

# THE APSLEY Advocate

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20 March 2024

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## Steph qualifies for National Championships

Walcha athlete Steph Blake will compete against the best runners in Australia next month when she lines up in the 400 metre event at the National Championships in Adelaide.

The 14 year old, who turns 15 this weekend, was competing in the Under 16 age group at the NSW Athletics State Junior Championships to qualify for the Nationals. Representing Armidale Athletics Club, Steph ran an astounding 59.75 seconds for 400 metres, placing her second in the heat and 7th in the final in a time which qualified her for the National Championships.

Steph showed her versatility at the State Championships, also competing in the 800 metres where she placed 6th in a time of 2:23.06, as well as placing 11th in the State in long jump. This impressive result in the 800 metres has encouraged Steph to focus more of her training on this distance and the future is looking very bright for her. This result at the State Championships is only one second off the pace for the qualifying time to Nationals, winning her heat by 50 metres!

Steph will warm up for the National Championships by competing this weekend at the State Little Athletics Championships at Olympic Park in Sydney. She will compete in the 200 metres, 400 metres, 800 metres and long jump.

This is the second year Steph has qualified for the Nationals, running in Perth last year where she placed 9th in the 400 metres.

Her father Stuart will accompany her to the National Championships which will be held at the South Australian Athletics Stadium in Adelaide from 11 – 19 April.

*Pictured top right: Steph Blake at NSW State Championships representing Armidale. Right: Competing in the long jump at State Championships.*



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## around the traps



By SIMON NEWTON

How good was the rain on Monday with falls of between 20-60mm falling around the district. It's a relief that we still can get a widespread fall of over an inch and the moisture looks to be building again for next week. Tropical cyclone Megan has made landfall in the Gulf of Carpentaria causing widespread flooding and damage with rain totals expected to exceed 300mm in parts of the Barkly and Carpentaria regions. It's this exact system which may track south into Queensland and NSW bringing widespread rain next week which would be a welcome backup to this weeks fall. Looking at the crop paddocks around the district it has sparked some colour back into the plants and given us all hope that we might grow some kind of feed before the depths of winter.

I've been having a lot of conversations around town with people who are very concerned about the new water supply and why the water is brown that's coming out of the taps. I was driving past the town water reserves late last week and noticed just how low the dam was getting that supplies town water, and it explains why we are still on water restrictions. The new pump is currently being installed that supplies water to town from the Macdonald River and our newly built storage dam. The old pump had been removed before the new pump could be installed but the calculations would have been completed that we will have plenty of water in town while we wait for the new water supply. Interestingly, I've been told numerous times that there is a lot of green grass below the new dam and I'm sure everyone understands how dry it has been, but I wonder if the new dam is leaking and if so, can it be fixed? New dams can leak, especially depending on what ground they are constructed on and what type of soil they are made with. Sometimes they can fix themselves, but some dams will never hold water.

Australian feeder cattle could soon be making their way on a boat to the United States as soon as next year. This has never been done before but looking at the possibilities lying ahead for the US, it may be financially viable to do so if three factors all align. High US beef prices, low Australian beef price in comparison, and our currency needs to be low compared to the US dollar to make this feasible. I don't think this will happen as it costs around \$1200 per head to freight a beast and \$500 in quarantine fees associated with every animal delivered.

Last week the EYCI dropped 38c/kg due to a tightening of the season and the extra supply of weaners coming onto the markets. As quickly as it has dropped, I think we could see it lift with a decent widespread fall of rain which may just happen next week. Armidale had advertised 2500 weaners on Monday and only yarded just on 1500 as producers weigh up the risk of waiting and seeing what the next few weeks bring. Light weaner heifers look to be very buyable in the weaner sales as they struggle to make \$500. AuctionsPlus cattle saw a tough week also with a clearance rate of just 36 per cent across all the cattle listed for sale. The northern tablelands of NSW had less than a 10% clearance rate of what was listed in that area which reflects just how marginal our season has been and the bleak look ahead for winter feed reserves.

1970 head of cattle were yarded in Tamworth on Monday with the majority of the yarding selling to cheaper trends. Weaner steers bucked this trend and sold as much as 20c/kg dearer for the better-quality calves topping at 360c/kg. Weaner heifers topped at 289c/kg; feeder steers made to 355c/kg while the heifer portion topped at 298c/kg. Heavy fat cows dropped by 7c/kg and topped at 225c/kg. 5500 sheep and lambs sold to a firm market in Tamworth with young trade weight lambs topping at \$150, heavy exports lambs made to \$230 while the mutton market topped at \$90 of XB ewes.



# Family Day at oval this Friday



A great afternoon for all the family is planned for this Friday at Peter Fenwicke oval from 3.00 – 5.00pm.

The Fun & Fit Day is organised by the Tamworth PCYC where there will be a range of boxing games and a workshop for both adults and youth with an accredited boxing coach travelling to Walcha for the afternoon.

Entry is free and as well as the fitness session there will be a BBQ and lots of giveaways.

"This will be something nice for the community to enjoy to kick off the weekend," organiser, Dale McDonald said.

They have been travelling around the region offering these Fun & Fit Days which have been well supported, and enjoyed.





