

ROARING 40's

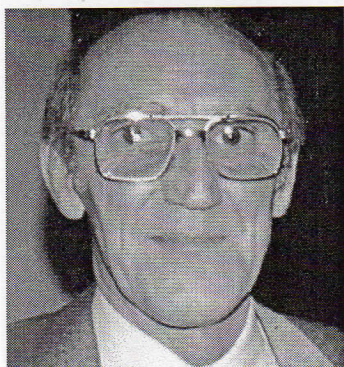
December 2005



FOR CONTINUING FELLOWSHIP

Apex 40 is the recognised body of
Affiliated Past Apexians Groups
www.apex40.org

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT



They say that as you get older time passes more quickly. Well, if the last six months is any indication, then I would have to agree. Devonport is barely over, Christmas is almost upon us, and Nepean is just a blink away. The folks at Penrith have all the details in place and now await your registration and money. Registration forms can be accessed on the Apex 40 web site or from your local friendly Club Secretary, so sign up and enjoy the experience at Nepean in May 2006.

There have been a few highlights over the months since Devonport, which Mary and I have enjoyed immensely. Many of you may be aware that Lionel Mussel, the Foundation President of Apex 40, is an ardent caravanner and noted author in things pertaining to caravanning. As is his wont, Lionel made his annual trek to Brisbane to attend and lecture at the Caravan and Camping Show. Thanks to the good offices of Jock Littler we were able to make contact with Lionel and Vi, who joined us at our home for a most enjoyable dinner on 16th June. Thank you Lionel and Vi for your company, we trust you enjoyed your sojourn through the far north.

July 16th saw Mary and I joining Redlands Apex 40, who combined with Redlands Apex Club to celebrate their Change-Over Dinner. Congratulations to incoming President Richard Colwell and his team, who have adopted the motto "Back to Basics". This motto includes the return of regular ladies (secret women's business) outings. A wise man is Richard.

The usual southern invasion occurred during July and August, due to the universally acceptable northern winter. That's Queensland of course. August 7th saw us lunching with the Kinders and the Flahertys, a most casual and humorous affair topped off with the appearance of Neil and Margaret Hookey as we were leaving. Can't help but feel bad luck Neil, you missed out on a good red!

An opportunity occurred on the 27th August for myself, Marcie Irvin – Nat. Sec. and Rob Noble – Nat. I. R., to get together, the occasion being a combined dinner at Lennox Heads with the Alstonville Club. Your National Committee was afforded a most informative half-hour together, followed by a most memorable dinner. The highlight of the evening was the purloining of the Alstonville fines box, including revenue; said box having a remarkable similarity to your standard "Poor Box". Since that momentous occasion I am given to understand that a condition of return of said box is that Alstonville will be required to pay a similar visit to Redlands. Phil Consalvo has undergone some serious questioning since that time! Apparently.

September 2nd saw a most welcome visit to Brisbane and to our home for lunch by

Tony Peters, the Apex Foundation Chairman. Marcie Irvin was able to join us and to be informed of the up to date and ongoing work of the Foundation in Australia. Tony spoke of the production of a DVD highlighting the activities of the Foundation, including a statement by The Honourable John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia and Patron of Apex in Australia. Through the auspices of Tony, the Foundation has offered a copy of this DVD to all Apex 40 Clubs and Members at Large. You should receive your copy along with this copy of Roaring 40s. Please get in touch with Marcie should your DVD not arrive. I urge all Club Presidents / Secretaries to provide an opportunity for members, either collectively or individually, to view this most worthy and informative production, timed to coincide with the celebration of '75 Years of Apex in Australia'.

'75 Years of Apex', in 2006, has the potential to be a major activity in Apex Clubs throughout the Nation. If you desire to be involved just contact your local Apex Club for information or go to the Apex web site for activities in your State.

Remember Mackay in 2007, that's happening too, and start thinking about your Club providing a Rort in 2008, because that's coming too.

Finally, Mary and I would like to wish all our fellow Apex 40 members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2006. We look forward to seeing you all at Nepean in May. Yours in Apex 40,

Bob McKernon, National President

NATIONAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT



Hello all! Can't believe it is almost November and that obviously means it is no time at all until Christmas. Things have been going along smoothly at this end without any hiccups. I've almost got Club and Member At Large registration forms ready for postage, so expect to see them in the next week or two, although they should all have been received before you read this edition of Roaring 40s.

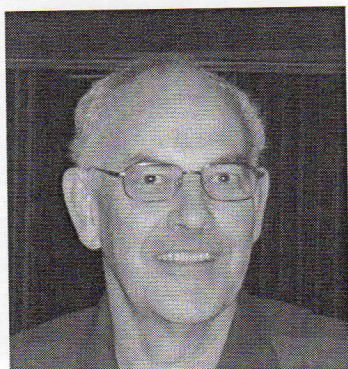
I will also be posting out a DVD to each Club covering the work of the Apex Foundation. I would urge all members to view it with interest so that you know about

the Associations with which the "Apex Group" is connected. Quite an eye-opener!

Next year, of course, is the 75th Anniversary of the founding of Apex and I'm sure we will find plenty to celebrate, especially at the Nepean Valley Rort in May. Please get your Registration Forms in and book your accommodation ASAP as available places are filling fast. If you don't have a Registration Form, go to the Apex 40 web-site and download one fast.

See you in Nepean. *Marcie Irvin, National Secretary/Treasurer*

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & APEX LIAISON REPORT



Don't forget 10th March 2006 is Apex's 75th anniversary and, if contact can be made with your local Apex club, maybe a special event or night out could be relevant for this important milestone.

