

t h e a b e r d e e n
WHISPER

April 2026

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ABERDEEN HIGHLAND GAMES

"A Celtic Experience in the Scottish Tradition"

Saturday 4th July 2026

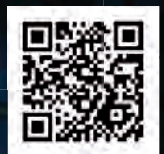
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Whisper Trivia

1. What side of the brain deals with language?
2. How many years was Genie stuck in the lamp before Aladdin found him?
3. How many layers of skin does a chameleon have?
4. Who painted "The Persistence of Memory"?
5. What is the name of the man who launched eBay back in 1995?
6. Which Avenger is the only one who could calm the Hulk down?
7. In what year was Broadway established?
8. Which auto brand was the first to offer seat belts?
9. What country won the very first FIFA World Cup in 1930?
10. What name does deer meat go by?



- Answers:
1. Left
 2. 10,000 years
 3. Four
 4. Salvador Dali
 5. Pierre Omidyar
 6. Black Widow
 7. 1750
 8. Nash
 9. Uruguay
 10. Venison

Business Directory

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Earle's Column



Last month I spent considerable space explaining the issues surrounding the adverse report from the NSW Auditor General on how Upper Hunter Shire Council has utilised the funds at its disposal to manage cashflow.

Despite the efforts of some, to use the issue to create reputational damage, it would seem that the storm has passed. Additionally, the Office of Local Government, the NSW department that oversees all local government activities, is fully aware of the situation and they maintain close contact with the senior management of UHSC to keep a 'regulatory' watch on our financial management.

I also mentioned that a supposed "solution" was an amalgamation of Upper Hunter Shire and Muswellbrook Shire. I described that proposal, which was rapidly and decisively voted down by Council at the end of February, as a 'thought bubble'. My source within Muswellbrook Shire Council tells me the idea got no traction within MSC at all.

THE 1926 ABERDEEN RAIL DISASTER CENTENARY COMMEMORATION

The small committee working on this project received a late, but very welcome encouragement at the very end of March, with the news that an application to run a heritage railmotor on Sunday 7th June from Aberdeen to Murrurundi and return had been approved.

In fact, on that day there will be **two** return trips that will enable about two hundred people to enjoy such a day out. (The committee remains concerned that the current fuel distribution issues that are causing widespread discomfort, will by then, have diminished. But who knows?)

Also, on that day we plan to run a community market at Harrison Oval, adjacent to the Aberdeen Sports Club. We plan to launch a Facebook page very shortly which will provide train ticket booking information and other details of the commemoration.

Get involved, it's going to be a long time before the next centenary comes around!

The committee is hoping to make a small financial success of the day so we can put something back into the Aberdeen community as well as recognise the extraordinary efforts of Aberdeen townsfolk through the night of 10th June 1926 that claimed four lives.

We have tracked down one local person, a resident of Murrurundi, who has a direct connection to that incident. She is a step-granddaughter of a ganger who worked on the Great Northern Railway Line and who gave evidence to the Coronial Inquest that was conducted in July of 1926.

If you or your family have resided in Aberdeen for 3 or 4 generations, it may well be the case that there is some hidden or 'forgotten' information about one of your ancestors being involved in the rescue efforts back in 1926.

If that's you we would really love to hear from you so that the "Heroes of Aberdeen" can be properly recognised on 7th June 2026. You can contact me on 0419 681 175 or send us an email to ardc1926@gmail.com.

Supplied by Earle Shields.

Missed the Whisper?

If you live in Aberdeen you should receive a copy of the Whisper but unfortunately, for whatever reason it may not get to your Letterbox. If it does happen you can collect a copy from the Aberdeen Post Office. A digital copy can also be found on the Hunter Valley Printing Website. Thank you for your understanding.

