

ROARING 40's



Official publication for Apex 40 Clubs. Apex 40 is the recognised body of affiliated past Apexians groups.

www.apex40.org

November 2011



2012 Bush & Beach

**RORT - QLD
25th-28th May**

- ◆ **Alan Bach's Presidents Report**
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- ◆ **Qld Apex Convention**
- ◆ **2012 Bush & Beach Rort—Fraser Coast**
- ◆ **Postie Bike Challenge**

The Editors Word!

As Apexian's we supported our community by initiating service projects. As a club we worked together to gain the necessary funds required for those service projects and as members we enjoyed the times when we could have a drink, discussion and some light hearted entertainment. Some members extended the fellowship by visiting neighbouring clubs and/or forming a relationship with a sister club many miles away. Over the years, many friendships have formed which have endured the span of time and then there are acquaintances, people who you may only know by their first name or just their smile, or even by a particular hat they wear, people you might have seen only once every couple of years. In May next year you have a chance to renew those acquaintances and friendships by travelling to Hervey Bay in Queensland.

The function I am referring to is called a "Rort". To a person who has never been to a "Rort" it sounds like something you wouldn't want to be part of, as the term "Rort" is often used in sentences which suggests somebody is ripping somebody else off.

Apex40 Rorts are far from this,. Firstly, they offer great value by providing most meals, generally breakfast is not included except for the last day. Secondly, the host club will ensure that throughout the course of the weekend, (Friday to Monday) you will eat plenty, be entertained day and night and transported to and from each event. The only thing you need to do is to arrange and pay separately for your accommodation expenses. What could be easier?

I know Brian and Pam Fulmer or Ivan and Heather Voss would be happy to hear from you if you would like to know more. See page 12 for their phone numbers.

Hope to see you there—Ken & Janice Wright



ROARING 40's

Forming enduring friendships is what we learned as Apexians and partners. Many of us have done exactly that and have continued the tradition into our Apex 40 years. As members, we all like to hear how everybody is getting on and what the other clubs are up to. The Roaring 40's will help spread that word in conjunction with the Apex 40 website. So please email or send your newsletters / Dinner Notices to me (Ken Wright) so I can include a report about your club in the next issue. And if you can email to me, why not drop a copy to our website editor Liz Haddon. All details are on the back cover. Who knows you may even win an award. Incidentally you can download a full colour copy of the Roaring 40's from the Apex 40 website or if you wish, I will email you a copy—just let me know where to send it. kawright@optusnet.com.au.



National President's Report

Alan Bach

When I prepared my first report for the Roaring 40 Magazine soon after the Nelson Rort I felt I knew everything about Apex 40. Retiring Secretary/Treasurer, Wendy Smith, was ever so helpful with our transition into the pilot's seat and gave us plenty of history and procedure to follow. While wading through the maze with our new Secretary/Treasurer Col, some important issues came about. Col tried to find, how we fitted into the Apex Australia Organisation, how we were insured, what sort of policy was it and how were the bills paid?? I thought I knew, as Bob McKernon had done quite a bit of work on this in 2006, and I retrieved a number of records that I had kept on my files from that time.

Col made several enquiries with Apex, and sent on all of our exhibits. Initially all parties thought that we were covered under the Apex policy and that somehow they had missed to bill us for the same. A proposed amount that we could be required to pay to continue to be insured under their policy was submitted to us. The copy, of their policy that was sent to us for perusal, was fine for Apex, but did not suit our Apex 40 membership (clauses regarding Age Limitations etc.). Finally we were devastated to find that we could not be included in the Apex Insurance Policy and no insurance company would offer Apex 40 a policy unless we incorporated our organisation.

The remainder of the current National Board was advised of our findings and research was done on the need to incorporate or not. Two 'Plans of Attack' (Preferred – being incorporated into Apex Australia) and (Optional – going it alone as an Incorporated Association) were devised to research further and solve the problem. Efforts were made to find out how Apex 40 was originally set up, how it was brought under the Apex Banner and if anything had been done to keep up with changing laws and practices.

Many emails have been sent, hundreds of documents have been perused, many questions asked, legal and insurance experts have been consulted and other associations have been sought for advice.

