



# Roaring 40's Magazine June 2025

Official publication for Apex 40 Australia Inc.  
Apex 40 Australia Inc. is the recognized  
body of affiliated past Apexians groups.

## 2026 REPORT



**Discovery Princess Cruise,  
28 Mar 2026, 10 nights,  
Sydney to North Qld to Sydney**

# *For Continuing Fellowship*

Apex 40 Australia Inc. is not a Service Club, but an organisation formed to foster fellowship among past Apexians and their partners, and to retain the many friendships formed during their Apex years.

It also exists to assist Apex, when asked, and not to operate in opposition to Apex. It is open to past members and their partners, and Ex-World Councillors who have retired from their respective organisations.

Some Apex 40 members decided to form sub-committees which are generally based around past or present Apex Club locations. These sub-committees may meet monthly or less regularly, but all with a view to maintaining and fostering friendships, and occasionally providing assistance to Apex Clubs.

Each year members from Apex 40 gather for a weekend to attend the Annual Convention known as 'The Rort'. During this weekend there is a brief interruption to the festivities to conduct the necessary formality of The Annual General Meeting. In the past, after the RORT, a Post-RORT tour of 4 or 5 days duration has been programmed, visiting areas surrounding the town hosting The Rort. In future both events may be combined and shortened to reduce costs.

The socialising of individual members with each other, across the whole organisation, never ceases. When on an interstate holiday, for example, members invariably look up acquaintances and friends made during the Rorts. It is a huge social club and fosters friendships among whole families.

Membership is open to all past members of Apex, their partners and members of affiliated clubs.



## President's Report

Vic Ashby. Nepean Valley. NSW.

## **Presidents Report**

As I'm sitting here writing my first article as President my thoughts go back to the Broken Hill RORT. The vastness of the outback and the distance Broken Hill is from anywhere is certainly impressive. Broken Hill is certainly an Oasis in the desert.

The Broken Hill RORT was a fabulous time for me in a number of ways, some of the highlights being Silverton, the home of the Mad Max Movies, the desert Sculptures at sunset, Mundi Mundi Lookout where one could see the curvature of the horizon, the massive painting, Pro Hart his Paintings and cars, the incredible gemstones and finally the fellowship of the Apex 40 members.

Now that broken Hill is over and dusted, we can now look forward to the 2026 RORT/Cruise. It is still eight months away however as the saying goes time flies when you are having fun. It will certainly be different to Broken Hill however what a great venue it will be and an opportunity to

continue with our well know fellowship. If you haven't booked as yet, please give it some serious thought.

Since the AGM I have had the opportunity to visit some sub committees. I had the pleasure to attend Wyong Apex 40 and present OBE (over Blooming eighty) certificates to Dennis Heilbrum, Kevin Deaves and Sandra Bowman. Congratulations on achieving this momentous occasion, attend a combined blue mountains Crest/Nepean Valley Apex 40 Luncheon and a Great 8 Men's Lunch.

July is certainly going to be busy for me with a number of Christmas in July functions and an AGM on my calendar.

As I have indicated previously, I would like to visit as many sub-committees as possible so if you would like me to attend an event, I'm just a call or text away. A big thanks to Dandenong for your invitation to your September Meeting which I certainly will be attending.

That's all from me now.

Cheers Vic Ashby (President)



National Vice President  
Bill Cramp, Redlands. Qld.

### **Vice President's June 2025 Report.**

At the Broken Hill Rort, I was elected to be vice president for the next 12 months. As there was no competition for the position, my personal or Apex history was not sought. For my first report as VP, I take this opportunity to briefly tell my story. I have been producing the Roaring 40's magazine for the last 5 years but have able to remain in the background.

I am William Cramp, preferring to answer to Bill, married to Val for more than 50 years. We have 2 sons. No grandchildren to brag about. My induction into Apex was in Guyra, NSW in about October 1964, and almost immediately transferred by my employer to Nyngan, NSW. The Apex membership was also transferred.

