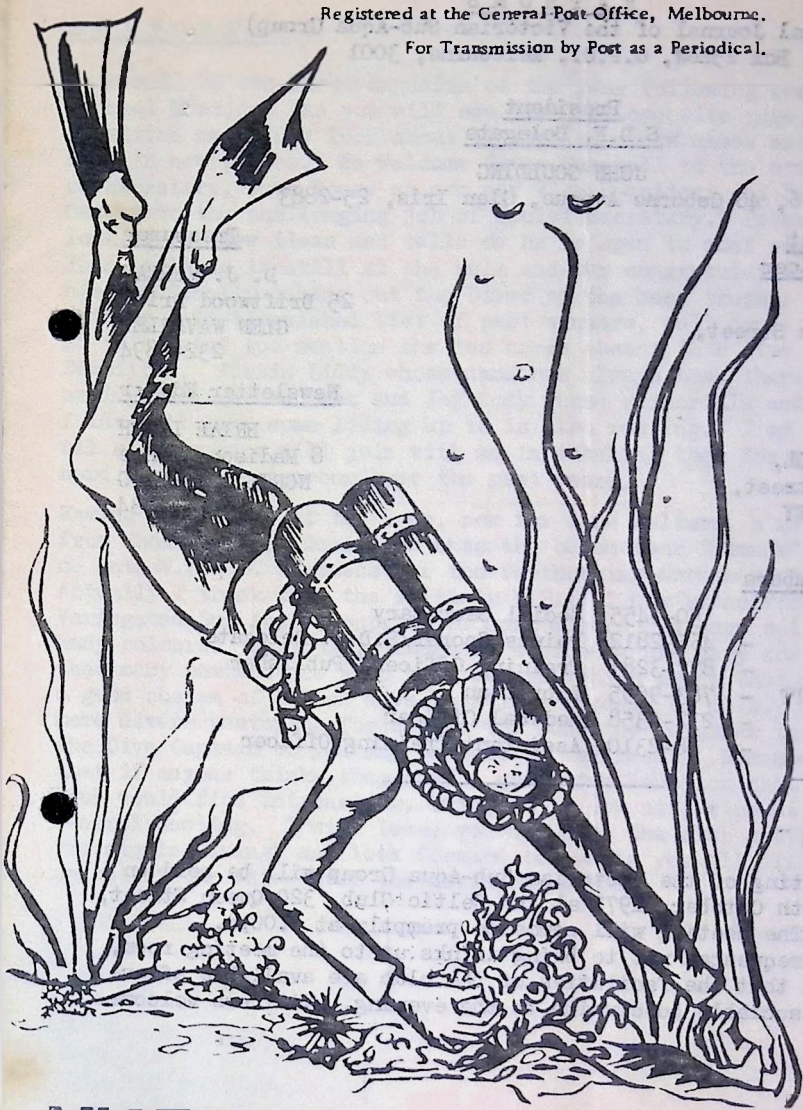


Oct 77
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FATHOMS



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

FATHOMS

(Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group)

Box 2526W, G.P.O., Melbourne, 3001

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JOHN GOULDING

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MAX SYNON	-	465-2812	Points Scorer/S.D.F. Delegate
ALAN CUTTS	-	877-3287	Training Officer/ Publisher
BARRY TRUSCOTT	-	783-9095	Librarian
PAT REYNOLDS	-	232-5358	Medical Officer
DAVE CARROLL	-	58-2310	Assistant Training Officer

CLUB MEETING -

The next meeting of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group will be held on Wednesday 19th October, 1977 at the Celtic Club, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne. The meeting will commence promptly at 8.00pm. Members are requested not to bring drinks up to the meeting room, but reminded that the facilities of the club are available afterwards for a sociable conclusion to the evening. Visitors welcome.

OCT 77

EDITORIAL

This will be the first magazine of the year following our Annual General Meeting. As you will see from the opposite page, our Committee has a new look about it with some new names and some old ones in new places. We welcome Carey Marshall to the arduous task of Secretary, Dave Moore as our new Vice President and Peter Oakley to the challenging job of Social Secretary. Peter will be looking for new ideas and tells me he is open to most suggestions. John Goulding is still at the helm and our congratulations go to him for finally taking out the Diver of the Year trophy; you are joining a distinguished list of past winners, well done! I must at this point too mention the two names absent this time from the Committee. Justin Liddy whose name has always been there is having well earned rest and Jay Cody whose editorials and centre-folds will take some living up to is also resting. I am sure that all club members will join with me in thanking them for all their hard work and endeavour over the past years.

