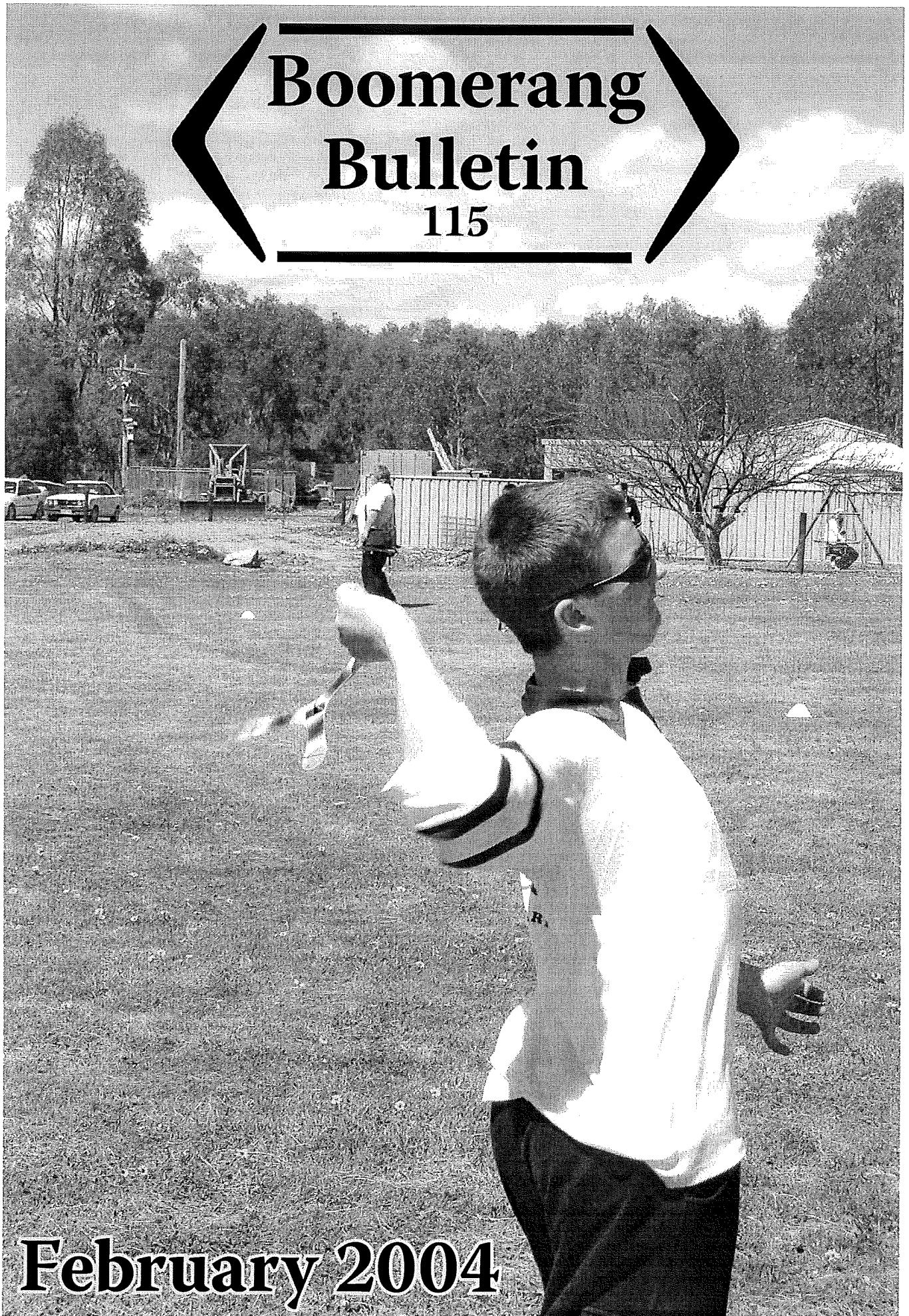


Boomerang Bulletin

115



February 2004

Editorial

First off, apologies for the delay in getting this latest edition of the *Boomerang Bulletin* to you. Of course, the Association has been far from static in the interim, and we encourage members to regularly check the club's web site at www.boomerang.org.au to see the latest news, and chat in our forum. Look for the next issue before the April Nationals.

With 2003 now behind us, it is time for members to renew their support of the Association. Our health and influence relies very directly on the number and passion of our members — so to kick off the year with a bang, one lucky renewing member will receive a copy of Bulgarian Georgi Dimantchev's book 'Boomerang Puzzle'. Further, if you sign up a new member, we'll put you in the draw again — why not introduce two new members, and triple your chances of winning! A membership form is included with this *Bulletin*, and you can place your name on the 'how did you find out about us?' line to let us know you're helping the Association. Further information and incentives for 2004 membership are on page 4.

Apart from his book as a prize (and trust me, this is a great prize, with over 200 pages of history, records, and trivia on our favourite sport), there's a definite flavour of Georgi about this issue — from his MTAs' influence on young New South Welshman Tim Lendrum, to a sample of some of his plans. Now that's an active Honourary member!

Thanks for this issue go especially to Tim Lendrum, for his article and continual enthusiasm, and Peter Lewry and Roger Perry for keeping me up-to-date with all the happenings Australia (and world!) wide.

We look forward to YOUR contribution in the next *Bulletin*. Cheers,

David J Richardson



Who will you sign up this year? Be ambitious — make some classic catches like Brother Thomas did!

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Janetzki Jive



Local Tournaments

Western Australia, Victoria, and most notably New South Wales, remain the most active throwing states within Australia.

New South Wales continues to have tournaments most months, thanks to the efforts of Peter Lewry and other members of the NSW Boomerang Throwing Association. Young Tim Lendrum continues his rapid improvement, and his debut entry to the Nationals, held in Albury, was exceptional. Regular throwers such as Peter, Paul "AJ" Croft, and Günter Wandtke have also been regular winners, while Brother Rod Shoebridge seems to be having a second coming of youth. Scores and descriptions of all the NSW tournaments during 2003 are included in this *Bulletin*.

In Victoria, there were less formal tournaments than in 2002, but a number of regional "Fun Days" helped to un-earth new throwers. Some of this was initiated by the new President of the Victorian Boomerang Throwing Association, Paul Heaton-Harris, who, along with Nick Gottschalk, has done well to raise the sport's profile in Bairnsdale and surrounds. Rob Croll once more won the Victorian Championships, held at the Seamist Farm west of Geelong. In very windy conditions, Craig Carter took out his very last Junior Title (only because next year he'll be too old), Leanne Loveland took out the Ladies Title, and Paul Heaton-Harris claimed the Veterans Title. Leanne was inspired by this event to host her own "Fun Day" later in the year, at her property in Axedale, and you can read about that also in this *Bulletin*.

In Western Australia, there have been a focus on regular training sessions, with a generally young group of throwers challenging each other to further heights. In their State Titles, however, it was the veteran hands of Roger Perry who claimed victory. Again, you can read about that in these pages.

At the Nationals in Albury, which brought together throwers from those three states plus Queensland

and South Australia, Rob Croll took out his tenth Australian Championship. A number of Australian records were also set at this event — a

full report and score breakdown are included in this issue.

Detailed scoring (sometimes down to the individual throws) is available for the bulk of these tournaments in the members section of the Association website.

World Cup 2004

The 2004 Boomerang World Cup will be held 12-21 July in Charleville-Mézières, France. Eighteen national teams are expected to compete, including an Australian team sent by the BAA — there having been broad disappointment that an Australian team was not present at the 2002 World Cup in Germany. The teams events will be held 14-16 July, followed by the individual championships on 19-20 July.

The team to represent Australia will be determined shortly by the selection committee of Bob Burwell, Peter Lewry and Günter Wandtke (Josh Smith having been replaced to avoid any conflict of interest).

To learn more, you can visit the official website of the 2004 World Cup at <http://wbc.boomerangs.net/>

Association News

A general meeting of the BAA was held on 23 November 2003 in Mulgoa, NSW, which, amongst other items, examined the issues of World Cup selection, potential locations and organisers for future Australian Championships, official rules of BAA competition, and a proposed event for charity/publicity (see the end of the report on NSW events for more on that last item). The minutes are available in the members section of the website of the Association, or by contacting the Secretary of the BAA.

2004 Membership

Included with this *Bulletin* is a membership form for the new year. The Association relies on its paid-up and participating members to maintain its financial health and influence. This year, we hope to substantially grow our membership base. To help do so:

all members signing up in 2004 will receive a
2000 Boomerang World Cup shirt or cap

AND

all members signed up by 15 March 2004 will go into a draw for a
copy of Georgi Dimantchev's excellent book 'Boomerang Puzzle'

AND

any member recruiting a new member by 15 March 2004 will receive
an extra entry into the draw for 'Boomerang Puzzle'

AND

any member who recruits three new members during the entirety of
2004 will receive a one-year extension on their own membership.

So renew early, introduce your friends to the club (extra copies of the membership leaflet can be downloaded from the website), and get your name down as the answer to "how did you find out about us?"

www.boomerang.org.au

What's up with the website? Well, apart from the latest news and updates on upcoming events, there's:

- a substantial and increasing number of photos and plans — check out the high resolution colour version of this issue's back cover, for example. And feel free to send your own pics in!
- the quick but thorough answers to those common queries you get: "So how can boomeranging be a sport anyway?" and "Boomerangs and hunting sticks are the same thing, right?"
- an increasing source of info in our Forum — such as where to buy decent plywood.

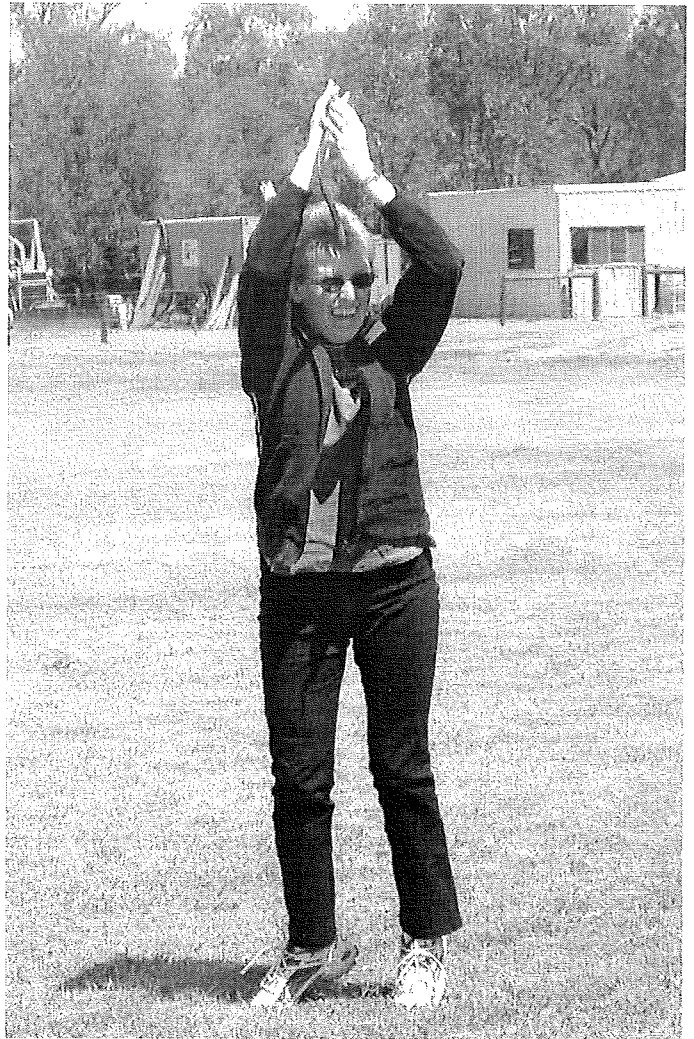
The screenshot shows the homepage of the Boomerang Association of Australia website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, News, Forum, Articles, Pic, The Club, Members, and Links. Below the menu, the title "Boomerang Association of Australia" is displayed. To the right is the BAA logo, which is a stylized boomerang with the letters "BAA" inside. The main content area features four sections, each with a small image and a text block: 1. A photo of a person throwing a boomerang, with text: "Welcome to the Boomerang Association of Australia, a non-profit club formed in 1969 in Melbourne, and now with members from all around Australia, and indeed internationally. We run tournaments, publish magazines, and in general promote the sport and history of boomerangs!" 2. A photo of a boomerang, with text: "Right here our goal is to teach you how to throw a boomerang, where to buy a boomerang, list the latest boomerang competitions and demonstrations, and explain the physics of how boomerangs return (or, alternatively, why your boomerang won't come back!)" 3. A photo of a person holding a boomerang, with text: "And, of course, we'll explain why a hunting or throwing stick is not the same as a (returning) boomerang!" 4. A photo of a boomerang, with text: "Don't forget to check the News page for updates, and if all that doesn't answer your questions about Australian boomerangs, then pop over to our boomerang forum and ask away!" At the bottom of the screenshot, there is another navigation menu identical to the one at the top, and two small logos for "VSC" and "WSC".

