

ROARING 40's

September 1992



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

Apex 40 is the recognised body of
Affiliated Past Apexians' Groups

APEX 40
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

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SORRY - WE'RE LATE

We apologise for the late arrival of this issue of "Roaring 40's - The Editor enjoyed the Rort and the Grafton weather so much that he continued North and took two months to get back home to Melbourne's winter. Do you blame him?

Thanks to Ivan and Heather Voss at Hervey Bay and Glen and Betty Rossiter at the Sunshine Coast for a couple of very pleasant evenings.

Alan and Nola

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**From Gold Coast Newsletter -
MARGARET'S SAYINGS:**

"The advantages of Alzheimers Disease - you meet new friends every day and you can hide your own Easter eggs!"

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but whips and chains excite me!"

THANK YOU
from P.K. Singam (PK)

Kelab Apex 40 Kuala Lumpur — Malaysia

I wish to record my most profound thanks and sincere congratulations to the Organising Committee for the wonderful "Jacarandalanders" Rort 1992. The organisation was truly magnificent, the fellowship great, the food wholesome and superb and most importantly everything went on according to schedule without the slightest impediment.

Special thanks are directed to the following HOSTS who went out of their way to ensure that my sojourn in Australia was both a pleasant and memorable one.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Trevor & Joan Gilson | Grafton |
| 2. Lindsay & Sue McPherson | Minnie Waters |
| 3. Ken & Veda Dunstan | Ballina |
| 4. Bruce & Mavis Tidmarsh | Alstonville |
| 5. David & Gail Pfingst | Toowoomba |
| 6. Juri & Pauline Denisenko | Redland Bay |
| 7. Nev & Jan Holt | Caloundra |
| 8. Bruce & Geraldine Garland | Wynnum/Manly |

In this respect, I cannot forget mentioning my Manager LANE DE LANGE for his initiative and the excellent job he did in organising my three week stay in NSW/QLD/ BRISBANE and certainly, above all, that regal treatment and goodwill from all I came in contact with.

Should anyone of you decide to call at Kuala Lumpur, please do not for one moment hesitate to inform me so that I have the opportunity of reciprocating the fine APEX 40 spirit of social consciousness and value. In short, I assure that you will be taken care of.

Lastly, I wish to express my thanks to everyone who was present at the RORT 1992

SEE YOU ALL IN PERTH 1993.

National President's Report

What a Rort! Congratulations to Grafton for putting on such a fantastic show, without doubt the biggest and best yet, even if I do believe the Bigwigs were 'set up' at the Agradrome as the 3 goats among all those sheep on the stage. What a weird sense of humour you've got, Gordon!

Apart from that every function was tops, from the welcome social at the Grafton Club to the farewell brunch of pikelets in See Park. For me I particularly remember the skirl of the bagpipes as we sipped hot was ddy and nibbled on Scottish dumpling on the hill above Maclean. A lovely touch!

In July I was invited to the inaugural meeting of ex-Apexians at Dandenong, where sadly the Apex Club was about to hand in its Charter. Apex has always been the mainstay of the organisation of the Dandenong Show, so this group wants to stay together in order to keep the Show going, a major Charity fundraiser. To do

this & still run as a social-oriented Apex 40 Club will be quite a test.

In August I attended with 2 other ex National Presidents, Ernie Butler & Alan Kinder, the 10th Anniversary of the formation of the Sunraysia Club at Mildura. Foundation President Norm Deering recalled Ern Butler having welcomed the new Club then immediately announcing they would be hosting the next year's Rort!

Had a very friendly letter from Keith Gray who has just had his term as N.P. of New Zealand 41 Clubs extended. Keith wants us to take advantage of the good deals going on Trans-Tasman flights to visit the Shaky Isles, but I may have to wait till we get a group going in 1994. Congratulations to Melbourne-Gippsland for winning the rights to the '94 Rort, and thank you P K Singam for your effort in promoting Malaysia.

Regards,

NEIL HOOKEY



Pictured at Sunraysia's 10th Anniversary Dinner: **Back row** – Neil Hookey, Norm & Pat Deering, Jim Banks, Nola & Alan Kinder, Bob Mutton (Sunraysia President)
Front row – Marg. Hookey, Ern Butler, Melva Banks, Jess Barry

Membership/Extension

Yet another fantastic Rort with record attendance of around 225 participants. Top marks to Grafton Club for a great time, even though we had to share our AGM with the sheep!!

