



# BOOMERANG BULLETIN

JUNE  
1981

*Boomerang Association of Australia*

P.O. BOX 245, LILYDALE, VICTORIA, 3140, AUSTRALIA.

**No. 25**

Registered for posting as a publication-Catergory "B"



1981 AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR GENERAL CHAMPION..MICHAEL OVINGTON

## Editorial

The past couple of years have witnessed the largest ever involvement of the Australian public in boomerang throwing. More than 20 000 people a year in N.S.W. alone learn to throw a boomerang. Most of these are children, being taught through camps, schools, play centres and day activity centres; but there are also many adults who discover the pleasure of the sport.

What happens to them? Are they "once only" throwers? Why don't they follow through with the sport by joining a club or the B.A.A.? Why do they, like most shop boomerangs, never return? I would suggest it is because:

- 1) the clubs don't exist
- 2) lack of promotion and advertising of the sport
- 3) lack of functions and activities.

We cannot hope that a few events a year will attract people to the sport. The secret is to localise activities and hold regular functions for beginners, established throwers and competitors. Regions have been formed to encourage this without adding further onus to our already overtaxed executive, so let's see each region doing something regularly to get more people more involved more regularly. And we want to hear about it. This Bulletin carries news from some members; let's hear from some others for the next edition.

## Letters

Why is this space blank?

Because you didn't write a letter!

This is your Bulletin and we would like to know what YOU think about anything to do with BOOMERANGS.

## NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome is extended to these new B.A.A. MEMBERS:

Ken and Robert Arthur of Lane Cove, Sydney  
 Hugh Bartlett of Chatswood, Sydney  
 Rev. Br. John Griffith of Chatswood, Sydney  
 Paul Heath (1980 Sydney Championships Junior Champ.), Chatswood  
 Terry and Margaret Patterson of Woy Woy, N.S.W.  
 Rev. Br. Maurice Hurley of Wollongong, N.S.W.  
 Steve Glover of Yeerongpilly, Qld.  
 Archey Beutel of Crows Nest, Qld. (70 years young!)  
 Les Jones of Nerang, Qld.  
 Peter Tomlinson of Mudgeeraba, Qld.



**Boomerang  
Association  
of Australia**



BOOMERANG FOR THE BLIND .. THE BLEEPERANG!

Many people have been inquiring about the Bleeperang, so here is a quick run down on it.

In 1980 Br. Adams, who has taught blind people for 29 years, stayed with me for three months, and often spoke of their problem of being accepted as normal people with a handicap. So, in an endeavour to give them one of the normal skills ... boomerang throwing ... I started experimenting.

First catbells on the ends of the boomerang didn't work. Then came holes in the boomerang to make it whistle ... no go either. At this stage I wrote and put the problem to Max Hoeben of Holland, who came up with the suggestion of a bleeper. He contacted Larry Hoffman in Japan, who secured some bleepers from Seiko and sent them to Max. Max inserted these into boomerangs he had made, and then sent two to me for testing.

As a proto-type they are very good. However, there is room for improvement. A smaller, harder case with a louder bleeper would be ideal. Hopefully A.T.A. in Albury are working on this. The bleep is audible while in the air, but very hard to hear once the boomerang goes to ground in the grass.

Still, I feel it is a big step in the right direction, and our heartiest congratulations and thanks go to Max Hoeben and Larry Hoffman for their part in the BAA's contribution to the Year of the Disabled.

What about a boomerang 'gun' that can launch a boomerang for people with disabled muscles, which don't allow them the thrill of throwing and seeing that wonderful arc in the air? Get your thinking caps on, Aussies!!

Br. Brian M. Thomas, C.F.C.

P.S. We have a blind boy attending our School, St. Pius X, Chatswood who can throw and catch the indoor balsa wood twirlers.  
Tim Noonan is his name.

A radio interview, a photo and story have been sent to our Embassies overseas on the Bleeperang by the Australian Information Service.

