

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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5 July 2023



## Elders Upcoming BULL SALES!

- Knowla Open Day – 14th July
- Tummel Hereford Bull sale – 25th July
- Knowla Angus Bull Sale – 28th July
- Yalgoo and Ivybank Bull Sale – 14th August

FOR DETAILS CONTACT:

James Sharpe: 0409 272 490  
Allan Laurie: 0455 821 394  
Thomas Henry: 0409 659 877  
The Office: (02) 6774 2600

*We hope to see you there!*

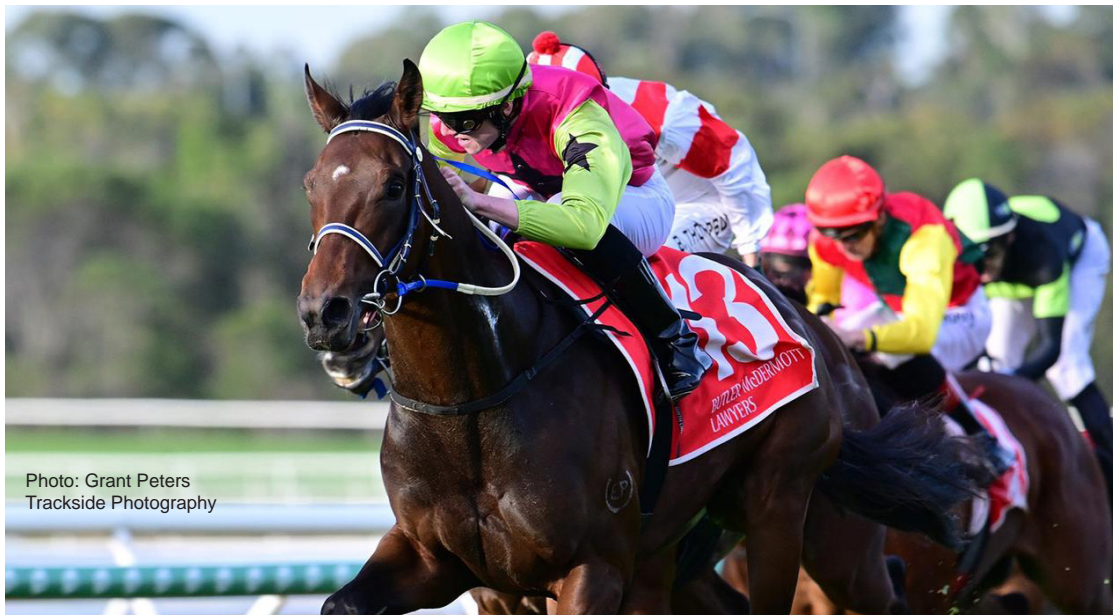


Photo: Grant Peters  
Trackside Photography

## Walcha bred horse wins Winx Guineas

The Queensland winter racing carnival was finalised on Saturday with the running of the Group 3 Winx Guineas. Walcha bred horse, *Knight's Choice* has caused much excitement in the racing industry with a very convincing win in the big race.

Bred by Norm and Di Bazeley at Elswick Park, the three year old was sold at the Magic Millions as a yearling, with this preparation being his first, and what a carnival the gelding has had!

From his seven starts he has won his last four races. "Only eight weeks ago he placed fourth in a maiden at Kilcoy, followed by a second at Ipswich, and then four wins in a row," Norm explained.

Norm and Di bred *Knight's Choice* from their mare *Midnight Pearl*, with the sire being the highly renowned *Extreme Choice*. "This win means we have now bred a Group winning horse in both Australia and Singapore," Norm said.

*Knight's Choice* is trained by John Symons and

Sheila Laxon, with this win being on his home track at the Sunshine Coast. Symons revealed post-race that owners had knocked back offers of up to \$1 million for the three-year-old *Extreme Choice* gelding, but those offers have swollen substantially following this win.

Sheila Laxon made history when she won the Caulfield – Melbourne Cup double with *Ethereal* back in 2001. She has been very impressed with *Knight's Choice*. "He is a seriously nice horse. To do what he did today was awesome, he just won so easily. This horse could be anything," she said.

*Knight's Choice* is now headed for a well-deserved spell whilst his trainers think about where to go next with him. "We might look at the Melbourne spring or there's the Magic Millions in January."

Meanwhile back at Elswick Park, Norm has been buoyed by the win and is looking at his options for sending *Midnight Pearl* back to stud.



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# around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

The rainfall thus far has been perfect as the latest front passes through our district and stretches as far north as western Queensland. The predicted 10 – 20mm is a fair way short of the original 50 – 75mm predicted, but any rain now is good rain, especially on top of our June totals. Numerous areas across central and Northern parts of Queensland have received impressive winter rainfall, with falls of 50 – 70mm recorded between Emerald and Barcaldine. Parts of western NSW have already received decent winter rain and this front could be the icing on the cake to start growing some decent winter herbage for livestock and get those crops out of the ground and firing.

New reports are out that the average age of farmers has now risen to 63, which to me comes in line with our entire ageing workforce and the rising age of the baby boomers. I think the main issue for younger farmers today is sourcing sufficient finance to be able to acquire land. Land values have continued to rise and to acquire more property you need more assets and equity, which generally come later in life to acquire these multi-million dollar farming businesses. The new data is also suggesting that the two generational family farms are making a comeback with growth through technology, more business opportunities and the fact that rising land values have helped farming families purchase the neighbours to increase the size for the next generation. Increasing debt is something a lot of farming families have dealt with their entire lives, but the increasing cost of living, rising interest rates and volatile commodity markets are now added pressures on already highly geared operations.