Return Mail

To the Boomerang Association Committee,

I am the oldest daughter of the late Bunny Read (featured on the web site). What a great web site, with so much information. Congratulations to all involved.

I have not been involved with the Boomerang Association since I was a teenager with my parents. Because my sister (Leanne Loveland) was hosting a



Boomerang comp at Axedale in October I went along to meet up with old and new throwers and to have a great day. I had a fantastic day participating in the team events thanks to great organisation and the fun nature of the day. Bruce Carter did a great job of keeping everyone involved in a light hearted nature and focusing on participation and enjoyment.

Leanne Loveland & Brian White provided a great venue for the day with perfect weather conditions. Well done!

I am looking forward to the next comp at Axedale.

A member of the Boomerang Association was taking photos on the day which I have viewed them on the site. I have two photos that I took of Dave in action [one featured to the left].

Congratulations on a great web site,

Debbie Jenkins

2004 Australian Nationals

The 2004 Australian Boomerang Championships will be held in Perth, and co-ordinated by Roger Perry. While the field has yet to be confirmed, the dates is: 24-25 April. Saturday 24 April will host the individual championship (standard events of Aussie Round, Accuracy, Fast Catch, Endurance, MTA, and Trick Catch/Doubling), while team events are scheduled for the Sunday. The traditional "BBQ in the hills", and the Annual Meeting of the BAA, will be held at Roger's place in Bedforddale on the Saturday night.

Contact Roger Perry (see inside back cover) for more information on the Nationals. In particular, he will help arrange accommodation for throwers travelling to Perth.

Information on any new events should be sent to the Editor, or directly posted into the Events portion of the website forum (<http://www.boomerang.org.au/forum/>). This can include training sessions, or demonstrations. The forum will always have the latest update on events, so keep an eye on it. Let's get together more often, and grow the sport!



Greg Norman, Andrew Norman, Carol Norman, Morris Maxwell, Craig Carter, Rhiannon Leo, Rob Croll, Ian Eldridge, Trent Carter, Paul Heaton-Harris, Bruce Carter, Kyonie Kawamura, Miles Jorgensen, Andrew Eldridge, Nick Gottschalk and Dale Norman at the Boomerang Fun Day. K510-4674

Boomerang Fun Day

Bairnsdale's inaugural Boomerang Fun Day was a success, despite windy conditions.

Conducted on one of the Nagle College ovals on Sunday, 12 experi-

enced boomerang throwers from Melbourne, Traralgon, Orbost and Bairnsdale were joined by 17 novices, including one from Japan and one from Brazil. All were

eager to learn about the amazing boomerang.

The novices were given instructions and demonstrations, before setting out on their first and friendly competition, each of them as-

sisted by a mentor.

As an encouragement they received a small wooden souvenir, made from East Gippsland timber and featuring a badge of a kangaroo, boomerang and the Australian flag.

All of them were most enthusiastic, many of them buying returning boomerangs or even indicating to make their own boomerangs.

The presence of Rob Croll, former Boomerang World Champion and nine times Australian Champion, as well as Criag and Trent Carter, both Junior World Champions, certainly gave the inaugural Bairnsdale Boomerang Fun Day added status.

The organisers hope to stage these fun days up to four times a year.

Upcoming Events — NSW

Contact Peter Lewry (02 9920 4220, dogface2@optusnet.com.au), or state representative Günter Wandtke (see inside back cover), for more information on the following events.

Sunday 7 March 2004	Eastern Suburbs Championship	Queens Park, Waverley	Aussie Round, Accuracy, Team MTA (pairs), Team Endurance (pairs, two minutes)
May 2004 (to be confirmed)	Central Coast Championship	St Edward's College, Frederick Street, East Gosford	Aussie Round, Accuracy, Team MTA (pairs), Team German Doubling (pairs); Head-to-Head Fast Catch <i>or</i> Hunting Stick (distance)
Sunday 13 June 2004	Mulgoa Aussie Round Day	"Winbourne", 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa	Aussie Round all day — top two rounds count
Sunday 29 August 2004	no title at present	Queens Park, Waverley	Events to be determined
September 2004 (to be confirmed)	New South Wales Championship	St Dominic's College, 54 Gasgoine Street, Penrith	Standard individual events, as can be completed on the day (Aussie Round, Accuracy, Fast Catch, Endurance, MTA, Trick Catch/Doubling)
Sunday 14 November 2004	Blue Mountains Championship (and NSW BTA Annual Meeting)	"Winbourne", 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa	Aussie Round, Accuracy (4 rounds, best round counts), Head-to-Head Team Endurance (two minute, pairs), MTA <i>or</i> Hunting Stick (accuracy)

Upcoming — Victoria

The 2004 Victorian Boomerang Championships will again be held at the Seamist Palomino Stud Farm, in south-west Victoria, from 10 am on Sunday 28 March 2004.

To reach the Seamist Farm (Melway 511 C9) from Melbourne:

- Pass through Geelong on the Princes Highway
- About 15 km beyond Geelong, turn left onto Cape Otway Road
- About 20 km further, at the Wurdibolic Reservoir, turn left into Wensleydale Station Road
- Several km down, the farm is well marked on the left of the road



Contact Bruce Carter (see inside back cover) if you have any queries, or require a lift.

Follow-up events in Bairnsdale and Axedale are expected to be held in 2004.

Lofty Goals

Boomerangs started for me when I was still in primary school. Since then, I have been shown many types of boomerangs. Some are fast, some are slow. Some have two arms, and some are shaped like cartoon characters. My favourite boomerangs, however, are the ones that don't come straight back — they go up in the air, and hover!

I started throwing when I was about eight years old, and started going into competitions when I was but a year older. I was very enthusiastic about learning new things, and tried my hardest in every competition.

My coach (Tony Butz) and I would get together about every fortnight to throw a few different boomerangs to see what suited my style. Only being young, I couldn't throw like I can now, so most of the boomerangs would only go about 30 metres, but the strategy was if they couldn't go far, at least I could score points with accuracy. I can't remember my first competition, but I can certainly remember my first boomerangs: I had one hook that went 30 metres and came straight back, and I also had the infamous tri-blader with undercutting that I still use a decade later! It's the best ever, and everyone at the local comps knows the routine of pretending to break it for me!

But my favourite event is new to me. Since I was 15, I have enjoyed throwing MTAs into the sky. Now, I wish to encourage people to throw MTAs, even if they have been through the pain of breaking one... and I should know, I have broken about 20 of them! One of them, I keep repairing (five breaks so far!). One of my favourite MTAs broke only two weeks ago. It was made of carbon fibre, deemed "unbreakable", but like the Titanic, it didn't live up to its expectations. I tried repairing it, and it still flies, but it's just not like it used to be.

So what inspires me through all this carnage? Look at my latest favourite MTA: I've had it about 6 months, and I've had the pleasure, from it alone, of five throws lasting more than two minutes, heaps over one-and-a-half minutes, and too many to count that "merely" broke the one minute mark.

But first, let's jump back to the beginning of my love affair with MTAs. I threw my first one in Gosford. It looked great, but it chose to fly in a straight line! I was trying really hard to throw correctly, but it wouldn't turn. My first disap-

pointment!

Two weeks later, Tony took me to the local park with about 50 (yes, 50) MTAs, and I started trying them out. A few flunked, a few broke, but a few flew great! One of the ones I remember flying well was a copy of Bulgarian Georgi Dimantchev's "Gradient". At this stage, my best time was about twenty seconds, but that was still stunning to a beginner. I kept practising with this boomerang, and a few others, and progressed well for about a year, even winning the New South Wales 2002 Championships.

And so I came to travel to my first Australian National Championship in 2003. I was amazed at the throws that people made. I did alright in the first day, but my most memorable experience, one that I'll never forget, was the comradeship of the throwers. Most of the people there straight out asked me if I'd like to throw their boomerangs! A few I really liked, but there was one special one for me as Tony surprised me on the day: would I like to throw his forbidden MTA?

WOW! In Tony's collection was one boomerang that even he wouldn't throw. It was a Georgi Dimantchev "Gradus". Even though I'd never thrown it before, I loved the feel of throwing it. I had a few practice throws before it was my turn to throw.

I still find it hard to believe that a small composite piece of wood and plastic can fly so high, and then just... stop. It stopped and hovered! It took about ten seconds of hovering before I noticed that it wasn't coming down. In my mind, all I was thinking was... "Come down NOW, you stupid boomerang! Hurry up and come down!" The irony of that request, of course, being lost on me at that particular moment.

Some time later, I caught the stupid boomerang and



Tim (right) accepts his MTA trophy

ended that throw. It had come down close to where I threw it, and was I ever glad that I caught it! What happened next was amazing: people were staring at me, and started coming towards me as if I was the one they all knew.

To cut a long story short, I spend about two minutes accepting compliments on a great throw, and I didn't know what it meant until the referee came up to me and told me the time. 44.66 seconds! A series of lesser throws by everyone afterwards, and I had won the Australian title for MTA!

I was very happy, and couldn't put into words how great I felt. Tony had known I could do it, but I certainly hadn't, until then.

The next MTA competition I entered, I threw that "Gradus" again, and during practice, ran 400 metres to catch a one-minute flight! The comp itself was a disaster; I would have been lucky to catch a cold. The stupid boomerang kept flying too far away from me!

I had now realised the complexity of a high-performance MTA and was determined to get more out of it. Tony had another fine example of craftsmanship that I tuned to work, and one day I snaffled throws of 62 and 68 seconds. Even better, this was while I was showing off to a university lecturer who loved aerodynamics...

In between beaming at the miraculous flights, I kept asking him why this one worked well. He was nice, but didn't help much, except for showing me the right place to look for what I wanted. So I started to look for someone who could help me.

About a week later, the obvious avenue occurred to me, and I e-mailed Georgi Dimantchev. After all, he had made my favourite boomerang, so surely he could tell me why it was so good? Georgi was a great help, and inspired me to make my own MTAs. I also bought a "Primer" model from him.

