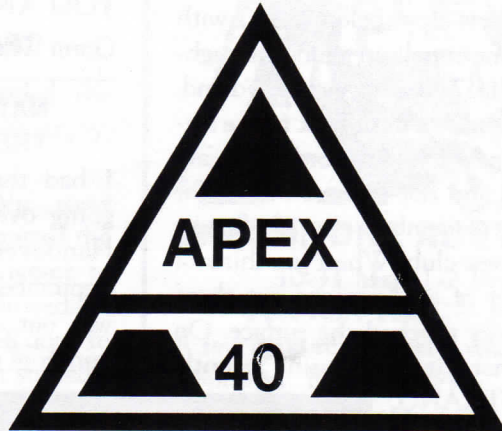


ROARING 40's

December 1996


A Merry Xmas and a
Happy New Year
to everyone



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

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

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As 1996 draws to a close we look back at what we have achieved and start to make plans for the New Year. Since the Rort I have addressed Apex's National Convention at Albury/Wodonga, for both the men and women, and also the Victorian State Board of Apex. The common message has been that Apex is just learning about us and they realise that we can be of benefit to them as well as they to us.

It is disappointing to note that Apex's membership is now below 6,500 with only fifty metropolitan clubs throughout Australia. Times have changed and, similarly for us, we must look to the setting up of new Clubs as some of us are getting old and not so encouraging for the younger member – a challenge, open up a new club! When you think of the number of ex-Apexians out there we have only touched the surface. On the other hand it was pleasing recently to visit TERANG, VIC. with Secretary Brian and meet Bernie O'Keefe (Tea Bag from the Rort) and meet all his ex-Apex mates and see the starting of a new club – congratulations and all the best Terang Apex 40.

Registration forms are out for the Caloundra Rort from 30th May to

2nd June 1997 – closing date is 20th February, with a \$15 discount if paid by 31st December 1996.

During the Rort at Caloundra ELECTIONS WILL BE ON AGAIN for all National Executive — President and Secretary must change; please give it some thought and let myself or Brian Roach know of any nominations.

We look ahead now to the festive season. A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL, AND A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES.

Garth Whitchurch

NATIONAL SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

I had the pleasure and privilege of going over to Port Lincoln for their Handover Dinner on the 31st September. The hospitality I received was out of this world; what a great bunch of guys and ladies.



Brian Roach presents an Apex 40 Banner to out-going President Ken Webber at Port Lincoln.

I was taken on a tour of town and country, bush and city, over sand dunes, Tuna fish farms, checked out the motels and caravan park. You will hear a lot more from Port Lincoln at the Sunshine Rort next year; they want us to "get a breath of Fresh Eyre in 1998".

Annual Subs notices have been forwarded to all Clubs. Club Secretaries please complete and return to me with your cheque as soon as possible. Maximum cost for any Club is \$50.
Yours in Apex 40. Brian Roach.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT.

To our Members who attended the Wyong Rort, I trust you had an enjoyable time, I know I did!

Bernie O'Keefe, from Terang Vic., went back home and immediately started the Apex 40 Club of Terang; welcome to you all. Another new Club, Grovedale-Geelong is up and running, well done to the Members where Apex first started.

Betty and I recently attended Redlands Qld. Club's 50th Dinner and Change-over; an enjoyable night, with Ray Despot giving all Members present a humorous account of the Club's history.

Brian Roach has visited Port Lincoln and I am told had a great time with the "Tuna" people. Garth Whitchurch has visited Geelong and Terang to spread the word about Apex 40.

Being Membership Chairman is a rewarding experience, especially when one can put a face to the voice over the 'phone. For those of you who read this spotted jotting, I hope you

will be able to make it to the next Rort in Caloundra so you too will be able to see the many faces and personalities of Apex 40.

I suppose it would be remiss of me not to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. Don't over indulge with the Xmas Pud.

Yours in Apex 40, Glenn Rossiter.

SUNSHINE RORT - CALOUNDRA, QUEENSLAND



30-31 May, 1-2 June

Post-Rort Tour 2-6 June.

A few good reasons why you should be a Sunshine Rorter in 1997.

