

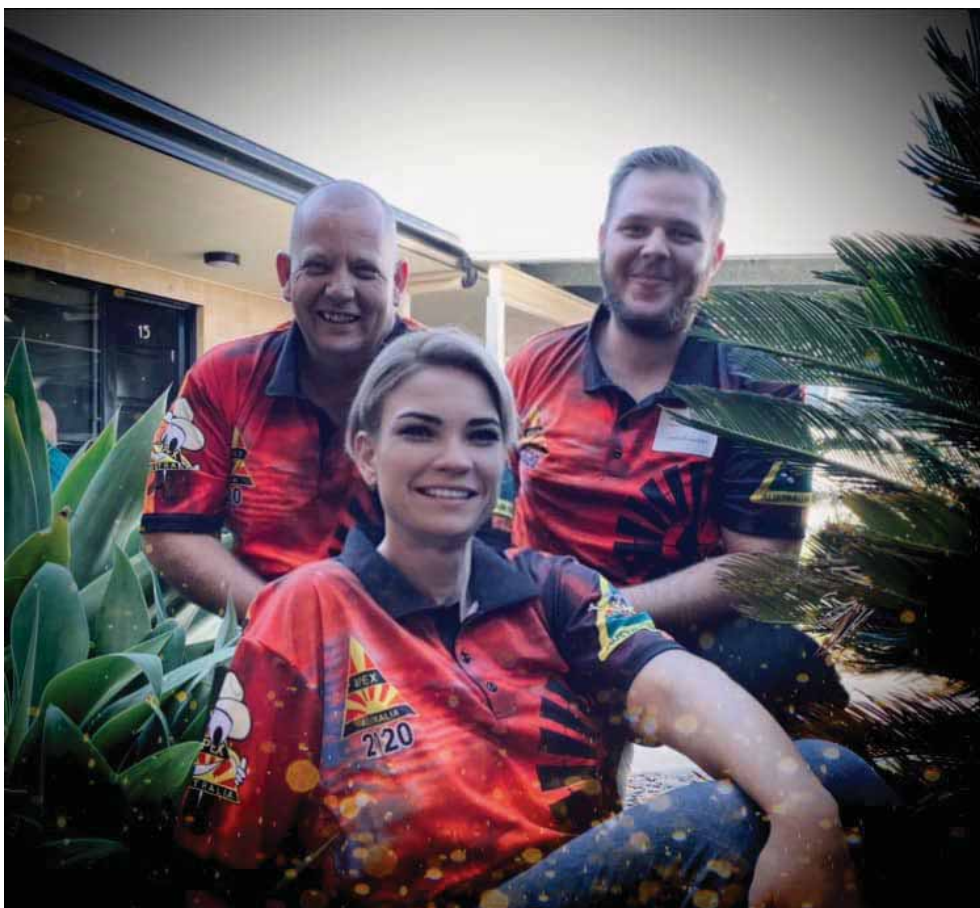


ISSUE 41 February 2021

# APEXian

News and Views from the clubs of Apex Australia

## Hello 2021



*Saying goodbye to 2020 are Jeremy Richardson, Cassie Newby and Brian Newby from our newest Apex Club, Capricorn West. It's great to see a brand new club taking the initiative to come together and build a better community in their home town.*

*Welcome to 2021*



# Convention Wrap up



What a great convention with a difference! On the 14th November we had our 89th Convention but our first ever via Zoom. Whilst it was disappointing that we couldn't meet face-to-face due to Covid-19, it was great to see that our virtual convention enabled Apexians from all over Australia to join in, with around 100 people present, and we were also honoured to be joined by Life Governor Subhash Bhola from Apex India and Life Member CS Naidu from Apex Malaysia, along with Julie Primmer, National President of Apex 40. We also had the company of a couple of non-Apexians who thought they would 'enhance' our screen sharing with some of their own material, and let's just say that their membership applications may be declined.

Note to self, don't post the Zoom link on Facebook!

Special mention to the Queensland contingent for organising a state catch-up which was so wellattended. Our Delegates Briefing Forum prompted some robust discussion and gave our National Board Directors an opportunity to respond to concerns. Our member's training was a full day of training condensed into 1 hour and our plans to hold a 90th Celebration in Geelong in March and the Convention in Bundaberg in October gives us hope for much-awaited fellowship for Apexians across Australia. How much fun was the quiz?!

Thank you so much to Elise Malberg and the Bairnsdale Club for bringing out our competitive spirit.





