



ROARING 40's

Nov/Dec 2003

 A Merry Xmas and a
 Happy New Year
to everyone



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

Apex 40 is the recognised body of
Affiliated Past Apexians' Groups
www.apex40.org

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The top of the day to you all. Wendy and I are settling into our tasks now and things are moving along smoothly. Your secretary, Wendy, has been quite busy with correspondence and organisational requirements. I was pleased to attend a number of clubs in August including Lavington and Melbourne-Gippsland. Lavington had a full crew at their dinner and it was good to catch up with them again (with special thanks to Gerry and Val Hellmann). The Melbourne-Gippsland dinner at Clayton Bowls Club was a memorable night when some members "turned back the clock" and let slip some very interesting stories. In September, a dozen members of Melbourne Norwesters including Nat. Sec. Wendy Smith and husband Don, plus Nat. I.R. & Liaison Officer Brian Roach, tootled up

to Bendigo for a football theme dinner. Kevin and Shirley Harvey organised a very entertaining night. Thank you to those clubs for your fellowship.

At the end of August, Alan and Mary Bach and Bob Skinner of Redlands Club promoted Apex 40 to the several hundred thousand visitors to the Apex Gympie Muster. This is a country/folk music festival held over 6 days at the end of August. In typical Apex 40 style, very little sleep and a great time was enjoyed, with these members providing lots of promotion of Apex 40 from the tent provided by Apex. We hope to gain some new members and clubs from the efforts of these members. Thanks folks for all your work and time.

Speaking of new members; if you want Apex 40 to continue, we need to have more new members join this very worthwhile organisation. For us to achieve this, we need to have greater contact with Apex clubs. Some clubs already have a good relationship with their local Apex club. So, can I ask you to make contact and organise combined meetings or get togethers or whatever, to create an opportunity for greater contact with your local Apex clubs. Then enlighten these prospective Apex 40 members to the great times, the continuing fellowship and the great fun Rorts we have, and we will gain some new members. I know that good results will come from this activity so, please get your club involved.

If you are planning to go to the Norfolk Island Rort, please book while there are still spaces. So, have fun and enjoy. Yours in Apex 40,

Max Cheney

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

Hello again to all Apex 40 Family Members.

Thank you to clubs who continue to send newsletters on a regular basis. We have 36 Apex 40 clubs throughout Australia and at present I only receive newsletters from a very small core of about a dozen clubs. I realise not all of you produce a regular newsletter, as such, but even if your club issues a hand-written call to dinner notice, we would like to receive a copy. We need to know that our members are happy and healthy and that our clubs are continuing along in the true Apex 40 spirit!

Club Secretaries – please include President Max Cheney, Alan Kinder (Editor Roaring 40's), and myself on your mailing list. If you have email, you may prefer to use that facility to forward us your correspondence. (Our addresses are on the back page of this newsletter).

I have been advised by Kevin Huxham (Alstonville) that planning is under way for a proposed Apex 40 tour to the UK in May 2005, to attend the Association of RTBI 41, 60th Anniversary Conference in Bournemouth. This will be followed by a three-week home hosted and hotel tour of the UK. Kevin will supply us with more details as they become available.

I wish to thank Alan and Mary Bach (Redlands) for organising Apex 40 literature for display at the recent Gympie Muster. I urge you all to read their written report and view the photos from the Muster, which are currently featured on the Apex 40 website. (www.apex40.org)

Alan Padgham (web-wiz extraordinaire) is continuing his great work with our website. Alan is always looking for material to publish, so please make sure you send him any appropriate Apex 40 information.

All Clubs and Members at Large will be receiving Registration Forms and a Membership List for the ensuing 2003-2004 year, very soon. Please complete both forms and return with your cheques, as soon as possible.

Regards to you all,

Wendy Smith



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REPORT

In late May I travelled to New Zealand to attend the Convention of 41 Clubs NZ at Hawere; the hospitality of this association is fantastic. There was myself from Oz; Malcolm and Patricia Vaissiere from 41 Clubs Great Britain; Bruce and Raewyn Laird, ex 41 Clubs NZ, now living in Brisbane and looking to join Apex 40; Shane and Susan Doyle, ex-patriate New Zealanders who have joined Melbourne Norwesters Apex 40 and are loving it – they were at Mildura and will be going to Norfolk Island.

I will be going to New Zealand again next year for their 2004 Convention in Alexandra (South Island) on 4th to 7th June 2004 (see website). If you wish to join myself and Ray Davey (Forbes Apex 40), give me a call on 03 9802 1063 for more details.

