

NEWSLETTER
of the
VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP.

February, 1961.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Friday, evening, 17th February at 8.00 p.m. in Room 2 at the Savoy Theatre, Russell Street, City.

A short illustrated talk will be given by committee member Allan Black on "The Care and Maintenance of Equipment". The life of your expensive equipment depends almost wholly on how it is treated, so this talk should be of interest to all.

CLUB HANDBOOKS:

At last! The long awaited handbooks in the new and enlarged form are now available! Pick yours up at the meeting. The complete Outing List for 1961 is included.

MEMBERSHIP LIST:

If you have changed your address, phone number etc. since the list was compiled, please notify the Secretary immediately to avoid misdirection of mail.

New Members to be added to the list:

Cowley, Keith & Bob, - Arthur Pl., Croydon.
723-1733.

Smith, Barry, - 24 Blyth St., Altona.

Change of Address:

Swales, Barry - 10 Morrice St., Caulfield.

TRAINING:

The first of the season's training periods at Middle Brighton Pier went off quite successfully and these will continue at the same pier at fortnightly intervals on a Saturday afternoon.

The next Training Period will be on Saturday, 18th February at 1.30 p.m. Be on time, please.

Even though you don't consider yourself a beginner, the chances are your diving techniques could do with some improvement, and these sessions provide a very convenient opportunity of doing so. If you haven't yet got around to doing the elementary "C" Grade tests, you could get these out of the way and then begin training for the harder "B" Grade. As you probably realise by now, you will never really feel at ease in the water or enjoy your dive to the full until practice has made perfect.

LIFE-JACKETS:

The outing list includes quite a few boat trips, many of these to places with very strong tidal streams (currents). In accordance with our Safety Rules the Captains of the Day, will allow no-one (WILL ALLOW NO-ONE) to dive on such trips unless he or she is wearing an adequate inflatable life-jacket.

So get one now.

OUTINGS:

The trip to Smith's Beach was even more enjoyable than was anticipated. About a dozen divers attended and took full advantage of the

low tide, the flat ocean, the clear water and the fish. Then a late leisurely lunch, before rounding off the day with an afternoon's surfing at the fabulous Woolamai Surf Beach.

The camp at Wilson's Promontory over the long weekend was really one to remember. Ever dived in clear blue water with 90 ft visibility? By moonlight? If you haven't you obviously weren't at the Prom. that week-end. Fish and crays were just taken for granted (and just plain "taken").

The cylinders cutting ended up at Cape Shank where one member made a rapid rocket-assisted descent down the steep track. Unfortunately, he didn't have any air left for diving by the time he reached water level. But it was good exercise carrying the empty lung back up again, wasn't it Jim? And this was the first time on record that no less than FIVE divers kept together. Perhaps the 9 ft. shark in the area had something to do with it!

But seriously though, these outings are usually terrific fun on the whole, and just as much so for the new members as for the old. They are the best way of getting to know the active members of the club better and of finding a diving partner.

And now, details of future outings:

Proper's Eye Rocks: Sunday, 19th Feb. This is a boat trip on the chartered Portsea Ferry to a small island some 3 miles inside the heads. It is a semi-circle of rocks with a six foot sandy bottom in the centre and a 50 foot rocky bottom outside.

The ferry leaves Portsea Pier at 9.30 a.m. and the fare is 14/-d. per diver and 10/-d. per non-diver. There are too many turn up, preference will, of course, be given to divers.

Life-jackets must be worn on this trip.

Anglesea: 25th-26th Feb. Some members will be camping at the camping area over the weekend to really explore this spot. With good weather this could be a very interesting trip.

Cape Woolamai & Deep Dive: Sunday, 5th March. The boat will leave San Remo at 10.00 a.m. and head straight for the deep water about half a mile off Cape Woolamai where the experienced members may dive to about 180 feet. Then it will return to shallower water nearer the Cape where everyone may dive, if wearing a life-jacket.

It is a club rule that no-one may dive deeper than 100 ft. unless he has "C" Grade, so if you think you're ready for a more serious dive you had better get your "C" Grade at the next training session.

With a bit of luck we should have 100 ft. visibility on this trip with very interesting reefs in depths between 10 and 150 feet.

If you intend going on this trip please contact the Secretary just prior to it.

See you at the meeting -

Peter Matthews
Hon. Secretary.

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East St. Kilda.
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