Since then, I have written to Georgi many times, and it was he who inspired me to write this. I have discussed with him the shapes, and angles, and wherefores of MTAs, and I hope to design the perfect boomerang one day. "Primer" has now flown a lot of flights over a minute and a few over two minutes. "Gradus" has a best time of over three minutes!

One thing I have noticed when choosing composite MTAs is the quality of the work. One composite boomerang I have has split in many places. The other week,

Gradus MTA

it landed innocuously and promptly broke. Georgi's MTAs are of a very high quality, and even though I crashed one into concrete (sorry Georgi!) it escaped without a mark on it. Recently I was just stymied in claiming the New South Wales MTA-100 record with it (but only because Barooga is, barely, on my side of the Murray River! John Gibney held the Australian MTA-100 record for over a decade with his 64.50 second throw and catch, before being pipped by Roger Perry in 2002).

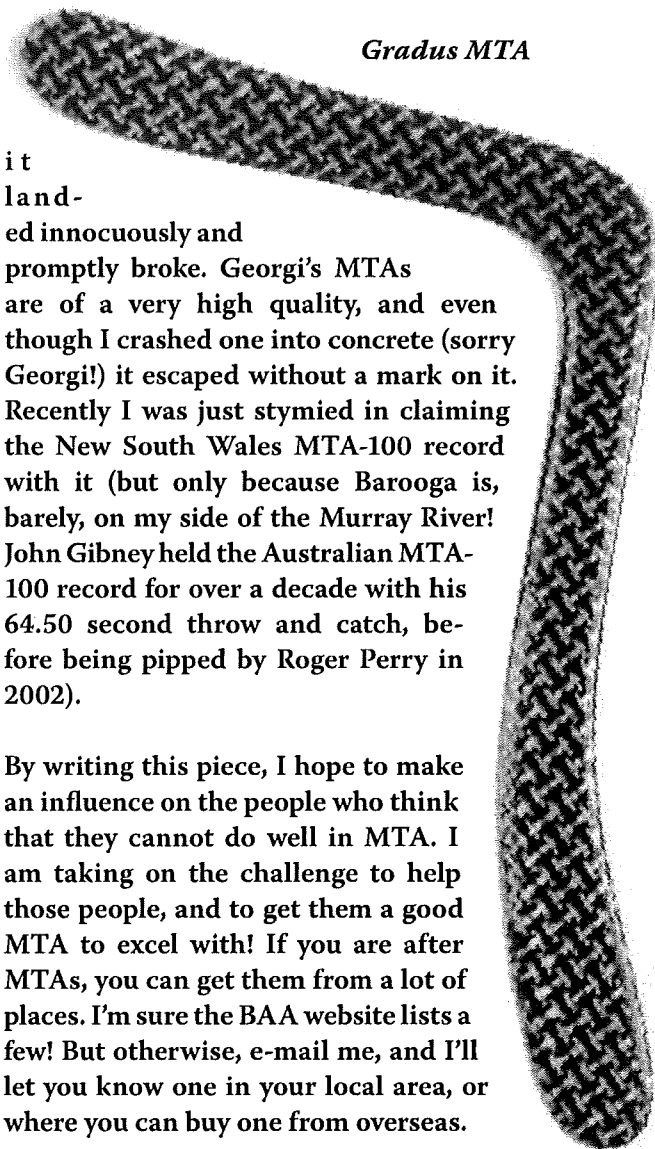
By writing this piece, I hope to make an influence on the people who think that they cannot do well in MTA. I am taking on the challenge to help those people, and to get them a good MTA to excel with! If you are after MTAs, you can get them from a lot of places. I'm sure the BAA website lists a few! But otherwise, e-mail me, and I'll let you know one in your local area, or where you can buy one from overseas.

I hope I'm inspiring you all to unpack and unleash those MTAs, but please do so in a big field. I know from far-too-often personal experience the perils of MTAs ending up stuck in trees because the oval was too small!

In coming *Boomerang Bulletins*, I'll move into more details on the nitty-gritty of throwing MTAs. I'll explain throwing, flights, and tuning. And if I get enough positive responses, I might even write about the art of making them.

MTAs are some of the most complicated boomerangs, but if you practice and follow a few simple flight rules, you too can get stunning flights with your MTAs.

**Till next time,
Tim Lendrum
lenny2712@yahoo.com.au**



European Round

After hearing the European Championships were to be held in Rome I just couldn't resist taking this opportunity to see a country I have always dreamed of.

My first stop was in London for a few days of tourist duties: Big Ben, Tower of London, and so on.

I arrived in Rome two days before the competitions, and after settling into the hotel headed into central Rome with a few of the German throwers.

Sights like the Colosseum, Vatican, and the ruins were all I had imagined, and more.

The competitions were held not far out of Rome — when I commented that there were a lot of rocks to watch out for, I was informed these rocks were in fact ruins from thousands of years ago!

The competition was tough, and the weather pretty hot. One of the highlights was Christian Meyer's flight of over two minutes — a potential new world record — and then he dropped it in the centre circle!

Throwers came from all over with more than 100 people in all, including our first thrower from the Czech Republic. The running of the competitions, functions and accommodation was a credit to Maurizio Saba, and the Italian throwers and officials.

After Rome I visited a boomerang friend in Florence for three days before heading to Venice.

Venice was beautiful; I stayed in a backpackers hostel on an island, and walked for days.

From Venice, a train trip through the mountains of Switzerland to visit Thomas Stehrenberger for a few days, before heading to Stuttgart to catch up with Oliver Rau. Oli had injured his leg and could not make the Cup. We tested many of the fine German beers during my two days there...



Czech Republic, to visit Petr Pejchal, the latest boomerang convert. I stayed with his parents in a small village about two hours drive from Prague.

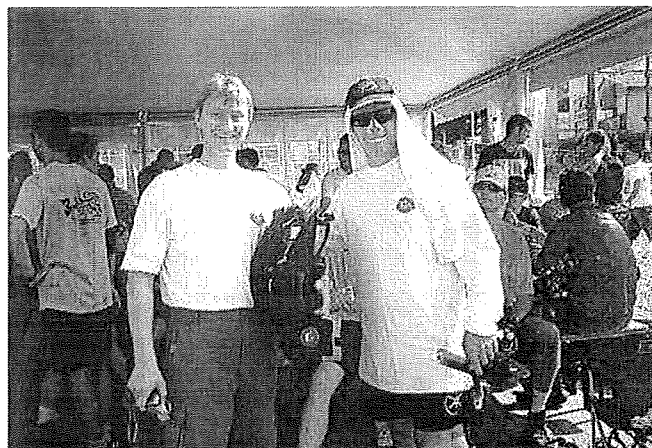
Prague is an unbelievable city with quite amazing buildings and cathedrals, and we threw boomerangs at every opportunity.

Prague and the Czech Republic is one of the few remaining cheap countries to visit in Europe, and I found it to be the most interesting part of my trip.

The last part of my Europe trip was a flight from Prague to Amsterdam, catching up with a few old friends there, and also in Belgium.

So in the end, I was glad I travelled light — a backpack and a small bag of boomerangs!

Roger Perry



Roger (right) with Czech Petr Pejchal

A Truly National Nationals

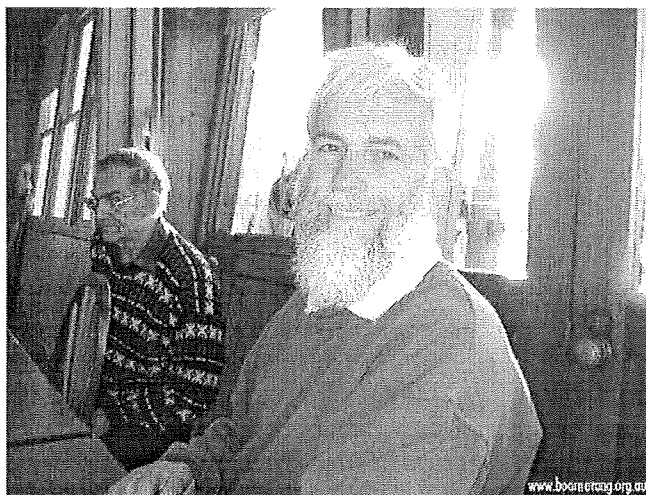
Another year, another trip to Albury, another Championship win for Rob Croll, another Nationals? Well yes, but as always there were plenty of unique factors, and indicators of change within the sport.

Notably, this Nationals had representation from all of the mainland states with local associations — including seven throwers travelling all the way from West Australia.

Meanwhile, after the NSW elections were called for the same weekend, accommodation moved from the traditional Police and Youth Community Club in Keene Street and out to Tabletop Hall, next to the (original) Ettamogah Pub. Thanks must go to Jeff Lewry for helping to arrange this at late notice.

The action started on the night of Friday 21 March 2003, with a dinner at the aforementioned Ettamogah Pub — and yes, it is just as weird as the Ken Maynard Australian Post cartoons that inspired it.

Afterwards, it was back to the Tabletop Hall, where Tony Butz unveiled many boxes of boomerangs, clip-pings, *Bulletins*, and other items of the late Brother Brian Thomas. Hundreds of boomerangs were bought at bargain prices, with proceeds going to Christian charities. It was truly an instant lesson on the creators, and types, of boomerangs over the past few decades. As well as collecting a few of the more historical items, I know I wasn't the only person who actually ended up using some of the boomerangs purchased that night during the Nationals themselves.



*Morris Maxwell (front) and Brian Kemp
at the Ettamogah Pub*

Several throwers took advantage of the adjacent tennis courts and their lighting, with shorter-range rangs zipping around to and from their new owners.

Come the next morning, and it was serious competition time. There was a bit of a hiccup as we found the newly laid field at Xavier High School had been very heavily watered overnight, and subsequently the Saturday morning saw a fair bit of squishing around. Some investigation and sly intervention by President and electrician Morris Maxwell thankfully ensured it wasn't a problem the next morning!

Bruce Carter and Peter Lewry were our chief judge and scorer respectively for the weekend, with Peter also competing. First event was MTA, and for whatever reason consistent catching was not prevalent — in fact, only myself and New South Wales 2002 champion Tim Lendrum managed four catches from our five throws (and both of our best times were more than twice our worst time).

While we didn't realise it at the time, the first throw by Tim was the one that set the standard, as you can read about in his article elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. His 44.66 seconds was the first of three times of forty seconds or over, and gave him victory in his very first Australian National Championship event.

Following him in second place was Western Australian Josh Smith with 43.77 seconds, while New South Welshman Adam Carroll made an even 40 seconds with his only catch. Seven more throwers followed up with times exceeding 28 seconds, before there was a gap to the rest of the field. This included Bob Burwell's 33.56 seconds, a surprisingly low time for a new Australian Veterans record.

A notable omission from the top bracket was Trent Carter — despite several good throws, he was one of three throwers who failed to make a legal catch.

Trick Catch/Doubling was up next, and Trent was desperate to redeem himself, and he made a good start in the Trick Catch portion of the event by making the only foot catch. This meant he earned 34 out of 50 points, putting him just ahead of the experienced hands of Rob Croll and Roger Perry.

But the Doubling portion of the event would see him pipped at the line by Rob Croll, who

collected a modest winning grand total of 59 points. Trent took out second, with a new Australian junior record of 56 points (that has been officially recorded, anyway — it seems improbable that either of the two Carters haven't reached that score before). Josh Smith was one of two throwers to make the Doubling foot catch, thereby propelling himself past Craig Carter, and Roger and Grant Perry, into third place.

The only other person to make that final foot catch was fellow Western Australian Derek Garner — no doubt a relief to him as it sextupled his total score!

Brian Kemp also claimed the Veterans record for Trick Catch, with 41 points.