1. Need a holiday? Get away for a while and have a Rort.
2. You will experience magnificent weather, 23° max. 13° min.
3. Friday Welcome Social. Meet old friends and welcome new.
4. Experience the third highest tourist destination in Queensland
5. Magnificent feasts with seafood and other tropical delights.
6. Entertainment and dancing Saturday and Sunday nights.
7. Take in the breathtaking scenery of the Sunshine Coast and hinterland.

8. Affordable accommodation. (More spondoolies for the finer pursuits in life).
9. Many chances of winning our free raffles.
10. 9.00 a.m. tour start - (Time to sleep in).
11. 4.00 p.m. tour return - (More time to don the glad rags for the evenings' frivolity).
12. Sunshine Rort Port will be available for sale, with tastings Friday night.
13. Visit some of the Sunshine Coast's magnificent tourist attractions.
14. Experience the friendliness of Apex 40 Members from Malaysia, Round Table Members from Great Britain and 41'ers from New Zealand.
15. 5 star coach transport for the duration of the Rort.
16. A professional photographer in attendance to capture those unforgettable Rort memories.
17. Post-Rort Tour travel to — Toowoomba, Bunya Mountains, Darling Downs, Kingaroy, Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Town of 1770, Army Duck travel in waterways and on beaches, Bundaberg Rum Distillery, Hervey Bay, Rainbow Beach, Visit Fraser Island in 4 w.d. vehicles and back to Caloundra for a farewell dinner.

The members of Caloundra Apex 40 extend a warm welcome and invite you to attend this once-in-a-lifetime Rort; we know you will be enthralled.

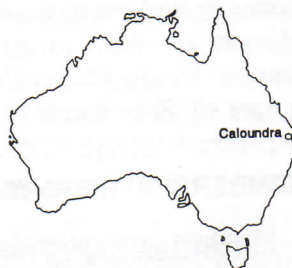
Registration forms have been posted out already along with comprehensive information for your perusal.

If you haven't received a Registration Form and information on all Rort activities, please 'phone or drop us a line.

Here's to seeing you in Caloundra.

Yours in Apex 40,

Glenn (Chook) Rossiter. (Rort Chairman)



Postal Address: Betty Rossiter,
10 Teewah Street, Caloundra 4551
Queensland, Australia
'Phone: 07 5491 3823.

FOOTRORT FLATS

I HEAR THE
CALOONDRA RORT
WILL BE RUN
BY A CHOOK ..



OH, WELL ---
EVERYTHING
SHOULD BE
LAID ON!



HEYWOOD CLUB VISITS THE GRAMPIANS

Heywood's Roaring 40s headed off to Halls Gap for their first weekend away as a club. This involved some ground work, and who was better than Rooster to do this job. A thank you must go to both Garry & Bev Price for their for-

ward scouting work, a job well done.

Friday October the 18th arrived, and after work the larger percentage of members made the journey to Halls Gap and booked in at the Parkgate Resort.

Some cheese, biscuits and red wine was soon being shared around, then off to the pub for a counter meal and of course beer and more red wine.

Some headaches were detected but because of a strict timetable they soon forgot about them. First port of call was the Stawell Hall of Fame a very interesting place, that's where we learnt that George Underwood calls all the foot races at the Stawell Easter Gift as well as drinking heaps of beer.

Some more members arrived to join us for lunch which was at Maryanne's in Stawell. I would recommend this to anyone.

Onto the first of two wineries which was Bests Winery, a family concern for many decades, a short tour through the cellars and ending in the tasting room with some great samples.

Off to the next winery in the Great Western Area which was Seppelts, where all the great sparkling wines are made, a tour through the 3 km of underground tunnels, where there is stack after stack of bottles. Returning back to the tasting room to sample some of the different types of sparkling wines (champagne).

A quiet drive back to Halls Gap for some refreshments and a talk. Back to the pub again for a counter meal, a very busy pub, but not a late night for us oldies.

Sunday morning was for the ones that wanted to go walking in the park or for a stroll around Halls Gap shops.

