

BOOMERANG BULLETIN

Boomerang Association of Australia

NOVEMBER 1995

No. 88

Farewell



91
YEARS

93
DAYS

Arthur Gustav Janetzki

1 9 0 4

1 9 9 5

EDITORIAL

One of the basic facts of life you soon learn is that none of us is indispensable. The sun rises each day and life goes on without us. But when some people leave us the quality of life changes. A certain gap appears in our lives, which cannot be filled. On 7 August 1995 one of those gaps occurred with the passing into Heaven of Arthur Gustav Janetzki, known to his close friends as simply "Arkie".

Arkie was a foundation member of both the Albury Boomerang Club (ABC), Australia's first boomerang club, and later of the Boomerang Association of Australia (BAA), Australia's official boomerang club. This was founded in 1969. With his brother, Les, they were known as the Dynamic Duo, the Batman and Robin of the Boomerang World. Together they travelled to competitions far and wide bringing joy to all they met. One of my treasured memories is being the joint guest of honour with Les and Arthur at the Batlow Apple Festival, where we demonstrated boomerang throwing for the country people.

At every competition in Albury there has ALWAYS been a Janetzki or two taking part. "You're next, Arkie," would be the call. And Arkie would look round quizzically and say, "Who me? Already? I'm not so much good now, you know, but we'll give it a go. The old arm isn't what it used to be." Arkie would then make his way to the centre circle, often assisted by some other throwers, where he would breathe on his throwing fingers, hold up his left hand with the ever-present piece of wool on it to ascertain the wind direction, shuffle around into position, and then let fly. He usually threw 30 degrees farther into the wind than what he positioned himself, due to his swivelling action. If the boomerang came back within catching distance, he nearly always caught it in front of his lap. Very few ever slipped out of that lap.

Now there are no more Janetzkis. The gap is there. Any throwers turning up to a comp were always delighted to meet with Les and Arthur, when they were both around, and after 1987, to meet with Arkie. They were real gentlemen in every sense of the word. People always felt perfectly safe with Les and Arkie. They would talk boomerangs and they would talk kindly. You enjoyed their company. You felt they were your friends.

Their memory will not be lost in the Boomerang World. At the suggestion of our President, Bruce Carter, a collection has begun to perpetuate their names through trophies. Friends and throwers are free to contribute to this worthwhile venture. All donations will be acknowledged in the Boomerang Bulletin. As we go to press we have received the following donations (in alphabetical order): Peter Adams \$20; Ken Arthur \$10; Ray Bottrell \$20; Peter & Joan Byham \$20; Bruce Carter \$20; Rob Croll \$20; Betty Easton \$20; Barrie & Julienne Forsyth \$100; Jeff Lewry \$50; Dave Martin \$20; Terry Patterson \$10; Georg Petran & German friends \$20; Phil & Jenny Shanahan \$20; Br. Brian Thomas \$20; Gunter Wandtke \$20.

If you wish to contribute to the Janetzki trophies then send your cheque to either Br. Brian Thomas or Ken Arthur and make it out to "Boomerang Throwing Association of NSW". Many thanks to the generosity of the present donors.

Long may the memory of Les and Arthur live!

Eight members of the BAA attended Arkie's funeral in Albury on a perfect boomerang day! After the burial members performed a boomerang fly

past in the lawn cemetery in honour of Arkie. (no other burial was there at the time!).

Both Les and Arthur were Patrons of the NSW Association. Arkie was buried in the same hole as Les, so the Dynamic Duo are once more back together. Arkie's relatives, Spike and Annie Smith, buried a Waltzing Matilda boomerang in the hole and Br. Thomas dropped in a flickerang. The ancient Egyptians buried all sorts of goodies with their kings since they believed they could use them in the next life. We know what Arkie will be looking for! (Rumours that Rob Croll was seen excavating at the cemetery at night are completely unfounded..a pure Carter myth!!)

Br. Thomas gave the final tribute to Arkie in the Trinity Uniting Church, where the service was conducted by a life-long old friend in the Reverend Merric Webb. About seventy people bade a final farewell to Albury's famous old citizen. Spike and Annie Smith provided refreshments at their place where many a story was swapped about Arkie. What is left of the Janetzki Collection will probably be donated to the Jindera Museum, which is about 11 km from Albury.

Arkie was buried by the funeral company Lester and Son, which is owned by Arkie's friends Mike and Mary Egan. As a tribute to Arkie they are sponsoring the 1996 Nationals which will be held in Albury at the time of Arkie's birthday. Thanks Mike and Mary.

Being an old vaudeville entertainer Arkie was always full of fun and wit. He was plagued with arthritis in his latter years and used to often say that his name should be Arthur-itis instead of Arthur. Arkie has now finished entertaining and the curtain has come down on the final member of the famous Janetzki Trio. He is now at peace with his God.

Sayonora, Arkie, old mate.

Br. Brian M. Thomas, CFC.



REMEMBERING THE YEAR OF 1904

- * John Christian Watson becomes Australia's first Labour Prime Minister.
- * Rolls Royce begin producing automobiles.
- * Speed limit in South Australia is specified at 24 mph.
- * A woman is arrested on Fifth Avenue, New York for smoking in public.
- * United States' Engineers commence their work on the Panama Canal.
- * Tattersall's founder George Adams dies.
- * Anglican Synod of South Australia proclaims that the White Australia Policy is contrary to principles of modern civilisation.
- * In the United Kingdom, the first meeting of the International Salvation Army congress takes place.
- * Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, graduates with honours from Radcliffe College.
- * Australia's first Rhodes Scholars are selected.
- * Australia's population - 3,974,150.

SPORT THIS YEAR

Melbourne Cup winner - Acacia.
The third summer Olympic Games open in St. Louis, United States.
Sydney hosts the first Australian Golf Open.
The Lawn Tennis Association of Australasia is formed.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT/LITERATURE

The top two musical hits are "Give My Regards To Broadway" and "Meet Me In St. Louis, Louis".
James Barrie's play "Peter Pan" opens in Britain.
The comic opera "Iapu" opens at Her Majesty's Theatre.

BIRTHS THIS YEAR

Cary Grant
Bing Crosby
Sir Hubert Opperman

Boomerang champ won world acclaim



THE world lost its oldest and most famous competitive boomerang thrower when Arthur Gustav Janetzki quietly passed away in the Albury Base Hospital at the ripe old age of 91 years and 93 days. Just a few months before he died he had competed in the annual Albury Boomerang Championships, finishing sixth out of 20 competitors. The prizes given out that day were framed pictures of Arthur, something that will be treasured by those who won them.

He was better known overseas than at home, but here he was the founding member of Australia's first boomerang club, the Albury Boomerang Club, and then a founding member of the Boomerang Association of Australia, the sport's official body, founded in 1969. Its rules were based on those of the Aboriginal organisation, the Harold Blair Institute.

In 1979, boomerang throwing was officially recognised by the federal government as a sport and became part of the Confederation of Australian Sport.

