



BOOMERANG BULLETIN

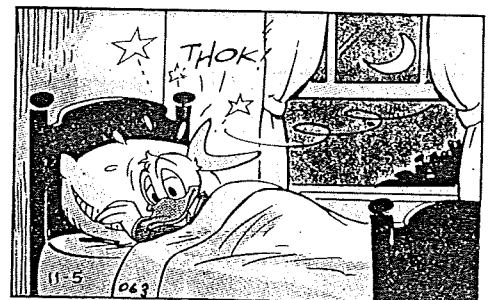
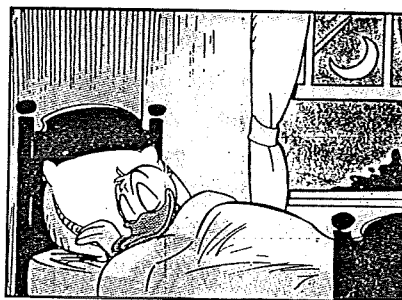
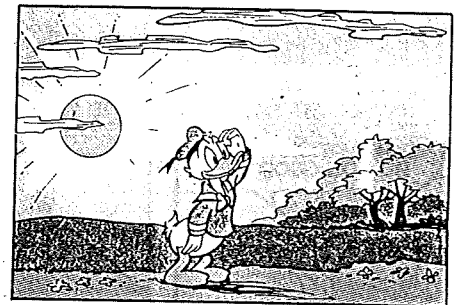
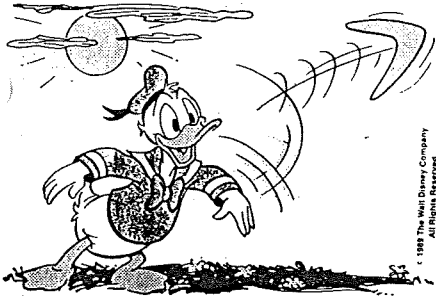
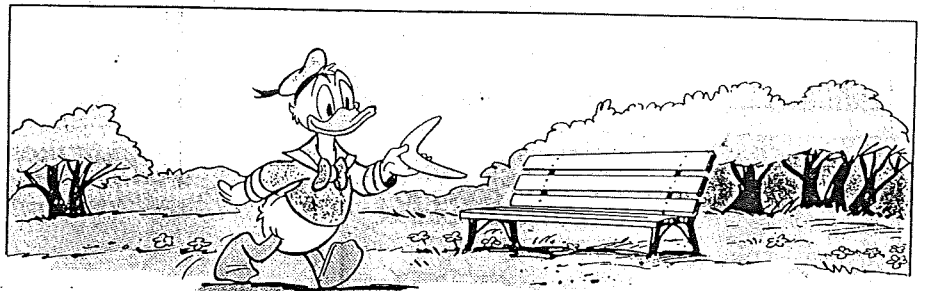
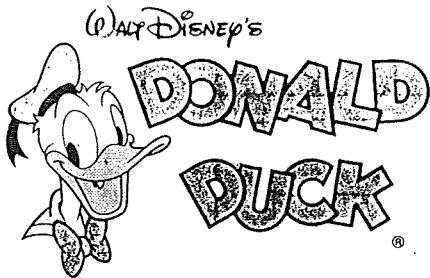
BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
INCORPORATED

Bulletin No. 65

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EDITORIAL

Well folks, this is my last Editorial before the 1990 A.G.M. This last year has been a busy and exciting time for me and I have enjoyed the new challenge at the "Editor's desk". John and I have been busy with our Sunday training Sessions and we held the first Boomerang Festival in November last year. It was very successful and prompted a lot of interest in the sport of Boomerang Throwing.

In December the Victorian - Dingley Christmas competition was held at Braeside Park. This park was opened in April 1989 so most of the trees are only small, but it is still a lovely setting. Geoff Kennedy had to step in and run the comp as Dennis Maxwell was in hospital recovering from surgery. So Dennis, we trust you are now completely recovered and in training for the next comp. Congratulations to Geoff on a job well done.

The next two comps promise to be exciting. The first on Saturday 27th January is the Cobram - Barooga Boomerang Championships. It starts at 4.00pm and is a day - night competition, which should be great to watch. Plus the usual "Barooga barbie" - always great!

The second is the Australian National Championships on Saturday 3rd March at Brimbank Park. It starts at 9.30am and finishes with a B.E.Q. dinner, followed by the B.A.A. Annual General Meeting at the Oak Park Youth Club. DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER PRIOR TO 31st January, 1990.

As this is my last Edition I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who sent articles and letters for use in the Bulletin. As I have said before, it makes the Editor's work so much easier.

