

ROARING 40's



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

MARCH/APRIL 1998

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

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT



My circumstances have changed somewhat since being elected as National President, having been recommended for a job in the Philippines for two years. I start the job on 2 March 1998, looking after a power station at Naga, Cebu.

I had intended to try and get around some Apex 40 clubs this year but that becomes a little more difficult now. I may be able to visit our friends in Malaysia, which is not far away.

When someone asked if I was interested in nominating for President I didn't have any expectation of leaving Australia. However, it was suggested to me that the main requirement was to attend the Rort and I am still intending to do that, so I will put to our annual meeting that I continue to serve out my term as National President with your approval. The newsletter is completed via the internet with Alan Padgham's assistance so I can still contribute to that as well.

News from the clubs is a bit light on so it won't be too difficult to judge the penultimate award this year. We also received a letter from the Association of 41 clubs in South Africa, following

our sending a copy of the Roaring 40's. They have an annual 'Fartsa' weekend for their annual meeting (presumably FARTSA stands for Former [members of] Association of Round Tables South Africa, Ed.). The last one was attended by close to 100 couples. This took in the Olaf Bergh brandy distillery, tours and dinners. Sounds like they have a good time as we do at the Rort.

Craig Carfoot asked us for membership forms to start Apex 40 off in Logano/Peakhurst.

May you have an exciting and eventful 1998, I think we might, all the best.

Yours in Apex 40

Mal Clark

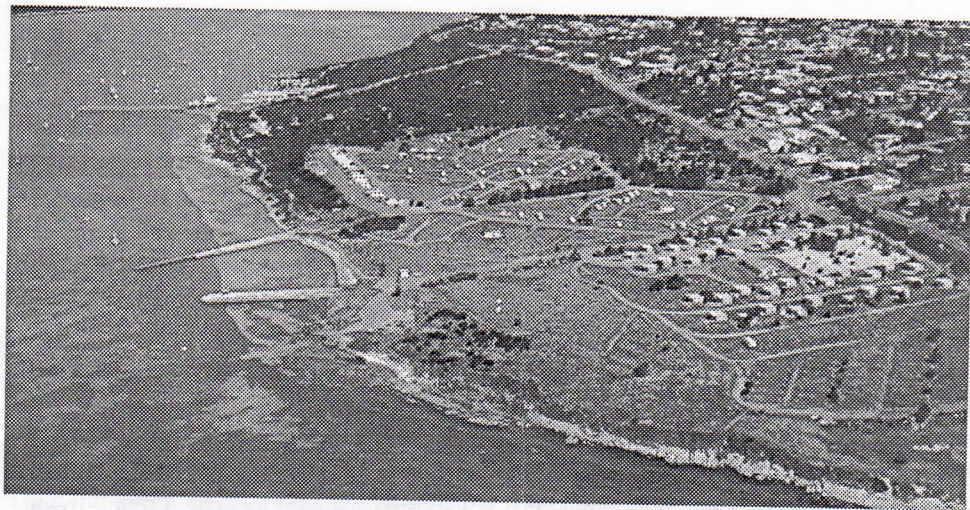
SEC/TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you to the clubs and members who have sent their 1998 subscriptions through; if you haven't paid your 1998 subs please do so. I still have quite a lot who haven't sent them through as yet.

We hope you have all booked your accommodation in Port Lincoln for the convention, which will be upon us before we realise. We do thank Port Lincoln for hosting this convention, and I know we will all have an enjoyable time, in catching up with friends and seeing the Eyre Peninsula and the beauty of Boston Bay.

Could clubs please send us some photos for the Roaring 40's, and if anyone would like to write an article, it would be very much appreciated, as sometimes it is a bit difficult to find out what is going on in your club.

John Bowman.



FRESH EYRE RORT – PORT LINCOLN 1998

Still time to register for 1998 Rort down south where there is plenty of Fresh Eyre.

Although registrations closed on the 14th March, the Port Lincoln Apex 40 mob are pretty laid back so we can still fit you in if you have not sent your registration in yet. But don't take too long as we have been advised that some of those who have registered have already left home and are on their way, so seats are filling fast.

