

ROARING 40's

**Convict Rort Report
June/July 2004**



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

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

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well, what a fantastic time we had at the 2004 Norfolk Island Rort. A Rort where everybody got together and had a whole lotta fun which is just what a Rort is about. Rorters continuing, developing and making new friendships, and having fun.

As this Rort was organised and co-ordinated by Mark Tramby of Moree Apex 40 Club through his travel company M & G Travel, we were interested to see how this concept would work. Mark and Rosemary Tramby and Sarah Schoupp are to be congratulated on organising this year's Rort and their management and co-ordination of events, with the assistance of Pinetree Tours and the Colonial Hotel. This team provided us with an extremely well organised week of interesting sights and activities with a lashing of fun and entertainment, particularly the Rock 'n Roll Night and the Convict Night where we enjoyed "doing time on Norfolk". A great effort by all these people that was appreciated by the Rorters. Others who contributed to the success of the week were Secretary Wendy Smith, Bill Coleman (fines master), and all the attendees for making this a memorable Rort.

One year of my term as National President has already gone by. Time does fly! We are now looking forward to catching up with many Rorters at the Devonport Rort on 15th, 16th and 17th April, 2005. I suggest that you book as soon as you receive the information from the organising committee.

As I mentioned in the earlier Roaring 40's, please make or maintain contact with your local Apex Club as we can all benefit from this by gaining new members and perhaps assisting the Apex Cub with some of their ambitions.

Until next time, fun times and good health to everyone.

Your in Apex 40,

Max Cheney

We apologise for the lesser standard of production for this issue of Roaring 40's, due to unfortunate circumstances whereby Alan Padgham is unable to produce the newsletter in its usual highly professional style.

Alan has been ordered to keep away from his computer until the medical experts have sorted out the serious and painful problems that he is experiencing with his neck and shoulders. Complete rest from activity at the computer is the only way he is going to be able to alleviate the pain and discomfort that he is constantly undergoing at the moment.

In these circumstances, we have had to fall back on my rather limited facility and ability, although with some help from Alan, in order to get this issue out without any undue delay. I am sure that you all join me in wishing Alan a speedy and total recovery from his present debilitating ailment.

Alan Kinder, Editor.

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

It is hard to believe a year has passed since I began this secretarial role – how time flies when you're having fun!!

Eighty-one of us are trying to settle back to normal after a most fantastic time on Norfolk Island. It would be remiss of me not to make mention of the wonderful Pinetree Tours coach drivers on Norfolk. Their knowledge and passion for the history and culture of the Island and its people left us in no doubt as to where their hearts lie.

No doubt your club representatives at the Rort have been relating the social tales of the trip, so I had better update you with some important business details. Each Club Secretary and Member at Large has received a copy of the 2003-2004 Annual Report. I hope you all take the time to read this report, and learn what your Association has been doing this past twelve months.

Items of General Business from the AGM –

1. Nomination from Devonport Club to host 2005 Rort.
2. Confirmation of Nepean Valley Club to host 2006 Rort.
Members present voted to accept both nominations.

Presentations at the close of the AGM were made by -

- Devonport Club, to promote 2005 Rort (April 15-18) and the post Rort Tour.
 - Nepean Valley Club outlined possible options for 2006 Rort in Penrith and surrounds.
 - Kevin Huxham updated plans for proposed tour of UK in June/July 2005.
- Further details on these events will be published as they become available.

Winners of the Apex 40 Trophies –

- Penultimate (Best Newsletter) – Alan and Mary Bach (Redlands).
- Bill Cunliffe (Rort Attendance) – Bendigo.
- Boomerang (next Rort Committee) – Devonport.
- Wizzy (compromising situation) – Joan Evans (Wynnum/Manly).
- Golf Competition – Grafton Oasis.

Winners of Special Events on Norfolk –

- Golf Day – winning team of Neil Hookey (Melb-Gipps.) & David Huett (Alstonville).
- Rock & Roll Night – Best Dressed Female – Joan Evans (Wynnum/Manly).
Best Dressed Male – Garry Rumble (Nepean Valley).
- Fines Session – a fines session raised \$47.50. A further collection at the Farewell Dinner raised an additional \$128.50. It was agreed, after a suggestion from Bob Ireland and Rosemary Tramby, that the \$176.00 be donated to the Norfolk Island Girl Guides Jamboree Fund.

“I know that you believe you understand what you think I said...

BUT, I'm not sure that you realise that what you heard is not what I meant.”

