



THE COUNCIL OF
AFFILIATED
PAST APEXIANS GROUPS

ROARING 40'S

Official Newsletter of Apex 40

ROARING 40'S IS PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE TO FORM A COMMUNICATIONS LINK BETWEEN BRANCHES. NEWS ITEMS, LETTERS, REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES PLEASE DIRECT TO THE SECRETARY, P.O. BOX 164, KEW, 3101.

SUMMER 1976 - NO. 1

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRES.

Hi there, we are really on our way Nationally now with four new Branches in the last few months. One "new Branch is Melbourne/Gippsland as it was decided at the Annual Meeting that there should be a National Committee quite separate from the Branch.

The people elected as National Office - Bearers until the next Annual Meeting at the Devonport Rort are President, Yours truly, Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Frazer, Extension Chairman Alan Kinder (DON'T call him Expansion Chairman as he's a bit touchy since seeing a profile photograph taken at the Maryborough Apex 40 inaugural meeting), and Vice-Presidents Barry Preston and Sam McInnes.

If you have a look at the new Constitution adopted by the Annual Meeting you will notice our new designation - "THE COUNCIL OF AFFILIATED PAST APEXIAN GROUPS" - known as Apex 40. This means we can have affiliated groups by WHATEVER NAME and opens the door for more fellowship and communication between ourselves and other former members of Apex and families.

This has already resulted in the Shepparton affiliation and a strong interest in Perth (both are Oasis Clubs although similar to us in concept).

As far as your Committee is concerned the question of our name is a non-issue. We are Apex 40 and that's it! Like it who will - and lump it all others. We lost a couple of years in our extension programme trying to humour opponents of the name but maybe it was for the best as we are all a bit older and perhaps wiser now.

One thing we will have to look at in Devonport is the matter of affiliation fees for Branches. Kev tells me we have enough money to operate till then but after that will need some funds to cover printing and postage. We intend producing "ROARING FORTIES" as a National Newsletter and bulk mailing to Branch Secretaries. This will cost a bit and we also need some cash for extension activities (like perhaps sending the Pres. and Sec. to investigate forming a branch in Tahiti or somewhere).

Your Committee will suggest that the fee be \$20.00 a Branch but this will be open for debate at the brief (I HOPE!) business session at the Rort. This would mean about a dollar a head for most Branches - or the results of a decent sort of Fines Session.

A big welcome to our four new Branches - Launceston, Shepparton, Orbost and of course - Melbourne/Gippsland.

We have heard from Brisbane that a few interested people are meeting under the name, wait for it GROUPEX!!! Hope to have an affiliation request soon folks and see some of you at the Rort.

Best wishes for an enjoyable festive season and a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year - Vi and I are looking forward to meeting a lot of you Rorting at Devonport.

Yours in Apex 40,

LIONEL MUSSELL,
PRESIDENT.

ORBOST BRANCH,
P.O. Box 601,
ORBOST, VIC., 3888.

Nine past Orbost Apexians and ten wives (one fellow was away) met at the local on 27th November for Dinner and a get together to discuss - among other things - the formation of an Apex 40 Branch. Later in the evening at the home of Joe and Marie Tanner it was unanimously decided to form a Branch and seek affiliation with Apex 40. A Convenor, appointed annually, will manage the day to day arrangements and finances.

Inaugural Covenor will be Joe Tanner.

Membership - 22, which includes a past Devonport Apexian now living in Orbost. A warm welcome to Orbost, and we hope to see a contingent from them at the "Rort".

DEVONPORT BRANCH,
35 Hilltop Avenue,
DEVONPORT, TAS., 7310.

Regular social meetings are the order of the day at Devonport who also have found time and enthusiasm to assist the local Apex Club in organizing and preparing for Devonport Annual Show to be held early next year. In between Buffet Dinners and Sunday Beach picnic, Bar-B-Q's, Devonport have arrangements for the "Rort" well in hand, and also have provided assistance in helping with the formation of Launceston Branch. So much activity in fact that even the local newspaper has noticed and reported on their recent Change-over Dinner.