As an aside, the best-handled catch of the day was “two hands behind the back” in the Trick Catch portion of the event — not your most common result!

Onto the event of champions: Aussie Round. Two rounds were held, with Leanne Loveland *nee* Read turning up for the second of them. Like many, her practice throws made her eventual competition score look woeful. The leaders after the first round were somewhat surprising; while the ever reliable Rob Croll was up there with 55 points, he had been matched by the lackadaisical Morris Maxwell, and pipped to the tune of two points by Victorian Andrew Travis Snr. As a contrast, Andrew Travis Jnr was the only thrower to fail to score in that first round; he did, however, make three nice throws in the second round to salvage his eventual score.

Despite the second round being held in almost windless conditions on Sunday, average scores were almost identical to the first round — and for those who kept up the standard (not me! I crashed and burnt!) the event ended up with a logjam of scores between 112 and 102. Tim Lendrum took out his second National event with those 112 points, beating out a late surge from Peter Lewry who ended up on 107. Rob Croll claimed third place, with 105 points, while Andrew Travis Snr and Bob Burwell rounded out the collection of centurions. The lack of wind perhaps hurt, rather than helped, the Western Australians, as they collectively couldn't crack the top six places.

Amongst his otherwise mediocre results in this event, Günter Wandtke was the only thrower to collect the perfect twenty points for a single throw. Indeed, only Brian Kemp and Morris Maxwell joined him by scoring ten points for accuracy, at thirty and forty metres range respectively.



Trent Carter (front), Grant Perry, and Derek Garner (obscured) warm up

The first round of Accuracy was also held on Saturday, and Rob Croll stunned the competition by equalling the Australian record of Dennis Maxwell and Adam Carroll — 48 points. Only his first throw failed to land in the centre circle.

A bevy of throwers followed with scores in the thirties; Tim Lendrum and Paul Heaton-Harris were equal second on 37. Meanwhile, I didn't score from four of my throws — so much for the tag of ex-Australian Accuracy Champion!

The second round of Accuracy was held on the Sunday, and Rob made a big fat zero with his first throw. He improved somewhat after that, but his second round total of 29 points was a modest return. In the end, however, it was enough to take out the event, as the average accuracy score on Sunday was notably lower than that of Saturday. Tim Lendrum was one of the exceptions, as he improved one point and ended up just two points shy of Rob in the totals for the two rounds. The surprise of the second round, however, was Paul 'AJ' Croft, who hit the centre circle three times on his way to 42 points; he slipped past nine throwers from the first round to claim third place for Accuracy.

Saturday night saw the Annual, and then General, Meeting out at the Tabletop Hall. Elections were held, the Constitution was notably updated, and a late night was had by all. In between the meetings, Bob Burwell's 60th birthday was celebrated — as we'll see, despite that handy age and quite an absence from the Nationals, Bob was far from finished as a competitor.

Come Sunday morning (and a dry ground, thankfully), Endurance was the opening event. A number



David J Richardson (left) and Trent Carter, camped on the forty metre line

of throwers chose to sit this out in the warm conditions, but with little wind the scores were generally quite good. Rob Croll was once again the winner, as he collected 48 catches in the nominated five minutes (his Australian record is 59 catches). Behind him were Roger Perry (46 catches) and Trent Carter (44 catches). Trent had the pleasure here of smashing his brother's previous record of 32 catches, his ABS Tri-Fly smothered in rubber bands — and with Craig graduating from the Junior ranks, Trent may hold this record for some time yet...

Just as dramatic results were seen at the opposite end of the scale — James Bee of Western Australia had an attack of the yips, but received much applause when he made his one and only catch late in his five minutes. Elsewhere, Günter Wandtke inexplicably failed to take a single catch.

Coming in fourth in Endurance was 60-years-and-a-day-old Bob Burwell, with a handy 40 catches (just one short of Brother Thomas' Veteran record). This would be a hint towards the final event: Fast Catch.

Fast Catch is always a trap for even the best of throwers. What good is it to throw a boomerang that makes the loop one second faster, if it means you make one, or more, extra drops? And truly, steady throwing and dead accurate returns were the answer to this event, as Bob set the standard in the first round with a time of 26.61 seconds, comfortably exceeding twenty metres range, and with an utter lack of fuss.

Roger Perry (31.59 seconds), Rob Croll (31.89) and Adam Carroll (32.51) were on his tail, but Rob was the only one of those three who managed to improve on his time in the second round. His improved time of 27.97 seconds was good enough to claim second

place, while Brian Kemp also showed age was no barrier when he made a big improvement in the second round to take out third place with 29.89 seconds.

In the end, yet again, it was clear who the best thrower had been over the weekend; with a scarce 12 overall ranking points, compared to second place's 31 points, Rob Croll had well and truly put his stamp on his tenth Australian National Championship. With the exception of MTA, where his 31.44 seconds had earned him seventh place, he placed in all the events; indeed, he won three of the six events.

In his debut at the Nationals, Tim Lendrum took out second place. He won Aussie Round and MTA, and came second to Rob in Accuracy. Trick Catch was his only weak event, and his big arm and youth should allow him to improve markedly on that (he didn't have a Doubling set for the Nationals, either).

Just behind him was fellow New South Welshman Adam Carroll. Adam has been in and out of competition during recent years, but showed here that he is still a quality thrower. Consistency was his strength, coming third to sixth in every event bar Trick Catch/Doubling.

Bob Burwell reminded us all why he is a three-time Australian Champion by coming fourth, and winning the only event not claimed by Rob or Tim. He took out the Veterans championship, despite Brian Kemp also throwing well, and beating Bob in two events.

In a see-saw battle (they won three events each), Craig Carter tipped out younger brother Trent in the battle for Junior Champion. They came ninth and eleventh overall, and while Trent earned overall placings, and Junior records, in the Endurance and Trick Catch events, Craig was more consistent.

Margherita McCaughey truly epitomised the saying "you have to be in it, to win it" as she claimed the Ladies title — Leanne missed too many events to be competitive.

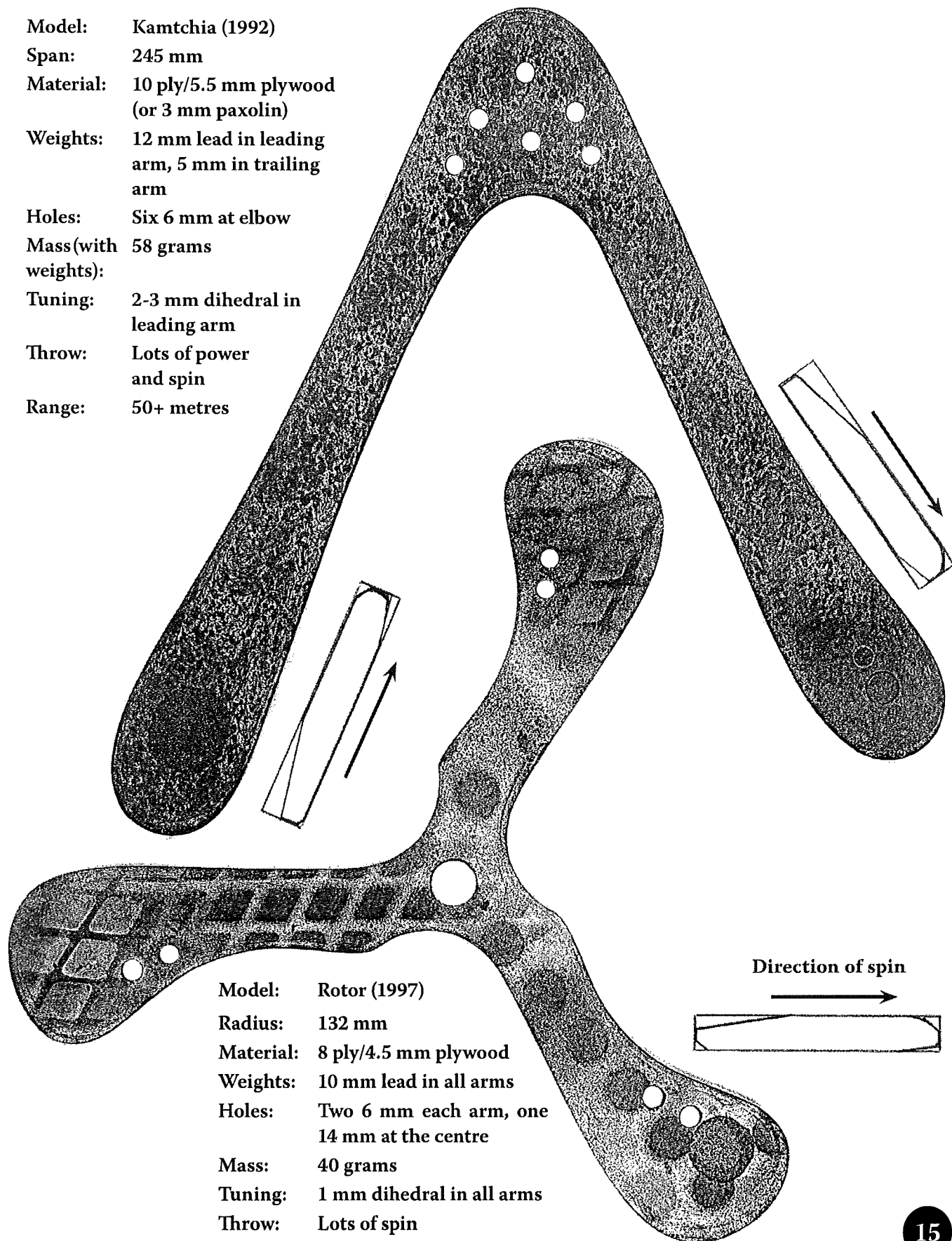
So what's in the future? We've got a few new, and old, challengers. If they want to defend their titles, Perth in 2004 is the target. After that, we'll most likely be back to Albury or surrounds; who knows, there was even talk that, with one big tree removed on the adjacent field, the Ettamogah Pub may play a larger role in the future of the BAA...

