

1956



1976

**MANSFIELD
APEX
CLUB
HISTORY**

**A HISTORY OF MANSFIELD
APEX CLUB, CHARTER NO. 208,**

**PRESENTED TO THE CLUB ON
THE OCCASION OF
MANSFIELD APEX CLUB'S**

500th DINNER

AND

20th

ANNUAL HANDOVER

HELD ON

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1976

Committee for History, 500th Dinner —

STUART ANDREWS, Chairman

PETER REYNOLDS

TONY RILEY

MANSFIELD APEX CLUB — CHARTER No. 208

Zone 7, District 1

Member of Association of Young Men's Service Clubs

IDEALS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF APEX CLUBS

To make the ideals of service the basis of all enterprise.

To develop by example a more intelligent and aggressive citizenship.

To provide a means of forming enduring friendships rendering altruistic service and building better communities.

To promote international understanding and friendship.

Mansfield Apexians should be grateful for the foresight and wisdom of past members of the Benalla Apex Club in expanding Apex to Mansfield. To these men, we in Mansfield Apex Club say thank you for giving us the Apex way of life.

Trevor Kimball

Jack Little

John Oliver

Alan Smith

Gordon Brown

Geoff Evans

Lindsay Alnutt

Ray McPherson

Leo Dallon

Ian Burton

Ron Stolz (deceased)

John O'Loughlin

Ian Robinson

Allan Osborne
(deceased)

Ted Bennison

Frank Sadler

Ray Johnston

Eric Standish

Neville Arnott

Eric Veale

INTRODUCTION

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of Apex in Mansfield, two major efforts were decided upon by the Club Board. One was to see that a special dinner meeting was held, to take the form of our 20th Annual Handover and 500th Dinner, and to be attended by both past and active Apexians from Mansfield and surrounding Clubs.

The other objective was to publish a history worthy of the Club. For 20 years Apexians in Mansfield have keenly debated every aspect of any task about to be undertaken. The alert minds of both past and present members have analysed each proposal put before them. That is one reason for the steady continuing development of Apex in Mansfield.

The need for a history of the Mansfield Apex Club has long been recognised, but time waits for no man (or club!), and it was President Andrew Crockett who decided the time had come with the approach of our 500th Dinner that a history should be compiled and duly presented.

Many people would ask, "Why do we need a history of an Apex Club?" Fair question, no doubt, and in reply comes to mind the need to preserve for posterity a precis of the voluminous minute books of both dinner meetings and board meetings; something to hand on to our successors for them to be able to compare one way with the other — and so the list goes on.

The Mansfield Apex Club in its first twenty years has seen enormous change in the town where it was founded. From a relatively small town largely dependent for its existence on the farming community and the logging industry Mansfield has now grown into a progressive tourist town with a large tourist traffic flow on a seasonal basis, with the farming and logging industry still nonetheless important. This one fact has brought about the one large change in the Club outlook for fund raising, for now the residents of Mansfield are not the only sector of the community to contribute to the ever worthwhile efforts of Apex in this town.

Within the Club there have been large changes. The granting of autonomy by the association to individual clubs must surely be the biggest single constitutional change Mansfield Apex Club has seen. This has naturally brought some changes, and has also allowed the thinking of the Club to change. Although somewhat slow at first, it is now gathering momentum.

These are only two of a very large number of changes that have affected the Club and have been effected by the Club. As previously stated, this history is not an attempt to record every detail of the Mansfield Apex Club's activities, but more a cross-section of what has gone on within the Apex Club of Mansfield, 1956-1976.

Before an Apex Club can be established there needs to exist a number of conditions and requirements to be met.

Some time prior to 4th July, 1956, members of the Benalla Apex Club saw the need to expand the Apex movement south to Mansfield. Enquiries revealed a potential nucleus of young men interested in serving the community in an organised way through the medium of a Service Club. This, of course, is the basis of the Association of Apex Clubs — a young man's service club.

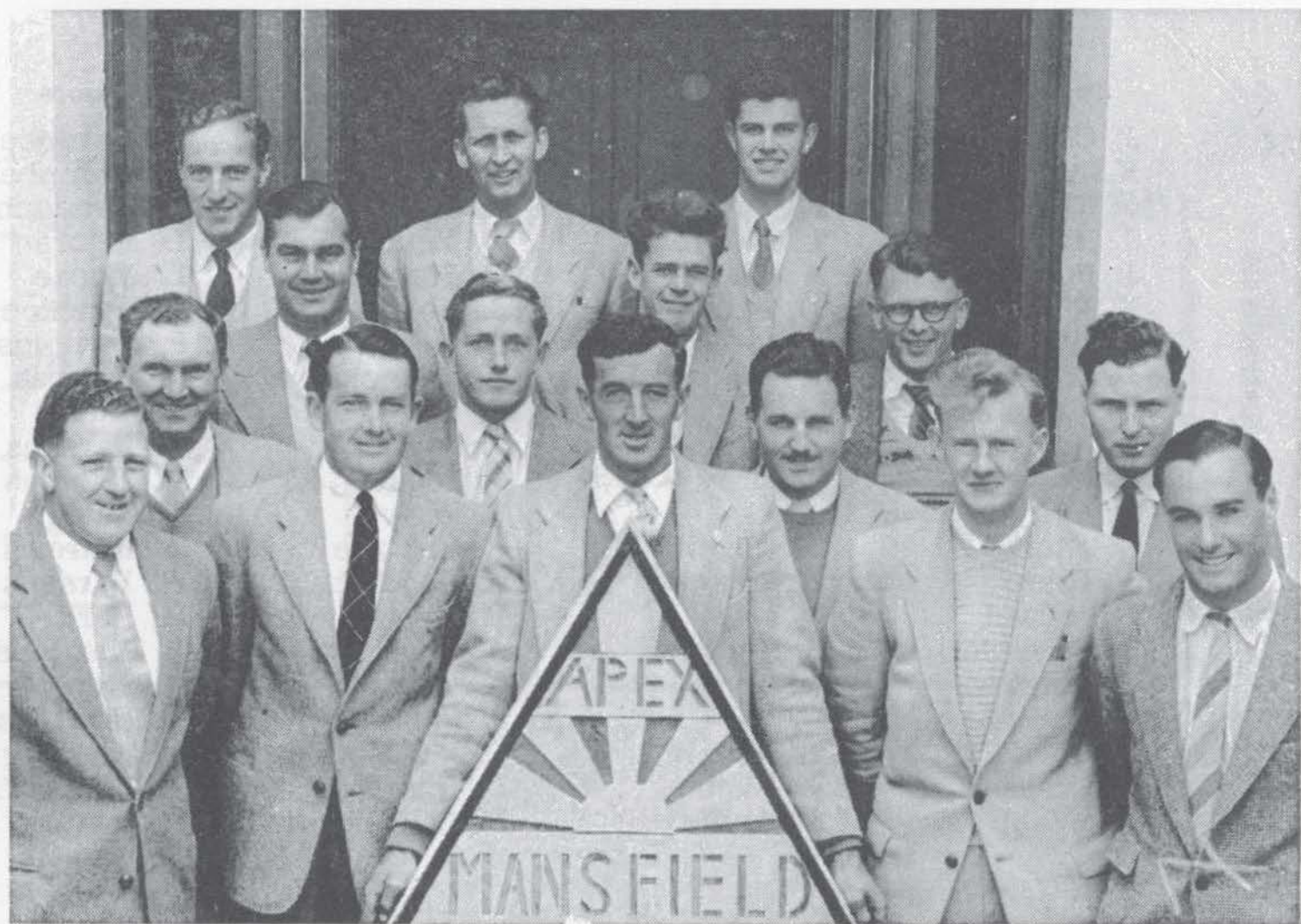
So the stage was set for the inaugural meeting on 4th July, 1956, at the Mansfield Golf Club, and was attended by 17 interested young men. One such young man, Geoff Ritchie, was elected and took the chair as inaugural President for a short period until the end of the Apex Club year in August, when John Coutts was elected foundation President. His Board of Directors were all keen and idealistic, determined to see that Apex became established in Mansfield. To these Apexians we owe our success today.

