

ROARING 40's

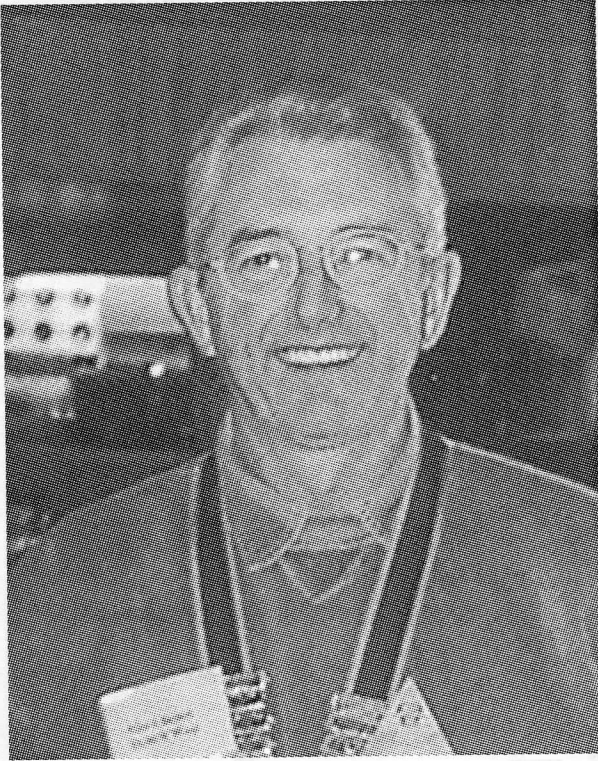
March 2004



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. I trust you all had a very enjoyable Christmas shared with your family and friends. To everyone, I also wish you a memorable, healthy and rewarding 2004.

The Rort isn't far off now. The new arrangements for the Rort will provide us the opportunity to have our free choice tours, etc. before we get down to the Rort proper and have the usual fun days. I am really looking forward to catching up with everyone again and also looking forward to the different opportunities and sights that Norfolk will provide for us. Mark Tramby has been in touch with every-

body, bringing them up to date with the itinerary, and I guess you're rarin' to go too. Brian Roach and I will be attending and speaking at the past members luncheon being held at the Apex Victorian State Convention over the weekend of 13th – 15th February to promote Apex 40 and to hopefully gain some new members and clubs.

Over this year, I am going to visit all Melbourne metropolitan Apex clubs with the aim of spreading the good news of Apex 40 and the benefits of joining our organisation. There will be a number of my club members and Brian Roach accompanying me on these visits. As I mentioned in the last Roaring 40's, we need to make contact with our local Apex clubs so that we may assist them when required and encourage them to join us when they retire from Apex.

Secretary Wendy has been beavering away with the paperwork and is chasing the outstanding dues so please, please her by responding to her requests.

Yours in Apex 40,

Max Cheney

Hello Apex 40 members – may I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe, happy and prosperous 2004.

Affiliation Fees – payment of 2003/2004 fees were due by 31 December 2003. Less than half the clubs have paid – if your club is unfinancial, could you please forward your payment to me as soon as possible. This will save me sending you an overdue reminder!!

(Remember – members cannot vote at the AGM if your club is not financial).

Membership Lists – I am still waiting for many clubs to return their membership list details – these are required to keep the national database up-to-date.

National Golf Competition – do not forget to send your golf score cards to Wendy Smith, 4 Ronald Court, Sunbury, 3429 before 4 April 2004. Golf information is on our website www.apex40.org

Annual General Meeting – The Apex 40 Constitution requires a notice, in writing, to be sent to each affiliated branch containing the date, time and venue of the AGM, together with notice of any proposed business to be conducted.

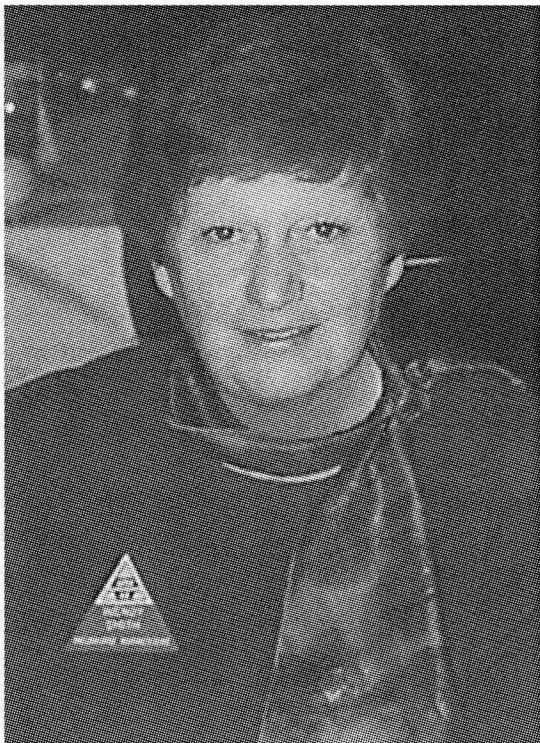
Therefore, if a club or an individual member has any item of general business, or motion, to be put forward at the AGM. in May, please make sure it is forwarded to me in writing (or email: wendy.smith@hotmail.net.au) before 1 April 2004.