*Congratulations to all of our National Award winners:*

**Apex Australia Newsletter Award  
Daniel Lascelles, Kadina**

**Apex Australia Publicity Award  
Apex Club of Bairnsdale**

**Apex Australia Service Project Award  
Apex Club of South Wagga Wagga, Mighty Murrumbidgee Duck Race**

**Apex Australia Citizenship Initiative  
Paula Venning, Kadina, 2020 Interclub Walk**

**Apex Australia Club of the Year  
Apex Club of Beaufort  
Apex Australia Regional Communicator of the Year  
Emma Jackson, Geraldton, RC 14, North WA**

**Apex Australia Best First Year Apexian  
Kaye McIntyre, Fraser Coast**

**Apex Australia Young Apexian of the Year  
Jacob Venning, Kadina**

**Apex Australia Apexian of the Year  
Paula Venning, Kadina**

*Apexians are a humble bunch and we don't often sing our own praises, and that is why our awards are so important because it brings to light all of the fantastic things we are doing around the country. Well done to all of our amazing award winners.*

*A huge congratulations to Mick Godfrey, it was an honour and a privilege to have you as our National President, you are a shining example for Apexians around Australia and the world, and have left a lasting legacy. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making our Zoom Convention a success and I look forward to seeing you all in person in the near future.*

Yours in Apex,

**Bethany Paterson  
National President 2020-2021  
Apex Australia**

# Club News

## **Albany -the Show Goes On**

Carollers sang out with joy at the news the Apex Carols by Candlelight was given the green light for 2020.

Despite a challenging year and uncertainty around the event, the Apex Club of Albany has confirmed its 68th annual Christmas celebration was able to go ahead.

With construction works at Ellen Cove ongoing, the carols were held at Alison Hartman Gardens for the second consecutive year.

Attendance was capped at 800 people. Apex Albany's Brendon Bailey said he had hoped WA would have entered phase 5 restrictions in time for the club to hold a full-scale event.

"This has not eventuated so we have made some hard decisions but we are committed to providing this event to the community," he said.



*Albany Apex Club's Brendon Bailey and son Campbell, 6*

"Unfortunately Santa will not be able to make it on the night as he wants to make sure he is fit and healthy for Christmas and is very busy making toys for everyone.

"Due to supply issues we will also not have our traditional wax candles available to give away but will have battery candles available for purchase at \$2 each."

Mr Bailey urged carollers to be COVID-safe and practise good hygiene.



*Cobram Apex Club committee member Matthew Betts (left) and Australian Ride On Lawn Mower Racing Association racer Stuart Elliott are looking forward to Cobram's next event in March 2021*

## **Cobram - Award Winning Racers**

Apex Cobram's next Lawn Mowing racing event is on Sunday, March 7, at Scott Reserve. "It's got a sausage sizzle and kids events like sack races and a lolly hunt," Mr Elliott said. "It's pretty action packed and is great family fun."

Cobram Apex Club committee member Matthew Betts helps co-ordinate the event. "The last few years we would have had probably 500 people come through the gate just to have a look around," he said. "It's a gold coin donation to get in, which goes to our club and goes back to the community." Stuart Elliott received the Club Service Achievement Award on November 28.

Mr Elliott said the club gave him the award to recognise his dedication to helping others. "Being a mechanic, everyone comes to me for help," he said.

Mr Elliott won the national title in Shepparton in March 2019 and also won the club championship.

He was drawn to the sport after watching a local race in Koonoomoo about 12 years ago. Since then, he has custom made three vehicles. Vehicles must retain 50 per cent of the original ride-on mower.

"It's fast furious action, we can get up to 90km/h."



# Apex is coming to WANDOAN

13th – 15th  
November 2020



## Wandoan

The tanks are fuelled, bags are packed, and the GPS's are set for Wandoan. Hundreds and thousands of kilometres were covered collectively, adventuring to this lovely little town in the Western Down's Region.

78 Members of Apex from region 1, 2, 3 and 4 clubs came together for the Queensland Catch up. The fellowship and new friendships that were formed were a priceless investment within everyone's Apex Journey, not to mention the stories and knowledge that was shared from some fantastic life members that made the trip. When COVID-19 had closed the borders and we were told that we were not going to be able to travel to Perth for the National Convention, the question was asked 'Where is a club that hasn't seen much love in a while?' After much thought and consideration and The COVID Convention planning was underway.

Wandoan is a club that contributes all it can to its community and gives in many ways. It was an honour and pleasure to donate 505.25? from our club raffle to their club, meet their wonderful members and explore the beautiful town. Kaye McIntyre, President of Fraser Coast, owner of Infinity Printing & Design, Designed and Printed the State Catch-up shirt and Donated \$250 to Wandoan State School. Not only was this a time for Apexian's from far and wide to come together to meet and but it was a great opportunity to get back to the basics and get back to the way Apex used to be. This was a first for a National convention to be conducted via zoom and it was a great success. Talk of another state catch up next year is already in the pipeline. Congratulations to all the Award Winners, Each one was well deserved.



# AGM Outcome

Dear Apexians,

In 2020, during unprecedented times due to Covid-19, we at Apex Australia had our first ever AGM via post/electronic means. Postal voting closed on 30th November and I am happy to report that we had a quorum, with over half of our clubs voting in the AGM. The results of the AGM are as follows:

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. Accept the minutes of the 2019 AGM	Carried
2A. Endorse 2020/2021 National Directors	Carried
2B. Endorse 2020/2021 National President	Carried
3. Accept the 2018-2019 Apex Australia Audited Accounts	Carried
4. Accept the 2019-2020 Apex Australia Accounts	Carried
5. Accept the 2020-2021 Apex Australia Budget	Carried
6. Appoint 2020-2021 Auditor McConachie Steadman	Carried

Thank you to all of the clubs who took the time to vote in the AGM, we need a majority of our clubs to vote for a quorum and we can't carry out our core business without your votes. Congratulations to the 2020-2021 National Board Directors: Secretary Adam Stewart, Treasurer Jared King, RC Coordinator Tara Spotswood, Communications Neal Molineaux, Membership Leon Budden and Awards/Special Projects Simon Grant. I am humbled to be officially voted in as your National President, it is an absolute honour, a huge responsibility and a fantastic opportunity to give back to this incredible Association.