# NEWS

In the last Bulletin we asked members to let us know of their activities, and in reply received articles from Bunny Read (Wycheproof Boomerangs; B.T.A. Vice President) and Les and Arthur Janetzki (Albury; Patrons of B.T.A. of N.S.W.). Other news, from all members, is most welcome.

## BUNNY READ

Who are the hundreds of people who continue to visit Wycheproof Boomerangs to watch them fly, buy them, and see how they are made? Exchange students from near and far and general tourists from many countries (the latest being from Ireland), report Bunny & Heather Read. Most of these people go home armed with boomerangs for their friends and families and photos of Bunny & Heather with the famous 2.2m largest returning boomerang.

On March 21st, the Reads returned to Kaniva, Vic., where they had spent the first 8 years of married life, for the town's centenary celebrations. Perfect weather, meeting old friends, a good crowd of spectators, and completely selling out of boomerangs made it a terrific day for both Bunny & Heather (who report that one small boy asked for his money back as he had lost his boomerang!) Bunny was also asked to do a demonstration at Cohuna, Vic., on Easter Sunday for a Pioneering, Machinery, Arts & Crafts Festival, and three more on Easter Monday for the Bendigo East Fair at the Old Show Grounds (home of the Golden Mile bike races). On all occasions, spectator interest was high, and at Bendigo an excellent commentary was given over the P.A. system. The only regret was that Morris Maxwell's fluorescent night flyers (shown at the A.G.M. in April) arrived a day late for display (courtesy of Australia Post). At least it meant a quiet night for the Victorian Police Force's U.F.O. Division!

Overseas exports are booming, as it were, for Wycheproof Boomerangs, and over three times the 1980 sales have been recorded for 1981, within 2 months of the close of this financial year. Overseas sales are double the sales within Australia, with France being the best customer, followed by the U.S.A., and enquiries have also come from Peru. The Reads still buy shop boomerangs "guaranteed to return" to see what is being sold, but most are the usual disappointment we have come to expect. (Perhaps it's time we again sought Consumer Protection legislation on the labelling and quality of boomerangs). Any member with a bit of time to spare may like a job at Wycheproof Boomerangs conducting guided tours and explaining to hundreds of people who are sure to continue visiting the place just what makes the genuine article work.

\*\*\*\*\*

JULY 25th...No, it's not a big Competition...it's Wedding Bells for Morris and Catherine! Every blessing and best wishes to them from all members of the B.A.A.





SUNDAY 19th JULY '81

BEAUCHAMP PARK  
Nicholson Street  
CHATSWOOD

## THIRD SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

### P R O G R A M M E

9.30 am Registrations

10.00 am Junior Accuracy  
Senior Accuracy

Junior General (Preliminaries)  
Senior General (Preliminaries)

Senior Multibladers \*

Junior Catching

Senior Same Boomerang Competition\*\*  
Senior Duration\*\*\*

Junior General (Finals)  
Senior General (Finals)

Senior Catching

PLUS: EXHIBITION THROWING OF - Large boomerangs  
- Bleeperang  
- U.S. Flying Tomahawk

ENTRY FEES: JUNIORS	- 50¢ per event	} General Comp. FREE to all B.A.A. financial members (bring your card!)
SENIORS	- \$1 per event	
	\$2 General Comp.	

TROPHIES have kindly been donated by:

THE COMMONWEALTH BANK  
and  
WILLOUGHBY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Perpetual Trophy  
by  
Sydney Sporting Supplies.

- \* MULTIBLADERS Must have more than two arms. Five throws for accuracy points. May be caught or allowed to land.
- \*\* SAME BOOMERANG All contestants throw the same boomerang for points on General Competition lines.
- \*\*\* DURATION 3 throws only per contestant. Flight timed from throw to time caught (must be caught to qualify). Longest time wins.

N.B. In accordance with B.A.A. policy, NO PRACTICE THROWING will be permitted anywhere within the competition area once the programme has begun, in the interests of safety to competitors and spectators.