From there in 1966 I was again transferred this time to Manly in Sydney. Again, Apex membership was carried over. At 21, being a member of this club had me financially and socially out of my depth. Here I was amongst an ex National President, a prominent local solicitor, an ABC radio personality and various other business professionals. I did attend a national convention in Mildura during this period of membership, but I don't remember anything of the event. I let my membership lapse.

In 1973 I sought a work transfer to Queensland, got married the next year and settled in Springwood. Val returned to the workforce in 1978 and found she had a workmate who was a member of the local Apex club, and he persisted that I should rejoin, which I did in the late 70's. I was only a floor member during the early years of my memberships. I held various committee posts during my Springwood membership including president in my final year. I have not held any Apex district, zone, state or national positions.

In 1985 I had passed 40 and retired with senior active status, remaining so until the club folded. I became involved with the local junior football club and paid little attention to Apex but had been made aware of Apex 40 by the then national president of Apex who was a Springwood member. I was not aware of any local group and the suggestion was to start one up. My other interests, as well as my job took precedence.

In 1980 I had a change of employment and joined a Melbourne owned company in its Brisbane office. One of the Melbourne based employees was Bernie Kenny, a member of Melbourne NorWesters sub-committee. Somehow, I must have revealed I was an ex Apexian. That was it. He kept promoting this organisation until he arranged for me to attend a meeting of Redlands after their Rort in 2002. The Redlands members made us welcome, and we have been members ever since.

About 2007 I took on the position of the club's newsletter editor and still have the job today! For some time, I filled the position of secretary as well.

When Julie Primmer was running for the presidency of Apex 40 in 2019, she was the current Roaring 40's editor and looking for a candidate to take over. In a moment of weakness, I volunteered. The rest is history. It has been a challenging but rewarding task gathering news from around the association and compiling the magazine. Thanks to the support of Secretary Col Ramsay and my fellow committee members over these years we have been able to publish interesting editions. I congratulate Chris on accepting election as the new editor and offer to assist and support him during his initial and ongoing productions.

I have no grand ideas for change but hope to promote visiting other groups where feasible and meeting up with others if travelling. Also promoting reunions of former districts, zones and states as a means of locating old friends and a source for new members.

Bill Cramp.

[vicepresident@apex40.com](mailto:vicepresident@apex40.com)

P.S. Since writing this report, I have learned of the passing of Life Member of Surfers Paradise Apex Club and long-time president of Gold Coast Apex 40 group, Neil McPherson OAM FQSN, on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Neil was a regular correspondent for me during my time as editor of the Roaring 40's magazine. This news has been posted to our Facebook Group, and I am reporting it here for those who do not get Facebook.



## Secretaries Report

Col Ramsay. Wynnum Manly. Qld

### **From the Desk of the Secretary:**

The 2025 Rort at Broken Hill is done and dusted and a very BIG thank you must go to Julie for her organisation of this Rort. A few minor bits and pieces did not work to Julie's plan, but with a little reshuffle by Julie all things came together. Again, thank you Julie!



Keith has been working on both the regular and the Rort financials and has recently presented the National Board with updates. A few invoices are yet to be finalised for the Rort, but Keith advises all is working to budget.

As for the Secretarial bit, I have made representation to Fair Trading re our "New" Rules and By-Laws (Constitution) and await their approval.

The Annual Returns to Fair Trading is done but I am still working on the report to ASIC. I expect this to be finalised by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Membership: A call to ALL Secretaries!!!**

Would you please forward to me your current membership list and please also indicate the names of office bearers within your sub-committee.

**Badges:**

Several badges were ordered at the Rort and they have been posted to the respective members.

**Broken Hill Rort 2025:**

99 members were registered, but due to unforeseen circumstances, only 95 members attended.

**Cruise Rort 2026:**

Bookings are still trickling in and we are currently at 62 with several more members enquiring. The contact for the Rort bookings has been updated as Leanne has had a bad fall and is unable to assist us at this time.

*The new contact person is:*

Gabbie 07 3861 9011

[gabbie@yourtravelandcruise.com.au](mailto:gabbie@yourtravelandcruise.com.au).