The first international competition was held against the United States in Australia in November 1981, when a 20-man team competed in Melbourne, Albury and Sydney. Arthur and his older brother, Les, who died in 1987 aged 86, were captain and vice-captain of the Albury team, which defeated the strong US side.

Arthur and Les were world-renowned for the beautiful boomerangs they made. Les made them from birch ply he took from discarded packing boxes and Arthur did the artwork on them. They are the number-one collector items in the boomerang world and sell for hundreds of dollars in the US. The brothers gave away most of their boomerangs; they were not keen on taking orders, just wanting to make boomerangs because of the pleasure it brought them.

Arthur and Les gave the sport of boomerang throwing something most sports seek ... respectability. They were true gentlemen through and through. A disparaging word never came from their lips.

They were born to a Polish storekeeper named Johann Jantzki and his Australian wife, Dollie, in the small Victorian town of Cowarra in the north Gippsland area. Their mother died when they were small and then their father died when Arthur was 11. The six children, who were looked after by an aunt, then moved to Melbourne.

They left school early and worked in the

Arthur Janetzki
Boomerang expert. Born Cowarra, Victoria, May 6, 1904. Died Albury, NSW, August 7, aged 91.

grocery trade before using their musical talents to become vaudeville performers. Famous in the 1920s and 30s, they and their brother Harold were known as the Janetzki Trio, and they played marimba and xylophone all around Australia and New Zealand. In Tasmania, they were the specially act that went with the early movie *For the Term of His Natural Life*. Their musical career lasted 16 years but when the "talkies" came in they retired from show business and went back to their work as small grocery store operators.

After World War II they moved to Sydney and ran a mixed business there for 15 years. Les used to ride the bike around Albury and take orders in the morning, while Arthur would deliver them on the bike in the afternoon. Although there was a difference of four years between them, they were known as "the twins" by the people of Albury because they were so similar in size and habits.

THEY did not take up making and throwing boomerangs until they were in their 60s and had retired from the grocery business. They became interested through the local butcher, who sold boomerangs in his shop, and they started making them in their backyard workshop.

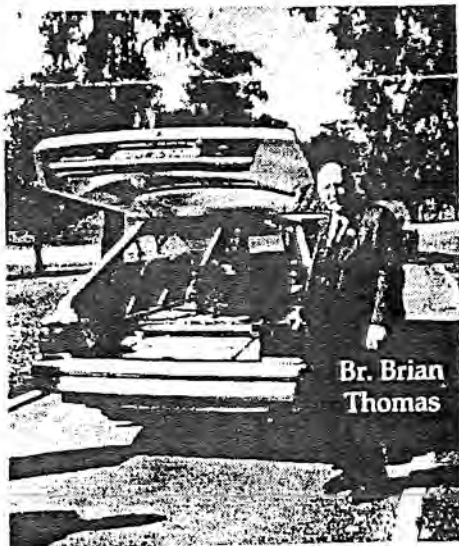
They travelled to Melbourne and Sydney for boomerang competitions and won many trophies for their accurate throwing. Now they appear in every book that comes out on boomerangs. (Most of these are produced overseas, where boomerang throwing as a sport is more popular.)

The perpetual trophy for the national coast of NSW boomerang championships is the Arthur Janetzki Trophy, and this year it was won by a visiting Japanese thrower.

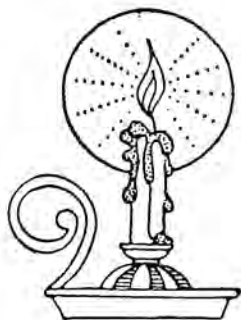
With the passing of Arthur Janetzki, the boomerang world has lost a true gentleman and outstanding sportsman.

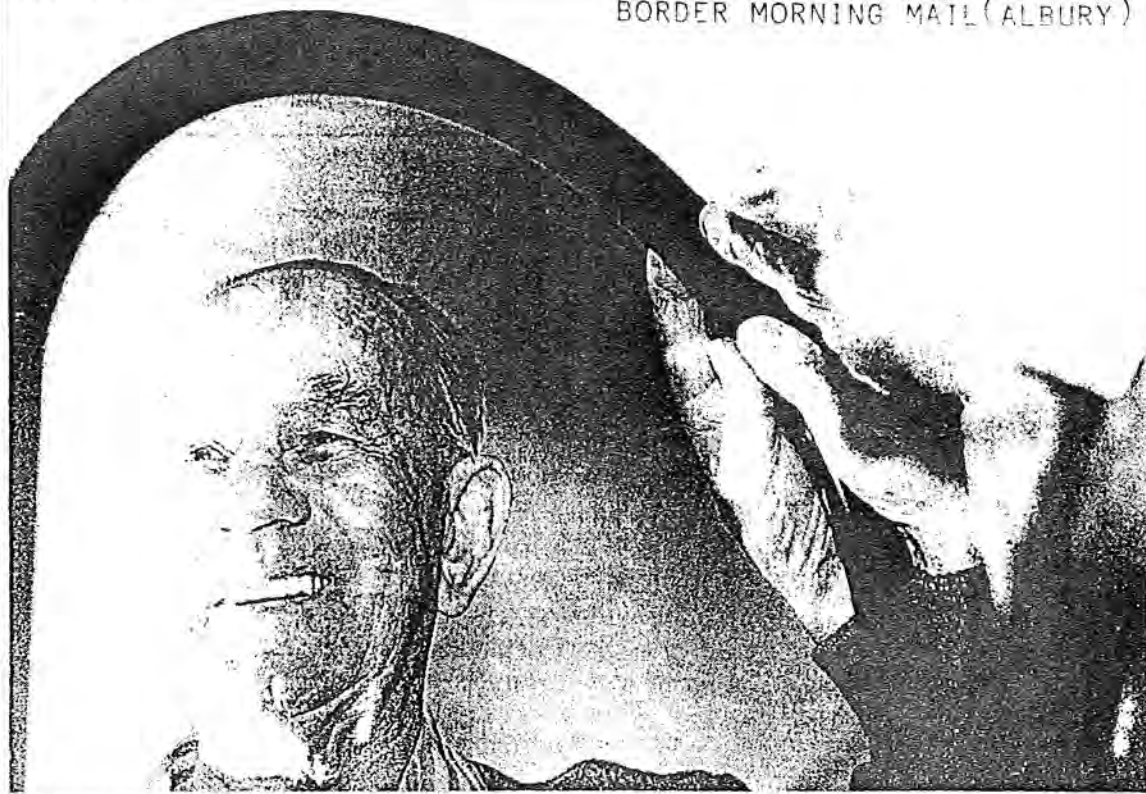
■ **Brian M. Thomas**

Brother Thomas CFC is the Australian national boomerang coach.



Br. Brian Thomas





● Reflecting on former glories — Mr Janetzki and his siblings were vaudeville stars in the 1930s.