Plans have already been put in place by the "Rort" Committee for a fantastic weekend for all those who attend. The "Rort" Committee headed up by K.B. (that's short for Kevin Burner - but you will know him as K.B. by the end of the "Rort") have already made national head lines, caught clubbing the local birds known as Galahs, for your soup, to save money on the registration. Yes - the "Rort" at Port Lincoln will be different from any other "Rort" you have attend-

ed; it's a place to really let your hair down and feel that fresh country "Eyre".

So, if you have not registered yet, see your Club Secretary and get a registration form and fill it in and send it off. The dates again are Friday 15th May 1998 to Monday 18th May 1998. If your Secretary is a bit slack and can't find a registration form, phone K.B. 08 86824757 at work or home 08 86823951 or Fax 08 86824388 to get one.

The weekend activities will start with registration at the local Boston Bay Winery, 6 km North of Port Lincoln overlooking the tranquil waters of Boston Bay.

Saturday, it's on the buses for a tour of the area, then to the Coffin Bay Peninsula. Lunch at the Coffin Bay Yacht Club, situated right on the water's edge overlooking the sheltered waters of Coffin Bay, where the usual quick business session will be conducted.

It's then on the buses back to Port Lincoln to get ready for the Dinner

Dance at the Lincoln South Football Club rooms.

Sleep in Sunday morning then it's on the buses for a tour of the Lincoln National Park for a seafood lunch catered for by local Rotary Club members, who have been organised to bring you back to Port Lincoln by boat, or by bus if you are not a sailor. That evening at the local T.A.F.E. College it's a skit night, "Red Faces", where each club will be asked to put on an act. So start practising now for what will be a very enjoyable night.

Monday, it's farewell at the Port Lincoln Yacht Club to what we have already promised you will be a week-end you'll remember for the rest of your life.

The Port Lincoln Tourist Information Centre, 66 Tasman Terrace Port Lincoln SA. 5606 Phone 1800 629 911, our local tourist office, will be only too happy to assist with planning further trips around Port Lincoln and Eyre Peninsula and on

your way home, like the Flinders Ranges and North, or through the Barossa Valley and Clare Valley to visit the many wineries, or North to Coober Pedy to seek out some opals, etc.

The registration fee for the Rort is \$190 per person which includes all items as per the itinerary, coach fares to functions and tours but does not include accommodation or breakfasts.

Arrange your own accommodation direct with the Tourist Information Centre. Port Lincoln has a number of Hotels and Motels which are within walking distance of the Civic Town Hall (where our Tourist Information Centre is, 66 Tasman Tce.) which will be the pick up point for the buses to travel to the various functions.

So don't delay any longer - fill out that form and send it over to the Apex 40 Rort Committee, P.O. Box 30, Port Lincoln S.A. 5606.

THE YOUNG AUSSIE BATTLER *(A bush graduate in search of a job)*

This poem comes from the pen of Jim Banks, Sunraysia member. It was judged the best in the poetry competition at last year's Mildura Arts Festival.

You were lucky to have Matilda mate!
Your life wrapped in a roll
And society put no pressure mate
And your own life you'd control

You were lucky to have a billabong!
Our creeks at home are all dry.
Well you might sing a billy song -
Not under our merciless sky!

You were lucky to see a squatter!
The banks own the land around here
And as for a jumbuck, there's not a
"Jolly one left I fear."

You were lucky to find a trooper!
Ours went in the government cuts.
And the job applications I sue for
Give me the same kick in the guts.

You were lucky to find a coolibah!
My relief was found in a cask.
When I thought of a jump in the yarra
For an overdue Uni task.

You were lucky to have a Matilda!
Your life wrapped up in a roll.
From a lonely five years in the city
I am home...no job...on the dole.

"SPRINGY" IN MALAYSIA

Ray (Springy) Greenwood, member at large, spent February 1997 in Malaysia visiting friends and was fortunate to meet up with some of the Apex 40 members in Malacca and Seremban. He was able to see the Chinese New Year in full swing and visit a number of Chinese families during the celebrations and also to visit some Malay families during the Hari Raya celebrations which are held at the end of Ramadan. Whilst in Seremban, Springy attended a special function at the home of Thanaraj given to celebrate a Birthday, Wedding Anniversary, Heart Operation and the need for some good fellowship. He also visited friends in Kulim, Parit

Buntar, Bahau and K.L. and also visited Kumar at Kluang. With K. Thuruvan from Seremban, he spent a few days trekking at Taman Negara.