Initially, with a lot of brain-wracking, service work started to gain momentum with the Kindergarten, Hospital, Swimming Pool and Scout Hall receiving both physical and financial assistance. As well, Apex conducted successful bottle collections and the spinning wheel at the local Show.

By the end of the first full year of operations the Club had settled down, having overcome a few teething problems, which all youngsters have, and was looking forward to new projects and challenges which were to come in the future. To those in 1956, today was the future — in 1996, where will we be?

Mansfield Apex Club received its Charter in May, 1957, and became the 208th Apex Club in Australia. Today there are almost 1,000 clubs. At the end of its first year Mansfield Apex had 30 active members, with an average dinner attendance of 90 per cent. — a very high standard, no doubt, and a very difficult one to maintain.

Opposite. — Top (left to right): Reg Watkins, Reg Freeman, David Brown, Jim Neilson, Craig Brown, John Williams, Larry Moore, Robert Neely, John Coutts, Arnold George. Front: Bruce Medson, John Collier, Keith Andrews, Neil Campbell, John Howie.

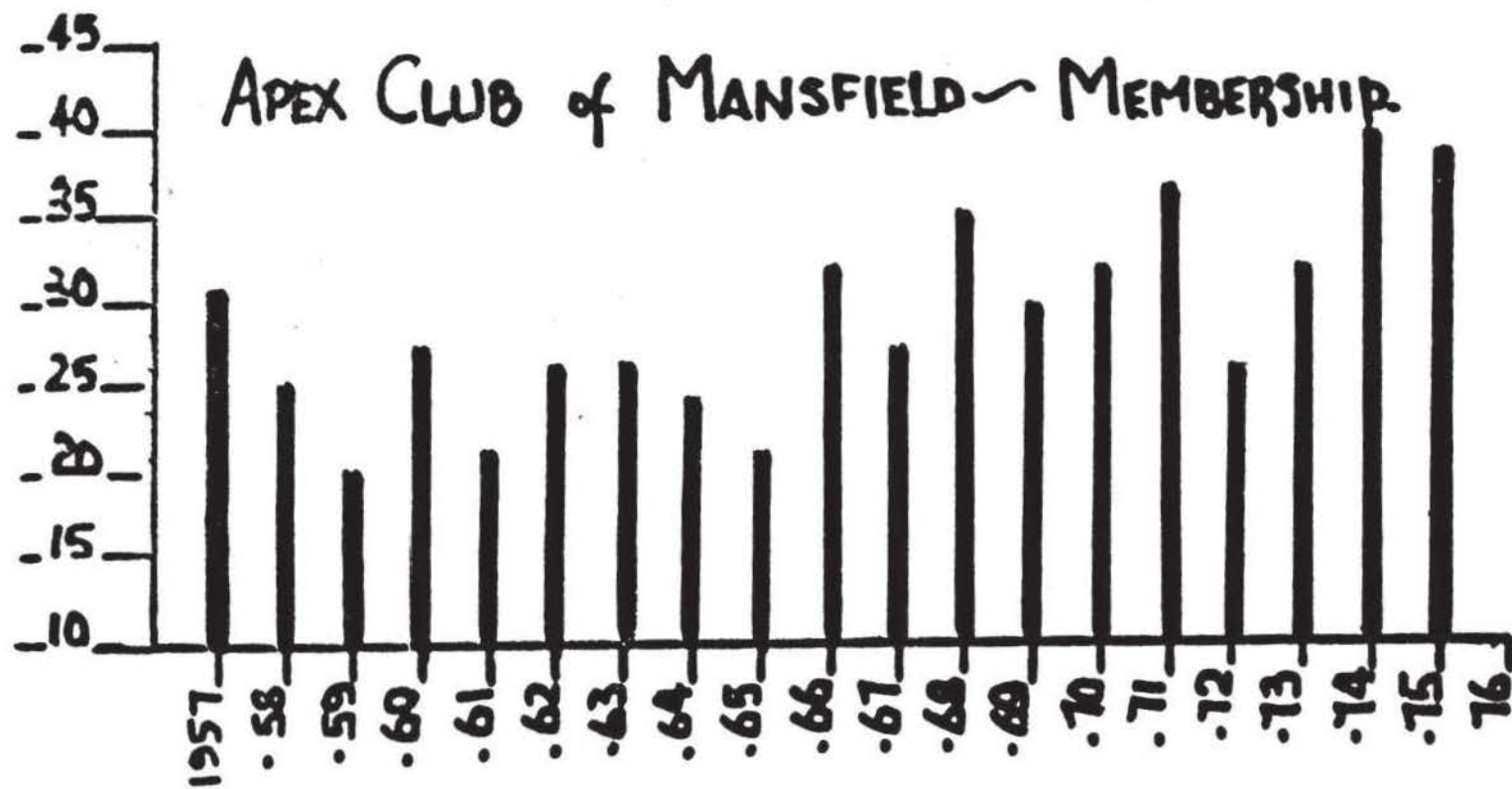


Year

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1973-74
1974-75
1975-76
1976-77

HONOUR BOARD

Year	President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
1956-57	J. Coutts	K. Andrews	J. Coller	N. Campbell
1957-58	K. Andrews	J. Howie	J. Coller	N. Campbell
1958-59	J. Coller	G. Ritchie	J. Howie	R. Vandenberg
1959-60	J. Howie	L. Moore	D. Yencken	L. Moore
1960-61	J. Pollard	A. Clarke	R. Handmer	L. Moore
1961-62	P. Thomas	D. Brown	J. Howie	D. Yencken
1962-63	W. Parsons	—	D. Neely	P. Reynolds
1963-64	D. Neely	H. Cameron	P. Reynolds	P. Thomas
1964-65	H. Cameron	—	P. Reynolds	J. Pollard
1965-66	P. Reynolds	D. Gray	J. Pollard	W. Parsons
1966-67	J. Howie	D. Gray	J. Fogarty	M. Thomas
1967-68	D. Gray	—	T. Riley	R. Neely
1968-69	G. Stoney	J. Fogarty	R. McCrae	S. Andrews
1969-70	T. Riley	R. Neely	A. Crockett	W. Parsons
1970-71	J. Pollard	—	R. Neely	M. Lord
1971-72	P. Reynolds	S. Andrews	A. Crockett	C. Buckland
1972-73	D. Shipard	—	T. Weston	D. Hillas
1973-74	R. Neely	—	F. Pluim	P. Reynolds
1974-75	J. Howie	W. Webb	L. Kingsbury	C. Adelberg
1975-76	A. Crockett	W. Webb	D. Sherwell	G. Evans/T. Salmon
1976-77	W. Webb	S. Andrews	N. O'Halloran	T. Salmon



Membership of Mansfield Apex Club, since receipt of Charter, in order of appearance in Club records.

