



APEX AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2022-23





CONTENTS

National President Report	3
National Secretary & National Vice President Report	6
National Treasurer Report.....	7
Regional Communicator Co-ordinator Report.....	9
National Communications Report	11
Awards and Innovation Report.....	12
National Office Report.....	13
Bursary Report.....	19
Regional Communicator Reports.....	20
1. <i>Region 1</i>	20
2. <i>Region 2</i>	23
3. <i>Region 3</i>	29
4. <i>Region 4</i>	37
5. <i>Region 5</i>	41
6. <i>Region 6</i>	44
7. <i>Region 7</i>	48
8. <i>Region 9</i>	51
9. <i>Region 10</i>	53
10. <i>Region 11</i>	54
11. <i>Region 12</i>	55
12. <i>Region 13</i>	57
13. <i>Region 14</i>	61

2022/2023 National Board

NATIONAL PRESIDENT	Simon Grant	VIC
NATIONAL SECRETARY	Emma Jackson	WA
NATIONAL TREASURER	Ben Curnow	VIC
NATIONAL RC CO-ORDINATOR	Tara Spotswood	QLD
NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP, CULTURE & AWARDS	Tyson Campbell	QLD
NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS	Daniel Lascelles	SA
NATIONAL OFFICE MANAGER	Gavin Mingay	QLD
RCC SUPPORT & TRAINING MANAGER	Luke Corkett	NSW
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	Craig Martin	QLD
BURSARY MANAGER	Greg Youngberry	QLD

Founders

We pay tribute to the Founders of Apex and whilst they have passed from us, their ideals will never be forgotten:



Sir John Buchan



Ewan Laird



Langham Proud

National President Report

Dear Apexians,

I write to you today with a mixture of emotions as I reflect on my term as the National President 2022/2023. It has been a remarkable journey, one filled with challenges, achievements, and unforgettable experiences. As I step down from this role, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and reflect on the incredible impact we have made together.

First and foremost, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every member of the Association. Your dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to the Apex Ideals has been the driving force behind our successes. Together, we have achieved significant milestones, improved communities, and empowered countless individuals to reach their full potential. It has been an honour to lead such a remarkable group of individuals.



During my tenure, we witnessed the power of collaboration and unity within the Apex community. Our clubs, from the smallest rural towns to the large regional centres and the city, came together to create positive change. We initiated and executed numerous projects that made a difference in the lives of those we served. From supporting local communities battling floods to organising youth development opportunities, we have proven time and again that when Apex clubs work together, we can achieve remarkable results.

There have been many highlights for me throughout the journey such as attending my first Apex Gympie Music Muster, The National Convention in Bundaberg, taking a tour of the Apex inspired Childrens Cancer Institute at Randwick, attending International Conventions in Malaysia and the Philippines, rebuilding the relationship with the Apex Foundation and establishing a joint committee to work on the financial security of the Association going forward.

Our Overseas Work Party (OWP23) in Philippines was a huge success ticking off all 4 Ideals in one big event. Apexians from across Australia raised \$32,000 to purchase land, building materials and labour in order to construct a pre-school centre in the Artisan province of San Pablo, Philippines. 15 Australians attended the work party and to say that it was a life changing experience is an understatement. We spent 5 days assisting with the final fit out, painting, rendering, installation etc and also met the children and their teacher. The Local Government were so impressed that they made two official resolutions. The first was a resolution of thanks to Apex Australia and the members of the work party. The second was a resolution that 12 to 18 May each year going forward will be known as Apex Australia and Apex San Pablo friendship week. These were presented to me at the official handover ceremony of the centre. The new pre-school centre means that more children can have access to education in a clean, purpose-built facility that is now the pride of the local area.



I feel that it is important to acknowledge the outstanding work of the following Apexians. LM Craig Martin for his coordination of the project from our end and looking after the Australian delegation. Thanks to Greg Youngberry for his assistance and support of the Australian contingent while we were over there. Congratulations to LM PNP Mick Godfrey on the realisation of the OWP which commenced in his term in 2019. A big congratulations and well done to my fellow participants – everyone chipped in, got involved, embraced the fellowship and made many memories and friendships and most importantly we made a difference.

One of the greatest things about being involved in Apex is that together we can and do make a real difference in people's lives and communities. Experiencing this at club level is addictive but to see what Apex Australia and the Apex Foundation can do together is next level amazing. I'm really proud to have played a part, along with my great friend Tony Wilshire, to bring the two closer together. I am especially proud of all the Apexians who gave up their own time in January to travel to the Apex Chalet for the annual work party. Apexians came from Queensland, NSW and Victoria to contribute to the Magic Castle and experience how amazing that place is.

As the NP I have had significant involvement with Apex Global. At the commencement of my term Apex Global were challenged with the issue of Apex Bangladesh being divided, while it gave none at the Global committee any pleasure a decision had to be made to end the division and it was unanimously passed to officially recognise one Apex Bangladesh National Board - NP Shabu (Previously NP Elias). We felt that a decision could not be delayed any further given that a new Global committee would be in effect at the next meeting and unfair to pass the burden to them. The decision was made based on facts of the original split of Bangladesh, recent Association reports, activities, and current projects.

Another achievement I am proud of was to lead a review into the Apex Global MOU. After proper consultation and due diligence, we have now updated the MOU to better reflect the work that Apex Global does in guiding and supporting Apex nations. We've made the MOU simpler to understand as well as provided clarity on the roles and responsibilities of members.

I am so pleased that another initiative was realised this year in the Apex Global tree planting day. This was a simultaneous international service event that Apex Clubs from across the world got involved in and saw us plant hundreds of trees. I understand that this initiative will continue so I look forward to what we can achieve on the world stage with a common goal.

I also want to express my appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the Association's National Board members. Your guidance and leadership have been invaluable in steering our organisation in the right direction. It is through your collective wisdom and strategic thinking that we have been able to adapt and forge ahead in a rapidly changing world. From our work to streamline our National Office to the Insurance review and the Charitable compliance, you have all contributed to modernising Apex and preparing us for great things to come.

Now that I have transitioned from my role as National President, I am confident that the Association of Apex Clubs of Australia is in capable hands. Our new National President, Ben



Curnow, has a vision and commitment that will undoubtedly lead our organisation to even greater heights.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to the incoming leadership team and all members of the Association. I have no doubt that under your stewardship, the Apex spirit will continue to thrive, and our impact on Australian communities will only grow stronger.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your National President. It has been a remarkable journey, and I look forward to continuing my involvement with Apex clubs as the International Relations Officer. Together, we will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Get Amongst It!

Yours in Apex,

Simon Grant
National President 2022-2023
Apex Australia

National Secretary Report



It's been an exciting year for me as National Secretary, 2023 convention host and most importantly as a new mum to my beautiful daughter Malia. I am continually inspired by all the Apexians doing amazing work for their communities across Australia and feel so privileged to be able to work with such a great team on National Board. Thank you, Simon, for your unerring leadership over the past year, and I look forward to continuing on as Secretary with Ben at the helm. Beaufort Apex Club you are lucky to have two such incredible Apexians in your club.

This year my focus was on ensuring our compliance with ACNC regulations governance standards, updating policies and improving our internal processes.

As part of our due diligence, the National Board undertook a self-evaluation to ensure that we were meeting our obligations as a registered charity and detailed an action plan for the continual improvement of our governance.

Although I haven't been able to be as active as my fellow directors in attending Apex events and visiting other clubs. I have greatly enjoyed supporting clubs via phone and email. Part of this has been exploring different ways that we can use the Apex Australia charity status. This year we trialled grant and fundraising auspicing arrangements with clubs which worked well, and we hope to be able to expand on these activities in the future. Having a charity status is a great asset to our organisation and something that the board is looking to capitalise on in the coming year as we look at different options to ensure financial security into the future.

Being a charity also enables us to benefit from Microsoft's nonprofit program and provide clubs with their free Microsoft Office 365 accounts. More and more clubs are taking advantage of this which is fantastic, and if you are still unsure of how to access this please get in touch with your RC, myself or head to the resources page on the Apex website.

I am looking forward to another year on NB and welcoming as many Apexians as possible to my hometown of Geraldton in October.

Yours In Apex

Emma Jackson

National Secretary 2022-2023
Apex Australia

National Treasurer & Vice President Report



The 22/23 Financial Year saw some more challenges and some rewarding experiences for myself and the National Board. Financially, Apex Clubs have varying degrees of success, with some clubs continually investing time and resources into their financial viability. It is important that Apex clubs continue to build their accounts and modernise their thinking around their financial status. We look to the long-term impacts of having strong clubs well into the next 50 years.

The National Budget saw a balance of careful spending along with an approach to invest in its own members development. As the current board sits, we are a young board in terms of experience and it is important we invest resources into not only the current directors, but the up-and-coming RC's, Rising Stars and Club people and encourage

others to take on positions of responsibility. Like all investments, some pay off more than others in terms of the original goal, but ultimately if people develop their skillsets it will lead to an improved association and Australia.

We have put processes in place over the last two years that keep all our governing bodies, such as ACNC and ASIC satisfied, along with our auditors. The challenge for Apex is that costs continually rise and if clubs are closing, the gap between fees and the remaining shortfall grows. We have worked closely with the Apex Foundation around the management of our trusts and ways that we look to improve the financial security of Apex Australia Association accounts.

For me personally, it has been a year of preparation and learning for the National Presidents position. I want to thank the board for their continual faith in me and NVP and Treasurer, and the Apex Foundation Board for investing their time into my development. Along with the board, we have really changed things from a compliance level and it feels like the faith within majority of the membership has been restored.

The national insurance program has been a major focus of mine this year, with Apex taking the program to the market. A valuable exercise in pricing and performance for Apex. We decided to stay with Aon due to their ability to be the most competitive on a range of key indicators. A good working relationship continues with Aon and they continue to support Apex with their range of coverage. In the current post-covid insurance market, providers are becoming increasingly wary of insuring events, and it is so important to get good paperwork in place well before an event.

I have spent a year making fantastic relationships with key people within the Apex community. In July I travelled to the S.H.A.C.K and am in awe of what has been achieved there for Australian citizens. The convention in Bundaberg signalled a reset with the National Boards approach and it was great to meet so many Apexians in Australia. I travelled to India with Craig Martin in what was my first taste in Apex Global and international relations. A wonderful experience to be a part of and I will treasure those memories. The board Face to



Face hosted in Beaufort was a great meeting where Simon Grant and I could share our hometown with the rest of the board. Plus, really invest time into future Apex projects.