Yours in Apex,



Bethany Paterson  
National President 2020-2021  
Apex Australia

# Club News

## Woodgate Weekend with Apex Bundaberg

Well this year has been unlike any other year we have seen, so far so why not do something different? Bundaberg Apex club decided to hold off our change over later in the year so we could celebrate without the restrictions. So, the last weekend in November Bundaberg club along with some "always up for a road trip guy:"

- Adam Stewart – National Board and President of Toowoomba Club
- Greg Youndberry – Incoming National Board and members of Toowoomba Club
- Kaye McIntyre – President of Fraser Coast Club
- Hayden McIntyre – "Sox" – Associate of Fraser Coast Club
- Kel Mclean – Ex member of Bundaberg Clubs and founding member of the charter Club of Capricorn west Club

All got together for a few days of fun along with the business's matters at hand. As our usual holiday house was full due to schoolies, we had to hire two separate houses on the waterfront.

Friday night was a get together at the Woodgate Bowls Club where they won just about every raffle that was drawn that night (the locals will not be happy about that one ☹). After a big breakfast and breathtaking views that Woodgate has to offer, we held our last dinner meeting for 2020 as well as the AGM. It was great to have other members there to critique the running of these meetings as well as pointing out where we could improve.

Our awards for the year were all so announced, and the winners of these awards were as follows.

- Travel award - Most KM travelled in 2019-2020 - Tara Spotswood
- Membership award – This goes to the member that has introduced the most staying

members to our club. – This year the award was split between 4 members as they have reached out and just asked that question "Hey why not come along and have a look at what we do in Apex"

- o Keith and Steph Scanlan
- o Telitha Scott
- o Tanya Jones

- Service Hours Award – This goes to the member who has done the most service hours for the year. This year it was too close to call with three members who I know really do not list all their service hours down. These three people had there recorded hours in the early 200 hours for the year. There was only a difference of 20 or less between them all.

- o Steph Scanlan
- o Shannon Jaye
- o Tara Spotswood

- Apexian of the year – Bundaberg Club – This award is voted on by the club members themselves. They vote for who they believe has done Apex proud for the 2019-2020 year.

- o Tara Spotswood

Saturday lunch was put on as a thank you to our members for all the hard work they have done this year. Afternoon drinks were service on the veranda with some of our other members traveling out for the afternoon's entertainment. We had a fantastic weekend and a great wind-down to what has been a hell of a year for many people and Apex clubs. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that joined us for the weekend and made it what it was, as well as thank all those people that have helped the Bundaberg Apex Club through an interesting last year. Here's hoping for a better 2021 for us all.



# Apex Age Limit Update

In 2020, the Apex National Board for the first time in the history of the association invited members over the age of 45 to consider applying for the National Board. The National Board understands that this may have created some confusion and concern regarding the management of our Association as well as potentially impacting on your own club rules. I understand that there is a bit of confusion regarding the current age limit for your clubs and the association.

## Apex Structure

Prior to explaining how and why the change occurred, it is important to provide a summary of the Apex Structure.

The Apex Australia family consists of:

1. The company - Apex Australia Pty Ltd (being an incorporated entity)
2. Various Clubs being associations registered throughout the various states

## Background

As part of the changes to Apex when the states were removed there was significant discussion in relation to the age limit and at that time legal advice was received which stated that Apex Australia could limit admission to the National Board to the age of 45. This advice may have actually been correct at that point in time.

Several small but significant changes to how National Board has been operating over the past 5 – 6 years have meant that in early 2020 the Apex National Board sought additional legal advice regarding the 45 year age limit for the Apex Australia National Board. The Apex National Board was lucky to obtain the services of Sydney Barrister David Eardley who reviewed the legislation and activities of Apex Australia Pty Ltd and confirmed that the age limit in relation to Apex

Australia Pty Ltd is likely to be considered age discrimination and therefore potentially illegal. Importantly this advice did not impact on the clubs which are still able to determine their own age limit (provided such limit is 45 years or older).

## Legal Advice

The legal advice is a bit 'dry' but essentially due to how Apex Australia has operated over the past 5 years (the granting of monetary grants as well as potentially having employees) the Apex National Board is not an exempt body pursuant to the Age Discrimination Act 2004.

Given the legal advice the Apex National Board considered it appropriate to allow for any Apex Member of any club to apply for the roles on National Board, providing they have met any of the other criteria.

The end result is that any member of the association (being a member of active club) is entitled to apply for a role on National Board or the National President. Importantly this does not allow life members, associates or senior actives to be appointed to the Apex National Board – only Apexians who are classed as active members.