Regards,
Wendy Smith

NORFOLK ISLAND 'CONVICT RORT' 2004

As National President Max said, it was indeed 'fantastic'. Eighty-one of us headed off for Norfolk Island on Wednesday 5th May. Those who flew from Brisbane arrived about lunchtime and were well into it by the time those who flew out of Melbourne/Sydney landed rather heavily in the dark, just in time for the Welcome Social at the Colonial (where we all stayed) where the greetings were plentiful, as was the food, and the drinks of course. On the way back to their room after the social, Cheryl Squires accepted Leon's offer of \$100 to jump into the swimming pool, which she did – clothes and all!

Thursday morning saw everyone board their coaches – no designated coaches, any one would do! – for an introductory tour of the island. First stop was the lookout on Rooty Hill Road for the spectacular views over Kingston, site of the old prison settlement, the beautifully restored houses of that period in Quality Row, and across the golf course to Nepean and Philip Islands. Then on to Point Hunter and Emily Bay before a stop for morning tea in the garden at 'Sarnim', built by Fletcher Quintal, a descendant of Fletcher Christian and Matthew Quintal, two of the Bounty mutineers. Then a visit to St. Barnabus church with its beautiful stained glass windows – and notwithstanding 81 Rorters in there, the roof didn't fall in! After lunch there was a choice of tours – the Tin-a-aii (photography) tour or a glass-bottom boat cruise over the reefs in Emily Bay, looking at the corals and colourful fish and tasting the 'dead-mans-fingers'.

Dinner that night was a 'fish fry' down at Kingston where we were entertained by local musician Trent and then some went to see the 'Mutiny on the Bounty' show – a re-enactment of the mutiny played out largely by descendants of the original mutineers. Others went to see 'Wonderland by Night'. Quite a full day!

On Friday morning most of us went on a bush walk followed by breakfast overlooking Anson Bay. Later, some went on a coach tour to see 'Behind the Hedges' while a few of us played golf and others hit the duty-free shops.

That night there was the Sound and Light Show where we were transported around the Kingston area to see re-enactments of convict life at various locations.

An optional tour on Saturday morning was the 4WD tour which took us to some of the more remote parts of the island, including Collins Head and the Forestry Zone where the island's native pines are being cultivated. We also visited Mount Pitt, the highest accessible point on the island from where you can see over almost the whole eight by five kilometres of the island. Morning tea was at the home of Marj Christian, the mother of tour guide John Christian. After lunch together at the Colonial, National President Max presided over the AGM where the important business of formalising the next two years Rort venues was conducted. Rob Beveridge gave us a run down on what we can expect at Devonport next year – and it sounds like we are in for another great Rort (aren't they all!). Gary Rumble gave a presentation on behalf of Nepean Valley club who will host the 2006 Rort in and around Penrith, NSW.

That night we all dressed up as convicts for a hilarious night with Commandant Graham and his offsider, Private Parts. Some of the highlights of the night were the flagellating Hookeys (they took it in turns with the 'cat-o-nine-tails'), Lois Haymes swooning at Private Parts impersonation of Elvis, and the ladies 'pass-the-parcel' won by Helen Coleman (Redlands) from runner-up Susan Doyle (Melb. Norwesters).

Sunday we learned about the history and culture of Norfolk Island with a tour of the convict settlement and cemetery at Kingston and, after lunch within the old prison walls, a visit to a wood turner, cooking and flax weaving demonstrations, and a lesson in the island language and dance where some of our number were dressed up in colourful skirts, leis and headgear.

The Rock 'n Roll night at the Colonial saw many of us dressed up in our old 'rockers' gear. The Sirius Room had been decorated for the occasion with old records and album covers and the band, led by Commandant Graham in a quite different role, was terrific. The music was so good and the atmosphere so right-on that the dance floor was full all night. A really great night when everybody got into the mood – and they said it wouldn't work for such a group of 'oldies'. We showed them!

Monday morning saw the golfers take to the links-type course overlooking Cemetery Bay while some went on the 'Green Fingers' tour and others hit the shops again. It started to rain in the evening, so the pool-side BBQ was transferred inside. After dinner Bill Coleman (Redlands) entertained us with a well researched fines session – either Bill had kept his ears open and his eyes well peeled, or there are plenty of dobbers amongst us!

Last night's rain continued for most of Tuesday, but we had nothing planned for the day which was left free for shopping, and the rain – all five inches of it - didn't worry us, except we did wonder whether we would be able to fly off the next day! And the power and lighting only went out for a short while before dinner!