Personally, Apex continues to enrich my life and as I look to the challenge of becoming the 23/24 National President, I am continually inspired by the achievements of Apexians all across the country. I was fortunate enough to visit Latrobe and Ulverstone clubs in Tasmania, Roma, Chinchilla, Toowoomba in Queensland and Ballarat-Eureka, Echuca and Hoppers Crossing in Victoria. Plus, I have spoken with many other clubs across the country via phone or email.

What a pleasure it has been to be the National Vice President and Treasurer,

Yours in Apex

Ben Curnow

National Treasurer & Vice President 2022-2023

Apex Australia

Regional Communicator Co-ordinator Report



What a year!! I have been so lucky to be part of the National Board for the 2022 – 2023 year.

Having thoroughly enjoyed being Regional Communicator for Region Two I have felt at ease with the last three years of being on National Board. I had a great crew of 12 Regional Communicators who are the backbone of this great organisation. Having the 12 of you at the core of all communications within the Apex Association has made my, at times challenging, position a lot easier. I would like to thank each and every one of my Regional Communicators – without you all the clubs are in the dark.

To the Regional Communicators that are moving on or out of this role – Thank you for your service and I wish you all the very best for your future endeavours. I trust that the skills and experiences that you have been exposed to and learnt or even taught will serve you well in your next step in Apex, your professions and life.

To the Regional Communicators returning – Thank you for your continuing service, thank you for putting your hand up once again to be the communication between clubs and National Board. Now that I am moving on from this role into National Treasurer and Vice National President, I trust that you will offer any advice or assistance to our new Regional Communicator Coordinator April Lancaster Smith. I have my absolute trust and faith in her abilities to fulfil this role and help the Association grow across all levels, National, Regional and Club. April is very approachable and knowledgeable in a wide range of fields, and I look forward to working with her on National Board and watching her develop in the next twelve months. Remember communication to April from your level is just as important as communication from your clubs, without it, this system simply will not work.

I have been very lucky to travel around a lot this past year – not just in my local area but around this great country of ours. I recently attended the Gympie Muster in August, and it was great to see many old faces and even more exciting to see new ones. Gympie Muster first timers who got to experience Apex on a massive scale, bringing themselves, their partners and even the next generation of Apexians. Life experiences that will be remembered forever.

I have also managed to rack up a few kilometres in the last year with events.

- Condamine Meet – I finally made it to this event, what a great night. Not much sleep was had but a lot of good laughs were had, and memories made.
- Chinchilla Melon Festival – Took a crew from Bundaberg to help make potato linkies and hot chips. My young upcoming Apexians were on soft drink sales. No even is complete without a lucky dip delivery from Bossie.
- Beaufort – face to face board meeting while catching up with fellow Apexians.
- Magic Castle – This is an incredible place that makes dreams come true.
- Brisbane Changeover – I had the pleasure of inducting Gemma Stewart as incoming President.



- Many trips to Rockhampton to support the newly formed Capricorn West Apex Club with their endeavour and re-furbishing the new club house.
- Namour Apex Changeover
- Biggenden Santa fair

Bundaberg was lucky enough to host last year's national convention and I was able to catch up with so many fellow Alexians. Over 90 members, partners and friends all made their way to rum town for the 91st year of Apex. It was great to finally have a national convention again in full swing with all states involved. For those who attended I cannot thank you enough for making it the convention it was! Seeing the weekend come together was a really rewarding feeling for all our club members involved.

Simon your leadership and guidance has been a privilege to be part of. To have an approachable and compassionate leader, we as board members have enjoyed every journey and wish you all the best for your next role.

To my fellow board members, it was a fantastic year to continue with the older faces and to see a couple of new faces join our ranks. We have an exciting time in Apex with experience and youth on our side I am looking forward to the next twelve months to see how much we grow and how much we can achieve.

To Luke – thank you for your assistance during this past year. The new RC manual which will be an asset for years to come and can only strengthen the understanding of this broad role known as the Regional Communicator, the one-on-one training ensuring all questions are answered and any loose ends in the manual were rectified and above all going that extra mile – filling in where there are no current Regional Communicators.

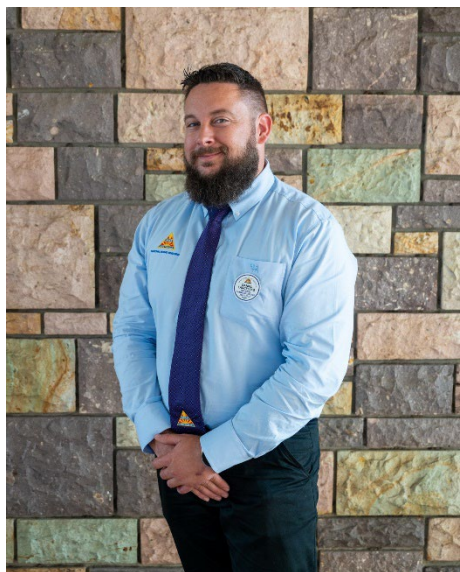
I would also like to thank the members, all Apexians who turn up to the meetings, the service work and the social events that are the reason why we are here and have been able to achieve what we have. Without our members right across Australia, we as association will not function, so a massive congratulations for all your efforts over the past year.

I hope I have left my role as Regional Communicator Coordinator fulfilled and an easy transition for April. I Look forward to seeing you all in Geraldton Western Australia and I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support over the last 3 years during my time in this rewarding position.

Yours in Apex

Tara Spotswood
RC Co-Ordinator 2022-2023
Apex Australia

National Communications Report



My first year on National Board has just flown by, it was a great opportunity to step into the role from Apex Rising Stars. Thank you to comms predecessor Ben Curnow for an easy transition and continuing to mentor me.

Emerging from in a post pandemic period, communications are more important than ever. Engaging with our members and attracting new members has been my focus by growing our online presence. I have seen some steady increases in our Facebook and Instagram follows, this is something I expect to continue growing during my next year on as Communications Director.

Over the past 12 months, I have attended some great Apex events such as the Caltowie Chilled Out and Fired Up Music Festival and the Apex Outback Postie Bike Ride. More recently I have had the honour of joining fellow Apexians on the Overseas Work Party in the Philippines. This work party saw us raise funds to build a school/day care centre in conjunction with the Apex Club of San Pablo. This was a hugely rewarding experience, one I would recommend to anyone considering a work party in future.

This year has also seen the Apexian Magazine production become a responsibility of the Communications Director. I would like to thank and acknowledge Mark O'Donnell on his hard work in volunteering his time to do the Apexian for so many years. I will continue to develop the magazine into some engaging content showcasing the best of Apex!

On the digital side I have been creating some video content and Apex graphics which have been used on my little side project 'The Adventures of Kotts' (AKA 2023-24 President Ben Curnow). I have created this miniseries with the aim to humanise and show the lighter side of Ben in the president's role. So far there are 4 episodes but stay tuned for more.

Yours in Apex

Daniel Lascelles
National Communications Director 2022-2023
Apex Australia

National Membership Culture and Awards Report



The last 12 months have flown by. We are already gearing up to make the annual pilgrimage to National Convention and we all on National Board have "learnt, grown, made friends and had fun while helping others".

Like being a Regional Communicator, your first few months are a little daunting and you are unsure on where your feet fit in the pool, but I used my RC learnings of "this is your portfolio, and you were put here for a reason so make it your own". The best part about Apex is the individuals who make our organisation so unique.

The last 12 months I have been working with clubs who have been struggling with membership, keeping the traditions and the meetings in place whilst growing the club. Encouraging the members not to be daunted by low numbers and choosing fundraising events where they are able to "farm out" the harder aspects of an event but still make it an Apex event. We still have a long road to get our association back up and running to maximum membership but moving forward if all our clubs keep the fun and fellowship in Apex, we will see this number incline steadily over time. Keeping our Apex Brand out there in the community for everyone to see and to build better communities.

I unfortunately have not been able to do as much travel as I would have liked to on National Board but have tripped around my state. Attending the Gympie muster was the high light, seeing what 40 odd years of Apex sticking to one event can achieve and how it has not only got Gympie Apex fully involved but also Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, South Toowoomba, Caboolture with many more Apex members coming out of the woodwork to help put such a great family event on. Apexians from 30 years ago still come along and volunteer their time to help out at this event and continue to give back to the wider community with over 140,000 tickets being sold for 2023. The camp atmosphere with all the 'Apex Kids' making friends and the fellowship around a fire bucket is just one great thing you get out of helping at this event. Not to mention the new Apexians and non Apexians who volunteer their time and enjoy a bit of fellowship.

Attending 'Change Over Dinners' and having the honour of being involved in the formalities is always a pleasure, helping out in regional catch ups and interclub meetings and bringing along new faces from my own community is something that I enjoy and aids me on how to inject this into other regions right across Australia.

I am looking forward to meeting new Apexians in Western Australia and learning how it is done in the west and hope to bring the great ideas that are in Western Australia back to Queensland along with new friends and many memories.

Yours in Apex

Tyson Campbell

National Membership Director 2022-2023
Apex Australia

National Office Report



Well, that year has flown by. We have had another successful year. There has been good membership growth and we are progressing well with revitalising the organisation.

National President Simon Grant has been a very strong President and helped steady the ship and set it sailing on a very good course. It was great to finally have our National Convention in Bundaberg, after a few false starts. Tara Spotswood and her team did a great job. My son Percy

was honoured to be inducted as an Apexian in Waiting and he loves wearing his badge.

We finally were able to complete the overseas work party in San Pablo, which was previously put on hold due to COVID. Fantastic effort from Craig Martin and all the Apexians and families who made the trip and the efforts will make a big difference to many children. Please keep an eye out for more opportunities in the very near future. The International Tree Planting Day was an excellent initiative and will hopefully grow year on year.

Many thanks to our two contractors Yolanda Smart with bookkeeping and accounts and Anna Meredith in admin who have continued to do an amazing job.

Finally, thank you to the board for continuing to build Apex and helping plan a very bright future for Apex. And thanks to the members for all the amazing work we do all over the country and abroad.

Yours in Apex

Gavin Mingay
National Office Manager 2022-2023
Apex Australia

International Relations Report

A great year for International Relations with all Apex Countries completely back up and running following the pandemic. Having been the IR Manager for five years it was a fantastic opportunity for me personally to be back in the role for twelve months and had the opportunity to rekindle old friendships and make plenty of new ones.

Kicking off the New Apex year saw our National President, Simon Grant and our National Bursary Manager Greg Youngberry attend the Malaysian National Convention in August. This was a first for them both and a wonderful experience attending both the National Convention and the first Global Meeting for the year. Simon was also able to stay on for some extra time after the Convention and visited the Dialysis Centre and Special School in Klang. These facilities were originally constructed by work parties involving members from both Apex Australia and Apex Malaysia.