Happy to hear from you

If you know someone in your community that has an interesting story to tell, who's doing some interesting things - we'd love to hear about it. Chances are if you think it's interesting - others will too - and we're always open to ideas for stories, or features here.



the aberdeen
WHISPER



Would you like your story, event or advertisement in The Aberdeen Whisper? Phone 02 6545 2888 or email:

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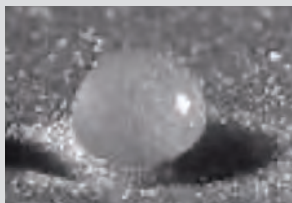


sconehorsefestival.com.au

Plan and Save Your Soil Biggest Assets *by Doctor Dirt*

In the last issue I covered the need to have good water quality and sufficient water for your agricultural enterprise. In this issue I will provide information regarding soil conservation. Landholders need to prepare and plan; it is imperative that monitoring and maintenance and forward decisions are made on both water supply and pasture quality and quantity available to your stock.

Going through my records I presented information on the importance of groundcover in a previous issue. Unfortunately, we are experiencing the same dry and drought conditions we faced three years ago. Today's article is about water induced erosion. I have several local photographs of the impact of wind erosion provided to me by a local farmer. I will cover the impact of wind erosion in the next issue.



*pictured on the left:
Photograph taken of droplet impact on bare soil*

There are over twenty reasons why groundcover saves you money, it is so important, some of the main reasons are: -

- Contributes to farm profitability through protecting the land and water.
- Assists in recovery and resilience of land in dry conditions and quick recovery after rain.
- Maintains organic matter and microbial activity.
- Reduces moisture loss and reduces soil exposure to overheating that kills microbes.
- Protects catchments, other properties and waterways from sediment, nutrient excesses and adverse algae blooms (blue green Algae).
- Maintains and improves soil structure and carbon levels.
- Prevents nutrient and chemical losses of that soil.
- Prevents erosion and sediment movement.
- Improves and maintains infiltration into the soil profile.
- Improves and maintains viability and sustainability of land.
- Reduces opportunity for weed establishment.
- Prevents reduction in fertility of the soil.
- Reduces costs on removing silt from dams, fence lines and access tracks.
- The cost of replacement of the soil lost is very expensive and will take decades or more. Preservation of the soil far outweighs the cost of trying to replace from loss.

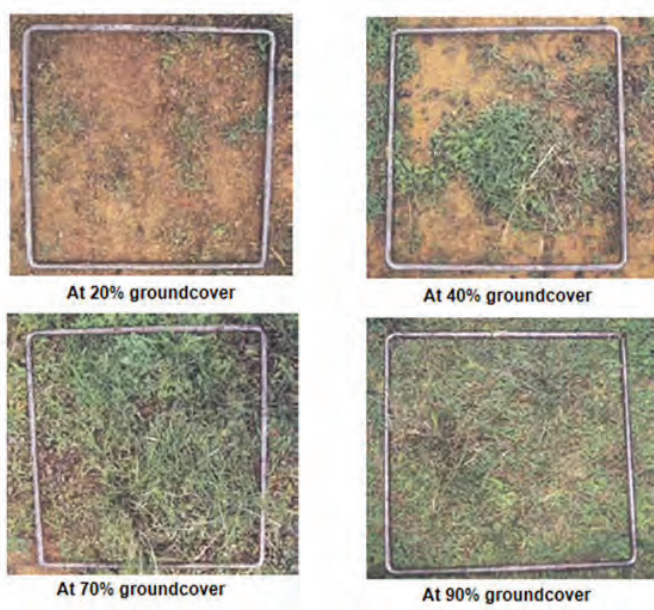
Studies and research studies across NSW conducted by the Soil Conservatiuion Service including Scone Research Station have concluded the need to maintain groundcover. The findings of the studies over a number of years conducted on various soil types, slopes and geographic locations, concluded that the minimum requirement is 70 percent groundcover. It is preferable that 80 to 90 percent groundcover is maintained.

It is common that up to 100 tonnes of topsoil can be lost per hectare in one intense storm when soil is not protected by groundcover.

