



Roaring 40's Magazine September 2024

Official publication for Apex 40 Australia Inc.
Apex 40 Australia Inc. is the recognized body of affiliated past
Apexians groups.



An aerial view of the venue for our 2025 Rort to be held at the Broken Hill Outback Resort from 6th to 12th May next year.

About Us.

For Continuing Fellowship

Apex 40 Australia Inc. is not a Service Club, but an organisation formed to foster fellowship among past Apexians and their partners, and to retain the many friendships formed during their Apex years.

It also exists to assist Apex, when asked, and not to operate in opposition to Apex. It is open to past members and their partners, and Ex-World Councillors who have retired from their respective organisations.

Some Apex 40 members decided to form sub-committees which are generally based around past or present Apex Club locations. These sub-committees may meet monthly or less regularly, but all with a view to maintaining and fostering friendships, and occasionally providing assistance to Apex Clubs.

Each year members from Apex 40 gather for a weekend to attend the Annual Convention known as 'The Rort'. During this weekend there is a brief interruption to the festivities to conduct the necessary formality of The Annual General Meeting. In the past, after the RORT, a Post-RORT tour of 4 or 5 days duration has been programmed, visiting areas surrounding the town hosting The Rort. In future both events may be combined and shortened to reduce costs.

The socialising of individual members with each other, across the whole organisation, never ceases. When on an interstate holiday, for example, members invariably look up acquaintances and friends made during the Rorts. It is a huge social club and fosters friendships among whole families.

Membership is open to all past members of Apex, their partners and members of affiliated clubs.



Neil Hookey and Lionel Mussell, two of our founding members still able to attend the 2024 Sunshine Coast Rort and have booked for 2025.



President's Report
Col Gifford, XEPA. Qld

Not a great deal to report at this time

Carole and I have been attending group functions in a number of locations.

So far, we have visited a luncheon with Wynnum Manly, another with Gold Coast and most recently Hervey Bay.

Thanks to the members of these groups for the welcomes we received and the hospitality. The ideal of fellowship certainly lives on.

As mentioned in my last report now would be a good time for members to think about nominating for the position of Vic Ashby's Vice President when takes on the President's role at the Broken Hill Rort.

For those who may be interested in having a shot but who are perhaps a little unsure as to the details of the role please feel free to contact me to discuss what is involved.

At the latest Rort I had asked members whether the idea of a Cruise Rort would be worth considering. Around 40% of those present showed interest.

There are a few cruises starting to appear that may be suitable and I will continue to keep looking for possible options.

At the functions Carole and I have attended I have spoken about our Facebook Apex 40 group. There are members that are not keen to join Facebook despite the fact that our Apex 40 group can only be joined after being approved by our administrators and items posted can only be viewed by fellow members.

It would be great if any group planning a function can post the details on the Facebook page. It is a great way for members who may be in your area on holiday to be made aware of the event and to attend.

Hope that all our members are fit and well.

Yours in Apex 40
Col Gifford.



National Vice President & Membership

Vic Ashby. Nepean Valley. NSW.

Well hasn't this year gone fast. Here it is October and before we know it, we will be all heading out to Broken Hill for the Rort. There will be quite a few of us travelling to Broken Hill by train, a 13-hour direct trip, however I'm sure we will make the most of it.

If you haven't given any thought on how you are getting there booking will be available in early October. I have been able to visit a few subcommittees and I'm pleased that membership is strong within them. I was able to visit Great 8, Wyong and Nepean Valley. As we go to press, I'm motoring north to join EXPA for their breakfast get together. On the 29th September.

On a personal note, I was humbled by the many messages of "get well soon" after my unexpected and lengthy stay in hospital recently. A simple procedure went pear shaped resulting in a stay in ICU and in the ward. Members will be pleased to note that you will not need to find another Vice President.

Well, that's all from me.

Yours in Apex40
Vic Ashby (NVP)



Secretaries Report

Col Ramsay. Wynnum Manly. Qld

From the Desk of the Secretary:

Well, there has been very little activity across my desk since the last issue of the "Roaring 40's".

I have sent a couple of emails regarding the 41ers AGM and tour in New Zealand in 2025 and it would appear at this stage that a contingency from Apex 40 Australia will be attending. What a GREAT effort. Maybe we can get more to attend? Please check with Robyn at iro@apex40.com for more information.

