

# ROARING 40'S

MARCH 2009

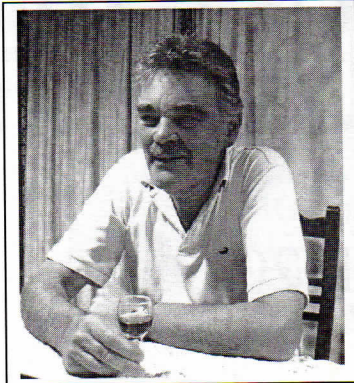


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Apex 40 is the recognized body of  
**Affiliated Past Apexians Groups**  
[www.apex40.org](http://www.apex40.org)

## **NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT – Rob Beveridge, Devonport.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL



I hope everyone had a very enjoyable festive season, and did not over indulge with food or wine. Hope Santa put a few surprises in your Christmas stockings.

Kaye and I travelled north to Brisbane for Christmas to spend it with Kaye's children. We had a wonderful time although the Brisbane weather was a trifle warm; but we were able to cool off

each day in the pool.

Christmas weather in Tassie was very average (cool in fact); but the last few days we have been experiencing great summer weather. Temperatures have ranged from 25 to 40 degrees, although that may not sound hot to some of you, I can assure you that these temperatures are extremely harsh if you are out in the sun for too long.

I am now back on the golf course (not breaking any records as yet) but health wise I feel the best I have for a few years.

Congratulations to Garry Rumble on receiving the Order of Australia Medal for services to the community. For those who know Garry he has been a tireless worker over the years for the Penrith Community. **WELL DONE GARRY.**

Wyang Rort is now only a couple of months away, so hopefully everyone forwarded their registrations to the Committee. I am looking forward to another wonderful Rort and it will be great to catch up with everyone again and also meeting Rorters from some of the newly registered clubs.

On a lighter note I am sure we are all looking forward to seeing Barry Richardson belly dancing with Carol Moffat. From information received we believe he has been practicing in his new garden shed and we also look forward to hearing Pamela's poem.

## NATIONAL SECRETARY / TREASURER – Pamela Richardson



### THANK YOU

My term as National Secretary /Treasurer will end at Wyong. I cannot believe how quickly the last two years have gone. I would like to thank everyone for the support they have given me over the past two years. It has been really enjoyable meeting so many interesting members. I have also had countless fascinating phone calls, at all hours of the day, from people I have not met face-to-face.

I would particularly like to thank the branch secretaries for their co-operation. This job would be much more difficult without their assistance.

I must mention the fires and floods in the eastern states of Australia. Our incredible country is displaying its harshness. My heart goes out to those who have lost loved ones.

There appears to be some confusion over the 2011 Rort. We received an invitation from the 41 Club New Zealand to attend their Annual General Meeting weekend in Nelson between 3 and 6 June 2011. They further suggested that if we wished to make this our annual Rort, they would ensure there was space to hold our AGM.

Club 41 also said they would be only too happy to help us organise a tour starting a couple of days before the AGM and continuing after the weekend.

I was delighted to hear from Brendan O'Connell that Leeton is to form a branch of Apex 40. Well done Leeton – We hope some of your members will attend the Rort at Wyong. It is also a pleasure to tell you that Dandenong Valley has registered with Apex 40 after a five year break. We have heard of several other branches being formed—but they have not registered at this time.



## **2011 RORT Venue Decision at AGM – Pamela Richardson**

At our Perth AGM, President Rob asked for a show of interest to attend Club 41's AGM. This was to give New Zealand an idea as to whether they should lobby at the Wyong Rort. A number of hands were raised.

Any branch of Apex 40 is very welcome to apply for the 2011 Rort. Some members have expressed their concern at having our Rort outside Australia as they would find it too expensive to attend. Many members travel to rorts with caravans. They often journey as a group and make this time their annual holiday.

If the Rort was to be held in New Zealand we would also require a sub-committee from Apex 40 to liaise with Club 41.

It has been suggested that the Apex 40 Rort should always be held in Australia. A group may choose to travel to New Zealand and tour before or after the 41 Club AGM.

