

# ROARING 40'S

NOVEMBER 2009



*Merry Christmas to all our Readers*

Apex 40 is the recognized body of  
**Affiliated Past Apexians Groups**

[www.apex40.org](http://www.apex40.org)

## **NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT –**

**Bob Ireland, Melbourne Norwesters, Victoria.**



In my last report, I mentioned that I was to attend the Apex National Convention in Perth as the guest of the then National President Paul Gallagher. It was a very valuable experience, with Apex recommitting their support for Apex 40 as the organisation post Apex.

My worries about the Apex Founders Club were unfounded. This is an organisation that we could all belong to, and does not aim to compete with Apex

40, so we should keep our ears to the ground and stay in touch to learn more.

There was significant interest in our organisation and several Apexians approached me following my 5 minutes of glory (or is it fame?) to discuss things from how to form an Apex 40 club to how can we assist Apex in the formation of Apex Clubs, and so the continuance of that organisation that we found so fulfilling. It should be noted that our membership now exceeds that of Apex, and as such, we should be starting to worry about the continued existence of our own organisation, if we (and they) don't do something now.

I am already aware that Melbourne/Gippsland has a project in place to determine what they need to do to attract new membership to their Club - maybe the time is right to assist Apex, and to that end I have undertaken to work with the National Board to see what we might be able to do to assist them. For example, we have a strong Club in Bendigo, but no Apex Club: same in Geelong and I am sure in other areas as well.

Since my return, I have been contacted for information about forming a new Apex 40 Club in Melbourne, in the Diamond Valley area, so we should see something getting off the ground there shortly. I also provided information re the formation of Apex 40 clubs to several interested parties whilst in Perth, and will be following those leads in the near future.

Looking forward to 2011 Rort, information has been posted on the website, and also in this edition of the Roaring 40's, with regard to a possible tour itinerary for New Zealand. It should be noted that the Rugby Union World Cup will be held in New Zealand in approximately the same time frame as the Rort, and as such, accommodation etc. will be at a premium. With this in mind, RT41 (in particular Derek Johns) has asked if we can provide approximate numbers as soon as possible (this year!). So far I have been contacted by no more than a dozen people to say that they are definite starters, so if you consider that you will be travelling to NZ in 2011, I need to know as soon as possible.

This month, Brian Roach is representing me at the Zone 9 reunion in Bathurst to assist in putting Apex 40 in front of the people attending, and providing assistance to the Nepean Valley guys who are doing the organisation.

I am personally looking forward to the combined outing this month of the Bendigo, Melbourne/Gippsland, Melbourne Norwesters and hopefully Geelong Clubs. I am sure that more news of this outing will appear on the website and in the next edition of the roaring 40's. I am also hoping to personally attend the Apex Queensland State Convention to be held in Goondiwindi next January, and have received several indications of interest from others of our membership.

## **NATIONAL SECRETARY / TREASURER –**

**Wendy Smith**

**Melbourne Norwesters.**



Hello Apex 40 Members.

Branch registrations are due and payable by 31 December 2009. If your club has not paid affiliation fees, it would be appreciated if you could do so at your earliest convenience.

Please do not forget to send me your members' details for the Apex 40 database - it is important that phone numbers and email addresses are kept updated.

The 'fines session' money from Wyong was designated for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. However, after a delay with changing bank signatories, etc. the appeal had closed. Consequently a decision was made by National Board to donate this money to the 'Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability'.

(Geoff Angus, Melbourne Gippsland Club, has an article on the Apex Foundation elsewhere in this edition).

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

### **International Relations and Apex Liaison –**

#### **Sandy Harmer. Wyong, New South Wales**

Darrol and I have been on the road for three months now and are overwhelmed by the beauty of our fabulous country. Another huge factor in the enjoyment stakes is the people you meet and the stories they tell. And a bonus for us has been catching up with Apex, Apex 40 and 41 Club members.

On our second night out, we stayed at the home of George Truman, Apex DG in Gunnedah NSW, whom we had met on our second Malaysian tour. George was very excited about going back to Malaysia in an Apex work party to help finish an extension of the Klang Special School which had been funded by Apex Australia. It reminded us of our old service days.



*Sandy and Darrol Harmer with David 'Bear' Briggs & Kim Duda  
David & Kim are the West Australian Apex State President and Treasurer*

Arriving in Geraldton W.A. to catch up with some Apex members we met on our first Malaysian Tour, we discovered the W.A. Apex State Board was there for their first meeting of the new board. So we joined

their social activities and it was reassuring to see how keen they were to go forward in difficult times for Apex. One Apexian told us she joined Apex because of the service work and absolutely loves it!