Landholders should monitor and maintain appropriate benchmark groundcovers. Please be thorough, don't take short cuts, it is especially important to include areas of higher risk flowlines and higher slopes. Include various locations in each paddock and all different landuse and land capability areas to be assessed. A minimum height of 8 cm

groundcover is the second aspect of monitoring assessment criteria to include in your property inspections.

If your paddock does not meet these standards landholders not only should be supplementary feeding, relocate stock to areas that will have reduced risk of erosion landholders will also need to assess stock numbers.



pictured above: Photograph of visible representation of groundcover percentages

Supplied by Steve Eccles.
Steve Eccles - steveecclesconsulting@gmail.com
Mobile: 0400 808 873



Sports Aberdeen Claims Senior Pennant Frame Cup

Aberdeen Golf Club has taken out the 2026 Senior Pennant Frame Cup, defeating Branxton in a hard-fought final at Scone Golf Club on Sunday, March 29. The win capped a strong campaign, with Aberdeen finishing top of their group before progressing through to the decider alongside Branxton, who had also impressed throughout the competition.

Aberdeen secured comfortable victories in the first and third matches, but the result ultimately came down to the middle match. Leading by one up on the 18th, Reg Davidson sealed the victory with a crucial three-metre putt. Scone Golf Club was praised for its excellent course presentation, thanks to the efforts of its dedicated volunteers.

Supplied.



MACH Energy

Mount Pleasant Operation

The Mount Pleasant Joint Venture owns & manages the Mount Pleasant Operation.

The Mount Pleasant Operation operates on a 24 hour a day, 7 day a week roster.

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BLASTING HOTLINE: 1800 931 872

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: 1800 931 873

For further information, including BLAST times and location, visit our website: www.machenergy.com.au or email: info@machenergy.com.au

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- 5 Jean O'Bryan Close – \$910,000
- 7 Alexander Close – \$800,000
- 164 Macqueen Street – \$395,000

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State Matters with Dave Layzell MP

PERSPECTIVES SURVEY

Regional small businesses are being asked to share their experiences and help ensure regional realities are reflected in national policy discussions.

The Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) is conducting its 2026 Small Business Perspectives Survey.

If you run a small business in regional, rural or remote Australia your input is essential, so share your experiences and help ensure regional realities are reflected in the national discussion.

The findings will support COSBOA to advocate for policies that work for regional small businesses, highlight pressures including workforce and skills shortages, housing and childcare access, digital connectivity, infrastructure gaps, energy and insurance costs, and regulatory complexity.

You can participate until 30 April by going to: www.cosboa.org.au

WILD DOG OPERATION

The autumn offensive against wild dogs has been launched to protect livestock on farms and the environment with aerial and ground baiting programs underway across NSW.

Wild dog activity peaks during the autumn breeding season and acting now can significantly reduce populations and minimise predation and harassment of livestock, native wildlife and pets. Wild dogs are found throughout the state, and all landholders have a responsibility to work together to manage them under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

Local Land Services (LLS) facilitates coordinated wild dog control programs supplying subsidised 1080 baits to certified landholders, plus supporting public and private land managers to undertake control activities. Landholders can contact their nearest LLS office to speak with a biosecurity officer about control options best suited to their property and to find out more about upcoming baiting programs. Contact Hunter LLS by calling: 1300 795 299 or email: admin.hunter@lls.nsw.gov.au

TIME TO FOCUS

The Mullins Conceptual Photographic Prize (MCP) is accepting entries until 12 June for this year's competition. The Australian Photographic Society event provides the opportunity for Conceptual photographers to be recognised as the best in Australia and to win significant prize money. Accomplished artist/photographer, Sally McInerney, is the adjudicator for the 2026 MCP.

The finalists will be revealed on 26 June and the winner of the \$30,000 prize announced on Saturday 15 August at the formal opening of the exhibition at the Muswellbrook Regional



Arts Centre. The 2026 MCP exhibition will continue until 10 October, providing exhibitors and their printed works with a lengthy public exposure period.

Submit your entry now, at: www.artgalleria.com/portal/mullins

FUEL WARNING

NSW POLICE Rural Crime Prevention Team is urging rural landowners to be vigilant with monitoring fuel tanks as the price of petroleum products increases.

