

Roaring 40's February 2021

News from around the groups.



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

The poster features a collage of images: a large sea turtle swimming in shallow water, a person holding a dolphin, and a diver with a sea turtle over a coral reef. Text elements include:

- Bargara 2021** (top left, green arrow pointing right)
- The RORT is back!!** (top center, yellow box)
- TUESDAY 4TH MAY TO SUNDAY 9TH MAY** (top right, blue box)
- 2021 - BARGARA QLD** (center, large white text on a brown background)
- Bundaberg** Southern Great Barrier Reef Queensland *Where great begins* www.bundabergregion.org (middle left, blue box)
- www.apex40.com** (bottom left, white text on a dark red background)
- Email: 2021bargara@apex40.com** (bottom right, white text on a dark red background)



About Us.

For Continuing Fellowship

Apex 40 Australia Inc. is not a Service Club, but an organisation formed to foster fellowship among past Apexians and their partners, and to retain the many friendships formed during their Apex years.

It also exists to assist Apex, when asked, and not to operate in opposition to Apex. It is open to past members and their partners, and also Ex-World Councillors who have retired from their respective organisations.

The Ideals of Apex were to provide a means of forming enduring friendships. So, do you remember the great friendships and fellowship you experienced as a member or partner of an Apex member? Why not continue those friendships and join Apex 40.

Some Apex 40 members decided to form sub-committees which are generally based around past or present Apex Club locations. These sub-committees may meet monthly or less regularly, but all with a view to maintaining and fostering friendships, and occasionally providing assistance to Apex Clubs.

Each year members from Apex 40 gather for a weekend to attend the Annual Convention known as 'The Rort'. During this weekend there is a brief interruption to the festivities to conduct the necessary formality of The Annual General Meeting. In the past, after the RORT, a Post-RORT tour of 4 or 5 days duration has been programmed, visiting areas surrounding the town hosting The Rort. In future both events may be combined and shortened to reduce costs.

The socialising of individual members with each other, across the whole organisation, never ceases. When on an interstate holiday, for example, members invariably look up acquaintances and friends made during the Rorts. It is a huge social club, and fosters friendships between whole families.

There are currently about 35 active sub-committees, some with memberships in excess of 40, plus 39 'Members-at-large'. Members at Large are active members of Apex 40, living or travelling in areas where there is no Apex 40 sub-committee, or find it not practical to join an existing sub-committee, but still participate in our activities.

Membership is open to all past members of Apex, their partners and members of affiliated clubs.



President's Report
Julie Primmer, Sunraysia. Vic.

I am hoping that everyone had a good Christmas and New Year since we communicated last. I actually managed to get to Geelong to see family for a few days and that was lovely.

Speaking of Geelong, we are sad to have to announce that the Apex 90th Birthday celebrations planned for March have had to be postponed to a date to be decided due to Covid-19. Thank you everyone who has sent or said that they can contribute some memorabilia.

On a personal note I thought that my pre-Christmas illness was a nuisance; not as much as happenings in the last couple of weeks as it turns out. Firstly, a vehicle ran into me after going through a stop sign and totalled my car; thankfully I was not hurt. So that started the search for another car. A few days later my 96-year-old Mum passed. Then we just had the funeral service planned and 2 hours later Covid restrictions hit which meant a change of plans to uncertain. That being said, I am hoping that Covid was the 3rd in the list of happenings and there is not another to come! Things come in groups of three?

Hopefully all this will normalise out in time for Bargara Rort. I am so looking forward to this and meeting up with old friends again. Registrations are still coming in so if you wish to attend and haven't booked, you can still do it. As it is this time of the year, 2022 Darwin Rort details will be coming out soon. This has had to have been changed out by a year of course, therefore it has involved quite a bit of checking with stakeholders on availability and prices. Thankfully there has been very little change. This Rort is activity packed but with time out every day for a bit of respite at your accommodation before the evening functions.

Everyone continues to stay safe and travel safely please and hope that we can have a safe (that word that keeps reoccurring) and normal Bargara Rort.

Yours in Apex 40,
Julie



Past President's Report
Bryan Spencer (Yvonne) MAL. WA.

Greetings to all members,

I trust 2021 brings health and happiness to all Apex 40 members. There is no need to dwell on the impact COVID-19 had on all of Australia. We need this year to be as normal as possible.

Early in February, National Board members discussed the merits and longevity of our Roaring 40's. Communication is very important, and it was agreed we must continue the tradition of informing members via this medium. Times have changed and we know Facebook plays a role but only about one third of members use it. This leaves many members relying on the Roaring 40's for updates and information.

Bill, our Editor requires more input from our Sub Committees and members to enable it to be more pertinent and interesting. So, with that in mind below is my contribution:

At the time of writing here in Perth we are enduring a severe lockdown : mask wearing is mandatory with heavy fines applied for noncompliance; can only shop for essentials; restaurants and cafes only serving takeaways; extra week of holidays for school children and all high school students must wear masks; playgrounds, gyms, public pools etc. closed; restricted travel. The list goes on.

This lockdown and thinking about the National Board discussion on the Roaring 40's brought back reflections of some of the Rorts Bonny and I have attended over the years. Thus, in this Vice President's Report, I wish to recall a few interesting (to me) recollections in no particular order:

WYONG - During lunch being entertained by a local theatre group performing "Fawlty Towers" with audience participation and much frivolity.

MILDURA - Traveling by boat through Lock No. 11 and seeing the 100-year-old massive tractor "Big Lizzie" at Red Cliffs, very impressive and historical.