Vaudeville star takes his final bow

FORMER vaudevillian, boomerang-thrower and Albury grocer, Arthur Janetzki, died on Monday.

Mr Janetzki, 91, had been a resident at the Riverwood retirement village when he suffered a massive heart attack about six weeks ago.

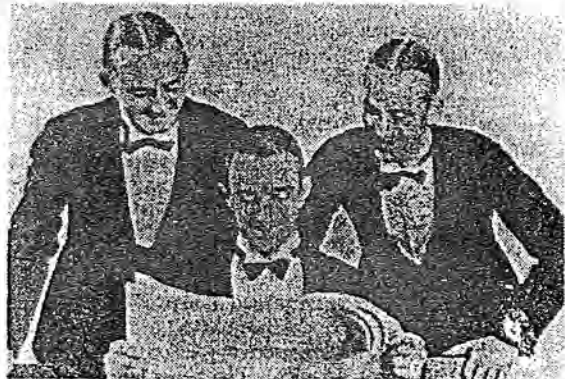
Although he returned home for a while, he was re-admitted on Saturday to the Albury Base Hospital where he died.

He was the last of the Janetzki clan of two sisters and four brothers, three of which made a name for themselves in Australian vaudeville in the 1930s.

Born in Gippsland to descendants of Polish and Irish immigrants, Arthur and brothers Les and Harold made their way to Melbourne where they took to the stage as the Janetzki Trio.

Their variety act shared billings at the Bijou and Tivoli, Tasmania and New Zealand, with imported stars like Ella Shields, George Wallace, the Kelso Brothers and Stiffy and Mo.

When moving pictures



● A flashback to the grand days of vaudeville

finally killed vaudeville, the brothers settled in Sydney where they ran grocer shops.

Arthur, who had never married, and the divorced Les, eventually came to Albury where they bought the Jones St store and settled into happy bachelorhood.

With time on their

hands after their retirement the brothers took up boomerang throwing.

They became very good at it, winning many championships.

Mr Janetzki celebrated his 91st birthday in May at the boomerang championships at Xavier High School, where he enjoyed a final throw.



ARTHUR JANETZKI

From vaudeville to boomerang master

Boomerang thrower.
Born: May 6, 1904
Died: August 7, 1995

THE world lost its oldest boomerang thrower with the passing of Arthur Janetzki.

Arthur and his brother Les built the profile of boomerang throwing around the country and taught hundreds of Australians the unique art.

Arthur and Les were already in their sixties when their passion for boomerang throwing and the art of boomerang making found its impetus. Over the next 20

years they founded the Boomerang Association of Australia and the Albury boomerang club, Australia's first.

They built the Albury team into a formidable opponent, culminating in its victory over the American team during the first international boomerang challenge in 1981.

The team, which was vice-captained by Arthur, then 76 and captained by Les, was the only Australian team to defeat the Americans.

Today the Albury boomerang

is a must for boomerang enthusiasts, thanks to Arthur and Les, and ranks second behind the national championships.

The brothers were born in the Gippsland town of Cowarr but when Arthur was 11 his father died from tuberculosis and the family moved to South Yarra.

Over the next few years their passion for music found an outlet in the marimbas and xylophones and for 16 years they performed on the Australian and New Zealand stages as the Janetzki brothers.

But the advent of talking movies and brother Harold's sudden death forced their retirement from vaudeville.

After World War II Arthur, Les and their sister, Ruby, moved to Albury where they ran a small general store for the next 16 years. It was here that they discovered boomerang making.

Bruce Carter, president of the Boomerang Association of Australia, said Arthur and his passion and sister's work were sorely missed at future boomerang events.



Fined for toy return

A BOOMERANG has cost a British toy firm more than \$8000 — because it came back.

Welsh boy Carl Darbyshire, 7, hurled his 30cm boomerang in his backyard. Back it curled, the youngster failed to catch it and was whacked over the eye. His mother Rachel said he needed hospital treatment and suffered loss of vision.

A magistrate ruled toy importers Ponders End Investments had breached two sections of the Consumer Protection Act because the boomerang carried inadequate warnings and instructions.

The company was fined \$2068 with \$6205 costs.

A company spokesman said: "Everyone knows a boomerang comes back".

But Mrs Darbyshire was still angry. "I want this toy banned," she said.

— AAP



The VICTORIAN BOOMERANG THROWING ASSOCIATION..

in association with SEAMIST PALAMINO STUD --announce the 1996 Seamist Victorian boomerang titles.....

Sunday 4th of February 1996...at Seamist stud..

AFTERNOON / EARLY EVENING COMPETITION...

Starting time ---2 pm... fees - Seniors \$10.00 Juniors \$5.00 Families -\$20

Event 1 -TRICK CATCHING / DOUBLING - combined...

Catch no.1 - any catch - 2 - One hand (either hand) 3- Opposite hand- Overhand catch (eagle) NOTE : If going for a one handed catch and drop it --must go for opposite hand for eagle catch..

4 Under the leg 5- Behind the back - 6- One hand under the leg..

7- One hand behind the back 8- Hackey sac 9 - In the feet 10 One

hand under the leg, both feet on the ground DOUBLING 11-Two, two hands..12-One hand clean and one hand over the top (eagle) must

use opposite hands .eg. one hand left - over the top right - or vice versa...13-Under the leg, behind the back in any order,

14 One hand behind the back OR One hand under leg & Hackey sac..

15 - Any catch and foot catch...

event 2 -Endurance (5 minutes)

Event 3 - Accuracy (5 throws)

event 4 Maximum time Aloft With Catch (100 metres - 5 throws)

event 5 Australian round -(5 throws)

event 6 Accuracy event for novices / Spectators

Event 7 - Fast Catch - 2 rounds 1 minute cut off

Overall champion --to be declared Victorian champion '96

Overall scoring - winner of each event to score same amount of points

as number of throwers + 3 points---(eg if 20- throwers - 20 points

+ 3..2nd place 19 points + 2 bonus and 3rd 18 points plus 1 bonus

this is if there is 20 throwers...

Trick catch / Doubling is one event..If a competitor catches all

ten catches in Doubling, they continue until a boomerang is dropped

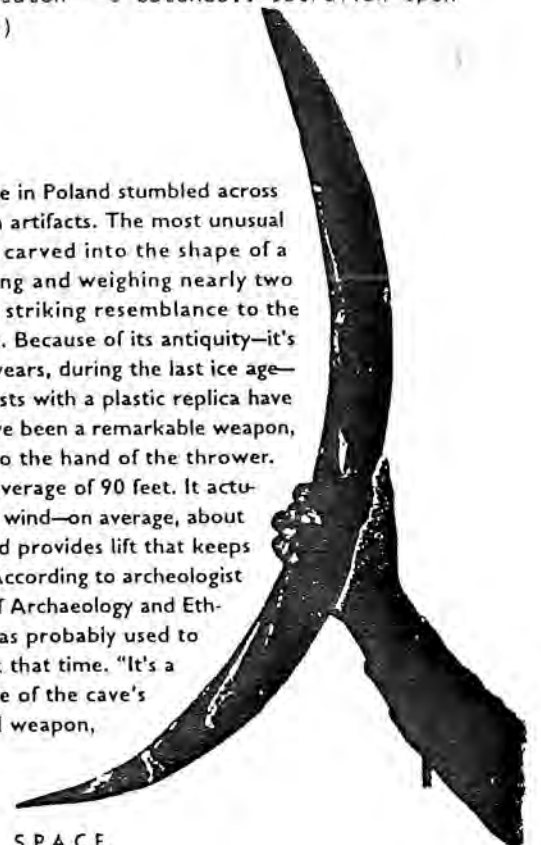
and score a point per catch--Australian record 9 points...