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Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Endurance			Fast Catch			MTA			Trick Catch			Overall	
			Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Points	Place
Rob Coll	O	M	77	1	0	105	3	3	48	1	0	27.97	2	2	31.44	7	7	59	1	0	12	1
Tim Lendrum	O	M	75	2	2	112	1	0	29	8	9	34.23	6	6	44.66	1	0	16	14	14	31	2
Adam Carroll	O	M	59	4	4	99	6	6	39	5	5	32.51	5	5	40	3	3	25	12	12.5	35.5	3
Bob Burwell	V	M	41	17	17	102	5	5	40	4	4	26.61	1	0	33.56	5	5	34	9	9	40	4
Roger Perry	O	M	48	13	13.5	97	8	8	46	2	2	31.59	4	4	28.99	9	9	49	5	5	41.5	5
Josh Smith	O	M	52	8	8.5	80	12	12	25	11	11	45.69	11	11	43.77	2	2	54	3	3	47.5	6
Brian Kemp	V	M	57	5	5	58	18	18	36	7	7	29.89	3	3	21.06	14	14	41	7	7.5	54.5	7
Grant Perry	O	M	52	8	8.5	98	7	7	38	6	6	47.77	12	12	19.5	15	15	47	6	6	54.5	7
Craig Carter	J	M	49	11	11.5	90	10	10	21	15	15.5	50.96	13	13	34.41	4	4	52	4	4	58	9
Christian Valentine	O	M	49	11	11.5	72	14	14.5	29	8	9	35.67	7	7	23.91	11	11	30	10	10	63	10
Trent Carter	J	M	36	18	18	48	20	20	44	3	3	36.08	8	8	0	24	25	56	2	2	76	11
Peter Lewry	O	M	24	20	20.5	107	2	2	22	14	14	52.74	14	14	14.74	19	19	13	15	15.5	85	12
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	53	7	7	87	11	11	21	15	15.5	4c	16	18	14.29	20	20.5	13	15	15.5	87.5	13
David J Richardson	O	M	22	22	22.5	52	19	19	23	13	13	4c	16	18	32.81	6	6	28	11	11	89.5	14
Derek Garner	O	M	45	15	15	61	17	17	12	18	18	41.83	10	10	21.78	13	13	12	17	17.5	90.5	15
Paul 'A' Croft	O	M	66	3	3	73	13	13	29	8	9	4c	16	18	0	24	25	0	25	25.5	93.5	16
Barrie Forsyth	V	M	48	13	13.5	72	14	14.5	24	12	12	58.72	15	15	11.97	22	22	9	20	20	97	17
Andrew Travis Snr	O	M	51	10	10	103	4	4	-	27	27	-	27	27	31.21	8	8	4	22	22	98	18
Paul Heaton-Harris	O	M	56	6	6	26	24	24	18	17	17	40.65	9	9	11.44	23	23	8	21	21	100	19
Günter Wandtke	O	M	24	20	20.5	69	16	16	-	27	27	4c	16	18	16.66	18	18	41	7	7.5	107	20
James Bee	O	M	19	24	24	33	22	22	1	20	20	3c	21	21	22.59	12	12	11	19	19	118	21
Nick Gottschalk	V	M	43	16	16	25	25	25	10	19	19	4c	16	18	14.29	20	20.5	2	23	23	121.5	22
Morris Maxwell	V	M	31	19	19	93	9	9	-	27	27	-	27	27	18.22	16	16	0	25	25.5	123.5	23
Matt Beckett	O	M	-	27	27	-	27	27	-	27	27	-	27	27	28.56	10	10	25	12	12.5	130.5	24
Andrew Travis Jnr	O	M	4	25	25	37	21	21	-	27	27	-	27	27	17	17	17	12	17	17.5	134.5	25
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	22	22	22.5	29	23	23	-	27	27	0c	22	22	0	24	25	1	24	24	143.5	26
Leanne Loveland	O	F	-	27	27	10	26	26	-	27	27	-	27	27	-	27	27	-	27	27	161	27

Plans: Georgi Dimantchev

Model: Kamtchia (1992)
Span: 245 mm
Material: 10 ply/5.5 mm plywood
(or 3 mm paxolin)
Weights: 12 mm lead in leading
arm, 5 mm in trailing
arm
Holes: Six 6 mm at elbow
**Mass (with
weights):** 58 grams
Tuning: 2-3 mm dihedral in
leading arm
Throw: Lots of power
and spin
Range: 50+ metres



Model: Rotor (1997)
Radius: 132 mm
Material: 8 ply/4.5 mm plywood
Weights: 10 mm lead in all arms
Holes: Two 6 mm each arm, one
14 mm at the centre
Mass: 40 grams
Tuning: 1 mm dihedral in all arms
Throw: Lots of spin
Range: 50+ metres

Axedale Activities

Waking Sunday 12 October 2003, and it looked set to be a drab and wet day. Two hours later up at Leanne Loveland's place in Axedale, near Bendigo, and it was a different story, with mild temperatures, plenty of sun, and a variety of wind conditions helping set up the Axedale Boomerang Fun Day.

Attendees included locals, including many of the Loveland clan, regulars from Melbourne, and a few more travelling all the way from Bairnsdale, flush with the success of their recent Bairnsdale Fun Day.

As this was to be a teams day, our referee Bruce Carter had us split into groups quickly; my group got to maintain the proud historic name "Dave's Donkeys". Opposing us were "Morris's Monkeys", "Trent's Turkeys", along with the non-conformist "Craig Crazies" and "Ben's Boomers" — these teams being led, if you hadn't guessed, by myself, Morris Maxwell, Trent and Craig Carter, and Ben Loveland (yes, the two-year-old 1982 Australian Junior Accuracy champion, all grown up!)

The team events for the day were Accuracy, Aussie Round, Relay, MTA, and Endurance.

With tricky winds, there were some pretty woeful scores in the first Accuracy event. This was run as a "suicide" event, so four or five throwers launched their rangs simultaneously and then ran to escape the returning (or non-returning) swarm — a few sets of throws had their scores wiped out when their throwers failed to avoid all of the returning boomerangs! In the end, the Turkeys (Trent, and his troupe of Heaton-Harrii: Paul, and daughters Caroline and Kate) came out first with 72 points, with the Donkeys and Crazies trailing with 68 and 62 points.

A singles elimination Accuracy event was then run — the photo below shows less than half of the contestants making their first throw. Note how Bruce Carter stands well back, chortling from his point of safety!

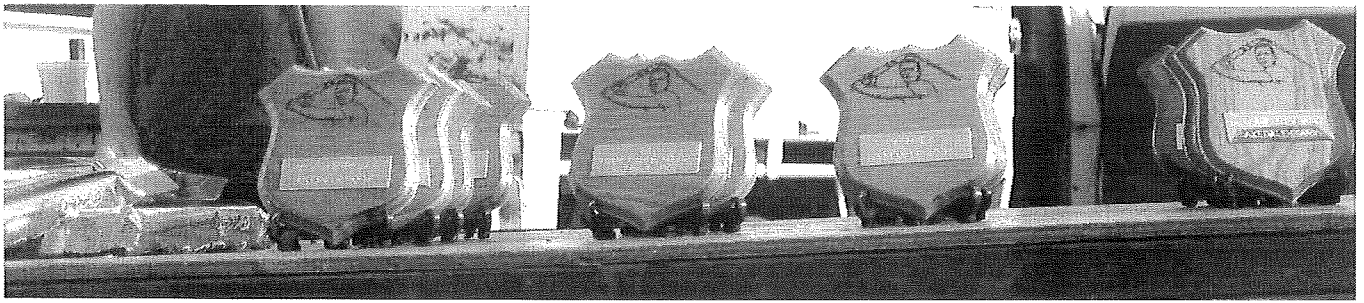
After a number of rounds, our host Leanne, throwing an unabashedly traditionally shaped boomerang which mocked the wind, was the winner. Paul Heaton-Harris was second, while Donkey Anthony Jennings took out third.

Aussie Round was next, and some teams worked together better here, to make sure all the catches were made. The real drama arose when Bruce abruptly decided to make things more interesting by doubling the score for everyone's final throw. Craig Carter subsequently proceeded to throw an 18, doubled to 36, thus giving the Crazies 131 points overall. Bruce then let slip that the Donkeys required a mere two points (which would be doubled to four) to match those 131 points — so what did we do? Go get a boomerang that would guarantee a catch? Nah, we went for it, stuffed up, and scored a BIG FAT ZERO. Oh dear.

The other teams were way behind, with Ben's Boomers the next best on 92 points.

Relay was next, with the younger and better throwers made to run about eight times further (may be exaggerated slightly) to even things up. In the end, the main determinant of the result was the ability to make the catch once you made the centre circle — those teams with drops struggled. The Turkeys did best here, wrapping it up in 1 minute 30 seconds. The Crazies were just behind on 1:35, but it dropped off after that; Donkeys 1:50, Boomers 2:03, and the Monkeys fooling around on 2:04.





Break for BBQ lunch, and to realise how many of us were already sunburnt (in October!)

Back out on the field for Team MTA, three throws per person with all of the times tallied up — except for some lucky individuals (myself, and the Carter boys) who only had their best time included. Anyone could make the catch, but if it was a team member rather than the original thrower, only half the time was awarded.

Consistency would prove to be the winning formula here — the Crazies made eight catches from their ten scoring opportunities, and with Craig pulling out a 41-second throw, they stormed home to win this event with a total of 107 seconds.

Second place went to the Boomer's, with captain Ben making 22 and 21-second throws. It wouldn't have made the difference, but Jason Potts' failure to complete a 38-second throw smarted.

The Turkeys and Donkeys were the also-rans, with totals of 67 and 66 respectively, but that was nothing compared to the muddled mess of the Monkeys, as Morris and Leanne put on a comedic display of every way possible of missing their catches.

Team Endurance was our final event for the day; five minutes for each team, with each team member throwing in turn once the previous throw was complete (but anyone could make the catch). Between the four Donkeys, Rob Croll's Endurance record was under threat when we finished with a total of 55 catches, confident we had tipped out the competition — but no, we had been beaten by the Boomers (60) and the Monkeys (59)! Closer inspection showed both teams had each been given 10 bonus catches for feats such as striking inattendant bystanders (not one of us!), or for wise-cracks. Curses, foiled again — not a single win though all the events!

Still, it wasn't all that bad, as placing in four of the five events meant we ended up with absurd amounts of chocolate, leaving others with the lovely coachwood trophies displaying Leanne's father "Bunny" Read.

In all, it was a great day, and, hopefully, the commencement of an annual event.

David J Richardson



Dave's Donkeys:	David J Richardson, Anthony Jennings, Melissa Ray, Kay Carter
Morris's Monkeys:	Morris Maxwell, Leanne Loveland, Rebecca Allum, James Maxwell
Trent's Turkeys:	Trent Carter, Paul & Caroline & Kate Heaton-Harris
Craig's Crazies:	Craig Carter, George Tunstall, Fiona Grant, Jeremy Loveland
Ben's Boomers:	Ben Loveland, Debbie Jenkins, Sharna Loveland, Jason Potts



Ben Loveland makes the easy catch



Big Boomerang Producer

A few kilometres west of Dubbo, in central New South Wales, Boyd and Josephine Schyveschuuder operate Jemma Boomerangs. Formed in the 1970s, they occupy the plentiful tourists with their mixture of wildlife and Aboriginal lore, and demonstrating the making and throwing of boomerangs.

When I visited, Boyd was entertaining and educating a small group of visitors, and doing it with enough style to make Steve “Crocodile Hunter” Irwin look bland. A series of tales and displays of weird and unusual animals (he loved making the visitors squirm!) blended into talking about the Aboriginal people and their tools, and in particular their boomerangs.

Jemma’s speciality is mulga wood boomerangs. Mulga wood is very hard and dense — it’s twice as hard as jarrah, and sinks in water. Once a fortnight, they need to make an eight-hour round trip westwards to collect more wood (Dubbo clearly not being an arid enough area for mulga to grow!)

Visitors have the opportunity to burn/etch their own designs into either mulga or plywood boomerangs, mostly with horrendous-looking results (guilty as charged here!), before the action shifts over to the field with the Southern Cross flagpole at its centre. Don’t throw too well or you’ll hit it on the return!

As well as the basic plywood boomerangs (only the brave and brawny throw the mulga ones!) there’s a collection of sporting boomerangs available to throw on the field, or to purchase in their store (Bruce Carter having helped supply those).

For more info on Jemma Boomerangs, visit their website at jeddaboomerangs.com.au

David J Richardson



New South Wales Report

New South Wales continue to be the most active state, with tournaments most months. We were behind a few of their events even the last issue, so we're going to go all the way back to 17 November 2002 to begin with...

That event was the Blue Mountains Championship, held in Mulgoa, which isn't actually in the Blue Mountains. Whatever... As can be seen by the scores, the infamous winds of Mulgoa made their presence known at times during the day — to the extent that Brother Rod Shoebridge won the MTA event with 9.36 seconds! It was also a day for throw-offs, as they determined the placings for every other event. In the end, Günter Wandtke was the overall champion, with Peter Lewry and Rod not too far behind.

