

ROARING 40's

May 1991



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

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

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a Rort! I only went to Launceston to have a good time, and then Kevin Huxham had to spoil it by asking me to nominate for N.P.!

Still, even that couldn't stop us from having a good time; Launceston took up the torch of fellowship from Kuala Lumpur and gave us another magnificent Rort. The Rutherglen Village was an ideal venue, beautifully sited on the South Esk River, and the seven day coach tour was the ideal way to see some more of beautiful Tasmania. Well done, Launceston - and well done, Kevin

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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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Huxham, for your term as National President has seen more solid growth and the forging of links with New Zealand and European 41 movements.

My elevation to eminence was all the more embarrassing as Margaret and I have been very poor Rort attendees recently due to other travel commitments, but we'll make sure we arrange our affairs better in the future. It is actually a very strange feeling to find myself involved again in the movement which I helped get started in 1973, as since that first year I have been quite content to be a knife & fork (and glass) member, while Lionel Mussell, Ron Clarke, Alan Kinder, Jock Littler and all the other keen leaders we have had spread the word of Apex 40 far and wide.

I have no doubt the main reason for this dates back to the first ever Rort, Ballarat in 1976, when I naively proposed that we assist Apex in their National Service Scheme. I was howled down, and Apex 40 has remained firmly a non-service group, although we do our bit for Apex by donating our surplus funds - \$2,000 to their Disaster Relief Fund, and now \$750 to the Children's Chalet at Smiggin Holes.

The future of Apex 40 remains firmly linked to the future of Apex; for us to be strong we need Apex to be strong, providing the reservoir of members which we will draw on in the future. What about giving Apex a plug with your sons, nephews and any young chaps you know?

Why Apex 40?

Ex-Apexians naturally enjoy each other's company so there are many loosely organised groups who meet for social occasions, but without a structure such as Apex 40 these groups will inevitably break up as they rely on individual initiative, and when that individual gets tired nothing gets done. By affiliating with Apex 40 we all get the benefit of wider friendships, a well-run organisation, and a guaranteed good-time

holiday once a year at the Rort.

Extension Chairman Kevin Huxham and I will be doing our best to keep our organisation expanding through our own efforts, and by the good grace of Apex who spread the word to retiring Apexians. Don't let us, and yourselves, down by not affiliating and participating fully as an active Branch of Apex 40.

Yours in Continuing Fellowship,

NEIL HOOKEY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1990/91

as presented to the Annual Meeting in Launceston, March 1991

<u>1989/90</u>		<u>1990/91</u>	
\$2,119.54	Balance C/F		\$1,735.86
	<u>Add Receipts</u>		
394.00	Affiliation Fees	461.00	
125.83	Bank Interest (Note)	81.78	
100.00	Badge Surplus	100.00	
250.00	Rort Advance Refund	—	
869.83	S/T	642.78	642.78
\$2,989.37	Total Credits		\$2,378.64
	<u>Less Expenses</u>		
2.19	State & Fed. Taxes	1.48	
	Rort Supplies (K.L.)	187.94	
	Rort Advance	250.00	
142.12	Postage	142.30	
50.40	Per Capitas (Apex)	39.40	
58.80	Stationery	42.00	
1,000.00	Donation	—	
1,253.51	S/T	663.12	663.12
\$1,735.86	<u>TOTAL BANK BALANCE</u>		<u>\$1,715.52</u>

(Note) Bank interest is credited each September & March, only one six monthly amount credited as Rort was early.

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

Well, I trust that everyone who attended the Tassie Rort has fully recovered, with fond memories of the weekend plus the fellowship enjoyed on the "rival buses" tour. To Lynne Rowlings, Jan Storay and all their helpers, may we all repeat our very big thanks for a job well done.

As a result of the Rort and the various (and sometimes dubious) adjudicators, the following Annual Awards were made.

The "Penultimate" award for best Branch Newsletter (awarded for the first time) went to Alstonville.

The "Best Attendance" award again went to Melbourne/ Gippsland — we may have to revise the rules here.

The "Wizzy" award went to Veda Dunstan of Alstonville — a very popular win in a hotly contested event.

The 1993 Rort was unanimously voted to the Western Australian Club of Guildford in Perth.

Members accepted the proposal of Immediate Past President Kevin Huxham to donate \$750 to the Apex Children's Chalet at Smiggin Holes. The money has been sent and duly acknowledged by the National Apex Executive.