1 NP Simon with PNP LM CS Naidu



2 NP Simon, Global Chair Dennis (Philippines) and NP Kana (Malaysia)



3 NP Simon and Greg in formal NB attire for the Gala Dinner



4 NP Simon with Scholars at the Klang Special School.

In January, NVP Ben Curnow and myself attended the India National Convention in Bilai. Our first point of arrival was into Kolkata. We spent the first few days being immersed in the colours and vibrance of a capital city that is non-stop and full of history and culture.

A short plane ride and a further hour and a half car journey took us to the host city and Apex Club of Bilai. Bilai is a steel town in a rural area and was vastly different to Kolkata. The local Apex Club and Convention chair were all very hospitable in true Apex fashion offering a well-run National Convention with cultural and food experiences that neither of us will ever forget.

We also attended the Global meeting.



The street outside our hotel in the CBD Kolkata



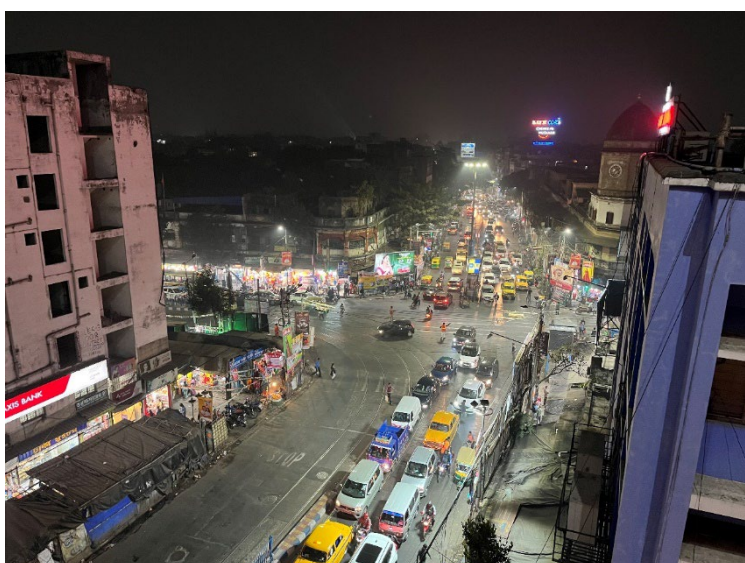
Local Taxi



The Queen Victoria Memorial



The Museum of India 1814.



Kolkata by night.



National Convention Venue, Balai



Ben participating with cultural musicians



LM Craig with delegates from Apex Bangladesh

May was definitely the highlight of this year's IR calendar, especially for me. This year finally saw our Overseas Work Party that we started planning in 2019 when Mick Godfrey was NP, finally come to fruition. A joint project between Apex Australia and Apex San Pablo saw the building and opening of a Day care Centre in the small Barangay of Atison in San Pablo Region, Philippines.

I had the privilege to lead a team of 15, who were all part of the experience of fundraising and working on the finishing touches of the school. All of the participants had the opportunity to be part of making a difference to so many lives in that region and immerse

themselves in the local culture being home hosted and having fellowship with their new Filipino Apex friends.



Visiting the students in the lean to that was their only school.



Official opening ceremony



LM Craig training the teacher and her assistant to use "the Teacher in a box" donated by PNP Kate Huth.



Teacher Annie and Barangay elder with the official plaque.



NP Simon and his family, who all participated in the Overseas Work Party with great enthusiasm.

Following on from the Overseas Work Party the team and some extras from Australia attended the Philippines National Convention. A total of 18 Aussie's, which is the largest group of overseas delegates at any National Convention for quite some time. The Convention was held in a resort, on a lake, next to a volcano in a town called Tanauan. This was a fun time for us all attending social fellowship, relaxing by the pool and the Gala Dinner. NP Simon was our official delegate and also attended the Global meeting.



Gala Dinner Head Table, Guest Speaker Congresswomen and NP's Arwyne from Philippines, Kana from Malaysia and Simon from Australia. Some of the Work Party Team with their new Apex Philippines Family.

So what a year! I thoroughly enjoyed my year that is to be my last on National Board and bringing some of the great Apexian's closer to the fourth Ideal "to promote International Understanding and Friendship.

I challenge and encourage all current Apex members to make it a priority and book a trip to an Overseas Convention. The opportunities to meet fellow Apexians, be shown around by a local and make lifelong friendships is a lifetime experience you will never forget.

Yours in Apex,

Craig Martin, Life Member
National IR Manager 2022-2023
Apex Australia

Bursary Report



Introduction:

What an extraordinary year it has been for our Bursary program! After diligent efforts to revive and optimize it, I'm thrilled to announce that the program is back in full swing and set for an exciting relaunch at our upcoming National Convention.

Progress:

In partnership with our committed colleague in the Philippines, Paul Chiongson, we have made remarkable strides in updating procedures and expanding the program's reach to benefit more students. Our collaboration has already begun to yield fruit, and I extend my deepest gratitude to Paul for his invaluable contributions. We will present a select list of pre-screened scholars at the National Convention, showcasing the potential impact of this

program on young lives.

Administrative Updates:

Though we've experienced some setbacks due to the loss of several trustees, we are diligently working to resolve banking and trust issues in the Philippines. Rest assured, we are nearing a resolution and are optimistically poised for a smooth operation going forward.

Global Outreach:

This year, I had the honour of attending both the Malaysian and Philippine conventions. These experiences have not only broadened my network but have also opened new avenues for expanding the Bursary program not just in the Philippines but also in other nations.

Acknowledgments:

Special recognition goes to Craig Martin, whose relentless dedication has been instrumental in bringing the Bursary program to its current standing. Without his tireless efforts, this initiative would not be where it is today.

Closing Remarks:

As I reflect on the last ideal of Apex, my personal favourite—"To promote international understanding and friendship"—I am reminded of the transformative power of our Bursary program. It serves as a cornerstone for fostering global camaraderie and a better future for deserving students.

Greg Youngberry
Bursary Manager 2022-2023
Apex Australia

Regional Communicator Reports

1. Region 1

REGION	1	Northern Queensland	
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR			John Davis
			Mount Isa Apex Club
<p>2022/2023 has been a relatively good year for region 1.</p> <p>Mount Isa Apex club had another very successful Rock Pop Mime Show, along with other service events to get out into the community. The traditional Gunfire breakfast was well represented by club members and the club served over 200 breakfasts to returned and current serving personnel.</p> <p>My golden club would have to be Herbert River with the 22 senior villas that the club owns and a club that is very active in the Herbert River/Ingham area. They donate a lot of money to their community and they are a really fun club to visit.</p> <p>Townsville club have just this year done their first service event in 2 years at the Townsville show. They have lifted their age limit and have had a lot of experienced club members back into the club. This is great to see that a club that had almost folded has bounced back to life. Well done Townsville Apex club.</p> <p>My congratulations go to Simon and his board for the year that was. Well done to all!</p> <p>On a final note I would like to congratulate Ben and his incoming board and wish them every success for the year to come.</p> <p>John Davis</p>			



Mount Isa	Club #	292	Club Membership	7
<p>It has been a bumper of a year for the members and guests of the Mount Isa APEX.</p> <p>Our members and volunteers had a great night with the Multicultural Festival, with the name APEX on a lot of people's lips. Cancer house which has been a long-standing ongoing project with the association is still looking good with a special thankyou to 1 member in particular who when most thought that it was taken care of by the adjoining club kept going by and making sure that it was well kept.</p> <p>We all had a great time at the BBQ at bunnings and interacted with the townspeople and were there for the night markets. The piece d resistance for Mount Isa though is the Rock Pop Mime Show. The show was a hit like always, every year the volunteers' and members have been working better as team to make it a magical night for the children involved and watching.</p> <p>We have also assisted / been part of other great events like, movie night under the stars, The border ride and Mount Isa show. One of the great events that the association does is the Gunfire breakfast, an event for the diggers and families, we have never had a shortage of volunteers for this solemn occasion, with good food and fellowship. We supported the international men's night, and as a club went to the celebration of 100 Years of Mount Isa. There has been a lot of work inside and outside that a lot of people do not see and for that we give a very big THANKYOU.</p> <p>Phillip Appleford</p>				

Townsville	Club #		Club Membership	20
<p>At Townsville Showground — Roll up! Roll up! Roll up!</p> <p>The Apex lucky tickets stall is back for the 2023 Townsville Show!!! 🌟</p> <p>Please come down and support your local not for profit club.</p> <p>Proceeds from our show stall have helped many organisations over the years including;</p> <p>The Pyjama Foundation - Townsville Christmas Party</p> <p>Lions Clubs in Townsville - World Festival of Magic</p> <p>Immune Deficiency Foundation of Australia (IDFA) - Townsville Circus Quirkus</p> <p>Althea Projects Inc. - Replaced flood damaged furniture</p> <p>The Cure Starts Now Australia - Medical research</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you at our usual location near the Ingham Road gates.</p> <p>It is great to see Townville club doing their first service event since covid and rebuilding the club.</p>				



Herbert River	Club #	Club Membership	9
<p>Apex Club of Herbert River - 2023</p> <p>a. Apex Members met with the local RSL to discuss a possible project to erect an Honour Board for those soldiers from the town of Halifax to be built in the main street of Halifax next to the cenotaph.</p> <p>b. Apex - HR has been supporting a local historian to assist him with the Repairs of old headstones at the Old Ingham Cemetery, for graves that are in a state of disrepair. Apex has donated around \$1000 to fix 3 separate headstones due to their significance to local history.</p> <p>c. Apex Club supported the local members of the Redbacks (NQ) Squash Team to attend the state titles in Brisbane in June 2023.</p> <p>d. The Ingham State High School CGEN performing Arts students also received \$2300 from Apex to attend the Brisbane Performing Arts competition.</p> <p>e. Apex had offered to pay approximately half of the cost (~\$10K) to upgrade approx. 50 m of the gravel footpaths in the Ingham Memorial Gardens to improve amenity and access to the Gardens and ANZAC Day cenotaph for the community to enjoy... Hinchinbrook Council did not support the project or contribute its half in the recently approved 2023/24 F/Y Council budget.</p> <p>f. Members have abandoned the idea of supporting an off-leash dog Park for now in Ingham due to a lack of interest from Council.</p> <p>g. President and Treasure will meet with HCSC to discuss the proposed 2023/24 budget for the Apex Units for this F/Y.</p> <p>Thanks Michael Nash</p>			



2. Region 2


REGION	2	Central Coast Queensland
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Trevor Simpson
		<i>Bundaberg Apex Club</i>
<p>Well, it has been an eventful year in Region 2, with just a little bit of travel around this great region. I have been able to visit most of the club throughout the year. From helping Cap West with their new clubhouse to inducting new members. Biggenden club with bar work at the Teebar camp draft and rode. Bundaberg club has kept me on my toes from Bunnings sausage sizzles to bar work, to a once in a lifetime trip to The Magic Castle – which I will never forget.</p> <p>August brought a massive service event with the Gympie Music Muster. Bundaberg club had 3 contracts with over 60 volunteers needed. With over half the National Board attending this event – including seeing our National President Ben Curnow sleep in a swag for the first time in his life – was something we all not forget in a hurry.</p> <p>Gympie – you guys are amazing with the 1000's of hours you put into the Muster. It is such an eye opener of event. Not only for what the Gympie Club put in but for the many Apex clubs that go to help make this event what it is each year. Thank you to you all. Without your help events like this would not go ahead. I am thankful for the opportunity to have been the RC for Region 2 for the 22/23 year. I am looking for to returning as the RC2 for the upcoming year.</p> <p>YIA Trevor Simpson</p>		



Capricorn West (Rockhampton)	Club #	227	Club Membership	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our whole club attended the Gympie Music Muster this year and helped out the Bundy Crew with the Side Bar and Main Gates, Volcon Gates and Slim Dusty Drive Gates. This was a fantastic bonding experience for us as a whole and helped our new club grow. We do regular raffles at the Rocky Sports club to get our name out there in the community and help with the funds. This is a big commitment for a club of this size – showing up every Friday night to sell tickets. But it is really paying off. Members also use this as their social time together. One of the biggest achievements for this year was seeing all the hard work pay off and the Cap West Apex Club having a place to call their own. A lot of working bees and long countless hours has seen this unused shell turn into a brand-new club house. We are in the process of putting on the final touches and will be throwing the doors open in the coming weeks. 				