(The ages referred to below are Open, Veteran, and Junior; an asterix indicates a throw-off was needed.)

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Endurance (2min)			MTA			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Günter Wandtke	O	M	26	5	5.5	110	1	0	9	*1	0	7.23	5	5	10.5	1
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	29	*4	4	74	6	6	3	7	7.5	9.36	1	0	17.5	2
Peter Lewry	O	M	24	8	9	85	*3	3	6	5	5	8.50	3	3	20	3
Tony Butz	O	M	29	*3	3	78	5	5	7	4	4	0.00	9	14.5	26.5	4
Tim Lendrum	O	M	24	8	9	92	2	2	8	3	3	0.00	9	14.5	28.5	5
Julie Lendrum	O	F	30	2	2	49	10	10	2	9	10	4.50	8	8	30	6
Ken Arthur	V	M	16	16	16.5	45	11	11	5	6	6	7.72	4	4	37.5	7
Michael Lendrum	O	M	17	13	14	68	7	7	9	*2	2	0.00	9	14.5	37.5	7
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	14	18	18	85	*4	4	1	12	14	9.26	2	2	38	9
Peter Lendrum	J	M	17	13	14	55	9	9	2	9	10	6.60	7	7	40	10
Kenny Johnson	J	M	26	5	5.5	36	13	13	1	12	14	0.00	9	14.5	47	11
Peter McCaughey	O	M	33	1	0	35	14	14	0	17	18.5	0.00	9	14.5	47	11
Hayden Hamilton	J	M	25	7	7	30	15	15.5	2	9	10	0.00	9	14.5	47	11
Jim Lendrum	O	M	13	19	19	64	8	8	3	7	7.5	0.00	9	14.5	49	14
Martin Brennan	J	M	20	11	11	39	12	12	1	12	14	0.00	9	14.5	51.5	15
John McCaughey	O	M	24	8	9	26	17	17	1	12	14	0.00	9	14.5	54.5	16
Shirley Lewry	O	F	11	20	20	30	15	15.5	1	12	14	6.84	6	6	55.5	17
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	18	12	12	21	19	19	0	17	18.5	0.00	9	14.5	64	18
Terri McCaughey	O	F	17	13	14	7	20	20	0	17	18.5	0.00	9	14.5	67	19
Carey Sinden	J	M	16	16	16.5	22	18	18	0	17	18.5	0.00	9	14.5	67.5	20



Next up was the Oxford Falls Championship, on 9 February 2003. A reduced set of events was conducted, with Aussie Round and Accuracy the individual events, plus a team relay. The wind seems to have well and truly intervened in the Accuracy event, with all but two competitors scoring no more than 14 points — thankfully Günter put his hand up and scored 31!

In Aussie Round, Peter Lewry's second round was the highest score for the day, and took him to victory ahead of Günter and Tim Lendrum in that event — but overall, Günter was clearly champ for the day. He also took out the Nearest the Pin award.

The table of scores is on the next page!

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Team Relay			Individual	
			Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Points	Place
Günter Wandtke	O	M	31	1	0	69	2	2	20.52	4	-	2.0	1
Wayne Patterson	O	M	13	4	4	60	4	4	20.85	3	-	8.0	2
Tim Lendrum	O	M	12	5	6	62	3	3	20.32	5	-	9.0	3
Keith Anderson	V	M	14	3	3	45	6	6.5	22.36	1	-	9.5	4
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	22	2	2	44	8	8	20.32	5	-	10.0	5
Peter Lewry	O	M	4	11	11	77	1	0	21.75	2	-	11.0	6
Terry Patterson	O	M	12	5	6	45	6	6.5	22.36	1	-	12.5	7
Margaret Patterson	O	F	10	8	8.5	49	5	5	20.85	3	-	13.5	8
Mark Patterson	J	M	10	8	8.5	42	9	9	21.75	2	-	17.5	9
Shirley Lewry	O	F	12	5	6	12	13	13	20.32	5	-	19.0	10
Ken Samons	O	M	7	10	10	14	11	11.5	22.36	1	-	21.5	11
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	2	12	12	14	11	11.5	20.52	4	-	23.5	12
Julie Lendrum	O	F	0	13	13.5	25	10	10	21.75	2	-	23.5	12
John McCaughey	O	M	0	13	13.5	0	14	14	20.85	3	-	27.5	14

The Eastern Suburbs Championships followed on 9 March 2003, at Queens Park in Waverley. To quote Peter Lewry: 'the sky was overcast with nice sun, but there was a very gusty wind which made it very hard for throwing — even if you threw a brick'. In the end, Peter coped the best, claimed second three times, and came out the winner. Tim and Günter, despite winning three events between them, fell short due to bomb-outs in MTA (no catch!) and Aussie Round (zero in the second round!) respectively. Tim won Nearest the Pin.

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Endurance (2min)			MTA-50			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Peter Lewry	O	M	19	2	2	78	2	2	7	2	2	15.73	4	4	10	1
Tim Lendrum	O	M	28	1	0	43	3	3	6	3	3	0	6	9	15	2
Günter Wandtke	O	M	14	*3	3	18	14	14	8	1	0	22.29	1	0	17	3
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	8.5	9	9	85	1	0	2	7	8	0	6	9	26	4
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	14	*4	4	25	9	9.5	1	10	11	18.44	2	2	26.5	5
Mark Patterson	J	M	8	10	10	42	4	4	4	4	4.5	0	6	9	27.5	6
Paul Langer	J	M	4	13	13.5	38	5	5	2	7	8	17.92	3	3	29.5	7
Wayne Patterson	O	M	0	16	16	32	6	6	4	4	4.5	9.32	5	5	31.5	8
Margaret Patterson	O	F	13.5	5	5	29	7	7	1	10	11	0	6	9	32	9
Julie Lendrum	O	F	13	6	6	26	8	8	1	10	11	0	6	9	34	10
James Johnson	J	M	12	7	7	25	9	9.5	0	13	14	0	6	9	39.5	11
Terry Patterson	O	M	2	15	15	-	16	16	3	6	6	0	6	9	46	12
John McCaughey	O	M	6	11	11.5	14	15	15	2	7	8	-	-	16	50.5	13
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	10	8	8	20	13	13	0	13	14	-	-	16	51	14
Shirley Lewry	O	F	4	13	13.5	22	11	11.5	0	13	14	-	-	16	55	15
Ken Arthur	V	M	6	11	11.5	22	11	11.5	-	16	16	-	-	16	55	14

Next up was the visit to Gosford, for the Central Coast Championships on 11 May 2003. It was sunny for most of the day, but a little rain intervened later in the afternoon. Being Mother's Day, it was only appropriate that Margaret Patterson should comfortably claim first place in the Aussie Round event. She threw well in the other events as well, only being tipped out of a place in German Doubling after a throw-off, and being in the log-jam that followed Paul "AJ" Croft in Accuracy. For those unaware, German Doubling requires you to throw one boomerang, then throw a second one before it returns, and attempt to catch both; repeat until you make a drop. With wins in German Doubling and MTA, Tim Lendrum narrowly beat Peter Lewry in the overall stakes. "AJ" took third, and Margaret fourth.

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			German Doubling			MTA-50			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Tim Lendrum	O	M	30	5	5.5	73	6	6.5	28	1	0	23.51	1	0	12	1
Peter Lewry	O	M	33	*4	4	87	5	5	24	2	2	22.68	2	2	13	2
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	40	1	0	97	2	2	20	*4	4.5	10.04	8	8	14.5	3
Margaret Patterson	O	F	30	5	5.5	109	1	0	20	*4	4.5	11.90	7	7	17	4
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	28	7	7	73	6	6.5	20	*3	3	13.89	5	5	21.5	5
Terry Patterson	O	M	33	*3	3	89	*3	3	4	7	8	9.45	9	9	23	6
Wayne Patterson	O	M	0	11	11.5	89	*4	4	4	7	8	14.96	4	4	27.5	7
Mark Patterson	J	M	2	9	9.5	47	9	9	8	6	6	18.77	3	3	27.5	7
Shirley Lewry	O	F	34	2	2	70	8	8	0	10	11	-	12	12	33	9
John McCaughey	O	M	2	9	9.5	24	10	10.5	4	7	8	12.96	6	6	34	10
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	16	8	8	24	10	10.5	0	10	11	-	12	12	41.5	11
James Johnson	O	M	0	11	11.5	9	12	12	0	10	11	-	12	12	46.5	12

Onto Mulgoa, 15 June 2003, and the Aussie Round Day. Three sets of two rounds of Aussie Round were completed, with the top two set scores being added up to form each competitor's overall score. It was sunny, with a gusty wind, but some quite nice scores were made throughout the day. Paul "AJ" Croft set the standard with his first five throws collecting 79 points, and his first round 132, before slipping slightly in the following sets and being relegated to overall third place with 224 points. In second place, and giving the New South Welshpeople a scare, was the visiting Morris Maxwell. Morris was stunningly consistent within sets, and was one of three throwers to improve with each set. He finished on 236 points. But proving the coach still has a few tricks up his sleeve, Tony Butz was the overall winner as he collected 246 points.

Peter Lewry and Tim Lendrum were the other throwers to breach the 200 points mark, while Hayden Hamilton was king of the Juniors on 179 points. Seven-year-old Louise McCaughey also made creditable scores, including a 46, in her debut.



Name	Age	Sex	Set 1, 10:45am			Set 2, 1:10pm			Set 3, 3:44 pm			Score
			R1	R2	Sum	R1	R2	Sum	R1	R2	Sum	
Tony Butz	O	M	62	60	122	30	57	87	68	56	124	246
Morris Maxwell	O	M	43	46	89	58	58	116	59	61	120	236
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	79	53	132	23	63	86	40	52	92	224
Peter Lewry	O	M	73	41	114	51	46	97	33	57	90	211
Tim Lendrum	O	M	40	58	98	58	46	104	60	36	96	202
Hayden Hamilton	J	M	49	28	77	22	23	45	59	43	102	179
Peter Lendrum	J	M	51	37	88	45	31	76	14	28	42	164
Paul Langer	J	M	14	26	40	24	50	74	47	35	82	156
Jim Lendrum	O	M	31	24	55	12	44	56	36	40	76	132
Peter McCaughey	O	M	24	28	52	13	21	34	28	31	59	111
James Johnson	J	M	11	26	37	13	10	23	27	41	68	105
Julie Lendrum	O	F	18	16	34	20	36	56	14	23	37	93
Mark Patterson	J	M	46	46	92	-	-	0	-	-	0	92
Wayne Patterson	O	M	49	42	91	-	-	0	-	-	0	91
Louise McCaughey	J	F	9	28	37	31	15	46	20	7	27	83
Terry Patterson	O	M	22	30	52	-	-	0	-	-	0	52
Margaret Patterson	O	F	19	30	49	-	-	0	-	-	0	49

Peter Lewry (left) and Paul "AJ" Croft, ready for any type of weather!

It was time for the 2003 New South State Titles. After heavy rain in the days beforehand, 28 September 2003 was thankfully mild at St Dominic's College, Penrith. Winds ranged from dead calm to tricky gusts.

Visiting was Victorian Rob Croll, and perhaps it was a good thing he wasn't involved in the MTA event, as he claimed victory in both Accuracy and Fast Catch, and placed second behind Günter in Aussie Round. With his absence in MTA, it gave the aforementioned Günter, and Tim Lendrum, the chance to defend their state's honour, and slip past Rob to become joint winners. Margaret Patterson collected the Nearest the Pin award on her way to the Ladies Championship.

