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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 11th 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 139. 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 1st January each year. Please check your address label for your current financial status.

PRESIDENTS NOTE


Once again the Christmas period is almost upon us & that means another year nearly finished. We have had another successful year with outings well attended & new members joining the ranks.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas function in December so get your bookings in early. It is always a great event. There is also our sausage sizzle at Kings Park in November, we have 29 people booked so far, what a great effort. All of our functions this year have been well attended & as a committee we look forward to organising more.

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

Future Events 2005 / 2006

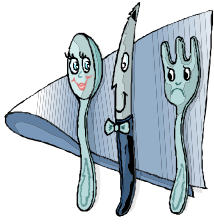
Nov 8th Sausage Sizzle @ Kings Park
Dec 13th Christmas Luncheon @ Runway
Bar & Café
Feb 7th AGM Swan Yacht Club 

Contents

<i>Presidents Report</i>	1
<i>Recent Outings</i>	2
<i>News of Members</i>	2
<i>New Members</i>	2
<i>Articles of interest?</i>	3
<i>Amusing Items</i>	5
<i>Birthdays / Anniversaries</i>	6
<i>Puzzles</i>	7
<i>Social Pages</i>	8
<i>Dad's Army News</i>	9
<i>Customs Golf Carnival - Perth 2006</i>	10
<i>Membership/Renewal/Update & Function Booking</i>	11
<i>Last but not Least</i>	12

Recent Outings

Breakfast at Swan Yacht Club August 14th



How many people, on a Sunday, would NORMALLY rise at 0630, prepare one-self, and then drive a considerable distance to enjoy a breakfast not NORMALLY had at home. Many do, as was evident at the Swan Yacht Club on Sunday morning the 14th of August when 30 plus members and friends enjoyed the hospitality of the club

For those of you who unfortunately were unable to attend please be advised that the breakfast is really good value. AND, of course, in great company along with pleasant surrounds. Such functions are becoming members, friends and family affairs. As is the case with Darrell and Pat. First their son, now back in Japan, then a sister and on this occasion a daughter and son-in-law (Glenys & Geoff Baratt). Their support to you both and our club is greatly appreciated. Also keeping it in the family is the regular attendance of Amanda, daughter of Nancy & Albert Davey, who is now a 'Friend' of RCOA. Nancy through the generosity of Trevor and the number drawn by Glenys went home with a very nice bottle of wine. Nancy did it go home or has Amanda another for her private cellar? Amanda, we know, has another cellar, the B W S store in Halls Head.

Apologies were received from, Warrick & Ros, Vern & Dot, Kay & Roger (caravanning, again) and Val & Jack (caravanning, again). To those of you who nominated your attendance and did not make it we missed your company and trust all is well. To those of you who attended we thank you too for your continued support.

Lunch at TAFE Fremantle September 19th



Table numbers available limited this function to 30 and 30 did attend. To those of you restricted by these members, holidaying, incapacity or any other reason you missed a great day. It was *beginners' day* and some were. Alzheimer's not only affects, in general, the elderly but also the young as was evident with some of the students - forgetting orders and being a little flustered, perhaps because of the clientele, but they tried. A return visit at the end of their training course may (should) show a more sophisticated and professional presentation.

Apologies came aplenty - Val (caravanning again), Jacki (sitting for a Customs exam), Amanda (caravanning), Warrick and Ros, Darrell and Pat (wedding in Japan, young son), Trevor and Eleanor (caravanning again).

Recent & current birthdays & wedding anniversaries were recognised by those present - Bernie, Roger, Margaret and Roger and Kay (40 years of BLISS).

Guests of members included Peter Williams' cousin Margaret & the Owens' friends, Derek and Anne. Harry Owens may not have had the best of service (attention) but he did go home with a nice bottle of wine, per the lucky number of the day. For the attention of those attending the Xmas function, Lions' Xmas cakes @ \$9 and \$12 & puddings @ \$15 will be available.

