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Mitch takes out Champion of Champions



Mitchell being presented at the Sydney Royal Easter Show by NSWAA President Graham Shepherd. Inset pictured with his grandparents Helen and Bruce Scrivener and brother Austin.



At this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show, axeman Mitch Scrivener was named the 2022 – 2023 NSW Axemen's Association's Champion of Champions.

Each year from April through to the following March, NSW axemen who compete in State Championships accrue points. Points are allocated for their placings in these events which are held across the State, with first place receiving five points, second four and so on. Mitch travelled to shows across NSW to contest these Championships and picked up maximum points at four – Dubbo Show in the 375mm Underhand, Grafton the 325mm Underhand, and the 275mm Tree Felling and 500mm Butcher's Block at Lismore. He also gained points at Camden and Wollombi.

On the 9 April at the Royal, Mitchell was announced the winner of the Title, after gaining most points. For taking out the NSW Champion of Champions Mitch received a \$1000 cash prize and was presented with a shirt by NSWAA President Graham Shepherd.

Mitch and his younger brother Austin had outstanding success at last year's Royal, so in 2023 it was always going to be tough to repeat. This year Mitch placed third in the First Division 600mm Team of Two Butchers

Block with Lindsay Hewitt (QLD),

and made the Final of the 275mm Tree Felling and the 375mm Single Sawing Handicap. Both Mitch and Austin cut in the NSW North Coast team, which placed second in the Inter-Association Relay. To the delight of the crowd, Austin climbed a fast and near flawless tree, catching his team up to the Central Coast who seemed to have cut their way to a certain win. Austin looked in good form, and while he competed well in the relay and the NSW Under 21s team that placed second in the State of Origin tri-series, he unfortunately had to sit out for several days with injury.

What's next for the brothers? Austin will be attending the Stihl Timbersports® qualifiers this weekend hoping to secure a spot in the 2023 Stihl Rookie Series (U25). He's also been named in the Australian Under 21's team to take on New Zealand at the 2023 Adelaide Royal. Meanwhile Mitch has several events to attend in preparation for the Ekka and Adelaide, and will be hoping to once again gain selection in the NSW Open Team later this year.



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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

The weather over the last few days has reminded us we do live in Walcha with a top of just 8 degrees recorded on Monday and that didn't include the wind chill factor. The whole East coast shivered through the cold front with reports of a small dusting of snow around the high country and even some south of town. Up until the weekend the frosts had been few and far between but we have now had a couple of big ones in a row. The rest of the week looks to be pleasant starting out a little frosty in the mornings with the daytime temps rising to around 15 degrees. It only takes a couple of frosts to turn the grass brown and suck up what moisture is about on the surface and I think we could all use another drop very soon.

The Labor government will have delivered its first budget in nine years on Tuesday night by the time this article is read. We have heard snippets of what their intentions are – helping with the cost of living for numerous Australians, but it will be another cash splash that could affect inflation and further interest rate hikes. The worrying part is that they are overhauling the current infrastructure funding and it is set to be sliced and diced which won't be any good for anyone living in country areas. A surplus is set to be announced due to surging tax revenue in iron ore, coal and gas and agricultural commodities which sadly will be largely spent in metropolitan areas.

The RBA announced another interest rate hike last week with mortgage holders taking another blow to their pockets and putting further pressure on the rising cost of living. All four big banks have passed the interest rate rise on in full and interestingly they have all made a combined profit of approx 16 billion in the first half of the year, up 12 per cent on the previous 6 months. If you have money in the banks or are a shareholder then this rise in revenue will put money back into your pockets but let's face it, how many people actually have large amounts of money in the bank when they are dealing with their current living environment.

The EYCI has continued to soften in 2023 with it falling below 650c/kg for the first time since November 2020. The EYCI sits approx 460c/kg below the same time 12 months ago as the supply continues to put pressure on the price with extra numbers continuing to show up. These extra numbers are always about in May after a month of short weeks during April and generally we see a rise in values the closer we get to winter. Feeder cattle prices have remained firm and have picked up in values slightly over the last few weeks with feedlots now quoting 415c/kg for Angus steers. Word is this will improve as we move through the winter months and into spring before the normal run of cattle come off crop.

The UK Parliament has approved the legislation to bring the Australia –United Kingdom free trade agreement into effect in the UK. We are just waiting on an actual commencement date but numerous feedlots are now chasing EU accredited Angus cattle and offering a premium. This premium for EU accredited Angus steers was seen on Friday when EU Angus steers, 300kg made over \$1500, north of \$5/kg which was an exceptional sale on a market that is currently receding for most classes of restocker cattle. There hasn't been a premium about for EU grass fed slaughter cattle for some time but I'm guessing it will only be a matter of time before we see it.

