

# DUTY FREED

Official Newsletter of the



RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

[www.rcoa.org.au](http://www.rcoa.org.au)

February 2010

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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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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 11<sup>th</sup> of each month of publication.

Please address general correspondence and subscriptions to the Secretary.

All cheques are to be made payable to the 'Retired Customs Officers' Association of WA Inc.

### Membership

RCOA welcomes new members of former Customs officers. Current membership is 133.

The membership fee for former officer & spouse or single is \$10. An application form is included on the inside back page of this Newsletter.

Annual subscriptions are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year.

Please check your address label for your current financial status.

## Future Events 2010

March 14<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Barbecue at Point Walter Reserve

April 13<sup>th</sup> Lunch at The Jetty Hillarys



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## Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Swan Yacht Club, East Fremantle on Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010

President Warrick Gates declared the meeting open at 11:30 am and welcomed those attending. Members present as per signed list circulated at the meeting.

**Apologies** – Shaun Boylan, Graham Hall, Jan Hall, Jacky Hubbard, Judy King, John Marks, George Parker, Eleanor Smart, Bob Stone, Robyn Stone, Harry Tazewell, Mary Toy

**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. 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. Including the AGM in February we had 7 functions in the year for a total attendance of 151. Numbers were a bit disappointing at some of the events

**AGM 2009** - 43 attended the meeting & lunch at Swan Yacht Club.

**March** - was lunch at The Iris Bar & Restaurant with 17 enjoying the tasty meal and the great view

**May** – saw 11 at Abingdon Miniature Village for a picnic/barbecue, those that went thoroughly enjoyed the venue and the company

**May** – also had the tour of the 'Oceanic Viking' on its visit to Fremantle, fantastic tour and very generous feast enjoyed by 19 of us

**June** – had 17 attend the barbecue lunch at Kings Park

**Oct** – a canal cruise at Mandurah was enjoyed by 18 of us, a beautiful day for the tour and a very enjoyable lunch at Nino's after

**Dec** - 37 in total celebrated a Christmas lunch at the Iris Bar & Restaurant at Jandakot the sit down lunch was very enjoyable and will look to book this venue for Christmas 2010

**President's Report** – Ladies & Gentlemen, I would like to start with a thank you to you all for your attendance here today as it is an indication to the committee that you are interested in the activities of the RCOA. I would also like to thank my committee members for the work, suggestions and support they have provided throughout the year. All the committee members have agreed to stay on for another year with the exception of Kaye. Thank you Kaye for the work you have done to date. I know I speak on behalf of all committee members when I say your suggestions and sense of humour will certainly be missed at our future committee meetings.

During the last 12 months we tried activities that were suggested by some members that were different to our usual outings. These included a visit to the miniature village - Arlington Green and a visit to the Zoo, neither of which was very well attended and we also did a cruise on the Mandurah canals which received better response.

The activities that have the best attendance are those that we have done each year – such as the sausage sizzles, lunches etc so we will include those again this year but as I have stated previously, the aim of your committee is to provide activities for the members. As a result, we are keen to hear any suggestions you may have for outings or other social activities for this year. *Warrick Gates*

**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	Warrick Gates
Vice President	Ron King
Secretary	Hazel Webb
Treasurer	Bernie Webb
Duty Freed Editor	Hazel Webb
Committee	Richard Coleman, Neil Hopkins, Trevor Smart, Bob Stone

Warrick introduced Amanda Leigh, Regional Director of Customs, who was to be our guest speaker and thanked her for making the time available in her busy schedule to address us today.

Amanda gave an overview of where Customs was heading in 2010 and the future.

The next Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday February 1st 2011 at the Swan Yacht Club.

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

## Something for the Young Ones!

### Born in the 40's - 70's?

Congratulations to all who were born in the 1940's, 50's, 60's and 70's!

- First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses made of asbestos. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, raw egg products, loads of bacon and processed meat, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer.
- Then after that trauma, our baby cots were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints.
- We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking.
- As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.
- We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle.
- Take away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC, Subway or Nandos.
- Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on the weekends, somehow we didn't starve to death!
- We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO-ONE actually died from this.
- We could collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the corner store and buy Toffees, Gobstoppers, Bubble Gum and some bangers to blow up frogs with.
- We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because.....WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!!
- We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on.
- No one was able to reach us all day, and we were OK!!!!
- We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old prams and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and dens and played in river beds with matchbox cars.
- We did not have Play-stations, Nintendo Wii, X-boxes, no video games at all, no 999 channels on SKY, no video/DVD-films, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet or Internet chat rooms.....WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!
- We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no Lawsuits from these accidents.
- Only girls had pierced ears!
- We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.
- You could only buy Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns at Easter time... We were given air guns and catapults for our 10th birthdays.
- We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them!
- Mum didn't have to go to work to help dad make ends meet!
- RUGBY and CRICKET had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! Getting into the team was based on MERIT
- Our teachers used to hit us with canes and gym shoes and bully's *always* ruled the playground at school.
- The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!
- Our parents didn't invent stupid names for their kids like 'Kiora' and 'Blade' and 'Ridge' and 'Vanilla'
- We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL!
- And YOU are one of them! CONGRATULATIONS!
- You might want to share this with others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before the lawyers and the government regulated our lives for our own good.

And while you are at it, show it to your kids so they will know how brave their parents were.

# PUZZLE PAGE

A Code-breaker is a crossword puzzle with no clues! Instead, every letter of the alphabet has been replaced by a number, the same number representing the same letter throughout the puzzle. All you have to do is decide which letter is represented by which number! To start you off, we reveal the codes for two or three letters. When these letters have been entered throughout the puzzle, you should have enough information to start guessing words and discovering other letters.