Thank you all for your support with your attendance and may we have better days.

Approved, R L K

New Members

John & Yvonne TOWILL
Lorraine OTIENO

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

Mary Ford & Dorrie Hamilton are both unwell & receiving care. *Our thoughts are with them.*

Hazel Webb recently participated in the Fremantle Masters Games in Netball. After playing seven games on the one day she arrived home muscle sore, with a smile & with a Gold Medal. *Well done ole girl.* Just to keep up with the 'quiet life' Hazel was at Westfield Carousel window shopping a week later & was asked to leave the premises. Evidently there was a bomb alert. You guessed it, she took off, no need to hang around she thought. Ended up being a false alarm but who is silly enough to take the risk.

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. 🙌

My Recent Venture by Bob Douglas

Occasionally, life deals a good hand and an opportunity comes your way which really shouldn't be passed up. Such an offer came to me recently, when good friend Jenny's partner Geoff asked me to "skipper & navigate" the 33 sailing catamaran he and a mate had bought, on the last leg of its delivery run from Sydney to Fremantle.

Geoff and Mike had purchased a Seawind 1000 from Seawind Cats of Sydney, and the delivery only provided a master from Sydney to Broome. Geoff and Mike and several friends were flying to Darwin to join the boat there and to learn enough from the delivery skipper before he left in Broome, for the last 1200 miles to home.



I spent the three weeks after Geoff's approach going through all my charts, searching for Notices to Mariners on the Hydro website and bringing my folio up to date. I also pulled out my astro-nav books and my sextant, recalibrated my NC77 navigation calculator so that the almanac was useable and practiced my noon sights and morning and evening stars calculations.

My passage plan saw us heading directly from Broome to the Monte Bello Islands, so I would have a good opportunity to do some serious traditional celestial navigation before we got back into coastal waters where the hand bearing compass, sextant and station pointer could be used again for bearings and HSA plotting. Although the boat didn't have radar, Geoff said it had a great chart plotter and auto pilot. However, I had learnt my trade before these aids were common place on small boats, so concentrated on refreshing my old skills. I would have time enough to learn the electronic methods when I was on the boat.

Originally I was to join them in Broome on Sunday 10th, but work got in the way (it always does!) and I was unable to leave Perth until the evening of the 13th. I was met at the airport by Jenny and Geoff, and we boarded *Pretty Woman* as she lay aground off the Town Beach in Broome, to await the tide.

Our departure at 3.30 am was the start of an interesting and occasionally exhilarating 12 day trip. Whales were spotted every day, and on our first day out we almost ran onto a hump back as it slid under our bows, drenching Geoff and I on the foredeck as it

flicked its tail to get under us. Feet, not metres, separated us from what would have been a rough contact.

Communications were reasonably good, as Geoff and Mike had purchased a satphone, which although perhaps not top of the range, was generally adequate for scheds with Water Police ops in Fremantle and calls to my wife Chris who monitored the Bureau of Meteorology website for us back in Perth.

We were also able to get VHF comms with the Coastwatch aircraft which overflew us north of Port Hedland, to advise the police of our position. We also achieved the same later with Dampier Port, from over 60 miles out.

My celestial nav was a bit rough, though as I was only using a Davies Mk 3 sextant which had a vernier scale with only 2 arc minute graduations on the vernier, it wasn't really surprising. Nevertheless, I achieved one noon sight which varied by only 3.2 miles from the GPS position. The other three noon sights were probably inadequate: 8, 10.5 and 11.5 miles out. My morning sights were a bit better, with an average of 1.2 miles for the intercepts. Morning stars were a dismal failure, and we always seemed to be too busy enjoying the excellent meals which Geoff, Tully, Diane or Jenny prepared to take my evening stars too seriously.

