

FATHOMS

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**INDEPENDENT
DIVING
FREEDOM**

Safety in Diving

\$2

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Victorian Sub Aqua Group,
Box 2526W,
GPO Melbourne 3001



VSAG

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

-- AUG 1988

VSAG

Victorian Sub-Aqua Group, Box 2526W, G.P.O., Melbourne. 3001 Australia

President

Mick Jeacle
5 Donn Close,
Frankston. 3199
Ph. (059) 71 2786

Secretary

Don Abell
80 Liston St.,
Burwood. 3125
Ph. 29 4415

Treasurer

Vice President
Safety Officer
Alex Talay
Unit 1/3 Wimborne Lane,
Chelsea. 3196
Ph. 772 3085

Newsletter Editor

Keith Jensen
99 The Fairway,
Kingsbury. 3083
Ph. 460 3672

S.D.F. Delegate

Des Williams - 551 3201

Asst. Newsletter Editor

Barry Truscott - 789 6395

Points Scorer

Max Synon - 465 2812

Social Secretary

John Lawler - 569 9851

Property Officer

Pat Reynolds - 789 1092

S.D.F. & Public Relations

Paul Tipping - 387 2027

S.D.F. Reserve

John Goulding - 890 6634

Committee Member

Andy Mastrowicz - 318 3986

The Victorian Sub-Aqua Group was founded in 1954 and has continued as a strong and active diving club since that time. It is incorporated as a non profit company and has no commercial affiliation with any organisation.

VSAG is committed to the preservation of independant diving freedom. It believes that divers must take a responsible attitude toward the protection and preservation of the marine environment but as a general rule is opposed to legislative measures that place prohibitive limitations and restrictions on diving activities.

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VSAG

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

COVER STORY: VSAG diver Alex Talay along with proprietor of Melbourne Dive Services, Dick Whittaker, seen diving the famous Lady on the Wreck of the President Coolidge. This photo was taken by Keith Jensen whilst visiting the Island of Espirito Santo, Vanuatu 1983.

Local diving is organised on a bi-monthly basis, generally out of participating member's boats. This is supported by weekend camps, charters to more remote locations and annual overseas trips. The club has a considerable investment in diving equipment.

Regular functions provide an opportunity for members, friends and families to socialise. Each month VSAG meets at North Melbourne Football Club where bar facilities are available prior to and after the General Meetings. Visitors are very welcome - smart casual wear essential.

FATHOMS

Official journal of the Victorian Sub—Aqua Group

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Next general meetings

Thursday 18th August 8.00 p.m.
Thursday 15th September 8.00 p.m.
North Melbourne Football Club,
Fogarty Street, North Melbourne

Next committee meetings

23rd August - John Goulding's Place.
20th September - Mick Jeacle's Place.

Editorial submissions to: "The Editor" Fathoms C/- 13 BIRDWOOD STREET,
BOX HILL SOUTH, VIC., 3128
TELEPHONE: 890 6634

EDITORIAL

It's certainly been quite an eventful couple of months for V.S.A.G., but unfortunately we're a little light on for articles in this issue. Instead, as I look at the pile of papers on the floor waiting to be put into some semblance of order, most of what you will read in this issue are notices about forthcoming events and details of Club business.

As I have noted before Fathoms is only as good as the member contributions. We cannot leave it to the regulars all the time to hold up the magazine, so how about it guys - let's have more articles before the October General Meeting.



The reasonably mild conditions of Winter have provided some excellent diving at Apollo Bay, the Pinnacles and Flinders, and now as we approach Spring you will find that the Committee has scheduled plenty of diving activity through to the end of the year.

Of particular importance in this issue is the notice of Club Safety Procedures.

The motto of V.S.A.G. is "Safety in Diving" and the Club has maintained an unblemished record since its foundation in 1954. However, we can all take it for granted after a while, and thats when mistakes can happen. Diving like driving a car or hang gliding is a serious business. It has inherint risks associated with it, but through proper training and adherence to safe practices these risks can be significantly reduced.