Please be prepared to vote at the Wyong Rort.

### **AROUND the CLUBS**

#### **MELBOURNE-GIPPSLAND – Geoff Angus, President**

Perhaps the highlight of our October dinner meeting was a quiz session conducted by Alan Kinder. Clues were given in the form words that could be interpreted as being the names of Victorian towns or suburbs of Melbourne. The quiz was both interesting but frustrating as we racked our brains (or was it our memories?) to come up with the elusive answers. These types of initiatives certainly help to vary our dinner meetings.

After an overcast start to the day, Melbourne Cup Day turned out to be a beautiful day with regards weather. We had 28 members and guests attend at Lyn and Geoff Angus' home for a BBQ lunch and to spend some time watching horse racing on the TVs.

Mike Pavey did a great job as the "Benevolent Bookmaker" in managing the betting and was assisted by Helen, who distributed the winnings to the more skilful punters. The beautiful weather was matched by the good natured camaraderie of those in attendance.

At our December meeting we had the pleasure of the attendance of Apex 40's National Vice President Bob Ireland and his wife Rita. Lionel Mussell was our in-house guest speaker and he provided an interesting

verbal and visual presentation of some of the highlights of his recent travels in central and northern Australia.



*Kinder Classic runner ups Lachlan Miller & David Whitchurch with winner Phil Chalkley*

Thanks to the organising by Mike Pavey, the “Kinder Classic” Golf Day was held at Box Hill Golf Club on the 29<sup>th</sup> December. Garth Whitchurch reported that all the place getters were guests or relatives of Apex 40 members, and this is the first time this has happened in the 25 years of the “Kinder Classic”. The winner, playing off a handicap of 5, was Phil Chalkley, the son-in-law of Mike Pavey. Second was David Whitchurch (son of Garth) playing off 3 and third was Lachlan Miller playing off 27 (son of last year’s winner Frank Miller, ex Box Hill Apex).

We have a number of plans for 2009. The first is to be a visit to an interesting location - the National Trust property, Gulf Station at Yarra Glen. Unfortunately the property is undergoing refurbishment so we are now considering a visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Cranbourne instead. Another possible event is to join another group for an afternoon tea on a Puffy Billy trip in the Dandenongs.

Our plans still include a weekend or midweek away for implementation in Victoria’s good autumn weather. We have a number of options, e.g.



Wedderburn area, Lake Nagambie, Marysville or perhaps somewhere down by the coast. And we are also looking at having a get-together with our long-time friends in Bendigo Apex 40.

First activity for 2009 is attendance at the Healesville Picnic Races on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February. This gathering is an annual event with great friendship and relaxation under the shade of the big trees in the spectator area. Once again members will be able to show their knowledge of racing and their skill in picking winners.

### **GREAT 8 APEX 40 –**

**Maitland and Surrounds NSW**

**Graham & Lyn Dark**

Although no new members 2008 was an enjoyable and productive year with a monthly bulletin printed and sent to all members. The Club met on a monthly basis at various venues organised by members.

Outings included dinners at several restaurants, lunch and croquet at a members property, dinner and lawn bowls at Tomago Bowling Club and a breakfast at Readers Café.

The Club was able to donate \$500 in support of the construction of an orphanage in Sri Lanka; an APEX project.

Members also raised \$1,000 and participated in the NSW Cancer Council Relay For Life at Maitland Sports Ground in September.

2008 finished with a Christmas barbecue, secret Santa and guess who photographs.

2009 will begin with a picnic and games at Walcha Water Works in January followed by a Newcastle Harbour / Hunter River cruise in February.

We hope all Clubs had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year followed by an enjoyable 2009.

### **BENDIGO Apex 40 Club's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash**

**Rob Caldwell**

A total of 44 people were in attendance at the 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash of the Club on 16<sup>th</sup> Nov '08, held at the Bendigo Club.

As you will see from the attendance list, Lionel Mussell and Alan Kinder were in attendance as special guests at the 30th Bash because they were in the official party that attended the Inaugural Meeting at this original venue.