	6		24		9		18		2		4		8	
7	15	1	10	5	12	13	25		8	14	8	3	21	18
	5		25		22		15		13		18		15	
11	13	3	3	8	25	22	13	1	7		9	12	7	20
	12		24		12		3		12		12		8	
12	9	3	10	1	7		21	10	9	20	16	12	3	20
			10		10		19						15	
6	8	25	7	13	25	8		5	17	13	8	9	11	19
	3						25		13		13			
12	22	7	15	11	12	18	8		12	21	21	8	12	9
	9		11		23		22		1		19		11	
2	12	26	8		12	21	10	5	18	25	10	21	19	8
	23		22		9		13		15		25		15	
11	10	20	10	18	8		1	13	18	25	15	8	1	18
	1		14		12		7		20		12		16	

A  
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X  
Y  
Z

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
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6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

4		2	7	1		6		
	1			2		8		5
7	5	3			9			
				4	2		3	
1	6						8	4
	3		1	8				
			6			5	4	7
9		6		5			2	
		8		7	3	9		1

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square

# BIRTHDAYS

## MARCH

Helen KEATING	1
Bob DANKS	4
David BAINBRIDGE	5
Pat PIKE	7
Bryan BISSAKER	8
Alex SHAW	9
Warrick GATES	13
Robyn WOLSKI	13
John WAIGHT	21
Patricia JOHNSON	25
Peter KONTOOLAS	25
Moira HERON	27
Darrol HORROCKS	27
Pauline MURPHY	27
Rod SPENCER	27
Kathleen WARD	27
Betty KNIGHT	30



## APRIL

Marjorie DECAUX	1
Kate OLSEN	2
Maureen BECK	4
Jim HUNTER	5
Jean De GRUCHY	7
Alex SIMS	8
Denise SPENCER	9
Bruce RUSSELL	10
Carol RUSSELL	11
Robyn STONE	14
Juliet KINSELLA	16
Ian FORREST	18
Lorraine FORREST	19
Linda GIBSON	22
Marie GLOVER	24
Alan HALL	25
Sue MARKS	29

# WEDDING ANNIVERSARY'S

## MARCH

Darrol & Joan HORROCKS	8
John & Doreen RITCHIE	11
Geoff & Robyn WOLSKI	18
Robert & Roslyn QUIN	19
Jim HUNTER & Carol MOREY	27
Lance & Nita BLACK	27



## APRIL

John & Juliet KINSELLA	19
Bob & Robyn STONE	20
Jack & Jess ELY	27
Michael & Robyn METCALF	27

## Events Page



### Breakfast Sizzle @ Point Walter Reserve

Perth side of the kiosk

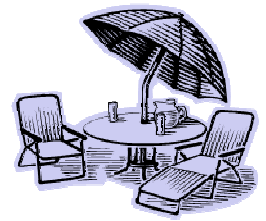
Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 08:30 am

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  
Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup> please



### Lunch @ Jetty's Restaurant

Hillary's Boat Harbour

Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon

Meet outside 11:45 am

Cost: Non-Seniors \$35.00

Seniors \$30.00

(must show Senior card to receive discount)

Full Buffet & Sweets

Tea & Coffee included

Fully Licensed (pay as you go)

Bookings & payment for lunch to be  
made by Wednesday April 7th please

### Coming Events

Thursday June 3rd  
TAFE Dinner Fremantle



Tuesday August 10th  
Fremantle Prison Tour



Tuesday 7th December  
Christmas Lunch @ Glen Iris, Jandakot



Mark these dates in your diary  
more information will be published in the  
'Duty Freed' nearer the date

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)

Yes, an empty space waiting for your input. I have a couple of 'funnies' from a member and I shall use one here.

And the fight started ...

My wife & I were sitting at a table at my school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

My wife asked "do you know her?" "yes" I sighed, "she's my old girlfriend, I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago. I hear she hasn't been sober since"

"My God!" says my wife, "who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

**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**

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

First Name:		Family Name:		Partner's Name:					
Postal Address:									
Email Address:									
Phone Number:		Mobile:							
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 (include year if you wish for our records only)									
Member B'date:		Partner B'date:		Wedding Date:					
Membership \$10 Joint/Single		X No of years:		Amount paying \$					
Send Duty Freed by post <input type="checkbox"/>		or email <input type="checkbox"/>		Signature & Date					
Office use only:	Rec'd	/	/2010	EFT	Cash	AMO	Cheque	No:	Trans #

✂

### RCOA Functions Booking Slip

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

Names attending									
Function	Venue	Date	No	\$pp	Subtotal				
Breakfast BBQ	Point Walter	Sunday March 14th		X \$5.00					
Lunch	Jetty Restaurant	Tuesday April 13th		X \$30.00 X \$35.00					
				X					
<b>Signature &amp; Date</b>	/ / 2010			Total amount enclosed	\$				
Office use only:	Rec'd	/	/2010	EFT	Cash	AMO	Cheque	No:	Trans #

## Last but not Least

- 19 of you are currently un-financial. Please check your mailing label to make sure it is not YOU. (If you receive 'Duty Freed' by email I will email you to advise if you are not financial.)
- Once again we have no news of members, please keep us informed where possible. Our next Duty Freed is due in April.
- We are looking for members to join our committee. We meet bi-monthly at Wellard and plan our outings etc. If you are interested please contact us and we can advise the date of the next meeting.

Retired Customs Officers'  
Association of WA inc.



Seasons Funerals  
Belmont

**Michael Metcalf**

8 Hehir Street,  
Belmont WA 6104

☎ (08) 9479 4173  
Fax (08) 9479 4171

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**Bernie Webb**

☎ (08) 9439 2268

☎ 0419 903 218



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**OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

If undelivered return to  
Secretary RCOA  
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WELLARD WA 6170