May I suggest to all branches that



Beryl Grace (Morella) with Sam & Audrey McInnes (Melb/Gipps) at Cradle Mountain.

they keep a record of the minutes of their Annual Meetings, or at least the meetings where Office Bearers are elected. Many branches run very informally as a social organisation, and do not keep very good records. However, with the new Banking regulations now in force, all clubs (such as our branches) must provide official minutes of elections to enable them to open a bank account, or to change signatures to an existing account; beside the signatories having to provide 100 points evidence of identification.

Are You Financial?

We now have 50 branches on our contact list including some from whom we have not heard, or received an annual affiliation fee from, for a considerable time. I will enclose a Registration Form with this

On the way to Cradle Mountain, the coaches stopped to allow a little shutter clicking, scenery viewing and nature walks.



Newsletter to those branches that have not advised us of their situation for 1991. Please return this form by 31st of July, 1991, to maintain your branch on the list.

I must stress that there is no obligation on any group of ex-Apexians to become a financial member of Apex 40, which is the National body of Past Apexians Groups that is officially recognised by Apex. However, for those groups who wish to be a part of Apex 40, it does cost money to produce this Newsletter and to distribute copies to all branches (and some members at large), plus a modest amount for administration. The annual Affiliation Fee for each branch is equivalent to \$1.00 per address, whether a couple or a single member, to a maximum of \$50 for any branch. Of 50 branches, only 22 have registered for this year.

The advantages to be gained from Apex 40 are perhaps primarily the opportunity to attend the Annual Rort, and also to keep up to date with happenings from other branches. Most of us, I'm sure, will agree that one of the greatest features of Apex 40 is the opportunity to make friends with other past-Apexians and their ladies, both locally and interstate. Anyone who has attended and enjoyed an Apex Zone or National Convention would really enjoy the good fellowship of a Rort, without the long business sessions.

Trusting to hear one way or another from those wayward branches, and I'm sure my next report will be more cheerful.

Regards,
SAM McINNES

1992 Rort Report

Grafton have everything under control at this stage and have already held two "Rort Committee" meetings, with the next to be in mid-June. They expect soon to send out to all Branches (and to those who filled out "Expressions of Interest" forms at Launceston) up to date information on accomodation and on some of the proposed activities.

They have already booked out four motels for an anticipated 200 Rorters, and venues for the various functions. Buses will be arranged to pick up and drop off from motels to the functions.

Grafton President Lindsay McPherson says that they are also looking at a week-long tour to the Gold Coast etc. after the Rort. So start planning your holidays now for the Queen's Birthday weekend in June 1992, and enjoy the "Graft" at Grafton.



*Panning for GOLD on post-Rort tour.
Ian Goff (Melbourne/Gippsland) and
Robert Grace (Morella).*

REPORT ON APEX 40 RORT, LAUNCESTON 1991

Launceston Apex 40 welcomed 160 Rorters on the Friday evening at Rutherglen Holiday Village, with a casual get-together to renew old friendships and to meet new friends.

An early start on Saturday morning took us for a walk around picturesque Cataract Gorge; some chose the easy way in the chair lift which spans the Gorge. After morning tea at Ritchie's Mill art gallery we had a tour of the Tamar Valley, stopping at Grindewald, a Swiss style village surrounded by Swiss style houses. Lunch was a very noisy affair at a hotel overlooking the river, followed by the Annual General Meeting. As usual, the fines session lasted longer than the business session. At the business session we elected our new National President, Neil Hookey, and National Secretary/Treasurer, Sam McInnes. Congratulations Neil and Sam.

Back at Rutherglen that evening we dined and drank and danced – to a great band – until about 1.30 am. The Rort Song was sung with great gusto and, we must say, with an excellent accompaniment.

Another early start on Sunday took us to Cradle Mountain and Lake Dove. At times a hair-raising trip on the narrow road, built for cars and not coaches. Due to delays on the road we were rather late for lunch but they still fed us at the new, impressive looking Chalet. On the way back we stopped to have a look at the "Mural Town" – Sheffield.

On Sunday night we farewelled all of our old and new friends with a Spit Roast dinner and Colonial style music and dancing. Out-going President Kevin Huxham presented Jan Storay and myself with Apex 40 banners as a memento of the occasion, and extended his thanks to all Launceston members.

On Monday morning 78 members boarded two coaches for a seven day tour of our beautiful island State. A great time was had by all on the tour, and many have expressed a wish to come back to Tasmania again at a later date to visit the many places of interest not able to be seen in the seven days.

