

ROARING 40's

June 2015



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



Janice Wright (Nepean Valley) enjoying a kiss from a stranger at the recent Coffs Harbour RORT hosted by Nepean Valley

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The Editors Word!

As a member of the 2015 RORT committee, I was more than thrilled with the way everything just fell into place over the weekend. From Friday night at the Surf Club to Monday morning with the final breakfast which was also at the Surf Club and everything in between just seem to work. Bryan Spencer (now National Vice President) and wife Yvonne put a huge effort into ensuring that all the pieces would come together. There were several minor dramas, one being the cancellation of the Post Rort, but Michael & Sandra Dawson had other ideas and created a tag along Post Rort for those who remained and wanted to be entertained. Another drama was with the Dorrigo RSL not being aware of our booking just several weeks before the Rort. The problem arose from a falling out by the club's chef with the management resulting in our booking being overlooked.

The highlight for me was Monday Night, although not an official function, the RORT continued in fine form with about 50 Rorters making a night of it at the camp kitchen. To add to the festivities we were joined by several international campers who just happen to be there.

In this issue, you will find information on the 2016 Rort in Geelong. This RORT is our 40th and we are all looking forward to the celebrations and I am sure with the combined efforts of Geelong, Bendigo, Melbourne Gippsland and Melbourne Norwesters we are in for a great time.

Don't forget to keep sending in the Dinner Notices and other information that could be useful. web@apex40.com
www.apex40.com

Ken and Janice Wright
Nepean Valley Group
Editor Roaring 40's & Website





National President's Report **Peter Ryall (Ann) - Wyong**

Congratulations to Bryan Spencer and his Nepean Valley committee for an outstanding Rort in Coffs Harbour. The organisation was impeccable and the venues and program perfect for our needs. I was thrilled that Bryan put up his hand for the vacant Vice-President's position on National Board and my other major concern leading into the Rort was resolved when Les Moulds came forward to nominate Inverell for the 2017 Rort. Bryan has agreed to be

the Board's liaison person for Les's organising committee. A reminder that registrations are now open for our 40th anniversary Rort in Geelong hosted by Geelong, Bendigo, Melbourne/Gippsland and Melbourne Norwesters in April next year – see our website for details and registration forms: www.apex40.com

Ann and I will be representing Apex40 at the 25th Noumea celebrations in October and I will be a guest at this year's Apex National Convention in Blacktown in September. The more the merrier, so if any of you would care to come to either event please contact me. I'm already aware of Leeton having 2 coming over to Noumea.

Brian Fulmer did a terrific job in cementing ties between Apex40, Apex Australia, and the Apex Foundation, and it was a pleasure to hear from Nedd Golding (Apex National President) and Tony Wilshire (Apex Foundation Director) who spoke about their respective organisations at our AGM in Dorrigo. Thanks to both Nedd and Tony for travelling from South Australia and the Gold Coast to be with us.

We now have a strong presence on Facebook and if you have not yet got on board please consider it because it is a great way to share information with other members. Remember that our motto is "for continuing fellowship", and to that end I invite any of you who are passing by the Central Coast of NSW towards the end of a month to join my own group, Wyong, for our monthly dinner meeting. We meet on the last Thursday of each month, usually at a restaurant in The Entrance. Contact me and I'll book you in.

I really enjoy reading the various dinner notices and newsletters that many of our groups produce. Would editors/secretaries please make sure that all 6 National Board members are on your email or mail distribution lists.

I'm looking forward to my 2 years in the chair. Let's enjoy ourselves!

Peter



Secretary–Treasurer's Report **Col Ramsay (Phyl) - Wynnum-Manly Qld**

Hi to all,

Well first of all, congratulations to Nepean Valley for organizing a fantastic Rort. All of the venues, food and entertainment were great and appreciated by all who attended. At the AGM, Brian Fulmer (Maryborough) completed his term of office and Peter Ryall from Wyong group was confirmed as President for 2015-16 and Bryan Spencer from Nepean Valley took the reins as Vice President. All other positions remain as per 2014-2015. The board had its first meeting on the Monday morning after the Rort and put the wheels in motion for the upcoming year.

