

ROARING 40's



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

www.apex40.org

March 2012



2012 Bush & Beach

**RORT - QLD
25th-28th May**

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- ◆ **Members having fun**

The Editors Word!

Well, our annual Rort is fast approaching with Brian and the team issuing final invoices in the last few days whilst preparing the Fraser Coast for an onslaught of Apex 40 fun and good times. In years gone by the business session of the Rort have been minimal to the extent of just voting in our new board. This year, we need to consider changes that need to be made to our organisation to ensure that no one member or members are held personally responsible (financially) should a situation arise whereby a member of the community seeks legal or civil action to recover costs as a result of an Apex 40 function or event.

These changes reflect the type of world we live in today and not the country we grew up in. Please read our National Board's report and contact Col if your club has not received emails addressing our current situation and proposed solutions.

Just for thought, what would you do in the following situation - Your club decides to throw a BBQ on at your house with each member bringing a plate to share. Just after eating, several members become very sick and are rushed to hospital, one of them has been booked on a \$3000 non-refundable holiday to the top end the next day and of course, because it is not an overseas trip, he has decided not take out insurance. After much discussion and deducting, the food poison was related to a dish that one of the other members has bought along. Whilst everyone else puts it down to a bad experience, the member who was going on his holiday is very upset and wants his \$3000 refunded and has indicated that he will talk to his solicitor friend from Rotary.

On a lighter note, Janice and I enjoyed the company of Alan and Mary Bach on New Years day whilst on their way to Mildura. During the day members Mike Hastedt and Garry & Louise Rumble (Nepean Valley Apex) joined in our celebratory drinks to welcome in the new year with President.



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. As members, we all 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 To contact me please email—kawright@optusnet.com.au

National President's Report

Alan Bach



Firstly I offer many, many thanks to John and Sandra Bowman and the members of the Wyong Club for making us most welcome on our visit south in late December. The initial purpose of the visit was to deliver the 'Eddie Nunn' Wizzie Award that John proudly won in Nelson, New Zealand. Wyong secretary Tom Dumpleton set to and organised a club get together at the 'Bowman's Retreat' on the Wyong River.

Thanks to all the members who made the effort to attend at short notice. The visit was capped off with a superb lunch at the Wollombi Pub and seeing the New Year in with that elderly stager, the very renowned, Lucky Starr.

We also appreciated catching up with Peter and Anne Ryall at Read Head on Hallidays Point and thank them for their hospitality. Congratulations on becoming grand-parents again on January 21.

On New Years Day we had a most enjoyable afternoon with Ken and Janice Wright and Gary and Louise Rumble at Emu Plains. Janice took us for an evening walk along the Nepean River while Ken had a well deserved rest.

Mary and I also were able to accept a long overdue invitation to visit Peter and Roz Chessell in Grafton. Having just moved into their 'Dream Home' Peter was busy in the garden and Roz was dreaming of new furniture and new outfits to fill the spacious wardrobe.

Long term Wynnum Manly member Heather Jessop passed away on January 29th. Many of you will remember Heather as a 'Rort Regular' and she and Bill made a great and fun loving team. I have expressed our condolences, along with many other Apex 40 members, to Bill at the funeral.

In December, I attended the Xepa Breakfast at Victoria Point, and the Wynnum/Manly Christmas Party at Manly. After our trip south, Xepa had a long weekend getaway at Tallebudgera Creek on the Gold Coast. The weather was perfect and the activities were wide and varied. The term 'Happy Hour' should be altered as they always seem to take much longer than an hour.

The Apex State Convention will be held in Toowoomba in May and I have indicated to the State Executive that I will be attending. It appears that the planned 2012 National Convention will not be held in Alice Springs as was hoped. No alternative venue is available at this stage.

Our Fraser Coast Rort Committee are doing an excellent job and remaining positive in spite of some hurdles in their path that are no fault of their own. We are looking forward to seeing those who have indicated that they will be calling in to stay with us, some before, and some after the Rort. After five months of negotiations with the local council our new Motorhome shed has been fully approved and is now underway. The trail of 'Red Tape' grows longer with every project.