In Perth we caught up with members of Apex 40 and relived memories of past Rorts and the future at Bendigo and New Zealand. We also met for the first time members of Perth 41 Club who were originally from England or South Africa. I have had many email contacts with their member, Alan Fitt, through my I.R. role and it was wonderful to finally meet him and exchange information about how we run our clubs. Some were very interested in joining us in New Zealand in 2011 as they are affiliated with the NZ group.

### **AROUND the CLUBS**

#### **Sunraysia – Elaine Gray, President**

The Brodies and the Muttons are organising our next function and it will be our last one for 2009. It will be held in the community function centre at the Vines Retirement Village in San Mateo Avenue on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November starting at 12.30pm. A two-course “Christmas Dinner” will be served and the cost will be \$20 per person. Members to bring a plate of pre-lunch nibbles and everyone can BYO drinks.

You have probably guessed by now that this will be our annual Christmas function, but we have decided that instead of having the usual present hand-out, this year we are asking members to make a \$5 (more if you like) donation to the Sunraysia Cancer Support Centre. Bring your donation along on the day and it will be collected and forwarded as a group donation from Apex 40 Sunraysia.

The main reason we are contacting everyone early is because we are seeking assistance to make this day a bit more than just a normal Apex 40 function. The organisers have come up with the idea of trying to get as many past Sunraysia Apexians as possible along on the day in what could be seen as a “Sunraysia Apex Reunion”. To achieve this, we need the support of all Apex 40 members.

Everyone knows one or more past Apexians and we are asking you to let them know that the function is on and to encourage them to come along on the day. Please do not give the impression that this is an Apex 40 recruitment exercise, it is just an attempt to get “old” friends together for the day to re-live times past.

Please ask those you speak to, to contact Annette Duffy (50245658) with their email address or other contact details, so that a formal invitation can be sent to them. To turn this great idea into a reality much support will be required from now until the function.

### **Curtis Coast – Bruce Williams, President**

Curtis Coast Apex 40's had another successful function on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> July in the way of a mystery bus tour. Bruce Williams arranged the hire of a 25 seat coach to transport the group. After completing the pick up of members from Boyne Tannum and Gladstone there was a stop over at the Gladstone Botanical Gardens for morning tea.

The coach then travelled south from Gladstone approximately 40 kms to a small working cattle property called "Barcoo Retreat". The group was made welcome by owner Warren Dredge and his wife Jenny who had prepared a tasty roast meal of meat and vegetables, on an open fire, using camp ovens. This was followed with a jam roly poly and custard again prepared in the camp ovens.

A great social day was had by all. As refreshments were consumed jokes started to flow and so did the stories. By the time Bruce had the group back to Boyne and Gladstone they were becoming rather noisy. As one member said, bus trips usually remain in the memory for a while, and this one was no exception. We can always rely on Hilly and Stevo for some vocal entertainment.

We had 21 in attendance, being a comfortable crowd for the bus. A big welcome to our new visitors who attended, Steve and Karyn Clark and Mike & Marlene Rice. Hope to see you next time.

Thanks again for making the day a success.

### **Wynnum/Manly – Col Ramsay, President**

Our Christmas in July was a great success, with 24 folk coming along to a heart warming camp oven dinner with most of the trimmings, at the Nunn's. A huge thankyou to Ed and Peg for being able to use their home and set up the fires there, as it was greatly appreciated. We had a visit from Santa with lots of nice presents for everyone, even if he was a wee bit worried about the Swine Flu, and had to wear a makeshift mask for protection!! Thankyou to all who prepared dishes as they were superb. Also thanks to those who were able to help set up for the evening, and clean and tidy up afterwards.

A special event was celebrated at our function that night and everyone enjoyed helping Bill Jessop with the presentation of his OBE and Diff Destroyer award. I have a feeling that we were all struggling to find room for his yummy birthday cake (thanks to Peg's organisation), but find room we did, and it was beautiful!! It was also good to see Daryl up from Iluka, although we all missed Margie and hope she will be able to join us in the not too distant future for a get together.



*Col Ramsay presenting Bill Jessop with his Over 80 and Diff Destroyer Awards*

Our next event will be our overnight stay in Toowoomba on the 17<sup>th</sup> October and rooms have already been booked at the Grammar View Motor Inn.

### **Bendigo – Bob Caldwell, President**

A 'Social Gathering' of Melbourne-Gippsland, Melbourne-Norwesters and Geelong is happening in Woodend on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Melbourne-Gippsland and Bendigo are travelling to Woodend by train.

Lunch is at the Victoria Hotel, some shopping at the monthly market, and a drop or two of ale at the boutique brewery at Keating's Hotel. , Part of the agenda for the day is to establish how these clubs can be of assistance to make our Rort a success.