When they state that land values increase in value by 6% every year well you could say that might be an understatement. The high rainfall zone throughout Australia has risen from \$1600/ha in 2010 to \$4689/ha in 2022 on average. That figure would be closer to 20% a year rise in values but this has only been seen throughout the high rainfall zones. The rest of rural Australia, being the wheat sheep and pastoral zones, have seen their values double over the last ten years.

Telstra has signed a deal with Elon Musk's Starlink to help boost connectivity for rural Australia which will put huge pressure on other telco providers such as NBN'S Skymuster. Telstra is reportedly the first telco in the world to offer bundles using Starlink and I hope Telstra do not stuff this one up. Starlink satellites use a low orbit of around 550km from earth, hence why you can see the satellite trains in the night sky. There is in excess of 4,000 Elon Musk satellites flying around the world which gives you faster download. NBN Skymuster uses a very high earth orbit, 36,000km which means it only needs two satellites to achieve a wider coverage, but its download speed is ridiculously slow, and this is why your voice calls and videos calls have connection issues.

1,476 head of cattle were yarded in Tamworth on Monday with extra re-stocker competition noticed throughout the lighter steers and heifers. Weaner steers sold from 288 – 370c/kg, while the heifer portion made from 200 – 286c/kg. Yearling feeder heifers and steers sold to a cheaper trend with steers topping at 326c/kg and heifers to 276c/kg. Heavy steers to process made to 277c/kg, while heavy kill cows sold from 185 – 214c/kg, down 9c/kg on last week. The cattle market in Victoria on Monday was significantly dearer in comparison, with Angus cows topping at 265c/kg, 390kg Angus Limo steers made 426c/kg, while their sisters to feed made 426c/kg. Heavy heifers to process made 342c/kg, which could be a sign of things to come for us, especially when they can get through the backlog of Queensland cattle to process. Tamworth yarded 1900 lambs and 300 sheep with reduce buyer activity as Fletchers are currently on a two week shut down for maintenance. Lambs 18 – 22kg carcass weight sold from \$92 – 122 for better condition lambs, while the 22 – 26kg made from \$121 – 138. Heavy lambs in excess of 26kg carcass weight topped at \$151, while heavy mutton topped at \$106.



# Walcha welcomes new faces at St Andrew's Church

There were no mishaps this time as Neil and Steph Hunt drove into Walcha, unlike most other times they had visited the town over the years. However, this time they were coming to stay, moving into the Anglican Vicarage last Monday as the new Minister at St Andrew's Anglican Church.

Both Neil and Steph recalled breaking down with their young children in the car near Nowendoc in the early 2000's, with a lovely lady bringing them to town and helping immensely in getting them back on the road. Steph even remembered having a broken windscreen on one visit to see her uncle Paul Beringer who was the Presbyterian Minister in Walcha when she was young.

Despite these memories, they are both thrilled to be moving to Walcha and are looking forward to settling into the community. "We lived in Armidale for 21 years, so it will be lovely to be back in the New England," Neil commented.

Prior to this appointment, Neil and Steph were at the Wee Waa Anglican Church for 2½ years and prior to that in Narrabri for two years.

Neil will commence at the Church next week on Monday 10 July, with his induction being held on Friday 21 July at 6.00pm. "We would like to invite the community along to celebrate Neil and Steph's arrival, and welcome them to Walcha," Brian Wellings said.

Neil grew up in Tamworth, with his parents still living there. "I remember coming to Walcha as a young boy to play soccer out at John Oxley sportsground," Neil recalled.

Steph is a trained nurse and will be doing some work in Armidale which is close to two of their children who live there. Neil and Steph's



other daughter is in Newcastle and their son lives in Narrabri, so Walcha will be quite central for them.

Steph is looking forward to being able to see her grandchildren in Armidale more regularly. "I am really happy to be here in Walcha and looking forward to welcoming people into our home, as well as assisting Neil," she said.

"We're here with the same message of hope that's been spoken and lived out in this church for generations. There's a God who loves the world He made. And He came to earth as the man Jesus to offer forgiveness and reconciliation to us rebels," Neil said.



## Stock and Property Watch

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## letters to the editor



### Old Stone Church progress

Although progress has been slow it is good to bring the community up-to-date with the restoration work so far completed on the Old Stone Church, especially as people have been so generous.

All the outside stonework has been restored, carpentry completed and painting around the windows is progressing.

Thanks goes to our Heritage Architect Tony Deakin OAM who is overseeing this work on behalf of the Anglican Diocese Trustees.



**Nerida Hoy**

### Glad you asked, old mate

I got a voicemail the other day from a local bloke I've known for yonks, an amiable fella. Not that his call was all that amiable. Just over half a minute long, straight to the point and negative, it was about Walcha's wind farm brouhaha.

I won't reveal his name because I don't have that right. I'll just call him Old Mate. But I'll quote him verbatim because I'm sure there are people in Walcha who think the same way and who deserve to be recognised. I'll then try to briefly explain why I've been annoying people like him with articles on this wind farm matter.

*"Heff!" Old Mate hollered down the dog and bone. "It's me." He said his name and opened fire: "Why are you writing all this stuff in the paper? You wanna go backwards mate? Why are you against progress? You're writing too much about this. The town's gotta go forward. The town's going backwards now, mate. There's only 230 kids at the school. There used to be bloody 400. We need something in this town to get it kick-started. You're too negative. See ya."*

What to say? Well, first off: Sorry for getting on your nerves, Old Mate. Sorry I've seemed so negative, too. But I'm really sorry if you think I'll go away . . . because I won't. You see, I want to get the facts across to people like you, because you won't get them any other way. You certainly won't get them from those who want to smother us with countless turbines. They don't want you within cooee of the truth; you might ask difficult questions. Perish the thought!

