

ROARING 40'S

JULY 2009



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

NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT –

Bob Ireland, Melbourne Norwesters



It is with great pleasure that I put pen to paper to place some of my thoughts before you. Firstly, I would like to thank Wendy Smith for agreeing to be our Secretary/Treasurer, and Sandy Harmer for continuing as our International Relations Officer.

Wendy keeps me on my toes, either sending me emails or phoning me most weeks to make sure that I am doing what I am meant to do. She is the organised one, and those of you who know me well, will understand why I asked her to undertake the role. Thanks Wendy!

While still thanking people, I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Malcolm and his team from Wyong Apex 40 Club, for organising and pulling off a wonderful Rort and Post Rort Tour. I believe all that attended had a good time, particularly those who remember 'Fawlty Towers'!

On a lighter note, I have been very busy over the last 6 weeks, as Rita over balanced while we were cleaning our son's backyard, and ended up with a very bad break of her left arm, requiring a plate to be inserted at the shoulder, and lots of physiotherapy. I have become 'chief cook and bottle washer', and haven't been able to continue to do volunteering work at Kinglake in the aftermath of Black Saturday, and take my grand children to and from school, but I hope to return there soon.

This month, I will be attending the Apex National Convention in Perth as the guest of National President Paul Galagher. We arranged this at Wyong during the Rort. One of the things that will be foremost in my discussions with him and his board, will be the formation of the Apex Founders Club.

The following is extracted from the latest copy of **The Apexian** (Autumn 2009).

'APEX wishes to announce the Apex Founders Club, the vehicle for all past members of APEX to reunite.

Apex Life Governor Tom Chapman said, "The aim of the Apex Founders Club is to give opportunity to our past members to reconnect with the association, and renew acquaintances.

Many of us became successful in life after Apex and we owe much of this success to the friendship and growth we achieved through service."

The catch cry of the Apex Founders Club is "Fellowship for Life", an opportunity to rediscover those friendships lost but not forgotten.'.

As you can see, there would appear to be a lot of overlap in our aims, and target membership. I will keep you informed of the results of my discussions.

We have been asked by Goondiwindi Apex Club if we would assist in running an Apex 40 luncheon in conjunction with the Apex Queensland State Convention in January 2010, so if any of our members will be attending, or are able to attend, please let me know.

NATIONAL SECRETARY / TREASURER – Wendy Smith



Heaven forbid - I have to follow in the footsteps of a "Secretary Extraordinaire". Pamela, after looking through all those beautifully presented journals, do I detect a **hint** of I.T. expertise?

Barry Richardson – I have received my first call on the "Gold" telephone.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Wyong Rort Committee for presenting such an enjoyable weekend. The long hours of hard work paid off handsomely.

Mary and Alan Bach continue to produce a great newsletter. This vitally important publication is, for some members, the main source of communication they have with our organisation. Please keep sending your Branch news items in for publication.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & APEX LIAISON REPORT



Sandy and Darrol in action at the Wyong Rort

and a special congratulations to Wendy for her second stint as National Secretary/Treasurer.

Wyong club members had a wonderful time at our Rort and were very happy (and relieved!) that you all enjoyed yourselves. The weather was excellent but sorry about the Post Rort Tour weather!! We look forward to seeing Bendigo in its autumn colours next year.

Congratulations to Bob Ireland and Wendy Smith for being elected to the National Executive

Because of the larger than expected registrations, Wyong club made a small profit from the Rort and the National Executive has approved the donations made to the suggested charities. We also gave \$600 to the National Executive for the specific purpose of helping an Executive member with expenses to attend the National Convention of Apex.

We need to keep this reconnection alive and would encourage future Rort hosts to also think along similar lines.

It was great to see our Apex colleagues from Western Australia (thanks for such short speeches at the AGM, guys!) and National President, Paul Gallagher, and his wife, Vicki.

Thanks to our Kiwi friends again - we really appreciate them making the effort each year to join us. In 2011, it will be our turn to visit them, see their awesome country and enjoy their hospitality. So get your thinking caps on for some international flavoured skits!

Darrol and I are off tomorrow for a four month trip around Australia in our caravan and hope to see some of you on the road!

Sandy Harmer, Wyong Apex 40.

AROUND the CLUBS

Maryborough, Queensland – Brian Fulmer, President.