The publication of these safety procedures and the adoption by the Club of the DIVER SAFETY SAUSAGE should reinforce to members that the Club takes safety - not for granted - but for certain.

Congratulations to Des Williams on his appointment to the Victorian Historic Shipwrecks Advisory Committee. Des' keen interest and considerable knowledge of Victorian shipwrecks is sure to be a valuable talent to the Advisory Committee.

In the last issue of Fathoms we published the first Fathoms - "Picture of the Issue". This issue, just a month before the Annual General Meeting and the Committee elections we show a picture of our hardworking Committee after an eventful session at Des' place in June. Just look at all the smiling faces! Imagine what fun Committee Members have.

Questions that should be asked are:-

- * Has Mick Jeacle shrunk or are the rest of the Members all high?
- * Why isn't everyone else wearing a tie?
- * With only one female on the Committee could V.S.A.G. be accused of not practicing equal opportunity recruitment?
- * Following Pat Reynolds obvious rebuttal by Alex, as shown in last issues photograph, is he moving in on Don?

Don't forget the Annual General Meeting on September 15. This is an important meeting in the yearly calendar of the Club and your participation at this meeting and the elections helps determine the future direction of V.S.A.G.

Editor



COMMITTEE NEWS

The following points are a summary of major issues raised at the June and July Committee Meetings.

- * All Club bank accounts have been transferred to the National Mutual Royal Bank.
- * On Club trips away it will be the Dive Captains responsibility to advise members each evening of the start time of the next day's diving activity.
- * Des Williams has been nominated to sit on the Victorian Historic Shipwrecks Advisory Committee.
- * Club funds as at 27th July were \$6,000.80.
- * The Club will purchase 12 Diver Safety Sausages to be allocated to Club members dive boats for use by divers.
- * The Club entry in the Yellow Pages telephone directory will be changed from Pat Reynolds number to Igor Chernichov's number. Igor works from home and thus will be able to provide a 24 hour service?!
- * The Club will introduce a charge on the use of club tanks to offset the cost of tank testing and maintenance.

A fee of \$10.00 will need to be paid when the tank is borrowed. \$5.00 will be refunded if the tank is returned FULL within 7 days.

If the tank requires filling or topping up no refund will be available.

If the tank is not returned within 7 days without prior arrangement an additional fee maybe required to be paid.

- * Various suggestions were put forward for the Christmas Function but final decision is yet to be made.*

S.D.F.-V MEETING - TUESDAY 2/8/1988

by Des Williams

Clubs present: British Sub-Aqua Club, Valley Divers, Aust. Postal Institute, Bass Strait Diving Club, Black Rock, Melbourne Bottom Scratchers and V.S.A.G.

- (i) Point Nepean National Park to open in October 1988. D. Williams reported that much excavation work has been done and many galleries and fortifications are soon to be open to the public.
- (ii) A message from Ministry for Planning & Environment advises a meeting will be held in October to which all sporting bodies will be invited. The subject will be Public Liability Insurance for sporting clubs - more details at next S.D.F.-V. meeting.
- (iii) Australian Piscatorial Council requires S.D.F.-V. input on a fishing survey. As this is for inland waters fish we need not action.
- (iv) As a result of the increase in diving accidents and divers needing recompression over the last few years the Government had asked each State to look into the situation some time ago. Michael Jackson (B.S.A.C.) reported W.A., S.A., Vic. & N.S.W. are not planning any legislative control on divers instruction as yet.
- (v) Financial status of S.D.F.-V. \$ 498.04 Interest Account
\$ 379.46 General Account
\$ 978.80 Investment Account

\$1,856.30
- (vi) The next Annual S.D.F.-A. meeting is to be held in Victoria between January 26-29th 1989, Victoria to be the host State.
- (vii) A combined social night for all S.D.F.-V. affiliated Club to be organized for early 1989.
- (viii) The subject of divers involved in an incident near the Heads was discussed, with D. Williams explaining details of the incident for the benefit of members present. All agreed that there is now

great demand on the exciting dive sites within the Heads area. Slack water can be a very busy time with private boats, charter boats and commercial shipping all requiring the same space so extra care must now be taken.