In October 2004, twenty or so 41ers from NZ will tour Victoria and, when final details have been made, I will be looking for Clubs to host them.

Brian Roach

APEX 40 GOLF COMPETITION – NEW RULES

Below are the revised rules for the Annual Golf Competition, the trophy for which will be awarded at the Convict Rort on Norfolk Island in 2004.

- * Games are to be played as Stroke Play under the Calloway Rules
- * Eighteen holes to be played between November 1, 2003 and April 1, 2004
- * All other rules will remain – with the exception of the rule that a Club Member must be at the Rort; as this year the Rort is off-shore.
- * Any number can play, with a minimum of four players. All cards to be sent to Apex 40 National Secretary Wendy Smith by 4/4/2004 to be scored by the competition committee

Cards to be sent to Apex 40 National Secretary, Wendy Smith, 4 Ronald Court, Sunbury, Vic. 3429. Or email: wendy.smith@hotmail.net.au

STOP PRESS

We have just heard from Mark Fishwick in Burnie, Tasmania, that a new Apex 40 Club has been formed there.

They have had their first meeting and a second meeting will have been held by the time you receive this newsletter.

A bit of Trivia: Doctors can be frustrating. You wait a month-and-a-half for an appointment, only to have them say, "I wish you'd come to me sooner."

CONVICT RORT 2004 – NORFOLK ISLAND

Firstly, thanks to everyone who has registered and paid deposits for the "Convict Rort" on Norfolk Island in May 2004.

At the time of writing this we had 102 confirmed travellers with a number of others that have made contact with us but not yet confirmed or paid their deposits. With these people we will be up to around the 120 mark, which is about where we expected to be at this stage.

We do have capacity to handle up to 150 but that number would prove a squeeze at a number of the venues, so the slightly smaller numbers will possibly make it more comfortable for everyone anyway. However, there is certainly room for greater numbers so, if you have been hanging off and waiting to book, we certainly hope you get your reservations in quickly because we will soon be approaching the time where the airlines and hotels will begin to take back unused seats / rooms. We would very much appreciate if you could contact us by the end of November to book on the trip, if you have not already done so; following this there will be no guarantee that we can instantly confirm your air ticket and accommodation.

We again remind people that this is not like your usual Rort, where you can book at the very last minute. Please note that we will have to hand all unused rooms and airline seats back to Norfolk by the end of January at the very latest. If you call us after this date we will do our best to accommodate you but, given that May is just about the most popular month on the Island, this may prove very, very difficult to do.

The optional tour programme has proved very popular. At this stage we are still able to confirm any of the options you require but some are getting very close to being full so, again, another very good reason to book as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, there has been a bit of a change to flights to and from Melbourne, necessitating those departing from there to join domestic flights to and from Sydney. This has been brought about by a change to the schedule of the Norfolk Jet Express aircraft no longer flying ex Melbourne. There will be no change to the costs for this and we will advise everyone boarding in Melbourne of these changes later in the year.

Other than that, I can assure everyone that we at M & G Travel, and our operators, are working very hard to ensure that the 2004 Rort will be one of the best ever. If you have not booked already, the details can be found on our website <www.mgtravel.com.au> or please feel free to speak to either myself or my groups supervisor, Sarah Schoupp, on our toll free number 1800 677512; this number is available Australia Wide.

Mark Tramby, Moree Apex 40

More trivia: How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

DINNER NOTICE TROPHY

The "Penultimate" trophy, an annual award for the best club dinner notice/newsletter, was presented by the Grafton Apex 40 Club and first awarded in 1990. Since that time the trophy has been won by 9 different clubs; Kuala Lumpur, Alstonville, Grafton, Sunshine Coast (Caloundra), Melbourne-Gippsland, Malacca, Redlands, Geelong and Nepean Valley.

As editor of Roaring 40's, I regularly receive dinner notices from about 20 clubs; sometimes more, sometimes less. As a result, I have often been called upon to recommend which club should win the award for that year. A few years ago I instituted a system of scoring to assist me in judging the quality of the dinner notices I receive. My scoring system awards points for content (mainly) and presentation up to a total of 25 for each issue and I find that scores can vary from as low as 8 to as high as 23. Last year's winner, Melbourne-Gippsland, achieved an average of just over 20 and that score was closely followed by Redlands and Nepean Valley.

