



This could well be called a special International Issue. A brief report on activities by members and associates overseas is included, in addition to the results of the Australian National Championships.

There is also a brief report on International tours planned by two of our members:-

Roy Johns of Griffith, plans to spend some time in Europe demonstrating for his favourite charity, crippled children.

Morris Maxwell, Secretary, will be travelling the United States this month to assist with events there and spread some further interest in the Sport.

The Moomba Championships were held in appalling weather. However, a few outstanding achievements were recorded. Many other events have taken place during the last few months. But organisers have been too busy to file any reports. Members are requested to send in any stories on events that they have attended. Co-operation in this regard, will help to make future 'Bulletins more informative and entertaining.

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MOOMBA CHAMPIONSHIPS 1976

Held at "Old Scotch" oval, Melb. on 29th. Feb.

After weeks of perfect local weather, the day of this event was almost a complete "wash-out". It rained solidly until mid-afternoon. By then, everyone was soaked to the skin but all were in good spirits. Plastic sheeting used to cover the giant size display boomerang, was used for improvised rain coats and being red, brightened things up a little. A bit of warmth was added to the scene when the Queen of Moomba, Julie Costa, arrived to witness the finals and present awards.

Bunny Read provided a special display with his extra large boomerangs when he achieved three accuracy scoring returns out of five attempts, using two hands to throw his "Jumbo" sized model. He now holds the record for the largest boomerang thrown past 20 m with a return within 7.5 m. The measurement of his boomerang in accordance with the proposed formula in 'Bulletin 15, was 2020 mm with a span of 1524 mm and arch of 514 mm. He also established a distinctive record for consecutive catches.

The GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP was won by BILL KNIGHT of Chadstone, with 106 points. Jeff Lewry came a very close second on 105 points and Brother Thomas third on 87 points.

The JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP was won by CHRIS WESTALL on 59 points. Second was Tony Iverson on 52 and A. Mainsbridge third on 45 points.

Special "combined Accuracy" and "combined catching" events were tried at this event. Results as follows:--

Senior combined accuracy points--1st. R. Miller, 2nd. R. Sinclair, 3rd. C. Maxwell.

Highest Accuracy Score-- R. Miller with 34 points.

Highest number of accurate returns -- R. Sinclair, with 17.

Most Accurate Return-- Claudia Maxwell, 35 mm. (RECORD)

Junior Combined Accuracy Points--1st. L. Read, 2nd. S. Westley, 3rd. T. Iverson.

Highest Accuracy score-- Leanne Read with 15 points.

Highest number of accurate returns-- Leanne Read with 10.

Senior

Combined Catching Points--1st. Br. Thomas, 2nd. B. Read, 3rd. R. Schroeder.

Shortest time for five catches-- Br. Thomas, in 42 secs.

(Record) Highest number of consecutive catches -- Bunny Read, 52 catches

Junior

Combined Catching Points-- 1st. G. Hodgson, 2nd. T. Iverson, 3rd. R. Croll.

Shortest time for five catches-- Geoff Hodgson, in 52 sec.

Highest number of consecutive catches-- Tony Iverson, 29 catches.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 1976 ::

Held at Aquinas College, On Saturday the 3rd. of April.

This year's National function was most eventful. Nine different competitions were held, as well as the Annual Meeting. Twenty-two members entered the Senior events and the Junior section of one competition had thirty-five entrants. Modes of transport to attend the event included a 45 seater coach from Melbourne, chartered aircraft from Sydney, train from Queensland and various cars, vans etc. from these and other areas.

Albury has proved to be the most popular location for the National titles, due to it's central location with Australia's main population centres and mild prevailing winds. Everyone present enjoyed competing in fine weather with calm to light winds throughout the day. At the completion of events, awards were presented by the Honourable C. Bunten, Mayor of Albury.

GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP:

The highlight of the day was when Bob Burwell of Slacks Creek Queensland, scored 131 points for his final ten throws, to set a new points record. Bob really made his long trip worthwhile by winning most of the open competitions, including the smallest boomerang thrown as well as the largest.

Runner up was Bernard "Bunny" Read of Wycheproof Victoria, who equalled the record of 120 points established by the late Irvan "Bluey" Williams in 1972.

Third place went to Br. Brian Thomas of Albury, with 76 points. One of the local organisers, Br. Thomas has generated a lot of interest in boomeranging amongst the students of St. Patricks primary school and Aquinas College.

JUNIOR GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP:

First place-----	Cris Westall 13,	of Albury,	final score	82 points.
Second ""	Robert Croll 14,	of Melbourne,	" "	57 points.
Third ""	Leryk Lamb 15,	of Melbourne,	" "	56 points.

LONGEST DISTANCE COMPETITION ::

First place-----	Dennis Maxwell	of Melbourne,	68m.
Second ""	Jeff Levry	of Bowna,	62m.

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SENIOR ACCURACY COMPETITION::

Best Accuracy Score --- Jack Byham of Cobram, Victoria, 9 points.