- (ix) S.D.F.-V. urgently need a representative to sit on the Victorian Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee. This Committee advises the Minister and it is essential we look after our interests and comment on matters concerning our rights to take underwater species in the future. If anyone in V.S.A.G. is seriously interested in protecting divers rights in V.R.F.A.C. then get off your butt and talk with Des Williams about representing S.D.F.-V. now!!
 - (x) S.D.F.-V. has recommended D. Williams as its representative on the Historic Shipwrecks Advisory Committee to replace David Carroll who has had to resign due to work commitments.
- * The next S.D.F.-V. meeting will be held at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday 4th October, 1988.

Anyone with questions on the above items should contact D. Williams on 551 3201.*

V.S.A.G. SAFETY PROCEDURES

The Committee of the V.S.A.G. has determined the following safety procedures which are to be adhered to by all members on Club dives.

1. The Dive Captain is to take all responsibility for arrangements and safety for the days diving activities. The Club Safety Officer is to act only in the role of an observer and advisor to the Dive Captain.
2. For each Club dive the plan is to be announced and adhered to unless alteration is cleared by the Dive Captain.
3. When diving as a group of boats under anchor one or more boats should be manned to aid any calls of distress from divers and ensure the safety of the other boats.
4. The Club advocates that divers use the "buddy" system whenever possible.
5. When diving in and around the Rip, shipping movements should be checked out. No divers to submerge if any ship is within sight.
6. When problems arise on the surface and divers are on a bouy line they should be pulled up by the surface craft. The person holding on the bouy is to control the diving of his buddies and they should therefore surface on his instruction.
7. At least one boat diving each day should carry a club oxygen cylinder with adaptor.
8. New members should always be paired with experienced divers in the Club. This procedure should be carried out for a considerable period after membership to ensure that the Club is satisfied with their capabilities and that they are given every confidence in their own ability and the ability of other members.
9. The Boat Captain is to take responsibility in his boat to brief the divers on procedures to be adopted for the days diving.*

A THREE DIVE DAY

by Don Abell

I feel that I should write an article in regard to the dive on 26th June. It is most important that I personally squash any rumours that I caught an enormous crayfish on the day. The truth is that it was only a 9 pounder. I know that some divers think that is big, but I only consider that it upholds my personal average.

Now for the dive. The day looked like a blow out, but I continually hold the belief that no decision should be made to "pull the pin" until divers arrive on site. Well three divers still seem to follow that belief - Jeacle, Lawler and myself.

We didn't even consider Sorrento and drove straight to Flinders. From the cliff face we saw calm waters so the boat was launched and off we went around toward Cape Schank stopping about half way there.

John and I dived together and Mick followed when we surfaced. Visibility was good and when on the surface we enjoyed sunshine and only a light breeze.

The day was so good and with the luxury of only three divers we went for 3 dives each.

On the last dive John suggested we give it five more minutes. John then found a ledge with crays, but was disappointed to realise that they were females. When John had finished I went in after the one he hadn't seen. As usual he was so big he had nowhere to go, and it was just a matter of picking him up. Lawler almost spat his regulator when he saw what I pulled out.

We retired to Flinders pub for debriefing and then headed home just a little late. Our only regret was for those who didn't join us.

I saw Jack Namiota in a restaurant the next day. Jack had thought of diving, but decided the weather was no good. If you think Jack may have shown signs of anguish when he heard we had 3 dives you should have heard the bleating when he heard about the cray.*

BOAT OWNERS

Boat Owners - make sure your boat safety equipment is up to standard as required by law.

