

## **Apex Club of Kerang Club No.8, District 3, Zone 7**

*Information printed in the 1000<sup>th</sup> Dinner booklet, March 14, 1987*

### **The beginnings in 1932**

Apex in Kerang owes its existence to Colin Campbell of Bendigo, who first introduced the idea to Wilf English one Sunday morning in November, 1932.

Contact with the then young men brought forward immediate enthusiasm and on November 18<sup>th</sup> it was unanimously decided to form an Apex Club.

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1932 – probably the hottest night of the year – Kerang's 26 raw recruits gathered together to hold their inaugural dinner. The sponsoring of the club was in the capable hands of Bendigo, under the leadership of Dr Bill Beischer.

The first service work was a house to house collection of unwanted clothing for distribution to the needy by the Kerang Ladies' Benevolent Society. So successful was the first effort that sufficient clothing was obtained to keep the Auxiliary going for two years without any further appeals.

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1933 marked another important milestone in the development of Kerang Apex Club. On that date President Eric Hooper and Secretary John Buchan of the Association along with Max Smith from Geelong, and Dr Bill Beischer and a party from Bendigo made the trip to be present and witness the presentation of the first Apex Charter (the previous seven clubs received theirs later). President Eric in handing over the Charter to President Neville Bishop referred to the conduct and progress of the club. Neville responded stating that he had every confidence in the success of the club with such an enthusiastic membership.

And so the first twelve months passed with much hard work, debating successes and visits to conventions and other clubs to their credit. Membership was then 36. The following year saw Dave Hawthorne elected as a District Governor of Apex. During the second year the club transported 167 children daily for a week to Brandy Lake to receive swimming lessons.

The first Apex Ball was called "The Nautical Ball" and was a stupendous success with over 400 people present. The walls of the Regent Theatre were completely covered with white paper painted with seascapes, whilst the stage represented the quarter deck of a battleship.

The next major community service project was the establishment of a baby health centre.

It is reported that several Apexians attended the Echuca Charter night and that later in the evening the landlord retired to bed leaving Charlie Chapman and Dr Bill Pook "in charge of the bar and his daughter". Then there was an echoing cry "all drinks sixpence".

On Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1934 the club sponsored the inaugural Dinner of a Swan Hill Club.

In 1936, one of the largest service works took place, namely the establishment of a bush nursing hospital. Apex accepted the challenge to stir the public interest and succeeded in holding a monster public meeting at which an affirmative decision was reached. At the same time the club was endeavouring to establish a swimming pool and donated funds and many hours of service towards the cause.

By this time annual Apex Ball was achieving great popularity and a third one with a Ben Bowyang theme was enjoyed by 530 people. Once again the walls were covered and an overhead canopy of blue from

which was suspended hundreds of stars. The ball was broadcast and 40 people hired a bus from Swan Hill.

This same year saw Apex making pressing claims for the establishment of an aerodrome and after making several inspections, the present site was the ultimate choice.

The work in forming a Swan Hill Club resulted in success and the Charter (No.27) was presented in June 1936.

Even so far back as 1937, Dr Pook addressed the club on the anti-cancer campaign.

The club's interest in furthering the town's facilities continued and on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 1938, a strong letter was sent to the Shire Secretary impressing the need for a baby health centre. On November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1939, the club decided to approach the Shire or, failing their co-operation to complete the following: Mark parking lanes on the streets, install cycle racks, have "Kerang" signs erected on the highway, replace unhealthy trees around the town's streets and publicise the efforts of Scouts in building their Scout Hall. The baby health centre was under way and the club assisted with voluntary labour and donations.

By September, 1940, World War II was one year old. Whilst the club continued most of its service schemes, new patterns were developing. A Patriotic Services Fund was established, waste paper was collected by the club to assist the war effort, names of members in the services were sent to National Council. Even so, through difficult times, the club still had 22 members. But there were some who felt that with staff enlisting, those in business would have their time taxed too much for Apex to continue, and a motion was put forward on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 1940, that the club surrender its Charter. Fortunately, this motion was lost eight votes to two and the struggle continued.