As all group Secretaries and MAL's would be aware that as Secretary I am required under the Fair Trading Act, to keep a record of our members so please keep me up to date with any changes that occur during the year. In particular, please advise me if one of your local members passes away.

As you will see by the report I presented at the AGM, we are in a good financial position and growing slowly. Please encourage any past Apexians that you know to join Apex 40 and "Continue the Fellowship".

The motion presented to the AGM regarding our constitution and membership passed unanimously as did the motion that the Board split the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. The necessary changes to our constitution regarding the separating of these positions will be presented at the 2016 AGM for consideration by members.

The Minutes of the AGM will be forwarded to all members before the end of June.

YIA40,
Col Ramsay
Secretary Treasurer



Vice President's Report

Bryan Spencer (Yvonne) Nepean Valley

Firstly, I express my thanks for the hard working Nepean Valley Apex 40 Sub Branch members who formed the Rort Committee.

I believe this Rort was immensely enjoyed by all attendees and many spoke in glowing terms of the various events and venues.

The Committee aimed to attract 100+ at the Rort and for a while we were close but due to cancellations for a variety of reasons, 86 Rorters were there for a great weekend.

If I am not mistaken, this 2015 Rort has been the only one with a "Seal Kiss" and a "Dolphin Show". To quote Michael Dawson "the kiss by a seal was okay, but it needed a shave and teeth brushed".

Our venues and catering were first class, likewise our coach trip on Saturday morning and our Sunday trip to Dorrigo for the A.G.M. and lunch. Unfortunately, the weather was miserable so the views from the lookout were non-existent. It was raining most of the time.

The A.G.M. was held without a hitch and National President Brian concluded his time in office and officially handed over to our new National President, Peter Ryall. Everyone thanked Brian by acclamation.

Nedd Golding from Apex Australia addressed us and outlined the challenges facing Apex.

Tony Wilshire gave an insight into the great charity work of the Apex Foundation. Thanks were extended to them.

Unfortunately, it was very disappointing the committee had no choice but to cancel the Post Rort. Only 16 registered and our operator could not proceed under 25. The 16 were very understanding when this was explained to them.

Some decided to stay an extra few days in Coffs Harbour for sightseeing. Again, we apologise to these 16 people.

It was evident that like all RORTS the fellowship and friendship between the rorters at Coffs Harbour were outstanding. On behalf of the RORT Committee I express our appreciation to everyone who attended.

I look forward to “Continuing Fellowship” in Geelong next year.

Bryan Spencer,
Chairman,
Nepean Valley Sub Branch Rort Committee

Memorandum of Understanding with Apex Australia and The Apex Foundation

Past National President, Brian Fulmer has driven the need for closer relations with Apex and the Apex Foundation resulting in attendance at the 2015 Rort of the National President of Apex Australia and a member of the Foundation's board and all organisations entering into an MOU

The following change was made to our constitution to allow existing members of Apex Australia to join Apex 40

2) Membership shall be open to:

(a) Past, **life and current members (from age 40 onwards)** of the Association of Apex Clubs Australia ("Apex") and past members of the World Council of Service Clubs ("WOCO") and their affiliated organisations, who have reached the normal retirement age of their respective organisation. (b) Eligible members would include partners, ex partners and partners of ex members.

A copy of the MOU with the Foundation appears on the next page. A similar MOU for Apex Australia can be found on our website.



APEX

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Between:

Apex Foundation. ACN: 001 347 847 (AF)

and

Apex 40 Australia Inc. ARBN: 162 597 079 (A40)

Following is a summary of some of the key elements to be incorporated in the Memorandum of Understanding between "Apex Foundation," and "Apex 40 Australia Inc."

1. Objective

The objective of the MOU is to regulate the respective roles of the two entities and their interrelationship under the Apex Umbrella and to provide a means of working together for the betterment of both entities.

2. Term of MOU

The suggested term is unlimited and reviewable no later than November 30 on a biennial basis following the Apex Foundation's AGM commencing 2015.

3. Governance

- (i) Governance of the Apex Foundation will remain as at present.
- (ii) Governance of Apex 40 Australia Inc. will remain as at present.