For the farewell dinner we ate fish and other local food, and were entertained by guitar player Trent again with George Christian also playing guitar. Cindy McCoy did some hip-swivelling dancing and then got some Rorters up for a lesson in the hula. Best hula dancer winners were Carol Moffatt (Grafton) and Glenn (rubber legs) Rossiter (Sunshine Coast). Runners-up were Marg Hookey (Melb-Gipps.) and Max Cheney. Last years 'Wizzy' winner, Helen Noble (Alstonville), presented the 'Wizzy' trophy to Joan Evans (Wynnum-Manly) and the night wound up with a lusty rendition of the Rort song.

Breakfast next morning was the time for farewells before flying off (the rain had stopped overnight) home after a truly enjoyable, extremely well organised, and somewhat exhausting week of Apex 40 Rorting. I am sure everyone who attended joins me in congratulating Mark and Rosemary Tramby on their efforts in organising and supervising our memorable visit to Norfolk Island.

As they say on Norfolk Island – "See yorle morla."

Unfortunately, due to the temporary (we hope) loss of our regular producer Alan Padgham, we have been unable to include any photos in this issue of Roaring 40's.

However, there is a great array of photos from Norfolk Island to be seen on the Apex 40 web site, thanks to contributions from Alan Bach, Shane Doyle and Mark Tramby.

Our official Apex 40 web site is : <http://www.apex40.org>

“TOP OF TASSIE” RORT 2005

Devonport Apex 40 Club will host next years Rort at Devonport on the north-west coast of Tasmania from 15th to 18th April, 2005. You are invited to come over and enjoy the magnificent scenery through the undulating hills of north-west Tasmania while catching up with old friends.

Registration forms and information sheets have been sent out to all clubs and it is recommended that you book your accommodation requirements as early as possible as Devonport is a popular holiday destination during autumn. It is up to you to book your own accommodation – perhaps you may wish to do this on a club basis so that club members can be accommodated together. Devonport offers a wide range of accommodation from four star Hotels/Motels to friendly Bed & Breakfasts, Holiday Cabins and Caravan Parks, a selection of which is listed in the information sheets accompanying the registration forms. The Devonport Visitor Information Centre – freecall 1800 649 514 or email ttic@dcc.tas.gov.au - is a fully accredited Travel Agency which can book your accommodation, hire cars, flights and Spirit of Tasmania travel.

The information sheets also set out information about methods of travel to Devonport, including air and Bass Strait ferry travel.

The Rort program will include a Welcome Social and supper on Friday night, a tour to Cradle Mountain and Dove Lake on Saturday, followed by dinner at the Axeman's Hall of Fame in historic Latrobe. Rorters are requested to wear bush gear and there will be prizes for the best dressed singles and couple. Wear your dancing shoes.

On Sunday there will be a steam train ride along the north-west coast with the AGM after lunch. Dinner will be at the Devonport RSL and clubs are invited to present sketches to compete for the Bull Horn trophy. More dancing tonight.

Farewell breakfast on Monday morning will be on the banks of the Mersey River and the Post-Rort Tour will leave after breakfast.

POST-RORT TOUR

This will be a four day / three night tour taking in the outstanding scenery of the West Coast and an afternoon cruise on the Gordon River on Day 1 (Monday), with an overnight stay at Strahan Village, Strahan.

Day 2 (Tuesday) will start with a train trip on a restored 1896 'rack and pinion' railway from Strahan to Queenstown, then a coach trip through the old heritage towns of the Derwent Valley to Hobart for two nights accommodation at Corus Hotel.

Day 3 (Wednesday) will feature a trip through the Huon Valley region, including the Tahune Forest Airwalk with breathtaking views over the convergence of the Huon and Picton Rivers.

Day 4 (Thursday) – travel back to Devonport via the heritage towns of Richmond, Ross, and Campbell Town, arriving at Devonport at about 4.00 pm.

Your cost of \$597 per person (\$756 single accom.) will include three nights accommodation, all breakfasts and dinners, Gordon River Cruise, Strahan to Queenstown rail trip, and entry to Zeehan Pioneers Museum, Geeveston Forest and Heritage Centre, Tahune Forest Airwalk, Richmond Gaol, Tasmanian Wool Centre at Ross.