# L.A. BOOMERANGS ?

OUR SIXTEEN YEARS OF WONDERFUL ENJOYMENT

HOBBYING WITH BOOMERANGS

LES & ARTHUR  
by JANETZKI

Without any knowledge of dynamics we set about making boomerangs, and with trial and error gradually produced a good returning boomerang. With coping saw, rasp and garnet paper, plus a small wood vice, and nothing else, we have made all our varieties of the bent stick. Over the years, we have found out the wrongs and rights of boomerang aerodynamics. Bevels and foils have to be varied according to the design that one is working on. Our main objective has been to improve the flight of the boomerang so that one can depend on a certain distance and an accurate return. We think that 30-40 metres is a good medium distance for general throwing.



● The remaining Janetzki brothers — Les (left) and Arthur in their North Albury backyard workshop, where they make boomerangs for clients all over the world.

Many of our boomerangs have gone to most western countries, such as West Germany, Britain, U.S.A. and Canada, and to other countries including Japan and the Philippines. Most of our boomerangs are given away as gifts, but a few are sold to cover our costs. Two of our models have been donated to the National Archives in Washington, U.S.A., and another to the Baltimore Science Centre in Maryland.

We have always been fascinated with boomerangs (one would have to be to be throwing them at our age!). We find that the model we call The Admiral seems to be the best one to cope with the wind.

We would like to mention something that as far as we can recall has not been noticed by other throwers. The subject in mind concerns the spinning of the boomerang in flight. It creates its own orbit, so to speak, causing a vacuum which, in turn, sucks in all the flies and insects which come in contact with it.

One can notice the insects being sucked around as the missile comes in to land. The turbulence created is one of the many secrets of the sport, lasting for most of the duration of the flight until the wind takes over again at the end of the flight causing the boomerang to spin a little faster and then hover down.

Most of our Championship Winners here in Australia should be capable of dealing with our friends, the Americans, when they arrive; but one should never be over-confident.

We wish you young bucks good luck in November.

GO GET 'EM, AUSTRALIA!

\*\*\*\*\*

(Some members may not be aware that Les Janetzki had a heart attack shortly after the Australian National Championships in Albury this year. He is well on the recovery road now, but I am certain all members wish all the very best of health to both Les, 80, and Arthur, 76. The sport owes them a lot. -Ed.)

\*\*\*\*\*



## BOOMERANG THROWING ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.

Nominations were called for in the last Bulletin to fill executive positions for the B.T.A., 1981-82. Only one nomination for each position was received by the Acting Secretary, so those nominations were accepted uncontested as follows:

President: Rick Haywood  
Secretary: Tony Butz  
Treasurer: Garry Durrant

Meetings have been planned for the last Sunday of each month or at such times as are mutually convenient to executive. All members of the B.A.A. resident in N.S.W. are automatically members of the B.T.A. of N.S.W. and are invited to attend meetings (which also include plenty of throwing practice, of course!)

at Chaplin Oval  
Mars Road,  
Lane Cove.

Any member wishing to raise matters at meetings, but unable to attend, is invited to correspond.

A STATE BODY OF THE  
*Boomerang Association of Australia*

FIRST QUEENSLAND BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS

Owing to a mail strike Bob Burwell has been unable to send his account of this Championship to the Bulletin. His full write-up of this historic event will be in our next Bulletin. However, to satisfy the curiosity of some, we shall give you the main results.

In the Juniors the General Championship finished up:

1st- Debbie Marshall, Q'ld; 2nd- Paul Heath, Sydney; 3rd- Mark Jones, Q'ld.  
Junior Accuracy: Paul Heath. Junior Catching: Debbie Marshall. (Debbie has an article appearing about her in New Idea..she is also the Axe Throwing Champion!

In the Senior General Championship the results were:

1st- Br. Thomas, Sydney; 2nd- Richard Goldner, Q'ld; 3rd- Les Jones, Q'ld.  
Senior Accuracy: Ian Forsyth, S.A. Senior Catching: Conrad Stacey, Q'ld.