4. Terms of Reference

- (i) Both entities will promote the activities of the other entity in their internal/external publications.
- (ii) Both entities will assist in the development of each entity.
- (iii) Distribution of AF Newsletters to all members of A40 with articles on both entities.
- (iv) Distribution of Apex40 Roaring 40's to all members of AF with articles on both entities.
- (v) Provide a means of exchanging knowledge and expertise.
- (vi) To provide a means of greater communication between both entities.
- (vii) To place a greater importance on the role of reconnection with Past Members of the Association of Apex Clubs of Australia.
- (viii) Both entities to ensure ongoing consistency in any proposed relationship.

5. Goals

The main goals and intention of this MOU is to provide a means of growth and retention of members under the Apex Umbrella.

Signatories to this MOU:

Chairman of "Apex Foundation."

STEPHEN BISARELLI

Printed Full Name

[Signature]

Signature

President of "Apex 40 Australia Inc."

BLIAN FUNHER

Printed Full Name

[Signature]

Signature

Witness:

NEDD COWLING

Printed Full Name

[Signature]

Signature

Witness:

NEDD COWLING

Printed Full Name

[Signature]

Signature

28/3/15

Date:

16/5/15

Date:



COME ALONG LET'S CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF RORTS IN GEELONG



FRIDAY 15TH TO MONDAY 18TH APRIL 2016
HOSTED BY GEELONG, BENDIGO, MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND AND
MELBOURNE NORWESTERS





Welcome to Geelong and The Bellarine. Only a short drive from Melbourne, Geelong promises to be a relaxing retreat from the big city. With breathtaking views, sophisticated dining options and all kinds of entertainment on tap, there's so much to love about Geelong and The Bellarine.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is abundant and varied throughout the Geelong region. We pride ourselves on our well-appointed accommodation, great atmosphere, prominent locations, friendly hosts, comfortable and inviting rooms with exhilarating attractions all at your doorstep.

Our accommodation also guarantees to suit specific tastes, budgets and needs, as they range from 4½ star elegance to 2 star comfort. Geelong offers in excess of 1000 hotel-motel rooms and serviced apartments within a short distance of the city centre, all of which guarantee you a good night's sleep.

Our preferred accommodation provider is Barwon River Tourist Park. A discount is available for Apex 40 members. This is also where coaches will pick up/drop off during Rort. Contact 1800 657 955 for bookings and further information.

Alternative accommodation is available at the Mercure Geelong contact 03 5223 6200 for bookings and further information.

TRANSPORT

Trains: There are frequent train services between Melbourne and Geelong through V/Line. The trip takes about an hour and you do not need to book. V/Line buses also operate from other towns (eg Ballarat) directly to Geelong. Timetables and more details available on www.vline.com.au or call 1800 800 007.

For visitor information visit www.visitgeelongbellarine.com.au or phone 1800 755 611.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

- Tullamarine Airport (Melbourne): Gull Bus lines operates regular buses from Melbourne Airport to Geelong. Fares \$32 one-way per person. Bookings and information on www.gull.com.au or 03 5222 4966.
- Avalon Airport (Geelong): Regular flights to/from Sydney with Jetstar. Avalon Airport is just 15 minutes from Geelong. The Avalon Airport Shuttle will take you door to door to any motel/hotel in Geelong and costs \$18 one-way per person. Bookings and information on www.avalonairportshuttle.com.au or 03 5278 8788.
- Searoad Ferries: A car and passenger ferry service is available 7 days a week between Queenscliff and Sorrento, departing each hour on the hour between 7.00 am and 6.00 pm. Bookings and information on www.searoad.com.au or 03 5258 3244



Welcome to Geelong and The Bellarine...

We want to welcome you to Geelong, on this the 40th anniversary of the first Rort that was held in Ballarat. Geelong as you would be aware, was the home of Apex, which is the very reason for us celebrating this weekend.

Geelong's name originates from the Aboriginal word 'Jillong', meaning 'a place of the sea bird over white cliffs'. The city takes full advantage of its prime position on the shores of the north-facing Corio Bay.

Geelong is Victoria's second largest city and within a short drive from popular beach-front communities on The Bellarine, as well as being the gateway to the famous Great Ocean Road, which begins just south of Geelong at Torquay.

