



ROARING 40's

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF APEX 40
An Association for Past Apexians for Continuing Fellowship

ISSUE No. 15 - DECEMBER 1981

APEX 40 NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

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FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Without wishing to steal any thunder from our Extension Chairman, I am pleased to report that my dream of seeing our ranks expand this year are appearing to come true.

With Waverley joining our association and new branches formed in Sunraysia and W.A., our membership has increased by over 100. It is also pleasing to read in some branch Dinner Notices that there are a few other enquiries from interested ex-Apexians.

Thank you to the branches for sending your Dinner Notices etc., I do enjoy reading these.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Ern Butler

EXTENSION REPORT

Sunraysia District held its inaugural meeting last September in Mildura. National President Ern was in attendance and the 30 couples present were past members of Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Wentworth Apex Clubs. With good press coverage to date, and the new group's keenness, it should be a Rip Roaring Rort in Mildura next June.

It is also pleasing to welcome the first W.A. branch to Apex 40, namely "Morella", derived from Morley and Dianella.

Contact has been made with the past Zone President, Brian Paatsch from Albury, N.S.W. - we hope to get things moving over that way early in 1982.

Portland and Kyneton, both in Victoria, are areas still being worked on.

Recent approaches made to Alice Springs and North Sydney Apex Clubs, for names of their past members - have proved fruitless to date.

Margaret Simpson (Devonport Branch) has written this week advising contact has been made with two keen fellows down in Hobart - hopefully a new branch to be formed in New Year.

There appears to be some further interest up north in Queensland as reported in Maryborough branch notes.

Recently I spoke with Apex National President, Peter Baulch, with regard to inclusion of an "Apex 40" column in The Apexian.

This request, I understand, will have to be voted on by National Board Members. Anyone who may know of a member on the Board, please ask for their support. This I feel is a very good way to reach areas that still may not know of our existence.

RON CLARK

SECRETARIAL

Further to earlier advice to Branch Secretaries we have now finalised arrangements to have made standardised name badges for members as decided at the Maryborough Rort. The badge will be of royal blue formica material in a triangular shape incorporating the Apex 40 emblem with member's name and branch etched in gold. I am sure members will be pleased with the design of the badge, which will cost \$5, and will wish to have one to wear at functions, particularly Rorts and meetings with other Apex 40 branches, Apex reunions, etc. Even at branch meetings, wearing of name badges makes it easier for new members to feel at home.

I have contacted some branches already for an indication of how many badges may be wanted, and will be sending a sample to those as soon as possible before seeking firm orders. For those branches I have not contacted personally, please let me know if you would like a sample made - and whose name to be used - or, alternatively, (if you accept my opinion that the badges are quite smart) you may wish to place a firm order. If so, please let me have a list of names and payment of \$5 per badge so that we can get things moving.

Copies of our updated information leaflet on Apex 40 have been produced and distributed to branches and other ex-Apexians with whom we have been in contact. We have a large supply in hand so please let me know if you require any more.

Thanks to those branches who have sent in notes for inclusion in this issue. We still have a number of branches we haven't heard from for a while - how about a few lines for next issue? Deadline for next issue should be about the end of March and I will send a reminder before that time to branch Secretaries.

To date we have received current year's application fees (\$20) from eight branches and would appreciate receiving a cheque

from those who have not yet paid so that we may balance the budget which is under pressure from the cost of the Apex 40 leaflet and the increasing cost of producing Roaring 40's.

A merry Christmas and happy New Year to all members.

ALAN KINDER

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Roaring 40's readers who did not attend the 1981 Rort at Maryborough, Qld. have no doubt wondered - along with those who did attend - what that mysterious word WOFTAM meant, the Rort having been billed as the Woftam Rort.

Well, it wasn't until the Rort was under way that a meaning was found for 'Woftam', as a result of a competition among all Rorters. The winning entry was Wonderful Over Forties Together At Maryborough, entered by Barbara Roach, Melbourne/Gippsland.