'Wanted Posters' have been sent to the Website and this edition of the Roaring 40's Magazine to get the message across that the 2010 Bendigo "Gold 'n Old" RORT is quickly approaching. To be eligible for the 'Early Bird' prize, full registration must be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

## **Redland – Bill & Val Cramp, Dinner Notice**

### ***President's Report – Peter Greer.***

Once again we had a wonderful evening at the Redlands Museum for our "Show Time" Dinner in honour of the Brisbane Ekka. Donald Robson and his merry volunteers pulled out all stops in making it a fun evening. Checked tablecloths, straw bales, horse saddle, soft toys and Ekka type of food of meat pies, mash plus a course strawberries and ice cream for dessert.

Since that dinner a group of members went on the annual weekend away this time to Gympie. Twenty of us met up on the Friday afternoon staying at the refurbished Royal Hotel right in the town centre. That night dined in the hotel's restaurant "Rascals" where a very delicious buffet was enjoyed by all.

A few hardy people walked up to a local bakery to have a huge cooked breakfast the following morning before getting back to the hotel for the day's tour.

On the Saturday tour we did a trip on the Valley Rattler to Amamoor where our driver was waiting for us to drive us to the Dingo Creek Winery for wine tasting and lunch. The winery was in a most delightful area and the hosts most friendly and informative.

On leaving there we headed back into Gympie to visit the Mining Museum. That night we once again dined at the "Rascals" restaurant. Sunday morning we headed for home after trying another café for breakfast.

Next meeting "brunch" will be the AGM to be held at Juri and Pauline's home in Redland Bay on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Helen and I will not be at this meeting as we'll be holidaying in England and Europe. Whilst away we have plans of meeting up with our new Redlands Apex 40 members Mike and Lesley Houslay in Yorkshire who are already over there for a family wedding.



Also we had hoped to meet up with Martin and Liz Rawbone, whom we home hosted on the UK41's Tour back in 2007 in Stratford upon Avon. Tonight we have heard from Martin that Liz passed away last Sunday with breast cancer.

We have kept in regular contact and Martin has stated that he would still like to meet up with us as originally planned.

### **Seremban – TT Sinam, Dinner Notice**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Installation Dinner of Apex 40 Seremban was held at the Restoran Dragon Oakland, 146 Oakland Commerce Square, Seremban which was not too difficult to locate. Dinner cost was only RM25/- per person for an eight course meal. We are but a small group of like-minded people who, when time permits, meet to enjoy each other's company.

### **Nepean Valley – Ken Wright, Dinner Notice**

The Miller's recently travelled up to Medlow Bath (Blue Mountains) to have discussions and lunch with the ladies (Bronwyn Berriman, Anne McGill, Margaret Webb and Jan Barber) from Crest Club of the Blue Mountains (a women's service club formed by Apex Australia in 1988). The ladies are considering their future options, and are leaning towards changing their name to Apex 40 Crest Blue Mountains from approximately January 2010. We wish the girls all the best, and if they need any further assistance, Apex 40 Nepean Valley is only a phone call away.

The September function was another popular "Casserole Capers" at the home of Barry and Joyce Leavett-Brown – everyone brought a hot dish to share.

### **Melbourne/Gippsland – Geoff Angus, President**

Encouraged by the experience of having our June 2008 meeting as a luncheon rather than as the usual dinner meeting, we again had a luncheon meeting at the Dava Hotel in Mt Martha in late June.

Those attending enjoyed the meeting and heard of the success of the Branch at the recent Rort. We won the *Bill Cunliffe Memorial Attendance Award* (also known as the *Challenge Trophy for Best Attendance*) thanks to the following members – Geoff & Lyn Angus, Jennifer Carra, Alan & Marj Flaherty, Neil & Margaret Hookey, Alan & Nola Kinder, Alan & Jan Padgham and Max & Jean Reid. We also

won the group Karaoke-style of contest lead by Alan Kinder and ably supported by Neil & Margaret Hookey, Alan Flaherty and Jean Reid.

Twenty two members attended our dinner meeting in late August at the Clayton Bowls Clubs – timed to allow many of us time to return from holidaying in Queensland, although a few of our keen caravaners were still away roaming the country. Alan Kinder was the guest speaker at the meeting and described and showed photos of Alan and Nola's holiday trip to the Kimberley Coast of Western Australia.

Early in October we had 23 members attend another dinner meeting at Clayton Bowls Club. Besides the always enjoyable (if not always completely accurate) fines session, much of the meeting was taken up with discussions of future activities:

- (a) The train trip to Woodend on 18 October when 15 of us will meet up with our Apex 40 friends from Bendigo, Geelong and Melbourne Norwesters.
- (b) Our Melbourne Cup gathering on 3 November when we expect to have over 30 attendees at the home of Geoff & Lyn Angus for a BBQ lunch, a little punting and much relaxing..
- (c) Attendance at the play *Much ado about Murder* on 22 November.
- (d) A visit to Nagambie in March 2010 when we anticipate trying out a new venture of a midweek away.

