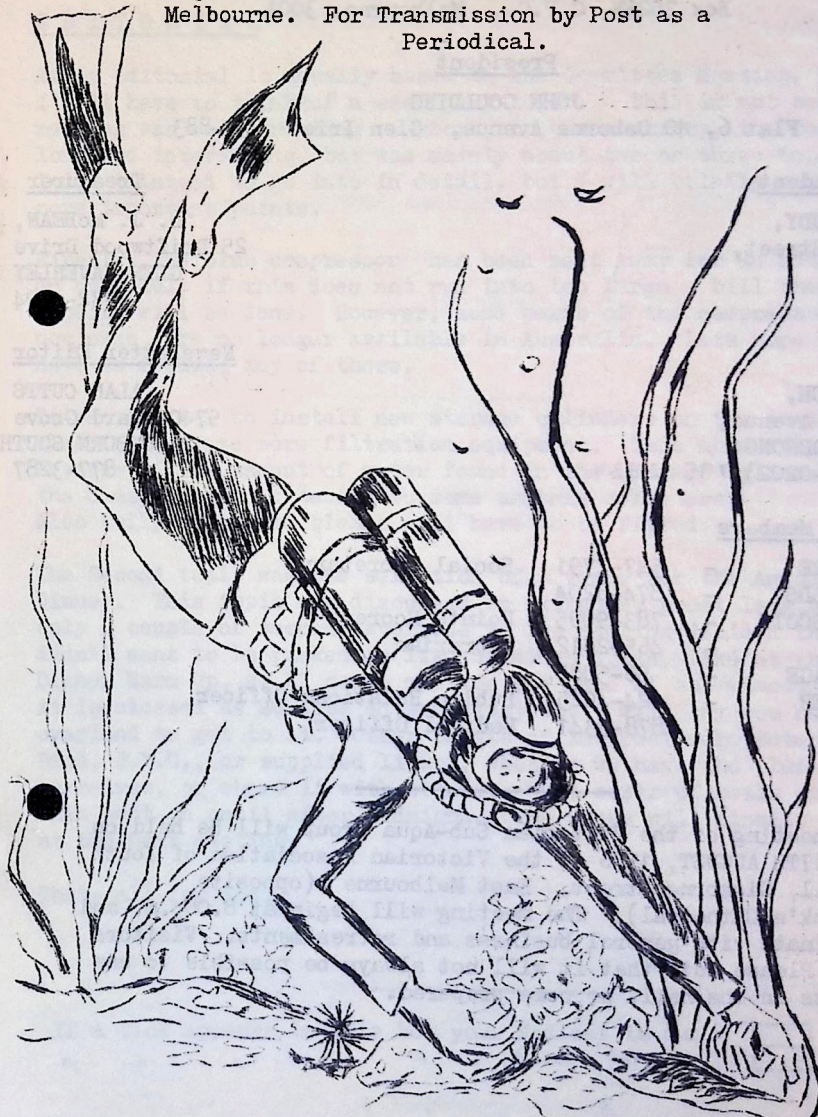


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F A T H O M S



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

(Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group)

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The next meeting of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group will be held on TUESDAY, 17TH AUGUST, 1976 at the Victorian Association of Youth Club's Hall, Gisborne Street, East Melbourne (opposite St. Patrick's Cathedral). The meeting will begin at 8.00p.m. and will terminate with general business and refreshments. Visitors welcome. Please note that it will not always be possible to use the toilets in the hall, so come prepared.

EDITORIAL

As my editorial is usually based on the Committee Meeting, I think I will have to think of a secondary topic. This is not because the meeting was uninteresting or short, to the contrary, the meeting was long and interesting, but was mainly about two or three topics, which I don't intend to go into in detail, but I will briefly mention the more important points.

Firstly, the club compressor has been sent away for an estimation on an overhaul, if this does not run into too large a bill then the repairs will be done. However, some parts of the compressor the Club now owns, are no longer available in Australia. Lets hope we don't have to replace any of these.

It was decided to install new storage cylinders on the trailer and also incorporate more filtration equipment. This move was taken because of the amount of water found in the storage cylinders and the damage which it caused to some members cylinders. Also fully automatic bleeds will have to be fitted.

The Second topic was the selection of a venue for the Annual Club Dinner. This topic was discussed at extremely great length. After only a couple of seconds everyone at the meeting decided that we didn't want to be packed in like sardines again, like at the Annual Dinner Warm up, at (I can't mention the name of the place, because it is classed as adverse advertising) but I will say you have to go overland to get to it. Other points of interest were Entertainment, Band, B.Y.O., or supplied liquor, whether we have the place to ourselves, or share it with others. What sorts of meals etc. and this went on until after midnight. The venue will finally be decided at the next meeting.

