



## **Put Your Trust in the Apex Foundation**

Through the success of National Service Schemes the Association found itself in the possession of large funds amounting to millions of dollars. Many of these are ongoing projects which necessitate administration over a number of years. The officers of the Association are ever-changing and it was thought wise to establish a more stable body to invest and manage the funds.

In 1977 this objective was achieved by the formation of the Apex Foundation, a company limited by guarantee to act as trustee for the activities of the Association of Apex Clubs.

The Foundation was incorporated to pursue certain objects and was given the power; to apply the income and/or assets defined by Section 78 (i) (a) Income Tax Assessment Act 1936; to apply the assets and income for the relief of poverty; to apply the income and/or assets for the research and development of medical or scientific services as is necessary for the relief of suffering and disability; to apply the Corporation income and assets in the promotion, development of international understanding, contact and welfare aid programmes by Australians with people of other nations; to undertake the administration of any trust on behalf of the Association of Apex Clubs or its member clubs.

### **Goals**

The Directors plan to inform leaders of commerce and industry of the present and future role that the Foundation will play in the Community. The Board considers it desirable to build up a General Trust of uncommitted funds in addition to those entrusted to the Foundation by Apex for specific purposes. Donations will be welcomed from philanthropists, big business and the general public to create such a reserve. The gifts are tax deductible.

This reservoir of money will enable the Foundation to meet any emergencies which may arise. It could be used to bolster amounts needed by approved beneficiaries when the sum in hand falls short of requirements. For example, a dire need may arise in the Microsurgery Trust for \$25,000 when the funds available amount to \$20,000. The additional \$5,000 could be supplied from the General Trust.

Cash from this source would be available when flood, fire or cyclone suddenly assails any part of Australia. It is felt that help which can be offered immediately a need arises is to show Apex service on a grand scale.

National Service Schemes fire the imagination of Apexians during the period of the appeal and this enthusiasm is often transmitted to the public. But then it is on to the next project.

The Foundation ensures the continuing involvement of Apex in autism, microsurgery, cancer in children and the welfare of under-privileged youngsters.



## **The First of Many**

This concern for the future of those who suffer from medical or social disabilities will be demonstrated by the handling of the first funds entrusted to the Foundation.

### *The Autism Trust*

The funds for this appeal were boosted by the famous walk around Australia, surely one of the longest treks ever made. The resulting sum of over \$200,000 formed the basis of the first Foundation Trust.

The income is applied both to medical research into the causes and treatment of Autism and to educational research into methods of teaching Autistic children.

### *The Microsurgery Trust*

Upon the conclusion of the 1975-76 Service Scheme \$20,000 was retained for future needs. Thus Apex can contribute to the establishment of units where and when they are required and to further research and technical training.

### *The Leukaemia Trust*

The raising of funds for the Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Appeal was one of the most spectacular of Apex projects. In 1978 \$1 million was handed over to the Commonwealth Children's Leukaemia Foundation. A quarter of million dollars is to be applied to research and treatment by the Apex Foundation as required. It is available whenever the need is apparent.

### *The Underprivileged Children's Trust*

Zones 10 and 2 came up with a scheme which embodied every principle dear to the hearts of Apexians. This was to build a chalet at Smiggin Holes in the Snowy Mountains. Graham Salter, with a strong committee, tackled the job. A grant of land was secured on a long term lease from the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Volunteers from clubs near and far erected a 24-bed chalet for the use of underprivileged and handicapped children.

At the opening, the Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, announced that a grant of \$50,000 would be made to fund the cost of leasing, maintenance and general expenses over the thirty years of the tenure.

In future the Chalet, valued at \$120,000, will be managed by the Apex Foundation. A committee of Apexians and social workers has been established in Sydney and Melbourne to oversee maintenance and select the children who are to make use of this facility.



## **Personnel**

A carefully selected Board of Directors is entrusted with the administration of the Foundation. The Foundation is subject to strict company law controls which are essential when large amounts of public funds are handled. All directors are Apexians, Life Governors or Life Members and meet every three months. They operate through the secretariat in Sydney. A local management committee, composed of directors located in New South Wales meets between Board meetings when any urgent matters crop up.

The agenda and minutes of all meetings are distributed to the National President and Service Director and the Apex Vice-president or his deputy is invited to all Board Meetings. The Foundation reports to Apex National Board Meetings and Conventions.

The Foundation co-ops approved advisors in specialist areas such as financial and medical research. Advice has been sought from the AMP Society and the Bank of New South Wales Investment Service.

The subscribers to the first Trust Deed were John Cleaves, Donald Ferguson, Graham Salter, Michael Afaras, Geoff Speers, Ross McLeod and Paul Jensen.



## The Original Board of Directors

John Cleaves	Life Governor – Cessnock – Solicitor
Joe Winter	Life Member – Adelaide – Chartered Accountant
Bill Keeling (Secretary)	Life Member – North Sydney – Tobacco Blender
Bob Solomons	Apexian – Hornsby – Chartered Accountant
Greg Parnham	Life Member – Canberra – Transport
Allen Verran	Life Member – Brisbane – Public Servant
Tam Lynden-Bell	Apexian – Pharmacist

*Subsequently Bill Keeling and Tam Lynden-Bell retired and were replaced by:*

Graham Brian	Apexian – Insurance
Graham Salter	Life Governor – Karringah – Chartered Accountant

One of the potential on-going schemes is “Aid to the Mentally Retarded”. This commenced in 1965 and Apex support was manifested in a variety of ways which included assistance to established homes and the inauguration of new centres and sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded.

Brian Horgan, then chairman of the Association Service Scheme, was reluctant to vacate the strong position which had been achieved. He and his committee resolved to continue to raise funds with a target of \$100,000. This sum would be devoted to research into the causes of mental blocks with the object of prevention rather than treatment after the event.

To this end the Apex Foundation for Research into Mental Retardation was formed as a limited company, incorporated to act as trustees for the fund. The Board consists of Apexians, businessmen, doctors and lawyers who are empowered to invest in approved research projects. This trust remains independent of the main Apex Foundation.