I'm a fiction writer by trade, Old Mate, and I could easily fill your head with buckets of BS. But I doubt I could ever match these blowhards and the disaster they'll bring. They'll paint the glossiest pictures ever, spin the biggest yarns, fill your head with fairy floss promises, leaving you believing all will be a bed of roses, leaving them to scarper with the loot, leaving little Walcha with all the mess and mayhem: the endless decommissioning, the acres of transmission towers and crumbling toxic turbines; the horror years of road construction and large-scale transporting, the massive demands on resources like water and gravel, the social dislocation from itinerant work force invasion, the sleepless nights from wind farm noise, the lingering liabilities of legal litigation.

I do a lot of research to get the truth and facts right. I do it because I don't know any other way of dealing with this complex issue. And I do it because I'm inspired by a group of people – that I work with – Voice for Walcha – who work bloody hard (at least 10 to 15 hours combined per day) to harness the facts and expose those who will say anything to get boxes ticked and pockets lined. The V4W team get nothing for their efforts, but they remain a steadfast, forward-thinking, progressive group who want only the best for Walcha when it comes to our renewable energy future – a project that's the right size, that's in the right place, and that's by a proven developer with real runs on the board.

That's the type of project which could give Walcha the "kick-start" you say we need. It would certainly be heaps better than anything we'd get from the ridiculously monstrous cumulative projects proposed by those other self-serving mugs. The only kick we'll ever get from them will be a great big kick in the guts. Your choice, Old Mate?

**John Heffernan**



# Lions Changeover dinner

Last week Walcha Lions Club held their 65th Changeover with great support from their own members plus Lions guests from Guyra and Armidale Dumaresq Clubs.

Members of Walcha Rotary, Walcha Quota Club, Walcha Support Group and Walcha Westpac Helicopter Support helped to make this an enjoyable evening.

Walcha Support Group and Walcha Westpac Helicopter Support group were presented with a donation from Walcha Lions to help with their fundraising and to help stay afloat, as they are both very supportive of our local area and residents.

This year Walcha Lions Club have also raised money to help other organisations such as cancer research, Save Sight, Melanoma Foundation, Hearing Dogs, McGrath Foundation and Ronald McDonald House just to name a few.

"If it were not for the public who support us with our stalls, catering, Walcha Races and Walcha Show, we would find it hard to be able to support those who need our help," Lion Lloyd Levingston said.

Peter Boyd agreed to a second term as President and there were very few changes to the Board elected for 2023 – 2024.

In his President's address, Peter thanked those who supported the Walcha Lions Club which means a great deal in keeping this club functional. He thanked Vic McIvor for last year's birthday cake, Brian Smith for donating wood to the Lions so they could help out those in times of hardship, all the members for supporting him during the year and to the Lions Ladies for their help when needed.

He went on to thank Ian Bird, Rachael Wellings and Walcha Council for their help to get the Lions Park upgrade completed and looking fabulous.



Lloyd Levingston with Peter Boyd  
Inducting the new board



President Peter Boyd with Carolyn Salter representing Walcha Support Group and Lion John Wark



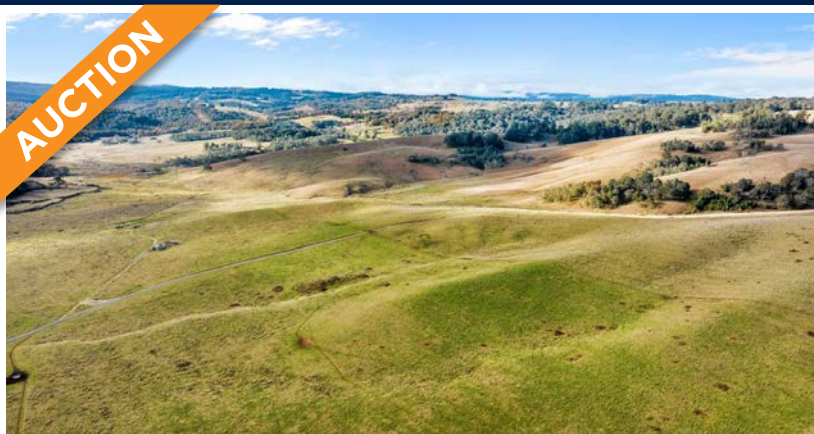
Peter Boyd with Olive Chander representing Walcha Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and John Wark



Lloyd Levingston presenting Years of Service badges

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A great deal of further information is available by the way of an Information Memorandum which can be emailed by request by contacting the selling agent.

**AUCTION – 11am, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Auction held at the Darling Street Community Centre, Tamworth

Address: "Riamukka" 5304 Brackendale Road,

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Video: <https://youtu.be/JbBYxvH3BHs>

Contact: Simon Burke 0427 634 341

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## Walcha/Uralla Rugby League Sponsors Day

# LADIES CHARITY AUCTION

**Saturday 22 July**  
**Walcha-Uralla v Bingara**

**Sponsors invited to a BBQ Lunch**  
**12 noon at Peter Fenwicke Oval**  
**prior to the games**

Ladies League Tag ..... 1.00pm

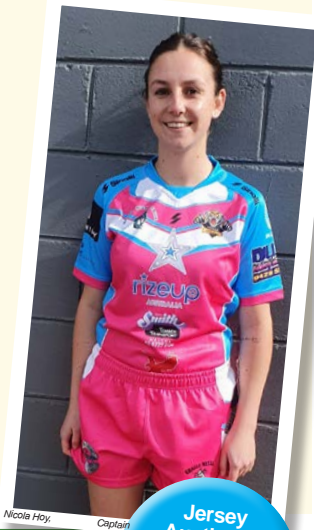
Mens ..... 2.00pm

CHARITY AUCTION - Held at Walcha  
Bowling Club ..... 5.30pm

**Entertainment after the Auction**

**'Charlie Fittler'**

Charities this year are **Rize Up Australia** (An organisation supporting families impacted by Domestic Violence) and also a local charity the Walcha Hospital Auxiliary. All proceeds (after jersey costs) will be donated.



