

# DUTY FREED

Official Newsletter of the



RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'  
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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

February /March 2013

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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 124

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 January 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Please check your address label for your current financial status.

## Future Events 2013



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## Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Swan Yacht Club, East Fremantle on Tuesday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2013

President Ron King declared the meeting open at 11:40 am and welcomed those attending. Members present as per signed list circulated at the meeting.

**Apologies** – Ron DeGruchy, Ron Dyer, Sue Franetovich, Jan Hall, Ian Jamieson, Karen Jardine, Kaye Murray, George & Judith Parker, Bev & Percy Perrin, Lavinia & Pat Pike, Kay & Roger Schmidt

**Minutes of previous AGM** were circulated in the 'Duty Freed' for all members to read, and were accepted as read.

*Accepted by all in attendance*

**Treasurer's Report** – was circulated in the 'Duty Freed' for all members to read. Bernie outlined an error that was recorded in the Duty Freed which since the accounts have been audited has been corrected. Bob Stone proposed that this now be accepted as a true record, seconded Con Greenwood.

*Accepted by all in attendance*

**Entertainment Report** – Hazel outlined the functions that were held & numbers attending.

**AGM 2012** - 43 attended the meeting & lunch at Swan Yacht Club.

**Mar** – we had breakfast at Point Walter for 29

**May** – the outing at The Maze was cancelled due to weather

**July** – 13 enjoyed breakfast at the Swan Yacht Club

**Sept** – RAAFA Aviation Museum & Lunch had 16 attending

**Oct** – Dinner at TAFE Fremantle was enjoyed by 21

**Dec** – 28 in total celebrated a Christmas lunch at the Iris Bar & Restaurant, the sit down lunch was again very enjoyable and will look to book this venue again for Christmas 2013. Amanda Bott from Customs presented a framed certificate to Kaye Murray commemorating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**President's Report** – Ladies' & Gentlemen, Welcome and thank you, each and every one of you for your attendance here today and continued support. To the committee I thank you most sincerely for your contribution and dedication to your committee obligations. Again this year to you Hazel, the members and we, this committee, thank you and owe you a debt of gratitude for your time, efforts and genuine interest in our Association. Bernie, you too do not go unrecognised for your attachment to the committee and the Association and your computer skills in communication. To the members who do not make it to social functions, yet retain your membership, thank you for your continued interest and thus your support to this unique Association. The Australian Customs Service – we must acknowledge and thank them for their support and representation at functions also the Customs Social Club for their invitations. The previous year has been a mixed bag of tricks – sadly more members are either 'on patrol', 'boarding' or making tariff decisions up above. Some though still with us have had a difficult year physically, mentally and medically. Duty Freed circulated the problems of some members, especially some who lived in Dampier. Our Association is not designed to take any action on their behalf. Dampier seemed to be the source of all their problems and while the Dinglebird enquiry found no source of their afflictions in Dampier we (the Association) can only hope and pray they all find an answer and relief. Social wise, not a great year for functions, some aborted for reasons beyond our control. We will endeavour to create attractive and entertaining social functions. We will, and I speak for the new committee, continue to dedicate our time and services to the best interest of our members. Finally, we must be unique as an Association to have our oldest member, the oldest. Kaye, you have been a wonderful contributor to our Association. Long may it continue and thank you from all of us for the generosity of your response to our toast to you at Christmas. Amanda, to you and the Australian Customs Service thank you. We really do appreciate the interest that you in particular have shown to our organisation with your attendance at our various functions and your presentations.

*Ron King*

**Alex Shaw** – took the chair and proceeded with the election of office bearers for the next year.

Only one nomination was received per position and were elected unopposed as below.

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

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

The next Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday February 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 at the Swan Yacht Club. With no further business arising the meeting closed at 12:10 pm

## Treasurer's Report 2012

Statement of Receipts & Expenditure Year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 2012

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### INCOME

Functions	2,449.00
Subscriptions	1,020.00
Donations	70.00
Credit - Functions 2013	80.00
Interest	16.25
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$3,635.25</u>

### EXPENDITURE

Functions	2,688.72
Postage	240.00
Miscellaneous (Website)	120.00
<u>Administration (General)</u>	<u>304.17</u>
Total Expenditure	\$3,352.89

