

THE APSLEY Advocate

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Walcha is once again hosting its annual Swap Meet in the paddocks of the historic Langford House. This year marks the third instalment of the much-awaited event, which has quickly become a must-attend for locals and visitors alike. With 200 sites available for vendors and enthusiasts, Walcha Swap Meet promises a fun-filled day of shopping, entertainment, and mouth-watering delights.

Set amidst the breathtaking backdrop of Langford House, the event will offer group tours of the iconic property.

Traditional market shoppers can head over to the Wool Shed Market Hall. Here, a treasure trove of unique finds and local crafts await, catering to all tastes and budgets.

No event is complete without a smorgasbord of

delicious food. Thunderbolt's Way Cafe will be taking care of the BBQ, ensuring that the irresistible aroma of sizzling sausages fills the air. For those craving a caffeine fix, Walcha Roasted Coffee will be on hand serving up their signature brews, and satisfy your sweet tooth at Beca Bakes, where the talented Bec will be offering her scrumptious pastries, cakes and more – a guaranteed crowd-pleaser. Last but not least, Howard will provide the perfect soundtrack to the day's festivities, serenading attendees with his melodic tunes.

Don't miss Walcha Swap Meet this year – it's bound to be an unforgettable experience for the entire family! Walcha Swap Meet 2023 7am, Sunday 16 April.

Call or visit thebigblackbuilding today to book your site on 0411 713 566.

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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

It's hard to believe we are already at Easter and winter is not far away, especially with the fresh crisp air greeting us in the mornings. Whispers of a small frost in places last week have the chainsaws firing up, as up until now the cool weather has evaded us. We are in April and I think we have been lucky with the temperatures and of course the rain with the district fairing well over the past fortnight. April looks to be kind at the moment for temperatures with pastures and grasses still growing nicely, as I mentioned to someone the other day it almost feels like our weather pattern is a month behind.

Weaner sales are in full swing and there has been a lift in prices after last week's rain by 10-20c/kg for the lighter cattle. Weaner steers 200-250kg are making 900-1150 depending on breed and quality while 250-300kg are now making \$1150-\$1400, when only a fortnight ago it took a heavy weaner to make beyond \$1200. Light heifers look to be still value with heifers 200-250kg making \$700-\$900/hd, while 250-300 are making \$900-\$1150 for the better breed lines of females. Congratulations goes out to the team at Nutrien Boultons and Nutrien Armidale for listing the most ever cattle on Auctionsplus in a standalone sale last week. Cattle sold to purchasers from Victoria, NSW and QLD with a couple of the buyers admitting the evening sale was bad for their health.

The coolness in the air has brought on a flurry of fodder trucks entering the district and I'm sure you have all realised just how dear hay has become. Large hay producing areas were wiped out during the floods in November and December. Hay is anywhere from \$300-\$450t in the paddock plus the freight home while silage is 90-\$120 a bale. Regardless of the price most producers use hay during the winter months and most producers have already made these purchases but I still am hearing of people looking for fodder.

New South Wales and Federal Governments have seized 38 tons of illegal meat from a warehouse in western Sydney that posed an unacceptable risk of introducing disease for plants and animals. Beef, chicken, duck, pig meat, turtle meat, avian meat, frog meat, raw prawns, plant products and soil were all products seized in the illegal operation. What are these people actually doing importing these products, I'm guessing they would not even have the faintest idea of the implications that these illegal products could have on our Agricultural sector or even care. The scary part is that these products slipped through our borders in shipping containers. It's operations such as this that pose a huge risk to Australian agriculture and by the looks of this evidence we are heavily under resourced.

I experienced our first LPA audit just last week and I can tell you that the information required to be accredited is all relevant and just. One part I'm guessing that most producers like myself don't put enough emphasis on is your farm biosecurity, such as a simple log book with people entering your properties. I think we all believe our border controls will do the job in protecting us but clearly from the seized product in western Sydney it's a struggle. It's small measures like this that could one day help trace or stop the spread of an infectious disease outbreak getting onto your property.

If you're a sheep and lamb producer and you think that our local market was tough well think again. Producers in WA currently are experiencing lamb hook values in the mid to low \$5/kg and mutton values in the mid \$2. The lack of processors in WA are extremely concerning, especially if they close the live sheep trade. There just isn't enough competition on their sheep and lambs from processors due to their lack of capacity to process their livestock.

Vote now to name our Rose Garden

Walcha Council has been seeking public input into the naming of the Rose Garden on the corner of Derby Street and Thunderbolts Way.

Council has now shortlisted the suggestions and it's time to vote from four names:

Walcha Rose Garden - This is a simple name - one of the nominators for this name stated "lovely entrance to Walcha and we should be proud to name it after our town".

Charles Erratt Rose Garden - This suggestion was first received by Council in August 2021 and gave the idea of putting a name to the garden. Information supplied: "He was a champion of the 'underdog', he often guaranteed bail for people apprehended by the Police; paid for funerals for those that could not afford them; understood the hardships of living off the land by supporting graziers from one wool cheque to the next; was an astute businessman, played a big part in the development of Walcha; Australia's longest living working executive and always wore a fresh flower in his buttonhole.

Olga Lisle Rose Garden - all nominations advised that Olga was dedicated to the beautification of Walcha; the Walcha Garden Club, Horticultural Pavilion at the Walcha Show and her openness, kindness and generosity with her knowledge and love of plants.

Bev Betts Rose Garden - Nominations spoke about Bev's kindness, generosity and devotion to Walcha and the community.



How to vote: Simply log onto <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DQPZ8NZ> or scan the QR Code to place your vote.



Police operation uncovers weapon and cannabis

About 5.45pm on Thursday (30 March 2023), officers from Oxley Police District executed a search warrant at a home in Jamieson Steet, Walcha, as part of investigations into alleged weapons offences.

During a search of the property, investigators located a gel blaster pistol, cannabis plants and cannabis. These items were seized to undergo forensic examination.

A 24-year-old man was arrested at the property and taken to Tamworth Police Station, where he was charged with possess unauthorised pistol, not keep firearm safely-pistol, armed with intent to commit indictable offence, and cultivate prohibited plant.