Interest from RT 40 New Zealand for some members to join us at the Nepean Rort is very encouraging and they will be made very welcome.

I have been in contact with Kelab Apex 40 Kuala Lumpur and advised of the Nepean Rort, as many members have lots of memories of the two previous visits to Malaysia. Behind the scenes work on estab-

lishing new clubs by members is very promising. Keep up the good work!

Congratulations to Kevin & Liz Huxham on organising the great holiday in UK and Ireland.

Have a read of Kev's report, published in full on the Apex 40 web site.

Any one with info on formation of new clubs please e-mail me so support can be offered to the club.

Rob Noble, International & Apex Liaison Officer.

PROFILE – ROB NOBLE

Born at Nimbin, NSW in 1948 (a long time before the Aquarius Festival of 1973, which changed the once lovely quiet little town forever), living on a farm at Blue Knob which is situated just north of the town. My family moved to Alstonville in 1963 and I am still living there. I completed High School at Lismore, then commenced my working life as a motor mechanic. After several years doing this work I started working for K Mart and have just completed 26 years of retail with the Coles Myer organisation.

I married Helen 35 years ago. We have two children, both living in Sydney, and have two (naturally gorgeous) grandchildren.

When Alstonville Apex Club formed in 1971, I was an inaugural member and continued serving for 18 years. I am currently a member of the Alstonville Rotary Club.

Helen and I have made many friendships through Apex and Apex 40. We attended an Apex 'Mass Tour' of Scandinavia in 1988, where we were hosted by Round Table Members of Finland and Sweden and we learnt how to sauna – Finish style! Our first Apex 40 Rort was Tasmania in 1991 and Helen and I have participated in several Rorts since then. We have also been on the Apex 40 overseas tours of South Africa, Malaysia/India, Canada/Alaska, and New Zealand.

APEX 40 TOUR TO UK & IRELAND

In June, Kevin and Liz Huxham led a tour of Apex 40 members through England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Although small in numbers with just 14 participants, it was a friendly group ranging in age from 34 to 74, mostly familiar faces from previous tours to South Africa, Canada or New Zealand.

Kevin has written an excellent comprehensive report about the places visited and the many sights taken in during the 5,327 kilometres covered on the tour, during which the participants were hosted in the homes of 41 Club members (ex Round Tablers) in a number of places. Kevin's report is rather too large to include in this newsletter but the complete report, with pictures, has been posted on the Apex 40 web site: www.apex40.org

At the conclusion of his report, Kevin had this to say:

On behalf of our Apex 40 Tour participants, may we thank your RTBI 41 Association, host clubs, host families and everyone concerned and involved, for allowing the tour to



come to fruition, for the excellent way in which we were received, hosted, fuelled (solid and liquid), shown the interesting attractions of your respective communities, participated in Continuing Fellowship, and ensured that the Hinges of Friendship Never Rust! Thank you guys and girls for a magnificent tour of your country!"

Kevin Huxham (in front) and the tour group (minus Liz, who took the photo) in Scotland.

NEPEAN VALLEY RORT 2006 REPORT

"Come and Mix in 2006"

5th – 11th May 2006 – Penrith, NSW

Where is Nepean Valley?

Many questions were asked at the 2005 RORT as to our exact location – Well, Sydney's best-kept secret is no more! Apex 40 Nepean Valley is located at Penrith NSW – 54 km west of Sydney.

What's on?

The 2006 RORT will have a central theme – a Dimboola style-wedding event – so bring your best "glad-rags" to attend a country wedding! You could be the Brides cousins, or the drunken uncle or the eccentric grandparents – it doesn't matter! We just want you to get into the spirit and have some fun!

Cost:

\$300 per person (subject to change) includes Friday night registration and welcome

social, RORT activities including Transport, Lunches and Evening Meals on Saturday & Sunday night and departure breakfast on Monday. Early bird registrations paid in full by 1st December 2005 will go in the draw for one Free Registration (value \$300).

Registration Forms:

See your Club President or Secretary for a copy of our registration form (circulated in September 2005) or visit the Apex 40 website www.apex40.org

APEX 40 NEPEAN VALLEY PROGRAM 5TH – 8TH MAY 2006

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY
Friday	5th May 2006	<i>"Meet the Bride & Groom & families"</i> Registration and welcome gathering. Light Supper provided 6pm – 9pm. Hornseywood Room Penrith RSL
Saturday	6th May 2006	<i>"The Pre-Nuptials"</i> Buses will collect Rorters from their accommodation and we will enjoy a 2 hour Morning Tea cruise on the Nepean Belle & Platypus (2 x Paddle Steamers) down the Nepean River. This will be followed by a quick tour of the Whitewater Stadium (a Sydney 2000 Olympic venue). Rorters will then be taken to University of Western Sydney Hawkesbury Campus for a light lunch and walk around the grounds.
Saturday afternoon	6th May 2006	After lunch, free time will be made available in the afternoon to do your own thing eg shopping at the great Penrith Plaza shopping centre.
Saturday night	6th May 2006	<i>"The Wedding Reception"</i> Buses will collect Rorters from their accommodation and take us for Dinner at the Hubertus Club - Luddenham. We will have a 7-piece Country & Western Band "Tall Timbre" to provide the entertainment and dancing. Dress – your best Dimboola wedding gear! Prize for the best dressed couple and single.
Sunday	7th May 2006	<i>"The Morning After"</i> Luxury air-conditioned coaches will collect Rorters from accommodation and make our way down to Gledswood Winery (near Narellan) for an "Australiana" day including lunch and entertainment. The AGM will be held at this venue.
Sunday Night	7th May 2006	<i>"The Hangover Chaser"</i> Dinner tonight will be at the Lawson Showroom -

Penrith RSL Club. We have booked a 5-piece Rockabilly/Rock & Roll Band "Ian B McLeod & The Rockabilly Express". This will get you jumping – be prepared to rock your socks off!

