



BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA

BULLETIN No 118 June 2007

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This was a promotional throw for both members and wanna be members.

BAA Editor Bob Burwell

Things that can happen, when you are not at the, "Annual General Meeting."

With an association as small as ours, there will always be difficulty in getting people to volunteer for jobs that need to be done. We certainly have had many members over the years shoulder the burden of performing in those jobs that indeed can be very time consuming. As part time honorary workers it is sometimes difficult to complete your task in a timely manor.

I have been asked to be the BAA editor and have accepted at this time. Maybe those that figured I could do this job figured I have plenty of spare time. If only that were true.

There are some words and meanings that come to mind when I read, hear or see any reports. **MY** understanding of those words and meanings follows.

1. HISTORY. A record of human achievements supported by facts.
2. LEGENDS. A recall of human achievements that is passed from one source to another and not necessarily supported by facts.
3. TRUTH. Information presented that is believed to be correct.
4. LIES. I see lies in two forms. Those that are malicious, deceitful, and hurtful to others. CHEATING is in there somewhere. LIES sometimes are words that are used to make a story more colourful or fictional in nature. The perpetrator of those lies is usually a story teller who means no harm.

WHEN TAKING ON BOARD ANY INFORMATION, YOU WOULD BE WISE TO CONSIDER THOSE WORDS AND MEANINGS.EVEN WHEN THE INFORMATION COMES FROM ME. "WHEN I BECOME PERFECT I WILL EXPECT EVERYBODY ELSE TO BE PERFECT."

There is much catching up to do. All members should have the opportunity share in most information that has been directed to the editor. Barrie Forsyth reminded me that Bulletin 117 was posted in December 2004. I expect to get this Bulletin out as Bulletin 118 June 2007. I aim to do some catch up editions from information already supplied to me. As editor I believe my responsibility will be to sift through that which is contributed, and provide information as a bulletin to be posted to each member.

I believe that a history of boomerang competitions should be recorded in the Bulletin. They are the recorded facts of our progress in the competition arena.

Competitions in my view are the culmination of the co-operation of all activities of the association. It is also my view that to achieve in competition we must share our knowledge and skills with all members who wish to learn those skills.

Not everybody is a competition freak. They are no less important than those that have their names inserted in the competition lists. All members are important. A stable house is built on a solid foundation.

Competitions are but a small part of our time allocation. I welcome contributions from anybody. You may have ideas that are valuable to our association. Ideas are seeds for the future. If you do not sow they will not grow.

Now a little bit of information about me.

I was born in Sydney N.S.W in March of 1943.
My father introduced me to throwing boomerangs in October 1945.
A News record was made of me throwing boomerangs in 1946.
I have been involved in promoting the throwing of boomerangs for most of my life.
I was introduced to making boomerangs about 1955, and was a registered manufacturer in 1969/70, making up to 300 boomerangs each week. (Selling those boomerangs for 65 cents each.)
I have competed Nationally and internationally since 1970.
My greatest enjoyment is trying to make a better boomerang.
I have thrown with almost all of the publicised Australian greats of boomerang throwing since 1946. Many are considered as legends.

Nationals 2007 Report
By David J Richardson

The National Boomerang Championships this year were once more back in Albury, at the traditional Xavier College location. As usual, conditions were excellent. Fine and warm, with the light winds typical of Albury N.S.W.

While not a large turn-out, we had throwers from four states: Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland. The throwers represented a breadth of experience, with an appreciated return by David Schummy. There were a handful of relative novices to boomerang competition, from New South Wales.

The tournament started on Saturday morning, once the dew had dried. The first of two Accuracy-50 rounds (the second round to be held the following day). David Schummy started the tournament with a bang, scoring 10 on his first throw. It was the crafty Rob Croll who would dominate this round. Rob scored 46 points out of 50 (two eights, and then three tens). This was just two points shy of the Australian record he shares with Dennis Maxwell and Adam Carroll. Craig Carter matched Rob Croll on four throws, but his middle throw was a mere four points, and he had to settle for a total of 40 points. The early surprise came from Nationals newcomer Gary Neville, who scored 35 points to claim third place for the round. A number of other throwers, sadly including myself, started poorly as the light but shifting winds out-smarted them, with scores as low as 16 points.

Up next was the first round of Aussie Round. Conditions remained similar as during Accuracy. Once more, it was ten-time Aussie Champion Rob Croll leading the way, as he snaffled up 79 points from his five throws. Thankfully, my radar was a little more on track now, and I equalled my Accuracy points while collecting another 50 points for range and catching, ending up on 73 points, six points behind Rob. It's always nice to start this event with a perfect 20!

David Schummy improved similarly. David says he throws with force, but to this watcher he seems to merely flick his boomerang, with plenty of layover. He achieves some very nice returns. His score from the first five throws was 70 points.

He may not have quite been in the league of this father, but young Matthew Croll, in his first formal competition, also showed he had quite a powerful arm.

Drama for the day came from a missed catch, by Margherita McCaughey. Margherita allowed the rang to continue through and hit her on the nose. She spent the rest of the day with a not too flattering band-aid across the bridge of her nose!

Fast Catch was next. Despite near ideal conditions, the scores here were disappointing. The eventual winner, Tim Lendrum, was the sole exception to this -- his round of 25.53 seconds included a drop, which surely indicates his boomerang was zipping around at a very handy pace! It was also an unexpected round -- his practice throws beforehand had all been horrid!

Craig Carter took second place with 30.75 seconds. Another surprise came when youngster Jordan Neville made five reliable throws and catches to come third with 31.69 seconds. Well back, I was rather annoyed with my first round: misjudging the wind direction, I literally wasted more than twenty seconds before banging out my actual five throws and catches in what would be near-winning time. D'oh!

Better news (for me, at least!) was to come with the final event for the day: Trick Catch. It was rapidly clear that this was a race of four, as Craig Carter, Tim Lendrum, David Schummy, and I made nine of the first ten catches successfully. Actually, I made ten of the ten. My good form would continue into doubling, as I went on to make nineteen of the twenty required catches. There were a couple double grabs, but overall I was just "in the zone" and all went quietly (except for my yells of joy after the two foot catches!).

I did get a little annoyed along the way. I had an inexplicable reversion to my old cautious ways and took the left-hand catch before attempting the more difficult hackey catch with the second boomerang. This is a huge no-no unless you have massive time separation between your two boomerangs. As a result I ended up not being settled and in place as the outsider boomerang came down. I admit I was crunching the numbers. After making the last four catches (one hand behind the back, one hand under the leg, eagle, and foot) I could forgive myself as my score was 94 points, and I knew I had broken the Australian record for Trick Catch/Doubling (the previous record holder was Roger Perry. 92 points, all the way back to the 1998 World Cup).