Conditions were near impossible; very strong winds with very few lulls during the day. In the Duration flight Bob's boomerang literally flew out of sight (it was 21 secs in the air at that stage!) Oldest competitor on the day was Archey Beutel of Crows Nest, Q'ld; he is 70, and he drove over 200 km to be there.

Congratulations to Bob on getting activities underway, and 'bleeding' competitors in their first comp. We were pleased to see two aboriginal throwers taking part. One of them, Victor Bond, a left hander, won the Long Distance with 53 metres. He made the blackwattle boomerang that morning! The rest I'll leave to Bob.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* PEOPLE TO KNOW \*\*\*\*\*

PRESIDENT: Jack Byham, Boorim St., Cobram. (058) 722216

SECRETARY: Morris Maxwell, Box 245, P.O., Lilydale. 3140. (03) 739 1809

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COACH: Br. Brian M. Thomas, 35 Anderson St., Chatswood. 2067.

(02) 411 4733

EDITOR: Tony Butz, 23 Alexander Ave., Willoughby. 2068. (02) 95 4445

\*\*\*\*\*





\*\*\* BASIC COMPETITION RULES \*\*\*

Presented for ratification at Annual General Meeting 2nd April 1977

1. General

- (a) A competition held in accordance with the following rules is a test of accuracy of return, ability to catch the boomerang and range.
- (b) Such a competition shall be used for all General Championships which are recognised by the Association.
- (c) These rules may be altered only in accordance with the By-laws of the Association.
- (d) Competitors will use boomerangs which are of similar shape to the Australian Aboriginal Boomerang.
- (e) Competitors will throw by hand from the centre of several concentric circles drawn on level ground which is free of obstructions.
- (f) A scoring throw is one which causes the boomerang to pass over a point on the ground not less than 20m from the centre point of the circles and comes to rest in the scoring circles or is caught.
- (g) If the weather is inclement or very windy, the competition will not be held unless, by vote, no less than 75% of the members present approve.

\*\*\*\*\*

2. Accuracy

- (a) The scoring circles shall be of 3, 7, 11 and 15m diameter.
- (b) A score of 8, 6, 4 and 2 points is scored if the boomerang comes to rest in the 3, 7, 11 and 15m circles respectively.
- (c) If the boomerang comes to rest on the line separating scoring zones, the average score of the two adjacent zones will apply. i.e. 7, 5, 3 or 1 pts.

\*\*\*\*\*

3. Catching

- (a) For a catch to be valid, the boomerang must be held firmly without allowing it to touch the ground, and without the use of mechanical aids. If the boomerang is fumbled and then dropped, no score for the catch will be allowed.
- (b) Another concentric circle will be drawn at the qualifying distance of 20m radius. A catch taken inside this circle scores 4 points, and outside, 2 points.
- (c) If a competitor's feet are in different zones when a catch is taken, then the average score of the two adjacent zones will apply. i.e. 11, 9, 7, 5 or 3 points.
- (d) If the boomerang touches the ground during its return flight and

rebounds, then no points will be allowed for a catch but any normal points for accuracy or distance will be scored.

#### 4. Distance

(a) A bonus of 2 points is allowed for each scoring throw which causes the boomerang to pass over a point on the ground not less than 30m from the centre point of the circles.

(b) An additional bonus of 2 points is allowed for a throw which causes the boomerang to pass over a point on the ground not less than 40m from the centre point of the circles.

#### 5. Procedure

(a) In a championship competition, each round shall consist of 5 recorded throws by each contestant, and each heat shall consist of 2 rounds.

(b) Each contestant will be allowed one non-scoring practice throw before the first recorded throw in each round.

(c) Each throw must be taken within 20 seconds of taking up a "ready" position at the throwing point, except when an extension of time is allowed by the Judge.

(d) When a final heat is included in a championship competition, finalists will be those competitors whose preliminary total scores are the three highest, regardless of the number of competitors on those scores.