ADELAIDE - Arctic weather at Victor Harbor and Granite Island. Absolutely freezing. How many raided the shops for warmer garments?

COFFS HARBOUR - Kissed by a smelly seal. Recall one nameless Rorter exclaim, "My Mother in Law has more prickly whiskers!"

HERVEY BAY - The contentious AGM held on beautiful Fraser Island.

Maybe the above will kindle some fond memories by other Rorters.

Let us continue to encourage our Editor, Bill in providing interesting stories and pictures. The Roaring 40's deserves our support.

The Bargara Rort is fast approaching. I'm certain Kevin and Liz are well prepared for the onslaught of Rorters in May.

May we all endeavour to maintain our maxim of "CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP".

Cheers everyone,

BRYAN SPENCER, VICE PRESIDENT.



Secretary's Report
Col Ramsay. Wynnum Manly. Q.

A very warm welcome from the Secretary's Desk, February 2021.

In the previous issue I mentioned that I have tried four different emailing programs to get to members and advise that I had selected one which seemed to be the most economical; well this has not been the case as after two publications, they had a change of policy and charging for some of the features that we were using. We have now moved on and are using the same program that we were about one year ago.

It is interesting to note that immediately after I closed the account with this company, (overseas based) my Credit Card information was used from the same country, to purchase overseas accommodation and a few other bits and bobs.

Beware, take great care of your Credit Card when you do any form of Online transaction!!!

As well as the "WEB" page, and the "Roaring 40's" Apex 40 will continue to send "Newsletters" when relevant news comes to hand. "Facebook" is also becoming a very popular method of communication and Apex 40 has a Facebook page to help you keep up to date with current happenings.

WEB: <https://apex40.com>

Email: secretary@apex40.com

Facebook: [Apex 40 Australia Inc. | Facebook](#)

696 member email addresses

278 members

Of the members for whom we have email addresses, only 480 are financial, the other 216 are either not current financial members, or Friends of Apex 40 that are members of other clubs for example; Apex Australia, Club 41 NZ and Club 41 Nouméa.

I note that we have a number of members on our Facebook page who are not members of Apex 40 Australia Incorporated. From the 278 listed, only 194 are members, so our coverage of members is very low.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004>

As important information comes to hand, Newsletters will come your way to try and keep you up to date with Apex40 happenings.

Please enjoy the great work from Bill our Roaring 40's editor. Articles, dinner notices and photographs can always be sent to Bill for inclusion in Roaring 40's!

roaring@apex40.com

Bargara Rort is growing in numbers with 89 members now registered. Now is the time for you to go online and register for this GREAT event.

https://www.apex40.com/Bargara_2021.php



Would all Secretaries please keep me up to date with current membership changes and the passing of members (over the past 2 years) in your groups. This is especially important with the Bargara Rort coming up in May 2021.

Keep Happy, Healthy and Covid-19 Safe,
Col Ramsay,
National Secretary.

secretary@apex40.com

0419 25 30 30



Treasurer

Keith Miller, Nepean. N.S.W.

MEMBERSHIP FEES NOW DUE 2021

Sub-Committees and Members at Large (MAL) are reminded that the Apex 40 Australia Inc membership Fees were due on 31st January 2021. Membership fees for 2021 have been held at \$7.50 per member.

Invoices were sent to all sub-committees and MAL's on the 1st December 2020, with a due date of 31/01/2021. Reminders will be issued soon, and prompt payment would be appreciated thanks.

The RORT Committee have decided to extend the cut-off date for early bird registrations for the 2021 RORT to be held at Bargara on 4-9 May 2021 until the 17th April 2021. Therefore, for those who have paid their deposits, the final date for payment shall also be 17th April 2021.

Keith Miller



International Relations and Apex Liaison

Mark Carter. Leeton. NSW.

Welcome to 2021, the question on everyone's lips," more of the same or perhaps something new ?????".

Well if we look at international travel, perhaps not a lot new. I will soon be sending of an email again to my counterpart, Santiago in Noumea just to confirm that if travel regulations allow us to travel that they are still happy to host us for a fabulous few days. I will have secretary Col email all members when I have a reply.

This event is due to be run at the start of October. I am aware that a number of you still have accommodation and flights on hold until October this year and my secretary Joanne is going to follow up with Air Cal and the accommodation where most were booked in tomorrow so again information will be forwarded as it comes to hand.

Regarding the postponed South Africa trip, I believe Bill has organised with Alan Bach to give us an update on proceedings there in this issue.

Yours in A40
Mark Carter



Membership Report

Mark Tramby, XEPA. Qld.

The Apex 40 Facebook page

Are you a member??

If not, and you have a Facebook account, I invite you to join our “private group”.....note the words private group, you have to apply to join (just list your subcommittee or if you are a MAL) and anything posted up (by you or others) can only be seen if they are members, the general Facebook community has NO ACCESS.

The current admin group running the page are President Julie, Secretary Col, Web Editor Ken and myself, so between us we ensure that only Apex 40 members, or Apexians (such as the current National President) are the only members.

So, if you have Facebook and are not a member its simple to join,

Up the top in the search area (the magnifying glass on devices), which is at the top left when you sign into a PC, type in “Apex 40 Australia Inc.”, and when that comes up click on it and hit the “join” button. You’ll be asked one question “which group are you a member of or how are you associated with Apex 40”, type in your subcommittee or put in MAL and then enter. Within a few minutes (hours at the most) one of us will pick this up and approve you. Yes, I know it’s a bit of a pain BUT it’s the only way we can keep things secure and private and we are sure you’d all want that.