Tim Lendrum, despite still recovering from his knee injury, was doing nice stuff too. Tim ended up on 82 points in second place. Craig Carter also made his first seven Doubling catches, before stalling on 69 points. However, David Schummy's form dropped off a sheer cliff- face, as he collected just two points during Doubling to go with his 44 points from the "Singling" throws!

It was fun coaching some of the less experienced throwers with trick catches. Rhys Turner's one hand under the leg, catching effort on the run a particular highlight.

Saturday evening, and once we coaxed some of the keener MTA throwers off the field, the Annual and General Meetings (thankfully shorter than average!) were held at a room in the College (thanks to Margherita for organising this).

Come Sunday, and the second rounds of Accuracy and Aussie Round started the day. Conditions were good again, and most of the better- ranked throwers were in better form for the Accuracy event. The sole exceptions were the two leaders, Rob and Craig, which meant the final scores for this event would end up a lot tighter. Luckily for him, Craig deteriorated less, and would ultimately win the event with 75 points out of 100. Croll held onto second despite an ugly second round, while Tim, one of more than half the throwers scoring between 32 and 38 points, grabbed third place overall.

The "Nearest the Pin", award was claimed by a newcomer. Rhys Turner coaxed his boomerang to within 49 millimetres of the centre point.

Onto Aussie Round, and in almost windless conditions (but watch the direction, don't get caught out!) Rob and I gave up the lead as we collected too few accuracy points. David Schummy was Mr Reliable, collecting another 70 points to win this event with a total of 140 points. Tim scored 69 and therefore nearly collected second place with his total of 127 points. That position was left to Rob and I to determine in a throw-off after we both ended on 129 points.

I went first: 40 metre range, caught in the eight-point circle, 16 handy points and the pressure was on Robby. No worries, Robby makes his throw, and BANG: a perfect 20, and second place was undeniably his.

The most remarkable throwing was not by any of those people though, with Craig Carter leaving the line spotters scratching their heads after his stunning second round. Craig, often known for chasing his huge Aussie Round throws out to the 40 metre line for the eventual catch, decided to throw his Team Relay boomerang for his second round, and collect a stack of accuracy points for a change. He then went through a series of tunings of this boomerang that resulted in the first throw travelling about 28 metres, the second throw 45 metres (caught outside the 20 metre circle), the third throw just 22 metres(!), the third 28 metres again (thankfully caught in the centre circle), while the fifth throw was finally back to its "normal" range of just under 35 metres. It was amazing to watch a single boomerang doing such different things with mere twists of its arms, and no appreciable change in the wind conditions.

It is time to warm up. Five-minute Endurance is the next challenge. We had two circles for this, and the wind was still pretty light but definitely swirly. The top scores may not have been all that great, but it was good to see very solid efforts by almost all involved, with all but four throwers collecting at least 26 catches. My round was a disaster early on, eerily similar to my Fast Catch effort the previous day, with my direction-picking woeful and no catches in the first minute-and-a-half! Then I found my groove, and 37 consecutive throws and catches (with no drops) eventually grabbed me third place.

Craig Carter was after me on the circle, and his boomerang was distinctly faster, but too many drops and a couple wayward returns meant he only made 33 catches during his five minutes. Afterwards, Paul "AJ" Croft and Peter Lewry got in some nice grooves too, and both were annoyed not to have beaten the other, after the two tied on 29 catches.

But the real action was over on the other circle, where Tim and David Schummy both made 39 catches. A one-minute throw-off was then held between the two: Tim unfortunately went just a tad too quick, dropped a few, and the more steady David Schummy won the throw-off and the event.

It was time for the final event: MTA-100. And yes, it was time for the wind to finally pick up, but still keep its predilection for significant swings in direction. This made the event quite a challenge, and occasionally quite unfair as the direction changed ninety or more degrees just after you made your throw! Craig started well, collecting a 28.79 second time with his first throw, and this would remain unchallenged until the fourth round, when Rob Croll would edge ahead with his 29.39 seconds. Craig, David Schummy, and Tim also had decent throws blow out of the 100-metre circle. In the end, Craig would claim the event title just ahead of Rob with his final throw being aloft for 30.47 seconds.

It was time for the calculations to be made, and that final throw by Craig would prove vital: with him and Tim tied on 15 ranking points, Craig would win on count-back, having won two events, and Tim only one. This was Craig's first senior Australian victory (he won the Victorian title for the first time several years back), while for Tim this further confirmed his status as cream of the crop: he has placed in the top two overall in all five of his National Championships.

David Schummy was close behind, third overall with 17 ranking points. He won two events, Aussie Round and Endurance, and his return to competition after several years of absence was impressive.

In fourth and fifth place were Robby Croll and myself. Rob placed second three times, but both of us had a few poor events that eliminated us from the race for the Australian Title.

The Junior Champion was clear: with five event wins, including an all-ages third place in Fast Catch, Jordan Neville romped home. The only event he did not win was Aussie Round, where Rhys Turner pipped him with his 85 points. The younger Matthew Croll also had an impressive debut -- his dad just needs to work on improving the catching of his powerful throws!

The Ladies Champion was equally clear-cut, as Margaret Patterson was only defeated, narrowly, in Accuracy. Margherita McCaughey was surprised to hear she had slipped home in that event -- though it must be noted Christene Metzakis very nearly won this one despite only throwing in one of the two rounds!

Veterans Champion was simple: Leonie Metzakis was the only such person to throw in more than one event (Morris Maxwell was amusing throwing a 40 metre boomerang for Accuracy!) and therefore claimed this title.

Next year will be a change: the Queensland boys are going to step up and host the Nationals for only the second time. We look forward to it!

The following news clip is attributed to, Brimbank Leader, 1 May 2007

Throw-away sport hooked champ

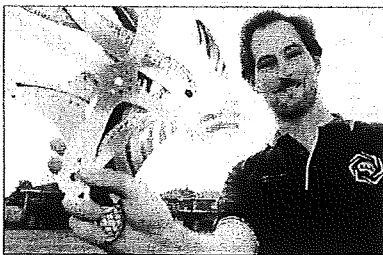
Charis Chang

HOMESICKNESS first led to David Richardson picking up a boomerang, but the Australian champion said the wow factor made him keep returning to it. The St Albans resident set an Australian record and walked away with the national title for the trick catch/doubling event at the Australian Boomerang Throwing Championships in Albury on April 21 and 22. Richardson, 35, completed tricks including catching the boomerang with his left hand, feet, under his legs and



catching two boomerangs at once. Out of 20 potential entries he missed only one -- the Hocky -- which involved kicking the boomerang up with his foot and catching it. Richardson's score of 84 out

of 100 beat the previous Australian record of 82 set in the 1998 World Cup. He said his love of the Aussie icon developed while he was living in the United States in 1983. "We were a bit homesick and nostalgic," Richardson said. And once he picked up the boomerang, he could not put it down. "Once you throw it once, it can really catch your imagination and make you go wow," he said. Mr Richardson hopes to compete in the World Championships to be held in Seattle next year.