(e) The order of competing in finals shall be determined by the scoring in the preliminary rounds. Lowest total throws first, highest total throws last.

In the event of equal preliminary totals, countback will apply. i.e. if the last round totals are equal, then last throw determines highest, and so on, until a difference in scores shows.

(f) Final placings will be determined by the addition of total scores attained in both preliminary and final heats.

(g) If a tie occurs in the final placings, then the positions will be decided by a throw-off of 3 throws per person, until there is a difference in scores.

#### 6. Judging

(a) The Judge controlling the event shall be appointed in accordance with the By-laws of the Association.

(b) Stewards may be appointed as is practical and depending on the importance of the competition. There may be stewards for accuracy points, catching and distance.

(c) The Judge may declare a throw to be taken again, if he or she has any doubt regarding the score of that throw.

(d) If the Judge deems that a contestant is prevented or handicapped in throwing, pursuing, or catching the boomerang by an obstruction, then the contestant may take the throw again if he or she wishes.

(e) Upon entering the competition, all contestants will agree to abide by the decisions of the Judge.

\*\*\*\*\*

File - CRGB 03/77.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Latest American News.....

A team has been selected of ten throwers, and should be here in the latter half of November. Venues look like being Melbourne, Albury, Sydney and Brisbane. At Brisbane a Queensland team could compete. Bob Burwell's June competition uncovered quite a bit of talent in the banana land! We shall have to start considering our team. If you are available for selection for any of the venues please send your name to Br. Thomas before the end of July. The Executive will select the team.

We need to think about accommodation too.



# INVITATION



An invitation is extended to all B.A.A. members to attend a

## GENERAL MEETING

at Albury on SATURDAY, 3rd OCTOBER, 1981.

Main agenda items: Verification of Competition Rules  
 Programme for 1982 A.N.C.s  
 Date and venue for A.N.C.s, 1983

N.B. Agenda and minutes will be sent only to members who send either of the forms below to B.A.A. Secretary. Members are also invited to include suggestions or formal motions with these forms.

---

### ACCEPTANCE

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL be able to attend the General Meeting in Albury  
 on 3rd October, 1981  
 (Please tick boxes applicable)

I require transport.....

I require accommodation .....

I can assist with transport .....

I am including herewith suggestions  
 and/or formal motions for meeting...

DATE \_\_\_/\_\_\_/81\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

---

### INABILITY

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

I am UNABLE to attend the General Meeting in Albury on  
 3rd October, 1981  
 and hereby convey my apologies.

I do/ do not include herewith suggestions  
 and/or formal motions for the  
 meeting.

DATE \_\_\_/\_\_\_/81\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

## COMING EVENTS

- \* SUN. 19th JULY, 1981      3rd SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Beauchamp Park, Nicholson Street,  
CHATSWOOD (Gregory's Map 58:H2)
- \* 3rd, 4th OCTOBER, 1981      ALBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS  
(Long weekend)      Alexandra Park, ALBURY  
(N.B. General Meeting on 3rd)
- \* ?      NOVEMBER, 1981      AUSTRALIA'S BOOMERANG CUP  
INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE: AUST. v U.S.A.  
Melbourne, Albury, Sydney  
(Details to be finalised)
- \* 3rd, 4th APRIL, 1982      AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Alexandra Park, ALBURY  
(Also Annual General Meeting)

=====

REMINDER - DETERMINATIONS AT A.G.M. 1981, ALBURY

- \* Item 9 of General Business - By-law No.3: Minimum notice for Competitions. Carried and Passed.  
"For a competitive function to have Chamionship status, the date and venue of same must be received in writing by the Secretary no later than 24 weeks before the said date, and a note of same included in the following Bulletin or Bulletins as appropriate."

So if you are planning any events for early 1982, please allow 24 weeks' notice to B.A.A. executive and Bulletin editor.

- \* Item 13: all 1982 events to be advised before OCTOBER, 1981.
- =====

1980 Sydney Championships  
Chris Henzgen..Br.Thomas..Adrian Brannon