Having taken care of the news, now for some culture, a misquotation from Shakespeare, "Once more unto the beach dear friends" leads me into V.S.A.G. business for the forthcoming warmer weather. Actually I think that the initials V.S.A.G. now stand for Variegated Sub Aqua Group; since most divers now have suits of many colours. Seriously though as a club we are very fortunate that many members are also boat owners, which means that we do get a good choice of better dive locations because of this. So with more divers venturing forth into the sunshine remember to ring the Dive Captain or you may be left on the beach. Remember too that if anyone thinks they have a good dive location that we as a club would find interesting, bring it to our attention at the General Meeting. I will leave you now with the club motto of "Safety in Diving" and look forward to seeing you all either in or out of the water over the forthcoming year.

END.

DIVE CALENDAR

- OCT. 22 VSAG ANNUAL DINNER - THE DORCHESTER (See advert.)
- OCT. 28 FILM NIGHT - THE DEEP - Organiser Carey Marshall
277-1679
- OCT. 30 CHANNEL RUN - Dive Capt. - Carey Marshall 277-1679
Meet Sorrento Boat Ramp 10.00 am.
- NOV. 4 NIGHT DIVE - CERBERUS - Dive Capt. - Tony Tipping
20-6949 (Work) 24-7133 (Home). One Torch per
person
- NOV. 13 SIERRA NEVADA - Dive Capt. - Dave Moore 547-2791
Meet Sorrento Boat Ramp 8.30 am.
- NOV. 16 GENERAL MEETING
-

This is a reminder that the following members appear to be non-financial. Dues can either be posted to P.O. Box 2526W, G.P.O., Melbourne or paid at the October Meeting.

Paul Beecher
Ron Baird
Dave Barker
Michael Bennet
Ron Coomber
Frank Derkson
Dave Hurle

Ken James
Graham Knight
Jeff Oke
Murray Richardson
Terry Smith
Paul Tipping
Trevor West

PRESIDENTS REPORT 1977

Good evening, and welcome to the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Sub Aqua Group.

It has become customary at this meeting to report on the Club's activities over the past 12 months; and in keeping with this tradition, I will do my best to briefly recap on the year's diving, social and business programme.

Since the end of September last year a total of 27 diving activities were planned. These consisted of 22 single day dives and 5 trips away which took up a further 27 days, making a total of 49 days in all on which Club dives were scheduled.

Only on about 5 days did dives have to be cancelled because of bad weather.

The 4 new dive sites which were visited this year were:-

The Jervis Bay area

The Wall at the Rip

Victoria's newest wreck - the George Kermodé and Refuge Cove on the east coast of Wilson's Prom.

Amongst other favourite dive locations have been :-

The Pinnacles

Eliza Ramsden

Kelp Farm

The wrecks of the "Holyhead" and "Victoria Towers" and the Flinders to Cape Schank coastline.

Our trips away were to:-

Jervis Bay

Refuge Cove

Port Campbell (twice) and

Wilson's Promontory

We are happy to report that no diving accidents occurred during the year, and this is a reflection on the Club's insistence on proper instruction, safety and well organised dives.

For many years a very important part of the V.S.A.G. has been the Dive Training, and over the last 12 months under the direction of Alan Cutts, two training programmes have been conducted. Although the second course was somewhat disappointing in the number of trainees who completed the course, the participation of members in the training was greatly appreciated.

On the social and non-diving activities there have been 8 functions which have consisted of:-

1976 Annual Dinner

Tennis Party

Up-the-Yarra trip

Tube Trip

Fancy Dress Party

Horse Riding

Snow Skiing

Car Rally

Making a total of

9 days

These occasions have provided the opportunity for members and friends to get together in more hospitable surrounds than the denizens of the deep, and provide a sociable and relaxed atmosphere.

So, in total, the Club has programmed activities for 58 days during the year. This is just 3 more than last year.

Also, there have been 11 General Meetings which have been held at 3 different locations and these have been highlighted with films and talks given by members and visitors.

