



# Publicity Network October 2024 Newsletter

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## Heritage Badge Awards

### Bright Croquet Club

At Bright Croquet Club's Annual General Meeting held last Thursday its' president Joan Thompson got the surprise of her life when she was presented with Croquet Victoria Heritage badge, which is awarded to club members who have gone above and over their means in contributing to promoting croquet throughout their club and region. Joan took up croquet in 2002 when she and her family moved to Bright from the Bendigo area and joined the club then, becoming president in 2014. Her greatest achieve she says is seeing people who have never played the game before, coming back and enjoying the sport



### Wodonga Croquet Club

President Bev Zuber

#### Wodonga Croquet Club

presented Lorraine Cumming with a Heritage Badge from the Victorian Croquet Association.



This badge is in recognition of the many years of service that Lorraine has given to the club with roles both as President and Secretary. Lorraine has also travelled widely to score for Pennant games and Tournaments in our region & elsewhere. In addition, Lorraine has also been our NEDCA representative for many years

### Tool Tip – Visit VCA Website

For all croquet information and news visit <https://croquetvic.asn.au>

Keep the Heritage badge stories coming in from Clubs & Associations, we love to hear about them



### Hmmm!

Interested spectator at Crake Valley Croquet Club nestled in the Lakes District in England.

Hmm might want to change the club colours

### Upcoming Aust Golf Croquet Handicapped Championships-Albury

The Australian Open Golf Handicap Doubles and Singles Championships - **Mon October 21st to Fri October 25th**

2024 Australian Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles and Singles Championships  
Twin City Croquet Club  
Albury, NSW





Croquet has been played on the two courts at Glen Street, Hawthorn since the creation of a recreation club there in 1908.

During the following 116 years alterations to the layout have been modest. Looking at the historical records some small alterations have occurred to the size of the courts, provision of seating, drainage, and levelling. Most of these date back to the 1930's. Those that have played at Glen St will be familiar with restrictive backswing constraints of the retaining walls and fences that require the frequent need to mark balls in by a mallet head or two. The upper court was also narrow by over 2 meters and the southern boundary slopped off over the last 2 meters on both courts. In more recent years the usual excellent playing surface has deteriorated, having become infested with star weed and the drainage had failed. Some of the surrounding retaining walls were also failing and there were a number of OH&S tripping hazards. In 2021 the club, with the support of the MCC, embarked on developing a scheme to increase the size of the court surface area and provide backswing by setting retaining walls and fences as far back as possible, replace the drainage and grass and over time provide improved seating areas for players and spectators.



Work is now well advanced with civil works complete and the new drainage and laying of tuff grass to occur in September. Since May we have been playing on a single court on the adjacent bowls lawn. We lose this in September and for the next two months will be joining up with players at Elsternwick and Brighton Clubs which have generously provided their facilities to allow us to play at these venues.



We expect to be back playing at Glen Street in November and will look forward to welcoming visitors for a game and reminiscing on those features of the past.



Wayne Lewis MCC

**Longest Active playing member at Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc – Awarded Croquet Victoria’s “Heritage Badge”**



Ruth Crabbe began playing Association Croquet at the Colac Croquet Club (which was renamed to Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc in 2008) in the 1980's and has played croquet for almost 40 years - this being her 40<sup>th</sup> year.

Ruth came from a strong active, sports-mad family, so when she was diagnosed with MS at 26 years old, she thought her sporting days were over as she did not like the sport options (mostly lawn bowls) available to her - until she was introduced (and introduced others in her family) to croquet in the 1985. Association Croquet is still her preferred game over Golf Croquet or Ricochet).

Now in her early 80's, she has not looked back, and has won club championships, successfully plays in several Geelong Croquet Association and Victorian and Regional competitions and recently travelled with other Colac family players to tournaments as far afield as at Swan Hill, Charlton Boort and Western District Clubs. She has been and still is an AC referee for over 30 years!

Ruth is a dedicated, encouraging and valuable life member of the Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc.

She is vital linchpin and “go to person” for the Colac Mallet Sports Club- a strong advocate for encouraging croquet and coaching players. She has supported the Geelong Croquet Association clubs and committees, been an office bearer most of her time at Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc and is the current president. On the cusp of her 40<sup>th</sup> year of playing croquet and being a valued active life member of our club, Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc acknowledged Ruth on our 2024-25 season opening Day 07<sup>th</sup> September by awarding her with the Croquet Victoria Heritage Badge. She wears it on her well-worn croquet cap. Well-deserved Ruth! May Ruth have many more years enjoying croquet.

~ Anne Grogan (Sec) Colac Mallet Sports Club Inc.