## Into the Future

There is no hiding from it, there is a conflict between the law and our own constitution. The current National Board view is that Apex and how we conduct ourselves should be in accordance with our own aims – put simply – Apex should aspire to be the height of citizenship. For the current national board this means that due to legal advice in addition to wanting to proactive on the issue of discrimination the current National Board allowed for the nomination of Apex members who were over the age of 45.

For whatever reason – there were no nominations for anyone over the age of 45. What is a new National Board going to do into the future is not known, for the moment the



conflict between our rules and the legal advice remains.

This would be a great topic for debate at the next National Convention – any takers ?

## ***Nominate for Regional Communicator of National Board***

Finally, it should be noted that our current National Board members and National President are 45 years or under (many are currently 45).

Should you or our club feel that members of the National Board should be under the age of 45 then the solution is simple – become and

Regional communicator or nominate yourself or encourage someone to nominate to nominate for a role on the National Board.

If you have any questions on this please contact the National Office.

Kind Regards

Leon Budden  
Solicitor

## ***Legal & Compliance Update***

### ***Changes to rules regarding the use of Proxy votes at AGM (and conventions)***

For those of you who zoomed into the AGM in 2020 you may have noticed that there was a bit of discussion regarding changes that National Board made to the Proxy voting system.

One of the issues of concern for the Apex National Board is the low attendance at our AGM and conventions. To hold an AGM we require at least 50% of club attendance including through the use of proxy's being held by the Regional Communicators. Over the years this has caused problems for the National Board who have in the past had to scramble to get last minute proxy forms submitted to ensure that the AGM can proceed. The concern by the National Board was especially high given the additional layer of difficulty caused by the COVID virus and travel restrictions.

To combat these concerns the National Board voted to add a rule into the manual modifying the proxy rules to ensure that our AGM could

continue. These rules operate as a 'fail safe' in the event a club does attend or appoint a proxy at which time there is an automatic proxy appointed to the chairperson.

It is important to understand that this rule does not prevent a club from either attending or nominating their own proxy for the AGM. The rule changes essentially operate as an opt-out arrangement such that if a club sends a delegate to the club or appoints their own proxy then this will apply. The backup proxy rule only 'kick-in' if a club either does not send their own nominee or a club does not provide a proxy.

These changed rules do not breach a provision of the Corporation Act or our Constitution as first and foremost we are not impacting on a club's ability to nominate their own delegate or proxy.

If you have any questions or queries regarding these changes please contact the national office.

Kind Regards

Leon Budden

## ***National President's New Year Message***

Dear Apexians,

As we kick off 2021, it is a great time to reflect on last year ... and what a year that was! Last year started off with some of the worst bushfires in living memory, and Apex, in partnership with the Apex Foundation, rose to the occasion and raised over \$57,000, dispersed through Apex Clubs to those who needed it most.

Covid-19 descended on the world, lockdowns and restrictions caused extreme hardship for our clubs, and our National Board responded by providing fee relief for all of our clubs by using reserves to fund two drawdowns.

Our first ever Zoom Convention ran smoothly and the postal/electronic AGM has been completed, with all of motions being passed without the need for the default proxy votes. Thank you again to all of the clubs who took the time to vote in the AGM, we need a majority of our clubs to vote for a quorum and we can't carry out our core business without your votes. I am humbled to be officially voted in as your National President, it is an absolute honour, a huge responsibility and a fantastic opportunity to give back to this incredible Association.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our amazing volunteers who have kept our clubs running under such difficult circumstances. It has been heartwarming and inspiring to see the determination and resilience demonstrated by Apexians during these unprecedented times. Apexians have always been a source of strength for our communities during adversity, and last year our Apexians have been exemplary. I would also like to thank the National Board and the

Regional Communicators for their dedication to Apex. They commit endless hours of volunteer time to ensure the proper governance of our Association, and I am very grateful for their tireless work for the benefit of Apex.

This coming year, we will be celebrating 90 years of Apex. More details on this will be forthcoming as the year progresses. I also look forward to our National Convention in Bundaberg in October 2021. After the cancellation of so many events in 2020, this event will be a fantastic opportunity for us to gather together as an Association and enjoy some much needed Apex fellowship. I also encourage all of our clubs to actively get involved in our National Project, which is to support the mental health of our local communities.

On behalf of the National Board, I wish you all a happy and safe festive season and I hope that the New Year provides opportunities for positivity and growth for our clubs and our members.

Yours in Apex,

***Bethany Paterson***  
***National President 2020-2021***  
***Apex Australia***





# Club News

## Beaufort

### Club of the Year!

Beaufort Apex Club #440 were privileged enough to be awarded 2019/2020 club of the year! A few of us sat on zoom all day Saturday with enthusiastic hope for the awards section. What the award has done for our club was immediately get people together, as Sunday, our lockdown restrictions were adjusted and we were able to get down to our clubrooms (first time since June) and celebrate with our members and senior actives.

One of our senior actives also told us that Beaufort Apex Club was state club of the year 10 years earlier, so that was great to celebrate our anniversary.

