

# ROARING 40's

APRIL 2000



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

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

## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As this is the first Roaring 40's Publication for year 2000 may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very bright and prosperous New Year and hope that, after the first 2 months, all is going well.

I reiterate my plea in our last Roaring 40's magazine to encourage new members to join Apex 40. There appears to be many past Apexians around the country who aren't aware of the Apex 40 organisation and would like to join a club and renew old acquaintances

and meet new friends. In attending various functions, I'm amazed at the number of people I talk to who are past Apexians, and are interested in renewing old acquaintances. An advertisement in your local newspaper might encourage some of these people to make contact. It has worked in the Redlands area.

The National Secretary, Ray Despot, has sent out subscription notices to all clubs and there are a number of overdue subs still outstanding. Could you please check your records and, if you haven't paid your subs, could you please forward a cheque to Ray.

The National Apex 40 Rort will soon be upon us and Moree has assured us of a superb weekend. The post Rort tour is shaping up as

being the biggest and best yet with 100 registered, and unfortunately due to accommodation & meals etc, the numbers have had to be sealed at 100, but there will be a waiting list should there be any drop outs.

Both Marg and I look forward to meeting all the Rorters in Moree on May the 19th for a great weekend and, until then, good health and God speed.

Yours in Apex 40

*David Cameron, National President*

## SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

There are probably thousands of ex-Apex members spread all around Australia and beyond who do not know that Apex 40 exists. Perhaps a write-up in your local or nearest newspaper or on a local bulletin board, addressed to ex-Apex members informing them of Apex 40 and your club's existence, can give them the opportunity of joining your members in fellowship and friendship.

Vale Alan Olden (Member-at-Large, South Australia). Marge has informed us that Alan died from a brain tumour last June. Before moving to Adelaide to further his career as a land surveyor, Alan had been a member of Apex at Oakleigh in Victoria and had served as

District Governor and went on to become Zone President in the then Zone 12.

Memo to Secretaries or other contacts of Apex 40 branches who have not paid their affiliation fees or sent in the affiliation forms posted to them in early October, 1999. Please make an effort and post your cheques and forms back pronto so that the records and finances of Apex 40 can be brought up to date. Australia Post assures me that they can deliver mail from anywhere in Australia to P.O. Box 329, Cleveland, Q. 4163 within three days.

*Ray Despot*

## PROFILE – RAY DESPOT



Born in the Redlands at Cleveland (in the year of the 'bodyline' tour). Disliked school but persevered and obtained employment as a survey draughtsman. Completed course and then immediately resigned to enter the family

retail business of selling food, clothing, homewares and hardware, etc., etc.

Met and married a beautiful lady called Alma and helped raise three sons and one daughter. Now have three, and almost four, grandchildren.

Member of many retail and community committees. Inaugural member of the Foodland group in Queensland; helped in the formation of the Supa Valu group and became its Chairman. Served on the Australian Grocery Industry Association and various local committees. Past President of the Redlands Chamber of Commerce and the Redlands United Soccer Club.

Inaugural member of Redlands Apex at 30 and held most Board portfolios, including a spell as District Governor in

Zone 6. Kicked out with a mug and Life Membership at 40 and spent a lot of years looking for a replacement for Apex. Eventually heard about Apex 40 and helped organise the Redlands branch.

After 26 enjoyable years in retailing, sold the family business and part-retired. Almost drove Alma nuts, so spent three years in the Real Estate industry (which drove me nuts) and

once again retired. Then Alma and I bought a Post Office and, after 17 months and two armed hold-ups, retired again! Bored silly until appointed as manager/co-ordinator of the local Over 50 Leisure Centre. After two years of looking after oldies, retired again. Now spend a lot of time looking at the waters of Raby Bay – enjoying the lifestyle, while trying to catch muddies or mangrove jack.

## MOREE RORT TWO TRIPLE NOUGHT REPORT

**GET WITH THE PUSH**



**COME TO THE BUSH**

**Moree Rort Two Triple Nought**

**W**ell, they got with the push and they're coming to the bush – in large numbers!

We have had a fantastic response so far for our Rort. Unfortunately, we have had to close off the "Back o' Bourke" post-Rort tour at 100, due to accommodation shortages in the 'outback'.

