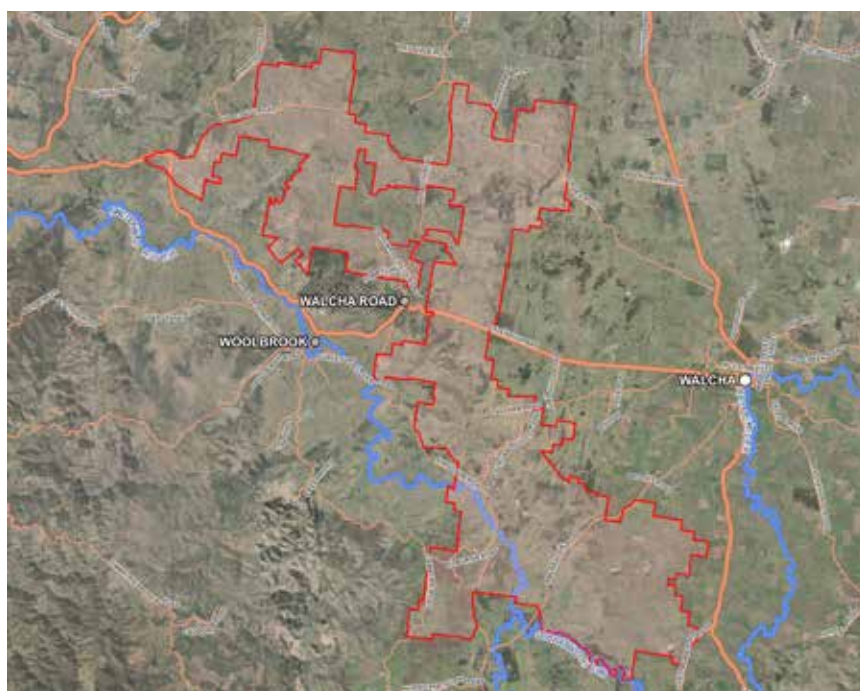
WalchaEnergy held an information evening at the Woolbrook Hall, Wednesday 8th February 2023 for residents in the Woolbrook area and properties neighbouring the project. WalchaEnergy will be holding a community information drop in day at Walcha Road in March. Dates will be advised in the Apsley Advocate as well as circulated emails for residents in this area.

If in the meantime, you would like any information please do not hesitate to visit us at 13W Fitzroy Street, Walcha.

WalchaEnergy have and will continue to hold meetings with both landholders and neighbours regarding the proposed RubyHills Renewables

Project to ensure they're well informed as information comes to hand.

WalchaEnergy will be at the Walcha Show again this year for all of the community. Come and see us if you have any questions or want to learn more about the project.



Current project footprint and subject to change

RubyHillsWind

Dan Muller
0402 551 826
dan.muller@walchaenergy.com.au

Rubys Hills Renewables is
a WalchaEnergy Project.

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

13W Fitzroy Street, Walcha
info@walchaenergy.com.au
www.walchaenergy.com.au

Felicity Hurt (Admin)
Mon/Tues 0419 613 471
felicity.hurt@walchaenergy.com.au

Huge Farmers Market this Saturday



*Judy from 216 Collection with rocky road, home-baked slices and biscuits
and artisan garden furniture*

Do you eat? Do you garden? Do you like to live a healthy and happy life? Shop locally and visit the Walcha Farmers' Market this coming Saturday, 18th February as there will be market stalls and entertainment for you!

There is a packed lineup of entertainment at the February market. Throughout the day, Howard, our favourite banjo player, and Barbara, our favourite piano accordion player will entertain us with their bright and upbeat tunes. At 10am, there will be a chook washing display with members of the Walcha Poultry Club, to help you prepare your birds for the poultry competition at the upcoming Walcha Show. Georgie B, a young local lass will be there for a couple of busking sessions, with her harp. What a delight to support young talent in Walcha!

Foodies will find much to enjoy at the market, with slices, rocky road, pastries, macarons and gourmet biscuits from 216 Collection and The Bush Patisserie. Shoreline Oysters and Deano's Smoked Trout will keep those who love seafood happy! Walcha Roasted Coffee will be back for all your coffee needs. Sunhill Dairy Goats have a range of goat's cheeses and other goat products. Nan's Homestyle Condiments will keep you sweet with her jams and condiments. Moquet Garlic from Kentucky will have homegrown garlic. Rotary BBQ is always good for a second breakfast, morning tea or lunch of a delicious bacon and egg roll, steak sandwich or sausage sandwich. As the weather is likely to be warm, pop your cooler bag in to keep your goodies fresh on the way home.