Officers advise that strategies to help strengthen your resilience against fuel theft include installing surveillance cameras, securing the bowser handle with a lock, and keeping detailed records of all fuel usage using the NSW Police Force Fuel Theft Report.

If you are a victim of rural fuel theft, report it to your local police station or call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444. Information about fuel theft in your area can also be reported to Crime Stoppers NSW on 1800 333 000.

The Fuel Theft Report is available from the NSW Police Force website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/527095/fuel_form.pdf

The Rural Crime Prevention Team's bottom line is that times are hard, so give crooks a hard time by reporting rural crime.

APPLY NOW!

Tourism and hospitality operators are being encouraged to enter the Hunter Region Business Hub's Business Excellence Awards. Now in their 31st year, the event has built a reputation as the Hunter's premier business awards. Venues, accommodation providers, tour operators, cellar doors, attractions and event businesses delivering quality visitor experiences are urged to submit their entries by 30 March.

Winner will be announced during a Gala Dinner on Friday 29 May at Ben Ean, Pokolbin. For details on the awards, go to: www.huntervalleyhub.com.au/business-community/awards/

REGIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE

Upper Hunter Electorate councils, major organisations, community and sporting groups are encouraged to start preparing projects for the NSW Government's Active Regional Communities Package.

The \$50 million fund will consider projects of all sizes that are smart and practical, embrace the uniqueness of regional communities, and embed resilience.

The new package delivers support through three funding streams for non-profit local community groups, local councils and cultural or sporting organisations to deliver events, programs and activities that deliver lasting benefits.

The three funding streams are \$15 million for Regional Events and Partnerships with applications open on 16 March, \$25 million for Community Participation with applications accepted from 23 March, and \$10 million dollars for Local Priorities with applications to open on 13 April.

For further information on Active Regional Communities, check: www.nsw.gov.au/regionaldevelopmenttrust

PROJECT REPORTS

Two new EnergyCo reports on the Hunter Transmission Project (HTP) are now available for public viewing on the NSW Planning portal. The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) will review the Submissions. Report alongside the HTP Environmental Impact Statement and the Amendment Report.

A total of 188 submissions, comprising 165 from the community and 23 from government were received and registered on the Planning Portal website. EnergyCo has considered the issues raised in submissions and provided responses in the Submissions Report. A number of amendments and refinements are being proposed in response to community, government and stakeholder engagement, consideration of submissions received during the EIS exhibition, and ongoing development of the design and construction methodology for the project.

The Amendment Report describes and assesses the potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed amendments and refinements and identifies how those impacts would be managed and mitigated.

Both reports can be viewed on the NSW Major Projects Portal: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/hunter-transmission-project

Supplied.

Contact:

94 John Street Singleton 2330
upperhunter@parliament.nsw.gov.au
6543 1065



Sports

Tigers Show Promise In Trial Hit-Out Against Dungowan

by Jacob Dallah

Cloud cover and a light breeze set the scene at McKinnon Oval as the Aberdeen Tigers hosted the Dungowan Cowboys in trial matches for both Under 18s and First Grade.

The Under 18s delivered a strong performance to claim a 28–10 win, showing plenty of promise ahead of the season. Aberdeen struck early through Dwayne Gill, with Bailey Chick converting from the sideline before Dungowan levelled the scores at 6–all.

The Tigers soon regained control, with Koby Milton crossing from dummy-half and Harlem Thomas adding another to help Aberdeen to an 18–6 halftime lead.

Aberdeen continued the pressure in the second half, with Preston

Bateman scoring out wide before one of the highlights of the afternoon saw Bronx Geerin set up Xavier Day for an 80-metre runaway try. Dungowan managed a late try, but the Tigers' defence held firm to secure the win. It was an encouraging performance from the young Tigers, particularly with several players from last year's Under 16s blending well into the side.