He was refused bail and appeared at Tamworth Local Court on Friday (31 March 2023), where he was granted strict conditional bail to next appear at Walcha Local Court on Friday 21 April 2023.

Enquiries are continuing.



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- This property is zoned residential and commercial
- Currently tenanted by Family Day Care

Enquiries to Peta Carter: 0407 350 781

\$220,000

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 Walcha Council's <i>April school holiday program</i> 		
Tues 11 April 1 - 3 pm	Polymer Clay Jewellery Making Workshop *	Design and make your own jewellery Walcha Tennis Club All school aged youth
Thurs 13 April 2.30 - 4.30pm	Lego Club *	Practice building & try block printing with Cassie Walcha Library Ages 5+
Fri 14 April 11am - 1pm	Origami for little hands *	Paper folding fun at Walcha Library For children aged 5-8
Mon 17 April 10-11am	Storytime at the Park	Stories, games & fun for all ages at the new Lions Park
Mon 17 April 2.30 - 4pm	Card Creations *	Craft your own personal gift cards at Walcha Library. All school age youth welcome
Tues 18 April 2-3pm	CNRL 'Cool guys' present, "PIT OF DOOM" workshop *	Team up and prepare your robot for battle & avoid the deadly PIT OF DOOM! Walcha Library. Ages 9+
Thur 20 April	Junior Indoor Hockey Clinic <i>Come and try</i>	K-1: 9-10am Yr 2-3: 10-11am Yr 4-5: 11 - 12 noon Yr 6 & highschool: 12-1pm Youth Hall, Showgrounds
* Bookings are essential - places are limited Call Walcha Council Library on 67742550 or email library@walcha.nsw.gov.au to book  		
Walcha Youth Week Festival Friday 21 April 'Teens on tour' & Youth DISCO   		

EASTER HOPE

From Nick Speyer, Acting Anglican Vicar

As we watch the news we may think there is not much hope for the world. The future looks bleak.

But Jesus' resurrection gives us renewed hope. A God who can bring life out of death, who can show love in the midst of such evil as Jesus' trial and death can certainly change things in our lives and in our world.

On Good Friday we remember that Jesus gave his life for us. For his friends his death must have looked like a failure, looked like the end of all hope. But when they saw him alive again they were fill with hope and joy.

So on Easter Day we celebrate the fact that Jesus is alive and invites us to experience God's renewing love.



The passing of Mary Emily Marshall

Mary Marshall (nee O'Keefe) passed away at McMaugh Gardens Uralla on 23rd January aged 100 years.

Mary married Jeff Marshall in 1941 in the Stone Church of England in Walcha. They had nine children Neville (Gutty), Leona, Pat, Kathleen, Kevin, Darryle, Joy, Diane and Lynette. Neville died in 2009 aged 67.

Geoff died in Port Macquarie Hospital in 1995 aged 79 years.

After they married they lived in Walcha, Woolbrook, Walcha Road, Armidale, Laurieton and Uralla.

Mary's family is Ron O'Keefe, Jean Blakey both deceased, Sheila Poole, Archie and Eric O'Keefe.


Mary at 15th November 2022 had nine children, 36 grandchildren, 78 great grandchildren and 22 great great grandchildren.




Walcha Council

Youth Week Festival

Friday 21st of April 2023



TEENS ON TOUR



YOUTH DISCO

Grab your friends and jump on board the bus for a day of fun in Tamworth! Visit the Escape room, go shopping, and watch Super Mario Bros. movie.


Let's party! Meet up with mates & hit the dancefloor OR chill with fresh beats, crafts, games, and competitions! Pizza and drinks provided

FREE ENTRY

Walcha youth aged 12 - 18 yrs
This is a drug & alcohol free event. No passouts!
Walcha Central MPC Hall
6-8pm

For youth aged 14-18 yrs
Depart Walcha Library @ 9am & return 5pm

Book online: 



Easter Trading Hours

KINGS PHARMACY

Good Friday **CLOSED**

Easter Saturday **CLOSED**

Easter Sunday **CLOSED**

Easter Monday **CLOSED**




Guardian
 Let's talk about you

St Patrick's P&F Congi Open Garden Day

From Dallas Hyatt, Principal

On Saturday the St Patrick's Primary P&F Association hosted a very successful Open Garden Day at Congi Station.

Blessed by wonderful weather, this day gave the visitors an opportunity to take in and be inspired by the wide range of gardens around the Congi Homestead. Everyone was encouraged to take a tour of the Congi Shearing Shed that was led by the Congi staff as well as some of the St Patrick's Primary students. The cake and raffle stall were very popular as well as the nursery stall operated by Carinya North Nursery.

The day was a huge success and congratulations to the various St Patrick's Primary parents/grandparents and students who were involved with any aspect associated with the organisation and/or running of the day. A lot of work was conducted behind the scenes to ensure that the gardens looked their best and a big thank you goes out to Sher Hinton who donated a Garden Hamper. Denise Cox from Carinya North Nursery for operating the garden stall as well donating a voucher, Katie Street for donating a hand made birth bath as well as Dave and Amy Clark and also all of the staff at Congi who assisted on the day.



thumbs



- 👉 Nathan Stace for his extra special delivery by his mother to Walcha Road. Many, many thanks you are a real gem.
- 👉 To the Mayor for supporting our very valuable Taxi service.
- 👉 To the Apsley Advocate ladies for their great weekly newspaper keeping our community updated. Thank you.
- 👉 Dave & Amy Clark and all the staff at Congi Station who put on a fantastic Open Garden for St Pats on Saturday.
- 👉 The St Pat's children who gave informative tours of the Wool shed and Garden at Congi. Plus, all the students who helped on the cake stall. They should be very proud of themselves.
- 👉 To Walcha Ambulance officers Justin, Hayley and Kaylee for all their care and kindness to my husband over the past two weeks.

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.