Why should you join!

Well that’s a good question but simply more and more photos, reports, events, stories are being shared and it’s all very current. But best of all its interactive, you can say hi to the group from say Caloundra who have posted up a photo of their recent meeting or make a comment on some of the old photos we are sharing from past Rorts and those commenting will be able to see what you’ve said.

If you’d like to post up a photo of your group meeting, it’s easy to do and even better if most of your group are members of the page as well.

Quite simply if you are Facebook members and are not in the group you are missing out, and with less than 300 of you on Facebook, and a membership of almost 1000 there’s a LOT missing out.

If you are not a member of Facebook then maybe enlist a bit of help to join up and then join our group, you’ll be very glad you did. But I of course understand fully if you don’t want anything to do with Facebook, really, it’s just another way for us to communicate on top of the existing ways.

Cheers all, and see you on Facebook

Mark Tramby



Webmaster.
Ken Wright. Nepean Valley. N.S.W.

Nothing to report at this time.

Webmaster Ken is awaiting the final details and promotional material for Darwin 2022. When this is to hand, he will publish the information on the association website, together with registration forms and accommodation alternatives. Hopefully this will be in progress by Bargara but may not be complete.”



From the Editor's Desk
Bill Cramp, Redlands. Qld.

I continue to struggle with content for this magazine. Plagiarising the reports of members from the Apex 40 Facebook group page is not my preference, but I have few other alternatives. Sub committees producing newsletters are rare and no one bothers with emailing reports on events for inclusion in an edition. Since the last I have agonised on the future of this publication. Support from your board has encouraged me to continue with an approximate quarterly publication but need input.

Articles like Neil McPherson's, later in this edition, recalling some of the history of Surfers Paradise Apex Club are great copy. The Apex association has no archives that I can find, so the challenge is for anyone from our association with records and good memories to compile a brief compilation which we can publish for all and we do keep records! Histories of your Apex club or Apex 40 club/group including photographs of 3 or 4 pages would be ideal and will be published!

We are excited with the Rort not too distant and the hope of being able to “continue the friendship” with as many readers as can make the trip. Let us hope that snap lockdowns do not spoil the anticipation at the last.

Bill Cramp

41'ers Association of Southern Africa AGM and Tour.

Alan Bach has been advised that the tour detailed in the last Roaring 40's magazine is still planned for September, but whether it will be 2021 or later is still not certain. Alan is currently travelling throughout Queensland and New South Wales and gets emails on brief visits to home.

Editor.



Apex 40 National Rort -- Bargara/Bundaberg May 4 to 9, 2021

Bargara welcomes you to our Apex 40 National Rort to be held on the Coral Coast of Queensland (commonly known as the Wide Bay area) in May 2021!!!!!!

We are now inside three months from the commencement of our national gathering, which runs over six days and five nights, and Bargara is located just 365kms north of Brisbane, or 4.5 hours driving time.

Everything is on track for our postponed event, the borders are down, and it is business as usual in Queensland!!!! And don't forget to bring your swimmers, water temperature is early May is still 26 degrees, and most accommodation is opposite the ocean!

From the Welcome Social on Tuesday night to the Farewell Breakfast, catered for by members of Bundaberg Apex Club, on Sunday morning, and four full days of activities in between, it will be an event to remember!

And if you know an ex-Apexian who has never been to a Rort, do try and invite them along to share the "Fun and Fellowship" of our past membership, as sadly, none of us are getting any younger!!!!

If you have held off registering, now is the time, as registrations and final payment have been extended to April 17, without penalty! We look forward to your company, and a great six days of fun & frivolity!!!!

Kevin & Liz Huxham, Members At Large, Bargara, Qld.



Bargara QLD 2021



RORT

Tuesday 4th May to Sunday 9th May 2021

Just four hours drive from Brisbane, Bargara is situated on the coastline of the Southern Great Barrier Reef and offers an idyllic beachside lifestyle.

10 minutes drive through cane fields is Bundaberg, which is rich with year-round fresh produce and iconic drinks. Enjoy a visit to the famous Bundaberg Rum Distillery or the Bundaberg Brewed Drinks Barrel, or discover the lush botanical gardens and beautiful main street. You are guaranteed to go home with a full tummy when you visit Australia's food bowl so make sure you explore the many cafes and eateries and stop at the roadside stalls bursting with fresh produce. Come and join us at the 2021 Apex 40 RORT!



The RORT

Tues. 4th May

- 3.00 - 5.30pm Registration at the Bargara Golf Club (Club Bargara).
5.15pm Coach collects members from Bargara Caravan Park for Club Bargara for Welcome Social.
6.00pm Drinks and finger food at Club Bargara.
9.00pm Coaches return to Bargara Caravan Park.

Wed. 5th May

- 9.00am Coaches depart for a 9.30am visit and tour of the brand spanning new Mon Repos Turtle Centre (completed in 2019 at a cost of \$22m) with morning tea, followed by a drive through one of Queensland's largest fruit and vegetable bowls, via the remnants of a 900,000 year old extinct volcano known as the Hummock Lookout. This scenic stop overlooks the Coral Sea and coastline from the highest local point.
- 12.30pm Coaches proceed on to Bundaberg's Quay Street Alexander Park gazebo on the river bank, for a Subway platter lunch and refreshments. After lunch, a leisurely stroll through the park to the Alexander Park Zoo on the Burnett River.
- 3.30pm Coach departs for Bargara Brewhouse.
- 4.00pm Tour of Bargara Brewhouse with tasting paddles, finger food and pizzas.
- 7.30 - 9.00pm Coaches return to Bargara.

