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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 143. 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

Oct 26th Breakfast Barbecue @
Point Walter Reserve

Dec 9th Christmas Lunch @ Jetty
Restaurant, Hillarys



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News of Members

Kaye Murray

Earlier this year Kaye went to Canberra to look after Harry who was undergoing major surgery, (he is well on the mend now). Once he was on the road to recovery Kaye returned to Perth. Then Kaye took a fall & ended up in Fremantle Hospital with two broken bones in her pelvis. Harry then came to Perth to look after Kaye who, although in pain, enjoyed the attention of being looked after. Kaye is now back on track, Harry back in Canberra & all is fine. They will both be coming to the Christmas function so we can catch up on the gossip then.

Lorraine Otieno -

On Sunday, 17 August 2008, Jacky Hubbard, her husband Paul, and their grandson Kieron (14), set out from Campbelltown for a four hour trip to Gloucester NSW to visit Lorraine Otieno at Narraweena Nursing Home. Here is Jacky's story.

It was a pleasant drive along the M7, through Parramatta before joining the Pacific Highway. It was certainly a different story on the return trip! After Newcastle we headed towards Taree, enjoying the NSW country landscape from Stroud to Gloucester. We arrived in Gloucester via Bucketts Way, which became Church Road and, heading towards the town centre, we found Gloucester Hospital situated on the right-hand side of the road, nice and easy, at least we did not have to go searching for the place. As it was lunchtime, we decided to drive into town for lunch at Café 57, which is on the main street, before going to visit Lorraine (if anyone visits Lorraine, please buy her a takeaway latte from here as she thoroughly enjoys the little treat).

As soon as we walked in to Lorraine's room, the first thing she said was "Hello Jacky, have you come for the meeting?" I said "What meeting?" and she said "Union Meeting". I said I had come to visit her and, as she tried to get out of her chair, she said she would make me a coffee. Only having use of her right side, she still tries to get up and about but cannot do so without the assistance of nursing staff, which, as you can imagine, is very hard for her as she has always been so extremely active.

We stayed for a good couple of hours and during that time had a good laugh and chat about various incidents that occurred in Customs which Lorraine remembered from years ago. She recalled a few current things like the birth of her

new little grandson Blake, whom she dotes on, and she also told me about some of the problems she has with movement and how the physiotherapist comes in regularly and gives her various exercises to do. She also offered some good advice to Kieron. After asking him how he was going at school she told him to "stay away from the girls as they are nothing but trouble, trust me I am a girl". Don't know whether he will heed the advice, we'll see.

Whilst Lorraine's speech is still slow at times, she is improving daily and I did not have any problems understanding her. I believe a lot of people are under the impression that she would not be able to talk to them if they phoned but that is far from true.

Lorraine said that it would be lovely to see her old work colleagues again however if you cannot visit a telephone call to her mobile would be great. If you ring and she doesn't answer, it is because she is away from the phone, probably at physiotherapy, and it would be best to call again as at this stage she is physically unable to return calls.

Lorry has not quite mastered sending a sms yet however a letter would be most welcome. This would also help her with her rehabilitation as she needs this type of therapy to stimulate the brain. She has no problem relating to the past but needs the stimulation to help her with the present. Her contact details are:

Gloucester Soldiers Memorial Hospital
Attn: Lorraine Otieno
Narraweena Ward
Church Street
Gloucester NSW 2422
Mobile No: 0488-464-811

Lorry sends her regards to everyone and asked after many of you individually. Not knowing what to expect (but having first hand experience with someone who has had a brain aneurism and the associated short term memory loss), I thought she looked remarkably well considering what she has been through. Obviously, Lorraine still has a long way to go but I am confident we will see some improvement when we visit her again in February.

Jacky Hubbard, Passenger Processing, Perth ITB

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.



HMAS Sydney Customs Link

There is an investigation into the sinking of HMAS SYDNEY off WA in 1941. The Sydney carried at least two 'Carley' floats to be used as unsinkable lifeboats. A Carley float was picked up at sea by HMAS Heros about a week after the sinking of the Sydney. It is thought to have come from the Sydney and is in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. In 1942, a second Carley float was washed up on Christmas Island with the body of a sailor in it. The body was buried on Christmas Is, while the float disappeared. The 'story' on the second float was that it was cut in two and sent to Fremantle where it was destroyed by Customs some years later. In talking to experts at the AWM and NAA there is no evidence at all for the story and they consider it a rumour that has been embellished over time. Given it was war time and over 60 years ago records could have been lost or not even made.