## Easter Trading Hours

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EASTER SATURDAY - CLOSED  
EASTER SUNDAY - CLOSED  
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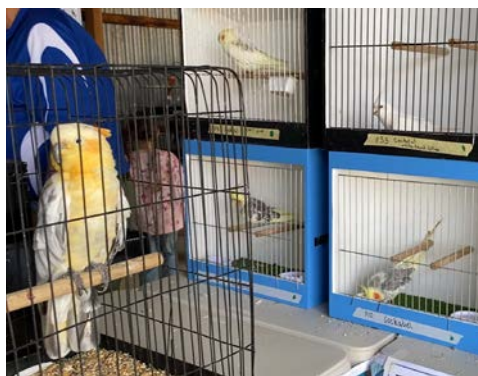
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# 2024 WALCHA SHOW RESULTS



Above: Destinee Lockyer with her Open Champion health savoury loaf. Left: Ron Denham's winning scones.



The Aviary display was popular with show-goers.

## Cooking

We have had a great year with a total of 254 entries, 30 less than last year. Thank you to all who entered their cooking. The Pavilion looked fantastic once again and it's a credit to all Stewards and Stewardesses who volunteered their time to make it happen. I would like to thank the Cooking Section Stewardesses for volunteering their time and for their hard work again this year. **Open Section Champion** Destinee Lockyer. Congratulations, the Judge had no hesitation picking her health savoury loaf as the winner. **Open Section Feature Cake** (Royal Ag. Society Fruit cake) Samantha Bayley. This entitles Sam to enter the Zone Comp, then perhaps Sydney Show. Congratulations Sam. **Over 70's section Feature Cake** winner and Champion Marj Partridge, congratulations on all your entries. 2nd Carol Dunn. **Men's Section Champion** Ron Denham. Beautiful scones again Ron. **Men's Section Feature** Sultana Cake. 1st Chris Bruce, 2nd Ross King, H/C Douglas Smith. Most of these cakes were auctioned afterwards and made \$725. A lot of this money will help sponsor the Cooking section. Congratulations gentlemen and thank you. **Most Successful Exhibitor** Stuart Wellings. Congratulations for the second year running Stuart. Prize \$40 IGA voucher donated by Kim McKinnon. **Junior Champion** Evie Barwick with her Patty cakes. The Judge was very impressed. **Junior Encouragement Award** Bella Norton with her plain butter cake. Very well done. Prize donated by Vicki Mclvor.

**High School Feature Date and Walnut** 1st Olivia Mulligan, 2nd Ella Lynch. Well done and keep cooking, you have both done very well. **Primary School Feature "Chook" theme** 1st Toby Wellings, 2nd Arizona Bayley, Highly Commended cards to the to all other entries. Congratulations to you all. We had 18 entries in this section and it was hard to choose a winner. **Under five section Decorated Arrowroot biscuits** 1st Charlotte Stolzenhein, 2nd Beau Bridge. There were 41 entries in this section and the Judge thought all the biscuits were beautifully decorated and all children received a Highly Commended card. Well done children. **Vicki Mclvor, Chief Stewardess**

## Ag Bike

**Bending Race: 8 and Under** 1st Freddie OBrien, 2nd Oscar Young, 3rd Harry Fletcher.

**9 to 12 yrs** 1st Max Partridge, 2nd Brax Kemp, 3rd Nate Powell. **13 to 16 yrs** 1st Jared Frost, 2nd Max Partridge, 3rd Oliver Overton. **Seniors** Jared Frost, 2nd Kane McElroy, 3rd Jackson Marchant. **Barrel Race: 8 and Under** 1st Freddie OBrien, 2nd Oscar Young, 3rd Riley Eveleigh. **9 to 12 yrs** 1st Max Partridge, 2nd Brax Kemp, 3rd Axel Blomfield. **13 to 16** 1st Jared Frost, 2nd Max Partridge, 3rd Kane McElroy. **Seniors** 1st Henry Jones, 2nd Jared Frost, 3rd Harry Partridge.

## Aviary

The Armidale & District Bird Club coordinated an display and show for junior exhibitors. Thanks to Brian Chaffey from Armidale for judging the junior exhibits. 173 birds were entered into the Aviary Bird section of the Show. Visiting public were asked to judge their favourite birds in each section (budgies, canaries, parrots, finches and miscellaneous).

The results from the public voting were:

**Parrots** 1st Tony Bullen Crimson-winged parrot, 2nd Michael Bullen Indian ringneck, 3rd Michael Bullen Eastern rosella. **Budgies** 1st Brian Heffernan, Blue spangle opaline budgie, 2nd Brian Heffernan Blue opaline budgie, 3rd McKenzie & Raftery Rainbow budgie. **Canaries** 1st McKenzie & Raftery Red-factor canary, 2nd Michael Bullen Pair of yellow canaries, 3rd McKenzie & Raftery White Gloster canary. **Finches** 1st Will McKenzie Male Grey Zebra finch, 2nd McKenzie & Raftery Pied Java finch, 3rd McKenzie & Raftery Normal Java finch. **Miscellaneous** 1st McKenzie & Raftery Orange-faced peachface lovebird, 2nd Michael Bullen Blue pied peachface lovebird, 3rd McKenzie & Raftery Lutino peachface lovebird. **Junior Show Budgies** 1st R & E Sykes Sky blue budgie, 2nd R & E Sykes Cobalt blue budgie, 3rd R & E Sykes Grey budgie. **Finches** 1st Will McKenzie Male Grey Zebra finch, 2nd Will McKenzie Male dilute blue Zebra finch, 3rd Will McKenzie Female Grey Zebra finch. **Parrots** 1st Will McKenzie Male Mulga parrot, 2nd Lacie Bullen Blue Quaker parrot, 3rd Will McKenzie Female Mulga parrot. **Canaries** No junior entries.