Australian closed record for Trick catch - 8 catches..Australian Open

record = 15 (Earl Tutty New Zealand)

The Killing Stick

Ten years ago, archeologists excavating a cave in Poland stumbled across a rich collection of prehistoric human artifacts. The most unusual find was this ivory mammoth tusk carved into the shape of a boomerang. More than two feet long and weighing nearly two pounds, the ancient object bears a striking resemblance to the boomerangs of Australian aborigines. Because of its antiquity—it's been carbon-dated to about 20,300 years, during the last ice age—no one dared throw it. But recent tests with a plastic replica have shown that while the original may have been a remarkable weapon, it was not, alas, one that returned to the hand of the thrower. With a tailwind, the replica flies an average of 90 feet. It actually flies farther when thrown into the wind—on average, about 123 feet—because the onrushing wind provides lift that keeps the weapon aloft for slightly longer. According to archeologist Pawel Valde-Nowak of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology in Kraków, the implement was probably used to kill reindeer, which lived in Poland at that time. "It's a killing stick," says Valde-Nowak, one of the cave's original excavators. "It's a very good weapon, and a dangerous one too."





PICSWITCH

A COMPUTER scanner has delivered this unique game in which changes are made to photographs. Can you spot the 10 differences in the two photos of a father and son with their boomerang collection? The photo above is the original. Answers below.



MEDIA BOO-BOO.
SHOULD BE GRANDFATHER
AND GRANDSON.

ANSWERS

1. Part of tree in background removed. 2. Part of windcheater removed. 3. Man's shirt changed to black. 4. Boy's shirt changed to white. 5. Boy's name on boomerang changed to black. 6. Boy's name on boomerang changed to white. 7. Boy's name on boomerang changed to blue. 8. Boy's name on boomerang changed to blue. 9. Part of boy's hat removed. 10. Boy's name on boomerang changed to white.

Dimpled Bats and Boomerangs

The January 1995 edition of *National Geographic* reports that Jeffrey DiTullio, an aeronautics instructor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has done some interesting research on the aerodynamics of a swinging baseball bat. According to the article, "Dimples on jet aircraft and golf balls allow air to flow over them more efficiently by reducing surface drag."

DeTullio figured that, since a swinging bat is simply a cylinder trying to push its way through the air, a dimpled bat would move more efficiently and strike a ball with more energy.

After testing against standard bats at the MIT wind tunnel, DeTullio found that dimples decreased drag by 60 percent. The result was to increase the batter's swing speed by 3 percent.

When tested by Boston Red Sox players in Fenway park, the dimpled bats "made it easier to send the ball over the 40-foot-tall left-field wall, the infamous Green Monster"...that is, "if the hitter made contact."

Dimpled bats are now being produced and should have no trouble getting around the "no cork" rule.

Meanwhile, this application of the dimple theory to baseball bats may stimulate an old idea tossed around by experimental boomerang manufacturers. Ted Bailey applied the dimple theory to MTA boomerangs he produced in the early '80's. Oscar Cuartas of Columbia tried it before that, but only on his trailing edges. A variation of it showed up in the form of grooves carved across the MTAs of Jacques Sabrie and Chuck Smith, original members of the 1987 World champion "Team Midwest," in an effort to "control the forces of chaos that the wind brings to bear on the poor, spinning boomerang airfoil."

The process isn't all that hard to understand. By running over dimples, the wind is tripped into tiny, controlled vortices, instead of building and finally crashing over a highly polished smooth surface. With dimples, the wind stays close to the airfoil, allowing the airfoil to do what it's designed to do.

Ted recommends anyone who wants to apply the dimple theory simply get a meat tenderizer, the roller type, and roll it over the freshly painted top and bottom of their MTA or fast catch.

Ted's experience with hand-drilling

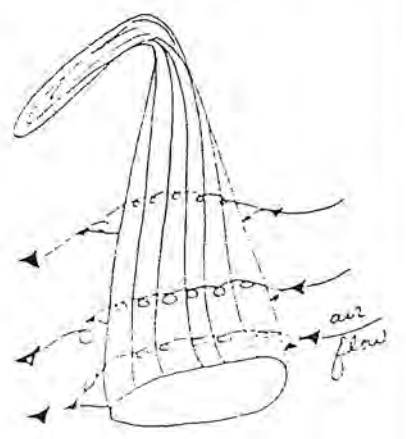
precise dimples wasn't so good because of the sheer number of dimples needed to cover a wing. His dimple tip to Rod Jones and Jonas Romblad went unheeded when they built their molds. But according to Ted, there's a perfectly dimpled beauty still flying somewhere out there on the wind. How'd he do it? His dog chewed it, her teeth perfectly dimpling the wings!

According to Rusty Harding and Gary



Broadbent, the same control of the wind over the airfoil can be achieved by grooving the boomerang with tiny parallel scratches stretching down the length of the wings, from elbow to tip. In fact, the whole wing need not be involved. Just an area from about halfway down the wing to the tip need be grooved to trip the wind into a tiny vortex over each groove, thus keeping it closer to the wing.

