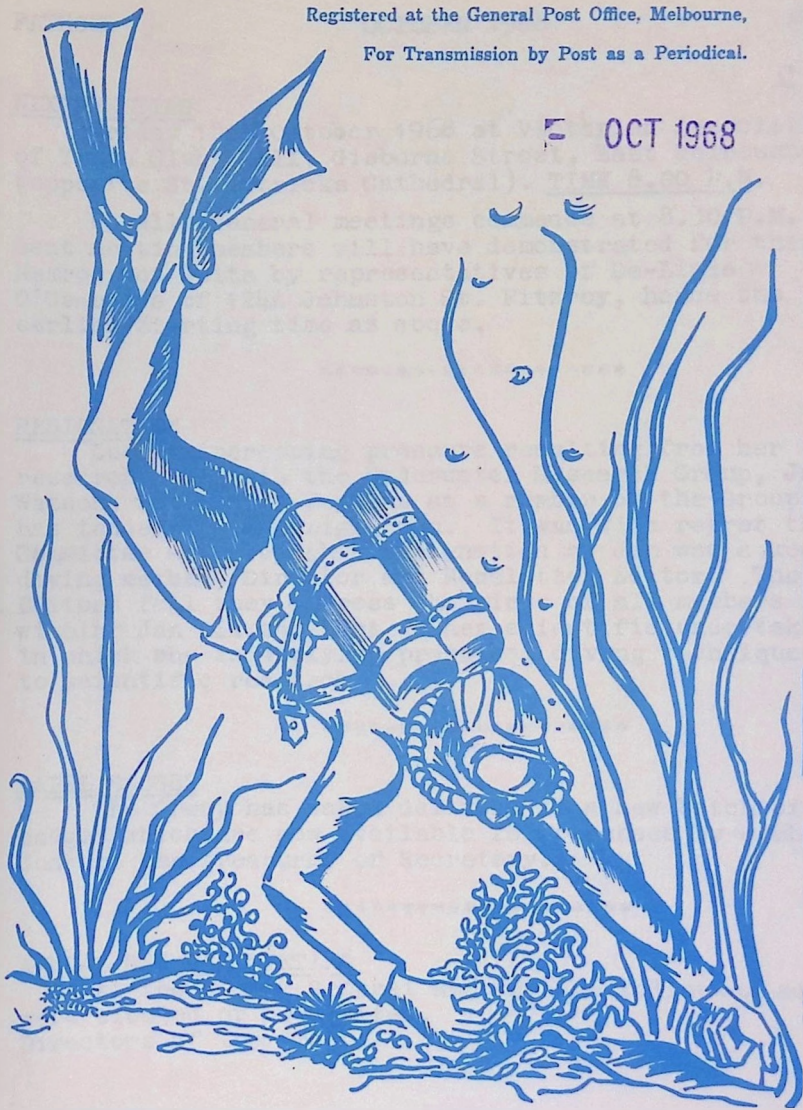


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VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

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NEXT MEETING

Friday 18th October 1968 at Victorian Association of Youth Clubs Hall, Gisborne Street, East Melbourne, (opposite St. Patricks Cathedral). TIME 8.00 P.M.

Usually General meetings commence at 8.30 P.M. but next meeting members will have demonstrated for them Nemrod Wet Suits by representatives of De-Linde O'Cearnias of 124A Johnston St. Fitzroy, hence the earlier starting time as above.

RESIGNATION

Due to increasing pressure resulting from her research work with the Underwater Research Group, Jan Watson, after some 7 years as a member of the Group, has tendered her resignation. It was with regret the Committee accepted this resignation as Jan was a keen diving member, Director and Newsletter Editor. The Editors feel they express the views of all members in wishing Jan all the best in her scientific undertakings in which she is applying practical diving techniques to scientific research.

LAPEL BADGES

The Group has taken delivery of a new batch of 150 badges which are now available for purchase by members. Contact the Treasurer or Secretary.

