



## January 2024 Monthly Report from the Committee

### • President's Message



I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members a very happy New Year. May 2024 be enhanced for each of us by the fact that we are members of PMCC.

In my December message I made mention of an important date for your 2024 calendar.

**On Thursday 15 February 2024, 9.00am, you are invited to attend an: INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION FORUM followed by a Devonshire morning tea.**

**You will find further information explaining this on our notice board and attached with this newsletter.**

The following is a snapshot of what I said at our Christmas party. *As your president of the past 6 months, I have recognised just how important the culture of our club is. We can be recognised by our playing champions and so we should but if our club culture does not provide our members with the values of inclusiveness, respect, friendship, enjoyment, kindness etc, it is neglecting the well-being of its members. The culture of our club is so important.*

*All of you are to be congratulated for what you personally bring to the club, that is **Yourself**. How well you play, how old you are, how slow you might be because of health issues, what experience you bring as a new member, whether you are a competitive player, or a social player, is not what matters most. What matters most is that **You** are a member of PMCC and we are glad that you are. Together, all of us can move into 2024 knowing that we are all responsible for making our club not only successful competitively, but a club that has a culture of valuing every member.*

I look forward to seeing you on the court and if not, I hope to see you at our forum on Thursday 15 February.

Jill

### • Christmas Afternoon Tea

This year our end of year celebration was different. We had the acknowledgement of winners of trophies, followed by a delicious afternoon tea that was provided by those present.

The raffle was well supported – a bottle of Dimple Whiskey was won by Tony Croft and a Christmas cake by Geoffrey Chessor.

The round wooden plates, for winners of AC and MNCCC events, had been made by Eric Gadd. He won 2 of them – AC Divisions 2 and

3. The unusual model mallet trophies were made by an ex member – they were for GC Division 1 Singles and Handicap Singles. A few people played golf croquet afterwards.



- **Association Croquet Open Championship**

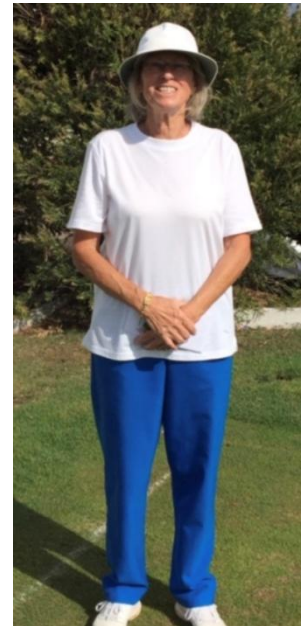


The final game in the 4 player round robin was critical. Sue Moss and Tim Woolford-Smith had already won 2 games each. In a nail-biting finish Robert Kemp beat Tim 17 – 14. Sue’s win was convincing with 2 games and a net score of +39.

Sue has been the AC Champion 7 times in the last 8 years.

- **Ricochet Division 3 Championship**

In a 4 player round robin Tony Croft won 3 games, 15 – 3, 13 – 11 and 24 – 9. Another victory to Tony – he is an inspiration to us all.



- **Recent changes in club administration**

- Pam Wiemers is now the club Treasurer and
- Tony Croft is administering the booking site.

- **HELP NEEDED in the grounds**



Rod the groundsman and Stephen the cleaner elected not to continue working for the club when they were informed that they would need to have their own insurance cover. We thank them both for the work they have done for the club.

With no paid groundsman at present, the grounds team of Tony Holmes, Eric Drury and Steve Evans need some help. Eric and Steve have been mowing and whipper-snipping the court surrounds. Tony would like help with the courts and general maintenance.

They usually meet at about 8:00am on Thursdays.

If you are able to help please ring Tony on 0414 957 156.

- **Participation in MNCCC events**

The Mid North Coast Croquet Council (MNCCC) organizes competitions between the Forster, Gloucester, Taree and Port Macquarie croquet clubs. These local clubs have been socialising and competing for 65 years. The club delegates have always worked hard to maintain this contact.

Each year there are 2 types of competition in golf and association croquet and ricochet. The Inter-Club competitions, handicap events, take place during the first half of the year. The level play competitions, the District Championships, usually take place in September and October.

The Inter-Club golf croquet competitions will be in Advantage Handicap format. As well as looking for players your Captain, Tony Croft, will be looking for referees and scorer/time-keepers.

It is good to be part of a team.

- **The 2024 Club Calendar** – attached with this Newsletter

The committee looks forward to more members taking part in competitions in all 3 croquet codes. There are handicap and level play competitions at our club, in MNCCC competitions and in Carnivals at other clubs and at the state and national level.

For information about the latter 3 look at the Croquet NSW website under events.



- **Come and Try**

Do you know someone who is interested in learning to play croquet?

If so, contact our coach, John Hincks on 0401 314 928, to arrange a free lesson. Please give John the name, mobile number and email address of the person.



- **Practice Book**

All players who practise are asked to register in the **PRACTICE BOOK** which is on the table just inside the clubhouse.

Practice is when you are playing by yourself and no fee is incurred. With two or more players you are playing a game and the green fee applies.

You may still book on the booking-site, if no-one is booked on the court, but write in the Practice Book as well. Thank you.

- **Ball markers**

John Hincks has bought ball markers for members to buy. A packet of 4 costs \$1. Please purchase from John



- **Hydration**

During the warmer weather it is **very important** to keep well hydrated. It is good to see most members with their own water bottle. A hat and sunscreen are also advisable. A wet towel around the neck or neck-tie can help to keep you cool.

The Club does have a heat policy that you can find on the club website under Policies.

- **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**

This is essential for insurance purposes. If only one person is registered on a lawn for a session this is interpreted 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 (president@portmacquarietroquet.com.au) and Secretary (secretary@portmacquarietroquet.com.au)**. These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

- **The Westport Club**

We are grateful to The Westport Club for giving us a cash grant, through Club grants, of \$1,500. This is to help with equipment and maintenance costs. We also have a \$500 In-Kind grant to use in the club.

We encourage all members to become social members of The Westport Club, at minimal cost.

Bridget Earle (Secretary)



Our resident plover has **3 babies** under her wings