To enable dinner notice editors who so desire to give themselves every chance of winning the annual award, the scoring system that I use is based on a number of points for various categories of information, etc. and points for presentation of the newsletter, as follows:

Information about Next Meeting –5 points
Comments about Last Meeting –3 points
Information about Future Events –3 points
Apex 40 News –3 points
Miscellaneous Information –2 points
Humour, etc. –3 points
Members Directory* –1 point
Presentation –5 points
Total –25 points

* Some clubs publish a directory of members names, addresses and/or phone numbers in most issues; some other clubs publish a directory occasionally.

I would be interested to hear from anyone who has any thoughts about this scoring system and who may wish to suggest any improvement to the system.

Alan Kinder, Editor.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

In the early days of our organisation there was much concern expressed by the then hierarchy of Apex about our use of the name 'Apex 40' and our triangular emblem, which they felt was too similar

to Apex itself. So much so that in the June 1976 issue of Roaring 40's (yes, it has been going that long) the Apex 40 National President Lionel Mussell (our first National President) wrote as follows:

"Since Easter 1975 the name Apex 40 and our official emblem have been the cause of problems between us and the Apex National Board, and although we are reluctant and sorry to do so, we are recommending a change to both the name and emblem. This is because the concept is greater than the details and if this is going to continue to be contentious and hindering, then we should swallow our feelings and change.

Current National President of Apex, Tom Chapman, is right on side with us and wants to really help this year – but while the name remains, he is bound to abide with the Board decision.

One severe obstacle in the way of a name change has been the dearth of a suitable alternative to Apex 40. A myriad of useless ones abound but until now, nothing acceptable.

Our suggestion is VERTEX. It is defined as an apex. It is the corner of a triangle and is short enough for easy use once accepted. It fits into the grouping – Apex, Summit, Delta, etc. and so should be acceptable to Apex.

Although meaningless at the moment, it would soon become well known throughout Apex – particularly if it becomes the Official Body and gets promotion in Apex.

The new concept is for VERTEX to be the National Council of Affiliated Past Apexians Groups – so that groups of former Apexians (by whatever name) could affiliate and liaise with us. The obvious potential for rortier Rorts alone makes this worthwhile.

Our contact with the general public is, and is likely to remain, pretty minimal so the name does not have to be meaningful to them.

If we change to VERTEX and find we have been sucked-in by Apex National Board, with still no recognition, we could change to VORTEX which is the sucking part of a whirlpool.

We are honoured that National President Tom will be our guest at the Annual Meeting and that he feels our concept important enough to want to resolve the problems quickly so he can try to spread the word.

I believe we should think very seriously about the whole question with an eye on the future. A proper start now (which we thought we had three years ago pre-Albury) will set the organisation on a good course for continued growth and pave the way for an Australia-wide fellowship of former members of Apex and their families"

Well, we certainly have achieved an Australia-wide fellowship of former Apex members, and we have certainly had many very rorty Rorts, and thank goodness that common sense prevailed and the Apex 'brass' finally accepted us as we wished to be. On the other hand, perhaps VORTEX might not have been too far out – the Oxford dictionary defines Vortex as a "mass of whirling fluid" and we have seen plenty of fluid whirling around, and down, at our wonderfully convivial Rorts!

AROUND THE BRANCHES

ALSTONVILLE: Recent meetings have included a visit to an Art Show at Ballina RSL with food and drinks, and an Italian Food Night at the Lismore Italo Club. At the Italian night, Phil Consalvo was banned from drawing the raffle but, nevertheless, won it – again!

Recently, David Besson – a dedicated Peugeot buff – and Marie participated in a re-run of the famous Around Australia Redex trials, organised by the Peugeot Club.

BENDIGO: Also had an Italian night recently, at the home of Bea and Kieran Ransome who had decorated the house in Italian theme and provided Italian food, wine and music.

Some members dressed accordingly and Kieran organised an Italian quiz, which led to slight controversy over some answers!

September meeting at the National Hotel had as its theme 'Footy Colours', with members sporting their favourite team colours to celebrate the AFL finals series.

October meeting is the Club's AGM when President Peter and Secretary Sandra Hillier will hand over the reins after a successful two years in office.

DEVONPORT: The Devonport Apex 40 Club has been very active in the past few months. On returning from Mildura the club has been to a Christmas in July organised by the Latrobe Bowls Club. A top night was had by the 30 odd members that attended.