St Albans' David Richardson was a life and set a record at the Australian Boomerang Throwing Championships in Albury last month. Photo: Charis Chang

Stop Press;
Australian record set at Albury in Trick Catch Doubling.
Congratulations to David Richardson.

If you haven't heard, Tim Lendrum equalled the Aussie Round world record recently in Mulgoa, and therefore raised David Schummy's Australian record by 3 points. Light but shifty winds (more Albury than Albury!), and he somehow managed NOT to hit a goal post or tree in the limited area we had. I came second (best round of, I think, 83 with 45-metre range rang -- my preferred 50+ metre rang would not have risen above the trees like Tim's did!), Peter Lewry third.

BAA National's Results 21st April 2007 Albury New South Wales.
ACCURACY

Name	Round 1	Round 2	Total	Place	Points
Craig Carter	40	35	75	1	0
Rob Croll	46	24	70	2	2
Tim Lendrum	26	36	62	3	3
David Schummy	27	33	60	4	4
Paul "AJ" Croft	26	33	59	5	5
Jordan Neville	20	38	58	6	6
David J Richardson	23	34	54	7	7
Gary Neville	35	16	51	8	8
Peter Lewry	16	34	50	9	9
Rhys Turner	16	32	48	10	10.5
Paul Turner	26	22	48	10	10.5
Margherita McCaughey	29	13	42	12	12
Margaret Patterson	18	20	38	13	13
Leonie Metzakis	22	15	37	14	14
Chris. Metzakis	-	36	36	15	15
Matthew Croll	18	16	34	16	16
Morris Maxwell	-	14	14	17	17

AUSSIE ROUND

Name	Round 1	Round 2	Total	Throw off	Place	Points
David Schummy	70	70	140		1	0
Rob Croll	79	50	129	20	2	2
David J Richardson	73	56	129	16	3	3
Tim Lendrum	58	69	127		4	4
Paul "AJ" Croft	59	46	105		5	5
Craig Carter	49	46	95		6	6
Rhys Turner	43	42	85		7	7
Jordan Neville	33	50	83		8	8
Margaret Patterson	44	28	72		9	9
Paul Turner	31	37	68		10	10
Peter Lewry	44	21	65		11	11
Christene Metzakis	46	11	57		12	12
Margherita McCaughey	35	20	55		13	13
Matthew Croll	23	20	43		14	14
Leonie Metzakis	18	24	42		15	15
Gary Neville	13	18	31		16	16
Morris Maxwell	0	0	0		17	17

ENDURANCE

Name	SCORE	Place	Points	Throw off
David Schummy	39	1	0	5
Tim Lendrum	39	2	2	4
David J Richardson	37	3	3	
Craig Carter	33	4	4	
Paul "AJ" Croft	29	5	5.5	
Peter Lewry	29	5	5.5	
Rob Croll	27	7	7	
Margaret Patterson	26	8	8.5	
Paul Turner	26	8	8.5	
Jordan Neville	21	10	10	
Gary Neville	16	11	11	
Rhys Turner	14	12	12	
Margherita McCaughey	6	13	13	
Matthew Croll	2	14	14	
Leonie Metzakis	-	17	17	
Christene Metzakis	-	17	17	
Morris Maxwell	-	17	17	

Fast Catch

Name	Best Time	Place	Points
Tim Lendrum	25.53 sec	1	0
Craig Carter	30.75 sec	2	2
Jordan Neville	31.69 sec	3	3
Peter Lewry	33.87 sec	4	4
Rob Croll	34.00 sec	5	5
David Schummy	36.26 sec	6	6
David Richardson	42.25 sec	7	7
Paul "AJ" Croft	42.52 sec	8	8
Paul Turner	63.24 sec	9	9
Rhys Turner	64.09 sec	10	10
Gary Neville	73.62 sec	11	11
Margaret Patterson	76.78 sec	12	12
Margherita McCaughey	110.00 sec	13	13
Matthew Croll	160.00 sec	14	14.5
Leonie Metzakis	160.00 sec	14	14.5
Christene Metzakis	-	17	17
Morris Maxwell	-	17	17

Maximum Time Aloft

Name	Best Time	Place	Points
Craig Carter	30.47 sec	1	0
Rob Croll	29.39 sec	2	2
David Schummy	28.42 sec.	3	3
Tim Lendrum	24.63 sec.	4	4
David J Richardson	21.09 sec.	5	5
Paul "AJ" Croft	20.09 sec.	6	6
Peter Lewry	16.53 sec.	7	7
Jordan Neville	13.21 sec.	8	8
Mathew Croll	5.94 sec.	9	9
Rhys Turner	0.0	10	12
Margaret Patterson	0.0	10	12
Pail Turner	0.0	10	12
Gary Neville	0.0	10	12
Margherita McCaughey	0.0	10	12
Leonie Metzakis	DNC	17	17
Christene Metzakis	DNC	17	17
Morris Maxwell	DNC	17	17

Trick Catch/Doubling

Name	Single Trick Catch	Double Trick Catch	Total	Points	Place
David J Richardson	50	44	94	0	1
Tim Lendrum	40	42	82	2	2
Craig Carter	40	29	69	3	3
David Schummy	44	2	46	4	4
Rob Croll	20	13	33	5	5
Jordan Neville	17	6	23	6	6
Margaret Patterson	14	6	20	7	7
Rhys Turner	9	6	15	8	8
Paul "AJ" Croft	2	10	12	9	9
Peter Lewry	6	2	8	10	10
Gary Neville	0	3	3	11	11
Paul Turner	2	0	2	12	12
Margherita McCaughey	0	0	0	13	13
Matthew Croll	DNC	DNC	DNC	17	17
Leonie Metzakis	DNC	DNC	DNC	17	17
Christene Metzakis	DNC	DNC	DNC	17	17
Morris Maxwell	DNC	DNC	DNC	17	17

Overall Results

Name	Overall Points	Overall Place
Craig Carter	15	1
Tim Lendrum	15	1
David Schummy	17	3
Rob Croll	23	4
David J Richardson	25	5
Paul "AJ" Croft	38.5	6
Jordan Neville	41	7
Peter Lewry	46.5	8
Rhys Turner	59.5	9
Margaret Patterson	61.5	10
Paul Turner	62	11
Gary Neville	69	12
Margherita McCaughey	76	13
Matthew Croll	84.5	14
Leonie Metzakis	94.5	15
Christene Metzakis	95	16
Morris Maxwell	102	17

Overall Junior

Name	Overall Points	Overall Place
Jordan Neville	2	1
Rhys Turner	11	2
Matthew Croll	17	3

