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# FATHOMS



**VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP**

EDITORS NOTE

In the November 1967 issue of "Fathoms" appeared an article entitled "Divided we Fall". This was an expression of personal opinion based on general discussions the Editors have had at outings and meetings where divers from other clubs have met and an exchange of opinions made. In the light of fair weight of comment in favour of a unified body to speak on behalf of all Australian Divers on matters as mentioned in that previously mentioned article and possible legislation for divers and spearfishermen, the article set out to acquaint members of Sub Aqua of these thoughts, create discussion on them and ultimately to determine the views of the Groups' members on this matter of a Federation.

Using and Editors prerogative, the article appeared in the Newsletter without prior reference to the Directors. As stated it was a personal opinion behind which the Editors still stand, prepared to discuss on its merits with anyone prepared to discuss it with a view to the betterment of diving for divers.

EDITORS.

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FIRST MEETING 1968

As Scots Church Hall will be closed in January 1968 when our normal meeting would occur, the next meeting will be at Scots Church Hall, Russell Street, Melbourne at 8.30 P.M. on the third Friday of February next.

REMEMBER - NO MEETING JANUARY 1968

Further, your Editors will be on vacation in January so the next Newsletter will be in February

also.

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### OUTINGS LIST

This list is also being printed for insertion in Club Handbooks and will be available to members in the near future.

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### INSURANCE

Members who have insurance through the Groups agency should pay premiums to the Group either to P.O. BOX 2526 W G.P.O. MELBOURNE 3001, or to the Treasurer at Club meetings. This procedure should be followed even if premium accounts are forwarded direct from the Insurance Company to members.

Please assist in this matter.

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### TO ALL MEMBERS

The Editors wish to extend to all members their best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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### CHRISTMAS DIVING

The Reynolds', Grays, Addisons and J. Evans will be spending 3 weeks at the Golden Pines Camping Park,



Narooma, N.S.W. over Christmas, whilst the Watson family will be sojourning at Bitangabee Bay, N.S.W. at the same time. Members of the Group likely to be in these areas over Christmas will be most welcome to visit these family camps.

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NEXT MEETING - LAST FOR 1967 - 8.30 P.M. at Scots Church Hall, Russell Street, Melbourne, Friday 15th December.

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#### NOTE OF SORROW

It is with regret that we report the recent death of our fellow member, Ted McLean. Ted was diving with an oil company in West Australia. From reports so far available it appears he died from an attack of bends.

Our sincere sympathy goes to Mrs McLean and her two young children.

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I would like to point out in this newsletter how disappointed I am at the sparse turn-up at the Clubs Annual Dinner. Even if members do not turn up at meetings or outings at least they should turn up at the one big function we try to run each year. Not only do those who turn up feel embarrassed by their few numbers and the great expanse of unused white table cloth that stretches away before them, they also know that this sort of set-up costs the club money in lost deposits. I implore you all to try a little harder next year and support functions organized by the club.

PRESIDENT.

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The outing to Walhalla was attended by the old, the bold, and the b-----. Eight members and friends (and 2 dogs) turned up on a nice, sunny, Saturday morning and met at the Band Rotunda. After lunch, we explored the cemetery, unusual place, and then went for a roam around the old mine shafts. Most of them have been sealed by wooden gates and six inch nails, and the Long Tunnel has been blown in by the timberyard owners who got sick of people tramping through their mill to the adit.

During the afternoon we went to Coopers Creck on the Thomson River and tried our hand at panning gold. We got a slight sign but didn't make our fortunes.

That evening two members ( with dogs ) went and set up camp during breaks in the pelting storm. When the tent was finally erected and members (and dogs) moved in, it was discovered that the tent was not as waterproof (or windproof) as thought.

The other members made camp in the Band Rotunda and as far as we know, most of them slept soundly, having first warmed up the inner man at the local watering-hole.

Sunday morning the two parties met up again at the band rotunda and then went off to explore the Long Tunnel Extended Mine. We had a guide who had been co-opted the night before, and who had the keys to get into the place. After examining the warren of tunnels everyone moved back to the central sopt, and after lunch moved off home.

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OUTINGS LIST FOR 1968

JANUARY 14th		PORTSEA PIER
JANUARY 27/28/29	L.W.E.	<del>PORTLAND</del> <i>Wilson's Prom</i>
FEBRUARY 11th		ROSEBUD - Wreck of the "Hurricane"
FEBRUARY 25th		WILLIAMSTOWN - "Kaki Riki"
MARCH 9/10/11	L.W.E.	NEWHAVEN
MARCH 24th		MORNINGTON
EASTER - APRIL 12/13/14/15		<del>BITINGABEE</del> <i>Portland.</i>
APRIL 28th		FLINDERS
MAY 12th		POPES EYE ROCK
MAY 26th		QUEENSCLIFFE
JUNE 8/9/10	L.W.E.	TORQUAY - "Victoria Towers"
JUNE 23rd		To be decided at meeting on 21st
JULY 14th		INDENTED HEAD
JULY 28th		COWES
AUGUST 11th		CAPE SCHANK
AUGUST 25th		PORTSEA PIER
SEPTEMBER 8th		FRANKSTON WRECK
SEPTEMBER 22nd		To be decided at meeting on 20th
OCTOBER 6th		FLINDERS
OCTOBER 20th		CRAWFISH ROCK
NOVEMBER 3rd		QUEENSCLIFFE
NOVEMBER 17th		ST. KILDA PEER + see what the pickings are - maybe a job at the boat harbour
DECEMBER 1st		<del>PORTSEA PIER</del>
DECEMBER 14th		<u>CLUB DINNER - HUNTERS LODGE</u>