Nicola Hoy

Chapman

Jersey  
Auction to  
commence  
at approx.  
**5.30pm**

# Walcha Council Latest News

## OPERATION PLAN AND BUDGET

During the June Council meeting on Wednesday 28 June, Council adopted the 2023/24 Operation Plan and Budget. This includes the 36.5% Special Rate Variation (SRV) which IPART approved for Walcha Council in full. Council would like to thank residents for their understanding and support during this process – we are committed to remaining a sustainable Council into the future while continuing to deliver the services that make Walcha such a great place to live.

Council continues to push hard to maximise the grant funding opportunities available to us – with a significant \$28M capital works program planned for 2023/24. This includes almost \$1M to seal Aerodrome Road and undertake improvements to the airstrip, almost \$5M in bridge renewal work, \$1.2M in gravel resheeting, \$3.5M to complete the Off-Creek Storage Project, \$3.5M in new pathways and \$6.5M to renew Derby Street. Council are also investing in some much needed plant replacement, with a new grader, roller, loader and trailers on the books for this year. Last month, Council took delivery of our Jet Patcher – a critical machine that will enable us to undertake our own spray sealing works rather than Council engaging contractors every time. This will assist with preventative maintenance of sealed roads, and Council are also looking to use the machine for private works in the future – both of which assist our budget bottom line.

## WASTE STRATEGY

Council also endorsed the Draft Waste Strategy in our June meeting with it now on public exhibition from Thursday 29 June to Friday 28 July 2023.

*Continued Page 7*

# WCS Waste Warriors receive \$13,500 boost

Reduce waste and increase the harvest is the catch-cry for Walcha Central School, thanks to a \$13,500 State Government grant for new student-led sustainability initiatives, announced last week by Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall.

Mr Marshall said the funding, secured under the Sustainable Schools Grant program, would be used to purchase new waste sorting bins for classrooms, install an outdoor greenhouse and extra 10-cent collectable bins around the school's playgrounds.

"The Waste Warriors are a group of Years 3-6 students who conducted a waste audit around the school, guided by Thalgarrah's Environmental Education Officer Matt McKenzie," Mr Marshall said.

"It was wonderful to hear about the student-led initiatives underway at Walcha Central to ensure less waste goes into landfill and more diverted to be recycled or used in the school's gardens.

"The project Reduced Waste, Increased Harvest involves many hands-on activities to improve sustainability within the school and is aligned with the curriculum.

"I'm excited to see the students learn about waste diversion and recycling by literally getting their hands dirty and encouraging their peers to do the same."

Walcha Central School teacher Jennifer Grayling said the program was an opportunity for students to learn the importance of sustainability practises and how small changes could have a big impact.

"This project is giving our students knowledge and skills they can implement at home including the importance of sorting their waste to reduce landfill and the ability to grow their own food," Ms Grayling said.

"It will expand existing infrastructure and establish a permanent self-sustaining garden that generates seasonal produce all year round in

an alpine climate."

Ms Grayling said Reduced Waste, Increased Harvest was aligned with the K-10 curriculum and the fresh produce would be used in the school canteen and food technology classes.

Money raised from the 10-cent collectables was used to fund the school's breakfast club program and would go towards funding the 2023 Hands on Learning program in the high school.



Walcha Central School teacher Jennifer Grayling, left, Principal Amanda Cooper and Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall celebrating the announcement of a \$13,500 State Government grant for a new student-led sustainability program 'Reduced Waste, Increased Harvest.'



Continued from Page 6

The purpose of the strategy is to provide a clear and consistent approach to waste management in the Walcha Local Government Area to ensure fair, equitable, sustainable, and cost neutral waste management services and strategies. Council invites you to comment and express your views on this document. Opening hours are always a hot topic when talking about the Waste Depot so this is your chance to make a comment or suggestion in this regard.

Please address all submissions to the General Manager via email - [council@walcha.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@walcha.nsw.gov.au) OR post: PO Box 2, Walcha 2354

### OFF-CREEK STORAGE

Council have completed Package 1 of the Off-Creek Storage project, being construction of the new dam embankment and spillway. The new dam is starting the 'first-fill' process, while works will now continue on the pump station and river offtake works. So far, the project overall is tracking under our \$11M grant funded budget, with \$9M from NSW and



\$2M from the federal government, though overall progress is lagging a little behind schedule. However, dams are complicated projects to deliver from a regulatory perspective, so the project team have done an exceptional job in keeping this one on track – with opportunity to deliver additional water infrastructure improvements with the 'savings'. Over \$2M has been spent directly in the local economy as well which is a fantastic result.

### DERBY STREET UPGRADE

One of the most exciting projects to be undertaken this financial year will be significant rehabilitation and upgrade of Derby Street, both north and south of the Oxley Hwy, with a combined \$6.5M of grant funding from the NSW and federal governments assigned to the project.