- * An approved life jacket with reflective tape for each person on board.
- * Bailer or manual or other efficient bilge pump.
- * Fire extinguisher.
- * Waterproof torch in working order.
- * Anchor with not less than:
45 metres of rope for boats up to 5 metres.
50 metres of rope for boats 5 to 8 metres.
- * 2 hand held red flares and 2 hand held orange smoke flares.
(Flares must be "in date").
- * 2 paddles for boats up to 5 metres.*

V.S.A.G. CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR TRIP

The V.S.A.G. Christmas/New Year Trip this Summer will be to Streaky Bay in South Australia.

This very picturesque location located on the Great Australian Bight (a gentle 2 day drive from Melbourne) is reported to have some of the best diving on the Southern Australian Coastline. Long known to South Australia as a great fishing spot Streaky Bay's reputation as a diving location is known to only a few.

Alex Talay has all the details and prices, or see last issue of Fathoms

THE 1988 DOWNLOW MEDAL RESULTS TO DATE

by John Lawler

Believe it or not half our diving year is history and V.S.A.G. is looking very good for Downlow prizes so far.

Some hot competition exists between the top contenders Fiona Bruce (the gal from the snow!), Alex Talay, Doug Catherall, John Lawler, Mick Jeacle and Ross Luxford.

Alex Talay's forthcoming Solomons Islands Safari will push the totals of the participating divers way ahead of other members, but if we dive regularly on the scheduled club dives we can still be in the race.

Here the half year places for the three participating dive clubs.

Victorian Sub Aqua Group

- | | | |
|----|------------------|------|
| 1. | Fiona Bruce | (24) |
| | Alex Talay | (24) |
| | Doug Catherall | (24) |
| 2. | John Lawler | (23) |
| 3. | Bob Scott | (19) |
| | Jack Namiota | (19) |
| | Mick Jeacle | (19) |
| | Don Abell | (19) |
| | Ross Luxford | (19) |
| 4. | Charles Brincatt | (17) |
| | Pat Reynolds | (17) |
| | Igor Chernichov | (17) |
| 5. | Barry Truscott | (14) |

Marine Diving Group

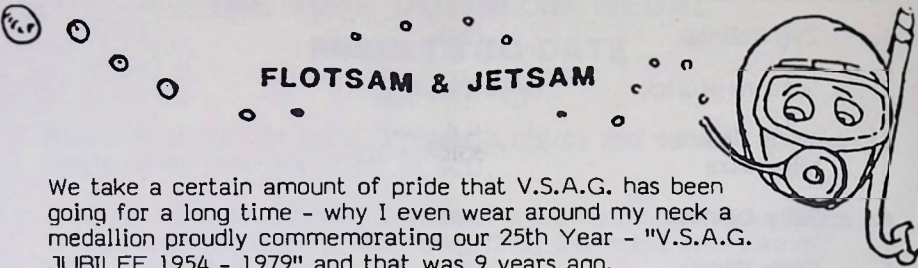
1. Zyg Poliniak (26)
2. Suzanne Kurick (19)
3. Chris Boucher (15)
Mike Vize (15)
4. Sally Davies (14)
5. Chris Riddle (13)
Rosiland Boucher (13)

Melbourne Bottom Scratchers

1. Brian Counce (23)
2. Rob Counce (15)
3. Mike Wright (13)
4. Eric White (11)
5. Peter Livingstone (8)
6. John Milligen (7)
7. Lothar Plos (7)
8. Sue Trewartha (7)

More on "Downlow" next issue.

Happy diving!! *



FLOTSAM & JETSAM

We take a certain amount of pride that V.S.A.G. has been going for a long time - why I even wear around my neck a medallion proudly commemorating our 25th Year - "V.S.A.G. JUBILEE 1954 - 1979" and that was 9 years ago.

To belong to such a Club with so long a heritage allows one to walk into pubs and say "Excuse me Sir/Madam - do you mind if we take this chair . . . your table . . . your steak . . . your wife?!! It's funny when you do that. They normally throw the chair or the table at you . . . never the wife! . . . Never mind - you were probably only after the chair anyway. Mind you I've upset a few tables in my time, but never over a wife!! Well all this and more happened over Jenny Large's weekend at Apollo Bay in June.

