

Rotary



Rotary Club of Port Macquarie

The Port Wheel

The weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Inc

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Website: www.rotaryclubportmacquarie.com.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubPortMacquarie/>

Bulletin Editor - Andrew Hinton - andrew94hinton@gmail.com

A large graphic of the year "2025" formed by shiny, golden balloons. The balloons are arranged in a row, with the numbers 2, 0, 2, and 5. The background is a light beige color with soft, out-of-focus bokeh lights.

Welcome Back!

Welcome Back to 2025!

As we step into a new year, the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie extends a warm welcome to all our members, both returning and new. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is ready for an exciting year ahead.

President Dr Ray Hodgson is committed to stabilising and growing our club in 2025. With this vision in mind, we are embracing changes designed to enhance member engagement and strengthen our connections within the Rotary community.

Meeting Night Change – More Opportunities for Networking

At our first meeting of the year, the club voted to move our meeting night from Monday to Tuesday, starting in March. This adjustment aims to accommodate more members and aligns with two other local clubs' meeting nights. By doing so, we hope to create greater networking opportunities and build stronger relationships within the broader Rotary network.

A New Meeting Schedule – More Meaningful Gatherings

From March onwards, the club will meet on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month**, rather than weekly. This change ensures that Rotary membership remains a fulfilling experience rather than a burden in our increasingly busy lives. It also makes participation more attractive to potential new members. With fewer but more meaningful gatherings, we plan to host **substantial evenings** featuring engaging guest presenters, local site visits, and enjoyable social events. Whether it's learning from inspiring speakers, exploring the community, or simply sharing a laugh over dinner, our meetings will be more enriching than ever.

We look forward to an exciting year of growth, camaraderie, and service. Here's to a fantastic 2025 with the Rotary Club of Port Macquarie!

FEBRUARY

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie has an exciting lineup of events for February 2025, bringing together members for insightful discussions, community engagement, and social gatherings. Mark your calendars and join us for these enriching occasions!

Monday, 10th February – Every Daughter Matters Update

Location: Panthers Port Macquarie

Time: Club Meeting followed by optional dinner at the bistro

Guest Speaker: Ross Nancarrow

Ross Nancarrow will be joining us to provide an update on the **Every Daughter Matters** initiative. This inspiring organisation works to intercept vulnerable Nepali girls at risk of human trafficking, stopping the abuse before it begins. We encourage all members to attend what promises to be a valuable and thought-provoking evening.

Monday, 17th February – Hike for Homeless & YP SPACE MNC

Guest Speakers: Claudia and Deb

Claudia and Deb will be presenting on the **Hike for Homeless** initiative and their and **YP SPACE MNC (YPS)**. YPS is a specialist Youth Homelessness Service supporting young people aged 12 to 25 across the Port Macquarie/Hastings and Kempsey/Macleay regions. With over 40 years of service, YPS has provided crucial support and accommodation to thousands of children and young people. This will be an insightful session on the challenges faced by homeless youth and the efforts being made to help

them achieve positive outcomes.

Monday, 24th February – Social Night

Location: Westport Club

Time: 6:00 PM

RSVP: Club Services Director Andrew Hinton

Join us for a relaxed and enjoyable social evening at Westport Club. This is a great opportunity to connect with fellow members in a casual setting and strengthen our Rotary community. Be sure to RSVP to Andrew Hinton to confirm your attendance.

We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at these events. Let's make February a month of learning, connection, and engagement!

Bookstore Volunteers

Our beloved Rotary Bookstore continues to be a vital source of funding for our community, supporting many local and international initiatives. To keep this wonderful resource thriving, **Ian is seeking volunteers** to help run the bookstore. This opportunity is open to **club members and anyone interested** in contributing to a great cause.

Rather than a chore, we hope the bookstore will be a **social and fun space**, where volunteers can enjoy good company while making a meaningful impact. Whether you have a few spare hours or are looking for a regular volunteering role, your help would be greatly appreciated.

If you or someone you know would like to get involved, please reach out to Ian. Together, we can ensure the continued success of this fantastic community resource!

NEXT WEEK

10 February 2025

Port Panthers Club

Special Guest - Ross Nancarrow - Every Daughters Matters

5:30pm for 6pm

Weekly Brain Teaser

I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish. What am I?





Christmas Donation

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie is proud to support local initiatives that make a meaningful impact in our community. In the spirit of giving, the Club recently donated \$1,000 to **Aussie Battlers**, a local organisation dedicated to paving the way to a better tomorrow for those in need.

Aussie Battlers works tirelessly to provide long-term solutions for pressing social issues, many of which are often overlooked. Their mission is to combat indifference and create positive change by offering essential support and resources to individuals and families facing hardship.

Just days before Christmas, Rotary Directors Andrew and Georgia personally delivered the \$1,000 donation to the Aussie Battlers clubhouse. The timing of the donation ensured that the organisation could provide extra support during the festive season, helping to bring hope and relief to those doing it tough.

The Rotary Club of Port Macquarie is committed to uplifting our local community, and this contribution is just one of many ways we aim to make a difference. We encourage others to support Aussie Battlers in their mission and join us in making a positive impact.

To learn more about Aussie Battlers and how you can contribute, visit their website or reach out to their team.

Together, we can continue to support those who need it most and build a stronger, more compassionate community.


Newest Addition



Georgia and Andy are overjoyed to introduce their precious bundle of joy, Hudson James Hinton! Arriving a little earlier than expected, Hudson made his grand entrance in Port Macquarie instead of waiting for Newcastle, choosing Friday, 7th January 2025, as his special day.

 Date: 7/01/25

 Time: 8:21 PM

 Weight: 3150g

Georgia and Andy would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the incredible staff at Port Macquarie Base Hospital, especially Dr Ray Hodgson, who played a key role in delivering baby Hudson and ensuring Georgia's smooth recovery. Their care and dedication meant the world to the new parents.

Hudson is absolutely perfect, and both mum and bub are healthy and doing well. The family is beyond grateful for all the love and support they've received and are excited to begin this wonderful new chapter together!

HELLO FROM PORT MACQUARIE CROQUET CLUB

We, members of Port Macquarie Croquet club (PMCC) are keen to foster links with groups such as yours.

WHY PLAY CROQUET: The game is for all ages. It is fun and friendly.
We're fortunate to be by the Hastings River.
The outlook is pleasant, the Nor'easter refreshing.
So, from all of us to each of you, we write inviting you to:

Come and try Croquet

LOCATION: At 15 Buller Street Port Macquarie.

DAY / TIME: On a day and time that suits both your schedule and ours.
Some club members will be present to assist.

DRESS: Comfortable clothes and flat footwear.

EQUIPMENT: The playing greens will be ready; a mallet will be there for your use.

Enjoy refreshments with each other after the game.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Up to 16 can register for a session.

FURTHER INFORMATION: A club member from PMCC could come, by arrangement, to speak briefly at one of your meetings to develop this idea and answer your member's questions.

CONTACT: Jill Drury, President of PMCC,
president@portmacquarietroquet.com.au

Mobile. 0408 381 195



**Wedding Anniversaries
January/February 2025**

Craig Wearne - 14/2



Birthdays January/February 2025

Helen Michelmore - 21/1

Nathan Barnett - 24/1

Neil Porter - 23/1

*"The best way to predict the future is to
create it."
-Peter Drucker*



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P.O Box 136 Port Macquarie NSW 2444 Australia

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