The electronic nav aides which *Pretty Woman* carried were a NAVMAN TRACKER 5500i chart plotter (colour display with internal GPS), with auto pilot. The vessel's wind instruments complemented this equipment, forming an integrated instrument package. Geoff had a small Garmin handheld GPS as back-up, though this would only have been useful in allowing me to plot our position on the charts.

The traditionalist in me dictated that I maintain a deck log and an accurate plot on my paper charts as we went, and I frequently calculated our course and speed made good, using my NC77.

It took me several days to learn to trust the electronic aides, and the debate on the relative merits of traditional versus electronic navigational methods was at times intense. Nevertheless, I believe that the intro page in the NAVMAN manual says it all - "...the electronic chart used by TRACKER is an aide to navigation, and is designed to supplement the use of official charts, not replace them..."

If I had such excellent equipment available, I would certainly use it. I would, however, recommend maintenance of traditional skills and an up-to-date chart folio. Access to Hydro's webpage has made the latter quite simple, but it's too late to practice your celestial nav when the fuses blow or the on board power finally goes down. While many boaters may feel that the chances of their systems failing is quite low - and given good maintenance, redundant systems and attention to detail this may be true, there is no replacement for prudent seamanship and the old skills when everything has turned to custard.

Our trip continued safely, however, with good E - SE winds pushing us steadily westwards where after 31 hours passage where we made a night entry into the Monte Bello Islands. We initially anchored in the deep hole under the south western end of Trimouille Island. This wasn't too healthy when the southerly came up at 4.30 am, and we moved into Stephenson Channel after breakfast to a much safer, quieter and more pleasant anchorage.

We spent the day tromping over Hermite Island to the old "A" bomb observation hut, fishing, diving and shucking the many oysters we had pulled from the rocks. A very pleasant day which, once again, was topped off with an excellent meal - fish Mornay - and several reds.

The weather was still a bit dirty for our departure from the Monte's - as we had come in, via North Channel - and the two 9.9 outboards had their work cut out keeping us into the 3 - 3.5m swells. Once clear of the reefs north of North West Island, we came about and set all sail for the run westwards, south of Tryall Rocks and then SW towards Exmouth.

A late arrival and missed sched had Chris concerned, but we entered the boat harbour at about 10 am. Met by Tully's son Christopher, we had an opportunity for showers, re-victualled, refuelled and headed off at 4 pm for North West Cape.

The run to the Cape offered us a chance to fish Bundegi Reef on the way out; we rounded the Cape after sunset and set course for the south, into the extreme northern end of a front.

This was the only poor weather we experienced, although the next two days were overcast with light rain and generally adverse winds. We managed our only spinnaker run, of about two hours, as the winds veered back to the north ahead of another small front, but the winds were generally on the nose and necessitated engines for most of the run south, past Cape Cuvier and its shipping; Bernier and Dorre and then never ending Dirk Hartog Islands towards the Zuytdorp Cliffs.

Night watches were relatively easy, as we worked two hour watches, commencing at 1900, which saw the five of us rotate through the nights, each keeping two watches every 5 nights. Day watches were basically whoever was up and about, and we all slipped easily into a routine which was greatly assisted by our auto pilot, 'Charlie'. We had felt it necessary to re-christen the pilot, as we had a George on board already: a friendly guy from Canada.

Geraldton was a welcome sight, and we entered the marina right on nightfall of our ninth day out. The overnight stop allowed those of us with friends or relations to touch base or to spend the night ashore.

In the morning I contacted my nephew, and obtained a synoptic chart and forecast for the next couple of days. We set sail from the Batavia Coast Marina at midday, for the last two days' run to Fremantle. Adverse winds again dogged us, as the breeze stayed

essentially from the south west or south east, light and variable.

A few hours spent drifting across the 50m contour west of Cervantes allowed us to adjust our ETA into Fremantle, so that we were assured of an arrival off Fairway Buoy at about 8.30 am.



Assisted - finally - by a good easterly, we made good time on the last night watch of the trip - by happy coincidence, my watch, and the Rottneest Light was a welcome sight as we cruised along at 7 ½ knots under full main and jib.