I has disappointed me greatly that some have jumped to conclusions without knowing all the facts and set about a course to undermine the integrity of National Board. I am ever so thankful that the members of National Board and the Rort Committee (and many others) have controlled their emotions and continued with their good work. A situation where an epidemic of division and antagonism could have arisen but it appears that some common sense and logic has prevailed to stop this occurring.

Remain Calm, Keep Positive and Continue Smiling:

See you Hervey Bay (Harvey for the Kiwis).

Alan.



Alan Bach presenting the 'Outhouse Wizzie Award' to John Bowman. - Wyong Apex 40



Alan & Mary Bach comparing Motorhomes with Ken And Janice Wright, Garry and Louise Rumble and Mike Hastedt (Nepean Valley Apex 40)



Secretary—Treasurer's Report **Col Ramsay - Wynnum-Manly Qld**

Dear Members,

Well, since my last report, nearly half of our club secretaries have responded with member information and affiliation fees.

I would gather that most, if not all, clubs have had their AGM and election of officers for this year, and I would appreciate the member information and affiliation fees please. To the other clubs who have not as yet had their AGM, please don't forget to let me know the changes and your member details as soon as possible.

Once I have received updated member details and payments I will be able to reconcile the bank accounts and prepare a report and budget for the AGM. To all secretaries and members at large, your support in this matter would also be appreciated.

The paragraph below was published in my report in the November Roaring 40's and to date there has been little response to the article. Only a handful of members have responded, most in favour and a few who are asking why and some who believe it is not necessary.

"As you will have read in President Alan's report, we will most probably move into an Incorporated Body with our own identity early in 2012. The process of incorporation will also lead to us having our own insurance policy. It would appear that Apex 40 may not have had insurance cover for some years. To enable this to proceed, we are required to keep a register of member details and I would request that secretaries please get all that information to me promptly."

Some of you would be aware that we have progressed down the road to incorporation and also investigations into insurance coverage for all

members. The latter will be in place prior to the Hervey Bay Rort. At the Rort, there will be a motion put to the members re incorporation and, if accepted by at least seventy five per-cent majority of members entitled to vote, this process will continue.

Note: Only financial members are entitled to vote, so please ensure that your affiliation fees have been paid and forwarded to me prior to the end of April so that your vote can be counted.

Would secretaries please ensure that members have the right to vote by forwarding payments and details.

To those members who have been directly involved in this difficult venture, I would take this opportunity to say thank you for all of your suggestions, which have either been acted upon, or at least taken very seriously in putting this process into action.

I look forward to catching up with many members at the Fraser Coast RORT in 2012.

Yours in Apex 40

Col Ramsay

National Secretary Treasurer

3 Curtis Street

MANLY QLD 4179

Mobile: 0419 25 30 30 Home: 07 3393 3006 email

col@cir.com.au

National Board Report March 2012.

The first situation that brought the insurance matter to the attention of the National Board was when a club wished to use a council bus for one of their outings. The council in question allows groups within the community to utilise their bus providing the group has "Public Liability Insurance". The club secretary forwarded a request to Col Ramsay, our National Secretary/Treasurer, for confirmation and documented proof of our insurance coverage. After researching, the only documentation Col was able to find was well out of date, so Col then went a step further and contacted Apex Australia to obtain the relevant documentation. Most will now be aware where this has led us, and to ultimately set proceeding in place to rectify the situation.

As most members would be aware Alan Bach sent the information below to all Secretaries and a number of other members on the 8th of October 2011, advising what the situation was, what was planned and also requested that members "Please study the documents and comment as soon as possible." It is interesting to note that only six members took up the option to reply to this serious situation at this early stage, and after consultation with these members the National Board moved forward to find the most suitable outcome for Apex 40. It was not until early February 2012 that any adverse comments to the proposal raised their heads. This response was very disappointing to say the least, considering the October advice from Alan Bach.

President Alan's letter of October 8, 2011.

The Problem

It has come to our attention that Apex 40 has no insurance policy and possibly may have only surmised that it had one. Col Ramsay has spent many hours investigating our position and at long last we have come to the above conclusion. We also believe that we cannot be included, even though we are mentioned, under the 'Apex Umbrella' due to Apex 40 being a separate entity operating under our own constitution.