Our 2009 activities will finish with our AGM meeting to be held on 3 December when we will receive reports by our President, Secretary and Treasurer and will hopefully see the election of a new President.

### **Geelong – John Van Galen, President**

Our guest speaker last month, Keith Fagg, had no difficulty keeping members interested and entertained. While his topic was marathon running, his talk was quite a travelogue and his background in community service made it easy for former Apexians to relate to his activities – thank you Keith!

This month our guest speaker is Leading Senior Constable Richard Dove, of the Victoria Police Force. Richard is Multicultural Liaison Officer for West Victoria and he has spoken to quite a few service clubs. His topic for our September meeting will be “My Proudest Achievements over the Past Two Years”

## **Melbourne/Gippsland – Alan Padgham, Dinner Notice**

In August Geoff and Lyn Angus were in Queensland on holidays and catching up with friends and relatives. While on the Gold Coast they had dinner the Flahertys, the Hookeys and the Kinders. In fact they were joined by a number of other Apex 40 members from various states so that ended with 17 at the dinner. I understand that holidaying by Apex 40 members on the Gold Coast means that the gentlemen play bowls and the ladies undergo shopping therapy.

## **Kelab – Kuala Lumpur, S.Vengadesan Naiker**

The board members have done their best to keep up to the constant requests of members to organise socials and overseas trips. This will be a very interesting trip since very rarely do we have the opportunity to taste fresh toddy, direct from the tree of one's choice.

This will be a day trip to Banting and Morib on Sunday 6th September. Just like secretary Selvarajah said, the highlight of this trip is to enjoy fresh toddy at a plantation house in Banting and arrangements have been made to cater food as per our request by giving advance order. Local mutton, kampong chicken, crab, squid, fish, goat intestine etc can be on the menu. An Indian family staying there will be our chef de la France.

The secretary had also booked a government bungalow by the seaside in Morib, for us to rest and recover after the heavy consumption of toddy. For your information the bungalow consist of 3 rooms and 6 beds and if there are any members who want to spend the night for their belated honeymoon can also use it since it had been booked.

## **XEPA Great Southeast – Russell Morton, President**

### **May to October 2009 Report**

Since the Redland Bay Hotel Dinner in April XEPA Members have ventured to a number of venues for fellowship and entertainment. XEPA members also have met up with visiting Apex 40 Members from New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania (on their Annual Pilgrimage North) and also visited and have been visited by Wynnum/Manly Apex 40. Members had the pleasure of celebrating with well known Rorter Bill Jessop for his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

A number of members braved inclement conditions to make the crossing of Moreton Bay to meet and have lunch at the Little Ship Club

at The One Mile on Stradbroke Island. The bad weather frightened some members away, but once the boat set sail for the island, the weather cleared and a great afternoon of fellowship was enjoyed.

Past Redland Apex member, Hilton (Noddy) Marsh invited Apexians and friends to come and see him perform with The Volcanic Rock Explosion at the Kedron Wavell Services Club. Some XEPA Members took up the challenge and were entertained with 3 acts of Rock Music from Australia, the USA and the UK.

XEPA Members joined with Redland Apex Club members and the renowned 'Survivor Camp' at the Gympie Music Muster held in the Amamoor Forest during the last week of August. Members camped out on Poulsens Hill adjacent to the forest, for up to 9 days, and thoroughly enjoyed the wide and varied entertainment put on by the Gympie Apex Club. Moree Apex 40 members Mark and Rosemary Tramby joined in the fun at the Muster also.



*Some of the XEPA and APEX Survivors at the Gympie Muster 2009*

The 2009 Redland Apex Club Changeover Dinner at the Capalaba Koala Tavern was attended by a number of XEPA members. James 'Bongo' Robertson was installed as Club President by State President, Richard Colwell. Club history was created when Melodie Petersen, (Mel) seasoned Gympie Muster Survivor, inducted as the first female

member of the Redland Apex Club. (Mel is in the photo above, the blonde with the 'blue survivor singlet' and sunnies.)

XEPA Members have also met at the Victoria Point Sharks Sports Club for lunch and an afternoon of fellowship. The next function is the XEPA's AGM and Afternoon Tea at Ney Road on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Members, their children, and guests are welcome to stay on for a BBQ Dinner if they wish.

### **Apex 40 Rort and Tour to South Island of New Zealand June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> 2011.**

Firstly on behalf of 41 Club New Zealand may I say how delighted we are that you have decided to hold your Rort here in Nelson, New Zealand in conjunction with our AGM?

I have put together a Tour Itinerary for you, as per usual it will probably change a bit before the Tour and I look forward to hearing suggestions from you because it is your Tour.