Twenty nine members of Maryborough Apex 40 travelled to Bundaberg for a weekend (March 14/15) of discovery & fellowship. TC Hamish had finally dissipated & cleared the coast & the weather was ideal. First to be visited was the “Bundaberg Barrel”, the visitors centre of Bundaberg Ginger Beer – a truly Queensland icon. The centre traces the history of ginger beer from the days of Marco Polo with interactive touch screens & follows with a tasting of some 14 different drinks naturally brewed on site.



Maryborough Apex 40 Members at the Hinkler Hall of Aviation in Bundaberg

From there it was to the ‘holy of holies’ – the home of Bundaberg Rum, the sole distillery of this precious liquid established in 1888. The group was guided through the high voltage electrified fences to follow the path from molasses through distilling to bottling with the contents of each storage vat worth some \$6M with \$4M going to the federal government in duties – truly a licence to print money.

To the die hard Bundy drinkers amongst the group you could almost feel the reverence, but you could certainly enjoy the tastes at the bar, at the end of the tour, for our complimentary tasting including Bundaberg Rum Royal Liqueur – only available at the Bondstore on site.

The locals create a ‘dirty Harry’ by adding cream to the liqueur to really ‘make your day’ & even the non-rum drinkers had to admit it was certainly smooth & enjoyable.

A memorable late lunch followed at the Sugar Reef bistro with some time off before happy hour at the motel & then to dinner that night with a 10 course banquet at the White China Restaurant at Brothers Sports Club, a short stroll across the street from our accommodation.

The quality & quantity of food during the day was remarkable & it is safe to say that most members were well & truly “stuffed” by the end of the evening.

Sunday began with a visit to the new Hinkler Hall of Aviation, a new museum just opened in December 2008 at a substantial cost to house replicas of Bert’s various planes, including his first glider that he flew at Mons Repos at the age of 19 – the body support being his mum’s ironing board! It is true to say that 1.5 hours was not really enough time to fully enjoy & appreciate all the exhibits & theatrettes chronicling Bert’s life & career.

Also on site is Bert’s original home built in Southampton in 1925 & dismantled & resurrected – ‘brick by brick’ in 1983. The tour was followed by another great lunch at the adjoining 1928 Café.

The afternoon was spent with a leisurely 2.5hours cruising the Burnett River from Bundaberg City to its mouth at Burnett Heads, just past the bulk sugar loading facility & yacht club. The Bundaberg Cruising Yacht Club was formed in 1999 for the specific purpose of sponsoring and promoting a yacht rally from Port Vila, Vanuatu to Port Bundaberg.

From that beginning when 9 yachts competed in the Port 2 Port Yacht Rally, the Yacht Club has grown in strength and as well as now promoting one of the major international yacht rallies in the Pacific, it is a registered Cruising Club in its own right.

Although there are now many yachts participating in the “rally”, including international crews, the first prize still remains a bottle of Bundy Rum.

It was a truly memorable weekend with great food & great company and it must be said that the hospitality & effort expended by our hosts at Sugar Reef Bistro & 1928 Café were most outstanding & appreciated. The Club’s next outing will be a combined function with Hervey Bay Club.

MELBOURNE-GIPPSLAND – Alan Padgham.

Geoff’s (Angus) Greetings

We had our usual good number of members (20 – 25) attend our last meeting held on the 23rd April at the Clayton Bowls Club. Chef Mary provided an excellent meal and there was plenty of good humour, especially as we had two ladies as “Fines Mistresses” – Nola Kinder & Shirley Garrett.

SEREMBAN – T T Singam

Greetings to all our members and family. Yes, it has been three long months since we met last. Your board, however, did meet during those long months.....so we have not been idle. Let me also take this opportunity to extend the President's and his Board's greetings (belated though it may be) to all Hindu members Happy Hindu New Year; to our Buddhist friends Happy Wesak and of course to our Christian friends Happy Easter.

The previous meeting was held at member K. Sathiaselan's residence on 28th February. It was also a joint meeting with the Apex Club of Seremban (a last-minute decision). Attendance was rather poor....maybe due to an earlier thunderstorm. But the fellowship was good and Sathia played a perfect host...even though he is strictly, a teetotaler.