Collins Williams are the design team engaged by Council who are already on the job, reviewing previous works to date and undertaking comprehensive survey and geotechnical assessment to inform the new, revised design which will include storm water improvements, water main replacement, new kerb and gutter, additional marked car spaces and an asphalt surface. Concepts for Derby Street will be available for review in coming weeks and Council are keen to get as much community feedback as possible to make sure we get this right – particularly as all works need to be completed by June 2024. Stay tuned.

*Phillip Hood – Interim General Manager,  
Walcha Council.*

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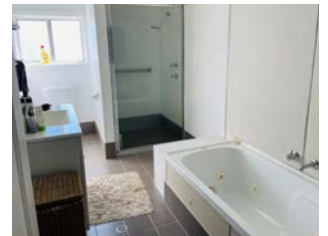
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- Second shower off laundry with second toilet



**\$450,000**



# TRLX celebrates 10 years of operation

The Tamworth Regional Livestock Exchange facility opened in 2013 in Westdale. To celebrate 10 years of operation the Centre awarded some of their most valuable workers who help keep the operation running smoothly.

Walcha local, Denise Cox received an Appreciation Award. Denise has worked at the Tamworth saleyards for an astounding 43 years, the last 10 years at the TRLX. She works as a penciller for some of the selling agents during the weekly fat sales. After the sales Denise delivers sheep for the meat buyers to the major meat works. Denise was thrilled to be recognised for the work she does, and was presented with a trophy. Also recognised was Phillip (Frog) Hart who is an employee of Betts Transport. Frog has been working at the saleyards for 18 years, firstly with Stockmaster and then with Betts Transport for the last nine years. Frog lives in Tamworth, co-ordinating and allocating the stock trucks at both the weekly fat sales and fortnightly store sales for Betts Transport and is a contact point for the Agents.

In presenting the award, Agent Sam Payne said that Frog is such a friendly and easy to approach person. "He is really happy to help people and tries to accommodate everyone involved," Sam said.

One of the very special things Frog has done at the TRLX is to get two special needs boys

involved in the operations. "Terry and James come to the sales with me and I give them jobs, which they really love as it gives them something to do," Frog said.

"I also take them for a drive sometimes in the truck to do some short delivery runs."

Frog was very appreciative of the award and pocket knife he received from TRLX. "It is nice to be appreciated for what you do. I try to help out everyone and work in together with everyone at the yards," he said.

TRLX draws livestock from as far south as Dubbo, deep into the Hunter Valley and as far North as Tenterfield and Goondiwindi. It has experienced great growth since the opening of the new facility 10 years ago and has become one of NSW's strongest store markets.



Above: Pitt Sons Agent Sam Payne presents Frog Hart with an 'On the Rail' trophy for his continued commitment and support to TRLX



Left: Denise Cox with her trophy in Appreciation for her work at TRLX

Photo: Judy Lisle

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- Well established veggie gardens and chook pen



Laing+Simmons  
Armidale

### OPEN FOR INSPECTION

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Everyone welcome

CONTACT: Hayley Bird 0439 833 379





# RUGBY REPORT

## WALCHA v NARRABRI

By Eric the Spider

Walcha headed to Narrabri on Saturday for Round 11 of the Central North competition. With both teams fighting for a Top 4 position it was an important game for the Rams.

Narrabri began strongly regaining their own kick-off and immediately putting pressure on the Walcha defence. Some strong tackling from the Rams held the Narrabri attack off for a number of phases, even holding them up over the line forcing a drop out. Unfortunately the sustained pressure became too much and Narrabri crossed early in the match for the first try. Walcha 0 Narrabri 5. This try woke the Rams up and they began to work their way into the game. Some strong carries from Sam 'Twinkle toes' Colwell and Sione 'big Ulu' Kamoto gave Walcha some good field position. Some excellent handling from the Rams unleashed the Walcha attack which saw Wally "the slippery Somerton sheep Breeder" score an acrobatic try in the corner. Walcha 5, Narrabri 8. The remainder of the first half saw both teams battling for field position and possession. Some big defence from Harry 'Kingswood' King and Henry 'big country' Leslie made it difficult for the Narrabri attack, repeatedly forcing them back. The halftime score remained unchanged. Walcha 5 Narrabri 8.

The second half began with Narrabri holding onto the ball for a long period, applying pressure to the Walcha defence. The Walcha Rams held strong, continuously repelling the Narrabri attack, both out wide and in close. Matty 'lil Tis' Tisdell was having a great game at fullback, marshaling the defence well and releasing pressure through his tactical kicking. Walcha managed to wrestle the momentum back off the Narrabri side putting together a number of phases and making their way up the field with some good hard running. Eventually the backs and forwards linked up out wide, running the ball through the hands and Benny "how do you spell his name?" Barber finished the try in the corner. Walcha 12, Narrabri 8. The next 15 minutes saw the Walcha Rams switch off the intensity and the Narrabri side managed to run in two quick tries to take back the lead leaving Walcha chasing the game late. Dom "skate park rat" Bower controlled the game well, kicking for territory and continuously asking questions of the Narrabri defence. Archie "sheep man" Lawrence had a tough game not giving up the entire time, throwing his body at every collision. Sam 'muscle man' Lomax had an excellent game in both attack and defence putting on some big hits and turning the ball over as well as making a number of metres with his strong carries. In the end Walcha could not recover from their lapse of concentration and Narrabri ended up winning a hard fought contest 20 – 15.

3 – Sam Lomax, 2 – Wally Davidson, 1 – Ed Churchill. Players' Player – Sam Lomax and Wally Davidson.