Thats all for now.

ED.

If a tick appears in this box your Medical is due.

" " " " " " Subs are "

DIVE CALENDAR

AUGUST	17	GENERAL MEETING
AUGUST	22	GEORGE KERMODE WRECK DIVE - Meet San Remo 10 a.m. Dive Capt. - D. Moore 547-2791
SEPT.	5	TORQUAY - Meet 10 a.m. Dive Capt. - T. Cowley
SEPT.	19	SAN REMO - Meet 10 a.m. Dive Capt. - J. Cody
SEPT.	21	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

The winter months are generally accepted as the good soup eating (drinking) season. So with only a couple of months left before Spring, we offer a soup recipe which could be useful to some of our divers.

Abalone Soup

6 cups of chicken stock
 1 teaspoon of salt
 3 cups of chopped cabbage (Chinese Cabbage preferable)
 8 ounces of abalone, trimmed
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of pepper
 1 tablespoon of soya sauce

Place the stock in a saucepan and bring to the boil, then add the Abalone and cabbage and cook for about 10 minutes, or until the cabbage is tender. Add the Soya Sauce and seasonings, cook for about 1 minute longer, then serve in individual soup bowls. Serves 6 people. If you have to feed 7 people then use the dog's bowl.

One thing I like about recipes, they haven't gone overboard on metrics. Good old terms like "teaspoonful", "Cup of", "pinch of" etc....

The recent introduction of random breath tests to catch drinking drivers have left quite a few people worried.

I overheard in a pub recently two blokes up at the the bar. Each had different interpretations on the law. (as a guide 5 beers in the first hour will put you in the .05 zone). One of these blokes who was closely watching the clock whilst swilling a beer was telling his orange juice drinking friend "Hell I'd better hurry I've been drinking here for 58 minutes and only had 4 beers that means I've got to down me fifth in 2 flamin' minutes".

With some recent efforts at horse riding it looks as if some members may try to avoid the puff bag by taking to the horse.

The recent boat show proved to be a popular spot for some of our members. Three of our members were observed one night with heads down closely scrutinizing how the hell the professionals put the damn things together. With this wonderful new technology instilled in their minds, it will be interesting to see how many patent rights are infringed down McKinnon way in the next few months.

Well folks remember the rule, always dive with a buddy both in and out of the water.

EMMANUAL LABOUR
(The Spanish Boxer).

POINTS SCORE

J. GOULDING	730	C. RAMAGE	290	P. SMITH	140
J. LIDDY	670	B. KELLY	290	T. SMITH	120
B. TRUSCOTT	595	D. CARROL	250	M. GAGLIHARDI	90
T. TIPPING	585	R. ADDAMSON	245	D. HURLE	70
M. SYNON	575	J. MARSHALL	240	P. SOUNDERS	60
F. DERKSEN	575	P. REYNOLDS	230	P. SIER	60
B. LYNCH	495	K. JAMES	230	C. MACHTYRE	50
D. MOORE	475	D. McBEAN	225	M. BENNET	50
J. BARKER	450	T. COWLEY	180	B. JANSEN	40
A. CUTTS	445	R. SCOTT	170	G. KNIGHT	40
T. SNUSHALL	390	B. BALDOCK	170	J. CURRIE	40
J. CODY	300	P. OAKLEY	150	R. COOMBER	35
				E. TIPPING	35
				J. NOOMAN	10

KELP BEDS - JULY 11

Divers met at Sorrento Boat Ramp at 12.00 a.m. A light nor-westerly was blowing, giving smooth seas and mild temperature. Four boats provided transport for 12 divers and one onlooker. Boats were supplied by Mas Synon and Trevor Cowley and the Bass Strait Boats - Leo Maybus and Jay Cody. Other divers present - Tony Tipping, Paul Tipping, Jenny Currie, Nina Kristensen, Peter Smith, Roger Jeff Barker, Frank Derksen.

Boats anchored over kelp beds and waited for slack water which occurred at about 3.00 p.m., 40 minutes later than calculated. The wind changed to sou-westerly, causing some rain and cooler conditions. Diving visibility was 20-25 feet, interesting marine life was encountered by divers, especially an abundance of blue devils and gorgonias. All divers had left the water by about 4.00 p.m., and returned to Sorrento boat ramp.

JAY CODY

OVERLANDER - JULY 3.

