

BOOMERANG BULLETIN

Boomerang Association of Australia

MAY 1998

No. **98**

1998 Australian National Champions

Over-all Seniors: **Rob Croll**

Over-all Veterans: **Br. Brian Thomas**



Ladies: **Kellie Lewry**

Juniors: **Trent Carter**

Girls: **Sally Lewry**

Aussie Round: **Br. Rod Shoebridge**

Fast Catch: **David Schummy**

Accuracy: **Br. Brian Thomas**

Distance: **David Schummy** (New Record)

MTA 100: **Rob Croll**

Endurance: **Bruce Carter**

Trick Catching: **Gunter Wandtke**

Same Boomerang: **Gunter Wandtke**



EDITORIAL

“and now a word from our sponsor”

Sport is no longer a “kick in the back yard” affair that we knew as kids. It has moved into the realm of big business in many cases. Look at the money involved in all the footy codes just to keep teams on the ground. Where does all this money come from? Not too many games are supported by the crowds watching them. Some cash in on TV rights, but for the majority of sports, especially the not-so-high-profile sports, they keep going because of the *dedication* of the players, plus *generous sponsors*.

Let's not forget these last noble people: **the sponsors**. Most sponsors of the “lesser” sports do so out of the goodness of their hearts and often have a genuine interest in the sport. *We should be very grateful to them*. One of the saddest stories Christ told in the Gospels was the cure of the ten lepers.. *only one* came back to **thank** him. Gratitude costs us nothing, but it is so valued by everyone. Let's make sure *we thank any sponsors* for their support.

So now we say a gigantic **THANK YOU** to Ron Foley of **WALTER CARTER PTY. LTD.** who will sponsor the *Boomerang Bulletin* for the next 12 months, as well as sponsoring the Eastern Suburbs Championships for the last few years.

Edition 100 of the Bulletin is coming up at the end of this year and Waverley Press, who print it, will publish this edition for nothing. Thank you, **Waverley Press**.

Other sponsors this year are Mike Egan of **LESTER & SON** (Nationals), Inze Bont of **BONT SKATES** (NSW state titles), **SEAMIST** (VIC state titles), **BLACKTOWN COUNCIL**, and **Ray Bottrell**.

Danke, Merci & Arigato are all foreign terms that simply mean *Thanks, mates, for helping us out! Much appreciated!!*

Br.Brian M.Thomas, Editor.

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AMERICA'S QUIET ACHIEVER. VALE, CARL NAYLOR.

On 12th December 1997 Carl Naylor, 80, died of cancer.

Many modern day throwers wouldn't know the name of Carl Naylor, but they should. In some ways he was the Columbus of the American boomerang world, but he sailed from America to Australia in 1979 to explore the boomerang scene, in company with Ben Ruhe and Marjorie Gerrish, studying the feasibility of an American-Australian encounter. While in Sydney, he and I were booked for a demonstration throw at half time for the opening rugby league game of the season: Balmain and Easts. Over 10,000 people were there, but sadly the winds were too bad to even try, so he missed out on being the first American to demonstrate boomerang throwing to an Aussie footy crowd.

Who was Carl Naylor? In our 1981 Bulletin 26, when we gave a brief outline on the members of the Challenging team, it said of Carl: *Carl Naylor, Brooklyn. A pharmaceutical salesman, Naylor has been throwing and collecting boomerangs for three decades and will serve as co-captain of the USA team. He is another notable long range thrower.* Carl, like a good boomerang, had returned to Australia with the American team. At 64 he was its oldest thrower. Of course, when he threw at Albury he had older competitors in Les and Arthur Janetzki, 80 and 77. He did well in Accuracy coming 5th (Melbourne), 6th (Albury), 7th (Sydney), 6th (Brisbane) and 4th in Aussie Round in Brisbane. He also competed in our 1979 Nationals and came 2nd (70 metres) to Bob Burwell in Long Distance (78 metres).

Carl's greatest contribution to boomerangs wasn't just his throwing. It was his attitude and leadership. He was a tall, slow speaking man of great sincerity. After the 3rd Test in Sydney he accompanied my class on a trip to the Blue Mountains where he can be seen on the BAA video (*Boomerang Throwing Down Under*) throwing a paper aeroplane over one of the cliffs.

After the 1981 Challenge, the USBA was established and Carl was voted its *first President* to guide it to its present strength. His 'theology' on boomerangs was written in 1979 and is reproduced in this Bulletin. It will tell you what sort of a person he was. Read it, and become wiser.

Carl didn't lose contact with us. When Arthur Janetzki turned 91 in 1995, Morris Maxwell made a mobile phone call from the middle of the throwing field in Albury to Carl in Brooklyn. From there he wished Arthur a genuine Many Happy Returns. It was a great thrill for Arthur, who passed away 93 days later. Now they are both sharing boomerang tales with the God who made them. The BAA salutes and thanks Carl Naylor, *first USBA President*, friend and fellow thrower.

*Br. Brian M. Thomas, cfc, Australian National Boomerang Coach. 1998.
131 Birrell Street, Waverley, N.S.W., Australia. 2024.*

SNAKE TALES



BOOMERANG THROWING

By Carl Naylor, Brooklyn, U.S.A. 1979.