At this stage the 'Optional Plan' is being pursued with vigour as the 'Preferred Plan', seems to have encountered too many hurdles to jump, and appears to have stalled. There is probably another week's work in finalising the optional plan – Col has spent countless hours of research over the last couple of months and we owe him a debt of gratitude. I get the impression our wives are beginning to worry about us, we'll have to stop meeting like this. Sandy has also been very prompt with her replies and suggestions which has enabled us to get on with the task at hand and I thank her for that.

On a brighter note Mary and I are planning some visits over the coming months and if we don't see you then we will look forward to seeing you at the Rort – We have been booked in since Nelson and will be on the Post Rort Tour as well.

Brian Fulmer and his Fraser Coast Rort Team have continued to be busy promoting the Rort and Post Rort Tour. The Rort has already had a record number of registrations and a large number of New Zealander's will be attending as they will be holding their 2012 Convention in conjunction with the Fraser Coast Rort at Hervey Bay. The Kiwi's are having a lot of problem with the pronunciation of Hervey Bay. They say that it should be pronounced Her Vee like it is spelt and not Haa Vee like we say it – Isn't that the Pot calling the Kettle black? I have got no idea how they get their tongue around their names.

If you are thinking of making the trip to Hervey Bay, please let the Rort Team know of your intentions well in advance to firstly make their job as easy as we can for them and also to avoid possible disappointment.

Mary and I enjoyed the informal luncheon at the Brunswick Heads Hotel on July 31st. It was a good chance for the locals to meet up with the Victorian visitors on their annual migratory trip north. Many thanks go to Rob and Helen Noble for organising the function and Alan Kinder for getting the troops together again.

The 'Survivor Camp' at the Gympie Muster had a good representation of Apex and Apex 40 members. The Muster is now run by professionals as the amateurs who have run it, mind you very

professionally, since its inception have hung up their organisational boots.

Apex is dealing with a motion to scrap their State Boards at their next National Convention. The respective States are electing their State Boards prior to the National Convention but may find that they are out of a job in a short time. I have my views on the idea, without knowing all of the facts, as I guess all of you will have. It was not all that long ago that the Zones disappeared into States.

The Toowoomba Clubs are hosting the Queensland State Convention during the 2012 May Long Weekend and have advised Apex 40 that they are planning a very 'Big Event' in case it is their last. I will forward details as they come to hand. I have not been advised by any other States as yet but hope to be in the near future.

Have a Merry Christmas and Good Luck for the New Year,

Alan Bach.





Secretary—Treasurer's Report **Col Ramsay - Wynnum-Manly Qld**

Dear Members,

Just as I thought I was getting organized with the APEX 40 secretary/treasurer position, and things have started to fall into place, I now find we now have a new hurdle to jump.

My special thanks go to Wendy Smith for the great support in getting me pointed in the right direction, for without her help the position would have been an arduous one. Thank you again Wendy.

Several weeks ago I requested information from Clubs re members and I must admit that I have been a little disappointed with the responses to date. Only nine (9) clubs have forwarded information to date. As a number of clubs have already had their AGM and election of officers I would appreciate your updates ASAP. To the others who have not as yet had their AGM, please don't forget to let me know the changes and your member details as soon as possible.

As you will have read in President Alan's report, we will most probably move into an Incorporated Body with our own identity early in 2012. The process of incorporation will also lead to us having our own insurance policy. It would appear that Apex 40 may not have had insurance cover for some years. To enable this to proceed, we are required to keep a register of member details and I would request that secretaries please get all that information to me promptly.

To Alan , Sandy, Bob and all those other members who have helped with our research re insurance and incorporation, I say a special thank you and please keep it up, as it does wonders in getting the old mind around things when such helpful people work as a team.

Again I remind all secretaries that I have a spreadsheet that has

places for all the details and I will be sending the spreadsheet for secretaries to complete and return in mid December.

Enough from the secretary, it is time to change to the hat of treasurer. A reminder to all treasurers that it is time for the annual subscriptions to be paid. When you are organized, please forward a cheque to the address at the bottom of the page or do a direct deposit into Apex 40 bank account.

Bank details:

Account name:	APEX 40 National Account
BSB:	037-604
Account number:	23-6398
Reference:	Your Branch Name

If you are not receiving the "Roaring Forties" please email me and I will email or post a copy.

I look forward to catching up at the Fraser Coast RORT in 2012.

To all I wish a safe and healthy Christmas and a great New Year in 2012,

Regards

Col Ramsay

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MANLY QLD 4179

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International Relations & Apex Liaison Report **Sandy Harmer - Wyong**

Congratulations to the Apex Club of Blacktown (Sydney) who recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary. This is a fantastic achievement for an Apex club these days and they should be immensely proud of themselves.