**The Rams have the bye this weekend and then host Scone at home the following weekend.**

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Walcha Rams player Dom Bower



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**Sad to hear my 'across the street' neighbour Phillip 'Blue' Hoy** left this world last week at the age of 78 years. A service will be held for Phillip at St Andrews Anglican Church from 12 noon this Friday, followed by a continuation of the celebration of his life at the Bowling Club. Sincere condolences to Blue's brother Graham, his three sons Michael, Craig and Simon, their families along with his many friends. May Phillip Andrew Hoy Rest in Peace.

...

**Congratulations to Walcha Central School athlete Jack Bullen** who has been selected in a Presidents Invitational Rugby League Team to play in the NSW CHS trials at Wollongong early in August. Jack is currently recovering from a small fracture to his right arm suffered at the recent NSW U/15s Rugby Union Championships while representing New England. That didn't stop Jack competing in the discus event at the recent WCS athletics carnival where he finished third while competing left handed.

...

**At that same carnival Secondary School Sporting Coordinator Bonnie Brown** showed her much younger opponents a clean pair of heels when she lined up in the Senior Girls 100 metre sprint. Way to go Bonnie – keep those youngsters on their toes.

...

**They may not have made the podium for a medal** but the North West Lawn Bowls team, which included Walcha Bowler Sari Andrews, went oh so close at the NSWCHS Championships at Dubbo last week. North West finished top of Pool B after defeating Riverina 26 – 11, Hunter 36 – 7 and Sydney South West 23 – 15 on Day One.

...

**Heavy rain interrupted the final two days** of the tournament which had to be moved from grass greens at Club Dubbo to the much faster synthetic green at the Sporties Club which didn't help North West's cause. They were defeated by South Coast 23 – 15 in their Semi Final and then went down to Riverina 14 – 7 in the rain shortened play off for third and fourth.

...

**Playing lead for the North West No 1 team**, consisting of four players, Sari was judged to be one of the top bowlers in her position during the nine team competition. She was awarded a Bronze Certificate for making the North West team for three years running, which hopefully will become a fourth next year when Sari enters Year 12.

...

**Due to the lack of space the dancing performance** of Tony 'Larry' Asmus at the Oxley Bowls Club in Tamworth while cleaning up at the club's raffle night had to be left out last week. Apparently 'Backhanded' Larry busted some moves on the dance floor, anywhere from Fred Astaire to Peter Garrett and there was video evidence to prove it. Which hopefully hasn't been erased.

...

**Following the recent visit to Walcha Central School** to deliver her regular scripture message, my much better half Linda was thrilled to see how many kids were enjoying the school's Sensory Garden and outdoor classroom equipment. Linda reckons the school P&C along with anyone else who was involved in the project deserve a big pat on the back for their efforts. Your wish is my command dear.

...

**What a turn around in the space of six weeks** by the North Queensland Cowboys who belted the West Tigers 74 – 0 at Queensland Country Bank Stadium last weekend. Back in May the boot was on the other foot when Tigers bashed the Cowboys 66 – 18 at Leichhardt Oval. Tigers supporters shouldn't feel too bad though back in 1935 St George defeated Canterbury 91 – 6. Well not too bad to a point anyway.

...

**Former Walcha Council employee**, Pool Manager and fellow Manly Sea Eagles Supporter Deon Lawrence was farewelled by the Council Social Club at the 'Newie' last Friday Night, where a few beverages and snacks were enjoyed. 'Longhandle' won't be out of work for long despite moving to North Haven, he commences with the Parks and Gardens staff at Wauchope this Friday.

...

## Walcha Garden Club Clippings

The main topic on everyone's lips is how cold it has been in Walcha these past few weeks. For some plants this is of great benefit. Bulbs enjoy the winter as it helps with their flower development. On the other end of the scale, we have plants that enjoy being dormant in winter. Any deciduous trees, shrubs and certain perennials will not grow or leaf up unless the soil is warm enough. As one of our former local gardeners used to say, "the garden is resting until the next major show begins in spring". In the meantime, keep warm and enjoy reading those garden books you've been collecting!

As we have passed the shortest day of the year it is time to think about planting, moving, and pruning roses. Mid to late July is the best time for this. Choose a site that will have at least 6 – 8 hours of sunlight in the growing months. Roses that have leathery thick leaves are a good choice as they have better disease resistance. Hopefully you have prepared your site a few weeks ago to plant new rose bushes. Incorporate plenty of compost or aged manures along with some blood and bone to the bottom of the hole. Cover with fresh soil and make a mound in the centre of the hole. Rehydrate your rose plants in water for 24 – 48 hours prior to planting. Trim the thick roots and leave the fine hair roots. Some plants may not need this. Place the roots of the plant downwards over the mound. The graft should be 2.5cm above ground level to prevent suckers growing. To make it easier, some people use a leveling stick. Partially backfill the hole and water in well. After a few minutes completely backfill and gently firm down the soil. Give the rose plant another water. Mulch plants well with either lucerne or sugar cane. Make sure the mulch is

slightly away from the stem to prevent any fungal disease. Aftercare is to water new plants regularly at the base of the plant. Your new rose plant won't require fertilising until it flowers. Moving rose bushes can be a daunting task. Here are a few things to remember. Firstly, prepare your new site as explained above. Water the area around the old rose well. This helps with an easy removal. Prune before you move. Remove all old and diseased canes that have a greyish look. Leave three of last season's outward facing canes on the plant and prune back to 15 – 20cm in height. Complete your planting as described above.

Pruning can also be daunting so let's make it easy. Your pruning equipment should be cleaned and well maintained. Sharp secateurs, loppers and saws all help in making the job easy. It's also best for your plants. Prune as above. Don't be afraid to reduce the plant as this helps rejuvenate them. It won't kill them! After you have finished pruning then spray with lime sulphur to help prevent fungal disease, pests such as scale and mites. Lastly, remove all old prunings to prevent spreading disease.