It is hoped that the present venue for the General Meetings will provide a long-term location and will also help foster more the spirit of Club-mindedness and social intercourse.

One of the highlights of the year was the purchase of the new Club Compressor which was made possible by the generosity of members. The compressor has proved its worth in time saving and reliability on our trips away and in its normal use in Melbourne.

A first time event for the Club during the year was the exclusive hiring of reception facilities for our 1976 Annual Dinner. The night was a huge success and promises to be even better this year. So once again, please give your support.

Much of our diving has again been dependent on members' providing their boats for Club dives. So on behalf of all members I would like to express thanks to:

Max Synon

Peter Smith

Tony Tipping

Dave Moore

Trevor Cowley

and

Justin Liddy

Rob Adamson

Jay Cody

Don McBean

Frank Herbert

for their services and for their generous use of their boats.

Whilst on a note of thanks, I would like to thank the Committee for the work they have done during the year in performing the necessary tasks that are required to keep an organisation like ours going.

So too, I would like to thank all members who have contributed their time and efforts during the year to carry out work for the club.

However, let us not forget that all members make the Club what it is, and I think we ought to be pleased with the fine record of

the V.S.A.G. which I hope we will enjoy for many years to come.

In 1977/78 we look forward to more active participation by members in diving and the other activities of the club, and we will continue to provide the facilities for members to enjoy a variety of diving and a comradeship amongst people with a common interest.

(Signed) JOHN GOULDING

VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP - BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1977

<u>1976</u>	<u>MEMBERS FUNDS</u>	
1,378	Accumulated Funds as at 30th June, 1976	1,875.34
<u>497</u>	<u>Add Surplus for the year</u>	<u>1,903.11</u>
<u>\$1,875</u>		<u>\$3,778.45</u>
	Represented by -	
752	Cash at Bank	677.45
	Equipment (at cost)	3,751.00
	<u>less provision for</u>	
<u>1,123</u>	<u>depreciation</u>	<u>650.00</u>
<u>\$1,875</u>		<u>\$3,778.45</u>

Signed: J. GOULDING
B. LYNCH

VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP - STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1977

<u>1976</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	
523	Annual Subscriptions	614.70
168	Newsletter Subscriptions	138.80
280	Training & Joining Fees	620.00
90	Compressor Air Fills	22.00
53	Badges, Log Books and Slates	8.00
144	Sale of T-Shirts	158.30
1,504	Social Functions	1,491.12
82	Donations*	892.44

10	Bank Interest	-	
2,854			3,945.36
	<u>Less EXPENSES</u>		
42	Rental of Post Office Box	42.00	
32	Rental of Hall	57.00	
328	Printing, Stationery, incl.		
	Newsletter Publication	60.00	
50	Clubman of the year award	50.00	
1,312	Social Functions	965.86	
55	Insurances	64.20	
46	Training Expenses	24.00	
30	Subscriptions	32.20	
30	Log Books and Slates	-	
2	Bank Charges	5.40	
128	"T" Shirts	102.00	
115	Bulk Postage of Newsletter	90.00	
-	Repairs to Compressor	139.34	
58	General Expenses	67.25	
-	Sponsorship of Training	60.00	
129	Depreciation	<u>283.00</u>	
2,357			2,042.25
<u>\$497</u>	<u>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u>		<u>\$1,903.11</u>

*	Donations - Donations for Comp.	\$730
	" from Heinz	50
	Trainees	50
	Raffles	62.44

VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1977

- (A) Cost
 (B) Opening Written Down Value 30/6/76
 (C) Additions Date Cost \$
 (D) Depreciation (i) Rate % (ii) Amount \$
 (E) Closing Written Down Value 30/6/76

Headings shown as follows:-

- (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

Item	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)		(E)
				(i)	(ii)	
Filing Cabinet	50	14		15	2	12
Regulators Snorkels						
Flippers Masks	75	75				75
Tanks	90	58		7½	4	54
Compressor	400	226		15	34	192
Decompressor						
Meter	68	58		10	6	52
Manta Board	45	40		7½	3	37
Depth Sounder	373	319		10	32	287
Trailer	262	206		15	31	175
Vests Back Packs						
Weight Belts	127	127				127
	<u>1,490</u>					
<u>Additions</u>						
Compressor	1,501		'Oct'76 1,501	15	150	1,351
3 Tanks & Regulators	645		Feb'77 645	7½	16	629
Vests	30		Mch'77 30			30
2 Regulators	85		Aug'76 85	7½	5	80
	<u>\$3,751</u>	<u>1,123</u>		<u>2,261</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>3,101</u>