Sunday lunch was our Christmas get together, 25 were seated at the Wartook Pottery Restaurant. A lovely three course meal was served; soup, turkey or beef and plum pudding or apple pie.

Some group photos and a discussion on where and when for next years trip, it could be Robe in S.A.

Rob (Wombat) Walter

(Club Presidents – how about a story on a major activity at your Club? Ed.)

DINNER NOTICE HUMOUR

The Great 8: A bloke goes to a fancy-dress party with a naked woman on his back. "What on earth are you dressed up as?" demands the host. "I'm a snail, whaddya reckon?" "But", persists the host, "you don't look like a snail! All I can see is that naked girl on your back." "Nah, that's not a naked girl" he replies, "that's Michelle".

Kuala Lumpur: Barbara Streisand and Barry Manilow are no longer on speaking terms; it all happened at the last Grammy Nite when they both turned up wearing the same nose....

Malacca: Women have only themselves to blame for all the lying that men do. They ask so many damned questions.

A wise woman is one who makes her husband feel as if he is master of the house, when in reality he is only chairman of the entertainment committee.

He was a bit old to be chasing young girls, so one of the neighbours alerted his

wife to his habit. "Doesn't worry me," said the wife. "He can chase girls if he wants to. After all, dogs chase cars. I've never seen a dog catch one and I doubt if they could drive one if they did."

Melbourne-Gippsland: Anyone who goes to a psychiatrist should have his head examined.

Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want.

She said she would do anything for a mink coat, now she has one she can't do it up.

Rumour is the only thing that gets thicker as you spread it.

She wanted to be a bubble dancer - but her father said no soap.

The farmer couldn't keep his hands off his wife, so he sacked the lot of them.

Port Lincoln: "Can you come and join us for a foursome at golf?" one doctor asked another on the telephone. "Yes, I'll rush straight over". "Is it important dear?" asked his sympathetic wife as she helped him on with his coat and brought him his medical bag. "I'm afraid it is, my dear", he said. "There are three doctors there already".

The big thing today is computer dating. If you do not know how to run a computer, it really dates you.

Redlands: Overheard: "Things are still bad in the banking industry. The other day, a friend of mine went to the bank and asked the teller to check her balance. He leaned over and pushed her."

Wife, opening mail, to husband: "The bank says this is our final notice. Isn't it wonderful that they're not going to

bother us any more?"

Customer: "This coffee tastes like mud!" Waitress: "Yes, I know. It was ground this morning".

Surgeon, during operation: "And in closing, let me say"

Sunshine Coast: Horse walks into a bar, the bartender says "Why the long face?"

Grasshopper walks into a bar - bartender says "Heh, we've got a drink named after you!" Grasshopper says, "What, Kevin?"

Wyong: Paddy's dearest friend had died and they were holding the best wake Paddy had ever attended. The whisky tasted especially good, probably because it was free and he had downed quite a few to drown his sorrow. And now he was leaning thoughtfully on the piano, gazing down at the keyboard. "It's strange you know," he muttered to the fellow next to him, "but for all the years I knew him, I never realised what a wonderful set of teeth he had."

An Englishman, a Scotsman and an Irishman had broken the law in France and were about to be guillotined. The executioner took the Englishman first and asked if he wanted to look up at the blade or to face down. He chose to look down and they hauled up the blade, but somehow it got stuck. When this happens they set you free because you have faced death and suffered enough, so they let him go and brought on the Scotsman. He too chose to face down and again the blade became stuck and they had to set him free. Then came the Irishman. "I'll face up at the blade," he

said defiantly, "I'm not afraid of this thing." Slowly they hauled the blade up, up and up. "Hold it!" he shouted, "I think I can see your problem."

The Qantas pilot's words came crisp and clear over the intercom: "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking and I bring you bad news, but there is some good news. The bad news is we have hijackers on board and one has a gun to my head. The good news is he's ordered us to go to Hayman Island."

Sunraysia: Q. What did the 0 (nought) say to the 8 (eight)?

A. Nice belt!

AROUND THE BRANCHES.