The 2025 Rort at Broken Hill now has 101 members registered and accommodation booked. A few members have booked accommodation but as yet, have not registered with Apex 40. If you are one of these members, please go online and register so that the Rort Organising team can better plan this upcoming event.

We have had a small increase in our membership and I have ordered and posted a number of Name Badges.

As usual, Ken is keeping our WEB site updated so when you have a few minutes to spare, please visit the site: <https://apex40.com.au/>

Please remember that Our National Treasurer looks after the money side of things, so please forward any information regarding payments etc. to Keith. treasurer@apex40.com

On a private note, Phyl and I will be moving in late 2024 to our new home at “Promenade” Burpengary East. We are moving to a gated community, so certainly a change for us. We have selected a corner block as we end up with just a little more land. This complex is 50klm North of Manly, about half way to the Sunshine Coast from Brisbane. Our new home was originally due for completion April/May 2025 but is well ahead of time.



All National Board members are contactable by email:

Colin Gifford	president@apex40.com
Vic Ashby	vicepresident@apex40.com
Keith Miller	treasurer@apex40.com
Robyn Thorley	iro@apex40.com
Vic Ashby	membership@apex40.com
Bill Cramp	roaring@apex40.com
Ken Wright	web@apex40.com
Col Ramsay	secretary@apex40.com

To all, have a Safe and Healthy 2024 and beyond,
Col Ramsay, National Secretary.



Treasurer's Report.
Keith Miller. Nepean. N.S.W.

Nothing to report from the Treasurers Desk for this edition.

Keith Miller Apex 40 Australia Inc



International Relations and Apex Liaison
Robyn Thorley. Great 8 Group. NSW.

Hi everyone,

The 2024 RORT certainly provided me with lots of opportunities to reach out to different avenues of communication for information. Those on Facebook will have noticed a big increase of International News from Apex and Apex 40 affiliates, including Africa, Germany, Belgium and India RoundTable/41's. I'm receiving several daily posts to my personal Facebook page and share those with the most relevant information. These posts have also seen an increase in Apex 40 members contributing to the conversations, which is great!

One topic that is certainly at the forefront Internationally and Nationally at the moment is Men's Mental Health with several projects around Australia and overseas happening. Our Great 8 Apex 40 had a discussion around a men's morning tea/lunch earlier this year and started a weekly men's lunch. This wasn't specifically designed around mental health, but more of a chance for 'blokes to talk about bloke stuff' that didn't necessarily happen at our monthly mixed meetings. Although only a small group, there is always a handful of men who attend (what happens at lunch stays at lunch!) It may be something that is worth a conversation in your group.

There are also aid projects happening, one that comes to mind is the quilts and knitted blankets being collected and distributed to affiliated clubs overseas. If you like to knit or quilt and are looking donate, this may be a project you could be interested in.

41 Club N.Z. Reunion 2025: There has been two updates circulated through Secretary Col recently. I believe there are a few members considering attending.

IR Hospitality: I didn't receive any feedback from the request by Derek from the British 41 Isis Area Club regarding his visit during the British Lions tour in July 2025 in Melbourne and Adelaide. He would like to make contact with members/group while he's here. Derek sent me a detailed personal letter about himself and 41 Club and his professional careers. So, if anyone can help or has any other ideas, please contact me so that I can relay the info to him.

Don't forget to let me know if you're travelling and catching up with RoundTablers/41's or if you have been able to support a local Apex Club in your area. We'd all love to know about it!

Robyn
(Int IRO & Apex Liaison)



Webmaster

Ken Wright. Nepean Valley. N.S.W.

The Apex 40 website and Facebook page have been a little quiet, in terms of visitors, since the Queensland RORT. Registrations are still coming in for Broken Hill with about 98 people who have registered through the online system.

I have made some minor changes to the website most of which would not be noticed and I will always intend on keeping the webpage “fresh” where possible.

Jaince and I are considering attending the NZ AGM in Kaikōura, New Zealand March next year, details will soon be on the Website and I am sure Robyn would have included some information in her report.

Ken Wright
Web editor



From the Editor's Desk

Bill Cramp, Redlands. Qld.

