



# ROARING 40'S

Official Newsletter of Apex 40

THE COUNCIL OF  
AFFILIATED  
PAST APEXIANS GROUPS

No. 2  
Rort Special  
April 1977



**Featuring:-**

Rorters Rorted in Riotous Rort - President  
Annual General Meeting - March 12th 1977  
What the "Advocate" Reported  
The Rort Song  
Letters to the Editor  
National Co-ordinating Committee 1977-78  
Membership  
Heard This One  
Constitution (As amended at Devenport)



## ROARING 40'S

### RORTERS RORTED IN RIOTOUS RORT

Wow - what a weekend! From start to finish it was a complete rort and nothing could have been done to make it better.

I'm talking about the second "Roaring Rort" held over the weekend of 11th, 12th and 13th March and hosted so admirably by our Devonport Branch under the able chairmanship of Jock Littler.

The Tassie folk even have contacts "higher up" and arranged the weather so that conditions were perfect for us. This was quite a feat because earlier on the day we arrived they had been having storms.

A friendly Friendship almost full of Rorters left Tullamarine at 8.00 p.m. and the two charming hosties were soon scurrying up and down the aisle to slake the thirsts of those who couldn't wait to "get into it".

### THERE TO MEET US

A number of Devonport-rorters plus the Ansett Manager were there to meet us and wisk us into town and the excellent Gateway Motor Inn. In a flash there we were swopping yarns, sinking a few and getting to know the "Overseas" members who were there in force to join us for the welcome social.

Next morning, through slightly bleary eyes, we set off in a convoy of private cars to view all the local sights including an exhibition showing how the Tassie aborigines had lived. It was here where some bright spark asked if Melbourne/Gippsland Secretary, Colin Spiers, was the senior partner in a firm called Spears, Waddies, Sticks and Stones.

Following the guided tour - and after seeing our next project already in existence in the form of an over-sixties club - we descended like locusts on the bar-b-que laid on at the Littlers.

Someone had worked very hard to put on a terrific spread and to make it even better the Devonrorters had "shouted" all the Boags and Cider.

The sun was shining, the wind kept off by the trees, stomachs full and everyone replete and happy. And guess what? I was supposed to run a Business Session! Well, we soon changed the venue from the Gateway to Jock's garden - which caused him a minor heart attack as he had organised the "Press" to turn up at the hotel. Press duly found and pics taken we proceeded to scorch through the business in fine style, ratifying our new Constitution (Peter Dawson please note: we have at last included former members of other WoCo bodies) and electing our new committee.

The new "National Executive" as the "Advocate" termed us consists of President: Me, Secretary/Treasurer: Kev Frazer, Extention: Alan Kinder and - a pleasing move - Vice Presidents Jock Littler (Devonport) and Arthur Boyce (Launceston).

Then on with the Rort that was exactly what happened - pre-dinner drinks followed by an excellent dinner/dance with about a hundred people present including leading local Apexians.

Just imagine a hundred lusty voices raised in thunderous rendering of the Rort Song led by Alan Kinder.

Much later after an Hilarious fines session and terrific night those with sense went to bed while the rest of us went on to keep Jocks neighbours awake till the early hours. What seemed highly enjoyable at the time lost a little of its sparkle when re-lived next morning on the bus! Some crafty cow had tape-recorded the whole thing and played it back through the bus P.A. System. I CAN PLAY the trumpet sober but no-ones going to beleive me after that tape!

### LOCKED OUT

Local hospitality didn't run to leaving the hotel open all night and when Alan Flaherty, Ernie Butler and guess who, arrived home at some ghastly hour it was to find all doors barred and bolted.

Even a brave scaling of the three-storey fire escape was a waste of time as there where no door handles on the outside. Believe it or not some of the girls heard us outside quiet as we were and didn't get up to let us in!

## ROARING 40'S

### LOCKED OUT CONT'D.....

Ern can only think of one thing at a time after such a night and woke the whole hotel next morning by dropping his breakfast tray. Needed both hands to open the door and just let go the tray - hadn't thought about what would happen when it hit the ground.

### MERSEY COOK-OUT

A sight-seeing coach trip on Sunday with a beautiful secluded bar-b-que spot on the edge of the Mersey was great. Poor old driver had to drive, give a commentary, cook lunch and then change a wheel with forty rorters giving frivolous advice.

