



ROARING 40's

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF APEX 40

An Association for Past Apexians for Continuing Fellowship

ISSUE NO. 17 - AUGUST 1982



NON MANIABE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well members, the Rort at Mildura saw the end of another very successful year for Apex 40.

If the attendance and enthusiasm shown on this occasion is any indication, I am certain we can look forward to an even better 12 months ahead.

No doubt Secretary Alan will give a full report on the Rort, but I would personally like to thank Norm, Jim and everyone concerned from Sunrayasia Branch for providing us all with a really fantastic weekend. One I am sure, that will be remembered for many years to come.

There is no doubt that Apex 40 is here to stay and I feel sure that the next year will see us expand further and boost our ranks to much greater numbers.

I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity of being your President again for the coming year and, at the same time, I congratulate Secretary Alan for accepting that task for a second term.

I wish all Branches great fellowship for this year and look forward to hearing from you all throughout the year.

ERN BUTLER

SECRETARIAL

As you will see from the financial statement for last year, we finished well in the black with only a small deficit for the year. This despite the fact that the budget had been set for a substantial deficit (\$145) in order to keep subscriptions down to a reasonable level for the smaller branches.

The reason we were able to cover the anticipated deficit was the excess we made on the sale of name badges - and I feel this should be explained. While we negotiated an initial price of \$4. per badge, we decided to charge \$5. to allow a margin for postage, procuring sample badges and as a buffer (for a reasonable period) against inflation in cost of production. Initial response to the badges has been so good that we had an excess of \$154, not allowing for postage costs. This, of course, was due to the large initial orders from some of the bigger branches and we are not likely to repeat that bonanza.

The badges were well displayed at the Rort and certainly helped to make it easy meeting and greeting new friends - with about 100 Rorters easily identified.

If any branch which hasn't yet got any name badges would like a sample - for say Secretary or President - just drop me a line and we will organise one for you.

ALAN KINDER

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Board P.S. AVOCA - Afloat near MERBEIN, Vic.

SUNDAY 13th JUNE, 1982

Present: Approximately 100 Rorters representing Bendigo, Devonport, Melbourne, Gippsland, Nunawading and Sunraysia branches.
Members at large - Bob and Merlyn Menzel, Portland.

Welcome and
President's

Report: National President, Ern Butler welcomed all in attendance to the 7th Annual Rort and expressed his gratitude to the Sunraysia branch for accepting his request to host the Rort.

Sergeant-
at-Arms:

Keith Forster, Sunraysia was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

Greetings: A letter sending best wishes from Maryborough Branch was read.

Secretarial and
Financial

Reports: 1. Secretarial Report

a) Roaring 40's - Three issues of the newsletter had been produced during the year. In view of increasing costs of publication and distribution, it appears adequate to continue publishing three issues timed as - Pre-Rort, Post-Rort, Pre-Christmas. Request for contributions to the newsletter.

b) Name Badges - Badges had proved popular, orders having been received and filled in the first 5 months of production for 195 badges from six branches.

c) Annual Subscriptions - There had been a reluctance in the past to set subscriptions on a 'per capita' basis as that seemed too Apex-like. Experience has shown, however, that the largest continuing item of expenditure is in production and distribution of Roaring 40's and therefore a 'user pays' policy would be more equitable having regard to the wide disparity in size of branches.

2. Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - June 1, 1981 to May 31, 1982.

Opening Bank Balance \$297-95

Receipts:

Affiliation fees from branches 1981/82
@ \$20-00 per branch: \$205-00
Illawarra
Maryborough
Devonport
Melbourne/Gippsland
Sunraysia
Bendigo
Waverley R.A.W.
Stawell
Morella
Orbost

Note: 1. Orbest paid \$25. -
 \$5 in credit for 1982/83
 2. Launceston 1981/82
 fee included 1980/81
 statement.