- We hosted our first Rum and Rump event in July last year. For the event this went off without too many issues at all. Everyone in attendance had a fantastic evening and asking when the next one will be.



Moura	Club #	647	Club Membership	10
<p>Moura has been doing raffles throughout the year.</p> <p>In March we welcomed two new members.</p> <p>The ran the Moura Apex Colour Run and many other fantastic events.</p>				
				

Murgon	Club #	215	Club Membership	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the past two years Murgon Apex has been a little quiet. We are now back and moving forward. In the last few months, we have gained 6 new members. 4 of these members are 20 years of age and ready to embrace in all Apex holds. 5 of our members made the trip over to Bundaberg for the Lighthouse music festival. This was a two-day event that Bundy Club ran the main bar for over 6000 people. It was an eyeopener for our new and fresh members not only the server side but the interaction with fellow members from 5 other apex clubs from over Qld. Selling Snow cones at the Wondi Footy Club helps get our name out there in the community again. Reading water meters twice a year is still something our club dose yearly. In August we hosted our first ever Casino night at the RSL in town. This was a great night with over 100 tickets sold. We are already plaining for next year's event. 				

Biggenden	Club #	268	Club Membership	5
<p>The Apex Club of Biggenden is currently at 5 members plus a very active life member 2022-2023.</p> <p>The club were involved in The Teebar Charily Camp Draft, Apex international Overseas work party to the Philippines, the Mount Perry races and have the annual Biggenden Christmas Street Fair, along with the standard local raffles at the pub.</p> <p>But the highlight of our year was our 1300th dinner meeting that had been continually set back since early 2020 at this dinner we had the absolute honour of Presenting life membership to 2 of our Members Phil Sharps and Robbie Radel.</p> 				

Gympie	Club #	95	Club Membership	19
<p>This has been a year of growth for the Club. Our Membership has skyrocketed in a positive way.</p> <p>There have been two major events on for the club this year.</p> <p>The first one being a massive Christmas raffle that was able to send a family with disabled children all-inclusive to the Gold Coast for a much-needed holiday. The memories this family made on this holiday will last a lifetime and makes us remember why we do what we do.</p> <p>Then there is a little thing called the Gympie Music Muster that the club is involved with. This event is run with the help of hundreds of volunteers as well as this year's charity partner TIACS.</p> <p>Just a few people that gather in the Amamoor State Forest for the 4-day event. Each day is looking like about 20 000 people though the gates to see not only the live acts on the 8 stages throughout the complex but the many stalls and other entertainment that the Muster has to offer.</p> <p>This event would not be possible without the countless hours that this club puts in not only for the event but the full year leading up to the Muster. We are talking about 1000's of volunteer hours that span full weekends – not just a few hours here and there. Without this – the event would not even be possible.</p>				
				

Fraser Coast	Club #	unknown	Club Membership	6
<p>Fraser Coast has been in hiatus for the past two years, but it is coming back. After 3 fellow club members going dual membership, jumping on the board and get things back on track this club will be back in full swing in the coming months.</p>				

Bundaberg	Club #	53	Club Membership	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bundaberg was lucky enough to host the 2022 National Apex Convention. This saw well over 100 fellow Apexians spend some time in the Rum city. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tours of the rum distillery kicked off the 3-day event ending with the Gala dinner on the Saturday night. It was an honour and a pleasure to host this event. One that we will not forget in a very long time. Lighthouse rock – 50 people, 5 Apex Clubs all over Qld <p>Two-day music concert with over 6000 people. Bundy was fortunate to do run the main bar for this event. We were very grateful to have the help from members from the following clubs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murgon (great to see them back with a vengeance) Brisbane City Chinchilla Toowoomba South Toowoomba Bunnings BBQs keep us on our toes and raising much needed funds thought out the year. Our yearly Christmas eve visit to the Bundy Hospital children's ward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come in the morning and find out what the children would like from Santa. Go shopping and Santa arrives in the afternoon with goodies for all including the hard-working staff. <p>Bundaberg has been on a number of road trip and interclub events this past year. With new faces in the club it has been a great time to get back on the road and show them what Apex is all about.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condamine Meet – 5 members finally made it to this event. What a great night. Not much sleep was had but a lot of good laughs were had and memories made. Chinchilla Melon Festival – Took a crew from Bundaberg to help make potato slinkies and hot chips. My young upcoming Apexian were on soft drink sales. No event is complete without a lucky dip delivery from Bossie. Magic Castle – This is an incredible place that makes dreams come true. Brisbane Change over Many trips to Rockhampton to support the newly formed Capricorn West Apex Club with their endeavour and re-furbishing the new club house. Namour Apex Changeover Biggenden Santa fair 				



- Gympie Music muster – staff of 60 this year made up from fellow Apex clubs, family and friends.
- Fraser Coast Apex Club as the club gets back on their feet.



3. Region 3

REGION#	3	QLD/NSW
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	April Lancaster-Smith	
	South Toowoomba	

Region 3 has had quite a lot of activity the past 12 months. There has been lots of interclub travel with clubs from around the region travelling to help out their fellow Apexians.

February saw a number of Apexians travel to Chinchilla for the bi-annual Watermelon Festival and in March 2023, the Region 3 Catch up was held in Condamine. There was a great turn out with 20 active apexians in attendance and another 12 Life Members (including their wives) turn up in a bus.

As usual, the common hurdle most clubs face is membership. With such small numbers of members, clubs are finding that a couple of members are doing a majority of the work which is wearing some clubs (& people) down.

There have been discussions around the future of the Tara and Dalby Apex Clubs. Something which I hope can be sorted over the coming months.

A committee was formed in QLD to bring AATFA back to life which is all looking pretty positive. We have a couple of sponsors on board and have been in touch with people in TAS & SA to hopefully re-commence events in those states. This event has been launched with schools and a number of entries have already been received for the October 28 event.

Overall I believe Region 3 is a relatively strong region with a lot of small clubs who are quite active in their community.

To hear that some clubs have some prospexians is a good sign for the clubs themselves and the association as a whole.

Regards,

April Lancaster-Smith
Regional Communicator
Region 3





Dalby, QLD	Club #	91	Club Membership	5
<p>The future of the Dalby Club is also unsure. Having met with the Dalby Club recently, there have been discussions regarding closing the club.</p> <p>They still have a lot of organisations requesting them to complete work or assist however they don't currently have the manpower to help. The members that do help are quite burnt out.</p> <p>Instead of the Club closing, it was suggested the club discussed going on a 6-12 month hiatus and also request fee relief for that time. After a few months off, they can potentially see how they feel.</p>				

Roma, QLD	Club #	108	Club Membership	2
<p>The Roma Apex club has had rather a quite year with minimal members but still have ticked off the big events in our calendar. In September we held the annual Fine Wine and Dine with 100 tickets sold for a long table cocktail dinner. We were lucky enough to obtain a \$10,000 donation from Kidsfix at the dinner. This donation goes towards our Apex Park We-GO-Round swing. This swing is suited for wheelchair access and will include all abilities access to our park. In July we were lucky enough to obtain a \$25,000 Grant from council and Origin LNG for our swing.</p> <p>The months over Christmas saw our castle and clowns get out and about in our community as much as the little amount of membership aloud us. Were basically back to square one in the new year and have had to rebuild. The months leading up to July saw many many hours of behind-the-scenes effort for preparing our decorations and Apex Banner (which did not get stolen)</p> <p>In July we celebrated the club turning 70 years old. This was a massive event with a black-tie ball and having 60 odd guests come along to enjoy the festivities. The current members reconnected with the past members and prospexians and we look forward to what happens next.</p> <p>We have Senior Active Tom Wehi strongly involved in our meetings service and fellowship which will be a great asset for our club moving forward.</p> <p>As a club with a rich history, we also have a lot of assets that are old and need some good TLC. The next couple of years hopefully our club will be able to build membership and rebuild our assets as well as our new ones such as our Smoker.</p> <p>Now that we have met personally our Life members our past members of the Roma Apex Club we are hoping we have a strong reconnection with our past which in turn will create a better understanding and stronger path into our clubs future.</p> <p>Tyson Campbell Roma Apex Club Chartered in 1953</p>				

South Toowoomba, QLD	Club #	427	Club Membership	6
<p>My heart is filled with profound gratitude and a sense of accomplishment following the 2022/2023 year. It has been an incredible honour and privilege to serve as the President of the South Toowoomba Apex Club for the past 12 months. It has, by far, been my favourite year in Apex. Together, we have embarked on a journey of dedication and service that has left an undeniable mark on our community.</p> <p>This year, as a club, we have collectively put 326 hours of service back into our community. We attended the usual service work of the Carnival of Flowers in September, Christmas Wonderland of Lights in December and Lifeline Bookfest in March.</p> <p>One of the highlights from my year, was being fortunate enough to attend the Philippines Overseas Work Party in May this year. This trip was honestly the trip of a lifetime. Words cannot even begin to describe the sense of achievement I had once we completed the work. The club really came together in the lead up to this to help raise the required funds to participate in the work party.</p> <p>As a small club, we have been very social with breakfasts, bowling, breweries, board games, BBQ's and plenty more. We have also travelled to Gundy and Bundy, Chinchilla and Condamine, the Chalet and the Philippines and plenty around Toowoomba.</p> <p>This year we travelled over 23,000km. The companionship and camaraderie of travelling with fellow Apexians fosters a sense of unity and shared adventure as well as creating lasting memories and forging friendships. We travelled for both work and play allowing us to be the extra hands and provide service to the communities of other Apex Clubs.</p> <p>We had 2 new Apexians join us this year, Sarah & Hayden. Unfortunately, we also had one member resign and another move to an Associate Member so our club numbers have stayed at 6 members.</p> <p>Looking back at our collective accomplishments, I am overwhelmed with pride. We have worked tirelessly to uplift the lives of those in the Toowoomba Community, leaving no stone unturned to make a positive impact. We have strived to embody the true spirit of Apex as we live up to the ideals of the association of Apex Clubs whilst building better communities.</p> <p>Yours in Apex, April Lancaster-Smith President</p>				



Inverell, NSW	Club #	35	Club Membership	8
Club not currently meeting.				

