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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Neil Hopkins Kay Schmidt  
Darrell Johnson Harry Wills

## Contributions

If you'd like to contribute an article to this newsletter, please send it, preferably by e-mail, to the editor. Copy deadline is the 11<sup>th</sup> of each month of publication. **Please address general correspondence and subscriptions to the Secretary.** All cheques are to be made payable to the 'Retired Customs Officers' Association of WA Inc.

## Membership

RCOA welcomes new members of former Customs officers. Current membership is 137. The membership fee for former officer & spouse or single is \$6. An application form is included on the inside back page of this Newsletter. Annual subscriptions are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. Please check your address label for your current financial status.

## PRESIDENTS NOTE

A suggestion has been made that the Association should have an activity group for adventurer other than just going on outings like we do at present. I personally support wholeheartedly this idea so we will be organising a basic group who will deal with ideas put forward by you, our members. This group will be known as the 'Venture Committee' & will be part of the main committee. The whole Association committee meet every two months & the Venture group will advertise coming events & how to be part of the adventure or trip in the Duty Freed like all social venues are done as present.

Members interested will need to send written suggestions to the Secretary for discussion at the next committee meeting after receipt of the correspondence. Any person putting suggestions forward, who is not a Committee member, will be invited to the appropriate committee meeting to answer questions on their suggestion & will need to bring documentation showing their feasibility studies, transport requirements & costs associated to the venture.

To all our members who may be ailing in this year may your pains ease with the knowledge that we, your friends & second family, think of you often whenever we meet & discuss the past, & our prayers go with you all. 🙏  
*God bless, Trevor Smart*

## Diary of Events 2005

Sept 19<sup>th</sup> Lunch @ TAFE Fremantle  
Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Sausage Sizzle @ Kings Park  
Dec 13<sup>th</sup> Christmas Luncheon @ Runway  
Bar & Café 📠

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## Recent Outings

### Luncheon at the Runway Bar & Café Tuesday July 12<sup>th</sup> - *Planes, Trains & Automobiles* -.

Planes were aplenty, as was the food and members attending this very popular venue. Trains & Automobiles are on the committee's agenda. This venue has free entertainment every minute of the day. You do not have to be an 'aircraft spotter' to appreciate the spectacle of an extensive variety of aircraft coming and going. The Café & Bar is not bad either.

Lunch, again, was plentiful followed by a very nice dessert. A good attendance of 34 members and 1 guest (Darrel Johnson's sister). A select bottle of wine was donated by one of the committee members as a lucky number prize. Our guest must have gone home totally confused when having drawn a number the recipient declined to accept it (Sylvia had won the Xmas Hamper, last Xmas) and thought someone else should have a prize. Drawn again and the emcee had to exercise his power (under the donor and husband rule) - sorry Roger - and have another draw. We finally got rid of this very nice bottle of wine to Paul Hubbard, who reluctantly accepted it.

Kay, bring more bottles of that wine along to our caravan excursion and I guarantee it will be passed around and returned empty. Anyone interested in a few days away, caravanning????

All the above waffling simply said we had a great day and we would love to see more of you in our midst.

**Approved, R L K**



## Venture Club

Okay adventurers, time to come out of the woodwork. As you read in the President's Report on the front page, we are looking at organising a venture or two with your help. Of course you will have to do the ground work - costs, availability of transport, accommodation, train, 4-wheel drive, caravan, and any other information needed to organise such a thing. We will then discuss the appropriateness & advertise in the Duty Freed as we do the social outings.

Remember, if you want to go 4-wheel driving, you have to have a 4-wheel drive. Same with caravanning, you will need a caravan. If it helps, I have a push bike (tyres a bit flat but can fix that). So for any of you interested we are eagerly waiting for your contributions.



## New Members

Brian Carter  
Clayton & Suzanne Roberts  
Ned & Joy Custance

*Welcome to you all and hope to see you at some of our functions. You are welcome to send us a piece about yourselves for the newsletter too if you wish.*

## News of Members

*Ned & Joy Custance* recently joined our association. Ned wrote to say he is still playing competition golf four times a week, although not as successfully as he would like, but the exercise & company compensate for the escalating scores. Unfortunately Joy hasn't played for ten months because of back problems but is hoping to resume shortly. Both are in reasonably good health & still hold some very fond memories of their time in Perth & are looking forward to their next visit.

*Mary Ford* is recuperating but requires daily help.