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## Handicraft

Congratulations to everyone who entered. We had over 200 entries which made a wonderful display in the Handicraft and Hostel, Nursing Home and Day care sections. Thank you to stewards Jenny and Denise for all your help. **Champion: Senior** Kylie Mathews. **Junior** Ben Lockyer. **Judy Hobbs Memorial Trophy** Most Successful Exhibitor donated by Walcha CWA – Samantha Bayley. **Hostel, Nursing Home, Day Care** Nancy Partridge Memorial Ribbon Riverview.

## Hoof N Hook

**Hoof:** Trade Woolly 1st G Lockyer, 2nd TD Norton, 3rd KR & SM Green. **Trade Shorn** 1st IA & ME Barnett, 2nd KR & SM Green, 3rd RF & PM King. **Export Woolly** 1st Claudia Kirton, 2nd Hannah Kermode, 3rd Claudia Kirton. **Export Shorn** 1st and 2nd CR Norton, 3rd TD Norton. **Most Successful Exhibitor & Champion Export Pen, Grand Champion Pen and Champion Lamb** CR Norton. **Champion Trade Pen** G Lockyer.

**Hook:** Trade Woolly Equal 1st TD Norton & Maryland Farm, 3rd Caubaune. **Trade Shorn** 1st CR Norton, 2nd & 3rd IA & ME Barnett. **Export Woolly** 1st & 3rd Mayland Farm, 2nd Wendouree. **Export Shorn** Equal 1st JE & AM Norton and Wendouree, 3rd TD Norton. **Champion Export Pen & Champion Export Lamb** Maryland Farm. **Champion Trade Pen** Equal Maryland Farm & TD Norton. **Champion Trade Lamb** CR Norton.

## Vegetables

**Collections:** Veg Wainie Robertson Herbs Kate Mackaway **Two:** Eggplants Sally Rutherford Melons Bruce Davidson **Roots** Celery Ben Little **Silverbeet or spinach** Julia King **Custard Squash** Tim Beaumont **Table** Queen Squash Bateson Pittman **Capsicums** Peter McNeill **Garlic Bulbs** Ben Little **Three:** Apple Cucumbers Maria Ireland **Long Cucumbers** Caroly Laurie **Carrots** Karrin Scott **Red Beet** Yarrowitch Public School **Zucchini** Alyce Goodridge **Chillies** Holly Fletcher **Six:** Radish Douglas Smith **Onions** Jo Wicks **Tomatoes** Julia King **Cherry Tomatoes** Peter Sendall **Sticks of Rhubarb** Clem O'Gorman **Dozen:** Dwarf Beans Douglas Smith **Climbing Beans** Peter McNeill **Bowl of Fruit:** Clem O'Gorman **Scariest Scarecrow** Walcha Bowling Club **Feature/Unusual Veg** Ben Little.

## Junior Vegetables

**Collection Veg:** Walcha Central School **Two:** Tomatoes Evie Barwick **Cucumbers** Provost boys **Squash** Sara Pittman **Pumpkins** Rebee Wark **Carrots** Yarrowitch Public School **Corn Cobs** Yarrowitch Public School **Four:** Cherry Tomatoes Lacey Wauch **Six:** Potatoes Provost boys **Ten:** Bean Pods Mark and Emily Grayling **Lariest Scarecrow:** Provost boys **Champion Junior Exhibitor** donated by Lance Partridge and Owen Presnell – Walcha Central School, for a superb collection of vegetables.

## Farm Produce

**Two kg Sebago Potatoes** Ben Little **Eggs:** 12 White Angela McDonald 12 Brown Margie Carter **Any Other Colour** Jenny Sweeney **One:** Single Veg/Farm Produce Peter Sendall **Two:** Vegetable Marrows Julie Mann **Two Pumpkins:** QLD Blue Steve King **Butternut** Aimee Norton **Table** Ben Little **Bush or Golden Nugget** Ben Little **Heaviest Pumpkin** Douglas Smith (43kg).



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connection, caravan storage, community kitchen/meeting hall with BBQ. Machinery/tools – no charge for use.

