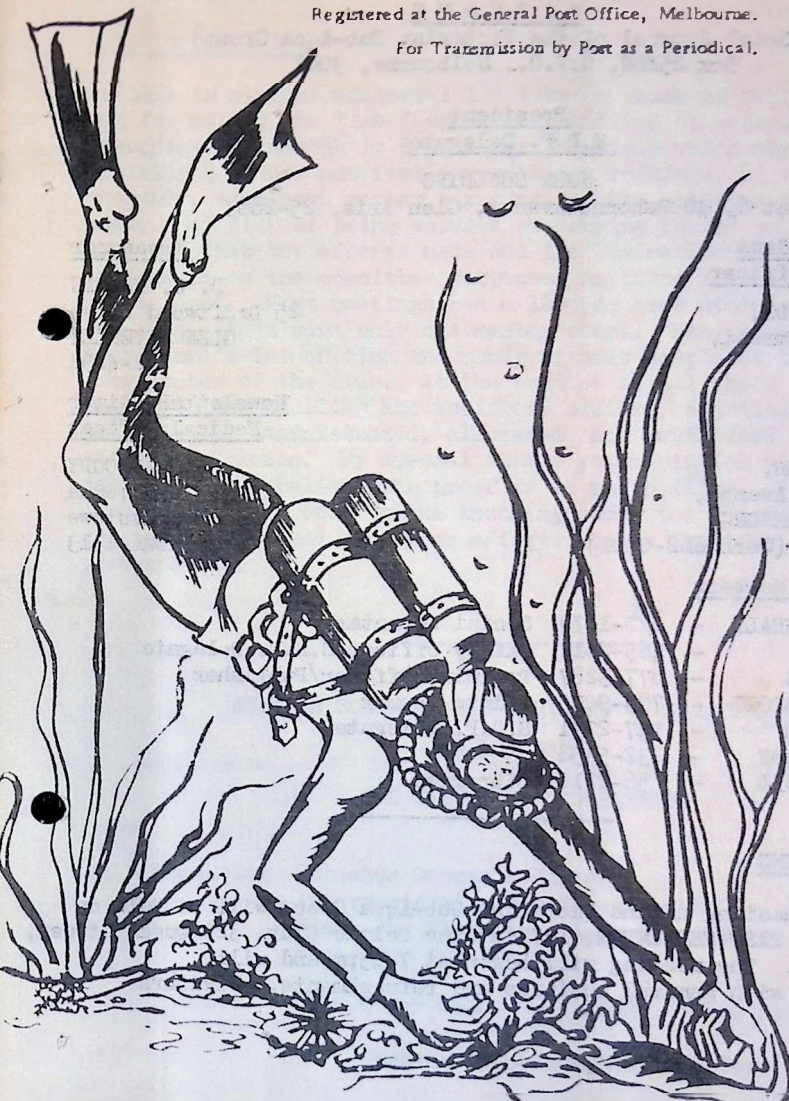


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FATHOMS



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

F A T H O M S

(Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group)

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

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CLUB MEETING -

The next meeting of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group will be held on WEDNESDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 1977 at the Celtic Club, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne. The meeting will begin at 7.45pm and will terminate with general business and refreshments. Visitors welcome.

EDITORIAL

As this is my last editorial I'd like to thank my fellow committee-men for making the time I spent on committee so enjoyable and rewarding. Although it is a large committee which may appear unwieldy to those not familiar with its workings, it functions very smoothly, with each member carrying out his allotted tasks unflinchingly. At risk of being accused of lobbying for my colleagues I must say that the efforts made and the dedication shown by each individual on the committee surpasses anything I have previously encountered. Most meetings had a 100 per cent attendance and the few that didn't were only one member short. Many members have sacrificed a lot of time and money without complaint to enable the progression of the club. At the head of it all (he's gonna hate me) John Goulding has assisted, advised, adjudicated, articulated, administrated, allocated and arbitrated with the wisdom of Solomon. My special thanks go to him for his personal assistance. I believe the proof is in the pudding. V.S.A.G. is a club to be proud of. To the incoming committee I extend my congratulations and hope your efforts are as fruitful as your predecessors.

ED.

ANOTHER SOUTHERN AIR SERVICES SOCIAL CLUB

EXTRAVAGANZA

THE SEPTEMBER OCTOBERFEST

Featuring Gorgeous George's Disco
 International selection of beers
 Night Joy Flights, S.A.S. Beer Stein
 Wines for the ladies

COST: \$6.00 per head WHEN: 23rd Sept., 8 pm.