For the gardeners, Sienna's Seedlings, Carinya North Nursery, Kentucky Tree Nursery, and Kate's Cacti and Succulents will have a range of seedlings, plants, trees, cacti and succulents. The Walcha Men's Shed keeps a steady stream of seedlings available on the Community Stall.

Beelike from Uralla will have honey and bee products. Stamp Ahead and Walcha Historical Society round out the stallholder offerings. Follow Walcha Farmers' Market on Facebook for an up to date listing of stallholders, as sometimes they have extra stalls join them after the newspaper goes to press.

If you have excess produce such as homegrown fruit, vegetables, herbs, flowers and eggs, take them along to the Community Stall and they will sell them for you for a small commission.

Walcha Farmers' Market, McHattan Park, Walcha. 8:30am-12:30pm, Saturday 18th February. Find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WalchaFarmersMarket

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EXTRA
PRODUCE?** *

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SELL THEM ON YOUR BEHALF

* SEE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ONLINE



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Two new faces at Woolbrook School

Woolbrook Public School has welcomed two new students this year, bringing the total number of enrolments to nine. Students and staff have had a great start to the year, with our breakfast program being a fantastic start to each day. Last week we successfully completed our Small Schools Swimming Carnival, with every student participating. The Little Learners Transition program for four years olds will run from Term 2 to the end of Term 4.

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what's the goss

with AJ Cross



Well done to local axeman Mitchell Scrivener on making his first individual Australian Title at Berry Show on the NSW South Coast recently. Competing in the 300mm underhand, Mitch placed sixth in the final and was pretty happy to finish just ahead of 'Big Wig' Brad De Losa.

Last weekend Mitch represented NSW against a New Zealand South Island relay team at the Nowra Show where the Aussies clipped the Kiwis wings 2 – 0. Each team consisted of two standing block competitors, two underhand members, which included Mitch, and a double handed sawing pair. To keep the friendly family rivalry well and truly alive, younger brother Austin took out top place in the \$1000 first prize 300mm Tree Felling event at Kiama Show not long back – Mitch placed third.

Congratulations to Walcha Jockey Club Secretary Kevin Ferrier for having Life Membership bestowed on him at the 2023 Race Carnival recently. He has carried out his current secretarial duties for 31 years prompting Club President Jim Nivison to comment that Kevin's contribution has played a major role in the prosperity of the Jockey Club. On a personal note I was fortunate enough during my time as Walcha Touch Football President to have Kevin as Gear Steward for many years which led to him receiving a Touch Life Membership. Good on ya 'Pevo' you deserve it.

Bad luck to local Veteran Cricketer Peter Boyd who was selected in a Northern NSW Team to play a touring England side in an over 70's game at Number One Oval in Tamworth last Thursday, only to see the game washed out. Going on the Prime News clip that night at least 'Duke' received his playing kit.

Still on cricket what a nice little tune up the Indian team gave Australia in the First Test in India last week when the home-side belted the visitors by an innings and 132 runs after dismissing the Aussies for a very modest 91 runs in their second dig. It will be interesting to see if there are any team changes for the Second Test commencing this Friday - maybe Travis Head in for someone after being left out of the opening game.

Walcha Central and St Patricks Schools held their annual Swimming Carnivals late last week with W.C.S sneaking home before the rain came, while St Pat's enjoyed favourable weather. Best of luck to all the WCS students competing in the Armidale Zone PSSA Carnival at Armidale on Thursday.

Last Thursday three houses McDonald Billabangs, Cobrabald Wakaans and Tia Gurrygins fought out the W.C.S. Carnival. Funnily enough – not lay down on the ground, kick your legs in the air and rub your stomach while roaring with laughter funny – I didn't hear any of those names mentioned during my time at the carnival, only the colours, Blue, Yellow and Green. One other thing I didn't hear was a war cry, but when you think about it how would you like to be in charge of making up a war cry with those names.

So near but yet so far! Last Saturday Pool Head Honcho and Sea Eagles supporter Deon Lawrence was the only tipster still alive going into the third race of the weekly 777's a the Newie. Having correctly, selected 'Jacquinot' in Melbourne and in secret in Sydney 'Longhandle' was on 'Queen Bellissimo' at Brisbane which lead until the shadows of the winning post only to be beaten by 'Deepour'.

