

THE APSLEY Advocate

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1 November 2023

A golden performance

Young Blaine Cooney has tasted gold, spinning his way to the top of his age group in the State last week at the NSW PSSA Athletics Championships in Sydney.

At only 11 years of age, Blaine threw a massive 35.99 metres, and hasn't wiped the smile off his face yet. Blaine has every reason to be proud, practising on his back verandah at Woolbrook, spinning the discus into the back paddock towards the Stampede ground every afternoon. The first time he was even able to throw in a proper discus net was just over two weeks before the State Championships when he qualified in Tamworth.

In an 'Eddie the Eagle' style performance, Blaine took on the best in the state, many who have access to state-of-the-art facilities to train in every day, and threw all six shots without a foul, improving his distance by an astounding 7.5 metres from his first throw to the last!

The Year 6, Walcha Central School student is now off to Tasmania from 23-27 November to compete at the National Championships against the best in Australia.

He could yet be competing in two events at the Nationals, placing fourth in the shot put, so he is first reserve to take up a place in the shot put team as well. What a sensational effort Blaine!



Quota Christmas Markets are back

From Walcha Quota Club

The Quota ladies will be again holding the very popular Christmas Market this year on the 25 November in McHattan Park.

Quota Markets have been running for 22 years, our first market was held in 2001 with around 15 stalls, it has grown over the years to be known as one of the best markets in the New England and now averaging 35 stalls.

There are a number of stalls already registered with great variety and plenty of choice for Christmas shopping, including Walcha Coffee and face painting for the children. Many of our old favourites are coming plus lots of new and exciting stalls. Old favourite Phillip and Jill with their sharpening van will be there, so remember to bring along your knives, scissors and garden tools to keep Phillip happy.

We must acknowledge and remember Irina Corlette.

Irina had been one of our great supporters over the years, she loved the markets and we will certainly miss her cheerfulness and smiling face. Thank you Irina, our thoughts go out to Andrew. We will have a donation box for cancer in Irina's honour at the market.

Our market day is one of Quota's major fundraising events, with all profits kept in our local community to support schools, organisations and people in need. One in particular is the Walcha Youth Group, a volunteer organisation run by Graham and Karen Barnes.

The Quota ladies will be offering bacon and egg rolls for breakfast, tea, coffee, treats for morning tea and a sausage sizzle for lunch.

The market runs from 8am to 2pm, so come and join us on Saturday 25 November for brekky, morning tea or lunch or just sit and listen to Barb Dunn and her beautiful music.



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around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

If you live in the Woolbrook or Bendemeer area then you got right under the bulk of the storms that passed through last week receiving anywhere from 60-70mm. South of town notched up close to 40-50mm on the Topdale Road while sadly closer to town only got the 8-15mm, which all still counts. You could smell the confidence growing in everyone that it still can rain, and the forecast for the next 10 days looks encouraging. The hard pill to swallow is that I personally looked at the forecast rain which totalled 80mm over 3-4 days, the next morning it was back to 10mm. I really don't think they know what is going to eventuate but the new story regarding the El Nino is that it will break down over summer and the long-range forecast looks promising for next year.

Queensland is literally alight with 28 bush fires currently burning across the state with some of the worst fires located in southern QLD. The fire raging around Tara has destroyed 44 homes, killed 2 people and burned over 20,000 hectares. These conditions aren't over yet with QLD set to simmer through high temperatures into the late thirties this week. An urgent plea from a Droughtmaster stud in southern QLD has asked to sell their entire herd to whoever, after being burnt out completely. They asked not to ask a price on the cattle but make a decent offer which can be found on social media. Numerous people are calling for the government to do more, especially the fact that residents in the Tara district mentioned there had been no controlled burning completed for 10 years, that is a fire storm waiting to happen. We have a long hot summer ahead with a predicted below average rainfall which I'm guessing we will only see more of these devastating fires to come.

The EU free trade agreement has stalled before it began with Australia not agreeing to the terms that the EU had tabled. The Australian red meat industry would have been at a disadvantage when compared to other countries such as New Zealand, Canada and South America. Canada for instance has a duty-free access for 50,000t for beef. Australia has access to 7,150t high quality beef quota with a 20% in quota tariff and shared access to a further 48,200t of grain fed beef. Currently we have 19,186t quota of sheep and goat meat with no in quota tariff and all Australia is trying to do is get an agreement that puts us on parity with our competition and increase quotas. These markets are very important for Australian beef and sheep, especially if we can increase the tonnage into the EU without tariffs. Word is that the EU would like to be more specific in terms of grass-fed quota to grain fed which I think we need to be a part of considering the quality of our grass-fed beef and lamb.

Mr Albanese is enjoying spending the Australian tax payers money visiting the United States just last week and is soon to head off to China, being the first Prime Minister in 7 years to do so. I understand that we need to forge new relationships and trade agreements, but Australia cannot and shouldn't be the negotiator between these two heavy weights. Lets hope he can get these large countries buying more of Australia's great produce and not just our minerals.