Our numbers for the Rort so far, as at the end of February, are 150 and still

climbing. We will have to close registrations off at 200 maximum due to venue sizes as well, so please get your rego in ASAP. The Rort committee has been working very hard since the Christmas break and is now starting to get very excited about the great weekend we have planned for you. Everything is starting to fall into place now, with only the finishing touches to be organised.

Finally, anyone still thinking of coming to the Rort please send your registration in to Vic and Jen Elsley, PO Box 556, Moree, NSW 2400. Please make cheques payable to Moree Apex 40.

Looking forward to seeing you all here in Moree in May.

*Leon Squires*

*Rort Committee Chairman.*

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REPORT

Well this time we are not going overseas but instead are being visited by the mob from South Africa.

Those who went over to South Africa a few years ago will most likely remember some of the following names who will be attending the Moree Rort: – Derek and Anita Clark, Ross and Brenda Mcsweeney, Edward and Lois Farnworth, Clive and Yvonne Bolton.

According to Derek Clark they are all 'plus 60' and known to those Ozzies and Kiwis that toured here.

For those who are interested and may like to arrange a welcome for them, here is an abbreviated itinerary:–

**Tuesday 2nd May** – Arrive Perth 1340

**Friday 5th May** – Leave Perth arrive Melbourne 1635

**Monday 8th May** – By train to Sydney arrive 1700

**Thursday 11th May** – Train to Moree

**Friday 19th May** Fly to Auckland – trip around NZ

**Monday 5th June** – Leave Wellington for return to Johannesburg via Sydney.

For those of you who want flight numbers etc you can contact Derek direct by email on drclark@rttc.co.za OR give Garth Whitchurch a ring on 03 9898 7473 and he will send an email through to Derek and pass on the information.

How's that for news. Nothing else on the International front.

*Brian Roach*  
*International Relations*

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## MEMBERSHIP & APEX LIAISON

While we have no new Clubs, we welcome back to the fold Walcha N.S.W Club, who have been in the backblocks for a few years.

Over the past month we have had two enquires for membership and trust that soon new clubs are formed. In Wagga Wagga N.S.W. an Oasis Club is in existence and has only recently learnt about Apex 40; whilst up in Caboolture Queensland, some past Apexians are getting together and looking at forming another Club. Good luck to both and hope they join, and more importantly, get used to 'Rorting'.

On Apex generally, you may have learnt that the retirement age is now 45 years and some ask 'will we have to

change our name?' The answer is 'No' ; there is really no need as we have been Apex 40 for over 25 years. However, it is up to us.

Some latest news from Apex is that they made an agreement with Lions on exchange of information and perhaps working together within the community. Also, when Apexians retire they will be put in touch with a Lions Club. Each organisation is still independent but really goes back to the old days when Service Clubs worked in together, especially in the country.

Look forward to seeing you at the Moree Rort and the Back of Bourke.

*Garth Whitchurch*

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## AROUND THE BRANCHES

ALSTONVILLE: Started off the year with an Australia Day breakfast at the home of Duncan and Prue Walker. February meeting was a dinner at Café Sirocco and in March there was a BBQ at Bulwinkel Park (wonder if it was named after Colonel Bulwinkel from "Li'l Abner"?). After the BBQ a number of members drove down to the Coast Guard tower for a moonlight walk along the sea wall.

FORBES: Christmas party was an evening at Chris and Rosemary Stone's place when everyone brought along something for a cold buffet dinner, plus their favourite cheese and biscuits and other favourite Christmas food indulgence. The Club purchased a leg of ham from the slush (Infernal Revenue) fund.

At a picnic late last year, Club members had along as guests the Mayor of Forbes, Alistair Lockhart, and his wife.

GEELONG: Members were to be asked whether they should have a mixed-night function for Christmas – haven't heard since whether they did or not.

Members assisted Grovedale Apex again at the Ford Employees Christmas Party and are also to provide manpower again at the All Ford Day run by the Kiwanis in Geelong in February.