Calling all Footy Tipsters! The NRL competition kicks off on Thursday 2nd March and names are currently being taken at the Bowling Club, Apsley Arms and Newie. Interested tipsters still have a bit of time up their sleeve but registering your name would be a good start.

Last week it was reported Dave King was a member of the 1995 Group 4 Rugby League premiership winning team the Walcha Roos. That was meant to read 1975 because if it was 1995 Dave would have been a 47 year old man – not an impossibility but more so improbable.



Cricket

Walcha/Uralla v Easts

East's Second Grade

W GREEN LBW b D Boyd	11
M HARRIS b S Little	0
M MORAN run out C Boyd	9
J MILLER b M Harper c C Boyd	2
J SIMPSON b D Boyd c D Bird	21
C FOSTER b C Boyd	14
C MORAN b S Rafferty c M Harper	41
M FOSTER b B Duncan c M Harper	11
H EICHORN b S Little c E Bloomfield	12
E RELF not out	6
L MONTGOMERY b M Harper c S Rafferty	5
Total 157. Extras 25. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts)	
S Little 6-0-11-2, M Harper 5-4-1-21-2, M Brazier 3-1-15-0, D Boyd 4-0-20-2, B Duncan 8-2-27-1, C Boyd 4-0-25-1, H Singh 2-0-17-0, S Rafferty 2-0-6-1, J Robertson 1-0-13-0.	

Walcha/Uralla

E BLOOMFIELD b L Montgomery c C Foster	1
S RAFFERTY b M Foster c E Relf	37
D BOYD b M Foster c J Miller	8
H SINGH b C Foster	2
B DUNCAN LBW C Foster	3
C BOYD b C Foster c C Foster	7
S LITTLE not out	16
D BIRD b C Moran	3
M HARPER b C Moran c M Moran	3
M BRAZIER b E Relf c M Foster	1
J ROBERTSON b E Relf	0
Total 116. Extras 35. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts)	
L Montgomery 6-0-22-1, M Foster 7-1-14-2, E Relf 7-4-1-22-2, C Foster 5-0-17-3, H Eichorn 2-0-8-0, M Harris 4-0-10-0, C Moran 3-1-7-2.	

Walcha/Uralla Second Grade team were defeated by 41 runs at Lambert Park in Armidale when they played Easts last Saturday.

Batting after winning the toss Easts amassed a total of 157 off a bit over 35 overs thanks mainly to Clarrie Moran who produced a game high 41 runs batting at number seven.

Opening the bowling for the visitors Sinclair Little captured 2/11 off his six overs and his offside Matt Harper snared 2/21 off 5.4 overs.

Daniel Boyd send down four overs to collect 2/20 while Shannon Rafferty 1/6, Cooper Boyd 1/25, and Bill Duncan 1/27 all met with success.

In reply the visitors were in trouble early after losing opener Ed Blomfield for a single before progressing to 5/60 in their 16th over.

Opener Shannan Rafferty held his teams innings together with 37 runs but when he went after putting on a 36 run sixth wicket partnership with Little there wasn't much resistance after that.

Sundries were second highest scorers with 35 runs whereas Little remained unconquered on 16 runs.

Walcha/Uralla lost their last three wickets for just one run to be dismissed for 116.

In Third Grade Guyra forfeited due to lack of numbers.

This Saturday Walcha/Uralla Second Grade take on Hillgrove here at Peter Fenwicke Oval while Third Grade have the bye.

At the 19th

A stableford round was played last Sunday for a trophy donated by Club Handicapper Don Brooks, where Deon Lawrence accumulated 36 points to claim the prize, but had to count out Lee Fletcher before he was declared the winner.

Sweepstakes went to Pauline Carter, Peter Berry, Wayne Brennan and Andrew Robertson all on 34 points Margaret Davidson, Sue Partridge, John McCormack, Allan Green and Jamie Bowden all on 33 points.

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Lorraine Rennie (3) and Michael Stackman (16).

In Matchplay Deon Lawrence defeated Andrew Robertson 3 and 1 Jamie Bowden downed John McCormack 3 and 2 while Barry Hoad took 19 holes to round up Brian Lynch. Last Saturday John McCormack racked up 16 points to win the weekly 9 Hole competition a couple of points ahead of runner up Col Higgins after he counted out Allan Laurie also on 14 points.