The beef market responded to the rain event even though it wasn't as wider spread as hoped. We saw a better clearance online on Friday considering cattle sold on Friday which didn't get a bid the week before. I believe we have seen the bottom of both markets and will see some great improvement in the new year, but only if it rains. 1800 cattle were yarded in Tamworth on Monday with a firm to slightly dearer market for the quality stock. Angus weaner steers topped at 246c/kg while feeder steers made to 225c/kg. Feeder heifers topped at 190c/kg while heavy kill cattle made to 218c/kg. The best of the cows made to 189c/kg, up nearly 10c/kg on the previous week. 3450 sheep and lambs were yarded in Tamworth on Monday and sold to a slightly cheaper market. Young trade weight lambs sold from \$70-105 while heavy export lambs topped at \$146. Heavy mutton sold to dearer trends, topping at \$52 for merino wethers while light mutton lost ground and sold from \$14-18. The better conditioned sheep made from \$30-50.

CBA Walcha branch changes

CBA's Walcha branch will soon become one of 23 new multi-channel branches opening up their phone lines to assist Australians across the country.

Branch staff will serve local customers in person from 9:30am to 1:00pm, before switching to phone-based services from 2:00pm, where they will join CBA's Australian-based Financial Assistance and Direct Banking teams.

Employees will be trained to help customers with a range of banking needs on the telephone, such as everyday banking or providing extra and early support with tailored solutions to help customers meet their financial commitments.

Walcha Branch Manager, Anne Martin said, "Not only are we here to help our Walcha community every morning, we'll also soon have the chance to help Australians across the country every afternoon."

In Walcha, more customers visit the branch in the morning, with almost three-quarters of senior customers and more than half of small business customers doing their banking before 1pm.

"We are proud to serve the local community and are here to help customers find easy and convenient banking solutions as they adjust to our new schedule," Anne said.

Outside of the new trading hours, Bank@Post will continue to be available for local customers who prefer face-to-face banking at the Walcha Post Office. The branch's deposit ATM will also remain available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



By December CBA will have almost 400 branch staff across regional Australia working in 113 multi-channel branches, to support customers locally and across Australia. This will be a 40 per cent increase in the number of regional branch staff who also have specialised training in helping customers on the telephone, broadening their skills and career opportunities.

"We pride ourselves on great customer service, and multi-channel branches allow us to build on our commitment to keep regional branches open until the end of 2026 at the earliest - while providing customers with the best support we can, when and where they need it," Mr Jones said.

The new trading hours will be effective from 20 November 2023.

Power outage postponed

An Essential Energy power outage which was scheduled for the Walcha district next Monday 6 November has been postponed to a Sunday later in November.

Mayor, Eric Noakes has been in contact with Essential Energy representatives who confirmed that specialist line crews have been working in the area in recent weeks, using live line techniques to complete much of the program of works for the area without the need for a scheduled power outage. However the tasks that remain do require the power to be switched off, to ensure the safety of the crews.

Due to the nature of the work to be completed, it is not possible to safely undertake the works at night.

The outage will be postponed to a Sunday in November on a date to be advised pending availability of staff to minimise interruptions to our CBD, businesses and schools.



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Remembrance Day next Saturday

From David Campbell
Walcha RSL Sub-Branch

This Remembrance Day, Saturday 11th November 2023, will commemorate the 105th anniversary of the end of World War I.

The Walcha RSL Sub-Branch will be holding a commemorative service at the Walcha and District War Memorial site, commencing at 10.50am. Everyone is welcome to attend.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

All you need to know about Nuclear Energy

Next Thursday, 9th November, you will have the opportunity to hear from one of Australia's leading experts on Nuclear Energy in Armidale. Founder of Nuclear for Climate Australia and past President of the Australian Nuclear Association, Robert Parker will be speaking at the Armidale Bowling Club on 'Avoiding an Energy Blunder Downunder' from 6pm.

Rob holds a Master of Nuclear Science from the Australian National University and has travelled the world visiting nuclear power plants, attending meetings, conferences and conducting study tours. Rob conveys his immense knowledge in plain, easy to understand terminology, with this talk being a must to inform yourself on all there is to understand about nuclear power generation, which could be up and running within 11-15 years if Australia acts now.

Rob explained that there are 33 countries worldwide harnessing nuclear power from 440 reactors. He said that nuclear power is growing strongly in China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Turkey, Egypt and Romania. "Australia is the only G20 country that hasn't gone nuclear."

Rob will speak on four topics in Armidale:

1. A brief restatement of our need for emissions reduction. A discussion on the incredible energy density of nuclear fissions compared to all other energy sources and why this results in our most sustainable and environmentally beneficial energy source, supported by results from United Nations studies.
2. The economics and operation of both electricity energy systems based on 100% renewables with ones that include nuclear energy. "In essence, a reliance on 100% wind and solar will cost at least twice that of a system that includes nuclear energy and will be ten times more materials intensive."
3. Looking at a clear concept for teaming up with Canada to power Australia with nuclear energy. Canada has similar laws, cultural values and is an equal economic partner in any future energy projects. "We visited Ontario in August, met with Todd Smith, the Energy Minister, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Ontario Power Generation and General Electric. Together they are constructing the first of four BWRX 300 small nuclear power plants at Darlington on the shores of Lake Ontario beside their existing CANDU plant. The safety and economic benefits of these new small plants will be discussed.
4. My talk will conclude with an outline of the benefits to rural and regional Australia from a program of nuclear energy based on both some small and some larger plants. We will look at how it benefits community growth, stability and education. Best of all it eliminates the need to industrialise our landscapes and requires very few changes to our existing grid.