What a night! If you didn't go you really missed something - the biggest rip-off since the V.S.A.G. pool party. The food was beautiful it looked almost real, the can't can't dancers excited patrons to near hysteria, and the trumpet player who has played with Benny Goodman Louis Armstrong and Buddy Rich (I didn't know those guys were like that was nearly as good as Johnny Goulding. His shy brother (by another mother?) had the audience entranced with vocals and conga drums. Standing ovations greeted every song, all thirty seven of them.

The M.C. was just superb. He did impressions of that Greek station assistant at Flinders Street. Service? A sherman tank disguised as a drink waitress rumbled by three times.

The management never let an opportunity pass to entertain, even in the ladies loo there must have been something exciting going on, crowds of ladies were milling about outside all night trying to get a glimpse.

If you were there, you may have noticed the chick in the tight slacks with the tremendous set of big boo - blue eyes. Went through at least two dancing partners that I noticed. First guy retired with hernias in his eye balls second guy actually snuffed it, but nobody notices until the end of the bracket - he didn't have room to fall over.

A new air-conditioning unit had recently been installed and the manager took pains to demonstrate its effectiveness. Firstly he would build the temperature up to 40°C then gale force blasts would reduce it to 2°C in just a few minutes.

Summing up, I would highly recommend the Overlander to anybody except I don't dislike anybody that much. Give me 8 Penang Street any day.

JAY CODY

JUST AN IMPRESSION

Having only joined V.S.A.G. recently together with being a reasonably inexperienced member-diver compared to oldies like Pat Reynolds, I looked forward with anticipation to diving the Kelp Farm (of which most members are familiar) recently.

Since having had such a good experience on the Eliza Ramsden wreck dive a few weeks prior my expectations of the Farm were great perhaps however this accounted for the fact that I was slightly disappointed. During my first Ramsden dive buddied by Max Svmon the fish life on the wreck was many and varied seeming to congregate around to show their hospitality. Upon closed inspection (due to much appreciated assistance from Max in the art of hand feeding one large blue-green species who nearly took a fancy to my fingers) I began to distinguish the individual personality traits of each. Having had an earlier experience with the friendliness and personality of good size Red Fin in the murky depths of Lake Eildon earlier this year. I am beginning to realise my own personal love of the sport comes from this type of communication with and awareness of the world below.

Unfortunately whilst diving the Kelp Farm, although being amazingly colourful, during this particular dive I saw very few fish and the ones I did seek and find were timid and would dart off to cover when approached. Rock ledges with their luscious covering of copper coloured Kelp waving to and fro in the surge from the current, when viewed from below make for some good photography, as I hope my buddy Leo discovered when the film he took is developed. They seem to hang suspended beckoning you to enter the openings which are revealed with each movement of the sea. However, the buzz I felt on the Ramsden was missing this time. Perhaps when V.S.A.G. dive here in future my experience may be more exciting as I believe no two dives, even when done at similar times and in similar conditions, will ever be the same.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the members and wives-girlfriends for their support in making me feel more than welcome over the last few months.

Perhaps, considering the ratio of active year-round female divers to male, we could encourage more of the girls to come out on a few more dives.

JENNIFER ^C CURRIE

HOT WATER DIVING. (NEW ZEALAND STYLE)

Nestled close to the foot of the Ohope Hills at the South Eastern end of the Rangiatea Flains is the small coastal part of Whakatane. A town which features prominently in the early History of the area it is now becoming one of New Zealand's noted game fishing resorts, and the gateway to the fabulous diving areas of Motiti Island and the active volcanic Island known as White Island, which in turn offers fabulous and still virgin dive locations. It was from this part I can recall many memorable and tall (but true) tales of past dives.

One which I love to relate is about a small volcanic landmass, known as Whale Island, which is only (approximately) 12 Kilometers

from the Harbour Entrance. At the top northern end when the conditions were right, the hauls of cray and mussel were a divers dream. Visibility and water temperature were very comparable with Victoria and a good days diving could be had. But, the grand finale to the dive was to land our boats on the western beach and at a reasonable distance above the waterline dig several large holes in the sand which would fill up with hot mineral water. This was continually seeping down the beach into the sea as runoff from hot springs further inland.

Meantime, several large cray and mussels were placed in a boiling pool at the foot of a rocky outcrop. When these were cooked we would lie in our warm mineral pools eating cray and mussels along with the appropriate coldies. It might sound a tall tale but it's uncanny how these thoughts spring to mind when trailering Trev's boat at Portsea in mid-June.

TONY SNUS

STOP PRESS:

Congratulations to Clara and Peter on the announcement of your Engagement. Wishing you both every happiness.