Darrol and I attended the celebration at Blacktown Workers Club, along with 175 other people, who included an elite roll call of Blacktown City movers and shakers, and past and current Apexians from Australia and Malaysia. Jamie Vincent, club president, was a very proud man!!

We learnt that in the sixties, Blacktown and Parramatta Apex Clubs ran a “Bring Out a Briton” campaign. They advertised locally for families to host “a single male or female British migrant or a British childless married couple”. Then club members periodically checked up on them to see that they were settling happily into their new country.

Blaze Aid is a volunteer organisation born out of the Black Saturday bush fires in Victoria. Volunteers help rebuild farmers fences that have been destroyed by natural disasters in Australia. Darrol and I recently worked with them near Kingaroy, Qld, and it was a wonderful experience and reminded us of our service days with Apex. When the next natural disaster occurs, please check out their website www.blazeaid.com and maybe you can help out. You can stay at their base camp in your van, tent, etc. and all meals are usually provided.

It's nearly that time of year so Darrol and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas with lots of joy and happiness and a fantastic 2012!

Sandy Harmer

POSTIE BIKE CHALLENGE



The Apex Clubs of South Australia held their fourth annual Apex Outback Postie Bike Ride, where 100 keen riders travelled 974 km over 4 days on their Postie Bikes through the picturesque Flinders Ranges & Outback South Australia covering some of the toughest & most challenging off road terrain South Australia had to offer. This year, for the first time, the National President of Apex Australia, Chris Morahan from Brisbane City joined them

Chris said before the ride “If you are not sure what the ride is, it is a charity event similar to the Variety Bash, however it is all on one of the little red motorbikes that you see the mailmen riding! The most important part of the ride is of course the charity component, where riders are raising funds for the Apex Copper Coast Family Retreat being established by seven Apex Clubs in the area in support of Cancer Council of SA. The three bedroom retreats located at North Beach Wallaroo will provide free accommodation for a week to families who are experiencing cancer.

This year the event raised in excess of \$107,00 with money still coming in!



Chris Morahan with wife Ruth (left) and daughter Daniëlle



FRASER COAST BUSH 'N BEACH RORT UPDATE

If sipping on a “coldie” on a sun drenched sub-tropical island beach at a renowned eco-friendly resort, enjoying lunch with your friends, appeals to you – then make sure you get your registration in for next year’s Fraser Coast Bush ‘n Beach Rort.

Just one of the many highlights of the 2012 Rort will be our AGM & luncheon in the “Sand Bar” at Kingfisher Bay Resort on Fraser Island, which is located along the southern coast of Queensland, approximately 300 kilometres north of Brisbane. Its length is about 120 kilometres and was listed as a World Heritage site in 1992. The island is considered to be the largest sand island in the world at 1840 km² and covered in lush sub-tropical vegetation.

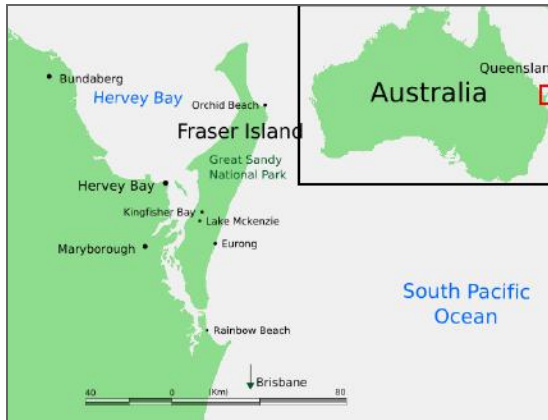


According to Aboriginal legend, when humans were created and needed a place to live, the mighty god Beiral sent his messenger Yendingie with the goddess K'gari down from heaven to create the land and mountains, rivers and sea. K'gari fell in love with the earth's beauty and did not want to leave it. So Yendingie changed her into a heavenly island – Fraser Island.

So if you have not yet had the opportunity to visit this wonder of nature on our doorstep, this is your chance to have a brief taste of this little piece of paradise. Fraser Island is where the Great Barrier Reef starts.