We also had as guests Sonny TV Rajah and Selvarasan from the Apex Club of Kuala Lumpur. Both gentlemen were there to promote Convention Gemilang Apex from Friday 7th August to Sunday 9th August 2009 at the Federal Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

KUALA LUMPUR

Apex 40 Kuala Lumpur will be holding its 212th dinner meeting at the Carlsberg Brewery in Shah Alam on Wednesday 3rd June.

BENDIGO - Bob Caldwell

Welcome back to the 31st Year of Bendigo Apex 40 Club for our first meeting in 2009. It seems ages since we gathered for our Christmas "Shared Breakfast" at the Andrews residence. What with great food, company and venue, you could not ask for more. Many thanks to our hosts Elayne & Mal Andrew. Your effort was greatly appreciated by the 26 members in attendance.

A Belated "Happy 70th Birthday is forwarded to Kevin Harvey.

Seven Bendigo Apex 40 couples attended the 2009 Rort at Central Coast (NSW) with 6 couples staying on for the Post-Rort Tour. The Rort Committee has continued to meet, revisiting some Rort venues;

A picnic was on the radar but the cooler weather has put a dampener on this and will be put back to a later date in the year; finding an appropriate venue for a combined meeting of Bendigo, Melbourne Gippsland, Melb-Nor'Westers and newly-formed Geelong in June/July.

NEPEAN VALLEY – Ken Wright – Dinner Notice

The second call for the Apex Zone 9 reunion has been issued. The 2009 reunion is to be held on 16 – 18 October 2009 at Bathurst Goldfields Function Centre, Conrod Straight, Bathurst. This is a great venue with on-site accommodation and all facilities. We would like to see a few past Penrith Apexians in attendance, so please try and join us for this great event. Visit our Apex Zone 9 reunion webpage www.members.optus.com.au/pobox100 for further information, or for an additional registration form.

Bryan Spencer celebrated 50 years of employment at Jim Mills Menswear St Mary's. On 8th April Bryan received a deputation from several NSW State Politicians complete with cake and certificates, photos etc to have morning tea with him to celebrate Bryan's milestone. Minister for Small Business and Emergency Services, Steve Whan, St Mary's Local member Dianne Beamer & Mt Druitt Local Member, Richard Amory and wife descended upon Jim Mills Menswear. A lovely morning was had – schee must be another election in the wind.

Also poor Joyce Leavett-Brown is in the wars again – After returning home from the RORT, she had a “sh-t” of a week, including falling down the front steps and breaking some bones in her foot.



Keith Miller accepting the Penultimate Award on behalf of Ken Wright. Keith declined Barry Leavett-Brown's offer of Joyce dropping the trophy off to Ken on the way home.

Come on Joycie – we have told you before to cut out the lunch time glasses of white wine!! Get well soon Joycie.

More 'After the Rort Dilemmas' by Joyce Leavett-Brown:- We enjoyed every minute of the Apex 40 Wyong Rort. Our accommodation at The Coachman Motel, Long Jetty was comfy and close to the lake and the jetty, and only a seven minute drive from the main function centre at Forresters Beach Resort. I did not lose anything – my camera, my purse, or my phone, which was a nice change from last year, when I 'lost' everything 3 times.

We left after the Monday breakfast, and headed for Erina Fair to shop for a while. Bought a few clothes, had a coffee and drove home – arriving in time for a cuppa before collecting two of our grandsons from school., Soon after they left, I had a phone call from the Commonwealth Bank at Erina.

Some clothes in a bag had been found hanging on the door of a Ladies Toilet in the shopping centre, and they had been handed in. James (Com Bank) had traced me by searching out the credit card receipt in the bag.

I didn't even know they were missing.....we hadn't really had time to empty the car properly and put everything away! I asked if he could send them to me 'Cash on Delivery'. He said he would send them by post, and not to worry about the postage. How nice!

REDLANDS – Bill and Val Cramp, Dinner Notice

Our June meeting will be held in the Cleveland Room at The Grandview Hotel and will be the theme of horse racing, as it's the start of the Winter Racing Carnival in Brisbane. Our race will be totally different. We have named it the Irish Cup and all will be revealed on the night.

So instead of raffles our members will be buying a horse, so no ring-ins i.e. Fine Cotton. We are trying something different so I hope everyone will get a "kick" (no pun intended) out of the evening.

A weekend away to Gympie is planned for 11,12,13 September.

On a last note we the Redlands Apex 40 send our condolences to Pam Lower on the passing of her loved husband Doug on 4th April. It was much unexpected and a huge shock to Pam, family and friends. Doug and Pam have been members of this club for a long time.