Back at home in Sunnybank Hills, Brisbane, Springy wonders where Pauline Hanson gets the idea that the Asians are pushing their culture on us. He lives in an area which "has a large population of Chinese but you would not know which is a Chinese home during the Chinese New Year as they do not decorate their homes or businesses like they do in Malaysia."

(Sorry we couldn't fit this in last issue, but better late than never. Ed.)

AROUND THE BRANCHES

Alstonville: October dinner at the Eltham pub was the Club's AGM - Carolyn Rose was elected President; Jeff Rose, Secretary; and Kay Huett will look after the dinner notices. Christmas function at Riverside Restaurant at Ballina - a long wait between courses allowed quite a few good yarns to be swapped. New President and Secretary, Carolyn and Jeff, hardly had time to get used to being club office-bearers when they had to get used to being grandparents for the first time. Australia Day was celebrated with a Breakfast BBQ at the Roses, featuring champagne and followed by a gum-boot throwing competition at which David Huett starred.

Bendigo: Christmas dinner was held at the home of Wilma and David Bidmade with a fully catered Christmas dinner. February meeting will be at the home of

Anne and Bob Caldwell for a wine and cheese tasting prior to dinner; the products of three local wineries will be sampled. Anne and Bob are the new President and Secretary/Treasurer for 1998.

Blue Mountains: Having a caravan/camping trip to Dunn's Swamp (near Rhylstone), the last weekend in February. "Dunn's Swamp - Don't let the dismal name put you off. Whatever it once was, it has been dammed and makes a pleasant lake a couple of km long and up to 300 metres wide. It is the district's Bondi beach and popular with families and for water sports."

Forbes: Christmas Party dinner was held at the Ben Hall restaurant - "bushranger" Ben was a local folk hero; a good man driven into outlawry by police persecution, he was chivalrous to women and gave stolen gold to the

poor. Might have made a good Apexian!

Griffith: "The club is still in good shape. We recently held a family barbeque at Pioneer Village; thirty-three members attended plus children. We had a very good social gathering. Information about Port Lincoln Rort was distributed as well as the Apex 40 newsletter. Our next gathering is in mid-April when we will have a Friday evening dinner at a local Club."

Lake Macquarie: Christmas Party in November at "Aunt Molleys" Morisset featured a Scottish theme complete with pipe band.

Launceston: The Launceston Casino was the venue for a night out in January, and then in February a BBQ at Rex and Jeanette Lethborg's at Bridport.

Apex 40 members have been invited to attend the Apex State Convention in April; apart from the social functions, a golf competition will be organised for Apex 40 members if enough interest is shown.

Malacca: President Ravi reports: "A lot of things have taken place in the last two months. Deepavali passed by with a slight bang and an open house was held at David's new residence in Ujong Pasir. As usual there was merriment and a lot of booze and eats over at David's. The other Hindu guys were also at home to guests but on a more moderate scale. Lingam held a housewarming party at his new residence in Bukit Beruang which also turned out to be a birthday party for his one-year old son, Ruban. It was the normal bash with many guests

warming the house with their presence, not forgetting our Apex 40 members along with the Apex guys. Yours truly too had his finer moment when he got his eldest daughter married in a colourful ceremony all decked with the Hindu rites normally observed."

Melbourne-Gippsland: Christmas dinner saw the election of Ley Garrett as President and Martin Hopper as Secretary with Ken Neate looking after social activities. First social outing for 1998 will be a picnic/barbeque at "Sea Winds" near Arthur's Seat in the Nepean National park after meeting at Hastings Marina car park for morning tea.

Moree: Welcome to new President Rosemary Tramby and Secretary Myles Humphries. February function will be a "movie and meal" on Valentine's Day followed by a BBQ and games night in March. Club now has 50 members on its mailing list and is "alive and well for our push to stage the National Rort (in 2000)". The recent 60th Anniversary celebrations of Moree Apex Club provided a great weekend, a chance to catch up with more old friends and some new members for Apex 40.