First Grade also produced plenty of positives, despite surrendering a late lead to finish in a 22–all draw. Aberdeen started strongly, with Mitchell Taylor opening the scoring off a neat pass from Tommy Dixon, before Uiti Baker barged over soon after. Tyla Fear converted both tries to give the Tigers an early 12–0 lead. Matt Hay added Aberdeen's third try in the first half, and his second shortly after the break stretched the lead to 22–4, putting the Tigers in a commanding position.

However, Dungowan mounted a late comeback, capitalising on errors and field position to score three unanswered tries and level the match in the closing stages. Despite the finish, Aberdeen will take plenty from the afternoon, with both grades showing strong effort, solid combinations and plenty to build on heading into the new season.

Supplied.

Events

In Just One Month, Scone Will Burst To Life As The 2026 Warburton Estate Agents Scone Horse Festival Returns

In just over a month, Scone will come alive as the 2026 Warburton Estate Agents Scone Horse Festival returns from May 8–17 for its 46th year.

More than 10,000 visitors are expected to flock to Australia's Horse Capital for the 10-day celebration of horses, community and country life. Favourite events will return, including the Scone Equine Hospital Horse Festival Parade, Thoroughbred Stud Tours, the Scone Racing Carnival and a range of family-friendly activities.

This year's theme, Breeding Brilliance, highlights the region's reputation for excellence across the equine industry and the strength of its community. Festival President Jason Hill said the theme reflects both Scone's world-class breeding and the passion behind it. "Scone produces more than half of Australia's thoroughbred racehorses, with leading studs such as Godolphin and Arrowfield setting the standard nationally and internationally," he said. Upper Hunter Shire Council Mayor Maurice Collison said the festival is about more than horses. "It brings our community together and celebrates the people, culture and connections that make this region so special," he said. Naming Rights Sponsors Warburton Estate Agents said the festival continues to play an important role in promoting the region while supporting local businesses and community spirit.

For festival updates follow the Facebook page [facebook.com/sconehorsefestival](https://www.facebook.com/sconehorsefestival) and website [sconehorsefestival.com.au](https://www.sconehorsefestival.com.au).



Aberdeen Public School

What a busy start to the year for us all at Aberdeen Public School!

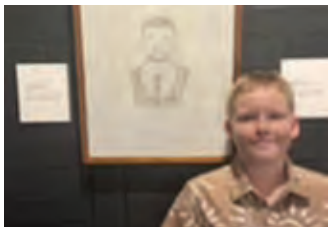
VISION SCREENING & KINDER BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

We would like to say thank you to; Bengalla for sponsoring Healthy Harold this year which ensured all students could participate at no cost to their families, Aaron Henry Optometry for coming and conducting vision screening for your year 1 students, Derm and SJA for supporting our Kinder Bus Safety Program by giving up your time and providing a bus and our wonderful P&C for purchasing 5 outdoor tables, allowing our students to enjoy a new outdoor learning space.



YOUNG ARCHIES COMPETITION

Congratulations to Oliver R. who recently had his artwork on display in Muswellbrook as part of the Young Archies competition which forms part of the 2025 Archibald Prize Exhibition, Fynn P. on his qualification for the Hunter Swimming Carnival in five individual events, Charlie M. on his selection in the UHPSSA Rugby League team and Jake M. on his selection into the NSWPSA cricket team, Jake is one of just 12 players chosen from a pool of 136 talented players – a fantastic achievement.



ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

A small but mighty contingent of students took part in our annual swimming carnival recently. Students can be proud of the sportsmanship and exemplary behaviour they demonstrated throughout the day. A massive thank you to our parents who volunteered their time to assist at the carnival. We simply would not be able to run these events without you!



PSSA CRICKET TEAM

Our first PSSA cricket team in 10 years faced Denman Public School in the first round of the PSSA Cricket Knockout, with Denman running out winners. A great display by Nick R. helped APS to a score of 7/76 and DPS making 5/78. A big thank you to Mr Easton for coaching the team.

Supplied.