The last Bulletin was printed without an Editorial as speed was essential. To say it was rushed is the understatement of the decade! I even forgot to include the usual Seasons Greetings. But I trust you all had a very Merry Christmas and that 1990 will bring you good health and happiness.

Good throwing and many happy returns,



ADDRESSES:

PRESIDENT: Peter Byham, P.O. Box 155, Barooga, 3644. Ph 058 734463
SNR. VICE PRESIDENT: Dennis Maxwell, 42 Kingswood Dr., Dingley, 3172
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Ph 03 739 1431

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY INCLUDING
MATERIAL TO BE PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN

B. A. A. General Meeting 1990

Venue: Oak Park Youth Club (Melway Map 16, J7)
Date: Saturday, 3 March 1990
Time: 7:30pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome By President
2. Members Present
3. Apologies
4. Minutes of Previous A.G.M.
- as published in Bulletin No. 61
5. Correspondence
6. Executive Reports
- Federal Executive
- State Executives
7. Membership Fees for 1990/1991
8. Nationals 1991
9. Changes to Constitution and Rules
10. General Business
11. Election of Office Bearers
12. Next A.G.M.

Please note:

Any items that are required to be discussed and are not listed above, should be submitted in writing to the Federal Secretary not later than the 1st of February, 1990.



John Gibney
Hon. Secretary
Boomerang Association of Australia

IMPORTANT!!

An error was made in the last bulletin with regards to the pensioners membership fees. The correct cost is half of the senior rate. (ie. \$10.00 not \$3.00 as stated)

MISSING???????

It would appear that all B.A.A. equipment and perpetual trophies have vanished! Only one perpetual trophy can be located. Can this be correct? If you uncover some long lost item please notify the Federal Secretary.

GOOD HUNTING!

What a boomer

SUBURBIA will be transformed into a whirling dervish next Sunday when men, women and children compete in the 1989 Boomerang Festival at Halliday Park in Mitcham.

The event will be staged by the Eastern District Boomerang Throwers and will offer both competitive and demonstration events.

Some of Australia's finest boomerang throwers will be demonstrating their expertise while, for the enthusiastic beginner, there will be a chance to have a real fling.

Competitions will include the maximum time aloft, fastest catcher, accuracy and long distance events.

The Eastern District Boomerang Throwers specialise in teaching the ancient Australian skill of boomerang throwing.

Run by Libby and John Eykelen, it began when they returned with a boomerang as a memento following a trip to Queensland.

"A friend of ours told us that it wasn't meant just to hang on a wall and that we

should try using it properly," Libby said.

John then began boomerang throwing and found that it became quite a compulsive hobby.

After competing in many competitions he decided he would like to extend the popularity of the sport by holding classes at Simpson Reserve in Mitcham and, according to Libby, there has been no shortage of people who are eager to

acquire this rather specialist skill.

Libby says that despite popular opinion, boomerang throwing is a very safe sport.

"The first thing that is taught is safety and those safety procedures are strictly observed.

"But in the process of having great fun, the benefits of increased co-ordination and more accurate perception skills are a real

bonus," Libby said.

The first events at the Boomerang Festival will begin at 9am with all public competitors receiving a McDonald's encouragement award of a free meal voucher and all winners receiving prizes.

There will also be boomerang displays and sales available on the day.

For more festival information call Libby on 739 1431.



Boomerang experts (front) Emma Loughhead, Stuart Cuxson, Christopher, Eykelenburg, Simon Williams (back) Greg Hamilton, Baden Ward, Leon Paetow and Adam Young.

Boomerang festival

A BOOMERANG festival to be held at Mitcham on November 19 will feature demonstrations by Australia's top throwers, throwing contests, boomerang displays and sales.

The festival will include competitors from the Eastern District Boomerang Throwers club.

Mr John Eykelenburg, an accredited instructor with the Boomerang Association of Victoria, hopes the festival will encourage people of all ages to join the club which meets at Mitcham every Sunday for training sessions.