By mid-1941, there were only 15 members carrying the club and dinner attendances were slipping. Up till then the dinners were held monthly, but it was decided in September to hold meetings once a month and dinners bi-monthly. It was further decided that members would not have to resign upon reaching the age of 40. Despite these efforts, the demands of the war were increasing and on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 1942, a "War Cabinet" of five was formed to guide the club through the coming months. This consisted of President Des Murphy, Colin Mercer, Stan Levey, Frank Worsley and Pat O'Connor.

By 1944 dinners were being held three or four monthly to keep the Charter alive until the war was over.

However, by late 1945, with the horrors of war behind, they could see the need for consolidating and expanding, it was decided to revert back to monthly dinners. By November membership was back to 18.

In 1947, the cost of subscriptions were raised to 1 pound/10/- (3 pounds/10/- in 1965; \$20 in 1977; \$25 in 1983).

During December it was arranged to bring the State's mobile X-ray unit to Kerang and plan an anti-T.B campaign.

Reedy Lake was first mentioned in 1948 with a lengthy discussion over building a fire-place and dressing sheds there. On November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1948, Apex presented a grand concert in aid of the hospital. The profit amounted to 117 pounds/16/6.

Fox Movietone News came to Kerang on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1949 and made a newsreel of the rabbit menace in the area. Apex held a rabbit drive which was included in the film.

The club was requested to take over the annual hospital Christmas appeal. At the same time the Board agreed to donations of 100 pounds to the band, 100 pounds to the hospital appeal, 210 pounds to the

baby health centre and 10 pounds to fill a Christmas stocking to raffle in support of the New Year's Eve celebrations.

To aid the Christmas Day appeal it was broadcast over 3SH by a pre-arranged system with P.M.G.

The Scout Hall was painted at a working bee on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 1950, the cost of the painting borne by the club.

Yet another community service approached Apex in July 1950, for manual assistance and it was agreed that the club provide drivers at all times for the ambulance on a roster system. December 1950, saw the club once again organising the Christmas Day appeal and resulted in 2,730 pounds being raised. The rostered ambulance driving was working satisfactorily although mechanical failures were a problem. It was found necessary to have some training by St John's Ambulance Brigade and only the experienced drivers handled the Melbourne trips.

Up until August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1951, dinners had been held once per month according to the constitution of the day. However, the National Council was pressing for two dinners a month and so after several attempts for Kerang to accept this change, Ray Weinberg finally persuaded the club and his motion was carried. Reedy Lake was being developed as a picnic spot, willows were planted, playground equipment installed and grass encouraged.

The hospital in appreciation of tremendous financial assistance by the club asked that a member be nominated as a Life Governor, Fred Horsfall, President at the time was nominated to the position.

The Sun Top Town Competition came into being and Apex accepted the responsibility of organising same, proceeds going to the hospital. The club was also given responsibility of the Mitchell playground.

Ray Weinberg left for Helsinki to compete in the Olympic Games and a telegram of good wishes were sent to him. Lyall Cooper moved that the club commence investigations towards an Olympic pool.

Also the club was pressing for an new ambulance, as the old one was in very poor state of repair. A number of children were sent to Portsea camp sponsored by Apex for the 52-53 holiday period. Money raised and given to the hospital for a radiogram for the nurses' home.

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1953, saw Billo Scriven a District Governor, Keith Whitwood had already served a term as District Governor. The club commenced "Apex Corner", a weekly report on Apex which was broadcast on 3SH.

The next milestone in the Club's history occurred on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1954, when the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Charter was celebrated.

A roster was drawn up to assist the Police Boys' Club. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 1954, Malcolm McKee spoke to the club on the possibilities of the hospital being transformed into an old people's home. Regular working bees were still being conducted to maintain the baby health centre.

For the next two years the club undertook no new projects but consolidated the work already started. A permanent ambulance driver was obtained and the club offered to drive on his days off. Working bees were continued at Reedy Lake and Mitchell playground. Playground equipment was removed temporarily while a new water tower was erected.

## Foundation Members

Max Albrecht	Stan Hawthorne	Andy Paton
Neville Bishop	Albert Miller	Bill Pook
Charlie Chapman	Johnnie Moore	Bill Ransdale
Ern Clark	Joe Nott	Eric Ransdale
Wallace Cobain	Leo O'Brien	Ken Reid
Walter Douglas	Jack O'Connor	Tom Ryan
Wilf English	Pat O'Connor	Ryf Schilling
Roy Hall	Roy O'Neil	Peter Treyvaud
Dave Hawthorne	Harry Parker	

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1956

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1956, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner and the 300<sup>th</sup> dinner were held concurrently.

