



PORT MACQUARIE CROQUET CLUB

www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au

May Newsletter 2025

Another month, another year older, and what a wet month it has been. More cancellations than opportunities to actually play croquet and other sports, and coming from someone that definitely needs the practise, that's not good at all. I've been closely monitoring my performance since joining the club and I'm starting to think of myself in terms of a well known horse racing ad, 'I may get some hoops but I miss a lot more'. Anyways, we can't control the weather. If there are any positives to be had, the rain did provide an insight as to the levelness of our two main greens, as shown below:



Cheers

Hans

From the Committee

The committee is very grateful for the willingness of club members who volunteer to help in the running of our club. We are excited that we have a vibrant growing club. This would not be so except for the contribution of all members. As well as thanking all those who actively volunteer, I am taking this opportunity to appeal to any other members to become more involved in helping to share the load. We need and value all members.

Please note the following:

Firstly

Annual Working Cleaning Bee of the Clubhouse

1. The interior of the Clubhouse including the hoop shed has been scheduled for Thursday 10 July, 9am – 12pm.
2. Working Bee for exterior of the Clubhouse is to be arranged by Eric Drury, coordinator of the Grounds Working Group. You may already be aware of how much in need of a clean are the outside walls plus the veranda and walls.

Secondly

Annual Election of Officers

The AGM is to be held on Thursday 10 July, 9am.

All committee positions will be vacant, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, AC Captain, GC Captain.

There have been 2 formal resignations,

1. the secretary's position
2. the AC Captain position.

If you or anyone you know would be willing to fulfill these positions, please feel free to speak to myself or any member of the committee.

We will be needing a new secretary and a new AC Captain but know that nomination for the other 4 positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and GC Captain would be welcome. Please consider becoming a member of the committee. You can be assured of assistance from past and present committee members.

Nomination forms will be on the table inside the clubhouse. Nominations must be given to the secretary no later than Thursday 3 July.

Jill Drury President

Grounds and Gardening Working Group

We are in need of volunteers interested in improving and maintaining our club house and gardens. If you're interested or would like to know more, please give me a call on 0419 325 354.

Many thanks,

Eric

Association Croquet Results Update from Bridget Earle

The Open Handicap competition, with 8 players and 28 three-hour games in the round robin, has been running for 5 months. It has almost been completed.

Even though it has not been completed, the outright winner in **Division 3** was Steve Scrimgeour, while **Division 4** was won by Jill Drury.



On another matter, it's getting closer to several carnivals. Carnival raffles are always good fund raising opportunities for our club and members have always been very generous with their donations. The gold box will be placed on a table. Suggestions are that you bring something that you would like to win yourself – red and white wines, chocolates, biscuits, shortbreads, nuts.

Regards

Bridget



Coaching Availability

Beginners

See below names, contact details and availability of coaches, but please note that sometimes times and dates may vary. Select a time that suits you and contact the coach to organize a session. Remember that your first coaching lesson is free. Coaches will determine how many lessons you may require.

Existing Members

Coaching sessions for existing members are free.

Bridget Earle

Mobile: 0412 923 232 Email: bridget@earles-paradise.com

Day	Thursday	Sunday
Time	1-3pm	1-3pm

John Hincks

Mobile: 0401 314 928 Email: johnhincks587@gmail.com

Day	Friday
Time	11am-1pm

Pam Wiemers

Mobile : 0403 412 284Email: pmcctreasurer53@gmail.com

Wednesday 30 April, 1-3pm – Grip, Stalk, Stance, Swing and Hoop Running
Wednesday 14 May, 1-3pm - Positioning, Rocquet, Stun Shots
Tuesday 20 May, 1-3pm – Grip, Stalk, stance, Swing and Hoop Running
Tuesday 27 May, 1-3pm – Positioning, Rocquet, Stun Shots

Fun Day Activities

Please see attached flyer on the following page for our Winter Solstice Tap and Chat

Thank you

Donna



Other News

Please Note: This first article didn't make it into our last newsletter as it took place on April 30th.

JIM HICKS CHALLENGE

Urunga hosted our club for the second year of the Jim Hicks Challenge. Jim was a long time member of both clubs and after many years of playing AC in the Kelsall Shield it was agreed to play a GC event and name it after Jim.

After four rounds of 2 singles and 2 doubles matches Urunga was successful winning 10 matches to six. Friendship days like this are great for creating lasting rivalry between clubs and hopefully we'll be playing in this enjoyable event for many years to come.





First Edition of the Port Macquarie Local News (May 3rd)

Great to see our club mentioned in the Local Sport Section of the first edition of the PM News.



2025-2026 Membership

Jill has advised that members will shortly receive an email from our Secretary detailing payment of membership fees for 2025-26.

Taree Probus Club Visit (May 10th)

Great to see the Taree Probus Club calling in for a fun couple of hours learning GC. A very enjoyable day by all accounts.



Above and Beyond

Thank you on behalf of the entire club to Eric, Kate (Jill and Eric's daughter in law), and Tony for battling a dreadful night to sand bag the tool shed. Both ends of the road were closed this morning so the fate of the tool shed remains unknown to the writer.



Farewell to Terry Murray

Terry has been a long-term valued member of our club, however for a host of reasons, he has decided that it has become too difficult to continue playing croquet and thus he will not be renewing his membership.

For those that don't know, Terry has recently moved into Emmaus House in Green Meadows and by all accounts is doing well. Every time I visit he talks about attending Residents Meetings, enjoying social activities, dining with new friends, having coffee (green tea in his case) in the

café, as well as participating in regular bus outings. He says he's not pleased about losing some of his independence, but then admits he's never been much of a cook.

Jill, Eric and I called in on Terry a few days ago and Jill and Eric couldn't believe how well he looked! After a long enjoyable chat, Jill discussed the idea of having a farewell morning tea, which Terry enthusiastically agreed to. This will be on **Thursday June 5th at 10:00am** at the café in Emmaus House, which is located on the right hand side of the entry foyer. Jill has asked for **RSVPs by June 1st** please, as the café manager would like a few days notice. I'm not a cake or slice eater but I did notice that the café has a large selection of decadent looking food items, including gluten free (Del).

While we were discussing all of this, Terry pointed out that he has a birthday coming up on July 29th (his 79th) and wouldn't mind hosting a birthday party at Emmaus House as well. I'll let his lawn bowls friends know and mention it again in the next newsletter.

Hans