



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

44th Annual Report

2020 / 2021

ABN 58 001 347 897

MISSION

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



*Trailer and tools worth more than \$11,000 donated
to the Aspect School providing opportunities
for Autism students to gain employment.*



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA



CHAIRMAN'S 2021 REPORT

2020 2021 was a tough year

This time last year, I was reflecting on what a horrid year 2020 was, as we experienced the bushfires and the start of Covid-19. Indeed, this was a very tough time for the Foundation, and I imagine for Apex Clubs all around Australia.

After taking over the Chairmanship in 2019, and with all our meetings last year being executed virtually ,even last year's' Annual General Meeting , I was very much looking forward to some face-to-face board meetings and representing our great Foundation at a variety of events. But alas, after a Board Meeting held at the Entrance in March this year, everything again was impacted by Covid 19. Running Board / Committee / Strategy / Meetings virtually these days is the norm!

So it is again with mixed emotions that I write this report conveying to our members, supporters and partners an overview of the Apex Foundation activities over the past 12 months. Directors have again been to the fore in these tough times, and I convey my sincere gratitude for their unwavering support.

From the outset, our very first consideration is still,

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

The Foundation continues to heavily engage with Apex Clubs, and also members of Apex 40.

TONY WILSHIRE



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The **Mental Health Initiative** project
This year, we joined with Apex Australia in establishing the
'Building Better Mental Health Project'

This project was first mooted by Apex, but failed to get any great traction, and because of the instigation and persistence of the Apex National President and Foundation Director, Bethany Paterson, the Apex Foundation stepped in to support this very worthwhile project.

To date in excess of \$25,000 has been raised to cover grant applications which will be utilised by Apex Clubs to help their communities.

Given how the coronavirus climate has impacted on the mental anguish of so many Australians, this project is very timely and worthwhile.

Our respite facilities

The committees of our three Underprivileged Children's Trust entities continue to do a sterling job. **The Magic Castle at Smiggin Holes** and **The SHACK at Shoalhaven Heads**, both of which are in NSW, have spent a majority of the year closed, and opportunities have been taken by Apex Clubs and others to carry out some needed upgrades, renovations and upkeep. The local community at Shoalhaven Heads continue to be huge supporters of the SHACK. Hopefully these facilities will be reopened to the clients that they were built for, by the end of this calendar year. The Apex **Copper Coast Retreats at Wallaroo** has pretty well run all year, without any Covid distractions.



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

Postie Bike Ride 2021



The 2020 iconic Annual Postie Bike Ride in the Flinders Ranges was again most successful and more than \$1.35M has been raised from this event over the past 14 years.

Investments

Although the Apex Foundation maintains conservative & diversified **investment portfolios**, we have seen considerable volatility over the past 2 years, no doubt induced by uncertainty surrounding Covid. After last years' 5.6% loss, strong markets to the financial year ending 30th of June 2021 has resulted in a 16.7% return on our managed investment. This portfolio is managed by Shaw & Partners, & we thank them for their contribution.

Grants

Besides the hands on work the Apex Foundation does in helping the underprivileged all-around Australia, we also are able to financially assist many individuals and entities through the provision of grants. Our 3 Civilian Widows Trusts have provided grants totalling \$13,280, & the Charitable Trust has provided funding of \$58,200. Although not the most significant moneywise, it was great to fund a very special project for Aspect School on the NSW Central Coast which caters for children with Autism. The purchase of equipment for a school / community-based lawn mowing & garden maintenance program provides fantastic work experience for their high school students.

The **Apex Foundation Community Fund** distributed \$1,800 to Apex Clubs this year to help them in their local communities. We are always looking for innovative projects through which we can help raise the profile of the Fund, and to support Apex Clubs with their local projects.



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

Administration

This year has encompassed several virtual meetings, specifically around strategy. These meetings are all about future proofing the Foundation. Succession planning, various business plans, documentation around directors' knowledge, history recording, communications, corporate relations, ongoing structures of trusts, formation of One Drive facility and directors' manuals, plus the ongoing maintenance thereof, and many other items continue on this agenda.

As always, there are so many to thank for their huge contributions: Mike, Brian and Lindsay for the work they have done to date with an ACNC review of some of our trusts, ensuring that these are up to date with charitable and taxation requirements. They have also put in countless hours endeavouring to develop a new and simpler structure, and this is ongoing at this time. Also, thanks to the guidance and help I have received from John and Graham over the past 12 months.

We are very lucky to have some great work partners. **A huge thank you to AON for the Office / Conference facilities they provide, to our incredible auditors, Rupa and Elias from LBW & Partners, our accountant, Mario Fricot, and last but not least our Executive Officer, Clement Fernandez. His work ethic, honesty, adaptability is second to none.**

After nearly 18 years, **Stephen Bigarelli** called time on his directorship. Stephen was Chair for 5 years and looked after our finances for at least 10 years. Stephen's contribution to Apex and particularly the Apex Foundation has been immense. He was heavily involved with the ongoing requirements of most of our trusts, and I sincerely thank him, and of course his lovely wife Deb. Stephen was replaced by **Neil Molineaux** in March of this year.

A huge thanks to all our committees, and subcommittee. People like Jamie Vincent, the committee members of the Chalet, SHACK, and the Copper Coast do so much. Jamie has been a very supportive Vice Chairman.

As my report goes to press, I can advise that four Directors' positions are up for re-election. If you have the necessary skills/business acumen to add value to our Board, together with the time and dedication, I would love to hear from you.