Robert's concluding remarks were: "Nuclear is the most expensive way to create cheap electricity, whereas Renewables are the cheapest way to create expensive electricity."

Order now so you don't miss Gingerbread afternoon

Ladies get your friends together and order your kits - gingerbread house decorating is returning on Sunday 3rd December, 2pm - 4pm at the Anglican church hall, South Street. Women of all ages and girls aged 10 and above are invited to come along.

Gingerbread kits include a generous bag of decoration lollies, wrap, expert instruction and design ideas. Guest speaker Steph Hunt will share with us over a delicious afternoon tea.



Order your \$30 kit now by direct deposit to 'Anglican Parish of Walcha' BSB: 932 000, Account: 703607 (Reference: GB + your name) or cash payment into this account at a Regional Australia Bank branch.

After you've paid, please email or text the name/s of the person attending and number of kits purchased to Marg Wellings on 0484 557 099 or mygunyah53@gmail.com (if you're sharing a kit with someone please indicate this).

Last year we sold out so order your gingerbread kit early to avoid disappointment.

We warmly welcome those who would like to join us for a relaxed afternoon but don't wish to create a gingerbread house too.

Garden Club Clippings

The drier than usual season has now thrown up another set of challenges for local gardeners. Water restrictions mean we need to think again about how waterwise our gardens really are. It is always best to give plants a deep soaking rather than a dribble of water. Only water when the soil feels dry. Some plants are good indicators of when to water. Yarrow (Achillia) is one example of this. It is often referred to as the 'water timer' plant. Grey leafed plants in general are excellent to grow as they can withstand the heat and generally need less water. Lavenders, lamb's ear, Centaurea ('dusty miller'), Convolvulus cneorum, eremophila (Emu bush), Teucrium fruticans (Tree germander), Gazanias, Santolina (cotton lavender), pigface (these come in a multitude of colours), and wormwoods are all excellent choices. Dierama or Fairy Fishing Rod, is another plant that does well once established. It can nearly thrive on neglect once it is established. It has waving wands of flowerheads which come in in tones of white, pink, salmon, purple and red. They look fabulous planted next to a pond. Once established, all these plants add both colour and contrast in the garden. Remember to mulch your garden as much as you can to help with moisture retention.



The ever-changing weather conditions we've been experiencing means we need to look at how we can maintain our gardens with healthy growth and flowering conditions. If you are lucky enough to have a lawn that needs mowing, then consider leaving it longer as it shades the grass. It is best to mow less often and on a higher setting and leaving the grass clippings in situ is an excellent idea. Water early in the day to reduce humidity and the chance of developing fungal diseases. If the soil is becoming hydrophobic (water repellent) then there are a couple of things to do to allow better hydration for the plant. Soak the soil with a wetting agent then use your garden fork to loosen the soil. Follow up all this with some compost and finally some mulch. Staking plants when there is high wind is very important as well.

In the veggie garden it's time to plant out your tomatoes. We have still been experiencing the odd frost in some areas of the district so have some sort of protection on hand ready to cover your plants. Frost cloth is readily available from your hardware store. As tomato plants are big feeders it is best to prepare the soil by adding aged manure and compost before planting seedlings. Place your stake in the ground before planting so as not disturb the roots later. Tomato plants can be planted deeper as they will grow more roots along the stem which in turn creates a stronger plant. Once planted, water them in with a fish emulsion solution. If possible, mulch with lucerne hay as it provides nitrogen to the plant.

The next Walcha Garden Club meeting is being held this Friday, 3rd November at Rob & Suzanne Elliott's, "The Folly", 12743 Oxley Highway, Walcha, first house on your right after the Tia Diggings Rd turn-off. Cars will be departing McHattan Park at 9.30am. Bring your cup, lunch, and chair. New members are most welcome. Enquiries D. Bazeley: 0404 464865, D. Lisle: 0429 799083.



a journey of learning from K-12 WALCHA CENTRAL School NEWS

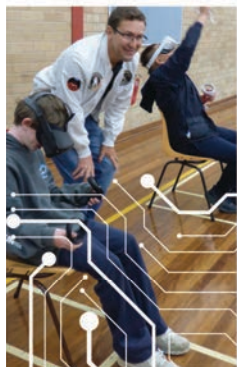
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Students in years 5-10 participated in the space 2101 program, presented by the University of New England's STEMpunks team 19 Oct. In the fun and engaging STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Program, students learnt new STEM skills and solved real world problems. They learnt from award winning teachers and leading industry experts and applied new Design and STEM skills to produce innovative and creative solutions.