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200 Angus Steers weaned, Grass Fed eligible

**Cobrabald Pastoral Co – EU**  
100 Angus Steers weaned, Grass Fed eligible. Hazeldean, Highrent and Glenmorgan Angus blood

**Black Hill Pastoral**  
150 Angus & Angus X Steers

**Temuco Partnership – EU**  
170 Angus Steers, Dulverton Blood  
60 Angus Heifers, Dulverton Blood

**Petali Pastoral – EU**  
150 Angus Steers

**EL & SL Fogarty**  
160 Angus & Angus X Steers

**AJ Scott**  
80 Angus mixed sex

**Highrent Angus – EU**  
70 Angus Steers, Highrent blood

**NR & CM Stackman – EU**  
50 Angus Heifers

**ME & TA Worth – EU**  
50 Angus Heifers

**J & M Davidson**  
40 Angus & Angus X mixed sex

**M Cross**  
30 Angus Steers

**Lockyer Livestock – EU**  
32 Angus Steers, Nairn Park Angus blood

**GE & J Weber**  
30 Angus Steers  
25 Angus Heifers



## BREEDERS

**Branga Plains Pastoral Co – EU**  
100 Black Baldy Cows rising 6 years, PTIC to Angus Bulls. Outstanding quality to commence calving mid June

**D & K McRae**  
90 PTIC Angus Heifers  
GCM Grazing – EU  
50 Angus PTIC Heifers to Angus bulls

**QN & TR Webb**  
60 PTIC Angus Heifers  
Joined to Doorkey and Trentbridge Wagyu bulls

**Orandumbie Enterprises – EU**  
35 PTIC Santa Hereford X Cows to short-horn bulls. 4 year old females joined 15/10/23 to 23/12/23  
25 PTIC Angus X and Euro X Cows to Red Angus and Angus bulls. 4, 5 & 6 years old cows joined 15/10/23 to 23/12/23

**Mt Arlington Grazing – EU**  
30 PTIC Angus Cows to Angus Bulls  
Rising 3 yrs Joined 15/10/23 to 20/12/23  
65 PTIC Angus Cows to Angus Bulls  
4 & 5yrs Joined 15/10/23 to 20/12/23

**J & S Zorgdrager – EU**  
50 2023 Autumn Drop Heifers unjoined top quality, Highrent Angus Blood

**RM & PL Wright – EU**  
20 Angus cows & calves

**Highrent Angus – EU**  
30 PTIC Angus Heifers, Highrent Blood

**Mirramoona Pastoral Co**  
24 PTIC Angus Heifers  
Highrent Angus bloodlines

**Petali Pastoral – EU**  
24 PTIC Angus Heifers 1 1/2 yrs  
20 PTIC Angus Cows 3 1/2 yrs

**Petali Pastoral**  
20 PTIC Angus Cows 4 1/2yrs  
34 PTIC Angus Cows 5 1/2yrs

**CB & SL Rutherford – EU**  
34 PTIC Angus Cows, 2015–2017 drop PTIC to Kilburnie Angus

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**RF & PM King**  
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**QN & TR Webb**  
50 Angus Feeder Heifers

**RM & PL Wright – EU**  
20 Angus Heifers

**ME & TA Worth – EU**  
20 Angus Steers



## CONTACTS



Miles Archdale .....0428 660 326  
Simon Newton .....0467 660 320

Mathew Larkings .....0427 002 427  
Dan Coulthurst .....0419 879 793



# what's the goss

with AJ Cross



**What a sensational performance** by the Walcha relay team when they broke the Mixed 200 metres Freestyle North West Secondary School Swimming Championships record at the Monkton Aquatic Centre in Armidale last week. Jasmine Lynch, Bella Mooney, Hunter O'Connell and Cameron Mooney shaved more than half a second off the old time when they stopped the clock in 2 minutes 07:63 seconds.

...

**The previous record was also held by** Walcha Central after the Mackaway sisters Amber and Chloe, Murdoc Chawner and Tommy Micallef set a new time in 2018. Since then Jack McAlister has been listed as one of the record holders instead of Chloe and although I attempted to have that corrected on several occasions it never happened. No need to worry about it anymore. Go Walcha.

...

**The relay team will be joined at the State Championships** by Jess Wellings who qualified for the 50 metres Freestyle and 100 metres Butterfly. Jasmine Lynch qualified for Freestyle, Butterfly and Breaststroke all over 100 metres while Bella Mooney and her brother Cameron both went through in the 50 metre Freestyle. Go on ya guys.

...

**Just missing out on North West selection** was Nathan Ross who finished fourth in a couple of his events. Unfortunately no Primary School swimmers progressed to the State Championships this year.

...

**Former Walcha Golf Club Champion** Andrew 'Buddha' Bowden has been playing pennants for Charlestown this year and was named the clubs pennants - Player of the Season after he won all his matches during the competition. 'Buddha' defeated one of his opponents 7 and 6 after he was nine under par in his first 12 holes but forfeited the chance of going under 60 when he didn't complete the round.

**Walcha was represented by Owen Presnell** at the recent NSW Sandgreen 4BBB Championships at Trundle where the 'Omen' joined forces with Armidale player Dominic Hill to finish 11th on 87 (42, 45) stableford points. Not a bad effort considering around 200 players teed off in the championships held over two days.

...

