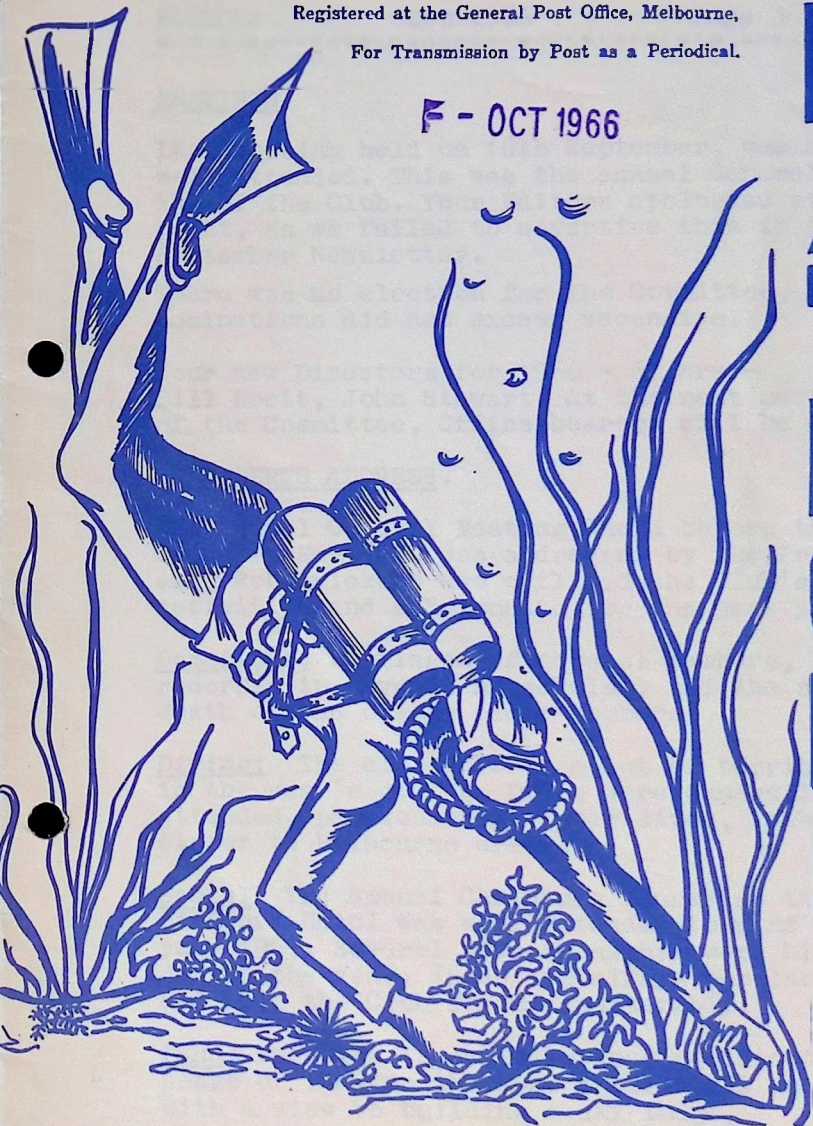


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FATHOMS



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

MEETINGS.

Last meeting held on 16th September, was not well attended. This was the annual General Meeting of the Club. Your Editors apologise at this point, as we failed to advertise this in the September Newsletter.

There was no election for the Committee, as nominations did not exceed vacancies.

Your new Directors for 1966 - 67 are - Bill Brett, John Stewart. At the next meeting of the Committee, Office-bearers will be elected.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The Annual General Meeting, held before the Ordinary Meeting, was addressed by the President, Rob Bricker, who outlined the Club's activities and achievements for the past year.

Occasions; Marriages of several members, births recorded in several households, and the sad death of one of our older members.

Diving: The club covered a lot of territory in the year's diving. Dives were generally well attended, particularly winter dives, in the closer to Melbourne areas.

Social: The Annual Christmas Dinner at the Stamford Hotel was well attended to wind up the year 1965. Several picture nights were held during the year. These are always popular, and help the Club funds considerably.

Land: The Club is actively looking into the lease of land in the more popular ski areas with a view to building a ski lodge,

and has also investigated the lease of land in the Green Cape area for a diving cum holiday lodge. Both these projects will be thoroughly looked into when such land becomes available.

Research: Due to lack of numbers within the Club to keep up interest, the Research Group of the VSAG went into liquidation, and suggested to the S.D.F. that a wider field of club activity would be served if a Research Group open to all, be formed. This was done, and the new group is flourishing with eighty members.

Dives have also been carried out by VSAG members on the artificial shoal out from Mordiallic, where pipes were dumped on a muddy bottom, and surveys of the colonisation of marine life have taken place since.

The Benthic Survey being carried out by the Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Navy required divers, and several of our members volunteered. for work in Westernport.

The President wound up his address, by thanking all who have helped the Club during the past year, especially the members of the Committee for their help and support.

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NEXT MEETING.

Will be held at Scots Hall, 99 Russell Str., at 8.30 P.M. Friday 21st October.

CUTTINGS:PAST. 11th September. Indented Head.

