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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Neil Hopkins Mike Metcalf
Darrell Johnson Kay Schmidt

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 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 138. 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.

Future Events 2007

Tues Feb 6th - AGM @ the Swan Yacht Club. Remember to get your bookings in for lunch & specify if you want chicken or fish. Looking forward to seeing you there

Tues Mar 6th - BBQ @ Burswood

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Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Swan Yacht Club, East Fremantle on Tuesday February 7th, 2006

President Trevor Smart declared the meeting open at 11:35 am and welcomed those attending. Members present as per signed list circulated at the meeting.

Apologies - Thora Adderley, Mary Ford, Audrey & Eric Hovey, Brian & Elva Jost, Val Kelly, Ron & Judy King, Kaye Rickard, Kay & Roger Schmidt, Ken Stewart, Harry Tazewell, Mary Toy, John & Lyn Waight, Jean & John Wells, Dot & Vern Westley, Pat Wills

Minutes of previous AGM were circulated in the newsletter for all members to read, and with no business arising were accepted as read. No business arising from minutes. *Accepted by all in attendance.*

Treasurer's Report - was circulated in the newsletter for all members to read, and was accepted as read. No business arising from report. *Accepted by all in attendance.*

Harry Wills (from the floor) thanked Bernie & Hazel for their work, supported by all in attendance.

Entertainment Report - Hazel outlined the functions that were held & numbers attending -

Feb - AGM Luncheon @ Swan Yacht Club (39)	Aug - Breakfast @ Swan Yacht Club (27)
Mar - Breakfast @ Swan Yacht Club (31)	Sep - Luncheon @ Fremantle TAFE (30)
Apr - Sausage Sizzle @ Kings Park (37)	Nov - Sausage Sizzle @ Kings Park (33)
May - Lunch @ Jetty Restaurant (38)	Dec - Christmas Luncheon @ Runway Bar & Café (52)
Jul - Lunch @ Runway Bar & Café (35)	

Overall another good year & we hope for another great social year in 2006. Thank you.

President's Report - The year of 2005 was another significant year for this Association. I see this Association & the tasks allocated to the Committee arranged into three different areas.

1. The first & the most significant of these tasks to most of our members is the administration & the most up front task in this group is the newsletter called the 'Duty Freed' which the team of Bernie & Hazel Webb cooperate together to produce. The task of keeping the books & controlling of our monies is the next administration task I wish to mention & since moving to the Bendigo Bank as suggested by our Treasurer, Bernie Webb, we have got rid of many of those annoying extra taxes that are a hindrance to an organisation of our size & I feel in his hands our monies are definitely safe. On the suggestion of our Secretary, Hazel Webb, we now have an independent Auditor who controls the 'ins & outs' made by the Treasurer & reports to you, our members, each AGM.

They have once again excelled themselves in producing an entertaining publication that is of an excellent standard for the cost involved & completed their individual tasks admirably.

2. The second task is the entertainment & we once again had many events that were very successful & the variety always changes to avoid the monotony of sameness that can creep into any organisation. We had breakfasts, lunches & picnics on both sides of the river. There were held on week days & also weekends to try to decentralise our meeting places & activities, & I feel all credit to the Entertainment Committee once again for the effort that goes into making such successful venues & once again I applaud them one & all for their efforts. We have a new task in the entertainment group being the 'venture club' & although it has not really got off the ground as yet it will this year start & we are hoping this will fill a void for our younger more active members & even some of you less active, but willing to drive yourself to far & away places with your friends from this Association & join us for a few days together in harmony & friendship.

3. The third area is the well being & looking out for you our members. We do this mainly through the newsletter with the spreading of the stories of your activities as you write them & how you are going, to all & sundry all over the country to our members in WA & other states that receive our newsletter. So please give us more information to spread our cheer & wishes to all young or would like to be again. To all present here at this gathering may I say to you all, have a good lunch today followed by a great day & have a wonderful life for as long as you can.

Harry Wills - took the chair and proceeded with the election of office bearers for the next year. Only one nomination received per position and were elected unopposed as below.

President	Trevor Smart	Treasurer	Bernie Webb
Vice President	Ron King	Editors	Bernie & Hazel Webb
Secretary	Hazel Webb	Auditor	Debbie MacDonald
Committee	Warrick Gates, Neil Hopkins, Darrell Johnson, Brian Jost, Mike Metcalf, Kay Schmidt, Harry Wills		

Warrick (as emcee) generated a vote of thanks to Bernie & Hazel for their work on behalf of the Association.