Nutrien  **Boulton's**

ON-LINE CLEARING SALE

“GLENEAGLES” (property sold)

2010 Toyota Landcruiser Workmate, 190,000km (8 new injectors) steel tray good cond. Rego BE47RJ; 2016 Toyota Prado GXL Stn Wagon, 4 cyl 2.8ltr motor, auto, electric brakes for towing, bull bar, driving lights, 270,000km in immaculate cond., one owner EIN57C (12 mnths rego); 2011 Massey Ferguson 5465 4WA tractor, purch new, 4979 hrs and regularly serviced, Perkins 6 cyl, factory fitted FEL with pallet forks and 4 in 1 bucket Euro Hitch (good unit).

Silage grab; FEL mounted post hole digger (no auger); MF Stick rake; John Wall made stick rake; Stronga log grab; hay forks; Elgra 75 post driver with pilot auger; 7' Superior 3PL slasher; Silvan boom spray unit with 800 ltr tank & 7.5mtr boom 3PL; Tractor GPS unit; 3PL Silvan super spreader; 2020 Kerin dual hopper feed out trailer with auger feed & remote gravity feeder, Honda motor & electric power cab control (Exc cond); Grainline 18'electric auger; Redline 3t tipping trailer 3mX1.8m, Rego TB18DM (9mnths rego); Gentech 15KVA electric start genset with trailer.

2 x axles, electric brakes with 4 wheels ex 3t trailer; 6 X Gal

hay bale feeders (John Wall built); home made belt feeder for cotton seed; 4 x hay feeders for 8x4x3 bales; Calf puller; TPW wool press with new weigh bar / digital reader; Morton electric wool press; wool classing tables; Electric grinder; Qty 9" Gal "W" strap (app 46 lengths); sling 40mm Gal pipe 6.5m; 3 x 3.8m gal gates 40mm pipe; 2 lengths 6.5mtr gal pipe 150mm x 4mm; home made poly pipe spinner FEL mounted; Approx 20 lengths of roof battens; several mesh panels 1.8m high x 2m and 3.6m; Other Vendors: 2 X 8t cattle feeders; Box trailer (unreg).

SELLING ONLINE ONLY ON AUCTIONS PLUS
The sale will open at 2pm on the 18th April and close at 4pm on the 20th April.

All items must be paid for prior to delivery on 28th April or by arrangement. Inspections of any items may be arranged by contacting selling agents.

This equipment has been well maintained and cared for.

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‘Strathaven’ Est 1969 Walcha

- Organic heritage property
- 1940’s timber woolshed and century old pines
- On offer for the first time in 54 years
- Oxley Hwy frontage, under an hour to Tamworth and Armidale
- Dark basalt loam soils with 99% improved pastures
- Organically managed (ACO cert 12957 exp 21)
- 6 dams/2 bores available to every 4ha cell with troughs
- 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom brick home with double lock up garage

Property Details Property ID: 18731493

Inspection By Appointment

Auction Tuesday 2nd May 6.00pm

McCulloch Agencies - Auction Room: 2 Brisbane Street Tamworth.

Agent Michael Corcoran | 0417 657 589

Agent Daniel McCulloch | 0429 613 332

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WALCHA

65 Ha
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Armidale Rep. Cricket

Two local junior boys gained positions in the Armidale Representative cricket squads.

Cameron Mooney has been selected for the second season having played in the 11s last year. This season Cameron will play for the Armidale Bushrangers in the 13 year squad.

The 13 year old Bushrangers came 4th out of the 9 teams that played in the George Denton Shield.

Bentley Brennan also gained a spot in the Armidale 11 years Bushranger team for the first time.



The 11s were undefeated until the grand final finishing runners up against Tamworth for the Josh Hazelwood Shield.

Both boys had an incredible season in Rep Cricket whilst also performing very well in their Saturday comp for their respective teams.

Junior Cricket 2022/23

From Ed Blomfield and Tash Brennan

Uralla/ Walcha Junior Cricket season finished on 25 March, with the last game cancelled due to wet weather, so the presentations were held instead.

Walcha/ Uralla had 18 cricketers registered which made 2 teams combining 9s/ 11s.

Both teams played exceptionally well throughout the season. It's been wonderful to watch all the kids grow, learn and play cricket.

On behalf of Walcha Junior Cricket, we would like to thank all the parents and children for their ongoing support and congratulations to all the children on their incredible season.

We look forward to the next season of cricket kicking off in Term 4.



White: Coached by Ben France

Uday Grewal, Flynn O'Connell, Dustin Wellings, Hudson France (Best Batting), Levi Williams (Most Improved), Lincoln France, Jack Lisle (Best Bowling), Bentley Brennan.



Red: Coached by Ed Blomfield

Leo Blomfield (Best Bowling), Henry Blomfield (Best Batting), Angus Fletcher, Axel Blomfield, Mark Grayling, Lucas Eveleigh, Owen Morley, Tyler Foster-Wall (Most Improved), Harrison Swan and Harry Fletcher (Encouragement Award).

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- Very spacious living room on northern side catching sun for winter
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- Entire inside freshly painted
- All new day, night blinds
- Reverse cycle air
- New down lights power points
- Two lock up garages
- Covered BBQ area



\$470,000

MAYBE DO OUR OWN THING

From John Heffernan

More than twenty years. That's how long Walcha has been huffed and puffed and stuffed around by those wind farm Vikings and their OZ off-siders. And what have we got to show? Basically bugger all. Don't take our word for that, though. Take the facts; all the many government agency reports delivered to the DPE about Winterbourne Wind's unspeakably shoddy EIS. And if Ruby Hills et al are any indication it looks like we might expect more of the same, a lot more.

Yep, more than twenty years. That's a long time to keep doing the same silly things in the hope of getting somewhere. You'd have to call it flogging a dead horse, wouldn't you? At the very least it shows what total mugs we are - Walcha Community - because there really are far better ways to build a town's renewable energy future. Surely it's time we opened our eyes and minds to at least some of those better ways.

Probably the best way to do that is to consider the concept of community energy. At its core, community energy is based on the belief that everyday people should have power over how their energy is generated - including its environmental and social impacts - rather than allowing big corporations to take control and pocket the profits.

The notions of community involvement, consensus and ownership in energy creation have really taken hold in Europe over the last decade, and increasingly so in North America. Community-Owned Renewable Energy (CORE) projects are now commonplace in Scotland, growing in Germany and the Netherlands, and Denmark has even mandated that future wind farm projects must involve at least 20% community ownership. Hear that? Denmark! Home of Vestas!

