

R. Sinclair



BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO: 1

NOVEMBER 1970

Fanfare of trumpets;  
Flypast of boomerangs;  
at last we're in print!

This is the first of our quarterly newsletters. These are designed to keep our members in touch and up to date with the associations' activities. Of course, extra special, red hot news items will be sent out in between the regular quarterly newsletters.

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MOOMBA 1971

Our discussions with the Moomba organisers are progressing well and it looks as though we'll be getting a better venue for the the Victorian Championships. More on this in the next issue.

W.A. CLUB IN THE WIND

An enthusiastic group of boomerang throwers in Western Australia have been in contact, and it looks likely that a formalised club will soon be started. We wish them every success and look forward to more news from them

EASTERN SUBURBS BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS

These championships will be held at the Syndal Technical School Oval on Sunday, 22nd. November, commencing at 2 pm. (Wind permitting of course!)

The entry fees are 50 cents for Seniors and 30 cents for Juniors.

The Oval is on Lawrence Road, Mount Waverley. We hope for a good response from members and friends.

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SPAB A heap of press cuttings  
on the activities of the

UNITED KINGDOM INTEREST IN  
BOOMERANGS BOOMING...

Society for the Promotion and Avoidance of Boomerangs has hit our secretary's desk - so far as we can ascertain SPAB was formed by Dr. Brenning James. Dr. James was inspired by the Felix Hess article on the Aerodynamics of Boomerangs, and he developed a fibreglass super-boomerang claimed to travel 200 yards out at a spin-speed of 100 mph.. We've heard that some of his boomerangs were test flown in Sydney, and then scrapped because they were considered too dangerous!? Our president, Geoff, has written to Dr. James, and we hope to have further reports on SPAB.

Ralph Sinclair (B.A.A. Public Relations sub-committeeman) reports an increase in mail from private individuals in the U.K., and he is being kept busy answering their queries. The Department of Immigration has also provided a bit of free publicity by releasing a series of press interviews about Jim Robb's interests in the boomerang world. At least four British newspapers have printed the story.

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NEWS TIPS, COMMENTS, ETC. ETC.  
All contributions to the Newsletter will be gratefully recieved ... SEE PAGE 3.....

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#### QANTAS SPONSORS BOOMERANG CONTEST IN THE USA

Bob Ruhe, of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. has sent us details of a series of boomerang workshops conducted at the Institution during May and June this year. Ben spent a bit of time as a jackeroo in N.S.W. and has been active in promoting the boomerang in the States. He heard about us through Dr. Lorin Hawes, and in addition to letting us have a copy of the workshop material, Ben included some of the comments from the Washington Press after the QANTAS Contest. The workshops took a look at the history of boomerangs, examined their physical properties, then made boomerangs, rounding off the sessions with the accuracy contest for the QANTAS trophies. The full story is too big to print here, so if you get a chance to look at our archives, make sure you read these Articles, they are interesting and exciting.

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ARCHIVES & PRESS CUTTINGS

Ralph Sinclair is co-ordinating the archives activity, which is aimed at collecting, recording, and filing newspaper cuttings, articles, and other bits and pieces of information about boomerangs. The idea being to build up a comprehensive library of data to assist research work, and for the general interest of the members. So anyone who spots, gets hold of, acquires, etc., material which they feel would be of interest, is asked if they'd like to pass on either the original or copies to Ralph. He'd be pleased to hear from you.

NEWS TIPS ???

COMMENTS ???

All contributions to the Newsletter will be gratefully recieved. Please send them to either: Jim Robb at 14, Elliot Street, Knoxfield, 3180; or to Morris Maxwell at 45, Rose Street, McKinnon, 3204. thanks...

RANGE STEWARDS & JUDGES

Any members willing and able to take on any of these jobs are asked to let the secretary know. From time to time we need people to fill these positions, and a list of applicants would be a great help.

FLIGHT TESTING COMMERCIAL MODELS

The B.A.A. boomerang flight testing group are eager to get to work, and any manufacturers interested in submitting their commercial boomerangs for B.A.A. flight testing are requested to get in contact with our secretary, Morris Maxwell.

AUSTRALIA'S BOOMERANG CHAMPION

This bloke is a mystery man; (if you read the Sydney Sun-Herald, you'll have seen that there are at least four people who are contenders for the title) It'd be great if we could get all the champions together and have a throw-off under B.A.A. Rules?!