The May sell off has continued with 2160 cattle yarded on Monday in Tamworth while Gunnedah drew for over 3000 cattle. The market was cheaper with varying trends in the light restocker cattle. Light cattle back to the paddock sold to much cheaper trends, especially heifers averaging 267c/kg while the steers averaged 310c/kg. Feeder cattle sold to cheaper trends, down almost 20c/kg topping at 384c/kg for steers and 354c/kg for heifers. The cow market continued its downward trend, down 15c/kg topping at 257c/kg. 5200 sheep and lambs were yarded in Tamworth with all lambs to restock and process selling to cheaper trends. Trade lambs topped at \$178, back \$10-15/hd to average around the \$150-160/ while heavy lambs sold to \$240. The mutton market softened, back \$5-\$10/hd with XB ewes topping at \$114 while merino wethers sold to \$120.

Jack's Creek in gold medal class with Rocala Wagyu Steer

Jack's Creek is owned and operated by the Warmoll family from Werris Creek NSW. It has won many awards worldwide including The World's Best Steak on two occasions. This time they have taken out first place in the gold medal Purebred Class and were placed third in the Fullblood Class of the Australian Wagyu Association's Branded Beef Awards. Silver and bronze medals were attained in the crossbred sections. These prestigious awards are held annually and announced at the Wagyu conference, which this year was at Sydney's Darling Harbour. What makes this new award special to our region is that Jack's Creek did it with a fullblood steer that was bred by locally owned and operated Rocala Wagyu. The relationship Rocala has with Jack's Creek stretches back to 2007.

"The ROC" ROCFP00810 was the Sire of this steer and he was bred from carcass data received back in 2013. He is the mainstay of the Rocala herd and has bred most of the Rocala award winning animals. He is a dual-purpose bull, bred on his sire's side for the marbling trait which is rather easy to get in the Wagyu breed. His Dam carries a line that boosts size and that's the key to the future of Wagyu. The Dam of this steer ROCFP00809 has all the leading foundation sires in her pedigree, TF151, 003, TF148 and Itohana 2.

The steer himself had an equally interesting start to life. Because the birth of all animals are recorded on property, DNA'd and parent verified through Neogen lab's, each animal is tracked throughout its life. This steer was born to a first calf heifer at around 9pm on the night of 29 June 2020.

While doing the final rounds of the calving heifers late in the evening, the spotlight from the torch picked out two eyes that were bobbing up and down in the middle of the dam. Not knowing what it was Dave Woodley drove in for a closer inspection. Seeing it was a calf, he



Patrick Warmoll from Jack's Creek (right) with Dave and Sukhee Woodley from Rocala Wagyu at Niangala

stripped down to his birthday suit and went for a swim to get the little guy out of the freezing water. Niangala nights at the end of June are not the time or the place to be swimming in a dam. The little calf was retrieved and spent the night warming up next to the fire in the living room with some much-needed saved colostrum.

Next morning the young heifer wouldn't take him. Sukhee Woodley, known for her ability and empathy with cattle persevered with the calf and his mother. Eventually she smeared one of the heifer's cow pats on the little fellow ... with the right smell the mothering up was completed. He was aptly named Aqua Boy!



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letters to the editor

Biggest Morning Tea

Save the date, our Biggest Morning Tea is only a couple of weeks away. This will be held on Thursday 25 May at the Walcha Tennis Club commencing at 10am.

This is our 20th year of holding a Biggest Morning Tea, which happens to coincide with the Cancer Council's 30th anniversary.

Unfortunately most of us have been touched by cancer in one way or another. Some who have had cancer themselves and others who have lost family members and friends.

So come and join us for a cuppa, some delicious morning tea and a chat to help us beat cancer in the future.

Everyone is welcome. If you haven't come before please feel free to drop in. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

Jenny Hoy

Wind Turbines Unintended Consequences

It was with some concern that I watched the Landline story on 16 April 2023 about wind turbines in the Walcha area.

Solar and wind power renewables are fashionable at present which, in itself, could be a problem. Fashions come and go and when people tire of a given fashion life, it can be financially difficult for those left "holding the baby". Consider the Australian firms left holding PPE equipment, PCR and RAT testing units they can no longer sell since the COVID pandemic was suddenly (1 January 2023) declared over – out of fashion – by the Federal Government who no longer wanted to pay for it or its ancillaries.

The Landline program seemed to be quite pro wind turbines and at no time was the infrasound produced by these turbines mentioned.

Given the large number of wind turbines planned for the Armidale, Uralla and Walcha areas, there will be high levels of infrasound produced over a wide area.

Infrasound is not known to affect everyone, however it is known to affect more people the longer they are exposed to it and it can, over time, quite literally drive some people crazy. This is well documented. Others become sleepy, anxious, headachy, disoriented, docile, confused, vulnerable to suggestion, with some claiming they "hear things".

Many psychiatrists automatically prescribe antipsychotic (psychotropic) drugs for their mentally disturbed patients. Antipsychotic medications may control the conditions for which they are prescribed, but there can be a cost: they can interfere with nutrient metabolism and cause new mental abnormalities to appear. Some forms of schizophrenia, for instance, can be triggered or exacerbated by a vitamin B6 deficiency.