Competitions

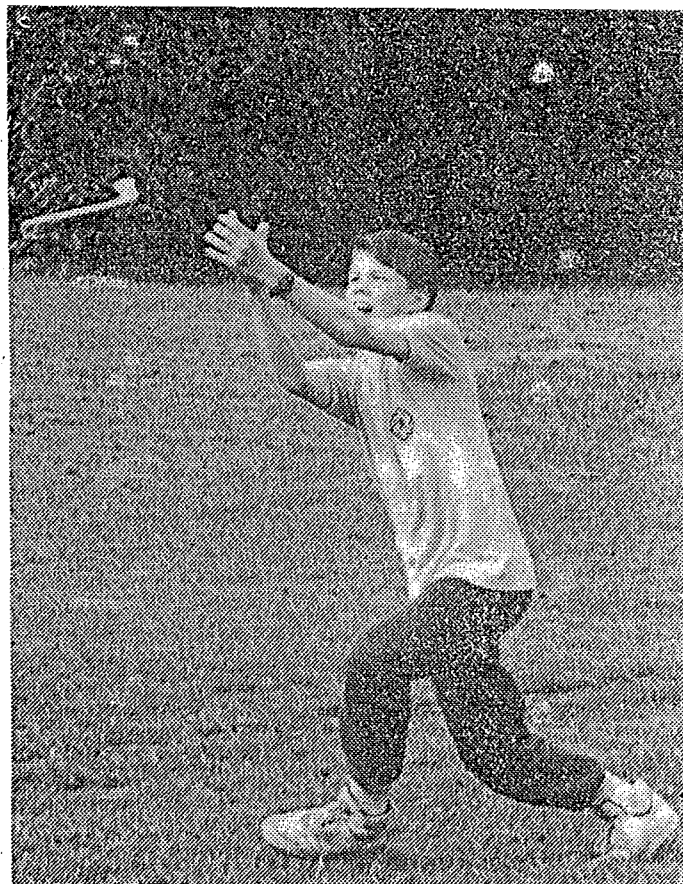
Club spokeswoman, Ms Libby Eykelenburg, said that children usually found boomerang throwing easier to learn than adults.

She warned that beginners should practise in "a large, isolated open space to prevent accidents."

Boomerangs will be provided for the public competitions and will also be available for purchase.

Children can paint and decorate purchased boomerangs on the day.

The festival will be held at Halliday Park, Mitcham Rd, Mitcham. Details from Libby, 739 1431.



BADEN Ward practises to ensure that his boomerang will come back at the boomerang festival at Mitcham on November 19.

BOOMERANG FESTIVAL 1989 - B.A.A. Junior Competition results:

	ACCURACY:		C.C.I.D.	AUSSIE ROUND:
Simon Williams	20	2nd	3	35
Baden Ward	12		1	7
Greg Hamilton	10		5	22
Adam Young	2		-	25
Stuart Cuxson	2		-	-
Duncan Lockie	8		-	27
Alex Lockie	7		-	30
Jarrold Byham	4		6	90
Ashley Byham	16	3rd	7	57
Renee Byham	25	1st	-	16
Jodie Byham	2		-	-
Emma Loughhead	10		-	37
Chris Eykelenburg	-		-	3



● Ready, aim, flyer... the Byhams of Barooga — Peter (left), Joan, Jarrod, 15, Ashley, 13, Jodie, 11, and Renee, 9 — have worked hard to become Australia's boomerang champions. Pictures: JAY TOWN

Boom sport's big returns



● Right on the mark... Renee blitzed her family to become junior accuracy champion.

THE boomeranging Byhams of Barooga believe the family that flings together, clings together.

But this particular flinging family takes its slinging very seriously — it's not just a matter of chucking and chortling.

They have converted their Barooga (just the other side of the Murray, opposite Cobram) backyard into a properly marked throwing field.

And on hot summer nights they can often be found engaged in hotly contested in-family "mini-competitions".

And all the sweat hasn't been for nothing.

Dad Peter has thrown for Australia, mum Joan is the reigning Australian women's champion, oldest son Jarrod, 15, has been the Australian

By WAYNE HOWELL

junior champion for the past five years and youngest son Ashley, 13, was this year's runner-up.

On Sunday the clan's juniors kept up the family dominance of the sport by catching all the available trophies at the first Boomerang Associa-

tion of Australia's Boomerang Festival.

Renee Byham, 9, scored an upset win in the junior accuracy competition when she "slaughtered" Jarrod and just pipped Ashley.

Then Ashley hauled in the consecutive catching trophy.

But Jarrod wasn't left out — he just managed to keep out Ashley to take

the general all-round competition.

"I think there will be a lot of post mortems on what happened and what went wrong and why on the four-hour drive back to Barooga," Peter said.

Boomerang-throwing classes will be held at the Simpson's Reserve in Mitcham during the school holidays. Details 739 1431.

**NOT BAD!!!
(FOR WHITE PEOPLE)**

It is a sad fact that not everyone has access to good woods for boomerangs and they are deprived of the satisfaction of being able to make their own models. I was made very aware of this after spending four months in Malaysia. The enthusiasm was there but the quality wood was not.

On my return to Australia the problem of recycling newspapers hit the headlines and I began to consider how the two things could perhaps be related. Why not use waste paper to make boomerangs? Would they be strong enough? Was the concept feasible?

Well, suffice to say that newspaper boomerangs are not only easy and inexpensive to make but they are easily decorated and fly well. The real secret seems to be the glue you use. You need one that adds rigidity as it dries. Clag is O.K. but I have found Aquadhere P.V.A. woodworking glue is better.