To me, one of the mysterious aspects of the boomerang, is the fact that only a few people of diverse cultures, over a long history, have found it *deeply and persistently appealing*. Even today, when thousands of boomerangs are bought by tourists and nearly everyone recognises the familiar shape, we are a very small band of true enthusiasts, scattered around the world, who really understand and enjoy it, and care about its history, development and future. For most the boomerang is superficially experienced, easily forgotten, vaguely remembered.

Most museum collections gather dust in basements. The literature is fragmented, virtually non-existent. Aside from the work of Felix Hess, the boomerang has received *very little serious, scientific scrutiny*, certainly nothing appropriate to its aerodynamic complexity.

I must confess I rather enjoy all this neglect, since it makes me feel I am a *privileged minority*. There are not many of us who speak the language or know the terrain. Also you must admit the slow evolution of the boomerang argues the possibility of a dynamic future for it.

Consider Japanese swords for a minute. The craftsmen who made them were an integral part of the culture for hundreds of years and examples of their finest works are now literally priceless.. official National Treasures owned by the Government. Here is *craft raised to the level of art*. Unfortunately the real history of the sword may be almost over. Only a few subsidized makers are left to carry on the old standards, cherish the ancient skills.

If the boomerang as an art object has never reached the level of the Japanese swords, it may be because it has never received the dedicated attention it deserves. I can see no logical reason why a boomerang has less potential for aesthetic quality and complexity than a sword.

Most of us, of course, are more concerned with the sport, and the craft of the boomerang, than with art. But even the sport is deceptively simple. A child can learn to throw in a few minutes, and enjoy the magic of the return and

SNAKE TALES



the pleasure of the catch. And yet the challenge of the throwing for combined distance and accuracy, under different wind conditions, is easy enough to hold the sustained interest of adult athletes. Beyond that is a persistent and deep satisfaction familiar to the devoted thrower, but *impossible to fully describe or explain.*

No special training or expensive equipment is necessary. All one needs is a shaped piece of wood, decorated as you wish or not, some space and time. In a world of crowded space and time, it seems to me, the boomerang teaches the value of creative leisure and elbow room.

We have *a sport for the future.* In an age of teams and computers and violence, the boomerang teaches civilized competition, individual performance, more contemplative, more innocent pleasures, more awareness of nature, more consideration for others. You can't throw in a crowd. In an age of crowds, we have *a sport for human beings.*

In our time we have seen dreadful destructive vehicles rocket through space and across our skies. The boomerang's arc is a parabola *of innocence, of playfulness, of hope.*

We hope that Al Gerhard's theory of the boomerang proves out: that the boomerang is indeed "a cone projection of a sphere". For then the boomerang would symbolize the circle of perfection, and beyond our fun and games, we might allow ourselves to dream again of peace and brotherhood. We might see in the flight of the boomerang man's essential humanity, his longing to be whole, his yearning for universality.



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COMPETITION EVENTS THROUGH THE YEARS

1. Accuracy
2. Nearest the Pin
3. General Championship..Aussie Round
4. Juggling
5. German Doubling
6. Catch of the Day
7. Consecutive Catching
8. Consecutive Catching with Increased Difficulty
9. Suicide
- 10.Distance
- 11.Smallest Boomerang
- 12.Largest Boomerang
- 13.Maximum Time Aloft (with no catch)
- 14.Maximum Time Aloft with Catch (Slow Catch)
- 15.Same Boomerang
- 16.One Hand Catching
- 17.One Hand Clean Catching
- 18.Endurance
- 19.Same Catch (all use same boomerang)
- 20.Hunting Stick
- 21.Novelty Boomerang
- 22.Best Team
- 23.Over-all
- 24.Team Relay
- 25.Bonus Accuracy (points for distance)
- 26.Team Accuracy (all throw together)
- 27.Doubles MTAC
- 28.Super Catch
- 29.Trick Catching
- 30.Doubles Trick Catching



Tony Butz with his Phantom boomerangs

FIRST AND SPECIAL
FOR BOOMERANG BULLETIN
AND AUSTRALIAN BOOMERANG-FRIENDS

"DIABOLO"