Like other committee members I can report my in-tray is not overflowing with news items to fill these pages. Apart from the half dozen groups that regularly supply newsletters or notice of dinners, my sources of information are limited. Thankfully, additional groups post updates on the Apex 40 Facebook group. The next edition of the Roaring 40's will be published in December, and I am looking forward to news from around our groups on their Christmas/New Year celebrations. With your support, we can put together a bumper edition. Bill Cramp.

Vale Ron Clarke of Bendigo Apex 40 from Melbourne Gippsland Apex 40



Ron Clarke (not the Olympian in 1956) passed away mid-July aged 85.

Ron was a past President and Life Member of Bendigo Apex and a long serving member of Bendigo Apex 40 Club.

Bendigo was the 8th Apex 40 Club formed and held a long association with Melbourne/Gippsland Apex 40 Club with many get togethers of the two clubs, with Ron via Niblick golf shoes a sponsor of our Annual Golf gets together formed through Alan Kinder our past member of Melbourne/Gippsland and National Board.

In the mid 1990's Ron was on National Board of Apex 40, and I took over from him as National President in 1995.

Ron was a Shoe Agent and acted for various manufacturers in selling their shoes as a wholesaler to the retail market.

One of these companies was Niblick/Cherub who developed the Niblick Golf shoe which in the late 1970's dominated the golf shoe industry and had over 90% of the Australian golf industry market. In those days Niblick was a sponsor to the young professional golfer Greg Norman and introduced by Ron. Hence this is how Ron became so popular at our annual tournaments played in Bendigo and Melbourne.

Our deepest sympathy has been passed onto Ron's family and members of Bendigo Apex 40.

In view of past member of National Board of Apex 40 passed on for information.

Garth Whitchurch

Vale Kevin Frazer

Our 1st National Secretary of Apex 40, Kevin Frazer passed away late last July and was 6 days short of his 91st birthday.

While not a current member of our Club (due to age and living in Bittern, near Hastings) thought it appropriate to let you both know.

Kevin was National Secretary to Lionel Mussell and back in July 1975 on behalf of the Association, Apex 40 offered the founders of Apex, Ewen Laird and Langham Proud Honorary Life membership of our organisation.

While they refused life membership, they did mention that Apex was originally for young men aged 18 to 35 years old and believed that "Older "arrived" men could tend to put a break on the enthusiasm of youth, who lacking in inhibitions can "move mountains" if they so desire.

Kevin was a Foundation Member of the Apex Club of Nunawading in 1965 and retired when he turned 40, as was the practice in those days. Also, he was granted Life Membership of Apex.

He was one of the founding members of Apex 40 in 1973 with the formation of our club, Melbourne-Gippsland Apex 40 which was the first Apex 40 Club established.

After Apex, Kevin joined Nunawading Lions Club in late 1979 and was member for nearly 45 years.

Kind regards,

Garth Whitchurch

President Melbourne-Gippsland Apex 40 Club.

Past National President Apex 40 in 1995.

Around the Sub-Committees

New South Wales

Alstonville

740 kms north of Sydney

June: Once again the Henry Rous lived up to its reputation of fine food and around 20 of us enjoyed a the great meal & fellowship.

July: Lunch at the Shelley Beach Café and whale watching was the agenda for this meet.

August: Lunch at the Cherry Street Sports Club.

September: Lunch at William Street Café, Lennox Head.

October: Planned for 3rd – Breakfast at Saltbush at the Point, Ballina.



Byron Bay

760 kms north of Sydney

Blue Mountains Crest

100 kms west of Sydney

Future dates for the balance of the year:

Oct 1st Bronwyn's (early dinner)

Oct 19th Fashion Parade

Nov 3rd to 9th Smiggin Holes

Dec 20th AGM at the McGills

Dec 20th Christmas Lunch – The farm

September meeting was at Anne & Kerry's with discussion to include the Fashion Parade and touch on our Smiggin trip.

Great 8 Hunter Valley

170 kms north of Sydney

22 June A cold night for a warm casserole dinner the home of El Presidente Andrews for Great 8 tonight. Thanks for the cooking, everyone!



at

19 July

Fun night tonight with Great fellowship as Great 8 celebrated Christmas in July and Changeover! Thanks to outgoing President Andrew Vile, welcome incoming President Paul (Paul Sandra O'Donohue). Thanks to Secretary/Treasurer Sue Chapman and D.N. Editor 'The Colonel' for continuing in your positions. Good to have National V.P. Victor Ashby attend and speak about encouraging membership by continuing to contact old Apexians to extend a dinner invite with the view of increasing membership. Looks like an exciting year ahead with the next 6 months planned!



