

ROARING 40's

April 1992



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

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

National President's Report

It's hard to believe a year has gone by since the Launceston Rort when I assumed the Chair.

We have gone on growing steadily despite this, although perhaps I had a hand in the formation of clubs at Greater Hobart & Sunshine Coast. In the coming months I hope we can see some expansion on the Victorian scene. By the time you read this I will have visited the Adelaide clubs, Blackwood, Glenelg & Southern; a trip I am looking forward to very much.

We have been asked to send a speaker to the Apex National Convention in Newcastle at Easter, so I have asked Past National Secretary Noel McAuliffe to do this.

I would like to see some discussion at Grafton about the constitution of the Coordinating Committee, to allow for an extra member who could be the Immediate Past President, or in the second year of a President's term, a Vice-President. I think it would be a great help to the N.P. if he had a year as V.P. before taking office and had the benefit of the I.P.'s advice, as I have appreciated Kevin Huxham's this year through Kevin being Extension Chairman.

Money in Milk Crates - Thanks to some enthusiastic members of Melb-Gippsland, some \$230 was raised for the Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability by manning a depot at Camberwell Junction during the Milk Crate Recovery campaign last October. Neil Hookey handed over the cheque to the Foundation Chairman, Geoff Angus, at the March Board Meeting. Geoff, of course, is another well-known Melb-Gippsland member. It's still nice to be able to help out occasionally, isn't it?

Looking forward to meeting you all again at Grafton in June. It's still not too late to book, you know.

Regards,
NEIL HOOKEY



PROFILE - KEVIN HUXHAM

Kevin joined Alstonville Apex Club in 1977 quickly becoming involved in club affairs and board positions attending most District, Zone and National Conventions.

His last four years of Apex membership were spent on Zone 5 Board with two terms as Zone International Relations Chairman, then Zone Vice-President and Zone President.

After participating in Round Table tours of Scandinavia (1981) and South Africa (1983) he introduced, organised and led the inaugural Zone 5 Mass Tour for 24 overseas participants in 1984.



Kevin Huxham

Married in Canada in 1969 to his life long companion Liz, they have three teenage sons (one in Apex) aged 18, 17 and 13. A life member of Alstonville Apex, he was instrumental in the

formation of Alstonville Apex 40 prior to leaving Apex in 1986 and, at that first dinner, received member support for the organisation of the Rort for the following year.

Spare time pursuits include travel, scuba diving, snow skiing, jogging and working.

National Secretary/Treasurer's Report

By now the year of 1992 is well and truly underway and I would hope that all members have finalised registrations for the "Grafton Rort". From all reports the organisation is well in hand and it is pleasing to read in various Club newsletters that we will see some new Clubs represented.

A good representation is coming from Perth and we should hear of preliminary plans for 1993. Also Brian Roach is pursuing his proposal for a visit to New Zealand in 1994 and he expects to have details available at Grafton for your consideration.

I have recently heard from two Clubs — Stawell and Wonthaggi — who have been on the missing list for some time. They are both still active and doing well but there are still quite a few clubs which have not had the courtesy to reply to my requests re their existence or otherwise.

Members who attended the Launceston Rort will recall we made quite a substantial donation to the "Apex Childrens' Chalet" at Smiggins Holes. As our current bank balance is reasonably healthy you may like to don your thinking cap for a worthy "Apex sponsored" project to support in 1992.

You may also recall that I suggested changing all Club change-overs to October – November each year, I trust you have considered this proposal and that you are prepared to support it.

President Neil and I have had some discussion on the request from National Apex Board to adopt the Apex Logo as our official emblem. Perhaps it is time to seriously consider conforming now that we are the Official Retired Apexians'

Association recognised by Apex. My suggestion is that we adopt the badge similar to the Life Members badge but replace the words "Life Member" with "Forty" or "40" subject, of course, to approval by both our members and Apex.

I look forward to seeing you all at Grafton, and as Audrey and I intend caravanning up the east coast after the Rort, possibly to Cairns, maybe we can catch up with a Club activity or two on the way.

Regards,
Sam McInnes.

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PARDON OUR ENGLISH

Bucharest: "The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable."

Leipzig: "Do not enter the lift backwards and only when lit up."

Belgrade: "To move the cabin, push button for wishing floor. If the cabin should enter more persons, each one should press a number of wishing floor. Driving is then going alphabetically by national order."

Switzerland: "Our wines leave you nothing to hope for."

Poland: "Salad a firm's own make; limpid red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of a finger, roasted duck let loose, beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion."

Tokyo: "Special cocktails for the ladies with nuts."

Norway: "Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar."

Yugoslavia: "The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid."

Bangkok, a dry cleaner's: "Drop your trousers here for best results."

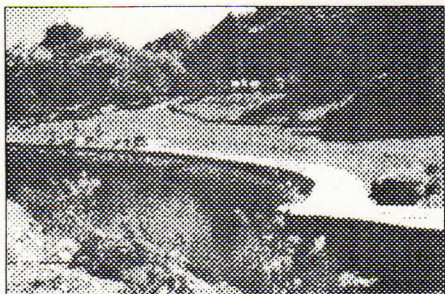
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“Jacarandalanders” Rort 1992

At the closing date for Registration there were some 170 Registrants – not including Grafton Members – so it looks like a great Rort coming up in June with around 200 Apex 40 Members in attendance.