Long term or high-dosage therapy with the phenothiazines and other antipsychotic medications cause tardive dyskinesia, a disease characterised by rhythmical involuntary movements of the tongue, face, mouth, arms or legs. This makes the driving of motor vehicles and the operating of machinery risky. Going off the medication is the only treatment on offer and with no guarantee of 100% symptom abatement: according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, who first registered these medications.

It's possible that over the longer term some of those with wind turbines on their property could be paying out significant damages to mental and physical health impaired litigants. It would have been helpful if the Landline story had mentioned that this practice could, in time, become as fashionable as wind turbines are now.

For this observer, the unfolding events bring to mind Ovid's prescient warning in his deification of Julius Caesar – *Grasp All Lose All*.

Phil Alexander – Naturopath, Dee Why

letters to the editor



Be part of the solution

I have to admit how pleased I am that Walcha Energy seem prepared to open their Ruby Hills Wind project to what will (hopefully) be meaningful scrutiny by the local community. There will be two Open Days this week in which locals can talk to the Ruby Hills Wind team to learn as much as possible about the project. But more importantly, on the second Open Day (Thursday) Walcha Energy has agreed to field questions about the RHW project from the community-based Voice For Walcha. That will happen tomorrow, at the Walcha Showground from 5.30pm. This could be a genuine olive branch from the Turbine Team in what has been a divisive issue, a serious attempt to seek the social licence their wind farm will unquestionably require if it is to not only pass the pub-test, but to actually succeed at all. Good on them.

I say good on them because possibly the most important point here is that this could be a real opportunity for Walcha community to start taking charge of its own renewable energy future, a key starting position for how we can solve the energy dilemmas that are already dividing us, and will continue to divide more. So be there at the Showground tomorrow, from 5.30 (at the latest) and you can begin to be part of our energy solution. Take on board questions that members of Walcha community have asked us to present to Walcha Energy about the RHW project. Ask your own questions, if you wish, and hopefully come away with a better idea of what might lie ahead.

We've presented Walcha Energy with a comprehensive list of key questions about the RHW project. These included questions about: the Cumulative impact of the project; Noise effects; Biodiversity; Traffic impacts; Resource issues like gravel and water; estimated kilometres of internal farm tracks; Social licence; the Ownership structure of RHW; the proposed Community Benefit Fund; actual area of RHW and farms involved; the power size of the project; decommissioning issues, and more. No doubt there will be questions from locals who turn up as well. So it should be a truly information-packed two and a half hours.

I urge you to grasp this opportunity to be part of the solution to Walcha's renewable energy future. Of course you can do nothing. No one is forcing you to come along. But if we in fact do nothing as a community, our energy future will be decided for us, make no mistake. And if we let that happen, you can moan as much as you like, because by then it will already be too late; it will be GAME OVER. You'll not only have to accept what you're given; you'll have to keep accepting what they give you, because you will have effectively told them you're a "walk-over".

Be there: Walcha Showground. This Thursday. 5.30pm. Be Part of the Solution.

John Heffernan

Zenziwear has moved

There has been a change on Derby Street. Zenziwear has moved next door and is now called Zenziwear Handmade. The new look shop will continue to have an amazing array of natural products created onsite. You will also be able to continue to shop from many of the contributors that were located there previously.

In the coming months there will be a variety of workshops available and Janine will continue to create the beautiful new designs she has become known for.

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RUGBY REPORT

Walcha v Scone



By Eric the Spider

RESERVE GRADE

In a valiant effort, the Walcha reserve grade team took on Scone in a thrilling match on Saturday. Despite being short-handed with only 13 players, the Walcha boys put up a courageous fight against their opponents.

From the opening whistle, it was clear that Walcha was not going to go down without a fight. Some big tackling from Ben "junkyard dog" Burwell stopping the Scone players in their tracks and showing that they were not intimidated by their opponents. The first half was a tough and hard-fought battle, with both teams trading blows and pushing each other to their limits. Some strong carries from Bastien "the French guy" Ynard and Ben "chicken guy" Partridge put the Rams in decent field position. Despite the numerical disadvantage, Walcha managed to hold their own and put some points on the board. A try to Toby "ID please" Moore kept the Rams in the fight.

Ben "45kg wringing wet" Hall showed remarkable composure and control of the game. He orchestrated the attack with precision, making clever passes and finding gaps in the opposition's defence. Throughout the game, Cooper "mullet fury" Boyd put his body on the line, tackling everything that came his way, shutting down the Scone attack on a number of occasions.

Some elusive running from Benji "the plumber" set up a number of attacking raids in which the Scone defence had difficulty in controlling. Archie "the sheep man" Lawrence had a great game covering the ground well and having a number of involvements. Harry "the other chicken guy" Locke had a busy game, setting up a number of attacking opportunities and covering well in defence.

In the end, the final scoreline read Walcha 19 Scone 39, but the result didn't tell the full story of the game. Despite the loss, the Walcha boys can hold their heads high, knowing that they gave it their all and put in a huge effort against a tough opponent.