There we were minding our own business, having confiscated all of the chairs when a shadow the size of a "Great White" descended upon Alex. "Hello Sweet Pea" said the stranger - Well poor old Alex he didn't know which way to turn!! With one hand on Samantha Truscott's knee . . . (you know Alex, . . . come and sit with your old Uncle Alex????!!!!) and the other hand firmly grasped around a Fosters. He just sat back and had a TRIPARTADE AGREEMENT! Needless to say that Jonesy stopped talking to me, Igor . . . (the great Russian Husky) went into a frenzy, Samantha went home with Mum and Dad and Doug looked for a fight. As for me . . . all I could look forward to was to share the bumpy end of a caravan with Neil Medhurst (new member) and see how the tables turned.

Now if all of the above makes no sense to you then you weren't at Apollo Bay June 1988.

It was a great weekend, good accommodation at the caravan park, good weather and good companions. Oh yes . . . the diving was good too, and there was no GOULDING doing a re-enactment of the Queens Birthday!? Thanks Jenny for organizing it all and good luck!

By the time this edition of Fathoms hits the streets another V.S.A.G. overseas tour will be well underway. This time Alex is leading an expedition back to the Solomons. For months now, those of us who aren't going on this trip have been continually reminded of the diving magnificence offered by the Solomons warm water, warmer days, clear water, wrecks galore and balmy tropical nights aboard a luxury cruiser. To rub salt into the wound a little more we are promised a new cover for Fathoms from this trip. Photographer extraordinaire Igor has been commissioned to update our cover. His brief is quite simple - it goes something like this:-

"The picture selected should provide the viewer with a vivid conceptual imagery of the boundless kaleidoscopic and multi-dimensional effect by capturing an instant in time in which man, the sea, sea life and the remnants of mans mindless savagery of a bygone war are fused together as if suspended in an embrionic fluid of life's own creation". In other words Igor make sure you get a picture of a diver or divers swimming around a wreck with some fish peeping through the coral.

Signed R.T. FISHAL.

WARRNAMBOOL

MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND 29th OCTOBER - 1st NOVEMBER

ORGANIZER - MICK JEACLE - (059) 71 2786

The Club will be staying at the Fig Tree Caravan Park.
Where a number of cabins/on site vans have been booked.

Deposits of \$20.00 required at August General Meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15TH SEPTEMBER

The Annual General Meeting of the V.S.A.G. will be held at the North Melbourne Football Club on September 15th commencing at 8.00 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting is the most important meeting of the year.

This year there will be 4 members of the Committee standing down in accordance with the terms of our constitution. They are:-

Mick Jeacle
Alex Talay
Barry Truscott
Des Williams

Whilst each of the above may seek re-nomination, this should not deter other members from seeking nomination if they are interested in giving up a bit of time and putting in a little effort for the Club.

In this month we have included nomination forms.

If you wish to be nominated to the Committee seek a proposer and a seconder, sign the acceptance clause and have it returned to the Club Post Office Box or the Secretary, Don Abell NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER.

Similarly if you want to propose another member get the nomination form completed and returned by the due date.

Under the terms of the constitution nomination forms must be collected by the Secretary 2 weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting. So the deadline is September 1st.

Once all nomination forms have been collected, the Secretary will post ballot papers to all Financial and Life Members. The ballot will close at 8.30 p.m. on the night of the election. (Annual General Meeting 15th September).

An election will not be required if the number of people nominated do not exceed the number of vacancies.*

V.S.A.G TO EQUIP BOATS WITH SAFETY SAUSAGES

In the early days of diving, V.S.A.G. was one of the first, if not the first club to insist on bouyancy vests for divers.