We also held our first face to face meeting since June also this past Thursday night. It was fantastic to share a meal with our mates that some of us hadn't seen in person for months. We also hosted Brad Venning from Kadina Apex Club, who was gifted with the return of a dinner bell acquired from the 2019 National Convention and a Chinchilla Apex Club table cover that had been "found." It was just an all round positive night with many smiles and great banter.



See in photo left to right: RC Ben Curnow, President Elect "Captain" James Kirkpatrick and Kadina Apex Club member Brad Venning. Below is Simon Grant, National Board, presenting the award to club members.



# Club News

## Finley

The highly anticipated Finley Rodeo that traditionally opens Finley's yearly events on the first weekend of January, has been postponed.

The event drew in more than 900 spectators last year which caused event organisers Finley Apex Club, to rethink the date due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. The Club will instead hold it on Easter Sunday, April 4.

According to NSW public health orders, non-ticketed events with no seating areas can have up to 500 people, however, ticketed events with seating can have up to 25 per cent of their capacity.

Finley Apex president Andrew Stephan said the grounds have limited seating and only having 25 per cent would severely impact on crowd capacity.

He said the postponement was a straightforward decision with still a lot of preparation work to go.

"We are still eager to hold the rodeo this year," Mr Stephan said.

"We've put a lot of effort into changing the set up of the grounds and we think it will encourage larger crowds and a better atmosphere."



Mr Stephan said Easter weekend will be a big few days for the competitors with the Deniliquin Rodeo scheduled for Saturday evening.

"We've previously held our event with Wangaratta Rodeo the same weekend so the competitors on tour are used to quick turn arounds."

## Jerilderie

Jerilderie Working Dog Auction organisers say the annual event will proceed as "as usual" with the date now confirmed for February 27, 2021.

Jerilderie Apex Club runs the event, with a successful history in recent years and top prices fetching more than \$20,000.

The 2020 dog auction was a big success with the event taking place prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Fifty-nine dogs were offered for sale with 54 selling for an overall sale average of \$7080,

almost \$1000 more than 2019. Of these 27 fully trained dogs sold for an average of \$8737.

Jerilderie Apex president Nick Gray said he foresees no interruption to next year's auction.





"We have confirmed the date and we expect to run business as usual; we don't get more than 500 people at our outdoors events and we also run nation wide with Auctions Plus," Mr Gray said.

"Having that alternative online avenue should help those who are unable to make the sale or are still being cautious about the Coronavirus."

Mr Gray is expecting another cash splash from buyers in 2021.

He said the sheep and wool markets are recovering which is often reflected in buyers' intentions.

"We've had a fantastic season on the east coast so that should be a big boost to our dog auction too."

The catalogue is in its planning phase and is expected to be released in January.

All proceeds go back to Jerilderie Apex Club to be distributed into the local community.



## ***Bunbury Koombana***

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the WA state Catch up!

Registration for WA State Catch Up 2021, hosted by the Apex Club of Bunbury Koombana is now open.

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/ApexGoWA>  
For more info.



Pictured here is the host club, Bunbury Koombana hard at work helping a local resident.



# MATT HAYDEN LINES UP TO BAT FOR THE BIG AUSSIE BARBIE



**Former world champion batsman and Australian icon, Matt Hayden, is firing up the barbeque in our quest to beat prostate cancer.**

Matt's father Lawrie is a prostate cancer survivor, placing Matt at double the risk of the disease.

"When we were told Dad had prostate cancer, my whole family was effectively given a cancer diagnosis. You go through treatment and recovery together, just like teamwork in cricket, and it teaches you the importance of banding together to fight this dreadful disease.

"My family understands first-hand the devastating effects of a prostate cancer diagnosis. I believe we need to get to the point where discussing health issues, like prostate cancer, is a normal part of our conversations with friends and family."

Matt says his career as a professional cricketer has opened up many opportunities for him to make a difference.

**"When family and friends are gathered around the barbie and enjoying a game of backyard cricket, I see the love and delight in each face, and remember the lesson my father taught me, that when you look after other people, you're also taking care of yourself."**



Matt at home with his dog Archie



## Matt Hayden's Fresh Snapper BBQ Marinade

**Fresh quality ingredients and simple cooking techniques.**

### INGREDIENTS

- ☐ 1 teaspoon salt flakes
- ☐ 1 teaspoon white pepper
- ☐ 4 garlic cloves
- ☐ 2 tablespoons rosemary
- ☐ 3 tablespoons olive oil

### PREPARATION

Chop and combine ingredients. Mix well through fish fillets and refrigerate for one hour before cooking. Enjoy!