I have personally been in contact with Alan Kinder, over the matter, to make sure that we had not missed something that had been set up years ago. On seeing our research he felt as we did, that we did not have a valid insurance policy. Alan believed, as many of us were led to believe, that we were somehow covered under the Apex, or the Apex Foundation Policy.

The question then was, "Do we need one if we have been operating for this long without one?" The consensus was that we do need a policy and have only been lucky that a claim against the organisation has never been lodged. In perusing the Apex 40 financial records no monies have ever been paid for insurance cover and it has never been a budget item.

The Next Step

Col and Alan had urgent discussions and devised the following plan of attack:

- 1 - Set out our situation and ask our personal Insurance Brokers (Alan & Colin) to develop propose and cost a suitable policy for Apex 40.*
- 2 – Make contact with '41 Club New Zealand' to find out how they are insured.*
- 3 – Advise the Apex 40 Board of our proposed plan for comment and ideas.*
- 4 – Put the final proposals to some past presidents for comment. (including Alan Kinder).*
- 5 – Advise Clubs of our action and seek ratification at the next AGM.*

Please find attached the relevant documents to date:

A - Extract re Apex 40 Insurance Cover.

B - Emails between Col Ramsay and Noel Hadjimichael.

C – Letter to Col's Insurance Broker.

Col has already sent a letter to his Broker and I will be contacting 41 Club to-morrow and will make contact with my Broker on Monday.

Please study the documents and comment as soon as possible,

*Regards,
Alan Bach. (Saturday 8th October 2011)"*

****Please note: that the documents referred to within the letter above are not attached as they were attached to the original document when it was sent.***

Apex Australia Limited has gone through major changes during the past few of years and to save expenses the office in Nuriootpa was closed and the organisation now has its head office in Sydney. The Apex 40 National Board dealt mainly with the Nuriootpa office until its closure. From this point in time, no written documents were forthcoming, but verbal assurances were given, verifying the insurance situation of Apex 40.

The current Apex 40 National Board also found that Apex Australia Limited preferred to discuss matters over the phone. Col Ramsay sought written assurances and a Certificate of Currency after taking office. A written reply, from the Apex Australia CEO, on a Certificate of Currency in early October stated the following: "When advised that Apex 40 was a legally separate entity, there was some difficulty as the policy was written within the framework of subsidiary and related corporation coverage. In the end an umbrella arrangement would have caused significant complexity given the legal separation of the entities."

Immediately the National Board fully understood the severity of this situation they set about rectifying the situation. The 2006 Memorandum of Understanding, MOU, was sent to the Apex Australia Head Office along with previous Certificates of Currency for comment. The Apex CEO again replied on 1/11/2011 "The MOU is very interesting – we did not hold a copy on our files to my understanding. I am keen to see the spirit and intention of the agreement adhered to." No comment was forthcoming on the previous Certificates of Currency.

Research began in earnest and a detailed Plan of Attack was formulated with the focus being that we should remain or become part of Apex Australia Limited. It was also decided to find out what options were available to us going it alone if all else failed.

41 Club in New Zealand was contacted to find out how they were covered by insurance and they advised that their organisation is automatically covered under New Zealand's No-fault, government-underwritten accident compensation insurance.

The Rort Committee was then notified, and immediately realised the worrying position they had been placed in and the risks involved. National Board has given the Rort Committee continued assurances they will have insurance for the Rort and that it should still go ahead. The Rort Committee also began their own research and with their help, between the National Board and the Rort committee, we will be insured for the Rort, but as yet we are not sure which of the options will be enacted upon. The information from the Rort committee has been invaluable in putting several options together.

Apex 40 Clubs and members were alerted to the problem, firstly via a letter to all Club Secretaries (18/11/2011) and then in the Christmas Issue of the Roaring 40 Magazine. This prompted members and clubs to make contact and also begin assisting. The National Board was concerned that many clubs did not seem concerned with the dilemma that Apex 40 has been confronted with.

Subsequent correspondence with Apex Australia Limited indicates that both the organisation and their insurance company AON are still trying to find a suitable way to provide insurance cover for Apex 40.

To have insurance coverage, the National Board found that: Insurance can only be obtained in the name of a "natural person", "incorporated body", "Company" or "Registered Business". Apex 40, as it stands, falls into none of these categories. The Apex 40 Club of Dandenong Valley incorporated during Glenn Rossiter's term as National President and that club, we believe is the only club that can take out an insurance policy.