The next Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday February 6th 2007, venue to be advised in the newsletter.

With no further business arising the meeting closed at 12:00 pm

Treasurers Report

We have ended another financial year and the books have all been audited for 2006. The auditor presented the books (after reconciliation) to the committee who accepted the balance as a true record of our financial situation. Below is a copy of the auditor report for 2006.

Statement of Receipts & Expenditure Year ended December 31 2006

INCOME

Functions	4274.00
Subscriptions	710.00
Donations	134.00
Interest	45.06
	<u>\$5163.76</u>

EXPENDITURE

Functions	4438.65
Postage	308.50
Administration (General)	280.31
	<u>\$5027.46</u>
Excess Income over Expenditure	\$136.30

BANK RECONCILIATION

Balance 01/01/06	\$2031.90	Balance 31/12/06	\$2173.20
Petty Cash on hand	0.00	Petty Cash	0.00
Deposits	5163.76		
	<u>\$7200.67</u>		
Withdrawals	-5027.46		
	<u>\$2173.20</u>		

Notional Bank Balance 31/12/06

Credit balance	\$2173.21
Assets	00.00
Liabilities (Subs 2007 ▶)	-744.00
Liabilities (2007 Functions)	-37.50
Net Credit	\$1391.71

Signed DJ McDonald (Hon Auditor)

Annual General Meeting - Tuesday February 6th 2007

We do hope you can be there as a good turn up to this function especially, is one sure way the committee can know that their efforts each year are appreciated. It is also the opportunity to have your say in how your association is run and to take part in the election of committee appointments, as well as catching up with old friends. Of course, if any of you can spare some time to be a member of the committee then the AGM is the time and place to put your hand up. See you there!

RCOA COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

I nominate for the following office(s) (please tick)
for the Year 2007/2008

PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT HON SECRETARY
HON TREASURER COMMITTEE HON AUDITOR
'DUTY FREED' EDITOR

Nominator Date / / 2007

I accept nomination (Nominee) Date / / 2007

*Please return completed nomination forms to Hon Secretary as soon as possible, prior to the AGM
(Hazel Webb, 78 Arundel Dr, Wellard WA 6170)*

News of Members

Chris Mulconray - I'm living in Canberra now. I never would have imagined that I could live anywhere but Perth but I was tempted over with an offer of secondment for six months. Once I got here they convinced me that I wanted to stay. I keep complaining that I joined AQIS for an income not a career but I'm now Asst Nat Manager of the International Mail Program. I am enjoying it because there is plenty of variety and plenty of travel. Craig Sommerville was my counterpart in Customs (small world) but he's moved and there is another guy there now who I've only met once so far. I've sold my Perth house and bought an apartment in Kingston, just near Lake Burley Griffin, and I'm loving life there too. It is 2.5km to work so I walk everyday and I'm getting very fit. It's been a good excuse to buy lots of new clothes. I was soooooo made for the coffee shop life and eating out most nights. Well I'd better do some work. Look forward to hearing from you.

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. 

Member Contributions

Tips for Handling Telemarketers - Three Little Words That Work!!

- The three little words are: "Hold On, Please..." Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt. Then when you eventually hear the phone company's 'beep-beep-beep' tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task. These three little words will help eliminate telephone soliciting.
- Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end? This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone. This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a 'real' sales person to call back and get someone at home. What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialled the call and it kicks your number out of their system. Gosh, what a shame not to have your name in their system any longer!!!

- **Junk Mail Help:** When you get 'ads' enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these 'ads' with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away. When you get those 'pre-approved' letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right?? It costs them more than the regular 37 cents postage IF and when they receive them back. It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was around 50 cents before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.

One of Andy Rooney's (60 minutes) ideas - Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Citibank. If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them their blank application back! If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them. You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them 37 cents.

The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the mail, but folks, we need to **OVERWHELM** them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it...Twice! Let's help keep our postal service busy since they are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea! If enough people follow these tips, it will work ---- I have been doing this for years, and I get very little junk mail anymore.

Facts on Nutrition & Health

After an exhaustive review of the research literature, here's the final word on nutrition and health.

Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

Germans drink beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

CONCLUSION: Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you

Baffled by Science

The teacher of the earth science class was lecturing on map reading. After explaining about latitude, longitude, degrees and minutes the teacher asked, "Suppose I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes North latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes East longitude...?"