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- Op Shop will be having a fashion parade with items on sale to buy.
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If you know anyone in the area with children please pass
the invite on, looking forward to seeing you here!

Town & Country Ladies Luncheon

From President, Bec Whillock

We were so excited to have this years Luncheon in a beautiful garden again, thank you to the Betts Family for having us. We hope everyone had a lovely day and used it as a chance to slow down and reconnect with family and friends.

Biennially the committee choose a fundraising focus, we are currently directing any funds raised towards 'For our community' projects. Last financial year we put money into the Walcha Clinic, programs that needed funding in both schools, youth sponsorships and supporting our local Gubi Day Care Centre.

Also, if we are approached by community members or organisations and we have the funds, we endeavour to support their projects. For example, supporting the Walcha Show to make the skin check truck free for community members next year.

We also use our incorporated, not for profit status to apply for grants that generally can't be applied for by individuals, bringing more money into the community.

Photos: Captured by Laura Amy



Year 5-6 excursion to Coffs Harbour

From Dallas Hyatt, Principal

What a fantastic four days for St Patrick's Year 5-6 students at Coffs Harbour last week. Even though the weather at times wasn't favourable to some of the activities that we were involved with, our time was full of highlights. The students thoroughly enjoyed being airborne on the zipline, freefalling over twelve metres down the vertical drop, rolling down a steep incline in a Zorb Ball, getting downright dirty on the commando course as well as testing their patience and their ability to cope with pressure attempting to complete the various set challenges in the *Minute to Win It* workshop.

Students were fascinated with a story a fisherman told us about how he lost his eye fighting with a 300kg swordfish! We saw various kinds of plants at the Botanical Gardens as well as dolphins and seals performing a wide range of tricks at the Dolphin Conservation Marine Park. There was ice cream and sushi to be had at the Park Beach Shopping Centre

and we explored the wildlife (including leeches) at the Dorrigo National Park. Emily demonstrated she was a great bowerbird protecting her eggs from predators with the disadvantage of wearing goggles that inhibited her sight. She admitted later, that she could still see out of the goggles.

This is just the tip of the iceberg on what we did and we know the students will have a lot of great memories of what went on, including some terrible renditions of several songs.

Again, thank you to all of the students who made our time away a great one and I was very proud to accompany you all. Also thank you to Mrs Davey who made a lot of sacrifices to ensure that she could join us. Finally, thank you to all of the parents who made the big commitment to ensuring that their child was packed and ready to go on Tuesday morning. It is very much appreciated.



Olivia and Tylar strapped in ready to go in the Zorb ball



Hamish and Albert surviving the zip line



The Year 5-6 students enjoying a shower after completing the Commando Course

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NOTICE OF LEVEL 2 WATER RESTRICTIONS

Section 137

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Due to warm weather conditions and the reduced water levels/flows in the Macdonald River; Level 2 Water Restrictions have been put in place for consumers connected to the Walcha town water supply. Level 2 Water Restrictions have taken effect from: -

Wednesday, 25 October 2023
(Adopted by Council on this day)

1. Dripper systems and hoses may be used for up to 2 hours per day.
2. Unattended watering systems of any nature, including sprinklers and underground watering systems; may not be used.
3. A permit is required for filling a swimming pool or spa over 2,000L. Top up via hoses is only allowed for 2 hours per day.
4. Properties with alternate water supplies must display a sign clearly visible from the street.

Note: No restrictions shall apply where there is a risk of an accident, fire or hazard to health, safety or the environment.

Use of water contrary to this notice may result in restriction of the water supply and penalties.

WALCHA COUNCIL
PO BOX 2
WALCHA NSW 2354

PHILLIP HOOD
GENERAL MANAGER

INTRODUCTION OF LEVEL 2 WATER RESTRICTIONS

The water level in the Macdonald River has dropped to 3.25m over the past three weeks, which is the trigger point for the implementation of Level 2 Water Restrictions; as per Council's Drought Management Plan Rev D (DMP). This DMP was adopted by Council in December 2016. The implementation of Level 2 Water Restrictions was adopted at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 25 October 2023, and came into effect immediately.

Ongoing operational monitoring is in place to monitor the MacDonald River and Off Creek Storage 2 levels, on a weekly basis.

The DMP for the Walcha town water supply system includes primary triggers for initiating each drought response level, as well as total system water consumption targets for each level. The consumption targets for Level 2 are 220-260 litres per person per day. See Table 1 & 2 - Walcha Council Water Restrictions Policy extract below.