14
September

Great 8's meeting today spent on the Tillegery cruising on the 102-year-old Wangi Queen. Lots of local history along the way, beautiful day, great company and scenery!

Next day

A cold wet and windy day hasn't stopped Great 8's enjoyment! Lunch for some, a book for others, but no doubt they'll be cards on later. We went in search of some historical sights mentioned on yesterday's cruise! Avenue of the Allies and the 102 y/o Tanilba House. — in Lemon Tree Passage, Port Stephens. And the Great 8 night continues! Happy hour, Fish n chips in the camp kitchen, a couple of games of euchre (guys won!)



Inverell

560 kms northwest of Sydney

Leeton

590 kms southwest of Sydney

Lismore

745 kms north of Sydney

Manly

15 kms east of Sydney.

Moree

640 kms northwest of Sydney.

Nepean Valley

60 kms west of Sydney.

16 June Lunch today at St Marys Rugby League Club by Nepean Valley Apex40. A big thanks to Rachael and Keith for organising the luncheon 21 August.

Wowie. What a great day our Day in the City turned out to be.

A 24 degrees Sydney winters day & our Apex 40 Nepean Valley crew soaked it up.



Morning tea 10am at The Bullion Cafe in The Sydney Mint building then on tour of The Mint with our tour guide Rex. We were given a talk on The History of houses, & furnishings (including wallpaper) since the 1850's & a brief tour of the building.

We then wandered up Macquarie Street to Sydney Parliament House. Had a quick tour of Sydney's Parliament House Post Office (the home of KM 2005-2014). 😊

Lunch in the Parliament House newly renovated cafe. As an extra bonus, we were allowed in to check out The Strangers Dining Room & also The Members dining room.

This was followed by a tour & talk of the Legislative Council chamber (red Upper House) Angela, our fun tour guide.

Then a quick visit to The Jubilee Room (the first library of the Parliament of NSW). Quite the sight with so much history in that room.

Next our tour guide Nathan took us into the Legislative Assembly (green lower house) & gave us a private viewing of the very impressive Mace (symbol of power in lower house).

An added bonus was our catering manager took us up to secure area Level 9 where we took in the outdoor gardens on that level.



Wyong

100 kms north of Sydney

Wyong planned to have their monthly lunches as follows: -

25 July The Beachcomber, Toukley; 29 August The Diggers, The Entrance;
26 Sept. Shelley Beach Golf Club.

Victoria

Bendigo

153 kms north of Melbourne.

Friday 26th July Bendigo Apex 40 members attended the show – “The Grandparents Club” at the Ulumbarra Theatre.

14th September Bendigo Apex 40 took the train trip from Castlemaine to Maldon. A great night was had by all who attended. Our ‘Murder on the Orient Express’ experience aboard the Goldfields Railway steam train was a most enjoyable activity. Although it was a very cold night, we were well-nourished with our meal at the Railway Hotel prior to departure and on board the train with snacks from the Bar.

Thursday 31st October the show “Travellin’ Still – the Music of Slim Dusty” is planned for the next outing.



Murder on the Orient Express outing.

Dandenong Valley

35 kms south of Melbourne

Geelong

73 kms southwest of Melbourne

Melbourne-Gippsland

40 kms east of Melbourne

Melbourne Nor-westers

22 kms northwest of Melbourne



14 July Melbourne NorWesters held their Christmas in July Lunch today at the home of Trevor and Maree Jaensch in Romsey, catered by Maree, her daughters and Nancy Dudley. A great afternoon was enjoyed on a freezing day in the warmth of their sunroom.

An enjoyable Kris Kringle was held following,

chaired by Santa Max Cheney.

Melbourne Sou-westers

270 kms southwest of Melbourne

Call to dinner meeting Tuesday, 1st October at the Cobden Golf Club, 6.30 for 7.00pm. We would like to extend invitations to all former Apexians especially from Cobden, Camperdown, Colac and Timboon. If you know of any ex Apexians from these areas please invite them, or any former Apexian for that matter. Let's try and get numbers there and have a great night, forward this email to them if you wish.