3 Toby Moore, 2 Harry Locke, 1 Archie Lawrence. Players Player - Harry Locke

FIRST GRADE

The Walcha Rams headed to Scone on the weekend to take on the Scone Brumbies. After a week off due to the bye the Rams were raring to go. Walcha kicked off and immediately regathered the ball and started to build phases toward the Scone line. Scone gave away a penalty early and the Rams took the opportunity to get on the scoreboard. Walcha 3 Scone 0. Walcha regained the following kick off and kicked the ball into touch to exit their own end. The Brumbies won the lineout and through some nice ball handling moved the ball out wide where they sliced through to score the first try of the match. Walcha 3 Scone 5. Both teams then got into their rhythm fighting for field position and dominance. A big strong carry from a rampaging Henry "loved up les" Leslie set up an excellent platform for the Rams to play quick and Sione "big Ulu" Kamoto took full advantage breaking tackles and barrelling over for Walcha's first try. Walcha 8 Scone 5.

Walcha began to up the tempo of the game attempting to run the much bigger Scone forward pack around. Moving the ball well and changing the point of attack enabled Walcha to again put pressure on the Scone defence. A slicing run from Ollie "off the market" Crawford saw him break the line and stroll over for a try. Walcha 13 Scone 5. Scone's big forwards were struggling to keep up with the Walcha pack moving them around the field well manipulating the defensive line. The Rams forwards began to tighten up their attack with some sharp pick and go's to get in behind the tiring defensive line. Another strong run from Sione "big Ulu" Kamoto saw him dispose of some would be Scone tacklers to score again for Walcha. Walcha 20 Scone 5. Walcha's discipline hurt them in the next phase of the game giving away a number of consecutive penalties inviting the Scone players deep into the Rams half. After some solid tackling Scone managed to crack the Walcha defence scoring a try and putting them back into the game. Walcha 20 Scone 14. With 10 minutes to go in the first half the Rams lifted the tempo of the game, playing quick fast paced rugby. Patty "the ugly keen" Keen cut back on a tight line punching through the Scone defence breaking a number of tackles and scoring under the post. Walcha 27 Scone 14. Walcha then strung together two quick tries before the half was finished capitalising on their hard work and the tiring defence of Scone. A swift counter attack that saw all the backs touch the ball resulted in Sam "just carry" Lomax scoring the try and bringing the first half to an end. Walcha 39 Scone 14.

The second half began with Walcha beginning to infringe with a number of penalties going against them allowing Scone to dominate possession and territory. This gave the giant Scone forward pack a head of steam as they continued to carry their big bodies into the Walcha defence. Some excellent and courageous tackling from Josh "Mr moli" Moloney and Harry "I thought I broke my leg again" King wasn't enough to repel Scone as they scored a couple of quick tries putting themselves right back into the game, forcing the Walcha Rams to dig deep. Walcha 39 Scone 26. Step carries throughout the game from Wally "slippery Somerton sheep breeder" Davidson and Ross "more Monie more problems" Monie gave Walcha some field position in which they could attack and wrestle some momentum from the big Scone forwards. Matty "lil Tiss" Tisdell had a great game directing the forwards around the park and supplying good clean ball to the backs. Henry "loved up les" Leslie had a great game showing huge amounts of aggression in both attack and defence. Dom "skate park rat" Bower marshalled the team well, kicking for territory and tackling everything Scone threw at him.

In the end Walcha managed to hang on against a big fast finishing Scone team. Walcha 53 Scone 31. An excellent performance from the boys in a very physical contest.

Next week the Walcha Rams v Moree at home which coincides with the Walcha Rugby Sponsors day. Be sure to come along and support the team.

3 Ed Churchill, 2 Wally Davidson, 1 Ollie Crawford and Patty Keen. Players Player - Ed Churchill

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Coronation capers at Woolbrook Hall

Woolbrook and District Progress Association held a dinner and Coronation Trivia Night on Saturday night. It was great to see members of the community back in the Hall at Woolbrook. There were some great costumes and everyone had a great night.



Janelle Smith and Gary Olrich looking the part for the Coronation Trivia evening



A fun night at Yarrowitch

On Saturday night Yarrowitch Hall once again came to life to the tunes of Fanny Lumdsen and the Prawn Stars. Supported by 2022 Toyota Starmaker Max Jackson and local talent act Lanni Ryan, those who attended were treated to over two hours of wonderful entertainment by these talented artists. The Yarrowitch Hall Committee would like to thank all who attended and those who helped and supported the event. The night was a great success.



Main picture: Fanny Lumdsen on stage at Yarrowitch. Left: Florence Davey danced the night away. Top right: Fanny Lumdsen. Right Max Jackson.