Alstonville: The Club celebrated its 10th birthday in October with a birthday cake, a good meal, and lots of nostalgia thanks to the organising efforts of Lorraine and Eddie Latham. The meeting was also the AGM at which Phil Consalvo was elected President for the next year. Phil will be assisted by Committee Members Narelle Consalvo, Secretary; Kay Huett, Dinner Notice; and Lyn Batterham, Treasurer.

In August Club Members journeyed to Dorrigo where "everything was perfect - the motel, the food, the walks, the craft shops and galleries, the fellowship. It was just a great weekend".

September meeting took the form of a car trial and BBQ. The car trial was won by Kevin and Liz Huxham. Excuses from 'also-rans' included:

* Took the wrong turn, etc.

* Navigator not up to scratch.

* The wind turned the windmill around. (*I thought that was the general idea! Ed.*)

Bendigo: A great night at the Trots at Lords Raceway organised by Marg and Ross O'Neill. It appears that some of the Bendigo members now feature in promotional TV advertising following that night. A pleasant evening was concluded with an invitation to join the President for supper. Trust Marg to have the right connections!

Forbes: August meeting was a Film/Dinner night with a visit to the cinema first to see "The Truth about Cats and Dogs", followed by dinner. All this at a cost of \$16. - how do they do it?

The Great 8: July saw the annual Changeover Meeting with Trevor Green elected President, Diane Ross as Secretary, and Allan Thorley as D/N Editor.

Outgoing President Allan and wife Robyn had to miss the meeting as they had travelled up to Moree to attend the Moree Apex Changeover.

Subsequent dinners were held at a Tandoori restaurant and a Seafood restaurant.

Grovedale-Geelong: August meeting included a tour of the Alcoa aluminium manufacturing works at Point Henry.

In September members went to a theatre restaurant and will have a counter tea and movie (Ransom, Mel Gibson) for their November meeting.

Heywood: (See separate report on Grampians trip).

Kuala Lumpur: July meeting was the Club's AGM and the following members were elected as the Committee:

President – V. Thillainathan. Vice-President – Anthony Lawrence
Secretary – S. Vengadesan Neiker
Treasurer - Suresh Sivaram.

During the meeting, ex-patriate Australian member Peter Lovett gave a very penetrating and probing talk on the Malaysian way of life or shall I (Sec. Neiker) say, Asian eccentricity. It was an Australian point of view of the funny side of the Malaysia way of life which he could not understand!! Presumably the other members took Peter's frank observations in good part and no "bad eggs or cabbages" were thrown at him!

At the meeting the members unanimously agreed that member's wives would automatically be members. (*Here's to the Ladies! Ed.*)

Lake Macquarie: Didn't find out what the "Multicultural Safari" was all about (Ed.) – but members caught a train from Cardiff to Hamilton where they appear to have indulged in a pub crawl, sustained by a pasta meal, before hopping the train back to Cardiff.

(*Probably about a three-can trip! Ed.*)

Subsequent meetings have involved a Fellowship Night at Lim's Kitchen; a Ladies Night with guest speaker from the Leukaemia Unit of Mater Hospital; and a BBQ in October as the annual Changeover Meeting.

After the Ladies Night the Club made a generous donation to the Hunter Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research Group.

Launceston: At the July dinner meeting at Scottsdale, sixteen new members were welcomed into the Club. In August a further two new members joined and two past-members rejoined the Club. (*Sounds like a very successful membership drive. Ed.*)

Scottsdale - God's own country as Bluey Boyce calls it – is again to be the venue for a BBQ in October.

Malacca: The part-postponed AGM was completed in May and the existing Committee was re-elected.

Discussion on the formation of a Malaysian National Association of Apex 40 Clubs at the August meeting resulted in members forming the view that now is not an opportune time to form such an association.

Members had been busy over the past few months organising a fund-raising night which was held in late September and was a roaring success. Fellow members from "across the causeway" in Singapore, as well as from Seremban and Kuala Lumpur were present to give support.

D/N Editor T.T. Singam reports that his counter-part in Apex 40 Seremban bemoans the lack of news on Malaysian Clubs in "Roaring 40's" newsletters. T.T., on the other hand, is happy that Malacca Club is being given due coverage in each issue and has hit the nail on the head when he says, "perhaps other clubs are not forwarding news items that can be included in the news round-up".