Level	P Permanent	1 Low	2 Moderate	3 High	4 Very High	5 Emergency
Residential Consumption Target (% reduction)	0%	5%	15%	25%	35%	50%
Residential Daily Usage Target (L/person)	280 - 320	250-290	220 - 260	190 - 230	160 - 200	120 -160
Non-Residential Consumption Target %	0%	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%

Table 1 Water Restriction Reduction Targets

Category	P Permanent	1 Low	2 Moderate	3 High	4 Very High	5 Emergency
Residential Gardens & Lawn Watering	Minimise watering during heat of the day.	Sprinklers restricted to 2hrs per day.	No Sprinklers. Drippers & hoses restricted to 2hrs per day.	No sprinklers, drippers or hoses. Buckets restricted to 2hrs per day.	No watering at any time.	No watering at any time.
Washing Down (including vehicles)	Wash down hard / paved surfaces with high pressure hose only.	Wash down hard / paved surfaces with high pressure hose only.	Hoses restricted to 2hrs per day.	Hoses restricted to 15 mins per day. Buckets restricted to 2hrs per day. Truck Wash Bay closed.	No washing down at any time.	No washing down at any time.
Swimming Pools & Spas	Use pool cover to reduce evaporation.	Permit required for filling pools over 2,000L.	Permit required for filling pools over 2,000L. Top up via hoses only 2hrs per day.	No filling of pools over 2,000L. Top up via buckets only 2hrs per day.	No filling or topping up pools.	No filling or topping up pools.

Table 2 Summary of Water Restrictions

It is important that we all use water appropriately every day, year-round to help preserve Walcha's town water supply, but during periods of higher water scarcity like now; it is necessary to initiate a higher drought response level to foster water saving.

Council appreciates your corporation during this time.

PHILLIP HOOD
GENERAL MANAGER

WO/2023/02046

Three big days of golf

By AJ Cross

The Walcha Golf Club held their annual 'Three Days of Golf' last weekend where the Veterans, Mixed and Mens opens were all played. First cab off the rank on Friday 40 players contested the Vets Open in very testing weather conditions where Craig Morgan accumulated 41 stableford points for a comfortable win, runner up was David Sweeney on 37 pts, Wayne Brennan finished third with 36 pts whereas Steph Sweeney counted out Crichton Barr and Don Brooks to run fourth on 34 pts.

Ladies winners Vicki Heffernan mustered 33 pts, Runner up was Julie Presnell 32 pts counting out Marj Chappell into third place also on 32.

Sweepstakes went to Don Brooks 34, Will Brennan 33, Owen Presnell 32, Albert Egli 32, Marj MacReady 31 and Simeon Cross 30.

Front 9 holes was won by Crichton Barr and Back 9 holes to Alex Gill after both players racked up 19 points each while Marley Brown was the only player to reach any of the four beaches on offer when he took out the N.T.P on 16.

Sponsors for the day in honour of their late parents Golf Club Life Member John Mann and his wife Coral, both very keen members of the club, were Julie Bird, Debbie Bath and Graeme 'Tiger' Mann.

On Saturday 34 competitors teed off in the Mixed Open and it was Club President Allan Green teaming up with secretary Jenny Lisle to register a winning score of 44 points just a single point clear of Runners Up John Foulsham and Jill Burnell on 43 pts. Front 9 holes winners were Barraba pair Neil and Kerry Smith on 23 pts, while the Back 9 holes went to Owen and Julie Presnell on 20 pts.

Sweepstakes to David and Simone Sweeney 42 pts, Armidale duo Charlie Murray and Marj Chappell 41 pts, Bob Dennis and Vicki Heffernan 41 pts, Miles Archdale and Donna Martin 40 pts.

Finally the Mens 4BBB Open was played on Sunday attracting over 50 players before Will Nicholls and Jock McLaren ran out the Nett winners after carding a Par score of +12. Just ahead of runners up Jon Izzard

and Owen Presnell on +11.

Scratch winners were Armidale pair Greg McLeod and Andrew Freeman with +1 while the runners up were Sydney duo Simon Cooper and John Foulsham on -1.

Front 9 holes to Wayne Brennan and Mal Ballard +6, Back 9 holes to Darren Bird and Michael Stackman +5.

Sharpest shooters at the pins were Tim Stackman (3), Jon Izzard (16) and Ricky Hall (18) whereas long drives were caressed by Tim Stackman (A), Jock McLaren (B) and Jack McLaren (C).

The Mens open was sponsored by Drummond Golf, Peter Norbury Motors and Betts Transport while the Mixed Open was sponsored by Steve and Donna from the Mobile Golf Shop.

After two hectic weekends of Golf this Sunday is the 1st Round of the Patrons (Col Berry and Margaret Davidson) where Lee Fletcher is in charge of supplying the trophy that day.



Craig Morgan, Allan Green, Jenny Lisle, Jock McLaren and Will Nicholls

what's the goss

with AJ Cross

Congratulations to Walcha Central School athlete Blaine Cooney on winning the NSW PSSA 11 years boys discus event at the State Championships last week which qualified him for the Nationals in Tasmania a bit down the track. Blaine also finished a creditable 4th position in the shot put. Good on ya Blaine.

...

Well done to Veja-Lee Petuha who competed in the 200 metre, 800 metre (P.B) and Junior Girls Relay along side Kayiesha Connor, Sophie Mulligan and Savannah Lute. The Blake twins Anna (800 metre) and Georgie (1500 metre) also ran at State as did Kobie Brown in the 200 metres. A big pat on the back for all those North West representatives.

...