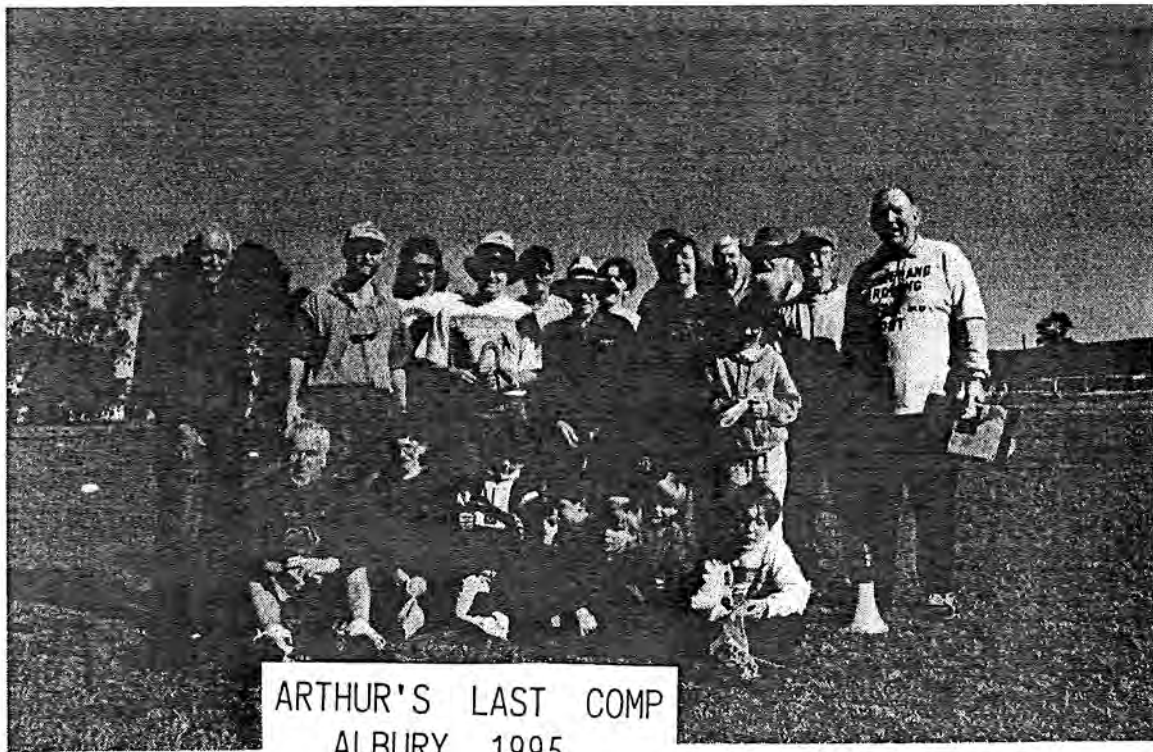
To try this at home, just take a nail and carve a series of parallel lines down the top of the wings of your favorite 'Jonas!' What the heck, its paid for... isn't it?



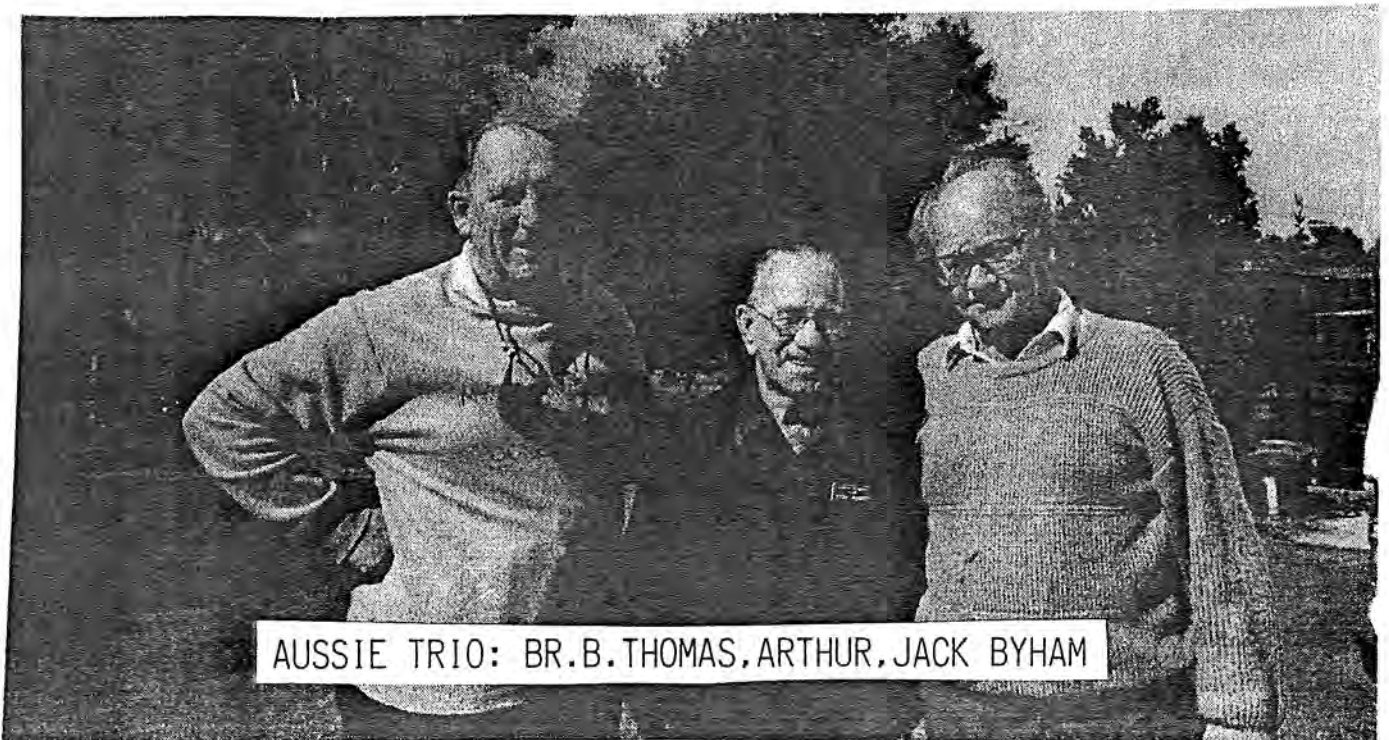
Many Happy Returns

13

Thanks to Many Happy Returns for the article.



ARTHUR'S LAST COMP
ALBURY 1995



AUSSIE TRIO: BR. B. THOMAS, ARTHUR, JACK BYHAM

another cartoon by Oliver Linksherr



Merry
Christmas

MACARTHUR



UNIQUE BOOMERANG

“I SHALL RETURN” are the most quoted words of any man in the boomerang world. We all know that they are attributed to that very famous and controversial soldier, General Douglas Mac Arthur, as he left the Philippines on MARCH 12, 1942, in a torpedo boat with his wife and young son, Arthur, and some staff.

When he arrived in Australia, MacArthur made the following press release; THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ORDERED ME TO BREAK THROUGH THE JAPANESE LINES AND PROCEED FROM CORREGIDOR TO AUSTRALIA FOR THE PURPOSE, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, OF ORGANISING THE AMERICAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPAN, A PRIMARY OBJECT OF WHICH IS THE RELIEF OF THE PHILIPPINES. I CAME THROUGH AND I SHALL RETURN.

MacArthur was the Commander In Chief of the SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA. He set up Headquarters in Australia, and, not long after he arrived, a very significant presentation was made. It was his 63rd birthday on Australia Day, 26th January, 1943. The Australian Officers at General Headquarters presented him with a true returning AUSTRALIAN BOOMERANG [natural timber}, which they all signed. All of the signatures, except one where the wood has broken off a little, can be read. Twenty five signatures plus the missing man.

