

LUNGERS; REPORT ON ICE DIVE

B.R.U.D.G. DIVING LOG
20th SEPTEMBER, 1964

Sign-on Time: 1.30 p.m.

Number of Divers: 6 (plus Brass Monkey).

Dive Pairs:

1. Ray Lyons and Frank Magee.
2. David Perry and Marg Perry.
3. Clark Espie and Brian Kennington.

Purpose of Dive: To inspect the "Emergency Scour Outlet" of the Rocky Valley Reservoir for damage or blockage by logs or silt and report finding to the State Electricity Commission.

Weather Conditions: Snowing. . . .
No, it's not a misprint. I repeat, SNOWING.

Yes, it's the B.R.U.D.G.'s annual ice dive. This year the ice was 2½ ins. thick with a water visibility of about 3 ft. A shot line was lowered through the 3ft. diameter hole and down 30 ft. to the bottom, so those of us who didn't want to end the agony of it all (most of us did want to) could find the hole again. Surface visibility was down to about 50 ft. — "Where are you going, Oates?"

As the reservoir surface is over 2 miles long and 1½ miles wide, to wander too far from our "base camp" near the reservoir wall could prove embarrassing — "Are you there, Oates?" — especially as the thickness of the atmosphere (a goodly emulsion of air, snow and fog) cut the penetration of sound down to about 100 ft. It's really quite a weird experience to stand out on the ice (in diving gear) when you can see no sky, no ground, no horizon, nothing to focus on, only whiteness, coldness and dead quiet. — "Oates, can you hear me?" — The dive conducted (those who wanted to end it all had second thoughts — mostly about hot rum toddy's and the like), we were pleased to be able to report to the S.E.C. . . . no damage at all and a minimum of silting of the Scour Outlet. We must start back now — "Where are you, Oates?" — before our fast-fading flipperprints are obliterated by the falling snow and we fail to retrace our steps to our rendezvous with the Sno Cat and warm dry clothes. — "Nice fellow Oates, go you halves with his share of the hot rum toddy."

Safe diving. . . .

— David (Scott Perry).



SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST

1st place goes to John Boermans of Ballarat, Victoria. A prize of 15 gns. The photo was taken in Piccaninny Ponds.