Early in 1957, the Kerang Club suffered a blow when the Swan Hill Club became the first to ever have its charter taken away.

1957 saw Keith Whitwood as Zone President. At a special dinner on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1957, saw Keith presented with a well-earned Life Membership badge- the second in the Club, the first being the late Dr Pook. This year the Club grew two acres of pumpkins and a crop of barley on the property of Joe Gillespie. Gross proceeds were 202 pounds/18/- and 84 pounds was the net profit. During the first meeting of 1958 a scholarship was established at the Kerang High School, to be known as the Apex 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship.

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1959, the first wood bee was held to supply wood to needy civilian widows. This became an annual event. The Kerang Rotary Club was formed about this time.

Keith Whitwood was approached by the Shire to represent Apex on an industrial Promotion Committee. The club undertook to sell Kinta Ware for the Victorian Society for Crippled Children and Adults at the Kerang Show raising 71 pounds/9/2. The District Clubs hosted a group of Asian students during their vacation. They were entertained at a special club luncheon and later visited Frank Walker's farm to be shown sheep shearing etc.

Kerang submitted an agenda item at the District Convention, "That an Apex Week be promoted on an association level". This subsequently passed at District Zone and Association Conventions and is now an accepted part of the Apex year.

The Club joined other District 3 Clubs in an Asian Students Sponsorship Scheme inspired by Echuca Apexian Jack Love. The outstanding success of this project led the expansion of this project to Zone basis.

The 1961 District Convention hosted by Kerang, although with some disapproval voiced about spreading it over the long weekend, the convention was described as something different.

The Club promoted a band Sunday which was very well attended. The introduction of machinery increased the capacity of wood bees. Mid-1961 saw the Club undertaking many varied projects including the digging of holes for oil companies. The water tower playground was handed over to the newly formed Rotary Club.

The Reedy Lake project was still continuing with the planting of a further row of willows, more channels dug, an engine driven pump replacing the unreliable windmill, stumps removed from the water, a barbeque, toddlers pool and dressing sheds being constructed, the enthusiasm of the members being dampened by continual vandalism. The barbeque was smashed at least six times, the kiosk wrecked more than once, trees pulled out, rubbish bins thrown in the lake and valuable piping stolen. Unfortunately, these problems have continued over the years.

The Homes exhibition of 1961/62 brought in an income of 137 pounds/18/3 whilst expenditure was 137 pounds/10/1 and the fishing competition of that year brought income of 65 pounds/-/6 whilst expenses were 101 pounds/16/5 typified the outgoing Treasurer's prediction of a grim failure for the Club. The next Apex year saw both projects tried again with a combined profit of 39 pounds/10/1, however once again the Club finished the year with accounts in the red. It was not until 1964/65 that the Club finished with surplus funds.

It was early in 1962 that one of the Clubs most successful and longest continued money raising efforts was commenced – regular paper drives. The public were able to put money into our service account without making a donation of cold cash. This project has met with suspension since December, due to an oversupply to Australian Paper Mills.

April 1962, brought tragic news to the Club when Roger Walker was killed in an accident at his father's mill. Roger had held many positions on the Board and was most active in-service work. His death was a great loss.

The middle of that year saw the Club purchase a second-hand tractor to assist projects. It was paid for by hiring out to the Shire and other bodies.

Leave to investigate Boort as a possible Apex town was applied for in August 1962. At the Christmas dinner, 1962, the Henpexians presented the Club with a new dinner gong which is used today (1987). Up to this stage the Club strength would vary between 18 and 22. From the middle of 1963 efforts were made to increase membership and by 1965 reached almost 30. Boort Club was Chartered, Club No. 448 in October 1964.

The Club sponsored a girl in the Miss Northern Victoria Quest on behalf of the Kerang Ambulance over Christmas 1963. The 1963 Handover included presentation of Life Membership to Billo Scriven. All Club projects continued with the addition of the adoption of a mentally retarded child to whom regular presents were sent.

Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 1965, saw presentation of the Roger Walker Memorial Honour Board, on which all Past Presidents have been listed.