The inscription on the back says:

TO GENERAL DOUGLAS MAC ARTHUR
C IN C S.W.P.A.
A SMALL TOKEN FROM THE
AUSTRALIAN OFFICERS – G.H.Q.
ON YOUR BIRTHDAY 26 JAN. 1943
“AUSTRALIA DAY”

This inscription is in the middle of the back of the boomerang.

The signatures that run down the LEFT ARM are: J. L. Clark Capt. MGBn; J. Ludlow Capt. + RAE; A. W. W. Rogers F/O; H. Sampford Pay S B/T; V. G. Welsche F/Lt RAAF; A. E. Wry Capt. A.I.F.; H. Cinadagan A.I.F.; M. Edwards Lieut. A.I.F.; A. S. Beadslow Fl/Lt RAAF; K. E. Fannisig Col.G.S.; G. W. Keen P/O RAAF; S. I. Prescott F/Lt. RAAF; F. Bell Pay Lieut. RAN; G. J. Connoa Pay Lieut. R.A.N.

The names running down the RIGHT ARM are: N. F. Wellington Col. G.S.; A. E. Avery Lt. Col. A.I.F.; J. V. Wischer S/L RAAF; W. G. Sommerville Pay/Lieut R.A.N.; J. C. Murphy Mjr A.I.F.; N. J. Roberts Col A.M.F.; C. Robertson P/O RAAF; W. Robinson F/Lt.; G. C. Douglas F/Lt; J. F. O'Hara Pay/Lieut.; J. G. Nilson (title broken off); missing man simply has H left.

The boomerang measures 55.6 cm tip to tip. The cord is 5 cm wide for most of the rang but 6.8 cm at the elbow. Each arm is 30.5 cm long. The maker is unknown.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BOOMERANG?

A humiliated MacArthur had just been driven from the Philippines leaving many of his men prisoners. In those dark days he vowed TO RETURN. So this presentation was a ray of hope for him of the confidence of the Australian Forces. It was fulfilled when he waded ashore at Leyte in October 1944. MacArthur said, "People of the Philippines: I HAVE RETURNED. By the grace of Almighty God, our forces stand again on Philippine soil – soil consecrated by the blood of our two peoples."

MacArthur was a controversial, flamboyant personality who was loved and hated. He had a sense of destiny. His father, Arthur MacArthur, had been an outstanding soldier and leader and he always strove to emulate his father, both in deed and in history. This he achieved.

Douglas MacArthur was America's most decorated soldier in World War 1, and he amassed many other medals and awards throughout his life. After bringing about the Japanese defeat in his area, he went on to become the Warrior Shogun of Japan ... its Leader after the war. He helped set Japan back on its feet both financially and politically. He ruled from 1945 till 1950.

Opposing USA Presidents and others on American policy finally led to his dismissal from the Korean War. He and his family returned to the USA.

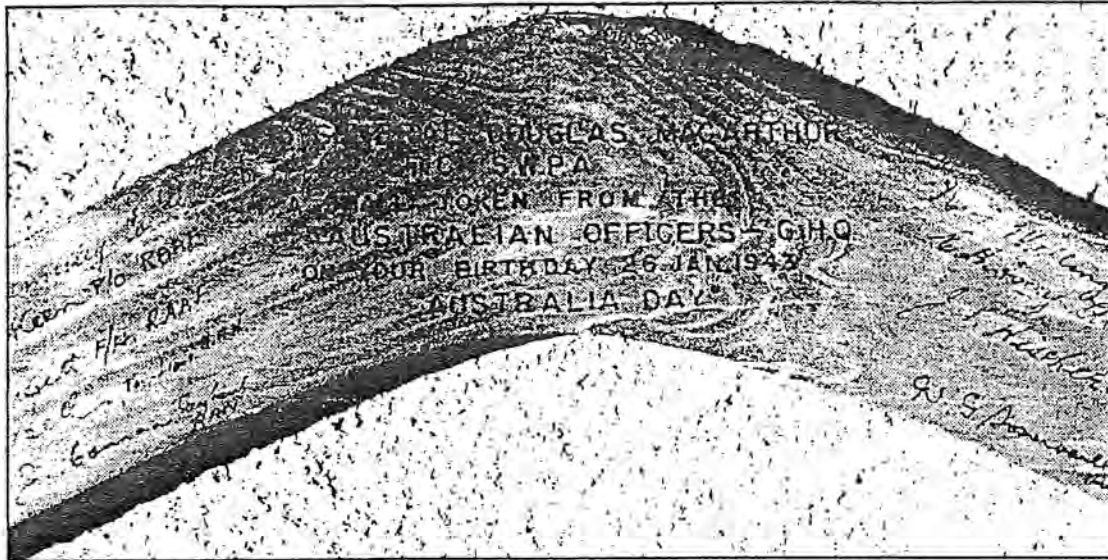
MacArthur was certainly a controversial figure, but one who well and truly stamped himself on the history of the world, especially in the Pacific area. Were it not for his stubborn efforts, Australia could easily have been over-run by the Japanese forces. Who knows what our lifestyle might be like today if that had happened or who would be alive to witness it?! All conjecture, but General Douglas MacArthur, recipient of an Aussie Boomerang of Hope, definitely deserves a big part in history, whether he was loved or hated.

Where did this boomerang come from in 1995? It seems that MacArthur had to leave many things behind in Australia when he returned to the Philippines. The boomerang was among these prized possessions. It finally passed on to a second owner who treasured it for most of these years. In 1995 it finally came up for auction through Downies. Tony Butz was the successful bidder for this unique object, acting through Br. Brian Thomas. The parcel was sent through Australia Post to Brian. When it arrived the bottom of the parcel was torn open. Inside was a book on MacArthur, plus two autographed photos of MacArthur, his wife and son, but no boomerang!! It had flown! Phone calls were immediately made to Downies, who pursued the matter relentlessly threatening to bring in the Federal Police. Mysteriously it was discovered within a few days and delivered. So keen were they to get it off their hands that they didn't even ask for a signature when it was delivered. Since Tony has had it the MacArthur Museum in America has made phone calls to express interest in it. And so they should. The

word UNIQUE is often misused. It means one only of something. The MacArthur boomerang is certainly unique.

Br. Brian M. Thomas, Australian National Boomerang Coach.

The Blue Mountains Gazette, September 6, 1995 19



It shall return — General Douglas MacArthur's boomerang now belongs to Winmalee resident Tony Butz

MacArthur's boomerang returns

Blue Mountains school teacher Tony Butz has just become the owner of a very historic boomerang — it was presented to General Douglas MacArthur in 1943 and is signed by 26 Australian military officers.

Mr Butz bought the boomerang, together with some photographs signed by MacArthur and his wife, at auction recently.

A boomerang enthusiast for more than 30 years, Mr Butz has reputedly the largest collection of novelty boomerangs in Australia. Most of these he designed himself.

As a relief teacher in the Mountains and Penrith area, Mr Butz has delighted thousands of children boomerang demonstrations and displays.