First I chose a simple design and cut out a heavy piece of cardboard in an L-shape. I then cut out 20 or 30 similar shaped pieces of newspaper. The cardboard was liberally coated with glue and a layer of newspaper added. This was in turn coated with glue and the next layer added etc.. Every few layers I used a firm roller like a lino printing roller or a heavy piece of dowel to apply pressure and to squeeze out the surplus glue. When the thickness had been built up to approximately 5mm I placed a layer of glad wrap on the top and bottom and clamped the whole thing between two pieces of masonite. The glad wrap is to stop the paper sticking to the masonite. The masonite stops warping as the glue dries. If you don't have G-clamps a few bricks will do.

Allow 24 hours for thorough drying and then trace out the profile you want and cut it out with a fret saw or coping saw. The aerodynamic profile can then be formed with conventional woodworking tools (rasps, surfboards etc.) For a smooth finish use a fine grade of sandpaper and then give your 'rang a test flight. One advantage of this material is that you can bend in dihedral as required.

My FLEET STREET FLYER has a range of 35 - 40 metres (unweighted) and it climbs on the turn and comes back for a nice hover. The weight of 5 mm of newspaper is approximately the same as 6 mm of plywood.

Once you are satisfied with the flight you can decorate your 'paper' 'rang with water colours, poster paints, acrylics or house paints. A final coat of varnish or Estapol will seal the paint and waterproof your masterpiece and your FLEET STREET FLYER will give you many hours of pleasure.

POOH!!!
I FORGOT
THE DEODORANT
AGAIN!!!



OOOO!! I'LL
HAVE TO STOP
EATING
CURRIES!!!