Monday 8th May
2006

"Farewell the Rellies!"

The traditional Apex 40 fellowship breakfast and farewells at the Penrith Golf Club (looking down the 18th Fairway).

Post Rorters tour will commence after breakfast at 8.30am.

POST RORT TOUR MONDAY 8TH MAY 2006

Cost

\$295 per person (subject to change). Price includes 4 evening meals and 3 lunches but does not include accommodation.

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY
Monday	8th May 2006	Sydney City Tour & Sydney Harbour Cruise (Morning Tea)
Tuesday	9th May 2006	Hunter Valley Gardens
Wed.	10th May 2006	Free morning (R&R or shopping) followed by a Penrith highlights tour in the afternoon.
Thursday	11th May 2006	Blue Mountains and surrounds tour followed by a combined farewell dinner with Apex 40 Nepean Valley at night.

For further details contact RORT Chairman – Garry & Louise Rumble on 02 4731 1835 (e-mail garry.rumble@penrith.nsw.gov.au) or RORT Secretary Keith & Racheal Miller on 02 4647 3203 (e-mail millerk@bigpond.net.au)

Come & Mix in 2006

THE APEX WINE CLUB

The Apex Foundation has established a Wine Club which provides a unique opportunity to assist its fund raising initiatives while purchasing quality wines from Yalumba, one of the oldest and most respected wineries in South Australia. You can get these quality cleanskins delivered to your home (or office) at less than the shelf price at your local retailer.

Prices are \$85 per case (dozen) for 2005 Sauvignon Blanc, 2004 Sauvignon Blanc-Semillon, Riesling, Chardonnay, 2003 Cab. Sav.-Shiraz, and NV Brut, and \$95 per dozen for 2003 Premium Shiraz. Delivery to your home (or office) costs an addition-

al \$10 per case within a metropolitan area or \$15 outside a metropolitan area.

Most of us would go through more than one bottle of red or white a month, so order a dozen and give it a go. If you are hesitant to buy a dozen, split a case with one or two friends – you won't regret it. The Wine Club is about Apexians, and we ex-Apexians, using our collective purchasing power to chase down a good deal and help to raise a few dollars. Long term, this will raise much needed money for the Apex Foundation's various charitable trusts.

You can download an order form from the Foundation's website: www.apexfoundation.org.au and at the same time you can read about some of the on-going activities of the Foundation. Don't delay – DO IT NOW!

VALE – AUDREY MCINNES

Apex 40 Melbourne-Gippsland, Vic.



We at Melbourne-Gippsland were shocked and saddened at the death of Audrey on 16th September, after a massive stroke.

Audrey, together with husband Sam, regularly attended our meetings and social outings. She was a talented woman, particularly with sewing, and donated her creations to many charitable organizations. Audrey had a wonderful sense of humour and was always ready for a laugh.

Members of other Apex 40 clubs will remember Audrey's genuine, smiling greeting at numerous past Rorts. Both Audrey and Sam made a point of getting to know members from other clubs. We are sure that they will join us in heartfelt sympathy for Sam and his family.

AROUND THE BRANCHES

Alstonville:

In August, Alstonville members enjoyed a combined dinner with Redlands members who were spending the weekend at Lennox Head. "Everyone intermingled in traditional style, told tall tales, made friends and generally had a good evening." Rob and Helen Noble were able to travel on the bus around the area with the Redlands group and provide a commentary on the local areas of special interest.

The Redlands visitors spirited away Alstonville's fines box (unemptied), so a return visit seems on the cards.

October meeting at 'La Riviera' at South Gundarimba (near Lismore), where members enjoyed a "magnificent French meal", was the Club's AGM, and Duncan and Prue Walker were elected as joint Presidents for the next year. Phil and Narelle Consalvo were re-elected as Secretary/Treasurers.

November meeting will be a dinner at 'Paddy McGinty's Irish Pub and Café' at Ballina, followed by a theatre visit to see the Ballina Players.

Christmas dinner will be at the home of John and Gay Gilmour.



Combined Alstonville-Redlands dinner.



Rob Noble (Alstonville), Alan Bach and Ross Pollock (Redlands) At Lennox Head.



Alstonville Apex 40 group at Glen Innes standing stones

Bendigo:

Members enjoyed a progressive dinner in June, organised by Bev Leeson, Kevin and Shirley Harvey, and David and Wilma Bidmade and, in July, an "evening of culture" at the Capitol Theatre to see the Shakespeare play 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'.

September meeting was a Karaoke night at the New China Restaurant and then a French night at Kieran and Bernadette Ransom's.

Christmas party will be held at the Bendigo Club.

GRAFTON: "The August meeting was a wonderful weekend at Bellingen and Dorrigo. The weekend started at Bellingen with a coffee and visit to the markets followed by lunch (and Jazz) at the old butter factory. Later adjourning to Dorrigo where the main event was Christmas in July (in August) at the Dorrigo Hotel. The night was shared with the Far North Coast Hot Rod Club. Highlights of the night included, food, music, dancing (erotic eastern, rock 'n' roll and modern), dress-ups and Rugby Union. All in all everyone had a great time. Many thanks to Jillian and Col for organising the weekend."