Sunraysia

546 kms northwest of Melbourne

Queensland

Bundaberg

165 kms north of Brisbane

Caloundra

103 kms north of Brisbane

Central Queensland

636 kms north of Brisbane

Curtis Coast

530 kms north of Brisbane

Gold Coast

80 kms south of Brisbane

Long standing president, Neil McPherson has announced his resignation from the position due to ongoing health issues. His assistant and treasurer, Ken Muir is also standing down. The new chairman will be Linton Thompson with the support of Steve Lather.

Their last function was on 4 August, which NP Col Gifford and his wife, together with Val and I were able to attend.

Hervey Bay

290 kms north of Brisbane

21 August. Great lunch today with Apex Hervey Bay. 24 attendees who made Carole and I very welcome. The Apex ideal of fellowship is alive and well. Thank you, Dale, for arranging the day.
NP Col



40

Ipswich

43 kms southwest of Brisbane

Maryborough

290 kms north of Brisbane

Redlands

35 kms south of Brisbane

Redlands hired the local Lions Community Centre in Cleveland for the August lunch. A local fish & chip shop provided individually packed meals including side salads and from elsewhere a slab of cheesecake, local strawberries and cream topped out the feast.



The next lunch will be on 6th October for the AGM at the Benfer home on Mt. Cotton.

Wynnum Manly

20 kms east of Brisbane

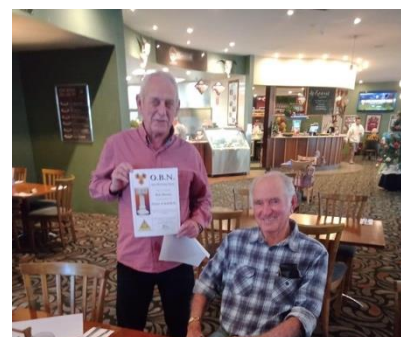


The latest lunch was held at the Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club on 23rd August.

The highlight was the presentation of OBE status to well known MAL, Kevin King, as well as a card signed by all present and a small gift.

XEPA Great South East

30 kms southeast of Brisbane



Another great get together for the Xepa group. Great that so many people were able to attend with a lot of our grey nomad members being away in their vans.

Bob Skinner receiving his Over Blooming 90 certificate at the Xepa meeting earlier today.

South Australia

Adelaide Hills

35 kms southeast of Adelaide

Tasmania

Devonport

255 kms northwest of Hobart

Launceston

200 kms north of Hobart

In July our get-together was once again held at The Lost Farm, out of Bridport. We had a view of the restaurant and golf course on a wet and windy day. We convinced staff that the last two to arrive should also sit at our table. They eventually agreed to add two more chairs so they could join us. Meal was good but the steep entrance and exit was not easy to manage as we get older.

Last month we went to the Beauty Point Hotel beside the Tamar River. As it was a Sunday, there were many families eating out. Meal was excellent. It was the first time we have experienced the “cashless society” we are to become. Notices everywhere stating that they did not give out cash on credit cards. This was bad for their business as they had Pokies and Keno on hand and would not give out cash to play them. We went up to Roger and Cheryl’s home for afternoon tea and to play cards. We only spent 60 cents playing cards - all agreed it was a much cheaper afternoon that way.

Kind regards to all fellow Apex 40 members.

Jan Storay.

Apex Australia News

The 2024 National convention is to be held over the weekend of 10th. to 13th. October at Reflections-Lake Cooby, hosted by South Toowoomba Apex.

The Apex Club of South Toowoomba.

The Apex Club of South Toowoomba began making a difference in the Toowoomba community in 1964. In 2024, the South Toowoomba Apex Club will celebrate 60 years of service to our local community and hosting the Apex Australia National Convention is a great way to continue the celebrations throughout the year and showcase the work that our small club contributes to Toowoomba.

Club #427

The Apex Club of South Toowoomba has been a cornerstone of community support, consistently making a positive impact on the vibrant city of Toowoomba. Through our dedicated efforts and numerous initiatives, our club has played a pivotal role in fostering a sense of unity and service. Whether organising local events, supporting charitable causes, or spearheading community development projects, the Apex Club of South Toowoomba has exemplified the spirit of volunteerism and civic responsibility. Our commitment to enhancing the quality of life in Toowoomba is not just commendable but has left an incredible mark, making the community stronger, more connected, and resilient.