(*All you have to do, Seremban D/N Editor, is make sure that you include me on you D/N mailing list. Refer to*

"Get Your News In", back page of this issue. And thanks to Neiker for recent D/N's from K.L. Ed.)

came out of the woodwork, as did the spiders, serpents, cockroaches and giant blowflies!"



It was a touch chilly at Melbourne/Gippsland's Birthday BBQ, but after their warm-up "hot toddy", they all adjourned outside for their meal.

Melbourne/Gippsland: The annual Apex 40 birthday BBQ was held at Drouin (Gippsland) on a cold mid-winter Sunday, but got off to a warm start with a cup of mulled wine all round. Recipe – 2 bottles red wine, brandy to taste, few magic herbs and spices, heat and serve – Wow!

Donations to Apex Foundation and Camp Quality were well received.

20 members attended the Melbourne Cup Day BBQ at Nola and Alan Kinder's where President Chas Burgess again ran a busy 'tote'.

Moree: Held a 'Halloween' night when "Witches, Warlocks, Dracula, Frankenstein, Ghosts and Vampires all

New committee comprises Pam Sweyn – President; Cheryle Squires – Secretary/Treasurer, and Leon Squires – Commissariat. (*How are those boomerangs coming along, Leon? Ed.*)

Christmas function will be a dinner at Jesters Restaurant at Moree Leagues Club.

In the latest Club newsletter, President Pam What's-Her-Name bewails her failing memory, having reached the magic 5-Oh!

(*Wait till you get to my age – whatever it is! Ed.*)

Morella: Functions this past year have included a BBQ at Greg Spencers; lunch at Jane Brook winery; a farewell

function for Rorters; a Food Hall/Movie night; a welcome to round Australia travellers Alan and Nola Kinder at Rob and Beryl Grace's. (*It was a great night among friends, thanks from Nola and I, but I was lucky to get out unscathed after telling my 'Snow White' joke to a room full of West Coast Eagles supporters! Ed.*)

Port Lincoln: New office bearers are President, Tony Peters, and Secretary/ Treasurer, Peter Hughes. National Secretary/ Treasurer Brian Roach, attended the Club's Handover Dinner. Members showed Brian around Port Lincoln and environs during the weekend.

The Club has successfully offered to host the 1998 Rort and at this stage they are looking at March/April as a possible date.

A record number of members turned up at the July dinner meeting when member Pat Callaghan gave a talk on his trip to the sub-continent of Antarctica.

Redlands: Celebrated their 50th Dinner in October; Redlands members were joined by members from Wynnum-Manly and by past National President Glenn and Betty Rossiter. Glenn took the opportunity to spread the word about

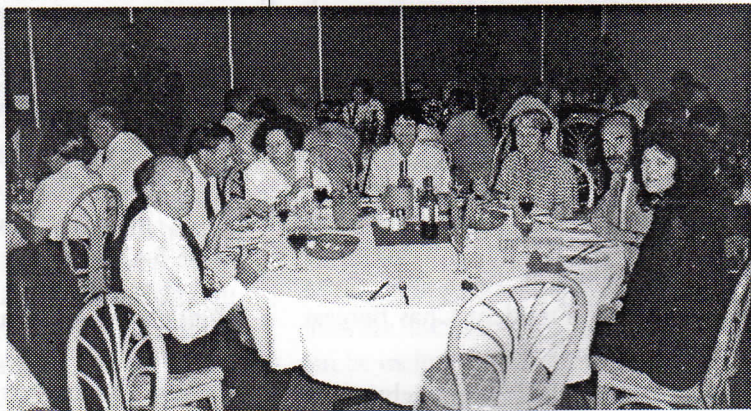
next years Rort in Caloundra (See article this issue). The 50th Dinner was also the Club's AGM and the new Committee elected are: President, Brian Ziegenfusz; Vice-President, Noela McCullagh; Secretary, Ray Despot; Treasurer, Geoff Hegarty; Sgt.-at-Arms, Roy Callaghan; and D/N Editor, Jan Banks.