The city itself boasts a large commercial centre which extends down to the foreshore, offering visitors the chance to explore popular waterfront attractions such as the unique art deco Eastern Beach sea-bathing complex, a fully restored historic carousel, Steampacket Gardens and several coastal walks dotted with collections of bollards depicting historic characters. Elegant architecture, colourful gardens and parks, and the backdrop of Corio Bay are all symbolic of what locals refer to as the "city by the bay".

Geelong's central city and suburbs offer excellent shopping facilities, restaurants, nightlife and recreation on a par with any capital city. Locations of interest for visitors include the National Wool Museum, the Old Geelong Gaol, the Botanic Gardens at Eastern Park and a number of other museums, galleries and historical buildings. The Barwon River meanders through Geelong and its surrounding suburbs, fronted by a number of attractive parks and the scenic Buckley Falls in Fyansford.

And there's plenty to see and do in the surrounding areas. Queenscliff, a short drive away on The Bellarine, is a delightful historic seaside village. You'll be inspired by its architecture, ranging from fishermen's cottages to grand Victorian-era hotels.

2016 Rort Committee

PROGRAM

Friday 15th April

Welcome social and registration at the Geelong RSL

Saturday 16th

Bus tour of Geelong followed by morning tea provided by a local Service Club in Johnstone Park (Home of the Apex Monument)

Free time to wander down to the waterfront in preparation for our 3 hour luncheon cruise around Corio Bay

Saturday Evening

Dinner Dance at the White Eagle

Sunday 17th April

Guided Tour of the Wool Museum including morning tea at Denny's Kitchen

Then we will be bused to the Clifton Springs Golf Club for lunch and our AGM

Sunday Evening

Dinner Dance at The Sphinx Entertainment Centre

Monday 18th April

Breakfast provided by a local Service Club



POST RORT TOUR

Following Breakfast, our Post Rorters will leave us to commence their Post Rort Tour. This includes accommodation and most meals.

Monday 18th April

We begin with a guided tour of the Heights Heritage House and gardens, to be followed by lunch in Geelong. In the afternoon, we will visit Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre, which is an Australian cultural tourism and educational enterprise. Here we can have a leisurely stroll through the native garden with an abundance of bird life, and also the gallery/retail shop which displays a wide range of Aboriginal arts and crafts. We then check into the motel for the next two nights.

Tuesday 19th April

Today we will venture to Queenscliff. Upon arrival, we will take a 1 hour guided tour on the coach, where the guide will give commentary on the area and talk about places of interest. Lunch will be in Queenscliff. Following lunch, there will be time to wander the streets before travelling to Point Lonsdale for a look and then back to Geelong for free time and the evening meal.

Wednesday 20th April

We leave Geelong and travel to Winchelsea, where we will call into the Hasting Ostrich Farm for a guided tour, which covers the history of Ostrich farming, products, farming practices and learn all about these prehistoric birds. We then continue to Warrnambool, stopping on the way for lunch (own expense). Upon arrival in Warrnambool, we will be taken on a guided tour on the coach, with time available to browse the Visitor Information Centre, with spectacular views of Lady Bay & Breakwater. We then go and check into the motel for the next 2 nights. Our evening meal will be at the motel.

Thursday 21st April

This morning we will begin with a visit to the Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village. Whilst here we will explore Australia's most awarded maritime heritage precinct, climb the lighthouse, take in the views, and learn of the regions maritime history. Lunch will be at Macey's Bistro, and then we will enjoy a 75 minute cruise on the Hopkins river, with commentary and tea, coffee and biscuits. After the evening meal, we will return to Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village for the "Shipwrecked Sound and Laser Show". This allows us to join the last voyage of the 1878 clipper ship Loch Ard.

Friday 22nd April

After farewelling our hosts this morning, we will visit the Tower Hill State Game Reserve, which is nestled inside a dormant volcano, and today is a beautiful haven for wildlife. We then commence our journey back to Geelong via the Great Ocean Road, where we will stop and visit the 12 Apostles, and Loch Ard Bay. Time permitting, we may also visit a Cheese Factory on the way.