Norfolk Island Rort – this year's trip is shaping up to be something special – I am looking forward to meeting up with many of you in May.

Remember: "If you can't afford to do something right, then be darn sure you can afford to do it wrong".

Regards,

Wendy Smith



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS APEX LIAISON REPORT

Apex Week this year will be from 8th to 14th March. Find out what your ex Apex Club has planned – perhaps you can join in with them.

Also, Apex will celebrate its 75th birthday in 2006.

A call to all past Apexians – Do you know someone who was once a member of an Apex Club and who would be interested in staying involved through the Apex Foundation?

Let the Foundation know how and where to contact them so that they can send them a newsletter and annual report to update them on current activities. Contact at the Foundation is Brian Whitehorn, (08) 8622 9269.

On 16th October 2004, 15 – 20 members of 41 Clubs of New Zealand will tour Victoria, starting at Melbourne then travelling via the Great Ocean Road to Portland, then to Ballarat, Mildura, Bendigo and back to Melbourne before departing for home on 28th October. I am looking for home hosting for our neighbours from across the Tasman on their overnight stop-overs. These will be:

Melbourne – Saturday, Sunday, 16th, 17th October

Portland – Tuesday, Wednesday, 19th, 20th October

Mildura – Friday, Saturday, 22nd, 23rd October

Bendigo – Sunday, Monday, 24th, 25th October

Brian Roach

RULES FOR APEX 40 GOLF COMPETITION

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

FINAL REPORT ON NORFOLK ISLAND RORT

Less than three months to go until we all meet again this time in the South Pacific on fabulous Norfolk Island for the 2004 "Convict Rort". At the time of writing we are busy finalising the trip and will be sending out tickets and final itineraries to those travelling by early to mid April.

There are 82 Rorters this year so it will be a slightly smaller than usual Rort but, given the fact that many every-year Rorters had already been over to the island, we are still quite pleased with the numbers that are going. Small and intimate will be the theme for this Rort.

Due to a flight schedule change everyone will be arriving and departing the island the same day, originally the Sydney / Melbourne departures were on Wednesday 5th May and the Brisbane departure was Friday the 7th of May, but now everyone will leave on Wednesday 5th May. This is great news for everyone as it means we can all be together at the same time for all of the activities, including each of the included functions as well the many optional tours being offered.

We are also just putting the finishing touches on the entertainment and functions. One benefit of the smaller numbers is that the main Rort hotel, the Colonial of Norfolk, is able to cater very well for a group of between 80-90. This means that the majority of functions will be held at the one place, negating the need to run transfer coaches from place to place to fit everyone in. The main benefit of this is that people will be able to come and go to functions at their own leisure and at their own times.

If you are reading this report and are having misgivings about not going, there may still be some room left at the hotel and on flights. At the time of writing this there were just 4 rooms left at the hotel, so please feel free to give us a call and we will see if we can get you on board what will certainly be the Rort of a lifetime.

Our phone contact details are:

M & G Travel, 1800 677 512 (Free Call) or fax on (02) 67523193

Details on the 2004 Rort are also located on the company website www.mgtravel.com.au. However, please be aware that the itinerary shown there does still state that Brisbane passengers leave on Friday 7th May. Note this is now Wednesday 5th May.

I look forward to seeing those going on the Island on the 5th of May.

Mark Tramby, Apex 40 Member (Moree Club), Tour Organiser

AROUND THE BRANCHES

ALSTONVILLE:

Annual General Meeting saw the incumbent officials returned – Margaret and Ross Richardson, co-Presidents; Alan and Lucky Howard, co-Secretaries; David and Kay Huett, Newsletter.

Members had a bonza time at Duncan and Prue Walker's on Australia Day with "plenty of good tucker, along with a lot of talking over old times and the state of the nation".

February function was a get together beside the Richmond River at Ballina for a BBQ, swimming, boating and whatever.

In the pipeline is a Thai banquet, and a weekend away at Binna Burra in the Lamington National Park is being investigated.

BENDIGO:

New Club President and Secretary are Bea and Kieran Ransome who will lead the Club for the next two years. Congratulations to Peter and Sandra Hillier on their leadership over the past two years.

The Club's pre-Christmas party was a repeat of a very successful day at the last Bendigo Rort in 1999, with a bus trip to Maldon and then on the train to Muckleford for lunch and Christmas festivities organised by Meryl and Ron Clarke.

Some members helped out at a local nursery's 'Xmas for Kids' by manning the BBQ.

DEVONPORT:

Our annual Christmas Dinner was held at Autographs on the Beach at Devonport with a very good attendance of members and their partners. As usual Santa visited (in the form of David Baker) delivering presents and good will for all.

