

ROARING 40's



Official publication for Apex 40 Clubs. Apex 40 is the recognised body of affiliated past Apexians groups.

www.apex40.org

April 2011



Malcolm Clark



Keith Haddon

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The Editors Word!

In this issue, I have included full tributes to Keith Haddon and Malcolm Clark. It is a shame that I did not get to know these two gentleman better than a quick meet and greet and the odd email to Keith. It is the energy and enthusiasm to Apex 40 that makes these two special. Malcolm was National President in 1997 after spending many years working through the ranks of Club, District and Zone boards in Apex. However it is not what he did in Apex but the time and effort he put into Apex 40 and in particular The 2009 Wyong Rort that we remember. Malcolm Clark—CEO Fawltly Towers.

Keith worked quietly in the background trying to bring members into the modern era by introducing the Apex Website, The website may not have been very popular amongst many of the older members, but proved to be a valuable tool for promoting Apex 40 and the Apex 40 events including the annual Rort. As the editor of the Roaring 40's, I can understand Keith's frustrations in what he went through to obtain articles for the Website.. My memory of Keith - APEX40 WEBMASTER—Keith Haddon

Ken and Janice Wright



ROARING 40's

Forming enduring friendships is what we learned as Apexians and partners. Many of us have done exactly that and have continued the tradition into our Apex 40 years. We as a family, like to hear how everybody is getting on and what the other clubs are up to. The Roaring 40's will help spread that word in conjunction with the Apex 40 website. So please email or send your newsletters / Dinner Notices to me (Ken Wright) so I can include a report about your club in the next issue. And if you can email to me, why not drop a copy to our website editor Liz Haddon. All details are on the back cover. Who knows you may even win an award. Incidentally you can download a full colour copy of the Roaring 40's from the Apex 40 website.



National President's Report

Bob Ireland - Melbourn Norwesters

Here we are! Another three months have passed, and this will be my last report before the Rort in New Zealand, where all being well, I will hand over to Alan Bach.

As with my last report, I advise the passing of two of our members: Malcolm Clark (Wyong, and Past National President) and Keith Haddon (Redlands and our current Webmaster). Both have contributed much to our organisation, and our thoughts go out to Marion and Liz and their families.

On a brighter note, Liz Haddon has asked if she can continue to look after our website, and National Board have agreed unanimously that this should happen. Congratulations Liz, I know that you will continue to do the same wonderful work that both you and Keith undertook on our behalf.

The Rort in New Zealand is very much on the way. Our friends across the ditch are a resilient lot! We are still flying to Christchurch, but will be accommodated at a different place than that first planned. The original is undamaged, but is currently within the cordoned off area following the earthquake. Our host for the tour, Derek Johns, is currently looking into the cost of side tours on our behalf. A note to this effect will be placed on the website, and will be emailed to those attending.

A full budget for the 2012 Fraser Coast Rort has been submitted to National Board, and all systems are go. Brian Fulmer and his committee must be congratulated for what it appears will be a wonderful Rort and Post Rort Tour. Brian and some of his team will be in Nelson to present the details (and I am sure, take pre-registrations), and all the detail and registration forms will appear on the website as soon as possible.

At this stage we do not have any club with their hand up for the 2013 Rort, but Alan and I will be willing to accept any offers that may be forthcoming: perhaps somewhere a little warmer than the South Island of New Zealand in June!

For those of you whom are travelling to New Zealand, I look forward to catching up with you there.

Yours in fellowship

Bob Ireland



National Secretary/Treasurer's Report **Wendy Smith**

It is with much sadness that we say goodbye to two of our esteemed Apex 40 members – Malcolm Clark from Wyong Club, and Keith Haddon from Redlands Club.

Malcolm was National President of Apex 40 from 1997 to 1999. Keith, as you are all aware, has been the man behind the “Apex 40

website”

To Malcolm and Keith’s families we send our warmest wishes. Your men fought the good fight for so long, but now rest peacefully.

Affiliation Fees

Thank you to club secretaries who have paid fees and sent their member details for the database records. There are still three clubs and two members at large who are un-financial.

This is my last newsletter report as Secretary. Since 2001 the secretaries have been women - there is another secretary waiting to take my job. **HE** will join the male domination of former National Secretaries – bad luck girls, we did our best!!

It has been a pleasure to work with the members of National Board – Bob Ireland, Alan Bach and Sandy Harmer – these past two years.

I would like to wish incoming National President, Alan Bach, and his Board members, all the very best. Alan, it won't be the same without your emails!!

Innocence at its best:

Whilst making a routine vandalism report at a primary school, a policeman was interrupted by a little six year old girl. Looking up and down at his uniform, she asked, “Are you a policeman?” “Yes”, he answered and continued with his report. “My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police, is that right?” Yes, that’s right” the policeman told her. “Well, then”, she said as she extended her foot toward the policeman, “would you please tie my shoe-lace?”

Wendy Smith
 National Secretary/Treasurer



International Relations & Apex Liaison Report **Sandy Harmer - Wyong**

Our international relations will be enhanced this year by our Rort in Nelson, New Zealand, where the 41 Clubs are ready to give us a big Kiwi welcome. There have been lots of emails crossing the Tasman and we are in for a great time. The bus tour is full so at least we will be warm there with all that hot air circulating!