In order to continue to find a way of becoming incorporated within Apex Australia Limited, the above options have been thoroughly investigated. A conservative estimate of well over 1,000 hours of work has been put in by the National Board and many others, both Apex 40 members, and outsiders with experience in these matters. All of these people have been most gracious with their valuable time and Apex 40 is indebted to them.

The main factors that were set right from the start were to:

- (1) Find a solution that would allow Apex 40 to continue to operate in a similar vein as it does now with the most affordable and least obtrusive solution.
- and,*
- (2) As a minimum, make sure that the Fraser Coast Rort would be fully insured. If the Apex Australia Limited option failed the plan to go it alone would have to be set in motion. It was decided to enact this plan, if Apex Australia Limited could not come up with a solution before 29th February 2012. The final option, decided on unanimously, was to set up a new incorporated association, and at the next Apex 40 Annual General Meeting the members could vote on accepting or rejecting the proposal.

In January, the National Board invited a number of representative members from other clubs to participate in order to set up the incorporated association and asked each of them to forward \$50.00 per head registration fee to cover the expenses to set the plan in motion. There is still a lot of time and effort required to take it to the next step and gain an insurance policy for the Rort in May. The majority of members approached, realised the gravity of the situation and offered their support.

In the eyes of our current legal system, there is no such thing as 'only a social group'. It cannot be stressed strongly enough that without insurance it would be totally irresponsible and possibly illegal to continue with the Rort, let alone Apex 40. The Apex Australia Limited head office is still trying to find a way of resolving the matter for us, but the sands of time are fast running out.

One thing the National Board is mindful of, is that, if we only obtain insurance for the 2012 Rort, it still leaves all Apex 40 executive (at both National and Club levels) uninsured for any other functions that we/they conduct. This is a very important issue, and not one to be taken lightly. The National Board does have a 'Duty of Care', and under current legislation a wider 'Set of Obligations' to ensure that this situation is resolved for the benefit of all Apex 40 members.

Don Quixote set off on what he perceived as a noble cause and only managed to tilt at windmills. The Apex 40 National Board remains united in its quest for a solution to this continuing problem and is deeply

indebted to all those, who have contributed, and continue to contribute their valuable time, information and expertise.

Thankfully, 'One Breath of Encouragement' outweighs a 'Raft of Criticisms'.

Apex 40 National Board.

Alan Bach, President – Bob Ireland, Immediate Past President

Sandy Harmer, IRO and Apex Liaison – Col Ramsay, Secretary Treasurer.



2013 RORT

CRUISE THE PACIFIC

**Departs Brisbane
on Saturday 15 June
and
returns 22nd June 2013.**

**The 7 night Pacific Island Cruise will visit Noumea,
Lifou and Port Vila.**



FRASER COAST BUSH 'N BEACH RORT UPDATE

Looking to escape the cold down south this winter, then there's still time to register for this year's Rort in sub-tropical Hervey Bay. With an average May temperature of 24 degrees Celsius during the day & a mild 14 C at night it takes the chill out of winter.

In fact the mean average minimum evening temperature in Hervey Bay is about the same as the mean average day time maximum temperature in Melbourne.

In other words, during the day you can still get around in shorts & polo shirts & in the evening just casual clothes without having to "rug up". Of course we can get unusual cold snaps over night, so a jacket or cardigan would be advisable.

As far as rain is concerned the Fraser Coast has about half the average days of rain than Melbourne & other southern cities.

But you will need to be quick - registrations will be closing soon as there are only limited numbers left. At the time of writing there were only 36 spaces left.

If you'd like to come & are unsure of availability please contact Brian or Pam Fulmer by email at bpfulmer@bigpond.net.au or on 0409 764 252 to confirm availability. It's a case of first in, first registered.



May mean average temperatures range from 24 C during the day to a mean average minimum of 14 C at night time

Statements will be going out to all registrants at the end of February as final payments are due by 31st March 2012.