Also in attendance were 3 Foundation Couples (Clarkes, Elveys, and Kennedys), and Ian Morris (Inaugural Pres), who were each individually introduced to the gathering.

It was great to have 3 couples in attendance from Melb-Nor'Westers.

A birthday cake was organised by the Harveys in the Bendigo colors of royal blue and yellow. All those in attendance at the inaugural meeting helped to cut the cake, which was further cut up for dessert later. You could tell by the color of their tongues if people had indulged in this delicacy!!

A special mention should be given to Elaine Dumont, who put together a professional power-point presentation of the history, early development & many activities the club had participated in. Many thanks to Elaine for a great effort. I hope we are around to see it added to, at our 40<sup>th</sup> Bash. Also a table was set up of a number of memorabilia items, which created much interest, particularly the minutes of the inaugural meeting. They were in beautiful copperplate writing, taken by Lola Morris, who unfortunately was a late apology due to doctor's orders.

The evening finished with much fellowship and chin-wagging.

#### **NEPEAN VALLEY – Keith Miller, President**

We recently said farewell to a member of Apex 40 Nepean Valley and Past Zone 9 President (1981/1982), Rhys Evans, aged a young 56, who passed away after a long battle with bowel cancer. A large contingent of past Zone 9 Apexians and several members of Apex 40 Nepean Valley Members took the time to attend his funeral – which was “huge”! Farewell Rhys thanks for the Apex memories. To Jenny and Bec, on behalf of Apex 40 Nepean Valley, we extend out deepest condolences.

Our next Apex Zone 9 reunion will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October at the Bathurst Goldfields Function Centre Conrod Straight, Bathurst. We have now issued our “1<sup>st</sup> call” to all past Zone 9 Apexians (you would have received an individual letter and registration form. We are expecting between 120-150 past Apexians. Hopefully, we will have a few more past Penrith Apexians in attendance.

**THIS MONTHS THOUGHT** – to those of you who have lost your Millions with the World Economic crisis, here are a couple of definitions which may help.

Value Investing - The art of buying low and selling lower!

Cash Flow – The movement your money makes as it disappears down the toilet!

Broker – The end result of actually listening to your financial planner.

Financial Planner – That mystery person who has just had their phone disconnected!

Life is great! Just enjoy yourselves – Keith Miller

### **SUNRAYSIA – Elaine Gray, President**

Unfortunately our trip to Mungo did not eventuate due to being a few short for the bus. Fortunately, Julie and Max had conceived an alternative outing which turned out to be most enjoyable. We visited the Redcliffs RSL Museum, Eunice Wakes Glass & Leadlight Gallery, and then enjoyed a delicious light lunch at Julies.

Thanks to Julie and Max for their efforts. During our lunch it was decided to donate \$100 to the RSL Museum to help with the upkeep.

### **MANLY INC. – John Cameron, President**

The meeting differed from previous AGMs in that it was also an Ex-Apexians' night. The evening was further enhanced by the presence of our guest speaker, Kerry Gwynne from the Dalwood Spilstead Centre.

Kerry gave us a particularly informative insight into the services provided by this very worthy organization.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming Keith Cummins (Past President of Manly Apex) and Tom Dumbleton (Past President and Life Member of Dee Why).

Our Christmas Party was a resounding success and on behalf of all members, I again extend thanks to Ian and Robyn Dennewald for making their home available for the function.

### **ALSTONVILLE – Bill and Noelle Spain, President**

The November lunch time meeting was held at Eltham Valley Pantery. We have had good reports about the restaurant.

### **WYONG – Margaret Bowman, Secretary**

The AGM was held at the Heilbrunn's Residence with everyone bringing a dish to share. I would like to thank everyone for being so patient with me putting out this Dinner Notice, and also a big thank you



to Malcolm, Marion and Kevin for their help. It has been a great year and it really shows that even if you are not computer savvy, there are always members in the Club who are prepared to guide you, so please don't think you cannot do the job, you can always rely on help from members.

Thanks to Lea for always providing our Dinner Venues. This is a big job and requires some homework. I have really enjoyed the experience.