Darrol and I were in the UK late last year and met up with some of our 41 Club friends that were on the UK bus trip in Australia three years ago. It is wonderful to know that a common interest in serving the community can bring such rich rewards in friendships spanning the globe. We also met Andy Waite who is the current International Relations Officer for the UK 41 Clubs and happened to be on a NZ 41 Club tour when the Christchurch earthquake hit. Luckily, they weren't in the city at the time and managed to get home OK.

Last month we attended the NSW/ACT Apex State Convention in Wagga Wagga where it was good to catch up with some familiar faces and meet new ones. The business session itself was very disappointing – only two motions on the agenda. On January 10th, Brisbane City Apex Club were busy preparing for their state convention the following weekend and by Friday, they had cancelled it and were in full mode at the flood relief centres. Clubs from Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast and Ipswich were all involved and a very proud example of citizens that care.

The last two years have been very interesting and it has been a great pleasure to work with Bob and Wendy (and Alan for the last year). Thank you, Bob and Wendy, for your time and expertise – well done!

Sandy Harmer
International Relations & Apex Liaison Officer



National Vice President Apex 40 Report

Alan Bach

Bill & Liz Hammond from Upper Hutt Club 41 New Zealand came and stayed with us on one of their flying visits to the Gold Coast. We had an Australia Dinner with them and Bob Skinner & Adelle Wain – Liz's birthday just happened to fall on Australia Day this year as well. Peter & Roz Chessell, MAL's (Members at Large) from Grafton, also paid us a visit recently. Both the Hammond's and the Chessell's will be at the Nelson Rort.

We are beginning to gather a collection of Apex 40 Trophies and our bar area is beginning to resemble a museum of 'Believe it or Not' items. We are not taking any of these Trophies to New Zealand as we are not keen to become 'Stars' on the programme 'Border Security'. It is recommended that any of last year's award winners should only take a photograph of the Award to pass on to the next year's winner.

This year has been one of natural disasters on both sides of the Tasman. Firstly the floods in Eastern Australia, the bushfires in Western Australia, the Cyclones in Northern Australia and then the terrible earthquake in Christchurch. The latter being more tragic than all of the Australian disasters combined. Within days the earthquake in Christchurch seemed to be overshadowed by the earthquake and tidal wave in Japan. Maybe because the world is so small now everyone seems to know somebody who was affected by at least one on the disasters.

John and Michelle Beith from our club were stuck on the Bruce Highway near Gympie while their business premises and warehouse was being inundated by the Brisbane flood waters – Colleen Marsh was at home saving what she could in the suburb of Fairfield while the Brisbane River took a shortcut through their home. Her husband, Hilton was away trying to reorganise power supply to another flooded town, Dalby on the Darling Downs. Hilton an ex member of Redland Apex and Colleen were regular helpers at the Gympie Muster. Bob Skinner and Adelle had a New Zealand Holiday booked for February and flew into Christchurch and stayed on the edge of the exclusion zone with some of the rescue teams.

Other XEPA Members, Ross and Mary Smith were in Japan when the earthquake hit. Ross managed to quickly hire a bus, group together a number of Aussies staying in his motel and take them to Osaka for an early flight to Australia.

A few more Apex 40 members have passed on since Christmas. Some were well known to their club members but not as well known to the wider Apex 40

community. Past National President, Malcolm Clark passed away on March 6th and our Webmaster, Keith Haddon left us on March 15th. Mary and I along with a number of Apex 40 members attended Keith's Cremation Ceremony at Deception Bay.

Keith and Liz had only lived in Queensland for a few years after many years in Bathurst, New South Wales. A memorial service will be held for Keith in Bathurst on April 8th. Apex 40 member Peter Ryall conducted the funeral service for Malcolm Clark and Malcolm's Obituary can be found on the Apex 40 Website. Our sympathies go to Marian and Liz and families. Thanks also to Liz Haddon for offering to continue as Webmaster. This offer was unanimously endorsed by National Board and I am sure will have the backing of the whole of Apex 40.

Last weekend Mary and I were kindly invited to and thoroughly enjoyed attending a combined lunch of the Maryborough, Hervey Bay and Gympie Apex 40 Clubs. The venue was at the Theebine Hotel, not far off the Bruce Highway between Gympie and Maryborough. From reports The Hervey Bay Club continued the fellowship all of the way home in their bus. We had met with Maryborough and Gympie members before but this was our first encounter with the Hervey Bay Club. We have also attended meetings of our local XEPA Club and the nearby Wynnum Manly Club.

The New Zealand Rort is not far off – We are looking forward to catching up with our old friends and it will be a great opportunity to meet some more of our New Zealand counterparts. Sadly though there will be many, many regular Rorters missing in Nelson. I also am appreciative of the efforts our New Zealand counterparts have put in to accommodate our Rort and Tour with their Annual Convention.

Hopefully we will be lucky enough to see those of you who missed the Nelson Rort at the Fraser Coast Rort in 2012. It appears that there will many Rort Virgins at the Fraser Coast Rort to meet, greet and enjoy fellowship with.