**WEB site:**

Ken, like us all, had a great time at the Rort but, his trip home was delayed by the NSW rain and flooding. Ken expects to have some Broken Hill updates on the WEB page in the near future. If anyone has some suitable pictures from the Rort, would you please forward them to Ken at [web@apex40.com](mailto:web@apex40.com).

When time permits, please peruse <https://apex40.com.au/> for the latest news and updates.

All National Board members are contactable by email:

The new team is below:

Vic Ashby	Nepean Valley	President	<a href="mailto:president@apex40.com">president@apex40.com</a>
Bill Cramp	Redlands	Vice President	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@apex40.com">vicepresident@apex40.com</a>
Keith Miller	Nepean Valley	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@apex40.com">treasurer@apex40.com</a>
Robyn Thorley	Great 8	IRO	<a href="mailto:iro@apex40.com">iro@apex40.com</a>
Maggie Vincent	Nepean Valley	Membership	<a href="mailto:membership@apex40.com">membership@apex40.com</a>
Chris Palmer	Great 8	Roaring 40's editor	<a href="mailto:roaring@apex40.com">roaring@apex40.com</a>
Ken Wright	Nepean Valley	WEB site editor	<a href="mailto:web@apex40.com">web@apex40.com</a>
Col Ramsay	Wynnum Manly	Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@apex40.com">secretary@apex40.com</a>

*Welcome on board, Maggie and Chris!*

Just a reminder of our new postal and physical addresses:

**Postal:** PO Box 211  
Burpengary  
QLD 4505

**Registered:** 181 1-37 Caulfield Drive  
Burpengary East  
Qld 4505

Apex 40 Facebook page can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004>

Col Ramsay

National Secretary

0419 253 030





## Membership Report

Maggie, Nepean Valley. NSW.

Hi everyone, at our recent AGM I took on membership role for the coming year and thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself to our members.

As with all of you, I have had a long association with all things APEX alongside my husband Jamie. We are currently members of Nepean Valley Apex 40 and Jamie is a current member of Blacktown APEX Club and current Chair of the APEX Foundation Board.

We are relatively new to the world of Rorts, attending 3 of the past 4 and have loved each of the ones we have attended, meeting new people who have since become friends.

Since coming to our first Rort held in Darwin I have wanted to become more involved with our association and when I had the opportunity to take on the Membership role, I was very happy to do so.

I am here to help encourage new members to join as well as to try and get new groups up and running in areas that do not have an APEX 40 group, if possible, I would love to visit some of your clubs over the coming 12 months.

If I can help you in any way, please reach out to me on [membership@apex40.com](mailto:membership@apex40.com)

Maggie Vincent  
Mobile: 0434 315 327  
[membership@apex40.com](mailto:membership@apex40.com)

***Breaking News! – see Page 15***



Treasurer's Report.  
Keith Miller. Nepean Valley. N.S.W.

FROM THE TREASURERS DESK

The 2025 RORT at Broken Hill was a great experience, and I would like to thank Past apex 40 NP Julie Primmer, for all her hard work in organising and pulling the 2025 RORT together.

The fine session at the RORT realised \$253.45 and our Sunday night raffle made \$430. The National Board will be donating these funds to the Royal Flying Doctor Service at Broken Hill. Special thanks to all 2025 RORTERS for digging deep during the fine session and raffles.

We had a couple of unbudgeted expenses at the RORT, and as a result, we made a small loss on the 2025 RORT.

Please contact me on email [treasurer@apex40.com](mailto:treasurer@apex40.com) if you have any questions.

There are a few members who have not paid their 2025 Membership fees, so we will be following them up in the near future.

Thanks

Keith Miller  
Apex 40 Australia Inc  
National Treasurer 2025/2026  
Mobile 0408 118 290





## IRO Report.

Robyn Thorley. Great 8. N.S.W.