### **REDLANDS – Bill and Val Cramp, Dinner Notice**

The 2008 Christmas party at the museum was a great success. Jan Banks was selected by Santa as the most festive dressed female and Keith Haddon the best dressed male. I did comment to Keith that he came to the wrong party as he looked like "little red riding hood".

I would like to congratulate Jan on behalf of our club as she was one of the nominations for the Senior Citizen of the Year in the Redlands Australia Day Awards. Even though Jan was unlucky not to be selected it was never the less a great achievement.

Pauline Denisenko is recovering from recent hip replacement surgery and is progressing well. We are looking forward to her return to meetings in the near future.

### **GEELONG – Greg Melville, President**

Two recent guest speakers at meetings were Councillor Rod MacDonald and Mr Graham Rawlins.

Councillor Rod MacDonald presented a talk about Geelong City Council Projects Past and Present, including the New Armstrong Creek Development on our Southern Outskirts.

Rod informed us of the forward planning involved in this new project which will be vital for the accommodation of a growing number of Geelong residents and workers in the foreseeable future.

Graham "Rawlo" Rawlins is a well known Geelong Community Media Identity who, amongst many other activities over the last four decades, has been involved in local radio with 3GL, Pulse, and Vision Australia, is a Geelong Advertiser sports writer, and more recently as a television presenter on Channel 31.

Graham spoke about the highs, and lows, of his voluntary involvement with the Community Media.

## WYNNUM/MANLY – Col Ramsay, President



Despite a few mishaps, our Mystery weekend to Nambour and the Little Morgue Winery proved to be very popular with twenty five in attendance. It was good to have Keith and Liz Haddon, Bob and Mary McKernon joining us for this event.

*2008 Secretary & President – Denise Clements & John Watson*

Our Christmas get together was another fantastic function, and even Santa didn't seem to mind a few raindrops falling on his head after starting his bi-annual occupation for our members. A BIG thankyou to Diane and John who very kindly offered their home and hospitality for all of us, and also to all the talented master chefs who provided such an exceptional Christmas banquet!!!

This year our club has a number of members who will be celebrating those big "0" type birthdays. The first being Daryl Mercer who is celebrating his 70<sup>th</sup> at Iluka. It is rumoured that some members are then making their way onto Wyong.

### **Letter to the Editor from Bruce Garland – Wynnum/Manly**

In July 2008, Geraldine, our eldest daughter Elissa and I were cruising on a Viking Line ship from Moscow to St. Petersburg. It was a wonderful trip and among the 280 odd people on board there were 17 Australians. We met and enjoyed the company of Warwick and Jan Jennings, who are retired and live at Main Beach. I think they moved to the Gold Coast from Melbourne.

Imagine our surprise and pleasure, when, as the result of our mentioning that we belonged to the Apex 40 club, Jan revealed that her uncle, or one of her uncles, was LANGHAM PROUD, one of the three founders of Apex, in Geelong, in the thirties.



I thought that this accidental meeting might be of some interest to Apex 40 members.

## **XEPA – GREAT SOUTHEAST (Queensland) –**

### **The 2009 New Year ushers in a New Apex 40 Club in Queensland.**

A 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 was the ideal excuse to launch the newest and youngest Apex 40 Club. Newly appointed XEPA Great Southeast President Russell Morton brought his friends together for a night to remember.

The evening began sedately, but finished with plenty of Apex style fun, debatably foolish and ridiculous behaviour, to celebrate the joyous occasion of Russell's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday and the Birth of a New Apex 40 Club.



*Darren & Kim Rubach with James (Bongo) Robertson, Liz & Chris Stafford  
(Congrats to Bongo & Liz on their engagement during a weekend in Fiji)*

An afternoon game of bowls at the Cleveland Bowling Club was followed with plenty of fellowship, dinner, cake cutting (One for the 50<sup>th</sup> and one for XEPA), dancing, and among other things, a re-run of the suggestive 'pass the rolling pin game' (ala Norfolk Island Rort Style).