The latest version number 50 is now available for you to read.

https://mcusercontent.com/682b79807efc2d8ec7e15f4a4/files/6f24c967-58ab-272a-0e94-9854b064b602/Apexian_Issue_50_LR.pdf

Secretary Col will send an email link for this so you do not have to type all the above.

Apex Foundation News.

The APEX Foundation has one key goal: to improve the lives of disadvantaged Australians everywhere.

Respite accommodation and funds for those in need.

Our donations and facilities help people from all walks of life every day — the underprivileged, those suffering from sickness or living in poverty, the people needing disability assistance, or those who just need a little bit of extra care.

Membership and Sponsorship Opportunities

Becoming an Apex Foundation member is an easy way for you to commit to our mission of giving disadvantaged Australians the opportunities they need. Discover how you can make your contribution count.

For more information on membership, click on this link

<https://apexfoundation.org.au/memberships/>

Children's Cancer; Melanoma; Diabetes; Craniofacial; Autism; Fine Arts; Mental Health; Local Apex Projects & Civilian Widows are current projects or research, where the Foundation is providing funding. Lots more detail is available on the Foundation website.

International Relations.

The 41 Club 2025 Reunion programme reprinted as a reminder to considering members.

Program Tuesday 11th;

Arrive, **Register 5pm** then **Meet & Greet** in bar, **6pm** Welcome and Speaker then finger food and catchup
with your old mates, 41 Club Family.

Wednesday 12th;

Explore Kaikoura for day, we have 2 vans so will take those of you without transport. Visit to Marae, Fyffe House, Museum etc. all together for lunch Back to Donegal House for evening Happy Hour then meal and guest Speaker

Thursday 13th;

Morning; AGM, activities/games for those not attending meeting, Lunch at your expense then free time.
Happy hour and Evening meal at Donegal House.

We'll see if we can arrange group bookings for those who chose to do any of the expensive activities in the area during free time or after Farewell Breakfast.

Friday

Farewell Breakfast, Handover and trophy presentations at Donegal House.

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



WEB: www.apex40.com

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004/>
Or search for Apex 40 Australia Inc

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Colin Gifford (Carole)

Tel: 0401 097 322

Email: president@apex40.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY

Col Ramsay (Phyl)

PO Box 5204, MANLY. Qld. 4179.

Tel: 0419 253 030

Email: secretary@apex40.com

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND APEX LIASON.

Robyn Thorley (Allan)

Tel: 0416 255 301

Email: iro@apex40.com

APEX 40 WEBSITE.

Ken Wright (Janice)

Tel: 02 4735 3037

Email: web@apex40.com

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT& MEMBERSHIP.

Vic Ashby

Tel: 0414 493 950

Email: vicepresident@apex40.com

NATIONAL TREASURER.

Keith Miller (Racheal)

Tel: 02 4647 3203

Email: treasurer@apex40.com

ROARING 40's EDITOR.

Bill Cramp (Val)

Tel: 0490 461 657

Email: roaring@apex40.com

2025 RORT CONTACT.

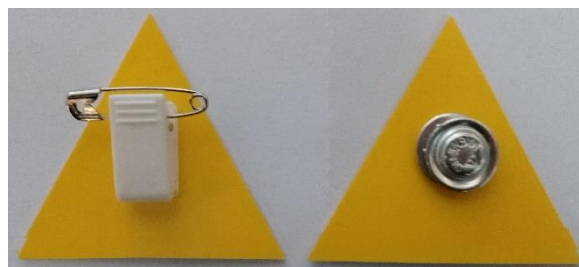
Julie Primmer

Tel: 0417 558 591

Email:

Name Badge prices have increased after 12 years: \$12.00 Inc. postage.
When ordering Badges, please indicate attachment style: Clip/pin or Magnetic.

The Clip type is on the Left and the Magnetic one is on the Right. The Magnetic one has a small magnet that goes inside your garment and does not make holes.



A limited number of Lapel Pins are available, \$10.00 each inc. postage.

Name Badges and Lapel Pins are available through the National Apex 40 Secretary.

secretary@apex40.com

0419 253 030