* Denotes Life Member.

Geoff Ritchie	Bill Parsons
Keith Andrews	Bill Wellwood
Robert Ritchie	Edwin Schill
Alec Gibson	Graham Padbury
Graeme Friday	Clive Rowe
John Coutts	Bill Robinson
Keith Murray	David Yencken
John Coller	Jasper Smink
John Howie*	Ken Marks
Jeff Brisbane	Bob Richardson
Jim Walsh	Peter Thomas
Neil Campbell	Rod Handmer
Reg Watkins	Alan Clarke
Bruce Medson (deceased)	Doug Neely
Arthur Levy	Graeme Stoney
John Pike	Peter Reynolds
John Kelleher	Ed Backen
Eddie Revell	Jacob Kersaboom
Alan Carter	Lyn Barr
Ken Stevenson	Eddy Levy
Bernie Byrne	Jim Tehan
John Clayton	Alan Wallace
David Brown	Andrew Hermiston
Bruce Ellis	Les Perrin
Craig Brown	Nigel Cooper
George Walker	Alan Plunkett
Larry Moore*	John Oliver
Jim Nielson	Bert Rekers
J. Williams	Joe Pollard
Harry Cameron	Michael Thomas
Jim Kilpatrick	Malcolm Hill
Ron Rooke	Ewen Crockett
Reg White	D. Smith
Jack Pollard*	Ed Adamson
Reg Freeman	Rick Walker
Robert Orr	Jim Twohigg
Alan Hardy (deceased)	Graeme Green
Arnold George	Peter Adams
Reg Van Den Berg	Doug Gray
Geoff Pearce (deceased)	Peter Pearce
Robert Neely	Jim Freemantle

Alan Schacke
Robert Gray
Tony Nolan
Tony Tehan
John Fogarty
John Harper
John Clancy
Graham Amor
Bob McCrae
Nick Farrell
J. Chapman
Dick Forrest
Tony Riley
Rowan Neely
Stuart Andrews
Robert Cox
Tony Cox
Richard Allen
Barry Stewart
John Oliver
Keith Woods
Paul Nolan
Laurie Tanner
Andrew Crockett
Grant Woff
Chris Shannon
Brian Gribble
John Kiefer
David Payne
Geoff Payne
Doug Shipard
Geoff Hutchinson
Peter Sheehan
Fred Cox
Terry Weston
Robert Vance
Clive Buckland
Leigh Sutcliffe
Norm Pigdon
Rod Simpson
Ian Johnson

Greg Cleeland
Charles Adelberg
Brian Braybon
Max Lord
Bernie McWhinney
Merv O'Brien
John Adams
Peter Armstrong
John Brewster
Doug Fitcher
David Hillas
Rod McLurg
Ken Shipard
Doug Vance
Alan Burdekin
John Bourke
Kim Neely
Neil O'Halloran
Ian Pearson
Neil Lemin
Frank Pluim
Bill Webb
Graeme Christopher
Brian Dunkley
George Evans
Gary Heathcote
Laurie Kingsbury
Ian McIntosh
Clive Marsden
John Redfern
Alan Richards
Tony Salmon
Don Sherwell
Tony Storer
Bill Sargood
John Kerr
Neil Hunt
Lou Stone
Nev Mathieson
Trevor Newman
John Rooke

OFFICE BEARERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

1956-1977

1956-57	President:	John Coutts
	Secretary:	John Coller
	Treasurer:	Neil Campbell
	Vice-President:	Keith Andrews
	Service:	Geoff Ritchie, Keith Andrews
	Programmes:	Reg Watkins
	Sergeant-at-Arms,	
	Commissariat:	Bruce Medson
	Youth Improvement and Development:	Jeff Brisbane
	Fellowship and Social:	John Howie
	Debating and Music:	Graeme Friday
	Publicity:	Keith Murray, John Williams
	Transport and Sport:	Robert Ritchie
1957-58	President:	Keith Andrews
	Secretary:	John Coller
	Treasurer:	Neil Campbell
	Vice-President:	John Howie, Bruce Medson
	Service:	John Howie, Jim Neilson
	Programmes:	Ron Rooke, Graeme Friday
	Sergeant-at Arms,	
	Commissariat:	Harry Cameron
	Publicity:	John Williams, Larry Moore
	International Relations:	John Coller
	Dinner Notices:	John Coutts, Larry Moore
	Apex Action, Youth Improvement and Employment:	Graeme Walker
	Apex Education	
	Debating and Music:	
	Fellowship and Sport:	Bruce Medson
	Transport:	David Brown
	Expansion:	Keith Andrews

1958-59	President, Expansion and International Relations:	John Collier
	Secretary:	John Howie
	Treasurer:	Reg Vandenberg, Neil Campbell
	Vice-President, Apex Education, Youth, Employment:	Geoff Ritchie
	Service:	Harry Cameron
	Association Service Scheme, Apex Action:	Keith Andrews
	Publicity, Sport and Transport:	Bill Parsons
	Sergeant-at-Arms and Commissariat:	Sandy Gibson
	Dinner Notice:	Larry Moore
	Programmes:	Arnold George, Edwin Schill
	Fellowship and Social:	Bruce Medson, Robert Neely
	Debating and Music:	Bill Wellwood

1959-60	President:	John Howie
	Secretary:	David Yencken
	Treasurer, Vice-President, Commissariat:	Larry Moore
	Service:	Robert Neely
	Apex Action, Association Service:	Jack Pollard
	Sergeant-at-Arms, Social and Fellowship:	Bill Parsons
	Expansion, Historian, International Relations, and Apex Education:	John Coller
	Publicity:	Bill Wellwood, Peter Thomas
	Programmes and Dinner Notice:	Graeme Friday
	Music, Transport and Sport:	Edwin Schill, Craig Brown
	Programmes:	Rod Handmer
1960-61	President:	Jack Pollard
	Secretary:	Rod Handmer
	Treasurer and Commissariat:	Larry Moore
	Service:	Keith Andrews
	Assistant Service, Apex Action:	Jasper Smink, John Howie
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	Peter Thomas
	Expansion, International Relations, Debating, Historian:	John Coller
	Dinner Notice:	David Brown
	Programmes:	Alan Clarke, John Howie
	Publicity:	Robert Neely
	Transport and Sport:	Peter Reynolds
	Fellowship and Social:	Doug Neely