COME ALONG LET'S CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF RORTS IN GEELONG
FRIDAY 15TH TO MONDAY 18TH APRIL 2016
HOSTED BY GEELONG, BENDIGO, MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND
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CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF RORTS

in Geelong (Vic)
Friday 15th to 18th April 2016



Hosted by Geelong, Bendigo, Melbourne/Gippsland and Melbourne Norwesters

Preferred first name

Surname

Preferred first name

Surname

Street Address

City/Town

State

Country (if Not Australia)

Postcode

*Agree to share details with
other 2016 RORT'ers Y/N*

Sub Group, MAL or Organisation

Email Address

Main contact phone number

Phone number whilst at RORT

RORT

RORT Registration is \$350 per person which is discounted to \$330 until 1st Feb 2016

No of Registrations on this form

A minimum deposit of \$100 per person is payable with this registration.

Full amount payable

Final Balance to be paid by 28th Feb 2016

Deposit you are paying today

Rort Balance

POST - RORT

POST RORT Registration is \$790 per person with a single supplement of \$175.

No of Registrations on this form

A minimum deposit of \$100 per person for the POST RORT is payable with this registration. Final Balance to be paid by 28th Feb 2016

Full amount payable

Deposit you are paying today

POST RORT Balance

Balance owing for RORT and POST RORT to be paid by 28th February 2016

Electronic Funds Transfer: Please enter the reference you will use when transferring funds from your Bank Account. If not sure just use the last 6 digits of your phone number.

Food allergies, mobility or other issues

Accommodation choice

Mode of transport

Arrival Date

Departure Date

For more information Contact
Bob Ireland on 0438 135 185

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Registration Information

The discount is only available to February 1st 2016 whereby the registration will increase to \$350 per person

The final balance is to be paid by February 28th 2016.

The RORT committee will not be responsible for travel or accommodation arrangements including airport transfers.

The bank details for Money transfers is: **Bank: WESTPAC Account name: Apex 40 Australia Inc**
BSB: 034-053 Account Number: 308856

The Postal Address for Cheques and manual registrations is
Apex 40 Australia Inc, C/- 23 Somerleigh Crs, Greensborough VIC 3088

please endorse cheques to Apex 40 Australia Inc.

Barwon River Tourist Park has been chosen as the main caravan park offering powered sites with or without en-suites and plenty of cabins. The Park also offers a discount to RORT'ers. For those who require a motel then we suggest the Mercure.

Barwon River www.barwoncaravanpark.com.au Telephone 1800 657 955 or (03) 5243 3842
Address: 153 Barrabool Road, Belmont VIC 3216

Mercure Hotel: <http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-3033-mercure-geelong/index.shtml>
Telephone 03 52236200 Address: Cnr Myers and Gheringhap Sts GEELONG

Overflow accommodation choices are: City Southside Caravan Park or \ the Sherwood Forest Caravan Park

Should you have any further requirements or questions please contact the RORT committee:

Email: geelongrort@apex40 or call
Bob Ireland (H) 03 9434 2919 or (M) 0438135185

on behalf of the 2016 RORT Committee

Thankyou for registering
Bob Ireland, Max Cheney and Kevin Harvey

**Online registrations @
www.apex40.com**

Photos from 2015 RORT—Coffs Harbour





Photos from 2015 RORT—Coffs Harbour



More photos at www.apex40.com



AROUND THE GROUPS

NSW

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

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

BLUE MOUNTAINS CREST APEX 40— *100km west of Sydney*

Recently toured the Mudgee Winery area and made a weekend out of it.



Blue Mountains Crest were involved in the local area on Anzac Day and had great fun.

Apart from family weddings and births they have had the usual meetings and coffee mornings. The group is planning a weekend away in October.

Blue Mountains Crest enjoying the Mudgee trip

FORBES—*Approx 380 km West of Sydney*

GREAT 8 HUNTER VALLEY— *Approx 170km 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

Manly have been trialling new venues after the sudden closure last year of their usual meeting place. 12 members are currently meeting at a Brookvale Chinese Restaurant.

