

BOOMERANG BULLETIN

BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC

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NO.106

2000 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONS

BRUCE CARTER

Aussie Round Champion

DAVID RICHARDSON

Accuracy Champion

ANTHONY JENNINGS

Maximum Time Aloft Champion

BRUCE CARTER

Fast Catch Champion

BR BRIAN THOMAS

Endurance Champion

DAVID SCHUMMY

Trick Catch Champion

ROB GROLL

Over-all Senior Champion

BRIAN KEMP

Over-all Veteran Champion

SHIRLEY LEWRY

Ladies' Champion

CRAIG CARTER

Junior Champion





THANKS, BRUCE!

After nine long years Bruce Carter is having a rest from BAA Presidency. During that time he has been an energetic and enthusiastic leader. It is hard to get Aussies enthusiastic, so Bruce's energies have been a God-send in that time. We thank you, Bruce, for all your great efforts.

A strong left hand thrower, he has been in all our World Cup teams during that time. One thing he has definitely developed in those nine years is the throwing skills of his dynamic duo sons, Craig and Trent, currently 12 and 10 years old. Both have cannon arms and pelt out Aussie Round rangers past the fifty metre mark in both calm and wind. Their MTA throwing leaves most seniors for dead, and they are masters of trick catching too. This year Craig won the Open Long Distance with a Junior World Record throw of 83 metres! All this has come from the careful nurturing and coaching of a loving dad. Both were in Aussie Teams in 1998 at St. Louis and 2000 at Melbourne. Bruce himself celebrated his first day of retirement from Presidency by winning the Fast Catch and Aussie Round at the Nationals, the only dual winner for the tournament.

None of us can mention Bruce's name without immediately thinking of his famous and fabulous night throwing shows. The Olympics are all the poorer for missing out on this! How much fun and joy he has brought to thousands of people with this show.

Of course, the other image of Bruce we have is his well known and beautifully painted Boomerang Bus. It is advertising on wheels. Our sport needs all these helps. We have to become as visible as possible to a very ignorant boomerang world if we want them to receive the right message about us. So Boomerang Buses, T-shirts and jackets proclaiming our message are the instruments we need.

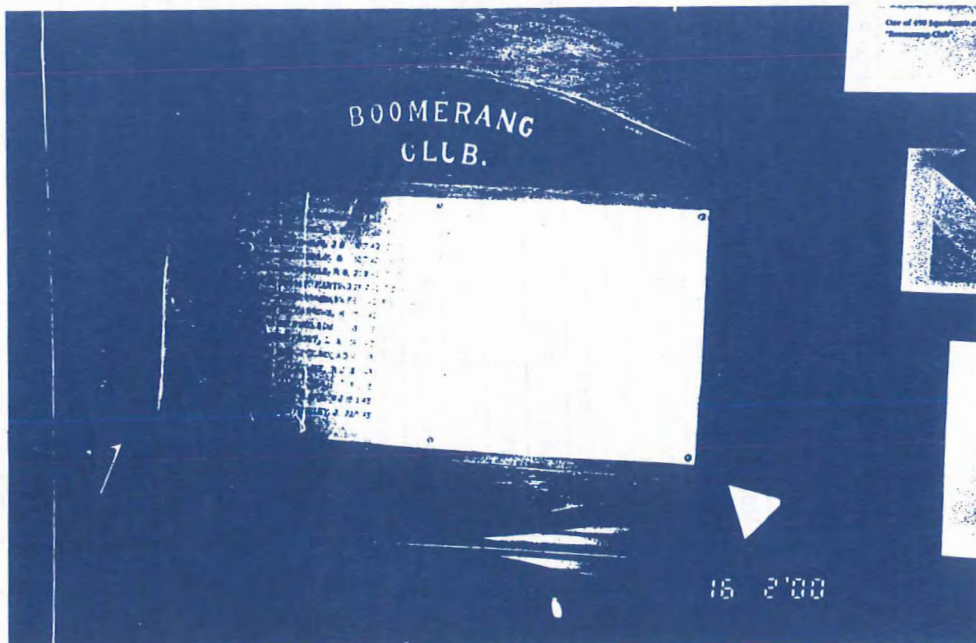
Bruce has brought his own dimension to the sport and we are all the richer for it. Thanks, Bruce, and may you have many happy years of throwing ahead. We must also thank Kay, his loyal wife, who has stood by him through all these years. At the recent World Cup she had 27 people staying overnight! Wonder Woman!! Thanks, Kay.

Br. Brian M. Thomas, BAA President 2000.



