

MCC Newsletter, December 2023



Wishing all our members a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year

Message from the President

Dear all,
What a great MCC Christmas Party we had – thanks to Belinda Kerr, Penny Paterson, Michael Chambers for all their great work and to MCC Members, who made the afternoon and evening such a success. I don't think any of us realised that Michael could play the guitar/chair so well, and ABBA never sounded so good.

Have a safe and happy Christmas, and every best wish for a great 2024.

See you on the lawns,

Joanne

See some great photos from the Christmas Party on the last page of this Newsletter.

Annual Awards

The Mayor of Mosman, Carolyn Corrigan, attended our Christmas Party on 3 December to present the annual awards for the club:

AC Champions 2023:	
Club Champion	John Fransen
Gold Champion	Denis Edleston
Bronze Champion	Bronwyn McGrane
The Barry O'Keefe Trophy (H/c Doubles) Ron Humpherson and Fidy Westgarth	

GC Champions 2023:	
Club Champion	Denis Edleston
Division 1 Champion	Denis Edleston
Division 2 Champion	Greg Deakin
Division 3 Champion	Fidy Westgarth
Top 10 Challenge	Robin Boyer
Gibson Trophy (H/c Singles)	Greg Deakin
Martyn Prins Trophy (H/c Doubles): Rob Boyer and Griselda Prins	

LAWNS CLOSURES:

Lawn 3 and the Practice Lawn are now renovated, and open for play. Lawn 4 will reopen shortly before Christmas, once the hoops are re-set and lawns markings are completed.

Lawns 1 and 2 will close for renovation after Christmas, as soon as the greenskeepers can commence the task – weather and time-permitting. It is hoped these lawns will re-open early February.



Grounds Group drill the holes and reset the hoops for Lawn 4: (L to R) Dick Small, Rob Boyer, Tony Michaels, and Greg Deakin

Thank you for your patience over this annual refurbishment period. Please remember to share the lawns, and to take a break at the end of your game if others are waiting to play.

There are no tournaments arranged for January at MCC. There are however lots of events arranged throughout the year at various clubs across NSW, and now is a great time to start planning your year. Why not think about a trip away to a regional area and join the games there. Check out the timetable for croquet events all around the state on the Croquet NSW website, at <https://www.croquet-nsw.org/events.aspx?year=2024&type=C>

New Coaching Coordinator in 2024

After 3 years in the role, **Michael Chambers** is stepping down from the role of MCC Coaching Coordinator. We are very grateful to Michael for the active role he has played, particularly setting up the occasional Skills and Drills sessions for different levels throughout the year, as well as Pennants Teams Coaching and some advanced AC sessions.



MCC's new Coaching Coordinator will be **Rob Wright**.

Rob has plans to start some new coaching programs once all the Lawns have re-opened early in 2024.

Thank you to our Sponsors

Mosman Club greatly appreciated the support provided by two sponsors during the year:

- **O'Gorman's Real Estate** provided all the cash prizes for The Mosman Prize, held in November.
- **Torbreck** provided excellent wines for the winner and runners-up of the GC Top Ten Challenge.

Corporate Events

Thank you to our volunteers who helped with coaching and supervising at recent corporate events held at the croquet club during the festive season. Our guests all had a great time, and enjoyed their croquet experience, helped by all your tips and guidance.

This is an excellent way to spread the word that croquet is a fun game, as well as challenging and competitive.



HELLOoooo 100 years Coming Up

Episode 4: World War II and after

From 1944 money was continuously raised for the War effort, eg the Red Cross Mosman section. In 1944 Mrs F Clark donated a cup for B. players (level play) to be held perpetually at the Club. Entrance fee was 2/- per week, winner and runner-up to receive a war-saving certificate. Minutes of 4 July report the club has improved vastly in its full membership.

Minutes 1945 express sympathy in the loss of sons of members. On **4 March 1946** a letter was received appealing for the Club's assistance in the Food for Britain appeal. A Gala Day was held plus a box placed for donations with a sum raised of £8/2/6. A letter of thanks was received from Mosman Council.

In 1948 Mrs Holdworth brought forward a proposition regarding the urgent need for Parcels for Britain and it was decided to give cash donations so that parcels could get to Britain by Xmas. The meeting of 3 March 1948 reports a new member (associate) by the name of Colonel Saalfeld along with the purchase of 4 doz glass cups and saucers and the rough state of the lane way approaching the lawns – the secretary to write to the Council. In the Minutes of 13 July it is interesting that Mrs Coward represented the Mosman Club as delegate at the Annual Meeting held at Anthony Horderns on 3 August. At that time the telephone number of NSW Croquet Association was JA 8274 and that the Association lawns at Cammeray were open for hire on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday. One lawn 10/- per day.

The minutes of **7 September 1948** reveal an increase in membership and that Mrs Osborne of Manly and Colonel Saalfeld have joined as members with Mrs Gilbert as an associate member "and in all probability Major and Mrs Tingey will also be joining. Major Tingey is an outstanding player and would be a great acquisition in the club".

On 5 October the minutes report a very successful Gala Day, with later minutes reporting that the dairy milk container was stolen after the Social Day.....

FROM:

Mary Gibson, Member since 1993
Former President, Vice-President, Secretary
Life Member of MCC

2023 Christmas Party Photos:



Novelty games at the Christmas Party



Carols provided by the Choir



Proceedings were opened by President, Joanne Nimmons



Dinner on the greens.....



Mayor of Mosman, Carolyn Corrigan, presented the annual awards:



John Fransen: Club Champion, AC



Denis Edleston: Club Champion GC – Trophy lost.....



Robin Boyer won the GC Top Ten, sponsored by Torbreck



Ron and Fidy won the Barry O'Keefe Trophy 2023

See more photos at [Gallery](#), [Mosman Croquet website](#)