Notes taken from the Apex 40 Annual Report:-
4 new branches have been formed in the past year as well as 2 reformed.

Apex 40 Branches total 33 and membership is 984.

Apex 40 now has its own entry in the International Directory of Club 41. Apex is serious about reconnection and encourages us to participate at their conventions to promote Apex 40.

SUNRAYSIA – Elaine Gray, President

Twenty-four members enjoyed the Christmas Party at McDougall Wines Cellar Door in December.

The March outing was held at the Red Cliffs Golf Clubs “Concert on the Course”. After a delicious two course meal, entertainment was provided by the band “Impact” and the theme was “Spooky Friday.”

MANLY INC. – John Cameron, President

At our last meeting we discussed the feasibility of holding another Trivia Night. It was decided that in addition to raising funds for distribution as we see fit, we should give consideration to raising funds to assist research for prostate cancer.

GEELONG – John Van Galen, President

Pounds (money), pounds (weight), guineas, miles, yards, poles, fathoms and furlongs, not to mention several different inches – don’t you miss them? I don’t! Our guest speaker last meeting, Pat Naughtin, not only reminded us of these awkward units, but also explained the incredible costs of such a system – both financially and even in actual lives.

Next meeting will be our mid-year “mixed” meeting, so please bring your partner to share the evening with us. Our guest speaker will be Ron Medson, the past deputy chair of the Barwon Community Road Safety Council, and a very experienced speaker. His topic will be “Mobility and Safety for older drivers”. We are not old of course, but will be some day, so here is your chance to be prepared!

WYNNUM/MANLY – Col Ramsay, President

It was good to see so many of our members at the Pizza evening at our home on 1st February. It was even better to see that everyone could work up a substantial appetite by a change in altitude as we moved to a dryer venue downstairs when the drizzle set in!! We also had some feedback on our proposed events for this year, which was great.

I know that Daryl Mercer was really pleased to see the Apex 40 Members who drove to Iluka and joined in with the celebrations for his 70th birthday on 14th February. We managed to occupy a large table with the group of 14 members who attended, and everyone enjoyed the great food, drinks and chance to catch up with friends. Daryl was better prepared than we were as regard the precipitation factor for he had a large marquee set up for the event!! It was well needed as the weather was rather dismal.

It was certainly good to see so many members come along for our BYO BBQ breakfast at the waterfront at Manly on 30th May. We were fortunate enough to have a lovely sunny morning even though the breeze was a little cool at times.

Our next function will be our Camp Oven Christmas in July to be held at the home of Peg and Eddie Nunn.

XEPA – GREAT SOUTHEAST (Queensland) –

Xepa Members met at the Redland Bay Hotel for lunch on Sunday April 26th. Meeting outdoors under a blue sunny sky most remarked that they hadn't been to the hotel for yonks.

Reminiscing about the good old days at the pub soon led to discussion about the thousands of Meat Tray Tickets they had dutifully sold as Apex members. All remembered selling tickets for many years at 20 cents a ticket or 6 for a dollar. The current price is 2 dollars a ticket or 3 for 5 dollars and today's ticket sellers couldn't be swayed into a discount for some old timers.

The next 'XEPA Get Together will be at the Little Ship Club at One Mile on Stradbroke Island for Sunday Lunch on June 21st.

Nine members will be attending the Apex Gympie Muster music festival to be held from the 25th to 30th August. A camping weekend has been organised with Apex members for the 1st and 2nd of August to select our camping spot for the muster.

41 Club New Zealand from our Foreign Correspondent.

Brian Roach attended the 41 Club National Convention in Blenheim New Zealand during the last weekend in May. Brian went to Lower Hutt, (Wellington) North Island to stay with Barry O'Callaghan & Judith Murphy. Brian made the pilgrimage to Blenheim on the South Island with Barry and Judy's Upper Hutt colleagues.

The theme for the convention was 'Planes, Trains and Automobiles' and the Skits on Sunday night were organised around this theme. Liz Hammond organised the Upper Hutt Skit and Brian Roach starred in the award winning epic as Troy Ota, the cool dude from the West Island.

Barry O'Callaghan was elected New Zealand 41 Club National President and Bill Hammond was elected National Secretary/Treasurer. Next year's convention is in Upper Hutt and the theme is 'Over the Top'. According to Liz, she already has some cracking ideas for next year's production.