Bank Interest	\$ 17-27
Excess on Name Badges	<u>\$154-00</u>
	\$376-27
<u>Expenditure:</u>	
Postage	\$ 94-43
Printing "Roaring 40's" (Stencils, Paper, Duplicating)	\$144-77
Printing Brochures	<u>\$164-50</u>
	\$403-70
Deficit for Year:	<u>\$ 27-43</u>
<u>Closing Bank Balance</u>	<u>\$270-52</u>

RECOMMENDED BUDGET -1982/83

Receipts:

Affiliation Fees	\$300-00
Excess on Badges	40-00
Bank Interest	30-00
	<u>\$370-00</u>

Expenditure:

Printing "Roaring 40's"	\$200-00
Postage	120-00
Stationery	50-00
	<u>\$370-00</u>

Annual
Subscriptions:

Moved Alan Kinder, Seconded Ley Garrett

"That Branch subscriptions for 1982/83 be payable at the rate of \$1.00 per couple or single member with a minimum subscription of \$20.00"

CARRIED

Extension
Report:

Extension Chairman, Ron Clarke (Bendigo), reported that three new branches had been formed since the last Rort - Sunraysia (Vic.), Morella (W.A.) and Hobart (Tas.). Waverley (Vic.) which had been meeting prior to that time had since affiliated with Apex 40.

Contact has been made with past-Apexians at Albury (N.S.W.) and Swan Hill (Vic.) and will be followed up this year.

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A request had been made to Apex National President Peter Walsh for support for Apex 40 and it had been suggested that Apex 40 National President and/or Secretary would be welcome to attend the Apex National Board meeting in Sydney in August.

1983 Rort: Colin Speirs, President Melbourne/Gippsland branch offered to host the 1983 Rort at a venue to be selected, probably outside Melbourne. It was noted that Anzac Day 1983 falls on a Monday, providing a long weekend in April.

Jock Littler (Devonport) requested that consideration be given to Easter when cheaper air fares were available from Tasmania.

Moved Neil Hookey, Seconded Chas. Burgess
"That the 1983 Rort be hosted by Melbourne/Gippsland branch at a time and place to be determined."

CARRIED

"Wizzy"
Trophy:

Holder of the trophy for the past year Ron Clarke (Bendigo) presented the "Wizzy" to Nance Linton (Sunraysia).

Election of
Apex 40
National

Committee: Moved Alan Flaherty, Seconded John Hutchinson
"That the present National Committee be re-elected for the ensuing year."

CARRIED

National Committee -

President - Ern Butler (Melb./Gipps.)

Vice-Presidents - Graham Elvey (Bendigo)

David Mansfield (Devonport)

Secretary/Treasurer - Alan Kinder (Melb./Gipps.)

Extension Chairman - Ron Clarke (Bendigo)

Committee Members - Lorna Ballinger (Melb./Gipps.)

Lorraine Burgess (Melb./Gipps.)

Ley Garrett (Melb./Gipps.)

Herb Neil (Maryborough)

General

Business: Nil.

Announcements:

Norm Deering, President Sunraysia, announced arrangements for the Sunday evening barbeque and for collection of payments for Royal Rort Port.

Norm paid tribute to the efforts of the Rort organising committee, Jim Banks, Pauline Forster, Les John, Neville Kirwin, Mike Israel, Gordon Wake and Shirley West.

Close: President Ern declared the meeting closed - on with the Rort!

EXTENSION ANNUAL REPORT

We have seen three new branches formed during this year, Morella over in the West, Sunraysia, and a few weeks back Hobart, Tas. R.A.W.-Waverley (Vic) also affiliated with us to bring the present strength to 15 branches.

Contact has been made in Albury and Swan Hill, but no firm result to date. I am still making enquiries in Portland to get a branch started there.

On Speaking with many ex-Apexians over these past months, I have found that they are all very keen to get into Apex 40, but not one has been prepared to follow through within his area.

Last August contact was made with a group of ex-Apexians in Singapore, also we received word of an inaugural dinner to form the Oasis Club of Kuala Lumpur.

I spoke with Apex National President, Peter Walsh, during May last and asked for his support. He suggested that we be represented at their next Board Meeting in Sydney in August, '82. He is to contact Secretary Alan and advise dates, etc.

Many thanks to Margaret Simpson (Devonport) for keeping me informed on progress of Hobart Branch, and Secretary Alan for all the information forwarded on to me.

RON CLARKE
(Bendigo)

RORT REPORT

In a word - tremendous!