DIRECTORS REPORT - VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP 30TH JUNE, 1977

The Directors of Victorian Sub Aqua Group, submit herewith the Balance Sheet as at 30th June, 1977 and the Income and Expenditure statement as at 30th June, 1977 and report as follows:-

1. The names of the Directors in office at the date of this report are:-

GOULDING, John
LIDDY, Justin
McBEAN, Don
CARROLL, David
CODY, Jay
LYNCH, Brian

CUTTS, Alan
MOORE, David
MARSHALL, Carey
REYNOLDS, Patrick
SYNON, Max
TRUSCOTT, Barry

2. The principal activity of the Group is underwater diving and training.

3. The net surplus of the Group for the year was \$1,903.11
Income Tax is not applicable.
4. The Directors took reasonable steps before the Income and
Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet of the Group were made out
to ascertain that all known bad debts (if any) were written off, but
no provision has been made for doubtful debts.
5. The Directors took reasonable steps prior to the Income and
Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet being made out to ascertain
that the current assets of the Group, other than debtors were shown
in the accounting records of the company at a value equal to or
below the value that would be expected to be realised in the ordinary
course of the business.
6. At the date of this report the Directors are not aware of any
circumstances which would render the values attributable to the
current assets in the Groups accounts misleading.
7. No charge on the assets of the Group has arisen since the end of
the financial period to the date of this report to secure the
liabilities of any other persons.
8. No contingent liability has arisen since the end of the financial
period to the date of this report.
9. No contingent liability has become enforceable or is likely to
become enforceable within a period of twelve months after the end of
the financial period, in the opinion of the Directors, will or may
affect the ability of the Group to meet its obligations as and when
they fall due.
10. At the date of this report the Directors are not aware of any
circumstances not otherwise dealt with in the report or accounts
which would render any amount stated in the accounts misleading.
11. The result of the Groups operations during the financial period
have not in the opinion of the Directors been substantially affected
by any item, transaction or event of a material or unusual nature.
12. Since the 30th June, 1977 and to date of this report, in the
opinion of the Directors, no item, transaction or event of a material
and unusual nature which would affect substantially the results of
the Group for the next succeeding financial period has occurred.

13. No Director since the end of the previous financial period, has received or has become entitled to receive a benefit by reason of a contract made by the Group, with the Director or with a firm of which he is a member or with a Company in which he has a substantial financial interest.

On behalf of the Board

Signed	J. Goulding	Director
"	B. Lynch	Director

Date 7/9/77.....

VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP - DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

In the opinion of the Directors, the accompanying Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement are drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group for the year ended June 30, 1977 and so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the business for the year ended 30th June, 1977.

Signed at the Celtic Club, Melbourne, this 7th Day of September, 1977.

On behalf of the Directors.

Signed	J. Goulding	Director
"	B. Lynch	Director

STATEMENT BY PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER

I, Don McBean, principal accounting officer of Victorian Sub Aqua Group state that to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying accounts for the year ended June 30, 1977 give a true and fair view of the matters required by Section 162 of the Companies Act 1961 as amended.

Signed	Don McBean	Principal Accounting Officer
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AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS - VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP

1. In our opinion the attached accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's affairs for the year ended June 30, 1977

and of the surplus for the period ended on that date.

2. As required by the Companies Act 1961 of Victoria we report as follows:-

a) The attached accounts are properly drawn up so:-

(i) as to give a true and fair view of the matters required by Section 162 to be dealt with in the accounts; and

(ii) in accordance with provisions of that act.

b) The Accounting records and other records, and the registers, required by that Act to be kept by the Group have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

O.W. PARKINSON & SON
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed N.A. Cobain