Wyang "Happy Days" Holiday Rort.

The Wyong Rort was centred at Forresters Beach Resort on the New South Wales Central Coast. On arrival we were met by the locals who were very worried about the weather as by all reports we were going to be in for a wet weekend. However the reports were far from correct and the weather was just about perfect for the entire Rort. The Happy Days Theme shone through with the brilliant decorations adding to the nostalgic aura of wonderful days gone by but never forgotten.

Tom Dumpleton also had a wonderful display on show all weekend of the history and achievements of Apex both locally and Nationally. Well done Tom.

Thanks to Sandy and Darrol Harmer for picking Rorters up from the Trains, Buses & Planes and also making sure the rooms were ready for Rorters as they arrived.



A coach was organised to collect and take Rorters to the Welcome Social which commenced with a traditional smoking ceremony complete with a rendition of local aboriginal history and didgeridoo playing.

Rex and Lois Smith celebrated their 61st Wedding Anniversary

The Red River Rock Bus – Peter and Ann Ryall – was decorated in red streamers and had Red River Rock by Johnny and the Hurricanes blaring

from the sound system. The Red Bus had plenty of Rock and Roll Trivia from Peter during the course of the weekend.

Saturday morning began with a short tour along the coast to take in the spectacular views from Crackneck Lookout. From there it was on to enjoy a beautiful morning tea at Picnic Point. Margaret Dunn and her helpers had made it impossible not to indulge in their irresistible home cooked delicacies. Learning about and then feeding Pelicans preceded a walk to the Entrance. The Rorters were welcomed by Basil Fawly himself on a nostalgic return to the original Fawly Towers (Strathavon) for lunch and the Annual General Meeting. (Strathavon was the venue for the 1994 Rort).

Brian Roach was presented with a Gold Telephone by Barry Richardson to keep in touch with what was happening in Apex 40. The old Golf Trophy was flown in specially from Tasmania to stop Brian enquiring about it. Brian told Pamela that one of the Club President's had been telling his members that the National Secretary's name was Pamela Anderson. All of this was going on with Basil Fawly and Manuel running amok around the room. On one occasion Basil knocked Sandy Harmer's dinner roll and cutlery on the floor, but with a bit of spit on the spoon and a rub of the roll on his trousers, all was soon well.



Rex and Lois Smith from Devonport celebrated their 61st Wedding Anniversary at Fawly Towers and as a bonus they were the winner's of Wyong Rort Early Bird Prize. Lois celebrated her 81st Birthday the following day. The devoted couple were no slouches on the dance floor in the evenings either.

Saturday Night R'N'R was hosted by Chris King. Chris played the part of the hospital orderly, Dennis Jamison in the Young Doctors Television Series on Channel Nine from 1976 to 1983.

What's ya writin' there Pamela Dear –
Brian with his Treasured Golf Trophy – Note 'The Gold Phone' in the Foreground.

Peter and Ann Ryall's, Red River Rock, Team ready for another night's entertainment.



Chris remembered performing for Rorters at Fawly Towers in 1994. Rort Entertainment Co-ordinator, Vivienne Bradshaw put ten groups together for a Karaoke competition to start the night off. Melbourne Gippsland narrowly defeated the Kiwi Visitors and won the Bull Horn Trophy. Jock Littler filmed each group's performance and watched his video the following morning. Jock commented that they all sounded bad on the night but they sounded and looked absolutely dreadful in the morning. Jock thinks that blackmail is about all the footage is good for.



Judy Murphy, Dianne Churcher, Jenni and Andrew Farr leading the Hand Jive

At the dinner on Sunday night, Lucky Starr and his Band soon had the dance floor bulging beyond capacity with some good old Australian Rock & Roll favourites. Lucky also performed many other Top 40 Hits.

Jenny Farr taught the Rorters how to do the Hand Jive and Lucky and Band started out really slow to let everyone get the hang of it. Once everyone was in time they played faster and faster.

AWARDS

Outhouse: Michael Dawson. The Outhouse has resurfaced after many years in Garth Whitchurch's ceiling. Eddie Nunn from Wynnum/Manly constructed the building for a Perth Rort and it was presented to the Melbourne Gippsland ladies and forgotten about for many years. Michael's timing was out.