Chinchilla, QLD	Club #	295	Club Membership	7
<p>The 2022/2023 Apex year has been the first in a while without any COVID restrictions and I would have to say we made the most of it, with a year full of service events, interclub travel, fellowship, and watermelons.</p> <p>This year we started off trailing a new meeting roster. Still meeting fortnightly but alternating between a business and social meeting. This has meant that our business meetings have sometime run a bit longer, but we have also been able to have a lot more fun through out the year. Some of our social meetings have included traveling to Miles to have dinner at the Australian Hotel, Musical Bingo, Barefoot Bowls, and dinner at the Indian Restaurant.</p> <p>In true Chinchilla fashion we have continued our interclub travel as well this year for both fellowship and service events. We had members attend Roma's Fine Wine & Dine, Bundaberg National Convention where we won the International Engagement Award, Road trip to Dulacca Pub to catch up with Roma, Roma to help cook breakfast after the Races, Work the Bar at the Wandoan Christmas Carnival, Travel interstate to the Magic Castle for a working be, Condamine for the Region 3 catch up, Maleny for their 1500th meeting, Travel to Bundy to work the bar at the Lighthouse Music Festival and Work the bar at the Wandoan Show.</p> <p>Then we also had all our service events here in Chinchilla. One Long Table, School Awards Nights, CCCI Christmas Celebration, Candlelight Vigil for the Fall Police Officers, Updating of the Kids Don't Bounce Signs around town, CCCI Sign on Day, Melon Fest pumping out 100 potato slinkies an hour, Chinchilla State School P&C Ball Bar, Easter Egg Random Act of Kindness, ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast and Wreath Laying, St Joseph's Trivia Night Bar and Ledges of League Kiosk. And we cannot forget the Friday Night Raffle with the continued help of the Scouts. This year we were able to give the Scout \$7209 for their help with the Raffles. This is a partnership that has been working very well for both groups and will continue into the future.</p> <p>Through all this fellowship and service work we have also been lucky enough to welcome new members to the club. In May we inducted Leanne Fitzgerald and once their membership packages arrive, we will induct Karyn Newman and Adam Collins. We started off the year with 8 members have one leave early on because he left town and are finishing the year with 10.</p> <p>Regards Amy Patterson-Kane Apex Club of Chinchilla</p>				

Toowoomba, QLD	Club #	43	Club Membership	10
<p>Members 10 Associate Members 1 Prospexians 3</p> <p><u>Service</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downs Rugby Bar • Homeless for a night • Moving Bookcases • Ability BBQ • Downs Rugby Grand Final • Relay for Life • Swap Meet • Hike for Homeless • Christmas in the Bush • Loads of Love • Christmas Wonderland • Chinchilla Melon Festival • Lifeline Bookfest • Gold's Gym BBQ • South Toowoomba Bunnings BBQ • Country Music Bar • Lifeflight Gala Ball • David Hack Classic • Overseas Service Project <p>The club awarded its inaugural Young Citizen Award to Mahsa Nabizada from Fairholme College and Benjamin Auld from Clifton State High School.</p> <p>Social</p> <p>Regular Friday Afternoon drinks, Clay Shooting, Races Day, Games Night</p> <p>Planned Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Planting Day • Homeless for a night • Hike for Homeless • Christmas Wonderland • Lifeline Bookfest • David Hack Classic • Apex National Convention <p>David Gray Secretary 2022-2023 Apex Club of Toowoomba</p>				

Tara, QLD	Club #		Club Membership	3
<p>Many discussions have been had with the Tara Apex Club regarding the future of this club.</p> <p>The club is struggling due to the low numbers in the club and have not been able to commit to any service work to raise funds. They have unfortunately had to give up their 2 major fund-raising events for the year due to not having the people to run them.</p>				

Goondiwindi, QLD	Club #	343	Club Membership	13
<p>The last twelve months has been another great experience with the Goondiwindi Apex Club. While the whole perspective of social events seems to have changed, in a post covid society, it has to some degree altered the opportunities service clubs have available to raise funds to in turn help support the community. This being said, I feel that our club has certainly tried to work through the many challenges and we are coming out the other side, starting to focus on some clear objectives for the club moving forward. The great thing about challenges like this is that it has certainly given the younger members of the club a chance to steer the club in a direction which they want to see it evolve.</p> <p>I would like to extend a big thank you to all the members along with prospectors, senior active and life members and their partners and friends of the Apex Club of Goondiwindi for everything that we have achieved in the past year. Without the service hours, amounting to over 520 hours, and the hard work and dedication of everyone involved, we wouldn't be able to support the community the way in which we have. As a club we should be proud of the financial and volunteer contributions we are able to make back into the community, as well as the service we provide to many groups and individuals.</p> <p>Some of the major service events which we were involved in this year were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Goondiwindi Apex Eisteddfod • The Goondiwindi Picnic Races • Goondiwindi Race Club race gates throughout the year • The Goondiwindi Show bar • And the rejuvenation of the Apex Park <p>These events with many others made for a busy schedule over the past year for members of the club. While our social calendar, while not over the top, managed to accommodate the time around other personal requirements and service work for most of the members. I personally have had a great time at these fellowship events throughout the year which have included having a team in the Lions charity golf day, a barefoot bowls member drive evening, Condamine meeting, fishing weekend, a sendoff for a very active member, a head wetting for another couple having a baby and who could forget the Christmas party to Toowoomba.</p>				

As always we have been lucky and blessed to work with the other service clubs at different events throughout the year. I certainly feel that our joint efforts in such events helps our community overall and makes Goondiwindi a more liveable and enjoyable community. The coming together of our service clubs to now march as part of the Anzac Day procession, is a great example of this, after kicking off last year.

This year we sadly say goodbye to a past Apexian with the passing of Gavin Engelbrecht. For those that knew Gavin through his involvement in the club, he certainly was a character and brought a lot of joy and happiness through his involvement. We have also seen another very active member, Violet, move to Western Australia. Violet was an integral part of the club and always present at service events and will be missed. A special thanks again to the partners, family and friends of our clubs members for accepting the importance of being part of Apex has to our members and the benefits of volunteering overall.

I feel that the experience of being president again, while challenging in trying to work around other work commitments and family issues throughout the year, has helped me to grow as a person. I would personally like to thank everyone involved in and around the club for the past twelve months for their hard work and commitment in serving the community and also for their friendship and support. Congratulations to you all on a great year and I think we are all looking forward to another great year coming up.

Thanks

Luke Skele – Goondiwindi Club President and Apex Camps Board Member.

Wandoan, QLD	Club #	559	Club Membership	6
<p>Wandoan Club held a Seniors Morning Tea at the Wandoan Café in October 2022, with roughly 40 in attendance. Carols in Domain was lived streamed onto a blow-up screen at one of our local parks and was a lovely relaxing evening for the community. We donated to Wandoan State School a bursary. Our table and chair hire continues to be extremely popular in our Wandoan Community injecting funds to our club.</p> <p>Yours in Apex</p> <p>Alan Postle</p>				




Warialda, NSW	Club #	177	Club Membership	6
Attempts have been made on several occasions to contact the Warialda Club via Facebook, phone calls, text messages and club email. Unfortunately, no response has been received.				

St George, QLD	Club #	344	Club Membership	
Sadly, St George has closed.				

Sandon County, NSW	Club #	710	Club Membership	
Sadly, Sandon County (Armadales) no longer exists				

Gunnedah, NSW	Club #		Club Membership	
Sadly, Gunnedah no longer exists.				

4. Region 4

REGION	4	Sunshine Coast to top New South Wales
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Brett Doig
		Brisbane City
		

Brisbane City	Club #	40	Club Membership	11
<p>Brisbane City has a membership of 11 with 2 more prospects to be inducted into the club at this stage in February. The Club financial is in good shape.</p> <p>Club service has been very active with the Club doing the Red Cross in December to promote giving Blood with an alignment with the Red Cross to work together this year on other projects as well the National Project.</p> <p>The Club also helped support the Southport Apex Club in early December and supported the Brisbane Brisket Parade helping collect gifts for the community that can't afford to celebrate Christmas.</p> <p>Brisbane City has also been very busy with a Service project in November offering manpower to MSS do the marching for the Moonlight walk.</p> <p>The club has a Facebook page as well as Instagram and both are very active with a new Webpage up and running.</p> <p>The Club was successful in receiving a grant from the Apex Foundation to support the WhiteCloud Foundation. The Club will be working closely with WhiteCloud to help grow both organisations.</p> <p>The club has also helped out at the Brissy to the Bay event, cooked at 2 Bunnings BBQ and is looking at Running a Golf Day to help raise money for the Club.</p> <p>The club will be running another Trivia Night to attract more members for the club. The Club help send Gemma over to Philippines for the overseas service project. We have been asked to help run an event at a rugby union sold out game. This Club does have a newsletter!</p>				

Southport Apex	Club #	253	Club Membership	4
<p>Financial status is Very Good Membership growth is still a focus.</p> <p>Service events: The Club ran a BBQ in December for the Foster Children Christmas Party with the help and support from Brisbane City Apex Club and a bit of Social held afterwards with the two clubs. Attendance and feedback from a Brisbane City prospect encouraged Southport to focus more on membership.</p> <p>The Club also had the National President attend a club meeting, sharing ideas and helping the club look to the future.</p> <p>Despite only having 4 members, Southport is a very strong and committed club. The Sunday after National Convention they ran a Bunnings BBQ raising \$1400.</p> <p>The Club also helped at the Save our Sons Charity Walk, running a BBQ for them in March as well doing weekly Club pub raffles to help raise funds for the club.</p>				

Caboolture Apex	Club #	365	Club Membership	7
<p>Caboolture Apex Club has about 2 prospects and still trying to grow their membership. They are looking at opening the membership age.</p> <p>The Club Financials are looking good.</p> <p>Club Service: Very active in December driving around Caboolture with Santa's sleigh for 3 weeks. This is a big community event for the club that a lot of their fundraising goes towards.</p> <p>Club also supports the local Childcare centre and have undertaken a number of service hours helping them out.</p> <p>The Club will be helping at the Gympie Muster.</p>				



Nambour Apex	Club #	190	Club Membership	4
<p>This Club has 3 prospects and the Club Financials are looking good. Facebook page Nambour Apex Club is very active.</p> <p>This Club is a strong active Club from March to November running very big events. The Club is in very good hands with its young new president.</p>				

At the Changeover meeting the Club reported that they had donated a total of over \$15,000 to a number of organisations in their community. In return some of these organisations have indicated they would be keen to help out at Apex events.