*Gwen Gregg* has recently had her second operation for cataracts & still adjusting her sight until she gets her new glasses - things may be clearer then. *See you soon Gwen*

*Audrey Hovey* has recently had a tumble & had a spell in hospital. She has to learn how to get around again before going home. Eric is well & managing his spare time.

*Dave & Joy Johnson* wrote recently. They have been away for a trip and are both healthy. They are still flying & hope to catch up with us all soon.

*Percy Perrin* has been in the wars again but appears to be on the road to recovery. *See you soon Percy*

*Bob Rex* has had a bit of a hiccup too & we believe he is getting back on track.

*Kay & Roger Schmidt* are having a short spell away in their caravan, getting away from it all,

*Harry Wills* is celebrating his freedom from specialists for a while & is recovering well. He & Pat are off on a holiday shortly, getting out and about for a change. The wild flowers will be great this year so a few leisurely walks may be enjoyed.

*Once again, we do know of members who are/have been unwell but respect their request for privacy. We wish you all a speedy recovery & good health.*



## Spread the Wealth

Tax cuts are a sure way to buy votes, but are they fair to all?

It's that time of year again when the federal government outlines its plans for our economic futures through the budget. Over recent years tax cuts have been used to buy our votes & they seem to be the federal government's preferred choice when it comes to spreading the wealth. But tax cuts always create controversy about whether they are fair. Often there are claims that tax cuts favour the rich rather than the poor.

A reader sent in this fascinating explanation to help us understand tax cuts. I like it -

Every day ten people go out for dinner. The total bill comes to \$100. They decide to pay their bill the way they pay their taxes. The first four (the poorest) paid nothing. The fifth paid \$1. The sixth paid \$3. The seventh paid \$7. The eighth paid \$12. The ninth paid \$18. The tenth person (the richest) paid \$59.

To reward their daily support the restaurant owner cut the cost of the meals by \$20 to \$80. The group still wanted to pay their bill the way we pay our taxes. The first four were unaffected, they would still eat for free. The remaining realised that \$20 divided by six is \$3.33. But if they subtracted that from everybody's share, then the fifth & sixth would each end up being paid to eat. The restaurateur suggested reducing each man's bill roughly by the same percentage. The fifth man, like the first four, now paid nothing (100% saving). The sixth paid \$2 instead of \$3 (33% saving). The seventh paid \$5 instead of \$7 (28% saving). The eighth paid \$9 instead of \$12 (25% saving). The ninth paid \$15 instead of \$18 (17% saving). The tenth paid \$49 instead of \$59 (16% saving). Each of the six was better off, and the first four continued to eat for free, but then the men began to compare their savings.

'I only got a dollar out of the \$20' the sixth said, pointing to the tenth, 'but you got \$10!' 'That's true!' the seventh shouted. 'Why should you get \$10 back when I only got \$2? The wealthy get all the breaks!' 'Wait a minute', the first four yelled in unison, 'we didn't get anything at all. The system exploits the poor!'

The next night the tenth person had had enough & didn't show up for dinner. When the bill came for the others they discovered they didn't have enough money between them for even half of it.

That is how our tax system works. Those who pay the highest taxes get the most benefit from a tax reduction. Tax them too much, attack them for being wealthy, & they may choose to dine in Monaco instead.

*Footnote:*

*The poor Danes are the most taxed people in the world. The most taxed Danish citizens pay a whopping 68% of their hard earned kroner, & even at the low end, income tax begins at 42%.*

*(This 'Ask the Experts' article was sent in Maurie Mephan, thanks)*

## The Veteran Golfer

I'm a real veteran golfer, with legs somewhat wobbly,  
The shorts rather shaggy, the knees a bit knobbly.  
The old hair's become sparse, the eyes aren't as twinkly,  
And putting it bluntly, the skin's a mite wrinkly.  
I still love my golf, two or three times a week,  
And consider myself elderly, but not quite antique.  
My drives aren't as long, my putts aren't as true,  
The approaches drop short, the chip shots go through.  
I can't see the green, let alone the flag,  
And keep putting my clubs in the other bloke's bag.  
I bend down to retrieve my ball from the cup,  
And bloody near faint as I try to stand up.  
An eagle's impossible, a birdie's a miracle,  
A par is enough to send me hysterical.  
I feel tired and develop a terrible thirst,  
And that's just while I'm waiting to hit off the first.  
I can't find my balls (you know what I mean),  
And fall in the bunker as I walk off the green.  
'Point of relief' has a completely new meaning,  
Thank goodness for shrubbery, an excellent screening.  
I'm not getting deafer, it's just people speak lower,  
And they're walking faster - I'm not getting slower.  
I get back to the clubhouse, and sit down with a sigh,  
And they have to remind me it's my turn to buy.  
But when the Great Handicapper up there in the sky,  
Decides that at last my time has drawn nigh.  
I can look back and say, well, I had lots of fun,  
I won a few tickets, but mostly got done.  
And I guess I've been honest, even when things were tough,  
(No leather Niblicks to get out of the rough).  
I've endured the pain, the despair, the profanity,  
And clung by a thread to the remains of my sanity.  
So when my life member's subscription is due,  
I think old St Peter will let me play through.