One of Hervey Bay’s most popular whale watching vessels, the Spirit of Hervey Bay, will transport us across the calm waters of the Great Sandy Straits to Kingfisher Bay where we will disembark for a short stroll to the “Sand Bar” to enjoy a traditional beach luncheon and AGM. We will have 3½ hours on the island, so there should be sufficient time to take a walk along the beach to enjoy the scenery before returning to the mainland to prepare for the night’s festivities.





On Saturday night you'll be transported to the Maryborough Sports Club for a genuine Aussie Bush Dance with entertainment provided by the Harpers Creek Bush Band. This is purely a fun night full of fellowship, fun, entertainment & no formalities – so bring your RM's & Akubra's.

Don't forget that the first 100 online registrants will go into a draw on Sunday night to win the refund of \$320.00. To be eligible the online registration & deposit must in by 30th November & the balance paid by 31st March 2012. So get those registrations in.

For information you can go to the link at

www.apex40.org/2012rort

Or

Telephone Brian & Pam Fulmer on (07) 4123 5308 or
Ivan & Heather Voss on (07) 4128 6609

Email bpfulmer@bigpond.net.au or ihvoss@bigpond.com



2012 Queensland APEX State Convention

On the May Day long weekend in 2012, the United Apex Clubs of Toowoomba will be hosting what could possibly be the last ever Queensland State Convention.

Most of you may have heard of the restructure proposal that will see the removal of State bodies in favour of a National board. The primary aim of this is to reduce the fee cost burden on clubs. This restructure will be put to the National AGM next July, and if successfully passed has immediate effect.

So what does this mean to us? In all likelihood this will be our last State Convention, and we intend to go out with a bang!!

To that end, we are inviting not only current Apexians, but also those who have been a part of this wonderful organisation over the years. We are also planning a "Past Qld State Presidents" get together that weekend.

I look forward to hearing from you, and more importantly, will look forward to meeting you all in Toowoomba in May 2012 (4th to 7th).

Yours in Apex

Julian Lancaster-Smith
District Governor – Burnett Darling Downs 2011-2012
2012 State Convention Committee member

Mobile: 0407 134 683
Email: dg@toowoombaapex.org.au
2012 State Convention Emails: apexqld2012@westnet.com.au

More NZ Rort Photos



Ivan, Mary and
Heather

NP & 41 Club
Noumea



Past and
Present
Wizzy
winners



Paul Fletcher
sings to the
bagpipes



Sandra & John



Sunday Night

ALSTONVILLE APEX 40- *Approx 740km North of Sydney*

BYRON BAY OASIS *—Approx 760km North of Sydney*

CREST CLUB OF THE BLUE MTNS/APEX 40— *100km west of Sydney*

The club will be conducting a shopping trip on December 4th visiting various bargain basement places around Sydney. Should be a great day.

FORBES *—Approx 380 km West of Sydney*

GREAT 8 HUNTER VALLEY— *Approx 170km North of Sydney*

In July celebrated their 20th birthday with a Christmas in July function. The night was a huge success with a PowerPoint presentation of photos from the past 20 years.

The New board consists of Robyn Thorley as President, Marie Kingham as Secretary, Janet Oskam as Assist Secretary, Leon Squires as Dinner Notice with Jo-Anne Gilmour assisting and Dianne Ross as Historian.

In August the club will had a Games and Casserole night, September was a breakfast at Saroffs, October lunch at the Minmi Pub. In November they are planning a “come as you are caught” dinner. Mmmm

INVERELL *—Approx 560 km North West of Sydney*

LAVINGTON *—Approx 560 km South of Sydney*

LEETON *—Approx 590 km South West of Sydney*

LISMORE *—Approx 740 km North of Sydney*

MANLY *—Approx 15km North East of Sydney*

MOREE *—Approx 640km North west of Sydney*

MULLUMBIMBY/BRUNSWICK HEADS *—Approx 790 km North of Sydney*

NEPEAN VALLEY— *Approx 60km west of Sydney*

(My Club) - recently travelled to the Mt. Tomah gardens to celebrate Spring . After walking on a guided tour of the gardens, the club had a picnic lunch followed by Coffee at nearby Bowen Mountains. In October the club enjoyed a dinner at the St, Marys Leagues Club.

On November 27th, the club will hold its last function for the year and will celebrate Christmas and an AGM at the home of Mike and Rhonda Hast-

edt. We will also play our Christmas game whereby all the presents are put into the middle of a circle and one by one each person selects a gift, which can be stolen if the person (whose turn it is) decides that they like the present you unwrapped better. You of course can steal somebody else's present or select another one from the centre. Sounds complicated but always gets a good laugh going.