The picnic inspired some of the words of the second verse of the Rort Song (re-printed in this issue of Roaring Forties). It was a shame we couldn't use Alan Kinders inspired:

"Melbourne/Gippsland - Apple Pips Land" - but we couldn't find anything to follow on.

By now of course we were ravenously hungry - huge steaks, large slabs of cake, laskings of Boags and Cider-and apples as big as pumpkins-were all we'd had to eat so we were a bit nonplussed to find a huge three-course dinner waiting for us back at the Gateway.

This enormous and quite delightful meal was only an appetiser for the superb supper still to come when we arrived at the Matthews home for a pool-side party. Terry had been away 50 miles that afternoon to catch fresh crays for us and had gone down seventy feet scuba diving to get them. They were delicious and despite a professed lack of appetite, we did full justice to them and the rest of the delicious food.

Imagine a baby Olympic pool straight outside your family room heated and indoors. Thats the set up we enjoyed.

Sometime during that evening we wrote a report for the local paper which appeared slightly edited on page two next morning. (We have grown to expect the front page but that will have to do I guess).

### MORE TO COME

It still was far from over as her Majesty, Elizabeth Rex, had heard about the Rort and granted Tasmanians a day off for it. This allowed another car convoy to take us for another drive - and a walk on a wide clean empty beach - and then our final function of lunch at the Shearwater Country Club.

This was the "Mainlanders" chance to try to show something of the deep appreciation we felt for the wonderful hospitality we had received so we shouted lunch and refreshments for our Tassie friends.

After lunch we all joined in the Rort Song while Alan Kinder and I gave a raucous presentation of the new verse. Someone mentioned that in forty years time it's going to take a whole weekend to sing the Rort Song if we keep adding a verse a year.

Into the cars again and to the airport where we once more thanked our wonderful hosts in a noisy, boisterous farewell and into Mr. Ansetts big bird.

A fairly quite trip back as everyone was fairly well rorted by then and out into thirty degree heat at Tulla.

A few rorters hired cars and took in a bit more of Tasmania before returning home.

The big question now is of course "What the hell are we going to do next year"?

President of Melb/Gipps Branch, Alan Flaherty, "Volunteered" his Branch into running the 1978 Rort and at a meeting the Sunday after the Rort Committee was formed with Owen Ballenger as Chairman. Early thinking favours Warrnambool as a venue as the Friendships can land there.

The timing has been changed to Easter to allow more time - particularly in view of the fact that long weekends do not always co-incide in different States.

What about putting the date in your diaries now and start planning to attend next year? Those who missed the Devonport Rort missed out on one of the best weekends imaginable don't risk missing another.

RORTING WAS HEAVIN IN '77, SO LET'S MAKE IT GREAT IN '78.

Lionel Mussell,  
President.

## ROARING 40'S

APEX 40

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at the home of Jock Littler, Devonport, Tasmania on Saturday 12th MARCH, 1977.

PRESENT: Somewhere between 50 and 60 members, representing Devonport, Launceston and Melbourne-Gippsland Branches, plus many children, 1 horse, 2 ducks and the Local Press.

WELCOME: Interim President Lionel Mussell extended a welcome to all present with a special welcome to three Branch Presidents -

Arthur Boyce	-	Launceston
Jock Littler	-	Devonport
Alan Flaherty	-	Melbourne-Gippsland

PRESIDENTS REPORT President Lionel presented his report. (See attached sheet).

TREASURES REPORT A Balance Sheet for the period 1/9/76 - 28/2/77 was tabled as follows:-

Opening Bank Balance	.	.	.	\$409.56
<u>Receipts;</u>				
Subscriptions				\$12.00
Fines				10.89
Social Function				90.50
<u>Expenses;</u>				
Postage				\$42.00
Bank Charges				6.00
Printing				89.13
Social Function				90.50
Closing Bank Balance	.	.	.	\$295.32

Recommended Subscriptions for 1977-78

1. Affiliated Branches - \$20.00 per Branch.
2. Free Lance Members - \$3.00 per Member.

Moved L. Garrett. Seconded E. Butler  
'That the recommended Subscriptions be accepted.'

Carried.