This club has a big break from end of November to March to rest and recover. This is a mixed club.

Their first meeting will be held in March.

Service Fundraisers

- Book Festival
- Caravan Expo
- Show
- Garden Expo
- Swap event

I have worked alongside this club, and I believe it has the positive attitude to grow and the youngest President is bringing new growth into the club.

This club also helped raise the money for Gemma to attend the Philippines as part of the overseas working party.


Manley Apex	Club #	?	Club Membership	14
<p>This Club is a very active Club and financially in a good situation. Membership is very strong and will continue to grow. This Club has a newsletter and is a men only Club.</p> <p>The Club is well known in their Community, with a number of organisations coming them for support. Service in November and December was really active, lending manpower to a number of Christmas events for the community, as well launching their Manley Apex Club directory for their Community. This does raise a lot of money for this club as well as other events.</p> <p>The Club celebrated their 1500 dinner meeting on the 1st April 2023, a really big event for this club. Maleny Apex Club hosted the Aussie Breakfast on Australia Day for their Community. Sunshine Valley Gazette had an article for Maleny Apex Club with the Club photo in it. Manley Apex Club is going to run a Club advertising to promote the club as well get more members. Also the Maleny Show bar was in May</p> <p>The Club also ran Muscle Car on the hill for the first time, the club took it over from another organisation and was run on the 2 July and a lot of work has gone into this event to make it success. This club also attend the first district board meeting since the Regional Communication was started. This Club put up \$1000 to help send Gemma to the Philippines for the overseas service working party.</p>				



Albany Creek	Club #	840	Club Membership	4
<p>The Club runs pub raffles to raise funds. The Club president has been the same person for the last couple years I have spoken to the Club president 3 times this year and have been told that they have a prospect.</p>				

Murwillumbah Apex	Club #		Club Membership	
<p>This club is still a work in progress.</p>				

5. Region 5

REGION	5	SYD, NTH, STH COAST, MID NSW
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	Andrew Mellowship	
	LM Blacktown	
<p>2022-23 has seen clubs across the region get back into the swing of things, emerging strongly from the difficulties experienced during the pandemic and the fires and floods toward the end of 2022. Clubs continue to demonstrate resilience striving to continue to serve their local communities - many desperately in need. Clubs have continued to show effort through their positive & active service work, annual events, supporting schools & their communities where possible. have kept communication channels open generally through a combination of social media, emails and the occasional phone call. It has been a great pleasure being your RC & I would like to thank all of you for your communication, comradery, friendships & the privilege to serve in your communities. I will continue in the RC role for another term but look forward to passing on the baton to a younger fresher RC next year.</p>		

BEROWRA	Club #	755	Club Membership	22
<p>Very active men's club. Major events include Woodchop, Xmas Trees, Movies Under the Stars,</p> <p>Santa Runs & Park nights. This year raised money for Red Shield Appeal, participated in a fete which contributed to a women's shelter, conducted Santas Sleigh Run, a toy drive, and raised funds through the sale of Xmas trees. The annual woodchop, which had to be cancelled in 2021, was held on 28/8/2022 – a welcome return for this critical fundraising opportunity and the biggest community event held in Berowra. The club has had regular dinner meetings, catchups, and saw the return of their regular family camping weekend social activities. Continuing to look at flexible ways to be responsive to community needs.</p>				

BLACKTOWN	Club #	333	Club Membership	7
<p>Mixed club with male members. Their regular service gig is the Blacktown Show. Chris Riley's Youth of the Streets dinners, Bunnings BBQ's, have become sporadic, rather than regular events.</p> <p>The club has forged a strong relationship with Blacktown Lions and have worked together on a number of joint service activities to support homeless in Blacktown LGA, and donating Mens care packs. Have supported the Mayors Christmas toy appeal. 60th anniversary celebrations were held on 27/8/2022. Plans to establish a men's mental, physical and social health weekly walk and talk have not eventuated yet but is still subject to discussion and seeking an appropriate venue can be secured. On 29/7/23, Blacktown Lions and Apex clubs conducted a men's health forum which attracted approximately 50 attendees, helping to breakdown the stigma of discussing men's health, particularly Mental health. The success of the initial forum has gained some impetus for similar forums to be held in the future.</p>				

BRAIDWOOD	Club #	248	Club Membership	14
<p>Are a men's club, main events are Xmas Raffles, Diggers Golf Day / bowls day, supporting RSL sub-branch, Defence driving courses for school age P Plate drivers. They have a mobile cool room which they hire out & a Jumping Castle. Have conducted quite successful wood raffles in recent months. Club continues to have regular interaction and catchups using IT and contact is supported by a club Facebook page which is regularly updated. Despite all the challenges of recent years, have still been able to donate significant amounts to local groups.</p>				

MILTON / ULLADULLA	Club #	382	Club Membership	18
<p>Are a very active mixed club with male members. Main events, South Coast Craft Beer Festival. Xmas Carols Family BBQ for 600 people and a blessing of the fleet at easter each year.</p> <p>Club is considering their current membership position with a couple of members heading towards the upper age limit. Club is financial, meets face to face bimonthly, has a highly regarded presence in the community and regular service work is relevant and well supported. Club received Foundation funding and conducted a "MUCK UP" event, focussing a community-based project including Anti-Bullying, Youth Mentors, and focussed on the local food industry and aligned with the "do it for Dolly" national anti-bullying day. The club has proposed a National Service project based around the success of the MUCK – Up event</p>				



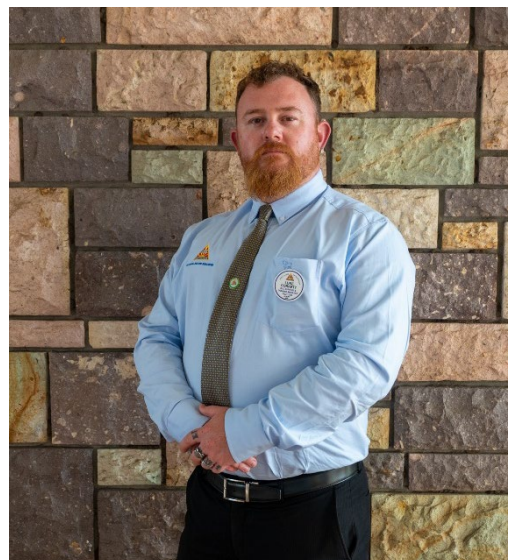
OBERON	Club #	133	Club Membership	
<p>'Welcome to Oberon' Apex Sign greets you as you enter their town. Are a men's club, main event is the Oberon Show where the Club runs the bar in a shed in Feb. All reports indicate that the 2023 show, the first held following the pandemic, was the best on record.</p>				

SINGLETON	Club #	141	Club Membership	2
<p>Is a mixed club with male members. Have experienced difficulties being able to establish any contact with the club. General agreement that Singleton club wants to be wound up, but there is no energy or commitment to wind up the club.</p>				

WAUCHOPE	Club #	233	Club Membership	6
<p>Is a mixed Apex Club, Club still involved in convening a school public speaking competition for schools in the local and neighbouring area. Significant impact on club due to covid and fires/floods, maintains a monthly cash – a- can. Involved in the local Billy cart derby. Has 6 members + 3 associate members. Long time member, James Wallis retired from the club recently due reaching club age limit – He was awarded Senior Active membership.</p>				

6. Region 6

REGION	6	NSW South Coast
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Luke Corkett Albury
<p>So, the last year has been productive for the clubs of region 6 and there were challenges to overcome. A lot of the clubs are based around the Murrumbidgee and Murray rivers which had major flooding at the end of 2022. This caused severe damage to towns with a lot of clubs preoccupied. Some clubs were involved in assisting with donations and conducting service jobs to repair their communities.</p> <p>It has been great to see clubs able to host fundraisers and complete service which has been postponed due to covid events. Most clubs are hosting annual events that are large scale with a lot of community attendance.</p> <p>I assisted Darlington Point Apex set up their annual Riverina Classic fishing competition that had record numbers and see the work that the club had done to assist flood affected areas.</p> <p>I managed the Albury Charity Golf Day, which has gained new interest from teams and sponsors. This has been the club's main source of income for 10 years running with proceeds supporting local charities.</p> <p>I have also had the honour of presenting a 27-year service pin. Greg Dickens of the Corowa Apex Club was awarded for his 27-year service at this year's handover dinner. The Corowa club also had an induction on the night and discussed their plans to revisit the Club-to-Pub walk supporting the Good Friday appeal with the support of the new police sergeant.</p> <p>Yours in Apex Luke Corkett</p>		



South Wagga	Club #		Club Membership	19
<p>Our service calendar was extremely busy with the highlight being the first ever South Wagga Apex Motor Mania. The event saw super charged lawn mowers race as part of the Australian Lawn Mowing Racing calendar. Significant time and hours went into planning, site preparation and execution on the day. A huge congratulations effort by the club for getting this event up and running. I'm looking forward to seeing this event continue for many years to come.</p>				

Another huge event was the Biggest Ever Blokes Lunch, a memorable day raising in excess of \$40k for men's health. The day had guest speaker Kerrie O'Keefe (Skull) who left the attendees in stitches.

Other events run by the club included:

- The Mighty Murrumbidgee Duck Race also returned after a two-year hiatus. The day was a great family day out with food vendors, kids entertainment and all while watching the main event of in excess of 1000 rubber duckies racing down the Murrumbidgee River. This year we increased the prize pool to \$5000, of which 1st price was won by an 8 year old girl.
- Christmas Dinners with the Elderly
- East Wish – this event sees our members perform odd jobs for elder members of our community. The jobs generally included yard clean-ups, tree trimming, basic jobs like change light bulbs and just even having a chat with the recipients.
- Lillier lodge Dinners – Two nights throughout the year we cooked dinner for the guest at Lillier lodge. The lodge is home for travelling guest who are staying in wagga while receiving cancer treatment.
- Water Stations at the Wagga annual Fun- Run.
- Various other small events

Our social calendar was also in full swing, the highlight would definitely be the progressive dinner.