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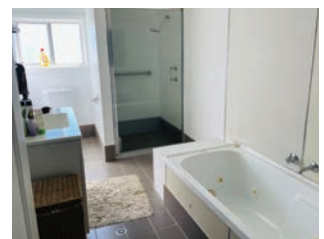
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Talk about a footy game played in two halves last Sunday between the Walcha/Uralla Tigeeroos and Moree Boomerangs here at Peter Fenwicke Oval. At half time the Tigeeroos had opened up a commanding 36 – 4 lead as they enjoyed their oranges only to witness their advantage disintegrate rapidly during the second session to the point where they were in front by just two points 36 – 34 with 15 minutes remaining. Luckily the homeside held on to collect the two competition points with a 42 – 40 victory.

...

Flashback – July 1984 the Moree Boomerangs travelled to Kitchener Oval to take on Gunnedah and by half time the visitors had put on 40 unanswered points against the homeside which was without five of its star players including captain/coach John Lennan who played for the Walcha Roos in the late 1970's. Most spectators thought the result was a foregone conclusion but someone forgot to inform the Gunnedah boys who bounced back to win the game 48-46 in spectacular style. Once again a game of two halves.

...

Congratulations to Sari Andrews on her selection in the North West Lawn Bowls team to compete in the NSW CHS Championships in Dubbo following trials in Tamworth last week. Sari was picked after she won a three way roll off against her sister Dakota and one other player while 'Kota' was named on the reserves list. Sari recently won the Walcha Ladies Minors Singles Championships and finished runner up in the Major Singles. Good on ya girls.

...

Best of luck to all the athletes who are off to Armidale this Friday to compete in the Zone Cross Country after qualifying at the recent competitions held at Walcha Central School a couple of weeks ago. Going on the performances on that day there will be some runners capable of reaching to the next level. Go Gettum Guys.

...

'Pakington Street' the Walcha 'Wonderdog' found the going a bit tough last Saturday night at Ipswich when he finished out of the prize money for the first time in his six starts. Roughie 'Barcia Lady' recorded an upset win paying \$101 fixed odds and \$30 on the tote.

...

In the 17 – 19 years 200 metre Freestyle Relay Bella and Jaz teamed up with their sisters Charlotte Mooney and Ella Lynch where they chipped 3:63 seconds off their qualifying time stopping the clock in 2:15:99 seconds. Jaz finished 21st in her 16 years 100 metre Butterfly while Cameron Mooney positioned 33rd in his 13 years 100 metre Freestyle. Well done to all seven team members.

...

Jillaroos skipper Nicola Hoy certainly had a day out last Sunday when she spearheaded her team to a 30-10 victory over Moree Boomerangs and in doing so the girls kept their undefeated run this season intact. Speedster 'Nic' scored no less than four tries, picked up three Group and three Club Best and Fairest points along with being named Players Player. Little wonder why really. Well done Nicola.

...

Congratulations are due for the seven Walcha Central School students who competed at the NSW CHS Swimming Championships in Sydney last week. In the Central Schools 200 metre Freestyle Relay Isabella Mooney, Shaun McKenna, Hunter O'Connell and Jasmine Lynch sliced an amazing 7:46 seconds off their qualifying time when they finished fifth in 2:09:12.

...

While preparing for the recent Garage Sale of their late parents Ken and Ida Hoy my wife Linda and Sister in law Sandra Laurie were hard at it the previous day with the assistance of Sandy's grandson Henry Lisle. While checking out a few of the items up for sale the four year old spotted a ring in a nice presentation box before suggesting it would come in handy when he proposed marriage to his good friend Lucy Martin. Stay Tuned for further developments.

...

Footy Tipping leaders after 10 rounds: Newie – Dal Evans 108 Charlotte Lyon 106 Red Hoy and Paddles Chandler 102 Bowlies – Bikie Brazel 106 David Hooker and Kyle Goodwin 104 Kev Creighton Hannah Byrne, Jagger Jamieson, Snow Bird, Mick Steep all on 100, Thunderbolts Way – Emily Scotty Swain 105 Beau Smith, Lisa Noble both 101. Apsley Motors Gutho 51 has 57 points TH2023 – 56 pts Bronze wing – 53. Apsley Motors give one point for a correct selection.

...

Feeling a bit disappointed about only picking two correct teams last week I felt slightly better after finding out fellow Sea Eagles supporter Miles Lawrence didn't select any winning teams at the Newie. In the Apsley Motors Competition and dropped 20 places last week 22nd to 42nd out of 104 tipsters while in the ESPN comp run in conjunction I went down 75,701 places to 149,915th position out of 424,954 punters. Talk about a bad week.

Attention Walcha businesses



Walcha Quota Club have been selling tickets for their Mother's Day raffle which will be drawn this Friday 12 May at their Street Stall.

The lucky winner will receive \$1000 worth of vouchers to spend in local businesses.

The winner will be advertised in The Advocate next week, and this person will be asked not to start spending their vouchers until next Wednesday.

The prize provides the winner with specially signed \$20 and \$50 vouchers to spend in Walcha businesses. This is a great prize, which not only provides the winner with extra cash to purchase goods, but allows the Quota Club to direct all profits into local projects which will benefit local women, children and families.