Our annual meeting was also held at the dinner with Rob Beveridge holding down the President's position for another term with Kaye Dixon as Secretary.

Due to the inclement weather we have been experiencing during January, all BBQ's have been put on hold.

2005 Rort

The club has now formed a committee to run the 2005 Rort, which will be held from the 15th to 18th April in the Devonport area.

Plan early and come to Tassie. Travel is so easy now with the ferries from both Melbourne and Sydney berthing in Devonport if you wish to bring your own transport, or you can fly into the Devonport airport.

For any early enquiries you can contact Rob Beveridge on 03 6428 7693 or Peter Skirving on 03 6424 5104.

Rob's email: kayedixon@tassie.net.au

Peter's email: pskirving@bigpond.com.au

More details later.

Looking forward to seeing Rorters at Norfolk Island.

FORBES:

The Club's planned weekend at Jenolan Caves did not eventuate, due to various circumstances. However, it is hoped to still do the trip, at a later date.

Christmas party was held at the Metropolitan Bistro with an a la carte menu.

THE GREAT 8:

No official meeting in January but some members were going to enjoy a picnic tea and music on the foreshore at Warners Bay on the Australia Day weekend.

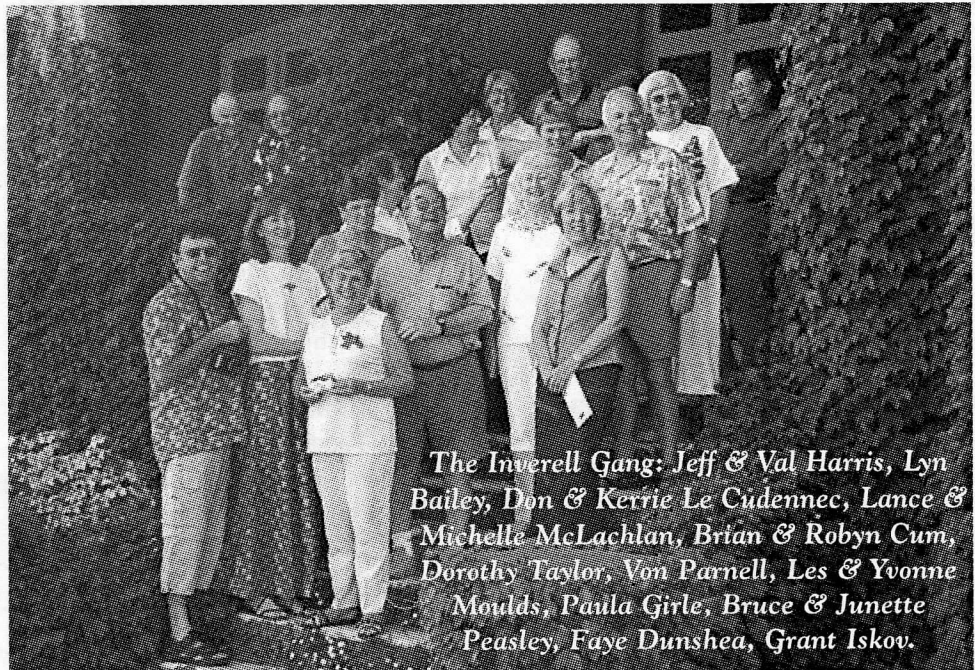
February dinner meeting was at the East Maitland Bowling Club, and in March there will be a four hour cruise on Lake Macquarie with a smorgasbord lunch.

LAUNCESTON:

Australia Day weekend saw Launceston members gather at Rex and Jeanette Lethborg's farm house "Stone House". The place looked like a gypsy village with camper vans, slide-ons, caravans and motor vehicles scattered around the dry, parched surrounds. A very enjoyable weekend, even though host Rex took off on the Saturday to play bowls! Plenty of food (including hot scones), nature walks, farm tours, fishing, whip making and whip cracking demonstration, card games at night – a very enjoyable weekend for all who attended. (*They probably also drank a bit! Ed.*)

INVERELL:

Inverell Apex 40's enjoyed their Christmas party at Kings Plains Castle,



The Inverell Gang: Jeff & Val Harris, Lyn Bailey, Don & Kerrie Le Cudennec, Lance & Michelle McLachlan, Brian & Robyn Cum, Dorothy Taylor, Von Parnell, Les & Yvonne Moulds, Paula Girle, Bruce & Junette Peasley, Faye Dunshea, Grant Iskov.

Kings Plains Castle.



a Scottish castle located midway between Inverell and Glen Innes in the beautiful Kingsland area of the Northern Tablelands (see above). We were warmly greeted by hosts Ray & Christine Palmer who gave us a guided tour of the castle before we sat down to a magnificent traditional Christmas dinner. Our thanks to Les Moulds for acting as coach driver for the day.