WHERE: Southern Air Services

DIVE CALENDAR

- SEPT. 21 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- SEPT. 25 KELP FARM - Dive Capt. John Goulding 25-2883
Meet Sorrento Boat Ramp 9.30am.
- OCT. 9 VICTORIA TOWERS OR OZONE - Dive Capt. - Max Synon
465-2812. Meet Torquay Boat Ramp 10.00 am.
- OCT. 19 GENERAL MEETING
- OCT. 22 VSAG ANNUAL DINNER - THE DORCHESTER (See advert.)
- OCT. 28 FILM NIGHT - THE DEEP (See P. 8) - Organiser
Carey Marshall 277-1679
- OCT. 30 CHANNEL RUN - Dive Capt. - Carey Marshall 277-1679
Meet Sorrento Boat Ramp 10.00 am.
- NOV. 13 SIERRA NEVADA - Dive Capt. - Dave Moore 547-2791
Meet Sorrento Boat Ramp 8.30 am.
- NOV. 16 GENERAL MEETING
-

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

The Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group will be held at the Celtic Club on Wednesday September 21st.

At this meeting elections will be held to fill vacancies on the Committee. The 3 people who have served longest on the Committee and are required to stand down are - Brian Lynch, Barry Truscott and Pat Reynolds. Also required to stand down is David Carroll who joined the Committee since the last election in September '76.

These members are eligible and wish to stand again. Jay Cody will be resigning from the Committee in September and is not seeking renomination. There is also a vacancy to fill the place of Justin Liddy, who resigned from the committee in June.

All members are requested to be present at this meeting as it will be your vote to select the people who will perform the official tasks for the next 12 months.

During the last 12 months the Committee has worked together to provide the Club with the opportunities for diving, meetings, training, new equipment, social functions and communication through our newsletter "Fathoms". The tasks of the Committee members are not too difficult but they are time consuming and require sacrifices on members activities. Furthermore they can only be done with the assistance of all Club members and their families.

I therefore express my sincere thanks to the Committee for their work and to all members who have supported the Committee and the Club over the past 12 months.

JOHN GOULDING

CHANNEL RUN - KELP FARM - AUGUST 14TH

Max Synon had backed a reasonable day to get us organised down at Sorrento Ramp by 10 am. - all fourteen divers and three boats: his own, Rob Adamson's and my Lil Ab. He then decided to split us up into two groups - those who wished to do the channel run and those who preferred to wait until two o'clock for slack water flood to dive the Kelp Farm.

We headed out to the approximate position of the Eliza Ramsden to start the Channel Run - and drifted quite a way back past Pope's Eye and eventually to a direct line out from the Portsea Pier with the incoming tide. Peter Oakley and Wendy managed to see one Port Jackson shark and a lot of sand in 30 minutes not to mention here that Wendy lost her weight belt. The two new Johns, Dave Carroll, Craig, Max and Bazza in the other 2 boats abreast surfaced with several old bottles and stories of huge anchors.

Then it was back to Portsea Pier for lunch and a change of crews. Max ferried several back to Sorrento while Rob and I picked up Paul, Bruce Soulsby and Mike (a novice snorkeller itching to dive some cooler water - he's lived in Darwin the last few years.)

Over near the Kelp Farm there were Haines Hunters everywhere - cheap commoners! Not only that but none of them could pick the

right spot. On about the seventeenth attempt over the side and down - Bruce and I finally found a worthwhile bottom - with plenty of kelp and even some colourful caves similar to the dive three months previously. Unfortunately by the time we found the spot no one was that keen to join us, the tide had turned and visibility was down to 15 feet. After a mean 150 metre swim back to the boat we headed over to the reef off Quarantine to give Mike a snorkel and judging by the sounds he made, a sex change! It ain't like Darwin Harbour where he's used to cooling down with Harvey Wallbanger after a swim!

Once again it was great to return to find Max and the boys had waited at the ramp to help with boats and share their beer!

TONY TIPPING

V.S.A.G. GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of General Meeting held at The Celtic Club on Wednesday 17 August.

Present: Visitors: John Abbott, Ken Callec, Maree James, Gil Dunstee, Revel Scott, K McKenzie

Attendance: 29

Apologies: R Coomba, P & C Oakley, J. Marshall

Matters: 1. Compressor Guard fixed by D.J.

2. Tony requested cheque for text books for F.A.U.I. Course turned down. Will buy books first.

3. SDF Dance Tickets available at door

4. Dive Captain regulations. Carey Marshall has run off 80 copies.

Moved by B Scott Seconded by J Goulding

Treasurers Report:	Cash at bank	\$801.05
	Cash on hand	45.00
	Treasurers P/C	20.00

\$866.05

Bills for payment - Nil

Moved by P Reynolds Seconded by B Scott

Correspondence:

	In
B.S.A.G. Laverton Group	
Tom Armstrong Resignation	

	Out
T. Armstrong (J.G.)	
Mr. O'Callaghan (J.G.)	