This dive followed the pattern of recent dives, being well attended, there being nine cars, and nine divers and families and friends. The day was a sunny delight, with no wind and full advantage of a sunbathe on a clean sandy beach. The water was glassy smooth with very good visibility. All divers scurried out to the three wrecks which constituted the diving venue. Every one explored thoroughly to ascertain the fish prospects, plus salvage remains of copper brass and bronze left by club members who have profitably worked over these remains before. To delight of all there was adequate quantity of both. After exploration, all returned to shore for lunch and a chat in the sunshine. After this interlude all returned to the plunder. One member, not deigning to use muscle power, pinch bar and hacksaw, tore his salvage off with a few well placed parcels of the pink persuader. Some time later, with the sun already dipping, the team left the now very muddy water. All happy and prepared to return for further loot.

On this dive as on several earlier ones, experimentation was carried out on 12G and 303 shark heads (Not on sharks) The 12G was found to have too light a spring for use on a rubber powered spear, with the result that detonation occurred before striking target. A heavy spring has yet to be tested. With the 303 there is much less noise and weight, but terrific force was necessary for detonation with unit under test. When power heads are legal in Vic., intending purchasers should make full enquiry as to their suitability for the type of gun they are to be used on.

25th September. Mt. Martha

Once again excellent weather for the five divers with their friends and families who turned up for this dive. Visibility was not the best at Shag Rocks where the dive ultimately took place, and the water was very cold. After frolicking around on the rocks and in the canyons in thirty feet, all returned to the beach for lunch and a suntan. Some minor salvage was effected from the ruins of an old boatshed. I wonder if the frolicking divers were aware that a large killer whale has been reliably reported to be frequenting this area in the last few weeks?

FUTURE OUTINGS.

October 9th. Portsea Pier 10.A.M.

Dive Captain Jan. Watson

As previously advised, due to a clampdown by military authorities, the quarantine station is out (Private playground for the P.M?) Divers to meet at Portsea Pier 10A.M. If boat-owners take their craft, Popes Eye may be visited, so bring life-jackets in case. If the weather looks like being kind bring your barbecues and steak.

October 23rd. Cape Schank

Dive Captain. To be appointed next meeting.

This is always an interesting dive, and no-one should be dissuaded from the short walk to the water's edge, only 150 feet from the car park (vertically, that is.) Excellent underwater scenery and plenty of fish. Meet at car park at 9.00 A.M

Low water 10.30 A.M. Lifejackets should be worn.

DIVING MANUAL.

Money, names and addresses of club members requiring the British Sub Aqua Manual have been forwarded for direct despatch of manuals. Delivery takes about one month, so they should start appearing in the mails about the time of the next Club meeting.

GOING NORTH

Rob Bricker with wife Barbara and family are leaving for Gladstone, Queensland in the very near future. Lucky people, Gladstone is the stepping off point for Heron Island, Swain reefs etc. No doubt this had something to do with Rob's decision. Whilst envying Rob and Barb their opportunity, we all wish them every success, although we regret losing one of the Group's oldest and most active members, and some, a particular and special (and fast -Ed) diving buddy.

Right, now! Form a queue, we don't know the space available, but bookings are open in house and backyard for Christmas 1966, and '67. Apply Editor.

SOCIAL

Great Race - fortysix people attended, profit to the club - \$13.85.

Born Free. Friday 11th November, a few tickets still available. Contact Brian Heather.

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DINNER DANCE.

Has been arranged for Hunters Lodge, Croydon, for Friday 9th December. Price \$ 4.00. This covers menu with a certain choice of dishes, but not drinks. We hear the food is very good at this place. Bookings open with Tony Sierak.

Don't forget. There's only two meetings before this event. Start saving for the social event of the year.

BARBEQUE

A Bar-B-Q is planned for the early and warmer part of next year. Is there anyone who can lend us a backyard for this? Your Committee members will pitch in and give a hand in preparation and cleaning up afterwards. Any volunteers?

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MEDICALS.

Members who have yet to renew subs., and those who already have are urgently reminded that medical examinations are due every second year. These forms, duly filled out by a medical practitioner should be returned with subs, and are filed in a confidential file by our personnel officer.

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DISCOUNT LISTS.

Your Committee is trying to get a discount list for club members going. If you know of any store warehouse, etc., which may give us a discount on any goods, let us know.

The Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the VSAG as follows was tabled at the Annual General Meeting for the year ended 30th June 1966.

EXPENDITURE

Postage	£ 31.20
Rental	82.50
Subscriptions and Magazines	31.60
Printing and Stationery	109.98
Boat Trip	2.40
Subscription Refund	4.00
Typewriter	50.00
Directory Entry	2.00
Radio Licences	12.00
Postal Box Rental	6.00
Petty Cash	11.86
Replacement Models	11.00
Stamford Hotel Dinner	98.60
Camberwell Football Club	30.00
Paint	76.83
Theatre Tickets	44.40
Cash at Bank 30/6/66	<u>120.27</u>
	721.64

RECEIPTS

Cash Balance 1/7/65	114.96
Subscriptions	207.30
Newsletter	14.70
Sale of Badges	10.75
Boat Trip	1.60
Transfer from Social Acc.	20.00
Supper Receipts	37.16
Donation	31.50
Insurance Commission	7.64
Bank Interest	4.75
Amounts Banked	270.61
Bank Interest	<u>0.67</u>
	721.64

STOP PRESS

INVITATION INVITATION INVITATION

The Directors of the Victorian SubAqua Group invite all members of the club to attend the next meeting as a sendoff to Rob and Barbara.

We know there are many members who will wish to personally farewell these old friends of many years standing, so take this last meeting which Rob can attend as your opportunity.

Please bring a plate to make a good supper.