Excess Income over Expenditure                      \$282.36

### BANK RECONCILIATION

Balance 01/01/2012	\$3,628.06	Balance 31/12/2012	\$3,910.42
<u>Deposits</u>	<u>3,635.25</u>		
	\$7,263.31		
<u>Withdrawals</u>	<u>-3,352.89</u>		
	\$3,910.42		

### LIABILITIES

Liabilities (Subs 2013→)	-1,450.00
<u>Liabilities (Functions 2013)</u>	<u>-80.00</u>
	\$1,530.00

**Net Credit                      \$2,380.42**

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### Letter from Kaye Murray who celebrated her 100th Birthday in November 2012

To the President, Committee, Members and the Friends of RCOA

I would like to thank you officially for the birthday greetings and the beautiful arrangement of blue & purple orchids. It was fascinating watching the almost white buds turn into such vivid blue (peacock blue) and purple. They have daily TLC and thank you again very much.

As 2012 dawned and the realisation that I would be 100 years old was not feasible, it was not me, but some other person. I wanted to 'clear out'. "You can't do that" everyone said and all seemed to be more excited than me and were on a countdown since I was 90. So from years of counting it got to months, weeks, days, sleeps until it all became very bewildering and traumatic. Then to coin a phrase everyone seemed to want to get in the act. It is not very often one knows someone of that vintage, it's a one-off thing and so it all went on and friends were phoning, TV stations, radio stations, the newspaper and so it seemed to go on. In the end I did not seem to do anything.

(continued page 4)

I really find it difficult to start and tell you what to expect when or before you turn 100.

Firstly a friend wanted a copy of my Birth Certificate, why? I can't tell you where just get it copied and give it to her.

Prior to November 10th I went with a group of East Fremantle Seniors to the Crown Casino where we had an excellent lunch at the Carvery. During lunch two well dressed gentlemen and four young ladies (staff) came and sang Happy Birthday and gave me a bunch of flowers so heavy that I could not carry them, so they took care of them until we left the casino.

Also during lunch I was presented with a small floral arrangement, chocolates and a cake to take away. At the departure point I gathered my flowers and two more men in the Italian suits wished me well and gave me a bottle of Bollings beautifully wrapped—and as yet not opened.

During the week I received a beautiful photo of Her Majesty wearing a blue dress with the Aussie Flag in the background with a gum tree plus a note saying she had the photo taken for Aussie Citizens. Was it only for the 100 year olds? I wonder, if so you RCOA had better smarten up.

There was a photo of the Governor General and her husband at Government House. Also letters from the following:

- \* Premier WA—not impressed
- \* Governor WA, McCusker included wife
- \* Leader of the Opposition WA—impressed (health & happiness for the year ahead)
- \* Melissa Parker, Federal Labor Member for Fremantle—addressed me as dear Kathleen, not sure about that, everyone else said Miss Murray
- \* Simon O'Brien, Member for South Metro Region—vv impressed with wording, very original
- \* Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Community Services etc—signed by her with a footnote "Bless you on your very special day, Robyn" - impressed

On November 10th it was my day and I invited those friends who have been 'family' all my life to lunch. Quiet evening.

The next day a friend and her daughter gave me an afternoon at the daughter's home. The grandmother had been my school friend in Mosman Park and it was now three generations of friendship.

My nephew and his friend came from Melbourne for the weekend, also my cousin from Wagga Wagga and one of my typists who was 16 years old in her first job when I was TIC at Treasury in the ACT (year dot) and Harry from ACT of course.

It was all a very busy time with the TV stations, newspapers, radio station and the camera men. A Librarian came to do research into local history for the Fremantle Library. I felt I did not qualify for this as I had lived most of my life in Mosman Park which when I started Primary School the suburb was known as Cottesloe Beach (silly confusing name for Perth City people wanting to go to the beach). Still, in my school days it became Buckland Hill and then Mosman Park. A copy of this interview with the Fremantle Librarian was sent to the Cottesloe Library. Overall I think it just amounted to a hundred years of living.

At first I was not very impressed with all the fuss and other people seemed to be getting quite a 'kick' of having a 100 year old friend. Telling strangers, I felt like a freak.

I know I am lucky to get around the way I do, still driving which I enjoy (and get an occasional ticket for speeding). When I see people in the shopping centre with frames, sticks or in a wheelchair I'm very grateful to have my fathers genes.

Since concluding the above I have had the annual driving test, stopped for speeding during the test. Has a car accident making a right hand turn, my fault. Much damage to my car, very little to the other. Probably get a demerit and a heavy fine. Never a dull moment!