The weather was superb, beer cold, food plentiful and fellowship electric — could we ever ask for more?

Letters are still going out to current and ex-Apexians who wish to get clubs formed. To my knowledge, the latest clubs to form are Wendouree, Victoria and Coffs Harbour in NSW with a number still in the pipeline.

South Africa Tour

We are awaiting ratification and dates for this trip which will take place after our

Rort in West Australia next June.

Currently Round Tables 41 of New Zealand are touring South Africa via South America for a six week tour joining up with German 41 members for the South African segment.

It is envisaged that we will have three weeks home hosting and motels in South Africa with Round Tables 41 members.

Members who have an interest in going on this tour might register their names and addresses with me. We will be limited to 40 participants.

Until the next Roaring 40's, live life!

Yours faithfully
KEVIN HUXHAM

**Movement towards new branches
at Mt Isa, Q., and Foster, Vic.**

STOP PRESS

1993 RORT — PERTH, W.A.

John Rowe, President of Guildford Branch, reports that planning is well under way for the 1993 Rort in Perth where we will be accommodated in motels in Morley — or caravan park for those bringing their own beds.

Tentative program includes:

- * Friday night welcome social at Sandringham Hotel, Belmont.

- * Saturday morning tour and luncheon at a winery, followed by business session.

- * Saturday night dinner dance at Belmont Bowling Club.

- * Sunday — free morning.

- * Sunday afternoon - River cruise to Fremantle. Short bus tour of city in time to wander around Fremantle — markets, historic buildings, etc..

- * Return dinner cruise to Perth.

- * Monday — Farewell morning tea.

The Rort will be held over the weekend of Friday 4th to Monday 7th June, 1993.

Anyone who attended the 1986 Rort in Perth will tell you that they really know how to look after you over there — so 1993 should be ANOTHER GREAT RORT — see you there!

National Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Congratulations to Grafton on a most successfully organised "RORT". There is no doubt that our Organisation is rapidly expanding and I believe the Welcome Social, with its informality, was the launching pad for what proved to be a most enjoyable and relaxed weekend.

The business session, although a little long (55 mins.), approved some minor changes to our constitution which should make administration a little simpler. All Clubs are to hold Annual Meetings between 1st October and 30th November in each year. Annual National fees were set at \$1.00 per couple or single person with a maximum of \$50.00 per Club payable to the National Treasurer by the 31st December in each year.

Secretaries will find a Branch registration form with this copy of the "Roaring 40's" and I would appreciate if it is completed and returned to me by the deadline of 31st December '92 with your cheque attached. I realise that some Clubs may have already held their elections, but I am sure those office bearers would only be too happy to carry on until October '93.

\$500.00 was approved for payment to the "Apex Child Protection Foundation". This sum is the equivalent of the profit made from the Launceston Rort and with a further profit of \$600.00 from Grafton we should be able to continue our support of Apex projects in the future.

Strong opposition was expressed to a change of the Apex 40 badge to conform with the Apex badge, as suggested by the Apex Association. The question was well aired and members unanimously rejected any change.

I have received several requests to include telephone numbers in our Club directory so I have endeavoured, where I have them, to make this addition. I will endeavour to provide each club with an updated directory along with an amended copy of the constitution, hopefully with the next issue of the "Roaring 40's".

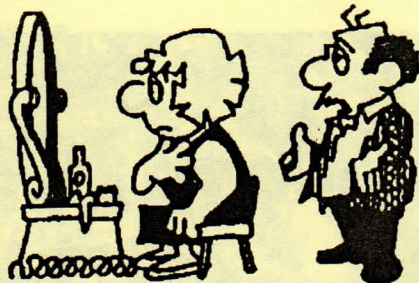
May I congratulate and welcome the several new Clubs that have been formed. It is pleasing to note that Victoria has three new clubs formed this year with the prospect of a couple more in W.A.

Finally, start saving those cents for an attack on Perth in '93 and a big thank you to those N.S.W. and Queensland Clubs who entertained we mere Southerners on our Northern safari. It was hell coming back to Victoria's winter and the mountain of Apex 40 mail, but your affiliation cheques were welcome although a little late for 91/92.

Regards,

SAM MCINNES.