PARTNER

7th September, 1977

POINTS SCORE - AS AT 1977 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

J. Goulding	880	J. Reynolds	140
T. Tipping	865	W. Mason	120
M. Synen	570	J. Okle	90
D. Moore	570	C. Oakley	80
B. Truscott	550	B. Kelly	65
J. Liddy	480	B. Soulsby	55
D. Carroll	460	A. Whiteley	50
F. Tipping	450	K. James	40
C. Tillbrook	420	F. Herbert	30
J. Cody	395	B. Jansen	30
P. Smith	390	J. Noonan	20
B. Lynch	370	G. Ryan	20
K. Jironc	360	R. Coomber	20
C. Marshall	330	P. Sier	20
P. Reynolds	280	T. Cowley	20
R. Scott	230	K. Callec	20
A. Cutts	210	J. Robinson	20
D. McBean	170	J. McKenzie	20
J. Marshall	170	M. Jackar	20
T. Snushall	150	P. Saunders	15
P. Oakley	150	A. Bensen	15

B. Baldock	150	F. Coustley	10
R. Adamson	140	R. Baid	10

WATER SAFETY FOR LIFESAVERS

1. Self-preservation (Save yourself first):

This rule is practical, it is not selfish! Multiple drownings are frequent because of rescue attempts by weak or non-swimmers. If you drown, your patient drowns too! Only strong life savers should attempt a swimming rescue.

2. Don't get wet:

'Dry' rescues are just as effective. Is there a boat available? Your reach may be extended by the use of a rope, branch, article of clothing, towel, belt or fishing rod. Young children often fall in and may be reached simply by lying down on the edge and extending your arm.

Alternatively, a flotation aid may be thrown to a swimmer in difficulties - life jacket, ball, bucket, cake tin or saucepan. An object with only a small amount of buoyancy will keep a person afloat for long periods if he rests his fingers lightly on the floating object and lies flat in the water.

- If you must get wet ...

3. Only approach a troubled swimmer from the rear - do not approach from the front or side. This prevents the patient from clutching the rescuer.

4. Don't touch (avoid physical contact with) a drowning person who is panicking. Keep out of reach of a drowning person, except when:

- (a) he is unconscious,
- (b) you have a firm anchorage, or
- (c) he is only a tired (non-panicking) swimmer.

5. Use an aid (for example, your bathers) to tow a tired swimmer. If the patient attempts to grab you, let go of the aid.

6. If clutched by a panicking swimmer, execute a feet first surface dive (with or without a breath) and surface elsewhere.

7. Where no flotation or reach extension aids are available, but many people (including non-swimmers) are present, a human chain

may be the safest method of rescue. There should always be an aid between the rescuer (the person at the end of the chain) and the patient.

8. Practice the skills of water safety before you go swimming - especially at 'foreign' swimming areas.

9. Think, assess and improvise - a little forethought may prevent disaster....many objects may be used as water safety aids if you know how to use them.

The Royal Life Saving Society - Australia
Victoria Branch

Submitted by - TONY TIPPING

ELIZA AT 60 FEET

Sunday 11th September was one of those mornings that divers dream about. Just a puff of breeze to bring on the drift of the salt air, and the sea. mirror flat and really clear. Peter Smith and Frank Herbert had their boats in the water at Sorrento early that morning and were raring to go. However as slack water at Port Phillip Heads was not until 12.28pm, we took in the full flavour of this beautiful springtime day.

As we lined up the bearings and criss-crossed a pattern to try and locate our target with the depth sounder, who should turn up running a little late, but Max Synon. Max sped into the general area we were sounding dropped his pick and said "It will be right here." So we methodically motored over towards his anchored boat and sure enough the depth sounder mapped out an outline of what we were looking for.

As the current slackened Max and John Smibert dived to confirm the location. They soon reappeared and to our relief we were exactly where we wanted to be. Two by two down the anchor lines we went, and about 60 feet from the surface loomed before us, the Eliza Ramsden. Five of the eight divers had never been on this wreck before and were really enthralled by this rare sight of a 19th century sailing ship sitting on the sea bottom. For those who had dived it before the thrill of visiting a favourite spot was rewarding. When the current slackened right off, the visibility cleared to about 60 feet which allowed our divers to take in the

full perspective of the wreck and its surrounds, with its busy inhabitants of fish. All in all a perfect day for a perfect dive.

JOHN GOULDING

ROCK CLIMBING AT 100 FEET

Date: Sunday 25th September

Place: The "Wall" - Rip

Time: 1219 hours

the day after the Grand Final (the first one) who can tell what could happen.