The Walcha Garden Club's next meeting is this Friday 7 July, at the Walcha Bowling Club, commencing 9.30am. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF VENUE. New members are most welcome. Enquiries: D Lisle on 0429 799 083 or M Cawley 0428 876 769.

### Lament:

Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realised. *Allan Armitage.*





## Wednesdays Golf

It was a hard decision to make to play golf last Wednesday, but we went ahead and hoped the heavens wouldn't open up. We played Stableford, Town versus Country for Julie Olrich and Julie Hoad's trophy. The winners on the day were Country 4 to Town 3.

The Country winner was Polly Locke with 40 points and the Town winner was Robyn Salt with 37 points. Sweepstakes went to Cark Street with 35, Vicki Heffernan 32, and Lorraine Walshe 31. NTP on 3 was Sue Partridge and Penny King took out the second shot on 18.

Today we are playing a 4BBB Ambrose for Polly Locke and Penny King's trophy.

## Bowls

### Draw for Saturday 1:00pm start

Triples Championships: D Bird, S & K Goodwin v I Bird, J and T Asmus. S Bath, K Creighton and G Natty v N Dunn, G Marshall and N Dunn. E O'Keefe, N & B Goodwin v G Bird, G Carter and R Kerr.

## At the Nineteenth

A Three Person Ambrose event was played for trophies donated by Cross Bros Butchery plus one old Cross (Simeon) last Sunday where Team Stackman, Michael, Timmy and his son Isaac carded a 55 2/3 nett to win the competition.

Runners-up were Drew Bird, Jamie Bowden and Kyle Goodwin with a 59 2/5 nett, while the remaining sweepstake prizes went to Margaret Davidson, Jenny Lisle and John McCormack 60 2/3, and Julie Hoad, Cheryl and Doug McDonald 62 1/2. Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Jamie Bowden (3), Tim Stackman (7), Andrew Robertson (9), Owen Presnell (16) and Michael Stackman (18).

No Nine-hole competition last Saturday, but the previous weekend John McCormack accumulated 17 Stableford points to take out the event just ahead of Jenny Lisle who counted out Margaret Higgins after both players racked up 16 points.

This Sunday a Stroke Medal round is scheduled where Doug McDonald is in charge of supplying the prize.

## Rugby League

The Walcha/Uralla Rugby League club travelled to Armidale to take on Narwan in their Group 19 fixtures and came away with two solid victories.

Tigeroos fullback Shuaib Rhodes-Swain opened the scoring when he raced 60 metres down the sideline before touching down under the posts and then landing the conversion.

The home side responded with a couple of tries one of which was converted to give Narwan a 10 – 6 advantage after 24 minutes.

In the space of ten minutes leading into half time Tigeroos five eighth Jack Doran and Rhodes-Swain scored tries, which winger Harley Carlon converted. Just as the half time hooter was about to sound Carlon raised the flags with a successful penalty attempt from 38 metres out.

Midway through the second session the Tigeroos had increased their 20 – 10 half time lead to 38 – 10 through two tries to centre Zac Walters and one to Carlon, who landed all three conversions.

Late in the match Narwan crossed for a couple of consolation tries to finalise the scoring at 38 – 20.

Coach Scotty Swain was very happy with the team's win, he felt all players had a good dig, especially halves Keirin Stiff and Jack Doran who he singled out for special mention.

Best and Fairest Points: Group – 3 Keirin Stiff, 2 Zac Walters. Club – 3 Jamie Robertson and Players' Player, 2 Harley Carlon and 1 Kaleb Doran.

## Jillaroos

Spectators had barely taken their seats when speedster Shae Partridge cruised over to touchdown from 45 metres out, before Joscisca Matapakia raised the flags giving the Jillaroos an early 6 – 0 lead.

Just four minutes had elapsed on the clock when Bella Swift produced a good run down the sideline to score a try giving her team a handy 10 – 0 advantage. Four minutes remained in the first half when the hosts responded with a converted try to reduce the difference to four points while oranges were taken.

It was 19 minutes into the second half before the scorers were bothered when Finlai Bird touched down in the Bunnings corner to put the Jillaroos in front 14 – 6.

Just as the timekeeper was about to sound the fulltime hooter, Narwan registered a converted try to finalise the scoring at 14 – 12. Best and Fairest Points: Group – 3 Jojo

Matapakia, 1 Finlai Bird, Club 3 Shae Partridge, 2 Jorjie Ledingham. Players' Player Finlai Bird.

With three rounds remaining Tingha are undefeated at the top of the Ladies League Tag competition ladder followed by Warialda 16, Guyra and Inverell 13, Jillaroos 12, Bingara and Glen Innes 11, Narwan 10, Moree 2 and Armidale 0.

All teams in Group 19 have this weekend off before resuming the following weekend where the Jillaroos and Tigeroos travel to Mead Park in Glen Innes on Sunday 16 July.

## Darts

Last Thursday night started off our new format for Walcha Darts at the Apsley Hotel.

We played a night of 2 Life Singles and the results were, Champion Charlie Brown, 2nd Tim Baumer and coming in 3rd Glenn Olrich.

High scores for the night were Charlie Brown 100, 140, 140, 100 and 55 peg out, Tim Baumer 4 x 100, Rob Stuart 100, Karl Anderson 100, 105, 130, 140 and 140, Vince Costigan 117, 115 and 71 peg out, Glenn Olrich 6 x 100, 120 and 102 and Neil Dark 115 and 133.