Most Accurate Return --- John Zuber of Sydney, with accuracy of 1085 mm.

JUNIOR ACCURACY COMPETITION :-

Highest accuracy score --- equal 1st. Janette Cameron 12, of Sydney, 10 points.
" " Glen Williams 15, of Melbourne 10 points.

Most Accurate Return ---- Jannette Cameron, with accuracy of 500 mm.

SENIOR CATCHING COMPETITION :

Shortest time for five catches --- Bob Burwell of Qld. with time of 57 seconds.

Highest number of consecutive catches --- Leo Meier of Sydney, 8 catches.

JUNIOR CATCHING COMPETITION :

Shortest time for five catches --- Chris Westall of Albury, time--49.5 sec.

Highest number of consecutive catches -- Chris Westall, 18 catches

SMALLEST BOOMERANG THROWN 20 m with return to 7.5 m circle.

Won by Bob Burwell, whose small "V" shaped boomerang measured 140 mm across the tips (span). The "arch measured 130 mm and the measurement using the proposed formula in BB 15, was 345 mm.

LARGEST BOOMERANG THROWN 20m with return to 7.5m circle.

Won by Bob Burwell, with a boomerang of the following dimensions:-
Span-- 1217 mm. Arch-- 440 mm. Formula-- 1568 mm.

MAIN RESULTS OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ::

- *All office bearers appointed in 1975 were re-elected.
- *Membership fees remain at \$5 Senior, \$3 Junior.
- *Minimum amount for annual donation for sustaining membership is now \$20.
- *Life membership is now available for a fee of \$100. (one hundred dollars)
- * Five years membership is now available for \$ 30.

NATIONAL FUNCTION --- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ::

Our thanks go to:--

Aquinas College, for the use of the grounds again and also for the room used for the Annual Meeting.

The Christian Brothers Ladies Association, for providing refreshments.

Mr. Mike Egan of Albury, for donating engraving work on trophies.

Alan Oscar of Narrie Warren, for donating his time and effort to drive the coach from Melbourne-- and back.

Msrs Arthur and Les Janetzki, for donating the special accuracy trophy.

Msrs George Hall and Hugh Neeson, of Melbourne, for recording work, ledger, competitor registration etc.

Msrs Tony Puckeridge of Albury and John Reid of Melbourne, for participating as Judges and Stewards throughout the day.

Mrs. Cayle Harrower of Melbourne, for recording scores etc.

Mrs. Maxwells Snr. & Jr. who cooked for the Melbourne contingent.

Everyone else who participated to make the event a success.

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING MEETING BY CORRESPONDENCE

ALL FINANCIAL MEMBERS are requested to fill in and send the voting form issued with 'Bulletin sixteen. The original deadline for votes to be cast was the middle of April. But as response has been so poor (not even enough to complete a quorum) the deadline is now re-scheduled to the thirtyth of June (30/6/76).

If you haven't sent yours yet, then DO IT NOW, before you finish reading this issue.

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ACTIVITIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES

EUROPE ::

Roy Johns of Griffith, who has helped to establish boomerang clubs in New Zealand, hopes for similar success during the next few months on the Continent. As before, he hopes to raise money for crippled children's organisations, with his unique demonstrations of boomeranging with the extra large models he uses.

AUSTRIA::

Erwin Greiner of Vienna, reports that the Austrian/Australian Association has conducted a couple of competitions during the past few years. They also publish a magazine containing items of interest for their members. This bears the title "BUMERANG". The latest issue sent includes an article on Roy Johns' visit and his efforts for charity. Preparations are under way to assist Roy with his demonstration tour.

WEST GERMANY ::

Willi Urban reports that there are about a hundred enthusiasts in his country and he may be able to organise some activities. Willi manufactures a boomerang of synthetic material which may be thrown left or right handed. He calls it the "Come-back" sports boomerang. He has also written a booklet entitled "Geheimnisvoller Bumerang" (Mysterious Boomerang)

HOLLAND ::

Max Hoeben of Amstelveen has been very busy promoting boomerang activities in the Netherlands. He founded the the "Amstelveen Boemerangsport Club", also called the "Persistent Returners". Their first tournament was held last October at the Broerse Park. They have also had indoor activities. Max has received quite a lot of radio and television coverage. Activities are backed by the local "Youth and Sport" Department.

A Dutch association has also been formed called, "BON" for - "Boemerang Organisatie von Nederland" -- in association with the B.A.A. Branches throughout Holland are being established by Max's efforts. In addition, he has become a sustaining member of the B.A.A. He is writing a book to be entitled "Boemerangs voor de vuist. He also informs us that he has been throwing and coaching at least two hours a day since last October.

Roy Johns' visit has been well promoted by Max and he hopes to have a stunt team with a dare-devil act to make a complete show when he will be throwing extra large boomerangs with Roy.

ACTIVITIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES Continued:-

JAPAN ::

Larry Hoffman of Tokyo reports that there have been no significant activities to date. However, he would like to hear from anyone who knows of other interested people there.