On the subject of North West, St Patricks School Gymnast Emily Zorgdrager was awarded a bronze medallion while representing North West at the Junior State Championships in the 'Big Smoke' recently. Emily competed in four Level 3 disciplines Vault Bars, Beam and Floor where she scored 32.85 pts out of a possible 40 points. Way to go Em.

...

Local Cricketer Stephen 'Wilba' Haslem has been selected in the NSW Division 4 Kangaroos to compete at the National Championships in Perth later this year. 'Wilba' joins Barry Hoy (NSW No1's) and Bill Duncan (Divison 2 Wombats) to compete at the over 60's Carnival.

...

Locals Kevin Creighton, Garry Natty, Ronny Latham, Allan Laurie and AJ Cross were amongst 400 attendees at a benefit luncheon at Wauchope RSL Club last Saturday where former NRL referee Mick Stone was M.C and League Legend Peter Sterling was the special guest. All proceeds from the Family of League Function will go to Tim Eggert, who is suffering from M.N.D and his family, which is expected to reach around \$70,000.

...

There were a number of Ex - Rugby League stars sprinkled throughout the audience who were all too happy to have a yarn. I was lucky enough

to speak to Noel Cleal, Harry Wells, Mark Laurie, Neville Glover, Charlie Haggett and Phil Sigsworth during a very enjoyable afternoon. A big thank you to Doogs Newman who looked after K.C, 'Riley' and myself. His hospitality was greatly appreciated.

...

Walcha Senior and District Rugby League Club will hold their Annual General Meeting this Sunday at the Bowling Club from 3pm. All committee positions have been declared vacant and President Michael Aspinall and Vice President Stephen Haslem will not be seeking re-election. All players and supporters are invited to attend the AGM.

...

Not sure where Brian Smith and his better half Katie were going to reside next year after they were instructed to vacate their house and truck yard by Christmas time by the new owner following 'Raggy' losing the lot in a bet last week. No details of the bet will be listed in this column, you will have to catch up with Brian for more information but lets just say I did suggest they could move into my house in Apsley Street when Linda and myself took up residence in theirs.

...

When I informed Kate, of the situation all she said was 'Good Luck' to which I replied that was the only reason I didn't shake hands on the bet as running the Brian Smith Timber Transport business would be well and truly out of my league. When I told Raggy's driver co-coordinator, Allan Green the story he could certainly see the funny side of the whole thing. All in good fun.

...

Funny old thing retirement - it causes you to lose track of time on the odd occasion. Last Tuesday evening I dragged the rubbish and green waste bins onto the footpath only to notice no other bins had been put out in our street. Suddenly it dawned on me why before I dragged both bins back into the yard which prompted my much better half Linda to ask what I was doing. My immediate reply was 'Just getting some practice for tomorrow night'.

50 years of Pasture Wonderland

By A.J. Cross

Walcha Bowling Club celebrated 50 years of their annual Pasture Wonderland Lawn Bowls Fours Carnival, held here last weekend and although a Walcha team failed to finish in the Top 4 positions the competition was still deemed a huge success attracting a maximum playing number of 112 competitors.

The Ray Bird Memorial trophy for most successful Walcha team was presented by Bird family member Dion Bird to the Goodwin boys Noel, his son Allan and Brian who joined forces with Eric O'Keefe to register four wins 33 ends over the two days.

Overall winners were Quirindi represented by Neil Martin, Rob Sweep, Jason Heaver and Scotty Ryman after they racked up six wins from their six games.

Runners up were Gloucester, Mark and Phillip Groves, John Hones and Roger Riley with 5 wins, 35 ends. Third went to Landsdown Ivan Minett, Paul Kingdom, Ted Drake and Kevin Gruno five wins 33 ends while Comboyne Peter Brown, Ken Macleod, Kerry Bruton and Denis Lattimore finished fourth on five wins, 32 ends.

Just three ends separated the minor positions when a countback was called for to determine 2nd, 3rd and 4th places.

Unfortunately one of the Pasture Wonderland founding members Aiden Wall couldn't be in attendance, due to a fall which required hospitalisation, when he John 'Goodooga' Walker, Billy Brooker and Paul Jones were made honorary members of the club to thank them for their contributions towards the annual carnival.



thumbs



- To Jordie at New Beginnings for her expert care and kindness in cutting a young child's hair.
- To Apsley Motors very helpful and caring to elderly ladies to refuel their cars for them as they are unable to do it themselves.
- Congratulations Di and Cheryl on 16 years fabulous cooking at the BC. We appreciate all of your hard work.
- Thank you Telecottage for supporting Walcha Resilience Stories. Amidst approaching dry weather and bushfire season, supporting this initiative to support community is appreciated.
- Thank you to those customers at the Telecottage who allow our junior staff to help them with their requirements. We appreciate your support during their training.

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.

advocate sport



Tennis

Round 3 of the Spring Comp was played out on Tues 24th Oct.

Popyrin: E Blomfield, Barry Hoy (floating for M Ireland), B Kommeran and Troy Tape defeated Millman: T Whillock, P O'Brien, A Barillaro and J Burgess 33 to 23.