The competition turned up some interesting entries, among which were -

- Ley Garrett - Wonderful Organization For Travelling And Meeting.
- Patricia Tonkin - Woffle On Fat Tarts And Men. (about badges!)
- B. Hodges - Welcome Over Forties To Amiable Maryborough. (is this Bev or Brian?)
- Chris Kidd - Whizzing Off For That Amiable Meeting. (or for a whizzy)
- Chas Burgess - Whizzys Often Fall Tumble At Maryborough. (speak for yourself Charlie)
- Bill Cunliffe - Weekend Of Fun at Maryborough
- Mary Cunliffe - Welcome Our Friends Tippling At Maryborough.
- B. Hodges - We Often Felt Tiddly At Maryborough. (definitely Bev this time)
- Keith Haymes - Wonderful Oldies Funtime Training at Maryborough.
- Joyce Dick - Weekend of Fantastic Thrills At Maryborough. (good old Don!)
- Lorna Ballinger - Women Over Forty Trust All Men. * (oh yes?)
- Alan Kinder - Which Old Fogie Took Alan's Marbles. (Well we knew he'd lost them)

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- Lionel Mussell - We Often Feel Tight At Maryborough.
(why be specific?)
- B. Hodges - Women Often Forget Time And Money.
(Brian!)
- Pat Wilson - Women Over Forty Tempt All Men.
* (ditto)
- Patricia Tonkin - Woftam Offers Females Terribly Amorous Men.
(bless their hearts)
- Merv Kidd - Women Of Fortune Take Any Man.
(where to?)

AROUND THE BRANCHES

Bendigo

President: Ron Clarke Secretary: Meryl Clarke
43 Mill Street 43 Mill Street
Bendigo, Vic. 3550 Bendigo, Vic. 3550
(054) 43 8290 (054) 43 8290

During October, twenty-four members from Melbourne /Gippsland branch joined us in Bendigo for a weekend of fellowship. Many of the members from both groups had travelled together by coach to Maryborough Rort last June, and during the Saturday evening films were shown of the Rorters' activities and what some members (no names mentioned), got up to when let loose.

Our thanks to Marg and Ross O'Neill for converting their carport and family room to accommodate 50 plus for dinner on the Saturday evening.

The weather behaved beautifully for the Sunday barbecue at Lois and Bob Stanfords' - venue, food, and company rounded off a great weekend.

Our last get-together for 1981 is the combined Annual Meeting/ Break Up, to be held at Vaughan Springs (near Castlemaine) on Sunday 6th December.

Merry Christmas to all and a safe and happy New Year.

Devonport

President: Brian Matthews Secretary: Margaret Simpson
136 Fenton Street P.O. Box 686
Devonport, Tas. 7310 Devonport, Tas. 7310
(004) 24 3156 (004) 24 4413

Devonport has been fairly active the past months arranging social activities. Have held annual dinner (July), a week-end at Boat Harbour and a Crazy Whist Night combined with meeting.

A Chinese night was held at "Mei Sack", Ulverstone followed by the monthly meeting.

Saturday, 21st November, 1981 the Devonport and Launceston Clubs combined to hold their Xmas dinner at Mount View Motel, Deloraine at which 29 members from Devonport and 17 members from Launceston attended.

Devonport has a good attendance at every meeting ranging from 16 to 28 each time.

Have been in contact with two ex-Apexians in Hobart, who are interested in forming an Apex 40 branch there. Will arrange a get together with interested persons there some time in March 1982.

We will be in recess from 21st November, 1981 until 17th February, 1982.

Merry Xmas to all Apex 40 members and Happy New Year from all at Devonport.

Illawarra

President: Ross Wilson
4 Henley Avenue
Wollongong, N.S.W. 2500
(042) 29 9598

Secretary: Bob Grey
47 Mount Brown Rd.,
Dapto, N.S.W. 2530
(042) 61 1646

Continuing our dissertation on the Real Laws of Life, we append herewith part two:

Lang's Golden Rule: "Whoever has the gold, makes the rules."

Morton's Observation: "There is no such thing as a large whisky."

Wilson's Law: "Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself."

Tait's First Law of Organisation: "One's propensity to be appointed to non-paying positions of responsibility is inversely proportional to the size of one's bladder."