In August the club enjoyed a wonderful night at the Sheffield Music Hall, which is organised by the local Lions Club. It

was an excellent night; but if they had known how well we performed the Rindercella skit in Mildura, I'm sure we would have been asked to join the cast.

The Club will be hosting the 2005 Rort in Tasmania.

THE GREAT 8: At the July 'Christmas' dinner, an all female Committee was elected to take over from the previous all female Committee. Helen Scott (who with James has gone to live in a barn at North Rothbury), was elected President, Jo-Anne Gilmour stepped down as President to become Dinner Notice Editor, and Marie Kingham remained as Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations ladies and best wishes for another enjoyable year.

Subsequent meetings have included a 'pot luck' dinner at Robyn and Allan Thorley's and a dinner at "Hannah's" at the Metro Hotel in Maitland.

A theatre night is planned for November at the Newcastle Repertory Theatre to see the play "Sylvia".

LAUNCESTON: In July members gathered at the home of Jim and Margaret Turner for a 'Good Old Fashioned Sunday Roast Dinner', with Margaret cooking the 3 course meal for 16 people. According to President Barry Rowe, "It was a wonderful meal and terrific camaraderie. Remember when all the family used to go home to Mum's for Sunday lunch?"

Subsequent dinner meetings have been at the Kings Meadows Hotel, the Sunny Hill Country Club Hotel at Ravenswood, and Tamar Cove Motel & Restaurant..

MANLY: A social night in July with pictures and dinner was nearly a disaster when the Brookvale Hotel had the Club booked into the bistro on the wrong Saturday. Still, a quick rearrangement of table and chairs saved the day.

A 'Trivia Night' was held in August as a fund raiser.

At the Club's AGM in September John Cameron, President; Roger Wright, Secretary; and Tim Richards, Treasurer were all re-elected for a further 12 months.

MELBOURNE GIPPSLAND: The last few meetings have all been at the Clayton Bowls Club, which has proved to be a popular venue – not only because they have Guinness on tap! At the September meeting, members brought along old wedding photos and related some hilarious stories about their honeymoons. As President Neil Hookey said, "We were reminded that even though we were broke, we had a lot of fun".

The Club's – and Apex 40's – 30th birthday BBQ in July was transferred from the usual venue at Drouin to Colin and Marianne Speirs place at Dandenong North. An unexpected but very welcome visitor on the day was past National President Malcolm Clark from Wyong, who was doing some work at Moe in Gippsland.

Left: Mal Clarke (Wyong) with Marg & Neil Hookey (Melbourne-Gippsland) at the BBQ.



Melbourne/Gippsland at the Apex 40 annual birthday BBQ, which this year was held at Colin & Marianne Speir's place

MOREE: July dinner was at the Cascades Restaurant where you select and cook your own steak on the barbecue. The restaurant has since closed down! Don't know if that had anything to do with the fact that Roaring 40's editor Alan and Nola attended the dinner on their way up to the Gold Coast. (It was indeed an enjoyable night out with our many Moree friends. Ed.)

In September, members met at the Moree Markets (Why do they always have 'plural' markets in NSW and Q? Ed.), after which they all moved on to Danny and Esma Bourke's for brunch on the lawn overlooking the Mehi River, and consumed the goodies purchased from the market(s).

October meeting was the Club's AGM and out-going President Leon Squires was looking forward to the next year as a lackey.

NEPEAN VALLEY: Recent meetings have been at Mount Annan Botanic Gardens and Blacktown Workers Club. Then in October a barbecue on Grand Final Day at the home of Sue and Neil Williamson when the Panthers took on the Roosters. Members were invited to come and see "panther eat charcoal chicken". And they did – congratulations Penrith.

REDLANDS: With the AGM coming up in October, President Ross Pollock said. "What another tremendous year for Redlands Apex 40. It is only when you read through the last six or so dinner notices that you begin to realise why Redlands is the largest club in the association, one which consistently maintains a dinner attendance of 60-65+ and one who continually shines at the

National Convention. The reasons come down to a few basic ones and surprisingly they are the same ones to which we can all relate to when we think back to our Apex days.. Collective fellowship, individual enjoyment, commitment and positive change".

The club's weekend at Stanthorpe was a great success and the general consensus was that such an event should become a regular part of the calendar – perhaps a visit to Kingaroy next year.

Alan and Mary Bach, Bill Coleman and Bob Skinner attended the Gympie Muster in late August to promote Apex 40. You can read about their visit on the Apex 40 website.