Redlands: AGM in October saw Nola McCullagh elected as President and Alan Bach as Vice-President, with Ray Despot continuing as Secretary. Christmas dinner at "Dracula's" turned out to be something different from what was expected, after the Ghost Train ride then a video of the passengers. "Now we know!" says Dinner Notice Editor Jan Banks. (*But we don't! Ed.*)

Sunshine Coast: No report about the proposed "overseas trip" to Morton Island, but the club recently had a weekend camping trip to Borumba Dam and Deer Park near Imbil. Chook Rossiter's report of the trip in the club's newsletter highlighted a weekend of fun and fellowship despite the really high temperatures.

February dinner at Bridge Seafood on the banks of the lovely Mooloolaba River was followed by port and coffee at John and Stella Pascoe's. March meeting is to be at Pronto's in Caloundra, with pizza, pasta, mexican, etc. Immediate past President and Caloundra Rort Fines Master Hilton Maxwell spent some time in hospital just before Christmas for a knee operation. All the best Hilton, hope the knee is now performing OK. New President is Graham Sargent who, on his way from his native New Zealand to Queensland, spent some years in Melbourne where he was a member of Box Hill Apex Club.

Sunraysia: AGM was held at a dinner meeting at the home of Barry and Joy Fechner. Ian Kneebone was elected as President, with Ken Primmer as Secretary and Annette Duffy as Treasurer. During the meeting it was decided to donate \$500 to the local 1998 Christmas Toy Appeal.

For eight weeks in October and November the club had a team entered in the Red Cliffs Lawn Bowling Club's Mini-Pennant. The competition was made up of teams from Service and sports clubs and local businesses. The Sunraysia Apex 40 team finished cred-

itably in the middle of the field after a very pleasant (and funny) exercise which gained the Bowls Club about eight new members.

Wyong: At our February dinner we will be farewelling Malcolm, who has been successful in gaining the position of Manager of the Power Station at Cebu in the Philippines.

This dinner will be held down at the Entrance waterfront, at "the Old Bank Restaurant" which has just been renovated after a fire on the premises.

Our first dinner for the year was once again held at Marie and Dennis Heilbrunn's where we had wonderful seafood; Dennis even went to the Sydney Markets and picked the best he could buy, even though he was intruding on other peoples' orders. We had Balmain bugs, smoked salmon, sushi, oysters, crabs, and the biggest king sized prawns you have ever seen; one of these was a meal in itself. Even though we had to drive up to Blackhill in a raging storm and torrential rain, it was worthwhile.

We once again have a few of our members who are not so well at the time of writing this report. We wish them a speedy recovery, especially Jocelyn Neilsen and Barbara McCarthy who have been under heavy treatment; also to our president, Alan, who has also been in hospital. We hope 1998 will improve for our club members; it certainly hasn't started off too well.

Seremban: Secretary M. Tanaraj reports - "At present, there are three Apex 40 Clubs - Kuala Lumpur, Seremban and Malacca. Last year it was

decided that a National body be formulated and registered with the Registrar of Societies. The Constitution has been drawn up and circulated to the three clubs for study and adoption. Action is still pending.

The latest development in Apex Malaysia – At the last Convention it was proposed and carried that the age limit in Apex be abolished. There is still work to be done by Apex – the approval by the Registrar of Societies,

Malaysia, has to be sought; the new constitution with the amendments has to be drafted and approved. Has Apex 'jumped the gun'?

Currently there are 17 members in the Club and 11 are Lifers. There is no way for the Seremban Apex 40 members to join Apex again. All of them are past 55 and there are about 7 members (like me) who have crossed the 60 age limit! We are a bit too old for Active Apex!"

APEX 40 TOUR TO CANADA - 1999

Kevin and Liz Huxham have recently become gypsies and are touring in their caravan en route to the Port Lincoln Rort.

Meanwhile, Kevin reports that he and his Kin 40 contact in Canada are deep into the planning stages of the proposed tour but can not yet give a final costing. The date of the tour is likely to be August 3 to 24, 1999, approximately three weeks. Side trips can be arranged for after the tour for those who may wish to visit other places.