'Birthday Boy' Russell Morton, who has kept most of the 'XEPA' group in touch for the last 9 or 10 years or so, was appointed President at the November 'Get Together', and Member at Large, and Apex 40 Editor Mary Bach, was appointed Secretary/Treasurer for 2009. XEPA has four members attending the Wyong Rort.

## **“Happy Days” Holiday Rort Wyong Apex 40 Rort and Tour**

Wyong Apex 40 Rort, 27-30<sup>th</sup> March 2009, post rort tour 30<sup>th</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> April

This Update 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009

### **Registrations**

Full registrations for the Wyong Rort have now reached 131, with partial registrations we are up to 140 people for the weekend including some Apex people. We will pick up people travelling by train to Tuggerah/Wyong on the Thursday and Friday before the Rort commences.

Sandy Harmer is coordinating all transport so make sure you have her phone number or mine to let us know your ETA.

At our committee meeting this month we resolved decorations and entertainment at Forresters, the program (which will include a mystery tour on the Saturday), a special welcome and costs and what we can provide. Special needs have been considered and we are commencing production of name tags, giveaways and the like so we are prepared.

We are meeting with our service providers to fine tune program items and ensure all goes smoothly, with numbers now well over budget we are sure we can add things to make your Rort more enjoyable and affordable.

Happy Days dress is encouraged on both Saturday and Sunday night (all weekend if this takes your fancy), get ready to swing. As discussed we are planning something a little different for skits so you do not need to arrange anything prior to the Rort.

Programs are very much to that given on your registration form except we will have a mystery tour on the Saturday.

I know some of you have already polished up your dancing shoes so get ready to Rock Forresters.

We have 49 booked in to the Post Rort Tour so a great time is assured. We will have a room we can use at Motto Farm, so we are planning something in the evenings too, which will be great for fellowship.

On the Friday after the tour we will have a fellowship get together at a local pub (near Forresters Resort), a number of tourers are already staying at Forresters on the Friday night. If we can provide assistance with your onward travels we will do our best to help you on your way.



## **FAQ's About the Rort and Post Rort Tour**

1. Will you pick up from public transport – yes at Tuggerah/Wong railway station. Let us know when you are arriving.
2. If we are not staying at Forresters Resort how do we get there – we will have buses picking up at Apollo and Towoon Bay Holiday Park.
3. What dress do we need – dress is casual to the Happy Days theme, and we are hoping you will dress up for Saturday and Sunday night, bring dancing shoes.
4. Are special dietary needs catered for – yes if you have advised us of your requirements.
5. Is there after dinner activity on the tour – yes we different things planned, hopefully including dancing.
6. What time do activities start on the Rort – we commence boarding buses about 8:45am and return to accommodation about 4:30pm to allow a rest before the 7:00pm dinner.
7. Are all meals provided – lunch and dinner is provided during the Rort, but not breakfast except for Monday at the farewell breakfast which is included. Tourers lunch is generally not included (only breakfast and dinner) but we are planning to include lunch on the Monday and Tuesday. Forresters have given us a special price for breakfast on Saturday and Sunday.
8. Do we get a meal on Friday night – finger food is provided on the Friday night, so if you are a big eater you may care to arrange dinner.
9. What time does the tour leave on Monday – about 10:00am.
10. What time does the tour get back to the Central Coast – around 5:00pm, and we are planning a social get together at the pub for those interested.

### **Enquiries**

Darrol, Sandy, Marian and I will help with any questions you have, please see the registration form for contact details.

Email [malmarc2@dodo.com.au](mailto:malmarc2@dodo.com.au) for Information

Looking Forward to Seeing You All in March 2009.

## Gary Rumble OAM – Nepean Valley

Garry Rumble was 17 when he first took up tongs to run a fundraising barbecue for the Blue Mountains Hospital. Some 40 years later, he hasn't stopped.

Mr Rumble has spent a lifetime pitching in wherever he can, working with Penrith Council and Rotary, Apex and Probus clubs to help make Penrith a better place.

His tireless work was recognised when Mr Rumble was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to the community. A Penrith Council staffer for 31 years and a councillor for four, Mr Rumble worked tirelessly to improve the health and safety of the people of Penrith.