Hi all, Thank you for your confidence in me again this year as IRO and Apex Liasson. I will endeavour to maintain and increase contacts between clubs again this year. Congratulations to the incoming Apex 40 Board, I'm looking forward to another successful year!

It was so good to welcome our N.Z. visitors to the RORT and spend time with them all. Barry O'Callaghan and Judy Murphy, Bill and Elizabeth Hammond, and Peter Richardson. Hopefully Peter and the Hammonds enjoyed their pre RORT tag a-long with Mark and Rosemary, and also enjoyed the RORT, and managed to survive the rest of their journey home! Hope to see you all again next year!

Thanks also to Jamie Vincent for his Apex info and for following up the Apex Convention at Wyndham, Klang if anyone is going that way or interested in taking a contingent! More to come in the future, I hope.

Lastly, could I encourage all to reach out to past Apexians and their families and invite them to join you at your meetings. This may lead to renewed friendships within our Apex and Apex 40 families and hopefully new members.

Robyn Thorley

IRO & AL.



***"Live your life  
with colour  
and use the  
whole box  
of crayons"***





From the Editor's Desk  
Chris Palmer Great 8. N.S.W

Welcome to my first attempt at producing the Roaring 40. I hope I can live up to the standard set by Bill Cramp and produce a newsletter of the highest quality that both informs and entertains.

By way of an introduction, I'll let you in on my life story so far.

I am a retired Electrical Engineer have been married to the wonderful Trisha for forty-two years.

I joined Cardiff Apex club (Zone 10 District 1) in 1975 and stayed with them until the club folded in 1995. I moved on to East Maitland Apex club until my retirement in 1997 when I was awarded Life Membership. I also had the pleasure of serving as District Governor for NSW District 8 during that period.

After BHP Newcastle shut down around 2000, I travelled the country working on various construction and engineering projects from Woomera to Sydney to Melbourne to Western Australia working on Wind Farms, Copper smelters, High Voltage switchyards and pharmaceutical plants.

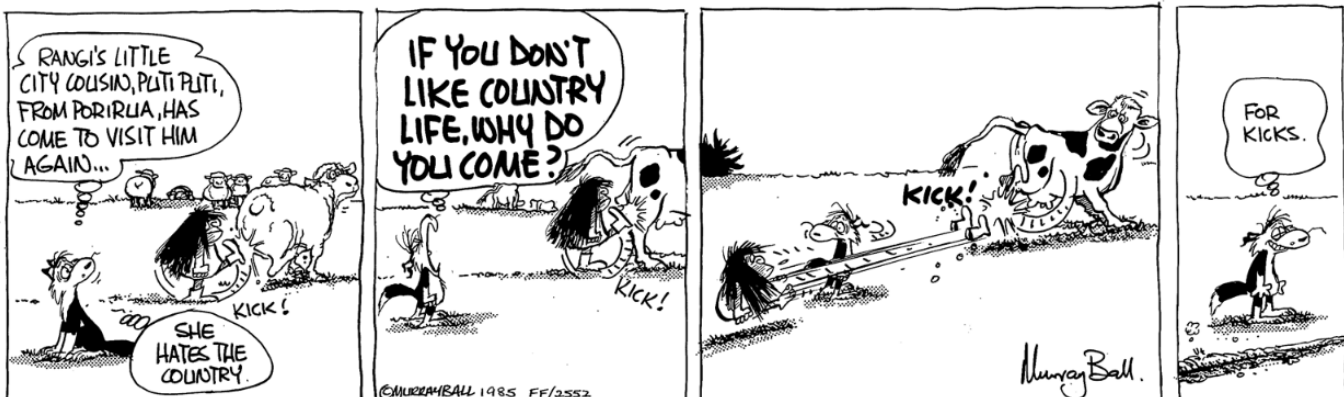
I finally had enough and retired in 2021, just in time to receive an invite to get back into Apex40 with the Great 8 Apex40 group.

This, in turn, led to becoming the Newsletter Editor for Great 8 and the rest is history.

As you can see producing the Roaring 40 relies on the input of the National Board and the various sub-committees.

