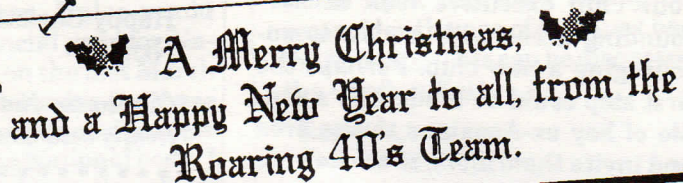


ROARING 40's

December 1991


A Merry Christmas,
and a Happy New Year to all, from the
Roaring 40's Team.



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

Apex 40 is the recognised body of
Affiliated Past Apexians' Groups

National President's Report

It is very exciting to see the rapid expansion of Apex 40, with the number of affiliated clubs now approaching 70, but the significant fact is that almost all the expansion has been occurring in N.S.W. and Queensland. It means there are many opportunities for new clubs that must be going begging in the other states. Could I suggest that your club executive look at surrounding areas with a view to encouraging a new club. Perhaps the first step could be to identify a couple of key ex-Apexians in the area and invite them along to see how we operate.

We have had another request from Apex that we look at the badge situation with a view to adopting the corporate logo. It seems that the earlier confrontational attitude has gone and a good spirit of co-operation exists between the "youngies" and the "oldies", so we hope we will have another look at the badge issue at Grafton. It seems they have started to get a better understanding of our special meaning given to "Rort". It would also help, I think, if we always give it the capital "R" to lift its meaning from the more mundane word which offends some people with no sense of fun.

I must compliment the producers of "Roaring 40's", editor Alan Kinder and designer Alan Padgham, with some good support from Sam McInnes. Alan Padgham is a whizz at getting remarkable effects with his computer, and even does a dab

*personalised birthday card!

Have you written-in the Grafton Rort week in next year's calendar? June 5-14 will cover a fantastic Rort and tour of northern N.S.W. and the Gold Coast. We should get together about travel arrangements - I have heard some clubs have arranged a bus trip from Sydney, while group discounts also apply to train travel.

Happy Christmas to all,
NEIL.

**Our worthy National President recently became a Sexagenarian!*

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APEX 40 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Neil Hookey (Margaret)
3 Avenue Victoria,
East Hawthorn,
Victoria, 3123
(03) 882 2648

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

Sam McInnes (Audrey)
20 Caledonia Crescent,
Mulgrave,
Victoria, 3170
(03) 546 5186

NATIONAL EXTENSION CHAIRMAN

Kevin Huxham (Liz)
29 Valley Drive,
Alstonville,
N.S.W., 2477
(066) 280 000 (business)
(066) 280 881 (home)

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National Secretary/Treasurer's Report

With the growth of Apex 40 continuing so rapidly with sixty-two clubs now on our mailing list, I believe we need to become a little more formalised in regard to administration. I am not in any way about to suggest relieving any clubs of their freedom and/or autonomy.

What I aim to suggest at our next "Rort" is that all Clubs conduct their annual change over of office bearers between the 1st October and 30th November each year. I also would like to see the financial year for National Apex 40 end on the 31st March in each year. My reasons for these suggestions are simply to enable some formality within the National body. I currently receive subscriptions from Clubs at all and any time of the year and it is difficult to determine which financial year they apply to. By closing the National books on the 31st March of each year it allows ample time to have the books audited before the June "Rort" when they are usually held.

I do not receive many notices from Clubs at this stage which makes the choice for the "Penultimate" Trophy very limited so how about adding my address to your mailing list. It is good to hear of other Club's activities and it also gives Alan K. news for the Roaring 40's.

Victoria, unfortunately, appears to be the area where we seldom hear from Clubs. Of fourteen clubs we only know of six which are still in operation, so if you are still in existence please tell us so we can keep our list up to date.

Congratulations to all the new Clubs which have formed since our last

edition. I look forward to your participation at Grafton in June '92.

Grafton are keeping us well informed on the "Rort" progress and by now all Clubs should have their registration forms so get them in early to avoid disappointment.

A supplementary list of new Clubs formed will be added to this Roaring 40's for members' information.

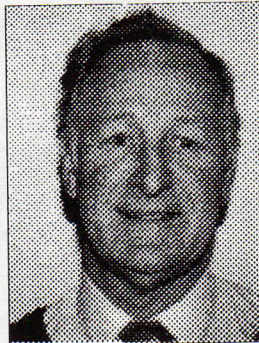
I have received a letter from National Apex Secretary asking us to reconsider the use of the Apex badge for Apex 40. This can be discussed at the Grafton Rort.

Regards,
SAM McINNES.



PROFILE - SAM McINNES.

Sam was introduced to Apex at Stawell, but transferred to Moe in the Latrobe Valley where he was convinced to join that Club. He later transferred to Melbourne where he became the first winner of the Hal Harvey trophy for the outstanding Apexian of the year at the Oakleigh Club. He went on to serve as President before returning to Moe where he was President and was made a Life Member of that Club.