September saw the Grafton Apex 40 Sports Day, held at the Chessell's ranch and featuring darts, boche, hooky, chip-in golf, and 'clock bobs' – with a little juggling and a lot of food thrown in for good measure. "It truly was a seniors event and it must be said that the overall standard was bad, but this does not detract from the winners and placegetters. The event finished in a tie between Lyn Betts and Col McLachlan, so a tense playoff of 'clock bobs' ensued and resulted in a clear win to Lyn." A very enjoyable event that possibly will become an annual event.

Another sporting event in October; the first nine holes of the Club's annual golf tournament on a hot, fly infested day which confirmed the decision to split the event into two rounds. The golf was preceded by lunch at the Coutts Tavern and, afterwards, drinks at the Good Intent Hotel on the way home. A short AGM was held over

lunch when "the current executive was re-elected unanimously and unopposed in a true democratic manner".



Grafton Golf Day – the exhausted golfers from left to right are:

John Betts, Jillian McLachlan, Peter Chessell (seated), Dale Bax, Gary Bax, Carol Moffat (in front of Helen Nickless), Lyn Betts behind Roz Chessell (a ring-in), Peter Desborough, Bill Moffat and Col McLachlan (on the ground).



Grafton Members at Dorrigo Hotel. L to R – (Back) Peter Chessell, Ron Holmes, Bill Moffat, Col McLachlan. (Front) Lyn Betts, John Betts, Roz Chessell, Gary Bax, Dale Bax. The photo was taken by Carol Moffat.

THE GREAT 8: A number of members recently participated in a Relay For Life Walk when they raised about \$900 for the charitable event. *"To all those who walked and camped out a big thankyou, we now know why we don't camp in cold and windy weather, because we all froze. There was plenty of food, drinks and snacks on the evening and enough meat left over for our Xmas BBQ. Everybody had a good time, and I would like to thank Trevor and Trish for providing us with free entertainment – Trevor by setting the BBQ on fire and Trish Taylor for showing us how not to climb through the fence on the way to the ladies."*

Another fundraiser was an undercover wear party, held on the 2nd of September, when \$150.00 was raised.

October meeting was a pizza meal at the Ross's house, then on to ten pin bowling at Rutherford. Members will either drive or travel by boat to Raymond Terrace in November for a Sunday lunch at the Claire Castle Hotel – just a short walk from the wharf for those going by boat.

KUALA LUMPUR: September meeting saw a record attendance of members, including S.S. Raja who has rejoined the Club. *"Raja, who left us some 10 years ago, is a Life Member of the Apex Club of Petaling Jaya. With his organizational skills, exposure and clout he will certainly be an asset to Apex 40. When he left us he was then known as S.S. Rajah but for some numerical reason a small alphabetical circumcision was done and his name is*

now spelt simply as S.S. Raja. Please take note."

(Those of us who attended the Melbourne Rort back in 1994 will remember the personable S.S. Rajah who visited us for the Rort, along with fellow KL member P.K. Singham. Rajah, as he was then, assured us that the "S.S." stood for "Super Stud"! Ed.)

October meeting was a fund raising social at the Guinness Anchor Brewery when attendance was just over 100 with members and spouses, Apexians, friends and supporters.

"Besides our friends and supporters we also had TT Singam, President of Apex 40 Seremban and Apexians from the Apex Clubs of KL, PJ, BSP, Klang, Seremban and Shah Alam. Thank you all for the great support. We appreciate and acknowledge your kind gesture."

Earlier, at the Club's AGM in July, the entire Board was re-elected to serve another year.

November meeting was to be attended by the key founding members of Apex Club of Kuala Lumpur (the first Apex Club in Malaysia) L/M Dr. Pathamanathan, the inaugural club president and Dr. Peter Mayo, the Charter President.

"As Dr. Mayo and family are residing in Australia and Dr. Patma spends quite a lot of his time in UK, they are both understandably very exited about this event."

LAUNCESTON: September meeting was a lunch at the home of Chris and Lucille Austin at Norwood when a good roll up of 21 members attended. Only absentees were President Rex Lethborg

and Jeanette who were overseas. A wonderful meal was enjoyed by all.

The meeting in October at the Barnboughle Golf Links in Bridport was another outstanding success with coffee afterwards at the home of Barry and Dot Rowe. November meeting will be a BBQ at the Holly Bank Reserve at Underwood and Christmas dinner will be at the Flying Teapot at Bridport.



Launceston Vice-President David Glover makes a point. Seated – from left: Berenice Glover, Ron Storay, Darrell Faulkner, Jim Turner, Patti Gibson, Margaret Turner (part hidden), Chris Austin.

MANLY:

Guest Speaker at the September meeting was Paul Couvret of the Royal Dutch Fleet Air Arm who, as a prisoner of war working in the Nagasaki Shipyards, was just six kilometres from the epicentre of the second atomic bomb blast on 9th August 1945. Paul is a Life Member of Cowra Apex Club.

The following is taken from President John Cameron's report to the Club's AGM, held in October:

"This year we have not done any fund-raising as we concentrated on organising the District Three Reunion. I'm pleased to say that, thanks to a great

effort from Manly and a great deal of assistance from the other clubs, the event was a success. We had an attendance of 103 past Apexians for the Friday night function and around 160 past Apexians and ladies on the Saturday night.