WORLD WARS and BOOMERANGS

- ❖ A visit to our National War Memorial in Canberra unveils many interesting facts with every visit you make. After the World Cup in Melbourne I was visiting there with American boomerang throwers Mark Chips, Jerry Shoemaker and Rusty Harding. In one small section they had some documents from the Battle of El Alamein in World War 2. They were the document made out when a soldier was killed giving all his details, plus all the possessions he had with him. Our interest was caught by the one made out for **Private Arthur S. Gurney** who was killed on 20th October 1942. His goods were Package 677728 of Unit 48, No. WX 9858. Among his twenty or so possessions was **ONE BOOMERANG**. Did he throw it? Or was it a good luck charm, or a present from a relative? We shall never know, but he *may have won the first boomerang comp in North Africa!*
- ❖ In the aircraft section there is a **mounted boomerang** above a plaque. It was also for North Africa. Under the boomerang is the name **BOOMERANG CLUB**. So who were *the members of this boomerang club?* They were airmen who were shot down over enemy territory and made it back to their own side (they returned!). The first member of this club was **F/D K. Thompson** who achieved this feat in December 1941. Second was **F/D K. R. Sands**, also in December 1941. Third was **Sgt. T. E. N. Crouch** on 27th February 1942. The plaque contains 22 names. Some men have their name there *several times*. The first to do this was **Sgt. D. R. Law** who accomplished his return trips on *3rd April 1942* and *3rd May 1942*. If visiting the War Memorial it is worth a good read.
- ❖ **Gallipoli** is regarded as the birth place of our nation. Interest in it, and the First World War, has escalated in recent years with many young backpackers visiting the site of Gallipoli in Turkey to pay their respects to our fallen heroes. A local Turk has realised the potential of so many visitors from Down Under and has opened **THE BOOMERANG CAFÉ**. I'm sure he will have plenty of business!!
- ❖ *Br. Brian M. Thomas, cfc, Australian National Boomerang Coach. 2000.*



2000 JANETZKI AUSTRALIAN BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS

held at Xavier College, North Albury, on 29th & 30th April 2000

Results

Competitor	Aussie Rd	Accuracy	Fast Catch	Endurance	MTA	Trick Catch	Senior Over-all	Veterans
Sadir Kattan Vic	38+42=80/8th	8 / 13th	4ct / e8th	14/11th(28)	23.00/6th	36/e2nd	49/8th	
Brian Kemp Vic	43+62=105/3rd	14 / e9th	56.05/6th(6)	23/e5th(32)	21.75/8th	6/12th	44/6th	9.5/1st*
Br.Rod Shoebridge NSW	67+35=102/4th	5 / 16th	1ct / e12th	10/e12th(18)	0/e16th	2/e14th	79/16th	22.5/6th
Rob Croll Vic	83+47=130/2nd	16 / e7th	50.80/5th(7)	24/4th(32)	28.50/2nd	36/e2nd	23/1st*	
Dennis Maxwell Vic	26+dnc=26/18th	14 / e9th	0 / e16th	21/7th(23)	19.09/12th	13/7th	70.5/12th	21.5/5th
Gunter Wandtke NSW	57+19=76/9th	12 / 11th	40.11/2nd(6)	23/e5th(31)	24.25/5th	31/5th	37.5/5th	
Shirley Lewry NSW	26+8=34/e16th	6 / 15th	0 / e16th	4/18th(20)	0/e16th	0/e16th	100.5/18th	
Morris Maxwell Vic	48+18=66/13th	16 / e7th	dnc	20/8th(22)	17.53/13th	0/e16th	75.5/15th	
Kevin Moran NSW	38+21=59/14th	26 / e2nd	1ct / e12th	10/e12th(23)	20.37/11th	0/e16th	72/13th	17.5/3rd
Br.Porres McRae NSW	4+6=10/19th	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	dnc	113/19th	35/7th
Br.Brian Thomas NSW	66+20=86/e6th	7 / 14th	49.17/4th(6)	38/1st*(42)	14.75/15th	12/8th	48.5/7th	14/2nd
Nick Gottschalk Vic	29+14=43/15th	26 / e2nd	1ct / e12th	10/e12th(22)	0/e16th	7/11th	75/14th	21/4th
Peter Lewry NSW	66+20=86/e6th	0 / e17th	1ct / e12th	16/10th(25)	22.63/7th	9/10th	63.5/11th	
Bruce Carter Vic	79+56=135/1st*	10 / 12th	32.29/1st*(5)	17/9th(27)	21.28/9th	33/4th	36/4th	
Stephen Dick Vic	60+10=70/10th	17 / 6th	61.43/7th(7)	10/e12th(23)	26.18/3rd	3/13th	53/9th	
Paul AJ Croft NSW	39+29=68/11th	0 / e17th	2ct / e10th	7/17th(21)	20.69/10th	2/e14th	80.5/17th	
David Richardson NSW	45+22=67/12th	36 / 1st*	2ct / e10th	30/2nd(33)	24.64/4th	23/6th	35.5/3rd	
Anthony Jennings Vic*	30+4=34/e16th	20 / 5th	4ct / e8th	10/e12th(22)	28.55/1st*	11/9th	54/10th	
David Schummy Qld	60+39=99/5th	24 / 4th	42.38/3rd(5)	29/3rd(31)	16.18/14th	90/1st*	30/2nd	
Juniors								
Craig Carter	48+24=72/1st*	14 / 2nd	58.39/2nd	15/1st*(26)	37.21/1st*	17/2nd	1st	
Trent Carter	42+22=64/2nd	29 / 1st*	48.64/1st*	11/2nd(21)	23.35/2nd	21/1st*	2nd	



2000 JANETZKI BOOMERANG NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The opening Nationals for 2000 were dedicated to the memory of Albury's favourite sons, **Les and Arthur Janetzki**. Their nephew, 82 year old **Spike Smith**, presented the special engraved medals struck in their honour.