Design: Matei Campan, Romania
Modification & Tuning: Georgi Dimantchev, Bulgaria

Shape: "2+1"-type

Material: Glassfiber/Epoxy-resine composite

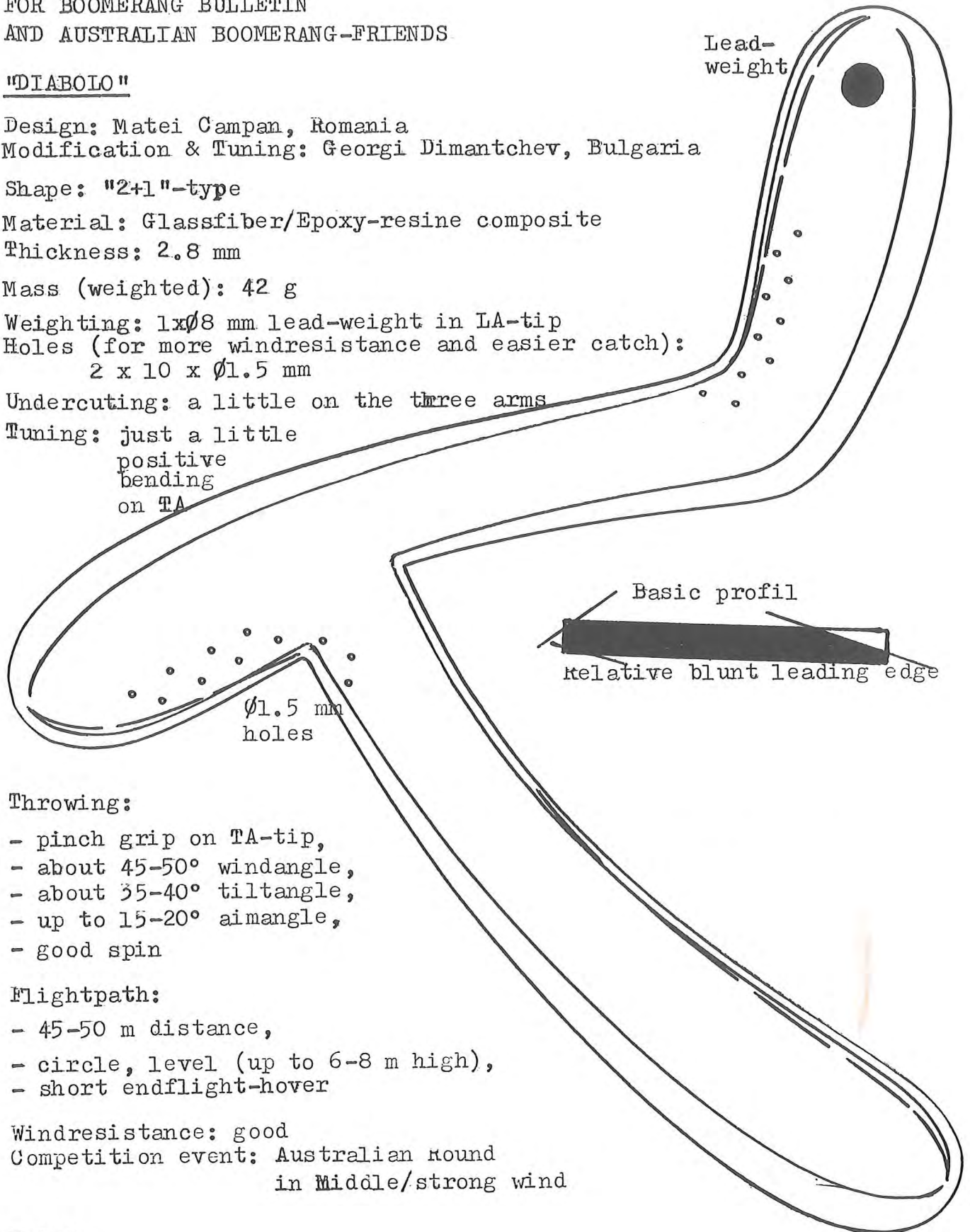
Thickness: 2.8 mm

Mass (weighted): 42 g

Weighting: 1x \varnothing 8 mm lead-weight in LA-tip
Holes (for more windresistance and easier catch):
2 x 10 x \varnothing 1.5 mm

Undercutting: a little on the three arms

Tuning: just a little
positive
bending
on TA



Throwing:

- pinch grip on TA-tip,
- about 45-50° windangle,
- about 35-40° tiltangle,
- up to 15-20° aimangle,
- good spin

Flightpath:

- 45-50 m distance,
- circle, level (up to 6-8 m high),
- short endflight-hover

Windresistance: good

Competition event: Australian round
in Middle/strong wind

M 1:1

Possible variante: 1 of.. 4 mm Birch plywood,
level flight, about 25 m range

MANY HAPPY RETURNS AND EASY CATCHES!

28th Australian Championships 1998

Highlights.

David Schummy gave a brilliant display of long distance throwing to smash the Aussie record of 113m with **141.86m** in near calm weather. With a little wind David will smash 180m with his new design Space Smasher boomerang.

Br.Rod Shoebridge led off the Aussie Round with a fantastic 73 from a possible 80, using his homemade 30m rang.

Wayne Patterson, using his father's Medusa rang, scored an **absolute bulls-eye** with his very first scoring throw. This is his last year in the Juniors.

8 year old **Trent Carter** possibly set two world records for Under 10 throwers when he took **30 catches** in Endurance, and threw **47.90 secs** in MTA 100.

Bruce Carter, BAA President, turned on his best Endurance form ever with a record breaking **57 catches**.

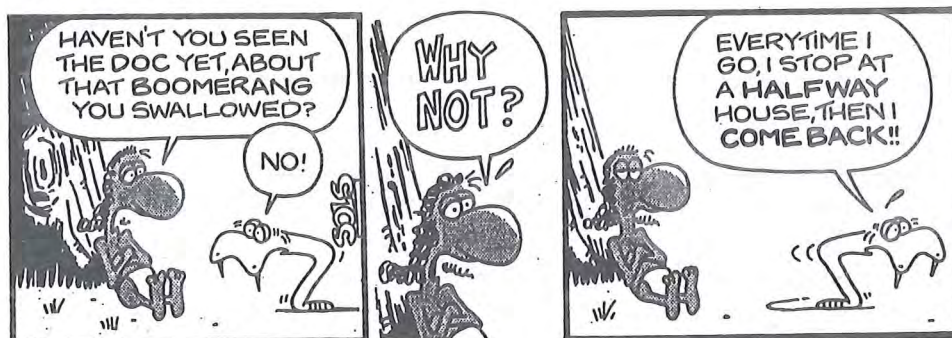
Kellie Lewry, 16, took out her first Ladies' title against strong opposition from Janet Barras Margaret Patterson and Shirley Lewry. There were six Lewrys throwing at the ANCs. Younger sister, **Sally**, took out the Girls' Championship.