Illawarra Secretary Bob Grey is quite a philosopher, as evidenced by these extracts from October and November meeting notices -

" If I am unfortunate enough to stand trial for any offence, my guilt or innocence will be determined not by evidence but solely by my ability to convince some of the jurors that I may be innocent. Our system of justice was once regarded as the best in the world. It probably was. But if ever anything is living on past glory it is the jury system. It continues only because of the avarice of lawyers and the apathy of us. Because we are normally insulated from its effects, we accept a system of justice which has little system and no justice."

" I have recently been reminded that I am Secretary of this group. After almost a year in "office" I was forced to write my first letter to Apex 40 in Victoria. Thankfully, I have not as yet received any mail. (We now have your address, Ed.) On a slightly more serious note. All of us are ex-members of the most over-governed organisation in existence, Apex. Most of our members were the really enthusiastic workers who kept the Clubs, District, Zone or even Association running. We were all deeply involved in maintaining the system. Yet, out of Apex we join the most anarchistic group ever devised, Apex 40. Strange, truly wondrous strange."

Launceston District

President:	Ernie Wakeling 36 Oaktree Road Youngtown, Tas. 7250 (003) 44 7469	Secretary:	Glenys Goodman 43 Tamar Street Launceston, Tas. 7250 (003) 31 5967
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Not a lot to report since the last edition of Roaring 40's.

New Members Jenny and Les. Bester and Jerry Reskusic were made welcome.

Social activities in the form of a Theatre Night to see "Elephant Man" in August and a barbecue at Leslie Baird's on 19th December.

"Happy Xmas and Best Wishes for 1982" to all Apex 40 Members from the Launceston District Apex 40.

Maryborough

President:	Daphne Neil 28 Hyne Street Maryborough, Qld. 4650 (071) 21 4007	Secretary:	Bev. Hodges 59 Creek Road Maryborough, Qld. 4650 (071) 21 4675
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On 2/3/4 October the Club assisted the Maryborough Apex Club by working the bar when they hosted the Zone Convention. Although it was very tiring work (Brian's elbow got really tired? Ed.) we felt it may pay dividends expansion-wise. Naturally, we wore our Rort badges Eric Sherwin made and this resulted in numerous questions being asked and pamphlets being given to those who were keenly interested. Our most significant enquiries came from:

An Apexian from Goondiwindi who is due to retire shortly and is extremely keen to get a club off the ground - he is not particularly interested in joining another Service Club and feels Apex 40 is the answer. As we have recently welcomed Kev and Shirley Strange to our fold (ex-Apexians from Goondiwindi) we will be following this up and, if necessary,

we will endeavour to get a group from Maryborough to travel to Goondiwindi for a dinner meeting to get them started. (It is only 600 kilometres).

The President of Toowoomba Club made extensive enquiries on behalf of some of their recently retired members. He feels it could be what they are looking for and, like Maryborough this year, they are the hosts for the 1983 Zone Convention.

A fellow from Caloundra approached us a couple of times and seems keen to get a branch started.

We have given all these people your address as I am afraid yours was the only one that I could remember "off the cuff". I sincerely hope you will forgive me should they contact you, but I knew you would certainly pass it along to our Extension Chairman.

Regretfully we will be bidding Brian and Brenda Kruske adieu. They are leaving very shortly to reside at Karumba (Gulf Country where only the crocodiles will visit to have a port). We wish them well but are extremely sorry to see them depart and trust they will return to Maryborough to live again when they are fed up with the crocs, mosquitos, rain, etc.

Forthcoming activities include an invitation for the ladies to Maryborough Apex ladies' Christmas Dinner and a family picnic at Hervey Bay.

This year's Christmas party, to be held at Daph and Herb Neil's, will commence with a champagne breakfast at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday 13th December, and continue through to mid-afternoon.