Kings Plain Castle features 9-room bed & breakfast accommodation. Rooms are beautifully furnished in period furniture. Many have balcony access. Contact Ray or Christine on 02 6733 6807 for further information & bookings.

(OK, we will accept the free ad., since they gave you a good time! Ed.)

MANLY:

Christmas party was at the home of Martin Brennan.

In January the Club had its traditional barbecue and sailing day with lunch at the Spit Reserve. Maurice Wilkinson again made his yacht available for the sailors.

Then it was back to the regular venue in February, the Harbord Chinese Restaurant.

MELBOURNE – GIPPSLAND:

Christmas dinner was the Club's Annual General Meeting when Apex 40 Founder, Neil Hookey, stepped down from the President's chair. New President is Marianne Speirs who again has Marj Flaherty as Secretary and Jan Padgham as Treasurer. Nola and Alan Kinder will be looking after social activities.

The annual 'Kinder Klassic' golf trophy, played at Box Hill Golf Club, was won this year by Garth Whitchurch.

A number of members had a day out at

the picnic races at Healesville in February. A rather hot day but we were under the shade of some large trees and the wine stayed cold in the esky. (*My apologies to the bookies. Ha, Ha! Ed.*)

MOREE:

Christmas party was held at President Mike Dawson's place where everyone received Christmas presents. By the time you read this, Mike and Secretary Sandra (Yummy Mummy) Duncan will have married, in late February. Congratulations and best wishes to you both from all your friends in Apex 40.

First club function for the year in early February was a golf day and BBQ to follow. Members were competing in the Apex 40 golf competition.

NEPEAN VALLEY:

The year commenced with a picnic in the park at Windsor. Well, that was the idea, but a thunderstorm and torrential rain changed that. The members found some big umbrellas outside the fish and chip shop and everyone had a good time and enjoyed the fish and chips.

February meeting was a 'Perfect Partners Progressive Dinner' on St. Valentine's Day when members were asked to come as a perfect partnership and to plan their food contribution accordingly.

In April, it is planned to travel to Dubbo on Anzac weekend to catch up with members Neil and Sue Williamson who have recently moved there.

REDLANDS:

At the club's annual general meeting

Ross Pollock, President for the last two years, handed over the reins to John Pulvirenti who was elected unopposed after two years as Vice-President. New Vice-President is Steve McDonald and Helen Greer takes over as Secretary from Mary McKernon. Treasurer Ray Wilson and Dinner Notice Editors Alan and Mary Bach retain those positions, and three new Sgts. at Arms, Mel Bugden, Peter Greer and Greg Saunders, join Bill Coleman to keep the members in line and swell the club's coffers.

Christmas break-up was a dinner at Doyle's on Aquatic at Birkdale when 50 members and guests were in attendance. Many of the members had been to a Beef Steak and Burgundy dinner there the night before – perhaps some just stayed on!

For their February function, Redlands members will visit the Port of Brisbane Visitor Centre for lunch at the Eco Café overlooking the lake. There is a theatre and a number of interactive displays on the operation of the port.

In the last issue of Roaring 40's, I outlined my scoring system for the Dinner Notice Trophy. Redlands December dinner notice scored the maximum 25 out of 25 and this is the first time this has happened. Congratulations to Alan and Mary Bach, dinner notice editors. Alan Kinder, Editor.

SUNRAYSIA:

Christmas party/AGM was held at 'The Rendezvous' where jolly Santa (Graeme Duffy) handed out pressies to those who had been very good all year. (*He must have got off rather light! Ed.*) A delicious

meal with a bit of a festive flavour thrown in for good measure.

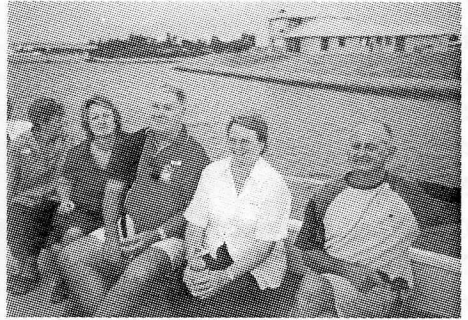
The trim and terrific trio of Elaine Gray, Annette Duffy and Diane Cavanagh were voted back as President, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

First function for 2004 was a BBQ at the home of Elaine and Rod Gray at Redcliffs.

Some members helped man the Red Cliffs Apex Club's raffle stand before Christmas and also in January and February.

SUNSHINE COAST:

Christmas party was a twilight cruise along the Pumicestone Passage which separates Bribie Island from the mainland, south of Caloundra, then on to Meg's Joint restaurant for dinner and more refreshments.