Many thanks to **Mike Egan** of Lester & Son for his continuing sponsorship, to **Xavier College** for their grounds and marking equipment, and to **Betty Easton** for her penmanship. Our 29th Nationals will be in the same place at nearly the same time..1st & 2nd May 1999. Don't miss it.

At the Annual Meeting it was voted to **allow any size holes** in boomerangs, but the hole must not be used as a catching aid or you will be disqualified. A boomerang auction to aid the BAA was most successful, raising over \$500. *Thanks to all the donors.*

World Champion **Rob Croll** won his 7th Over-all Title. Well done, Rob.

SNAKE TALES



Veterans.

MTA 1st
Fast Catch 1st
Trick Catch 1st
Accuracy 3rd
Aussie 4th

Same Catch
1st equal

1998 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

held at Xavier College, Albury, on 2nd & 3rd May 1998

MTA 1st
Endurance 3rd

Competitor	Aus.Rd	Acc.	MTA 100	Fast Ct.	Endur.	Trick	Over-all	Same Bm
Rob Croll	65/3rd	32/2nd	47.87/1st	31.64/3rd	54/2nd	36/2nd	13/1st	44/7th
David Schummy	66/2nd	23/e4th	39.45/2nd	22.37/1st	51/3rd	33/e3rd	16/2nd	52/2nd
Gunter Wandtke	61/e4th	28/3rd	22.64/7th	29.15/2nd	45/4th	47/1st	21.5/3rd	59/1st
Bruce Carter	61/e4th	12/e14th	26.28/5th	44.05/5th	57/1st	33/e3rd	33.5/4th	50/4th
Br.Brian Thomas	57/6th	39/1st	14.93/13th	48.60/7th	41/5th	7/e8th	41/5th	47/e5th =
Brian Kemp	52/8th	13/e9th	19.94/9th	36.68/4th	27/9th	12/5th	44.5/6th	47/e5th
Br.R.Shoebridge	73/1st	13/12th	16.69/10th	48.68/8th	29/7th	DNC	60/7th	43/8th
Kevin Moran	42/11th	23/e4th	16.55/11th	56.33/12th	20/e15th	8/7th	61/8th	27/12th
Peter Lewry	24/16th	20/6th	26.44/4th	2ct/16th	24/e11th	7/e8th	62.5/9th	39/9th
Steve Dick	19/20th	15/e9th	34.08/3rd	67.18/14th	32/6th	0/e16th	69/10th	6/19th
Kellie Lewry	21/e18th	19/7th	24.76/6th	49.95/9th	17/17th	4/e13th	73/e11th	14/17th
Paul Croft (AJ)	26/15th	11/e16th	21.15/8th	45.07/6th	22.14th	4/e13th	73/e11th	9/18th
Terry Patterson	41/e12th	11/e16th	14.42/14th	60.56/13th	28/8th	5/12th	73.5/13th	30/11th
Nick Gottschalk	56/7th	12/e14th	12.97/16th	50.31/10th	23/13th	0/e16th	77/14th	18/16th
Miles Jorgensen	35/14th	10/e18th	13.40/15th	4ct/15th	25/10th	10/6th	78.5/15th	33/10th
Marg.Patterson	45/10th	14/11th	0/17th	66.31/11th	24/e11th	0/16th	79.5/16th	20/e13th
Janet Barras	12/21st	16/8th	DNC	1ct/e17th	6/18th	6/11th	97.5/17th	0/20th
Geoff Hodgson	46/9th	10/e18th	16.32/12th	DNC	DNC	DNC	105.5/18th	51/3rd
Ray Freebody	41/e12th	13/e12th	DNC	DNC	20/15th	DNC	106/19th	20/e13th
Shirley Lewry	21/e18th	0/22nd	DNC	1ct/e17th	DNC	0/e16th	118.5/20th	20/e13th
Br.Porres McRae	22/17th	2/21st	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	126/21st	DNC
Joanna Huang	6/22nd	8/20th	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	130/22nd	DNC

Nearest to the Pin: Br.Brian Thomas 560 mm

Ladies' Champion: Kellie Lewry.

Seniors' Over-all Champion: Rob Croll.

Veterans' Champion: Br.Brian Thomas.

Distance Championship: 1st David Schummy 141.86 m (New Record). 2nd: Bruce Carter 80 m. 3rd: Paul Croft 70 m. Conditions: Almost a dead calm.