SUNRAYSIA: Last function that we have heard about was a pizza night at the home of Annette and Graham Duffy when it was hoped to dispose of a good selection of wines left over from the Rort.

Members were invited to attend the 1000th dinner of Wentworth Apex Club in October and it was hoped to have a table or two of Apex 40 members.

SUNSHINE COAST: A number of members spent the long weekend at the Northshore Wilderness camping area at Noosa in June. The onset of winter brought cold nights and howling winds, but this didn't stop the nightly cocktails at sunset and moonlit dinners under the communal tarp. A great time was had by all. (See photo)

Recent meetings have included a dinner at 'Lefties' (an ex-Canadian) Restaurant at Maroochydore, a card night at Chook and Betty Rossiter's at Caloundra, and a barbecue at dusk by the scenic Mooloolah River at Buddina.



Sunshine Coast Apex 40 camping at Noosa Northshore Wilderness Camping Ground June 2003.

L to R: Glen Rossiter, Betty Rossiter, Denise Rolley, Ray Rolley, Vivianne Oakes, Dave Oakes, John Pascoe, Stella Pascoe.

Chookie's 'agony column' continues unabashed in the club's dinner notice and the following is a typical example:

"Dear Chookie, The other day I had a big bang experience. Shocked D.

Dear Shocked D., When using a cattle prod don't forget the forked end bites! Have you considered using kitchen rubber gloves, they work sometimes, but the amps sometimes melt the latex and the odour is not pleasant. When using jumper leads be sure not to hang on to both ends at once. If 12 volt wiring of lights is required, make sure you are earthed to the person you are helping out, so they too can experience the big bang.

Thoughtfully yours, Chookie."

WYONG: Dinner meetings have been held at the Apollo Country Resort at Wamberal and at Piercarlo's Trattoria at The Entrance.

September meeting was the club's AGM when President Lynn Sawyer and Secretary Niel Nielsen were both to finish their terms in those positions, prior to hitting the bitumen for extended trips next year.

Members have been asked again this year to contribute gifts for both children and parents for the Camp Breakaway family Christmas tree.



Left to right: Geoff and Margaret Dunn (Wyong), Bruce and Geraldine Garland (Wynnum-Manly), Margaret and Neville Bowman (Wyong). The Dunns and the Bowmans have been travelling around Oz since the Mildura Rort, and met the Garlands quite by accident at the Mindal Markets on Thursday evening, 7th August, 2003.



'Member at large' Ray (Springy) Greenwood spent all of August in Malaysia visiting friends, including past Apexians and members of Apex 40. Above we see L to R: M.S. Maniam (President Seremban Apex 40), Ray Greenwood, and K. Thuruvan (life member Seremban Apex), at the departure lounge at Langkawi International Airport.

DINNER NOTICE HUMOUR

ALSTONVILLE: Wiremu, a New Zealander, landed at Heathrow to watch the All Blacks play a test match and was not feeling well, so he decided to see a doctor.

"Hey doc, I don't feel so good, eh", said Wiremu. The doctor gave him a thorough examination and informed him that he had a severe prostate problem, and the only cure was an immediate testicular removal.

"No way doc, I'm here for the rugby", replied Wiremu, I'm gutting a second opinion, eh!"

The second Pommy doctor gave Wiremu the same diagnosis and also advised him that testicular removal was the only cure. Not surprisingly, Wiremu refused the treatment.

Wiremu was devastated but, with only hours to go before the All Blacks opening game, he found an expat Kiwi doctor and decided to get one last opinion from someone he could trust.

The Kiwi doctor examined him and said, "I'm afraid you hev prostate suckness, eh."

"What's the cure thin doc, eh?" asked Wiremu, hoping for a different answer.

"Will now," said the Kiwi doctor, "We're gonna hev to cut off your balls."

"Phew, Thank God for thet!" said Wiremu, "those Pommy bastards wanted to take my tist tuckets off me!"

THE GREAT 8: Two sisters, one blonde and one brunette, inherit the family ranch. Unfortunately, after just a few years, they are in financial trouble. In order to keep the bank from repossessing

the ranch, they need to purchase a bull so that they can breed their own stock.

The brunette checks their bank balance, then takes their last \$600 out west to another ranch where a man has a prize bull for sale. Upon leaving she tells her sister, "When I get there, if I decide to buy the bull, I'll contact you to drive out after me and haul it home".

