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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 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.

Future Events 2008

Tues Feb 5th - AGM @ Swan
Yacht Club.

Remember to get your bookings in for lunch & specify if you want chicken or fish. Looking forward to seeing you there



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**Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Swan Yacht Club, East Fremantle on
Tuesday February 6th, 2007**

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 - Les & Wyn Alp, Nancy & Albert Davey, Gwen Gregg, Audrey & Eric Hovey, Mike & Robyn Metcalf, Pat & Lavinia Pike, Bob Rex, Kaye Rickard, Harry Tazewell, Mary Toy, John & Lyn Waight, Sue Webb (Friend), Jean Wells, Dot & Vern Westley, Pat Wills

Minutes of previous AGM were circulated in the 'Duty Freed' 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 'Duty Freed' for all members to read, and was accepted as read. Change to Bendigo Bank very positive. No business arising from report.

Accepted by all in attendance.

Entertainment Report - Ron outlined the functions that were held & numbers attending. The AGM & Christmas Lunch continue to be the two most popular events, as per attendances. This indicates a healthy relationship between the members & their committee, especially to show such interest to the AGM, attendance 45. Including the AGM in February we had 8 functions in the year for a total attendance of 273

March One of the more popular functions was a lunch at the Jetty Restaurant, Hillary's to which 33 members attended. This venue was considered to be good value for money in pleasant surrounds.

April A BBQ in Kings Park was a repeat from the previous year because it is popular, relaxed, in pleasant surrounds and had superb Cooks. Thirty of us enjoyed the day.

May A Dinner at TAFE took us into a 'night out' at one of our popular venues. Thirty-five attending made it the most favoured event beside the AGM & Xmas Lunch.

June Breakfast at the Swan Yacht Club, not bad just a bit early for some people. Attendance 24,

Aug Lunch at the Runway Bar & Café, again not bad, great views, good company for the 26 in attendance.

Oct A tour of the Customs X-ray Container Terminal, Fremantle followed by a BBQ/Picnic at the John Tonkin Park. The tour was most enlightening. The tour guides (Customs Officers) not only made us most welcome they excelled in their particularly interesting and informative presentation. The 'lark in the park' was nice but a little bit breezy. Still nice though

(Dec) Xmas Lunch at the Runway Bar & Café, popular, probably because it was our Xmas function and also, possibly, because of its location. Food was plentiful but it lacked that real Xmas style (my personal thoughts). Fifty-four attended which indicates the popularity of a Xmas function.

For 2007 I would like to present another BBQ, in Kings Park, a lunch at the Jetty Restaurant, another evening at TAFE, afternoon or morning tea at the 'Diggers Camp' (Australian poetry and yarns) then Xmas at a different venue AND do any of the members have a place that would prove popular? Another good year and my thanks for your continued support.

Approved R L K

President's Report - Ladies & Gentlemen, we have come to the end of another year which was the twenty ninth year of this Association of retired members of the Australian Customs and their friends. This Association is unique because under our Constitution we have retired members of Customs who retired because they had reached the age when they decided to retire or people who were Custom Officers for a time and left for other careers outside of the Customs. Eligible members who join find their spouses and partners automatically receiving full membership to the Association. Other people who wish to join may do so without any qualification other than we know them and like their company. They can join us and our activities, and these people we officially class as 'friends'. As 'friends' they can be members without voting rights at our Annual General Meetings but receive all other benefits that are available.

As an Association without assets and no rental fees for offices or wages we can run on a cheap membership fee of six dollars per member at the moment which includes the retired members spouses or partners within the pay structure and the other members known as friends have no fees to pay as stated in the Constitution although we ask for a donation from them, if they can possible pay it, of the equivalent to the members fee to pay the cost of mailing out the newsletter. The spouses or partners of the original members remain eligible to stay on as members when the original member passes on, but only if they wish to stay as a member, and they then take over the original members responsibilities.

The inceptions of this Association took place in 1977 which means that this year of 2007 is our thirtieth year and I will be asking the new Entertainment Committee to consider a special event to mark the occasion of 30 years as we did in 1998, to mark our 21st birthday, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large turnout of our members.

In the year 2006 we unfortunately had the misfortune of the passing of a much loved Committee Member and this was Harry Wills. Harry joined the Committee in the year 1987 and held the position of Vice President from that year, and later in 1990, was then elected to the position of President for five consecutive years. After he had decided it was time for new blood as President he remained on as a stalwart back yard controller as the Immediate Past President, returned as Vice President for just the year of 1997 and acted as Election Officer to the end. He had been awarded Life Membership and had received a legends certificate from you, members of this Association, with your gratification and appreciation for all his efforts over the years. On the day we heard he had died he had been due to meet with us members of the Committee and had sent his apologies into us early for his absence as he wasn't well. Indeed he wasn't. May he Rest in Peace. (Minute silence in remembrance of lost members)

This year we therefore have a new face as the person responsible for the Election of Officers and this is Mr Alex Shaw. Alex is an Association Member who was a Customs Officer previously and was a Member of the Committee for seven years as the Honorary Secretary from 1995 until 2002 when he retired for a well earned rest, and an itch to see the rest of the world. He was one of three Members who made up the Sub - Committee who rewrote our new Constitution and Rules from our previous edition and he did the onerous and the one man task of getting the Association through Incorporation and now he returns to us today to take over from Harry as the Election Officer and we would like you to make him feel very welcome.