**Congratulations to Colleen and I.J Cross Memorial Golf Winners** Jock McLaren and Will Nicholls on winning the annual trophy last Sunday. Jock must have had a bit more luck last weekend than he experienced the previous Sunday in the final round of the championships where he was hitting his fourth shot from behind the 12th tee before going on to card 13 strokes on the hole.

...

**'Mollydooker' Jamie Bowden and Michael Stackman** were lining up for a hat trick of wins in the Cross Memorial having won in 2022 and 2023. Didn't they give it a shake when they scored the same amount of points as the winners only to be beaten on a countback.

...

**Congratulations to local sporting legend Barry Hoy** who has been selected in the NSW Over 60's Veterans Cricket No 1 team to play Queensland in the Cooper Finley Cup at Port Macquarie next Monday and Tuesday. 'Baz' has also been named captain of the Walcha/Uralla 2nd Grade team to play TAS Grand Final this Saturday. Go gettun boys.

...

**Big wigs of the week** - Newie: Vicki Lloyd (Go Vicki), Eve Smith, Petrina Martin, Liam Brennan, Miles Lawrence, D.G Clare, AJ Cross. B.C: Julie Hall, Denis Makeham (who must have went against his beloved Bunnies), Matty Hamel, DGC, AJC. Apsey: Jonny Byrne, AJC. Vet Supplies: Peter King. All above tipsters picked the card. Thunderbolts Way Cafe: Tilly Bullock 14 points.

...

**Best of luck to the Walcha Roos** when they take on the Gloucester Maggies in a trial game here at Peter Fenwicke Oval this Saturday from 1pm. If you intend sitting down for the match please take a chair as the usual grandstands may not have been returned to the field by then.

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# Exhibition opening this Friday

Walcha Gallery of Art will feature eleven local artists for its first exhibition of 2024. Opening this Friday evening from 6.00pm, *Walcha: The Land I Call Home* will display a range of paintings, prints and sculptures from a group of artists who have been exhibiting at the Gallery over the last 14 years. "These artists draw their inspiration from the landscape around Walcha," Gallery owner Carley McLaren said.

This will be the first time Myfanwy Gullifer will display her paintings at Walcha Gallery of Art which she has been working on for the past four to five months, whereas previously she has exhibited sculptures at the Gallery.

Carley would like to invite locals to the opening this Friday from 6.00pm.



Ross Laurie  
Myfanwy Gullifer  
Angus Nivison  
Julia Griffin  
James Rogers  
Stephen King  
Gemma King  
Paula Jenkins  
Alec Gill  
Kate Durack  
Ben Tooth

**Exhibition Opening  
+ Drinks FRIDAY  
22nd March 6pm.**

## WALCHA: THE LAND I CALL HOME

## Students test their literacy knowledge

Last Monday 16 students from Years 5, 6 and 7 at Walcha Central School joined 20 teams from schools throughout the New England at Armidale City Public School for a trivia style literacy quiz.

Walcha teams, comprising four students in each, competed with great sportsmanship against over 70 students, testing their knowledge of all things reading, answering complex questions about genres, characters and books ranging from Dr Seuss through to Shakespeare. This is one of many opportunities for students to extend their thinking.

Student comments:

*"The questions were super hard" – Mark*

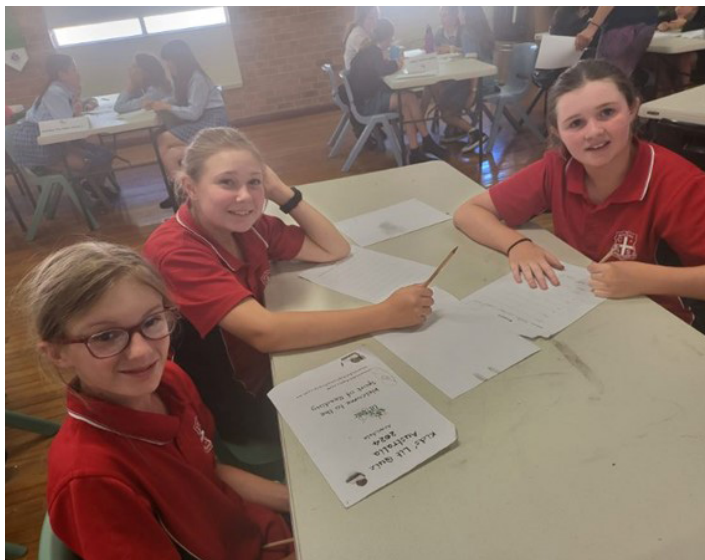
*"I had a really great time and answered some questions correctly" – Eamon*

*"It was really interesting that some kids knew some of the answers to the questions" – Ben*

*"It was really fun and I was able to win \$5" – Alwel*

*"The teams we versed were really good and it was really hard" – Liv*

*"It was really fun but maybe I need to read more" – Arizona*



Isabelle, Piper, Koa thinking hard at the Literacy Quiz last week

## Touch Football Grand Finals

The Walcha Touch 2023/24 season will be finalised this Thursday with Juniors kicking-off all the action at John Oxley Sportsground from **5:15pm** with Black v White on Field 1.

**6.00pm:** B Grade Mud Dogs v Coco Jumbo on Field 1 (Referee Jason Latham). D Grade Apsley Ball Teasers v Junior Roos on Field 2 (Ref Hannah Dunn).