MARKET DAY

— COMMEMORATING THE —
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RAILWAY DISASTER**
SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2026

**10AM-3PM JEFFERSON PARK
ABERDEEN NSW**



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Schools & Education

St Joseph's Cattle Team Celebrates Strong Showing at Armidale Show

Students from St Joseph's Cattle Show Team have achieved impressive results at the recent Armidale Show, held across Friday and Saturday. Competing against schools from throughout the New England region, the team took part in a range of events including junior judging, handling classes and cattle classes, showcasing both their skills and dedication.

Across the two days of competition, St Joseph's secured outstanding results, taking out Champion and Reserve Champion School Steer, as well as Champion Open Steer — a significant achievement in a highly competitive field. Individual success was also recognised, with Ellie, Chloe, Tristan and Ashlee all placing in judging and paraders classes. The strong results reflect the commitment and passion of the students, who represented their school with pride throughout the event.

Supplied.



Clubs & Community

Busy Month for Aberdeen Pony Club Despite Gloomy Weather

Members of the Aberdeen Pony Club have enjoyed a productive and fun-filled March, with a strong turnout at their latest rally day despite overcast conditions.

Held earlier this month, the rally day featured a variety of activities including jumping, flat work, a farrier demonstration and time trial practice. While the weather was less than ideal, riders remained enthusiastic throughout, making the most of the day's program. Club organisers extended their thanks to instructors Maddie, Brad, Marcia and Graham for their guidance and patience, helping riders build skills and confidence while ensuring plenty of laughs along the way.

The club has also welcomed several new families this year, alongside returning members, with excitement building for a busy and action-packed season ahead. A number of riders have already represented the club at events, with Molly, Erin, Sophie, Maddie, Frankie and Katie all commended for their efforts. Members also played a key role at the recent Muswellbrook Campdraft, assisting with the running of Ring 2, which attracted more than 60 riders — a strong turnout for the event.

Looking ahead, next month's rally day will be replaced by the Rossgole Camp, with photos and updates set to feature in the April edition of the Aberdeen Whisper.

Supplied by Amy Croft.



Art & Culture

Awakening Workshop

The recent Awakening Workshop was a wonderful success, bringing together creativity, learning and community spirit. Thanks to support from the Arts Upper Hunter Country Arts Support Program Grant / Micro Grant 2026, participants enjoyed a fantastic day of quilting at the Scone Arts & Crafts venue.

We were pleased to welcome Brenda Burgess, who taught participants how to use the Flip La K system. Beginners created Easy Laced Stars, while more experienced quilters tackled the Bali Star design, with Deb keeping a watchful eye on the ironing station.

With 16 participants attending from across the Hunter Valley, the workshop was a great opportunity to learn new skills, take on a creative challenge and connect with others. It was lovely to see everyone complete their quilt tops and head home with something special to share with family and friends.

Supplied by Liz Burch.



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THE NATIONALS
for Regional NSW



Authorised by Dave Layzell MP, 94 John Street, Singleton NSW 2330
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The Latest on Vets Golf

STRONG TURNOUT FOR MIDWEEK EVENT AT MDI

A total of 19 players turned out at MDI on Tuesday, March 24 for the 2BBB and Individual Stableford event, marking an above-average field for the popular midweek competition.

The event, organised by Dave Bramley and Captain Mick McCormick, was well received, with players enjoying a competitive day despite challenging conditions. Overnight rain meant all participants were required to re-set the sand greens throughout their rounds — a task carried out with notable skill and cooperation across the field.

Adding to the day's success, players were treated to a selection of fresh sandwiches, kindly prepared by Christine Smith. In the results, Alan Flanagan and Brett Reid claimed victory with an impressive 42 points. They finished just ahead of Graham Turvey and Howie Lane, who secured second place on a countback with 41 points. Dave Bramley and Captain Mick McCormick rounded out the top three, also on 41 points.