1961-62	President:	Peter Thomas
	Secretary:	John Howie
	Treasurer:	David Yencken
	Service:	Jack Pollard
	Wool Show:	John Collier
	International Relations:	David Brown
	Dinner Notice, Sergeant at-Arms and Commissariat:	Lyn Barr
	Fellowship and Youth Employment:	Keith Andrews
	Social and Publicity:	Ken Marks
	Programmes and Assistant Secretary	Doug Neely
	Sport and Apex Education:	Larry Moore
	Debating:	Bill Parsons, Graeme Stoney, Nigel Cooper
1962-63	President:	Bill Parsons
	Secretary:	Doug Neely
	Treasurer:	Peter Reynolds
	Service:	John Howie
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	Michael Thomas
	Publicity and Fellowship:	John Oliver
	Programmes:	Peter Thomas, Harry Cameron
	Wool Show:	Nigel Cooper
	Social and Debating:	Graeme Stoney
	Sport:	Andrew Hermiston
	International Relations and Apex Action:	Lyn Barr
	Publicity and Commissariat:	Malcolm Hill

1963-64	President:	Doug Neely
	Secretary:	Peter Reynolds
	Treasurer:	Peter Thomas
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	John Howie
	Dinner Notice:	Andrew Hermiston
	Service:	Bill Parsons
	Programmes:	Harry Cameron
	Visiting:	Joe Pollard
	International Relations:	Peter Thomas
	Publicity:	Graeme Stoney
	Apex Action and Citizenship:	John Oliver
1964-65	President:	Harry Cameron
	Secretary:	Peter Reynolds
	Treasurer:	Jack Pollard
	Service:	John Howie
	Dinner Notice:	Peter Pearce
	Debating and Social: Publicity, Member- ship, Citizenship:	John Oliver
	Sergeant-at Arms:	Doug Neely
		Doug Gray
1965-66	President:	Peter Reynolds
	Secretary:	Jack Pollard
	Service:	Andrew Hermiston
	Sergeant-at-Arms and Commissariat:	Ken Marks, Doug Gray
	Social:	Doug Gray
	Membership and Publicity:	John Howie
	International Relations and Visiting:	John Harper

1966-67	President:	John Howie
	Secretary:	John Fogarty
	Service and Vice-President:	Doug Gray
	Treasurer:	Michael Thomas
	Assistant Service and Association Service:	Robert Gray
	Sergeant at-Arms:	Peter Pearce, Nick Farrell
	International Relations, Social and Visiting:	John Harper
	Debating and Publicity:	Bob McRae
	Membership and Apex Action:	Peter Reynolds
	Dinner Notice:	Bob Richardson, Graeme Stoney
	Programmes:	Jack Pollard
	Assistant Service:	Berto Rekers
1967-68	President:	Doug Gray
	Secretary:	Tony Riley
	Treasurer:	Rowan Neely
	Service:	John Fogarty
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Nick Farrell
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	Jack Pollard
	Visiting:	John Harper
	Programmes:	Bob McRae
	Membership and Apex Action:	John Howie
	Public Relations and Social:	Graham Amor
	Dinner Notice:	Bob Richardson, Graeme Stoney

1968-69	President:	Graeme Stoney
	Secretary:	Bob McRae
	Treasurer:	Stuart Andrews
	Service:	Paul Nolan
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	Andrew Hermiston
	Programme:	Tony Riley
	Social:	Andrew Crockett
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Rowan Neely
	Inter-Club Visiting:	Chris Shannon
	Tourist Development and Local Promotions:	Tony Riley
	Membership and Publicity:	Doug Gray
	Sport:	Laurie Tanner
	Dinner Notice:	John Harper
1969-70	President:	Tony Riley
	Secretary:	Andrew Crockett
	Treasurer:	Bill Parsons
	Service:	Laurie Tanner
	Sergeant-at Arms:	Chris Shannon, Doug Shipard
	Public Relations, Visiting:	Jack Pollard
	Apex Action:	Graeme Green
	International Relations and Commissariat:	Doug Gray
	Dinner Notice:	Rowan Neely
	Programmes, Debating and Public Speaking:	Peter Reynolds
	Social:	Paul Nolan
	Club Project and Scheme:	Graeme Stoney

1970-71	President:	Jack Pollard
	Secretary:	Rowan Neely
	Treasurer:	Max Lord
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Doug Gray
	Service:	Doug Shipard
	Programmes:	John Howie
	Sergeant-at-Arms:	Bernie McWhinney
	Social and Membership:	John Harper
	Dinner Notice:	Tony Riley
	Visiting:	Graeme Green
	Publicity and International Relations:	John Adams
	Apex Action and Sport:	Merv O'Brien
1971-72	President:	Peter Reynolds
	Secretary:	Andrew Crockett
	Treasurer:	Clive Buckland
	Sergeant-at-Arms and Commissariat:	Paul Nolan
	Programmes:	Doug Gray
	Fellowship and Social:	John Howie
	Public Relations:	Doug Shipard
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Terry Weston
	Dinner Notice:	John Harper
1972-73	Service:	Stuart Andrews
	President:	Doug Shipard
	Secretary:	Terry Weston
	Treasurer:	David Hillas
	Social:	Max Rogers
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Clive Buckland
	Service:	Peter Reynolds
	Membership:	Dick Forrest
	Dinner Notice:	John Howie
	Sergeant-at-Arms and Commissariat:	Rowan Neely