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Fast Catch (2 min)			MTA			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Time	Place	Pts	Time	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Günter Wandtke	O	M	18	10	10	127	1	0	36.29	2	2	23.17	4	4	16	1
Tim Lendrum	O	M	20	8	8	84	5	5	38.94	3	3	34.56	1	0	16	1
Rob Croll	O	M	36	1	0	93	2	2	32.21	1	0	-	20	20	22	3
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	15	13	13	88	*3	3	98.70	6	6	27.77	3	3	25	4
Tony Butz	O	M	27	2	2	72	7	7	115.17	8	8	13.00	8	8	25	4
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	24	4	4.5	88	*4	4	4c	10	10.5	13.18	7	7	26	6
Mark Patterson	O	M	23	6	6	46	11	12	120.00	9	9	30.16	2	2	29	7
Terry Patterson	O	M	22	7	7	61	9	9	59.14	5	5	8.24	11	11	32	8
Peter Lewry	O	M	9	16	16.5	62	8	8	58.59	4	4	18.79	5	5	33.5	9
Margaret Patterson	O	F	24	4	4.5	46	11	12	2c	13	13	10.43	9	9	38.5	10
Wayne Patterson	O	M	12	14	14	47	10	10	3c	12	12	13.70	6	6	42	11
Shirley Lewry	O	F	19	9	9	31	15	15	4c	10	10.5	0.00	12	14	48.5	12
Ken Arthur	V	M	2	20	20	79	6	6	-	20	20	9.93	10	10	56	13
Nial Tangney	O	M	6	18	18	46	11	12	108.33	7	7	-	20	20	57	14
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	17	11	11.5	19	16	16.5	0c	15	16.5	0.00	12	14	58.5	15
Julie Lendrum	O	F	4	19	19	39	14	14	1c	14	14	0.00	12	14	61	16
Jim Lendrum	O	M	26	3	3	-	20	20	-	20	20	-	20	20	63	17
Peter McCaughey	O	M	9	16	16.5	19	16	16.5	0c	15	16.5	0.00	12	14	63.5	18
John McCaughey	O	M	11	15	15	14	19	19	0c	15	16.5	0.00	12	14	64.5	19
Louise McCaughey	J	F	17	11	11.5	16	18	18	0c	15	16.5	-	20	20	66	20

And now we have gone full circle: Mulgoa and the Blue Mountains Championship, 2003 version thereof!

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			MTA			Overall	
			Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Score	Place	Points	Points	Place
Tim Lendrum	O	M	32	1	0	63	*3	3	63.69	1	0	3	1
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	27	2	2	57	4	4	21.57	2	2	8	2
Peter Lewry	O	M	16	5	5	44	5	5	16.90	4	4	14	3
Adam Carroll	O	M	4	12	12	63	*2	2	18.61	3	3	17	4
Günter Wandtke	O	M	21	4	4	72	1	0	-	13	13	17	4
Paul "AJ" Croft	O	M	14	6	7	29	6	6	10.08	6	6	19	6
Peter Lendrum	J	M	10	9	9	26	8	8	11.75	5	5	22	7
Ken Arthur	V	M	2	13	13	28	7	7	9.04	7	7	27	8
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	22	3	3	13	11	11.5	-	13	13	27.5	9
Julie Lendrum	O	F	14	6	7	23	9	9	-	13	13	29	10
Shirley Lewry	O	F	14	6	7	14	10	10	-	13	13	30	11
Jim Lendrum	O	M	6	10	10.5	13	11	11.5	-	13	13	35	12
Louise McCaughey	J	F	6	10	10.5	-	13	13	-	13	13	36.5	13

But this version, held on 16 November 2003 in scorching weather, had some rather similar, and different, results. Tim Lendrum, rather than Günter, dominated the championship, with two first places and an equal second turned third after a throw-off in Aussie Round. But tucked in behind him were the pair of Brother Rod Shoebridge and Peter Lewry — the same as the previous year. Rod was in fine form, placing immediately behind Tim in all three events. Günter, while relegated to fifth, at least had the honour of winning Aussie Round.

The highlight of the day was Tim's big MTA score, less than a second behind John Gibney's long-time NSW and Australian record. But you can read about that elsewhere!

Seven days later, a low-key return to Mulgoa, as it hosted a further event. It had rained, it seemed, continuously for the week between the events, and it was a surprise when the rain held off for most of the day. Notable for this relatively casual event was the visit of five interstateers: Morris Maxwell (not throwing) and David J Richardson from Victoria, plus Leonie Metzakis, John Black, and Johnie Macdiarmid all the way from Western Australia.

In a surprise result, Peter Lewry was the best in Fast Catch *and* Trick Catch — with the “Doubling” part of the Trick Catch event called off after the wind mocked any attempts to tame it! With his usual tougher events in the bag, Peter went on to claim the tournament, ahead of the Johns of Western Australia.

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Fast Catch			Trick Catch			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Time	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Peter Lewry	O	M	24	2	2	66	4	4	30.71	1	0	11	1	1	7	1
John Black	O	M	13	5	5	101	1	0	34.24	2	2	11	1	1	8	2
Johnie Macdiarmid	O	M	22	3	3	53	5	5	40.38	3	3	9	4	4.5	15.5	3
Tim Lendrum	O	M	16	4	4	81	3	3	45.66	5	5	9	4	4.5	16.5	4
Günter Wandtke	O	M	33	1	0	43	8	8	3c	7	7	10	3	3	18	5
David J Richardson	O	M	8	9	9	90	2	2	41.00	4	4	7	6	6	21	6
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	9	8	8	48	6	6	4c	6	6	-	10	10	30	7
Shirley Lewry	O	F	12	6	6.5	46	7	7	1c	8	8	-	10	10	31.5	8
Jim Lendrum	O	M	12	6	6.5	-	10	10	0c	9	9	-	10	10	35.5	9
Leonie Metzakis	O	F	-	10	10	38	9	9	-	10	10	-	10	10	39	10

Following the formal events, a trial of an event proposed by Leonie Metzakis (we'll call it Team Marathon; no title was agreed for it on the day) was made by six throwers. Basically, the event involves keeping a boomerang in flight at all times, and plans are being developed for some high-profile stagings of the event in the future (perhaps for a 24-hour stint!). Despite a few moments of confusion, the team managed to co-ordinate well, and only after half-an-hour did the returning rain and winds conspire to convince the team to break the chain of throws — and a good thing we did, as the Ark-inducing rain immediately afterwards showed!



A tally of the regular New South Wales events, including the Nationals in Albury, for the events of Aussie Round, Accuracy, and MTA, is included overleaf. Tim Lendrum is an unsurprising winner, with Peter Lewry in second due to his consistent attendance and throwing, and first place in Aussie Round. Brother Rod and “AJ” share third.

Thanks to Peter Lewry for his hard work at the events, and collecting the scores!

2003 New South Wales Ranking

Name	Age	Sex	Aussie Round					Accuracy					MTA																	
			Oxford Falls	Waverley	Gosford	Mulgoo	Penrith	Mulgoo	Albury	Sum	Place	Points	Oxford Falls	Waverley	Gosford	Penrith	Mulgoo	Albury	Sum	Place	Points									
Tim Lendrum	O	M	62	43	73	104	84	63	112	541	3	3	12	28	30	20	32	75	197	1	0	0	23.51	34.56	63.69	44.66	166.42	1	0	3
Peter Lewry	O	M	77	78	87	114	62	44	107	569	1	0	4	19	33	9	16	24	105	5	5	15.73	22.68	18.79	16.9	14.74	88.84	2	2	7
Br. Rod Shoebridge	V	M	-	25	73	-	88	57	87	330	5	5	-	14	28	24	27	53	146	3	3	18.44	13.89	13.18	21.57	14.29	81.37	3	3	11
Paul 'AJ' Croft	O	M	44	85	97	132	88	29	73	548	2	2	22	8	40	15	14	66	165	2	2	0	10.04	27.77	10.08	0	47.89	7	7	11
Günter Wandtke	O	M	69	18	-	-	127	72	69	355	4	4	31	14	-	18	21	24	108	4	4	22.29	-	23.17	-	16.66	62.12	4	4	12
Margaret Patterson	O	F	49	29	109	49	46	-	-	282	7	7	10	13	30	24	-	-	77	8	8.5	0	11.9	10.43	-	-	22.33	10	10	25.5
Mark Patterson	J	M	42	42	47	92	46	-	-	269	8	8	10	8	2	23	-	-	43	12	12	0	18.77	30.16	-	-	48.93	6	6	26
Rob Croll	O	M	-	-	-	-	93	-	105	198	11	11	-	-	-	-	77	77	8	8.5	-	-	-	0	31.44	31.44	9	9	28.5	
Adam Carroll	O	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	63	162	14	14	-	-	-	-	59	59	11	11	-	-	-	-	18.61	40	5	5	30	
Wayne Patterson	O	M	60	22	89	91	47	-	-	309	6	6	13	0	0	12	-	-	25	17	17	9.32	14.96	13.7	-	-	37.98	8	8	31
Terry Patterson	O	M	45	-	89	52	61	-	-	247	9	9	12	2	33	22	-	-	69	10	10	0	9.45	8.24	-	-	17.69	13	13	32
Morris Maxwell	O	M	-	-	-	120	-	-	93	213	10	10	-	-	-	-	31	31	14	14.5	-	-	-	-	-	18.2	11	11	35.5	
Tony Butz	O	M	-	-	-	124	72	-	-	196	12	12	-	-	-	27	-	-	27	16	16	-	-	13	-	-	13	14	14	42
Shirley Lewry	O	F	12	22	70	-	31	14	-	149	15	15	12	4	34	19	14	-	83	7	7	0	0	0	-	-	0	17	22	44
Margherita McCaughey	O	F	14	20	24	-	19	13	29	119	18	18	2	10	16	17	22	22	89	6	6	-	-	0	0	-	0	17	22	46
Julie Lendrum	O	F	25	26	-	56	39	23	-	169	13	13	0	13	-	4	14	-	31	14	14.5	0	-	0	-	-	0	17	22	49.5
Ken Arthur	V	M	-	22	-	-	79	28	-	129	16	16	-	6	-	2	2	-	10	22	22	-	-	9.93	-	-	9.93	16	16	54
Paul Langer	J	M	-	38	-	82	-	-	-	120	17	17	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	26	26	17.92	-	-	-	-	17.92	12	12	55
Jim Lendrum	O	M	-	-	-	76	-	13	-	89	21	21	-	-	-	26	6	-	32	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	56
John McCaughey	O	M	0	14	24	-	14	-	-	52	24	24	0	6	2	11	-	-	19	19	19	-	-	12.96	0	-	12.96	15	15	58
James Johnson	J	M	-	25	9	68	-	-	-	102	19	19.5	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	21	21	0	0	-	-	-	0	17	22	62.5
Louise McCaughey	J	F	-	-	-	46	16	0	-	62	23	23	-	-	-	17	6	-	23	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	63
Peter McCaughey	O	M	-	-	-	59	19	-	-	78	22	22	-	-	-	9	-	-	9	23	23	-	-	0	-	-	0	17	22	67
Keith Anderson	V	M	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	26	26	14	-	-	-	-	-	14	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	68
Hayden Hamilton	J	M	-	-	-	102	-	-	-	102	19	19.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	27	27	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	68.5
Nial Tangney	O	M	-	-	-	-	46	-	-	46	25	25	-	-	-	6	-	-	6	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	72
Ken Samons	O	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	27	27	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	22	73

