



July 2023 Monthly Report from the Committee

- **The Incoming Committee for 2023/2024**

President:	Jill Drury
Vice-President:	John Hincks
Secretary:	Bridget Earle
Treasurer:	Tim Woolford-Smith
Association Croquet Captain:	Sue Moss
Golf Croquet Captain:	Tony Croft

- **President's Message**

Firstly, I'd like to say a big thank you to our past president Bridget Earle on the generous dedicated service she gave to our club over the past 3 years.

I am honoured to be elected as your new president. I am passionate about this club and the playing of croquet. Although there is no age restriction to players of the game, most people who play are retired. Unlike other sports, croquet

is a game that people can still play into their nineties, as we know. And because of this some of our new members have made the transition from other sports to croquet and are loving the game.

As president I would like our club to be known as a club where people of all ages feel welcomed, supported, and respected. I believe that, as a club, we can play a significant part in bringing meaning, quality, and enjoyment to people's lives. I encourage all members to join me in this task.

I look forward to working with and supporting the committee, the many volunteers and each of you the members of Port Macquarie Croquet Club. Please know that you can approach me with any concern or suggestion regarding the club. I will listen and respect you. If you do have a complaint, please bring it to me or a committee member. It is up to all of us to have an attitude which will enhance the culture of the club.

Please know that as your president I will do my best. Of course, I will make mistakes but with you as club members, we can work together to have a club of which we are immensely proud, a club that we would like others to join.

Jill





• **A New Life Member**

At the AGM Sue Moss was inducted as a Life Member. Sue has given outstanding service to the club over her 25 years as a member. She has been the AC Captain 9 times and Manager of the annual AC Carnival 12 times. She is also a very talented player, being the Open Champion in AC 6 times and GC 3 times. Congratulations, Sue.



• **Working Bee**

Thank you to all the members who helped with the Working Bee. It was a great team effort, cleaning and tidying both inside the clubhouse and around the grounds. Stewart and Julie's husband, Mark, did a fantastic job cleaning out the equipment shed!



• **Our youngest player**

Starting to play at 2 years – watch out Fletcher brothers. An anonymous donor gave a junior family backyard croquet set to the club – good to see it in use.



• **Our new President**

Last week Jill and Eric were able to introduce croquet to their two 'boys'.



- **67th Annual Association Croquet Carnival**

The carnival will be held from Monday 24 July to Friday 28 July on courts 1 and 2. Players are members of clubs from Sydney in the south, Sawtell in the north and Gloucester to the west. We are endeavouring to make it a cashless carnival – lunch and raffle money will be paid using a square reader.

You may book to play on Court 3 at any time during those 5 days.

- **Raffles at carnivals**

The carnival raffles are good fund raisers for our club and members have always been very generous with their donations.

The gold box has now been placed on the bench or a table.

Suggestions are that you bring something that you would like to win yourself – red and white wines, chocolates, biscuits, shortbreads, nuts. You may buy tickets during the week before the carnival.

Thank you for the many items that have been donated already.



- **Cakes, Slices and biscuits during the Carnival (24 to 28 July)**



Our club is known for its country hospitality. Part of this is providing cakes, biscuits and slices for the competitors throughout the carnival. Our members have always been very generous with this – just bring them in at any time. For planning purposes it would help if you write your name on the list. We will be at the club from 7:00am to 5:00pm each day.

Court 3 will be available for play during the carnival – just book online.

- **Mid North Coast Croquet Council (MNCCC)**

- The last of the Inter-club competitions, the ricochet match against Forster, was held at Port Macquarie last week. Port Macquarie won 4 games to 2.

- The MNCCC AGM and July General Meeting of club delegates was held at Taree last Saturday.

- **Dates of the District Championships**

Ricochet - Thursday 28 September at Gloucester

Association croquet – Wednesday 4 October at Taree

Golf croquet – Sunday 15 October at Port Macquarie

Players for the championships will be determined by the captains.



- **Association Croquet Division 2 Championship**

Eric Gadd never ceases to amaze us – he is an inspiration to us all. In winning the Division 3 Championship his AC handicap triggered from 9 to 8. This allowed him to play in the Division 2 Championship, which he won in a 4 player round robin. Congratulations, Eric.



- **Grounds committee report**

The grounds committee has worked hard and achieved good results. They have continued to mark lines, move the hoops regularly, weed the gardens and perform maintenance tasks when needed. The roller has been renovated and is working well. The Westport painter has painted the seat in the shelter shed on Court 2 and the two verandah doors.

- **Club website**

Tim has created an excellent website for our club. It is easy to navigate and has much information for club members.

Visit it on portmacquarietroquet.com.au

- **Club Booking System - Top-up facility**

Don't forget to use the Top-Up facility after you have transferred or deposited money for green fees into the club's bank account. Thank you all for keeping abreast of the changes.

- **Please register to play whenever you go to the lawns**

Booking **whenever you play on the lawns** is essential for insurance purposes. If only one person is registered on a lawn for a session this is regarded as practice and there is no lawn fee.

- **Committee Minutes**

The minutes of meetings are kept in a folder in the third drawer of the filing cabinet. They may be read in the clubhouse.

- If you have any concerns or suggestions please put them **in writing to the President and Secretary**. These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.



- **The Westport Club**

We are very grateful for the support given by The Westport Club and encourage all of our members to become Social Members of the Club, at minimal cost. Recently we have been given Westport vouchers to include in our raffle prizes.

- **Vale Hilda Banks**

Bridget Earle (Secretary)