With an OAM under his belt, you might think Mr Rumble is ready for a well-earned break. But think again.

"I'd like to see botanical gardens in Penrith," he said. "Then there's a master plan for Jamison Park to bring it up to scratch."

"And the Great River Walk is still on the agenda," Mr Rumble said. "There's still a lot of work to do."

**Editorial:** As this edition was being published those tragic fires were raging across Victoria. We were very concerned about the welfare of our friends in Apex 40s who live in some of the fire ravaged areas. If our enquiries are correct no Apex 40 Member was directly affected by the tragedy. In Bendigo the Bidmade, Dumont & Harvey families live on the 'Fire Side' of the highway, but fortunately they all live south of the burned out area. All other Bendigo members live on the other side of the North South running highway.

Rob Caldwell (Bendigo) reported, "*You wouldn't have needed a bar-b-que plate to sizzle a sausage, it would have definitely just cooked by itself.*" Our hearts are saddened and go out to all those affected.

Congratulations to Gary Rumble on his OAM. Gary was one of the organisers of the Nepean Valley RORT at Penrith in 2006.

Long time bachelor, Brian Roach, has had the Skyhooks song "All My Friends Are Getting Married" ringing in his head. A short time ago he was part of a large group of 'Apex 40 Bachelors' but one by one they have been finding new lady friends and partners and some even becoming engaged. Brian is finding it increasingly difficult to find a



flatmate at the Annual Rort. Finding himself unsuitable for the TV show, 'The Farmer Wants a Wife' Brian was not to be discouraged. Brian is wondering, perhaps, if Apex could organise him a similar platform, just so that he can keep in touch with his mates.

The staff at Toowoon Bay Holiday Park must like everything to be nice and orderly. It appears that they have sited all of the Apex 40 'Alan's' in consecutive cabins – Kinder, Flaherty, Bach & Padgham –

Put some thought into what you want for the 2011 Rort. Some believe that a Rort in New Zealand is a foregone conclusion. The overseas RORTS are a lot of fun and are usually organised as a combined Rort and Post Rort Tour. However, overseas Rorts have not been as well attended as 'Local Rorts'.

The last overseas Rort to Norfolk Island was a fantastic experience, and highly rated, for those who attended. Only 80 odd members made the journey though, whereas 131 will make it to Wyong. We attended the Norfolk Rort, rated our favourite, and will also be starters for New Zealand if it be so. Be mindful that a New Zealand Rort has to be organised from this side – we cannot expect those in NZ to organise it for us.

Pamela Richardson sent all Branch Secretaries a letter of clarification last year about the 2011 Rort and we felt it important enough that all members be made aware of it through these pages. (See Pamela's letter on the top of Page 4.

Webmaster Keith Haddon, with his wife, Liz has been attending plenty of Apex 40 Dinners and is always on the lookout for Apex 40 News and Photos. Keep the Website alive and interesting by sending your stories, info and photos to Keith on a regular basis. Many Thanks again to our regular Roaring Forty contributors also.

Without your valued input we would have nothing. We apologise to Clubs and Members for the photographs that were submitted to us but not published in this issue. This was due to quality and technical problems. Our plan is to sort this out and put them on the Website.

As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 we have joined the new XEPA Great Southeast Club and are no longer Members At Large. Thanks to Rob and Pamela for their assistance and efforts during the last two years.

*Watch for the Wyong Rort Report in the next issue*

*All the Best, Mary and Alan*

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

**Mary & Alan Bach**

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**Tel: 07 3823 2648 Email: bachelec@bigpond.net.au**

**THE NEXT DEADLINE IS**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2009**

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Cheques to be made payable to supplier  
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#### **STICK PINS – Cost \$6.00**

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Sandy Harmer  
155 Bellevue Road  
Tumbi Umbi NSW 2261  
Tel: 02 4385 7375

#### **CAR STICKERS – Cost \$1.00**

Glenn Rossiter (Betty)  
10 Teewah Street  
Caloundra Qld 4551  
Tel: 07 5491 3823

#### **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**

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