Businesses will be able to redeem the vouchers for cash from designated Quota members. All information and instructions are printed on the vouchers. Please assist the Quota Club by accepting vouchers if they are presented at your shop. "Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, the money raised will be well spent," Quota Club President, Chris Hamel said.

Please direct all enquiries to the treasurer Julie Yates on 0427 780 132 or President Chris Hamel 0437 772 333.

thumbs



- 👍 Thank you Maddie Lance for your massage treatment on my shoulder. It relieved my terrible pain.
- 👍 To Fanny Lumsden's wonderful Country Halls Tour that played at the Yarrowitch Community Hall on Saturday night.
- 👍 To Megan Marchant for your help Saturday night. Much appreciated.
- 👍 To a fun night at Woolbrook Hall.
- 👍 To Channel 7 for their great coverage of the Coronation.

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.



Ladies Golf

It was a cool and breezy start to our Graham Betts stableford qualifier on Wednesday. It didn't deter some of the field who came in with some good scores.

The winner with 37 points was Lorraine Walshe who counted out Barb Mulligan, also on 37 points. Great to see you back Barb.

Four players all came in with 36 points with the sweepstakes going to Sal McCormack, Pauline Carter and Sue Partridge, counting out Julie Olrich.

NTP on 3 was Sal McCormack and Julie Presnell cleaned up on 16.

Today we are playing stroke, putting and monthly mug for Cheryl McDonald's trophy and it is the third medal round of the Mabel McKenzie Brooch.

Rugby League

For the second weekend in succession the Walcha/Uralla Rugby League Club recorded victories in both their Group 19 matches. This time here at Peter Fenwicke Oval last Sunday against the Moree Boomerangs.

Before the main game kicked off, a minutes silence was observed for long time club sponsor Pauline Levingston who left this world late last week.

Spectators had barely taken their seats when speedster Jhorden Coulter flashed down the eastern sideline before touching down a handy position for fullback Shuaib Rhodes-Swain to convert at the five minute mark.

The visitors replied three minutes later with an unconverted try before Rhodes-Swain turned on the magic with a great elusive run, which ended with a try under the posts which he converted.

Midway through the opening stanza centre Zac Walters added his name to the try scorers list and ten minutes later did it again, before centre Josh Dailey crashed over next to the sticks.

Just before the half time hooter sounded hooker Cooper Boyd dived over for a try. After Rhodes-Swain had raised the flags on all four occasions the Tigeroos enjoyed their oranges holding a sensational 36 – 4 advantage.

Right from the get go in the second session the Boomerangs showed they meant business, running in three converted tries within eight minutes to reduce the lead to 36 – 22.

Another two converted tries within the eight minutes of each other to the visitors had the game on a knife's edge at 36 – 34 with 14 minutes remaining on the clock. The home side gave themselves a bit of breathing space with a second touchdown to Boyd and a seventh conversion to Rhodes-Swain, but the 42 – 34 lead was short lived when Moree responded with another converted try to reduce the advantage to 42 – 40.

Walcha/Uralla then desperately hung on for the last couple of minutes to pick up two valuable competition points.

Best and Fairest points Group: 3 Zac Walters, 2 Jaidyn Puru Walzak (who kicked six goals, two from the sideline), 1 Michael Moran. Club: 3 Cooper Boyd, 2 Jock Abraham, 1 Shuaib Rhodes-Swain and Brandon Thrift. Player's Player Jock Abraham.

Jillaroos

The Walcha/Uralla Jillaroos remain undefeated this season after they defeated the Moree Boomerangs 30 – 10 at Peter Fenwicke Oval last Sunday.

Captain Nicola Hoy opened the scoring for her team with a try after 12 minutes which was converted by Joscisca Matapakia. Moree responded with an unconverted try seven minutes before half-time to leave the score at 6 – 4.

Just three minutes had elapsed in the second half when Hoy raced 60 metres for her second try before Matapakia added the extras.

One of the highlights of the match came from the kick-off when Matapakia gathered the ball just outside her own '22' line and raced 75 metres along the western touch line to touch down, evading defenders on her way to the try line. She converted her own try and then three minutes later Hoy was in for her third try which was converted by Caitlin Harris to give the Jillaroos a handy 24 – 4 lead with 15 minutes remaining.

The Boomerangs responded five minutes from full-time with their own converted try, before Hoy iced the cake by touching down for her fourth which Matapakia converted to finalise the scoring at 30 – 10.

Best and Fairest Points, Group: 3 Nicola Hoy, 2 Jojo Matapakia, 1 Deborah McGrady (MB). Club: 3 Nicola Hoy, 2 Jojo Matapakia, 1 Rachel Green and Finlai Bird. Player's Player Nicola Hoy.

Round 5 of the Group 19 competitions commences this Friday night 12 May, where the Tigeroos and Jillaroos do battle with Narwan at Woodville Oval Uralla from 6.00pm.