*(This poem was sent in by one of our members, thanks)*

## Time for a Smile

A priest was called away for an emergency. He asked a rabbi friend to fill in for him at the confessional. The rabbi agreed but said he would need a little coaching as he would not know what to do. A woman comes into the confessional & says 'forgive me Father for I have sinned'. The priest asked what she had done. The woman said 'I have committed adultery'. The priest asked 'how often?' She answered 'three times father'. The priest replied 'say two Hail Mary's & put \$5.00 in the poor box, & sin no more'. A few minutes later a man came in. He said 'Father, forgive me for I have sinned'. The priest asked 'what have you done?' The man replies 'I committed adultery'. The priest asked 'how many times?' 'Three times' the man replied. The priest responds 'say two Hail Mary's & put \$5.00 into the poor box, go & sin no more'. The rabbi then tells the priest 'I think I understand now how it is done'. A few minutes later another woman comes in & says 'Father, forgive me for I have sinned'. The rabbi asked what she had done. The woman replied 'I have committed adultery'. 'How often?' asked the rabbi. The woman replied 'once'. The rabbi replied 'go do it two more times. We have a special this week, three for \$5.00' *(sent in by one of our members)*

## BIRTHDAYS

### September

<i>Audrey HOVEY</i>	4
<i>Lana KONTOLAS</i>	5
<i>Brian LOWE</i>	7
<i>Gary HUNTER</i>	8
<i>Beverley PERRIN</i>	9
<i>Stella EARNSHAW</i>	10
<i>Pat WALKER</i>	10
<i>Min TOOHEY</i>	11
<i>Roger SCHMIDT</i>	18
<i>Ian JAMIESON</i>	19
<i>Bernie WEBB</i>	19
<i>Jack ELEY</i>	24
<i>Mary SHERIDAN</i>	26
<i>Susan ARMSTRONG</i>	28
<i>Margaret RUDKIN</i>	30

### October

<i>Ian McDONALD</i>	2
<i>Betty REX</i>	2
<i>Yvonne MOORE</i>	3
<i>Max GERRYIN</i>	9
<i>Geraldine THOMAS</i>	9
<i>Vern WESTLEY</i>	9
<i>Les ALP</i>	11
<i>Dorothy SMITH</i>	15
<i>Ethel WARD</i>	16
<i>Gwen HALLIGAN</i>	19
<i>Nancy DAVEY</i>	21
<i>Hazel WEBB</i>	22
<i>Jessica BAINBRIDGE</i>	24
<i>Bruce MURRAY-SMITH</i>	26
<i>Ron DE GRUCHY</i>	28
<i>Phil BELL</i>	29
<i>Arthur VENTHAM</i>	29



## WEDDING ANIVERSARY'S



### September

<i>Nancy &amp; Albert DAVEY</i>	9
<i>Ian &amp; Lorraine FORREST</i>	9
<i>Bernie &amp; Hazel WEBB</i>	13
<i>Kay &amp; Roger SCHMIDT</i>	18
<i>Charlie &amp; Norma WILLIAMS</i>	20
<i>Graham &amp; Jan HALL</i>	29

### October

<i>Ron &amp; Maureen BECK</i>	3
<i>Trevor &amp; Eleanor SMART</i>	5
<i>Eric &amp; Audrey HOVEY</i>	9
<i>Brian &amp; Elva JOST</i>	16
<i>Harry &amp; Pat WILLS</i>	18
<i>Arthur &amp; Marian VENTHAM</i>	19
<i>Jim &amp; Dianne BAIRD</i>	20
<i>Bruce &amp; Mimmie MURRAY-SMITH</i>	25
<i>Neil &amp; Sue HOPKINS</i>	31