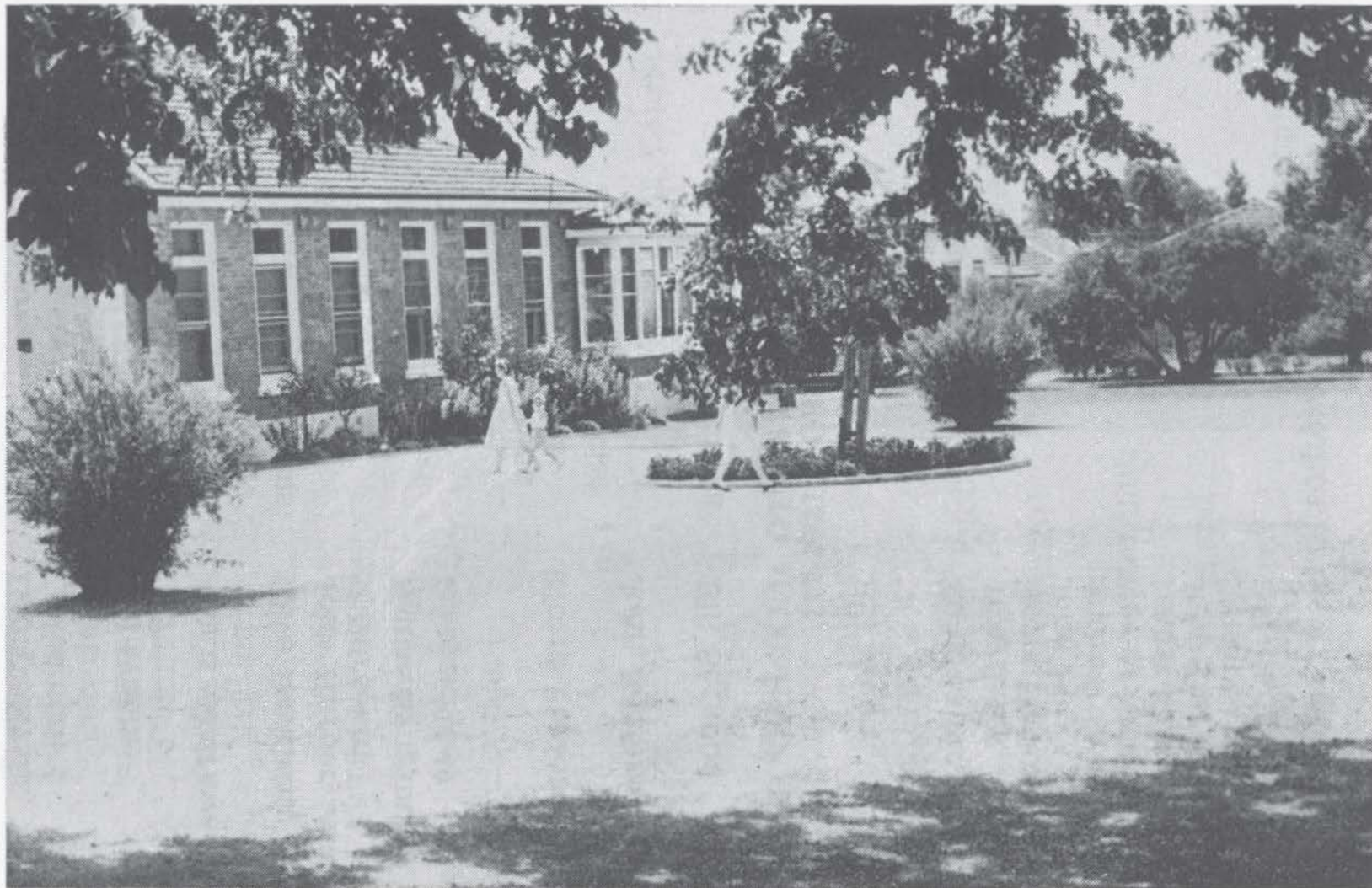
1973-74	President:	Rowan Neely
	Secretary:	Frank Pluim
	Treasurer:	Peter Reynolds
	Public Speaking and Debating:	Clive Buckland
	Sergeant-at-Arms and Commissariat:	Neil O'Halloran
	Public Relations and Visiting:	John Howie
	International Relations:	Kim Neely
	Dinner Notice:	Ian Pearson
	Programmes:	Max Rogers
	Membership :	Doug Shipard
	Service:	Terry Weston
1974-75	President:	John Howie
	Vice-President:	Bill Webb
	Secretary:	Ian McIntosh, Laurie Kingsbury
	Treasurer:	Charles Adelberg
	Service:	Clive Buckland
	Commissariat and International Relations:	Alan Burdekin
	Social:	George Evans
	Debating and Public Speaking:	Laurie Kingsbury
	Assistant Director:	Rowan Neely
	Programmes:	Paul Nolan
	Sport and Inter Club Visiting:	Norm Pigdon
	Dinner Notice and Apex Action:	Don Sherwell
	Membership:	Graeme Christopher

1975-76	President:	Andrew Crockett
	Secretary:	Don Sherwell
	Treasurer:	George Evans, Tony Salmon
	Vice-President and Service:	Bill Webb
	Historian and Apex Action:	Stuart Andrews
	Publicity and International Relations:	Clive Buckland
	Social and Sport:	John Harper, Alan Burdekin
	Dinner Notice:	Laurie Kingsbury
	Programmes:	Rowan Neely
	Commissariat, Membership and Sergeant-at-Arms:	Norm Pigdon
	Association Service Scheme:	John Redfern
	Debating, Public Speaking, Visiting:	Bill Sargood

MEMBERS ELECTED TO INCOMING BOARD FOR 1976-77

1976-77	President:	Bill Webb
	Secretary:	Neil O'Halloran
	Treasurer:	Tony Salmon
		Tony Riley
		Norm Pigdon
		John Perks
		Andrew Crockett
		Nev Mathieson
		Laurie Kingsbury
		John Harper
		Stuart Andrews
		Bill Sargood

Other portfolios to be decided.



Major Service Project — Mansfield Hospital south lawn and edges, 1959/60.

SERVICE PROJECTS

- 56/57 Kindergarten. Bottle Collection. Show Day. Hospital Month. Book Drive. Paper Drive. Bowling Club Greens. Swimming Pool Lawns. Carting Bricks, Scout Hall.
- 57/58 Swimming Pool Lawns. Spinning Wheel for Hospital. Christmas Carols. Drug Refrigerator. Hospital Wood Day. Cleaning Hospital Grounds. Car Trial and Show Spinning Wheel (Infant Welfare Centre). Initial Establishment of Youth Club, in conjunction with R.S.L. Assist Boxing Tournament. Manufacture of Youth Club Equipment. Sell Tickets for Kindergarten Play, "Blithe Spirit." Build Scenery for Same. Tourist Map for Town. Miles of Pennies for Scouts. Renovations, Scout Hall. Assist Scouts' Sports Day. Legacy Wood Day. Bottle Drive. Paper Drive. National Service Scheme, Civilian Widows. Club Established, Mansfield. N.S.W. Fire Relief.
- 58/59 Hospital Ball. Carols by Candlelight. Spinning Wheel at Hospital Carnival. Operation Doorknock — Hospital Midwifery Wing. Donated Balkan Frame. Paper Drives. Kindergarten Fence and Spinning Wheel at Fete. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Spastic Children Local Entrant. Blood for Red Cross. Doorknock — Ambulance Appeal.
- 59/60 Lawns at Infant Welfare Centre. Help Construct New Youth Club. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Legacy Wood Day. Selling Forget-me-nots for Spastic Children. Hospital Garden Edges. Nature Strip, South Lawn. Humidicrib. Bottle Drives. Rabbit Drives, New Ambulance.
- 60/61 Wool Show. White Elephant Sale. Rag Drive. Bottle Drives (2). Show Day Spinning Wheel. Transport Civilian Widow and Family to Melbourne. Sell Lapel Badges, Spastic Children. Attend Civilian Widow Meetings. Mow Hospital Lawns. Build Cupboards for Scouts. Made Ambulance Trolley. Sold Tickets Hospital Car Raffle. Concrete Garage Floor, C.W.A. Sold Tickets Chamber of Commerce Raffle. Put up Coloured Lights, Hospital. Sell Tickets for Red Cross Raffle. Street Collection for Save the Children Fund. Clean up Cemetery. Prepare Kindergarten for Painting.
- 61/62 Wool Show, Trade Fair and Mannequin Parade. Growing Potatoes. Levelling of Hospital Lawn. Tree Name Plates. Paper Drives. Legacy Wood Day. Kindergarten Fete Spinning Wheel. Put up Coloured Lights at Hospital. Carols by Candlelight. Bottle Drives.
- 62/63 Wool Show. Furnish High School Canteen. High School Scholarship. Six Bassinettes for Hospital. Two-way Radio for Ambulance. Paint Playground Equipment. Paper Drives. Cut Hospital Lawns. Sell Forget-me-nots, Spastic Children. Dance at Merrijig, Miss Victoria Quest. Grow Potatoes. White Elephant Sale. Shearing Demonstration, Chamber of Commerce Fair.
- 63/64 Growing Potatoes. Paper Drive. Collecting Old Tyres. Show Day Spinning Wheel and Train. Dance at Merrijig and Film Night for Spastic Children. Start Collection for New Ambulance Station.
- 64/65 Ambulance Station Project. Talking Books for the Blind. Spastic Children. Community Aid Abroad. High School Scholarship. Paper Drive. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Home and Family Week Demonstration. Tyre Drive.