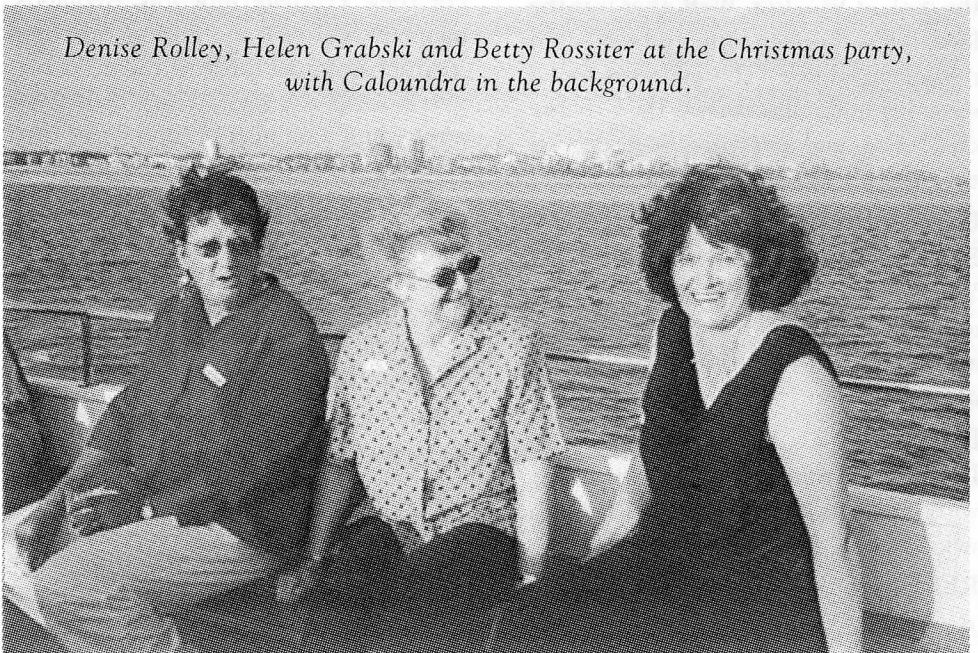
Helen Grabski, Debbie and Bill Galway, Glenese Wolski, and Paul Williams on the Christmas cruise.

January function was Sunday 'Breakfast on the Boardwalk' at Bulcock Beach, Caloundra and then in February there was a Saturday night BBQ in Noel Burns Park at Wurtulla.

WYNNUM – MANLY:

Santa came early to Wynnum-Manly on 30 November at the home of Bruce

Denise Rolley, Helen Grabski and Betty Rossiter at the Christmas party, with Caloundra in the background.



and Geraldine Garland. Bruce, in the guise of the "Man in the Red Suit", presented gifts to thirty members and guests and kept everyone in laughter with his comments.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Club Jim Goodwin accepted the position of President for the coming year with Jill Goodwin taking on the job as Secretary from Denice Clements who has been involved with this position for a number of years with distinction.

Opportunity was taken to catch up with Daryl and Margaret Mercer (our New South Wales based members) during their brief visit to Manly recently to say "hello" to their new grand daughter.

Members are keenly looking forward to the "Rort on Norfolk" in May, catching up with old friends and meeting new ones.

WYONG:

Christmas dinner was a great night at River Reflections with champagne tasting by courtesy of Champagne House, served by two lovely ladies. An

unexpected visitor was Leticia from Childflight, who presented certificates of appreciation to members who had helped out at Bradford's Open Garden weekend.

Quote – "The highlight of the night was the completely speechless and astonished male person after the response from the ladies to his 'calendar' idea. I'll say no more." (*Me either! Ed.*)

January dinner was at Forresters Resort at Forresters Beach, one of the Club's favourite venues. Then in February, the annual seafood treat at Dennis and Marie Heilbrunn's place at Caves Beach.

Thanks to Inverell and Sunshine Coast clubs for sending in photos.

We are always looking to receive photos of club functions, which we feel add considerably to the look and content of Roaring 40's.

In these days of digital photos, it should be quite easy for you to send us copies by email of some of those many photos taken at your club functions.

Let's see what you look like and

what you have been up to.

Editor's email address appears on the back page.

Sue & Lisa from Champagne House and Robert & Brenda Herthogs, Tom & Lea and host Reg Baty.



DINNER NOTICE HUMOUR

ALSTONVILLE:

Blonde Cook Book

Monday -It's fun to cook for Bob. Today I made angel food cake. The recipe said beat 12 eggs separately. The neighbours were nice enough to loan me some extra bowls!

Tuesday – Bob wanted salad for dinner. The recipe said serve without dressing. So I didn't dress. What a surprise when Bob brought a friend home for dinner!

To be continued.

Irony

Barbara Walters did a story on gender roles in Kabul several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked about 10 paces behind their husbands. She returned to Kabul recently and observed that the men now walked several paces behind their wives. Ms Walters approached one of the Afghan women and said, "This is marvellous. Can you tell the free world just what enabled women to achieve this reversal of roles?"

"Land mines," said the woman.

BENDIGO:

An 80 year old man goes to the doctor for his annual check up. The doctor asks him how he's feeling. The 80 year old says, " I've never felt better. I have an 18 year old bride who is pregnant with my child. What do you think about that?"