## Puzzles - Answers to June Puzzles

- ✦ Nine letter word - **Territory**. Possible words include err, error, ire, ore, orrery, otter, retort, retry, riot, rioter, rite, roe, rot, Rotter, rote, rye, terror, terry, tier, tire, tiro, tor, tore, tort, torte, troy, trier, trite, triter, trio, trot, troy, try, tyre, tyro, yore
- ✦ Leftover Word - **Accessory**. Answers were - fireplace, chocolate, cafeteria, newspaper, exclusive, vegetable
- ✦ Sporting Activities - **Aerobics**, Baseball, Lacrosse, Swimming
- ✦ Hidden Word - **Monsters**

### Nine letter word

Using all the letters in the grid on the right, find our nine-letter word. See how many other words of FOUR or more letters you can find in the grid, each letter can be used only once and every word must contain the centre letter. Proper nouns are not allowed. 0 - 7 words, better luck next time, 8 - 15 words, good, 16 - 19 words, very good, 20 - 24 words, excellent, 25+ genius! Good Luck!

B	R	E
E	O	R
M	D	I

### Name of a Flower

Fit all the words listed into the grid to make nine words reading horizontally. If your positioning is correct, the letters in the coloured squares, reading downwards, will spell the name of a flower

Duet  
Ewer  
Fern  
Gist  
Hang  
Loss  
Mall  
Oast  
Till

A	B				E	D
B				F	U	L
S				A	G	E
C				I	N	G
N	O	R				Y
R	E				E	R
T	O	R				A
G				A	R	Y
I	N				A	L

### Items of clothing

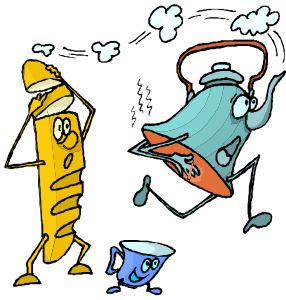
Hidden in the grid are the names of four items of clothing, each has eight letters. Each is made up of the same coloured squares. Can you work out what they are? Which name would appear first in an alphabetical listing?

CA	RA	TR	AN
RD	OU	LE	AT
IN	MI	IG	RS
SE	CA	CO	SO

### Hidden Word

Try to discover the nine missing letters in the coloured squares. Each one completes the word on its left & begins the word on its right. When the puzzle is complete, the letters in the coloured column will spell the title of a movie starring Ingrid Bergman

G	E	I	S	H		R	M	O	U	R
R	E	A	S	O		O	U	G	H	T
S	I	E	S	T		L	M	O	N	D
E	X	C	E	S		T	A	P	L	E
M	A	G	N	E		W	E	L	V	E
P	A	G	O	D		D	M	I	R	E
T	H	E	S	I		H	A	D	O	W
S	A	F	A	R		M	P	O	R	T
T	R	A	U	M		F	R	A	I	D



## Fremantle TAFE Buffet Luncheon

15 Grosvenor Road, BEACONSFIELD

Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>

Congregate at 11:30am

Lunch at 12 noon

**Cost: \$17.00pp**

Licensed

**Maximum 36 people, please phone early to  
reserve your place. First in .....**

**Bookings for the luncheon must be made  
before Friday September 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Coming up -**

Sausage Sizzle in  
Kings Park

Tuesday

November 8<sup>th</sup>

\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas Lunch

@ Runway Bar &

Café Tuesday

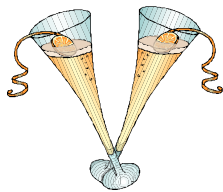
December 13<sup>th</sup>

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**Don't miss out -**

**Set these dates**

**in your diary now**



TAFE Luncheon - Please note that this luncheon is on a **Monday**. To date we have the following people booked in -

Albert & Nancy DAVEY

Amanda DAVEY-CHIVERS

*Mike & Renae FLYNN (to confirm)*

Graham & Jan HALL

Neil & Sue HOPKINS

Ron & Judy KING, Kaye MURRAY

Bev & Percy PERRIN, Peter PROUD

Kay & Roger SCHMIDT

Bernie & Hazel WEBB, Sue WEBB

**Ring now & book your place!**

**Stay happy, hear from you soon**



## 'Almost Free' Sausage Sizzle

**Gold coin donation per person -  
pay on the day**

Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon

Western Power Playground Area

**KINGS PARK**

Enter Saw Ave from Thomas Road, turn right at  
the May Drive junction & follow signs to the  
playground.

Sausages, onions & buns will be provided  
BYO everything else you need including  
chairs

Numbers attending to be advised by  
Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup>

For all bookings (unless stated otherwise) please contact  
Hazel Webb, 78 Arundel Drive, WELLARD 6170 ☎ 9439 2268 or 📞 0409 105 101  
(See RCOA - Functions Booking Slip - opposite page)

Portraits or Cartoons of yourselves, your friends or loved ones as gifts, souvenirs or birthday presents are my business.