- 65-66 Paper Drives. Tyre Collections. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Hot Dog Stand at Show. Growing Potatoes. Children's Playground.
- 66/67 Playground. Carpenter's Work Bench, Shepparton Centre for Mentally Retarded. Community Aid Abroad. Tasmanian Bushfire Relief. High School Scholarship. Paper Drives (3). Bonfire-Barbecue, Under-privileged Children. Carols by Candlelight.
- 67/68 White Elephant Sale. Selling Biro's, Competition for 40-Man Hours. Paper Drives. Wine Waiters. Rotary Inaugural Dinner. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Bonfire-Barbecue, 5th November. Barbecue Under-privileged Children. Christmas Cards. Community Aid Abroad Walkathon and Barbecue. Ambulance Station Opening and Afternoon Teas with Ladies' Help. Playground at High School. Civilian Widows' Picnic. Shearing Demonstration. Christmas Carnival. Christmas Carnival Float.
- 68/69 Paper Drives. Dinner Dance. Completing Playground. Show Day Spinning Wheel. Hay Carting. Youth Club Carnival. Bushfire Relief Work. Carting Rocks, Mt. Buller. White Elephant Sale. Christmas Tree Planting.
- 69/70 Paper Drives. Autistic Tapes. Thoona C.W.A. Conference. Painting Signs. Blood Donations. Scouts' Barbecue. Autistic Luncheon. Pine Trees. Dinner Dance. Collecting Wood. 40-Man-Hours Raffle. Apex Walk Around Australia. Hospital Ball. Coloured Lights at Hospital. Christmas Carnival. Water Ski Extravaganza. Mansfield Show. Civilian Widows. Bindaree. Shelves for Red Cross.
- 70/71 Paper Drives. Scout Barbecue. Search and Rescue. White Elephant Sale. Hospital Ball. Bonfire-Barbecue. Hospital Opening. Show Day Holiday. Hospital Lights. Autistic Barbecue. Ambulance Carnival. Ridethon Barbecue. Apex Ball. Civilian Widow Trip. Campdraft Gates. Delegates' Meetings. Association Service Scheme — Aid to Disabled.
- 71/72 Apex - Rotary Barbecue. Show Gates. Dinner Dance. Paper Drives. Victorian Campdraft Championships Gate. St. John's Ambulance First Aid Class. Bindaree. Race Club Gates. Keep Mansfield Beautiful Committee. Book Appeal. Red Cross Blood Bank. Clean Approaches to Town. Hospital Ball. Help Run Youth Club. N.E. Ambulance. Bindaree. Benalla Mentally Retarded Centre. Miss Charity Nurse Appeal. Madang P.N.G. Memorial Hall. Local People in Need Unexpectedly. Lord Mayor's Camp. Rostrum for Youth. High School Scholarship. Association Service Scheme — Autism and S.P.E.L.D.
- 72/73 Paper Drives. Paint Youth Club. Race Gates (3). Show Gate. Campdraft Gate.
- 73-74 Paper Drives. Race Gates. Show Gate. Campdraft Gate. Apex Ball. Hospital Ball. Christmas Tree Scrubbing. Autistic Trail Ride. Coloured Lights at Hospital. Bath Tub Derby. Chicken and Champagne Night (thanks to women).
- 74/75 Paper Drives. Campdraft Gate. Cleaning Dalgety's Block. Show Day Gate. Race Club Gate. Bath Tub Derby. New Year's Eve Ball, with Apex Ladies. Lions Charter Dinner. Legacy Wood Day. Red Cross Blood Bank. Easter Sports Barbecue. Autistic Trail Ride Barbecue. Chicken and Champagne Film Night, with Apex Ladies.



Major Service Project — Mansfield Ambulance Station, 1964/65.

MAJOR SERVICE PROJECTS

This, on the surface, is a very simple topic to present a precis of, but research proves this to be not so.

The first question to be answered when looking at the service inventory for a year or number of years is, "What constitutes a major service project?"

Raising a large amount of money, many man-hours of work, performing a lasting service to the local community? These points must all be considered when reviewing previous service projects.

In 1959-60, the Club here in Mansfield set to and raised £1,100 (\$2,200) towards the purchase of a new ambulance, and at the time the only one of its kind in Australia.

Not content to rest on their laurels, five years later a similar amount was raised towards the building of an ambulance station and two-way radio communications between ambulance and station.

Two prodigious feats for a small country town service club. These two service projects fill all three of the requirements of major service projects.

One point to add to that list would be a project that was of lasting benefit to the nation as a whole. This was the case with two association service projects — Aid to Mentally Retarded and Autism — when in both cases trust funds in excess of \$100,000 were established to be applied in the fields of research into the causes and possible cures in both cases.

Mansfield Apex Club had a special interest in the association service project, "Walk Around Australia." The Apex Club of Blackwood, S.A., had the thought that as a fund-raising project Apexians should "Walk Around Australia," with the national highway Route No. 1 as the route to be followed, with numerous subsidiary walks. There was only one problem: Who should be the benefactor of all the money that would be raised? It was Mansfield's idea, prompted by the wife of our then President, Graeme Stoney, that Autism be the recipient of the funds raised from the "Walk." With much letter-writing and submission of proposals backwards and forwards to zone and association boards, Mansfield's proposition was elected ahead of 16 other suggested worthy causes. The "walk" started on 3rd March, in Adelaide, and headed west to Perth, and then north to Darwin, then across to Cairns and south to Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, and back to Adelaide on 15th November, and \$129,000 richer for "Aid to Autism."

Here in Mansfield we became very involved with the initial promotion of the "walk" and just what Autism is. In an attempt to answer these questions for every Apexian, Mansfield Apex produced 79 identical tape recordings answering as many questions as possible about Autism. These tapes were recorded in the studios of GTV 9, Melbourne, and were in turn sent to every District Governor within Australia.

With a very successful project completed on a national basis, the Club's attention was focussed on the home front, with the local Rotary Club instigating a public meeting from which a provisional committee was formed for the establishment of an old people's home, now known as "Bindaree." To this cause we pledged \$1,500 over and above our usual commitment to other charities, and in 1974, at our hand-over dinner, we duly presented the President of Bindaree Committee with a cheque for \$1,500.