Australia has been slower to take up community-based projects, but we're getting there. Our first such project, Hepburn Wind, began generating power in June 2011. Since then, many more communities across Australia have banded together to develop their own solar, wind, biomass, micro-grid and other efficiency projects. Now, with well over 100 community-driven energy outlets, the movement is really ramping up.

Projects come in all shapes and sizes: household solar bulk buys, small-scale community solar farms (<100kW), or community wind farms like Hepburn Wind, and are managed by social enterprises, co-operatives, not-for-profit organisations, or a mix of various approaches, the bottom line being to establish what works for a given "community".

Here are just three examples. The small WA town of Katanning, south-east of Perth, became its own power station in 2021 with a project launched by a local cocky. "If we generate energy from a community base," says Katanning Shire Executive Officer, Julian Murphy, "we're in control of our own destiny." The Katanning project is based on a model pioneered by Indigo Power, an energy company in north-east Victoria that grew out of a local community-energy group called Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY). That company is now being contacted big time by community-energy groups around Australia who

want to go the same way. Then there's the NSW regional centre of Goulburn which joined the energy revolution by coming together to build its own 4,000-panel solar farm, where everyday citizens can buy shares in the venture.

And the economics of community energy are worth considering. At

Yackandandah, for instance, \$160m could leave the region every year in paying electricity bills. But once the community produces and owns that electricity the economics are very different. Also, a town owning the electricity is suddenly able to capture new businesses with attractive power discounts.

Community Energy is definitely "a strong movement for everyday people who want to see the true benefits from what is an inevitable renewable energy boom," says Helen Haines, the independent federal MP for Indi, which includes Yackandandah. It's about "ensuring everyone benefits from a local renewables project, rather than just the farmers whose land is used for the solar panels or the wind turbines. Just about every renewables project that's going to be created in Australia is going to be in regional Australia." Thus it's a no-brainer that regional Australia should be benefiting from that.

So is Community-Owned Renewable Energy for Walcha? It is certainly something worth considering. Of course it would involve serious researching and soul-searching. It would mean the whole community getting together and behaving as adults. It would mean our council consulting at street level, establishing what the community wants, and acting accordingly. And it would require following facts rather than fiction. But surely it is worth considering, certainly better than the raft of large scale ad-hoc projects which now dominate our approach, and definitely a million times better than flogging a dead horse ad nauseam

Want to know more about CORE facts? Start by checking out these links below:

- Community-owned renewable energy: a how-to guide Zero Carbon Communities. University of Queensland <https://stories.uq.edu.au/policy-futures/zero-carbon...>
- <https://totallyrenewablejack.org.au/>
- Goulburn Community Energy Cooperative <https://goulburnsolarfarm.com.au/info>

www.voiceforwalcha.com





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WALCHA GARDEN CLUB CLIPPINGS

What a wonderful start to Autumn with all the recent rain. Such a good time to be out and about in the garden and attending to all the jobs prior to the onset of winter. Firstly, take every opportunity to enjoy all the wonderful autumn leaves which will be surrounding us in the weeks to come. After so much rain it may be a while before we have the full enjoyment of Autumn. A good time to look at all the deciduous trees if you are thinking of planting new trees in late winter. Remember to place your orders for bare rooted trees as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Soil preparation should be in full swing for spring flowering bulbs. It is best to have all your bulbs planted by no later than mid-May. Bulbs like free draining soil and full sunlight. If they are grown in part shade then they are usually taller and their stems much softer. Some bulbs like dappled sunlight such as Spanish Bluebells, grape hyacinth, and the larger flowering hyacinth. For the most effective result it is best to mass plant these bulbs under deciduous trees such as flowering cherries or Moss White birches that are grouped together. Bulbs can also be planted in areas where they can naturalise. Container plantings of bulbs near your front door can make an amazing visual impact in spring. Combine plantings of bulbs with violas, pansies, or primulas. When planting containers try and extend the flowering season by layering the bulbs. Bulbs can be planted quite close to each other. Plant tulip bulbs, daffodil bulbs then Dutch Iris followed by Grape Hyacinth then Anemones. Once the flowering season has finished the bulbs should be transplanted into the garden. For mass planting in even blocks I suggest you try the following idea. If you have a square egg tray that holds 30 eggs then use this as your guide. Pierce the bottom of the holes in the carton. Dig an area in your garden at least 15cm-20cm in depth. Place the carton in the hole. Wet the carton well. Place your daffodil or tulip bulbs in each hole. Cover with soil and mulch. Water well. When foliage starts to appear sprinkle some bulb food and water in well. Cartons can be broken up to make perfect circles too. A simple but effective landscaping idea.

It is nearly that time of year when vegetable growers are picking pumpkins and digging potatoes. Wait till after the first frost to pick pumpkins. A frost will harden their skin and gives the pumpkin more flavour. Potatoes can be left in the ground for a few more weeks. When you dig potatoes leave the dirt on them and store in a dark, cool dry place. Discard any potatoes that have green skin on them as they are very toxic to humans. Pears are in season now. They will not readily ripen on the tree. Pick and place in a warm part of your home and in a few weeks they will be ready to consume or preserve. If you are lucky enough to have or know someone who has quinces or crab-apples then now is the time to harvest them. There is nothing nicer than taking a bottle of home-made preserves to friends when you visit.

The next meeting of the Walcha Garden Club is being held on Friday, 14th April, at Allen & Jenny Laurie's Garden, "Old Banchory", 393 Lakes Rd, Walcha, commencing with morning tea. Cars will depart McHattan Park at 9.30am. BYO your chair, cup, and lunch. Enquiries: Di Bazeley 0403 464865 or Diana Lisle 0429 799083. New members are most welcome.

Thank you Northern Tablelands



THANK you all so very much for your support at last month's NSW Election and giving me the huge responsibility and privilege to be your representative again in the State Parliament.

I certainly don't take the vote of support for granted and will continue to work as hard as I can every single day, speaking up and speaking out and delivering for our region and the issues that matter to you.

I want to acknowledge the other candidates who contested this election and sincerely thank them for making it another respectful and courteous contest, which has become the hallmark of State politics in our region.