**Sign up for the  
2020 Big Aussie  
Barbie and help us  
bat back against  
prostate cancer.**

[bigaussiebarbie.com.au](http://bigaussiebarbie.com.au)



## Prostate cancer – the numbers

- Every 30 minutes, one of our fathers, brothers, or sons is diagnosed with prostate cancer.
- 9 Australian men will die today of prostate cancer.
- 46 Australian men will be diagnosed today with prostate cancer.
- 1 in 6 Aussie men will be diagnosed by age 85.
- This year about 3200 Australian men will die from prostate cancer.
- This year about 16,700 Australian men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer.
- About 1 in 5 men with prostate cancer experience long-term anxiety and depression.
- Australian men in regional areas face a 24% higher risk of death from prostate cancer.
- Australian men with prostate cancer have a 70% increased risk of suicide.
- 72% of Australian men who develop mental illness linked to their prostate cancer will not seek help for it.
- About 12% of all male cancer deaths in Australia are caused by prostate cancer.
- Prostate cancer is the #2 cancer killer in Australian men.
- 1 in 35 Australian men will die of prostate cancer by his 85th birthday.
- Prostate cancer is the #1 cancer among Australian men.
- There are over 220,000 Australian men alive today after a diagnosis of prostate cancer.
- Over the past 35 years, prostate cancer survival has jumped from 60% to 95% - if we keep up the pace of progress we can beat it.

## Where your money goes

### Nursing

\$78 You can cover the cost of an initial consultation with a specialist prostate cancer telenurse to help a newly diagnosed man understand his treatment options.

\$104 You can cover the cost of sending information packs to eight newly diagnosed men who call our telenursing service.

\$252 You can cover the cost of distress screening for a newly diagnosed man experiencing psychological concerns, ensuring he is referred to expert care.

### Research

\$450 You can fund lab testing of a deadly prostate tumour, to help develop new treatments for men with aggressive disease.

\$950 You can cover the cost of one PET/CT scan in a life-saving clinical trial for men who have metastatic prostate cancer.

\$4,750 You can cover the cost of one dose of treatment using a powerful molecule that helps to identify the spread of prostate cancer cells in men suffering from metastatic disease.

\$9,900 You can cover the cost of one treatment cycle for a man taking part in a life-saving clinical trial testing powerful new drugs that target and kill prostate cancer cells that have spread throughout the body.

*Sign up to host a Big Aussie Barbie and start a conversation that can save a life.*

Go to [www.bigaussiebarbie.com.au](http://www.bigaussiebarbie.com.au)  
or call PCFA on  
1800 22 00 99 to get involved!



# Apex Foundation

Reproduced below is the Chairman's report for the Apex Foundation 2020 year. For more information, and to join the Foundation (all Apexians are welcome to join!), visit

[apexfoundation.org.au](http://apexfoundation.org.au)

Apex was formed during the Great Depression and no one reading my report in 2020 could imagine how catastrophic these times were, with the suffering experienced by so many far and wide.

It is with mixed emotions that I write this report conveying to our members, supporters and partners an overview of the Apex Foundation activities over the past 12 months. After taking on the Chairman's role a year ago, one could have never foreseen the huge bushfires that were about to encompass many parts of Australia, and the pandemic that would completely change the world, and the considerable impact that these events have had on us all, and the Foundation. This report is a bit long-winded, but I wanted to paint a picture of how our Directors have been to the fore, and to express my sincere gratitude for their unwavering support.

As Chairman, I wanted to further engage with Apex Clubs and to do our utmost to support Apex Clubs around Australia. It is very important to always remember our roots.

Thus our Mission:

*Improving the lives of children and families, and helping Apex Clubs build better communities.*

The bushfires that ravaged Australia over the summer of 2019/20 were some of the worst fires that the country has experienced. The Apex Foundation teamed up with Apex Australia to instigate a Bushfire Appeal. The Foundation agreed to match dollar for dollar up to \$25,000. The end result was that in excess of \$57,000 was raised, and these funds were utilised by Apex Clubs in Bairnsdale, Kadina, Traralgon, Beaufort, Gawler, South Wagga Wagga, and on the Darling Downs in their efforts to help those impacted. Our Company Secretary, Mike, also worked tirelessly in recovery work throughout NSW for four months, helping out the Office of Emergency Management. The bushfires, along with other natural disasters have also had a considerable impact on our insurance premiums, resulting in an increase of over \$10,000 this year.

The Apex Underprivileged Children's Trust was very much impacted:

**Apex Magic Castle** – Following last year finishing on a high with the 40th birthday



Apex Australia National President 2019/2020, Michael Godfrey, receiving a donation of \$ 25,000 for the Apex Bushfire Fund from Apex Foundation Chairman, Tony Wilshire



celebrations and the NSW government donating \$20,000, plus the signing of a new 15-year lease, the lows started with the Chalet very close to being lost due to bushfires; which resulted in cancelled Apex work parties. Then the arrival of Covid-19 led to this facility being closed for the remainder of this calendar year. Hopefully, 2021 will see those smiling happy faces back at the magical place, and our Director, Jamie, resting a bit easier!

**The Shack** – The bushfires all but eliminated visitors over the Christmas holiday period, and Covid-19 dictated that the units were locked down for four months. The hands-on actions of Brian to have the units reopened was huge. During this upheaval, Kristine Vincent passed away in March after a long illness. Kris made an enormous contribution during the establishment of the SHACK, and for the following 20-plus years. Both Kris and husband Ray worked tirelessly in its management. The Foundation and all the underprivileged children and their families who have utilised this fantastic venue will be forever indebted to Kristine Vincent.