Veterans' Over-all Results:

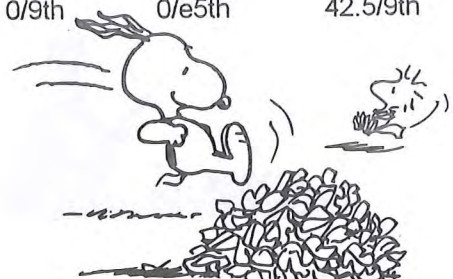
1st Br.Brian Thomas 11.5. 2nd Brian Kemp 14. 3rd Br.Rod Shoebridge 14.5. 4th Kevin Moran 26. 5th Nick Gottschalk 29. 6th Miles Jorgensen 31. 7th Br.Porres McRae 42.

Australian Junior Boomerang Championship Results 1998

Competitor	Aussie Rd	Accuracy	MTA 100	Fast Catch	Endurance	Cons.Catch	Over-all
Trent Carter	22/4th	18/4th	47.90/1st	41.09/1st	30/1st	9/1st	8/1st
Wayne Patterson	24/3rd	25/1st	12.75/2nd	3ct/e3rd	21/2nd	2/2nd	14/2nd
Craig Carter	37/1st	21/2nd	10.48/3rd	2ct/e5th	15/3rd	1/e4th	19/3rd
Mark Patterson	24/3rd	21/3rd	6.94/4th	2ct/e5th	6/5th	0/e5th	26/4th
Sally Lewry	4/8th	6/7th	0/e5th	56.08/2nd	7/4th	2/3rd	28.5/5th
Dan Lewry	0/9th	15/5th	0/e5th	1ct/e7th	2.e6th	1/e4th	39.5/6th
Lisa Dick	11/6th	2/9th	0/e5th	3ct/e3rd	1/8th	0/e5th	40/7th
Rebecca Lewry	10/7th	4/8th	0/e5th	1ct/e7th	2/e6th	0/e5th	40.5/8th
Megan Patterson	16/5th	14/6th	0/e5th	0/9th	0/9th	0/e5th	42.5/9th

Nearest the Pin: Wayne Patterson Absolute Bulls-eye! 0 mm.

Girls' Champion: Sally Lewry.





LOCAL Aboriginal entertainer and storyteller Murrundindi often visits local schools to teach children about Aboriginal culture, but when it comes to making your boomerang come back there is one undisputed teacher – Bruce Carter. Bruce, pictured above showing a Chirnside Park Primary School pupil the highly decorative boomerang he calls Doctor Death, was the 1995 Australian

Boomerang Throwing Champion. He visited the school last week to demonstrate his skills and to teach the youngsters a few of the techniques involved in getting a curved piece of timber to return to the thrower. The pupils were due to show off what they had learned from Bruce last night (Monday) with a boomerang throwing presentation followed up by a fireworks display at the school.

Aboriginal map of Australia

All dream-tracks lead to the sacred Centre.
 Even the waves of the ocean wash that way.
 The mark of the Rainbow Snake is on the land.
 It is for us humans to read the land,
 to follow its song-lines
 to search for the Centre.



7th CENTRAL COAST BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS

held at St.Edward's College, East Gosford, on 1st March 1998

For the second time at this beautiful waterside setting we were blessed with great weather for throwing: cloud cover to stop the sunburn & dehydration, and a steady gentle breeze most of the time. Fourteen seniors and three juniors turned up to enjoy this outing, which is about one and half hours drive north of Sydney.

Some old contests were revived for the day, plus a few experimental ones. Competitors had great fun doing the *Largest & Smallest* Boomerang to qualify (go 20 m and return to the accuracy circles). There was much fishing into bags for the smallest rang! The largest rang there (4 ft 8.5 in) failed to qualify. It was owned by BT, but he also had the 2nd largest which won! Competitors had 5 throws to qualify any rangs they threw.

In Accuracy we tried *Bonus Accuracy*, where you could gain points for the distance thrown. In the result sheet this is shown by D and then the score. It was interesting that the top three places didn't score any distance points, but were accurate! 26 year old Indonesian student, *Mirna Admodjo*, slew the field with a brilliant 40, which included two 10s, earning her an Arthur Janetzki medal, plus Nearest the Pin. This was only her second comp and about her fourth day of throwing ever!! She used a small Binghi Eagle with a weight.

Since strong winds have prevailed in the past we organised MTA Pairs. Each thrower had 3 throws and either could catch it. The winning pair was made up of Adam Carroll and Kevin Moran (injured). Only Adam threw 3 throws. On his first throw it was up for 40.81 secs which he caught it himself with Kevin a happy onlooker!! Later he did a 31.06 throw with his homemade paxolin rang.

Aussie Round finished a tie between Adam (50 m rang) and Br.Thomas (30 m rang) with 64 each. In the throw off Adam threw blitzed the board with 74 points. At times his rang was going 65 m.

Thanks again to St.Edward's for the ground and to groundsman Col Meredith for cutting our scoring circles.

Junior Results were Aussie Round: 1. Mark Patterson 22. 2. Wayne Patterson 21. 3. Megan Patterson 20. Accuracy: 1. Wayne Patterson 36. 2. Megan Patterson 17. 3. Mark Patterson 7. Trick Catching: 1. Wayne Patterson 2. 2. Mark Patterson 1. 3. Megan Patterson 0.