Congratulations Premier Chris Minns and his incoming government on their election win – it's an exciting time for them. While the change of government will bring a new set of challenges and opportunities, I can assure you my priorities for the electorate remain the same – and improving health services in our region is paramount. I intend to work as constructively as I can as your local MP with the new government to ensure our issues and concerns continue to be not just heard, but acted on in Macquarie Street.

To this end, I have already spoken with new Health Minister Ryan Park and I will be meeting face-to-face with him after Easter to discuss a range of matters. I am hoping he will also accept my invitation to visit our region and meet frontline health staff and local GPs as well.

I'm now really looking forward to getting down to business and continuing the work and momentum achieved over the last four years.

As I have stated in the past, my agenda will always be driven by the needs of the community. If you have a concern, suggestion or idea that relates to the responsibilities of the State Government, please don't hesitate to contact me and my electorate office team to share those views.

Together, with individuals, communities, local councils and community groups we have achieved a great deal, but there is still much more to do and I cannot wait to get cracking to grow and develop our region!

Thank you again, Adam.

church notices

ANGLICAN FRIDAY

7th April, Good Friday
service: 9:30am and
Kids Club. You're
welcome to remember
Jesus' death and its
significance.

Easter Sunday 9:30am
and Kids Club

PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha Sunday
9.30am. Woolbrook
2pm.

CATHOLIC

MASS TIME FOR
EASTER

Holy Thursday Walcha
10am Stations, Uralla
6pm

Good Friday Walcha
3pm Stations, Uralla
3pm

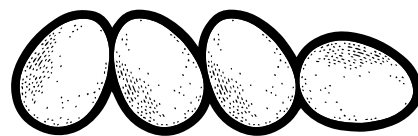
Holy Saturday (Vigil)
Uralla 7pm

Easter Sunday Walcha
10am, Uralla 8am

MARKETS THIS SAT!!

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THE COMMUNITY STALL WE CAN
SELL THEM ON YOUR BEHALF

* SEE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ONLINE



NEW STALLHOLDERS WELCOME
WALCHAFARMERSMARKET.ORG.AU

What's the Goss

With A.J. CROSS



Congratulations to Walcha Central School athlete Jack Bullen on his selection in the Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS) Rugby League Squad named last week. Jack and his support crew parents Elly and Nick had a fairly busy week commencing with the NSW Touch U/15 Championships in Nelson Bay before returning home to compete against Dorrigo and then headed to Coonabarabran on Friday for the North West U/15 Rugby League trials where Jack was successful with selection in the team.

...

The Armidale and District Cricket Association held their presentations last Sunday where a number of Walcha /Uralla players were awarded individual trophies for their efforts throughout the season. Skipper Ed Blomfield won the Second Grade batting aggregate after compiling 416 runs at an impressive average of 69.3 runs each time he visited the batting crease. Opening bowler Sinclair Little took the most wickets in Second Grade after he snared 19 victims, Randee Grewal captured the most Second Grade Twenty/20 wickets - eight in total while Matt Harper finished with the best Second Grade one day bowling average at 6.94 runs per scalp.

...

Walcha/Uralla topped off a great first up season in the Armidale competitions when they collected both the Second and Third Grade premiership trophies after belting Minor Premiers Easts in the Second Grade Final and finishing joint premiers with Guyra after Third Grade was abandoned due to wet weather. Good on ya boys on a great season.

...

Walcha Wonder Dog 'Pakington Street' (Well in the eyes of his owners he is) didn't kick off his greyhound racing career in the best of fashion when he finished fourth during his maiden race at Ipswich last week. A few of his owners gathered at the 'Newie' to watch the race and were a bit disappointed after their hound hit the front early only to cop a bump on the turn but to his credit finished strongly. 'Pakington Street' was going from barrier one in the first race at Ipswich yesterday and hopefully met with a bit more success than he did first outing.

...

The Walcha/Uralla Tigeroos and Jillaroos kicked off their 2023 Rugby League campaign with trial matches against Dungowan at Peter Fenwicke Oval last Saturday. Both teams

played well first up as they brushed away some off season cobwebs with the blokes well and truly in the game at three quarter time trailing by just 20-18 before going down 34-18. A draw for this season hasn't been finalised yet but when I find out you will be the first to know.

...

The Jillaroos lead 6-4 at halftime through a try to Taneka Landsborough and conversion to Joscisca Matapakia before letting in two converted tries to trail 16-6. Taneka scored her second try midway through the second session after regathering a kick from around halfway and once again Joscisca raised the flags with her conversion attempt. Dungowan won the game 22-12. Gold coin entrance fee donations reached \$1000 which will go to the Westpac Helicopter Service.

...

April Fools Day isn't quite what it used to be but there is still the odd trick pulled from time to time. Last Friday our eldest grandkid Simon Wellings had a sleepover at our place before his grandmother Linda informed him a pelican had landed in our back yard the following morning. Simon was excited as he raced outside only to be instantly deflated when his grandma declared it was April Fools Day and no pelican in sight.

...

Veteran Golf organisers were 'Tickled Pink' with the roll up of 80 players for last weeks Pennants round held here at Walcha. They would like to thank the Walcha Caravan Park, Apsley Arms Hotel and New England Hotel for their sponsorship towards the day. Walcha are currently in second position on the points score ladder 27 points behind Guyra with a couple of rounds remaining in the competition.

...

Congratulations to Golf Club Champion Andrew 'Buddha' Bowden on racking up his sixth 'A' Grade title on the trot when he cruised home comfortably last Sunday. Since Timmy Stackman won his 12th club championship in 2015 besides 'Buddha' the only other two players to win have been Wayne Brennan 2016 followed by his son Andrew in 2017.



 **Stop** and
consider

Check the facts this
State election

elections.nsw.gov.au



Another successful Flippers season ends



The Walcha Swimming Club finalised the 2022/23 season when they held their annual presentations at the pool last week.

Most Outstanding Achievement Award in honour of Jess Mathews went to Blaine Cooney who was the only club member to break a club record during the season when he set a time of 1:18.59 while competing in the Boys 100 metre Freestyle Championship event.