Thur. 6th May

This is now a free morning to sit and chat opposite the caravan park, coffee at the surf club, explore the coastal walking trails, walk to Bargara shops, or sleep in, the choice is yours . . .

10.30am Coaches depart for Bundaberg Rum Distillery.

Tour of Bundaberg Rum with lunch and coffee at their cafe, with two drink samples included, other drinks at bar prices. After completion here, a mystery coach tour of local area, heritage buildings, free shop time for the ladies.

5.30pm Early Dinner whilst in Bundaberg at RJ's Rock & Roll Diner, with drinks, dancing and entertainment.

8.30 - 9.00pm Coaches return to Bargara.

Fri. 7th May

8.30am Coach tour to Childers for a taste of old-world charm at the Paragon Theatre for morning tea and vintage cartoons. Free time to wander the main street with lunch at your choice and cost, at either bakeries, cafes, club or hotels. Entry included to the Backpackers Memorial Museum & Gallery, as well as the Military & Memorabilia Museum.

1.30pm Coaches depart for Bundaberg for a tour and tastings at Kalki Moon Distillery.

4.30pm Coaches depart for accommodation venues.

5.45pm Coaches depart accommodation venues for a BBQ dinner at Bundaberg Bowls Club.

6.30pm Catering by Elegant Events, with three hours of 60-70's dancing music, by the Graduates until 10.00pm.

10.00pm Coaches depart for accommodation venues.

Sat. 8th May

9.00am Coaches depart for a tour through Greensill's Sweet Potato Farm, a huge industry producing 40% of the nation's sweet potatoes, with the addition of valued added flavours.

10.00am Proceed to The Waves Sports Club.

10.30am AGM at The Waves Sports Club.

1.00pm Lunch at Sandhills Sports Club in Bargara.

2.30pm Return to accommodation venues for a rest.

5.45pm Coaches into Bundaberg for dinner, drinks and dancing at 'The Waves Sports Club'.

10.00pm Coaches depart for accommodation venues.

Sun. 9th May

8.00 - 10.30am Farewell Breakfast catered for by the Apex Club of Bundaberg at the beach, behind the surf club and directly opposite the Bargara Caravan Park.

** Locations, venues and activities are subject to change*

Bargara QLD 2021



RORT

Accommodation Choices



Bargara Beach Caravan Park *This is the preferred caravan Park*

25 Fred Courtice Avenue
Nielson Park
Bargara QLD 4670

Phone: 07 4159 2228

stay@bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au

www.bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au



Bargara Blue Resort

4 Baxter Avenue
Bargara Beach QLD 4670

Phone: 07 4159 1691

info@bargarablue.com.au

www.bargarablue.com.au/



Absolute Oceanfront Tourist Park

117 Woongarra Scenic Drive
Bargara QLD 4670

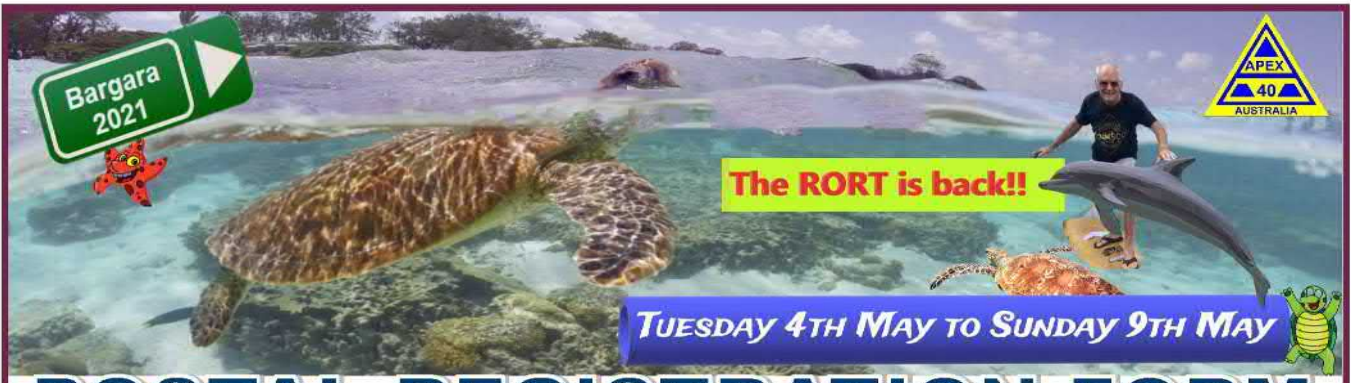
Phone: 07 4159 2436

oceanfront-park@bigpond.com.au

www.oceanfrontpark.com.au/

All RORT'ers must book their own accommodation. Bargara Beach is the preferred Caravan Park, whilst the Absolute Oceanfront Tourist Park should only be booked if there is no accommodation available at Bargara Beach Caravan Park. The Coaches will pick up from these three sites only, should you wish to stay at another location you will need to make your own way to our coach stop at Bargara Beach Caravan Park.





POSTAL REGISTRATION FORM

You can register using this form or Online.

Mail this form: 2021 Apex 40 RORT
PO Box 5204 Manly QLD 4179.