The doctor considers his question for a minute and says, "I have a friend who is an avid hunter and never misses a sea-

son. One day when he was going out in a bit of a hurry, he accidentally picked up his umbrella rather than his gun. When he got to the creek, he saw a prime beaver sitting beside the creek. He raised his umbrella and went "bang bang" and the beaver fell over dead. What do you think of that?"

The 80 year old said, " I'd say somebody else shot that beaver."

The doctor replied, "My point exactly."

A young woman in Sydney was so depressed that she decided to end her life by throwing herself from the harbour bridge. She went down to the Bridge and was about to leap into the frigid water when a handsome young sailor saw her tottering on the end of the bridge, crying.

He took pity on her and said, "Look, you have so much to live for. I'm off to Europe in the morning, and if you like, I can stow you away on my ship. I'll take good care of you and bring you food every day."

Moving closer, he slipped his arm around her shoulder and added, "I'll keep you happy, and you'll keep me happy". The girl nodded yes. After all, what did she have to lose? Perhaps a fresh start in Europe would give life a new meaning.

That night, the sailor brought her three sandwiches and a piece of fruit, and they made passionate love until dawn.

Three weeks later, during a routine inspection, she was discovered by the captain.

"What are you doing here?" the captain asked.

"I have an arrangement with one of the sailors," she explained. "I get food and a trip to Europe, and he's screwing me."

"He certainly is," the captain said. "This is the Manly ferry."

FORBES:

Some overseas people just can't grasp the facts on Australia. These are some questions that were posted on a tourism website and the answers obviously came from Aussies!

Q. Can you give me some information about hippo racing in Australia? (USA)

A. A-fri-ca is the big triangle shaped continent south of Europe. Aus-tra-lia is that big island in the middle of the Pacific which does not..... oh, forget it. Sure, the hippo racing is every Tuesday night in Kings Cross. Come naked.

Q. Which direction is north in Australia? (USA)

A. Face south and then turn 90 degrees. Contact us when you get here and we'll send the rest of the instructions.

Q. Can I bring cutlery into Australia? (UK)

A. Why? Just use your fingers like we do.

Q. Can I have the Vienna Boys Choir schedule? (USA)

A. Aus-tri-a is that quaint little country bordering Germany, which is..... oh, forget it. Sure, the Vienna Boys Choir plays every Tuesday night in Kings Cross, right after the hippo races. Come naked.

Q. Do you have perfume in Australia?

(France)

A. No. We don't stink.

LAUNCESTON:

Seeing an empty seat at the footy grand final that was in a better position than his was, a man asked the guy sitting next to it, "May I sit here?"

"Sure, it was my wife's seat. She was a great fan and came to all the matches until she passed away."

"Oh, I'm sorry about your loss, but why didn't you give her seat to a relative or friend?"

The widower replied, "They are all at the funeral."

A musician stood on a corner playing his guitar. A policeman came up and demanded to see his buskers licence. The musician admitted that he did not have one.

"Right," said the policeman, "you'll have to accompany me".

"OK," said the busker, "what do you want to sing?"

The man stood goggle eyed as a voluptuous blonde swayed up to the bar.

She was wearing the tightest fitting stretch pants he had ever seen, and he couldn't help but exclaim, "Wow! How do you get into those pants?"

"Well," answered the blonde, "you could start by ordering me a drink."

How history has changed.

Fifty years ago, hundreds of white men chasing a black man across a field were known as the Ku Klux Klan. over

Today it is known as the PGA Tour.

Melbourne Gippsland Mathematics and Rules

Romance Mathematics

Smart man + smart woman = romance

Smart man + dumb woman = affair

Dumb man + smart woman = marriage

Dumb man + dumb woman = pregnancy

Office Mathematics

Smart boss + smart employee = profit

Smart boss + dumb employee =
production

Dumb boss + smart employee =
promotion

Dumb boss + dumb employee = overtime

Shopping Mathematics

A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he needs.

A woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that
she doesn't need.

General Equations & Statistics

A woman worries about the future until
she gets a husband.

A man never worries about the future
until he gets a wife.

A successful man is one who makes more
money than his wife can spend.

A successful woman is one who can find
such a man.

Rules for Happiness

To be happy with a man, you must under-
stand him a lot and love him a little.

To be happy with a woman, you must
love her a lot and not try to understand
her at all.

MOREE:

Mrs. O'Donovan was walking down
O'Connell Street in Dublin and coming
from the opposite direction was Father
O'Rafferty.

"Hello," said the priest, "and how are
you Mrs. O'Donovan? Didn't I marry

you and Paddy two years ago?"

"Aye, that you did, Father," she replied.

"And are there any little ones yet?"

"No, not yet, Father."

"Well now, I'm going to Rome next
week. I'll light a candle for you."

"Oh, thank you, Father." And away she
went.

Some years later they met again.

"Well now, Mrs. O'Donovan," said the
priest, how are you?"