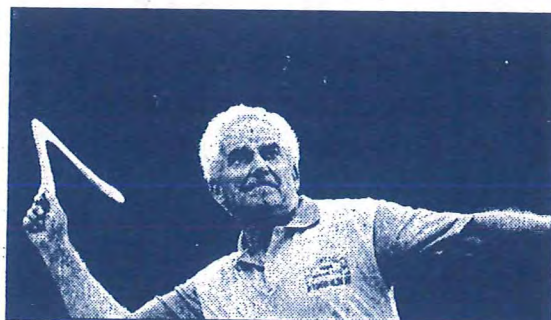
The weather was similar to the World Cup, with calm, slight breezes and wild winds at various times. Nineteen seniors, plus *Craig and Trent Carter*, made up the field. Honours were fairly evenly spread with **Bruce Carter** the only thrower to win two events. **Rob Croll** turned in usual strong performance, and while not winning any particular event, took out the Senior Over-all. **Brian Kemp** was the best of the Veterans, and **Craig** took the Junior title. Shirley Lewry was the Ladies' Champion and Nearest the Pin was a tie between Nick Gottschalk & Kevin Moran with 1250 mm. Trent won the Juniors with 695 mm. Arthur Janetzki Perfect Ten Medals were won by Kevin Moran, Nick Gottschalk, David Richardson, Anthony Jennings & Trent Carter.

At the Annual Meeting on Saturday night, we elected a new President, Br. Brian Thomas, and a new Secretary, Gunter Wandtke. Both are based in Sydney, which could be handy during the Olympic year if anything comes up regarding boomerangs. One of the important resolutions to come out of the meeting was to vote for \$500 annually to be spent on procuring more competitive equipment for our Aussie Teams. Nick Gottschalk organised another interview with Macca on Australia All Over on the Sunday morning which gave Australia wide publicity to the sport. Macca spoke to Nick and Br. Thomas.

Some new talent was uncovered with the performances of **David Richardson** (Sydney) and **Anthony Jennings** (Ballarat). Anthony had not thrown a boomerang before Christmas, and took out the MTA title with a borrowed Jones rang. He has natural talent, of which we hope to see much more.

The Long Distance comp moved to the *Ian Barker Oval*. Here nine competitors tried their rangs in calm and slightly shifting breezes. Not ideal distance weather. David Schummy sent one out past 175 m, but it couldn't find its way back in. The final results were : 1. **Craig Carter** 83 m; 2. **Bruce Carter** 78 m; 3. **Gunter Wandtke** 62 m; 4. **Kevin Moran** 58 m; 5. **Peter Lewry** 43 m. Other throwers were Trent Carter, David Schummy, David Richardson, & Steve Dick.

Our thanks again to the magnificent co-operation of Xavier College and their staff. We'll be back there in 2001 on May 5th & 6th.



● Mr Nick Gottschalk of Gippsland casts his boomerang in windy conditions.

QUEENSLAND

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Tansey Park Competition 20th February 2000

Seven senior throwers and three juniors lined up for long distance. Our numbers swelled by the visit of a group of European throwers who had traveled up from the world boomerang cup in Melbourne. After a practice session in some wind some excellent throwing followed including one throw of 240 metres which failed to cross the return line by 20 metres. A big thank you should also go to Mark Linton and Tansey Park Sports Club for use of the grounds and opening up the clubhouse for us.

Competitor	1st throw	2nd throw	3rd throw	4th throw	5th throw	best throw	
Manuel Schutz	0	0	0	195	0	195	<u>1st</u>
Oli Thienhaus	0	145	0	0	0	145	<u>2nd</u>
Christian Meyer	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Sascha Winkler	0	0	0	124	122	124	<u>4th</u>
Russell Hansen	0	0	0	0	0	0	
David Schummy	132	0	0	0	0	132	<u>3rd</u>
Dean Hopton	0	0	75	0	0	75	<u>5th</u>
Tony Gillespie							dnt
Gunter Muller							dnt

Juniors

Devin Schummy	0	0	0	0	0		
Emma Schummy	17	0	0	0	31	31	<u>1st</u>
Jasmine Schummy	0	0	0	0	0		



WA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2000

Competitor	Trick Catching			Fast Catch			Australian Round			M.T.A.			Accuracy			Endurance			Overall Points	Total Place
	Catches	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Time	Place	Points	Points	Place	Points	Points	Place	Points		
Ian Sproull	55	2 nd	10	40.1	7 th	5	120	2 nd	12	40.1	1 st	11	36	4 th	10	36	1 st	11	59	2 nd
Roger Perry	44	3 rd	9	25.79	1 st	12	127	1 st	14	29.18	4 th	7	40	1 st	14	26	6 th	5	61	1 st
Glen Lee	18	9 th	3	34.9	5 th	7	70	7 th	7	28.4	6 th	5	30	6 th	7.5	28	4 th	6.5	36	7 th
Josh Smith	57	1 st	12	32.6	4 th	8	104	4 th	10	34.3	2 nd	9	39	2 nd	12	21	7 th	3.5	54.5	3 rd
Ryan Perry	28	6 th	6	50.1	9 th	3	94	6 th	8	34.07	3 rd	8	25	9 th	5	29	3 rd	8	38	5 th
Troy Maclean	41	4 th	8	30.16	3 rd	9	98	5 th	9	25.42	7 th	4	30	6 th	7.5	31	2 nd	9	46.5	4 th
John McDiamid	25	7 th	5	28.15	2 nd	10	110	3 rd	11	29.16	5 th	6	18	11 th	3	17	9 th	2	37	6 th
Grant Perry	30	5 th	7	51.6	10 th	2	69	8 th	6	21.4	8 th	3	38	3 rd	11	28	4 th	6.5	35.5	8 th
John Metzakis	14	10 th	2	38.59	6 th	6	59	9 th	5	0	0	0	27	8 th	6	21	7 th	3.5	22.5	9 th
Lance Thomas	6	11 th	1	47.47	8 th	4	58	10 th	4	9.96	10 th	1	35	5 th	9	15	10 th	1	20	10 th
Christene Metzakis	24	8 th	4	53.18	11 th	1	47	11 th	3	15.7	9 th	2	8	12 th	2	0	0	0	12	11 th
Leonie Metzakis	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	13 th	1	0	0	0	22	10 th	4	0	0	0	5	12 th
Angie Leicester	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	12 th	2	0	0	0	6	13 th	1	0	0	0	3	13 th