It may still be possible to make a late registration; if you are considering doing so, please phone Lane de Lange on (066)42 3240 after hours. to ascertain that accommodation is available for you.

There were insufficient numbers who indicated interest in the Post-Rort tour to Coffs Harbour and the Gold Coast, so



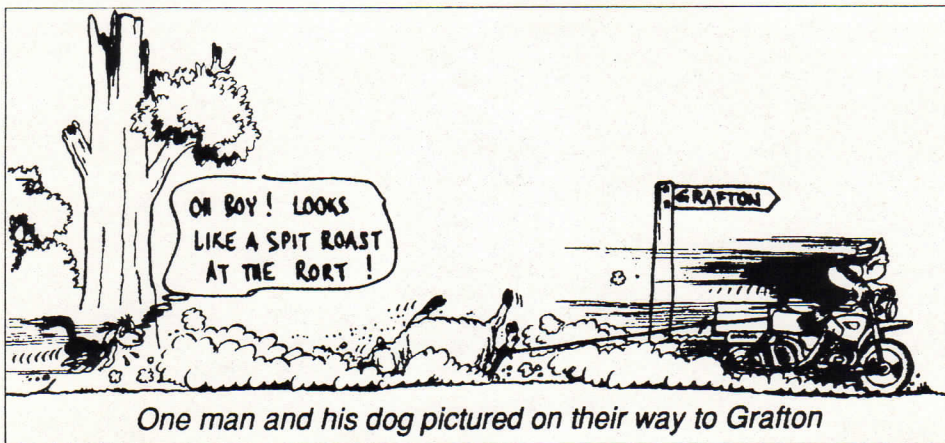
See Park, site of Monday “Farewell Morning Tea”.

there will be no tour. However, it is expected that quite a few “Rorters” will be heading independently for the Gold Coast after Grafton and it may be possible to organise a joint visit to places like Jupiters Casino and Movie World, etc.

Attendance Trophy - The elegant pewter jug originally presented at Kuala Lumpur will be awarded for best Branch representation at the Rort. In view of the great disparity in sizes of Branches, it is proposed that the trophy will be awarded on the basis of a formula which relates attendance to total Branch membership. So, Branches which consider they may have a chance of winning will have to show evidence of their current membership - either a current mailing list or a certified statement by the Branch Secretary.

Branch Sketches - If your Branch is proposing to put on a sketch or other item (max. time 5 minutes), please let Rort chairman Lindsay McPherson, (066) 497 8966 or P.O. Box 35 Grafton, 2460, know beforehand so they will be able to fit them into the Rort program.

See you at Grafton!!!



One man and his dog pictured on their way to Grafton

Around the Branches

Ballina - Weekend visit in March to Boambee Bay Resort at Sawtell, near Coffs Harbour.

Werribee - Day trip to Lake Eppalock. 5 couples attending Grafton Rort.

Greater Hobart - Has a membership of 70 couples from eight Hobart area Apex clubs. Visitors from Derwent Apex 40 attended spit roast in February.

Wyong - Helped Apex in "Australian Canal jumping Championships" in January! Expecting a large contingent at Grafton - already planning for Perth, travelling on the Indian Pacific.

Kuala Lumpur - Justin Gomez installed as President at January meeting; four members of Malacca Apex 40 attended (see photo). Justin is hopeful of starting a student exchange programme with Australia. Secretary P. K. Singam coming to Grafton and spending 2 or 3 weeks in Australia.



From L to R: S.S. Rajah, T.T. Singam, R.E. Demudu, David Chitty, Lingam, R.Sivadas, Wong Sek Keng and Geoffrey Yap (seated, back to camera)

Caloundra - For March meeting will attend Caloundra Apex Club's 500th dinner - and will assist Apex with delivery of telex, at Golden Beach where there are no hills!

Devonport - Christmas Dinner, at Deloraine, was an inter-club affair with members from Launceston and Ulverstone Apex 40 branches and 18 past-Apexians from Deloraine. Maybe an opening there for a new branch.

Malacca - President Sivadas, Secretary T.T. Singam and two other members attended Kuala Lumpur Apex 40 installation night in January. (See photo). A subscription Dinner to be held in February to raise funds for community projects.

Quote from Dinner Notice - "The biggest thing wrong with the young generation is that most of us aren't part of it anymore!"

Alstonville - Have been asked to assist Alstonville Apex Club at the Motor Show, and invited to join the Apex Club on a trip to "Dracula's" on the Gold Coast for dinner and show. Also invited to Ballina's weekend at Boambee Resort. Sending a strong contingent to Grafton.

Tamworth - Aptly named newsletter is "The Walking Stick".

Functions planned include Chinese/Malaysian Dinner; Bar-B-Q and lawn bowls night; camping weekend - "Bring a Bottle" night, the more the merrier!