After a confused silence, a voice volunteered, "I guess you'd be eating alone."

A Dent to Man's Ego

A woman was helping her husband set up his computer, and at the appropriate point in the process, the computer advised him that he would now, need to enter a password. Something he will use to log on. The husband was in a rather amorous mood and figured he would try for the shock effect to bring this to his wife's attention. So, when the computer asked him to enter his password, he made it plainly obvious to his wife, what he was entering by stating each letter out loud as he typed: *P.E.N.I.S.* His wife fell off her chair laughing when the computer replied: *****PASSWORD REJECTED, NOT LONG ENOUGH***** Everyday gets a little better...

Short but Sweet

Definitions that make sense:

ADULT: One who has stopped growing at both ends but continued in the middle.

BEAUTY PARLOR: A place where women curl up and dye.

CANNIBAL: Someone who is fed up with people.

CHICKEN: The only animal you eat, both, before it is born and after it is dead.

COMMITTEE: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST: Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

HANDKERCHIEF: Cold Storage.

INFLATION: Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

MOSQUITO: An insect that makes you like flies better.

RAISIN: Grape with sunburn.

SECRET: Something you tell to one person at a time.

SKELETON: A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

TOOTHACHE: The pain that drives you to extraction.

TOMORROW: One of the greatest labour saving devices of today.

WRINKLES: Something 'other' people have. 'You' have character lines.

YAWN: An honest opinion openly expressed.

"I married a younger man, ten years younger than I am. Think of it like this: If you can't find a good man, raise one."

BIRTHDAYS

February

Gordon EWERS	2
Mary TOY	2
Margaret JARVIS	4
Harry TAZEWELL	4
Percy PERRIN	6
Bob DALTON	10
Karen MORRISON	11
Chris MULCONRAY	17
Terry DAVIES	18
Jim BAIRD	23
Ron BECK	27
Tony McCUBBIN	28

March

Helen KEATING	1
David BAINBRIDGE	5
Pat PIKE	7
Bryan BISSAKER	8
Alex SHAW	9
Les MORRISON	11
Warrick GATES	13
John WAIGHT	21
Patricia JOHNSON	25
Peter KONTOOLAS	25
Moira HERON	27
Pauline MURPHY	27
Kathleen WARD	27
Betty KNIGHT	30



WEDDING ANIVERSARY'S



February

Frank & June MENNER	6
Len & Val HARDMAN	7
Gordon & Rosemary MARSHALL	8
Bob & Angela DALTON	12
Wayne & Lyn DALE	25
Jacky & Paul HUBBARD	25

March

Jack & Min TOOHEY	2
Denis & Gary HUNTER	3
John & Doreen RITCHIE	11
Les & Wyn ALP	25
Les & Karen MORRISON	26
Jim HUNTER & Carol MOREY	27

Puzzles - Answers to October Puzzles

- ❖ Nine-letter word is **Parachute**. Possible answers include - acute, acuter, apart, apter, capture, carat, caret, carpet, carte, cater, chapter, chart, cheat, chert, chute, crate, crept, cruet, curate, curet, cuter, earth, eruct, erupt, hater, heart, parachute, patch, pater, prate, react, recta, retch, taper, taupe, teach, teacup, trace, trachea, truce.
- ❖ Winning word was **Telephone**.
- ❖ Mystery word was **Gherkin**.
- ❖ Odd word out was **Spiffy**. Answers were 1. Jiffy, 2. Daffy, 3. Fluffy, 5. Stuffy, 6. Taffy, 7. Scruffy, 8. Puffy, 9. Whiffy. (4. Was an error by me, sorry, I doubled up on two clues - oops!)

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 - 2 words, better luck next time, 3 - 5 words, good, 6 - 8 words, very good, 9 - 11 words, excellent, 12+ genius! Good Luck!

I	U	V
N	E	I
T	I	T

Word Saver

The answer to each clue is a nine-letter word. Each answer can be made by using three of the three-letter groups in the grid. The three remaining groups of letters can be rearranged to spell another name for a money box.