November meeting will be at a Theatre Restaurant with the show "Mardi Gras Magic".

Sunshine Coast (Caloundra): Recent meetings have included a visit to the Flying Fox at Currimundi Lake – a fflaming success which became a big freeze when the "arctic air conditioner" came on.

A planned tennis night was unfortunately called off for lack of starters.

Sunraysia: Those members who participated in the Bocce afternoon enjoyed a cheap and entertaining afternoon. President Ken Primmer was heard to remark, "strewth, lawn bowls is a bit dull after this!"



Past National President Glenn Rossiter and wife Betty (right) with Redland's members at their AGM and 50th dinner.



A line-up of Past Presidents at Redland's 50th.

L to R: Rex Fox, Marlene Snell, Ross Smith, Ray Despot, Brian Ziegenfusz, Bob Skinner.

A Bush Bash was held in September with members driving through the back country to a BBQ and tour of the wildflowers. A Wine and Jazz night is planned for November.

Werribee: If anyone won a fortune at the Trots night earlier in the year, they managed to keep it quiet!

During the winter various members travelled to such exotic locations as Malaysia, Africa, United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Italy, and other parts of Europe while others travelled north and west in Australia.

Christmas function will be an afternoon at the home of President and Secretary, Jeff and Lorraine Robinson.

Wyong: July meeting saw a return to Warners Lodge, the venue for the Wyong Rort last June.

At their October meeting, members were looking forward to meeting over-

seas visitors Art, a life-member of Kinsmen of Canada, and his wife Gerry, and Ian, a life-member of RTBI and his wife Angela. These two couples, introduced by Peter Ryall, would be able to tell Wyong members what is happening in some of the other over-forty Clubs overseas. They will also join in the Club's proposed weekend trip

to the Hunter Valley.

The Pirate King (Peter Ryall) reluctantly ended his year as President and wants to have the job again next time Wyong hosts the Rort.

New President is Tom Dumpleton and Ruth Armstrong is the new Secretary.

The Club has made a generous donation to the Magic Castle run by the Apex Underprivileged Children's Trust and Kevin Deaves is again arranging a Christmas trip to the Magic Castle (at Smiggins Holes, NSW) to do repairs and maintenance work.

A weekend trip has been organised at the Belford Country Cabins "right in the middle of the best wineries in Australia".

(Haven't you heard of the Yarra Valley? Ed.)

**- FOR SALE -
APEX 40 GEAR**

**THESE ITEMS ARE NOW
AVAILABLE**

NAME BADGES - Cost: \$7.00

Available from -

Alan Kinder (Nola)
34 Shafer Road,
Blackburn. Vic. 3130
Phone (03) 9898 5124

STICK PINS - Cost: \$3.50

APEX 40 BANNERS - (P.O.A.)

Available from -

Kevin Huxham (Liz)
29 Valley Drive
Alstonville. N.S.W. 2477
Phone (066) 280 881

CAR STICKERS - Cost: \$1.50

Available from -

Glenn Rossiter (Betty)
10 Teewah Street
Caloundra, Qld, 4551
Phone 07 54913823

- Costs quoted include postage,
- Please forward cheque with order.
- Cheques to be made payable to supplier (as listed).
- Please ensure correct spelling for name badges.

**APEX 40 CO-ORDINATING
COMMITTEE**

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Garth Whitchurch,
1/18 Severn Street,
Box Hill North,
Victoria 3129
(03) 9898 7473

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

Brian Roach,
15 Wilpena Place,
Vermont South,
Victoria, 3133
(03) 9802 1063

NATIONAL EXTENSION CHAIRMAN

Glenn Rossiter (Betty),
10 Teewah Street,
Caloundra,
Queensland, 4551
07 54913823

**ATTENTION
BRANCH SECRETARIES**

We are only able to send a few copies of "Roaring 40's" to each Club, so please ensure that you reproduce extra copies for distribution to your members.

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

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

Let's have photographs and news of branch functions 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
(03) 9898 5124

**THE NEXT DEADLINE IS
28th February, 1997.**