THE GREAT 8: Christmas function was an S night – held on a Saturday with Santa in attendance, it featured BYO Sausage Sizzle, Salads and Sweets and a little Something for Some Serious Slurping. Members had to come dressed as Something Starting with S and bring

their Swimmers – they could then Sleep in on Sunday.

A number of members attended the "Ball in the Mall" in January. February meeting was a dinner at Wentworth Hotel in Cessnock.

March meeting on St Patrick's Day will be at 'Shenanigans' in Maitland.

Allan Thorley acted as adjudicator for Public Speaking at the Apex NSW State Convention.

LAKE MACQUARIE: February meeting, which was a Ladies' Night, started with dinner at East Maitland Bowling Club and then a tour of the historic Maitland Jail, the longest continually operating prison in this country, to "hear about our colonial and penal history and be regaled with stories of convicts, crime and punishment from the prison's 150 year history".

LAUNCESTON: Recent meetings included a BBQ at Dot and Barry Rowe's and a lunch at Falls Farm. December meeting was the Club's AGM when it was hoped to find someone to take over from long serving President and Secretary/Treasurer Ron and Jan Storay.

MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND: Christmas dinner at the Dandenong TAFE College, where a great meal was prepared and served by the students, was also the Club's AGM and saw Alan and Marj Flaherty elected as President and Secretary. This is a second term of office for Al who was the Club's second President way back in

1976 after taking over from Lionel Mussell who, at that time, became the first National President. It is also a second term for Marj who was previously Secretary in 1986-88.

February meeting was an Italian dinner at Dino's Vita Dolce Bistro in Glen Waverley.

A number of members hope to be able to meet up with Forbes members for dinner en route to the Moree Rort.

MOREE: First meeting of the new Millenium was at the Thib Thum Thai Restaurant and in March members were to test drive one of the forthcoming Rort venues at "The Oaks". The Rort committee had tried The Oaks earlier and were very impressed with the menu.

REDLANDS: Christmas dinner at the Alexandra Hills Hotel had 69 members in attendance. During the meeting a committee was formed to plan towards a proposal to conduct a Rort in the

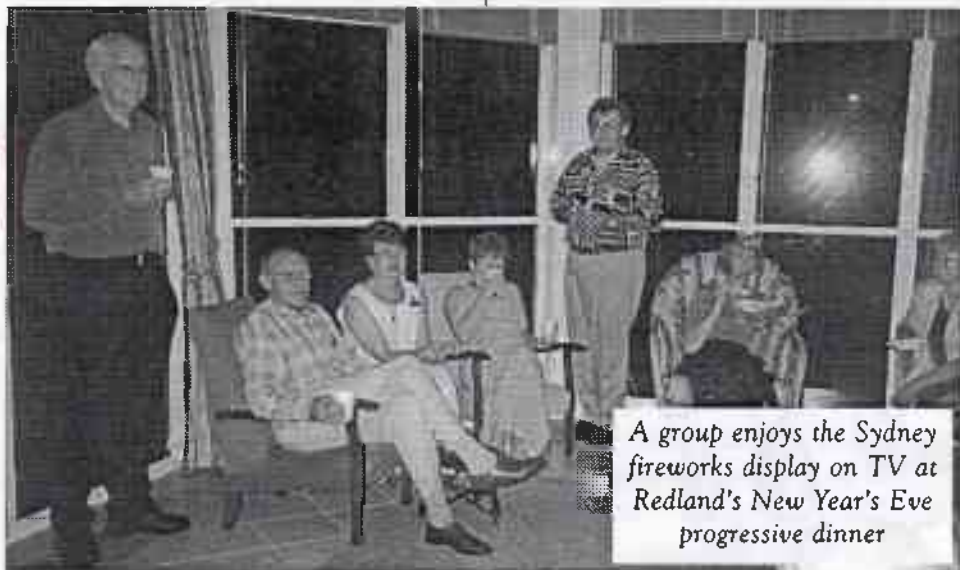
Redlands district, perhaps in 2002.