The following links are to sites at the AWM that look at the sinking -

http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/hmas_sydney/carley_float.asp

http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/hmas_sydney/inquiry.asp

http://www.awm.gov.au/encyclopedia/hmas_sydney/index.asp

Customs has had a request from the Inquiry to try and trace any evidence on the second Carley float. Any record of the CI float being returned to Fremantle would have been destroyed long ago (if indeed there was any record of it) however some long serving officers may recall something about it. So if you have any information please contact *Kerry Hannan. History Officer, Customs, Canberra*

*What has two legs & bursts into flames?
Flared trousers*

All answers are female given names

1. Valued more than riches
2. A large Australian capital city
3. Found at the bottom of the sea
4. A twilled cotton cloth
5. A handsome flowering shrub
6. What a baby says when tired of walking
7. A cheerful, happy girl
8. Grown in the garden for its elegant appearance
9. A nice month of the year
10. A fairy or elf
11. An overseas city notes for it's art
12. A precious stone
13. To make almonds edible
14. A wanderer
15. Before meals
16. The father of David (biblical)
17. To rejoice or glad
18. A cold wet month of the year
19. A little girl who had a little lamb
20. The first appearance of light in the morning
21. A full stop
22. A place overgrown with heath

Complete the sayings –

1. As good as
2. As safe as
3. As sober as
4. As pleased as
5. As obstinate as
6. As cold as ...
7. As fresh as
8. As old as
9. As right as
10. As bold as
11. As quiet as
12. As cool as
13. As clean as
14. As clear as ...
15. As sharp as
16. As hard as

Apology

Hi everyone, I know we normally have a newsletter in August & October however, as we were so busy in August we did not get the Duty Freed done. Instead we have endeavoured to get this one done for September & will do another one in November this year. This will also allow us to remind you of the Christmas function, AGM etc.

Cheers for now ... Hazel

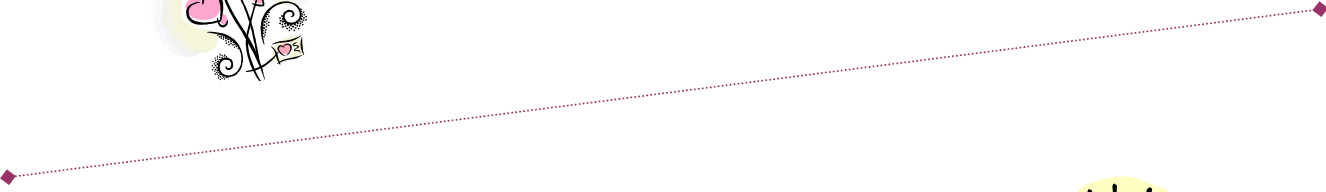
BIRTHDAY'S

October

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Ian McDONALD | 2 |
| Betty REX | 2 |
| Karen HAWLEY | 6 |
| Sherren GERRYIN | 9 |
| Geraldine THOMAS | 9 |
| Vern WESTLEY | 9 |
| Ross BLACKALL | 13 |
| Dorothy SMITH | 15 |
| Nancy DAVEY | 21 |
| Robert QUINN | 21 |
| Hazel WEBB | 22 |
| Jessica BAINBRIDGE | 24 |
| Ken SMITH | 27 |
| Ron DE GRUCHY | 28 |
| Phil BELL | 29 |
| Roslyn QUINN | 30 |
| Sue ABBEY | 31 |

November

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Darrell JOHNSON | 3 |
| Bob STONE | 4 |
| Kaye MURRAY | 10 |
| Pat NICHOLS | 10 |
| Norma EMERSON | 11 |
| Ken STEWART | 13 |
| Lyn DALE | 19 |
| Sue MARTIN | 21 |
| Bert DETERMES | 23 |
| Dianne BAIRD | 26 |
| Ron KING | 26 |
| Bill WALKER | 26 |
| Judy KING | 29 |



WEDDING ANIVERSARY'S



October

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Ron & Maureen BECK | 3 |
| Trevor & Eleanor SMART | 5 |
| Eric & Audrey HOVEY | 9 |
| Ken & Phyllis SMITH | 11 |
| Brian & Elva JOST | 16 |
| Jim & Dianne BAIRD | 20 |
| Neil & Sue HOPKINS | 31 |

November

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

Puzzles - Answers to June Puzzles

- ❖ Nine-letter word is Volunteer. Possible words include: elver, eve, even, event, ever, evert, lever, louvre, love, lover, nerve, never, novel, oeuvre, oven, over, overt, ovule, rev, revel, revolt, revue, rove, trove, truelove, veer, velour, vent, venture, venter, venue, vet, veto, vetoer, volt, volute, vole, vote, voter
- ❖ Cartoon Character was Snagglepuss. Answers were Quick-Draw McGraw, Scooby Doo, Huckleberry Hound, Captain Caveman, Yogi Bear, Elmer Fudd, Yosemite Sam, Wile E Coyote
- ❖ A-mazing word was New Zealand
- ❖ Occupations answer was Gardener. Other occupations were Mechanic, Salesman & Waitress

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 - 7 words, better luck next time, 8 - 15 words, good, 16 - 19 words, very good, 20 - 24 words, excellent, 25+ genius! Good Luck!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| N | E | O |
| T | G | I |
| A | T | E |

TV Shows

See if you can find eight pairs taken from the seventeen words in any column which are all titles of TV shows. When you have found the eight pairs there will be one word remaining, what is it?