Online through the website: www.apex40.com

Rorter 1: First Name: Surname:

Street Address:

Town Suburb: State: Postcode:

Country: Email:

Mobile Number at RORT: Sub Group /MAL or Org.:

Rorter 2: First Name: Surname:

Food allergies, mobility or other issues:

Arrival Date: Departure Date: Travel Method:

Payment: Tick if you have rollover credit from the cancelled 2020 RORT **Or**

I am registering for person / people at the discounted price of \$380 each
Total Amount owing \$

Make Cheque payable to **Apex 40 Australia 2021 RORT** BSB: 034053
Post to: Apex 40 Australia PO Box 5204 Manly Qld 4179 Or direct deposit Account: 351301
Use surname as reference

Accommodation Choice: (Booking is your responsibility)

- Bargara Beach Caravan Park
- Absolute Ocean Front Tourist Park
- Bargara Blue Resort
- Other

Reprinted from the previous editions as a reminder for those Rorters bringing their van.

Pre - Bargara Rort Caravan and Motorhome Gathering at Kilkivan

Travelling to the 2021 Rort in Bargara by Caravan / Motorhome??

If so, consider joining hosts Mark & Rosemary Tramby at the fabulous Kilkivan Bush Camp & Caravan Park (near Gympie) for an extra -long weekend prior to the Rort commencing.

The Kilkivan Bush Camp is approximately 35km west of Gympie set in a beautiful setting surrounded by glorious ranges and with the magnificent Fat Hen Creek flowing through the camp (not always running though).

Power and water “points” not sites are available with each area having a firepit (campfires WILL be happening every night), wood is available for purchase at the camp or nearby.

The plan is to arrive before the normal weekend rush on Thursday the 29th of April and leave on Monday the 3rd of May for Bargara which is 213kms (about 3 hours) away, a stop en route at Tiaro is highly recommended.

Kilkivan Bush Camping hosts some fantastic nights under the stars (function centre is available should there be inclement weather) so expect a Camp Oven dinner with entertainment (at cost) to be part of the programme.

Note the park will be busy as this is the Queensland Labour Day long weekend but with the space they give you it's never really crowded.

You can check out the parks attributes at www.bushcamping.com.au

For bookings it's best to email kilkivan@bushcamping.com.au but you can call (07) 54841340, note they are a small family run business so often you'll need to leave a message so as I say email is the best option.

We have a block booking under “Apex 40 Mark Tramby Group” which you need to reference, if joining this group, you'll need to make sure the Bargara Caravan Park is booked from Monday the 3rd of May, the Rort itself begins on the 4th of May.

If you were doing this for the cancelled 2020 event and had paid a deposit your credit can be used for the new dates.

Rosemary and I look forward to hosting you in what will be a wonderful 4 nights.

Mark

Around the Sub-Committees

New South Wales

Alstonville 740 kms north of Sydney

Byron Bay 760 kms north of Sydney

Blue Mountains Crest 100 kms west of Sydney



Photos from their Christmas party.

The group meets monthly. This month's meeting was at the Katoomba Family Hotel, March is planned for Leura and April at Lithgow, subject to visitor limits on private properties. Their usual country trip is in jeopardy with transport and travel not certain.

Great 8 Hunter Valley 170 kms north of Sydney



Lovely night with Great 8 Apex 40 tonight, great food as usual! at the Best Western Motel, East Maitland, 12th. February.

Inverell 560 kms north west of Sydney

Leeton 590 kms south west of Sydney

Well, not a lot of news to report in Leeton Apex40 land since the last report. Our Christmas lunch was held at Aria Park this year, which is about 30 km west of Temora, for those on the Leeton RORT PRT we stopped there to view the bronze stature of the wheat lumper and Colwills teapots and saw collection. Around 25 people enjoyed a wander through the 10 minute museum (actually a good 40 minutes) followed by a nice pub lunch preceded by a talk on the local history by resident mayor, local farmer and Temora shire councillor Nigel Judd. The trip home was via a stop at Mirrool pub on the Newel Hwy, which I have been

driving past for the last 46 years and never called in. Thanks to Brendan and Karen for organizing the day.

Sadly, we regret the passing of one of our members, Rayma Strachan from Darlington Point at the end of January. We will do our best to get Alan to Bargaara.

Moving forward we hope to have a pre-dinner tour of one of the local Almond factories' where one of our members has become the operations manager recently, if it can be organised. This will be followed by lunch at the newly opened Malt house at Darlington Point which has been a \$30mil development and still growing. It provides cabins and caravan powered sites so you can walk home after eating and drinking a little too much. So, until we meet in person or read the written language in the form of reports, that's all from the Leeton news desk.

Looking forward to catching up with some of you in Bargaara.

Mark Carter
Secretary
Leeton A40 subcommittee .

Lismore 745 kms north of Sydney.

Manly 15 kms east of Sydney.

Moree 640 kms north west of Sydney.

Nepean Valley 60 kms west of Sydney.

Nepean Valley membership is growing again with another 2 couples joining up at our New Year's Eve party which took place in Melrose Park Emu Plains We had an attendance of 10 people for an afternoon/Evening BBQ which was changed from my house to the local park at the last minute to get around Covid rules on the day. The Sub-Group also picked up another 2 members prior New Year's Eve. Ken

Wyong 100 kms north of Sydney.





Photos from their November meeting.

It was a very pleasant day with 19 attending. Besides welcoming back some who have been away travelling and our popular country members, Peter and Ann Ryall. We also got four new members joining our group, Brian and Pam Fulmer and Kevin and Joan Deaves. Tom commented in their latest newsletter “Let’s hope we don’t have so many members going to hospitals this year and we can get to see everyone a lot more than we did in 2020”.