Just as a reminder payments may be made three (3) different ways:

By cheque payable to Apex 40 No. 2 Account by post to:

Apex 40 No. 2 account

Po Box 1206

MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650

By either EFT or direct deposit (quoting last 6 digits of your phone number) to:

Apex 40 No 2 Account

Commonwealth Bank, Maryborough Qld

BSB: 064-421 Account 1043-1352

All registered attendees will receive direct advices on the programme & other information before the Rort so that they just relax and enjoy their annual Rort & Post Rort Tour.

Hervey Bay & Maryborough Clubs wish to thank all attendees for their tremendous support & we can truly promise you a great time as we can't wait to see you on the Fraser Coast



Vale - Heather Margaret Jessop Wynnum—Manly

This year, we lost one of our long time members, Heather Margaret Jessop, wife of Bill Jessop. Heather passed away on Sunday the 29th of January 2012 at the age of 81 and 2 days.

Heather was cremated at the Hemmant Crematorium Chapel on Friday the 3rd of February 2012.

Present were in excess of 150 people, many of whom were Apex 40 members.

Heather was a member of Wynnum Manly and together with Bill, were long time Apex 40 Rorters.

Heather will sadly be missed by all.



VALE - Jean Mathews (Dec 2011)
- Brian Mathews OAM (Jan 2012)
Devonport

Jean passed away in December and Brian passed away in January. We remember many happy times we shared with them both. Brian was always a total gentleman and we will miss Jean's contagious exuberance—*Pamela Richardson Devonport Apex 40*

Members having fun



**PORT
STEPHENS
PHOTOS
NOV 2011**



WYONG



Members having fun



WYONG
CONT.

Members having fun



DE-FUNCT WIDE BAY APEX CLUB

Past members of the now defunct Apex Club of Wide Bay organised a reunion to welcome Neill McClintock and his wife Heather who are touring Australia and New Zealand on their Honeymoon. Neill from the UK was a member in the 70's. Pictured during the festivities at the Hervey Bay Boat Club.

from left to right are:

Vic & Dianne Allen Past Members, Heather Voss, Sonya Chapman, Jan & Col Galway Hervey Bay Apex 40's, John Patterson Past Member, Brian Hodges & Bev (conscured) Maryborough Apex 40's Ivan Voss Hervey Bay Apex 40's, Neill McClintock UK, Keith Comins Maryborough Apex 40's and Barry Moes Past Member.

Members having fun



Neil and Margaret Hookey at Neil's birthday celebration.

Lionel is 'arrested' by friendly police.

MELBOURNE GIPPSLAND

OBE's for Apex 40 Founders

Neil Hookey and Lionel Mussell, the two founders of Apex 40, both turned 40 in November 1971 and retired from Apex in August 1972. It was at the Apex National Convention that year in Perth that Neil and Lionel decided to do something about establishing some form of association for retired Apexians that would enable them to retain the friendships they had made during their years in Apex. Later that year they gathered together another six past Apexians and from that and a few subsequent meetings Apex 40 was born in July 1973.

Forty years on Neil and Lionel, though not officially recognised by Her Majesty, have nevertheless attained the Over Bloody Eighty and are still going strong. Neil celebrated his birthday with a gathering of many friends for dinner at Kew Heights Sports Club where Neil plays bowls. Lionel's daughter surprised him by inviting a number of friends to join them at the Balnarring picnic races. Lionel had a couple of other surprises that day when he was "arrested" by the police and when he found himself surrounded by a bevy of young ladies. —more pictures in club section

APEX AUSTRALIA NEWS



The Association of Apex Clubs, as part of national initiative endorsed by the national board, has agreed to team up with the national arm of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards to create an innovative and exciting membership and youth focused project entitled The Changemaker Project. To be operational and fully launched by March 2012, to coincide with our 81st birthday, The Changemaker Project is all about getting Apex Clubs involved with the right kind of young people in a way that benefits them, the local club and the local community. It is a world first collaboration – something that other service groups like Rotary and Lions might want to join under Apex leadership.

The youth participants - from your local community - will undertake their Duke of Edinburgh's Award as normal and will focus the Volunteering component (one of four elements to achieve the award) on key community projects identified, undertaken or supported by the local Apex Club.