CENTRAL COAST BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS 2000

held at St.Edward's College, East Gosford, on 19th March 2000

RESULTS

Competitor	Aussie Round	AR range	1 Min Accuracy	Fast Catch	MTA 100
Gunter Wandtke R	55 + 70 = 125 / 3rd	50m+	49 / 1st	35.60 / 3rd	25.60 / 1st
Peter Lewry L	78 + 76 = 154 / 1st	50m+	43 / 2nd	57.43 / 7th	25.12 / 2nd
Br.Rod Shoebridge R	30 + 52 = 82 / 7th	30m+	40 / e4th	1m 19.70 / 10th	15.86 / 5th
Terry Patterson R	53 + 37 = 90 / 6th	30m+	24 / e10th	50.46 / 6th	12.94 / 8th
Jim Lendrum R	18 + 16 = 34 / 12th	30m+	40 / e4th	3 catches	0 / e10th
Br.Brian Thomas R	71 + 76 = 147 / 2nd	30m+	40 / e4th	33.13 / 2nd	15.65 / 6th
Shirley Lewry R	33 + 25 = 58 / 11th	20m+	14 / e12th	2 catches	0 / e10th
Julie Lendrum L	21 + 40 = 61 / 10th	20m+	14 / e12th	0 / e17th	dnc
Nadine Cranenburgh R	0 + 22 = 22 / 14th	20m+	7 / e18th	0 / e17th	dnc
Margaret Patterson R	42 + 54 = 96 / 5th	30m+	9 / e15th	1m 1.83 / 8th	9.88 / 9th
Lee (China) R	10 + dnc = 10 / 15th	20m+	7 / e18th	0 / e17th	dnc
Daniel Ramokgadi R	26 + dnc = 26 / 13th	30m+	24 / e10th	1 catch / e15th	dnc
Paul Croft AJ R	23 + 51 = 74 / 8th	30m+	9 / e15th	1m 20.43 / 11th	0 / e10th
David Richardson R	18 + 50 = 68 / 9th	30m+	42 / 3rd	1m 4.45 / 9th	0 / e10th
Wayne Patterson R	67 + 48 = 115 / 4th	30m+	0 / 20th	50.35 / 5th	13.20 / 7th
Juniors					
Mark Patterson L	32 + 46 = 78 / 3rd	30m+	8 / 17th	4 catches / 12th	dnc
Megan Patterson R	24 + 21 = 45 / 5th	20 m+	26 / 9th	0 / e17th	dnc
Peter Lendrum L	18 + 28 = 46 / 4th	30m+	28 / 8th	45.04 / 4th	dnc
Tim Lendrum R	49 + 52 = 101 / 2nd	20m+	38 / 7th	32.99 / 1st	17.43 / 4th
Michael Lendrum L	48 + 60 = 108 / 1st	20m+	10 / 14th	1 catch / e15th	18.16 / 3rd

Winner of the ARTHUR JANETZKI PERPETUAL TROPHY (Aussie Round): Peter Lewry.

Conditions: Overcast, sunny, overcast; light breezes.

Our sincere thanks to St.Edward's College for the use of the ground and facilities.

Peter Lewry was in such outstanding form it was suggested he have a drug test!! Congratulations!!

Ladies Champion: Margaret Patterson.

WORLD BOOMERANG CUP 2000 OVERVIEW

COUNTRY	AUSSIE ROUND	SUPER CATCH	RELAY	ACCURACY	TRICK CATCH	ENDURANCE	MTA	OVER-ALL
Aussie Fever 1	5th	6th	7th	e 6th	10th	11th	10th	8th
Aussie Fever 2	9th	9th	12th	9th	14th	14th	5th	11th
Canada Snowbirds	13th	14th	e 13th	8th	15th	10th	12th	14th
Japan Samurai	11th	4th	3rd	5th	9th	e 8th	9th	6th
France Pirates 1	7th	7th	4th	12th	4th	5th	6th	5th
German No Mercy	8th	11th	9th	15th	e 6th	6th	8th	9th
Boom Bros.USA	12th	8th	8th	10th	11th	e 8th	14th	10th
Japan Pokemon	14th	10th	13th	11th	8th	12th	13th	12th
France 2	10th	15th	11th	14th	12th	13th	11th	13th
Women's International	15th	13th	15th	13th	13th	15th	15th	15th
German Young Guns	1st	1st	2nd	1st	1st	2nd	1st	1st
USA Turtles	e 3rd	2nd	1st	e 6th	2nd	1st	2nd	2nd
USA Wild Cards	2nd	3rd	5th	3rd	3rd	e 3rd	4th	3rd
German Knochen	6th	5th	6th	2nd	5th	e 3rd	3rd	4th
Swiss Skandal	e 3rd	12th	10th	4th	e 6th	7th	7th	7th

Boomerang came back with a CRASH!