Overall Veteran

Name	Overall Points	Overall Place
Leonie Metzakis	6	1
Morris Maxwell	12	2

Overall Female

Name	Overall Points	Overall Place
Margaret Patterson	3	1
Margherita McCaughey	10	2
Leonie Metzakis	22	3
Christene Metzakis	22	3

CONTEST WINNERS

Accuracy Craig Carter



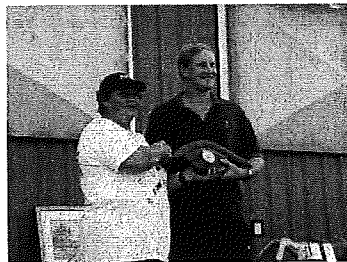
Aussie Round David Schummy



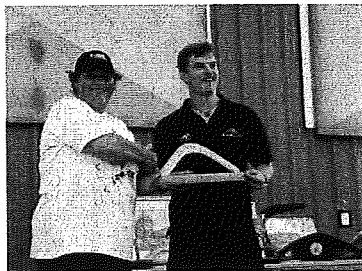
Endurance David Schummy



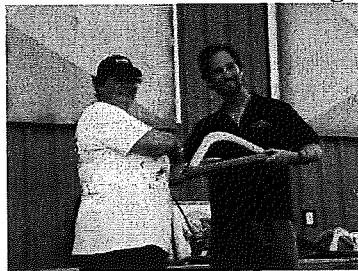
Fast Catch Tim Lendrum



Maximum Time Aloft.



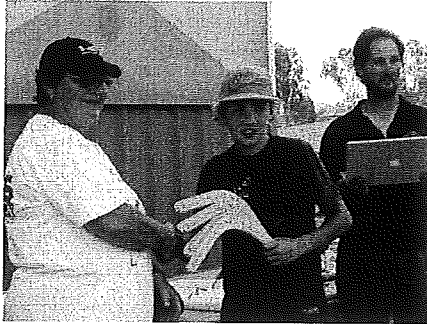
Trick Catch Doubling



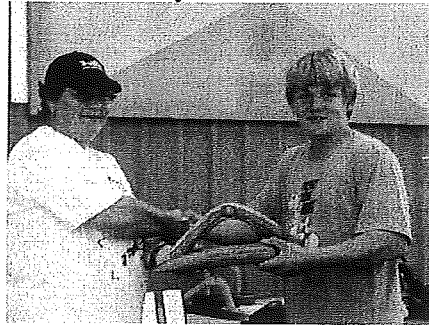
WE WERE THERE FOR BAA NATIONALS ALBURY 2007



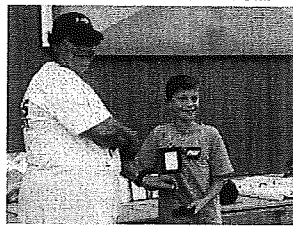
**Overall Junior 1st Place
Jordan Neville**



**Overall Junior 2nd Place
Rhys Turner**



**Overall Junior 3rd Place
Matthew Croll**

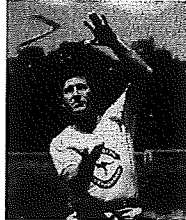


BURWELL WAS THERE IN SPIRIT

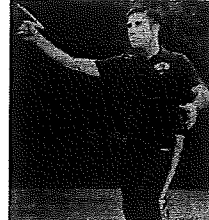
1946



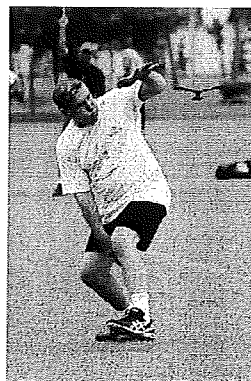
1980



1982



1984



2006



2007

Junior Aussie Champion!

Young thirteen year old Jordan Neville, from Mannering Park, was among the NSW team that attended the National Boomerang Throwing Championships in Albury over the weekend of the 21st and 22nd April.

Jordan made an amazing contribution to the team by becoming the Australian Junior Champion. He won five of the six events over two days of intense competition. The events he won were Accuracy, Trick Catch, Endurance, Fast Catch and Maximum Time Aloft. He came second to Rhys Turner from Currans Hill in Sydney, another NSW competitor, in the Aussie Round event. Rhys was Runner Up to Jordan in the Championship while Matthew Croll from Victoria came third.

Jordan's best performance was the 'Fast Catch' where his time for 5 consecutive catches was thirty one seconds. These throws that must travel out, at least twenty metres placed him third in the whole competition. Amazingly he beat three throwers who have represented Australia, internationally, at World Championships.

He was placed seventh overall from all the competitors who came from Western Australia, Victoria and Queensland as well as NSW.

Tim Lendrum from the Blue Mountains and Craig Carter from Melbourne won the Senior Championship with equal points. These two throwers are not long out of the junior ranks, even though this is Tim's third win and Craig's first. The sport of Boomerang Throwing (and catching) seems to be in good safe hands with these types of young throwers around.

Jordan will have to travel to Brisbane in May 2008 to defend his Junior Title.

Jordan's father, Gary, was very pleased with his son's performance in Albury. Gary was the oldest male competitor at the championships and he finished twelfth overall. He scored a perfect 'Ten' in his favourite accuracy event.

Many other competitors also helped Jordan along the way but special mention must be made of the Neville's mentor, Tony Butz. Tony helped them prepare for the specific competitions with regular training and by making sure that they had the correct types of boomerangs for each competition. He made many of these competition boomerangs himself.

Any people interested in finding out more about this unique sport will be able to see our local stars and all the other NSW throwers here on the Central Coast on Sunday 20th May. The Central Coast Championships will be held at Saint Edwards and there is the opportunity for newcomers to come along on the day and try out this fascinating sport.

Contact Gary Neville by ringing 0437995242 if you need further information. The following news clip is attributed to, The CENTRAL COAST NEWS.

CENTRAL COAST NEWS

www.centralcoastnews.com.au

ON THE SPOT with Alison Buckland

Jordan's new spin on sport

THE Central Coast is home to the now Australian National Junior Champion in boomerang throwing.

Jordan Neville, 13, of Mannering Park, won five out of six events at the national championships to claim the title.

The event was held in Albury with two days of competition with competitors ranking from under-16 to seniors.

Some of the events included trick catch, maximum time aloft and accuracy.

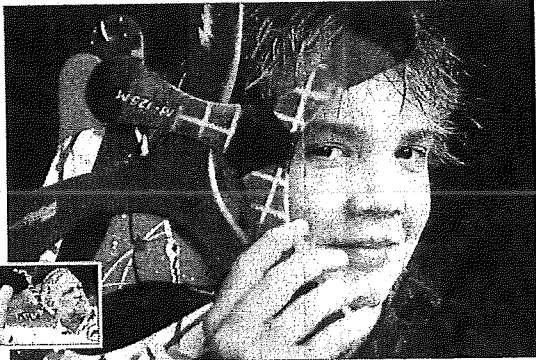
Jordan didn't win the Aussie-round event but was runner-up in that category.