After arranging a temporary berth with Fremantle Sailing Club by mobile phone, we finally made our safe arrival at the yacht club's Collector Jetty at 11.25 am.

The Seawind 1000 is an excellent cruising catamaran - stable, roomy, easily sailed, and quite handy. Comfort was good, sleeping accommodation adequate, the galley sufficiently roomy and well appointed to permit food preparation in all conditions experienced. The roomy cockpit, although open to the elements, proved dry and engine fumes rarely intruded. Refuelling underway was a bit of a problem, however, as access to the fuel tanks under the table was difficult. The small outboards engines fitted gave ample power for running with the wind or in light contrary airs - but they may have proven inadequate in contrary winds any stronger than those experienced off the Montes.



Just for Laughs!

A man takes his dog to the vet.

"My dog is cross-eyed, is there something you can do for him?"

"Well" says the vet "let's have a look at him".

So he picks the dog up & examines his eyes, then checks his teeth.

Finally he says "I'm going to have to put him down".

"What? Because he's cross-eyed?"

"No, because he's really heavy!"



A Wonderful Message by George Carlin

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses & smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgement, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, & pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom & hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon & back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbour. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less & less.

These are the times of fast foods & slow digestion, big men & small character, steep profits & shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are the days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, & pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is too much in the showroom window & nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, & a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete.

Remember, spend more time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever. Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up & leave your side. Remember to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart & it doesn't cost a cent. Remember to say 'I love you' to your partner & your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss & an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you. Remember to hold hands & cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak, & give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

(Note: George Carlin is a comedian who wrote this around the time of his wife's death)

Colourful Customs Characters

BLACK Jack Lancashire (SJ) - Inspector Excise - Circa 1940
GREEN WJ - Inspector Excise - Circa 1948 (tragically killed in a car accident)
WHITE Cedric - Clerk, transferred to Canberra
BLUE - Hagley (Frank) - Tariff officer
REDHEAD (later Readhead) Reg - Recheck Officer - Invoice Room
BLACK Lance - Clerk - Records etc
GRAY Bill (?) & Wilf - Preventative Officers
BROWN Frank - Wharf E>O etc (colourful character - footballer)
GOLDING Frank - Messenger / Clerk Fremantle - Circa 1940
ROSE Neil - Clerk & avid punter
GREENWOOD Harry - Clerk - character extraordinaire

There must be many more with colourful names - who remembers? This item was sent in by one of our members. Thanks

A Joke a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

One day a cat dies of natural causes & goes to heaven. There he meets the Lord Himself. The Lord says to the cat, "you have lived a good life & if there is anything I can do to make your stay in heaven more comfortable, please let me know".

The cat thinks for a minute & says 'Lord, all my life I have lived with a poor family & I had to sleep on a hard wooden floor'. The Lord stops the cat & says "No more" & a wonderful fluffy pillow appears.

A few days' later six mice are killed in a tragic farming accident & go to heaven. Again there is the Lord to greet them with the same offer. The mice answer "All our lives we have been chased. We are tired of running. Do you think we could have roller skates so we don't have to run any more?" The Lord says "no problem" & fits each mouse with a beautiful pair of roller skates.

A few weeks later the Lord stops by to see the cat & finds him snoozing on the pillow. The Lord gently wakes the cat & asks him "How are things going since you arrived here?" The cat stretches & yawns & replied "It is wonderful here. Better than I could have ever expected ... and those meals on wheels you have been sending by were the best!"

Just for Laughs!

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her out to some place expensive ... So I took her to a petrol station!!!!