The brunette arrives at the man's ranch, inspects the bull, and decides she wants to buy it. The man tells her that he can sell it for \$599, no less. After paying him, she drives to the nearest town to send her sister a telegram to tell her the news. She walks into the telegraph office, and says, "I want to send a telegram to my sister telling her that I've bought a bull for our ranch. I need her to hitch the trailer to our truck and drive out here so we can haul it home".

The telegraph operator explains that he'll be glad to help her, then adds, "It's just 99 cents a word." Well, after paying for the bull, the brunette only has \$1 left. She realises that she'll only be able to send her sister one word. After thinking for a few minutes, she nods, and says, "I want you to send her the word, 'comfortable'."

The telegraph operator shakes his head. "How is she ever going to know that you want her to hitch the trailer to your truck and drive out here to haul the bull back to your ranch if you send her just the word, 'comfortable'?"

The brunette explains, "My sister's blonde, she'll read it very slowly."

"com-for-ta-bul"

LAUNCESTON: 80 year old Bessie bursts into the recreation room at the retirement home.

She holds her clenched fist in the air and announces, "Anyone who can guess what's in my hand can have sex with me tonight!!"

An elderly gentleman in the rear shouts out, "An elephant?"

Bessie thinks a minute and says, "Close enough."

A little old lady was running up and down the halls in a nursing home. As she walked, she would flip up the hem of her nightgown and say "Super sex".

She walked up to an elderly man in a wheelchair. Flipping her gown at him, she said, "Super sex".

He sat silently for a moment or two and finally answered,

"I'll take the soup."

MELBOURNE-GIPPSLAND:

Penguins mate for life. That is not surprising; they all look alike. It's not as if they are going to meet a better looking penguin!

Four of Life's Lessons to be learned:

A junior manager, a senior manager and their boss are on their way to lunch. On their way through a park, they come across a wonderful lamp. They rub the lamp and a genie appears. The genie says, "Normally, one is granted three wishes but as you are three, I will allow one wish each"

So the eager senior manager shouted, I want the first wish. I want to be in the

Bahamas, on a fast boat and have no worries. PfuFFFF, and he was gone.

Now the junior manager could not keep quiet and shouted "I want to be in Florida with beautiful girls, plenty of food and cocktails. PfuFFFF, and he was also gone .

The boss calmly said, "I want these two idiots back in the office after lunch at 12.35pm"

Lesson I – Always allow the Bosses to speak first

Standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand. "Listen," said the CEO to a nearby worker, "this is a very sensitive and important document, and my secretary has left for the day. Can you make this thing work?"

Certainly," said the young executive. He turned the machine on, inserted the paper, and pressed the start button. "Excellent, excellent!" said the CEO as his paper disappeared inside the shredder machine. "I just need one copy."

Lesson II – Never, never assume that your Boss knows everything.

An American and a Japanese were sitting on the plane on the way to LA when the American turned to the Japanese and asked, "What kind of -ese are you?" The Japanese confused, replied, "Sorry but I don't understand what you mean." The American repeated, "What kind of -ese are you?" Again, the Japanese was confused over the question. The American, now irritated, then snapped, "What kind of -ese are you ... Are you a Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese!, etc. etc?" The Japanese then replied, "Oh, I am a Japanese."

A while later the Japanese turned to the American and asked What kind of 'kee' was he. The American, confused, growled, "What do you mean what kind of 'kee' am I?" The Japanese said, "Are you a Yankee, donkee, or monkee?"

Lesson III – Never insult anyone.

There were these four guys, a Russian, a German, an American and a Frenchman who found this small genie bottle. When they rubbed the bottle, a genie appeared. Thankful that the four guys had released him out of the bottle, He said, "Next to you all are four swimming pools, I will give each of you a wish. When you run towards the pool and jump, you shout what you want the pool of water to become, then your wish will come true."

The Frenchman wanted to start. He ran towards the pool, jumped and shouted "WINE". The pool immediately changed into a pool of wine. The Frenchman was so happy swimming and drinking from the pool. Next is the Russian's turn, he did the same and shouted, "VODKA" and immersed himself into a pool of vodka. The German was next and he jumped and shouted, "BEER". He was so contented with his beer pool. The last is the American. He was running towards the pool when suddenly he steps on a banana peel. He slipped towards the pool and shouted, SHIIIT!"

Lesson IV – Think twice before you say something, because sometimes accidents do happen

MOREE: Information I bet you could live without (but *will* repeat to some-

one, somewhere)

Dentists have recommended that toothbrushes be kept at least six feet away from the toilet to avoid airborne particles resulting from the flush.