Dinner 517, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1965, was the occasion of presentation Warwick Fraser's Life Membership and the Club's 500<sup>th</sup> dinner which was attended by Founder Langham Proud and Zone Vice President Fred Ellis.

Successful fund activities of 1966/67 included a Boats and Hobbies Exhibition and Balls.

Mid 1967, saw the adoption of a project to transport a mentally handicapped child to the Swan Hill centre. This project was to continue for many years. Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, saw a public meeting at Cohuna which succeeded in the formation of a new Club No. 567. The Club had earlier succeeded in the formation of a new Swan Hill Club (No.508) with Warwick Fraser's brother Bruce at the helm.

Waterbird Wonderland and format of Dinner Notice was introduced in 1968/69. The Club's Ball of this year ran at a loss, however substantial profits from the Trade Fair and a Pole Sit kept accounts in the black.

On Christmas eve, 1969, Graham Knuckey, a keen and tireless member, Secretary of the Club died. Around this time a new Club for Charlton was being discussed. Also, it was decided to nominate Kerang for the Premier Town Contest. The Graham Knuckey Award for Apexian of the Year was muted on the January 30th, 1970. The first Awardee, Bob Jeffreys (Immediate Past President) was given his presentation at the Handover on 8th August, 1970. A motion that there be a Graham Knuckey Memorial Award board was moved early in the new Apex year.

1971 saw Kerang win First prize in the Cultural and Leisure time Activities Award of the Premier Town Competition following Apex's submission.

July 1971, saw first mention of the Philippines Student Bursary Scheme, cost then being \$50 per annum. At this time the Club made its fifth move of dinner venue since Dinner No. 567, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1967, when the move had been from Menz's Café to the Commercial Hotel. In September of that same year the Club moved to Bettina Restaurant and June, 1969 to the Exchange Hotel. July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1971 found the Club at the Gilbert Club Hotel.

The Handover on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> was the occasion of the Life Membership presentation to Bob Jeffreys. At this dinner Bob D'Argaville received his first of what was to become four successive Apexian of the year Awards.

During 1972 the Club hosted the District Convention and in 1973 the District Sports. November 1972 saw the Club form two Committees within the town. SPELD and an Intellectually Handicapped Support Committee. The Club later made a donation of a car to the IH Committee for the transport of Children to Swan Hill. February 1973 mentions the need for a new toilet block at the Reedy Lake.

Rosalie Escobin became our Club's bursary student in the Philippines following a motion of support for 3 years on the November 12th, 1973. About this time the Club raised \$515 towards the Association Service Scheme, Foundation 41.

During the 1973/74 Christmas vacation the Club undertook its first involvement in Outward Bound with the sponsorship of two boys to one of their courses. This involvement continued for a number of years. On February 11th, 1974, the 700<sup>th</sup> Dinner was held and guests included Founder, Langham Proud and Life Governor Brian Horgan.

On the 25th March, 1974 the Club voted to donate \$100 to the Queensland Flood Appeal and a motion "That a trailer be purchased" was passed. This Apex year also saw the Club win the Zone Dinner Notice Competition which must be attributed to the efforts of the then Dinner Notice Director, Phillip Swifte. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1974 a donation of \$419.35 was made to the Hospital.

The Handover dinner of 1974 attended by John Cleaves, International Vice President and Zone President, Geoff Johnstone was the occasion on which Bob D'Argaville and Phillip Swifte received their Life Memberships to the Club.

At the meeting September 9th, 1974 the Club applied for Grants towards improvements at Reedy Lake. Grants of \$28,000 were received in 1975 enabling a sealed road into the park, a car park and a boat ramp to be completed.

The Club adopted Word Vision Sponsorship of Yin Chang an orphan from Burma. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Club was honoured to have Romy Huelgas, a District Governor from the Philippines as guest. Romy later became inaugural National President of Apex Philippines.

On July 14th, 1975, the Club donated \$1150 to the Hospital. October saw the commencement of the Apex Community information column in the local paper. Started by Ian Mitchell this column continued over many years providing information on the many local organisations and events involving Apex on local, District, Zone, National and International levels.

The meeting of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 1975 was one of the longest in the Club's history. A motion to admit women to the Club was put and lost. There were seven amendments to motions and several foreshadowed motions throughout the night.