MTA Pairs finished: 1. Adam Carroll & Kevin Moran 40.81. 2. Shirley Lewry & Gunter Wandtke 20.9. 3. Ken Arthur & Terry Patterson 19.16. 4. Br.Rod Shoebridge & Eddie Siladi 17.60. 5. Peter Lewry & Yusuke Hayamizu 15.20. 6. Mirna Admodjo & Br.Thomas 11.46.

COMPETITOR	RESULTS				
	Bon Accuracy	Aussie Rd.	Same Boom.	Smallest Boom.	Largest Boom.
Ken Arthur	19 (06) / 7th	18 / 12th	25 / 6th	22.8cm / 6th	72.8cm / 3rd
Mirna Admodjo	40 (00) / 1st*	0 / 14th	6 / e13th	DNC	DNC
Gunter Wandtke	22 (08) / 5th	20 / 10th	45 / 3rd	14.5cm / 1st*	90cm / 2nd
Eddie Siladi	24 (00) / 8th	25 / 8th	14 / 11th	DNC	36.8cm / 6th
Br.B.M.Thomas	21 (08) / 6th	64 / 2nd	15 / 10th	17.2cm / 2nd	116.5cm / 1st*
Paul Croft AJ	19 (00) / 9th	33 / 6th	12 / 12th	30.7cm / 9th	DNC
Peter Lewry	2 (02) / e13th	57 / 3rd	44 / 4th	DNQ	43cm / 5th
Kevin Moran	38 (00) / 2nd	34 / 5th	21 / 8th	22.6cm / 5th	37.6cm / 9th
Mary Patterson	34 (00) / 4th	22 / 9th	18 / 9th	22.9cm / 7th	39cm / 7th
Br.R.Shoebridge	12 (00) / 10th	40 / 4th	60 / 1st**	25.0cm / 8th	51.4cm / 4th
Adam Carroll	36 (00) / 3rd	64 / 1st*	51 / 2nd	20.4cm / 4th	DNC
Shirley Lewry	4 (00) / e13th	12 / 13th	30 / 5th	DNC	DNC
Terry Patterson	9 (04) / 11th	26 / 7th	24 / 7th	19.0cm / 3rd	39.2cm / 6th
Yusuke Hayamizu	4 (02) / 12th	19 / 11th	6 / e13th	DNC	DNC
<u>Nearest the Pin: Mirna Admodjo 31.4 cm</u>					
<u>Catch of the Day: Gunter Wandtke's sliding catch in Aussie Round</u>					
<u>Organisers: Eddie Siladi & Gunter Wandtke</u>					
<u>Scribe: Betty Easton.</u>					

Ladies' Champion: Margaret Patterson. Girl's: Megan Patterson.

1998 Eastern Suburbs Boomerang Championships

held at Queens Park, Waverley, on 29th March, 1998.

A challenging wind blew most of the day, but conditions at this venue have been worse in the past. A good field of 18 seniors throwers and 7 juniors had a most enjoyable day. It was the first comp for four of these.

The real fun event was **Making a Boomerang**, where 10 throwers sat around the 20m circle with a blank, a rasp and a piece of sandpaper and tried to make a rang that would go 20m and return to the circles or be caught. On making the rang they ran to the centre and tested it. *Three throws* were allowed before they had to return to their rasp again. Long time maker, Peter Lewry (Jeff's son), won in 2 min 40 secs. Only five throwers had ever made a boomerang before. Br. Thomas was the official judge. Three members of **our Sponsoring firm, Walter Carter**, made their first boomerang ever (*Ron Foley, John Vogel and Adam Gulliver*). This gave them a great sense of achievement and hopefully has opened a new hobby for them.

The Juniors probably hold the record for the *fastest event ever held*. They lined up for the Suicide and went for a two handed catch. Only *Adam Cavill* caught his rang and so the event ended in **ONE THROW**. It was all over in *six seconds!!* Congratulations, Adam!

Thanks to *Rick and Steve*, groundsmen, who marked out the beautiful circles for us, and thanks to Waverley College for the ground again.

Gunter Wandtke won the *Bunny Read Perpetual Trophy* for Aussie Round, finishing just *one point* ahead of Margaret Patterson of Berowra.

Eastern Suburbs Boomerang Championships 1998

Queens Park, Waverley, 29th March 1998

Sponsor: Walter Carter Pty Ltd

Competitor	Accuracy	Aussie Round	MTA	1 Hand Catching
Br. Rod Shoebridge	11 / e10th	32 / 5th	9.65 / 4th	3 / 3rd
Gunter Wandtke	24 / e4th	38 / 1st*	22.75 / 2nd	5 / 1st*
Shirley Lewry	3 / e16th	7 / 14th	DNC	DNC
Margaret Patterson	18 / 7th	37 / 2nd	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
Jim Thompson	6 / 15th	30 / 7th	DNC	0 / e8th
Peter Lewry	12 / 9th	35 / 3rd	36.43 / 1st*	1 / e5th
Terry Patterson	8 / e13th	24 / 9th	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
Ken Arthur	24 / e4th	17 / 10th	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
John Vogel	8 / e13th	4 / 15th	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
Kellie Lewry	23 / 6th	12 / 12th	0 / e7th	DNC
Ron Foley	1 / 18th	2 / 16th	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
Adam Gulliver	10 / 12th	0 / e17th	8.65 / 5th	0 / e8th
Yusuke Hayamizu	14 / 8th	0 / e17th	0 / e7th	0 / e8th
Br. Brian Thomas	36 / 1st*	31 / 6th	15.72 / 3rd	2 / 4th
Paul Croft AJ	26 / 3rd	14 / 11th	8.20 / 6th	1 / e5th
Holger Ragowski	32 / 2nd	26 / 8th	0 / e7th	1 / e5th
Kevin Moran	11 / e10th	34 / 4th	0 / e7th	4 / 2nd
Rani Husein (Indonesia)	3 / e16th	11 / 13th	DNC	DNC



Fastest Making a Boomerang: Peter Lewry 2 min. 40 secs.