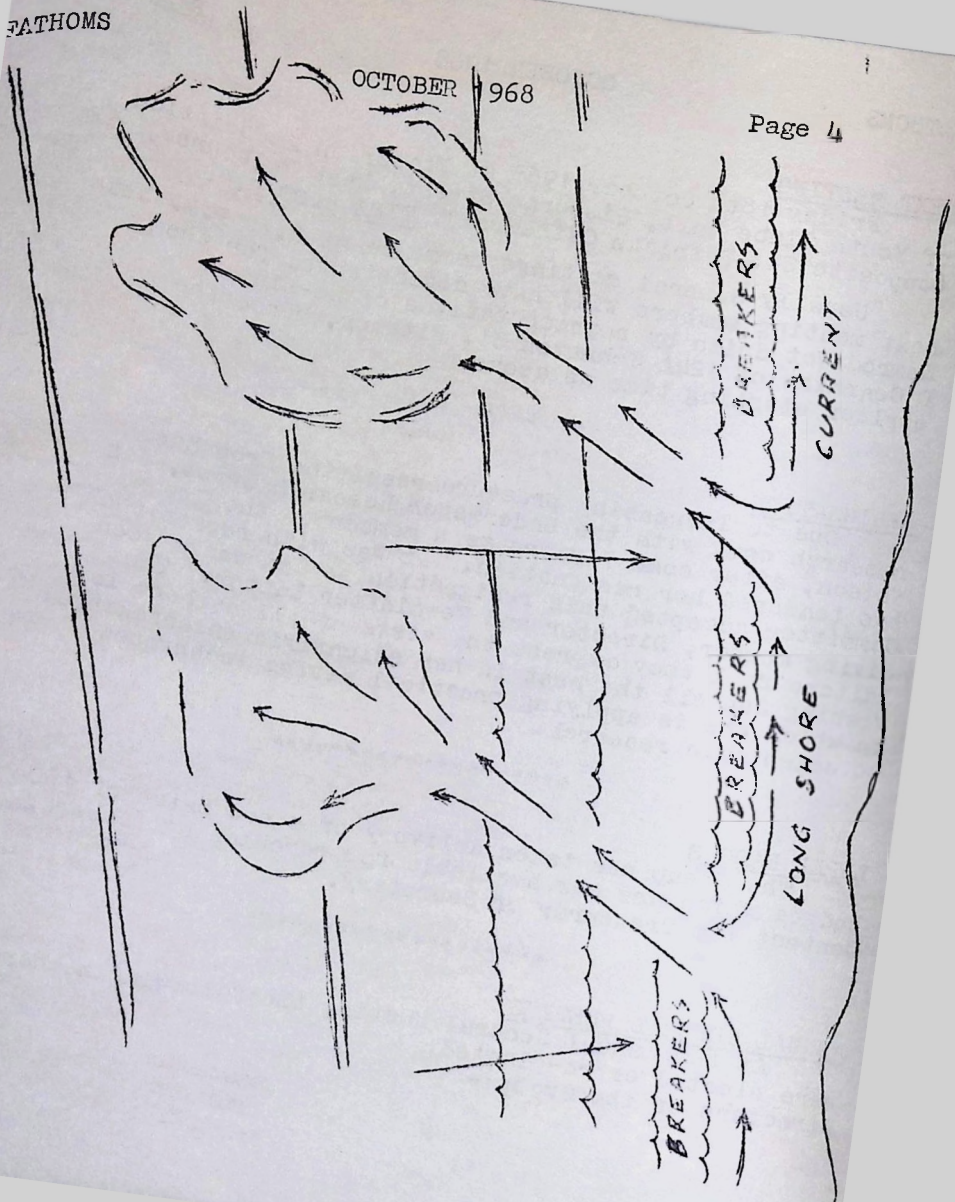
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting the following members were elected or re-elected.
Directors of the Group:-

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BEACH
 SCHEMATIC OF NEARSHORE CIRCULATION SYSTEM WITH ARROWS INDICATING
 DIRECTION OF WATER FLOW.

NEW LIGHT ON RIP CURRENTS

"Edge" waves, which travel along the beach at right angles to the surf, are responsible for the particular location of rip currents. When the crest of an edge wave coincides with a wave approaching the beach, the wave becomes higher; when the edge wave trough coincides with an approaching wave, the wave becomes lower. Rip currents form where the latter situation occurs and the spacing of rips depends on the height, frequency and direction of the breakers.

The rip current, erroneously called a rip tide, is a relatively narrow, high speed flow which returns to sea the water brought shoreward by waves, along the shore by longshore ~~currents~~ currents, and offshore by rip currents, completes the nearshore circulation system.

Several characteristics of rip currents are worthy of note. In general, the strength of a rip current varies with the wave height. The larger waves transport more water shoreward, hence the seaward return flow by rip currents is enhanced. Low waves produce more, but weaker, rip currents which normally form in the areas where the waves are lowest. If more than one train of waves approaches the coast at the same time there may be a continuous cycle alternating between several high waves followed by several low waves, and so on, causing a "pumping" effect which results in a periodic variation in the strength of the rip currents.

Rips are the cause of many needless drownings, usually because the swimmer becomes exhausted while attempting to swim to shore directly against the current. Since a rip is a narrow current, the swimmer should always swim parallel to the beach until out of the current, then on into shore.

Re-elected - W. Gray, L. Newman, P. Reynolds.
 Elected- F. Coustley, A. Cutts, W. Jansen.

At the next meeting the Group's Office Bearers for the ensuing 12 months will be selected from among the Directors:

FOR SALE

Twin 38 aqualung complete with harness and demand valve, and in test - Price \$50. Anyone interested contact the Secretary on 61 3771 or by letter to P.O. BOX 2526W G.P.O. MELB. 3001 or at the next meeting.

CAUTION

We often read of the venomous seasnakes in the warm northern waters but did you know we have at least one in Port Phillip Bay. It is small and has red markings on its back - but with venom equivalent to that of the Taipan. Fortunately it is a retiring creature with only rudimentary teeth - but if you come across one handle it with care or better still leave it alone.

ARTIFICIAL REEF

Recently the Group undertook in principle to set up an artificial reef in the Bay. The following extract from the Australian Fisheries Newsletter shows that we are not alone in the idea. - QUEENSLAND ARTIFICIAL REEF -

A group of Maryborough amateur fishermen plans to build an artificial reef in Hervey Bay, Qld., to provide shelter for fish and serve as a breeding ground.

An application by the Maryborough Skindivers' Artificial Reef Committee to build the reef has been approved by the Government. It is proposed to use a barge, tyres, concrete slabs and blocks and old motor car bodies in the reef which will be 1,000 yds long by 100 yds wide by 11ft high.