The following club members also received awards (pictured below):

Clarice Flanagan AwardOlivia Mulligan

Patron Bruce Hunt Award.....Eamon Barnes

Engouragement Awards.....Florence Davey and Ben Lockyer.

Age Champions and Runner up (pictured above):

Girls 6 years.....Mila Tate & R/U Elsie Laurie

Girls 8 years.....Airlee Tate & R/U Penelope Taylor

Girls 10 years.....Georgina Arundale-Fuller & R/U Anthea Taylor

Girls 12 years.....Annabelle Patterson-Kane & R/U Hannah Swain

Girls 14 years.....Rain Pritchard

Girls 16 years.....Jasmine Lynch & R/U Isabella Hayton

Boys 6 yearsHarry Fletcher

Boys 8 yearsToby Wellings & R/U Benji Provost

Boys 10 years.....Angus Fletcher and Dustin Wellings joint

.....winners and R/U Henry Blomfield

Boys 12 years.....Cameron Mooney & R/U Nathan Ross

Boys 14 years.....Cody Wellings & R/U Jacob Wellings

Boys 16 years.....Jazz Hayton & R/U Shaun McKenna

Points Score:

Highest OverallJess Patterson-Kane 51 pts

Tadpoles.....Charlie Makehan and Isaac Olrich both 37 pts

FrogsJack Lisle and Will Lisle both 36 pts

TurtlesEamon Barnes 45 pts

CrocodilesJess Wellings 47 pts

DolphinsBlaine Cooney 47 pts



Olivia Mulligan, Ben Lockyer, Florence Davey and Eamon Barnes

Holiday fun at the Walcha Farmers' Market

On Saturday 15th April (the middle weekend in the school holidays), the Walcha Farmers' Market will again be on at McHattan Park. With council's excellent play equipment, it's a great chance for the children to play with their friends, while you catch up with your friends at the market.



Enjoy the crisp morning air and the beautiful autumn coloured trees as you browse the market. Have a bite to eat and a good chat!

The market will have a great range of stalls including gardening, lifestyle and food stalls. Myles will be back with his beautiful native flowers, which are always popular.

For those on the hunt for Mother's Day presents, Moodee and Sass, HEM Resin, Nan's Homestyle Condiments, Beelike, Sunhill Dairy Goats and any of the plant stalls (Carinya North Nursery, Kentucky Tree Nursery, Sienna's Seedlings, Kate's Cacti and Succulents) will have worthy gift ideas.

In terms of food offerings, Rotary BBQ, 216 Collection, Deano's Smoked Trout, Guyra Spud Man, Shoreline Oysters, Sheetal's Kitchen, Sunhill Dairy Goats, and The Bush Patisserie will have you covered.

If you have produce from your garden, or other things to sell at the Community Stall, please take them along on the day, with prices clearly marked, and the volunteers will sell them for you.

As the market date nears, please check the Walcha Farmers' Market Facebook page for an updated list of stallholders including any last minute additions or changes.

Walcha Farmers' Market is 8:30-12:30, Saturday 15th April at McHattan Park, Walcha. <https://www.facebook.com/WalchaFarmersMarket>

Tennis

The 2023 Summer Comp Semi Final was finally played out on Thurs 30th April in much nicer conditions than Tues 28th.

Popyrin: Dave Sweeney, Jess Jones, Jock Fletcher and Dion Bird administered a tennis lesson to Tomljanovic: D A Locke, Pip O'Brien, Braedon Konneron and Trina Fletcher (Floater) playing for Roxana Mathews taking the win 36 to 9.

Ebdon: Hyde Thomson, Emma Wauch (Floater and long time stand in) playing for Steve Blake, Kathryn Smith and Michael Luchich defeated Kokkinaakas: Ed Blomfield, Chris Bruce, Melinda Bird and Michael Wall 30 to 26 in a beaut close tussle.

It will be an Ebdon v Popyrin Grand Final on Tues 4th April. Captains Michael Luchich and Jess Jones organize your players for a 7.00pm start. All players and members are welcome to come and socialise or play. Nibbles will be served for your refreshment.

Sat the 6th May is our street stall 1st Wood, 2nd Meat and 3rd Hamper. Anyone that can help staff the stall or donate goodies call Roxana Mathews on 0455501482, Trevor Gibson on 0459799119 or post on our Club Facebook page.

The 2023 Eskimo Comp is planned to start on Tues 2nd May. It will be an Individual Graded Doubles Comp and run for maybe 4 to 6 weeks. Names to Hyde Thomson 0427780391, Trevor Gibson 0459799119 or post on the Club Facebook page.

The Walcha Tennis Association Club House may be the perfect venue for your next function. For info on hiring the venue call Betty Sweeney on 67772120.

Congratulations to Emma Wauch and her family for the great success of the Community Play Group event. The children and parents alike enjoyed the event. The feedback I got was that the event was a great thing for our local community. Well done again Emma.

Good luck to the two teams fighting out the 23 Summer Grand-Final on Tues 4th. See you all at the net soon.

Bowls

Dads Army: Two games of pairs were played on Thursday afternoon where the strong wind played havoc with the players.

Both games was won by ten shots with the chook winners, Noel Goodwin and Eric O'Keefe defeating Mick Bullen and Peter Hayes 22 - 12 and Barry Kliendienst and John Watts 19 - 9 winners over Brian Goodwin and Dacian Andrews. The raffle was won by Peter Hayes.

Bowls will be held next Thursday.

Twilight Bowls: The comp concluded on Friday evening with Noel Goodwin, John Watts and Jenny Hoy winning on a countback from Jamie Kerr, Greg Carter and Kevin Creighton.

Ladies Bowls

Last week the Club Championships commenced with two games being played in the Minor Singles Sari Andrews defeated Marg Tickle 25-10 while in the Major Singles June Hayes defeated Esther Hunt 25-12.

This week the draw is Sari Andrews v's Veronica Jamieson with marker Lyn Burnell, Wendy Moore v's Carmel Ryan marker June and the Major Singles Marg Tickle v's Jan Cross marker Esther.

The Final of the Minor Singles will be played on Thursday 13th April.

In a game of social bowls Jan Cross and Carmel Ryan had a 25-15 win over Wendy Moore and Janice Rizzi in a game of pairs.