Since those days we've come a long way and no self respecting diver would be without a "B.C." Whilst bouyancy compensators have become very sophisticated with sky-high prices to match, a new and very simple diver safety device has come on the market and will be purchased by the Club for member use.

The Safety Sausage is a 1.8 metre plastic film tube that rolls up to a small bundle which can easily be kept in a B.C. pocket or stuck up your wetsuit.

A diver on the surface can attract the attention of his boat crew, or other vessels by inflating the tube and holding it upright.

The Club will purchase 12 of these Safety Sausages, and allocate 2 to each of the most often used members' boats. A diving pair will then take one Sausage between them.

Members allocated a Safety Sausage will be responsible for its return to the appropriate boat. Should loss or damage occur to the Sausage, the member using it will be required to replace it.

Whilst V.S.A.G. has rarely had to go chasing its own drifting divers, the acquisition of this equipment will further reduce the problem of locating divers on the surface.*

V.S.A.G. will purchase its Safety Sausages from:

JOHN'S DIVE SHOP,
300 ST. KILDA ROAD, ST. KILDA.
TELEPHONE: 534 1471

JOHN GIBSON - the proprietor is currently offering a
10 TANK FILL CARD for \$30.00.

NAUTICAL NOUNS

OR

EXTRACTS FROM A DICTIONARY FOR LAND LUBBERS,
OLD SALTS, & ARMCHAIR DRIFTERS.

by Henry Beard & Roy McKie
(Reproduced from Boat Directory - 1988)

BASIC OR STRIPPED BOATS: A term commonly used by boatbuilders and salesmen to describe what is specifically covered in the advertised price of a boat.

The basic boat normally consists of several hundred gallons of fibreglass resins and glue, a hundred or so sheets of marine plywood, a ton or more of lead and steel, a sewing kit, and an instruction book. By contrast, the basic boat with options and in "sailaway condition" - a somewhat more expensive proposition - boasts a host of convenient extras, such as a deck, a cabin, an engine, a galley, an anchor, a tiller or wheel, a rudder, and a cockpit; and sails, spars, rigging, fittings and portholes.

BATTERY: Electrochemical storage device capable of lighting an incandescent lamp of a wattage about equal to that of a refrigerator bulb for a period of 15 minutes after having been charged for two hours.

BERTH: Any horizontal surface whose total area does not exceed one half of the surface area of an average man at rest, onto which at least one litre of some liquid seeps during any 12 hour period and above which there are not less than 10 kilograms of improperly secured objects.

BILGE: Strictly speaking, the lowest spaces inside the hull, where poorly understood chemical reactions among the liquids which collect there create a slow-moving, viscous substance which some scientists believe is a primitive form of life, but now, more commonly, the substance itself.

BINOCULARS: Entertaining shipboard kaleidoscope which, when held up to the light, reveals interesting patterns and designs caused by salt spray, thumbprints, and scratches. Uncapped, its lenses may also be employed to collect small amounts of salt from seawater through evaporation.

BITTER END: One of only eight names authorised by the Coast Guard for establishments serving alcoholic beverages in harbour areas. The other are: The Outrigger, The Beachcomber, The Hatch, The Rusty Rudder, The Crow's Nest, The Jolly Roger, and Barnacle Bill's.

BOARDING: The knowledgable sailor does not "get on" a boat or "climb in" a boat - he boards a boat. And the prudent individual does not "stay behind," "keep off" or say "the hell with it" - he remains ashore.

CHANTY: Traditional sea song, like "Skeg o'My Heart", "My Darling Brigantine", "Try to Remember the Kind of Sub Tender", and "Catch a Falling Spar".

CHART: 1. A large piece of paper that is useful in protecting cabin and cockpit surfaces from food and beverage stains.

2. A common decorative motif on place mats.

3. A nautical map that assists the boatman in determining whether he is on the water (blue on charts) or on the land (yellow).

CHARTER: Chartering agencies operate quite openly in the "red-buoy" districts of most harbors. They offer "bare-boats", "cat-boats", "jolly-boats", and other "aweigh-for-pay" craft, and if you have the "jack" - \$100 a day and up - its "Hello, sailor!".