**Copper Coast Retreats**– The four holiday units at Wallaroo in South Australia were closed from March to June due to Covid-19. Bookings have now reopened through Cancer Council SA. The funding of these units comes from the iconic annual October Postie Bike Ride in the Flinders Ranges. The 2019 ride was most successful with \$180,000 being raised, taking the total past \$1,100,000. The Sawleys and all Mid North Apex Clubs did an incredible job, and our thanks go to all those involved there.

**The Apex Foundation Community Fund** was previously known as the General Grants Fund and then the Necessitous Circumstances Trust. We have widened its appeal and have named it more appropriately The Apex Foundation Community Fund. We have already distributed more than \$4,900 to Apex Clubs this year to help them in their local communities. We are always looking for innovative projects through which we can help raise the profile of

the Fund, and to support Apex Clubs with their local projects.

Share market downturn has impacted our financial position, which resulted in the Board deciding to critically reduce the grants made, and trim our costs. Besides the Community Fund, grants are made for medical research and charitable causes, along with those supporting under privileged children via our three Civilian Widows Trusts. The Foundation made the third and final \$25,000 grant to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund. The Board has made a decision to consider future medical research grants which will engage the involvement of Apex Clubs.

Over the past 12 months, the Queensland Civilian Widows Trust has made grants totalling \$51,000. Of these, \$21,000 were instigated through local Apex Clubs. Likewise in WA, grants totalled \$16,000, of which \$9,000 involved Apex Clubs. The NSW Civilian Widows Trust saw two of our subcommittee members, Lizette McCallum (ill health) and Geoffrey Atherden, resign. On behalf of the Board, I would like to convey to Lizette and Geoffrey our appreciation for the huge contribution they have both made over many, many years.

After excellent returns in recent years, the 2019/20 financial year was very difficult with very low interest rates and a Covid-19 induced share market correction. However, while the share market was down 12% for the year, our portfolio was down less than 5%. The return reflected the diversification and quality of our investments, and we appreciate how the Investment Chair, Lindsay and Brian, have addressed this, along with the Investment Team at Shaw and Partners, very ably led by James Gerrish. Not only did James host our last AGM, but he and his work colleague, Harry, participated in the Postie Bike Ride, and raised \$30,000 and they have raised another \$20,000 in the current year.

Stephen Bigarelli who is our Finance Director, advises that our distributions from Trusts have

**Continued on page 19**



**Bargara 2021**

**The RORT is back!!**

**TUESDAY 4TH MAY TO SUNDAY 9TH MAY**

# 2021 - BARGARA QLD

**Bundaberg**  
Southern Great Barrier Reef  
Queensland *Where great begins*  
[www.bundabergregion.org](http://www.bundabergregion.org)

**APEX 40 AUSTRALIA**

[www.apex40.com](http://www.apex40.com) Email: [2021bargara@apex40.com](mailto:2021bargara@apex40.com)

**Bargara QLD 2021**

**APEX 40 AUSTRALIA**

# RORT

**Tuesday 4th May to Sunday 9th May 2021**

Just four hours drive from Brisbane, Bargara is situated on the coastline of the Southern Great Barrier Reef and offers an idyllic beachside lifestyle.

10 minutes drive through cane fields is Bundaberg, which is rich with year-round fresh produce and iconic drinks. Enjoy a visit to the famous Bundaberg Rum Distillery or the Bundaberg Brewed Drinks Barrel, or discover the lush botanical gardens and beautiful main street. You are guaranteed to go home with a full tummy when you visit Australia's food bowl so make sure you explore the many cafes and eateries and stop at the roadside stalls bursting with fresh produce. Come and join us at the 2021 Apex 40 RORT!

## The RORT

**Tues. 4th May**  
3.00 - 5.30pm Registration at the Bargara Golf Club (Club Bargara).  
5.15pm Coach collects members from Bargara Caravan Park for Club Bargara for Welcome Social.  
6.00pm Drinks and finger food at Club Bargara.  
9.00pm Coaches return to Bargara Caravan Park.

**Wed. 5th May**  
9.00am Coaches depart for a 9.30am visit and tour of the brand spanning new Mon Repos Turtle Centre (completed in 2019 at a cost of \$22m) with morning tea, followed by a drive through one of Queensland's largest fruit and vegetable bowls, via the remnants of a 900,000 year old extinct volcano known as the Hummock Lookout. This scenic stop overlooks the Coral Sea and coastline from the highest local point.  
12.30pm Coaches proceed on to Bundaberg's Quay Street Alexander Park gazebo on the river bank, for a Subway platter lunch and refreshments. After lunch, a leisurely stroll through the park to the Alexander Park Zoo on the Burnett River.  
3.30pm Coach departs for Bargara Brewhouse.  
4.00pm Tour of Bargara Brewhouse with tasting paddies, finger food and pizzas.  
7.30 - 9.00pm Coaches return to Bargara.