Jordan has been throwing boomerangs for two years and trains twice a week with his father, Gary, and coach Tony Butz.

"We train twice a week for half an hour but if it's with Tony it's a couple of hours," he said.

Mr Butz, the current NSW masters champion, helps Jordan and his dad prepare for competitions by coaching them and creating many of the boomerangs they use in competition himself.

The Neville family are no strangers to winning boomerang competitions with Mr Neville winning the NSW Accuracy Cham-



Modern boomerangs come in all shapes and sizes.

Challenging learning curve

Boomerang throwing is a sport practised worldwide.

The field is marked out in concentric circles. The centre has a radius of 2m and is the point from which competitors throw in most events.

From the centre there are various accuracy circles and landing in them gives a certain score.

Modern tournaments include accuracy, Aussie round, endurance, fast catch, maximum time aloft and trick catch.

Modern boomerangs come in many different shapes, sizes and weights and each one has its own unique flight path.

The Boomerang Association of Australia is a not-for-profit club formed in 1989 in Melbourne with members across Australia.

ampionship in time and scoring third in the accuracy event at last week's nationals.

The next event on the boomerang throwing calendar is the Central Coast Championship at St

Edwards College, East Gosford, at 10am on May 26.

Everyone is welcome to check out the activities or even try out some boomerang throwing of their own.

Boomerang throwing champion Jordan Neville and, inset, his coach Tony Butz in action.

PHOTO: SPAGE MACHOJE/STYLAGE

Living Legends!

What a great thrill it was to attend this year's nationals! Through Tony Butz I had been reading from past boomerang bulletins from all over the world. I'd read about and heard about some legends like Robert Croll, David Schummy, Morris Maxwell and Bruce Carter. Here they all were in the flesh.

Throw in Dave Richardson, Craig Carter and Tim Lendrum. These guys display some amazing catches. They seem to make their boomerangs defy gravity and then return, on call, when they are ready and in position to take the catch.

"A. J." Croft also shows the way in M.T.A., Aussie Round and line judging. Toss in Peter Lewry who organised us all, scored for two full days and competed as well. Without much chance for a warm-up he belts out his 'left-handers' very creditably in each event.

To me, it is totally amazing that all these legends always make the time to help each other and the newcomers throughout the competitions. They are continually giving advice, making a suggestion or telling you when the wind changes. They would even loan or give you a boomerang to help you to throw better if your own wasn't working for you on the day!

I guess this is why boomerang throwing is such a great sport. Everyone seems to want to share success with each other. Long live the legends of boomerang throwing.

Gary Neville (Also a legend, but only in my own mind) - 14/05/07

P.S. Thanks to everyone who contributed and made this year's National's such an enjoyable and successful championship.

The following news clip is attributed to; This article was in the Central Coast Extra section of the Sydney Daily Telegraph on the 27th April. The photographer was Jeff Herbert and the reporter was Stephanie Wilson.

Jordan Neville

Going round for Dad

and it's a good fun day out," he said.

Mr Neville introduced Jordan to the sport two years ago. The art form has become a good bonding exercise for father and son and a handy distraction for Mr Neville, who is recovering from a form of leukemia which saw him undergo a stem cell transplant last March. "Even when I was in hospital and my muscles had wasted away I was lifting my mouthwash bottle trying to get my strength back," he joked.

"When I came out Jordan had to catch for me because I'd go to run 5m and I'd fall over."

Mr Neville - who at 53 was the oldest male competitor at the Albury championships - is evidently proud as punch of his son's emerging talent. Jordan will travel to Brisbane next May to defend his title.

LIFE really is a case of what goes around comes around for Jordan Neville (pictured). The Mannering Park youngster has followed in his dad Gary's footsteps and inherited his love of boomerang throwing. The 13-year-old has won the Australian Junior Champion title at the National Boomerang Throwing Championships in Albury. Jordan, who has a collection of nearly 40 boomerangs, faced two other juniors in six events, showcasing his skills including accuracy, endurance, speed and tricks. "I just get to spend time with Dad

Bob Burwell, and Long Distance boomerang throwing.
Written by Bob Burwell

A recent question posted on Boomerang Talk.
"How can you measure long distance accurately?"

"HISTORY" "Legend" and a few "lies"??

There have been numerous methods used to determine how far long distance boomerangs travel. In each case the boomerang is expected to return to a point behind the throwing point.

1. An estimate of range is made from the throwing point. The event controller selects the guy named "Shorty" to leg pace out to that estimated point. The result is then recorded in Yards or Metres, depending on your age or what country you live in.

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

"A LEGEND IS BORN."

2. The Burwell way determined by Cecil Burwell. A predetermined distance is measured from the throwing point to a prescribed arc in the direction of throwing. Throwers have three attempts to pass the pre-measured arc. Provided at least one thrower passes that mark, the measurement is moved out to another pre-measured point approximating the furthest throw. Throwers, who qualified in the first throw, now have three more throws to continue in their quest to qualify. The measurement for the winner is then made to the last arc that was crossed by the throwers boomerang. Depending on the number of throwers, the arc may be moved out in smaller increments to determine each throwers best range.

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

3. There was a convenor with one purpose in life. Break the existing world record. At a public gathering, with honest newspaper reporters as witnesses. The convenor pre-measures from a set of football goal posts to the throw point so as the distance is 2 yards further than the existing record. 108 yards. (I name it the "Herb Smith" record breaking attempt.) Locate a percentage of the reporters beyond the goal posts, others at the throw point. The 1000 onlookers are located at a safe distance so as to be able to observe the total flight path. The throw is made. Onlookers observe the flight path pass the goal posts with a complete return. Reporters beyond the goal posts observe and report the boomerang passing over their heads at 120 yards. Convenor recognises only the pre-measured 110 yards.

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

Not to mention the world wide controversy that erupted.

"You can't measure that accurate was the call."

4. My abbreviated description of the BAA method. In early contests three throws only with no warm up. Today there is five throws with a warm up. A base line 20 metres either side of the centre throw point. There is a perpendicular line in the direction of the throw. It is the throwers responsibility to determine where the perpendicular line is located. Along the perpendicular line the thrower then requests observers with six metre long PVC poles held so as to assist observers in observing where the boomerang crosses the perpendicular line. Provided the boomerang returns back over the base line, the distance is then measured from the throw point to the crossover point. If the boomerang goes out and fails to cross the perpendicular, but crosses the base line on return it is a non qualifying throw. In 1981 in Albury for the USBA Test. I qualified with a winning throw of 111 Metres. The USBA observers told me it had passed them and peaked at 120 metres. The crossover at the perpendicular was 111 metres.