The organising committee for the Fraser Coast Rort were putting the final touches to their plans at the Theebine Hotel before the combined luncheon. Brian Fulmer will be giving their full presentation at the Nelson Rort. Brian, I am sure, has plans in hand to deliver their proposal to all Apex 40 Clubs.

Alan Bach.



Apex Australia **National Board Statement**

APEX LOOKS TOWARDS THE FUTURE

It is no secret that the Association has been in membership decline since the eighties, with our current membership numbers back to those of the mid 1930's. If we are to arrest this decline, we need to step out of the downward spiral and make some significant changes.

With this in mind, the National Board has taken the bold step of proposal radical changes to the structure of the association. The changes are designed to provide better services to the clubs more efficiently and cost effectively than we are currently able to achieve.

The first draft of the proposed changes was endorsed at the National Board meeting on 13th March, and will now be presented to members for ideas and feedback. The most cost effective means of disseminating the information and gathering feedback is through the use of technology and the Internet, hence a website has been set up temporarily just for this purpose, <http://www.apexfuture.org.au>.

Copies of the proposal are available on the website as well as the mechanism to provide feedback and comments. Please take the time to read the document and provide relevant feedback. There will also be further e-bulletins sent out when any changes of note are made to the document, an at each milestone along the way. This proposal is for significant change and is no small undertaking, so having the right plan in place to start with is extremely important so please pass this information on to all Apexians and take the time to discuss it within your clubs.

We look forward to your feedback

National Board – 2010/11

The APEX Club of Blacktown

Invites you to help celebrate its 50 year anniversary 1961-2011

Saturday 13th August 2011 6.30pm start

The Ballroom Blacktown Workers Club

Campbell Street Blacktown

All proceeds from the night will go to the
APEX Children's Chalet

Cost: \$45.00 per head or \$400.00 for table of 10.

Includes three course meal and entertainment. Drinks at club prices.

The night will include some fantastic raffles with great prizes. Dress formal.

Contact Jamie Vincent on 0410587569 or Jamie@jamievincent.com



NEW ZEALAND RORT

1st June to 15th June 2011



LAST CALL FOR RORTERS



Please call Susan Doyle in Melbourne on 03 5472 3822 for a full tour itinerary and conditions.

Itinerary is also located on the Apex 40 website. - www.apex40.org

MALCOLM LESLIE CLARK

(Wyong Apex 40)

It is with regret that we announce the death on Sunday March 6th of Malcolm Clark, our national President 1997-1999.

At age 64, Malcolm was too young to die. Yet let us take heart from the fact that, even though it was a life taken too short, we know that now he is at last in peace. In February 2008 he was diagnosed with Malignant Mesothelioma. He fought a courageous battle for more than 3 years, and those who saw Malcolm in his last months know the pain and suffering he endured. Thankfully, that has now been spared him.



Malcolm Leslie Clark was born at Wakefield in Yorkshire, England, on June 7th 1946. Right to the end, he still had much of his Yorkshire accent – friends jokingly called him “MALCOOM”, and there was the time he organised an Apex convention with the theme “A Mutton Jump” (something to do with a sheep on the spit), which he always referred to as “A MOOTEN JOOMP”. Mention should also be made of the slightly risqué T-shirt Malcolm had screen printed for the Convention – a real Malcolm Clark trait: causing a few raised eyebrows with risqué jokes or stories!

Malcolm had 3 siblings, brothers Roy and John and a sister Betty. He met Marian Higgott at a circus where he had a casual job cleaning up the Big Top. At that time he was going out with one of her college friends who introduced the two of them that night at the circus. They were married on the 23rd of September 1967 in Middleton, Leeds, Yorkshire. In 1970 with no job lined up, he and Marian migrated to Australia. Their sole possessions were packed in 3 tea chests, and they also had a pram – as Marian was 6 months pregnant with Ian. He discovered when they reached Australia that his engineering qualifications were in high demand, and he immediately picked up work in the power stations around the Central Coast, work that he was to embrace until he eased himself into semi-retirement. After his semi-retirement his sense of adventure really kicked in and he took on positions around the world as a trouble-shooter for under-performing power stations. These contracts took him to places as diverse as the La Trobe Valley in Victoria, The Philippines, Bangladesh, India (twice he ventured there) and even Libya (before today's troubles!).

Community was an important part of Malcolm's life and from the time he arrived in Australia he was determined to assimilate into the Australian way of life. In this he succeeded admirably – he loved a drink, enjoyed barbecues and he joined our

Australian service club, Apex. But the highpoint of his desire to become part of Australia was when he and Marian became naturalised Australians on Australia Day (January 26), 1990 at The Entrance. And the person who naturalised them on that day was the Australian Prime Minister - none other than the most quintessential Aussie Prime Minister in our history – Bob Hawke.

