

Local Art

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Walk around Walcha's big open-air art gallery



HIGH CHAIR: Walcha's open-air gallery will surprise and delight with its size and variety.

AT THE suggestion of the Walcha Arts Council, Walcha Council has adopted the concept of developing Walcha as an open-air gallery.

The decision was taken for a number of reasons, not least of all to develop Walcha's distinctiveness, to provide an additional dimension to the quality of life of our community and to provide a source of expression for the very talented local artists.

Forty-two sculptures by both local and overseas artists have been established in and around our town. The concept provides for a variety of media including landscaping, street furniture and murals. Aboriginal art is also featured.

The installation of public sculpture in Walcha dates from 1996, when Stephen King presented the council with a proposal for his fountain sculpture, *Weather Signs*, in McHatton Park, close to the centre of town.

From 1999, King, Ross Laurie and James Rogers worked on the sculptures that now stand on the community's four entrance roads.

Other contributors included Nigel White, Stephen Killick, Mandy Francis, Mike Nicholls and David Waters.

By 2001, a Public Art Plan had been adopted, and a group of local and invited artists created an ambitious collection of sculptures and "street furniture".

When in town be sure to call in to the Visitor Information Centre to pick up a brochure on the town walk around the sculptures.



Pamela Hart Webster
BACHELOR OF FINE ART
ORIGINAL PAINTINGS

- Watercolour
- Oil
- Acrylics
- Landscapes
- Still Life
- Leather-work

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Walcha's "Open Air Gallery"



Concept of the Walcha Arts Council and Tourism Walcha

Now over 40 pieces scattered around the beautiful town of Walcha.

Call into the Visitor Information Centre for a brochure on the town walk. Phone: 6774 2460 Website: www.walchansw.com.au Email: council@walcha.nsw.gov.au

NEWS LEADER



SERVICES ON THE ROAD: Desert Pea, the Australian government's mobile service centre will visit Curlewis and Barraba later this month.

Mobile truck centre

CURLEWIS and Barraba will soon get a visit from the Australian government's mobile service centre "Desert Pea".

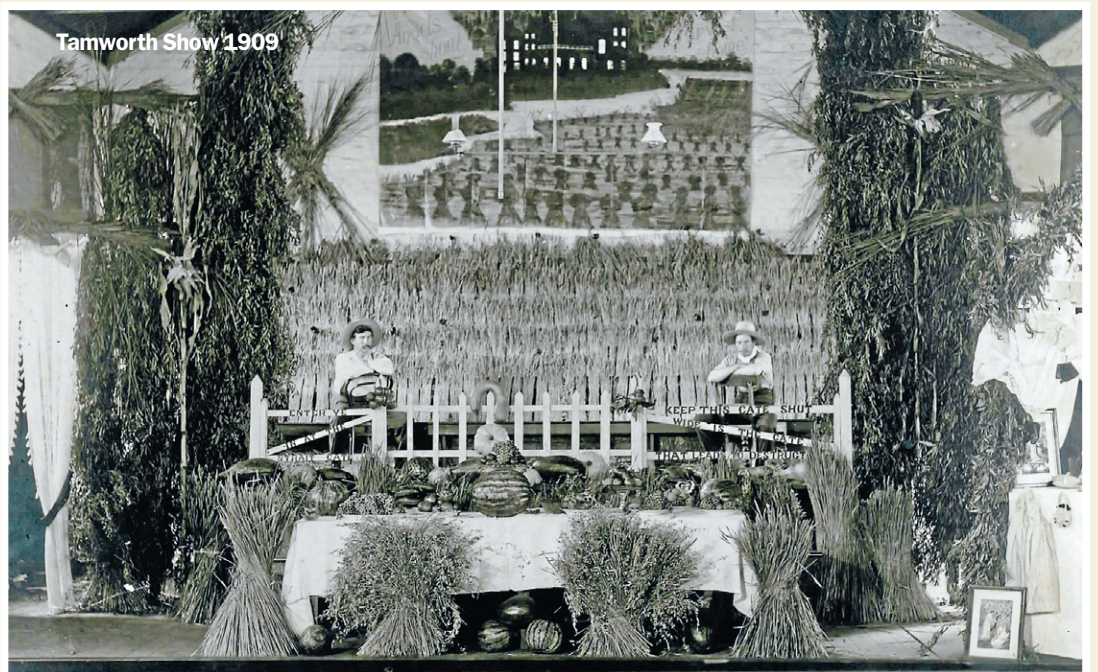
The mobile centre, staffed by experienced officers, gives locals the chance to get easy access to govern-

ment payments and services. Medicare transactions and child support payments can be processed and staff will be on hand to give clients hearing health checks.

New claims for a wide range of Centrelink payments can be made,

personal information can be updated and advice can be sought on how financial matters may impact on payments.

Desert Pea will be in Curlewis on Monday, July 29 and Barraba on Tuesday, 30 July.



A grand show from yesteryear

THIS grand display was taken at the Tamworth Show in 1909, which was then situated in the area between the river and Kable Ave, Number One Oval and the Olympic pool site. John Whinfield has again provided today's photo.

Visions from the past
WITH DENISE SKEWES

A note to readers of *Visions from the past*: we need six historical

photos every week. Our aim is to keep a strong pictorial record of the life and times of our city.

To comment on any of our photos or to submit your own, please call into *The Leader* office or call me on 6768 1200.

Community calendar

today
Tamworth Town and Country Club

MONTHLY luncheon for members and guests, from noon for 12.30pm seating. Cost is \$17. Guest speaker will be Chris Watson, representing Ronald McDonald House. For bookings call the club on 6766 4203.

Northern NSW Federation of Justices of the Peace Tamworth

MEMBERS will be in attendance in the foyer of the Tamworth Court House, from 9am to 1pm each Mon-

day (Tuesday, if a public holiday), Wednesday and Friday for the purposes of witnessing signatures, certifying copies of documents and other JP-related matters. Inquiries to Ken on 6762 5921 or Jo on 6761 8643. Members are also available to certify copies of documents, witness signatures and other JP-related matters at Shoppingworld Tamworth from 10am to 1pm on the first Saturday of each month.

tomorrow
Country Women's Affair

FROM 8.30am-noon at the Manilla CWA rooms, corner of Namoi and Strafford streets. CWA Devonshire teas, Lions Club barbecue, jewellery, olives, gourmet chutney and

saucers, CWA cakes, pickles and jams, lavender, wood turning and various craft. Inquiries call 6785 2508.

Dance 50/50, new vogue, freestyle

TO BE held at Moore Creek Hall from 2pm to 5.30pm. Music by Helen Swain; ladies please bring a plate for supper. Raffle, lucky door prizes. Phone 6765 9719.

Tamworth Women's AA meeting

EVERY Saturday from 12.30pm-2pm at the Community Health Centre, Tamworth hospital. Women helping other women to achieve sobriety - the only condition for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call Val on 0400 342 228.