Despite not holding specific fund-raising activities we have been able to make donations to:

Harbord Public School for their Annual Prize Night.

Cromer Public School for their autism class.

The Apex Children's Chalet for the purchasing of paint.

Life Line Northern Beaches Inc. for the purchasing of a data projector.

The surplus of \$600.00 from the District Three Reunion was also donated to the Apex Children's Chalet (Magic Castle).

In total, our donations amount to \$2,320.00."

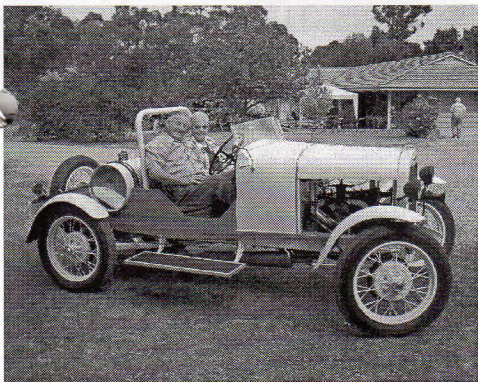
MELBOURNE-GIPPSLAND:

The annual Apex 40 birthday (the 32nd) was held at the Jells Park Tearooms at Glen Waverley where 24 members enjoyed a very nice lunch. The weather was fine and some members took the opportunity to walk down their lunch afterwards.

Meetings in August and October were at the Box Hill Golf Club and Clayton Bowls Club, respectively. Between those meetings we were all shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden passing of our very dear friend and member Audrey McInnes. Audrey, with Sam, a past Apex 40 National Secretary/Treasurer, was always a regular at our meetings and social functions and will be sadly missed.

In November we had our annual get-together and BBQ on a very warm

Melbourne Cup Day at the Langwarrin home of Ken and Barbara Neate. Apart from Makybe Diva's incredible third win in the Cup and Charlie Burgess's 'two-bob tote' on every race, the other highlight of the day was a raffle for a ride in Ken's restored (by himself) 'A' model Ford (see picture). The mechanical parts of Ken's 'jalopy' are all genuine 'A' Ford parts but the body is Ken's own design.



Ken takes President Marianne Speirs for a ride in the restored 'A' model.

MOREE:

After plans for a dinner and movie fell through in August, ten members went to Boomi (about 100 km north of Moree) for the BATS (Boomi Amateur Thespian Society) annual knees-up. The bus trip, meal and show were a winner and might be looked at as an annual event.

The September Poolside Pyjama Party at the Swayns with the Club's very own chefs was great fun and, as predicted, great food. *"The Dirty Old Chef managed not to use every pot, pan and dish in the house. The Surprise Chef was the one who cooked the shanks (to mouth-watering perfection I might add), the Naked Chef managed to keep his jarmies on, thank goodness.*

The Lazy Chef, well, he just didn't turn up. The Pyjama theme turned out to be appropriate as the night was rainy, windy and cool. Luckily we all had on our lovely warm jarmies and slippers and were snug as..."

October meeting was the Club's AGM when Vic Elsley and Kay Jukes would stand down as President and Secretary. (Kay has produced a very informative and readable dinner notice for the past 12 months. Ed.)

NEPEAN VALLEY:

August function was a luncheon at the Nepean Rowing Club on a beautiful sunny Sunday, overlooking the picturesque Nepean River. A great venue and those who attended certainly enjoyed "Good Food, Good Fellowship and the Privilege to be with Friends".

In early October the Club will visit the historic Gledswood Homestead and Winery, one of next year's Rort venues, for wine tasting and lunch in the restaurant.



Gledswood Homestead:

Gledswood Homestead & Winery has twice won the National Tourism Award for Excellence in Heritage & Cultural Tourism. The awards are run by the Tourism Council of Australia and are independently judged. The NSW chap-

ter of The Tourism Council of Australia further awarded Gledswood in 1999 with the title Best of the Decade in Heritage & Cultural Tourism. The Gledswood Gardens have also been awarded in the Camden Garden Competition 8 years in a row Grand Champion (up to 2000) as well as individual awards for best roses, perennials, colour & design.

October dinner at the Richmond Club was the Club's AGM when President Keith Miller, Vice-President Garry Rumble, and Secretary Treasurer Bryan Spencer were all re-elected for a further term.

"We were recently honoured to have the National President of Apex 40 (Bob McKernon and his wife Mary – Redlands, QLD Apex 40) stay in Penrith over a weekend, where he attended one of our RORT Committee meetings, and was suitably impressed with our progress. Many thanks to Barry & Joyce Leavett-Brown for hosting the NP and to Bryan & Bonny for their hospitality on Sunday."

REDLANDS:

President John Pulvirenti had this to say about the weekend at Lennox Head in August:

"What an incredible weekend at Lennox Head. We all met for happy hour on Friday afternoon before moving on to the Bowls Club for dinner. On Saturday morning we were joined by Rob & Helen Noble from Alstonville for the bus tour of the hinterland visiting the Tea Tree Plantation, Crystal Castle and on to Bangalow for lunch, and taking in Brunswick and Byron. Saturday evening 14 Alstonville members attended our dinner where the proceedings became rather loud at times. We wished Alan Bach a happy birthday; Phil Consalvo organized the raffle and, together with Marion and a little help from

Alan, conducted the fines session where a number of members were asked to cough up for their indiscretions. We look forward to Alstonville joining us in Redland sooner rather than later."

John's term as President will finish at the Club's AGM at the end of October.