Victoria

Bendigo 153 kms north of Melbourne

Final meet for 2020 was for a picnic in the Bendigo Botanic Gardens, White Hills

Just to hand they are organising a silo art tour, Colbinabbin & Rochester Wednesday 24th Feb – date tentative subject to any Covid challenges

Dandenong Valley 35 kms south of Melbourne

Geelong 73 kms south west of Melbourne

Geelong is hoping to re-commence meetings from 18th. February. 2020 has been a year to remember for all of us. And after 66 years of APEX 40 in Geelong we missed our first meeting in April. From February 1954 to March 2020 that’s 726 meetings without a break!

Melbourne-Gippsland 40 kms east of Melbourne

Melbourne Nor-westers 22 kms north west of Melbourne

Souwest 270 kms south west of Melbourne



I have received this photograph which I believe was from a meeting last year! They look like a ‘sinister’ mob!

First dinner planned for Tuesday, 2nd February, at the Panmure pub.

Sunraysia 546 kms north west of Melbourne

Queensland

Caloundra 103 kms north of Brisbane

Glenn Rossiter reports

‘Caloundra Apex 40 celebrated Christmas lunch at the Dicky Beach Surf club on 5th December and as the sign suggests a few of the attendees may have got wrecked

...Not Betty & I as we were unable to attend.’



Curtis Coast 530 kms north of Brisbane

Gold Coast. 80 kms south of Brisbane

We had an excellent attendance at Café 63 and an attendance of 44 members with a special welcome and thank you to the new members that attended. This restaurant allows our members to order the meal of their choice from a large and comprehensive menu and then to pay separately. This is a great boon to the Treasurer!

I have made a plea to our members regarding their Apex 40 badges. With this large number of attendees and due to the age and infirmity of some of our group (me), it is desirable that badges be worn.

I have attached a collage of some of the photos taken.

Our next luncheon is planned for April.

Neil McPherson President



Hervey Bay

290 kms north of Brisbane

Maryborough

290 kms north of Brisbane

Redlands

35 kms south east of Brisbane



On display is a souvenir jacket from the Apex Jubilee convention in Geelong 1981.

Redlands held their Christmas lunch at the local Redlands Museum. We were welcomed with an historical display of Apex involvement in the community. Very nostalgic for many of our members, who were charter members of the Redlands Apex Club, now disbanded.

Wynnum Manly 20 kms east of Brisbane

THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY. at 10am,

at the shelter shed on the Manly Foreshore. where we usually go opposite the Moreton Bay Trailer Boat Club. Some of us might even like to stay and get some take-away at lunch time. President Dianne and I (Secretary, Denice Clements) will provide tea, coffee etc. plus something to share for morning tea.

Please bring along a cup or mug. Hope you will be able to make it. Please let one of us know if you will be there.

Regards Denice & Dianne.



Well, what a morning Tea!! Great food and Fantastic company as Wynnum Manly members as well as MAL's Kevin King and Winsome Anderson enjoyed some fantastic home-made goodies with Tea and/or Coffee together. Also, on this occasion, we helped Kay Grigorieff celebrate her 80th. This included a "Presentation Booklet" from Wynnum Manly Secretary Denice and an AOB from Col, Apex 40 Secretary on behalf of President Julie.

A fantastic morning was had by all, "Continuing the Fellowship".

A special thank you to Kevin King for the photographs.

XEPA Great South East 30 kms south east of Brisbane



Xepa AGM Luncheon in November at Alan & Mary Bach's home in Capalaba. Congratulations to Colin Gifford for being elected "president" for the next year.

South Australia

Adelaide Hills 35 kms south east of Adelaide

Tasmania

Devonport 255 kms north west of Hobart

Launceston 200 kms north of Hobart

+O+O+O+O+O+

The past, present and future (by Vice President Nominee Mark Tramby)

Hi everyone, as a nominee for the National Vice President role I was asked to do a feature on myself and where I see Apex 40 going in the future, so here we go!!

I was born in Moree in northern NSW in 1955, and married Rosemary (who is from Heidelberg in Victoria) in Nyngan in 1975, we have two daughters and 5 grandchildren.

Born and raised in a rural background, my father had a farm and a stock and station agency, which is the reason I was in Nyngan for a short period in 1974-75 before being made redundant and ending up of all things, a travel agent.

I joined Apex in Moree in 1976 and retired after being granted Life Membership in 1996 (the year I joined Apex 40). My Apex career saw me fill every role possible on club board and then a number of roles on Zone Board including that of Zone 5 President in 1989-90.

After being in the travel business in Moree for almost 30 years we sold up and moved to Brisbane in 2005 operating another travel business in the CBD for a further 10 years. We are now retired and enjoying life at Redland Bay. Rosemary and I are members of the Xepa subcommittee.

At this Rort I'm throwing my hat in the ring to be National VP moving into the National President role when Julie stands down and as requested, I'm sharing my vision for Apex 40 as we move forward into this next decade.

Firstly, whilst it's great to see a better working relationship with Apex Australia (and of course the Foundation) the decision by Apex to allow members to go well past 40 has had, and will have, a profound impact on Apex 40 with regards to our membership numbers.

Already we are seeing fewer younger members join. To be honest I'm not sure there's a solution to this other than trying to attract as many new members from our times in Apex and perhaps the period up to about mid the last decade before the decision was made to extend the age. Then hoping in the future as Apexians get older that they'll gravitate to Apex 40 rather than stay in Apex. You'll have to admit that apart from a few, we seem to have totally missed members that retired from the mid 90's to say about 2005, so that's a definite target group for us. I know there's only so much you can do but be on the lookout and invite them along as it's pretty much the only way.