Walcha were represented by 22 players in the opening round of the 2023 New England Veterans Pennants Competition last week where the top seven scores from each team make up the total score.

After round one Guyra lead on 256 followed by Walcha 249 Uralla 247 Glen Innes 238 and Armidale 227.

Best Walcha scores were John McCormack 37 (third in C Grade), Barry Hoad 36 (second in B Grade), Cheryl McDonald 36 (second in the Ladies), Lee Fletcher, Bill Heazlett and Julie Presnell all on 35.

Round two of the Pennants is at Glen Innes Thursday 23 February.

This Sunday is a stroke medal round where Craig Morgan is in charge of supplying the prize.

Wednesday Golf

It was just wonderful to welcome Maddie Lance, Bec Hall, Suse Crawford, Carley McLaren and Mandy Gunn along to our Beginners day last Wednesday. Hopefully they enjoyed their game as it wasn't all that pleasant when a downpour occurred just as we were into our second or third holes. It didn't deter them – great to see them soldier on. Let's hope they will all be back today.

We played par for a trophy donated by Marg Higgins. The winner on +2 was Cheryl McDonald. The best front 9 went to Cark Street and best back 9 was played by Lorraine Walshe.

Sweepstakes were won by Simone Sweeney with -2, Donna Martin -3, Pauline Carter -4 and Margaret Davidson also with -4.

Ruth Fletcher was the sharpest shooter on Hole 3 and Cheryl McDonald claimed nearest the pin on Hole 16.

Today's event is a stroke round along with putting and monthly mug and we are playing for Lorraine Rennie's trophy. 8:00am for 8.30 start.

Flippers

Week 6: Movers and Shakers were Tadpoles to Frogs – Charlie Lisle, Kix Brown, Nina Blomfield, Chase Gibson, Cooper Broadbent and Penelope Taylor, while new member Isabelle Saxby went straight into Turtles. Turtles to Crocodiles – Angus Fletcher, Georgina Blake and Sophie Ranger Crocodiles to Dolphins – Annie Patterson-Kane, Blaine Cooney, Hanna Swain and Nathan Ross.

Full points on offer went to Anna Blake, Kix Brown, Angus

Fletcher, Albert Green, Elsie and Millie Laurie, Charlie Makeham, Isaac Olrich, Anthea Taylor and Jess and Jacob Wellings.

The Christmas/New Year break didn't seem to worry many of the swimmers as no less than 149 PB's were registered in the first week back after the holidays.

Week 7: Frogs to Turtles – Bree Smolders and Charlie Lisle, who has been elevated twice in two weeks. Turtles to Crocodiles – Brax Kemp, Crocodiles to Dolphins – Ella Lynch.

Full points to Anna and Georgie Blake, Leo Blomfield, Blaine Cooney, Harry Fletcher, Brax Kemp, Ethan Olrich, Sophie Ranger, Josie Wauch and Nathan Ross. Another 92 PB's were swum in week 7.

Swimmer of Week: Week 6 Kix Brown and Angus Fletcher for gaining full points and moving up a group. Week 7 Eamon Barnes for taking a minute of his 100m freestyle and 40 seconds off his breaststroke times.

Bowls

Dads Army: Six brave players nominated for Thursday afternoon bowls. A game of triples was organised and we went out to the rink and commenced play.

After five ends Barry Kliendienst, Peter Hayes and John Watts were leading Noel Goodwin, Eric O'Keefe and Geoff Salt 5 – 1 when the heavens opened and we head for the Clubhouse. See you next Thursday.

Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday we welcomed a new bowler Rosie who enjoyed playing bowls and having lunch with the ladies. We hope Rosie continues to play bowls with us. The ladies played a game of fours with Wendy Moore, Lyn Burnell, Esther Hunt and Jan Cross having a convincing win over Rosie, Debbie Richards, Janice Rizzi and Marg Tickle.

Our monthly meeting is tomorrow, 16 February commencing 1.00pm. The street stall is Saturday 18 February. All saleable goods, especially cakes and slices, are welcome.

We wish Marg Morris a speedy recovery from the operation she had recently. All reports are that Marg is going well and relatively pain free.