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION on either the Rort or the Post-Rort Tour, you can contact: ROB BEVERIDGE or KAY DIXON - Phone 03 6428 7693

Email kaydixon@tassie.net.au

OR PETER SKIRVING or HEATHER ELLIS - Phone 03 6424 5104

Email pskirving@bigpond.com.au

VALE - JENNY LITTLER

With great sadness we announce the passing last month of Jenny Littler, a member of Devonport Apex 40 who was well known to many Apex 40 members as a caring and kind-hearted person. Along with her husband Jock, Jenny attended the very first Rort in Ballarat in 1976 and was a regular at subsequent Rorts for many years. The second Rort, in 1977, was hosted by Devonport club and we well remember the AGM which was held in Jenny and Jock's garden after a barbeque lunch.

Jenny died at home in late May after her third battle with cancer, having dedicated a great deal of time and effort in trying to lift awareness about cancer and offering people the support they needed when dealing with it. Jenny was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1991. She initially beat the disease and spent many years free of it before it eventually returned. Despite her battle with cancer, Jenny was able to join us last year at Mildura.

An article on 27th May in "The Advocate", a Tasmanian north coast regional newspaper, paid tribute to Jenny's selfless dedication to support of other cancer sufferers. Jenny hosted an annual garden party for many years to raise money for cancer research and support groups. She was a volunteer for the Cancer Council Tasmania's Breast Cancer Support Service and worked with the Breast Cancer Network of Australia. Jenny was a co-founder in 1997 of the Devonport Breast Cancer and Lymphoedema Support Group which, in Jenny's own words, sought to give people a place to discuss anything that was worrying them in a supported environment and with people who had been through the same thing.

Jenny will be sadly missed by Jock, a past National President of Apex 40, and their children Sarah, David and Susie and their families, as well as by her many friends in Devonport and right throughout Apex 40.

AROUND THE BRANCHES

ALSTONVILLE:

April dinner meeting was held at the home of John and Gay Gilmour where the members dined on pizzas and ice cream and then David and Kay Huett ran a trivia contest. With a range of difficult topics, including "topical, sporting, arcane and aero questions", the winners were Margaret Richardson, Gay Gilmour and Duncan Walker.

May meeting was at Alstonville Bowling Club for a Chinese meal.

Four couples attended the Norfolk Rort - Bessons, Huetts, Huxhams and Nobles and a great time was had by all with plenty of eating, drinking and being merry. Much to the horror of some, the shops closed on Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. But there was still time - Italian shoes, perfume and alcohol seemed to be the order of the day. Even saw Colleen McCullagh. Those that attended considered the Rort, with all the meals, night functions and tours, gave excellent value.

A weekend trip to Stanthorpe is planned for early August with visits to wineries, orchards, lavender farm, markets, heritage museum and 'Heavenly Chocolates'.

FORBES:

Autumn meeting was a lunch on the banks of the Lachlan River at the beautiful Apex Riverside Tourist Park with baked ham, roast beef and all the trimmings and entertainment by The Three M's.

THE GREAT 8:

Meeting in May was a wine tasting of Apthorpe Estate wines at Allan and Robyn Thorley's, organised at short notice by Graham Dark when another winery had to cancel. June dinner meeting is at "A Piece of Green" restaurant at East Maitland. Christmas in July, at the Family Hotel in Maitland will be the club's AGM with election of a new board.

LAUNCESTON:

At recent meetings members have enjoyed a counter meal at The Old Tudor Inn at Prospect and a casserole luncheon at Ernie and Gwen Wakeling's at Young Town. June meeting is a counter meal, this time at the Pier Hotel at George Town and in July another casserole lunch, at Darrell and Kerry Faulkner's home. In August it is planned to travel down to Latrobe to "The Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame", one of the venues to be visited during the Rort at Devonport next year. President Barry Rowe recently had a spell in hospital for a knee replacement and is now well on the mend.

LISMORE:

From Eddie Bradfield....

"A great day was had by all at the Family Tennis Day held at Evans Head for our last get together. It was a glorious autumn day and was well attended by members and their families. Lunch at the kiosk went down extremely well after all the physical activity on the courts.

Early June we are off on the "Brass Monkey" wine weekend tour to Stanthorpe. Cold weather, great wineries and a fantastic group of Apexians will provide yet another excellent outing. Watch this space for the details....."

MANLY:

Continuing to meet at their usual place at the Harbord Chinese restaurant.

The club is planning to organise a Reunion Weekend for past District 3 Apexians. Quite a bit of interest is being shown and it is hoped to have a casual Friday night function at the Pittwater Aquatic Club and a ladies night on Saturday at Warringah Golf Club.