Ball winners included Ken Thornton and John Norman with 40 points, Brett Dann and Paul Constable with 38, and Graham Newton and Reg Davidson with 35. Paul Constable took out nearest the pin honours on the 9th and 18th holes. The Bradman's Trophy, generously donated by Gary Leake and Associates, was awarded to Alan Cooper.

STRONG FIELD AND TIGHT FINISH AT MBK VETERANS STABLEFORD EVENT

A field of 37 players contested the Stableford event for the veterans at the MBK 18-hole course on March 17, enjoying pleasant autumn conditions and a well-run day of competition. Players were greeted with mild weather and a welcoming atmosphere, with several new members joining the field. Thanks were extended to Beryl in the pro shop for organising scorecards and the draw alongside Captain Mick McCormick. There was also positive news shared among the group, with former president Paul Gorman reported to be recovering well after receiving a heart pacemaker.

On the course, competition was tight, with Christine Smith claiming victory on 40 points following a countback. Paul Constable also finished on 40 to take second place, while Tony Pearson initially placed third on countback with 40. Dave Taylor secured fourth with 39 points, followed by John Belfield on 35. Mick Alsleben and Garry Carter rounded out the placings with 34 points on countback. Ball winners included Bob

Lawman (34), Steve Nowland (33), Alan Flanagan, Gav Myers, Lyn Banks, Ross Banks and Dave Perfrement (all 32), along with President Lindsay Hodge on 31.

Nearest the pin honours went to Mick Alsleben on the 5th and 14th (second shot), Garry Carter on the 8th, Paul Constable on the 11th, and Dave Taylor on the 17th. The Bradman's Trophy, kindly donated by Gary Leake and Associates, was awarded to Graham Newton.

Following the event, a scoring discrepancy was identified in the computer system, where one card had the player and marker details reversed. As a result, revised placings were confirmed, with Christine Smith retaining first place on 40 points (countback), followed by Paul Constable (40), Dave Taylor (39), John Belfield (35), Mick Alsleben (34cb), Garry Carter (34cb), and Bob Lawman (34). Due to the absence of several players, prizes have been adjusted and will be distributed as players attend upcoming games.

FUTURE GAMES:

April 5, Daylight Saving ends so we start our shotgun start by 9.00am from then on for quite a long while (till further notice)

- April 7 at Aberdeen S&P
- April 14 at Denman Stb
- April 21 at Scone Stb Medal round
- April 28 at MBK Stb (Please book-in with the proshop)

New members are always welcome to join the competition.

Supplied.



left: Christine Smith won the Vet's Stb event at MbK with 40 points. She is congratulated by Tournament Direct Bruce Robinson.



right: Winners of the 2 B B B and Ind Stb Event, Alan Flanagan and Brett Reid, are congratulated by Captain Mick McCormick.

Athletics

Young Athletes Shine at NSW Junior Championships

Two rising athletes from the club have delivered strong performances at the NSW Juniors State Athletics Championships 2026, held in Sydney from March 12–15. Competing in the under-15 division, Archie Sellers-Bentley produced an outstanding result in the 4kg hammer throw, finishing third with a distance of 40.57 metres to claim the bronze medal. He also competed in the shot put, placing seventh with a throw of 13.14 metres, and in the discus, where he finished 12th with 44.52 metres.

Fellow under-15 athlete Grace Partridge represented the club in the 1500m race walk, finishing 12th in a time of 12:32.61. Both athletes were praised for their efforts on the state stage, not only for their performances but also for representing their club with pride and sportsmanship.

The championships capped off a busy season for the club, with Friday, March 27 marking the conclusion of the 2025/2026 athletics season. The evening featured a number of relay events, followed by the presentation of end-of-season awards. A full wrap-up of results and award winners will be published in the May edition of The Whisper.

Supplied by Denise Bell.

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A big thank you to the Warrior Disability Service staff, parents and participants for delivering your Whisper. The service offers people with disabilities choices through group activities, one-to-one support, and in-home support. NDIS registered. Sally Pereira is the Director of Participant Services. The office is situated at Shop 12 Brook Street Plaza, Muswellbrook, 0432 680 936.

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