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

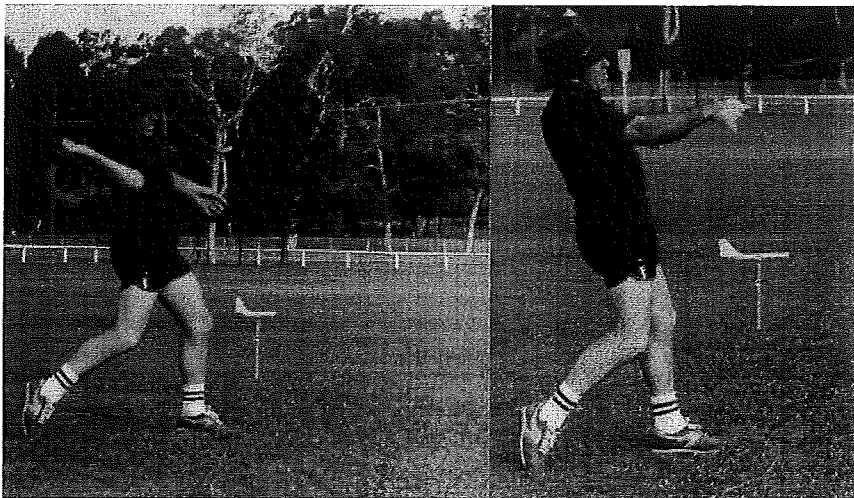
5. The USBA devised a method that was used in the USBA 1982 Nationals, at the Bethlehem university grounds in Pennsylvania. Competitors throw from behind a 1 metre throw point at the centre of the 20 metre base line measurements. Locate as many as possible, trustworthy observers within the throwing range to observe the flight path and triangulate to determine the furthest turnaround point of the boomerang. Provided the boomerang has a qualifying flight, the measurement is taken from that triangulated point to the throw point. My brother Jack was an observer. Jack reported to me that "Those Bloody Yanks were biased towards the USBA throwers". I still have my winning marker peg signed by Rusty Harding confirming to me that my USBA friends got it right. Me winning, with a throw of 102 metres. "I knew "I" could trust those "Bloody yanks.""

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

6. During that 1982 tour of the USA by me, the Guinness Book Of Records organisers arranged with Peter Ruhf & Me to be a part of the "David Frost, Guinness Book of Records Down Under" TV special for Long Distance Boomerang throwing. The arm to arm meeting would be at the Randwick Racecourse, in Sydney Australia. Peter and I were to be on deck at 9.00 AM to warm up for the record attempt. I do not remember the exact record we were to break. It may have been the 111 metres from Albury or 112 metres by another thrower. I arrived back home from the USA in the late afternoon. Next morning at 3 AM I was up to catch a flight to Sydney 500 miles away to start the 9 AM warm up. Peter flew in from the USA at about the same time. The Sydney members of the BAA lead by Br. Brian Thomas had pre marked the throwing range. A very large arc was marked to accommodate a lefty, "Peter" and me a normal person. (That is a Bob Burwell lie. I am definitely not normal.) 9AM the warm-up begins. 12 Noon and the TV crew and David Frost are still not ready. Some time after 1PM from memory they said, "We are ready for the take." David Frost assures me I have it in the bag. He tells me when he was out on the perimeter; my boomerang was peaking at 130 Metres. (Oh yeah! . That would be a first with my 5mm 5 1/2 oz or 156 Gram fibreglass arm wrecking hook.) Spotters were located much the same as for Bethlehem. This time they were all Aussies out there spotting. "How could I lose?" Now the media, bless their heart and souls, (I won't mention GMA Down Under at Port Douglas.) decided we had to throw when they were ready. It was not uncommon to be running in to throw and they would shout, "STOP". We would have to reset and go on their command. If you have ever thrown long distance you would know that sort of control is somewhat disruptive. "HISTORY" records that I beat the existing record by 1 metre. Peter beat it by 2 metres. My reward was to see the pleasure and sense of achievement on my good friends face. I ankle tapped him going down the stairs later just to give him something to remember me by. (YES! Another Burwell lie.) I would never intentionally cause any friend an injury be it physical or mental. That scar on the back of Peter's head was just a nasty rumour. (Another Burwell lie.) Yes it did happen during a long distance throw, and was caused by my boomerang.

Hmmmm. Notice the inherent flaws in this method.

Bob Burwell Throwing Distance Maybe 1985/90.



BAA BOOMERANG COMPETITION 37 YEARS AGO DARLINGTON POINT

COMMITTEES GOVERNING WORLD BOOMERANG THROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD AT DARLINGTON POINT ON SATURDAY, 7th NOVEMBER, 1970 (All Day)

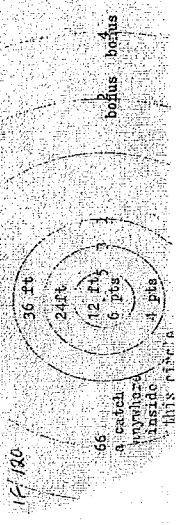
RULES

1. Competitors must use their own boomerangs, which should be of the Australian Aboriginal type.
2. There will be **TWO PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**, with each competitor having **FIVE THROWS IN EACH ROUND**. That is, each competitor will have 10 throws in his bid to qualify for the final.
3. The **THREE TOP-SCORING COMPETITORS WILL CONTEST THE FINAL**, in which each finalist will again have **TWO SERIES OF FIVE THROWS**, allowed one non-scoring practice throw.
4. Prior to taking the first five throws, each competitor will be allowed one non-scoring practice throw.
5. Each throw must be taken within 20 seconds of the contestant taking up his position at the throwing point.
6. A tournament committee of three under Mr. GEOFF ROWLAND, of Darlington Point, will be in charge of the championships and will hear any dispute. Their ruling will be final.

SCORING

1. The championship is a test of range, accuracy, and ability to catch the boomerang on its return to the concentric circles.
 2. The boomerang must be thrown from within the inner (12ft.) circle.
 3. The ground is marked out in at least three circles of 12ft., 24ft. and 36ft. circles. Other identification marks should be placed to indicate distances of 66ft., 90 feet and 120 feet.
 4. A score of two, four or six points will be made if the boomerang returns and comes to rest in the 36 feet, 24 feet or 12 feet zones, respectively.
 5. A catch anywhere inside the 66ft. zone scores an additional four points.
 6. If a competitor's feet are in different zones when a catch is taken, the score appropriate to the higher scoring zone will apply.
 7. If the boomerang comes to rest on the circumference of either of the three inner circles (12ft., 24ft. and 36 feet) the competitor loses one point.
- If the boomerang lands in the 12ft. circle the score is 6 points; one line of 12ft. circle 5 points; inside 24ft. circle 4 points; on line 3 points; inside 36ft. circle 2 points; on line 1 point.
- For a scoring throw to qualify the boomerang must pass a point above the ground at least 66ft. from the centre of the inner circle.

A bonus of two points is allowed for each scoring throw which is a distance of 90 feet or more, and a bonus of four points if more is covered.