From what I have heard so far it would appear that there could be around 80 of you coming so that means 2 coaches and unfortunately there will be too many for home hosting but Tina and I (God willing) will travel with you. Where there are 41 Clubs along the way we will try to get them to show you their areas attractions and come and meet with you.

#### **Day 1, Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011:**

Arrive; Christchurch airport, met by 41 Club New Zealand hosts, and spend rest of day on tour of city highlights, travel by coaches and foot and perhaps meet up with Christchurch 41 Club for dinner and get together, hotel/motel for night.

#### **Day 2, Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June:**

Travel North stopping at Kaikoura for lunch, should there be enough of you who want to go Whale or Dolphin watching that could be arranged. I will find prices for this later. **183kms, 2hr:50.**

Continue on to Blenheim for night, there is a strong 41 Club there and I'm sure they would have something to amuse you all for the evening, hotel/motel for night. **129kms, 1hr:50.**

#### **Day 3, Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June:**

Explore a little of the Marlborough wine district, Sauvignon Blanc Country, maybe a little taste or two!

Then perhaps lunch at Havelock, “Green Lipped Mussel Capital of the World” at head of Pelorus Sound. Onwards and over the hills to Nelson in time to settle in your accommodation for the weekend and meet and greet with 41 Club members. **116kms, 1hr:45.**

**Day 4, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June:**

Join with 41er's on their program for day and evening, there will be something planned I'm sure and it will be fun!

**Day 5, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June:**

41 Club New Zealand AGM and Apex 40 AGM in morning, have lunch together, then afternoon activities and Fancy Dress (themed evening) with skits continues into the wee small hours.

**Day 6, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June:**

Having had such a great time and made so many new friends and maybe caught up with some old ones I know you will all want to stay but!!!!

We will have Farewell Breakfast together then back on the buses and travel South West through Murchison, the Buller Gorge and stop at Punakiki to see the Pancake Rocks then on to Greymouth for the night. No 41 Club here so will be on own for the first time, hotel/motel for 1 night. **290kms, 4hr:35.**

**Day 7, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June:**

From here it is possible for those who haven't enough time to go back to Christchurch on the Trans Alpine Express or if there were a larger number of you wishing to go home early we could send 1 of the Coaches across Arthur's Pass and continue down the West Coast with the other.

Those with the time and inclination or should I say, brave and foolish enough will continue, lunch at Ross, maybe a stop at Okarito Lagoon or Lake Mapourika and down to Franz Josef or Fox Glaciers where we will stay, hotel/motel for 2 nights. **177kms, 3hr:10.**

**Day 8, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June:**

Around the Glaciers, perhaps a walk around Lake Matheson to get the reflections of Mt Cook on the water, take a walk or helicopter flight onto the glaciers, plenty for you to do and see here.

**Day 9, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June:**

Carry on down the Coast till Haast, we could have lunch there then turn inland and through the Gates of Haast and over to Wanaka.

You are now in the “Central Otago Wine Region” and a beautiful winter playground, an extra layer of clothes will keep out the chill and Southern hospitality is pretty good too!

Hotel/motel for 1 night.

**287kms, 5hr:55.**

### **Day 10, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June:**

Onwards to Queenstown, probably by the main road through the vineyards and following the rivers but possibly if there is no snow or ice on that road over the Crown Range with amazing views of the mountains and valleys.

Perhaps we could side track through the old gold mining town; Arrowtown. You will have afternoon and next morning free to explore Queenstown, Shotover Jets, Earnslaw Steamer, Bungy Jumping, Gondola ride or, dare I suggest it, even some retail therapy!!!! Hotel/motel for 1 night.

**117kms, 1hr:50.**

### **Day 11, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June:**

Morning around Queenstown then travel to Te Anau, “Gateway to Fiordland” in afternoon, going alongside Lake Wakatipu through Kingston along the way.

Hotel/motel for 2 nights.

**170kms, 2hr:45.**

### **Day 12, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June:**

Travel up the side of Lake Te Anau, over the main divide, through the Homer Tunnel and down to Milford Sound where we will take a boat cruise to wonder at the sheer cliffs and spectacular scenery of the Fiord.

Back to Te Anau for the night.

**242kms, 4hr:40.**

### **Day 13, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June:**

Te Anau to Dunedin, with a bit of luck we may be able to get the Gore 41 Club to meet us then onwards across the mighty Clutha River to Dunedin.

There is not a 41 Club here but there are some 41er’s who might give us a bit of a guide around this historic Scottish City.

Hotel/motel for 1 night.

**290kms, 4hr:15.**

### **Day 14, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June:**

Today we head northward to Oamaru for lunch and a look at the restored old part of the town, hopefully there will be a gang of 41er's to show us around.