FISH: Any living creature that does not call the Coast Guard when faced with the prospect of being submerged for more than one minute.

FLOTSAM: Anything floating in the water from which there is no response when an offer of a cocktail is made.

JETSAM: Too often, shipboard refuse is unceremoniously dumped over the side with no attention whatsoever to the nautical niceties. That pile of untidy refuse in the bottom of a bucket may not look like much, but those unsung "silent crew members" have done their part to contribute to the success of the voyage, and they are deserving of respect as they are committed to the deep.

KETCH: Disagreeable clause in boat-purchase contract.

SHIPSHAPE: A boat is said to be shipshape when every object that is likely to contribute to the easy handling of the vessel, or the comfort of the crew, has been put in a place from which it cannot be retrieved in less than 30 minutes.

WINCHES: Jocular term for compliant and helpful young ladies on a sailboat. By contrast, women who are serious sailors but dull company are called "windlasses".

YACHT BROKER: Form of coastal marine life found in many harbors. Generally thought to occupy a position on the evolutionary scale above algae, but below the clam.*

MEMBER MOVES

Alex Talay has moved his business. Print Buying Services is now located at:-

2 RAILWAY PARADE,
MURRUMBEENA, 3163

TELEPHONE: 565 1666
FACSIMILE: 565 1648

Bob Scott is now making his own brand of wetsuits.

SONAR WETSUITS PHONE NUMBERS ARE:

547 4183
547 4162

Good luck with the new business Bob.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FORTHCOMING EVENTS

13th NOVEMBER

V.S.A.G. COMPETITION DIVE

On 13th November V.S.A.G. will undertake a dive with a difference. Alex Talay will organize a sort of clean up and recovery dive. Details are being kept secret to ensure that members are not tempted to pre-plant items.

There will be a prize of \$50.00 cash for the item judged to be the best recovered, and a second prize of a dozen stubbies.

Judging criteria and actual dive area will be advised at the dive site.

So don't miss it!!

13th NOVEMBER, SORRENTO BOAT RAMP, 9.00 a.m.

(Note: Divers kit bags and boats will be searched prior to dive start)!!??

27th NOVEMBER

INTERCLUB DIVE

On the 27th November V.S.A.G. and the other two clubs participating in the DOWNLOW AWARD COMPETITION; Marine Divers and Bottom Scratchers will hold a combined interclub dive.

Meeting place is Sorrento at 9.30 a.m. and John Lawler is the organizer (569 9851).

This year V.S.A.G. stands a good chance of winning the coveted Downlow Award - a big roll up for this dive should clinch the deal.

So members, we really need your support and participation on this dive.*

MEDIA WATCH

GOLD was discovered at Ballarat in 1851. It sparked a rush which lured men from all over the world to the newly created colony of Vic-

toria. These fortune seekers, along with their families, crowded into ships bound for Port Phillip and the godfields.

One ship was the "Tromador" which was wrecked on the way. By the time the "Tromador" arrived off the Heads on November 6, 1852, more than 100 passengers had already died of the dread disease. In fact, not only two families on

board the ship escaped the virulent fever. One of these was the McLennan family who eventually returned to their home at Point Marmion.

Governor Charles La Trobe took quick action as he did not want the disease to plague the whole country. He ordered that the passengers be quarantined. A ship which was named the "Lyander" was sent to the Heads

Ship of death

By ANTHONY NEILL

where it took on board those passengers who were worst affected.

La Trobe decided to use Point Nepean as a quarantine area for the other passengers. They were ferried ashore and sheltered as ships they had built were hastily constructed from sails and rigging.