Cricket

A final reminder that the Walcha/Uralla Cricket Club will be celebrating their successful season when they hold their presentations at the Commercial Hotel this Saturday from 12.30pm.

In their first season playing in the Armidale and District competitions Walcha/Uralla finished premiers in both Second and Third Grades – a fine effort by the boys.

If you are attending please contact Club President Wayne Boyd or Ed Blomfield by tomorrow, Thursday 11 May, to let them know of your intentions.

Tennis

Round 1 of the Eskimo Comp was played out on Tuesday 2 May. The top scorers on the night were Ed Blomfield and Ryan Bagnall with 18 from a possible 18. Our next Club meeting will be held on Monday 10 July at 6.30pm.

Thanks to everyone who donated goods and supported our Street Stall which was great success. The winner of the wood was Ollie Wall, the meat Alissa Wall and the food hamper was won by Jodie Lawrence.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 8 May. Club President Hyde Thomson was re-elected, as was Club Treasurer Betty Sweeney and Club Secretary Roxana Mathews. Congratulations and thank you from everyone at the Club for all the hard work you do.

Good luck to the players braving the cold this week and see you all at the net soon.

Bowls

Dads Army: 21 – 3 and 19 – 6 were the winning scores in last Thursday afternoons two games of triples.

In the games Eric O'Keefe, Gary Brennan and Mick Bullen played Peter Hayes, Mark Hogan and Mick who played twice and Noel Goodwin, John McCormack and Warwick Hogan played Barry Kliendienst, John Watts and Veronica. There were no chooks for a winning team or a raffle held.

Ladies Bowls

The 2023 Ladies Singles Bowls Champion is June Hayes after defeating Sari Andrews in the Final.

This was a great game of bowls and a tremendous fight

back from June considering her younger opponent held a 22 – 13 lead only to see June gradually peg it back and claim a 25 – 23 victory. Congratulations June on your win.

This Thursday 11 May the Four Bowls Pairs Championships commence. The draw is Sari Andrews and Esther Hunt v's Carmel Ryan and Debbie Richards, the winner to play Jan Cross and Janice Rizzi on the 18 May.

Also last week a game of triples was played and resulted in a one shot win to Janice Rizzi, Pat Laurie and Wendy Moore over Phyllis Hoy, Carmel Ryan and Lyn Burnell.

Players don't forget our Presidents Day is on the 25 May sheet on board for names.

At the 19th

With 14 players competing at the Barraba Open, a field of 18 teed off here at home last Sunday in search of a trophy donated by John McCormack.

Left handed Junior Isaac Stackman, son of 12 time Walcha Club Champion Timmy Stackman, cruised home carding a great Par event score of +9.

Next best were Crichton Barr and Pauline Carter both on +4, while the remaining sweepstake prizes went to Sue Partridge +2, Jamie Bowden +1, and Jenny Lisle on countback from Vicki Heffernan and Doug McDonald after all three players finished square with the card.

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Ross King (3) and Crichton Barr (18), who defeated Jamie Bowden 5 and 4 in their Match Play.

Last Saturday Margaret Higgins accumulated 19 stableford points to win the weekly 9 Hole Competition, a couple points clear of runner-up Lee Fletcher on 17 points. N.T.P. on 3 went to Sue Partridge.

Out at Barraba Peter Norbury and Wayne Brennan scored +8 to be the best of the Walcha players, just ahead of Steph Sweeney and Don Brooks, Owen Presnell and Mal Ballard both on +7, followed by Miles Archdale and Lee Fletcher, Drew Bird and Michael Stackman both on +4, Willy Brennan and Allan Green +1, Col Berry and Simeon Cross square with the card.

Word has it that Peter Norbury caressed the longest C Grade drive and he and his partner were +5 after six holes before the wheels fell off.

Over 100 players teed off in the Barraba Open with the winners posting a score +11, while sweepstake prizes went down to +8.

Last Saturday Club President Allan Green and Secretary Jenny Lisle finished fourth in the Barraba Mixed Open after they racked up 41 stableford points.

This Sunday the 2023 Men's Foursomes Championship are scheduled while the following Tuesday 16 May the final round of the New England Veterans Pennants is set down.

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance on Sunday morning to Thunderbolts Way, midway between Walcha and Nowendoc, to an elderly motorcycle rider who had fallen from his bike. He was treated by the Helicopter Critical Care Medical Team for possible head injuries and airlifted to Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital.





Death and Funeral Notice



Partridge; Natalie Elizabeth

24th April 2023

Of North Street, Walcha

Dearly loved daughter of
Greg & Diane Partridge.

Aged 37 years

Funeral Service to be held at
St Andrew's Anglican Church Walcha,
Thursday, 11th May 2023 commencing
at 11am followed by interment at the
Walcha General Cemetery.

Donations in lieu of flowers would be
preferred for the Sydney Cochlear
Implant Centre. Your donation will support
NextSense to deliver world class education
and research, and to carry on providing vital
specialist services to people with hearing
or vision loss. A donation box will be at
the church or electronic donations
can be made via Natalie's notice on the
Piddington's website.