★ THE STORY in the Melbourne newspapers late last year about Australian boomerang champion, Ralph Sinclair, winning the first prize of £20 against 30 others, black and white, brought back memories.

It reminded me of 25 years ago, when steam trains used to run to Kalgoorlie and had to stop every 200

miles for an hour, to get coal and water.

The passengers used to alight from the train and buy boomerangs from the blacks for 2/ each. Then they'd stand there throwing them, waiting for the boomerangs to return.

One did come back — and went clean through the train window.

—C.N., ADELAIDE (SA)

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AUSTRALIA'S CHAMPION >>>><<<<

BOOMERANG THROWER



Ralph Sinclair displays three different types of "homing" boomerangs. Two are home-made.



"Herald" Photos
Ralph, in typical pose, makes boomerangs fly at Fishermen's Bend.

Boomerang throwing is fast becoming a lost art, since so few Australians practise it. In fact, the average Aussie couldn't successfully throw one—but Ralph Sinclair, of Plant 6, Fishermen's Bend, is above average when it comes to throwing boomerangs. Last month, he made the headlines when he became "Boomerang Champion 1963" against entrants from all States in Australia—both aboriginal and white. With a home-made five-ply boomerang, Ralph made a last minute decision to enter the contest and won on points.

Most boomerangs made by aborigines are hewn from a branch of mulga wood and, contrary to popular belief, there are many Australian aborigines who have not mastered the art of throwing the "homing" boomerang. Ralph amazed them while holidaying in Central Australia with his mastery of the unique "flying stick," as they call it.

the hunting and killing boomerang, which is thrown but does not return). It was used by the aborigines for sport or scaring up birds or kangaroos.

The come-back boomerang may be of any size and many shapes or materials. Some to-day are fibre glass. Although the boomerang is for sport, it can be a lethal weapon, so beginners in the art of throwing need to be careful when people are about.

Ralph and a mate tried throwing boomerangs at night—or "night flying" as he explained it. Result was near disaster until they got the idea of boring a hole in the end of the boomerang and inserting a piece of lighted cord that glowed while the stick was in flight. The idea was much better than throwing, counting ten, then ducking—in the hope of being missed by a home-coming boomerang.

Ralph's Reminiscences In 2000

The Birth of the BAA

by Ralph Sinclair

It is unlikely that any of our readers will know who this gentleman is, and yet he unknowingly had a tremendous influence on boomerang throwing world wide.

More particularly he created the conditions which led to the development of the famous HOOK series of boomerangs and the formation of the Boomerang Association of Australia Incorporated in 1969.

He is GEORGE HOLMES, and was the owner of a mixed farm at Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

He was an Elder at the Wagga Wagga Presbyterian Church of St. Andrew's and visited Melbourne for a one week conference at the Annual General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1951. For the duration of his visit he was a guest of my family in suburban McKinnon.

At the end of his visit he presented us with several gifts, among which was a home made plywood boomerang.

George Holmes' daughter, Mrs. Florence Hore of Wagga Wagga, confirms that her father first encountered boomerangs when he was a member of the Wagga Wagga Show Committee about 1940, and organised an Aboriginal thrower to demonstrate his skills. Mr. Holmes was 48 at this time and he retained an active interest in boomerang making and throwing until his death in 1956 at the age of 64.

Sadly George Holmes never lived long enough to witness the fruit of his love for boomerangs. It is now my pleasure to detail and acknowledge his influence on our great sport.

Just before he left our home he demonstrated the boomerang to me in the local park at the end of Rose Street, McKinnon, (now called Allnutt Park) and





briefly showed me the basic principles for a successful throw. At the age of 14 I was an enthusiastic learner and before long I was having considerable success.

Now it just so happened that a Dennis Maxwell lived opposite our home in Rose Street and this meant he witnessed my activities. He was six years younger than me but was a very active lad with considerable sporting ability. Little brother, Morris, five years younger, had no escape from exposure to our activities, and eventually made up the trio which still operates to this day.

Before long my original boomerang had been broken beyond repair by an unskilled thrower, and I was forced to make a replacement for my beloved "Holmes" original.

So Dennis and I became very proficient at making and throwing our own boomerangs and we went for it with gusto! Weather permitting, we were always found at Allnutt Park. We eventually advanced to night throwing and for some time relied on the "Throw/ Count to nine/ Duck!" method! I can remember hitting Dennis at times, and have a clear recollection of being "ringbarked" around the neck by one of my own boomerangs.

Our solution to safer night flying was to drill a small hole (3 mm) in the free wing tip and inset a thick string which dangled about 8 cm each side of the surfaces. When lit at both ends, this string would smoulder and glow very brightly when the boomerang was in flight. It was very easy to see the two concentric glow paths from any angle during the flight.

Allnutt Park in those days had just been cleared and landscaped with the highest and flattest section just at the end of Rose Street. The ground sloped downwards in all directions and there was an embankment along where the park met Wheatley Road. Grass had been sown and a few tree saplings had been planted well apart from each other, which meant we had the ideal flying conditions.

As we became more experienced we started throwing steeper slopes and ended up throwing out over Wheatley Road at night. (One highlight was seeing a motorist screech to a halt, leap out of his vehicle, and watch our



boomerang pass overhead showering sparks, only to disappear in the darkness as we caught them out of sight and earshot. I am sure he thought he had witnessed a UFO!)