EXTENSION REPORT:

Extension Chairman Alan Kinder presented his report as follows:-  
(See attached report)

CONSTITUTION:

Moved B. Cunliff. Seconded E. Butler  
'That Membership of Apex 40 be open to retired members of World Council Organisations.'

Carried.

Moved M. Blackley. Seconded E. Butler.  
'That Membership of Apex 40 be open to widows of formerly eligible members of Apex 40.'

Carried.

A current constitution is attached.

RORT VENUE '78:

An offer from Melbourne-Gippsland Branch President Alan Flaherty to run next years Rort was unanimously accepted.

ANNUAL ELECTION:

Co-ordinating Committee.  
Election resulted in the following Rorters being elected onto the Co-ordinating Committee for 1977-78.

President:	Lionel Mussell (Melbourne-Gippsland.)
Vice President:	Jock Littler (Devonport)
	Arthur Boyce (Launceston)
Secretary/	Kevin Frazer (Melbourne-Gippsland)
Treasurer	
Extension/	Alan Kinder (Melbourne-Gippsland)
Chairman	

## ROARING 40'S

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 12TH MARCH, 1977 CONT'd.....

GENERAL BUSINESS: Name Badges

A lengthy and fairly evenly divided discussion revolved around whether name badges, if produced, should have the name Apex 40 included on the badge.

Several motions were presented. The final motion that was carried (Voting 23 for; 18 against) stated:-

(This matter is still a fairly contentious issue and your National Committee would welcome comment from Branches.)

Kevin Frazer.

APEX FORTY ROARING RORT - DEVONPORT 1977 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Rorters,

It is my very pleasing task to report on the past twelve months growth and achievement of Apex 40.

Secretary/Treasurer Kevin and Extention Chairman Alan will give a detailed report in a few moments but what i want to say is that we have enjoyed a very happy and successful year with a number of significant advances.

The most important events in my opinion was the adoption of a new Constitution giving all Branches a voice in policy making at Annual Meetings (now timed to coincide with Rorts) and election of a separte Apex Forty Committee quite independent of the Melbourne/Gippsland Branch.

Our name continued to be a source of concern early in the year and the Apex National President, Tom Chapman was a guest at our Annual Meeting when the name was again discussed.

Despite strong pleas by Tome and the two Zone 12 Apexians present ( ZP Ron Brownlees and ZVP Bruce Walker) the meeting decided to retain the name Apex 40. In support of this we received letters from Apex 40 Maryborough and Devonport.

As far as we are concerned that is the end of the matter and probably in retrospect we spent far too much time and worry on it in the first place.

One constitutional change is that organisations of former Apexians by WHATEVER name now affiliate with us and that has already borne fruit in the afiliation of the Oasis Club of Shepparton.

Our growth has continued and we were pleased to welcome a number of new branches during the year - Alan will say more about this later.

Last years Rort was a huge success and this "overseas" venture is obviously going to be even better. My sincere thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make our stay to enjoyable.

Finally I must thank the people who have made Apex 40 available, on going enjoyable experience Secretary/Treasurer, Kevin, Extention Chairman, Alan and oug two VP's Barry and Sam. A team I have been priveleged to lead and who are dedicated to the concept of "life after forty".

Also a warm thank you to every member who's friendship we value so highly.

Apex 40 is still a baby but a very healthy lusty infant I am certain it will grow with all our help to a strong useful adult organisation in the years ahead.

Lionel Mussell,  
National President.

## ROARING 40'S

APEX 40EXTENSION COMMITTEE REPORTDEVENPORT, MARCH 1977

At this time last year we had two active Branches - the original group now known as Melbourne Gippsland Branch and the Devenport Branch.

We had just received advice of the formation of a new Branch at Darwin, but as we have had no further news from the "top end", we can only assume that it has gone into limbo or at least not remained active in terms of the Apex 40 constitution.

During the past 12 months it has been most pleasing to see the organisation expand to 6 branches with the formation of new Apex 40 groups at Maryborough (Q.), Launceston (Tas.) and Orbost (Vic.) and the affiliation of an existing Oasis Club at Shepparton (Vic.)

The affiliation of the Shepparton Oasis Club was enabled by the change during the year of the Constitution which allows Branches to adopt their own local name. It is expected that this change will be ratified at this session which should assist in extension of our organisation or, to quote President Lionel Mussell in the last Roaring 40's:-

"open the door for more fellowship and communication between ourselves and other former members of Apex and their families".