WYONG — Approx 100km north of Sydney

The Ladies at Wyong have decided to have their own Ladies Lunch which begins on August 1st. Now as the editor of the Roaring 40's I am not sure if the date they decided on was a coincidence or not as this date is generally known as the horses birthday anyway Sandy was organising feed and water.

Also in August, Wyong had their usual meeting changed to a lunch time meeting with a BYO everything at Berkeley Vale—23 members attended. A special part of the lunch was celebrating Neville Bowman's 80th Birthday.

Neville Bowman celebrating
80 years



In September it was back to the Mini Spring Rolls and Special sauce at the Golden Lake Chinese Restaurant.

October was Wyong's annual week away. This time 23 members went to Nelson Bay to enjoy the view, relaxing times and an AGM!

24th November will be Wyong's last meeting for the year and will be a chance to exchange stories from the weekend away and to celebrate some fine Christmas fare at the Red Centre Steakhouse.

ALBANY CREEK—*Approx 20km North of Brisbane*

CALOUNDRRA—*Approx 103km North of Brisbane*

Ian and Lesley Gniel created superb pastas and sweets for Caloundra's September Soup/Pasta/games meeting.

In October they had their “Apex Generation Fun Day” at Wurtulla. Events such as the Three legged race was highly contested—not sure if Hilton Maxwell and Aidan Smyth are still on top of the Leader Board though.

As this Roaring 40;s goes to print, Caloundra will be off to the Beachfront Caravan Park , just across from Tewantin. I am sure they will have a great time.

CURTIS COAST—*Approx 530km North of Brisbane*

GOLD COAST —*Approx 75km South of Brisbane*

GYMPIE —*Approx 180km North of Brisbane*

HERVEY BAY—*Approx 290km North of Brisbane*

MARYBOROUGH —*Approx 260km North of Brisbane*

REDLANDS — *Approx 40km south of Brisbane*

In August Redlands made their annual trip out of town to Rainbow Beach and Frazer Island. It appears everyone had a great time.



Members of Redlands
enjoying a weekend
away



The October meeting was a stylish event all in all, Redlands came up with the novel idea starting at 9am on a Sunday morning with a Champagne Breakfast and after a few drinks etc had their AGM followed by a fines session. Redland's will celebrate Christmas on 25th November at the Grandview Hotel. Of course it will be a traditional hot Christmas Menu.

SUNSHINE COAST —*Approx 100km North of Brisbane*

WYNNUM—MANLY *Approx 20km east of Brisbane*

XEPA GREAT SOUTH EAST *Approx 50km south east of Brisbane*

On the 1st of August 4 of Xepa members made the trip to Amamoor State Forest in the early hours of the morning to peg out the usual site on Poulsen's Hill in preparation for the Gympie Muster. They returned on the Saturday, 20th of August for a few days of fellowship before the Muster got underway on Tuesday 23rd of August.. Despite a few days of rain 7 Xepa members are already preparing for next year's Muster.

A relaxing luncheon at the Redland Bay Hotel was the venue for the September meeting, whilst the next meeting will be the AGM to be held on the 4th December.

BENDIGO *Approx 153km North West of Melbourne*

Something different, Bendigo club members boarded at train to Woodend for a lunch meeting in September. After touring around the town and the local markets they enjoyed lunch at the Woodend Hotel . The lunch was part of a combined dinner with Melbourne Gippsland, Geelong, Norwesters and Bendigo with 55 people attending.

The October meeting was at the home of Andrew and Heather Hampton at Sutton Grange with a BBQ lunch.

DANDENONG VALLEY—Approx 35km South of Melbourne

GEELONG APEX 40 — Approx 73km South West of Melbourne

At the September meeting Club Member Rob Learey, tried to sell his fellow members the concept of Smart Electric meters which are being installed throughout Melbourne. The October guest speaker, David Smith was from the Geelong Bottle and Collectors Club and the November guest speaker is Elaine James, who is the current world veteran champion female weight-lifter.