Malcolm was a dedicated Apexian, and he held all major positions within his Club, Wyong, including that of President. He served as District Governor and on Zone Board. Upon his compulsory retirement from Apex when he turned 40, he was awarded Senior Active Status of his Club in recognition of his committed work as an Apexian. He immediately joined Wyong Apex 40. He devoted an enormous amount of energy to Apex 40 and was largely responsible for the Wyong Club today being one of the biggest and strongest in Australia. He held the position of President on multiple occasions, and at other times co-ordinated many, many highly successful dinners, conventions, weekends away, and numerous social activities. Whenever possible, he always attended the National Rort. One major disappointment for him was when his doctor refused him permission to attend the 2008 Perth Rort shortly after he was first diagnosed with his illness. His crowning achievement was when he was elected the National President of Apex40 in 1997. His last major effort was the organisation of the highly successful Rort held in Wyong in 2009 – a task he was determined to see through despite the debilitating nature of his illness.

Malcolm became heavily involved in his professional organisation, the Institution of Engineers. He always believed that the Institution should involve itself in community affairs, and he ensured that this was the case when he was President of the Newcastle branch and also President of the Central Coast branch.

Again, conscious of community, Malcolm served with the Warnervale Bush Fire Brigade, filling the positions of President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as being Deputy Captain. True to his adventurous spirit, he was frequently in the thick of action, and had his eyebrows singed on more than one occasion!

He just loved his Hash House Harriers! He joined them in the Philippines in 1998 and continued on with the Central Coast group on his return to Australia, taking on a number of important roles including that of Trail Master. For those of you not familiar with Hash House Harriers, they undertake runs of various types with the aim of finishing up at a place where there is plenty of beer. Sort of like a group of drinkers with a running problem. He and Marian travelled overseas on a number of occasions to attend Hash House events. He kept remarkably fit, always enjoyed running and made many good friends while doing so. Even when he first started chemotherapy, he could still do a 9km run. He enjoyed sport, becoming a playing member of Wyong Bowling Club and playing indoor cricket at the Charmhaven Fitness Centre.

Malcolm delighted in public speaking, and he had great success in public speaking competitions and debates as a member of Apex. Upon his retirement from Apex, he became an adjudicator for these Apex competitions. He started Toastmasters groups in

the power stations on the Central Coast and in The Philippines.

His wife Marian was the absolute love of his life. She supported him in all his activities over the years, furthering her education and holding jobs which enabled them to live comfortably. They arrived in Australia in 1970 with nothing but 3 tea chests and a pram. By the 1980s they had 4 boys. Malcolm and Marian had arrived in Australia with virtually nothing, but they were determined to provide a happy and comfortable life for their sons. They invested what they earned, and in the later years of Malcolm's life had built a portfolio of property and shares to enable them all to enjoy the quality of life to which they aspired.

Malcolm is survived by his wife Marian, his sons Ian, Stephen, Matthew and John, his daughters-in-law Heidi and Melissa, his 7 grandchildren Emily, Thomas, Connor, Jennifer, Jade, Jasmin, and Rhiannon, and his precious pet dog Mitzi.

Peter Ryall
Wyang Apex40 Club



To all Apex 40 members

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of you for the wonderful support you have offered to Malcolm and myself and all of the family over the past three years during Malcolm's illness. He certainly tried to live a full a life as possible and fought till the end. I thank you for coming to the funeral as it gave all of us some comfort on the day and thank you for the continued offers of help if necessary. My sons are happy that I have such a great group of friends to keep an eye on me and help me out if need be.

Apex has helped us for most of our life in Australia, from stepping off the ship in Sydney right until now and we made so many friends along the way, I would like to say a special thankyou to Peter for conducting the service, I am sure he would have liked it. I know it was difficult for you at times, but you did him proud.

I would have liked to have said all this in a meeting, but I didn't think I could do it. So once again, thankyou so much from all of the family

Marian

Keith John Haddon

7 Feb 1947 - 15 Mar 2011
(Redlands Apex 40)



Sadly our wonderful life in retirement with so much fun, joy, love, took a knock when Keith was diagnosed with aggressive advanced prostate cancer in August 2009.

He was never well from then and despite several fractures and intolerable pain he never gave up hope nor complained.

Sadly for Liz and the family, but for the better for Keith, he passed away at precisely 9:00 am on 15th March surrounded by all his loving family and more.

He was in the palliative care unit at Redcliffe Hospital where he received wonderfully compassionate and professional care for the last 8 days of his life but had been at home, virtually bedridden since about July. He kept his many spread sheets going until the very end. And was doing tasks as treasurer of the Veteran golfers until a couple of days before he died.

I will love him and miss him for ever. Keith and I went back a long way - 1955 in fact! We had a great life, living in four states and making lots of friends along the way. He was energetic, punctual, accurate and precise in every thing he did - traits that would never be attributed to me. I think we had the Yin-Yang thing and that's why we always got along so well. In the words of his GP, Dr Andy Perry: "Keith approached his illness with great dignity, courage and resolve." Not once did he complain or say "why me" but he was confident to the last that he would beat the disease.

Keith was cremated at Deception Bay on 18th March and a Memorial Service will be held at Bathurst Golf Course on Friday 8th April at 11 am. His ashes will be placed in the columbarium at Bathurst.