Sam McInnes.

Sam is married to Audrey and they have three, as yet unmarried, children. He retired as a TAFE teacher in 1990 and

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among other interests in retirement, currently chairs a committee who interview prospective Scout leaders in the Glen

Waverley District. He also enjoys his favourite hobbies of golf and gardening. Sam attended the first Apex 40 dinner held at the Keysborough Hotel in Melbourne in 1973.

Membership/Extension

Unemployment may be a negative growth industry, but the growth of Apex 40 is certainly experiencing the opposite trend.

Since our last issue of "Roaring 40's" clubs have been formed in the following areas:

Tamworth, NSW
Port Macquarie, NSW
Forster-Tuncurry, NSW
Moree, NSW
Forbes, NSW
Great 8, NSW
Maroochydore, Qld

Congratulations to all of the above new clubs and we wish you a long and rewarding relationship with the Apex 40 family.

Recently a card arrived from the "Godfather", Alan Kinder, who with Nola is touring (probably) Europe, but at least Italy (I gotta da card!).

Our new look Roaring 40's is a big step forward, although it no doubt will grow in size as we approach the Rort in Grafton. Well done to the publishers.

KEVIN HUXHAM
Membership / Extension Chairman



Nola and the 'Godfather' on a Gondola ride in Venice

“Jacarandalanders” Rort 1992

By now members should have received registration forms for the 1992 Rort — if not, contact your Branch Secretary who will have copies.

The 1992 Rort will be held at Grafton, NSW, on the banks of the mighty Clarence River, from Friday the 5th to Monday the 8th of June, and a Post-Rort Tour is planned to take in Northern NSW and the Gold Coast.

Rort functions will include:

- Friday evening Welcome Social
- Saturday City tour, lunch & show (Agradrome)
- Saturday evening Bush Dance
- Sunday Riverview Cane & Coastal tour
- Sunday night Rort Banquet — Dinner Dance
- Monday farewell Morning Tea at See Park

Sounds like a great programme — there should be time to fit in the Rort business session on Saturday afternoon. The full registration fee of \$110 seems to represent extremely good value, and the motel prices are quite reasonable. There is also the option of staying in a caravan park in cabins and on-site vans — or bring your own caravan or camper. We know that a number of Rorters from Victoria, and perhaps Tasmania, will be bringing caravans and campers. If you are booking a caravan site or cabin etc., please forward the equivalent of one night's cost with your registration.

Remember — Registrations, together with registration fee of \$20, plus accommodation deposits (\$100 per room), are to be in before 31st January 1992 to ensure your booking. Balance of payment for Rort

functions is required by 31st March, but it would assist greatly if the full amount could be paid by the 31st of January.

Enquiries concerning accommodation should be directed to Lane DeLange on (066) 42 3240 (after hours). General enquiries to Rort committee chairman, Lindsay McPherson on (066) 49 7866.

POST-RORT TOUR

Seven-day (6 nights) tour — to Coffs Harbour — including Dorrigo Plateau (2 nights), and Gold Coast (4 nights), returning to Grafton via Coolangatta airport.

Gold Coast highlights include:

- Accommodation at Ilura Beach Resort
- Movie World
- Music Hall Dinner & Show
- Gold Coast Hinterland (Springbrook mountains)
- Seaworld
- River Cruise to Sanctuary Cove
- Jupiter's Casino

Branches will receive more details shortly — estimated cost will be approximately \$575 per person. Final cost and itinerary subject to change.

● Please register interest early — Tour subject to 45 starters.

RORT SKETCHES:

Branches who wish to demonstrate their talents are invited to put on a sketch, musical item etc. at the Rort. Maximum time about 5 minutes. The “Great Malaysian Horn” will be awarded to the best act.

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New Zealand Tour

Brian Roach (Melbourne-Gippsland) is keen to organise a tour for Apex 40 members to coincide with the Annual General Meeting of the Association of 41 Clubs of New Zealand (ex Round Tablers) in 1994.

The tour would take place in late May and early June. The AGM will

be held on the first weekend in June at Moutere in the South Island, near Nelson, and the theme for the weekend will be "South Pacific". It is hoped that ex-Apexians from Fiji, Malaysia and Australia will attend, and also ex-Round Tablers from other countries and ex-Kinsmen from Canada — sounds like a mini WOCO!

More details will be available at the Grafton Rort.

Around the Branches

Alstonville — Getting around a bit! Visited Toowoomba Flower Carnival with Darling Downs Apex 40; trip to Maroochydore with Ballina; combined dinner with Wynnum-Manly; maybe a tour of Stanthorpe Wineries with Darling Downs.

Blackwood — Received sincere thanks from Blackwood Apex Club for support over past year when the Club was having a difficult time. Apex President, Mark Richards said: "The credit for much of the (Club's) turnaround lies with the members of your club, who have made themselves available to share some time with our members."