A big thank you to Ganesh at the Apsley Hotel for hosting the first night and helping out with sponsorship for the night. This week we play at the Bowling Club. Names in by 7.00pm, \$5.00 entry and everyone is welcome.

## THE APSLEY Advocate

### DEADLINES

4.30pm Monday for editorial, advertising and sport



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## thumbs



- To Julie Blake and the staff at Riverview for the great job they do.
- From a visitor to the Information Centre – "Compliments to the Council and staff on the wonderful clean and well maintained public toilets in McHattan Park".
- To Energy Co for the inadequate maps not indicating exactly how far the transmission towers are from our wonderful town.

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.





## Funeral Notice

**HOY: Phillip Andrew**

09/11 /1944 – 28/06/2023

Of Apsley Street, Walcha.

Dearly loved husband of Marilyn.

Loving father and father-in-law of Michael & Sally-Ann, Craig & Erner and Simon & Christine.

Adored grandfather and great-grandfather of their families.

Much loved brother of Graham and Lance Hoy (dec'd)

Aged 78 years

Funeral Service to be held at St Andrews Anglican Church, Walcha, Friday, 7th July 2023 commencing at 12:00pm

Piddington's AFDA 6772 2288

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of

**Gordon Wilfred Hawkins**

30.6.44 - 3.7.20

Three years has passed when we said goodbye to you. Always remembering and loving you. Wife Fay, daughter Leonie, son Trevor and families.

## Public Notices

**DR GENEVIEVE FREER**

Phone 6777 2068 0429 668 583

**Church Service** at Woolbrook Church, 2.00pm, this Sunday. For info Graham Barnes 6777 2539.

### DO YOU NEED SOME PAINTING DONE?

Dean Bofinger is currently back in Walcha doing more painting for me and is happy to stay longer should anyone need some work done. I highly recommend him. He is reliable, thorough and a top quality craftsman. Anyone interested call Dean on 0437 406 753 or me Noelene Brady on 0429 772 119.

## For Sale

**Firewood** – Top of the range dry wood in log form. Delivered to town. Phone John on 0427 500 110.

**DJ'S Firewood** – Best wood in the district. Bulk only – minimum 6m<sup>3</sup>, maximum 10m<sup>3</sup>. Deliver Walcha Saturday OR pick-up from Niangala Saturday 1.00 – 4.00pm. Phone 0427 335 631 or 6769 2395.

**Laver pullets.** All breeds. 20 wks. Delivered Friday 21/7/23. Phone Jim 0428 194 105.

## Give Away

**Male Kelpie** – does yardwork. 2yo, must go to good home. Phone Ching 6777 2896.

## Expressions of Interest

### Walcha Council Expression of Interest for Photographer



Walcha Council wishes to invite applications from local photographers to submit an expression of interest to take photos for the Walcha Preschool in 2023. The successful photographer must hold a valid Working with Children Check. Photographs are required to be taken during Term 3 and delivered to the Preschool before the end of October.

As children attend preschool on different days, photography sessions will need to be arranged to ensure all children are able to be photographed. This means attending the preschool each day for one week.

An ability to take creative portraits of children aged 3 to 5 years old is a must. Photos that are required to be taken and printed are:

- Individual and sibling photos - 3 images per child for approximately 79 children (print size 5 x 7")
- Class Group photos (two classes) – 10 images (print size 8 x 10")
- Group and individual staff photos – 1 image (print size 8 x 10")
- Special orders (reprints) from families are a possibility, and would generally require delivery before the end of school in December.

Please include in your Expression of Interest:

- a cover letter outlining your previous experience
- Working with Children Check (volunteer check acceptable)
- examples of previous work and references if possible
- hourly rate for photography sessions
- cost per print and reprints of various sizes
- Please indicate if you are able to offer a digital copy of photos as an option, and the cost of this.

Please ensure your time costs for editing and printing photos are included in the cost per print.

Expressions of Interest can be emailed to council@walcha.nsw.gov.au before Friday 21st July 2023. For further information, please contact Karen Kermode on 0497 772 157.

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

## Meetings

**AGM** for Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Walcha Volunteer Support Group to be held 18th July 2023 at Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha at 5:30pm. All welcome. Olive Chandler.

## Public Notice

### Introduction to Art Course



Six (6) week course. Sundays 1.00 to 4.00pm starting 6 August at Community Care Rooms 11s Middle Street. All materials supplied, \$500 per attendee. \*Limited places available so book your spot ASAP. Please contact Sue for further information:

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## church notices



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9.30am Holy Communion and Family Service. 2.00pm Nowendoc.

All welcome. Phone 6777 2543 or email: [walchaanglican@gmail.com](mailto:walchaanglican@gmail.com)

### PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha Sunday 9.30am.

Woolbrook Sunday 2pm

All welcome. Phone 6777 2539.

**CATHOLIC** Sunday 10:00am Mass.



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**Mon – Wed** 4.00pm – Close

**Thursday 6** 12.00pm – Close

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

DARTS COMP 7AM - 7.30 START

**Friday 7** 2.00pm – Close

**2.00pm** Bingo

**6.00pm** Bistro

- Deluxe steak sandwich
- Crumbed whiting fillet
- Marinated pork spare ribs
- Normal menu available, takeaway and delicious dessert.

**6.00pm** Tickets available for raffles –  
 meat and veg trays

**6.00pm** Free Bingo

**7.00pm** Raffles drawn & Members Draw

**Saturday 8** 11.00am – Close

**6:00pm** Bistro

**2-4pm TOSS THE BOSS**

**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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