We are aware of strong interest by some Oasis members in Perth (W.A.) and remain hopeful of affiliations from the west.

A recent invitation to the Wangaratta (Vic.) Oasis Club, however, resulted in them declining but nevertheless wishing Apex 40 every success. I don't doubt that in time we may convince them of their error.

We have recently followed up a very keen contact in Coonabarabran (N.S.W.). While it is a fairly small, town, it claims an unenviable record of getting big things done in Apex, so we have hopes that the oldies can maintain that record and claim the honour of introducing Apex 40 into N.S.W.

Our friends in Brisbane, while slow to commit themselves to formal affiliation, are still meeting occasionally and maintaining contact. Having never been too keen on the name Apex 40, they have adopted "Groupex" as a title. Latest correspondence noted a scheduled "night at the dogs with ladies" (Groupies?) We feel that, formally affiliated or not, the Brisbane group is a de facto part of the organisation and we wish them continued fellowship. I feel sure we will have a Branch there before the next Rort.

This report is written in anticipation of a highly successful Rort at Devenport, which will undoubtedly give a boost to extension in the coming year as did the success of our first gathering at Ballarat prove to be a great selling point during the past 12 months. Following this Rort it is expected that the Extension Committee will reconvene to consider policies for future extension. Any ideas and suggestions that members may wish to submit for consideration on the question of extension would be greatly appreciated.

Alan Kinder,  
CHAIRMAN - EXTENSION COMMITTEE  
12.3.77.



## Apex jobs to Tas. men

Two Tasmanian men were elected to the national executive of Apex 40 at a business session at Devonport on Saturday.

President of the Devonport branch of Apex 40 (Mr Jock Littler) and Launceston president (Mr Arthur Boyce) were chosen as vice-presidents with Victorians filling the remaining three executive positions.

Apex 40 is made up of past Apexians and their wives and the Devonport meeting was only the group's second national gathering.

Extension chairman, Allan Kinder reported a "very satisfactory" growth over the past year.

Last year only two branches — Melbourne-Gippsland and Devonport — existed, but branches in Launceston, Shepparton, Orbost and Maryborough had since been formed.

Although the business section of the meeting was held on Saturday, most mainlanders arrived on Friday night and spent the weekend on the Coast.

● Officials pictured at the Apex 40 conference at Devonport on Saturday are (from left) Mr Alan Kinder (Melbourne), national extension chairman; Mr Kevin Fraser (Melbourne), secretary-treasurer; Lionel Mussell (Mornington), president; and Mr Jock Littler, Devonport branch president and chairman of the conference organising committee.

## Apexians attend reunion

Former Apexians from Tasmania and Victoria are at Devonport for a convention and social gatherings.

They are members of the Apex 40 Club — those who have passed the upper age limit for membership of the organisation.

The convention is only the club's second. The first was held at Ballarat, Victoria, last year.

National executive officers will be among those attending.

A social evening was held last night at the Gateway Motor Inn. Official discussions will be held at a convention there this afternoon, and a dinner to be attended by about 100 people will be held tonight.

Tomorrow members of the club will go on a bus tour into the Mersey Valley before attending a windup party at night.



## ROARING 40'S

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The following is a copy of a letter recieved from Bev Hoages, Maryborough with the latest news from this Branch.

6th March 1977.

Dear Kevin,

RORT SONG - Tune "Men of Harlick"

*We who are the Roaring Rorters  
Fathers, Mothers, Sons 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.*

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

*Then we rorted Devonport  
Better than we ever thought,  
Round the town and up the bluff  
And then a rorty Barb-b-que at Littler's.*

*Braddon's Lookout, Mersey Cook-out  
Boag's three "X" and apple cider  
Round the pool we did proclaim,  
That Rorting is our Game.*

Just a few hasty words to let you know what Maryborough Branch of Apex 40 is doing, which certainly isn't much at the moment, and to apologise for non attendance at the Roaring Rort, but business has stopped one member from attending, Rotary Convention a couple of others, whilst we feel it sufficient to say that we have to take a back seat it sufficient to say that we have to take a back seat for our daughter who is flying down in May and completely touring the Island for two weeks with a study group. However, we hope the business session is successful as we know the fellowship section will be.