It appears a combination of Happy Hour, Pills and Traffic congestion caused Michael to make a lightning quick exit from the coach. Mike disappeared over the horizon in pain and despair and loosening his clothing on the way. All those uncaring people on the coach could do was laugh at the poor unfortunate soul.



Michael and Mary with their respective awards

Wizzy : Last Year's Wizzy Recipient, Sandy Harmer presented Mary Bach with the coveted award at Wyong.

Confusing the Port Side with Starboard Side on the cruise and entering the wrong amenity presented Sandy with a choice she couldn't refuse. Many thanks to Peter Dobber Ryall.

Pen-Ultimate: Ken Wright won his first Penultimate Award with the excellent newsletters he produces for Nepean Valley.

Attendance: Melbourne Gippsland . An excellent roll up the Melbourne Club members resulted in pipping a well represented Bendigo Club.

Skits: Alan Kinder led Melbourne Gippsland Club to victory in the Battle of the Sounds with his fancy guitar work and a whole lot of shakin' goin' on.



Carol and Bill Moffat ready to Rock 'N' Roll

Boomerang: Bendigo, hosts of the 2010 Gold and Old Rort, are now the proud trustees of the Boomerang Award until the next AGM.

Leon Squires and Alan Bach were Sergeants for the weekend

And the tidy sum generously given by Rorters was unanimously approved to go to the Victorian Fire Appeal. Rob Walter (Wombat) who has been deeply involved with the

Bush fire tragedy was very grateful to Rorters for the gesture.

This year for the first time in many years, the Four Alan's were together at a Rort, but they were surpassed by the Seven Bobs / Robs. There was a good roll up of past National Office Bearers and also a large contingent of those members who attended to trip to Canada all those years ago.



Wyong Rorters who attended the Apex 40 Tour of Canada when they were all a little younger

Still Remembering and Reminiscing.

Wyong Apex 40 Post Rort Tour.

Monday 30th March

Bill & Liz Hammond, Upper Hutt Club 41, paid a surprise visit to the Forresters Beach Farewell Breakfast and joined Forty Nine Rorters for the 2009 Post Rort Tour.

The Tour centred on Motto Farm Motel at Raymond Terrace. Tom & Lea Dumpleton drove to Motto Farm and provided a valuable valet and taxi service for Post Rorters during the rest of the week. Monday's Tour Hosts were Malcolm and Marion Clark. The Rover Bu...(nearly said it) Coach left the beautiful Central Coast weekend sunshine and travelled north through Catherine Hill Bay to Lake Macquarie. There was a mad 'Rain Dash' into the Sails Eatery at the Belmont 16 Footers Club.



After a leisurely lunch the torrential rain eased and the tour continued through Hexham, the home of the notorious Hexham Grey (a cute name for really big mosquito) to the Hunter Valley Regional gardens. A large squadron of local's buzzed in for an over enthusiastic welcome and no amount of repellent or arm waving would keep them away. As a result of the welcoming committee being overzealous and