Black & White (A3 size) - unframed \$20.00, framed \$45.00.  
 Colour - unframed \$30.00, framed \$50.00

A recent -preferably colour - photo must be provided of the subject together with any captions or messages to be conveyed. Formal portraits on canvas and in oils will need to be considered on an individual basis, as will delivery and collection. Phone contact (08) 9249-4609 or email: [maximail@optusnet.com.au](mailto:maximail@optusnet.com.au)

Thanks. 

Max 'The Platypus' Gerreyrn

**Sending Money** - be it for membership renewal or for an up coming function - remember that you can send electronically to the **RCOA of WA** Account at the Bendigo Bank - **BSB 633-000** - **A/c No. 121589386**

**RCOA - Membership Application**  / **Renewal**  / **Update**

First Name:  Family Name:   
 Partner's Name:  **☎ No.**  **☎ No.**   
 Postal Address:   
 e-mail address:

Please add your email address (if you have one) so we can keep you up to date between newsletters.

Our Newsletter includes a segment for publication of members and spouse's birth and wedding anniversary dates (day & month only printed)  
 If you would like to share this detail with other members please complete the following

Member B'date:  Partner B'date:  Wedding date:

Membership - \$6  Joint or Single  x No. Years  = \$

Send Newsletter by post  and / or e-mail

Signature & Date:  / /2005

Tick here only if receipt required

Subscriptions to: Secretary RCOA of WA Inc. 78 Arundel Drive, Wellard 6170

Office Use Only: Rec'd / / 2005 EFT  Cash  AMO  Cheque  No. Trans' No(s).

**RCOA - Functions Booking Slip**

Names Attending:

Function:	Venue:	Date:	No.	\$ p/p	Subtotal \$
Lunch	TAFE Fremantle	Sept 19 <sup>th</sup> 2005	<input type="text"/>	x \$17.00	<input type="text"/>
Lunch	BBQ @ Kings Park	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup> 2005	<input type="text"/>	x Donation	<input type="text"/>
Christmas Lunch	Runway Bar & Cafe	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup> 2005	<input type="text"/>	x \$25.00	<input type="text"/>

Signature & Date:  / /2005

Total Amount Enclosed \$




Payment to: Secretary RCOA of WA Inc. 78 Arundel Drive, Wellard 6170

Office Use Only: Rec'd / / 2005 EFT  Cash  AMO  Cheque  No. Trans' No(s).

## Last but not Least

- ◆ Answer to the conundrum page 6 of last newsletter is 'light itself' or 'holes'. How many of you knew the answer? Don't forget we are always looking for contributions to the newsletter, just forward them to the Secretary & we will go from there.
- ◆ We have the RCOA web page up and running, but very little on it at present (mainly because I have been a bit busy) Walter Hill (ACS) as connected the computer, generously donated by Janice Windsor ([www.seachild.com](http://www.seachild.com) see April 'Duty Freed'), to a small intranet within Customs that is connected to the Internet. To view progress (or the lack of it) so far type [www.rcoa.org.au](http://www.rcoa.org.au) into your web browser to see for yourself.
- ◆ I have 'retired' again from Customs after another 3 month stint, this time in the admin area at the airport. Probably going back again for the Christmas holiday period. If any of you ex officers are also interested in doing some part time work at Customs, simply contact Wayne Mitchell at Fremantle 9430 1444.

Bernie Webb ☐

<p>Retired Customs Officers' Association of WA inc.</p> 	 <p><b>Michael Metcalf</b></p> <p>8 Hehir Street, Belmont WA 6104</p> <p>☎ (08) 9479 4173 Fax (08) 9479 4171</p>	 <p><b>Hazel Webb</b></p> <p>e-mail - <a href="mailto:bdwebb@arach.net.au">bdwebb@arach.net.au</a></p> <p>☎ 9439 2268 ☎ 0409 105 101</p> <p>78 Arundel Drive Wellard 6170</p>	<p><b>REDGUM RURAL SERVICES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- trees pruned</li><li>- rural fencing</li><li>- gutters cleaned</li><li>- garden clean ups</li><li>- rotary hoeing</li><li>- slashing / mowing</li></ul> <p><b>Bernie Webb</b></p> <p>☎ 9439 2268 ☎ 0419 903 218</p>
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RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'  
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

If undelivered return to  
Secretary RCOA  
78 Arundel Drive  
WELLARD WA 6170