Sunshine Coast — The Rossiter Dynasty has relinquished leadership of Sunshine Coast to President Nev and Secretary/Treasurer Jan Holt. Well done Glen and Betty over quite a few years.

The new order has decreed:

- Meetings to go no later than 8.00 am the following day (Pikers!!)
- Business session to last no longer than two minutes (what can they find to talk about for so long!)

Attended inaugural dinner of Maroochydore Apex 40.

Planning a "Lost Weekend" at Rainbow Beach.

Devonport — Joining with Launceston and Ulverstone for Christmas Dinner at Deloraine — hopeful that a number of Deloraine ex-Apexians will join them. Perhaps a new branch in the making.

Grafton — See elsewhere this issue for news about the "Jacarandalanders" Rort 1992.

Bloody old Gordon is the new President*; Lindsay McPherson managed to hang on to his job as Sec./Treas. (as well as Rort Committee chairman).

*Sorry Gordon, Couldn't resist that. Ed.

Camping trip to Woody Head produced some highlights — perhaps we may have some repeats at the Rort.

Will Peter Chessell's navel be revealed at midnight?

Will Lyn Betts fly through the air?

Will Lane DeLange try sleeping holding on to the back wheel of a Honda?

Come to Grafton and see for yourself!

The Great 8 — No, it's not an old

Ford, it's a new Apex 40 branch in the Hunter region of NSW. Perhaps "The Great Reds" would have been appropriate. A very successful inaugural meeting with past members of Apex Clubs from East Maitland, Maitland, Beresfield, Cessnock, Kurri, Nelson Bay, Raymond Terrace and Dungog.



Great 8 Apex 40 members: Kathy Mathews, Allan Thorley and Graham Wade.

Kuala Lumpur – New President is Justin Gomez, having taken over the reins from Bobby Lim in October. P.K. Singam remains as secretary (a demon for punishment). The Club has decided to put in a bid at the Grafton Rort to host the 1994 Rort. Apparently it is to be 'Visit Malaysia Year' (again) in 1994 (see also Melbourne-Gippsland notes).

Malacca – Proposing to hold a fund-raising dinner in December.

Some members have indicated that they would like to attend next year's Rort in Queensland (better send over a map Lindsay!!!).

Melbourne-Gippsland – Managed to hand the 'Silver Boot' back to Bendigo in the annual golf match. Great weekend at Lake Eildon, near Mansfield, in early November. Highlights included: Lamb spit-roast; the great Mountain Cattlemens' Horse Race (the high country's answer to the Melbourne Cup); Rotary Golf Day and the Magnolia Tree Restaurant. Proposing to put in a bid at the Grafton Rort to host the 1994 Rort (see also Kuala Lumpur notes). A number of members making caravan trip to Grafton Rort.

Werribee – Proposing a Yarra River cruise and dinner for the last meeting for the year. Provided some assistance to Apex with doornock for National Heart Foundation.

Wonthaggi – Just had their third annual meeting. Aiming to assist Apex with Guest Speakers.

Wyong – New President is Kevin Armstrong. Tom Dumpleton continues as Secretary (another demon for punishment). Kevin Deaves is looking at arranging a coach tour to the Grafton Rort.

Apex 40 "Rort" Song

The chorus of the Rort Song appeared at the first Rort in Ballarat (1976) on the way back from a wine-tasting and pub lunch! After the Rort a verse appeared, and further verses appeared after every subsequent Rort — for about 13 years, until it was taking just about all night to sing.

A condensed version was aired at Wynnum-Manly (1989) which tried to encapsulate all of the earlier verses into just two verses it was hardly Top 40 material!

Before the K.L. Rort (1990) a new version was written which didn't attempt to

relate to earlier Rort activities, but just sought to portray what Apex 40 is all about. It had a rather inauspicious start, to say the least — our Malaysian hosts forgot to have the words printed, the band didn't have a clue about the tune, and the few brave souls who stood out front to lead the singing got off on the wrong key at a funeral pace.

However it was much different at Launceston this year, the band knew the tune and all Rorters had a copy of the words, and gave a splendid rendition that just about lifted the roof. Let's hope it can be repeated at Grafton next year.



Spirited rendition of the Rort song at Launceston

STOP PRESS

**Members at Large Bob and Merlyn Menzel
have finally done it! Inaugural meeting of
Portland Apex 40 was held in October**

Get your News in, in the
Next Issue of Roaring 40's

Branches are invited to forward news of branch activities and other items of interest for publication in the next issue of Roaring 40's.

Let's have a photograph of a branch function so we can see what you look like, and what you get up to.....

Please forward material to:

**Alan Kinder
34 Shafer Road
Blackburn, Vic. 3130
Phone (03) 898 5124**

**REMEMBER THE DEADLINE
February 29, 1992**