COURTESY BRIAN KEMP

FLEET STREET FLYER

Newspaper Boomerang

Actual Size

Undercut from bottom

layers of newspaper

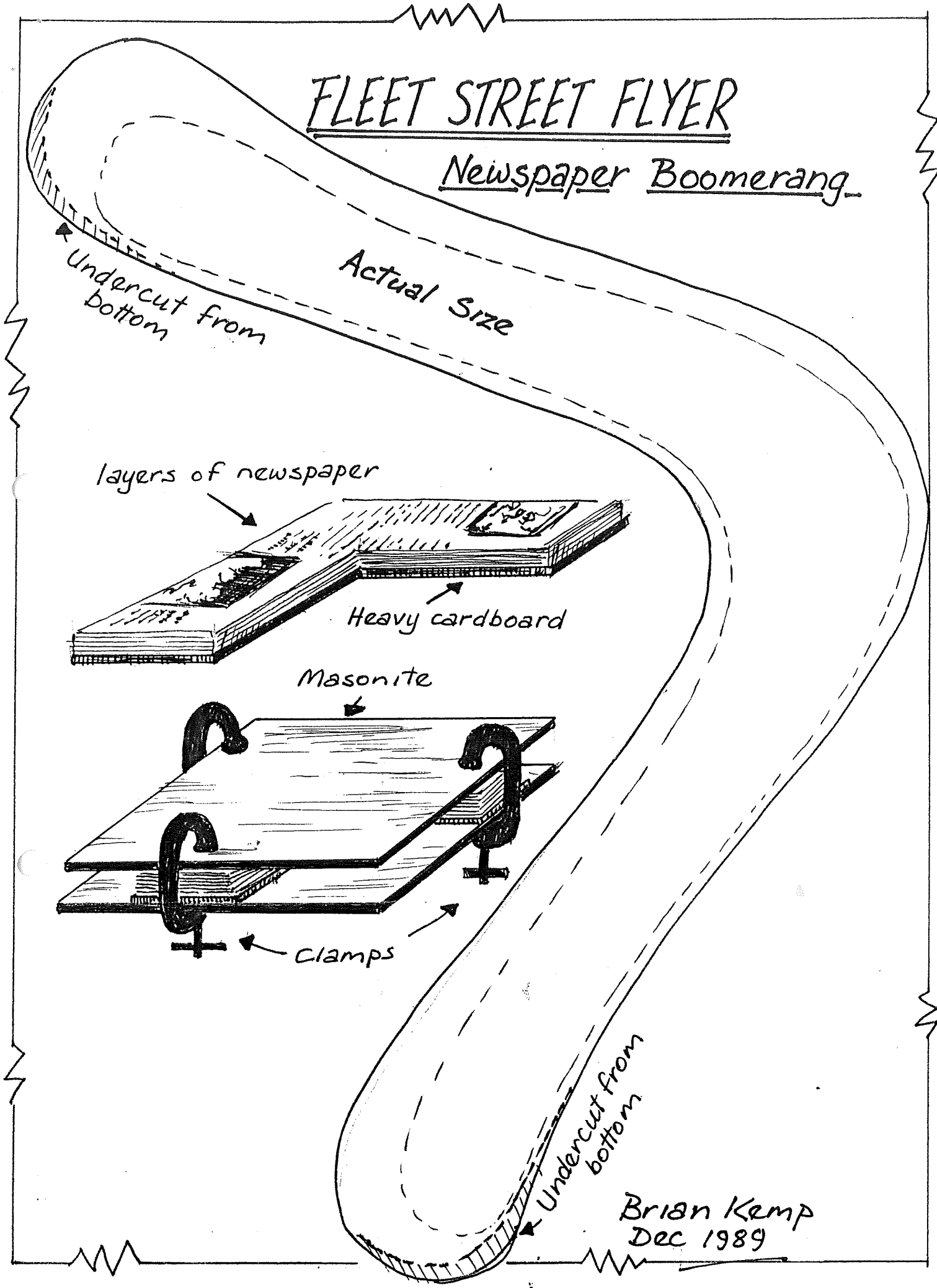
Heavy cardboard

Masonite

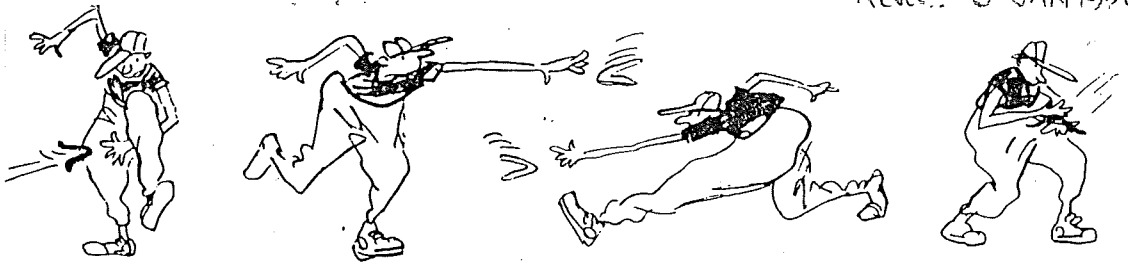
Clamps

Undercut from bottom

Brian Kemp
Dec 1989



OLIVIER
VOUKTCHEVITCH
282 RUE LECOURBE
75015 PARIS
45 57 14 07



Paris le 25/12/89,

Dear boomerang friends,



Best wishes to everybody for this new coming year!

In 1990, the french boomerang association wish to organize a new international boomerang event in Evry (near Paris): France challenging Australia.

The idea is to get a team of 6 competitive aussie throwers in France this summer (winter for you). It will be composed of at least 2 official tournaments (maybe more) and probably a little journey in deep France. The whole tour is planned to be about 10 days, from 5 to 15 th of September. (It's not definitive yet)



I think we will probably be able to afford your airplane ticket and a major part of your accomodation in France. (By the way, what's the price of a low rate ticket Australia/France for you?)

On the other hand, the selected team will provide beer, killing -sticks, aussie rangs and as many aussie things as possible. It would be great to show to french public some traditional aboriginal pieces or event (no kangaroos allowed in Evry) If Bluey Roberts can come in your team, he is warmly welcome! ^{available}



As you can imagine, I need a very quick answer of you (I mean an OK on the idea) to start the whole thing. In this positive eventuality, I need also to have a designed aussie contact (team captain for example) for correspondance and details.



It could be a great moment for aussie and froggies and I can't wait to hear from you!

Please give my personal best regards to Rob Croll, Roger Perry, Steve and Kevin Moreen, Bruce Carter, Geoff K and all the guys I had the pleasure to meet in the past years,

Friendly yours, Voukitch



The Federal Executive of the B.A.A. has responded to Olivier by saying we agree to the idea of a challenge between France and Australia. Peter Byham will be the Australian contact for this event. If any member is likely to be available and can supply heaps of "Australian goodies", please contact Peter.