BIRTHDAYS

November

Darrell JOHNSON	3
Frank WARD	3
Bob STONE	4
Kaye MURRAY	10
Pat NICHOLS	10
Norma EMERSON	11
Ken STEWART	13
Lyn DALE	19
Bert DETERMES	23
Dianne BAIRD	26
Ron KING	26
Bill WALKER	26
Judy KING	29



December

Sylvia SHAW	1
Sandra SIMS	2
John STITT	2
Lynne WAIGHT	2
Peter KEATING	6
John FLETCHER	7
Valmai KELLY	9
Brian WARD	13
Val FLETCHER	14
Charlie WILLIAMS	14
Phil FARREN	15
Jo BARNETT	18
Dot WESTLEY	19
Jim O'NEILL	24
Carol WATSON	24
Jim ANDERSON	25
Jess ELEY	26
Vince McAULLAY	29
Jean WELLS	29
Karen JARDINE	30
Ivan OLSEN	30
Norma WILLIAMS	31

January

Ron JARVIS	7
Judith PARKER	7
John SORENSEN	7
John DANIELS	10
Gus WATSON	13
Carol MOREY	16
Lorraine OTIENO	17
Phillipa NEWAY	18
Jan HALL	20
George PARKER	20
Jack TOOHEY	20
Trevor SMART	26
Norma ANDERSON	28
Christine CORNISH	28
Kaye RICKARD	28
Randall WILSON	29

WEDDING ANIVERSARY'S

November

Gus & Carol WATSON	2
Vern & Dot WESTLEY	2
Wallace & Esme THOMSON	9
John & Jean WELLS	19
Christine & Graeme CORNISH	21
Percy & Bev PERRIN	24
Peter & Lana KONTOOLAS	27

December

Terry & Norma EMERSON	12
Warrick & Ros GATES	14
Lew & Flo POLAK	20
George & Judith PARKER	22
John & Lynne WAUGHT	27
Peter & Helen KEATING	29

January

Ron & Judy KING	2
Pat & Lavinia PIKE	6
Ian & Shirley McDONALD	14
Ivan & Kate OLSEN	22



Puzzles - Answers to August Puzzles

Nine-Letter Word: **Embroider**

Possible words include - Biro, bode, border, bore, bored, borer, brio, bromide, demo, demob, doer, dome, dorm, dormer, embodier, embroider, erode, mode, moire, morbid, more, order, redo, robe, robed, rode

Name of a Flower is **Carnation**. Abducted, Boasting, Sewerage, changing, normally, register, tortilla, glossary, infernal.

Items of clothing - **Camisole**, cardigan, raincoat, trousers

Hidden word - **Anastasia**

Nine letter word

Using all the letters in the grid on the right, find our nine-letter word. See how many other words of THREE 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 - 9 words, better luck next time, 10 - 15 words, good, 16 - 19 words, very good, 20 - 24 words, excellent, 25+ genius! Good Luck!

L	W	O
O	O	H
D	Y	L

Something Fishy

From the pairs of words beside, you must take a group of three letters from the first word & three from the second to make a new six-letter word. Write this word on the grid. When you have completed the puzzle, the letters in the coloured squares reading downwards will spell the word we are looking for.

Assume / Emerge
Pallet / Braces
Befall / Second
Rascal / Empire
Mosaic / Floral
Sheath / Invent

New Word

Mystery Word

Rearrange the letters of the words under the Anagrams heading to answer the following six clues. Fit your answers into the grid on the right in order. If all your answers are correct, the coloured column will reveal our mystery word.

Anagrams	Clues	Answers				
Aspire	Commend					
Impure	Referee					
Latter	Baby's toy					
Option	Magic concoction					
Halter	Soap suds					
Rioted	Magazine chief					

Remaining Word

Four of the five words in our list can be inserted into the grid so that the same words read both horizontally & vertically. One word, however, will not fit, which one is it?

