



Port Macquarie Croquet Club
www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au

November 2024 Newsletter



- **From the President**

THANK YOU

Sue Moss

This month Sue Moss resigned from her position of Association Croquet Captain of our club. Consequently, Sue will no longer be a member of our management committee. Sue has served as Association Captain and as a member of the committee for many years. We thank Sue for her loyalty, reliability, dedication and commitment to these positions. Her croquet skills, experience and historical knowledge of our club will still be sought. Eric Gadd, Vice-Captain of Association Croquet will fill the Committee's casual vacancy position until our next General Meeting. Thank you Sue and Eric.

The Grant's Working Group

I have just finished reading the grant application prepared by this group, predominately by Robyn Richardson and Danuta Chessor. I am astounded at how much information was required before the grant was finalised. These ladies have spent hours and hours answering the questions in the application and providing the information and data required. On behalf of our Club, I want to thank them sincerely and other members of the grant's working group that have provided input.

CHRISTMAS PARTY HIGH TEA AND PRESENTATION

I do hope you are able to attend this occasion. Not only will we be acknowledging those players who have won the trophies for this year BUT we will also be able to:

- (a) entice our taste buds by the high tea Christmas treats
- (b) give pleasure to our ears by some entertainment
- (c) give anticipation to our eyes by what/who we see
- (d) give enthusiasm to our sense of touch by what we are given
- (e) give delight to ourselves and our friends by being and having fun together.

Thank you to those members who have already contributed 2 & 3 tier cake plates and the promise of small treats to eat. If you would like to provide any small (homemade or bought) treats for the plates, such as, rum balls, cheese truffles, ribbon sandwiches, mince tarts, savoury scrolls, mini quiches, ham and cheese puffs, smoked salmon bites, spinach and ricotta rolls, slices, mini patty cakes/tartlets please contact Barb Evans (0403 402 085) or myself, Jill (0408 381 195).

There will be lucky door prizes. A member has already made and donated a Christmas cake for a prize. Any other donation of a lucky door prize is most welcome.

Thanks everyone

Jill

- **SoFun (Coordinator Donna Sinclair)**

- **Christmas Party and Presentation High Morning Tea**

Thursday 5 December, 10.30 am

Entertainment

Lucky Door Prizes

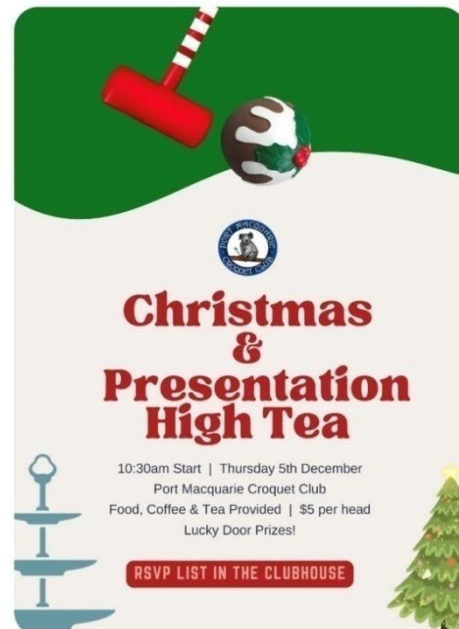
Special Visitor

\$5 pp (to be paid at the door)

Flyer will be on noticeboard to add names, if attending.

- **New Years Eve**

There will be a members and family picnic night on New Years Eve (9pm fireworks) - more details in the December Newsletter.



- **Grounds and Gardening Working Group (Coordinator Eric Drury)**

Courts 2 and 3 have been scarified. Court 1 will be done as soon as possible.

- **Grants Working Group (Coordinator Robyn Richardson)**

As Jill reported in her message, an enormous amount of time and energy went in to preparing the submission. The grant is to assist in funding for the repair and upgrade of our clubhouse. We have heard that only 13% of applications are successful.

Quotes were obtained and letters of support were received. The Treasurer, Pam Wiemers, prepared a comprehensive budget. Mark Bullivant has agreed to Project Manage the project. Many thanks to the 36 members who completed the survey.

A special thanks to the Grants Working Group for their tireless work over many weeks.

- **MNCCC Ricochet District Championship**

The dynamic duo – they've done it again!

The Best of 3 Games was played in divisions 2 and 3, with only 2 players in each division.

Division 2 was won by Tony Croft who beat Peter Long (Forster) 14 – 10, 15 – 14 (golden hoop).

Division 3 was won by Jill Drury who beat Janine Crellin (Taree) 11 – 4, 11 – 9.

Congratulations, Tony and Jill.



- **Sunday Fun Day**



What a fantastic day! It was a great family day with 56 attending. The novelty games were enjoyed by all, even the young went well on lawn 3 with small mallets and balls.



Balloon man (aka Tony Croft) made dogs, flowers, swords ... for the kids, even a plane for a big kid.



The build-a-burger lunch was great with a variety of add-ons and lots of sweets and slices. The lucky door prize was won by Sue Moss and the raffle by Julie Bullivant. We are grateful to Donna and Stewart, and the SoFun group, for organising this great day.