Gone, but never forgotten
 - Liz Haddon



Keith John HADDON

HADDON, Keith John Late of Woody Point and formerly of Bathurst. Passed away at Redcliffe 15th March. Aged 64 Years Loving Husband of Liz. Father and Father-in-law of Geoff and Natasha, Lindy and Kim Woodburn, and David and Lyn. Loved Grandfather of their Families. Brother of Dr. Bruce Haddon of Boulder, Co.. Treasured Son-in-law of Beth Kelk and Brother-in-law of Wendy, Mary, Janet and Monty (dec'd). Relatives and Friends are invited to join Liz and the Family at the Great Northern Garden of Remembrance, Tallowwood Drive, Deception Bay, on Friday, 18th March 2011, at 1.00 p.m. A Memorial Service will be held at Bathurst at a later date. TRADITIONAL FUNERALS Redcliffe - (07) 3284 7333 A Local Family Company Published in Courier Mail on March 16, 2011

**Alan Bach writes -**

Mary & I attended Keith's funeral yesterday along with Redland Apex 40 members and Brian & Pam from Maryborough.

The fellow conducting the service confirmed that Keith was a man who had been unselfish in his community spirit toward his fellow man, and had planned to continue in that vein for many years to come.

Sadly that was not the case but all those who met him were richer for making his acquaintance. Keith, as was our experience also, was always prepared to work hard for any organisation he was involved with and was always quick to volunteer his services, and I am sure Liz has always been right there with him. Keith was always there to do the job well but never looked for the fanfare.



Even though Keith and Liz had only been in Apex 40 for a short time, we have all witnessed their great contribution to our organisation. Liz has to now adjust her life without her mate of many years but it appears that she is quite prepared to carry on and continue where Keith has left off.

I am sure Liz and Keith worked well as a team and helped each other immensely. Liz has indicated to me that if Apex 40 wishes, she is quite prepared to continue with the Website. I believe that it would be prudent that we decide quickly and let Liz and Apex 40 know of our decision.

Keith Miller (Bathurst Service) writes -

8/4/2011 BATHURST MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR KEITH HADDON

On a glorious Bathurst (Central West NSW) day on Friday 8th April 2011, approx. 150 family and friends of the late Keith Haddon (Webmaster of the national Apex 40 website), got together at the Bathurst Golf Club (set amongst the vivid colours of the autumn trees) to pay tribute at a Memorial Service to celebrate the life and times of Keith.

The guests came from near and far (including his sister-in-law and family from Perth) and included friends from previous organisations that Keith had been involved with such as the Scouting movement, Bathurst Apex, the Association of Public Authority Surveyors (APAS), Apex 40 and Bathurst Golf Club.

Several speakers relived their memories of Keith, which brought many a tear and laughs, and made for a lovely tribute. Speakers included his first boss from 1975 at the then Central Mapping Authority, located in Bathurst, who developed a special sporting bond with Keith through his commitment to swimming and squash (apparently Keith in his time was a top squash player). There were also 5 mates from his University days (circa 1968) in Sydney who recounted a classic tale of how Keith purchased a Motor Scooter called a "Rabbit". Keith was standing next to the scooter proudly showing his mates how it worked, when he twisted the handle (accelerator) and it took off, with Keith madly running with it holding on by one hand, heading for a plate glass window. Somehow, Keith performed a "superman" stunt and threw himself onto the scooter, and managed to do a wheelie and stop the runaway scooter just before the plate glass window. Ah the memories!

Another speaker was the current President of the Association of Public Authority Surveyors (APAS), who announced that at their AGM (co-incidentally held in Bathurst on the same week as the Memorial service), it had been agreed to introduce an award called "The Keith Haddon Memorial Award" to be presented to the surveyor who produced the best "papers" at their annual AGM. A great honour indeed in recognition of the efforts made by Keith as one of the founding members of that organisation.

Wife, Liz flanked with their 3 adult children, made a lovely speech on behalf of the family. Keith and Liz were married for 42 years after their wedding in January 1969. Liz recalled how Keith was mad on computers (his first computer was of course the legendary Commodore 64), and his love of Spreadsheets was evident at every organisation in which he served – even at home he had spreadsheets for Car Mileage, Finances, Assets – you name it, Keith had a Spreadsheet for it. Even the night before he passed away, Keith had his treasured laptop on his hospital bed.

A truly inspirational memorial service and one which left the guests very thankful for Keith's contribution to our lives. Liz expressed her sincere appreciation to all those who have sent their condolences, and was just overwhelmed at the number of people who attended the memorial service. Rest in Peace Keith Haddon – you will be sadly missed by those who have known you.

Keith Miller Apex 40 Nepean Valley



2012 RORT



Fraser Coast Bush & Beach Rort 2012

Watch this space!

Registrations will soon be opening for the 2012 Fraser Coast “Bush ‘n Beach” Rort hosted by the Hervey Bay & Maryborough Apex 40 Clubs.

In March 2009 the councils of Hervey Bay, Maryborough, Tiaro and Woocoo amalgamated to become the new Fraser Coast Regional Council. The local authority area has a population in excess of 92,000 and is one of the fastest growing areas in Australia.

The Fraser Coast is so named as it lies in the lee of Fraser Island an island located along the southern coast of Queensland, Australia, approximately 300 kilometres north of Brisbane. Its length is about 120 kilometres. It was inscribed as a World Heritage site in 1992. The island is considered to be the largest sand island in the world at 1840 km² & has its own subtropical rainforest.