By the late fifties Dennis and I were actively sharing our skills with other interested throwers, and I had now met up with Aboriginal thrower, Bill Onus, who had a shop in the Dandenong Ranges just east of Melbourne. It was located on Kallistra Road, just out of Belgrave, and I remember Bill had a very clever sales pitch (literally) for selling his red fibre boomerangs: He would stand in the shop doorway and throw the boomerang out across the busy road and after it turned in front of the tea rooms opposite, it would skid back through the doorway, stopping under a table displaying his wares.

Looking back at that time I could see how my chance meeting with George Holmes had led me into an exciting and active boomerang world. I had never thought to follow up and contact him, and by then, unbeknown to me, he had already passed away, as detailed earlier.

Exciting as things were, little did we realise how much more was to come!!

By the early sixties I had completed my studies, commenced work, had married and moved to live at Syndal (now Mt. Waverley) and was still enjoying my throwing. I continued my friendship with Bill Onus and his wider family, and became aware of other Aborigines who were active in the community.

Harold Blair was a popular and prominent Aboriginal who directed his ABORIGINAL CHILDRENS' PROJECT to raise funds to sponsor Aboriginal children from Queensland Missions to Melbourne for holidays and schooling.

I believe the very first Australian Boomerang Throwing Championship was held in 1962. This event was won by a white man, Mr. Bob Burns of Yarraville, a Melbourne suburb.

In 1963 Bill Onus arranged a second Championship. Aboriginal throwers such as Laurie Moffat, Victor O'Rouke (both from Lake Tyers) and Bruce McGuinness were invited to compete. A white champion from Cobram, Jack Byham, was also invited to the Northcote Oval venue.





Although I was not competitive by nature, I was very curious to know how I compared with other throwers. And so, on a lovely sunny afternoon in November, I took my wife Suzanne, 18 months old daughter Linda, and several friends (including Dennis Maxwell) to join me as spectators at the event. After watching the first few events I said to Suzanne that I could do better than what I was seeing.

It so happened that I did have a suitable boomerang under the mattress of Linda's pram and Suzanne strongly encouraged me to compete as a late entrant. The fee was a ten shilling note, which was the key to me winning the main section of the competition.

The resulting publicity attracted "Herald" reporter Noel Hawken to interview me for a likely article in the coming publication. He made it clear to me that his article may or may not be published, depending on the opinion of the editor, and any other news coming in at the time of publication. He did ring me on Wednesday, November 20th 1963, to say that the editor had accepted the article (a half page spread) but it was too early to confirm that it would still be in the coming Saturday night edition.

On the Saturday morning I was staying at a motel in country Victoria at Hamilton, for a family wedding that day, when a news flash came through the media that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated! That's it, I thought, my article would not be appearing.

As it happened, there was a weekend section in the Herald that night, and my article had been included therein. Because of the assassination, many more copies were run off, making two million copies that were sold that night!

The spin-off from this article was very interesting. I was teased by complete strangers for weeks after the event, and I received numerous phone calls and letters.

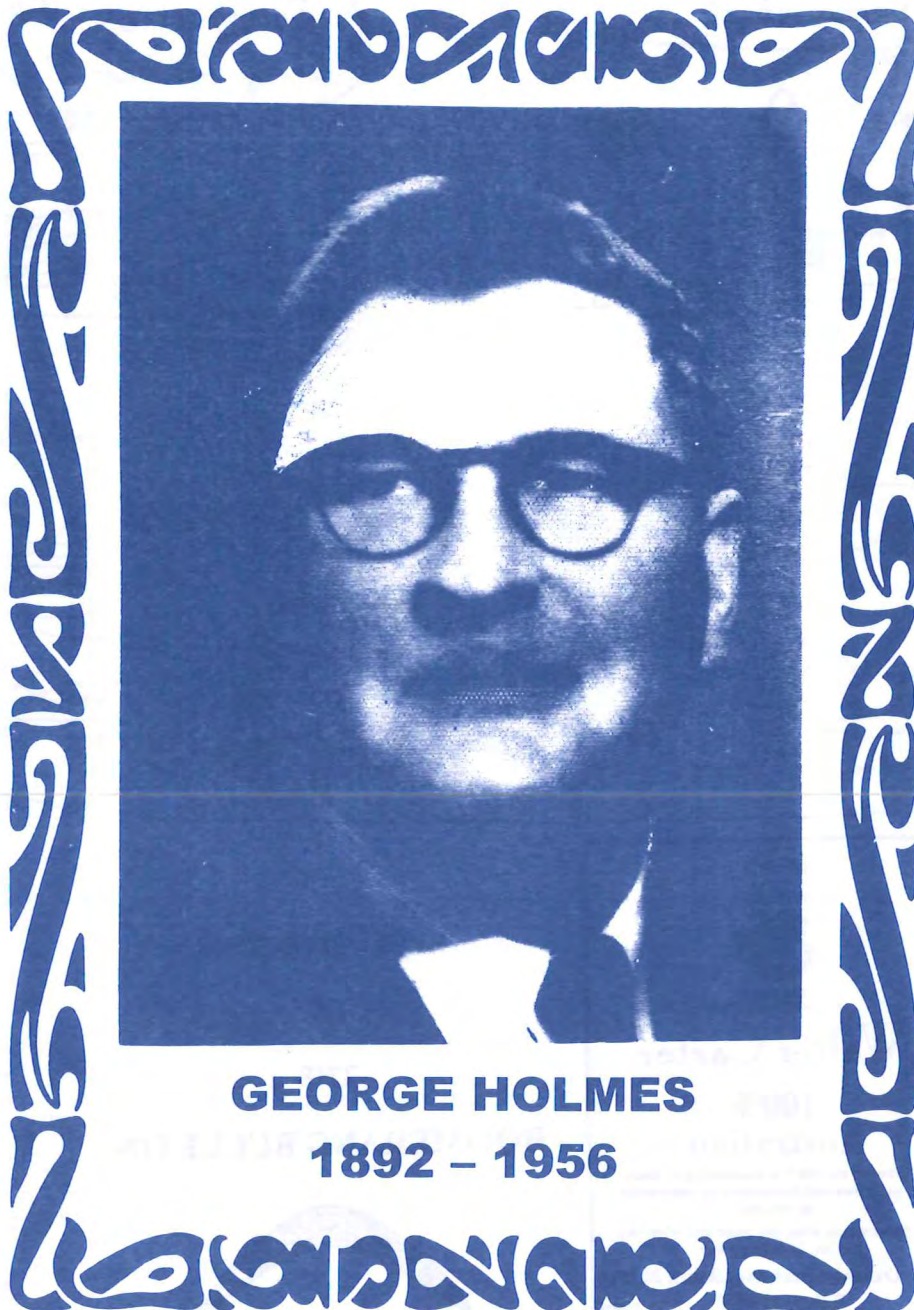
One such letter came from a Mrs. Roseman of Brighton saying that she was pleased to read of my success and that she would like me to accept a gift boomerang from her family. This boomerang was in fact a very special one. It was Aboriginal made of solid wood and had an unusual HOOK shape. Mrs.