Ears				
Idea				
Near				
Pine				
Time				



'Almost Free' Sausage Sizzle
Gold coin donation per person - pay
on the day

Tuesday November 8th 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 4th

Coming up -

Christmas Lunch
@ Runway Bar &
Café Tuesday
December 13th

AGM 2006 @
Swan Yacht Club
February 7th

See page 9 for
the names of
those who have
booked to attend



Christmas Buffet Luncheon
\$25.00pp

Runway Bar & Café

41 Eagle Drive, Jandakot
above the Royal Aero Club,
(a lift is available for those who struggle with stairs)

Tuesday December 13th
Assemble 11:30am & Dine @ 12 noon

Full bar service
Plenty of parking for all
Bookings by Friday December 2nd please



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday February 7th 2006

Where Swan Yacht Club, Riverside Rd
East Fremantle

Time Socialise at 11:00am - tea &
coffee provided

Cost \$12.50 per RCOA member
\$16.50 per non member
for a two course luncheon

Meeting to commence @ 11:30am
Lunch @ 12:30pm

Bookings due by Friday January 27th

(Members, friends & guests attending the lunch are
to advise their **choice of chicken or fish** when
booking)

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 -page 11)

Bookings received so far are -

Sausage Sizzle -

Les & Wyn ALP
Jim & Norma ANDERSON
Ros & Warrick GATES
Neil & Sue HOPKINS
Darrell & Pat JOHNSON
Brian & Elva JOST
Judy & Ron KING
Kaye MURRAY,
Bev & Percy PERRIN
Peter PROUD
Kay & Roger SCHMIDT
Alex & Sylvia SHAW
Eleanor & Trevor SMART
Harry TAZEWELL
Bernie & Hazel WEBB
Harry & Pat WILLS



Christmas Lunch

Les & Wyn ALP,
Albert & Nancy DAVEY
Amanda DAVEY-CHIVAS
Mike & Renae FLYNN
Ros & Warrick GATES
Neil & Sue HOPKINS
Darrell & Pat JOHNSON
Judy & Ron KING
Bob REX
Kay & Roger SCHMIDT
Alex & Sylvia SHAW
Eleanor & Trevor SMART
Bernie & Hazel WEBB
Harry & Pat WILLS



Two blondes walk into a building ... you'd think one of them would have seen it!
I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any!

Dad's Army News

Ex-Customs Officers (affectionately known as Dad's Army) currently working at the Airport on a contract basis, have increased considerably in numbers. Marie Mepham & myself have been working in the Pax Admin area for a few months and will probably continue to do so for quite a few more months, also helping out with 'Marshalling' duties on occasion.

Stan Atkins, Alan Beckwith, Terry Emerson, Jacky Hubbard, Sue Pysing & John Towel are also now working at the airport on Contract. They have recently completed a 'Primary Immigration Course' and mainly perform 'Outward Immigration Duties' over various days and various shifts to fit in with the individual's and Customs needs.

I haven't been able to catch up with all of them since they have been on the 'Line' but of the one's I have, they all are enjoying themselves, making some extra pocket money and catching up with old friends and workmates.

It has also alleviated some of the shortfall in numbers of the four 'Teams' at the airport that cover the various shifts and I am sure we are all appreciated by most if not all of the team members.

Let's not forget Nevil 'Jigo' Jiggins who is the longest serving and founding member of 'Dad's Army' and has been helping out behind the 'front counter' in Fremantle for more than a year now with his vast array of Customs Knowledge and friendly disposition.

Any of you out there who think you could be interested in performing any of the above or similar duties please contact Wayne Mitchell (9430 1444 or [email wayne.mitchel@customs.gov.au](mailto:wayne.mitchel@customs.gov.au)) and he can add you to the list for the next vacancies that are sure to eventuate.

Bernie Webb

Australian Customs Golf Carnival Perth 2006

Nominations Required.

The 33rd Customs Golf Carnival will be held in Perth from April 30th to May 5th 2006. The carnival, consisting of four days competition, is held annually on a rotational basis through each state of Australia & New Zealand. This will be the first time the carnival has been held in Western Australia. Teams from most states/territories & New Zealand are expected to attend.