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|--------|---|
| Angels | Happy | Vice | 2 |
| Hogan's | Mission | Home | 3 |
| Smart | Improvement | Ties | 4 |
| Charlie's | Days | Heroes | 5 |
| Impossible | Frasier | Family | 6 |
| Miami | Get | | 7 |
| 1. | | | 8 |

W - Words

The answers to this puzzle all start with WOR. When the puzzle is complete, the letters in the coloured row will spell the winning word. What is it?

1. Specified value
2. Feel uneasy, brood
3. The Bride Red, Joan Crawford movie
4. Tatty, threadbare
5. Put in a good for, recommend
6. Poorest quality

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| W | W | W | W | W | W |
| O | O | O | O | O | O |
| R | R | R | R | R | R |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Mystery Word

Rearrange the letters of the words under the Anagrams heading to answer the following six 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 | | | | | |
|----------|-------------------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Caveat | Move out of | | | | | | |
| Easter | Puzzle, poser | | | | | | |
| Avails | Spittle | | | | | | |
| Craved | Sliced | | | | | | |
| Petals | Soft colour shade | | | | | | |
| Eighth | Elevation | | | | | | |



Breakfast Sausage Sizzle @ Point Walter Reserve

Perth side of the kiosk

Sunday October 26th at 08:30 am

(Note: This is the 1st day of Daylight Saving!)

Sausage, bacon, egg, tomato, bread & sauce
will be provided

BYO everything else you need including tea,
coffee, chairs, tables, plates, cutlery, etc

\$5.00 per person (can pay on the day)

Numbers attending to be advised by
Thursday October 23rd please



Christmas Lunch @ Jetty's Restaurant

Hillary's Boat Harbour

Tuesday December 9th @ 12 noon

Meet outside 11:45 am

Cost: Members \$35.00

Non-Members \$38.00 (Senior) \$46.00 (non senior)

Full Buffet & Sweets

Tea & Coffee included

Booking made for 50 people (can be adjusted)

Fully Licensed (pay as you go)

We have pre-paid a deposit & must pay for all
bookings therefore pre-payment (in full) is required
on this occasion. We will only confirm numbers on
those who have paid in advance

Bookings & payment for the luncheon to be made
by December 1st please.



Those booked so far for Christmas
Lunch are –

Darrell & Pat JOHNSON

Kaye MURRAY

Bridie & Jim O'NEILL

George & Judith PARKER

Betty & Brian SOLOSY

Harry TAZEWELL

Bernie & Hazel WEBB



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)

Answers to female first names:

Patience, Adelaide, Pearl, Jean, Daphne, Carrie, Joy, Rose, May, Fay, Paris, Ruby, Blanche, Roma, Grace, Jessie, Gladys, June, Mary, Dawn, Dot, Heather

Complete the sayings:

Gold, houses, a judge, punch, mule, ice, a daisy, the hills, rain, brass, mouse, a cucumber, a whistle, mud, a tack, nails

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

Tick here only if receipt required

Signature & Date: / /2008

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

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| <small>Office Use Only:</small> | <small>Rec'd</small> / / 2008 | <small>EFT</small> <input type="checkbox"/> <small>Cash</small> <input type="checkbox"/> <small>AMO</small> <input type="checkbox"/> <small>Cheque</small> <input type="checkbox"/> <small>No.</small> | <small>Trans' No(s).</small> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|

RCOA - Functions Booking Slip

Names Attending:

| Function: | Venue: | Date: | No. | | \$ p/p | Subtotal \$ |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|---|------------------|----------------------|
| BBQ Breakfast | Point Walter Reserve | Oct 26th | <input type="text"/> | x | \$5.00 | <input type="text"/> |
| Christmas Lunch | Jetty Restaurant | Dec 9th | <input type="text"/> | x | \$35.00 Other | <input type="text"/> |
| | | | <input type="text"/> | x | | <input type="text"/> |

Signature & Date: / /2008

Total Amount Enclosed \$



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

| | | | |
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|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|

Last but not Least

- Well I'm semi-retired again (I think it's about the fifth time). Most of the rest of Dad's Army have been extended to around the end of the year (I think). I have been doing lots of work around the house, weeding pruning, repairing, modifying, etc. I have also got my vegetable patch sorted out, and planted with what I hope is going to be a bumper crop of just about everything! I have also built a few things in the workshop both out of steal and wood. It's great to have time to do what I want and when I want to do it.
- Going camping for 5 days in a couple of weeks just north of Southern Cross with Walter Hill, Steve Smallwood, Warrick Gates, Mark Skeels, Kim Norrie and I believe two other guys from a four wheel drive club. Looking forward to it, get out of the rat race and into the real world.

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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