The Club's AGM was held at lunch at the Port of Brisbane Visitors Centre, Eco Café, preceded by a tour of the port facilities. Peter Greer was elected President and Helen Greer will continue as Secretary.

Christmas dinner will be on the water aboard the MV Queenslander for a three hour sunset cruise with a well stocked bar.

SUNRAYSIA:

September meeting was a Camp Oven Lunch at Don and Moz Higgins farm 'Stronsay' at Merrineee. *"A most enjoyable day, even though the rain and wind chased us around the house until the sun came out and we enjoyed our lunch on the front lawn."*

Earlier, 32 members enjoyed lunch and a tour of the Brewery Pub – and also, no doubt, enjoyed the free beer samples. *"A great way to spend a Sunday arvo!"*

Christmas party and AGM will be at the Vines Retirement Village with a catered 3 course dinner.

WYNNUM – MANLY:

President Jim Goodwin reports:

"Our annual Christmas in July function was a great success thanks to the efforts of Denise Clements and Lindsay Vinen. A number of our members were unfortunately absent being on holidays at the time."

A 'Bare-foot' Bowls Day was held at Manly Bowls Club early October. Fourteen members came along to roll up the odd one or two, and later to down the

odd one or two, which made for a very enjoyable afternoon. We plan a repeat performance in the new year. Don't think we have any budding champions in our group to worry the Commonwealth Games Bowls selectors next year.

Plans are now in hand to have our Christmas Party/Annual General Meeting/Election of Officers on Sunday, 4 December. Hopefully, we will have about 30 members present all eagerly awaiting the arrival of Santa Bruce to distribute "gifts" selected with love and care. (Not so sure about the 'care' part.)

Happy Christmas and a prosperous, healthy 2006 to all."

WYONG:

September meeting was the Club's AGM. In his final report, outgoing President Peter Ryall said: "Good fellowship is the main reason our Club exists, but over the past year we have managed to forward donations to Stewart House (in memory of Margaret Sawyer), the tsunami appeal, and Camp Breakaway (proceeds from Wyong Drama Group catering)."

The meeting was held at the Ocean Front Restaurant at The Entrance and Malcolm Clark was elected to a second term as President. Tom Dumbleton, who has filled the Secretary's position for many years was re-elected to that position.

A weekend away at Banjo's Wilderness Retreat at Barrington Tops was held at the end of October. President Malcolm suggests that, as so many of the members are now retired, maybe a mid-week trip away could be arranged.

National President Bob McKernon and Mary will be attending the Club's November meeting at Forresters Beach Resort.



The sheriff and the saloon gal (aka Marianne and Mal Clark), Unfortunately the sheriff was the one murdered.



Wyong members at Banjo's. L. to R. Dennis Bradshaw, Lea Dumbleton, Marian Clark, Vivienne Bradshaw, Peter Seiffert, Mal Clark, Tom Dumbleton (front), Ann Ryall, Daphne Bradford, Geoff & Margaret Dunn, Dennis Heilbrunn.

AROUND THE BRANCHES

Alstonville:

Some new words that haven't yet made the Oxford dictionary:

Dishlexia – the inability to pack the dishwasher correctly.

Yourgrain – a bad headache brought on by the attentions of someone you do not like.

Bludgy – A partner who doesn't work but is kept as a pet.

Retortelate – The sharp and witty come-back you think of 2 hours after you have left the party/ office/ pub.

Some useful one liners:

Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder.

The gene pool could use a little chlorine.

Consciousness – that annoying time between naps.

Being "over the hill" is better than being under it.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

Stupidity is not a handicap – so park elsewhere.

Ham and eggs – a day's work for a chicken, a lifetime commitment for a pig.

Grafton:

President Bush was visiting a primary school. One of the classes was in the middle of a discussion related to words and their meanings. The teacher asked the president if he would like to lead the discussion on the word "tragedy."

So the illustrious leader asked the class for an example of a "tragedy."

One little boy stood up and offered, "If my best friend, who lives on a farm, is playing in the field and a tractor runs him over and kills him, that would be a tragedy."

"No," said Bush, "that would be an accident."

A little girl raised her hand: "If a school bus carrying 50 children drove over a cliff, killing everyone inside, that would be a tragedy."

"I'm afraid not." explained the president. "That's what we would call a great loss."

The room went silent. No other children volunteered.

Bush searched the room. "Isn't there someone here who can give me an example of tragedy?" Finally at the back of the room a small boy raised his hand.

In a quiet voice he said: "If Air Force One carrying Mr. Bush was struck by a "friendly fire" missile and blown to smithereens, that would be a tragedy."

"Fantastic!" exclaimed Bush. "That's right. And can you tell me why that would be a tragedy?"

"Well," said the boy, "it has to be a tragedy, because it certainly wouldn't be a great loss and it probably wouldn't be an accident either."

An eight year old boy is walking down the road one day when a car pulls over next to him. "If you get in the car," the driver says, "I'll give you \$10 and a piece of candy."

The boy refuses and keeps on walking.

A few moments later, not to take no for an answer, the man driving the car pulls over again. "How about \$20 and two pieces of candy?"

The boy tells the man to leave him alone and keeps on walking.

Still further down the road the man pulls over to the road side. "OK," he says, "this is my final offer. I'll give you \$50 and all the candy you can eat."

The little boy stops, goes to the car and leans in. "Look," he says to the driver.

You bought the Volvo, Dad. You'll have to live with it!"

The Great 8:

A woman stopped by at her recently married son's house. She rang the doorbell and walked in. She was shocked to see her daughter-in-law lying on the couch, totally naked. Soft music was playing, and the aroma of perfume filled the room.