Players of all levels participate in the carnival & it is the biggest sporting gathering of current & former Australian & New Zealand Customs officers each year.

The golf carnival is a great event for a golfer with three days of stableford competition deciding the individual carnival champion & the teams to play off in the final. The last day is a match-play final between the two leading teams & two-person ambrose competition for the others.

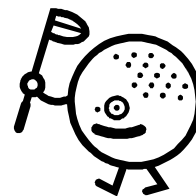
The carnival has an enormous following in the larger regions & large teams are expected to attend from all regions & New Zealand. New Zealand has already advised they have eighteen players interested in making the trip.

The carnival organisers are seeking nominations to participate in the carnival & this is a great opportunity for all those golfers who have been unable to get to the golf carnival over the years. Good representation from the host state is necessary if we are to have a truly successful carnival. Current & **former officers** are eligible to be part of the team.

Levy for players is approximately \$290.00 which includes the golf, some lunches & the opening & closing functions. Actual cost will be confirmed once numbers of participants are confirmed. Full payment will be required by early February.

Nominations accompanied by a \$50.00 deposit are required by November 30th to book your spot in the field.

Please send nominations to Gary Byrne at Customs
☎ 9430 1573 or email gary.byrne@customs.gov.au



Golf Carnival Program

- Sun April 30th Opening Function 6pm
@ WA Golf Club
- Mon May 1st Royal Fremantle Golf Club
12pm start (walk)
- Tues May 2nd The Vines (Ellenbrook)
12pm start (cart)
- Wed May 3rd Rest Day
- Thurs May 4th Lakelands Country Club
12:30pm start (walk)
- Fri May 5th WA Golf Club Yokine
8am start (walk)
- Fri May 5th Closing Function 6:30pm
East Fremantle Yacht Club



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

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 = \$ Signature & Date: / /2005

Send Newsletter by post and / or e-mail

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	BBQ @ Kings Park	Nov 8 th 2005	<input type="text"/> x	Gold Coin Donation	<input type="text"/>
Christmas Lunch	Runway Bar & Cafe	Dec 13 th 2005	<input type="text"/> x	\$25.00	<input type="text"/>
AGM	Swan Yacht Club	Feb 7 th 2006	<input type="text"/> x	\$12.50 \$16.50	<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

- ◆ We are a bit light on for news of members this issue except of course for Bob Douglas's interesting story (see page 3). Please consider sending in any amusing anecdote, short story or tail of 'times gone by' (aka 'The good ol' days') as a Customs Officer or an event or trip that has more recently happened.
- ◆ For all you golfers out there don't miss the up coming Australian Customs Golf Carnival to be held for the first time in Perth, April 30th 2006 to May 5th 2006, see page 10 (I bet Harry Wills, Jim Baird and Margaret Heavy have already got there names down)
- ◆ Thanks to Hazel who put 95% of this and a number of the previous Newsletters together (obviously I trained her well)
- ◆ Next event is the almost free sausage sizzle on November the 8th in Kings Park - see you there.
- ◆ Six back-issues, and the current *DUTY FREED* are now available online at <http://www.rcoa.org.au> - It's not pretty - yet - but at least it's functional.

Bernie Webb 

<p>Retired Customs Officers' Association of WA inc.</p> 	<p> Baskerville Metcalf FUNERAL DIRECTORS</p> <p>Michael Metcalf</p> <p>8 Hehir Street, Belmont WA 6104</p> <p> (08) 9479 4173 Fax (08) 9479 4171</p>	<p> Tupperware</p> <p>Hazel Webb</p> <p> 9439 2268  0409 105 101</p> <p>e-mail hazel.webb@arach.net.au</p> <p>78 Arundel Drive Wellard 6170</p>	<p>REDGUM RURAL SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- trees pruned- rural fencing- gutters cleaned- garden clean ups- rotary hoeing- slashing / mowing <p>Bernie Webb</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