FAMILY CLUB'S DINNER



The Devonport Apex 40 club held its first changeover dinner at the Argosy Motel, East Devonport, on Saturday night.

The club is in district 3 and includes former members of the Latrobe, Ulverstone, Mersey and Devonport Apex Clubs.

Apex 40 is a family group and continues the good fun and fellowship established as members of the Apex clubs.

Outgoing president is Brian Matthews, who attended with his wife, and incoming president is Jock Littler, who was accompanied by his wife, Jenny.

They were noticed with the secretary-treasurer, David Mansfield, and his wife Betty.

Guests for the evening were the president of the Devonport Apex Club, Graham Brumby, and his wife Maree.

Pictured at the Apex 40 changeover dinner at the Argosy Motel, East Devonport, are the incoming president, Mr J. Littler and his wife (left) and the outgoing president, Mr B. Matthews and Mrs Matthews.

FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

EXTENSION.

Extension Chairman, Alan Kinder is receiving regular enquiries from ex Apexians and Groups around Australia.

Alan is at present corresponding with members in Brisbane, Perth and Southern New South Wales. Through the pages of this magazine we will give details of new members and Branches.

Hank and Lorraine Schiller, Lae, Papua New Guinea are our first members from that country.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO -

1. EX-APEXIANS WHO RETIRED FROM APEX AT THE NORMAL RETIRING AGE.
2. APEXIANS ELECTED TO LIFE OFFICE.
3. OTHER EX-APEXIANS AS APPROVED BY THE APEX 40 COMMITTEE.
4. WIVES OF ELIGIBLE MEMBERS.

SECRETARIAL.

Current reserves stand at \$323.82, after allowing for outstanding accounts. Future issues of the Roaring 40's will list a financial statement covering all transactions during the previous period.

Letterheads, envelopes, and Apex 40 information leaflets are available and orders for same should be directed to The Secretary.

Name badges have also been designed details of which will be available shortly.

Branch Secretaries, please forward copies of your newsletters paper cuttings, news flashes and scandals to The Secretary, P.O. Box 164, Kew, 3101, so that other Branches may share your misdeeds through the Roaring Forties.

FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

YOUR NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:

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BARRY PRESTON,
SAM MCINNES

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ROARING RORT,

It's on again - our 2nd Roaring Rort to be held at Devonport, Tasmania, 11th-14th March 1977. Charter aircraft, accommodation, row boats and tour buses have been booked and local breweries, wino's advised to stock up.

Registration Forms are included, complete now before another revaluation happens, and before you forget, and forward to -

P.O. Box 686,
DEVONPORT, TAS., 7310.

Don't forget to include some cash or some other form of negotiable security.

Additional Registration Forms are available from:

Mrs. M. Simpson,
P.O. Box 686,
DEVONPORT, TAS., 7310.

OR

The Secretary,
P.O. Box 164,
KEW, VIC., 3101.

At the commencement and conclusion of, and probably several times during each function, the Rorty Song shall be sung. Verses todate are as follows - new verses will be encouraged and expected -

RORT SONG - Tune "Men of Harlick"

*We who are the Roaring Rorters
Fathers, Sons, Mothers and Daughters,
Over forty is our claim,
And Rorting is our game.*

*First we Rorted Ballarat,
Best event we'd ever had,
We all came from miles around
To gather at Ballarat.*

*Vineyard, Lakeside, bus trip, cricket,
Craig's Hotel, John Davies Knickers,
That's the reason why we came
Cause Rorting is our Game.*

Learn the words and be in it for a Dizzy-Wizzy-Rorty week-end.

For Rorters staying on in Tasmania, the Military Tattoo is being held in Hobart from 12th-19th March 1976. Devonport Branch I understand is trying to arrange for the Queen, ex U.K. to open the Tattoo on 14th March. Tourist Bureaus have more details.