"What are you doing?" she asked. "I'm waiting for my husband to come home from work," the daughter-in-law answered.

"But you're naked!" the mother-in-law exclaimed!

"This is my love dress," the daughter-in-law explained.

"Love dress? But you're naked!"

"My husband loves me to wear this dress," she explained. "It excites him no end. Every time he sees me in this dress, he instantly becomes romantic and ravages me for hours on end. He can't get enough of me."

The mother-in-law left. When she got

home, she undressed, showered, put on her best perfume, dimmed the lights, put on a romantic CD and laid on the couch waiting for her husband to arrive.

Finally, her husband came home. He walked in and saw her laying there so provocatively.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"This is my love dress," she whispered, sensually.

"Needs ironing," he said. "What's for dinner?"

Kuala Lumpur:

Wisdom from Grandpa:

- Whether a man winds up with a nest egg, or a goose egg, depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.
 - Trouble in marriage often starts when a man gets so busy earning his salt, that he forgets his sugar.
 - When a man marries a woman, they become one; but trouble starts when they try to decide which one.
 - If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never turn into an old nag.
 - On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past – but never the present.
 - A foolish husband says to his wife, "Honey, you stick to the washing, ironing, cooking, and scrubbing. No wife of mine is gonna work."
 - The bonds of matrimony are a good investment, only when the interest is kept up.
-

Launceston:

The politician droned on and on, despite the warnings from the speaker.

Finally, he lost his cool and threw the gavel at the offender.

He missed, but hit a member on the front bench who slumped to the floor.

The injured member, trying to rise, was heard to say, "Hit me again, I can still hear him."

A guy stood over his tee shot for what seemed an eternity, looking up, looking down, measuring the distance, and figuring the wind direction and speed. Driving his partner nuts. Finally his exasperated partner says, "What's taking so long? Hit the blasted ball!"

The guy answers, "My wife is up there watching me from the clubhouse. I want to make this a perfect shot."

"Forget it man, you don't stand a snowball's chance in hell of hitting her from here!"

A woman was in the office of an introduction agency. She leaned across to the man at the desk after seeing her date for the first time. "He's not exactly what I had in mind," she said softly, "he's short, he's fat, he's bald, and he's ugly."

"There's no need to whisper, love," he said brightly.

"He's deaf as well."

Gertrude thought she heard a burglar in the house but Clem refused to get out of bed and go and have a look.

"What's happened to you?" Gertrude asked. "I thought you were very brave when you married me."

"So did everyone else at the wedding," Clem replied.

Melbourne-Gippsland:

The cruise ship's audience was different each week, so the magician did the same tricks over and over again.

There was only one problem – the captain's parrot saw the shows each week and began to understand how the magician did every trick. Once he understood, he started shouting in the middle of the show – "Look, it's not the same hat!" or "Look, he's hiding the flowers under the table!" or

"Hey, why are all the cards the Ace of Spades?"

The magician was furious but couldn't do anything. It was, after all, the captain's parrot.

Then, one stormy night on the Pacific, the ship unfortunately sank, drowning almost all who were on board. The magician luckily found himself on a piece of wood floating in the middle of the sea with, as fate would have it, the parrot.

They stared at each other with hatred but didn't utter a word. This went on for a day... and then two days... and then three days.

Finally on the fourth day, the parrot could not hold back any longer and said...

"OK, I give up. Where's the bloody ship?"

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales, and the teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah".

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

Moree:

There was this zebra who had lived her entire life in a zoo and was getting on a bit, so the zookeeper decided as a treat that she could spend her final years in bliss on a farm. The zebra was so excited to see this huge space with green grass and hills and trees and all these strange animals. She saw a big fat weird looking brown thing and ran up to it all excited, "Hi! I'm a zebra. What are you?"

"I'm a cow," said the cow.

"Right, right, what do you do?"

"I make milk for the farmer."

"Cool." The zebra then saw this funny looking little white thing and ran over to it. "Hi, I'm a zebra. What are you?"

"I'm a chicken," said the chicken.

"Oh, right, what do you do?"

"I make eggs for the farmer."

"Right, great, see ya round." Then the zebra saw this very handsome beast that looked almost exactly like her without the stripes. She ran over to it and said, "Hi, I'm a zebra. What are you?"

"I am a stallion," said the stallion.

"Wow," said the zebra. "What do you do?"

"Take off your pyjamas, darling, and I'll show you."

Henry and Doris were sitting in the lounge of the old folks' home one evening, Henry in his pyjamas and dressing gown. Doris whispered, "Henry! Do yourself up properly; your willy's sticking out!" Henry looked down, and said, "Don't flatter yourself, dear. My willy is HANGING out!"

Nepean Valley:

Two bored casino dealers were waiting at a craps table.

A very attractive blonde woman arrived and bet twenty thousand dollars on a single roll of the dice.

She said, "I hope you don't mind, but I feel much luckier when I'm completely nude."

With that she stripped from her head down, rolled the dice and yelled, "Mama needs new clothes!"

Then she hollered, "YES! YES! I WON! I WON!" She jumped up and down and hugged each of the dealers. She then picked up all the money and her clothes and quickly departed.

The dealers just stared at each other

dumbfounded. Finally, one of them asked, "What did she roll?"

The other answered, "I don't know, I thought YOU were watching!"

Which goes to show that not all blondes are dumb, but all men are men!