WORLD BOOMERANG AND SPEAR THROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS AT DARLINGTON POINT

On Saturday, 7th November, 1970

PROGRAMME

WORLD SPEAR THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP— This event will be a test of accuracy in hitting a target. Trophy or Certificate for Winner, with prize money allotted to the three place-getters. Each competitor to have three throws. **POST ENTRIES.**

(There may also be a championship event to ascertain the champion distance thrower, with the spear propelled by an Aboriginal boomerang.)

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOOMERANG THROWING CONTEST— To be decided under championship conditions. To be held at Darlington Point. Certificate to Winner, with added prize money for First, Second and Third as appointed by the promoters, the Darlington Point War Memorial Swimming Pool Committee. **POST ENTRIES.**

RIVERINA RESIDENT BOOMERANG THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP— Open to competitors residing within a radius of 75 miles by road from Darlington Point. Perpetual Trophy for winner. Same conditions as for World Championship. **Post Entries.**

HIGHEST NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE CATCHES— Competitors to throw from centre of 24ft. circle. Boomerang must travel minimum distance of 66 feet to be caught INSIDE the circle. If a competitor drops his first and second throw he is entitled to one more try. Entry fee (50 cents) to go towards sweepstakes for winner. Competitors may enter as many times as time permits. Winner to be recognised as Australian record holder.

SHORTEST BOOMERANG (measured across lips) to fly 75 feet and return to 24ft. circle. Entry fee 50 cents towards sweepstakes. Note that one entry per competitor if time permits. Winner to hold record.

LARGEST BOOMERANG to fly 75 feet. Same conditions as above.

HIGHEST SCORE FROM FIVE THROWS under championship conditions. Distance not taken into consideration, although there will be a minimum of 66 feet. Eight-handed contestants to throw left-handed boomerangs with the right hand, and vice versa. One sighting throw and five scoring throws. Entry fee 50 cents towards sweepstakes. Winner to be recognised as record holder.

DISTANCE THROWING— Contestants to throw from a small peg in the ground, large steward will mark distance. Boomerang must return behind an imaginary line drawn at right angles to the direction of throw. Each competitor to have three throws. Any number of entries from competitors. Winner to hold record. Sweepstakes 50 cents.

HOST ACCURACY RETURN— Each competitor to have five throws from near small peg; the boomerang which comes to rest closest to the peg wins. Note: No catching in this event. Minimum throw 66ft. Entry fee of 50 cents towards sweepstakes. One entry per competitor.

TROPHY. Prizes \$20.00 (donated by Yarrukilla's Boomerangs, of Bourke for first competitor to take 20 catches inside small circles in World Championship).

BAVENS \$50.00 TROPHY— Mr. L. Hayes, of Mudgee, has donated Trophy plus \$50.00 for the first person to throw a Boomerang 70 YARDS and make it return within TWO YARDS the thrower in calm conditions.

RECORDS AT STAKE

FOURTEEN CATCHES out of 15 throws under championship conditions jointly by "Lucretia" Williams, Geoff Davison and Set at Darlington Point on 1st November, 1969.

RESULTS OF BOOMERANG CONTEST FROM 1970 DARLINGTON POINT.

Hay Road,
DARLINGTON POINT.....2706
26th November, 1970.

Robert Burwell,
Pintu Drive,
Slacks Creek,
QUEENSLAND. 4127

WORLD SPEAR THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP

1st Jack Digham 3 points Cobram, VIC.

(Jack was the only competitor to hit the target out of four throws each.)

WORLD SPEAR THROWING (DISTANCE)

1st Bob Burwell 313' - 2" Slacks Creek, QUEENSLAND.
2nd Jack Burwell (Not measured) Brisbane, QUEENSLAND.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOOMERANG THROWING CONTEST

(17 competitors) (Final 2 series of 5 throws).

1st Jeff Lewry 72 points Bowna, N.S.W.
2nd Bluey Williams 54 points Melbourne, VIC.
3rd Bruce Kyle 34 points Abbots Point, N.S.W.

HIGHEST NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE CATCHES

1st Bob Burwell 13 Slacks Creek, QUEENSLAND.
2nd Bluey Williams 11 Melbourne, VIC.
3rd Bruce Kyle 10 Abbots Point, N.S.W.
3rd Peter Lewry 10 Bowna, N.S.W.

RIVERINA RESIDENT BOOMERANG THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP - 5 THROWS

1st Roy Johns 34 Griffith, N.S.W.
2nd John Howley 16 Darlington Point, N.S.W.
3rd Jim Cattinach 10 Darlington Point, N.S.W.
3rd Greg Cook 10 Darlington Point, N.S.W.

BOOMERANG DISTANCE THROWING - (Boomerang to return behind a line at right angles to the throw).

1st Jack Burwell 188' - 7 3/8" Brisbane, QUEENSLAND.
2nd Bob Burwell 177' - 10 1/2" Slacks Creek, QUEENSLAND.
3rd Jeff Lewry 175' - 6 3/8" Bowna, N.S.W.

With regards to the most accurate return, under the printed rules of competition, you would have to be regarded as the winner of the event.

We were also disappointed in the number of entries for the World Spear Throwing event, as we had been advised that there would also be three contestants from Alice Springs, NORTHERN TERRITORY.

I thought that the standard of the world boomerang contestants and other boomerang events, was very high and very representative of Eastern Australia, which in my opinion would contain the top boomerang throwers of the world.

We were very pleased that you and your father and brother attended the function and I congratulate you on your prominent placings in the events.

I think we will hold a similar function next year. If you have any further suggestions for competitions, let me know.

Yours faithfully,

Jeff Burwell

G. E. Bowna,

With reference to your letter of 11th November, the results of the events are as follows:

LARGEST BOOMERANG

1st Joe Lewry 2' - 4.6/10"
2nd Bob Burwell 2' - 0"
3rd Jack Burwell 2' - 0"

SMALLEST BOOMERANG

1st Jeff Lewry 5.4/10"
2nd Bob Burwell 6.4/10"
3rd Bruce Kyle 1' - 6 1/10"

MOST ACCURATE RETURN

1st Bluey Williams 2' - 2"
2nd Bob Burwell 2' - 6 2/10"
3rd Bruce Kyle 2' - 6 4/10"

HIGHEST SCORE FROM FIVE THROWS

(Right handed contestant to throw left handed boomerangs with right hand and vice versa.)
1st Jack Burwell 28 Brisbane, QUEENSLAND.
2nd Bob Burwell 26 Slacks Creek, QUEENSLAND.
3rd Bruce Kyle 24 Abbots Point, N.S.W.

RIVERINA SPEAR THROWING

(at 4ft Feta target at 50 yards.)
1st Greg Cook Darlington Point, N.S.W.