Roseman wrote saying that her father had acquired this boomerang as a young man about 1887.

Her recollections of family discussions were that a local Aboriginal, "King Billy", had thrown the boomerang in anger at a weather vane atop the local liquor store after being refused alcohol. *The weather vane was destroyed and the boomerang lay unclaimed at the scene.*

One could hardly imagine just how much this ancient 'hook' would change the history of modern boomerang throwing!

....there is more to come



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2000 EASTERN SUBURBS COMPETITION

held at Queens Park, Waverley, on 2nd April 2000

Results

Competitor	Hand	Aussie Round	Boomerang Making: Accuracy
Paul Croft AJ	Right	40 + 68 = 108 / 8th	2+0+6+2+4=14 / e13th
Jim Lendrum	Right	35 + 34 = 69 / 14th	4+0+3+5+0=12 / 17th
Keith Andersen	Right	54 + 66 = 120 / 7th	8+0+0+4+5=17 / e9th
Br.Rod Shoebridge	Right	56 + 14 = 70 / 13th	8+0+0+0+10=18 / e7th
Shirley Lewry	Right	12 + 6 = 18 / 16th	0+0+0+0+0=0 / e20th
Julie Lendrum	Left	29 + 24 = 53 / 15th	3+0+0+8+4=15 / e11th
Adam Carroll	Left	67 + 60 = 127 / 4th	0+6+7+8+8=29 / 2nd
Margaret Patterson	Right	47 + 50 = 97 / 11th	6+3+0+2+6=17 / e9th
David Richardson	Right	56 + 48 = 104 / 10th	6+4+8+2+0=20 / 6th
Wayne Patterson	Right	56 + 52 = 108 / 9th	0+4+0+0+1=5 / 19th
Terry Patterson	Right	70 + 59 = 129 / 3rd	1+0+2+0+6=9 / 18th
Gunter Wandtke	Right	71 + 74 = 145 / 2nd	0+4+5+4+5=18 / e7th
Peter Lewry	Left	61 + 65 = 126 / 5th	0+0+0+0+0=0 / e20th
David Schummy	Right	57 + 93 = 150 / 1st**	8+6+10+10+10=44 / 1st *
Br.Brian Thomas	Right	59 + 65 = 124 / 6th	9+0+7+4+6=26 / 3rd
Ken Arthur 78	Right	29 + 52 = 81 / 12th	8+4+0+8+2=22 / e4th
Juniors			
Peter Lendrum	Left	24 + 18 = 42 / 7th	7+2+0+0+6=15 / e11th
Mark Patterson	Left	38 + 24 = 62 / 2nd	6+2+6+0+8=22 / e4th
Megan Patterson	Right	21 + 26 = 47 / 5th	dnc
Michael Lendrum	Left	40 + 18 = 58 / 3rd	0+0+4+8+2=14 / e13th
Tim Lendrum	Right	56 + 52 = 108 / 1st	1+2+0+4+6=13 / e15th
Yugi (Japan)	Right	24 + 25 = 49 / 4th	8+0+0+5+0=13 / e15th
Kyle Sheffield	Right	20 + 28 = 48 / 6th	dnc

David Schummy set a new Australian Record for Aussie Round with 93 using his large hook.

BUNNY READ PERPETUAL TROPHY for Aussie Round: David Schummy.