The reports you have heard today will show you that we are in a comfortable and solid managed Association and that we will gain strength and will prosper as long as we all support its many and varied activities. Thank you for attending today. Trevor Smart

Alex Shaw - 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	Warrick Gates	Editors	Hazel & Bernie Webb
Secretary	Hazel Webb	Auditor	Debbie MacDonald
Committee	Neil Hopkins, Darrell Johnson, Brian Jost, Ron King, Mike Metcalf, Kay Schmidt		

Ron (as emcee) opened the forum for questions.

- ❖ Val Kelly asked if we were looking at a different venue for Christmas which was confirmed & suggestions were welcomed. Ron advised the forum that the cost of such was bound to increase, you get what you pay for. This was acknowledged by those in attendance
- ❖ Alex Shaw asked if we could look at the availability of an ACS Launch tour, we would look at seeing if this is possible & advise through the 'Duty Freed'
- ❖ Kaye Murray wanted a Christmas Lights Bus Tour, we advised this was on the cards for this year & will look at combining with another organisation so that we have enough numbers to book a bus.
- ❖ Connie Hughes reminded us that a lot of our older members did not drive at night. We advised that where possible, if a member wished to attend an evening function & did not drive, we would look at a 'car-pool'.
- ❖ Percy Perrin celebrated his birthday today & the forum congratulated him

The next Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday February 5th 2008, venue to be advised in the newsletter.

With no further business arising the meeting closed at 12:10 pm

Treasurers Report

We have ended another financial year and the books have all been audited for 2007.

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 2007.

Statement of Receipts & Expenditure Year ended December 31 2007

INCOME

Functions	4,464.00
Subscriptions	926.00
Donations	126.50
Interest	52.87
	<u>\$5,569.37</u>

EXPENDITURE

Functions	4,695.75
Postage	356.00
Administration (General)	181.00
	<u>\$5,232.75</u>
Excess Income over Expenditure	\$336.62

BANK RECONCILIATION

Balance 01/01/07	\$2,173.21	Balance 31/12/07	\$2,474.33
Petty Cash on hand	0.00	Petty Cash	0.00
Deposits	5,644.87		
	<u>\$7,818.08</u>		
Withdrawals	-5,343.75		
	<u>\$2,474.33</u>		

Notional Bank Balance 31/12/07

Credit balance	\$2,474.33
Assets	00.00
Liabilities (Subs 2008 ▶)	-966.00
Liabilities (2008 Functions)	0.00
Net Credit	\$1,508.33

Signed DJ McDonald (Hon Auditor)

Annual General Meeting - Tuesday February 5th 2008

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. We do have some committee members wishing to stand down this year so we are looking for new faces to join us, so please get your nominations in. See you there!

RCOA COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM Year 2008/2009

I nominate for the following office(s) (please tick)

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

Nominator Date / / 2008

I accept nomination (Nominee) Date / / 2008

*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

Elsie Crowe has done it again! World Champion, what a legend! Elsie recently competed in the Super-Seniors World Individual Tennis Championships in Christchurch where she delighted the crowd in winning her division. See page 9 for photo & internet write-up. Is there no stopping this OBE? *Yes Elsie, since August you now have the honour of the letters after your name!*

Lorraine (Lolly) Otieno (Friend of RCOA, the first serving officer to join us in preparation for eventual retirement) recently relocated to Canberra. Linda Schier, Manager Staffing, ACS advised - we recently received some very sad news today about one of our well-respected and colourful officers - Lorraine Otieno. Lorraine is currently in Canberra Hospital, ICU, after undergoing difficult surgery. She is currently in an induced coma & has her family with her. I am sure that many would like to send their very best to Lorraine & with this in mind Darren Wishart-Brown (9430 1368), has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the collection for her. The family have requested that we do not call the hospital at this time. Jan 04 - Unfortunately Lorraine's condition has worsened and she is currently undergoing surgery to reduce the swelling in the brain. On a positive note she has no further haemorrhaging or no further strokes.

*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.*



New Members

*Ross & Wendy Blackall
Darrol & Joan Horocks*

Welcome to you all & hope to see you at some of our functions.

Ross Blackall recently retired from Customs after 32 years. Ross worked in a variety of areas including Passengers, DDU, Broome DO, Investigations & Human resources, with recent involvement in joint ventures with the AFP. Ross was a popular colleague at Customs, with a great sense of humour. He was renowned for his enthusiasm towards not only his work but also his physical fitness. He was regularly seen taking part in Fit club, running, cycling to & fro work & was an enthusiastic team member in the Blackwood Marathon, with performances in the after race activities more memorable than his performances in the event itself.