Last Tuesday five players from Walcha attended the Armidale City Presidents Day with Esther Hunt being in the winning team.

Bowls will still be 9-00 for 9-30 start and full uniform to be worn by all including markers.

Vets Golf

A pleasing field of 18 players teed off in the third round of the New England Pennants competition here at Walcha last Thursday where at the end of play Guyra lead the way on 715 points followed by Walcha 688, Uralla 672, Glen Innes 646 and Armidale 614.

In Mens Division One John Cummins (Guyra) accumulated 34 stableford points to win from Tim Beaumont (W) 33 while in Division Two Phil Green (A) counted out former New England Hotel Publican Bob Denniss after both players compiled 24 points each.

Ladies winner was Kerry Bull (Guyra) on 33 points from Julie Hoad (W) 30 points.

NTPs went to Neil Zsoldas (G.I) on the third, Jim Walkinshaw (U) on the ninth while Allan Collins (G.I) got the job done on the 16th.

Sweepstakes in no particular order Wayne Brennan, Len Stanley, Lee Fletcher, Craig Hollis, David Bearup, Grant Uphill, Jenny Rogers, Doug Stevenson, Col Berry, Wendy George, Jenny Lisle, Deb Heffernan, Penny and Ross King and Wendy Jackson.

The next round of the Pennants competition is scheduled for Guyra on Tuesday 11th April.

**NO APSLEY ADVOCATE
NEXT WEEK
due to the Easter break.**

**Next Apsley Advocate delivered on
Wednesday 19 April**

advocateclassifieds

Public Notice

Bendemeer Art Show entries close Thursday 6th April, 2023. Online: www.bendemeerartshow.org

AMENDMENTS TO 2022/2023 FEES & CHARGES - 2023 WALCHA MOTORCYCLE RALLY



The Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023 approved changes to the 2022/2023 Fees and Charges. They have been amended to include the fees & charges for the 2023 Walcha Motorcycle Rally. Tickets will be on sale in early May 2023.

These revised fees will be on public exhibition on Council's website <http://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/news.aspx> and at the Council Chambers, 2W Hamilton Street Walcha until 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 May 2023. During this time written submissions on the revised fees and charges will be received by Council.

Phil Hood, Interim General Manager
Walcha Council, PO Box 2, Walcha NSW

Position Vacant

Marchant
BROS.

Marchant Bros Walcha has positions available for:

- Casual truck washer
- Truck driver
- Dozer and excavator operator

Contact Jason Marchant: 0427 490 487 - no texts please



Sales Support Officer

Elders Walcha is currently looking for a Sales Support Officer to join the growing team on a fixed term full-time basis.

Our Sales Support Officers are the first person our clients see when they interact with Elders. Your expert customer service skills will operate as the backbone of the branch and support the sales teams in building relationships with clients. With the backing of the Elders network, you will be provided and supported to learn and grow your career. As this role is a maternity leave contract role, the initial contract will be for 9 months.

Responsibilities

As a key member of the branch, you will enjoy a varied day including:

- Providing expert administrative support to the team, allowing the branch to develop and foster professional relationships.
- Providing support in all areas of the sales process as well as running the office.
- Creating promotional and marketing materials for the branch to actively promote the Elders brand.
- Working with the Elders team to allow clients to explore new innovative opportunities.
- Maximising promotional opportunities, including helping at field days and community events.
- Assisting with expense management to ensure the branch is operating effectively.

About you:

To succeed at Elders, you:

- Are comfortable and thrive in a collaborative and results-focussed working environment
- Are smart, resourceful, forward thinking and embrace technology
- Are passionate about effecting real change for both your clients and your community.
- Have a keen eye for detail and a background business administration
- Understand agriculture seasons.
- Have an ability to provide a high level of customer service and cultivate relationships with current and future clients.

If this sounds like you, please contact Thomas Henry, Branch Manager Elders Walcha
0409 659 877 or 0267 742 600



Death Notice

Judith Margaret Weatherall nee Hollier "Judy"

Passed away 13.03.2023
Aged 84

Late of 39 Walsh St, Niangala. Formerly of Shortland and Woodberry.

Dearly Beloved Wife of David. Cherished mother of Jerome, Keith and Glyn. Much loved Grandmother to Simon, Bonny, Suzanne, Jasmin, Blair, Sam, Kate, Jordan and Olivia. Dearly loved Great Grandmother of Benji, Leroy, Evie, Ashton, Kobi, Ryder, Lucas and Seth. Greatly loved and cherished Mother-in-law, Sister, Sister-in-law and Aunt.

Privately cremated as per Judy's wishes.

'Her Smile'

Though her smile is gone forever,
And her hand I cannot touch,
I still have so many memories,
Of the one I loved so much.
Her memory is now my keepsake,
With which I'll never part,
God has her in his keeping,
I have her in my heart. ❤️

Family and friends are encouraged to contact Jerome or David by letter to 39 Walsh Street, Niangala NSW 2354 or by ☎ (02)67692377

Public Notices

Church service at Woolbrook church, 2pm, this Sunday. For info Graham Barnes 6777 2539

DR GENEVIEVE FREER
Phone 6777 2068 0429 668 583

Registrations are now open for Junior Indoor Hockey <https://forms.gle/DZh8BzY6zw12C5zV9>

Season will start term two Thursday afternoon for K-12 students more information email walchajuniorindoorhockey@gmail.com

Thunderbolts Cafe trading hours: Good Friday 8am-7pm, Saturday 8am-7pm, Easter Sunday closed, Easter Monday 8am-7pm.

Stace's Fast Freight will not be operating this Saturday due to Easter. Any freight collected Thursday afternoon 6th will be delivered the morning of Wednesday 12th.

Walcha Chinese Restaurant will be closed Monday 3 April to Thursday 20 April. Re-open Friday 21 April. Sorry for any inconvenience.

New England Accounting will close on 6 April and reopen on 17 April.

Remedial Massage appointments Tuesdays and Fridays. Ph Brett 0414 349 625.

Lions Park Opening 17.4.23 at 11:00am, Walcha Shire Council.