Gold Coast - "A dedicated band of enthusiastic hedonists enjoyed the pleasant (not too spicy) cuisine of the Mexican Kitchen at our first dinner of the year".

Morella - A night at the Dogs planned for March. Change-over Dinner in April.

Melbourne/Gippsland - Annual weekend in March at the "Ford Drive Country Club" (Lake Eildon) was once again a great success.

A number of members travelling up the Newell Highway to Grafton will be staying overnight at Forbes and meeting Forbes Apex 40 members for dinner.

Apex 40 Engagement

In a first for Apex 40, Ian Jackson (Melbourne/Gippsland Apex 40) and Jenny Bester (Launceston Apex 40) announced their engagement in January.

Ian and Jenny, who are both school teachers, met when they attended the 1990 Rort in Kuala Lumpur and the subsequent tour of India. They plan to marry in September this year and will spend their honeymoon trekking in Nepal.

On their return they will take up residence at Kalorama in the Dandenong Ranges, just outside Melbourne — and airline revenue across Bass Strait will no doubt diminish considerably.

Congratulations and best wishes to Ian and Jenny from all Members of Apex 40.



Future Rorts

The 1993 Rort will be held in Perth, W.A. on the first weekend in June and will be hosted by Guildford Branch.

Early planning is underway, and consideration is being given to a steam train trip on the Sunday as one of the feature events.

1994? - At this stage it appears that at least two Branches will be vying to host the 1994 Rort - Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Melbourne/Gippsland (Vic).



OR..... How about this for our badge? ED.

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)



IT'S FROM APEX 40, THEY WANT YOU AS MUCH AS THEY WANT ME.

From the "Gold Coast Newsletter"

Membership/Extension

Apex 40 is Fantastic! Why did we stay young for so long! The only answer can be that nobody told us how much fun it could be to be over 40 and in our organisation!

A number of new clubs have formed and I'm sure all members join with me in both congratulating them and at the same time welcoming them to the Apex 40 family.

The 1992 Rort at Grafton promises to be a great long weekend with many members from newly formed clubs in attendance. No doubt all attendance records will be broken this year!

In conjunction with the 1993 Rort to be held in Western Australia, I am endeavouring to organise an extension of a two to three week tour of South Africa hosted by

Round Table 41'ers.

The letter has been sent and we eagerly await the forthcoming reply. The fact that the eastern states people will be already half way there seemed an ideal opportunity to visit a great country and extend the hand of fellowship and friendship.

Again, if you can let me know of any contact you are aware of who is wanting to form a club, give me a call. I can forward to them an extensive starter kit to get them on the way.

Let's all share the friendship and fellowship we enjoy in Apex 40 for the good of all members. We look forward to greeting you all at the Grafton Rort in June.

Yours faithfully

KEVIN HUXHAM



**WE'RE BOTH GOING
- THIS IS APEX 40**

Also from the "Gold Coast Newsletter"

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A VERY SAD LOSS

We learned this week of the loss of one of the Club's most valuable people, "Someone Else". His passing creates a vacancy that will be almost impossible to fill. "Someone Else" was a foundation

member of the Apex Fortyers, and has been with them ever since day one, and has always done far more than his share of the work.

Whenever there was something difficult to be done, an awkward social function to attend, a spokesman required for a particularly difficult situation or funds to be raised, there was one name on everyone's lips. Let "Someone Else" do it, everyone said. It is common knowledge that "Someone Else" has always been among the largest contributors to the Club.

When a volunteer was required, it was always assumed that "Someone Else" would volunteer. Without "Someone Else" around, who will do the things he once did?

Whenever you are asked to help, remember you can't rely on "Someone Else" to stand in for you!

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The Over 40's

"We are survivors! Consider the changes we have witnessed. We were born before television, polio shots, penicillin, frozen foods, photo copiers, plastic, contact lenses and the Pill.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens. Before dishwashers, pantihose, clothes dryers, micro-wave ovens, electric blankets, air conditioners . . . and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then we lived together. How quaint can you be? In our time closets were for clothes, not coming out of.

Bunnies were small rabbits not big girls and lemons were pieces of fruit not dud cars.

Designer Jeans were scheming girls named Jean and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with our cousins.

Fast food was what you ate during Lent and outer space was the back of the outdoor dunny. We were before daycare centres, group therapy and suntan parlours. We had not heard of FM radio, tape decks, VCR's, electronic typewriters, heart transplants, word processors, yoghurt and guys wearing earrings.

For us, time sharing meant togetherness. A chip was a piece of wood. Hardware meant hammers and nails and software wasn't even a word.

In our day, grass was mown, cold was a cold drink and pot was something you cooked in. Rock music was a grandma's lullaby, and aids were helpers in the headmaster's office.

We made do with what we had. And we were the last generation who were naive enough to think you needed a wife to have a baby."

*Reproduced from the Wyong
Apex 40 Newsletter*

STOP PRESS

**Some interest is shown in establishing
branches of Apex 40 in Colac and
Timboon in South-Western Victoria**

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

Branches are requested 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.....

We haven't had much response so far.

Please forward material to:

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

**REMEMBER THE DEADLINE
July 17, 1992**