The tour will take in Vancouver, Vancouver Island and parts of the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta in the south-west of Canada, visiting Victoria, Campbell River, Port Hardy, then by ferry (12-15 hours) to Prince Rupert via the Inner Passage; back on the mainland via Smithers and Prince George to Jasper and Banff in the Canadian Rockies; then on to Calgary and Edmonton and back to Vancouver via Kamloops and the

Okanagan Valley. It is proposed to spend three nights in Vancouver with two nights in Victoria, Prince George, Calgary, Edmonton and the Okanagan Valley, so there will be plenty of time for sightseeing in those places.

Accommodation, where not hosted, should be in the order of \$100 double per night, with Vancouver a little higher. The coach cost will be \$675 per day, i.e. \$22.50 per person per day for 30 persons or \$17 for 40 persons.

Air fares and travel insurance will be organised from this end in a package deal and these costs should be to hand by the Rort. Kevin is waiting on a list of clubs to contact to ascertain where hosting will be available, then accommodation centres will be booked for the other nights.

Kevin will be looking to ascertain the number of likely participants at the Port Lincoln Rort in May, so you have until then to consider whether you intend joining the tour.

Presidential Parade



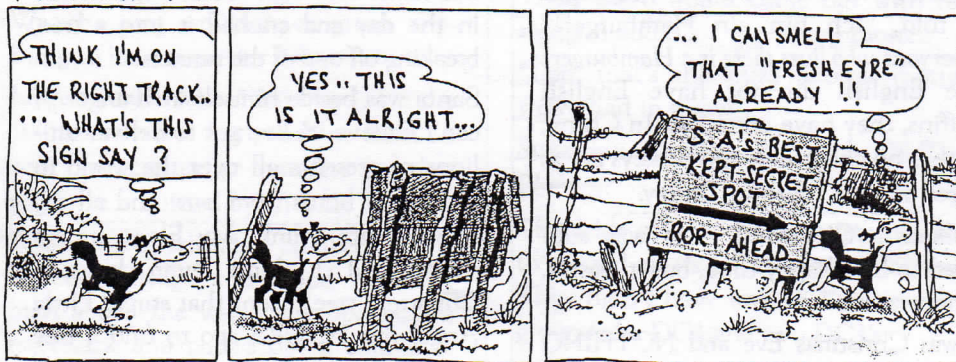
Eight of the twelve past National Presidents of Apex 40 attended the 1997 Rort at Caloundra. They are pictured here at the Sunday night dinner.

(Back row from left) Ron Clarke (Bendigo, 1984-85), Alan Kinder (Melb/Gippsland, 1979-81), Jock Littler (Devonport, 1983-84), Garth Whitchurch (Melb/Gippsland, 1995-97), Brian Roach (Melb/Gippsland, 1985-87), Lionel Mussell (Melb/Gippsland, inaugural N.P. 1976-78), (Front) Kevin Huxham (Alstonville, 1989-91, Glen Rossiter (Sunshine Coast, 1993-95).

A FEW THOUGHTS

Success is never final and failure is never fatal; it's courage that counts. (Alstonville)
Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.
A man becomes wise by watching what happens to him when he isn't!
Graffiti should be obscene and not heard.

FOOTRORT FLATS





President Phil Consalvo (front) and the Alstonville contingent at the Caloundra Rort. (From left) Narelle Consalvo, David Besson, Marie Besson, David Huett, Bev Robson, Graham Robson, Kay Huett, Robert Noble, Eddie Latham (hidden), Helen Noble, Colleen Lancaster, Kevin Huxham, Liz Huxham, Barry Lancaster, Lorraine Latham.

FROM THE DINNER NOTICES

Redlands – Did you know: In Denmark, there is no Danish pastry. It's called Viennese bread. And in Bologna, there is no bologna. Order a frankfurt in Frankfurt and you'll get tiny smoked sausages and a slice of bread. Order a hamburger in Hamburg and you might be told, "Ich bin ein Hamburger!" (Everyone who lives there is a Hamburger) The English do not have English muffins, they have crumpets. In China, there is no chop suey, and turkeys are as scarce as hens' teeth in Turkey.

Melbourne/Gippsland – It was supposed to be a happy time, but it wasn't. Santa was really upset.

It was Christmas Eve and NOTHING

was going right. Mrs. Claus had burned all the Christmas cookies, the Elves were bitching about not getting paid for the overtime they had put in while making toys, and the reindeer had been drinking all afternoon and were dead drunk. They had taken the sleigh out for a spin earlier in the day and crashed it into a tree, breaking off one of the runners.