At the New Year's progressive dinner, late in the evening, National President Dave Cameron went to the assistance of Ray Despot who had dropped a glass of red wine in his lap – helpful Dave managed to tip a whole bottle of red into Ray's lap!

March meeting will be a combined Meeting with Redlands Apex at the Raby Bay Air Sea Rescue Centre.

SUNSHINE COAST: Out-going President Graham Sargent was planning December's AGM as a long Sunday lunch at "Clio's" in Palmwoods. (Haven't heard yet who is the new President, Ed.) Before Christmas, members met for a 'chicken and chablis' night at the home of Kathy and Keith van Rangelrooy.

WYNNUM-MANLY: The Club's Christmas party was held at the home of Ron and Melda Miller. In February



*A group enjoys the Sydney fireworks display on TV at Redland's New Year's Eve progressive dinner*



Redland's members Chris Pike, David Cameron, Peter Jackson & Juri Denisenko at the New Year's Eve progressive dinner.

it is planned to visit the old Brisbane jail at Boggo Road after a BBQ at Peggy and Eddie Nunn's place.

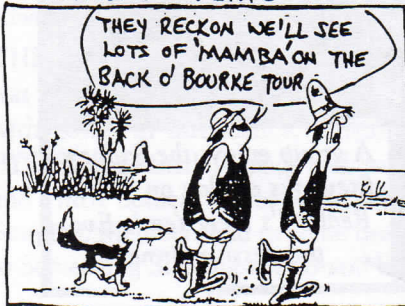
WYONG: Australia Day dinner at the Clarke homestead was a casual evening and BBQ to welcome home Marian from the Philippines. It was good to see Sue and Ray Wilkinson able to come along

together again after Ray's protracted illness.

February dinner was at Marie and Dennis Heilbrunn's 'country estate' for another of their famous seafood nights.

A good contingent of Wyong members will be going to Moree for the Rort in May.

### FOOTRORT FLATS





## DINNER NOTICE HUMOUR

**ALSTONVILLE:** A little old lady goes to the doctor and says, "Doctor, I have this problem with gas, but it really doesn't bother me too much. My farts are always silent and never smell. As a matter of fact, I've farted at least 10 times since I've been here in your office and you haven't noticed." The doctor says, "I see. Take these pills and come back to see me next week."

Next week the old lady comes back. "Doctor," she says, "I don't know what the hell was in those pills but now my farts stink terribly, although they're still silent."

"OK," says the doctor, "so we've cleared up your sinuses, now let's work on your hearing!"

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A belligerent drunk walks into a bar and hollers, "I can lick any man in the place!"

The nearest customer looks him up and down, then says, "Crude, but direct. Tell me, is this your first time in a gay bar?"

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**FORBES:** A man who smelled like a distillery flopped down on a bus seat next to a priest. The man's shirt was stained, his face was plastered with lipstick, and a half empty bottle of whisky was sticking out of his pocket. He opened his newspaper and started reading. After a few minutes he turned to the priest and asked, "Say Father, do you know what causes arthritis?"

"My son," replied the priest, "it's caused by loose living, being with wicked women, and drinking too much alcohol."

"Well, I'll be damned," muttered the drunk.

After thinking about what he had said, the priest nudged the drunk and said, "Look, I'm sorry. I shouldn't have come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?"

"I don't have it, Father. I was just reading here that the Pope does!"

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**GEELONG:** Ask yourself – If a mute swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If a man is standing in the middle of a forest speaking and there is no woman around to hear him, is he still wrong?

If someone with a multiple personality threatens to kill himself, is it a hostage situation?

Keep asking yourself – If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

Before they invented drawing boards, what did they go back to?

Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?

And keep asking – If the police arrest a

mime, do they tell him that he has the right to remain silent?

If one synchronised swimmer drowns, do the rest have to drown too?

Do pediatricians play mini-golf on Wednesdays?

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**THE GREAT 8:** Signs that you've had too much of the 90's –

- You try to enter your password on the microwave.
- You haven't played solitaire with a real deck of cards in years.
- You have a list of 16 phone numbers to reach your family of four.
- You e-mail your son in his room to tell him that dinner's ready and he e-mails you back "what's for dinner?"
- You chat several times a week with a stranger from Germany but you haven't spoken to your next-door neighbour yet this year.
- You buy a computer and a week later it is out of date and now sells for half the price you paid for it.