Public Notices

VOTE TO NAME THE ROSE GARDEN



Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023 approved four of the nominations to vote to name the Rose Garden. Get in quick to have your say!

Jump online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DQPZ8NZ> or scan the QR Code:



Phillip Hood, Interim General Manager
Walcha Council, PO Box 2, Walcha NSW

DRAFT POLICY ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION



Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023 approved the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy. This Policy will be on public exhibition on Council's website: <http://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/news.aspx> until Thursday, 5 May 2023. During this time written submissions on the Draft Policy will be received by Council.

Phillip Hood, Interim General Manager
Walcha Council, PO Box 2, Walcha NSW



Easter Services

At St Andrew's Anglican Church

Good Friday

Friday 7th April
9.30am

Easter Day

Sunday 9th April
9.30am

5N South Street, Walcha

To Rent

3 bedroom house to rent - written reference essential. Ph: 0429 772 512.

Accommodation needed

Rental accommodation needed

Apsley Riverview Aged Care are looking for rental accommodation to provide housing for new staff looking at moving here from out of the region.

The current rental shortage is making it difficult to attract permanent, full-time staff.

We need a 2 or 3 bedroom house, flat or granny flat. This could be in town or on a property near town.

Does anyone have something suitable? If so, we would love to hear from them.

Agistment Wanted

Agistment/lease wanted around Woolbrook, Niangala, Bendemeer or Walcha for a small mob of very quiet heifers. Phone Nathan: 0473 878 144.

Work Wanted

Couple with kids seeking full time farm work. Experience with stock work, fencing, shearing and shed work and garden maintenance. Have own working dogs. Will require accommodation. Ph: 0499 607 707.

Thank you

Many thanks to Stephen and Christine of Bethel Carpet Cleaning for an excellent carpet clean.

The family of Helen Sweeney would like to thank everyone for their phone calls, cards, flowers and kind words of sympathy shown to us during this very sad time following our mum and gran's passing.

We would like to thank Dr Deng and all the staff at the Walcha Hospital and ECW for all their kindness shown to mum during her stay and all of the support shown to the family during that time.

We also want to thank Dr Allen, Dr Jones and staff for everything they did for mum prior to her entering hospital.

Your support at this difficult time is very much appreciated.

For Sale

DJ'S Firewood – Best wood in the district. Wood that actually burns. Delivery days - All day Saturday and Sunday afternoon OR pickup from Niangala Saturday 1.00 – 4.00pm. Phone 0427 335 631 or 6769 2395.

**NO APSLEY ADVOCATE
NEXT WEEK
due to the Easter break**

Andrew Bowden wins sixth Golf title

By A.J. Cross

Walcha Golf Club Champion Andrew 'Buddha' Bowden won his sixth Club Championship in succession with a three round total of 223 (74, 72, 77) to finish comfortably clear of runner up Michael Stackman 240 (80,81,79) and Kyle Goodwin 243 (81,73,89) when the final 18 holes were played last Sunday.

In B grade Ross King posted a score of 260 (83,88,89) to finish seven shots clear of multiple B grade champion Jamie Bowden 267 (91,89,87) and Deon Lawrence 274 (95,86,93) while Drew Bird took out C grade on 280 (95,88,97) from Crichton Barr (95,96,95).

The Nick Cross Memorial trophy for best three round nett score went to Ross King 217 (68,74,75) from Drew Bird 218 (74,67,77) Michael Stackman 218 (72,74,72) and David Sweeney 219 (72,73,74).

Veterans was won by Lee Fletcher after he carded 245 (81,84,80) off the stick.

Club President Allan Green was in charge of supplying the prize for best nett score on the day where Peter Berry survived a three way play off with Lee Fletcher and Michael Stackman after all three players registered 72 nett.

The playoff was over three holes - the first, eighth and ninth- played under a stableford points format where Peter snuck home by a point from Lee after Michael pulled out of the playoff with a hole remaining.

Sweepstakes went to Lee Fletcher and Michael Stackman 72, Jamie Bowden and David Sweeney 74, Wayne Brennan and Crichton Barr on countback from Ross King all on 75.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Brian Lynch (3) Lee Fletcher (9) Crichton Barr (16) and Michael Stackman (18) who also 'robbed the Eagles est' sponsored by Dark's Plumbing of just two balls after he



Champions- Andrew Bowden, Drew Bird, Lee Fletcher and Ross King

eagled the 13th hole.

In Match Play Wayne Brennan defeated Andrew Bowden 1 up.

Last Saturday John McCormack racked up 16 stableford points to win the weekly 9 hole competition just ahead of runner up Jenny Lisle on 15pts.

No N.T.P. winner on 3.

This Sunday is the annual Kanga Cup 4 person Ambrose event in memory of club member Ray 'Kanga' Boyd which will commence with a 11:30am shotgun start.

Members are reminded that although Daylight Saving has now finished normal tee off time on Sundays will remain 11:30am.

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

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Marchant Est. 2000 BROS.



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WALCHA BOWLING & RECREATION CLUB

Mon – Wed 4.00pm – Close

Thursday 6 12.00pm – Close

Ladies bowls 9am for 9.30am start
Social bowls 1.00pm

2.00pm Bingo

6.00pm Bistro

- Beer battered sweet lips
- Homemade rissoles
- Chicken, bacon & leek tray bake
- Normal menu available, takeaway and delicious dessert.

6.00pm Tickets available for raffles – meat and veg trays

7.30pm Free Bingo

8.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw

Friday 7 CLOSED – GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday 8 11.00am – Close

6:00pm Bistro

2-4pm **TOSS THE BOSS**

4-6pm **HAPPY HOUR**

Sunday 9 11.00am – Close

12.00pm Bistro open

Children U/10 kids meal free with an adult order

12.00pm Meat, fruit and veg raffles

12-2pm **HAPPY HOUR**

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COLOURING
COMPETITION**

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Great prizes to be won
Closes Wednesday 5th April

**TOM'S COCKTAIL
WITCHES
BREW**



Thursday 6th April – 7pm
**EASTER BUNNY
VISIT & EASTER HAT
COMPETITION**
EASTER RAFFLES

Do you live in Walcha Shire? If so you **MUST** be a member to enter the Club
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