Santa was beside himself with anger. "I can't believe it! I've got to deliver millions of presents all over the world in just a few hours from now and all my reindeer are drunk. My Elves are on strike and I don't even have a Christmas tree! I sent that stupid Little Angel out HOURS ago to find a tree

and she isn't even back yet! What am I going to do?"

Just then the Little Angel opened the front door and stepped in from the snowy night, dragging a Christmas tree behind her and said: "Yo Santa, where do you want me to stick the Christmas tree?"

And thus the tradition of Angels perched atop the Christmas trees came to pass.

Some Irish Jury Verdicts:

We find the man who stole the mare not guilty.

We return the verdict of guilty against the unknown murderer who killed O'Sullivan.

Not guilty Your Honour, but we recommend he doesn't do it again.

We are unanimous in our verdict Your Honour – nine to three.

Your Honour, we are all of one mind – insane.

Not guilty Your Honour, if he'll promise to emigrate.

We find the prisoner guilty Your Honour, and recommend that he be hanged, and we hope that it will be a warning to him.

We, the jury, would have given anything to have seen the fight.

Judge to defendant: "You may leave the courtroom a free man, with no stain on your character other than the fact that you were acquitted by an Irish Jury."

Wyong – An Irishman climbed up the Harbour Bridge and stood teetering high above the water. He opened his haversack and pulled out a couple of

budgies. He stuck one on his left shoulder and the other on his right and he took a great leap into the void, hitting the water at 200 km/h. "Blimey," he said when the Police fished him out more dead than alive, "that budgie jumping isn't what it's cracked up to be!"

Dad and Dave decided to diversify into chooks, but were having teething troubles. They knew it was important to have high quality roosters and felt the old one they'd bought probably wasn't up to it. So they kept buying others, with unfortunate results.

Whenever they let a young rooster into the pen it would swagger up to the old rooster and say, "All them hens are mine. And you can shove off".

"I'll tell you what, I'll race you round the chook shed", the old rooster would say, "and if I win, I keep half the hens. If I lose, you can have the lot".

"Okay", the young rooster would say, "and because of your age, I'll give you a head start".

And off they'd go. The old rooster was racing for all he was worth, but the young rooster was catching up fast. Then Dave would come out with his shotgun and blast the young rooster.

"Dad, that's the third poofter rooster we've had in a row".

Sunshine Coast – A Touch Of The Blarney:

The Irish airport received instructions to ground all its DC10's for inspection. They didn't have any DC10's, so they grounded a DC4 and two DC3's.

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

Branches are invited and urged to forward news & photos of branch activities and other items of interest for publication in the next issue of "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:

Alan Kinder,
34 Shafer Road,
Blackburn, Vic. 3130
(03) 9898 5124

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS
31st May, 1998.

- FOR SALE - APEX 40 GEAR

THESE ITEMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

NAME BADGES – Cost: \$7.00

Available from –

Alan Kinder (Nola)

34 Shafer Road,

Blackburn. Vic. 3130

Phone (03) 9898 5124

STICK PINS – Cost: \$3.50

APEX 40 BANNERS – (P.O.A.)

Available from –

Kevin Huxham (Liz)

On Tour

Mobile phone: 0412 283 922

CAR STICKERS – Cost: \$1.50

Available from –

Glenn Rossiter (Betty)

10 Teewah Street

Caloundra, Qld, 4551

Phone 07 54913823

- Costs quoted include postage,
- Please forward cheque with order.
- Cheques to be made payable to supplier (as listed).
- Please ensure correct spelling for name badges.

APEX 40 CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Malcolm Clark, C/- John Bowman,

23 George Street,

Wyang,

NSW, 2259

(02) 4352 1234

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

John Bowman,

23 George Street,

Wyang,

NSW, 2259

(02) 4352 1234

NATIONAL EXTENSION CHAIRMAN

Garth Whitchurch,

1/18 Severn Street,

Box Hill North,

Victoria, 3129

(03) 9898 7473

ATTENTION BRANCH SECRETARIES!

We are only able to send a few copies of "Roaring 40's" to each Club, so please ensure that you reproduce extra copies for distribution to your members.