**6.45pm:** A Grade A.B.T's v Water Buffaloes on Field 1 (Ref Bonnie Brown). C Grade Wolka Jets v Taipan on Field 2 (Ref Ben Ussher). Please note game times are approximate to allow for extra time and presentations. Teams should be at the ground ready to play at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time so all competition deciders can be finished before the sun goes down. Best of luck to all players.



Last years A Grade Premiers ABT's.

thumbs



👉 To the Betts Transport driver for slowing down when he drove past my house last week. Wet washing on line, dirt road, I was very grateful.

👉 To Joy Hogbin for her excellent service whilst volunteering at the Op Shop.

👉 To Walcha Council for donating pallets and to Aaren Olsen for donating paint for the Hands On Learning program at Walcha Central School. It is much appreciated.

**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.**



## At the Nineteenth

Last Sunday the annual Colleen and I.J Cross Memorial trophy was contested where Jock McLaren and Will Nicholls accumulated 47 stableford points to win the event but only after surviving a countback with Jamie Bowden and Michael Stackman who had won the previous two years. Sweepstakes went to the runners up, Pauline Carter and her sister Sue Partridge, Simeon Cross and Mal Ballard, Lee Fletcher and his wife Ruth all on 44 points, Timmy Stackman and his son Isaac 43 points, Will Brennan and Margaret Davidson 42 points.



Will Nicholls, Jock McLaren and A.J. Cross

Sharpest Shooters at the pins were Allan Green (3), Cheryl McDonald (9), Julie Presnell (6) and Don Brooks (18). The Eagles Nest sponsored by Dark's Plumbing was robbed of 4 balls by Jock McLaren after he opened the eighth hole. Last Saturday Peter Whellan racked up 18 stableford points to win the weekly 9 hole competition from runner up Pauline Carter after she counted out new member Anne Martin on 16 points. N.T.P on 3 went to Jenny Lisle. This Sunday is a Stroke Medal round for a prize supplied by Drew Bird while just up the road the Uralla Open is scheduled for this Saturday and the Uralla Mixed Open 4 BBB is set down for Sunday.

## Tennis

**Round 6** of the Summer Comp was played out on Tuesday 12 March in lovely cool conditions.

Rodionova: K Creighton, M Lockyer, A Blomfield and T Gibson defeated Gadecki: T Whillock, D Clark, T Tape (floater) and J Burgess 26-24 in a great close match.

DeMinaur: D Sweeney, C Bruce, E Habermann and R Mathews (floater) defeated Birrell: D A Locke, R Bagnall, G Wall and S Blake in a close game of changing fortunes.

Purcell: E Blomfield, P O'Brien, D Wall and P Tape defeated Popyrin: H Thomson, C Ireland, A Barillaro and S Ireland in an absolute smattering 35-19. Thanks to our floaters once again. See you all at the net soon.

Porter defeated by Brian Goodwin, Neil Dark and John Watts 18-11. Barry's team won the chooks and the raffles were won by Neil Dark and Brian Goodwin.

**Twilight:** Congratulations to Team 4 on their first win. Playing in their first competition the girls with the help of Macca played well. Team 7 had another good win.

Players are reminded that next week's round will be the last for this comp.

**Draw for Saturday:** Pairs - N & B. Goodwin v K. Creighton & S. Bath. J&T. Asmus v M. Steep & M. Hamel.

**Sunday: 12:00 start**

Triples - D. Bird, S & K. Goodwin v G. Clare, M. Hamel & F. Cameron.

Anyone else able to play their championship game please do so as we need to get them finished soon.

## Cricket

### Walcha/Uralla v Hillgrove 2nd Grade

#### Hillgrove

M LAURIE c N Swan b E Blomfield.....	26
H EASTWOOD b W Fletcher .....	47
D MOFFIT c C Boyd b N Swan .....	12
J MARSHALL c M Harper b C Boyd .....	14
B MARSHALL r.o E Blomfield.....	4
S CLARKE b M Harper .....	9
M RAZA n.o .....	5
C HUNTER n.o.....	3
Total 134. Extras 14. Bowlings (overs/maidens/wkts/runs)	
M Harper 9-1-1-21, W Fletcher 8-0-1-18, D Boyd 5-0-0-22,	
E Blomfield 5-0-1-20, N Swan 9-0-1-28, C Boyd 9-0-1-24.	

#### Walcha/Uralla

E BLOMFIELD c J Marshall b H Raza .....	11
J WEARNE lbw M Raza .....	11
D BOYD b M Laurie .....	55
N ENDACOTT n.o.....	26
S RAFFERTY n.o.....	15
Total 135. Extras 18. Bowlings (overs/maidens/wkts/runs)	
H Raza 9-3-1-15, A Taylor 7-0-0-31, M Raza 9-0-1-37, K	
Rainger 5-1-0-17, M Laurie 4-5-0-1-10, C Hunter 4-0-0-14,	
B Marshall 1-0-0-3, H Eastwood 1-0-0-2.	