The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma.

No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven times.

Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.

The first product to have a bar code was Wrigleys Chewing Gum.

The King of Hearts is the only king without a moustache.

A 747's wingspan is longer than the Wright Brothers' first flight.

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in First Class.

The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer.

The plastic things on the ends of shoelaces are called 'aglets'.

Michael Jordan makes more money every year from Nike than all of the Nike workers in Malaysia combined.

It is possible to lead a cow up stairs but not down stairs.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

Richard Millhouse Nixon was the first US president whose name contained all the letters from the word 'criminal'. The second was William Jefferson Clinton.

Turtles can breathe through their bottom.

On average, 100 people choke on ball-point pens each year.

The main library at Indiana University sinks over an inch each year because, when it was built, the engineers failed to take into account the weight of all the books that would occupy the building.

NEPEAN VALLEY: If you jog in a jogging suit, lounge in lounging pyjamas, and smoke in a smoking jacket, why would anyone want to wear a windbreaker!

A man was telling his neighbour, "I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand dollars, but it's state of the art. It's perfect."

"Really," said the neighbour. "What kind is it?"

"Twelve-thirty."

REDLANDS: A man's home is his castle – in a manor of speaking.

Shotgun Wedding – a matter of wife or death.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

He had a photographic memory that was never developed.

Once you've seen a shopping centre, you've seen a mall.

Dancing cheek to cheek is a form of floor play.

SUNSHINE COAST: A bloke sat next to a good looking blonde on a

flight to Cairns the other day and all she did was sneeze most of the way there.

"It's horrible," she said. "Every time I sneeze I have an orgasm."

"Goodness," said the bloke. "What are you taking for it?"

"Pepper," she replied.

Why is it called 'rap' music?

Because the 'C' fell off the typewriter.

A blind man went into a department store, picked up his guide dog by the tail and started swinging it around.

A salesman came over and asked, "Can I be of any assistance?"

"No thanks," said the blind man, "I'm just looking around."

WYONG: With all the new fertility technology, a 75 year old woman gave birth to a baby.

When she arrived home from the hospital, her relatives came to visit. "May we see the baby?" one asked. "Not yet," said the 75 year old mother. "Soon."

Thirty minutes passed and another relative asked, "May we see the baby now?"

"No," said the mother.

Growing very impatient, they asked, "well, when can we see the baby?"

"When it cries," the mother told them.

"WHEN IT CRIES?" they answered.

"Why do we have to wait until it cries?"

"Because I forget where I put it!"

A FEW WEB SITES TO VISIT:

<http://www.apex40.org>

(Our official Apex 40 web site. Check it out and send in your contributions)

<http://home.pacific.net.au/~apadg>

<http://www.caravanning-oz.com>

<http://www.mgtravel.com.au/>

<http://www.ontheroad.net.au>

<http://www.caravantrader.com.au>

<http://www.apex.org.au>

<http://www.nsherman.info>

<http://www.tlcforkids.org.au>

<http://www.seniorsite.com/>

<http://www.greypath.com/Portal/main/index.asp>

<http://www.aboutseniors.com.au>

<http://www.naa.gov.au/>

<http://www.benaway.com.au>

<http://www.bonzer.org.au>

<http://www.CyndisList.com>

<http://www.ancestry.com>

<http://www.familysearch.org>

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~arpao50>

TEN REASONS WHY ALCOHOL SHOULD BE SERVED AT WORK

1. It's an incentive to show up.
2. It leads to more honest communications.
3. It reduces complaints about low pay.
4. Employees tell management what they think, not what they want to hear.
5. It encourages car pooling.
6. Increase job satisfaction because if you have a bad job, you don't care.
7. It eliminates vacations because people would rather come to work.
8. It makes fellow employees look better.
9. It makes the cafeteria food taste better.
10. Bosses are more likely to hand out raises when they are a little merry.

GYMPIE APEX MUSIC MUSTER by Alan Bach (Redlands)

This year, tens of thousands of friendly people set up camp in the Amamoor Forest, a short drive north of Brisbane, for the biggest and best Gympie Music Muster ever. Every year Gympie Apex Club selects how the profits from the Muster will be distributed and this year the major beneficiary was the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The Muster weather was fantastic during the 6 days of festivity from Tuesday, August 26th to Sunday, August 31st 2003. Around 140 entertainers and bands in 12 venues kept the fans in a jovial state from an 8.00am kick off till as late as 3.00am the following morning.