Tennis

The 2023 Summer Comp kicked off on Tuesday 7 February. Kokkinaakas: E Blomfield, C Bruce, M Bird and M Wall defeated Saunders: B Hoy (F), D Wall, A Pendlebury and T Bird 32 to 21. Tomijanovic: H Locke (F), P O'Brien, B Konneron and R Mathews defeated Gavrilova: D Clarke, M Ireland, G Wall and A Tozer 29 to 26 in a close battle. Popyrin: D Sweeney, J Jones, J Fletcher and D Bird spanked Ebden: H Thomson, S Blake, K Smith and M Luchich 33 to 14.

The Saturday Morning Community Play Program is going Gang Busters. Thanks to Emma Wauch, the children participating and all the mums and dads.

The next Club meeting will be held on Monday 13 March. Members are welcome to attend. See you all at the net soon.



Position Vacant

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Email us at hello@thefruitshop.com.au with your resume and a short spiel about why you'd be great for our business.

*previous applicants need not to apply as we have your details on file.

Public Notices

DR GENEVIEVE FREER
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Remedial Massage Therapist. Walcha Physiotherapy welcome RMT Olivia Tickle back to their team. Tuesdays 8.30am – 11.30am and 2 Fridays per month 8.30am to 4.30pm. Bookings from Tuesday 14 February 2023. Certified to claim health funds. For appointments contact: Walcha Physio on 6778 0011.

Walcha Council Community Care are looking for volunteers for Meals on Wheels. If you have a spare 2 hours a month (maximum) to deliver a hot lunch to our seniors in the community please call 02 6774 2471.

Public Notices (con't)

WALCHA MEN'S SHED OFFICIAL OPENING

Officiated by Adam Marshall

**Friday 24 February 2023
2:00pm
At 172W Fitzroy Street WALCHA**

Afternoon tea will be provided at the conclusion of the Opening.

All residents of Walcha and surrounds are invited to join us on this this very special occasion.

Please **RSVP** by the 20th February 2023 for catering purposes at info@walchamensshed.org.au or telephone 8069 5179

Dan Reardon
President Walcha Men's Shed.



WALCHA COUNCIL Walcha Lions Park Upgrade Works Commence

Commencing 6 February 2023 and for the duration of March 2023, the Walcha Lions Park will be closed to the public for upgrade works. This first stage of the upgrade will see new playground equipment installed and landscaping works begin. The public rest rooms will remain Open for use. Please exercise caution when in the vicinity of the construction site.

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Good quality fire wood split and delivered. Phone 0427 331 556.

Shorline Oysters at Farmers Markets this Saturday 18 February. Phone 0447 520 604.

Meetings

Walcha Support Group Inc. Thursday 23 February 1.00pm WCCC Rooms Middle Street. All Welcome.

Walcha Handmade AGM Wednesday 1 March 5pm, in the Handmade Studio.

Walcha Pony Club AGM Tuesday 28 February, 7:00pm at the Apsley Hotel.

Walcha Junior Indoor Hockey AGM & General Meeting to be held 6pm, Tuesday 7th March 2023 at the Apsley Arms Hotel. New members are welcome and strongly encouraged to attend. Please contact Chloe Hoy for any enquiries 0400 389 573 or walchajuniorindoorhockey@gmail.com

Lost

Pearl Drop pierced earring in main street. Please phone 6778 0264

Wanted

Someone to do ironing. Please phone Tony on 0427 688 443.

church notices



ANGLICAN Sunday 7.30am Holy Communion, 10am Family Service and Kids Club. All welcome. Phone 6777 2543 or email: walchaanglican@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN Walcha Sunday 9.30am. All welcome. Phone 6777 2539.

CATHOLIC Sunday 10:00am Mass.

Need photos printed for the Walcha Show?

If you are entering photos in this year's Show Photography Section and need them printed at the Telecottage, please note:

- Photos will not be printed after **Friday 3 March**
- Please decide what photos you require printed before coming in.
- Please let us know size required and if you would like them colour or black and white.



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Thursday 16 12.00pm – Close

Ladies bowls 9am for 9.30am start
Social bowls 1pm

Friday 17 2.00pm – Close

2.00pm Bingo

6.00pm Bistro

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7.30pm Free Bingo

8.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw

Saturday 18 11.00am – Close

6:00pm Bistro

Sunday 19 11.00am – Close

12.00pm Bistro open

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12.00pm Meat, fruit & veg raffles

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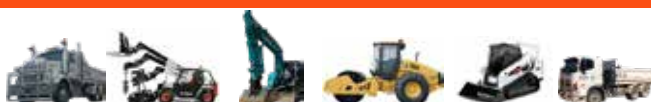
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