MELBOURNE/GIPPSLAND approx. 40km east of Melbourne

The August meeting was at the Lakeside Café in Ringwood. Alan Kinder also remarks—On Sunday 31st August we had a gathering of Apex 40 members for lunch at the Brunswick Heads Hotel. Brunswick Heads is about half way between the Gold Coast and Alstonville and Rob and Helen Noble and David and Kay Huett came up from there. National President Alan Bach and Mary came from Brisbane with another couple, Brian and Jenny Ziegenfusz . Ron and Meryl Clarke from Bendigo, who we have caught up with at the Gold Coast a few times, also came along and Peter and Roz Chessell from Grafton also joined us. Barry and Colleen Lancaster, Alstonville members who now live at the Gold Coast made the total number at the lunch up to 18 – a mini-Rort!!

We have also caught up with Mike and Sandra Dawson (Moree) and we expect Rob ‘Wombat’ Walter (Heywood) and Peter Miller (Portland) will be there this week. So we are enjoying plenty of Apex 40 fellowship, which is what it is all about.



Photo of the four Presidents at the recent lunch in Woodend

From left: Geoff Thompson, Geelong; Alan Kinder, Melbourne-Gippsland; Maree Jaensch, Melbourne-Norwesters; Kevin Harvey, Bendigo

As mentioned in the Bendigo report - The combined lunch at Woodend in September was very successful with a total of 56 Apex 40 members getting together. There were 11 Bendigo members, 13 from Geelong, 19 from Melbourne-Norwesters and 13 of Melbourne/Gippslanders. The Bendigo members and we from Melbourne-Gippsland travelled to Woodend in different directions by train and the Geelong people came in a mini-bus.

During October the club returned to the Clayton Bowls Club and in November there was a visit to the Botanical Gardens

MELBOURNE NORWESTERS—Approx 22km North West of Melbourne

PORTLAND—Approx 363km South West of Melbourne

SUNRAYSIA Approx 546km North of Melbourne

Sunraysia enjoyed lunch in October at the Varapodio Estate Buronga. Lots of wine and great food were on the menu.

ADELAIDE HILLS—Approx 35km South West of Adelaide

PERTH—Capital of Western Australia

DEVONPORT Approx 255km North (West) of Hobart

The October meeting at Hawley Beach was billed as “Casserole and drinks” - “AGM and Crazy Whist” and it was hosted by the Bakers—not much more to add except the RSVP;s went to “Richpamela” at her Bigpond location

Christmas Lunch (4th December) will be at Hawley House< Devonport will be enjoying a 2 course meal on the day

LAUNCESTON Approx 200km North of Hobart

KELAB APEX 40 *Kuala Lumpur - 3654km North West of Darwin*

Suresh writes—”Our outing to Banting on Sunday 21 August 2011 turned out to be a very enjoyable affair. A total of 17 in 4 cars left PJ Club at around 10.30 a.m. and after some wrong turns, we managed to reach our destination at about 11.30 a.m. As tables and chairs were already laid out for us, it was „go” from then onwards. While some of the ladies opted for soft drinks, the others started off with fresh cool toddy. For starters we had spicy crabs and dory fish which were prepared and graciously donated by Mano on the occasion of his birthday which fell on Friday 19 August. After digging into these 2 dishes with our fingers, then came the other delicacies – mutton, wild boar, chicken, fish and iguana (Geraldine swears it is monitor lizard), all served hot and spicy. Watching their weight none ordered rice but instead had steamed bread. Of course with the steady flow of toddy, inhibitions were cast aside and the conversation turned a bit raunchy and some took to singing led by our music maestro Naiker. The fun went on till 3.00 p.m. but a few headed by PK wanted the cut-off time to be extended to 3.30 p.m. After some persuasion we disbanded at 3 p.m.and found our way back home. “





“Granted with the poor ambience and an occasional swatting of flies, this certainly was not a “fine dining experience” but it was nevertheless a welcome change.”



BLACKTOWN APEX CLUB

will host a

APEX ZONE 9 REUNION

In Nov 2012

**Contact Keith Miller
02 4647 3203
For more information**

*Zone 9 extended from Maroubra
(Sydney) to Bourke in the West.*

**NEXT ISSUE
CLOSING March**

Keep sending in your pictures, club notices and general stories of interest so they can be shared with the rest of the Apex 40 community through our *Roaring 40's publication*.

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Name Badges - Cost \$7.00

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Tel: 03 9802 7655

Car Stickers - \$1.00

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



Stick Pins - Cost \$6.00

Apex 40 Banners—POA
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Tel: 02 4385 7375

Always ring first to check on availability and postage costs