**Bargara QLD 2021**

**APEX 40 AUSTRALIA**

# RORT

## Accommodation Choices

**Bargara Beach Caravan Park** *This is the preferred caravan Park*  
25 Fred Courtice Avenue  
Nelson Park  
Bargara QLD 4670  
Phone: 07 4150 2228  
[stay@bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au](mailto:stay@bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au)  
[www.bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au](http://www.bargarabeachcaravanpark.com.au)

**Bargara Blue Resort**  
4 Baxter Avenue  
Bargara Beach QLD 4670  
Phone: 07 4150 1691  
[info@bargarablue.com.au](mailto:info@bargarablue.com.au)  
[www.bargarablue.com.au/](http://www.bargarablue.com.au/)

**Absolute Oceanfront Tourist Park**  
117 Woongarra Scenic Drive  
Bargara QLD 4670  
Phone: 07 4150 2436  
[oceanfront-park@bigpond.com.au](mailto:oceanfront-park@bigpond.com.au)  
[www.oceanfrontpark.com.au/](http://www.oceanfrontpark.com.au/)

All RORT'ers must book their own accommodation. Bargara Beach is the preferred Caravan Park, whilst the Absolute Oceanfront Tourist Park should only be booked if there is no accommodation available at Bargara Beach Caravan Park. The Coaches will pick up from these three sites only, should you wish to stay at another location you will need to make your own way to our coach stop at Bargara Beach Caravan Park.

**BARGARA BREWING COMPANY**  
Turning water into beer

**Bargara 2021**

**The RORT is back!!**

**TUESDAY 4TH MAY TO SUNDAY 9TH MAY**

## POSTAL REGISTRATION FORM

**You can register using this form or Online.** Mail this form: **2021 Apex 40 RORT**  
PO Box 5204 Manly QLD 4179.  
Online through the website: [www.apex40.com](http://www.apex40.com)

**Rorter 1:** First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Number at RORT: \_\_\_\_\_ Sub Group /MAL or Org.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rorter 2:** First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Food allergies, mobility or other issues: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Travel Method: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** ☐ Tick if you have rollover credit from the cancelled 2020 RORT **Or**  
I am registering for \_\_\_\_\_ person / people at the discounted price of \$380 each  
Total Amount owing \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Cheque payable to **Apex 40 Australia 2021 RORT** BSB: 034053  
Post to: **Apex 40 Australia PO Box 5204 Manly Qld 4179** Or direct deposit Account: 361301  
Use surname as reference

**Accommodation Choice: (Booking is your responsibility)**

☐ Bargara Beach Caravan Park ☐ Absolute Ocean Front Tourist Park  
☐ Bargara Blue Resort ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



# Apex Foundation

gone from a positive \$661,000 in the 2019 year to a negative \$426,000 in 2020.

Our overall trust value has declined from \$9,446,000 to \$8,812,000 in 2020, a reduction of 6.7%. We have been able to access the Federal Government's Job Keepers programme and other stimulus packages.

There are so many to thank for their huge contributions: Mike and Brian for the work they did with re-writing all the by-laws; Lindsay with the three newsletters; Lindsay and Jamie with the work completed with membership and the new marketing brochure; Michael Godfrey (particularly with the bushfire piece) and Bethany Paterson with their contribution on an Association perspective; and it was great to have people on our Board such as John and Graham, who were always giving when I was looking for some advice.

We have been very fortunate to have our Executive Officer, Clement Fernandez. His work ethic, honesty, adaptability is second to none. Clement readily accepted all the obstacles

borne by Covid-19. Thanks Clement for your loyalty and commitment to myself and the Board. Board Meetings have been conducted utilising the online Zoom facility this year. We also had three extraordinary meetings at the height of Covid-19, making decisions about the well-being of the Foundation, our investments, and the closure/reopening of our facilities.

As my report goes to press, we have four nominations for two Directors' positions, thus the need to have an election, which is a very healthy position to be in. If you have the necessary skills/business acumen to add value to our Board, together with the time and dedication, I would love to hear from you.

Finally, I need to say a huge thank you to our Company Secretary, Michael Fitze. He has been a tower of strength to myself. He does so much that goes unnoticed. Thank you Mike.

Thanks,  
Tony Wilshire  
Chairman

**Remember the Apex Foundation in your will**  
**If you would like to leave 'something for Apex' why not consider a bequest to:**

**The APEX FOUNDATION COMMUNITY FUND or**  
**The APEX FOUNDATION CHARITABLE GENERAL TRUST.**

**Funds from both of these trusts can go to Apex Club projects.**

**For more information, please see our website**

**<https://www.apexfoundation.org.au/get-involved/donate>,**

**Or contact**

**Clement Fernandez, our Executive Officer.**

**[eo@apexfoundation.org.au](mailto:eo@apexfoundation.org.au)**

**We can tailor something especially for you.**

Visit <https://youtu.be/2-pPGDiObMo>  
to view a fabulous celebration of the 40th anniversary  
of the Apex Magic Castle



A big thank you to Apexian Kass O'Kelly for organising this

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**WEB**

[apex.org.au](http://apex.org.au)

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1800 00 APEX

**ADMIN EMAIL**

[admin@apex.org.au](mailto:admin@apex.org.au)

**FACEBOOK GROUP**

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groups/5286391317](https://www.facebook.com/groups/5286391317)

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[newsletter@apex.org.au](mailto:newsletter@apex.org.au)

If your club has some news  
to share please send details  
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Don't forget to share this  
newsletter with everyone in  
your Club.

**The Apexian,  
February 2021  
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