From the "Gold Coast Newsletter"



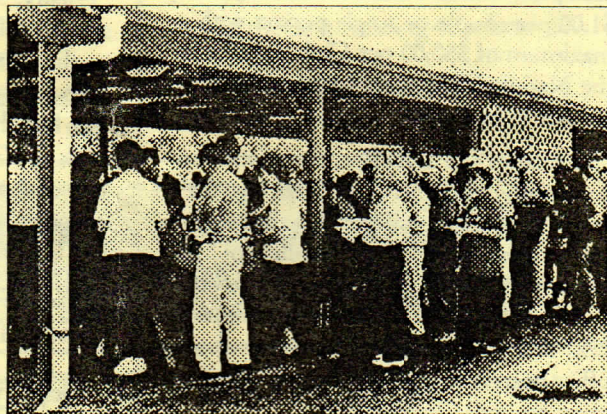
**How old do I think you look?
What am I, an Archaeologist?
But you are still young enough
to attend the Apex 40 Dinner!**

A Few Memories from the Ve



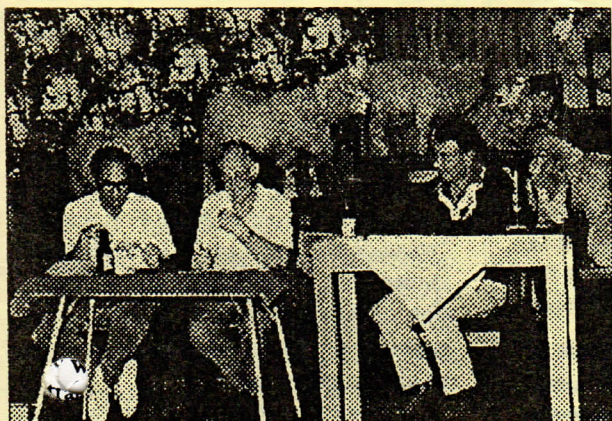
*Alstonville
Members*

*Luncheon Queue
Saturday*



*Saturday
BBQ Lunch*

ry Memorable Grafton Rort



*Rort Business Session
L. to R. (front row!)
Kevin Huxham,
Sam McInnes,
Neil Hookey*

*The winning cast of
"Allo Allo"*



River Cruise

Around the Branches

Grafton — held a 'wake' after the Rort — and they were all smiling. For future Rort conveners Grafton offers the following organisational advice :

The five stages of a project

1. Initial enthusiasm
2. Total disillusionment
3. Blind panic
4. Passing the buck
5. Blaming the innocent

Alstonville — Forthcoming events include — Dirty Dick's Theatre Restaurant, Progressive Dinner, car rally, bushwalk.

Combined weekend trip to Kooralbyn Resort with Ballina Club — Golf, Tennis, Horse Riding.

Colac — Inaugural meeting was held in May, attended by National Sec./Treas. Sam McInnes and Past National President Alan Kinder. A further meeting was held in July — off and running!

Launceston — Combined dinner in September between "North, South and the Coast".

Morella — New President is well known Rorter, Beryl Grace. ('onyer Beryl, missed you at Grafton)

Theme for 1992/93 is — HAVE FUN AND STAY YOUNG. Will assist Guildford with 1993 Rort.

The Great 8 — Functions to be held at Nelson Bay (Seafood Restaurant) and Cessnock Winery.

Menu at the Rock Lobster Restaurant at Port Nelson sounds rather enticing.

Sunshine Coast — Followed up the Rort with a visit to the Ettamogah Pub for a spit roast and country rock dance — demons for punishment.

Blackwood — June dinner (a ladies night) cancelled through lack of support. *President John asks — "Please tell us if we are getting it wrong"* — Well John, the answer is YES, you are! How about considering the Apex 40 Constitution where it says membership of Apex 40 is open to "wives of past Apexians". Get the ladies in as members, forget about being an extension of Apex with guest speakers, programmes directors and the like, and you will be on your way.

It is a fact that all of the 25 clubs represented at the Grafton Rort were clubs which have both past Apexians and their wives as members. There are, of course, some other Apex 40 Clubs which have only male members, but not one of them was represented at the Rort. I do recall, however, that we did have one member from Illawarra attend the Rort at Maryborough in 1981.

Tamworth — hosted members from Melb.Gipps and Bendigo — en route to Grafton — at a dinner at the Workmen's Club.

Pres. Neil Adams described his first Rort as follows — "Take five minutes to think of the best two Apex Conventions you attended, take out the business session and any other dull bits, put the two together and you have a Rort! *Celebration should be proud of their efforts.*"

Redlands — Held a Yuletide dinner in June (at the Winter solstice) with feasting and log fire (Sounds just the thing for Melbourne). Combined dinner with Wynnum-Manly in August.