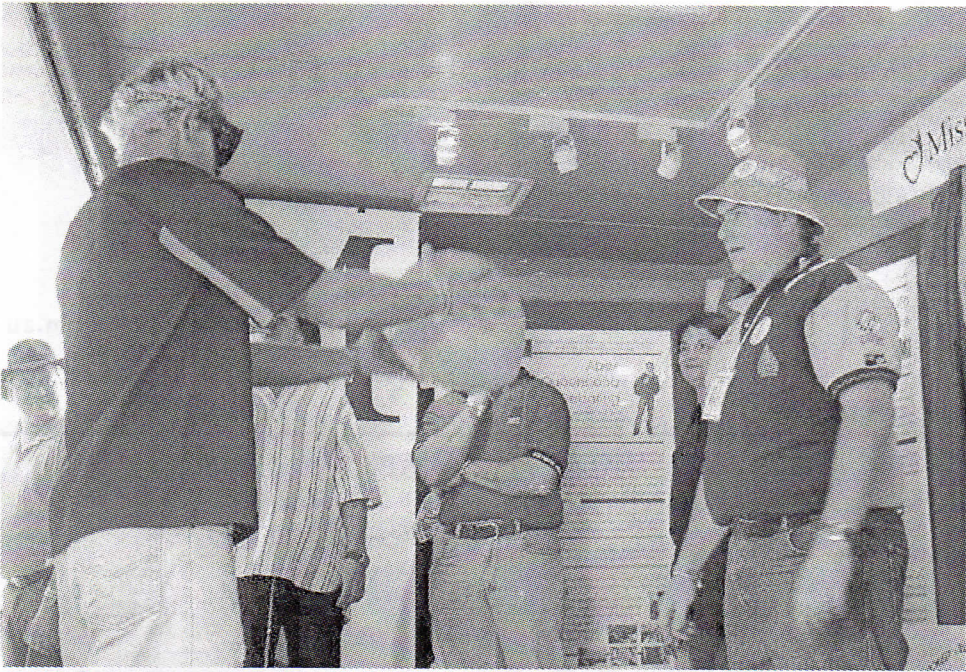
Absolutely every age group and most tastes are catered for. Anyone who likes Country Music, Rock & Roll, Line Dancing, Poetry, Irish Music, Folk Music, Country Rock, Clogging, Jive, Comedy, Rhythm & Blues, Bluegrass, Great Fellowship or even Horse Racing was right at home.

Apex had a promotional stand at the Muster, and thanks to Apex Queensland, Apex 40 also had a section in the Display. Many past Apexians attend the Muster and all remark about what a great organisation it is and what a great time they had while a member. Hopefully some of these past Apexians will join us in Apex 40. Four Redlands Apex 40 members camped out with 12,000 others from Thursday to Sunday. They helped Redlands Apex with their Chip Van, promoted Apex 40 and had a fantastic time. In three nights they were able to manage one night's sleep. Redlands Apex, set up in the Crow Bar, helped feed the Line Dancers during the day, the Rock & Rollers in the evening, and the Country Rock crowd until the early hours. On Saturday an estimated 70,000 flocked to the Muster. On Saturday afternoon an urgent call was put out to available Apexians to assist at the main gate to ensure patrons were processed quickly and efficiently.

Apex Queensland is going well under the enthusiastic leadership of State President, Rick Hose. Rick has offered to help us promote Apex 40 and has suggested we have a representative attend this year's State Convention in Mackay. Apex Queensland has developed a HELP programme to demonstrate how drinking and drugs impairs ones senses. The programme is designed especially for teenagers. Special goggles that simulate various levels of blood alcohol levels have been developed, along with other goggles that simulate drug taking. Many at the Muster tried the 'alcohol goggles' and were amazed at how realistic was the impression of being intoxicated. Something many had been familiar with. Everybody who tried on the 'drug goggles' was dumbfounded by the absolutely horrible effect they had on the senses. See the accompanying photos of people test driving the goggles.

The Gympie Muster has become the Greatest Outdoor Music Festival in Australia and it is a credit to Gympie Apex and all their helpers, for being able to put on such a large event. Having been there makes one proud to have been in Apex, arguably the best service club in Australia.

Alan & Mary Bach (Redlands)



Rick Hose testing the reflexes of a visitor wearing the Drug Sensory Goggles.



Mary Bach testing her capabilities wearing goggles simulating 0.2 alcohol level.