According to Aboriginal legend, when humans were created and needed a place to live, the mighty god Beiral sent his messenger Yendingie with the goddess K’gari down from heaven to create the land and mountains, rivers and sea. K’gari fell in love with the earth’s beauty and did not want to leave it. So Yendingie changed her into a heavenly island – Fraser Island.

The name Fraser Island comes from Eliza Fraser and her story of survival from a shipwreck on the island. Captain James Fraser and his wife, Eliza Fraser, were shipwrecked on the island in 1836. The name of the ship was the Stirling Castle. Captain Fraser died but Eliza was rescued off the island.

Hervey Bay has often been called the jewel in Queensland's crown. It is also referred to as the Whale Watch Capital of the World. A scenic 3 ½ hours drive north of Brisbane and only 45 minutes by air from Brisbane, Hervey Bay is an easily accessible holiday destination.

The city has a wonderful subtropical climate. Temperatures range from 14 to 23 degrees Centigrade in winter and 22 to 29 degrees Centigrade in summer. A great place to escape the southern winter. Rainfall is low and there are more fine days than other Queensland holiday centres.

Hervey Bay is well-known for its calm waters, superb fishing and whale watching, excellent areas for sailing and water sports, growing population and laidback lifestyle. "The Bay" as it is fondly termed by residents is also referred to as the "Whale City" which makes nearby neighbour Maryborough the "Heritage City". Just 30kms from the beachside cafes of Hervey Bay, you'll find the charming and historic city of Maryborough built on the banks of the grand Mary River.

Maryborough was settled in 1847 and is one of *Queensland's* oldest provincial cities. The new Maryborough township quickly became a thriving, bustling river port for the export of wool, cotton, timber, sugar - and then gold. In the lead-up to Federation, it was the second largest immigration port after Sydney - with up to 22,000 free settlers landing in Maryborough seeking fame and fortune in the new colony.

In the 1800s, ships from Plymouth and Liverpool were docking almost every two weeks bringing immigrants from England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and Scandinavia. The many grand old heritage listed buildings and hotels in the Portside area were built to service the Port of Maryborough's thriving merchant businesses

At one stage Maryborough was the rival for Brisbane as the new Queensland capital.

Proposed Program

<i>Friday, May 25th:</i>	Registration & Welcome Social.
<i>Saturday, May 26th:</i>	Local tour with luncheon AGM on Fraser Island. Bush dance that night.
<i>Sunday, May 27th:</i>	Local tour & Rort Dinner that night.
<i>Monday, May 28th:</i>	Farewell breakfast & commence Wide Bay Wonders Post Rort Tour

AROUND THE CLUBS

NSW

ALSTONVILLE APEX 40- *Approx 740km North of Sydney*

BYRON BAY OASIS —*Approx 760km North of Sydney*

CREST CLUB OF THE BLUE MTNS/APEX 40— *100km west of Sydney*

Had their first birthday in February at the Webb's House

FORBES—*Approx 380 km West of Sydney*

GREAT 8 HUNTER VALLEY— *Approx 170km North of Sydney*

Had a successful weekend at Foster with dining, café's and cream buns on the agenda. Six members enjoyed Valentines Day together at Sporties. The Club will soon be celebrating their 20th Birthday and are looking within for ideas on how to celebrate this special event whilst reminiscing about their 10th Birthday and how they had almost as many apologies as acceptances. Colin Kingham has an easy way of remembering his wedding anniversary, it's the day before his birthday. Congratulations. The last meeting was a breakfast meeting at a café with bowls and croquet as their morning exercise.

GRAFTON—*Approx 620 km North of Sydney*

INVERELL—*Approx 560 km North West of Sydney*

LAVINGTON—*Approx 560 km South of Sydney*

LEETON—*Approx 590 km South West of Sydney*

LISMORE—*Approx 740 km North of Sydney*

MANLY—*Approx 15km North East of Sydney*

MOREE—*Approx 640km North west of Sydney*

MULLUMBIMBY/BRUNSWICK HEADS—*Approx 790 km North of Sydney*

NEPEAN VALLEY— *Approx 60km west of Sydney*

(My Club) - Nepean Valley started the year with a "Back to it BBQ" and have continued having great times. The last event was at the "Q" Theatre in Penrith where we re-lived the early days of "Dad & Dave" based on how it was produced in a radio station. The night included advertisements based on local business but given the

sounds of the 1930's. Our next event will be at the Australian Pioneer Village in Wilberforce near Windsor.

WYONG — Approx 100km north of Sydney

Wyong have enjoyed some great monthly meetings, starting off with lunch in Budgewoi with visitors from Tamworth and Canada. The April meeting will be at the Red Centre Steakhouse in The Entrance

In the last edition I mention Wyong were going on a National Park Caving walk. 9 members and two friends started out on one of the hottest days in February. Four other members would have joined them except for surgery and travel problems (escaping from Egypt). Here is their report -

The 400 to 500 metre very steep, eroded, slippery, bull ant infested, gravelly path led down to the beach near Snapper Point from where we accessed the cave. Only the Bradfords had done the walk previously so it was a great eye opener for the rest of the group. We waded through thigh high water, but only for about 20 metres, to gain access into the cave, which opened up to be an awesome cavern about the size of 4 to 5 houses. We had to duck our heads to get into this very secret cave. We climbed onto the rock shelf covered with cunje that skirted water at you when you trod on it. There were elephant snails about 6 inches long with white stripes on their backs and red cunje as well.