We are looking for 50 Apex Clubs across Australia to take part in setting up and running this exciting new chapter in Apex's contribution to building a more informed and active citizenry. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award for youth is open to 14-25 year olds and Apexians aged 18-25 are particularly encouraged to join up. Any Apex member, their family or friends, can become involved as a local coordinator, assessor and mentor. This is the stuff that Apex was created to do

This was part of an email received from Apex Australia on a new initiative to encourage future membership.— Roaring 40's ed.

APEX AUSTRALIA NEWS



Jim Hughes, past National President and currently Chairman of the Apex Foundation has been honoured for his work with Apex and the community by being made an AM which is a Member in the General division of the Order of Australia which is the next highest over an OAM

Jim Hughes was Apex National President (originally from Tasmania but now based in Sydney) in the early 1990's and is currently Chairman of the Apex Foundation. Jim is also a Life Governor of the Association of Apex Clubs Australia



BLACKTOWN APEX CLUB

will host a

APEX ZONE 9 REUNION

In Nov 2012

**Contact Keith Miller
02 4647 3203 for more
information**

Zone 9 extended from Maroubra (Sydney) to Bourke in the West.

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*

On March 6th, the club will be have a joint meeting with Nepean Valley at Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains as a time to catch up with one another.

FORBES *—Approx 380 km West of Sydney*

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

During March, Great 8 will spend a night with the Possums at Pindimar camping outdoors etc. Hopefully the flood water will have receded by then. In April they are planning a "Change of Sex Party" whilst the first meeting of 2012 was an evening in the King Edward Park whilst the second meeting was BBQ at Taylors beach.

Great 8 celebrated Christmas with a seafood fare at the Thorley's home. During November they had a "Come as you are caught night" with lots of people turning up in PJs.

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) - We started the year with a Pot Luck dinner at my home organised by Rhonda Hasdedt. The evening went off well with several games of cricket played on a dartboard (using darts).

Our March meeting will be a BBQ at Uncle Ernie's on St Patrick Day. Of course it is the usual BYO with an added BYOL (Limerick). Should be a great night

WYONG — Approx 100km north of Sydney

On New Years Eve, Wyong called a special meeting at Sandra and John Bowman's to welcome Alan and Mary Bach (National President) who were travelling through the area trying out their new Motorhome. When they heard that Lucky Starr was performing at Wyong RSL they decided to stay an extra night, obviously remembering Lucky's performance at the Rort.

The first meeting of 2012 was celebrated with an Australia Day at the Bradford's home in Noraville. In February, Wyong had a meeting at the Red Centre Steak House and welcomed Steven and Liz Locke who live at Umina, Steven is a past Apexian from Canberra.

Wyong are also planning a week away at the Del Rio Caravan Park (Wisemans Ferry NSW) on October 22nd and 26th and would welcome other members that may be in the area.

Wyong are also looking into the possibility of an Apex Zone 10 re-union. "The last Zone 10 president's Dinner was held at Maitland Town Hall on 20th October, 1990 when the Zones were disbanded. With the old Zone stretching from Manly to Port Macquarie it would be a considerable promotion and require a large venue". If you have any contacts from the old Zone 10, I am sure that Wyong would like to hear from you. Please email either Tom Dumpleton at tomdumpleton@bigpond.com or *myself* Ken Wright—kawright@optusnet.com.au. Please Note: The subject line must contain Apex Zone 10 or the email may be treated as spam and deleted.

QLD**ALBANY CREEK**—*Approx 20km North of Brisbane***CALOUNDRA**—*Approx 103km North of Brisbane*

Denis and Lynn's report for 2011 included—John and Stella Pascoe started the ball rolling in February with a cocktail party at their unit at Gemini resort in Golden Beach. Somehow I think wearing a bowtie with a pair of shorts is not quite what you should wear to a cocktail party. However we partied on while watching the cruise ships leave the Port of Brisbane. This was followed in April with a camping trip to the Borumba Deer Park at Imbil organised by Glenn and Betty Rossiter. The weather was cool and we had a little rain but Glenn's endless supply of firewood kept us all in good spirits. A few of us decided we had not had quite enough of camping so we headed to Borumba Dam for a few days. Lindsay Canobie shows us his excellent tips on catching red claw and boy are they delicious. In June Hylton and Dawn Maxwell organised a casserole night at their home. Everyone brought a casserole and then Dawn proceeded to fatten us up with the most delicious deserts. Hylton was observed to consume quite a few rums with the assistance of bundy Bill Galway. In August we were off to Ian and Lesley Gniel's for a soup/pasta/games night. Beautiful pasta and again it was Lesley's turn to fatten us up with beautiful desserts. October was Apex Generation Fun Day in the park and Paul and Jean had 37 people turn up for the chance to win lots of prizes. On the 18th, 19th and 20th of November Lindsay and Maureen Canobie organised another camping trip this time to Beachfront Caravan Park at North Shore, just across from Tewantin.