Walcha/Uralla Cricket Club have progressed to the Armidale and District 2nd Grade Grand Final this Saturday against Minor Premiers TAS 1st X1 after they defeated Hillgrove by seven wickets at Rologas Oval No1 in Armidale last Saturday.

After losing the toss Hillgrove were sent into bat where they scored 134 runs off their 45 overs for the loss of six wickets. Five of the six Walcha/Uralla bowlers used, took a wicket each opener Will Fletcher 1/18, fellow opener Matt Harper 1/21, Ed Blomfield 1/20, Cooper Boyd 1/24 and Nathan Swan 1/28.

In reply the visitors passed their assignment with four overs up their sleeve and seven wickets still in hand.

Number three batsman Daniel Boyd took his season aggregate to 656 when he made 55 runs and put on a 59 run third wicket partnership with veteran Nick Endacott who finished unbeaten on 26 runs.

Openers Ed Blomfield and Josh Wearne both contributed 11 runs each, whereas Shannon Rafferty remained unconquered on 15 runs when the run chase was completed.

Walcha/Uralla will be looking at going back to back 2nd Grade premiers after they defeated minor premiers Easts in the big dance last season.

## Ladies Bowls

Last Thursday was the start of our 2024 Club Championships with the Minor Singles being played. The winning margins of both games didn't reflect the bowls played. The results were Marg Tickle defeating Wendy Moore 25-9 and Rosie Aitken defeating Carmel Ryan 25-10. This puts Marg Tickle and Rosie Aitken in the final this week with Lyn Burnell to mark.

The draw is on the board for the other championship games. We are playing the first round of the Major Singles on Thursday 28th March and the draw is Sari Andrews v Carmel Ryan and Esther Hunt v Lyn Burnell.

Also last week Janice and Lyn had a social game of singles, results unknown.

Our monthly meeting is this Thursday 21 March commencing at 1pm.

## Wednesday Golf

Last Wednesday was Lorraine Walshe's trophy day and we played Stableford. Ark Street was the winner with 37 points. Sweepstakes won by Sue Partridge with 36, Sal McCormack on 35, Jenny Lisle with 33 and Polly Locke, 33.

It was great to see Suzanne O'Keefe back on the course after many years and she was very clever in taking out NTP on Hole 3. We also welcomed another new player in Mel O'Gorman. Second shot on 18 went to Robyn Salt and the second shot on 9 was too hard to split. Prue Morgan and Sue Partridge shared this equally. Today we are playing stroke, putting and monthly mug for the Treasurer's trophy. It is also the first medal round.

## Bowls

**Dads Army:** Two games of triples were played last Thursday afternoon in hot conditions. In the first Barry Kliendienst, John McCormack and Matt Andrews defeated Jason Asmus, Peter Hayes and Geoff Salt 18-16 in a close result.

The second game saw Eric O'Keefe, Marlo and Simon

## Roos News

The Walcha Rugby League Club are preparing for the 2024 season kicking off this Saturday at Peter Fenwicke Oval with a trial match where the Roos take on the Gloucester Magpies at 1.00pm.

Admission is a gold coin donation, canteen facilities will be available, it is B.Y.O grog but please remember glass containers aren't permitted on the grounds.

Please note that the grandstands may not be back in place in time for the game so it would be a good idea to bring a chair to sit on.

Both the Roos and Jillaroos are still looking for any interested players who haven't signed up yet and if you are keen for a run please contact Roos co-coaches Michael Boyd and Jock Abraham.

At the moment the Jillaroos haven't appointed a coach but President Barry Partridge has put his hand up to do the job if no-one else is prepared to do so.

The Group 19 draw hasn't been announced yet, but it is rumoured to commence early in April.

Any supporters who would like to volunteer their services this season please contact President Barry Partridge 0455 901 792 or Secretary Emma Hillier 0427 016 911.

**SPORT DEADLINE**  
**4.30PM MONDAYS**

# Big Dogs on wheels bound into town

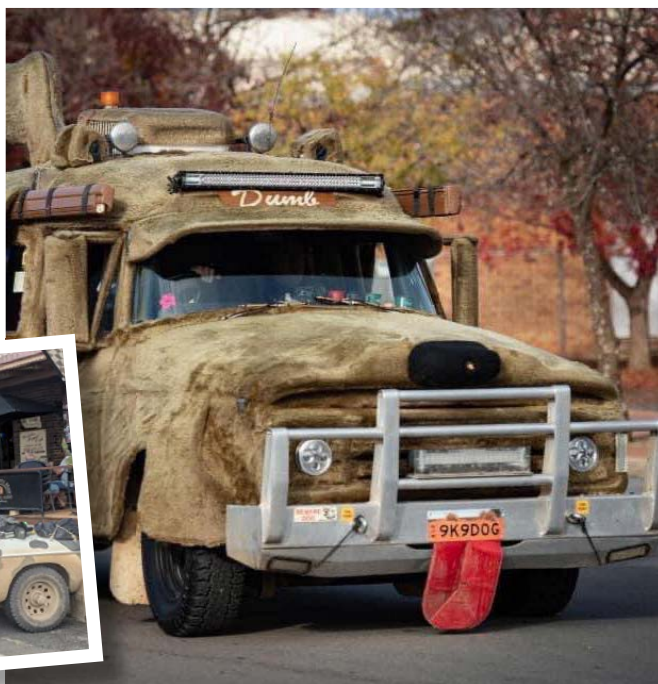
If you noticed some furry cars driving through town last Friday, you weren't seeing things! The group of 40 vehicles stopped off at the Royal Cafe for lunch on the first day of their Big Dogs Mini Trek rally.