"Children need to be involved in truly Australian sports and activities," said Mr Butz. "They love learning about these devices, which are older than the pyramids, yet use space age technology and design.

"The kids frequently come up with new ideas for novelty returning shapes, including those in the shapes of birds, dinosaurs, all sorts of things — even Elvis Presley.

"Also, the Australian Olympic Committee is looking for ways of including sports boomerangs in the opening ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics, and that has me quite excited."

Mr Butz is keeping Douglas MacArthur's boomerang in a bank safety deposit box, but it may make an appearance for the Blue Mountains Boomerang Championships to be held at Mulgoa on Sunday, November 12.



Tony in front of his collection

CARTER'S HEAD NORTH--

With the cold winter months now upon us, and not too much money coming into the Carter household everybody suggested that we take our NIGHT boomerang shows north..

So in July - north we headed, but somehow I don't think we went quite far enough.

The physics Olympics, were being conducted at the Canberra University, and every participant received a 16" Binghi boomerang, but the organiser was after some one to give demonstrations and tuition with boomerangs...He could organise accomadation at the university, even breakfast and dinner - but as for payment, well he hopes that you can sell some booms to cover you costs.

With nothing else happening and being school holiday time, we packed our bus and headed north. We also orgained special screenings of our night shows in Gundagai and Wagga Wagga.

After leaving Melbourne, first stop was at Albury to visit Arthur Janetzki in hospital. It was very pleasing to find that he was on the improve and that he was actually quite well. A pleasant hour was spent then off we headed again...Next stop - Jeff Lewry but in his true style, he was no where to be found - he was out bush on a horse admiring the country side near Bowna.

Off to Gundagai - , arriving after afternoon, leaving us time to set up for the show. It was not very warm but the news informed us that this very evening in Canberra was seeing temperatures of -5° ...Suddenly our current $+2$ seemed a little warmer. The show went well, some 80 people braved the conditions and seemed interested in our night show.

Next mornig we headed off to Canberra and discovered that the temperature actually passed the zero mark at 10 am..maximum temperature for this day was 3 degrees celcius.

So we got to Canberra --much confusion, no one knew we were coming it seemed but final things were sorted out and we were each given a seperate room...complete with one blanket. Now , I would have loved to have Perry there, as he reckons any thing under 20° is cold.

The night show was scheduled for 8pm...No matter how hard we tried, this was to be the earliest it could commence...then we were asked to delay and later on organisers said another little delay..Finally our spectators from 52 countries started to arrive at the oval at 9:15 pm..Temperature was a very mild minus 2 degrees....So our interested crowd - many from countries in the middle of summer, found the evening a trifle chilly to be standing around watching the sparks and lights fill the sky.

at about 10 pm, the people were getting restless and frost bitten, so time for the big finale using our big monster complete with 12 LED lights...Terrific --picked it up and it was covered in ice...it was like throwing a piece of wet soap around but much colder---a few wipes on the tee shirt and we were able to complete a catch and end the show.....

Next morning another display, a few sales before lunch..this is where we found out exactly what THE PHYSICS OLYMPICS is exactly about.

Every couple of years, the world's best students assemble for the ultimate challenge. 52 Countries enter their top 5 students aged under 20 years of age. Also these countries send at least 2 people to chaperone the students. On top of this each country was designated a student from Australia to help them during their stay at the Canberra University.

An exam was set for the students, and the word is that no text book in the world would have the correct answer. Each country work on the problem with winning teams receiving medals - hence the name Physics Olympics. --No wonder people kept asking me and my crew what we were doing in the University.

After leaving Canberra, we set off to Wagga Wagga for another night show. Unfortunately Brother Rod Shoebridge was not avialable to throw with us but we were very happy when Nick Gottschalk stepped out of the crowd and not only threw with us but ended up commentating over the loud speaker system. 60 spectators braved the chilly night to watch our show.

Next day off to Albury to visit Arthur Janetzki in hospital. We caught up with his doctor who was very pleased and surprised with Arthurs condition. He had improved that much that they were pleased to be able to release him the following week to go back to his retirement village.

Before going home, we stopped in at Chiltern for the niece's 18th birthday. I spent some time with her grand father - Thomas Janetzki and found out that he has spent many hours studyinghis family tree. For the past few months he has been trying to find out where a relative of his lives. This relative is Arthur Janetzki....Now, as my wife's sister married Les Janetzki, this makes him my brother in law...Les's father is Tom and he is related to Arthur Janetzki - this makes me famous in my books. When breaking this news to Robbie Croll, he suggests I never tell Arthur as this would definately cause a relapse..no one would want to admit to be even slightly related to me..