Clues

1. Large hills
2. Short garment worn by women
3. Type of nut
4. Washed your hair with a cleaning preparation
5. Carrot, bean etc

PIG	TAC	OED
BLE	NTA	VEG
ISK	GYB	ETA
MOU	MIN	IRT
MPO	HIO	SHA
ANK	INS	PIS

A-mazing Word

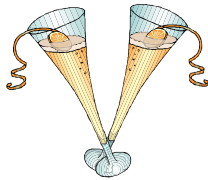
Try to discover the nine missing letters in the coloured squares. Each one completes the word on its left & begins the word on its right. When the puzzle is complete, the letters in the coloured column will spell the word we are looking for.

S	C	O	W		O	Y	A	L
B	A	L	S		W	A	R	E
K	E	B	A		R	I	S	K
M	E	R	R		A	B	B	Y
P	I	P	E		O	B	O	T
C	O	R	G		N	G	O	T
V	I	X	E		I	P	P	Y
Y	A	C	H		R	A	C	K
T	O	O	T		O	V	E	R

Mystery Word

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

Anagrams	Clues	Answers					
Maples	Try, taste						
Battle	Pill						
Amuses	Take for granted						
Craned	Ballerina, eg						
Nicest	Creepy-crawly						
Rushes	Theatre escorts						
Median	Damsel						



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday February 6th 2007

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 (Chicken Parmigiana or Fish)

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

Bookings due by Monday January 29th

(Members, friends & guests attending the lunch are
to advise their choice of **chicken** or **fish** when
booking. If not stated chicken will be ordered)

Coming up -

AGM 2007 @ Swan
Yacht Club Tues
February 6th

Sausage Sizzle @
Burswood
Tues March 6th

Don't miss out - Set
these dates in your
diary now



We have 29 booked for the AGM Lunch so far -

(Fish)

Jim & Norma ANDERSON
Roz & Warrick GATES
Connie HUGHES
Pat JOHNSON
Bev & Percy PERRIN
Bob REX
Kay & Roger SCHMIDT
Alex & Sylvia SHAW
Betty SOLOSY
Charlie & Norma WILLIAMS

Please get on the phone & make your booking, we
would love to see you all at the AGM. Don't forget,
if you want to have input, please come on to the
committee, new members are always welcome



(Chicken)

Neil & Sue HOPKINS
Darrell JOHNSON
Brian & Elva JOST
Judy & Ron KING
Kaye MURRAY
Eleanor & Trevor SMART
Brian SOLOSY
Bernie & Hazel WEBB



'Almost Free' Sausage Sizzle

Gold coin donation per person -
pay on the day

Tuesday March 6th at 12 noon

Barbeque / Picnic Area

BURSWOOD PARK

(More detailed directions next newsletter)

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

Numbers attending to be advised by
Friday March 2nd

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)

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: / /2007

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 / / 2007 EFT Cash AMO Cheque No. Trans' No(s).

RCOA - Functions Booking Slip

Names Attending:

Function:	Venue:	Date:	No.	\$ p/p	Subtotal \$
AGM Lunch	Swan Yacht Club	Feb 6 th 2007	<input type="text"/>	x \$12.50	<input type="text"/>
Sausage Sizzle	Burswood Park	Mar 6 th 2007	<input type="text"/>	x \$16.50	<input type="text"/>
			<input type="text"/>	x donation	<input type="text"/>

Signature & Date: / /2007

Total Amount Enclosed \$

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

Office Use Only: Rec'd / / 2007 EFT Cash AMO Cheque No. Trans' No(s).

Last but not Least

- As you would have seen we have included the minutes of 2006 AGM in this newsletter for all to read (again). This will save time at the 2007 AGM and the Secretary from reading it out for all to hear. If there are no amendments they will be accepted as is and we can then move on.
- We have also included the financial report for 2006 that will be presented at AGM. These have been audited & accepted by the committee as a true record of our financial status.
- Having survived the 'Silly Season' we are now in to a 'New Year' which also means annual subscriptions are due again. Please check the mailing label at the bottom of this page to see your current financial status. Don't forget, that if you choose, you can pay electronically via the internet or any branch of Bendigo Bank. Please ensure your name is on the transaction for us to identify payment. Paying for more than one year at a time will delay the hassle of paying next time.

Bernie Webb ☒

Retired Customs Officers'
Association of WA inc.



Belmont

Michael Metcalf

8 Hehir Street,
Belmont WA 6104

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Fax (08) 9479 4171

REDGUM RURAL SERVICES

- trees pruned
- rural fencing
- gutters cleaned
- garden clean ups
- rotary hoeing
- slashing / mowing

Bernie Webb

☎ (08) 9439 2268
☎ 0419 903 218



RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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