NEW ZEALAND ::

Ossie Wahrlich of Auckland, is the Secretary of the N. Z. Boomerang Association, which incorporates a number of clubs formed there. Local media coverage has included television programmes as well as press articles. Arrangements are being made for competitions in both the North and South islands, with paid trips between centres for the winners.

Ossie informs us that after some considerable correspondence between the customs Dept. and himself, he has been successful in having sales tax of 40% dropped by them on the import of sporting class boomerangs. For finishing off his own boomerangs, he has developed a stain which he says dries immediately for coating with a "teak wax". Queries from manufacturers are welcome.

Here is an item of different interest from Ossie :- "Early in March I was invited to demonstrate the art of boomerang throwing as a guest at an 'Outdoor Health Camp' - a nudist colony! I started off fully dressed in a safari suit but gradually divested myself of clothing and ended up starkers with many family groups of all ages, including some very attractive young ladies... "

By the way, Ossie does not make any claim for being the first naked boomeranger.

SWITZERLAND ::

Otto Klipfel is another sustaining member of the B.A.A. and he plans to set up a number of clubs in his picturesque country. He expects activities to increase in the coming Northern Summer.

UNITED KINGDOM ::

Gordon Fairbairn of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, reports that he has made several unconventionally shaped boomerangs. These include the "snake", triangle and "bird" type. He even has a model resembling a collar and tie. Gordon says he practices of an evening in summer and during winter still throws on weekends, clad in gumboots coat and hat. We hope to have more details later with a few diagrams as well.

ACTIVITIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES Continued:-

UNITED KINGDOM ::

Mick Hanson of Scotland, has written a book, title:- "The Boomerang Book", published by "Penguin Books". More recently, he informs us that he has been experimenting with a perspex "see-through-merang". Apparently it goes well -- when you can see it. He also reports that his first double decker type "Biplanerang" proved to be a disaster. It all sounds very interesting.

Peter Musgrove of Reading Uni, has written a couple of interesting magazine articles on aerodynamics of boomerangs and archeological findings. He informs us that there may be a couple of local competitions organised later this year. Peter instigated research which resulted in his students building aboomerang throwing machine for studying flight pattern etc.

Mike Naylor of Devon, informs us that he is conducting a six week course on boomerangs at the local Technical College. He has also constructed a composite alloy and plywood boomerang which he says is virtually unbreakable.

UNITED STATES ::

Our Secretary, Morris Maxwell reports:- "I will be travelling the U.S.A. this month and by assisting with competitions and giving lessons wherever possible, I hope to promote boomeranging as an individual pastime as well as a social activity. I also intend to help with the formation of a National body.

Mrs. Majorie Gerrish has generously offered her assistance for my tour and has also organised the first "North West Regional Championships", to be held in Portland on the 8th of the month (May). Another competition is being held on the same day at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Many other activities are also taking place as part of their "By-Centennial" year.

After the Portland event, we will travel across to the East coast, using Majorie's car, to attend the Smithsonian Tournament in Washington D.C. Here, Marjorie will present to the National Air and Space Museum, on behalf of her late husband, John M. Gerrish, a collection of both Aboriginal and contemporary boomerangs put together by Col. Gerrish over the course of 40 years. It includes specimens from the Cunard collection dating to 1840.

Apparently the organisers will not be conducting standard competition events. However, I am looking forward to meeting the American group and also Herb Smith who will be attending from England.

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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Report by Morris Maxwell:- It is apparent that some sort of world-wide authority on boomerang activities is needed for --

1. Recording achievements made around the globe.
2. Controlling claims of International status for records etc.
3. The eventual establishment of a regular series of International events.

As a step toward the formation of such a body, I have invited members and associates overseas to participate as representatives of their countries for dealing with correspondence involved. The following list is in alphabetical order of countries with volunteer correspondents to date:--

AUSTRIA -- -- -- -- Erwin Creiner, Secretary General,
Austrian/Australian Association,
Sieveringerstrasse 75/A/2/3,
A-1190 Wien, Austria.

GERMANY - WEST -- Willi Urban, 8801 Leutershausen,
Am Weinberg 2 (Postfach 28)

HOLLAND -- -- -- Max Hoeben, "Boemerang", Postbox 509,
Amstelveen, Holland

JAPAN-- -- -- -- Larry Hoffman, 4-16-4 Shimouma,
Setagaya - ku,
Tokyo, 154, Japan.

NEW ZEALAND -- -- Ossie Wahrlich, New Zealand Boomerang Assoc.,
32 'B' Volcanic St., Balmoral, Auckland.

SWITZERLAND -- -- Otto Klipfel, Neuhaus 4, Egnach 9322,
Switzerland.

UNITED KINGDOM -- Peter Musgrove, Dept. of Eng. & C'btcs,
University, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AY.

Mike Naylor, Middle Pitt, Witnage, Tiverton,
Devon, EX 16 7DU.

UNITED STATES -- - Mrs. Margorie Gerrish, 4885 S.W. 78th Ave.,
Portland, Oregon, 97225.

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