We only had one mishap. Don had wandered off near the breakers coming in through the Cathedral Arch windows, slipped on one of the rocks and took the skin off a knee and 3 fingers. When he stood up he saw that he was standing in a pool of blood. Should we have been worried about sharks? He is still very sore but it is self inflicted. No sympathy!

After climbing, stumbling almost crawling back up the path to the top, panting with tongues hanging out, five went on to Caves Beach for dinner and the rest of us went



on home. (I had to dress Don's injuries) It was a great experience. Although we live in the area, many of us do not know of the cave because it is not widely publicized, hence its pristine condition. It is not on the National Parks Maps. All in all a great day!

QLD

ALBANY CREEK—*Approx 20km North of Brisbane*

CALOUNDRA—*Approx 103km North of Brisbane*

CURTIS COAST—*Approx 530km North of Brisbane*

GOLD COAST —*Approx 75km South of Brisbane*

GYMPIE —*Approx 180km North of Brisbane*

HERVEY BAY—*Approx 290km North of Brisbane*

MARYBOROUGH —*Approx 260km North of Brisbane*

REDLANDS — *Approx 40km south of Brisbane*

Started the year with the passing of member Al Berlin who had been around since the early days of Apex and was a super chap and then Keith Haddon passed away in March. Keith's story is published on page 10.

The first meeting back was a Valentines Day dinner at the Grand View Hotel which included chocolates all round. The April Meeting will be a BBQ at Mount Cotton.

Some Christmas fun from Redlands



SUNSHINE COAST —*Approx 100km North of Brisbane*

Had a huge year of events in 2010, trying local restaurants and cafés around the local area. More events planned for 2011

WYNNUM—MANLY *Approx 20km east of Brisbane*

Wynnum Manly have had a change of office bearers at their AGM. Col and Phyl had served two years and congratulated John and Denice and Lydnsey on their appointments. At the February meeting they enjoyed Fish and Chips at Manly Park.

XEPA GREAT SOUTH EAST *Approx 50km south east of Brisbane*

The first meeting of the year in February was at Fasta Pasta in the Lakeside Shopping Centre.

VIC**BENDIGO—Approx 153km North West of Melbourne**

Bendigo's January meeting took place at the Marong Hotel where they enjoyed being past Apexians. Their more recent meeting was a Mad Hatter BBQ at the Clarkes home with two new members and two visitors. The next meeting in May will be a day of tourist attractions including a visit to Olive and tomatoe farms.

Bendigo has three couples going to the New Zealand Rort in Christchurch.

DANDENONG VALLEY—Approx 35km South of Melbourne**GEELONG APEX 40 — Approx 73km South West of Melbourne**

Geelong will enjoy a talk from Alan Davis about living and working in Qatar in the Arab Emirates at their April meeting.

Had their AGM in March. During the evening the members were entertained by Graham Bonney who turned a hobby into a very successful winery at Batesford. Graham will tell the history of his latest and most successful label "Paradise IV"

At a previous meeting, member Glynn Jenkins spoke of the future options for Geelong's future water supply. Alan Kinder is putting together a combined gathering of several Apex40 clubs to be held in Woodend on September 11th.

LAVINGTON — Approx 300 km North of Melbourne

MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND— approx. 40km east of Melbourne

Geoff Argus, Past President, made a comment in his report within the context of ill health and the passing of Alan Padgham and I believe it echoes the thoughts of many Apex 40 members and their clubs.

"We hope that ill health will leave us alone in 2011 but the reality is that we are aging and therefore we have to face the consequences. Never the less, I hope that membership of our Apex 40 Branch does provide the continuing friendship that we shared during our involvement with Apex.



Geoff Argus

Melbourne/Gippsland celebrated their first meeting of the year at the Clayton Bowls Club with an evening dinner. This was followed up by a day at the Healesville Picnic Races and they were looking at a few days away at Apollo Bay. The club also raised \$300 for Cottages by the Sea.

The annual Kinder Classic golf day was held in early January with nine Melbourne-Gippsland members and other past Apexians participating and was won this year by David Whitchurch, son of past National President Garth. In a very close contest, David and Garth had the same score and David just got in to win on a count-back. A number of other members joined the players for lunch after the game at Box Hill Golf Club.

MELBOURNE NORWESTERS—Approx 22km North West of MelbournePORTLAND—Approx 363km South West of MelbourneSUNRAYSIA — Approx 546km North of Melbourne

Sunraysia had Christmas lunch at the RSL and their next function is scheduled for a BBQ lunch in April at the Cavanagh's home.

SA

ADELAIDE HILLS—Approx 35km South West of Adelaide

MACRAMS/MILLICENT—Approx 400km South of Adelaide

WA

PERTH—Capital of Western Australia

TAS

DEVONPORT —Approx 255km North (West) of Hobart

Enjoyed lunch at Pedros of Ulverstone Wharf in February, April is set to be a curry night in Forth.