Redlands:

A "mature guy" was somewhat lonely and decided he needed a pet to keep him company. So off to the pet shop he went. He searched and searched. Nothing seemed to catch his interest, except this ugly female frog. As he walked by the jar she was in, he looked, and the frog winked at him.

She whispered, "I'm lonely too, buy me and you won't be sorry."

The old guy figured, "what the heck", he hadn't found anything else.

He bought the lady frog and put her in the car.

Driving down the road the frog whispered to him "Kiss me and you won't be sorry."

So he figured, "what the heck", and kissed the frog.

Immediately the frog turned into an absolutely gorgeous sexy young princess, dressed in a transparent gown.

The princess then kissed the old guy back... and guess what he turned into? Come on, guess?

The first motel he came across! He was old, but not dead!

Wyang:

Maggie was rather scared at having to

withdraw cash from the ATM after dark, so she told eight-year-old son Willie to stay in the car and blow the horn if he saw anyone watching her.

When she returned with the money, Willie assured her, "Nobody saw you Mum, so why don't you go back and help yourself to some more?"

Women think they already know everything, but wait... training courses are now available for women in the following subjects:

- Silence, the Final Frontier – Where No Woman Has Gone.
- The Undiscovered Side of Banking – Making Deposits.
- Bathroom Etiquette 1 – Men Need Space in the Bathroom Cabinet Too.
- Bathroom Etiquette 2 – His Razor is His.
- Communication Skills 1 – Tears, The Last Resort, Not the First.
- Communication Skills 2 – Thinking Before Speaking.
- Communication Skills 3 – Getting What You Want Without Nagging.
- Safe Driving – A Skill you CAN Acquire.
- Introduction to Parking (hahahahaha).
- Advanced Parking – Backing Into a Space.
- Telephone Skills – How to Hang Up.
- Cooking 1 – Bringing Back Bacon, Eggs and Butter.
- Cooking 2 – Bran and Tofu are Not for Human Consumption.

A TRADITIONAL CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You sell one and buy a bull. Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows. You sell them and retire on the income.

AN AMERICAN CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You sell three of them to your publicly listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Sell one cow to buy a new president of the United States, leaving you with nine cows. No balance sheet provided with the release. The public buys your bull.

AN AUSTRALIAN CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows. You are surprised when the cow drops dead.

A FRENCH CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You go on strike because you want three cows.

A JAPANESE CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You redesign them so they are one-tenth the size of an ordinary cow and produce twenty times the milk. You then create clever cow cartoon images called Cowikimon and market them worldwide.

A GERMAN CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You re-engineer them so they live for 100 years, eat once a month, and milk themselves.

AN ITALIAN CORPORATION

You have two cows, but you don't know where they are... You break for lunch.

A RUSSIAN CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You count them and learn you have five cows.

You count them again and learn you have 42 cows.

You count them again and learn you have 12 cows.

You stop counting cows and open another bottle of vodka.

A SWISS CORPORATION

You have 5000 cows, none of which belong to you. You charge others for storing them.

A CHINESE CORPORATION

You have two cows.

You have 300 people milking them.

You claim full employment, high bovine productivity, and arrest the newsman who reported the numbers.

A BRITISH CORPORATION

You have two cows... both are mad.

A NEW ZEALAND CORPORATION

You have two cows... and the one on the left is kinda cute...

SUBJECT: WISDOM

An old farmer in Mississippi had owned a large farm for several years. He had a large pond in the back, fixed up nicely with picnic tables, horseshoe courts, and some apple and peach trees. The pond was properly shaped and fixed up for swimming when it was built.

One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five gallon bucket to bring back some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee.

As he came closer he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end of the pond. One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man frowned and grumbled, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked."

Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm here to feed the alligator."

Moral: Old age and experience will triumph over youth and enthusiasm every time.

A Few web sites to visit:

<http://www.apex40.org>

(Our official Apex 40 web site. Check it out and send in your own photographs and contributions)

<http://home.pacific.net.au/~apadg>

<http://www.caravanning-oz.com>

<http://www.mgtravel.com.au/>

<http://www.ontheroad.net.au>

<http://www.caravantrader.com.au>

<http://www.apex.org.au>

<http://www.nsherman.info>

<http://www.tlcforkids.org.au>

<http://www.seniorsite.com/>

<http://www.greypath.com/Portal/main/index.asp>

<http://www.aboutseniors.com.au>

<http://www.naa.gov.au/>

<http://www.benaway.com.au>

<http://www.bonzer.org.au>

<http://www.CyndisList.com>

<http://www.ancestry.com>

<http://www.familysearch.org>

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~arpao50>

We are always looking to receive photos of club functions, which we feel add considerably to the look and content of Roaring 40s. In these days of digital cameras, it should be quite easy for you to send us copies by email of some of those many photos taken at your club functions. So PLEASE send a few photos after any special function so that we can see what you have been up to.

Editor's email address appears on the back page.

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,
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Blackburn, Vic. 3130
(03) 9898 5124

e-mail: alkinder@optusnet.com.au

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS
28 February, 2006

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34 Fernhill Street,
Glen Waverley, Vic. 3150
Phone (03) 9802 7655

STICK PINS – Cost: \$3.50
APEX 40 BANNERS – (P.O.A.)

Available from –

Brian Roach
15 Wilpena Place
Vermont South, 3133
Phone: (03) 9802 1063

CAR STICKERS – Cost: \$1.00

Available from –

Glenn Rossiter (Betty)
10 Teewah Street
Caloundra, Qld, 4551
Phone (07) 54913823

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