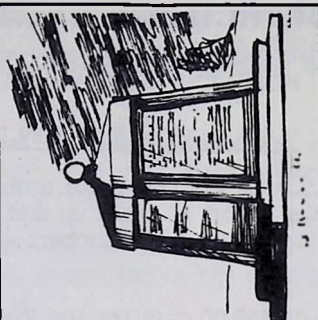
La Trobe's objective was to stop the spread of the disease, but before another 70 of the passengers from the "Tromador" had died. The disease was carried on the treasure of Point Nepean, many of them without coffins.

Later most of the Typhus victims were returned to the Old Point Nepean where a monument marks the original graveyard of the

victims from the "Tromador".

The lessons of this sad chapter in our history were not forgotten in 1854 when several two-storey buildings at Point Nepean which became known as the Quarantine Station. No longer old fever-stricken immigrants, have to conditions of camping in tents while they recuperated.

For many passengers of the "Tromador" Point Nepean was a place of final rest. Now, as finally becomes part of Point Nepean, will it come a place of rest (and relaxation) for many



The Independent News, Tuesday, February 23, 1988

DIVE/SOCIAL CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Location</u>	<u>Dive Captain</u>	<u>Meet At</u>
Aug 18	General Meeting - North Melbourne Football Club		8.00 p.m.
Aug 21	Port Phillip Heads	Paul Tipping 387 2027	Sorrento 9.30 a.m.
Sept 4	Spectacular Reef	John Lawler 569 9851	Sorrento 9.30 a.m.
Sept 15	Annual General Meeting - North Melbourne Football Club		8.00 p.m.
Sept 18	George Kermode	Pat Reynolds 789 1092	Flinders 9.30 a.m.
Oct 2	90 Foot Submarine	Igor Chernichov 306 1393	Sorrento 9.30 a.m.
Oct 16	Flinders Area Reef Search	John Lawler 569 9851	Flinders 9.30 a.m.
Oct 20	General Meeting - North Melbourne Football Club		8.00 p.m.
Oct 29 - Nov 1	Warrnambool (See separate notice in Fathoms).	Mick Jeacle (059) 71 2786	Fig Tree Caravan Park
Nov 13	Port Phillip Heads Competition Dive (See separate notice in Fathoms).	Alex Talay 772 3085	Sorrento 9.00 a.m.
Nov 17	General Meeting - North Melbourne Football Club		8.00 p.m.
Nov 20	V.S.A.G. Tennis Party & Fun Race Details to be advised.	Paul Tipping 387 2027	

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Location</u>	<u>Dive Captain</u>	<u>Meet At</u>
Nov 27	Sorrento	John Lawler 569 9851	Sorrento 9.30 a.m.
	This will be an interclub dive. See notice in Fathoms.		
Dec 2	V.S.A.G. Christmas Function Details to be advised.		
Dec 11	Sorrento/Heads Area	Don Abell 29 4415	Sorrento 9.00 a.m.
	Followed by family Bar-B-Que lunch.		
Dec 15	General Meeting - North Melbourne Football Club 8.00 p.m.		
Dec 26 - Jan	V.S.A.G. Trip to Streaky Bay, South Australia	Alex Talay 772 3085	

A DATE TO REMEMBER

2ND DECEMBER 2ND DECEMBER 2ND DECEMBER

THE BICENTENNIAL BASH OF THE YEAR!!

V.S.A.G.'S END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS FUNCTION.

KEEP THIS EVENING FREE.

DETAILS COMING COMING COMING!

Tear & post to The Secretary V.S.A.G.,
P.O. Box 2526W, G.P.O. Melbourne, 3001
to arrive prior to September 1st, 1988

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS: 1988-89
NOMINATION FORM

We, the undersigned, being full members of the Victorian Sub-Aqua
Group, hereby nominate:

.....
for the position of Director of the Group.

Signed:Date / /1988

Signed:Date / /1988

I,hereby accept the
above nomination for Director of the Group.

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Members are reminded that nomination forms must be returned to The
Secretary, Don Abell personally or by mail to "The Secretary", V.S.A.G.,
P.O. Box 2526W, G.P.O. Melbourne 3001, by the 1st September and no
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