Ebden: D Sweeney, C Ireland, S Blake (floating for T Gibson) and R Mathews defeated Purcell: M Lockyer, C Bruce, A Blomfield and P Tape 29 to 21 in a close match. DeMinaur: D A Locke, D Clark, G Wall and S Ireland defeated Bolt: H Thomson, R Bagnall, J Hoy (floating for K Smith) and M Luchich 35 to 24.

There were lots of great rallies on the night. Thanks to Barry Hoy, Jen Hoy and Steve Blake for floating.

The next Club meeting will be held on Mon 13th Nov and all Members are welcome to attend. See you all at the net soon.

Bowls

Dads Army: Two games of triples were played on Thursday afternoon.

In the first game Gordon Bird, Neil Dark and Barry Hoad had a 19-9 win over John McCormack, Alan Goodwin and Eric O'Keefe. The second game was a lot closer when Brian Goodwin, Tony Asmus and John Watts defeated Noel Goodwin, Geoff Salt and Mick Bullen 10 - 9.

There were no chooks or raffle this week.

Twilight: Chilly, windy and drizzling weather greeted the bowlers on Friday.

There were many fill-ins - several visiting bowlers plus two "Golfers" helped out as most teams played the eight ends.

Team 8 was defeated by Team 13 with the assistance of a visiting bowler, who if he kept up his form over the weekend could have been in the cash.

After three rounds all teams have now lost a game after Team 3 defeated Team 5 and Team 14 defeated Team 7.

Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday Marg Tickle and Carmel Ryan won 15-10 in a game of triples against Phyllis Hoy and Pat Laurie. It was a very exciting game to watch. Marg Morris and Jan Cross played a game of doubles against Debbie Richards who played in two positions and she won quite convincingly.

Tomorrow is Association Day 9.00 for a 9.30am start. Those helping with morning tea please be at the club house by 8am. Full uniform to be worn.

The following Thursday 9 November, is the start of the Ivy Makeham Singles Trophy 9.00 for a 9.30am start. This is also our starting time for the rest of the summer months.

Cricket

Walcha/Uralla v TAS 2nd Grade

TAS	
W HALL b M Harper.....	13
A SWALES c D Boyd b P Mooney.....	1
A MCMASTER c E Blomfield b P Mooney.....	6
A BRENNAN c B Hoy b P Frewen.....	8
S LITTLE c B Duncan b P Mooney.....	46
W GLOVER c P Frewen b J Sherrin.....	0
A STARR c P Mooney b P Frewen.....	5
N FARRELL c D Boyd b P Mooney.....	25
M HELLET c M Harper b P Mooney.....	13
M EVANS run out b G Youll.....	5
A FORMAGGIN not out.....	9
Total 151. Extras 20. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts)	
M Harper 9-2-1-24, P Mooney 9-2-5-24, J Sherrin 8-1-1-27, P Frewen 7-5-0-2-20, B Duncan 5-0-0-24, B Hall 5-0-0-27.	

Walcha/Uralla

B HALL c A Swales b A Brennan.....	18
P MOONEY c S Little b A Brennan.....	13
E BLOMFIELD c W Glover b A Brennan.....	5
D BOYD c S Little b M Kellett.....	19

S RAFFERTY c W Glover b M Kellett.....	3
G YOUILL c&b M Kellett.....	6
J SHERRIN b W Glover.....	2
P FREWEN lbw A McMaster.....	6
B HOY not out.....	25
M HARPER b A Brennan.....	10
B DUNCAN lbw M Kellett.....	11
Total 136. Extras 18. Bowling (overs/maidens/runs/wkts)	
A Brennan 9-3-4-27, W Hall 9-0-0-44, W Glover 6-0-1-20, M Kellett 5.1-1-4-23, A McMaster 2-0-1-11, N Farrell 1-0-0-7.	

Walcha/Uralla were defeated by 15 runs by TAS at the TAS Backfield when round 3 of the Armidale and District 2nd Grade cricket competition was played last Saturday. Opening bowler Peter Mooney was the star performer with the ball after he was promoted from 3rd Grade when he sent down 9 overs 2 maidens to capture 5 wickets at a cost of 24 runs.

The other wicket takers for the visitors were Phil Frewen 2/20, Matt Harper 1/24 and Jacob Sherrin 1/27.

Walcha/Uralla 2022/23 co-player of the year Sinclair Little hit a game high 46 runs for the homeside after deciding to have a run with his TAS schoolmates this season.

Chasing 151 the visitors were in more trouble than 'Speed Gordon' at 8/86 early in their 23rd over before veteran Barry Hoy added some much needed starch to the lower order, scoring an unbeaten 25 runs and received valuable support from number 10 batter Matt Harper (10 runs) and number 11 Bill Duncan (11 runs).

Opener Ben Hall contributed 18 runs fellow opener Peter Mooney made 13 runs whereas Daniel Boyd also reached double figures before amassing 19 runs.

Last weekend 3rd Grade received a bye and will resume this Saturday against Hillgrove while 2nd Grade are drawn to play Armidale City with both venues yet to be confirmed.