Down Under - 2
 Australia Post
 Mt. Gambier Mag
 Nargun Mag - 2
 Subs F. Lottner
 Cordite Sound receipt
 2 Skin Divers

General Business

1. Committee vacancies
2. Compressor needs new crystals and oil plus a cover. Dave Carroll to change oil and crystals and will measure same.
3. Training. Tony suggested that a training session be organised for October to be referred to committee.
4. Dive Calendar.

The Christmas Trip - Coffs Harbour - T. Tipping
 Eden - J. Cody

Annual General Meeting - Returning Officer - Bob Scott
 Scrutineer - J Cody

S.D.F. Report given by J Goulding

Meeting closed at 9.30am. Trevor Cowley then showed films and slides.

THE SHEPHERD FOUNDATION

Several months ago an acquaintance of mine who recently graduated in the medical field asked that I go along to the Shepherd Foundation in Bowen Crescent just off St. Kilda Rd for a series of tests. On obtaining the results of the tests the peace of mind and interest it gave me was well worth the two hours and \$5 that it cost.

It is argued that many illnesses and diseases develop slowly, in fact some start at a comparatively early age so the best way to act is detect something in its preliminary stage. The Foundation and many doctors recommend these tests from the age of 25 and as often as every five years thereafter.

The first hour or so of the tests are purely physical (some of which would be similar to the CZ18 medical for diving) - tests

related to sight, hearing, heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, thyroid and other glandular disorders - in fact 55 tests in all for men and more for women. The second part of the session is answering a series of computerised questions from "How often do you have sex?" to "What drugs have you taken?" - quite an effort in itself. This section is very interesting too, although the last question is somewhat unusual!

So if you're a diver, you're over 25 and you're interested in living get a referral from your local doctor - he'll make an appointment to go to the Shepherd Foundation and they will mail out the time with the instructions etc., then after your visit the results will be sent back to the doctor who'll inform you in due course. Who knows? You may even live 10 years longer! Not bad for two hours and five bucks!

TONY TIPPING

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

September always seems to be the month which places additional strains on the writer of this column. Maybe because of the usual lousy diving or because of other interests. Nevertheless the show must go on and on and

Our first escapade for the month started back on the 5th August when the V.S.A.G. Skiers invaded Mt. Buller for a weekend's skiing. The fine conditions on the Saturday provided a perfect snoopers environment to check the pilgrims progress since the last expedition to this spot in 1976. It seemed that everyone was following Jay and Justin Cody trying to pick up the art of parallel turns. After many hours, some were turned off by the whole idea, and were last seen sliding down the runs on their bums. No matter how you did it or not do it, the weekend was most enjoyable and fortunately free of accidents.

As many of you are aware the Club now has its meetings at the Celtic Club in the city. The Celtic Club is an Irish organisation and no doubt has suffered the brunt of many Irish jokes - however, one of our observers noticed a sign on a small door at the top of the stairs which read "IRISH INFORMATION CENTRE".

Our keen observer, thinking that behind the door lay the key to the cultural, academic and traditional wisdom of Ireland,

stealthily entered, but alas - found the room completely bare! It seemed that someone had already borrowed the tourist brochure.

Seriously though the Celtic Club is a convenient and quite well appointed venue to hold our meetings. Besides the meeting room there are bar and billiard facilities which add to the geniality of before and after meeting get togethers.

It was pleasing to see the number of people who turned up for the car rally and congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Stan Moore who took line honours. You've got to watch these Moore's. Our roving reporter suspects that Stan and his little boy David used C.B. radio, bugging devices in the course leaders car, and hovering helicopters in order to make a claim on the hamper of Safeway goodies. Just beaten across the line was the old adventurer of the Afghan trail, Tony Tipping with navigator Paul, and referee Leslie.

As we write this column we note that a 40 foot whale was sighted in Port Phillip Bay near Williamstown today. One week earlier a porpoise was rescued from the Moonee Ponds Creek. With such activity going on at the northern end of the bay, maybe we are missing out on something.

Who's for a dive at the Yarra Mouth, or perhaps Station Pier Port Melbourne. Send all acceptances to the writer.

INDA DARK
(The Night Diver)

FILM NIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT - OCTOBER 28TH

"THE DEEP" Book by Peter Benchley, author of Jaws.

25 seats available

\$1.00 deposit - total cost \$2.70 per head
(Normal price \$4.00)

See Carey Marshall for bookings - 277 1679

" 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. Ccily	"	544 7088	Bus.
			846 1313	Priv.
	C. Marshall	"	277 1679	Priv.

\$34.00 DOUBLE (ALL INCLUSIVE)

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

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

BEWARE

THE ACTION IS

OCT. 22

BOOK NOW!