THE AUSTRALIAN WAY OF LIFE

Comment from an American on letters to Australians: "don't expect a quick response to letters. The Australians are more sensible than we about the pace of life."

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## DARLINGTON POINTS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

A large crowd gathered at Darlington Point on Saturday, November 7 to watch the Boomerang and Spear Throwing contests. In addition to seeing spectacular throwing they consumed over 7 sheep (barbecued), 40 pounds of minced steak (grilled), drained the cool drink stalls and almost dried out the beer booth. Other incidents included an all in wrestling type melee outside the ladies conveniences, and Hamish Robb hitting himself with boomerangs - twice in fact - and drew blood! The competitions brought in competitors from as far away as Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

Now here are the results:-

- World Spear Throwing Championship: won by Jack Byham of Cobram.  
Jack actually hit the target.
- Riverina Resident Spear Throwing Championship: won by Greg Cook of Darlington Point. Greg threw over 30 yards without a woomera!
- Distance Spear Throwing : won by Bob Burwell of Slacks Creek, Qld.  
Bob threw a magnificent 313ft 2in.
- Riverina Resident Boomerang Championship: won by Roy Johns of Griffith
- Smallest Boomerang to fly 75ft and return to the 24ft throwing circle won by Jeff Lewry of Bowna with a 5.4 inch boomerang.
- Largest Boomerang to fly 75 ft and return to the 24ft throwing circle won by Joe Lewry of Bowna with a 28.6 inch boomerang.
- Most Accurate Return: won by Bluey Williams of Melbourne with a distance from the peg of 2ft 2ins.
- Highest Number of Consecutive Catches: won by Bob Burwell of Slacks Creek with 13 catches.
- Highest Score from 9 throws under Championship Conditions with Right-handers throwing left-handed boomerangs and vice-versa: won by Jack Burwell of Slacks Creek with a score of 28. (It was during this event that Hamish Robb drew first blood; he misjudged a catch and split his chin!)
- Long Distance Boomerang Throw: won by Jack Burwell of Slacks Creek with a throw of 188ft 6ins.

World Championship Boomerang Throw: This was the major event of the day, and an excited crowd saw a first rate exhibition of high standard throwing. (They also saw Hamish Robb have a second attempt at decapitating himself).

Sixteen contestants took the field, and battled out the preliminary rounds, and then the three finalists, Bruce Kyle of Sydney, Bluey Williams of Melbourne, and Jeff Lewry of

Bowna fought it out. Jeff Lewry won the day with a magnificent 72 points. Congratulations Jeff (Jeff by the way, is one of the founder members of the B.A.A.). The major part of the champions prize was a trip for two to New Zealand, so who knows, we may soon have Maoris competing...

The individual scores in the preliminaries were as follows:-

Bluey Williams	68	Alan Hay	44
Bruce Kyle	60	Greg Hay	42
Jeff Lewry	60	Jack Burwell	40
Peter Lewry	58	Chris Lewry	39
Bob Burwell	54	Hamish Robb	34
Geoff Rawson	54	Jack Byham	30
Les Janetski	53	Roy Johns	20
Joe Lewry	52	Arthur Janetski	4

The scores of the three finalists were Bruce Kyle 34, Bluey Williams 54, and Jeff Lewry 72.

The weather conditions were excellent during the whole day, although at times the wind, or lack of it, did cause some problems and make the contestants work hard. The organisers are to be complemented on the smooth running of a very full programme, and I know everyone I talked to is looking forward to a similar meeting next year.

\*\*\* P.S. the editor wishes to apologise in advance for any spelling errors in contestants names or their places of abode. \*\*\*

NORTH ALBURY APEX TO ORGANISE THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP  
We have recieved advance notice that the North Albury Apex Club is organising Boomerang Championships on January 31st. 1971. Their programme will include the Australian Open Championship carrying \$400 prize money, the Southern Riverin Resident Championship, and time permitting, Distance Throwing, the Most Accurate Return, and the highest number of consecutive catches. This should be a great day, and draw a lot of interest.

Further information is available from "Boomerang Championship", C/o North Albury Apex Club, P.O. Box 385, Albury NSW 2640. or from our secretary.

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This Newsletter is produced by the Boomerang Association of Australia.

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