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**Wise Words –**

"Fitness – if it came in a bottle, everyone would have a great body." (Cher)

"If it were going to be easy to raise kids, it never would have started with something called 'labour'".

"The weaker the argument, the stronger the words."

"The only person who's consistently wrong and still keeps his job is the weatherman."

"Don't smoke, drink, eat, or work too much. We're all on the road to the grave, but there's no reason to be in the passing lane." (Robert Orben)

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**MELBOURNE-GIPPSLAND:**  
**Classes For Men –** From a lady member who wishes to remain anonymous

1. How to find the vacuum cleaner
2. Yes, We Call that an Iron
3. If You Want Her to Wear Sexy Underwear, You've Got To Pay For It
4. Understanding the Female Response to Your Coming Home Late
5. You – The Weaker Sex
6. Drooling at Other Women – Yes There is a cure.
7. PMT– Feel It, Cry About It, Offer Sympathy
8. The Rubbish Bin – Taking it Out
9. How to Wrap Your Own Sandwiches
10. Watching the Footy All Weekend is Not Fun
11. Remote Control 101 – Overcoming your dependency
12. Mothers-in-Law – They are People Too
13. The Art of Nappy Changing
14. Separation Anxiety – You don't need that beer.
15. You Too Can Host a Dinner Party
16. How to Lose that Beer Gut

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**REDLANDS:** A crusty old bloke walked into a bank and said to the teller, "I want to open a bloody cheque account."

The astonished teller replied, "I beg your pardon, sir. I must have misunderstood you. What did you say?"

"Listen, dammit," the old bloke responded, "I said I want to open a bloody cheque account, and I want to do it right now."

"I'm very sorry sir," said the teller, "but I will not tolerate that kind of language in this bank."

The teller left the counter and went to the manager to inform him of the situation. The manager agreed that the teller did not have to listen to bad language. They both returned to the counter and the manager asked the old bloke, "Sir, what seems to be the problem here?"

"There is no bloody problem!" the old bloke shouted. "I have just won \$10 million in the lottery and I want to open a bloody cheque account in this bloody bank, OK?"

"I see," said the manager, "and this bloody idiot is giving you a hard time?"

#### One-liners from Famous Women –

*Dolly Parton:* "I'm not offended by all the dumb blonde jokes because I know I am not dumb ... and I also know that I am not blonde!"

*Erma Bombeck:* "Never lend your car to anyone to whom you have given birth."

*Alma Despot:* "Sometimes I wake up grumpy. Other times I let him sleep in!"

**WYONG:** "Hello and welcome to the mental health hotline –

- If you are obsessive-compulsive, press 1 repeatedly.
- If you are co-dependant, ask someone to press 2 for you.
- If you have multiple personalities, press 3,4,5 and 6.
- If you are paranoid, we know who you are and what you want. Please hold so we can trace your call.
- If you are delusional, press 7 and your call will be transferred to the mother ship.
- If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a small voice will tell you which number to press.
- If you are depressed, it doesn't matter which number you press, no one will answer.
- If you have amnesia, press 8 and state your name, address and phone number, date of birth, tax file number, and your mother's maiden name.
- If you have post-traumatic stress disorder, press 000.
- If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9.
- If you have low self-esteem, please hang up. All our operators are too busy to be bothered talking to you."

# 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:  
31 May, 2000

## - FOR SALE - APEX 40 GEAR

### THESE ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

NAME BADGES – Cost: \$7.00

Available from –

Alan Kinder (Nola)  
34 Shafer Road,  
Blackburn North, 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: (02) 6628 0881

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

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(07) 3286 1929

### NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

Ray Despot,  
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Qld, 4163  
(07) 3286 1514

### NATIONAL EXTENSION CHAIRMAN

Garth Whitchurch,  
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Box Hill North,  
Victoria, 3129  
(03) 9898 7473

### **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.