- **Kelsall Challenge in Association Croquet**



This annual challenge between Port Macquarie and Urunga started in 1994. It was paused in the early 2000s because of insufficient players, but started again in 2019. This year the Urunga team won 4 games to 2 (2 Singles and 1 Doubles in the morning and again in the afternoon). It is always a pleasure to play at the beautiful riverside setting and to socialize with our longtime croquet friends.



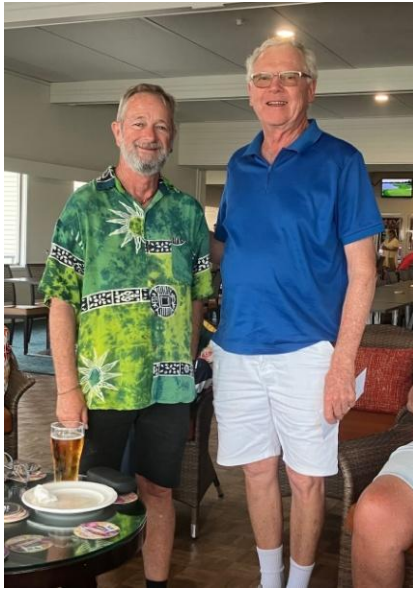
- **Boys from the Central Coast**

It was a delight to meet these 5 enthusiastic young men this morning at the croquet courts, all dressed in their whites ready to play in the 11am session. They were quick to pick up tips and tactics of the game. There was strong competition right to the last hoop. It was a joy to witness their enthusiasm and fun.

Jill Drury (3.11.2024)



- **Urunga Golf Croquet Carnival**



5 of our members played in this carnival. Over the 4 days they each played 14 games in 3 graded blocks of 8. They played double round robins – the first round level, the second handicap. It was a real test of skill and stamina.

All played very well, particularly Eric Drury who won Block B on a count back – both he and Jonathan Deanes (Urunga) had 10 wins but Eric had a net hoop difference of +1.

Tony Croft and Stewart Sinclair were 3rd and 4th respectively in Block A. Jill Drury was 4th in Block B and Robyn Clarke 3rd in Block C. Well done.



- **Club Golf Croquet Handicap Singles**

In a 4 player round robin Donna Sinclair won her 3 games. Jill and Eric Drury and Jill Sargeant each won one game – on a countback Eric was the runner up. All games were challenging and played in great spirit. Congratulations, Donna.



- **Club Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles**

In a 3 pair round robin, with extra strokes allocated, Jill and Eric Drury won both of their games, and Tony Croft and Catherine Whitbourne won one game. Thank you Tony for organising the event and Trevor Thornton for refereeing. Well done, Jill and Eric.



- **Coaching**

If you would like to improve your game and feel some coaching would help contact Pam Wiemers on 0403 412 284 to arrange a time convenient to both



- **PMCC information Pamphlet**

An information pamphlet is available to hand out to visitors or people watching over the fence. These pamphlets are kept in holders in the clubhouse and the small shelter sheds on courts 2 and 3.

Please hand out to people showing interest.



- **Payment of Green Fees and Top-up facility**

This is a two step process:

1. deposit the money into our bank account (BSB 032 586 Account 249 968) either by direct deposit with G/Fees and your name as the reference or at the Westpac branch with your date of birth as the reference
2. log onto the Club Booking System and top up with the amount you banked and save the transaction.

If you have booked in and for some reason do not play then it is your responsibility to delete the booking prior to midnight otherwise you will be charged green fees for that day.

Bank deposits are reconciled with the top up record each month.

Any queries please contact Treasurer Pam

- **PRACTICE**

You are asked to register in the Practice Book whenever you practice - you are no longer required to book in on the booking site. It is free when you are practising on your own. When playing with 2 or more people the normal lawn fee applies and you need to book in.

- **PMCC Facebook Page**

This page is going well and we have 41 followers already. Tony Croft and I have made many posts, both on the Port Macquarie Croquet Club and the Croquet NSW Community Facebook pages. If you would like material posted on the PMCC Facebook page send it to Tony Croft:

SMS - 0401 558 585 or
email to tonycroft42@gmail.com

- **Come and Try**

Do you know someone who is interested in learning to play croquet?
If so, contact Jill Drury, on 0408 381 195, to arrange a free lesson. Please give Jill their name, mobile number and email address.



- **New members**

Please try to make all new members feel welcome and help to make them feel comfortable in the club.

- **Welfare**

Please notify Judy Wallis by SMS on 0417 135 115 or email on jewallis77@gmail.com if you know of anyone who is unwell or bereaved.

- **Communicating with the Committee**

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

Concerns or suggestions can be emailed to the:

President (president@portmacquarietroquet.com.au) and

Secretary (secretary@portmacquarietroquet.com.au)

These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

- **Mallets for sale**

Two mallets, owned by the late Bob Collishaw, are for sale. They are good quality mallets, both with long shafts.

1. PFC Hoopmaker mallet with brass striking faces, 2 different shafts and mallet cover – suggested price \$450.

2. Evolution mallet, carbon shaft, rosewood head and stainless steel endplates and mallet bag – suggested price - \$250.

They are on display in the clubhouse. If you are interested in buying one contact Jill Drury.

Bridget Earle (22.11.2024)



Playing one minute, downpour the next (photo taken by Maree Dawes)