Nearest the Pin: Br. Rod Shoebridge: 825 mm.

Arthur Janetzki Perfect Ten Medals: Br. Rod Shoebridge, Ken Arthur, Paul Croft, Br. Thomas.

Ladies' Champion: Margaret Patterson.

JUNIORS

Wayne Patterson	23 / 1st*	20 / 1st*	
Declan Gannon	1 / 6th	DNC	
Mark Patterson	22 / 2nd	10 / 4th	
Adam Cavill	15 / 3rd	15 / 2nd	1st (Suicide)
Thomas Cole	0 / 7th	DNC	
Megan Patterson	15 / 4th	7 / 5th	
Sally Lewry	12 / 5th	12 / 3rd	

Arthur Janetzki Perfect Ten Throw Medals: Wayne Patterson.

Girls' Champion: Sally Lewry.



TONY BUTZ ... The Wizard of Oz.



Many names *symbolize* things. Don Bradman...cricket; Harry Hopman...tennis; Herb Elliot...running; Greg Norman...golf; Dawn Fraser..swimming; etc.etc. For boomerangers the name Tony Butz stands for:

Fairness, integrity & justice, snakes, novelty boomerangs, love of the bush and dedication to God. At competitions everyone feels at ease with Tony and they all love to have a friendly chat with him, coming away feeling a better person. Where did this friendly bloke come from and what is his story? *Read on.*

On 18th August 1949 Muriel Butz gave birth to twins, Tony being the first to see the light of day. Graeme arrived 35 minutes later much to the delight of father Len. They are *identical twins* and people today still aren't too sure to whom they are talking! Both became teachers. Several years later younger brother Mark joined the happy family.

Tony's *first sighting* of boomerangs came about when he was walking to his grandmother's place and saw a chap throwing boomerangs in *Willoughby Park*. It was at this park that Tony was to set up his boomerang club in years to come. In 1965, after mail ordering a *Hawes boomerang*, he commenced his throwing career.

In 1968 he was working at the *Myuna Bay National Fitness Camp*, where they had boomerangs in their program. Here he was told about *Cec and Bob Burwell*. He met Cec and learnt about the rubbish on the market. Tony bought a number of Cec's rangs, which were fairly large but worked well. He corresponded with Bob but did not get to meet him until 1973.

1972 saw the support of the Council in forming the *Willoughby Boomerang Club*, which Tony ran after school. Bob came up with his 12 inch mini-rangs, which Tony used, along with some Hawes M17s. This ran for 10 weeks once a week with about thirty children being involved. Making boomerangs was also part of the program. Club meetings operated during the spring-summer time.

Research conducted at the *Broken Bay Camps* by Tony in 1973 showed that boomerangs used were made by five different people, many not being very suitable. Tony introduced Bob's min-rangs. At this time he learnt about *the World Championships at Darlington Point*, plus the existence of the *newly formed BAA* (Boomerang Association of Australia, founded in 1969) . He contacted Morris Maxwell and joined the BAA.

Without knowing each other, Tony and I both took part in *our first competition* at the *Nationals in Canberra* in 1974 at Southwell Park in very blowy and cold conditions. While the weather was terrible, the friendship among the throwers was much warmer and more permanent. During this year Tony was to give many



demonstrations in High Schools, plus lectures in National Fitness Camps and Leadership training camps.

Being stationed in *Crookwell* in 1975 restricted his throwing activities, apart from running some boomerang making classes at the High School. He took part in the 1976 and 1977 Nationals before coming back to Sydney in 1978. In 1979 he claimed *his first placings in competition* with two seconds at the first Sydney Championships at *Drummoyne*. Although not one of our dominating throwers, like Bunny Read was, he has managed to score a win in most events through the years. His notable speciality has been **large boomerangs**. He claims the *largest* qualifying boomerang which is **2.2 metres** tip to tip.

Outside competition throwing Tony's other great claim to fame is his ability to make all types of *novelty boomerangs* from the Harbour Bridge to Elvis and the X-Files. He has made most shapes around, and continues to try and come up with new designs all the time. Many of his pupils suggest some shapes. Tony first started making novelty shapes in 1981 and now has **over fifty** different ones.

Within the BAA Tony has been a real *leader* and *organiser*. At one stage he was *Editor of the Boomerang Bulletin*, setting a very high standard of production. But his greatest organisational accomplishment was the setting up of state associations. He pioneered the way with drawing up the N.S.W. constitution for the *establishment of the Boomerang Throwing Association of N.S.W.* (BTA NSW). He served a term as President of this. Shortly after his efforts the Victorian Association was developed and other states followed. This meant *local leadership* for *local matters*, which is the only way boomerang throwing can survive in Australia. This has been a great help in obtaining local *sponsorships*.