Sunraysia's organising committee had its share of worries and apprehension leading up to the Rort (why won't people register on time?) but they soon disappeared when the Queen's Birthday weekend and the visiting Rorters all arrived together.

Many new friendships made - and some old ones renewed. A couple of ex-Box Hill (Vic.) Apexians managed to catch up with Les and Marjorie John - ex-Box Hill and now living in Mildura - after 15 years. And that's what it's all about. We can expect a good (?) contingent from Sunraysia at next years Rort after their first 'taste'.

Nobody was 'over-rort', although Lionel Mussell was a bit overdone on the Friday night. And on Saturday night Les the bus driver was - well, shall we say ---. (Yes, the same Les who drove us up to Maryborough last year - know what I mean?).

On board the paddle-wheeler Avoca on Sunday morning, after the Saturday night do, John Hutchinson (Sunraysia) insisted he was only half-rorted! John's view of the Rort was - "it's just like a Zone Convention but without all the bull".

Many of you will have already seen a copy of the 'Vintage Vine', Sunraysia's newsletter, in which Jim Banks has given a comprehensive report on happenings over the weekend. Well done Jim - have you received any writs for libel yet?

One thing that was unanimously agreed by regular Rorters was that the rendition of the Rort Song at the dinner dance was by far the best ever. The reason was the great accompaniment by the Workers Five and particularly the obligatos by trumpeter Noel Pugsley.

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As usual, a new verse was borne over the weekend, largely due to the talents of Jim Banks with some thoughts from Frank Bull who entertained us on the river-boat trip - and how! The new verse has been published in the 'Vine', but just for the record, it goes like this -----

'82 Mildura,
The air was fresh and purer,
The Workers' Rort, our 'Royal' Port,
Avoca, muffins, wizzies, nothing surer.
Tasting wine at Chaffey landing
Hardly any one of us left standing.
The Murray River ain't the same
Since Rorting was our game.

Pianist/Comedian Frank Bull, on board P.S. Avoca, had been fed a list of Rorters' names and with his unlimited fund of stories, was able to tell some home truths about nearly everyone on board. As his name suggests, he was quite Frank and told a lot of Bull. I mean to say, who would believe that Don Dick got the name 'Deadwood' because he sleeps by the river every night. And Nola Kinder has never (so she says) had a Finn in the bin, let alone a Swazi in the carsy.

During the week before the Rort, local paper the 'Mildura Midweek' featured a full page about the Rort, complete with words of the Rort Song and photo of Sunraysia Pres. Norm Deering displaying a Rort T-shirt (with Devonport motif). Advertisements extending a welcome to Apex 40 members were included from Suncity Tourist Office (Aussie Pub Coach Holiday), Alfred Deakin Restaurant (fully licensed), Lindeman's Karadoc Winery (Cellar door tastings), Long Bar Restaurant at the Working Men's Club (Wine and Dine with us) and Mildara Wines (Like fine Mildara wines, Apex 40's mature with age). Is there a message in all this?

Mildara in fact bottled a special port for the occasion, labelled Apex 40 Royal 'Rort' Port - "Excellent example of an aged tawny style port - matured in oak casks for 8 years by Mildara Wines limited. A Special Souvenir of Sunraysia 1982 Rort thoroughly tasted and recommended by your association President, Ern Butler, Esq."

And rightly so says Ern, "if its good enough for Barry Round and Bernie Quinlan to get their names on a bottle of plonk, its good enough for me". (For members north of the Murray River, those two gentlemen are noted for their prowess at Aussie Rules football. Ern, of course, is noted for his prowess at a much less vigorous pastime.)

Thanks to the Apex Club members from Mildura who looked after us at the barbeque Sunday evening. A few future Rorters there, I'm sure.

Sunday night after the barbeque, some of the visiting Rorters journeyed across to the Coomealla Services Club for a tilt at the pokies. Tasmanians Jock and Jenny Littler and Brian and Jean Matthews managed to take home a bit of foreign exchange.

Mike Israel had an easy time of it as commentator for the tour of the district on the maxi-bus. Gordon 'Winks' Wake didn't get it so easy though on the mini-bus - which managed only about 100 yards before breaking down. Gordon had to organise a relief bus (Budget), drive the bus, and still give his commentary. Which he did in fine style - well done Winks!