Melbourne-Gippsland

President: Colin Speirs
3 Utah Court
Nth Dandenong
Vic. 3173
(P) (03) 795 7385
(B) (03) 874 4444

Secretary: Lorraine Burgess
16 Bullen Street
East Doncaster
Vic. 3109
(P) (03) 848 1777

We have had some wonderful get togethers lately, our Progressive Dinner was a great success. Then we had a Pie night at Colin and Marianne Speir's home and this was a very big hit with all who were there. A barbecue was held at Ken and Barbara Neale's holiday home at Red Hill South on a perfect day and the fellowship at each one of these functions was absolutely marvellous and that's what Apex 40 is all about isn't it?.

This year has seen twenty new members come along and join in our meetings, so we hope they keep coming back.

The Christmas break-up this year is to be at the Muddy Creek Restaurant (I wonder if we have to take our gum boots?)

A very big thank you must be given to the Bendigo branch for the wonderful weekend they gave us just recently. Counter lunch at the recently restored historic Shamrock Hotel, then dinner at Ross and Marg O'Neill's home was a fantastic night. The highlight was the screening of films of the Rort and bus trip, which resulted in many sore sides from laughing. Sunday lunch was a barbecue at Bob and Lois Stanford's at Huntly and this was a perfect end to a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all Apex 40 members.

Stawell

President:	Glyn Cashin	Secretary:	June Davie
	Smith Street		38 Griffiths Street
	Stawell, Vic. 3380		Stawell, Vic. 3380

Sorry we missed the last issue. Since our Annual Meeting last February we have had meetings in May - which included dinner at a Chinese restaurant - August and November.

For our August meeting, we accepted the invitation of the Stawell Apex Club to join with them at their hand-over dinner which was also the Club's Silver Jubilee.

It is our intention to hold dinner meetings at least quarterly. In the new year we are hoping to have Warracknabeal Apex 40 members join us and we will be inviting a couple of ex-Apexians from Murtoa to the same dinner.

All the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Sunraysia

President:	Norm Deering	Secretary:	Jim Banks
	13 Floral Avenue		102 Thirteenth Street
	Mildura, Vic. 3500		Mildura, Vic. 3500
	(050) 23 3988		(P) (050) 23 2211
			(B) (050) 27 4506

A highly successful mini-Rort was enjoyed at Mildura Golf Club on 1st November with 36 members and 10 kids present. Especially welcome were visitors Barry and Glenis Woolfe from Nunawading Apex 40 who were holidaying at the Country Club.

Next get-together will be a pre-Christmas BBQ, also at the Golf Club.

Members are keen to get the new Apex 40 name badges since we have a large (74) mailing list and they will be a help to newcomers.

Organisation for the 1982 Rort is under way - the paddle steamer Avoca has been booked for the Sunday and that trip could perhaps include a BBQ lunch at Mildara Winery. We were trying to arrange one function at the historic Wentworth Gaol but it is unavailable as it is being used for a bottle show. (That should suit Ern B., Ed.)

Accommodation for all visitors will be in Wentworth (not the gaol!). Hoping to arrange the Saturday night dinner-dance at the famous Working Men's Club.

RORT with us Saturday 12th, Sunday 13th, Monday 14th June, 1982 (Queen's Birthday Weekend).

At risk of cries of "plagiarism" from the Roaring Forties (Apex 40 Official Newsletter) contributors we assure you all that it did not originally happen to Ernie Butler at sea but to one of our own members with a D.U. (Doctorate of Urinology) aboard the P.S. AVoca (Practising for the Rort)..... Said member feeling full of bladder hastened to the gents to find all doors were coin in the slot operated - racing back to his wife he just had time to get a coin before requiring quantities of Wettex. With infinite relief and some exasperation he strode to the wheel-house and asked for a moment of the Captain's time.

"Don't you think it a bit much to expect me to have the right coin in my pocket all the time?" he asked.
 Couldn't we have an honesty system and settle up when we finish the cruise?"

"What do you think this is?" choked Herb Price (for it was he who coined the phrase) "What do you think this is ... a P. & O. Liner?"

If word of this gets back to the Apex 40 world and they don't believe us they will be able to check the facts when they board the Avoca on Sunday 13th June 1982 at the Sunraysia Over Rort.