When we think of boomerangs it is wrong just to think of competitions and their results. **Boomerang throwing is about throwing and enjoying it.** To pass this enthusiasm on to others is a great contribution to *our cultural heritage*. It is in this that Tony has *really excelled*. He has devoted a very large slab of his life to instructing others (including thousands of children) about boomerangs in schools, at scout camps and at Rotary meetings, etc. He currently trains the junior Blue Mountains squad each week, and has had outstanding results with them

From 1981 to 1987 he freely taught throwing at the *Vision Valley* camp holidays. Often associated with his throwing lessons was *a useful double*. He would take along his *pet python snakes* for people to handle and observe. He is, of course, known as **the Snake Man**, and is often called out by the police at all hours to remove an unwanted visitor wandering in someone's premises. He is *the BAA's own Harry Butler* (with similar looks too!). Since 1989 he has lived on a six acre property in the Blue Mountains at *Springwood*, where he can feel fully Australian.



His mother lives close by in a retirement village and Graeme lives in the next town. His father died a number of years ago.

Tony is a man of many interests and accomplishments. He is a *Bachelor of Arts with Honours*, has a *Diploma of Education*, *Diploma of Hypnotherapy* and *Diploma in Theology*. He is a *Justice of the Peace*. He can handle visiting Jehovah witnesses like no other person I have ever seen. They are so impressed they keep coming back for more of his wisdom and knowledge! To go with his academic side he holds a *Black Belt in Judo*, a *Black Belt in Jujitsu*, a *Red Belt in Hapkido* (Korean martial arts), and is an *Instructor Level 2 in Tai Chi*, has *Level 2 NCAS Coaching qualification* and is a *Level 1 Sports Medicine Trainer*. Please treat him with respect!! As you can see he is a great academic, but his greater love is for the outdoor life for which he is so gifted. There is a great shot on our BAA video *BOOMERANG THROWING DOWN UNDER* of himself and Barnaby Ruhe holding two shingle-back lizards during the travelling of the 1981 Challenge. Big Al Gerhards was fascinated with his snakes too, letting them curl around him.

In 1983 Tony was to go to Japan with me to teach boomerang throwing in Yokkaichi City, but the bureaucratic Education Department wouldn't give him a week off (even without pay) claiming boomerang throwing wasn't a sport, even though the *Confederation of Australian Sport* had conferred **that official position on us in 1979**. Tony was furious and it was one of the great disappointments of his life. He has since left the department and is now a free-lance relief teacher in the Blue Mountains area. Needless to say he is in great demand.

In 1981 we had the great USA v Australia Challenge, the first big international test series. Tony was chosen to be **our Referee**. He was pleased and humbled to think the BAA had so much faith and trust in him. He won the admiration of the USA team too, who were so impressed with *his integrity* throughout the series. He made friends for life at this time. Of the Challenge he said that he was proud to be *part of an historic event*, and was delighted that the two sides got on so well together. He was also glad for Cec and Bob Burwell, who said that the first International event *had* to be in Australia. He was also glad for Bunny Read, who was able to have the international teams in *Wycheproof*.

Entertainment wise his favourite comic strip characters are the **Phantom** (naturally he has made a number of Phantom shaped novelty boomerangs), **Snake**, **Garfield** and **Snoopy!** . *Trivia nights*, *Mahjong* and *Chess* eat up some of his time and since 1982 he has been involved with *Home Church groups*. *He has counselled unknown numbers of troubled people*. As you can see he has a mixed diet. Has he weaknesses? He says his *three deadly sins* are the three Cs – **Chocolate**, **Cheese** and **Coffee**. Now you know what to send him for his next birthday!!

Br. Brian M. Thomas, cfc, Australian National Boomerang Coach. 1998.



SNAKE TALES



SNAKE TALES



COMING EVENTS

7th June 1998.. Oxley Creek Competition, Brisbane. Contact: Dean Hopton.

14th June 1998 .. 3rd Blacktown Championships at Showgrounds, Richmond Road, Blacktown. 10 a.m.start. Contact: Peter Lewry (02) 9622 2927. Sponsor: Blacktown Council.

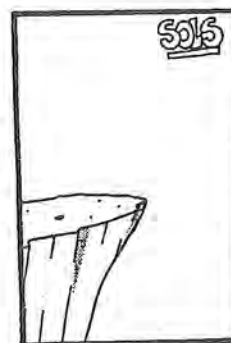
August 1998 .. Japanese Cultural Exchange Days. (Sydney) Contact: Br.Thomas.

15th November 1998 .. 10th Blue Mountains Championships (dedicated to Wilhelm Bretfeld), a one boomerang competition. 10 a.m. at "Winbourne", Mulgoa Rd., Mulgoa. Contact: Br.Thomas.

1st & 2nd May 1999 .. Australian National Championships at Albury.

Last Sunday of each month 10.30-12.30 BTA NSW monthly throwing at Blackmans Park, Lane Cove.

SNAKE TALES



Sincere thanks to SOLS for his many boomerang cartoons!