January 1976 saw the Club make and erect playground equipment for the Murrabit Play Group. Also, at this time \$1250 (being the Club's share of the New Year's Carnival) was forwarded to the Hospital. Film nights for the kids commenced on 20<sup>th</sup> of February, 1976, and continued on a fortnightly basis, during school terms, until 1982.

During 1976-77 the Club donated \$750 to Zone Seven's Service Scheme of Cancel Cancer, and \$400 to the Student's Assistance Fund at the Kerang Technical High School.

New Year's Eve 1976/77 a freak windstorm caused extensive damage to the toilet block at Reedy Lake, this was rebuilt over the next twelve months.

Events of 1977 included the Fire Bridge Pop Concert at Reedy Lake and the provision of \$500 for Apron Lights for the Aerodrome. May 9<sup>th</sup> saw Bill Wood become the Club's eighth life Member. In this year the Club was runner-up in the District Debating Final.

The New Year's Eve Carnival of 1977/78 with Apexian, Alan McCasker at the helm was an outstanding success with the profits being spilt between the Hospital, Basketball Stadium and Kerang Primary School. During April 1978, the Club ran a Trade fair which included a raffle for the National Service Scheme. A donation from the results of these efforts towards "Help A Kid Make It" of \$2180.92 was passed over to National Vice President, Ian Main at the Club's 800<sup>th</sup> dinner held 8<sup>th</sup> July. This was also the occasion of the presentation of Life Membership to Brian Wishart.

Further projects completed during 1978 included the installation of a new watering scheme at Reedy Lake, a highly successful Trash and Treasure Auction and a house demolition project. The Club was also honoured to host Zone Board in June.

Refugee families from South-East Asia were hosted here in Kerang over the weekend of November 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 1978.

During January 1979, Geoff Long represented the Club on the Iloilo Work Party which built a Nutrition Centre in the Philippines. It was at this time that the Club increased their support to our bursary student, Rosaline Escobin to \$460 per year.

Extra land was acquired at Reedy Lake which should greatly enhance the long-term development of the park.

During 1979 the Club commenced their involvement in gaining the sealing and lighting of the aerodrome. This project was completed with the support of all Service Clubs in the town in 1980.

The cuisine of many nations was enjoyed at the international Dinner of 1979 where \$432 was donated to Foster Parents Plan. Laurie Gray's Life membership was presented at the handover Dinner of that year. Also in that year, a new pump was purchased for Reedy Lake, hot hogs were sold at football finals yielding a profit of \$981.22 and the Trade Fair profit was \$2281.00.

The Club entered an unsuccessful, if not ambitious, attempt in a raft race at Lake Charm on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1980. Over this same weekend the Club was again host to a refugee family, junior football clinics were instigated and proved successful whilst support was maintained.

On October 1st 1980, National President of Apex Philippines, "Doy" Andrada was our guest at a combined dinner held with Swan Hill at Mystic Park. During October the Club donated \$1000 to the Ambulance Building Appeal.

The Club made renovations to the Guide Hall kitchen during 1981. Much of the service work was of a "hands on" nature including several pruning and gardening jobs. A donation of \$1200 was made to the Northaven Building Appeal and \$1000 was forwarded towards the Peter MacCallum C.A.T. Scanner Appeal. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the Club ran a Charity Ball at which the Bands donated their services. We received our Australia flag from Bruce Lloyd MHR on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1981. Our Trade Fair profit was \$4000.

In October 1981, Geoff Long became our second member to attain the Office of Zone President.

A donation of \$842.03 was made to the Zone Service Scheme of In-Vitro Fertilisation and the 1982 District 3 Sports were hosted at Reedy Lake. A mystery diner was held in April with the ultimate venue being Lalbert. With the cost of Kid's Films being a deficit of \$1000 per annum, it was decided to suspend the films due to the lack of availability of new films and the subsequent fall off in attendance. Donations of \$2000 to the Hospital and \$500 to the local State Emergency Service Branch were also made during 1982.

Following a highly successful Zone Convention at Swan Hill we were host to Barry Parlane from Kau Kau Round Table, New Zealand. Once again, the club played a major role in the New Year's Eve Carnival.