The Caloundra Christmas meeting was held at Caloundra Rugby league Club on 3rd December. The Club has also agreed to meet every two months now.

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*

The February meeting was held at David and Jenny McCullagh's and consisted of Fish, Chips and Salad with Cheesecake afterwards. The dinner in April will be at Charlie and Marcie Irvin's Home.

Christmas dinner was held at the Grandview Hotel with 37 members attending.



Redlands members enjoying Christmas Dinner

SUNSHINE COAST —*Approx 100km North of Brisbane*

WYNNUM—MANLY *Approx 20km east of Brisbane*

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

XEPA – December to February.

Members met at Fast Pasta on a glorious sunny Sunday morning for their AGM on the 3rd of December. After a scrumptious breakfast Wayne Scott was voted in as President for a second term and Mary Bach was voted in as Secretary/Treasurer. After a short discussion a proposal for a weekend away camping trip was added to the club diary.

On the 10, 11 and 12th February members motored to the Tallebudgera Creek Tourist Park on the Gold Coast for the camping weekend. Members who arrived early on the Friday, crossed the border, and enjoyed the night at the Tweed Heads Bowls Club dancing and catching up with the Funsters Band and other friends.

After a morning walk and surf, members enjoyed a BBQ lunch on Saturday enjoying the excellent facilities of the Tourist Park. Lunch extended into a long 'Happy Hour' or two and takeaway seafood dinner was on the menu for Saturday night. The weekend weather was perfect and the members who stayed for the whole weekend enjoyed the walks, fellowship, creek and

surf. Wayne and Kathy did a great job organizing the weekend arriving on the Thursday and seeing the weather was perfect stayed until the Monday.



Xepa club at
Tallebudgera



VIC

BENDIGO—Approx 153km North West of Melbourne

Bendigo celebrated Christmas at Elayne Andrew's residence with a traditional fine Christmas fare with a selection of Roast meats, potatoes, pumpkin and greens followed by citrus tarts, plum pudding and fruit salad. The February meeting wasn't the same with a meal at the Hibernian Hotel which you ordered and paid for from the Hotel Menu.

At the end of March Bendigo club will tour the Botanical Gardens at White Hills followed by lunch.

DANDENONG VALLEY—Approx 35km South of Melbourne

THE showbag is the calling card of the local show, and the Dandenong Show is no different. But many show-goers wouldn't realise the profits go back into the community thanks to Apex 40 Dandenong Valley. The Dandenong Valley Apex 40 club had been involved with the Dandenong Show for over 40 years. This is our one and only fund raiser each year.

We are like one big family at show time and work closely together over a hard 4 days starting Friday getting the showbags delivered and come Mon-

day returning unsold stock back to the suppliers. We obtained the sole rights to sell showbags at the Dandenong Show back in the 1960s. We originally packed all the showbags ourselves, using families and friends. It was a really fun day seeing kids all working together making up showbags but eventually we had to let this go and now go directly to the showbag companies as our numbers wore thin.

Dandenong Valley Apex 40 had six showbag vans open on the weekend and were manned by local schools, girl guides and scout groups, who will use the profit from their van for fund-raising.

The Dandenong Valley Apex 40 group also man one of six stalls to raise funds for a charity of their choice and in the past have donated money to Dandenong Hospital, Dandenong Valley Special School, Dandenong Music Festival, Riding for the Disabled and Angel Flight. We are also the sponsor for and contribute a trophy for the handicapped student champion exhibit at the show.

We just try and raise as much as we can but the profits are really determined by weather and crowds and this can be frustrating when we all put in a lot of time and effort for sometimes little result. We were overdue for good weather and a good crowd and it all worked out well for us in 2011. The Dandenong Show was held on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 November at the Dandenong Showgrounds, Greaves Reserve Dandenong. Well done team.