MOREE—Approx 640km North west of Sydney**NEPEAN VALLEY— Approx 60km west of Sydney**

Nepean Valley has had an exciting start to the year with a mammoth effort into organising the 2015 RORT in Coffs Harbour. Thanks to the committee working together as we did, the RORT went off without a hitch and exceeded even our expectations. The Post Rort was as we all know unsuccessful in attracting numbers and therefore was cancelled.

Apart from the RORT, Nepean Valley have recently travelled by train and ferry to Watsons Bay, where we all enjoyed a serving of fish and chips at Doyles (famous for fish & chips in Sydney). Prior to the Rort, the group had a sports day playing Finska, boules and other games prior to having lunch at Richmond Panthers Club.



Nepean Valley RORT organising committee enjoying the last Rort Meeting

WYONG — Approx 100km north of Sydney**(Winner of the 2015 Penultimate Award)**

Wyong is now the home of our National President Peter. The group average 25 members at each meeting but numbers may change when a few members take off overseas in July. They have had a few enquiries from some members of other clubs who have recently moved into our district and are thinking of coming along to enjoy our great fellowship. There must be hundreds more ex members around the coast that are missing out.

LAST MEETING...was a really great evening and we were given a good report on the Coffs Harbour Rort with Peter now in the hot seat as National President. We had another really good meal and none of the twenty-five members there seemed to want to go home, everyone mixed around and chatted for quite a long time. Good to see Sandra recovering from her fall even though she still has her arm in a sling.

QLD

CALOUNDRA—Approx 103km North of Brisbane

CURTIS COAST—Approx 530km North of Brisbane

HERVEY BAY—Approx 290km North of Brisbane

MARYBOROUGH —Approx 260km North of Brisbane

REDLANDS — Approx 40km south of Brisbane

The March meeting saw 28 members take over Thaisons Restaurant for the first gathering of the year. We were treated to a top Asian banquet meal and if anyone came away hungry, I would be surprised. No wonder they are highly recommended on the dining websites. At the April meeting Jenny and David McCullagh hosted a luncheon and we were treated to a delightful Redlands afternoon looking out over Moreton Bay from their back yard. At the 2015 Rort Brian Fulmer, retired as National President and decided not to continue as Past President.

Redlands group enjoying the March Meeting at Thaisons restaurant





Redlands group at the April (ANZAC) lunch



Redlands have had an excellent response to their planned August weekend at Montville. To date we have bookings for 16, which should make for a great social gathering.

WYNNUM—MANLY *Approx 20km east of Brisbane.*

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

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

The weather was perfect for the first Apex 40 function for the year- the picnic at the Botanical Gardens. Twenty members attended and all enjoyed the good company, family news update and picnic under the old oak trees.

Peter Dumont convincingly won the 'Quoits Tournament' on the day. He even knew the rules and, allowing himself a handicap, still emerged as champion!

B & Kieran, on behalf of the club, made a presentation to Peter & Elaine and thanked them for their roles as President, Secretary and Treasurer over the last 2 years. In April, Bendigo enjoyed a mystery tour which took them to "Inglewood – birthplace of Sir Reginald Ansett. The 'Mystery Tour' also solved three of the mysteries of life (i) what goes on and what's it like in a Masonic Temple, (ii) what goes on that that old eucy farm / distillery on the main road operated by the reputedly eccentric old guy and (iii) what's the story behind that old mansion on the Kingower road out of Inglewood and what's it like inside. In June they all went to the Trots and a Christmas in July.

DANDENONG VALLEY—Approx 35km South of Melbourne**GEELONG APEX 40 — Approx 73km South West of Melbourne****MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND— approx. 40km east of Melbourne****RORT Report by Alan Kinder**