Citrus growers, Fred West and Neville Kirwin, were having a bad time of it with a spate of seven severe frosts in a row just prior to the Rort. Fred and Shirley had to miss the boat trip to try and beat their falling fruit - a disappointment for Shirley after being very involved on the organising committee. Neville was also on the organising committee, and managed to get to all of the functions.

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"Ern's-Bed Revisited"

On Monday morning before embarking for the trip home, all the bus travellers filed one by one thru' the 'singles' motel unit to pay their last respects to Pres. Ern as he lay in state - and what a state!

And the night before, what was that lolling on one of the beds with eyes like glass buttons? Was it really Sebastian's teddy bear? No, it was Les the bus driver - and he was stuffed alright!

AROUND THE BRANCHES

Bendigo

President: Ron Clarke
43 Mill Street,
Bendigo, Vic. 3550
(054) 43 8290

Secretary: Meryl Clarke
43 Mill Street,
Bendigo, Vic. 3550
(054) 43 8290

Our thirteen members who travelled to the Rort in June, thank Sunraysia for their hospitality, fine weather, and the heavy heads brought back. Great time had by all.

Since last report our get-togethers have been varied. A casserole dinner held at Bonnie and Graeme Elvey's was a lot of fun, with the members going to town on their wardrobes and dressing suitably for the 'bad-taste' night.

Dennis & Joan Berlowitz turned their lounge room into a mini-cinema for a viewing of two Australian films hired. Peanuts and popcorn during 'interval' took us all back to those Saturday afternoon matinees.....

Our most recent meeting was in the form of a Chinese Banquet, with twenty-five in attendance.

We are very pleased to welcome our newest members, Rae and Ian Nordeck, Dirleen and Glen Schier, and Claire and Brian Connolly.

On Sunday 12th September, a golf day and barbeque lunch at Marong is being organised. Apexians and wives from the three Bendigo clubs have been invited along to show their skills against some of those 'hot shot oldies'.

Devonport

President: Mick Osborne,
44 Cluan Cres.,
Ulverstone, Tas. 7315
(004) 25 1476

Secretary: Margaret Simpson,
P.O. Box 686,
Devonport, Tas. 7310
(004) 24 4413

Devonport members who went to the Mildura Rort came back really enthused by the whole week-end. Everyone spoke highly of the entire function and is urging more to go to the next one at Melbourne over the Anzac week-end '83.

The Hobart Apex 40 Club is going ahead nicely and when last speaking to Bill Darling (Pres.) he was expecting about 22 members to their meeting on 23/7/82. He is hoping that 40 members will be at the Xmas dinner this year.

Devonport Club is going along okay with a casserole night for

(Cont'd.)

the next meeting to be held at the home of Bruce and Lois Richardson, Sassafras.

Devonport, Launceston and Hobart Clubs are organising a week-end together in Launceston on 9th-10th October '82. Still have to finalise details of this at meetings to come. May have a go at the new Casino too.

Maryborough

President: Brian Frederiksen, Secretary: Jan Wood,
Dymock Street, 5 Kidd Avenue,
Maryborough. Q. 4650 Maryborough. Q. 4650
P. (071) 21 5459 (071) 21 2595
B. (071) 21 3212

We have had a few pull out and with Marion and Terry leaving, we now have a total of 14 couples who meet regularly in Maryborough and five couples who live in other towns but pay a membership fee of \$1 each to receive notices, etc. We are hopeful of increasing numbers after the Annual Apex Handovers and have been told that a couple of people who have pulled out will be interested in joining later after their immediate commitments have terminated.

Our Chinese night at the Bay was very successful and enjoyed by all who attended. The games and card evening, complemented by hot dishes, was a real winner and Daph and Herb Neil were again wonderful hosts.

Our Annual Handover is to be held on 21st August at William House and this year we see our 'good-looking' member of the Club, Brian Frederiksen taking over the Presidency. Jan Wood is going to undertake the job of Secretary, whilst Maurie Gilmore will take over from Eric Sherwin as Treasurer. Graham Gauld has undertaken to do the job of Social Director for the next twelve months and from the ideas he has already come up with, it should be a very active year ahead.