Mid November our Club took a boat trip over to contraversial Fraser Island (now also of Film fame) and had a marvellous day - the bus being the most moder, up-to-date adapted four wheel drive flat-top truck with old school forms screwed to the floor. No sides - but what fun dodging the bushes and brambles as they whished in, stinging face, legs and arms. We picniced on the Island at Eurong (for lunch) by which time we had completely covered the entire breadth. The timber forests are magnificent and the clarity of the streams and lakes unforgettable - so was the fellowship.

December saw us doing Service work for both Apex Clubs in the town. Wide Bay Apex Club was celebrating it 200th and Xmas Dinner on the same evening and were committed to man the "speedway" gates as well, hence some of our members manned the Speedway thus allowing all members to attend their own function. Maryborough Club also requested our assistance in conduction a Hamburger stall at their yearly Santa Fair as they were unable to obtain sufficient starters from their own ranks. This we also undertook.

We are only just getting around to having our first social outing for the year, which will be a B.B.Q. dinner and games day held at the Bauple State School - quiet country surroundings plenty of room for fellowship for adults and children. We thoroughly enjoyed there last year.

# ROARING 40'S

LETTER TO THE EDITOR CONT'D.....

Thanking you for the Roaring 40 Reports and looking forward to the future issues.

kindest regards,  
 Sincerely.

Beverley Hodges (Secretary)

Brian Hodges - President  
Eric Sherwin - Secretary  
Committee - Merv Kidd, George Oldershaw, and Clive Kehl

YOUR NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

- |                             |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <u>PRESIDENT:</u>           | LIONEL MUSSELL,<br>50 VENICE STREET,<br>MORNINGTON, VIC., 3931.         | PHONE BUS. (03) 662 2000<br>PHONE PRIV.(059) 75 2870 |
| <u>VICE PRESIDENTS:</u>     | JOCK LITTLER,<br>NIELA COURT,<br>MANDETTA PARK, DEVONPORT, 7310.        | PHONE PRIV. (004) 24 1138                            |
|                             | ARTHUR BOYCE,<br>82 RISELEY STREET,<br>KINGS MEADOWS, LAUNCESTON, 7250. | PHONE PRIV. (003) 44 4242                            |
| <u>SECRETARY/TREASURER:</u> | KEVIN FRZER,<br>P.O. BOX 164,<br>KEW, VIC., 3101.                       | PHONE BUS. (03) 86 5734<br>PHONE PRIV.(03) 89 4747   |
| <u>EXTENSION CHAIRMAN:</u>  | ALAN KINDER,<br>34 SHAFER ROAD,<br>BLACKBURN NORTH, VIC., 3130.         | PHONE BUS. (03) 602 0111<br>PHONE PRIV.(03) 88 5124  |

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO:-

1. Ex-Apexians Ex world councilors who retired at the normal retiring age.
2. Apexians elected to Life Office.
3. Other Ex-Apexians Ex world councilors as approved by the Apex 40 committee.
4. Wives (Widows) of eligable members.

HEARD THIS ONE

"Really, Perkins," said her ladyship,  
"you must stop walking into my bedroom  
without knocking.

"Don't worry about it, Your Ladyship,"  
replied the butler. "I always take a  
look through the keyhole first and if  
you have nothing on, I go away and come  
back later.

.....

## ROARING 40'S

HEARD THIS ONE CONT'D.....

"I demand to know why I have been arrested," protested the drunk as the constable draffed him into the police-station.

"You've been brought in here for drinking heavily," replied the policeman.

"Oh great", said the drunk with enthusiasm: "Let's get started."

.....

A rich man spent a lot of money on underwater scuba equipment, buying every gadget he saw.

While deep underwater, he saw a man who had no equipment. He couldn't understand it. So, he took his special writing set and he wrote a message asking how the man did it wouth any gear.

The man grabbed the pen and wrote back: "You idiot! I'm drowning!"

.....

"My doctor insisted that I came to see you," the patient told the psychiatrist. "Goodness knows why - I'm happily married, secure in my job, lots of friends, no worries - "

"Hmmm," said the psychiatrist, reaching for his notebook. "And how long have you been like this?"

.....