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workshop

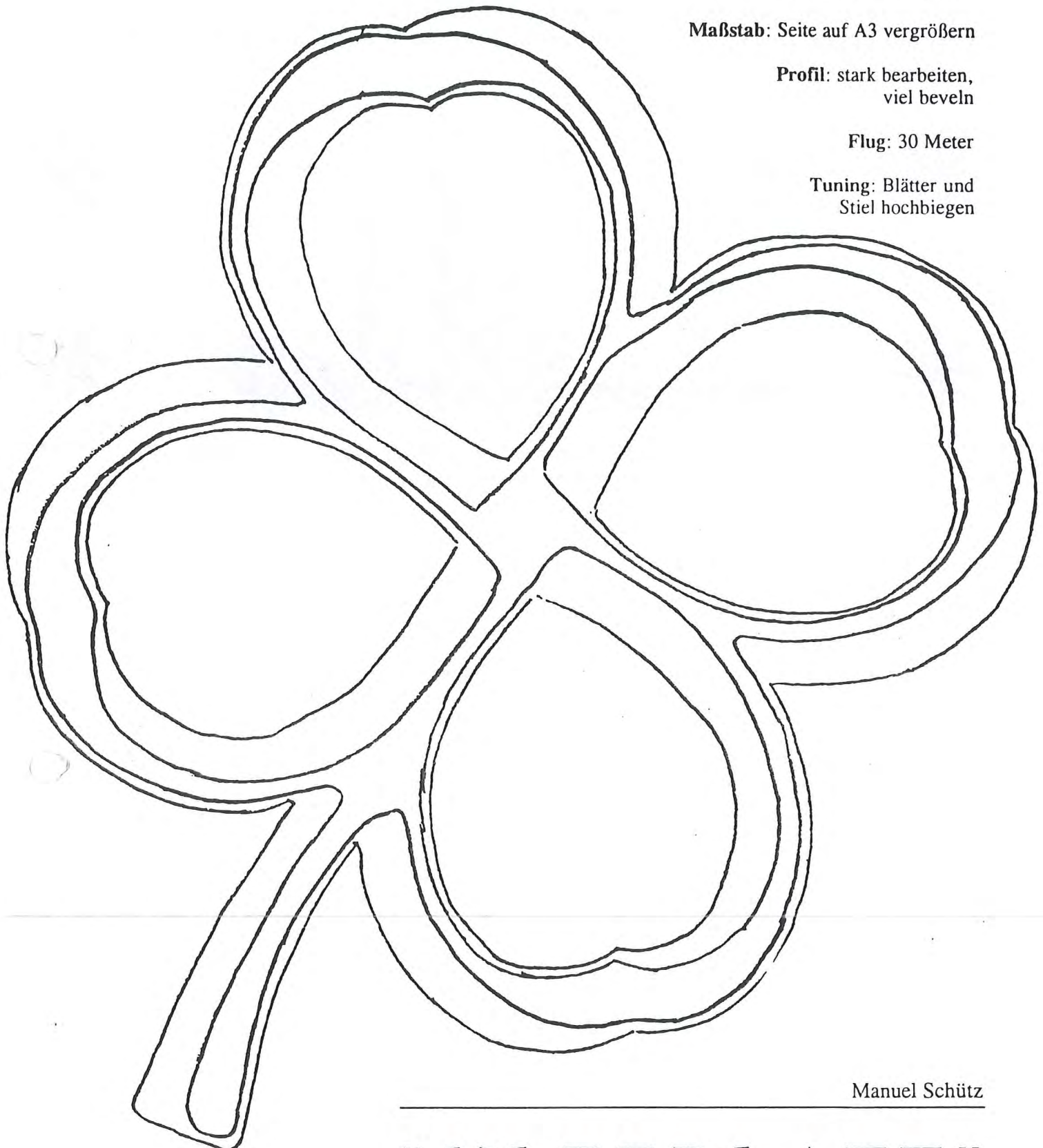
Material: 4mm Birke

Maßstab: Seite auf A3 vergrößern

Profil: stark bearbeiten,
viel beveln

Flug: 30 Meter

Tuning: Blätter und
Stiel hochbiegen



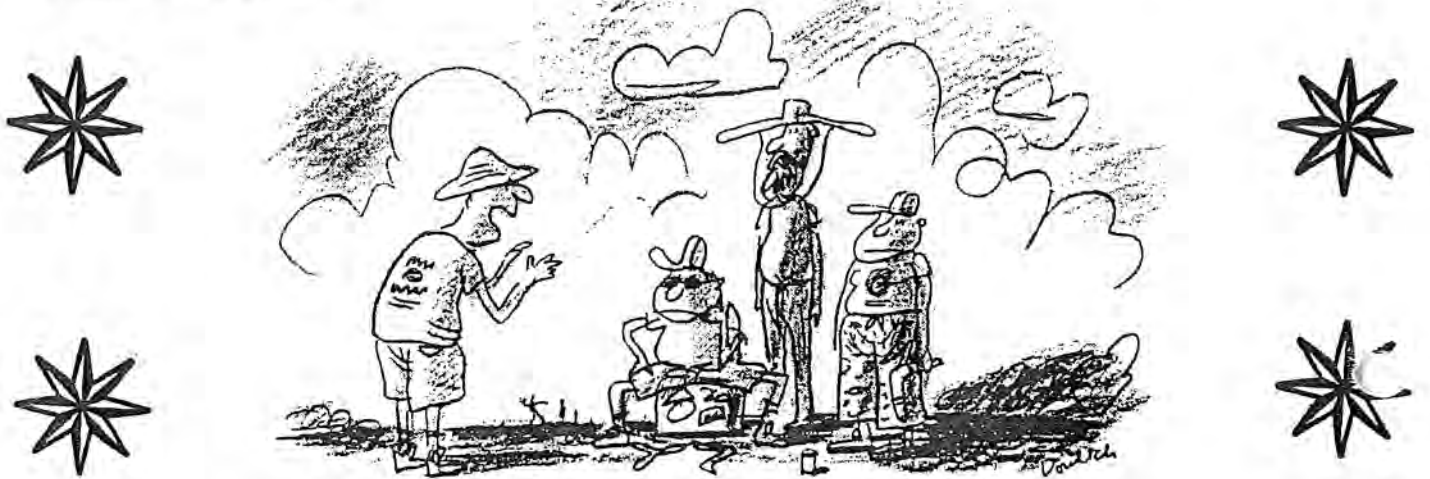
Manuel Schütz

"KLEEBLATT"

WORLD CUP TEAM FOR NEW ZEALAND

The BAA selectors have named the following squad for the World Cup in Christchurch next March: Bruce Carter; Rob Croll; Adam Carroll; Gunter Wandtke; David Schummy; Ian Sproul; Roger Perry. One of these will act as Captain of the side. We wish them every success. As the famous Irish prayer partly says, "May the breeze blow gently on your back..."

Congratulations to Ian Sproul on winning the West Australian State Title ahead of Roger Perry.



Listen Guys, let's try to improve communication on our team.
My name is Al. What's yours?

BOOMERANG NEWS

Issue #16

AUSTRALIA WILL BE FURTHER REPRESENTED BY BOB BURWELL WHO WILL BE THROWING IN ONE OF THE TWO INTERNATIONAL MASTERS TEAMS. BEST OF LUCK, BOB. SIXTEEN TEAMS WILL BE TAKING PART IN THE WORLD CUP. ONE OF THESE TEAMS WILL BE A QUEENSLAND JUNIORS TEAM ORGANISED BY MAREK WASZKIEWICZ.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

SOUTH AUST.: BARRIE FORSYTH, 75 NORRIE AVE., WHYALLA NORRIE. S.A. 5608
(086) 45 7674

VICTORIA: ROB CROLL, 26 LATONA AVE., KNOXFIELD. VIC. 3180. (03) 763 7761

QUEENSLAND: CONDRAD STACEY, (07) 236 2898 Bus. (07) 202 6213 Home.

NORTH QLD: MAREK WASZKIEWICZ, 192 MILL DR., KIRWAN, QLD. 4817.

WEST AUST.: ROGER PERRY, 155 FREMANTLE RD., GOSNELLS. W.A. 6110 (09) 398 1681

N.S.W.: BR. BRIAN THOMAS, 131 BIRRELL ST., WAVERLEY. N.S.W. 2024 (02) 369 0675

1995 B.A.A. EXECUTIVE

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PRESIDENT: BRUCE CARTER, 21 FRAN ST., GLENROY. VIC. 3046 PH: (03) 300 2374

VICE PRESIDENT: KEVIN MORAN, SYDNEY.

SECRETARY/TREASURER: IAN SPROUL, 38 COOGEE RD., ARDROSS. W.A. 6153 (09) 364 4349

EDITOR: BR. BRIAN THOMAS, 131 BIRRELL ST., WAVERLEY. N.S.W. 2024 (02) 369 0675

ASS. EDITOR: GUNTER WANDTKE, 20 HARRIS RD., DURAL. N.S.W. 2158 (02) 651 1290

PUBLICITY: NICK GOTTSCHALK, 190 BULLUMWAAL RD., WY YUNG VIA BAIRNSDALE, VIC. 3875
(051) 52 3697