GEELONG APEX 40 — Approx 73km South West of Melbourne

At the February meeting Geelong Apex 40 had Brian Thompson as a guest speaker. Brian was visiting from Spain and his talk was on “Trading Medical Supplies and Drugs in the European Economic Community and on Parallel trading”.

The Christmas meeting was a great night with 2 courses and plenty of Trivia at Dromoland House. There was plenty of fellowship throughout the evening.

MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND— approx. 40km east of Melbourne

The December Christmas meeting was at the Clayton Bowls Club with 24 members attending. During the dinner they raised over \$200 which when topped up by the club made it possible to donate \$250 to the “Cottage by the Sea”.

The club started 2012 with the Kinder Klassic Golf day at the new location of Yarra Bend Public Golf Course. The next social function was the Healesville Picnic Races on Feb 5th followed by a dinner meeting on 23rd February.



Neil and son, Trevor, cut the cake



Lionel and friends.

The two photos above are a continuation from the story on page 21 about Neil Hookey and Lionel Mussell,

MELBOURNE NORWESTERS—Approx 22km North West of Melbourne

PORTLAND—Approx 363km South West of Melbourne

Portland club ventured back to the scene of their 2001 Apex 40 Rort at Halls Gap for their annual club camp in November. They had 36 members camped or booked into cabins and had a great time catching up with each other over the weekend.

They welcomed Apex Life members Roger and Danny Stonehouse (from Ballarat) Cam and Sharon Cuthbertson (Geelong) and Bob and Merle Menzel (Portland). Although who made the trip. The weather was unkind which kept everybody in the camp kitchen on the Saturday night, although nobody seem to mind. There was a lot of fun with tales of what everyone had doing over the last couple of years. The 'Ohs and Ahs' over the photo albums of our years in Apex also reminded us of our great times and fond memories of just how much enjoyment we have had in Apex. Some of us even seemed to have aged gracefully too.

SUNRAYSIA — Approx 546km North of Melbourne**SA****ADELAIDE HILLS—Approx 35km South West of Adelaide****WA****PERTH—Capital of Western Australia****OASIS CLUB OF SCARBOROUGH —Approx 20km North of Perth**

First report I have received from Scarborough.

Meeting no. 462 took place in Adams Café in the North Beach Plaza on 7th December. At meeting 461, which was held at John and Lee Sheperd's Residence, 34 Oasisians & ladies of beauty turned up for a most congenial BBQ which was catered for by the Phelps.

On March 10th they will celebrate Oasis 40th anniversary, anybody wishing to attend should call John Monkhouse on 08 9409 8529

TAS**DEVONPORT —Approx 255km North (West) of Hobart**

Greta Rose celebrated her 90th birthday on January 12th. Many of her friends from Devonport Apex 40 help joined her to celebrate this auspicious occasion. Congratulations Greta

LAUNCESTON —Approx 200km North of Hobart

Members at large Locations in the next issue.

**NEXT ISSUE
CLOSING May**

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*.

Ken Wright (Janice)
6 Thorsby Place
Emu Plains 2750
02 4735 3037

or

Email: kawright@optusnet.com.au
Next issue : Published in May/June

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Alan Bach (Mary)
Tel: 07 3823 2648
Email: bachelec@bigpond.net.au

NATIONAL PAST PRESIDENT

Bob Ireland (Rita)
Tel: 03 9434 2919
Email: rk_ireland@hotmail.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY

Col Ramsay (Phyl)
3 Curtis Street, MANLY, Qld 4179
07 3393 3006
0419 25 30 30
col@cir.com.au

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND APEX LIAISONS**

Sandy Harmer (Darrol)
Tel: 02 4385 7375
Email: darrollh.sandy@bigpond.com

APEX 40 WEBSITE

Liz Haddon
Tel: 07 3885 4789
Email: apex40web@optusnet.com.au
www.apex40.org

Name Badges - Cost \$7.00

Alan Flaherty (Marj)
34 Fernhill Street
Glen Waverly Vic 3150
Tel: 03 9802 7655

Car Stickers - \$1.00

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



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155 Bellevue Road
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