Then it's on the buses once more waving our goodbyes to new friends and up to Timaru for the night, once again there is a strong 41 Club here that I'm sure will be happy to meet us. Our last night as a group so perhaps a dinner together tonight?

Hotel/motel for 1 night.

**199kms, 2hr:50**

### **Day 15, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June:**

Last day on the buses, north again through Ashburton and across the Canterbury Plains back to Christchurch and Harewood Airport where we will all go our separate ways.

Yes I know it's hard to part but home will be calling.

I am sure we will miss one another after this time and there will be a great deal of new and lasting friends throughout New Zealand and Australia.

**163kms, 2hr:10**

Well there you go a tour to remember with a touch of frost and lots of fun for all. Bring lots of warm clothes, hats and gloves.

I do hope this tour appeals to you all and I look forward to your comments. Of course this is not till June 2011 so we have only been able to get an idea of prices, it is also Rugby World Cup time so we really need to know some numbers very soon so we can lock in as much as possible before accommodation fills up.

This price includes:- Return flight. For an example I have used Sydney – Christchurch, other return flights could vary in price.

Registration and the full program in Nelson; All travel on Coach; All accommodation, based on twin share rooms. (*There will be a single supplement for those travelling alone*). Breakfasts have been costed for all but for 4 mornings.

Total cost of NZ\$2495.00 per person for a great 15 day around "The Mainland" South Island of New Zealand.

Of course if there are some of you who can only take a week off and wish to return to Christchurch from Greymouth there will be a reduced price.

***Yours in 41 Club Friendship. Derek Johns***



If you have any inkling of participating in the proposed tour of New Zealand above, please contact National President, Bob Ireland, as soon as possible. (Bob's Contact Details appear on the Back Page).

As mentioned elsewhere in this publication, the NZ Tour will clash with the 2011 Rugby World Cup being held in New Zealand. It is imperative that those intending to go advise Bob Ireland in the very near future.

## **THE APEX FOUNDATION**

### **RESEARCH INTO INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY**

#### **A SHORT HISTORY**

*At the recent Rort held at Forresters Beach Resort, Melbourne – Gippsland Branch won the won the “Bill Cunliffe Memorial Attendance Award” (also known as the “Challenge Trophy for Best Attendance”). During his acceptance of the trophy, Branch President Geoff Angus took the opportunity to advise Rorters of the continued existence of the first Foundation established by Apex. The following is a summary of Apex's first Foundation.*

This *Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability* was the first Foundation established by the Association of Apex Clubs. Its formation was the culmination of the 3 years of the Association Service Scheme *Aid to Mentally Retarded* in the mid 1960's. Two Apex Clubs – Croydon in Melbourne and Maffra in Gippsland – quite independently proposed the idea of this service scheme. The intention of the scheme was for Apex Clubs to provide facilities, equipment and support for people, especially children, who were intellectually disabled. The term “mentally retarded” has in more recent years been replaced by the term “intellectual disability”. The Foundation changed its name to reflect the new terminology some years ago.

The idea of a Foundation came from Brian Horgan, a member of the Apex Club of Croydon and who later became the President of the Association of Apex Clubs. Following the many outstanding service projects by Apex Clubs as part of their obligation to participate in the service scheme, the establishment of a Foundation was to be a lasting effort by Apex to continue its involvement in the field of intellectual disability.

The Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association of the Foundation were prepared by the late Brian Nanscawen, a lawyer and then

current member of Apex. Brian later served on the Foundation's Board of Directors for many years. Brian Horgan became the Foundation's first Honorary Secretary, a position he held from 1967 to 1978. Kevin Morrish, another ex member of Croydon Apex Club, was the next Honorary Secretary from 1978 until 2007

The Foundation was established as a not for profit company, limited by guarantees by the members of the company. There are no shareholders and no dividends are paid. All net proceeds from the investments and operation of the company are used for making annual grants to people working in the field of intellectual disability, for growing the investment assets of the Foundation and for other purposes related to intellectual disability. The Board members and the members of the Sub-committees have always provided their time and expertise in an honorary capacity.

The initial amount raised by Apex Clubs during the third year of the Association Service Scheme *Aid to Mentally Retarded* to establish the Foundation was just over \$100,000. A goal of \$100,000 was based on the equivalent of 500 Clubs donating \$200 each. Many Clubs provided much larger sums of money while others were less able to do so. The assets of the Foundation as at the end of the 2007/2008 financial year were in excess of \$2 million but this amount has now been reduced because of the economic downturn. Over recent years the Foundation typically provided up to \$80,000 in research grants each year.