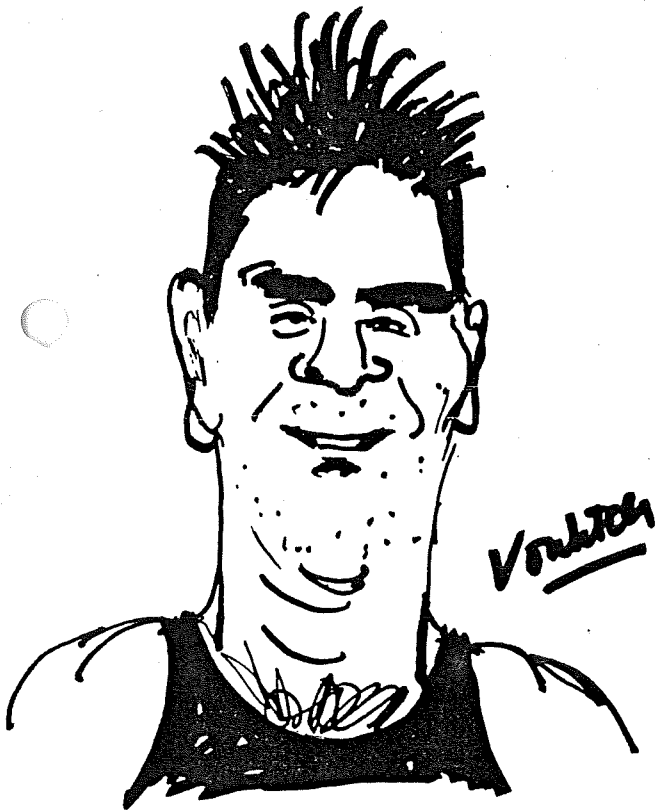
THE 1989 INTERNATIONAL TEAM CUP

The 1989 International Team Cup was held at the Gaithersburg Polo Field in Maryland, outside of Washington, D.C. The third annual event was quite successful with everyone having a great time. Unlike the previous two International Team Cups, the weather was not perfect. Yet scores remained at or above excellent levels.

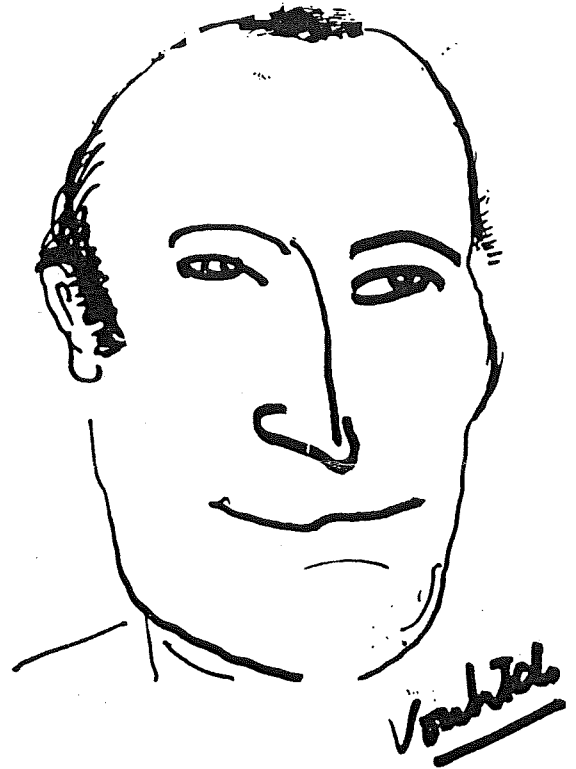
Team White (USA) won the team match with Team Germany coming in a close second place. Team White Captain, Barnaby Ruhe, wrote a brilliant dissertation (page 5) which captures the spirit of the match from the inside looking out. The essay provides a rare insight into the mind of successful strategist: Barnaby Ruhe.

Chet Snouffer (unbeatable in 1989) won the Ben Ruhe Open on the individual day. Rob Croll tied for second with Rob Parkins, the young dynamo lefty from Connecticut. Larry Ruhf provides the details in the summary which follows on page 6.

Two World Records were shattered on World Record Day. Jim Youngblood broke the Long Distance record with a throw of 134 meters. Ray Laurent almost topped that with 131 meters. Rob Croll and Dennis Joyce battled it out in Consecutive Catch until Dennis dropped in the 600's. Rob, who previously held the record with 653 catches, continued on to 765 at which point he just stopped, without a drop. Chet wrote an excellent essay, portrayed on page 7.



A Profile of Geoff Kennedy by Olivier Vouktchevitch



A Profile of Rob Croll by Olivier Vouktchevitch

A report on the glory of the competition almost always fails to give credit to the organizers who donate tons of time to insure that everything runs like clockwork. This space is dedicated to those who pursued these thankless tasks to make the 1989 International Team Cup a success. Larry Ruhf put time in every week for a year as an international coordinator. Jim Jordan and John Koehler pulled all the strings together in Gaithersburg to insure that a hotel, a field, and all the field essentials such as porta-potties and chalk were there when they were needed. Jim stayed on at the hotel as a coordinator for the entire team cup at his own personal expense, despite living only a few miles away. Special thanx is given to everyone else who pitched in to help; including the ladies such as Caroline Jordan and Diane DuFresne. Each of the throwers, especially the captains, put in lots of time in planning finances and coordinating travel. There were those who put in extra time chalking the fields and officiating. And don't forget the generous donations for the prizes and auction which helped to reduce overall operating expenses. There are rewards in doing unselfish acts for the benefit of others. This includes the simple knowledge that you've accomplished something grand. We can thank these organizers by pitching in and helping out at future boomerang tournaments.