I am hopeful that we might see a new subcommittee formed in western QLD based around the Chinchilla / Dalby area. I continue to work with a past Apexian out that way in the hope he gets enough interest to kick one off, so that is another option. Perhaps you have a son (or daughter) who have retired from Apex that might consider doing this, as remember it takes just person one to kick it off and one will soon turn into twenty.

Secondly, I really feel it's time consider carefully our Rort program as it has become, for the age group we are in, just a bit too full on. I'm younger than many of you (66 this year) and even I feel the pinch after a full day on a bus, followed by 30 minutes to shower and then have be ready for the next event. Yes, I know groups want to showcase their area BUT we do need to adapt to the ageing attendance, and I don't think that's been done for a while. So, one of my platforms to be elected will be to make future Rorts more relaxed and more about spending time together at leisure rather than just seeing as much of the tourist stuff in the area as possible.

No this does NOT mean we won't be doing tours or appropriate activities, but it will mean leaving later, doing a bit less, and arriving home much earlier and not necessarily having a planned activity every night. Note, if we are doing the usual 3 night Rort (Friday to Monday) this couldn't happen so I do want you to know I'm all for slightly extended Rorts, maybe Thursday to Tuesday, with the social nights spread out and a couple of casual catch up nights (say at the caravan park or at the motel) on the other nights. Our touring days would start later and only be half days followed by lunch and then rest afternoons. Most that come to Rorts drive, so if you want to see something else locally then you'll have free time in which to do this. I'm more than happy to take on board people's views but I constantly hear that this is what people want, so if elected I'll certainly be pushing for easier Rorts for the ones I'll be involved in as President.

Thank you for reading this, I hope you have all survived these terrible Covid times and do hope that by the time we get to Darwin in 2022 that life is almost back to normal, and for any going to Bargara I look forward to seeing you there.



Vale John Betts

John was a MAL of Apex 40 from Grafton.

It is with deep sadness that I advise the passing on 21st November 2020 of John Betts husband of Lyn.

John was an Apexian for 19 years, 17 of which were with the Grafton Apex Club. He was granted Life Membership in 1984.

John was also a foundation member of the Apex 40 Grafton (originally Grafton Oasis) Club.

Thank you

Peter & Roz Chessell



Ed. I have not covered all the deaths reported in the past year, here. However, it is opportune to call all subcommittees to advise our Secretary of all members who have passed away during the last 2 years for formal acknowledgement at the AGM. Col may have been advised already but repeating the information will ensure that no one is missed!

Alan Kinder, a foundation member of Melbourne Gippsland group, has passed away this morning, 17th February. He had been very sick and admitted to palliative care. Alan's involvement and character had him well known and admired throughout this organisation.



Alan with Lionel Mussell at the Fraser Coast Rort.

MEMORIES OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS – WHEN WE WERE NEITHER SURFERS PARADISE APEX CLUB – CLUB NO. 534

From the beginning, the members of Surfers Paradise Apex strived to achieve activities and service work that was *different* – there was, of course, all the normal Apex activities but there was also that something that was *unusual*.

An early scheme in 1968 was to establish a ‘National Pork Pie Day’.

NATIONAL PORK PIE DAY



So now the Coast will have a National Pork Pie Day

Ron and Olive Holland have a supermarket and their hottest selling line is not groceries, but nostalgia.

The nostalgia comes in the lip-smacking form of English pork pies – even more the British way of life than kippers, bangers, and mash, or fish and chips.

English migrants from all corners of Australia have been travelling to the Gold Coast just to buy a pork pie.

Then they settle back for a bit of a holiday in the sun.

Some English migrants have been known to decide to live here – after they have shed a few nostalgic tears over a pork pie.

Fellow feeling

The Holland family know just how they feel – they are English migrants themselves.

They came to Australia in 1966 and set up their supermarket on Rio Vista.

They love it here, and so do their children. Martin, 12, Susan, 9, and Tracey, 2.

Before coming to Australia and the Gold Coast, the Holland family lived in the Old Kent Road and Ron was a planning officer for the London Ambulance Service.

Asked why he decided to bring his family all the way out to Australia, Ron replied: "This is a great land of opportunity, there's no denying that.

"In England we had to contend with high taxes and the colour problem, which to my mind is developing the

same way it is in America.

"Australia is also a much better place in which to bring children up."

"We first arrived in Sydney, then came up to Surfers Paradise because we had friends here.

"I decided I would open a motel, but soon realised that Surfers Paradise needed another motel like I need a hole in the head," he laughed.

So the supermarket idea struck him as a good solid venture and he bought the land and started building.

Since the supermarket was opened business has been booming.

The pork pies came into the picture not very long ago.

Caught on

It happened when some young friends started making pork pies for their bakery.

They caught on so well after Ron started selling them in his supermarket that business for both is well and truly booming.

Letters began pouring in from everywhere, especially from English people.

Here is an example of the nostalgic pangs of hunger for a bit of England – a letter from an English migrant in Sydney to Ron Holland:

"Dear Mr Holland, "My wife has refused to eat Australian pies and sausages for many years and longs for a home-made Eng-

lish pork pie and English-type pork sausages.

"Do you sell yours in Sydney? If so where, because that's where we'll buy ours in future.