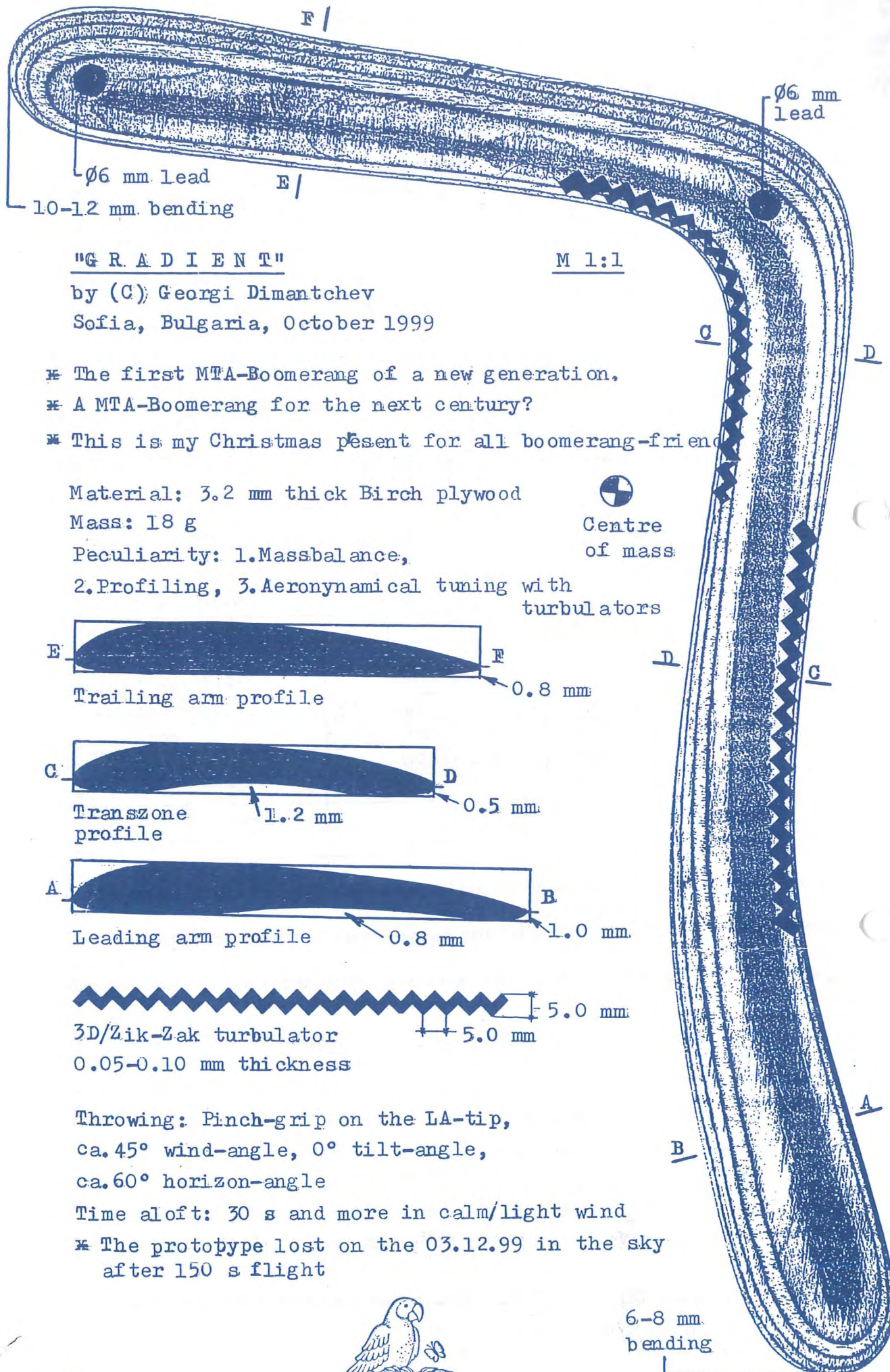
Special JACQUES THOMAS TROPHY for Nearest the Pin In Boomerang Making: David Schummy.

COMING EVENTS.... 2000.

18th June 2000.... N.S.W. State Titles at Blacktown Showgrounds, Blacktown, at 10 a.m. Contact: Peter Lewry (02) 9622 2927.

20th August 2000.... Blacktown Aussie Round Day at Blacktown Showgrounds at 10 a.m. Contact: Peter Lewry (02) 9622 2927.

19th November 2000.... 12th Blue Mountains Championships at "Winbourne", Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa, at 10 a.m. Contact: Br. Brian Thomas (02) 9744 9346.



"G R A D I E N T"

M 1:1

by (C) Georgi Dimantchev
Sofia, Bulgaria, October 1999

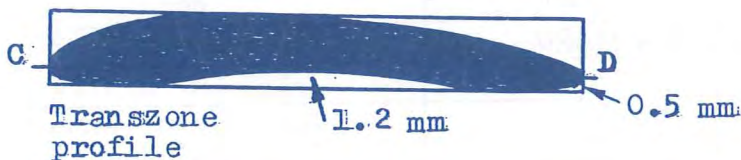
- * The first MTA-Boomerang of a new generation.
- * A MTA-Boomerang for the next century?
- * This is my Christmas present for all boomerang-friends

Material: 3.2 mm thick Birch plywood

Mass: 18 g

Peculiarity: 1. Massbalance,

2. Profiling, 3. Aerodynamical tuning with turbulators



Throwing: Pinch-grip on the LA-tip,
ca. 45° wind-angle, 0° tilt-angle,
ca. 60° horizon-angle

Time aloft: 30 s and more in calm/light wind

* The prototype lost on the 03.12.99 in the sky
after 150 s flight