Max's fling for freedom

By WAYNE HOWELL

FOR Max Hoeben the fall of the Berlin Wall means his missing "freedom boomerang" might finally come back.

The 66-year-old Dutchman is known as the "Pope of Boomerangs" because he believes boomerangs can help bring peace to the world.

A few weeks ago he lost one of his boomerangs while staging a bizarre protest against the Wall. Max and 19 other boomerang-throwers spent two days taunting East German guards by throwing boomerangs into East Berlin. He said: "We fitted lights to the boomerangs and threw them over the Wall. "After a while I began shout-

ing in German, 'After all, after all we have no use for this wall', and 'Gorbachev mazelitov' (Gorbachev good luck) and everyone joined in.

"A West Berlin policeman told us: 'If they open fire I cannot help you. But it will be a nice international incident — boomerangs over the Berlin Wall!'"

Out of Max's 24 throws, 23 came back. Number 24 was lost among the barbed wire and spiked mantraps.

Yesterday, on the third last day of his Australian holiday, Max said that when he returned to Europe he would go to East Berlin to try to find it.

During his holiday here Max, who has been making and throwing boomerangs for 57 years and has started European boomerang clubs, has been checking out what's happening in Australian boomerang-throwing.

He says the sport is getting a comeback.

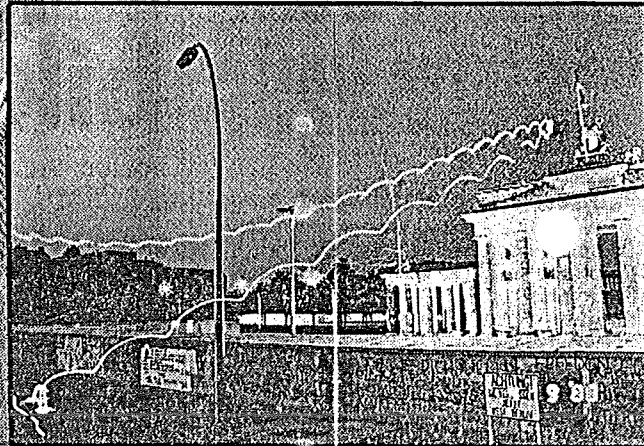
"Bad tourist boomerangs that don't return are still around giving Australia a bad name overseas, but the sport is getting better," he said.

Max said he caught the boomerang bug when, aged about nine, he spotted a story about Aboriginals who had a weapon that returned.

"It seemed like magic, a stick that could come back and straight away I went and tried to make one out of cardboard and then out of wood.

"It took me four months to realise they had to be like plane wings and then I finally had my own boomerang," Max said.

● Left: Smiling Max Hoeben with one of the boomerangs he threw over the Berlin Wall. Now he'll go back to look for the one which didn't come back. Picture: JAY TOWN
● Below: One of Max's lighted boomerangs traces a path over and back at the Berlin Wall.



Roger Perry, a boomerang manufacturer in Western Australia, is producing a series of airbrushed tee-shirts which may be of interest to boomerang throwers. The shirts have pictures of boomerangs flying amongst clouds, or planets, or across sunsets.

The artwork is quite good, and the price is very reasonable - \$20 for each shirt.

If you would like to find out more, contact Roger by writing to him:-

Roger Perry
155 Fremantle Road
Gosnells WA 6110

" Dans l'action et la fidélité, la joie de l'âme "

BOOMERANG DE FRANCE

LA PEROUSE BOOMERANG CLUB

(Association loi juillet 1901)

Dear Friends,

We take great pleasure in informing you that a distance World Cup will be held at Le Bourget airport, near Paris, on the 23rd and 24th of June next year.

This competition will be one of 15 aerial sports championships to be contested at the "Paris Air Trophées" festival, organized by the Jonathan association, with the backing of the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace.

Competitors will be lodged nearby. The journey, however, as at present, will have to be provided for at their own cost.

Participants will be selected by country, according to the distances they have already obtained.

As a rough indication, we should like all interested boomerangers, who have already obtained a distance of 80 meters or more (in a throw attested to by a club or organisation) to make themselves known to us as quickly as possible, including some details of their performance to date.

With the hope that this will provide us with a welcome chance to meet again and to take part in an outstanding event together, we send you all our very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
Denis Lemaître -

Jacques Thomas

- BOOMERANGS OF EGYPT - =====

The Egyptian Museum in Cairo exhibits the treasure found by Howard Carter in the tomb of the Pharaoh Tut-Ankh-Amen. We may find in this treasure some objects which have the shape and appearance of boomerangs. But what really were they ?