A number of members assisted with the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal in May.

MELBOURNE – GIPPSLAND:

Clayton Bowls Club has become a regular venue for dinner meetings where the three course meal is generally of quite a good standard.

While ten members were away at Norfolk Island, other members had a non-rotters night out at a pasta restaurant in Wheelers Hill. Every member was required to levy a fine on another member or else cop a double fine themselves.

In May a number of members went to see fellow club member Trish Tonkin play a leading role in the Stephen Sondheim musical play "Follies". Trish is a talented performer and last year won the Music Theatre Guild Award for Best Supporting Actress playing Mamita in *Gigi* and the Lyrebird Award for Best Actress in the play *Tabitha*. She also performed earlier this year in the award winning entry *A Dog's Life* at the Norfolk Island One Act Play Festival.

In July the annual Birthday BBQ will be held at a venue yet to be determined to celebrate the 31st birthday of Apex 40.

MOREE:

It is a bit old-news now, but President Dawso and Secretary Yummy Mummy Sandra did get married – at the Mooloolaba Yacht Club in late February. Wombat, Sticks, Miller and Brucey made the trip up from Victoria for the occasion and sweltered in the really hot Sunshine Coast weather that was turned on for the big day.

No meeting in May because of the Rort – and Dawso was busy on a tractor sowing wheat. June meeting is a Saturday night dinner at the Sundowner Motel.

NEPEAN VALLEY:

A great weekend at Dubbo over the Anzac Day weekend where members were made very welcome by Neil and Sue Williamson. Perfect weather, wide-open spaces, fresh air and copious quantities of alcoholic beverages! All that despite the plague of grasshoppers all around the district.

May meeting took the form of a traditional Apex meeting at the Beef and Barramundi restaurant in Penrith. Guest speakers Gary and Louise Rumble regaled members with tales from the Rort on Norfolk Island.

A car trial is to be held in June which will finish at a secret location with a picnic/barbeque and in July members will celebrate the club's birthday with a Christmas in July dinner at Mamre Homestead.

REDLANDS:

May function was a Brewery Tour and dinner at Carlton & United Breweries at Yatala. Five couples from Redlands, including President John Pulvirenti, attended the Rort on Norfolk Island. (*John really looked the part in all black with red sequins at the 'Rockers' night! Ed.*)

A weekend away to Kingaroy and the South Burnett is planned for September.

WYNNUM – MANLY:

WRECKED ON NORFOLK!! (From Jim Goodwin)

Fourteen trim and sleek sloops slipped out of Brisbane (air)port under full sail for the 2004 Rort on Norfolk on 5 May. Victuallers at the embarkation point ensured that our intrepid sailors were well provisioned for the envisaged arduous short stay, but it so happened that extra supplies had to be taken on board at the Norfolk Bond Store to see the crew through the trip.

An action packed week on our "Treasure Island" was enjoyed by all the ships' companies, visiting the island's scenic and historical sites, functions, hostels and eateries. The ladies even found time to shop!

After soaking up the local culture, criss-crossing the Island from north to south and east to west, fourteen "old battered hulks" set sail for home on Wednesday 12th, but not before wind and rain on the Tuesday threatened to delay our departure.

It was a magical week; catching up with old friends being one of the highlights. Club members thank Mark and Rosemary Tramby and Pinetree Tours for looking after us so well and seeing we had a good time.

And so it's "Devonport Ahoy in April 2005". Bring it on!!!

WYONG:

In April members celebrated the club's 200th Dinner (18 years) with a dinner at Forrester's Beach Resort at The Entrance. Malcolm Clark entertained the gathering with a great fines session. Malcolm and Marion were to take a trip home to the UK but that had to be postponed when Marion had a fall on Anzac weekend and broke her leg. According to the May dinner notice – "She was not plastered before the fall but she sure is now!"

DINNER NOTICE HUMOUR

ALSTONVILLE:

An outback boy and his father were visiting the city. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back again. The boy asked, "What is this, father?" The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life. I don't know what it is."

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady walked up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened and the lady walked between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small circular numbers above the doors light up sequentially. They continued to watch until the last number lit up and then the numbers began to light up in the reverse order. Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous, voluptuous, blonde young woman stepped out. The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son, "Go and get your mother."

Think about this – Ginger Rogers did everything that Fred Astaire did, but she did it backwards and in high heels!

FORBES:

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???