Member Contributions

Interested in casual / part time work?

Located in the Malaga area, opportunities exist for employment involving light product assembly, picking and packing of stock. Flexibility exists to organize your work to be either part time or full time.

If you would like further information please call Ross Blackall on 0418 162 493

BIRTHDAYS

February

Gordon EWERS	2
Mary TOY	2
Margaret JARVIS	4
Harry TAZEWELL	4
Percy PERRIN	6
Bob DALTON	10
Karen MORRISON	11
Sheila SHEPHERDSON	16
Chris MULCONRAY	17
Terry DAVIES	18
Joan HOROCKS	20
Jim BAIRD	23
Ron BECK	27
Tony McCUBBIN	28

March

Helen KEATING	1
Bob DANKS	4
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
Darrol HOROCKS	27
Pauline MURPHY	27
Kathleen WARD	27
Elizabeth (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

Darrol & Joan HOROCKS	8
John & Doreen RITCHIE	11
Robert & Roslyn QUINN	19
Les & Wyn ALP	25
Les & Karen MORRISON	26
Jim HUNTER & Carol MOREY	27

Puzzles - Answers to October 2007 Puzzles

☞ Nine-letter word was **Whirlpool**. Possible words include: hollow, hoop, hop, how, howl, lilo, loo, loop, lor, low, oil, olio, owl, pillow, pol, polio, poll, polo, pooh, pool, poor, pro, prow, prowl, rho, roil, roll, row, who, whoop, whop, whorl, woo, wool.

☞ Word Saver answer is **Buttercup**. Answers are: eavesdrop, jukeboxes, invisible, insomniac, cockroach.

☞ Amazing Word answer is **Vanuatu**.

☞ Mystery Word is **Sermon**. Answers are: shades, erased, rubble, models, orbits, novels.

Nine letter word

Using all the letters in the grid on the right, find our nine-letter word. See how many other words of FIVE 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 - 19 words, good, 20 - 29 words, very good, 30 - 39 words, excellent, 40+ genius! Good Luck!

E	C	P
N	A	L
T	M	E

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

- Extremely tasty, yummy
- Tropical fruit sometimes served on pizza
- What you ask when you want answers
- Striptease performers
- Middle of the working week

ORE	DEL	QUE
EAP	STI	DAY
NES	STR	IPP
ICI	PIN	ERS
GAP	ONS	WED
PLE	OUS	SIN

Musical Word

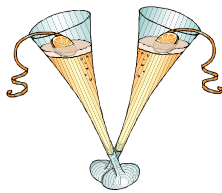
Try to discover the eleven missing letters in the coloured squares. Each one completes the word on its left & begins the word on its right. When the puzzle is complete, the letters in the coloured column will spell the title of a song by Sonny & Cher (yep, an oldie but a goodie!)

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

Creepy Word

Hidden in the grid are the names of four creepy-crawlies, each eight letters long. Can you work out what they are? The one that would appear first in an alphabetical listing is the one we are after.

UI	SI	rd	us
ef	bi	TO	LK
WO	SQ	ho	dy
la	ly	RM	MO



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday February 5th 2008

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 Wednesday January 30th

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

Coming up -

AGM 2008 @
Swan Yacht Club
Tues February 5th

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



We have 17 booked for the AGM Lunch so far -

(Fish)

(Chicken)

Ros & Warrick GATES
Pat JOHNSON
Val KELLY
Bev & Percy PERRIN
Betty SOLOSY

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

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

WATCH THIS SPACE

We hope to fill it with news of our next
function(s) soon

Cheers

Wishing you all a
safe & healthy
2008

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)



New World Champions claim titles in Christchurch

"Australia's Elsie Crowe took advantage of her grass court knowledge to claim her first World Championship title in the women's 80 & over age group. In only the second year that the event has taken place, Crowe overcame a spirited challenge from American Rita Caputi-Price in the final 4-6 6-1 6-2".

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: / /2008

Tick here only if receipt required

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

Office Use Only:

Rec'd / / 2008

EFT Cash AMO Cheque No.

Trans' No(s).

RCOA - Functions Booking Slip

Names Attending:

Function:	Venue:	Date:	No.	\$ p/p	Subtotal \$
AGM 2008	Swan Yacht Club		<input type="text"/>	12.50	<input type="text"/>
			<input type="text"/>	16.50	<input type="text"/>
			<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>

Signature & Date: / /2008

Total Amount Enclosed \$

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

Office Use Only:

Rec'd / / 2008



EFT Cash AMO Cheque No.

Trans' No(s).

Last but not Least

- As you would have seen we have included the minutes of 2007 AGM in this newsletter for all to read (again). This will save time at the 2008 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 2007 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

<p>Retired Customs Officers' Association of WA inc.</p> 	 <p>Seasons Funerals Belmont</p> <p>Michael Metcalf</p> <p>8 Hehir Street, Belmont WA 6104</p> <p>☎ (08) 9479 4173 Fax (08) 9479 4171</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>☎ (08) 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