The following year the Association Service Scheme was M.S., or Multiple Schlerosis, to which Mansfield Apex Club gave \$500, which was followed by another very worthy Association Service Scheme in 1975-76 when \$2,000 was given by the Club. This, I might add, at this stage is only the third year in the Club's history when we have donated in excess of \$2,000 to a charity in a year.

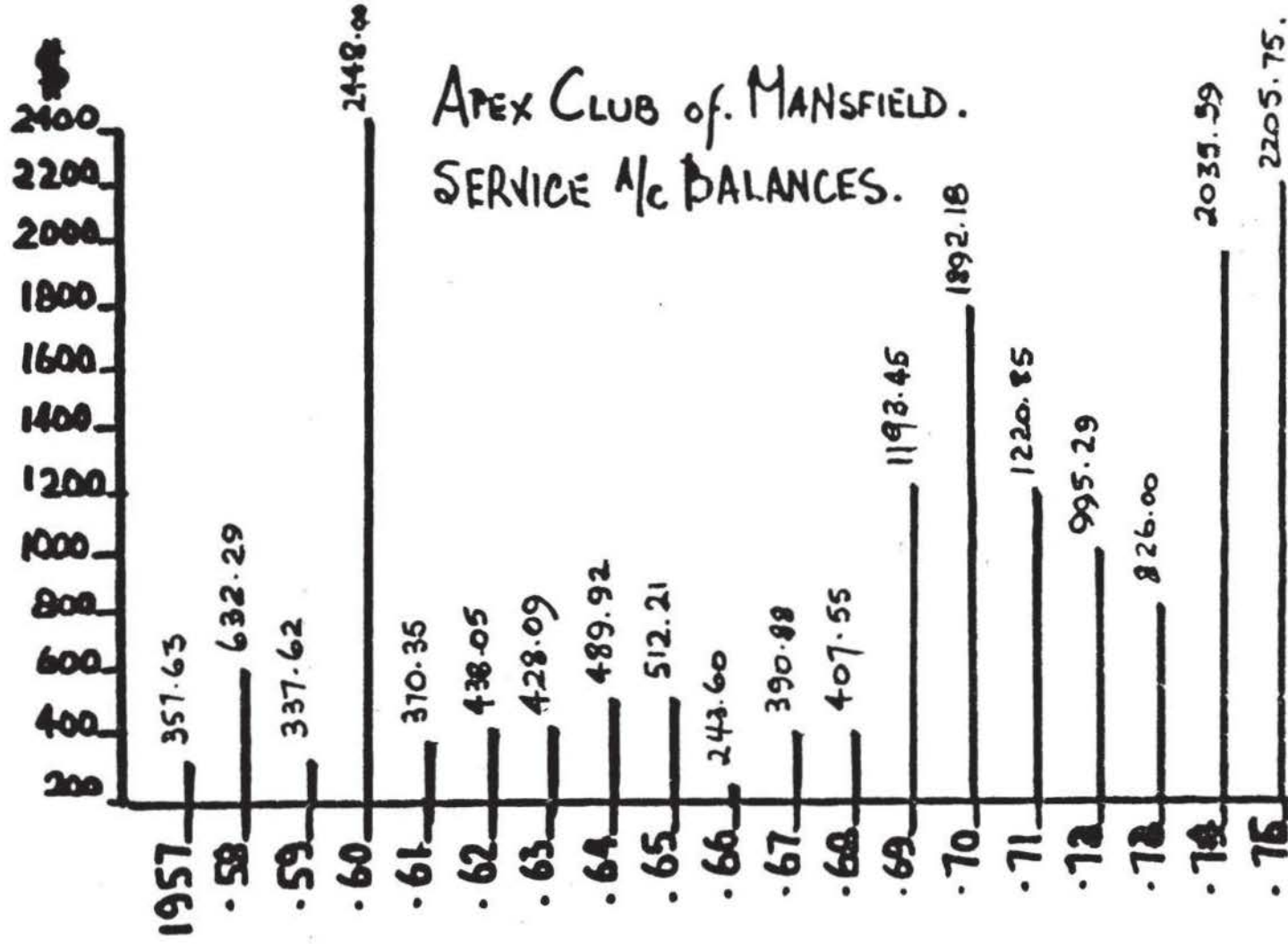
Mansfield Apex Club have acquitted themselves extremely well, looking back on the list of major service projects. We see that approximately \$10,000 has been donated to these major service projects over twenty years — an average of \$500 per annum.

What of the future? Well, even now there is looming a potentially very large community service project instigated from within Mansfield Apex Club, and that is the possible joint service club scheme, along with all other interested bodies, to build a community hall recreation centre. Time will tell, as this scheme at the time of going to press will only then be in its very infancy.

* Association Service Scheme.

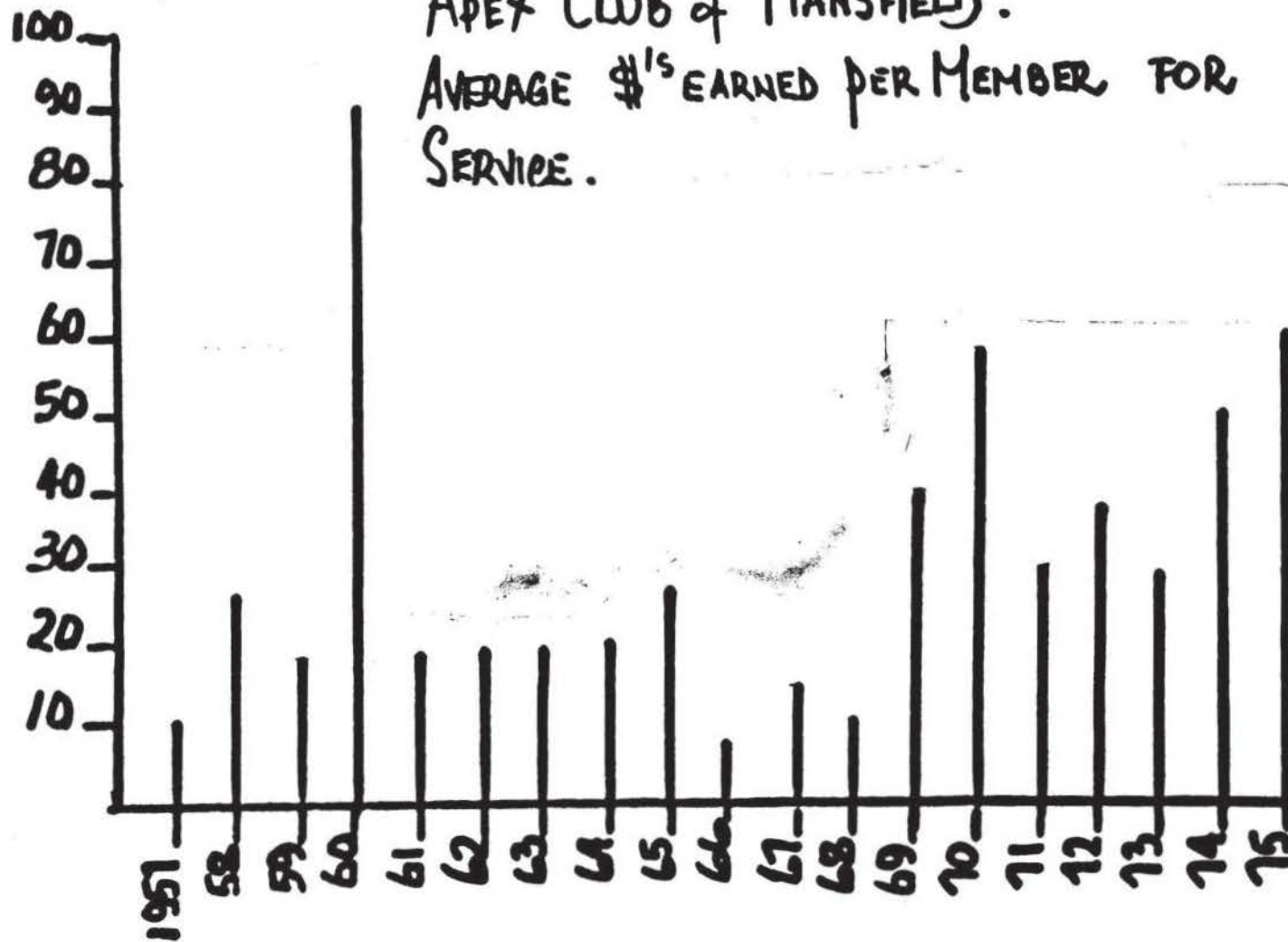
75/76 — Microsurgery,* \$2,000.
74/75 — Multiple Schlerosis,* \$500.
73/74 — "Bindaree," \$1,500.
72/73 —
71/72 —
70/71 — Aid to the Disabled,*\$30 — Autism.
69/70 — Walk Around Australia,* \$1,000.
68/69 — Apex National Dental Health Week.*
67/68 — Aid to Mentally Retarded,* \$200.
66/67 — Aid to Mentally Retarded.*
65/66 — Aid to Mentally Retarded.
64/65 — Ambulance Station.
63/64 —
62/63 — Freedom From Hunger,* \$106.
61/62 — Wool Show.
60/61 —
59/60 — New Ambulance, \$2,200.
58/59 —
57/58 — Civilian Widows.*
56/57 —