Address for Congratulatory Telegrams and cables -

GATEWAY MOTOR INN,
FENTON STREET,
DEVONPORT.

FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

SHEPPARTON BRANCH,
P.O. Box 833,
SHEPPARTON, VIC., 3630.

Brian Walsh has sent us the following note from Shepparton -

"The Oasis Club" - as we will prefer to have ourselves known was talked about earlier this year, and we had our first "gathering", wives included, on 29th April 1976. We hold our "gatherings" - we prefer not to call them meeting - at a different venue each time.

Each is arranged by three members, a different three each time, to take the load from the individual, thus the name is not known until a week or so beforehand. We have a membership of 24 (plus wives), two of whom live in Melbourne and one in America (he is Peter Barkla - recently transferred in employment, and a Life Member of the Shepparton Apex Club).

We hope to have some representation at Devonport and look forward to the next issue of 'Roaring 40's'."

MARYBOROUGH BRANCH,
59 Creek Road,
MARYBOROUGH, QLD., 4650.

On Wednesday, 5th May 1976, National President - Lionel Mussell and Extension Chairman - Alan Kinder, journeyed to Maryborough when at a meeting thirty past Apexians and wives unanimously voted to form a branch of Apex 40.

After the meeting these fellows wrote a news flash which appeared in the local newspaper that morning - Note Front Page.

Thirty former Apexians and wives unanimously voted to form a branch of Apex 40 in Maryborough at a meeting last night.

The national president of Apex 40, Lionel Mussell, and the expansion chairman, Alan Kinder, travelled from Melbourne to attend the function at Windsor House.

Apex 40 is an organisation formed to retain friendships formed in Apex and inaugural members of the Maryborough branch are from Maryborough and Wide Bay Apex Clubs.

The meeting elected former Wide Bay Apexian Brian Hodges as the inaugural president with a committee comprising Bev Hodges (secretary), Eric Sherwin (treasurer) and Don Cozens, Clive Kehl and George Oldershaw (members).

National president, Lionel Mussell, in congratulating the new branch, told the members he hoped they

would enjoy their membership as much as the members of Apex 40 had in Melbourne and Gippsland.

Extension chairman, Alan Kinder, told the meeting that Maryborough would be the fourth branch to form, with other branches in Tasmania and Darwin.

Apexians retire from active membership at 40 but the new organisation fills the need of keeping alive the friendships made during active years.

● Pictured from left are: Alan Kinder (expansion chairman of Apex 40), Lionel Mussell (president Apex 40), Brian Hodges (life member Wide Bay Apex), Clive Kehl (foundation president Maryborough Apex) and Eric Sherwin (life member Maryborough Apex).

Chronicle

MARYBOROUGH. THURS., MAY 6, 1976.

RECOMMENDED
PRICE 10c

FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

DARWIN

At the Rort at Ballarat we received a cable from Darwin advising Apex 40 - Arafura Branch formed with 12 members - President, Keith Funnell.

We would like to know how things have gone.

How about dropping us a note!

LAUNCESTON BRANCH,
14 Coniston Place,
TREVALLYN, TAS., 7250.

Launceston Branch is under way, any Barry Baldwin has sent to us this report -

"At present we have 23 members (including our wives) with still some untapped membership ground to explore. The Launceston Apex 40 Club us endeavouring to cater for the needs of ex Apexians from all the Clubs in District 1 Zone 3. The response to our efforts to form an over-40 group has been most gratifying, and I believe we are going to be around for some time now.

Devonport Apex 40 Club (from adjacent District), and David Mansfield and Jock Littler in particular, have been most helpful in helping us to get set up. On the night of our first meeting together with Harry Mainwaring they travelled down from Devonport to be with us and we were all very impressed with their support. Jock chaired the first part of the meeting until we elected our executive officers - Chairman - Arthur Boyce, Secretary - Barry Baldwin, Treasurer - Val. Jones, Programmes - Peter Roods.