Shirley, Pamela, Barry and Kevin battling the Mozzies

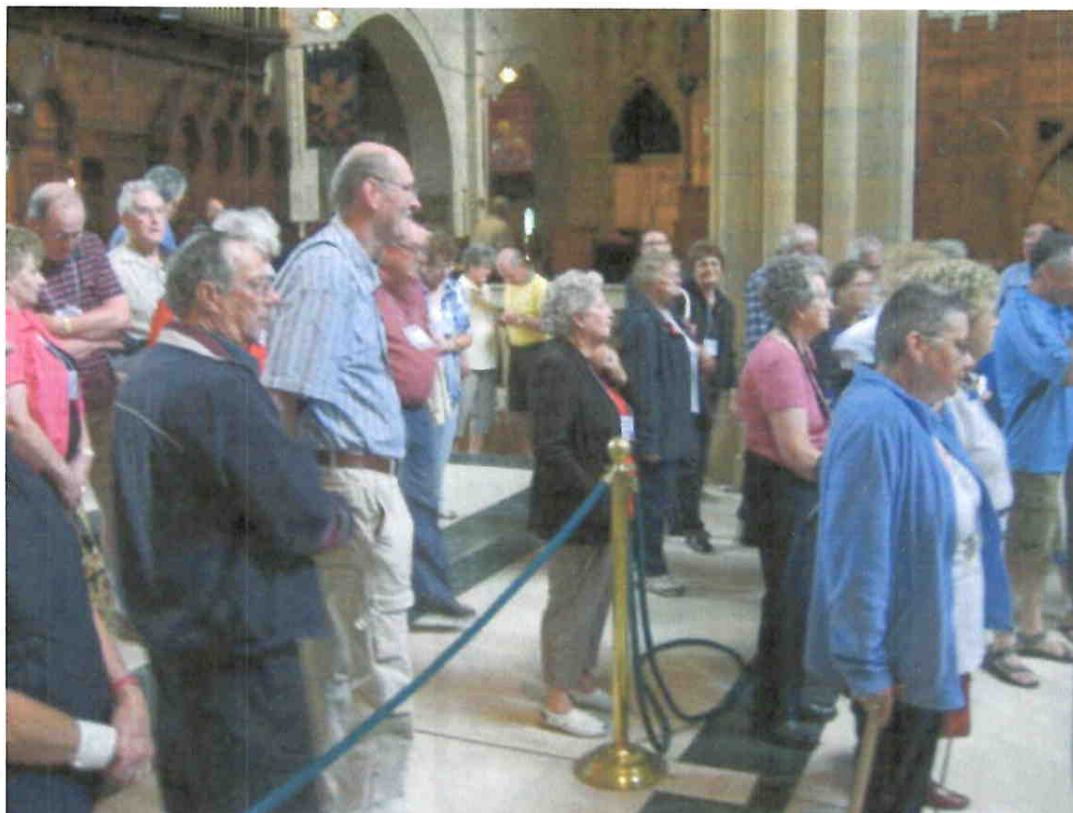
some more showers unanimous opinion recommended to cut short the visit and head for Motto Farm.

Complimentary drinks and fellowship in the dining room before dinner and a lively fine session after gave all the chance to become better acquainted.

Tuesday 31st March

Tuesday's Tour Hosts were Dennis and Vivienne Bradshaw (Dennis is the quiet one but when he says something it is important) After a leisurely breakfast the tour took in the sights and sounds of Newcastle – On leaving Newcastle city centre via Hunter Street Barry O'Callaghan

became all excited about going by the Parthenon Milk Bar which was made famous in the 'Newcastle Song' by Bob Hudson. Some of Barry's misspent youth happened in here and as the coach passed by the Cambridge Hotel in 789 Hunter Street West our Kiwi friend was disappointed that the Parthenon was no more but delighted the hotel was still there.



Members visiting the Historic Cathedral in Newcastle

Brenda Dryden took us on an informative tour of beautifully kept Christ Church Cathedral which has been a place of worship for over 180 years. The Cathedral, standing high on a hill overlooking the city of Newcastle, was badly damaged in the 1989 Newcastle Earthquake. Excellent work has seen the majestic building returned to its former grandeur. Thanks to Brenda the stories and the glories of this wonderful church were relayed to us during our morning walkaround.

The many 'Hands On Exhibits' at the Williamtown Fighter World Museum kept all the budding Top Guns and Top Gunesses busy during the latter part of the afternoon. A guided tour of the RAAF Base in the coach preceded the Fighter World visit and everyone was guessing who was visiting in the U.S. Jet. Plenty of photographs were posed for and everyone enjoyed what was a very interesting afternoon.

The buildings at Motto Farm Resort were quite spread out and Staff used



Squadron Leader, Malcolm Clark at Fighter World

Golf Buggies for transport around the complex. On two of the nights the rain was so heavy that most of the guests needed to hitch a ride on one of the Buggies to ensure a high and dry return to their accommodation. The driver's middle name was 'Hurricane' It appears from Pamela's

excitement and squeals that she hadn't had that much fun since she and Barry used to race Dodgem Cars at the Devonport Show.



Ray Davies could have done with this at Motto Farm.

The Post Rort Tour coincided with the recent Bikie Wars in New South Wales. Some members from one of the mentioned Bike Clubs settled into the room next to Brian Roach and Ray Davies one night. Both Brian and Ray said that they slept okay but Ray insisted that he kept one eye open all night. Pamela's eerie squeals on the last Buggy Trip home for the night also tested his nerves.