Arranged two functions for members to meet P.K. on his tour after the Rort.

Weekend trip to the vineyards planned

Around the Branches cont'd.

for October.

Wonthaggi—Participating in combined Service Clubs' dinner.

Two members elected to local Council — John Dursher for 5th term and Milto Sybily for 1st term.

Congratulations to Vin Tuddenham — named as Wonthaggi Citizen of the Year.

Bendigo—Celebrated their 100th dinner at the historic Goldmines Hotel (c.1857).

Secretary Margaret O'Neill is taking part in a 'Ri'wa'long' to raise funds for a Miss Victoria entrant — question is, will the horse make it? (Not my comment Marg. — Ed.)

Members of Werribee Apex 40 invited to join in annual golf weekend with Melb./Gippsland in October.

Moree — Four couples attended their first Rort—they are already talking about attending the next two Rorts in Perth and Melbourne. (It gets you like that!)

Had a weekend get-together at the farming property of Roger and Cheryl Boughton which included a 4WD Safari. Saturday night fare included—Lightning Ridge Galah Soup, Bushman's Yabbie Mornay, Broken Hill Roast Goat and Stony Desert Gibber Cakes!

Challenged by local Apex Club to a Mind Olympics/Brain Drain Night.

A . . . ia—First meeting held in May and then attended Altona Apex Handover Dinner in July. 36 members on their list.

Lake Macquarie — won a three-way debate against Belmont and Kotara Apex Clubs—topic was about the operation of, closure or continued operation of a famous brothel! (Well, of course the older guys would be more experienced). Adjudicators were supplied by the Great 8 Apex 40 Club. (Age bias?)

News From National Association of 41 Clubs of New Zealand

We had a very successful A.G.M. Convention in Timaru during our Queen's Birthday Weekend — 1st June. Numbers were down slightly due to the economic climate but this did not affect the Convention programme. We enjoyed good weather, good fellowship, good food, good music, good beer — all the right ingredients which make our Association so enjoyable.

Keith Gray
President



Attention Branch Secretaries

We hear that some members are not seeing "Roaring 40's". We are only able to send a few copies to each Club, so we must rely on Secretaries to reproduce copies for distribution to members.

Are you doing your job?

MULLED WINE

(Preferably drunk on a hill overlooking the Clarence Valley to the accompaniment of Bill Moffat's pipes.)

- 1 bottle dry red wine
- 1/2 pint water
- juice & rind of 1 lemon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 sticks cinnamon
- 3 whole cloves
- pinch of grated nutmeg

Put water, sugar, lemon juice and rind, cinnamon and cloves into a saucepan. Bring to the boil stirring until sugar dissolves,

Lower the heat and simmer 10-15 minutes. Remove from heat and strain.

Add wine to the strained syrup and reheat, but do not boil. Serve hot topped with a sprinkle of grated nutmeg.



Sunday Night Dinner
L. to R.
Neil & Marg Hookey
Kevin & Liz Huxham



Sunday Night Dinner



Farewell Morning
Tea



GRAFTON RORT

OH! WHAT A BEAUTY, WE'VE NEVER SEEN ONE AS BIG AS THAT BEFORE!

It was certainly a great Rort, and with 230 in attendance it was easily the biggest yet. Congratulations to Branch President Gordon Blood and Rort Chairman Lindsay McPherson and all of the Grafton members for a wonderful weekend of fun and fellowship.

The Rort got off to a good start with a Welcome Social at the Grafton Club. It was great to meet up with all those friends from previous Rorts and to meet many new friends.

There were quite a lot of Apex 40 members attending their first Rort, and you can be sure it won't be their last!

* Some of the Werribee members tried their hands at the snooker table and Ron Gentry complained of "snooker elbow" - more likely from bending the elbow.

* Betty Rossiter (Sunshine Coast) lost her voice - somewhere along the road where Eddie Latham (Alstonville) wheeled her in a supermarket trolley!

Fortunately, they didn't get us up too early on Saturday morning to travel out to the Agradrome where we had lunch then watched the "sheep show" prior to the business session.

* Melbourne-Gippsland members were highly visible in their blue and gold hats and rosettes - they were promoting their bid for MELBOURNE '94 with an invitation to celebrate the 21st birthday of Apex 40 at the MELBOURNE '94 RORT.