Organiser, John Gorman said the four day rally is a way for the group to inject money into small communities, whilst seeing some picturesque countryside as they travel as much as possible on dirt roads.

The group set off from Tea Gardens and made their way up to Walcha through Nowendoc and Riamukka before stopping off for lunch. They then travelled through to Armidale and Dorrigo before bunking down in Coffs Harbour for the night. The next day they headed south to Crescent Head and Forster, and the final day saw them travel back to Tea Gardens Hotel for a well-earned beer!

"It was a great rally with lots of families and four wheel drives," John said.

This Rally qualifies the group entry into the well-known Outback Car Trek which takes place in May-June each year. This raises much needed funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), donating over \$1 million annually. This year the Outback Car Trek will travel from Bendigo to Sea World on the Gold Coast over eight days.



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## Position Vacant

### **WALCHA VET SUPPLIES** **Junior, Saturday Morning Position**

Expressions of interest – Please email your resume to [info@wvs.com.au](mailto:info@wvs.com.au) or call the store on 02 6777 2588 for more information.

## Public Notices

St Patrick's Parents & Friends  
**HIGH COUNTRY LONG LUNCHEON**  
Tickets only available until 5pm this Friday  
22nd March. Online [www.trybooking.com/COZIM](http://www.trybooking.com/COZIM) or front office at the school.

**DR GENEVIEVE FREER**  
Phone 6777 2068 0429 668 583

### **SEEKING BILLETS AND VOLUNTEERS** for Women's World

Sandgreen Championships  
Walcha Golf Club are looking for interested members of the community who would be happy to volunteer or billet a golf player for up to three nights for the above event on 9-11 April 2024. If you are interested in volunteering at the event or billeting a player (or two) we would love to hear from you to discuss suitability.  
Phone Allan Green 0408 469 568

## Public Notices

**McDonald Gas** closed 27 March to 5 April.  
No deliveries or pick ups during this period.

## For Sale

**DJ'S SEASONED FIREWOOD** – simple stuff, buy it, burn it, keep warm. Bulk only 6m<sup>3</sup> or 12m<sup>3</sup> loads. Call Dave 0427 335 631.

**Budgies** \$15 each. Phone 6777 2338

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

## Garage Sale

**Walcha Hospital Auxiliary fundraiser.**  
Saturday 23 March 8.30am – 2pm. At the sheds behind Walcha Bowling Club.

## Meeting

**Walcha Junior Indoor Hockey** AGM,  
Thursday 28th March, 5.15pm at Walcha Bowling Club.

**Walcha Support Group** 28 March, 1:30pm.  
Meditation at 12:30pm. Community Care Rooms, Middle Street. All Welcome.

## Wanted to Rent

**Three to four bedroom house** to rent in the Walcha area. Phone Peter 0404 471 105.

## Thank You

**Denis, Julie, Colleen** and their families wish to thank everyone for the many messages, cards, phone calls and expressions of support and sympathy on the passing of Ollie. Sincere thanks to the Drs and Nurses at Walcha Hospital and Walcha General Practice for their exceptional care and kindness to mum.  
Please accept this as our personal thanks.

**Jock and Carley McLaren** together with the Walcha Show Society would like to thank the following Businesses for their generous sponsorship every year at the Merino Judging of the Walcha Show:  
NAB Agribusiness Armidale, Walcha Carrying Co, Betts Transport, Nutrien Boulton's Walcha, Elders Walcha, Walcha Vet Supplies, Will & Sarah Fletcher, AWN, Adcock Partnership, Richardson's Hardware and Agriculture, Nerstane Merino Stud, Airlie Merino Stud, Shalimar Park Merino Stud, Westvale Merino Stud and Karori Merino Stud.



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## church notices



### ANGLICAN

(Palm Sunday) Holy Communion 7.30am  
Family Service 10.00am  
Phone 6777 2543 or email:  
walchaanglican@gmail.com

### PRESBYTERIAN

Walcha, every Sunday 9.30am  
Combined Church Youth Group in the Hall, every Saturday 5pm – 7pm.  
All welcome. Phone 6777 2539.

### CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass 10.00am

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WALCHA

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**Thursday 21** 12pm – Close

Ladies bowls from 9am  
Social bowls from 12.30pm

**Friday 22** 2pm – Close

**2.00pm BINGO**

**6.00pm Bistro**

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**MEAT & VEG TRAYS**

**8.00pm Raffles & Members Draw**

**Saturday 23** 11am – Close

**6.00pm Bistro**

**Sunday 24** 11am – Close

**12.00pm Bistro**

**12.00pm**

**MEAT & VEG TRAYS**

**12-2pm \$5 schooners**

Club closed  
Good Friday.

Raffles will be held on  
Thursday 28 March.

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