Unfortunately, the numbers were down a bit for the Rort at Coffs Harbour with only 88 members present. Nevertheless, we all enjoyed the weekend very much and it was great to see all those friendly faces, plus a few new ones, at the Welcome Social which was held at the Coffs Harbour Surf Club. Among the first-time Rorters were two couples from Leeton, one of our newer groups. Prior to the Social we had invited Rob Beveridge and Kay Dixon (Devonport) and Rob and Helen Noble (Alstonville) for a happy hour at our cabin and before long we had more than 20 Rorters having a pre-social drink. Saturday morning we hopped on a couple of buses for a tour of Coffs Harbour which started with a visit to the Clog Barn and Miniature Village. In the Clog Barn, the proprietor demonstrated a the art of clog making and in the miniature village, which has a Dutch theme, there was a building alongside the waterway which was labelled "Restaurant Kinder Dyjke". Then we went up into the hills above Coffs to the Forest Sky Pier lookout which is cantilevered out from the side of the mountain and gives an expansive view over Coffs Harbour and environs. It was a nice sunny morning – just right for viewing. the Forest Sky Pier)

Back down in Coffs we visited the Carobarn where they make confectionery using

carob and other 2 ingredients and had morning tea. After that we toured around seeing more of the town and on to nearby Sawtell before lunch at the camp kitchen in the Park Beach Holiday Park where most of us stayed for the weekend.

Saturday night we went to the Dolphin Marine Magic Centre which we had all to ourselves. We started with drinks and canapés and then were treated to a spectacular display by two of the dolphins and then a seal, actually an Australian Sea Lion, Rocky. This was followed by dinner and an entertainer who provided music for dancing, if you felt that way inclined. During the evening various awards were presented, including: Attendance trophy – won by Devonport and Penultimate trophy for best newsletter – Tom Dumbleton, Wyong. Sunday we went up to Dorigo via the Waterfall Way where the two waterfalls were in full flow and on to the Dorigo National Park where there is a spectacular Sky Walk but, unfortunately, there was a heavy fog and the view from the sky walk was non-existent. But that didn't worry anyone – we can all enjoy ourselves in any kind of conditions.

Lunch was at the Dorigo RSL where we enjoyed an excellent home cooked roast dinner before the Annual General Meeting. At the AGM outgoing National President Brian Fulmer handed over to new National President Peter Ryall (Wyong) and all other Board members were re-elected. Brian Spencer (Nepean Valley) was elected National Vice-President. Bob Ireland spoke about the 2016 Rort to be held at Geelong. No offer was made to host the 2017 Rort but, subsequent to the meeting, a couple of proposals were being considered. After lunch we went and had a look at the Dorigo Steam Museum where, in an area of many acres, there are more than 60 steam engines and hundreds of carriages plus much other assorted junk. Then it was on to see the spectacular Dangar Falls before returning down the winding Waterfall Way to Coffs. Sunday night was a dinner dance at the Coffs Harbour Ex Servicemen's Club when the Whizzy trophy was awarded to Leon Squires (Great 8 and ex Moree) who, at Dorigohad wandered into the Ladies toilet and wondered why there was no urinal.

MELBOURNE NORWESTERS—Approx 22km North West of Melbourne

SOUWEST (Warrnambool) Approx 270km South West of Melbourne

SUNRAYSIA — Approx 546km North of Melbourne.

SA ADELAIDE HILLS—Approx 35km South West of Adelaide

**TAS DEVONPORT —Approx 255km North (West) of Hobart
LAUNCESTON —Approx 200km North of Hobart**

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*.

WEB: www.apex40.com

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004/>
Or search for Apex 40 Australia Inc

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Peter Ryall (Ann)
Tel: 02 6559 2780
Email: president@apex40.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY

Col Ramsay (Phyl)
PO box 5204, MANLY, Qld 4179
Tel: 07 3393 3006
(M) 0419253030
Email: secretary@apex40.com

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Bob Ireland (Rita)
Tel: 03 9434 2919
Email: membership@apex40.com

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Bryan Spencer (Yvonne)
Tel: 02 9623 6820
Email: vicepresident@apex40.com

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND APEX LIAISON**

Mark Tramby (Rosemary)
Tel: 07 3839 9311
Email: iro@apex40.com

**APEX 40 WEBSITE &
ROARING 40'S**

Ken Wright (Janice)
Tel: 0407473530
Email: web@apex40.com

www.apex40.com



Name badges (\$10), Lapel badges (\$10) and Apex 40 Sticker (\$4), including postage can be obtained through the National Apex 40 Secretary.

Contact Col Ramsay

Email: secretary@apex40.com
PO box 5204, MANLY, Qld 4179
07 3393 3006



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