At my request, the General Director of the Museum invited me to come to Cairo. He had agreed to have the show-cases in which these objects are, opened and to let me examine them in detail. Thus I was able to collect the exact features of twenty typical pieces in order to make reproductions of them in view of testing their qualities in flight and ability to return.

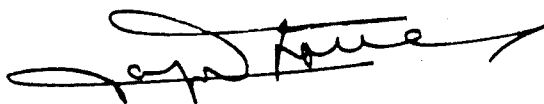
Those tests allowed me to come to the indisputable conclusion that Egyptians living at the time of Tut-Ankh-Amen (1350 B.C.) knew the boomerang and its return. Most of the facsimiles turned out to be able to fly high and pretty far before returning close to the thrower. With a tight flight-path, a fast flight and a strong hitting power, they were certainly used for fowling.

Researches in the necropolises tombs - some of them inaccessible to the public having been specially opened on the occasion - let me find out representations of a given number of objects with the same shape as those found in Tut-Ankh-Amen's tomb. I also met an Egyptian personality who had been the witness of fowling parties with boomerangs, years ago.

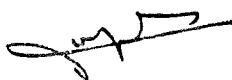
So Egypt presents us 3000 years old authentic boomerangs in a perfect state of preservation. And we might wonder whether the boomerang was known or not in many places all around the world in prehistoric times.

Many subsidiary questions are put to which, following Carter, I tried to bring an answer : exact weight of the objects, original twist of the blades, identity and density of the wood they are made of, useful purpose of partial bark covers, right-handed and left-handed boomerangs, etc...

Recalling the history of the discovery of these boomerangs in the tomb of the Pharaoh Tut-Ankh-Amen, the keen controversies in the last century regarding the so-called "Egyptian Boomerangs", giving a full account of the method applied and the results obtained, a publication will soon be at the disposal of the public.



Jacques Thomas
Expert ès Boomerang
24, rue Tronchet
69006 Lyon
France
Tél.: 78.89.47.60

Very best wishes


HOW TO JOIN THE U.S.B.A.

There are times when B.A.A. members enquire about other boomerang throwing organizations, particularly in the U.S.A. Overseas (i.e. Non-U.S.A.) throwers can join the U.S.B.A. by sending \$20 (U.S.) to the address below. They prefer bank drafts or international money orders for payment. Please include personal information such as your full name, address, phone numbers and occupation. Membership gets you 4 issues of the U.S.B.A. magazine "Many Happy Returns" - an excellent magazine covering many aspects of boomerang history and the development of the sport. Don't miss out on a great source of boomerang info!

United States Boomerang Association
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, Ohio. 43015
U.S.A.

Some news from Europe...

In a letter dated 23-Nov-1989, Stephane Marguerite tells of some new records which have recently been set.

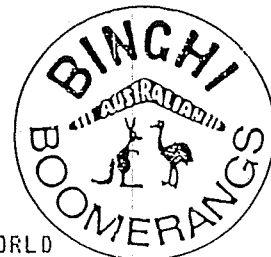
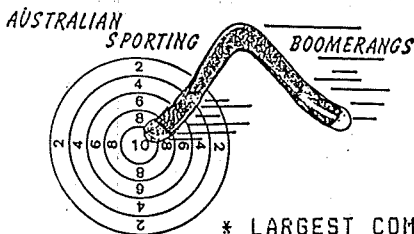
New European records of 64 catches for the 5 minute Endurance event, and a fast catch time of 19.21 seconds have been achieved by Matthieu Weber.

Also, Stephane has set a new French record by taking 63 catches in 5 minute endurance.

Has anyone in Australia achieved anything near these times and number of catches? Send info on your efforts to the Editor for publication in future issues of the B.A.A. Bulletin.

BINGHI BOOMERANGS

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PETER & JOAN BYHAM
P.O. BOX 155,
BAROOGA, N.S.W.,
AUSTRALIA, 3644.

COMING EVENTS -

1990

JANUARY Aust. Day W/End COBRAM - BAROOGA COMPETITION

Barooga Sports Reserve

Contact: Peter or Joan Byham (058) 73 4463

MARCH 3rd

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Brimbank Park, Keilor

Contact: Bruce Carter (03) 300 2374

ALSO INCLUDES:

1990 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Venue T.B.A.)

All financial members should attend.

If any Member intends to organize additional Competitions
please notify the Federal Secretary as soon as possible.

*Coldstream
Trophy Makers*
5 BELCHESTER AVENUE,
COLDSTREAM, 3770.
739 1431

BRIAN KEMP
Koyama Pottery
Queenscliff Rd
Warrington
VIC 3221