"Oh, very well," she said.

"And tell me," he said, "have you any
little ones yet?"

"Oh yes, Father, I've 'ad three sets of
twins and four single births – ten in all."

"Now isn't that wonderful," he said.

"And how is your lovely husband?"

"Oh, " she said, "e's gone to Rome to
blow out your fookin' candle."

NEPEAN VALLEY:

A husband and wife are getting ready
for bed. The wife is standing in front of
a full-length mirror, taking a hard look
at herself.

"You know, love," she says, "I look in
the mirror and I see an old woman. My
face is all wrinkled, my boobs are barely
above my waist, my butt is hanging out
a mile, I've got fat legs and my arms are
all flabby."

She turns to her husband and says, "Tell
me something positive to make me feel
better about myself."

He thinks about it for a bit and then
says, "Well... there's nothing wrong
with your eyesight."

REDLANDS:

What's difficult about English?

The farm was used to produce produce.

He was hired to polish the Polish furniture.

After dessert in the desert, the soldier decided to desert.

To escape, the dove dove into the trees.

There was no time like the present to present him with his present.

There was a row about how to row among the row of rowers.

The buck does funny things when the does are about.

A sewer dropped her needles into the sewer.

I shed a tear when a nail in the shed wall caused a tear in my trousers.

A number of injections made my jaw number.

The invalid found that his permit was invalid.

There was no reason to object to the object.

As the dump was full, the Council had to refuse more refuse.

As he was too close to the door, he could not close it.

SUNRAYSLIA:

Q. Why don't sharks eat lawyers?

A. Professional ethics!

SUNSHINE COAST:

Bigamist – A heavy fog over Italy.

Adamant – The very first insect.

Stalemate – A husband who's lost his get up and go.

Did you hear about –

* The Irishman who was teaching his dog to pee in the gutter?
He fell off the roof.

* The Irish girl who told her mother she was pregnant?

Mother said, "Are you sure it's yours?"

* The woman who had five legs?
Her pants fitted her like a glove.

WYONG:

Murphy was a police constable at the time when there was all that strife in Dublin and an 8 pm curfew had been imposed. He caught O'Shannessy out and about at 7.45 and shot him dead.

When the matter came up in court, the judge demanded "Why did you do this Constable Murphy, when you knew the curfew wasn't effective until 8 pm?"

"I knew this your honour," replied Murphy, "but I also knew where O'Shannessy lived and he could never have made it in time!"

Three men were ushered through the Pearly Gates and St. Peter said, "Now, I want each of you to tell me what you would like your friends to be saying when they attend your funeral down below."

The first man said, "I hope they say that I was a good friend and father, and that I used to coach the kids well at football."

"Very commendable," remarked St. Peter. "Let's hear from the next applicant."

"They are bound to say I was an astute businessman," boasted the second man, "very wealthy and with powerful influence in high places."

This didn't seem to impress St. Peter,

who said to the third man, "And what would you want them to say at your funeral?"

This guy didn't take long to make up his mind and quickly answered, "I want them to say, 'Look, he' sitting up!'"

Strange but true!

A "kindergarten" for men has been established in Hamburg, Germany, to allow women to drop off their partners so they can shop in peace. Lunch and two beers are included in the fee at the adult play pen run by specially trained "nurses" Jenny and Bianca.

Thousands of London Underground commuters were held up – by a vasectomy. A trainee train driver fell out of his speeding cab after fainting over a fellow worker's description of a vasectomy operation a colleague had undergone. He survived the fall.

Mark McGowan, the English artist who rolled a peanut 11 kilometres with his nose, now plans to sit in a shop window for 12 days in a bath of baked beans, with chips up to his nose and sausages wrapped around his head – all to defend the traditional English breakfast.

The following item comes from National Secretary/Treasurer Wendy.

WHEN I WAS A BOY!

(Which, of course, she never was! Ed.)

Some people reckon my grandfather's a liar, but I don't believe them. They said he was fibbing when he said he still had all his own teeth. Well I've seen them. In the glass by his bed. And I know he wasn't lying when he said he walked across Australia barefoot. He's still got the dirt under his toenails to prove it!

Anyway I was round at Pop's place last week and after he told me about his first moon landing we got to talking about when Pop was a kid. I thought that we had it bad today but boy, life in those days was really tough.

"When I was a boy", said Pop, sucking on a soft-centre, "there was no such things as chocolates. Mum used to roll a bit of fat in vegemite for us to chew on. And that was a birthday treat. But we were so poor that most years we didn't even have birthdays. I was six years old when I found out I was fifteen.