We have been unlucky to loose Marion and Terry Zillamn who have gone to Karumba (Gulf Country) to join the Kruske family. We certainly wish them well and if any more from Maryborough join them, we may yet have an Apex 40 Branch in the far north.

We hope to welcome a few new members after the annual Apex Club Handover dinners, to which our branch received invitations.

Melbourne/Gippsland

President: Colin Speirs, Secretary: Lorraine Burgess,
3 Utah Court, 16 Bullen Street,
Nth. Dandenong E. Doncaster
Vic. 3175 Vic. 3109
P. (03) 795 7385 (03) 848 1777
B. (03) 874 4444

Norm Deering (Pres.) Jim Banks (Sec.) and all Sunraysia Rorters must be congratulated on the FANTASTIC weekend that they arranged for us, everyone who travelled to Mildura agree that it was an unforgettable weekend. Next year's Rort is to be hosted by our branch. It appears a strong possibility that it will be held at Marysville over the Anzac Day weekend - 22/25th April.

More than 20 members attended a barbeque at Lionel and Vi Mussell's country seat on the 11th July, to celebrate the 9th birthday of Apex 40. To mark the occasion there were three birthday cakes, thanks to Marj Flaherty, Rosemary Frazer and Sue Mussell.

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Bendigo members are to pay us a visit in October and will be billeted with Melbourne/Gippsland members after a night out at the Swagman restaurant.

Forthcoming attractions will include a card night, a pie night dinner and a pre-Christmas function at a Hungarian restaurant at Olinda.

LIFE AFTER APEX

Apex Clubs throughout Tasmania have a regular newsletter called 'Thrice' which is publishing a series of articles about 'Life After Apex'.

Current issue tells about Apex 40 and the following pieces are taken from that article -

"If you recall, the first of this series was about Lionism - another service-minded organisation with similar ideals to Apex.

"However, if you are not interested in another service club but want to be in something for the fellowship - then read on.

"FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

"Apex 40 is not an extension of Apex. It is an association for ex-Apexians aimed at retaining and fostering friendships made in Apex. It also has another big difference. Membership to Apex 40 is open to WIVES of eligible ex-Apexians.

"The Association does not have the official endorsement of the Association of Apex Clubs but the concept has some agreement. Such an organisation for retired Apexians had been talked about for many years. However, it was not until 1973 that the inaugural meeting was held in Victoria. A Club was formed later in the same year.

"Since then Apex 40 has expanded steadily. Branches have been formed elsewhere in Victoria and in Tasmania, Queensland and New South Wales."

The article then quotes from our Apex 40 brochure (the yellow sheet) and concludes -

"In Tasmania, Apex 40 Branches have been formed at Launceston, Devonport and Hobart. For age retiring Apexians you are assured of being made most welcome at any of these Branches.

"(My thanks to Margaret Simpson of Devonport Apex 40 for the information. - Ed.)"

S T O P P R E S S

Since our inception, we have felt we would like to enjoy the official recognition of the Association of Apex Clubs as an organisation for past members to enjoy. Which, of course, is just what Apex 40 is.

Ron Clarke's report of his recent conversation with current Apex National President Peter Walsh seemed to suggest there was some hope of achieving this.

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More recently, however, Peter Walsh attended Nunawading Apex handover dinner, as did some Apex 40 members who are past members of Nunawading. Kevin Frazer, past Apex 40 National President, took the opportunity to discuss Apex's attitude to Apex 40 with Peter. It seems that Peter is in full agreement with the concept of Apex 40, but he is "not happy about the name or use of a triangular badge".

So, what's new pussycat!

As Kevin pointed out to Peter - we are just so strongly committed to what we are - and as we are - there is no likelihood of us going through all that name and badge business again.

In any case, at the time of going to press, we have not had any advice, as promised, about the Apex National board meeting in Sydney.

For Golfers - and Would-be Golfers

Golf is a game in which a ball one and a half inches in diameter is placed on a ball 8,000 miles in diameter, the object being to hit the small ball but not the large one.

APEX 40 - FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

PRESIDENT

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HEATHMONT. 3135. Vic (03) 874 2322 (Bus.)

SECRETARY

Alan Kinder
34 Shafer Road, (03) 88 5124 (Pt.)
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