In Memoriam

Carol Smith

04/11/2003

20 years have come and gone and memories of you live on and on.

A friend so true with a heart of gold, a special place in my heart you hold.

We made many memories in a short space of time and I thank the good Lord you were a good friend of mine.

Remembered always with love Gene.

Position Vacant

If you are looking for a rewarding career with Walcha Council, take a look at the three positions we have available now:



Labourer/ Operator – a versatile role with Council, this position may be in any of our operational areas; Classified Roads, Local Roads or Urban Works and involves assisting with works as required. Position closes 6/11/23

Waste Operator – mostly working out of the Waste Transfer Facility, this position involves performing various tasks associated the collection and disposal of various waste products. Position closes 20/11/23

Water and Wastewater Operator – working to maintain and improve Walcha's all important water supply, this position involves all things water related for the Walcha LGA. Position closes 20/11/23

These positions can all lead to interesting and varied careers within Council, from operating machinery or traffic control, to recycling and waste management to trade work in the water industry. They are permanent full-time positions, working a 38 hour week, with generous conditions.

For more information, and to apply, please visit our Positions vacant page here <https://bit.ly/3A30YDc>

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

Public Notices

Walcha Council



The power outages planned for the 3/11/2023 & 6/11/2023 have been cancelled and Council is open as usual.

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

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Public Notices *cont*

The Barber Shop will be closed Friday 3rd from lunchtime and re-open Tuesday 7th November.

PRESCHOOL 2024 ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN



Enrolments are now open for children aged between 3 and 5 to attend Walcha Preschool in 2024. Enrolments are being accepted for children turning 3 before 31 July 2024.

If your child turns 3 after 31 July 2024 then they may also attend if vacancies exist at the time. Unfortunately, these places cannot be reserved for them.

Paper enrolment forms are available at the Preschool and Council offices during normal opening hours. Enrolments can also be completed online by visiting:

<https://www.walcha.nsw.gov.au/community/children-young-people/walcha-preschool.aspx>

An orientation evening will be held during January where Preschool staff will be available to answer any questions you may have.

For enquiries, please call Alice on 6777 2117.

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

Wanted

Agistment wanted for 35 to 40 cows + 24 calves. Please ring Tania on 0427 460 004.

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Large round bales of clean lucerne Hay, \$220 plus GST. Small bales of Number One lucerne, \$25 plus GST. Phone George 0427 018 493.

Meetings

Walcha Jockey Club AGM 7.30pm, Tuesday 14 November 2023 at Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha.

Agenda:

- Election of officer bearers: President, Vice Presidents (three), Secretary, Treasurer, Patrons (two)
- 2024 Race Meeting
- Financial statements for the previous year

Jim Nivison President.

Meetings *cont*

The Annual General Meeting of the Walcha Senior & District Rugby League Club, will be held at the Walcha Bowling Club on Sunday 5th November 2023 at 3pm. All committee positions will be declared vacant. Any and all parties are welcome to attend.

AMAROO LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL (ALALC) NOTICE OF 2022/2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Notice is hereby given of the 2022/2023 Annual General Meeting of the Amaroo LALC:

DATE: 17.11.2023

TIME: 12:00pm

VENUE: 36N Derby St, WALCHA NSW 2354

AGENDA:

1. Welcome & Minutes Silence;
2. Apologies;
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting;
4. Receipt of 2022/2023 Amaroo LALC Annual Report including CLBP implementation report;
5. Receipt of 2022/2023 Amaroo LALC Audited Financial Statements and management letter;
6. Election of the Amaroo LALC Board for 2023-2027;
7. Meeting closed.

PLEASE NOTE: In relation to the election for Board members

A voting member of the ALALC is not entitled to vote, nominate, accept a nomination or be elected to office in elections for Board members if the member has not attended at least 2 meetings of the ALALC in the preceding 12 months as a voting member.

For any enquiries, please contact the ALALC Chairperson during business hours.

AUTHORISED BY: Alena Stackman
Chairperson, Amaroo LALC

Results

St Patrick's P&F Street Stall results. 1st Ben Marchant, 2nd Kate King, 3rd Carol Marchant, 4th Casper Ozinga and 5th Conrad Staff.

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service Walcha Volunteer Support Group thanks community for continued support. 1st Lynda Greenhalgh, 2nd Bob Johnson, 3rd Jonathan Cross & 4th Liz Elder.



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PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha Sunday 9.30am

All welcome. Phone 6777 2539.

CATHOLIC

Sunday 10:00am Mass.

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Social bowls 1.00pm

Friday 3 2.00pm – Close

2.00pm Bingo

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6.00pm Tickets available for raffles –
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6.00pm Free Bingo

7.00pm Raffles drawn & Members Draw

Saturday 4 11.00am – Close

6:00pm Bistro

2 – 4pm TOSS THE BOSS

Sunday 5 11.00am – Close

12.00pm Bistro open. Children U/10

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12.00pm Meat, fruit and veg raffles

1.00pm Raffles drawn

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