Unexpected to the 16 divers who turned up at Sorrento on that day, the Grand Final was not the climax of their weekend. For on the Sunday 14 divers descended the fantastic Wall at the Rip. The other 2 carried out some tests at Portsea Pier. Somewhere north east of the Point Lonsdale lighthouse lies a "drop-off" which could possibly measure up to the "Cayman Wall" if it had the clear water. Unfortunately our dive on the 25th September was marred with dirty water and visibility was restricted to 25 feet. Still it enabled us to glide with ease in the slack water period and view the growth, fish, caves and rock formation of this beautiful spot.

Tony and Pete Smith had left Sorrento with a group of divers and the depth sounder and given instructions to find the "Wall" by 12 noon or else head for the Kelp Farm. Max and I headed out about 20 minutes later and by the time we caught up with the others the work was done. I was told where to drop anchor and sure enough we were sitting right above it. The current at the Rip changes quickly and as soon as it took my spittle longer than 10 seconds to pass the length of the boat it was over the side and dive, dive.

When the first lot of divers surfaced the second group went and we probably had the best dive, because the current had completely stopped. The stillness and tranquility of the "Wall" was disturbed only by the thumping of a ship passing through the Heads and although this sounded directly on top it was nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile away. The Wall is one of those places which allows you to visit either as a bird gliding past, a fish floating by, or a rock

climber.

That is the beauty of diving!

JOHN GOULDING

FILOTSAM & JETSAM

No doubt you will recall our invitation, or was it a challenge? in last months edition for members to come diving at the Yarra Mouth or at Port Melbourne Pier! Well our Post Office box has been brimming over with replies. There was one from Canberra which read:-

"I am good at feeling my way in the dark but can just keep my head above water." Yours faithfully, M. Fraser.

Another, from Collins Place - Melbourne -

"I feel that I would be a good prospect for your next Yarra Trip because I am a mud slinger from way back." Signed N. Gallagher.

And, whilst we're talking about Norm, did you hear about that fellow Gunston who is claiming credits for the creation of the great Australian sportsman - "You bewdy Norm" who is getting national T.V. coverage in favour of the new Australian produced western titled the "Lay³low Brothers."

Since last reporting to you there have been some comings and goings which need to be mentioned.

In the seemingly never ending stream of overseas trippers, we report the safe return of two avid skiers, who tell us that the most difficult part of skiing New Zealand is getting past the officials at Tullamarine Airport.

Then there's the glamour stakes at the more recent dives. Our modest member of the physical jerks club, Tony, held number 1 position for a while with his blue-yonder suit sporting diagonal zip and white trimming around the hems and bodice. Shortly he had some competition from John McKenzie (also in blue), John Smibert in green and now Lynchy and Goulding dressed in green and blue. Then of course there was Snushall with twin tanks - 'cause they had to be yellow! - to match the stripes on his spiro! Who's for a good old skinny dip to show your true colours?

It was good to see Alan Cutts be awarded a Life Membership of the

V.S.A.G. Alan's been around for longer than most of us, and his keeness and support is an example of true club spirit. Let us hope that he will be around for many years to enjoy his club and that there will be many others who will follow with the same dedication.

We hear tell that Pete (Ace) Smith is soon to leave our shores to take up a job as a pilot with Singapore Airlines. Pete who has the unenviable nickname of "Wrong-way" is sure to give the Singaporese a taste of thrills and spills over the oriental skies.

And now for the words you've all been waiting for. "That's all."

CHEER HO
(The Happy Chinaman)

"D I V E R S B E W A R E "
OCTOBER 22ND

THE V.S.A.G. ANNUAL DINNER
featuring
CORDITE EXPLOSIVE SOUND
at the

"DORCHESTER"
HENLEY LAWNS
MELBOURNE

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW:

Contact -	J. Goulding	Tel.	347 7322	Bus.
			25 2883	Priv.
	J. Cody	"	544 7088	Bus.
			846 1313	Priv.
	C. Marshall	"	277 1679	Priv.
	\$34.00 DOUBLE (ALL INCLUSIVE)			

ALSO - Lucky Ticket and Spot Prizes
- The Clubman of the Year Trophy
- Life Membership Awards

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

BEWARE
THE ACTION IS
OCT. 22

BOOK NOW!