The increase in the Foundation's assets has firstly been due to two significant bequests – one from the estate of Miss Dorothy Ross and one from the estate of Dr. David Richards. David was the President of the Association of Apex Clubs at the time the Foundation was established and was the President (in effect the Chairman of the Board of Directors) from its establishment in 1967 until his untimely death in 1988. The second reason for the Foundation's success has been the pro-active stance taken by the Board of Directors using expert advice for its investments.

The current Board of Directors consists of eight members and all except two were previously members of Apex. The Chairman is Peter Bailey, who was a Victorian State President of Apex and the Secretary is Paul Reeves, who was a long time member of Nunawading Apex Club. The Board members fill two sub-committees – the Finance Development Sub-committee and the Finance & Investment Sub-committee. The Scientific Sub-committee consists of three experts in the field of intellectual disabilities – Associate Prof Dinah Reddihough, Professor Vicki Anderson and Associate Professor Michael McKay – who recommend annually which applicants should receive grants and the level of funding that should be provided.

In 2007 the Board of the Foundation agreed to be the prime financial source for the establishment of a *Chair in Developmental Medicine* by the University of Melbourne in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences.

Developmental medicine covers all forms of disability but since intellectual disability is the most common form of disability (and often occurs in conjunction with other forms of disability) the Foundation's Board considered that it was able to support the establishment of the Chair, despite it not solely dealing with intellectual disability.

The intention is to seek a world class researcher to the position of Professor, who may or may not be an Australian. The important criterion is that the person appointed will be high calibre and who will ultimately head up a team of high quality researchers and clinicians who will attract a high level of funding. The inaugural name of the Chair is expected to be the *Apex Australia Chair in Developmental Medicine*.

The Foundation has agreed to *an annual grant of \$250,000 for five years, with the proviso that if the proposal should become financially self-sufficient after 3 years, the Foundation reserves the right to review these annual grants for years 4 and 5.*

Donations, bequests and other forms of financial support for the Foundation are tax deductible and organisations and individuals can contact the Foundation by mail to:

Mr Paul Reeves, Honorary Secretary  
The Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability  
PO Box 4075 Ringwood Vic 3134

Contact with the Foundation can also be made via the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Peter Bailey, on Business (03) 9878 0999 or by email to [peterb@bailey.com.au](mailto:peterb@bailey.com.au)

*This article was prepared by Geoff Angus, the current President of Melbourne-Gippsland Branch of Apex 40. He was a member (and for one year was the Chairman) of the Association Service Scheme Committee "Aid to Mentally Retarded" in the mid 1960s.*

*Geoff retired as a Board member of the Foundation in November 2008 after serving for 30 years, including Chairman for 20 years.*



*One of the many unofficial Apex 40 dinners on the Gold Coast during winter.*

### **Apex Queensland State Convention 2010 – See Bob Ireland Report**

I would like to extend an invitation for all members of Apex 40 to join us in Goondiwindi for the Apex Qld State Convention from Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

The members of the Apex Club of Goondiwindi have been busy putting together all the elements that will ensure a fantastic convention for all attendees.

Of particular interest to members of Apex 40's is the inaugural "long lazy lunch". This luncheon will be held on the Saturday of convention and will be hosted by Life members of the Goondiwindi Apex club Stan Wardle and Clive Quartermaine. The luncheon will be for any members of Apex 40's that can travel to Goondiwindi plus past members of the Goondiwindi and other Apex Club. This is the first time a luncheon has been held in conjunction with a Qld state convention and we hope if successful it will become a regular feature.

It is hoped that many of these former Apexians will then join us on Saturday night at the main dinner. Saturday night's sit down dinner will have the theme. "A day at the races" in keeping with our proud association with the famous race horse Gunsynd. This will allow revellers to frock up, suit up or come in racing silks. A live band and full bar will again ensure a great night of fellowship. The luncheon will be a pay as you order affair while the Saturday night dinner is \$55 per person.

For those former Apexians who are interested in attending the whole convention Friday night will see a “Riverbank Social” on the banks of the Macintyre River. A BBQ, bar and live music will get everyone in a relaxed mood. Friday night will also see the official opening of the 2010 state convention and the running of the state public speaking competition. Saturday will be the long, Lazy lunch and the convention dinner. Finally on Sunday there will be a BBQ breakfast to fuel you up for the journey home.

Goondiwindi has a host of different motels, hotels and caravan parks and we will be running courtesy buses over the convention weekend from all of them. There is a full listing of accommodation options from the link on the Goondiwindi Apex club website. There will also be camping sites available adjacent to the convention centre with amenities suitable for tents and caravans.

The members of the Apex Club of Goondiwindi are committed to hosting an excellent convention that showcases our club and our town. Your attendance would contribute greatly to the occasion.