After the success of the Motor Mania our club has found a new home, negotiating a sublease of the clubhouse at the Go-Kart Club. The club house has been our home for all formal meetings this year and has given us the ability to self-cater and enjoy a beer with a fire bucket. We hope this new affiliation can continue into the future. This year we have inducted two new members and have a couple of Prospexians eager to join.

Darlington Point	Club #	449	Club Membership	15
<p>Darlington Point Apex has had a busy year with a few obstacles involved. There was major flooding that occurred which had caused significant damage. With the short notice, members were able to assist flood affected areas by gathering donations and carting deliveries by the members that owned trucks.</p> <p>The local caravan park was also completely submerged which led to the loss of several cabins. Several of the Apex lads volunteered their time and equipment to level the grounds and complete further earthworks so the park was ready to reopen. Luke Payne, the owner of the caravan park is now a prospect member ready to serve his community.</p> <p>With the completion of the caravan park repairs, the Apex club was set to host the Riverina Classic fishing competition for its 10th year. The event was hosted back at the park with a record number of over 700 entrants in the competition. The weekend also consisted of live music, children's entertainment, and the new bar facilities to keep everyone entertained.</p> <p>The Riverina Classic raises funds that go toward restocking the rivers with native fish and another \$20 000 was donated to Rural Outreach Counselling services.</p>				

Albury	Club #	4	Club Membership	9
<p>Albury Apex has been sitting steady with our regular service jobs. We assisted with the Albury show and members also had their kids involved with some of the rosters. With the struggles of covid affecting other service clubs, Apex managed to secure additional rosters supporting the Show Society.</p> <p>We also hosted our annual charity golf day. The day was a success with the addition of new teams and sponsors along with our returning teams.</p> <p>The club has now started our new fundraiser which is a barbecue expo called Sausagefest. Members have been in touch with competition barbecue teams across 4 states and gained support from major food vendors serving at Meatstock, bringing the Albury region a new unique food experience. The event will raise proceeds for men's mental and general health for over 15 businesses already locked in as sponsors so far.</p> <p>We have also locked in catering jobs to support the new microbrewery. The brewery has gained major attention since opening and Apex is now catering events gaining more public engagement and recognition.</p>				

Wodonga	Club #	88	Club Membership	6

Corowa	Club #	42	Club Membership	
Club on a break				


Cobram/Barooga	Club #		Club Membership	23
<p>In continuing our dedication to the ideal of service, we got ourselves involved in many activities throughout the community including the Rotary Swap Meet, Safe Plate days with the Neighbourhood Watch, the Community Service Expo and Strathmerton Fishing Competition to name a few. We also took a step forward in becoming more involved with the Cobram Commemorative Committee which ran ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day as Secretary. I would like to make a special acknowledgement to Dave Kelly who grabbed this ball and ran with it, he did a fantastic job.</p> <p>We also got the opportunity to revive our International Relations with the long-awaited Linker from South Africa in Christoff Timmer finally made it across the ocean to have his turn at experiencing all the Cobram and Australia have to offer. I can personally say that a great time was had by all who were able to attend the events and activities with him, and those who hosted him (special mention to Adam who took him in often) and it made the trip very special for Christoff who went home many kilos heavier and with many fond memories of an amazing trip.</p>				

In terms of our main events for the year, the Lawn Mower Races ran very smoothly with a few seasoned heads in Scott Gleeson and Luke Rawson passing their knowledge onto David Jervis and together put together another successful event. But our main breadwinner is the Koonoomoo Charity Ball which was a sellout held only a few weeks ago. Coming off the back of a massive year last year, the Committee led by Adam McMullan and Matt Triffitt put together the biggest show out at Koonoomoo yet with 3000 people attending. In a bid to have the ball as manageable as possible and deal with astronomically rising costs, the effort that they and the entire club put in to make the weekend a success was nothing short of monumental and all should be extremely proud of what they have achieved.

Jerilderie	Club #		Club Membership	17

Rutherglen	Club #		Club Membership	


7. Region 7

REGION	7	VIC
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Elise Malberg Bairnsdale, Victoria
<p>Elise is a Secondary school teacher from the Apex Club of Bairnsdale.</p> <p>It's been wonderful to support the region this year. I hope to be invited to, and to visit more club events next year.</p>		

Bairnsdale	Club #	39	Club Membership	8
<p>The Apex Club of Bairnsdale currently has 8 members. They have been very busy recently fundraising for the Apex Playground. The club has tried many new initiatives and are gradually being asked to assist with more community events such as local triathlons, school formals, kindergarten BBQs, and parkrun birthdays.</p> <p>This year the club ran a trivia night for the Apex playground, organised and hosted the Mother's Day Classic on May 14th and a "Colour Ya World" fun run event has been planned for October 2023 in the township of Buchan which is a community that was isolated due to the 2019-2020 summer bushfires of which the township is still recovering.</p>				
				

Traralgon	Club #	59	Club Membership	4
 <p>Apex Club of Traralgon have had a lot of success over the last financial year. Their main sights have been set on fundraising as their largest fundraising event- the Traralgon Bonfire Night had to be cancelled for insurance reasons. The club has completed some recruitment drives, Bunnings BBQs, online and in-person raffles. Traralgon club are avid grant-seekers and support the Portsea Children's Camp each year. The team have many new ideas and initiatives to promote Apex within our region.</p> <p>Pictured: Ben van Hooydonk and new president Nick</p>				

Yarram	Club #	111	Club Membership	6
<p>The Apex Club of Yarram are a central group within their community. The club support the local football and netball club and run the footy gates on weekends keeping track of patrons and collecting money.</p>				

Moe	Club #	83	Club Membership	4
 <p>Apex Club of Moe had a break from Apexing over Covid-19 pandemic and have just restarted their club meetings this year. Hopefully, there will be good things ahead from this club.</p> <p>Pictured: Jakey</p>				

Drouin \ Warragul	Club #	245	Club Membership	
NIL				

Euroa	Club #	188	Club Membership	0
The apex club of Euroa folded over the covid-19 pandemic.				

Mansfield	Club #	208	Club Membership	7
------------------	---------------	------------	------------------------	----------

The Apex Club of Mansfield supported the Good Friday Appeal in March this year. In addition, they held a paintball championship in their region in May, with a \$400 prize for the winning team. Mansfield are an exciting and creative club.



8. Region 9

REGION	9	West Victoria
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	Tim Glenton	
	Beaufort Apex Club	
<p>The clubs that I have been able to keep regular contact with are all doing well and continue to do great things for their communities.</p> <p>The key concern coming from clubs is that of insurance coverage for events.</p>		

Ballarat / Eureka	Club #	2	Club Membership	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently experiencing a rejuvenation spurred on by close involvement by NP and RC – 2 new members inducted and another in the pipeline Xmas tree drive successful Assistance at Pax Hill Scout Camp New service partnership being initiated with local support agencies. Tim Glenton in the process of transferring clubs to Ballarat/Eureka 				

Beaufort	Club #	440	Club Membership	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally went ahead in May 2023, the first for a while due to bad weather, members of Ballarat attended Many BBQs cooked – 500+ service hours achieved. Lots of wood cut and donated through home-help program. Great amount of Prospexians coming along to see what it is all about 				

Echuca	Club #	11	Club Membership	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership remained stable Large involvement in flood relief – refer comments from president – “in early October, the goal of increasing our community service was well and truly called upon as our region was hit with unprecedented flooding. The club was asked to assist at the Evacuation Centre, originally providing dinner for the first Friday night and a couple of breakfasts, which quickly turned into breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and further meals on Sunday along with helping with all sorts of tasks. We ended up providing some food for the SES and CFA as well and I was fielding calls from the Army along with the Bendigo Control centre to provide food for the centre for the whole week. Given the town was running out of food and members had their own issues to deal with, it was a strange and hectic period”. Catering for Camp Quality Upgrades made to the Apex Hall 				

Goroke	Club #	372	Club Membership	38
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership is stable at 38 members. • Fundraising activities continued throughout the year, including scrap metal, and battery recycling, caravan park site fees and roadside spraying contract. • A club that is genuinely at the heart of their community. <p>I had the great pleasure of attending their 2023 Rodeo which was attended by over 3000 ppl. This is a great event and Apex is at the centre of it all.</p>				

Hoppers Crossing	Club #	922	Club Membership	0
Club has gone into hiatus				

Horsham	Club #	15	Club Membership	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership remains consistent • Newspaper drive continues • Assistance delivering portaloos for Horsham Fishing Competition • Many events impacted by covid • Longy BnS Ball was a success 				

Warracknabeal	Club #	99	Club Membership	
I have not been able to get in contact with this club – Horsham is trying to help me out.				

9. Region 10

REGION	10	Tasmania
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	Tim Glenton	
	Ballarat/Eureka	
I have only just taken on the role for Region 10, however the main concern is the future of the organisation in Tassie		

Ulverston	Club #		Club Membership	16
No contact made				

Latrobe	Club #		Club Membership	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still active with 5 members • Craft fair is the largest event they run – 70 stalls – 2500 attendees - \$16k raised • Having irregular meetings as members work in mining 				

Deloraine	Club #		Club Membership	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No contact made 				

10. Region 11

REGION	11	East South Australia
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Leon Budden
		Gawler

Loxton	Club #		Club Membership	10
<p>Club remains active with 10 members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted Council with Sign installation at the 12 Cemeteries around the district. Multiple hire for our marquee and table and chair hire for Private functions, Weddings and Sporting Events. Assisted in the development of the Loxton APEX Park at the Loxton riverfront. Donated and installed 7 table and chair settings at the Hilbig Street playground development, Loxton sporting complex, and Loxton Riverfront. Catering Van with Hot dogs and Lamb rolls for the Loxton Mardi gras, Loxton Show, Loxton Lights up. Catering Van hire for multiple events. Assisted the Loxton Christmas Light committee with the Christmas Decorations. Joint meetings with the Loxton Rotary Club. Donated money to school children for Sport development and camps. 				