After dinner the thinking caps were on for a Trivia Night. The scores at the finish were very close and there was a fair bit of people disappearing outside for some fresh air, or were they going outside to find out answers? The winning team kindly shared their massive Easter Egg with everyone but we have no idea what happened to all the bottles of wine though.

taste before dinner. Afterwards some adjourned to the function room for an evening of cards, music and dancing. Jenny had us brushing up on the Hand Jive.

Friday 3rd April

The final day the PRT was under the guidance of Malcolm and Marion Clark. The Tour was split up and one group went on a winery visit and the others went for a garden walk.

The 'Winery Group' was guided around Tyrrell's Winery at Pokolbin by Scott an enthusiastic worker from the company. Scott soon found that he had a slightly different group on his hands for this trip. As the time came for the Wine Tasting Scott admitted that all was going to plan until the first question. From there on he was sidetracked and never got back to his usual banter. Scott had plenty of information for us and everyone was entertained by his stories about the lighter side of the serious business of winemaking.

The story about the company's battle with the Health Department wanting the earthen floor in one section of the Winery to be concreted intrigued us all. The Boss had a detailed scientific study done on the floor and proved to the authorities that the floor was much healthier than the concrete one they wanted. To prove the point even further he then set about having the Earthen Floor Heritage Listed.

Tyrrell's Wines are now available at the Burj al Arab in Dubai. Purchasing wines from the Cellar Door at Tyrrell's, rather than the Burj does save hundreds of dirham in transport costs, but heck, if one is at the Burj why not ask for a Tyrrell's. Scott also pointed out the firm's motto: *Nothing is Great unless it is Good.*

All Rorters gathered at the Hunter Gardens Village for a final lunch. A wedding was about to happen in the Chapel and most of the girls, and a couple of the blokes, couldn't resist having a sticky. The bride made an entrance in the Limmo and instructed the driver to leave. The sight of our lot most likely frightened her off so she disappeared back out the gate. Soon afterwards she came back to brave the madding throng. Finally all was well. Amongst plenty of ooohs and aaaarhs from the onlookers she left the car and headed for the Chapel.

Very reluctantly, after a great week of entertainment, the Coach was boarded for the last time. Some Post Rorters were taken to join their transport home and the remainder returned to Foresters Beach. Local members joined with the Tourers for a final Dinner and Farewells at the Central Coast's Bateau Bay Hotel.

Bendigo Rort 2010 Information in Brief.

Rort Dates: Friday, 30th April to Monday, 3rd May 2010

Post Rort Tour Monday 3rd May to Friday 7th May 2010

The Post Rort Tour has Day Trips centred around Bendigo.
All accommodation is to be made through Bendigo Apex 40 Club

For information regarding registration call:-

Bob Caldwell 03 54411085 Kevin Harvey 03 54477140

or Ron Clarke 03 54438290

Or write to Bendigo Apex 40 Club,

C/- Mr Ron Clarke, 43 Mill Street, Bendigo Victoria 3550

Streatley UK Visit.

Yours Truly were the guests of Ian and Vlasta Ormiston of Streatley, England in May. Many of those involved with the 41 Clubs, Four States Grand Tour of Australia in late 2007 will remember the Ormiston's.

Ian & Vlasta were full of praise and thanks for all of those associated with the very successful Aussie Tour and said that they loved every minute of their time in Australia. Ian is a member of Luton 41 Club, which meets not far from their home in Streatley.

Their daughter Sanya was visiting Australia and supposed to join Ian and Vlasta on a trip to Canada after we left. Sanya was enjoying herself so much in Queensland that she decided to stay longer and not go to Canada.

Many Thanks to Ian and Vlasta Ormiston for the warm hospitality they showed us and also for the guided tour of beautiful Woburn Abbey. Ian does a Charity Bicycle Ride around the massive gardens of Woburn Abbey in aid of abused children every July and Vlasta attends to cheer him on. We apologise to Peter and Sue Driver of South York for not being organised enough to catch up with them. Hopefully there is a next time soon and we can make amends.

Thanks to Malcolm and Marion and their team, the Wyong Apex 40 Club and all of the people needed to for all we appreciative folk to have a fun filled time at both the Rort and on the Post Rort Tour.

Ui bol t bhbjo up brmpg u f dpousjcvupst

Bmif Cftu N bsz boe Brbo

Get your News in the Next Issue Of Roaring 40's

Branches are invited and urged to forward news and photos of branch activities and other items of interest for publication in the next issue of the "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
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P.O. Box 1344 Capalaba Qld 4157
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