**State Convention Chair – Andrew Wilkie** 0427 011 608  
andrew.wilkie@bigpond.com P.O. Box 103, Goondiwindi 4390

Accommodation and registration forms: [www.goondiwindiapex.org.au](http://www.goondiwindiapex.org.au)



*Wayne & Kathie Scott, Kaye Dixon, Bill & Heather Jessop, Rob Beveridge, Denise & Des Clements – Wynnum/Manly & XEPA members caught up with Rob & Kaye on holiday.*

# WANTED



## DEPOSIT

From  
All Intendees

Attending The 2010 Rort & Post-Rort

To

Deputy Sheriff Ron J. Clarke  
43 Mill St Bendigo 3550

(With Registration Form)

By  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009

By Order of  
Bob Caldwell (The Sheriff)

A classic story emerged as Wynnum Manly member Bill Jessop was cutting his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Cake. A safe place was required to store a large sum of money raised at an Apex fundraiser in the 1970's. Bill and Heather Jessop's old lounge suite was selected as the ideal place to hide the fundraiser takings. Heather had been complaining about the old lounge for quite some time and wanted it disposed of.

After the money was secretly placed a couple of other Apex members decided to make Heather's wish come true and carted the lounge away for a roadside garbage collection. Panic set in when those who safely placed the cash came back for it. The lounge and the money were nowhere to be found. Horrified Apexians eventually found out what had happened to the lounge, and then set off to locate it.

Puzzled onlookers could not understand why those who seemed so concerned about the whereabouts of the lounge set about destroying it when they found it. All was revealed when the wad of money reappeared. The old lounge was left there in a pile of broken pieces.

### **Bendigo Rort 2010 Information in Brief.**

Even though the Bendigo Team has already received a good response from Apex 40 Members registering and booking accommodation, they are hopeful that those that haven't will soon do so.

**Rort Dates:** Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> April to Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010

Rort Cost: \$300.00

**Post Rort Tour** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Post Rort Tour: \$420.00

The Post Rort Tour has Day Trips centred around Bendigo. All accommodation is to be made through Bendigo Apex 40 Club

For information regarding registration call:-

Bob Caldwell 03 54411085      Kevin Harvey 03 54477140

or    Ron Clarke 03 54438290

Or write to Bendigo Apex 40 Club,

C/- Mr Ron Clarke, 43 Mill Street, Bendigo Victoria 3550

Many thanks to the contributors who wrote the articles that were published in this issue. Photographs taken at club activities are most welcome for inclusion. Keith Haddon is always chasing news and photographs for the Website also.

*A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.*

*Mary and Alan*

# Get your News in the Next Issue Of Roaring 40's

Branches are invited and urged to forward news and photos of branch activities and other items of interest for publication in the next issue of the "Roaring 40's". Let's have photographs and news of branch functions so we can see what you look like, and what you get up to .....

Please forward material to  
**Mary & Alan Bach**  
**P.O. Box 1344 Capalaba Qld 4157**  
**Tel: 07 3823 2648** Email: [bachelec@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bachelec@bigpond.net.au)  
**THE NEXT DEADLINE IS**  
**31st January 2010**

## **FOR SALE- APEX 40 GEAR**

### ***THESE ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE***

Costs quoted include postage  
Please forward cheque with order  
Cheques to be made payable to supplier  
Please ensure correct spelling for name  
badges

### **NAME BADGES - cost \$7.00**

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

### **STICK PINS – Cost \$6.00**

### **APEX 40 BANNERS – P.O.A.**

Sandy Harmer  
155 Bellevue Road  
Tumbi Umbi NSW 2261  
Tel: 02 4385 7375

### **CAR STICKERS – Cost \$1.00**

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

## **APEX 40 NATIONAL BOARD**

### **NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Bob Ireland  
23 Sommerleigh Crescent  
Greensborough  
Melbourne Vic. 3088  
Tel: 03 9434 2919  
Email: [rk\\_ireland@hotmail.com](mailto:rk_ireland@hotmail.com)

### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Rob Beveridge  
65 Esplanade  
Hawley Beach Tas 7307  
Tel: 03 6428 7693  
[kaye\\_dixon@bigpond.com](mailto:kaye_dixon@bigpond.com)

### **NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Wendy Smith  
69/45 Cornish Street  
Sunbury, Victoria 3429  
Tel: 03 9744 2047  
E-mail: [wendy.smith@hotmail.net.au](mailto:wendy.smith@hotmail.net.au)

### **INT. RELATIONS & APEX LIAISON**

Sandy Harmer  
155 Bellevue Road  
Tumbi Umbi NSW 2261  
Tel: 02 4385 7375  
Email: [darrollh.sandy@bigpond.com](mailto:darrollh.sandy@bigpond.com)

### **APEX 40 WEBSITE**

Keith Haddon – Webmaster  
10 Mclennan St. Woody Point. Q. 4019  
[Apex40web@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Apex40web@optusnet.com.au)