Happier note the beautiful orchids are still very lovely, thank you again.

Kaye

## *RCOA Current Members 2013*

ALLUM Viviane & John	HARDMAN Len & Valma	REGIONAL DIRECTOR	(F)
ANDERSON Jim & Norma	HEAVEY Margaret	ROBERTS Chris & Sue	
ARMSTRONG Susan & John DANIELS	HERON Les & Moira	ROSS Ian	
BAIRD Jim & Dianne	HOGG Alan	ROWSE Elaine	
BALES Ruby	HOPKINS Neil & Sue	SCHMIDT Kay & Roger	
BARNETT Jo	HOROOCKS Darrol & Joan	SHAW Alex & Sylvia	(L)
BARTROP Greg & Helen	HUBBARD Jacky & Paul	SHEPHERDSON Kevin & Sheila	
BECK Ron & Maureen	HUNTER Jim & Carol MOREY	SIMS Sandra & Alex	
BELL Phil & Pook	JARDINE Karen & Ian JAMIESON	SMALLWOOD Steve & Jenny	
BISSAKER Bryan & Pat	JARVIS Ron & Margaret	SMART Trevor & Eleanor	(L)
BLACK Lance & Nita	JOHNSON Darrell & Patricia	(L) SMITH Dorothy	
BLACKALL Ross & Wendy	JOHNSON Joy	SMITH Ken & Phyllis	
BOYLAN Shaun & Roslyn	JOST Brian & Elva	SMITHER Geoff & Helen	
BURDGE Phil & Jeannette	KELLY Valmai	SODING Mike & Pamela	
BYRNE Gary & Karen HAWLEY	KING Ron & Judy	(L) SORENSEN John & Colleen	
CHESCOE John & Tessa	KINSELLA John & Juliet	SPENCER Rod & Denise	
COLEMAN Richard & Marjorie DECAUX	KIRSOPP George & Paula	STEWART Ken	
CORNISH Christine & Graeme	KNIGHT Betty	STITT John	
CORNISH Christopher & Astrid NORGDARD	KOCH Derek	STONE Bob & Robyn	
CROWE Elsie	LAMERS Hedda	STOREY Ian & Julia	
CRUTTENDEN Graham & Ruth CHIPMAN	LITHERLAND Lance & Lana	SULLIVAN Beatrice	
CUSTOMS SOCIAL CLUB	LOWE Brian & Marie GLOVER	SWEET Roly & Sue	
DALE Wayne & Lyn	(F) MARKS John & Sue	TAZEWELL Harry	(F)
DALTON Bob & Angela	MARSHALL Gordon & Rosemary	THOMAS Geraldine	
DANKS Bob & Margaret	MARTIN Bob & Sue	THUNDER Geoff & Rose	
DANKS Morris & Barbara	MCCUBBIN Tony & Kerry	TOY Mary	(L)
DAVIES Terry & Emma	(F) MCDONALD Ian & Shirley	TREEN Ray	
DE GRUCHY Ron & Jean	MENNER Frank & June	VENTHAM Arthur & Marian	
DETERMES Bert	METCALF Michael & Robyn	WRIGHT John & Lynne	
DYER Ron	MIFFLIN Leanne	WALES Rob & Jennifer STOKES	
EARNSHAW Jack & Stella	MITCHELL Wayne & Melody	WALKER Bill & Pat	
ELEY Jack & Jess	MORAN Frank & Maureen	WARD Brian & Kathleen	
EMERSON Terry & Norma	MURPHY Paul & Pauline	WATSON Gus & Carol	
FLYNN Mike & Renee	MURRAY Kaye	WEBB Bernie & Hazel	(L)
FORREST Ian & Lorraine	NEEDHAM Trevor & Carol	(L) WEIGHTMAN Melvyn	
FOSTER Frances	OLSEN Ivan & Kate	WESTLEY Vern	(L)
FRANETOVICH Sue	O'NEILL Jim & Bridie	WHITESIDE Dennis & Lin	
GATES Warrick & Ros	O'NEILL Mary	WILLIAMS Charlie & Norma	
GAUSDEN Philip & Tina	PAGE Yvonne	WILLS Pat	(L)
GERREYN Max & Sherren	PARKER George & Judith	WOLSKI Geoff & Robyn	
GREENWOOD Con	PERRIN Percy & Beverley		
HALL Alan	PIKE Pat & Lavinia		
HALL Jan	REGALI Vic & Sue ABBEY		