1983 was Apex's 50<sup>th</sup> Year of service to the Communities of Kerang and District with several projects being carried out. A Music Festival was held at Reedy Lake in February, a Steam Rally also at Reedy Lake, a Trade Fair, Australia Day Breakfast, hot dog sales at football finals and completion of a new fence at Reedy Lake were among the many of note. Service to the wider community included work teams to Green Lake education camp and Macedon bushfire clean-up; with two members, Geoff Long and Geoff Lynch participating in the work team to build a Malnutrition Ward at San Pablo City hospital in the Philippines.

Highlight of the year was the 50<sup>th</sup> year celebrations of the Club held over the weekend of March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Kevin Dove became the Club's 11<sup>th</sup> Life Member at the 1983 Handover.



## Honour Roll – Club Presidents

1932-33 Neville Bishop (dec.)	1961-62 Alan Catley
1933-34 W. (Bill) Pook* (dec.)	1962-63 Philip Swifte*
1934-35 Stan Hawthorne	1963-64 Geoff Radcliffe
1935-36 Walter Douglas (dec.)	1964-65 Les Collins
1936-37 Andy Paton (dec.)	1965-66 Bryan Milligan
1937-38 Frank English (dec.)	1966-67 Laurie Gray*
1938-39 J. (Malcolm) McKee	1967-68 Ross Hall
1939-40 Geoff Pay	1968-69 Charles Green
1940-42 Des Murphy	1969-70 Bob Jeffreys*
1942-44 Colin Mercer (dec.)	1970-71 Bob D'Argaville*
1944-45 Jack Tippett (dec.)	1971-72 Brian Hahn
1945-46 Tom Walker (dec.)	1972-73 Bill Wood*
1946-47 Evan Hall (dec.)	1973-74 Graeme May
1947-48 Jack Worsley	1974-75 Brian Wishart*
1948-49 Clive Rees	1975-76 Matthew Booth
1949-50 Ray Hampton	1976-77 John Birchmore*
1950-51 Walter Morgan (dec.)	1977-78 Graeme Hayes
1951-52 Fred Horsfall	1978-79 Kevin Dove*
1952-53 W. (Billo) Scriven*	1979-80 Geoff Lynch*
1953-54 Ray Weinberg	1980-81 Rolf Weber
1954-55 Lyall Cooper	1981-82 Arthur Wright
1955-56 Keith Whitwood*	1982-83 Doug Chamberlain*
1956-57 Keith Scriven	1983-84 Kevin Murray
1957-58 Warwick Fraser*	1984-85 Gary Johnston
1958-59 Joe Gillespie	1985-86 Geoff Long
1959-60 Ken Venn	1986-87 Dennis Greenwood
1960-61 Keith Whitwood*	

\*Denotes Life Member

## Present Club Members

Greg Barton	Steve Bartram	John Campbell
Dennis Greenwood	Garry Hodson	Gary Johnston
Bruce Jones	Jack Kennedy	Bruce Laity
Alan Launder	Geoff Long	Doug MacFarlane
Robin Mills	Kevin Murray	Rick Osborne
Mike Pender	John Prendergast	Kevin Radcliffe
Richard Trigg	Kelvin Turvey	Wayne Vafiopolous
David Whitehead	Peter Williams	Arthur Wright

## Towards 100 Years

In 1984 Paper Drives were recommenced as a major project of the Club. The inaugural Apex Community Incentive Award was presented during Apex Week and this has become an ongoing project. Youth Discos were held during the year and a new pump was purchased for Reedy Lake. Life Membership was awarded to John Birchmore at the Handover.

The Club journeyed en-mass to the Zone Convention at Finley to bid as hosts for the 1985 Convention. Whilst unsuccessful in this, members took pride in witnessing Richard Trigg's installation as our Club's third Zone 7 President. Our Dinner Notice "Waterbird Wonderland" was adjudged best publication within the Zone.

During 1985 the underground sprinkler system was completed, and a second mower was purchased for Reedy Lake. Life Memberships were awarded to Doug Chamberlain and Geoff Lynch at the 1985 Handover. Another unsuccessful bid to host the Zone Convention took place in October of that year.