No contestant hit the target - the first prize was awarded to Greg because he was throwing the longest distance (in excess of 50 yards without a womera).

BURWELL HOW TO THROW 1962

The Boomerang can be thrown either forward or reverse using either Spin or Drive Grip. See Fig. 1 and 2. For Reverse Throw hold opposite end.

Select your method of throwing. Hold Boomerang as in Fig. 3 for start of throw. Select aiming mark approx. 45° to right of wind. See Fig. 7 on back page. Throw the Boomerang in a straight line away from you. Finish throw as in Fig. 4. Note: Do not start Boomerang more than 25° to the right and make sure the side of Boomerang is on the outside before you throw. The action of Boomerang lands in front of you throw more to the left or into wind. If it lands behind you throw more to the right or around.

See Fig. 7. When Boomerang is thrown with too much slant it climbs rapidly and descends fast usually landing on the end. This will break the Boomerang more often than not. If you continue to start when throwing, change from Forward to Reverse Throw. Use large clear space for throwing. Free of obstacles. Vary pace of throw according to speed of wind, low for fast wind, fast for slow or light wind. Left handers require left handed Boomerang, and throw to left of wind.

ACCURACY: Throw from centre of circles (Fig. 7). Measure distance from centre of circles to nearest part of Boomerang. Throw shows for each competitor. Lowest aggregate wins.

CATCHING: Three throws from centre of circles. Catch made in centre circle. Score 5 points, near circle 4, just 3, outer circle 2, outside of circles 1. Largest aggregate wins.

DURATION: This is a time contest to judge the longest time in flight. Judge by stop watch from time Boomerang leaves thrower's hand till it lands on ground.

DISTANCE: Competitor throws to achieve greatest distance. Boomerang must return to a low level with point from which thrown. Judges stand at given distance. Boomerang must pass over their head. Three throws to qualify. Judges move on following day. Judges are repeated eliminating competitors at 100 yard jump. Distances of over 100 yards can be attained.

TEAM GAME: Throw as for catching, scoring 4, 3, 2, and 1. No score outside circles. Continue throwing while still catching each throw, scoring as above. When Boomerang is dropped player is out. Score as in circle. Any number of players in team and any number of innings.

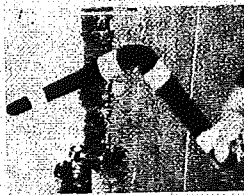


Fig. 1: Drive Grip Forward Throw.



Fig. 2: Spin Grip Forward Throw.

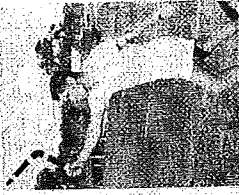


Fig. 3: Start of Throw.



Fig. 4: Finish of Throw.



Fig. 5: Method of Catching.

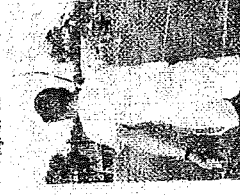


Fig. 6: Angle at Finish of Throw.

GENUINE

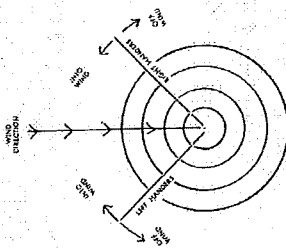
Returning Boomerang



Guaranteed by

CES BURWELL

Dora Creek, N. S. W.



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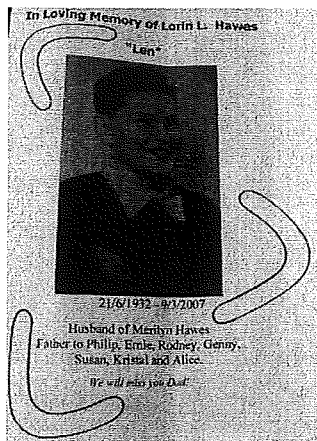
Bob Burwell report in brief.

It is with personal sadness, that this year saw the passing of a personal friend, a boomerang fanatic, a person who introduced boomerangs to thousands around the world.

Lorin Hawes. Born 21/6/1932 died, 9/3/2007.

David Schummy, my wife Pam and I attended the funeral service. I expect to present a more complete report in future Bulletins.

David Schummy Lorin Hawes Bob Burwell



Friends around the world.

An Email correspondent, of mine. Adam Stroud adam@stroud9210.freemove.co.uk

Adam is a very keen boomerang thrower and would love to hear from any Aussie who would like to contact him. Adam Stroud, from East Yorkshire, DN147PY, United Kingdom



For those who may not know about the Web Site Boomerang Talk, below is the Address. Provided you have a computer and can go on line, you can join in by reading the messages by clicking on the Messages menu word at the top left of the home page. To access the rest of the menu items you will need to become an online member.

<http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/boomerangtalk/>

QUEENSLAND COMP 11 JUNE 2007 Located at Salisbury.
This was a promotional throw for both members and wanna be members.

ACCURACY

SENIOR THROWERS.	Round 1	Round 2	Total
Dean Hopton	6	11	17
David Schummy	38	32	70
Russell Hansen	14	20	34
Closest To Pin 360mm was Russell Hansen.			
Francois van der Walt	23	10	33
Paul Craft	32	18	50
Catherine	4	5	9
Bob Burwell	24	8	32

ACCURACY

JUNIOR THROWERS.	Round 1	Round 2	Total
Francois de Waard	12	0	12
Corneels de Waard	2	0	2
Kenneth van der Walt	24	4	28
Alex Harvey	6	2	8

AUSSIE ROUND

SENIOR THROWERS.	Round 1	Round 2	Total
Dean Hopton	53	57	110
David Schummy	49	65	114
Francois van der Walt	17	7	24
Paul Craft	59	43	102
Catherine	8	0	8
Bob Burwell	15	30	45

AUSSIE ROUND

JUNIOR THROWERS.	Round 1	Round 2	Total
Francois de Waard	0	15	15
Corneels de Waard	0	17	17
Kenneth van der Walt	5	24	29
Alex Harvey	16	4	20

MAXIMUM TIME ALOFT

	Best Time	
Dean Hopton	30.52 seconds	
David Schummy	34.19 seconds	
Russell Hansen	13.64 seconds	
Paul Craft	25.07 seconds	
Catherine	No Catches	
Bob Burwell	22.01.	
Junior		
Alex Harvey	No Catches	
Alex is very promising. Aims to Join the BAA		
Fast Catch	Best Time	
Dean Hopton	60 .81 seconds	4 catches.
David Schummy	29.60 seconds.	5 catches
Russell Hansen	63.34 seconds.	5 catches
Paul Craft	60 seconds	5 catches
Catherine	no catches	Tried very hard.
Bob Burwell	55.57 seconds	5 catches.

Point of interest. Bob Burwell had a broken little finger on his left hand. All catches were one hand right hand catches. I was surprised that I caught all 5 catches in MTA. I have never done that before that I can remember.