Piddington's AFDA 6772 2288



LEIVINGSTON: Pauline Alice

28/10/1940-04/05/2023

Of Sempill Crescent, Walcha.

Dearly loved wife of Lloyd.

Loving mother and mother-in-law of
Katie & Brian Smith, Lynette Levingston
& Marie, Fiona & Steven Wiggins,
Nicole & Greg Jarman, and Melanie
& David Ledingham.

Adored grandmother and
great grandmother of their families.

A Graveside Service to be held at
the Walcha General Cemetery today
Wednesday, 10th May 2023
commencing at 12pm.

Piddington's AFDA 6772 2288

Position Vacant

NSW National Parks and Wildlife



Office Cleaner needed: Twice a week
cleaning at 188W North Street.

Must have ABN & Insurances

For More Information contact:
Cecilia Casey on 02 6777 4720

Position vacant (cont)

Preschool Educator – Term Position



Walcha Preschool is looking for a
Preschool Educator for the period 17 July
2023 to 12 April 2024. This is a relief position
offering a minimum of 25 hours per week.
You will assist Council in developing and
delivering educational programs using the
Walcha Preschool Philosophy, the Early
Years Learning framework and the National
Quality Standards as the foundation for daily
practice.

You will be working as a valued member
within a friendly, supportive and encouraging
environment, and your responsibilities and
actions will reflect Walcha Council's core
values of teamwork, respect, customer first
focus and willingness to carry out assigned
tasks.

Council is an EEO employer and offers
a smoke free workplace. For more
information, and to apply, visit Council's
website – Positions Vacant Section. <https://bit.ly/3A30YDC>

Applications close Monday 22 May 2023.

Small Council, Big Opportunities!

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

Public Notices

Walcha Council Regional Meetings



Residents are advised that
Council will again be conducting a number
of meetings throughout our Council area. An
open invitation is extended to all interested
residents to meet with your Council to raise
questions, concerns and be informed of
Council operations. Meeting details are
included below. Your Council looks forward
to seeing you there.

Monday, 22 May 2023

10:00am Europambela's Shearers Quarters
2:00pm Ingleba Hall
5:00pm Woolbrook Sport & Rec Ground

Tuesday 23 May 2023

9:00am Yarrowitch Hall.
11:30am "Brockley Park" Shed
2:30pm Nowendoc Hall

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

McDonald Gas closed from 18 May - 23
May. No deliveries during this period.

DR GENEVIEVE FREER
Phone 6777 2068 0429 668 583

Public Notices (cont)

Church Service at Woolbrook church,
2.00pm, this Sunday. For information contact
Graham Barnes 677 2539.

Contribution Plan Exhibition



At its Ordinary Meeting on 26
April 2023, Council resolved to
publicly exhibit the draft Walcha Section 7.11
(Heavy Haulage) Contribution Plan and the
Section 7.12 Contribution Plan.

The Walcha Section 7.11 (Heavy Haulage)
Contribution Plan is primarily focussed on
recouping the cost of the impact on local
roads by haulage of extractive materials and
sets out a reasonable estimate of the cost
per tonne of material hauled that should
be paid to Council for the cost of road
reconstruction, necessary as a result of the
pavement damage to the local road network.
The Walcha Section 7.12 Contribution Plan
enables Council to levy contributions for
public amenities and services required as a
consequence of development.

The draft plans are now on public exhibition
and available for inspection on Council's
webpage [www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/news/
draft-contributions-plans-on-public-
exhibition.aspx](http://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/news/draft-contributions-plans-on-public-exhibition.aspx)

PUBLIC EXHIBITION PERIOD: Wednesday,
10 May 2023 to Friday 9 June 2023.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday 9 June
2023

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

Meetings

Woolbrook RFS AGM, 20th May 10am.
Woolbrook AIF Hall. All are welcome.

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Laver pullets. All breeds. 20 wks. Delivered
Friday 2/6/23. Phone Jim 0428 194 105.

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Deliver Walcha Saturday OR pickup from
Niagara Saturday 1.00 – 4.00pm. Phone
0427 335 631 or 6769 2395.

Raffle results

Walcha Tennis Association Street Stall,
winner of wood Ollie Wall, meat Alissa Wall,
food hamper Jodie Lawrence.



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Thursday 11 12.00pm – Close

Ladies bowls 9.30am for 10.00am start
 Social bowls 1.00pm

Friday 12 2.00pm – Close

2.00pm Bingo

6.00pm Bistro

- Chicken curry pot pies
- Pork spare ribs
- Baked fish topped with garlic prawns
- Normal menu available, takeaway and delicious dessert.

6.00pm Tickets available for raffles –
 meat and veg trays

6.00pm Free Bingo

8.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw

Saturday 13 11.00am – Close

6:00pm Bistro

2-4pm **TOSS THE BOSS**

Sunday 14 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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 \$400**

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