I would like to invite all the sub-committees to send the newsletters/dinner notices through to [roaring@apex40.com](mailto:roaring@apex40.com) so that good news and current events can be spread throughout the association. The same goes for Facebook, please post news and photos making sure to identify people and sub-committees.

Chris Palmer  
Roaring 40 Editor



## MEMORIES OF THE 2025 RORT



Thanks to Past president Col Gifford and Carole.



Vics Investiture



Past Presidents





Some of the NZ contingent with Aussie friends enjoying the AGM at Silverton



Jamie Vincent at the Palace Hotel Shoppe

## Around the Sub-Committees

### New South Wales

#### Alstonville

740 kms North of Sydney

A new venue for us & we thought Che Bon's meals were excellent.







Helen and Rob Noble from Alstonville at the Rort

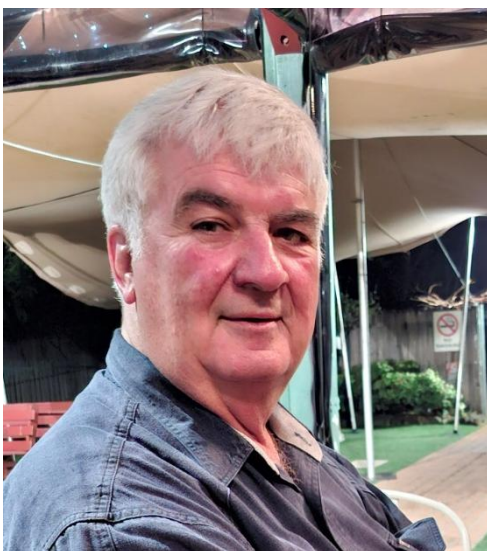
Byron Bay  
Blue Mountains Crest  
Great 8 Hunter Valley

760 kms North of Sydney

100 kms West of Sydney

Sydney is 170kms South

Last month we held a meeting at the recently re-opened River Royal Hotel at Morpeth.  
 Good food and good company abound!







Robyn & Cheryl at the Palace Hotel

## Inverell

560 kms NW of Sydney



Cheryle Squires Robyn Thorley Great 8 Ann Barry and Val Harris Inverell

## Leeton

590 kms SW of Sydney



Leeton group at the Rort

## Lismore Manly

745 kms North of Sydney

15 kms East of Sydney.

## Moree

640 kms NW of Sydney.



The Dawson's from Moree at the Rort

## Nepean Valley

60 kms West of Sydney.

## Wyang

100kms North of Sydney

Six of us met at Wyong Golf Club last month. Dennis was in Qld and John Bowman was out of sorts, so we hope you are better again John!

Next lunch Shelley Beach Golf Club Thurs 29th at noon, hope to see you there, except Kevin Deaves who is heading to WA.



## Victoria

## Bendigo

153 kms North of Melbourne.



Bob & Anne Caldwell at the Rort



Dandenong Valley

35 kms South of Melbourne

Geelong

73 kms SW of Melbourne

Melbourne-Gippsland

40 kms East of Melbourne

Melbourne Nor-Westerns

22 kms NW of Melbourne

Melbourne Sou-Westerns

270 kms SW of Melbourne

Sunraysia

546 kms NW of Melbourne

Queensland

Bundaberg

165 kms North of Brisbane



Kevin and Luz Huxham at the Rort

Caloundra

103 kms North of Brisbane

*Breaking News!*



Tony Wiltshire OAM

Huge congratulations to Apex 40 member from the Sunshine Coast [Tony Wilshire](#) who has been awarded an OAM Medal in the Kings Birthday awards announced this weekend.

Well done Tony & [Susanne Wilshire](#) and all the family.

For those unaware Tony has devoted a lifetime of service to Apex, as a member and now for many, many, years on the Apex Foundation.