"If they aren't sold in Sydney is it possible to post a dozen pies and a few pounds of sausages to us?"

The impact of the pork pie has snowballed so much that Ron has been master-mind in arrangements for a National Pork Pie Day, to be held in the surrounds of the supermarket.

Memories

There will be pork pie eating competitions, a Miss Pork Pie competition, and even a Petticoat Lane to bring back memories of Old England.

The day has been placed in the hands of Apex, who will use the proceeds for charity.

They are looking for traditional Beefeaters' uniforms and the like, for Anexians to wear to add to the glamour of the occasion.

It is expected the National Pork Pie Day on Rio Vista will take place next month.

In the meantime, Ron and Olive go on selling pork pies – and groceries.

● Pictured above are Susan Nuttall, supermarket assistant and Ron Holland, in the act of proving just how good English pork pies are.

It was a memorable event involving a lot of effort but, nevertheless, the result was a resounding *disaster* and it was never repeated!

Perhaps, the answer was to host a ‘show’ whereby the general public would pay an admission fee, and this would raise funds for the Club’s Service Account but what sort of a show, where, when?

The answer was found in 1972 when the first ‘Gold Coast Boat Show’ was held. All the criteria were fulfilled.

It was hosted in the ‘underground’ carpark of the Sundale Shopping Centre which wasn’t really ‘underground’ but it was covered by the main building and had easily controlled access points. This meant that the Show was independent of the weather.

It was held over the Queen’s Birthday long weekend in June (later moving to October).

And, most importantly, for the Gold Coast, it was a display of boats!

Such an event had to be promoted...

1974 Apex Boat Show



L-R Neil McPherson, Bill Street, Jim Irwin, Dennis O'Connor, Steve Walczak, Dave Roberts, Garth Fraser, Graeme Laws & Gerald Snelling



L-R Steve Walczak, Dave Roberts, Gerald Snelling. Lynn McPherson. In boat holding banner is Sue-Ellen Fraser with Shaneen Fraser (Garth's daughters). Boat is "Moonshine" skipper / owner Garth.



How else would you promote a Boat Show
Over the years, members worked very hard at these Shows:



Club Member Peter Wheeler putting in
some hard work at the
Boat Show

Many tens of thousands of dollars were raised. There was a lot of hard work but there was even more camaraderie and satisfaction. Massive support was received from the Apex wives, from the local radio station, 4GG, the local newspaper, Gold Coast Bulletin and, most importantly, the boating industry and boat dealers. It was all made possible by the support of the public who attended in their thousands.
Neil McPherson, Life Member, Surfers Paradise Apex.

Territory 22

A sunset over a body of water with silhouettes of palm trees in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a dark blue at the top. The silhouettes of palm trees are prominent in the foreground, framing the scene.

*It's all about the sunset
the history
the lifestyle
our fellowship*

Be there.

May 18-24

Darwin

Funny Jokes & Puns about Getting Older

1. Pastry chefs know that old age **crepes** up on you.
2. Only old people watch the **Grammy Awards**.
3. The old baker understands aging, she's an **old tarte!**
4. You know what the young chicken said the old, "You're no **spring chicken!**"
5. Age got **muffin** on you!
6. How are stars like false teeth? They both come out at night!
7. What goes up but never comes down? Your age!
8. Aging gracefully is like the nice way of saying you're slowly looking worse.
9. At my age, the only pole dancing I do is to hold on to the safety bar in the bathtub.
10. The older we get, the earlier it gets late.
11. You know you're getting older when you have a party and the neighbours don't even realize it.
12. Why am I getting older and wider instead of older and wiser?
13. These are not grey hairs! They are wisdom highlights! I happen to be very wise.
14. Allow me to politely suggest this be the year you start lying about your age.
15. Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative.
16. If my body were a car, I would trade it in a newer model...every time I cough sneeze or sputter my radiant leaks and my exhaust backfires.
17. You're not getting older; you're just becoming a classic!
18. "You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake." —*Bob Hope*
19. "I'm at an age when my back goes out more than I do." —*Phyllis Diller*
20. "You know you're getting old when you get that one candle on the cake. It's like, 'See if you can blow this out.'" —*Jerry Seinfeld*
21. "I've learned that life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes." —*Andy Rooney*
22. "So far, this is the oldest I've been." —*George Carlin*
23. "By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere." —*Billy Crystal*
24. "As you get older, the pickings get slimmer, but the people sure don't." —*Carrie Fisher*
25. "You know you're getting older when you're told to slow down by your doctor, instead of by the police." —*Joan Rivers*

Apex Foundation News

A link to the latest newsletter from the Foundation is:

https://mcusercontent.com/ff0d7d731ee5df24ef083663d/files/8226c66e-a267-4da5-b48a-24e17c26030f/Christmas_2020_Newsletter.02.pdf

Click on the link for the quarterly report on activities.

Latest News & Announcements

The Apex Foundation has given more than \$60,000 in grants to Apex Clubs in the past year.

A group of deserving students from Mt Isa affected by drought and floods were sponsored to attend an education programme for music students in Brisbane.

The 2020 Annual Postie Bike Ride in South Australia raised \$120,000.

Generous donations of nearly \$16,000 received from July to December 2020.

Membership continues to grow with new members and renewals.

Apex Australia Annual Report 2019-2020

The link below will access the report:

<https://www.apex.org.au/files/Apex%20Australia%20Annual%20Report%202019-2020%20final.docx.pdf>

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

Always ring or email first to check availability or any postage cost changes.



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

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