LAUNCESTON —Approx 200km North of Hobart

Members at large Locations

South Grafton NSW

Balmain NSW

Junction Hill NSW

Morayfield Qld

Kianga NSW

Bargara Qld

Berriwillock Qld

Mackay Qld

Southport Qld

Herberton Qld

Vermont South Vic

Wonthaggi Vic

Chudleigh Tas.

MALAYSIA

KELAB APEX 40 — Kuala Lumpur - 3654km North West of Darwin

Started the year with a lunch at the “NEW BEGGAR’S DELICIOUS RESTAURANT AT JALAN HARMONI 2, IJOK 4562, SELANGOR.” Just to entice you they added “You will certainly relish the delicious “beggar’s chicken” cooked in a totally unconventional way. Aluminium foil is wrapped around the meat, marinated with Chinese herbs and spices and then it is enveloped with a thick layer of clay, which is buried in the ground. On top of it a fire is started to cook the food.”, “Primitive maybe but it is certainly delicious. Please come and also take pleasure in appreciating the scenic beauty our rural country side”. The previous social was at the Chong Fatt Seafood Garden with an afternoon full of liquor and singing.





Prostate Cancer
Foundation
of Australia

RESEARCH
AWARENESS
SUPPORT

Symptoms

There are four main disorders of the prostate. All can have similar symptoms, which may include one or more of the following:

- Waking frequently at night to urinate
- Sudden or urgent need to urinate
- Difficulty in starting to urinate
- Slow flow of urine and difficulty in stopping
- Discomfort when urinating
- Painful ejaculation
- Blood in the urine or semen
- Decrease in libido (sex urge)

Reduced ability to get an erection

Help Line

Freecall helpline 1800 22 00 99

The Helpline is open Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm AEST

What are the common reasons to get tested

- ◆ Most men will seek testing for prostate cancer for the following reasons:
- ◆ As part of a general check up - usually after 50 years of age
- ◆ Due to a recent experience with a relative or friend who has suffered from prostate cancer
- ◆ A family history of prostate cancer
- ◆ A recent onset of urinary symptoms

Theebine Combined Lunch.—the combined meeting of Gympie, Maryborough and Hervey Bay Clubs. Sunday 27th March 2011.

Just off the 'Beaten Track' some 20 minutes north of Gympie is the small country town of Theebine. The town is set in the foot of the Gunalda Range and boasts as its local watering hole, the very popular Theebine Hotel. It appears that this hotel has been a popular meeting place for local Apexians and was the chosen venue for the first combined meeting of the Hervey Bay, Maryborough (Qld.), and Gympie Apex 40 Clubs.

Mary and I jumped at the invitation to attend the Sunday lunch and had a typically great afternoon of Apex fellowship. The Hotel some 100 years ago was known as the Kilkivan Theebine Junction Hotel and was built to service the train junction opposite. The town has a history of being the gateway responsible for opening the South Burnett Region of Queensland. Many travellers hurry by on the nearby Bruce Highway and miss this historical treasure of Australia.

Not so Apex 40 – Even a few heavy showers could not dampen the enthusiasm of those who enjoyed a long lunch under the covered Beer Garden. Gaileen entertained us with her 'one man band show' and everyone enjoyed her range of country, rock & roll, ballads, favourites and cheered her eagerness to play our requests.

Vince and Donna Boeske from the Apex Camp at Mudjimba also made the trek to Theebine for the afternoon. Vince is the Manager of the Mudjimba Apex Camp and is very enthusiastic about its future. If you have not heard about the Mudjimba Camp Vince has plans to change that.

Before lunch, 2012 Rort Committee Members from the Maryborough and Hervey Bay Clubs met to put the final touches on the Fraser Coast Bush 'N' Beach Rort ready for the presentation that will be unveiled in Nelson, New Zealand. Maryborough Club President, Brian Fulmer and Hervey Bay Club President, Col Baker and their respective club members are well on track with their planning. Keep the last weekend in May 2012 free for a trip to the Fraser Coast and watch out for their promos after NZ.

The raffle proceeds went to the Fraser Coast Bush 'N' Beach Rort and the Fines Session Collection was donated to the Mudjimba Apex Camp. Hervey Bay Club was the first to leave and from all reports the bus trip home was a riot and topped off a great day for the members. When we left Tom Colley and his club members from the Gympie 'Old Buggers' were still going strong. Gympie Apex 40 members are all quite young really - Their 'Old Bigger' shirts are going to be really faded before we will classify them as 'Old. When someone tells you that they received their Apex

Life Membership in 2006, hell that was just the other day, that's not old is it I am confident we will see many who were at the lunch at next years Rort, many of them will be at the Muster in August and there are strong moves to make the 'Combined Lunch' an Annual Event.



Count us in and thanks again for the invite,

Alan Bach, NVP



NEXT ISSUE
CLOSING 30th JUNE

Keep sending in your pictures, club notices and general stories of interest so they can be shared with the rest of the Apex 40 community through our *Roaring 40's publication*.

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**Next issue : Published July -
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Car Stickers - \$1.00

Glenn Rossiter (Betty)
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Stick Pins - Cost \$6.00

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Always ring first to check on availability and postage costs