I was the hairiest person at school. Except for the teacher, Miss Whitler. At swimming carnivals she looked like a wombat in a singlet. But she was very neat. She parted her hair all the way down the back. Still, in those days we were lucky to have hair. It kept us warm in winter and every spring we'd have a big shave and re-upholster the couch. Well, it was sort of a couch. More of a pile of bricks really but the fibro made it comfortable. Of course, using fibro meant we had a few holes in the walls. But that was a bonus because we were so poor that we couldn't afford doors. Dad did once make a down payment on a door but the bank repossessed it when the chook died. Of course, the chook carking meant the end of Dad's egg-farming empire but the family ate well for the next year. All seventeen of us.

Of course when I say 'seventeen' I mean the ones of school age. Not that we spent much time in school. Because by the time we walked the one hundred and three miles to get there, the home-time bell was just ringing and we had to turn around and walk back home. On Fridays we used to sprint the distance so that we wouldn't be late for sport.

Not that we had much sport in those days. Take cricket. We had to use a piece of rusted gutter as a ball. And if it hadn't been for Nobby Johnson's three-legged dog we wouldn't have had stumps. If you're wondering about the other leg, we had to use something for a bat. And it was only after Aunt Florence's gall-stone operation that we were able to play handball. Of course sport was much tougher in those days. And faster. I remember I played a whole season of football with two broken legs and no shoelaces. It was Trevor's turn for the shoelaces that year. Jenny's turn for the shoes.

And that was the year I got my first car. Well, I say car – it was more of a steering wheel. I tied it onto the horse's neck and showed off chucking wheelies up and down the main street.

Unfortunately, the horse used to get a bit dizzy because the street was only six feet long. But the car was enough to impress your grandmother (that car and my personality). I'd asked her to a dance and she'd accepted. I polished the car up, fitted it out with wide hooves and a V8 bridle, knitted myself a tuxedo out of bark and barbed wire and swept her off her feet. Not long after that we were married. And because we couldn't afford a plane ticket to Bali, I swam the whole way with her on my back. And talk about luggage"

At that point Pop dozed off and before long he was snoring to his heart's content. I wonder what fantasies happen in his dream world



Clockwise from left: Mel Bugden, Greg Saunders, John (hidden) & Edna Pulvirenti, Ross & Marion Pollock, Pauline & Juri Denisenko, David Cameron, Glen Edwards, Jane Cameron, Judy Bugden, Cheryl Woods. See page 9.

PAST APEX MEMBERS' LUNCHEON

Report from National President

At the Apex Victorian State Convention 2004, there was a Past Members' Luncheon held on Saturday the 14th of February, with Brian Roach and I representing Apex 40. The meeting was chaired by the Apex National VP Stuart Hughes. Both Tony Peters, the Chairman of the Apex Foundation, and I were given the opportunity to speak to the 35 attendees.

Tony Peters reported on the efforts and results of the Apex Foundation and the eleven trusts it operates. He also mentioned the Foundation's strong link with Apex and was looking forward to greater contact with Apex 40 members. He mentioned the Foundation was always looking for donations, bequeaths and contacts who may be able to assist these trusts.

The points I mentioned in my address were the fun the Apex 40 members had at their various club activities and at our annual Rort. Membership of Apex 40 was available to Apexians who had retired from Apex and their spouses/partners. I stressed the point that Apex 40 was a 'just for fun' group, and how much of Australia (and sometimes overseas) I had seen attending the Rorts in different and interesting places. I also expressed a wish that with closer contact with Apex, we could gain new members and Clubs as members retired and that I intended speaking at the Melbourne Metro clubs on this topic.

Stuart Hughes expressed a desire for a closer relationship between Apex, Apex 40 and the Apex Foundation. The benefits would mean a win win for all three organisations. We could assist Apex clubs by helping with special projects, locating past members for special dinner functions and occasions, and we could assist in the formation of clubs. Apex 40 would have the opportunity to gain new members and clubs.

A number of the members inquired about the possibility of receiving the Apexian magazine and Stuart is investigating the potential of having it available for past Apexians.

Brian and I had a very enjoyable time and we felt that the meeting was worthwhile as there were a number of very positive outcomes.

National President Apex 40

Max Cheney

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>

ETERNAL TRUTHS

Remember, once you get over the hill, you'll begin to pick up speed.

I love cooking with wine. Sometimes I even put it in the food

If it weren't for STRESS I'd have no energy at all.

Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some, like me, just don't have any film.

I always know God won't give me more than I can handle but there are times I wish

He didn't trust me quite so much.

Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.

If the shoe fits...buy a pair in every colour.

Never be too open minded, your brains could fall out.

Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

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

e-mail: alkinder@optusnet.com.au

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS
31 May, 2004

- FOR SALE - APEX 40 GEAR

THESE ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

- 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.

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: \$1.00

Available from –

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

APEX 40 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Max Cheney
P.O. Box 237
Bundoora
Vic. 3083
(03) 9467 1495, W: (03) 9837 2500
e-mail: maxc46@hotmail.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

Wendy Smith
4 Ronald Court
Sunbury,
Vic. 3429
(03) 9744 2047
e-mail: wendy.smith@hotmail.net.au

INT. RELATIONS & APEX LIAISON

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

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.**