Membership took a plunge during 1986, however it is pleasing to see recent revivals in numbers. International relations continued to play a big part in Club affairs with Twinning extended to Ba Apex Club in Fiji, hosting of Rolly Inciong from San Pablo City Apex, Philippines and direct or indirect sponsorship of six bursary students.

1987 finds the Apex Club of Kerang celebrating 1000 Dinner Meetings held over almost 55 years since Apex was introduced to our community. The Club takes Pride in its achievements and those of the many young men who have shared our ideals during this time.

Geoff Long 19/12/1986.

## Graham Knuckey Award – Apexian of the Year

1969-70 Bob Jeffreys	1978-79 Rolf Weber
1970-71 Bob D'Argaville	1979-80 Geoff Long
1971-72 Bob D'Argaville	1980-81 Arthur Wright
1972-73 Bob D'Argaville	1981-82 Arthur Wright & Kevin Dove
1973-74 Bob D'Argaville	1982-83 Steve Bartram
1974-75 Brian Wishart	1983-84 Geoff Long
1975-76 Geoff Long	1984-85 Gary Hodson
1976-77 Graeme Hayes	1985-86 Richard Trigg
1977-78 Kevin Dove	

## Life Members

W. (Bill) Pook  
W. (Billo) Scriven  
Keith Whitwood  
Warrick Fraser  
Philip Swifte  
Bob Jeffreys  
Bob D'Argaville

Bill Wood  
Brian Wishart  
Laurie Gray  
Kevin Dove  
John Birchmore  
Geoff Lynch  
Doug Chamberlain

## Club Members – 1987



**Back Row** L-R: Bruce laity, Arthur Wright, Greg Barton, Robin Mills, John Prendergast, Garry Hodson, Geoff long.

**Centre Row** L-R: Gary Johnston, Peter Williams, Jack Kennedy, Dennis Greenwood, Steve Bartram, Alan Launder, John Campbell.

**Front Row** L-R: Kevin Radcliffe, Wayne Vafiopolous, Doug MacFarlane, Bruce Jones, Richard Trigg.

**Absent:** Kelvin Turvey, David Whitehead, Kevin Murray, Rick Osbourne.

## Kerang Zone and Association Board Officials

1933-34 **Dave Hawthorne** District Governor District 2, Association.  
1951-52 **Keith Whitwood** District Governor District 3, Zone 1.  
1954-55 **W. (Billo) Scriven** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1955-56 **Keith Whitwood** Zone 7 Vice President.  
1956-57 **Keith Whitwood** Zone 7 President.  
**Eric Hipworth** Zone 7 Secretary/ Treasurer.  
1957-58 **Keith Whitwood** Zone 7 Immediate Past President.  
1958-60 **Ken Venn** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1961-62 **Philip Swift** Zone 7 International Relations Director.

1962-66 **Philip Swifte** Zone 7 International Relations Director.  
1963-64 **Philip Swifte** Zone 7 Public Relations Director.  
1966-67 **Les Collins** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1967-68 **Les Collins** Zone 7 International Relations Director.  
1970-71 **Charles Green** Magazine Editor Zone 7.  
1971-72 **Ross Hall** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1972-73 **Bob D`Argaville** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1976-77 **Geoff Long** Deputy District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1977-78 **Geoff Long** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1979-80 **Geoff Long** Zone 7 International Relations Director.  
1980-81 **Geoff Long** Zone 7 International Relations Director.  
1981-82 **Geoff Long** Zone 7 President.  
**Richard Trigg** Zone 7 Secretary.  
**Geoff Lynch** Zone 7 Treasurer.

1982-83 **Richard Trigg** District Governor District 3, Zone 7.  
1983-84 **Geoff Long** International Councillor, Association.  
**Richard Trigg** Vice President Zone 7, Membership Chairman Zone 7.  
1984-85 **Richard Trigg** President Zone 7, Future Structures Committee Association,  
**Geoff Long** Secretary Zone 7, Round Table New Zealand Liaison Association.  
**Geoff Lynch** Treasurer Zone 7.  
**Don Roberts** District Governor 3, Zone 7.

1985-86 **Richard Trigg** Future Structures Committee Association.  
**Don Roberts** Supply House Officer Zone 7.

1986 **Richard Trigg** Future Structures Committee Association.  
1986-87 **Geoff Long** Citizen Chairman Zone 7, Citizenship Committee Association.