Mike Fitze has been a director of our Board for over 33 years. He has looked after nearly every Trust during his time, and over the last 15 years he has been Company Secretary as well as a Director. He has my sincere thanks for helping me out over the last 2 years. A lot of the stuff Mike does goes unnoticed. Thanks Mate.

Thanks,

Tony Wilshire
Chairman



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA



Apex Foundation Australia Board of Directors 2020/2021

Back row from left to right: Lindsay Carthew, Jamie Vincent, Clement Fernandez (Executive Officer), John King and Mario Fricot (Accountant)
Front row from left to right: Graham Cassidy, Mike Fitze, Tony Wilshire and Bethany Paterson.

Not in picture:

Brian Powe, Neal Molineaux, Stephen Bigarelli and Adam Stewart

The strategic and management direction of the Apex Foundation is achieved by an honorary board of directors who collectively make decisions in the best interests of the trusts. Under the chairmanship of Tony Wilshire, each board member, all directors, participate in the formal decision-making processes regarding allocations.

CHAIRMAN - TONY WILSHIRE

Executive, Civilian Widows Trust – QLD and WA, Fine Arts and
Ex Officio on all Committees



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA – BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020/2021

VICE CHAIRMAN - JAMIE DARREN VINCENT

Underprivileged Children's Trust (Chalet), Charitable Trust- Autism, Marketing and Membership Committee. Investments Committee and Board Audit & Risk Committee.

BRIAN POWE

Executive, Finance Director, Underprivileged Children's Trust (SHACK) Committee, Governance, Legal and Compliance and Constitution Committee, Investment Committee, Finance Committee (Chair) and Board Audit & Risk Committee (Chair).

COMPANY SECRETARY - PETER MICHAEL FITZE

Executive, Administration (Chair), Director for Elections. Staff, Insurance, ASIC, AF Community Fund, Board Audit & Risk Committee, Governance and Legal and Compliance and Constitution Committee.

LINDSAY MURRAY CARTHEW

Investments Committee (Chair), Marketing and Membership Committee, Board Audit & Risk Committee, Craniofacial Trust, Copper Coast Committee and Finance Committee.

GRAHAM CASSIDY

Marketing and Membership Committee (Chair), Children's Cancer Trust, Diabetes Trust, Melanoma Trust, NSW/ACT Civilians and Widows Trust and Finance Committee.

JOHN CHARLES KING

Governance, Legal and Compliance and Constitution Committee (Chair).

NEAL MOLINEAUX - Appointed 31/3/21.

DAVID MAXWELL COTTON - Appointed 21/08/21

Investment Committee and Finance Committee

BETHANY PATERSON – Apex Australia National President Resigned 21/8/21

Apex Liaison.

ADAM JAMES STEWART - Apex Australia National President Appointed 21/8/21

Apex Liaison



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

Value of Service provided over the years

Year ended 30/06/21

Respite Centre	Years (3)	Occupancy (4)	Days used up to 30/06/21	Approximate guests for the year	FY21 Value of services (\$)	All time Value of services (\$)
ACCR (5)	6.5	904	4,694	390	154,620	847,540
SHACK	29	4,951	19,142	540	75,875	4,402,514
Chalet	42	41,051 (1)	9,505	265 (2)	16,650	6,124,504
Total			33,341	1,195	247,145	11,374,558

(1) Represents the number of occupants and not families

(2) Represents bed nights

(3) Represents number of years in operation

(4) The number of families that used the facility over the years

(5) Apex Copper Coast Retreats

Trusts/Cause/Funding

The table below shows the funding in the year 2020 - 2021 and from inception to 30 June 2021

Trusts/Cause	Year started	Number of years	Grants (\$) To date	Grants (\$) 2020/2021
Apex Charitable Trust - Autism	1970	51	533,244	11,221
Apex Charitable Trust - Cancer	1978	43	2,308,467	0
Apex Charitable Trust - Craniofacial	1983	38	2,655,283	0
Apex Charitable Trust - Diabetes	1985	36	1,622,383	0
Apex Charitable Trust - Melanoma	1988	33	1,154,769	0
Civilians Widows Trust	2005	16	658,346	13,280
Fine Arts	1980	41	285,133	0
Apex Foundation Community Fund	1977	43	322,478	1,800
Apex Charitable Trust - General			260,184	47,000
Trusts not active			1,041,136	0
Total			\$10,841,423	\$73,301



APEX FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

How to become a member?

Have you considered becoming a member of the Apex Foundation?
if so, contact the Executive Officer at eo@apexfoundatuon.org.au

Do you receive the newsletter of the Apex Foundation?

If not, go to our website <https://www.apexfoundation.org.au/> and
"subscribe to newsletters".

How can you help us?

Every donation received helps us to continue the fantastic work of the Foundation. If you are doing your Will, why not leave a little something for the Foundation and help the great work Apexians do in our community. Please refer to our website on how you can donate or send an email to eo@apexfoundation.org.au for details.

Remember us in your will

Would you like to leave 'something for Apex' with a bequest to;

The APEX FOUNDATION COMMUNITY FUND or

The APEX FOUNDATION CHARITABLE GENERAL TRUST.

Funds from both trusts can go to Apex Club projects.

For more information, please see our website

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

Or contact

Clement Fernandez, our Executive Officer.

eo@apexfoundation.org.au

We can tailor something especially for you.

Our Patrons



Honourable John Howard OM, AC



Jim Hughes AM