Thank you to all Rorters for attending our Rort and making the whole weekend and the seven days on tour just the greatest.

All the best for Grafton for 1992.

LYNNE ROWLINGS
Secretary/Treasurer, Launceston



This was the trickiest of the "overtaking manoeuvres" on the road to Lake Dove.

Membership Extension

During the past two years we have witnessed good growth of Apex 40. The following branches have been formed:

VICTORIA: (3)

Latrobe Valley, Norwesters, Werribee.

QUEENSLAND: (5)

Gold Coast, Hervey Bay, Darling Downs, Roma, Northside Creakers.

NSW: (6)

District 12, Lake Macquarie, Byron Bay, Northern Beaches, Belrose, Lavington.

NT: (1) Darwin.

OVERSEAS: (1)

Malacca (Malaysia)

In addition, there would have to be 15 - 20 clubs under formation that will come on line over the next 6 - 12 months.

If there is an ex-Apexians' club in your town who are not aware of Apex 40, or you have a mate elsewhere whom you know would like to form a club, please contact me so that we can send off a formation kit.

Apex 40 Banners are still available at \$5.00 each. Apex 40 Lapel Pins are also still available at \$2.50 each, both from myself.

KEVIN HUXHAM

What's Happening Around the Branches

Wyong, NSW — Held a "bottle and plate" night.

Launceston, Tas — Members visited Cradle Mountain and stayed overnight. A return visit in snowy July is planned.

Sunshine Coast, QLD — Camping trip to Hervey Bay, Champagne breakfast and attended Apex Convention with Apex 40 dodgers!

Devonport, Tas — Held a casserole night and saw video of Malaysia Rort and India afterwards.

Alstonville, NSW — Had a video luncheon - 3 hours of videos of 1991 Rort in Launceston.

Ballina, NSW — Dedicated an Apex Wall in the East Ballina Cemetery for Apexians, Apex 40 and families.

Illawarra, NSW — A phone call requesting a booking for the Tassie Rort two weeks after the event!

Melbourne/Gippsland, Vic — Picnic and kite flying day with Bendigo branch members.

STOP PRESS

Gawler (South Australia)
Apex 40 held its first meeting on the 19th of April, '91



More About the Rort

Election Results

National President – Neil Hookey, Melbourne/Gippsland. National Secretary/Treasurer – Sam McInnes, Melbourne/Gippsland. National Extension Chairman – Kevin Huxham, Alstonville.

Branches Represented

The 160 members who attended the Rort represented 14 branches from Tasmania, Victoria, N.S.W., Queensland and Western Australia. Branches represented at a Rort for the first time were Hervey Bay (Q) and one of our newest branches, Werribee (Vic).

1992 Rort — Grafton, N.S.W.

Since being selected at the 1990 Rort in Kuala Lumpur to host next year's Rort, the Grafton members have swung into action. John Betts gave a run down on preparations already in hand and left us in no doubt that Grafton will be the place to be in 1992. (More details elsewhere in this issue)

Fines Session

A few home truths and some colourful not-too-truths were aired at the fines session, as might be expected. The entertaining session was conducted by "fines persons" Melda Miller (Wynnum/Manly), Graham Robson (Alstonville) and Alan Flaherty (Melbourne/Gippsland).

Perth 1993

Although there were no members of Guildford branch in attendance, their proposal to host the 1993 Rort

was well promoted by those two lively Morella banner wavers – Beryl Grace and Wendy-Ann Carter. While Guildford is a new branch it has some very experienced Rorters and Rort organisers among its members in ex-Morella members John (President) and Kathy Rowe, and Ian and Bev (Secretary) Foss. Ian Foss was National President of Apex 40 from 1987 to 1989, and John Rowe was National Secretary/Treasurer for the same period.

Apex 40 In Good Shape

In a closing address on the Sunday night new National President Neil said that it was pleasing to see the organisation in such good shape, and attributed that to the efforts during the past two years of the outgoing National Co-ordinating Committee — President Kevin Huxham (Alstonville), Secretary/Treasurer Noel McAuliffe (Alstonville) and Extension Chairman Kevin Deaves (Wyang).

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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. Perhaps a photograph of a branch function.

Deadline for receipt of material is 31st July 1991. Please forward to:

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

REMEMBER THE DEADLINE
July 31, 1991