This list of major service projects of Mansfield Apex Club complements the preceding list. Where no major service work was evident for the year this usually was complemented by service in a number of directions, none of which was large enough to be rated as major, but when all put together form a formidable amount of service work for that particular year.



Apex Club of Mansfield.

AVERAGE \$'s EARNED PER MEMBER FOR SERVICE.





Service Projects — Top: Tourist information map, 1957/58.
 Bottom: Ambulance purchase, as an Apex project, 1959/60.

FELLOWSHIP AND SOCIAL FUN

Painting a hall, building a playground, cutting wood for Legacy, laying lawns at the hospital, carting bricks — all these jobs are not easy. Very often these jobs done by Apexians in a voluntary capacity involve many long hours and much back-breaking toil. These hours could be normally devoted to playing sport, study for career, hobbies or entertaining the girl friend, wife or family.

The only thing that keeps all Apexians at the job until it is done is one of the three basic principles of Apex — Fellowship. It is during service work of any nature that the real friendships of Apex are made; not at meetings and social occasions.

One thing that has been brought out during the research of this history is the comment or the opinion that you don't really know Apex until you've experienced the fellowship of an Apex Convention. This, of course, leads me to say that at all times members must be encouraged, badgered and coerced to attend as many conventions as possible. It is at these conventions that the real "Spirit of Apex" becomes a living thing for those who attend.

It is during the fellowship time that many a shy and retiring young man comes into his own, and before very long a complete change can come over this man, who rises from the quietest to be the noisiest.

Closer at home in Mansfield, Apex has always right from its inception been aware of the need for social activities and fellowship as a stimuli for harmony within the Club. One President, in an effort to promote a social night, suggested a "Mixed Dinner — With Ladies." Don't know what he would have done if there weren't any !

A little known social activity in Zone Seven is the existence of "Sociable Sam," a gavel which is taken by one club to another and duly presented, and that club has a specific period in which to present "Sam" to another club. Mansfield's geographic location does not lend itself to seeing "Sam" very often, but its appearance is always an added incentive to visit another club.

Fellowship, whether at conventions or at a working bee, forms the backbone of a club, where all Apexians are on a common level with one another, where each can get to know one another on a lasting basis with a mutual interest — Apex and serving the community.

Social activities of Mansfield Apex Club have included:

Mixed dinners.
Socials at members' houses.
Refreshments at working bees.
Dinner dances.
Progressive dinners in members' homes.
Games nights.
Film, chicken and champagne nights.
New Year's Eve.
Santa Claus for the children.
Country dances.
Bucks' night for members about to take the plunge.
By bus to Wangaratta to the Dogs.
By bus to Shepparton to the Trots.
By bus to Mt. Buller social night.
Barbecues on Lake Eildon.
Trip on Eildon Endeavour.
Fine Session — President's Drinking Fund.
Inter-Club visiting.
Tin-kettling newly-married members.
Combined Service Club dinners.



Top: John Howie receiving Life Membership from Zone President Bob Osborne and President Rowan Neely, in 1974.

Bottom: Handover of Charter to new President, Tony Riley, by District Governor, Peter Reynolds, 1969.

CONCLUSION

Few organisations have a membership as wide, as diversified, as active, as Apex. This fact makes it impossible to completely chart the journey Apex in Mansfield has taken in its first twenty years, but in the pages of this history sufficient features of Apex life are reviewed to follow the main highway, and many of the sideroads, which the Club has travelled in its endeavour to serve the community.

To those people who have contributed in any way to the compiling of this history I am extremely grateful, particularly my two colleagues in Tony Riley and Peter Reynolds, without whose enormous effort this history would not have been compiled and my job made extremely difficult.

To those past Apexians we say thank you for showing the present members the Apex way of life for the past twenty years, and, to the present members, may we go out and show the light to similar young men that they may enjoy the Apex way of life for the next twenty years or more.

Yours in Apex,

STUART D. ANDREWS.

**THE MANSFIELD COURIER PTY. LTD. CON-
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ON ITS COMPLETION OF 20 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE MANSFIELD DISTRICT.**

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MANSFIELD APEX CLUB

Last Wednesday, representatives of the Shire Council and the Apex Club were presented with a certificate awarding second place in the Develop Victoria Council's Rural Development section of the Premier Town Competition, to Mansfield. This competition has been running for 15 years with awards every 3 years, and the 1970 competition is the first which Mansfield has entered.

Mr. Balfour, Minister for Fuel and Power and Minister for Mines made the presentation, pointing out that the competition made country council's aware of what they had or what they lacked.

There are six sections within the competition:

Town Planning, Development and beautification;

Education;

Industrial activities;

Town promotion and tourism;

Rural Development;

Community and leisure time activities.

To be eligible for the Premier Town Award all sections must be entered. Mansfield was entered in the Town Promotion and Tourism and the Rural Development sections. The award in the latter section was largely due to the energy and enthusiasm shown by Apexians John Howie, Paul Nelson and Graeme Stoney.