2003 Western Australian Championships

Name	Age	Sex	Accuracy			Aussie Round			Endurance			Fast Catch			MTA			Trick Catch			Overall	
			Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Score	Place	Pts	Pts	Place
Roger Perry	O	M	70	1	0	124	3	3	51	1	0	25.45	1	0	38.00	2	2	26	6	6	11	1
Ian Sproul	O	M	54	5	5	140	1	0	47	2	2	35.85	3	3	27.48	6	6	47	3	3	19	2
Grant Perry	O	M	59	2	2	116	4	4	45	3	3	51.00	7	7	27.84	5	5	45	4	4	25	*3
Johnie Macdiarmid	O	M	58	3	3	110	5	5	40	4	4	3c	8	8	32.20	3	3	49	2	2	25	*4
Ryan Perry	O	M	28	11	11.5	126	2	2	36	6	6	50.71	6	6	38.20	1	0	72	1	0	25.5	5
John Metzakis	O	M	42	7	7	66	8	8	31	7	7	28.23	2	2	18.31	8	8	42	5	5	37	6
Lance Thomas	O	M	41	8	8	86	6	6	38	5	5	44.20	5	5	18.88	7	7	25	7	7	38	7
James Bee	O	M	28	11	11.5	52	9	9	20	8	8	38.20	4	4	27.85	4	4	19	8	8	44.5	8
Leonie Metzakis	O	F	44	6	6	78	7	7	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	65	9
Warren French	O	M	29	10	10	0	12	12.5	3	9	9	-	13	13	13.85	9	9	-	13	13	66.5	10
Dougie Davis	O	M	55	4	4	0	12	12.5	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	68.5	11
Angie Perry	O	F	32	9	9	29	10	10.5	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	71.5	12
Ellanor Donkin	O	F	0	13	13	29	10	10.5	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	-	13	13	75.5	13

In what, historically, amounts to a blow-out, Roger Perry comfortably beat Ian Sproul into second place at the sixteenth annual Western Australian Championships, held at Southern River Oval on Saturday 24 May. Roger won three of the six events, and placed in two others to ensure he was overall champion, even after a modest score in his usually favourite event of Trick Catch.

Roger took out Endurance and Accuracy, and on a day where few throwers really came to terms with Fast Catch, made his third event win despite a drop, in 25.45 seconds.

Ian was hardly disgraced, blasting aside four handy performers with his later throws in Aussie Round heavily contributing to his winning 140 points, and placing in three more events. Ryan Perry won the remaining two events (Trick Catch and MTA — Ryan has won MTA four years running now), but was otherwise just beaten by his brother Grant, and Johnie Macdiarmid. Third to fifth place were separated by only half a ranking point, with third place only determined after a throw-off between Grant and Johnie.

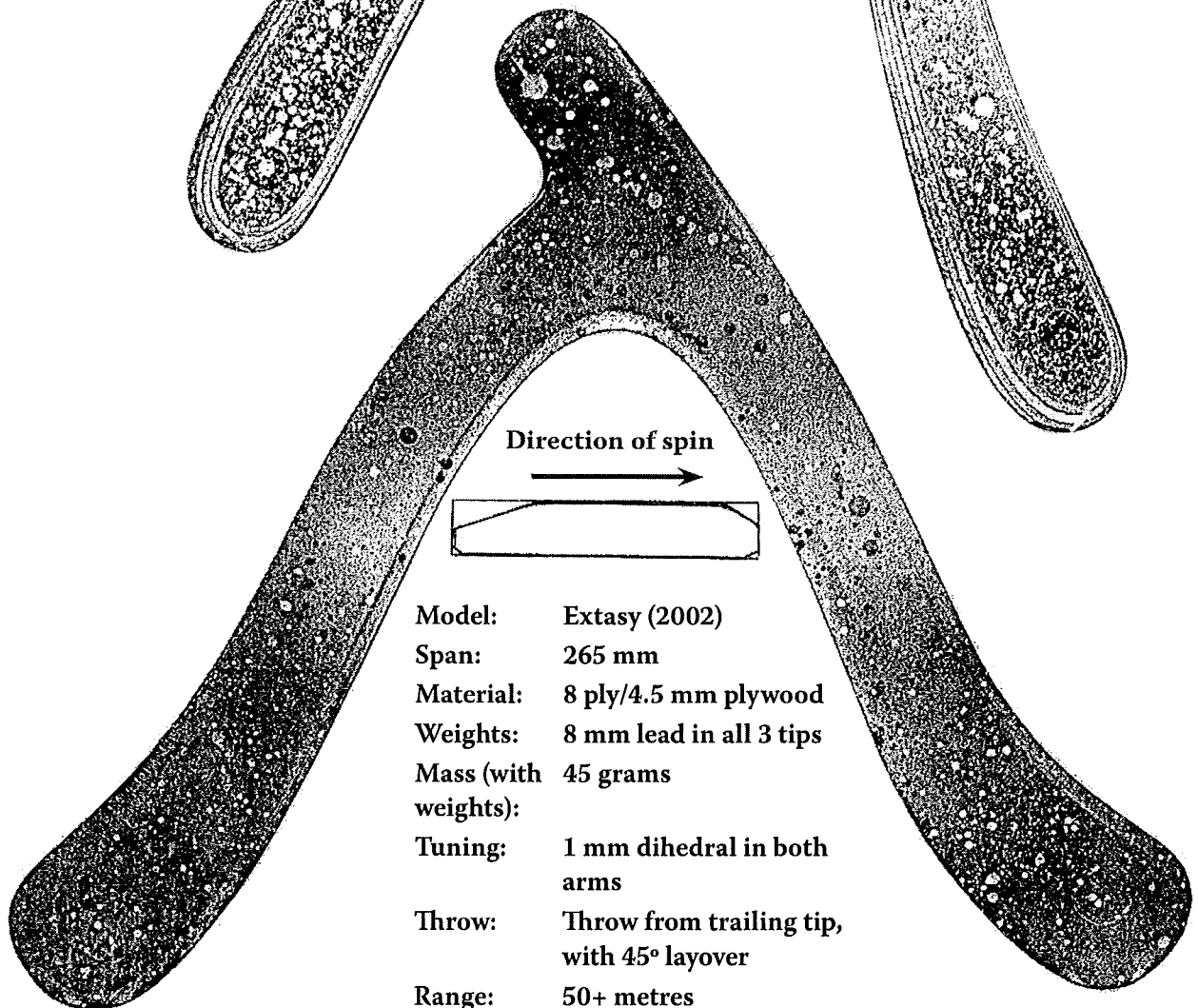
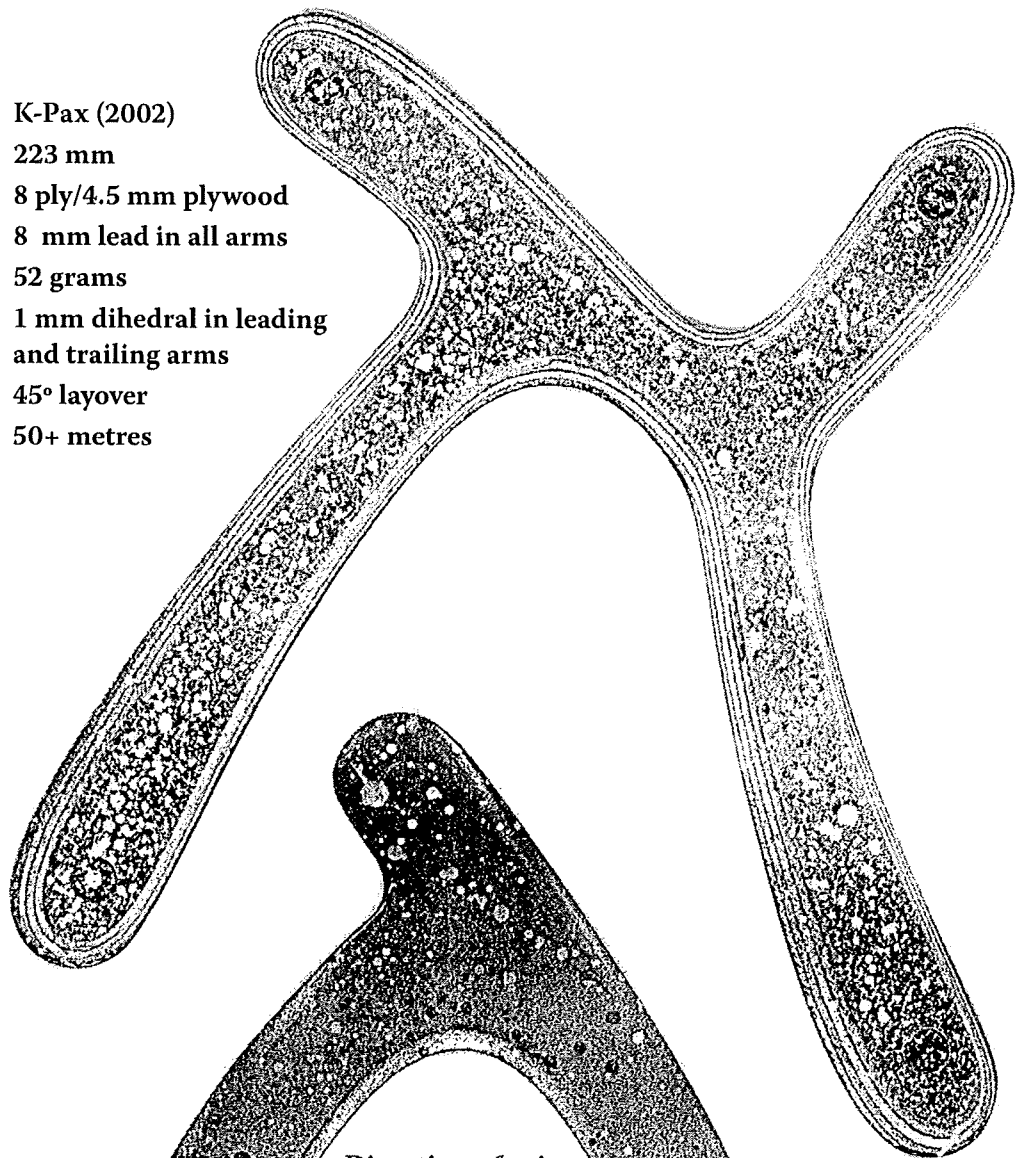
Conditions were mostly good, with tricky light breezes on a warm clear day. Defending champion Josh Smith was sidelined with the flu, as were quite a few other throwers.



Warren Brown, Daily Telegraph, 16 Sep 1996

Plans: Georgi Dimantchev

Model: K-Pax (2002)
Span: 223 mm
Material: 8 ply/4.5 mm plywood
Weights: 8 mm lead in all arms
Mass (with weights): 52 grams
Tuning: 1 mm dihedral in leading and trailing arms
Throw: 45° layover
Range: 50+ metres



Model: Extasy (2002)
Span: 265 mm
Material: 8 ply/4.5 mm plywood
Weights: 8 mm lead in all 3 tips
Mass (with weights): 45 grams
Tuning: 1 mm dihedral in both arms
Throw: Throw from trailing tip, with 45° layover
Range: 50+ metres

Contact Details

The Boomerang Association of Australia is an organisation dedicated to the promotion of interest in boomerangs. Members receive the latest copy of this 'BAA Handbook', regular copies of the 'Boomerang Bulletin', and are qualified to enter the Australian National Championships.

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- \$20 veteran membership (>54 years)
- \$30 ordinary membership (16-54 years)
- \$40 family membership
- \$40 overseas membership
- \$50 social group membership
- \$500 life membership

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www.boomerang.org.au

Where's Wally? (the fifth boomerang)



February 2004