Pathaway	Club #		Club Membership	12
<p>Currently 12 members with regular meetings. Main fundraiser is bar work for local sporting events.</p>				

Naracoorte	Club #		Club Membership	
<p>Naracoorte has been struggling for a few years with poor meeting attendance. Currently the club is considering joining with Padthaway.</p>				

Keith	Club #		Club Membership	
<p>No contact</p>				

11. Region 12

REGION	12	WEST SA	
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	Bronte Rhodes		
	GAWLER		

CENTRAL AUSTRALIA	Club #	677	Club Membership	6

CLARE AND DISTRICTS	Club #	968	Club Membership	7

CRYSTAL BROOK	Club #	422	Club Membership	10

GAWLER	Club #	87	Club Membership	17
November 22 – Preparing for Markets and Carols December 22 – 10th Gawler APEX Community Markets (over 60 stalls, 2000pax attendees) December 22 – 17th Gawler APEX Community Christmas Carols (3,000pax attendees) January 23- 26th Australia Day Breakfast, Ceremony and Awards (800pax attendees) February 23 – 4 new members to be inducted				

JAMESTOWN	Club #	928	Club Membership	20

KADINA	Club #	293	Club Membership	7

KIMBA	Club #		Club Membership	9



MAITLAND	Club #	668	Club Membership	19

PORT AUGUSTA	Club #		Club Membership	6

WHYALLA	Club #	159	Club Membership	8

12. Region 13

REGION	13	SOUTHERN WA
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR	Dylan Fryer	
	Katanning	
<p>Our region is comprised of six dynamic Apex Clubs, each unique in its composition, focus, engagement with the community and the association. Despite varying membership sizes ranging from 5 to 12 Apexians, every club in Region 13 has demonstrated a commitment to the ideals of Apex. Each club makes a difference to their community in their unique own way.</p> <p>As Regional Communicator, I am proud of what each club has achieved throughout this past year. I am particularly excited for the opportunity for Western Australian Apexians to attend the 2023 National Convention in Geraldton.</p> <p>I look forward to serving again as RC for 2023/24 and continuing to support clubs in Region 13.</p> <p>Yours in Apex Dylan Fryer</p>		



ALBANY	Club #	85	Club Membership	5
<p>Albany is the Southernmost club in WA which unfortunately is separated by distance from at least 2 hours to the nearest club.</p> <p>Albany is active in the summer months particularly taking on the job of hosting the Albany Carols by Candlelight and is supported by City of Albany. Albany also runs a fundraising BBQ at the Carols and has done this for some years now.</p> <p>I look forward to visiting Albany this coming year and encouraging more social and fellowship amongst the three Great Southern clubs.</p>				

BUNBURY/KOOMBANA	Club #	26	Club Membership	8
<p>Over the past year Bunbury Koombana has focused on its signature events in the community and once again ran the Australia Day Mayors Breakfast at Bicentennial Square and by serving the low socio-economic community of Withers by cooking the BBQ at the annual Des Ugle Community Christmas Party.</p>				

The club is currently assisting with Bunnings sausage sizzles and other fundraising efforts for Bunbury resident Denise Schmidt who will be travelling to Mexico for HSCT to treat MS.

It is good to see fellowship is still a big part of Bunbury's identity with the club often meeting for its annual breakfast after the ANZAC Day dawn service and enjoying fellowship in each other's homes.



BUSSELTON	Club #	197	Club Membership	6
-----------	--------	-----	-----------------	---




The Apex Club of Busselton has gone from 7 members to 6. This year we lost two members but gained one. The Club recorded 327 hours service with our two key projects.

1. Our Annual Sheep Shearing event.
2. Ongoing assistance at the local Women's Refuge and it's outreach clients.

Peter Rann and Allen Hingston both achieved over 100 hours service, whilst Peter also achieved 100% meeting attendance, with the club average at 69%. We raised nearly \$13,000 from donut sales and hires to other community groups for their own fundraising. We have also successfully assisted various applications for WA Civilian Widow Trust grants, totaling over \$11,500.



ESPERANCE	Club #	443	Club Membership	0
closed				


KATANNING	Club #	617	Club Membership	6
<p>The Apex Club of Katanning was this year the host of the 2023 WA State Catch Up. It was a smaller State Catch Up than previous years but the energy and drive from Katanning members to make the weekend a success was fantastic to see. Apexians that attended toured the Katanning Sheep Saleyards, enjoyed the all ages playground and participated in service work at Piesse Lake.</p> <p>Katanning this past year has cooked its famous donuts at the Katanning Show and Harmony Festival both of which are big fundraisers for the club. The club also offered its bar tendering services at the annual Katanning Rotary Cultural Dinner. These fundraising events has enabled Katanning to donate to the Katanning High School breakfast club and support a program by the local police to encourage road safety amongst young drivers.</p> <p>Over the past year there has been an emphasis on social and fellowship with the second meeting of the month being a social meeting. Katanning hit the road in 2023 and so far, has held meetings in the nearby towns of Woodanilling, Nyabing and Dumbleyung with more planned.</p> <p>Katanning over the coming year is eager to grow its membership and to undertake more service work in the community.</p>				
  				

KOJONUP	Club #	336	Club Membership	12
<p>Kojonup is quite a reclusive club with around 12 members, which makes Kojonup one of the biggest clubs in terms of membership in WA. Kojonup is quite active in the community by sponsoring the Kojonup Speed Shears Competition, fundraising by undertaking mulesing work for farmers and other fundraising activities such as offering bar tendering services at local events.</p> <p>The club holds mostly informal meetings every month. I suspect club governance is not of the standard the association would expect but from what I can see the club is serving their community and upholding the name of Apex.</p>				

MANJIMUP	Club #	147	Club Membership	5
<p>2022/23 has been a tough year for Manjimup with the club going through a period of transition after the retirement of some long serving members in the club. The club held its changeover dinner in August last year which was well attended by current and past Apexians. The club now is in hibernation mode with meetings being held every few months.</p> <p>The club is determined to pull of its annual senior citizens Christmas lunch at the end of November, this is a much-appreciated service to the Manjimup community by the club.</p> 				

PINGELLY	Club #	291	Club Membership	8
<p>The current members are keen to close the club. The club has mainly served as a social and support group for the town's farmers in-between seeding and harvest. Club governance has not been followed for some years now, particularly through the COVID period. I will be working with this club in 2023/24 to see if the club can continue to operate.</p>				

13. Region 14

REGION	14	Western Australia North
REGIONAL COMMUNICATOR		Mick Godfrey Wongan Hills
<p>A good Regional Communicator can make a key difference in the ongoing positive relationship between Clubs and National Board. The ability to disseminate information from National to the Members is imperative for the success and satisfaction of the Apex experience. Many Clubs can feel resentment and isolation and feel out in the dark with what is going on in Apex across Australia if the RC is not doing their job. It is important to have the right people taking on this task and unfortunately I have been unable to give this position the justice that it deserves. Luckily for Region 14 someone has stepped up to the plate and taken on what can be a very rewarding experience. Dannielle Reed from the Wongan Hills Apex Club will be stepping into the role and I am sure will bring the enthusiasm and fresh ideas that will see Apex Clubs and members grow, learn, make friends, and have fun while helping others within Region 14.</p>  <p>While I had hoped that I would have achieved a lot more since leaving the 2022 Bundaberg Convention, I was still able to work with a number of Apexians and our other RC here in the West, RC13 Dylan Fryer, to offer training and provide an open forum to discuss what Clubs are up to, what they need help with and opportunities within Apex that can access and assist them and their projects in their community. I have also fielded calls from Members on various issues that arise from time to time. I also undertook an open training session with the Bunbury/Koombana Apex Club on the various roles in Apex.</p> <p>The Katanning Apex Club hosted the 9th Annual Apex WA State Catch up, held on the March long weekend. Tony Wilshire from the Apex Foundation was once again able to fly West and join us bringing his vast knowledge of all things Apex and well as being a wealth of information of how the Apex Foundation can assist Clubs. The Katanning Club did a magnificent job hosting the weekend and all those who attended got a lot out of it. Next year will be hosted by Busselton and held the following weekend from the long weekend as accommodation availability and costs are limited and expensive. All Apexians are welcome to join us for what is always a great weekend.</p> <p>The RC role in Apex can be a very rewarding experience and I encourage anyone who wants to have a go to do so. I also would encourage everyone to get out and about for a couple of interclub visits throughout the year, every year. Apex is a great organisation but it is only as strong as the members and what they put into it. I hope you are getting the most out of your Apex journey and help to continue to build better communities and make the world a better place to be, one community at a time.</p>		

If you find yourself out West then I encourage you to look up a local club and get along and remember that there are no strangers in Apex just friends you haven't met yet. It has been great to hear of National Board members and Rising Stars catching up with Clubs here in WA.

I wish Dannielle all the very best for her time in the RC role, I know she will do a great job and I encourage you to get in contact with her via the email rc14@apex.org.au

Corrigin	Club #	412	Club Membership	6
The Apex Club of Corrigin is a club that has fallen through the cracks. Following Covid they were finding it hard to attract new members and find time to meet as they are Farmers with not a lot of spare time. A meeting opportunity has not been forthcoming and the Club needs to consider a path to move forward.				

Dowerin Goomalling	Club #	504	Club Membership	6
The Apex Club of Dowerin Goomalling is a small club in a small town. Although small in stature the club is an integral part of the annual Dowerin Field Days held in August of every year. Quiet Club and hope to get their closest club to connect with an ICV and offer any help they need.				

Geraldton	Club #	178	Club Membership	11
<p>Apex Club of Geraldton is a fairly active Club with good social media presence. Has been good to get an insight into what the Club is up to. Club helps out in their community with yard clean-up for those in genuine need and have a stage they set up for a number of events through the year. I also receive regular minutes and meeting notifications. I have not spoken to President Tom since the last changeover dinner or visited the Club but will be attending their 2023 changeover dinner.</p> <p>The club has been successful in obtaining several grants through the Civilian Widows Family Care Trust (WA) managed by the Apex Foundation.</p>			 	



Karratha	Club #	717	Club Membership	11
<p>Apex Club of Karratha is a club that I have attended a number of times in the past but unfortunately have not made contact with this year. The club hosts and annual Garden Party that is hugely popular and is a must do on the Pilbara calendar every year. Tickets sell out in minutes.</p>				

Kununurra	Club #	915	Club Membership	26
<p>The Apex Club of Kununurra is my most isolated Club, and probably the most isolated club in Australia. Located up in the magnificent Kimberly Region of WA the Club holds an annual fishing competition over the September long weekend. Very popular event with a great prize pool including the opportunity to win a boat. Club has touched base a couple of times with an issue in the new member's kit.</p> <p>The club has been successful in obtaining several grants through the Civilian Widows Family Care Trust (WA) managed by the Apex Foundation.</p>				

Perth	Club #	23	Club Membership	(?)
<p>Apex Club of Perth is our only club registered in the greater Perth region. I have been unable to have any contact with the club but recognise that we need to get back into our cities and regional centres and promote Apex and all that it has to offer.</p>				

Wongan Hills	Club #	464	Club Membership	11
<p>Wongan Hills Apex Club is my home club and is active. Looking at a trial move of their meeting night to attract more members. Club has been busy in their community assisting where possible and looking to do a few social events after what has been a tough year for some.</p>				