Glen and Betty Rossiter at the Rort

Central Queensland  
Curtis Coast  
Gold Coast  
Hervey Bay  
Ipswich  
Maryborough  
Redlands

636 kms North of Brisbane  
 530 kms North of Brisbane  
 80 kms South of Brisbane  
 290 kms North of Brisbane  
 43 kms SW of Brisbane  
 290 kms North of Brisbane  
 35 kms South of Brisbane

Sunday, 15 June, 19 members enjoyed lunch at the Redlands [IndigiScapes Centre](#) cafe. The venue is popular with families and was busy. We were well looked after and I think the only problem was recalling what each had pre-ordered. The next outing is planned for August at the Redlands Sporting Club, Wellington Point.





## Redlands Members attending the 2025 Rort



## Wynnum Manly

20 kms East of Brisbane



Winsome Anderson at the Rort

## XEPA Great South East

30 kms SE of Brisbane



Xepa at the Rort

## South Australia

## Adelaide Hills

35 kms SE of Adelaide

# Tasmania

Devonport  
Launceston

255 kms NW of Hobart

200 kms North of Hobart

## Apex Australia News

Apex Australia National Convention is coming in October 2025 lets all make a difference.

Good morning all Apexians past and present hope you are all having a great weekend? Please remember the early bird registration is only up to the end of June please get your registrations in ASAP it will be great in 2148.

Please go to the Apex Australia website to find all the info you need.



## Apex Foundation News.

An excerpt from the Apex Foundation Quarterly Newsletter: April, 2025

The Magic is Still Happening at the Magic Castle. The Chalet is looking great after the new doors and windows were replaced late last year, the team did an amazing job. The new oven has been installed as well so we are all up to standard in the kitchen.

The annual January work party went very well with 15 volunteers attending the work party, 4 of them coming all the way from Chinchilla to attend. Many little jobs were completed and some painting around the new doors and windows completing the job, resealing the bathrooms and a general tidy up.

It's wonderful to see the continued support we receive from Apexian's past and present. The Apex Magic castle work parties are still an annual event held every January. Many people who attend are returning volunteers; it's a great way to give back to the community while spending time with like-minded people. The fellowship is all part of the work party, if you are ever interested in coming, please contact the Apex Foundation or contact me directly.

Overall, the Chalet is in good shape with a few more windows and doors to replace over the next 12 to 18 months and possibly the new roof over the next 5 years. I can't see any major works that are needed.

We also had our friends from Apex 40 Great 8 Club come down for a few days to complete some maintenance along with some good old fashion fellowship. This is the second time they have been down, their first being last year, so hopefully it will be an annual event. It is great to see our Apex 40 groups showing so much care for the Apex Magic Castle. They did an amazing job completing all the work that was assigned to them, they even found some new jobs.

The Board and the Chalet Committee are excited for the season to start in a few weeks and to see the Chalet come alive to help all the Children who will attend.

Keep the Magic Alive

Jamie Vincent

**2026 RORT**

**Discovery Princess Cruise,  
28 Mar 2026, 10 nights,  
Sydney to North Qld to Sydney**

Port Douglas  
Yorkeys Knob  
Airlie Beach  
Willis Island  
Brisbane  
Sydney  
AUSTRALIA  
South Pacific Oceans

Ship: **Discovery Princess**  
Date: **28th March**  
Departure: **Sydney**  
Duration **10 nights**  
Itinerary: **Sydney, Willis Island, Port Douglas,  
Yorky's Knob, Airlie Beach, Brisbane, Sydney**

#### 2026 RORT CONTACT.

Gabbie

Tel: 07 3861 9011

Email: [gabbie@yourtravelandcruise.com.au](mailto:gabbie@yourtravelandcruise.com.au)



## International Relations.



**THE 50TH NAT CON**  
*@Klang*

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**&** **KLING**  
**09**

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USD 30 PRE CONVENTION DINNER  
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Acmar Klang

**FOLLOW APEX KLING ON**



Keep sending in your pictures, club notices and general stories of interest so they can be shared with the rest of the Apex 40 community through our *Roaring 40's* publication.



WEB: [www.apex40.com](http://www.apex40.com)

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004/>  
Or search for Apex 40 Australia Inc

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