* Barbecue lunch was prepared and served by members of Grafton Apex Clubs - thanks lads!

* The show at Merino Mac's Agradrome introduced us to 15 different breeds of well-trained sheep - and a couple of un-

trained lambs. We're not too sure which Merino Mac found hardest to handle - the sheep or the audience!

* The business session was conducted on stage, with the sheep still in position. Quote from Grafton Oasis News Gazette - "Having the A.G.M. of an international organisation in a tin shed with live sheep interjecting and passing motions was a truly Australian touch".

* P. K. Singam, Secretary of Kuala Lumpur Apex 40, attended the Rort and presented K. L.'s bid for the 1994 Rort. The vote however, went to the only other bidder - Melbourne/Gippsland.

P.K. had a great time at the Rort - and afterwards (see Page 2), And has declared his intention to return for Perth '93, where he expects to be joined by 5 or 6 others from Malaysia.

Saturday night's dinner dance was held in "The Barn" at the showgrounds - a magnificent iron building which provided an ideal venue for spit roast dinner and colonial dancing. Organisers John and Lynn Betts were delighted with the success of the night and well they might be - one of the highlights of the Rort.

* The "Drongo" dance was a riot! Never seen so many frustrated women looking for missing partners!

* And as for "Strip the Willow" - well I was just about stripped (or something like that) after it was finished - Ed.

* Three branches provided items of entertainment. Melbourne-Gippsland retained the Malaysian "Bull Horn" with their presentation of 'Allo 'Allo. Stars of the show included Trish Tonkin as Madame Edith, N.P. Neil Hookey as Lt. Gruber, and Al Flaherty as Officer Crabtree (he was just pissing by!)

* A group of members of Sunshine Coast sang a medley of songs accompanied by Sharmayne Krenske on guitar.

* Bruce Tidmarsh and Extension Chairman Kevin Huxham from Alstonville gave a comic performance as two Irish priests - "When I got to the seventh commandment about thou shalt not commit adultery, I remembered where I'd left my bike!"

* Ernie Butler (Melb.Gipps) was seen in deep conversation with a stuffed dummy - and the dummy was wearing Max Reid's name badge.

* Bev. Foss (Guildford) took the ladies (?) joke award for getting on the wrong bus.

Morning tea on Sunday was at the look-out above Maclean - the Scottish town in Australia. To set the mood Bill Moffat played the bagpipes while we feasted on Dundee cake and shortbreads, washed down with mulled wine (recipe on P.9). All this, and magnificent views over the cane fields of the Clarence valley.

How difficult is it to get 200 plus people together for a group photo? Ask Gerry Swan.

Then on to Yamba overlooking the mouth of the mighty Clarence River - lunch at the Bowling Club and a cruise on the estuary.

Sunday night dinner at the Grafton Services Club was buffet style. After dinner there was a fines session with fines persons Melda Miller (Wynnum-Manly), Al Flaherty (Melb-Gipps) and Gerry Swan

(Grafton). After dinner we sang the Rort Song - slowly!! (Better luck next time, Guildford, please note.)

* Darryl Walker was kept busy all week-end organising Rort photographs.

Monday morning tea in beautiful See Park at Grafton was a real winner. An opportunity for Rorters to mix around and review the weekend's activities - and to say farewell to old and new friends And to make plans to meet again in Perth next year.

We'll all be there, won't we?

Awards:

Attendance Trophy - Wyong
Penultimate Trophy (Dinner Notice) - Grafton
The Whizzy - Denise Rolley (Sunshine Coast)

The Rort got a write-up in the "Grafton Daily Examiner" which estimated that we spent about \$100,000 on accommodation, catering and shopping over the three days.

President Gordon Blood was reported as follows: "People from all over Australia who had never heard of the Clarence Valley have planned to come back for a longer stay. Delegates, particularly those from Tasmania and Victoria, were impressed by the perfect weather and friendliness of the locals. It is refreshing to be associated with such a large organisation and not have a single negative comment."

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Get your News in, in the Next Issue of Roaring 40's

Branches are requested to **forward news of branch activities and other items of interest** for publication in the next issue of Roaring 40's.

Let's have a photograph of a branch function so we can see what you look like, and what you get up to.....

Please forward material to:

Alan Kinder
34 Shafer Road
Blackburn, Vic. 3130
Phone (03) 898 5124

REMEMBER THE DEADLINE
October 31, 1992