Our activities so far have been in the form of a monthly meeting where we attended for a counter tea at the hotel and afterwards we retire to one of our members home. These evenings have been very enjoyable and have helped to get everyone to know each other. We have discovered that some of our wives are pretty 'hot' at the eight-ball table. Someone has said they spend most of their day at the local pub.

In the new year we are planning our first dinner to be at Scottsdale (some 40 miles from Launceston) to be with six of our members who live there. We are inviting some other over 40's who live in Scottsdale to attend and try to get them interested. And of course we are all planning to be at Devonport for the Rort and meet as many members from 'Australia' as we can."

MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND BRANCH,
13 Koonalda Grove,
DANDENONG NORTH, VIC., 3175.

Membership extends from Melbourne to Drouin, and Sale up to Bonnie Doon (tremendous for a weekend skiing if you can get up on the skis. Alan Flaherty is current President, and Colin Speirs is his Secretary. Regular meetings, Outings and B.B.Q's. are held, the most recent being a visit to Ferguson Winery for Dinner and sampling of their products. A chartered bus picked everybody up close to home, and took everybody home after the event - (a thought here for a standing order, certainly a good idea).

This branch is set to win a Zig Stick as a large contingent is in training for Devonport.

HEARD THIS ONE

Notice outside Striptease club:

Dancers required apply without.

* * * * *

*How do male elephants find female
elephants in the long grass?*

Very nice!

* * * * *

Conficious he say -

Lady who cooks meat and peas in
same pot - very unhygienic.

* * * * *

Where there's a will

"Did you hear about the man who made
a new will every month?"

He was fresh heir fiend.

* * * * *

Forewarned

"Who", raged the angry boss, "told
you that just because I've kissed you
a few times you could loaf around the
office and neglect your work?"

"My solicitor", answered the secretary.

* * * * *

Definitions

Carefree batchelor - doesn't care who,
so long as it's free.

Bigamist - Man who leads a double wife.

* * * * *

Did you hear of the man who gave up
drinking and sex because he was sick and
tried of being sick and tired.

* * * * *

HISTORY.

Although an organisation for retired Apexians had been talked of by many people for many years, the Apex Constitution did not permit affiliated bodies until after the Maryborough Convention in 1973.

At the Scarborough Convention the previous year two Apexians shortly to retire from active membership conceived the idea of getting such an organisation started.

Encouraged by the Maryborough Convention decision, and with the backing of the then President of Zone 12, David Cotton, these two men - Lionel Mussell and Neil Hookey - called the inaugural meeting of Apex 40 on 8th July 1973, at Lionel's home at Mornington, Victoria.

The first meeting was a barbecue and family day, and committee meetings held since then have continued in the same way.

Members of the Interim Committee formed that first day were Lionel Mussell (Mornington), Neil Hookey (Camberwell), Alan Padgeham (Bayswater), David Saunders (Malvern) and Kevin Frazer (Nunawading).

On 1st September 1973, the Inaugural Committee was elected and consisted of the members of the Interim Committee, plus Alan Kinder (Box Hill), Barry Preston (Hawthorn), John Ritchie (Bayswater), Ley Garrett (Bayswater), and Kevin Morrish (Croydon). Co-opted members were Voila Ritchie, Judith Saunders and Rosemary Frazer.

The Apex Zone 12 Convention in October 1973, became the first Zone Convention to officially recognise Apex 40.

Fifty members attended the first dinner meeting, held at the Keysborough Hotel, on 14th December 1973.

First interstate member was Alan Olden, a former Zone 12 President, now living in South Australia and another former Zone 12 President, Geoff Angus, now working in England, became the first international member, in October 1974.

Branches are now forming throughout Australia.

HEARD THIS ONE

Gin and "it"?

A man very obviously in bad condition from the night before, stepped up to a bar and muttered - "Give me - give me something for - for a hang-over."

"What do you want?" asked the barman.

The sufferer blurted out: "Tall-cold-and full of gin."

"Sir", snapped a man standing next to him, "You are referring to the woman I love!"

* * * * *