Some great utterings from our cricket commentators on TV and radio:

Bill Lawry, with a bit of tautology – "He smashed the ball through the *vacant* midwicket *gap* where *nobody* was fielding.

The commentator who observed, after a batsman was flattened by a ball to the groin, and was gingerly rising to his feet, "I think he's going to finish the over. He's only got one ball left."

And the time a fielder in slips was described as, "...standing there, legs apart, waiting for a tickle...."

LAUNCESTON:

"Why are the curtains drawn, doctor?" asked the patient after his operation. "Is it night already?"

"No," replied the doctor, "there's a fire across the road, and I didn't want you to wake up and think the operation had failed."

MOREE:

A couple from Minneapolis, during one particularly icy winter, decided to go to Florida for a long weekend to thaw out. They planned to stay at the very same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years ago. Because both had jobs, they found it difficult coordinating their travel schedules, so it was decided that the husband would fly to Florida on a Thursday and his wife would follow him the next day.

Upon arriving as planned, the husband checked into the hotel. In his room there was a computer, so he decided to send his wife an email back in Minneapolis. However, he accidentally left out one letter in her email address, and sent the email without realizing his error.

In Houston, a widow had just returned from her husband's funeral. The dearly departed was a minister of many years who had been called home to glory following a heart attack.

The widow checked her email, expecting messages from relatives and friends. Upon reading the first message, she fainted. The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

To: My Loving Wife

Subject: I've Arrived.

I know you are surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails to your loved ones. I've just arrived and have been checked in. I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

P.S. Sure is hot down here.

NEPEAN VALLEY:

PART 1

Two Irishmen walk into a pet shop. Right away they go over to the bird section.

Gerry says to Paddy, "Dats dem." The shop-keeper comes over and asks if he can help them. "Yeah, we'll take four of dem birds in dat cage up dere," says Gerry. "Put dem in a paper bag." The shop-keeper does and the two fellows pay for the birds and leave the shop. They get into Gerry's van and drive until they are high up in the hills and stop at the top of a cliff with a 500-foot drop. "Dis looks loike a grand place, eh?" says Gerry. "Oh yeah, dis looks good," replies Paddy. They toss a coin and Gerry wins. "I guess I get to go first then, eh Paddy?" "Roight," says Paddy.

Gerry takes two of the small birds out of the bag, places them on his shoulders and jumps off the cliff. Paddy watches as his mate drops straight down, followed by a 'SPLAT'.

As Paddy looks over the edge of the cliff he shakes his head and says, "Bugga dat, dis budgie jumpin' is too friggin dangerous for me."

PART 2

A minute later, Seamus arrives. He too has been to the pet shop and walks up carrying a paper bag. He pulls a parrot out of the bag, and Paddy notices that Seamus is carrying a gun in his other hand. "Hi, Paddy. Watch this", Seamus says and launches himself over the edge of the cliff. Paddy watches as, half way down, Seamus fires the gun and blows the parrot's head off. Seamus continues to plummet down until there is a 'SPLAT', as he joins Gerry's remains at the bottom.

Paddy shakes his head and says, "An' oim never troyin' dat parrot shootin' neider."

REDLANDS:

An elderly Irishman lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelt the aroma of his favourite cheese scones wafting up the stairs. He gathered his remaining strength, and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning against the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom and, with an even greater effort, gripping the railing with both hands, he crawled downstairs.

With laboured breath he leaned against the door frame, gazing into the kitchen. Were it not for death's agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there, spread out on waxed paper on the kitchen table were dozens of his favourite cheese scones.

Was it heaven? Or was it one final act of true love from his beloved wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself forward, landing on his knees beside the table. His lips parted, he could almost taste the cheese scone before it was in his mouth.

The aged and withered hand trembled on its way to the nearest scone when, suddenly, he received a great whack on the back of his hand from a wooden spoon.

"Get out of it," yelled his wife. "They're for the funeral!"

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

- FOR SALE - APEX 40 GEAR

THESE ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

NAME BADGES – Cost: \$7.00

Available from –

Alan Flaherty (Marj)
34 Fernhill Street,
Glen Waverley, Vic. 3150
Phone (03) 9802 7655

STICK PINS – Cost: \$3.50

APEX 40 BANNERS – (P.O.A.)

Available from –

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

CAR STICKERS – Cost: \$2.00

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.

Please forward material to:

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

e-mail: alkinder@optusnet.com.au

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS
30 September, 2004

APEX 40 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

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