# Puzzle Page

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

January  
Sudoku  
Answer  
←

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

February Sudoku ↑

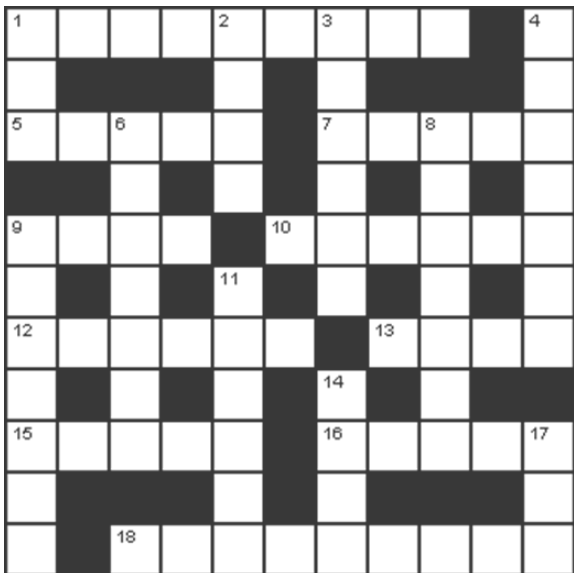
Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square



← **February 9-Letter Word**  
How many words can you make from the letters in the wheel? Each word must contain the hub letter R.  
Can you find a 9-letter word and at least 20 other words of four letters or more avoiding proper nouns?

**January 9-letter word - BEAUTIFUL**

Some other words of five letters or more containing the hub letter C:  
abet, able, abut, bail, bait, bale, bate, beat, beau, belt, beta, bile, bite, blae (Scot), blue, flab, flub, tabi, tuba, tube, beaut, benefit, bleat, built, fable, table, tubal, albeit, albite, fibula, tubful, tubule



## February Quick Crossword

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oily or greasy (9)</li> <li>5. Bet (5)</li> <li>7. Young eel (5)</li> <li>9. Land measure (4)</li> <li>10. Sultry (6)</li> <li>12. Dairy product (6)</li> <li>13. Hex (4)</li> <li>15. Crowd scene actor (5)</li> <li>16. Hidden drawback (5)</li> <li>18. Accumulated (9)</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cutting tool (3)</li> <li>2. Remedy (4)</li> <li>3. Wildcat (6)</li> <li>4. Contradiction in terms (7)</li> <li>6. Article of clothing (7)</li> <li>8. Findings of a jury (7)</li> <li>9. Of times long past (7)</li> <li>11. Attack (6)</li> <li>14. Dull pain (4)</li> <li>17. Concealed (3)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

# BIRTHDAYS

## March

Bob DANKS	4
Geoff THUNDER	5
Pat PIKE	7
Bryan BISSAKER	8
Alex SHAW	9
Warrick GATES	13
Robyn WOLSKI	13
John WAIGHT	21
Patricia JOHNSON	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
Ray TREEN	13
Robyn STONE	14
Juliet KINSELLA	16
Ian FORREST	18
Lorraine FORREST	19
Marie GLOVER	24
Alan HALL	25
Sue MARKS	29

## MAY

Ruby BALES	1
Lavinia PIKE	2
Neil HOPKINS	3
Beatrice SULLIVAN	5
Ros GATES	9
Julia STOREY	10
Mike FLYNN	11
Bob MARTIN	12
Graham CRUTTENDEN	13
Viviane ALLUM	20
Emma DAVIES	20
Carol NEEDHAM	22
Pat WILLS	24
Melody MITCHELL	26



# WEDDING ANNIVERSARY'S

## March

Darrol & Joan HORROCKS	8
Geoff & Robyn WOLSKI	18
Lance & Nita BLACK	27
Jim HUNTER & Carol MOREY	27

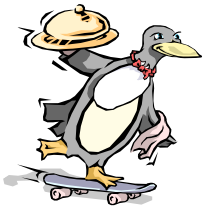
## April

Dennis & Lin WHITESIDE	1
Geoff & Helen SMITHER	4
John & Juliet KINSELLA	19
Bob & Robyn STONE	20
Rob WALES & Jennifer STOKES	21
Jack & Jess ELEY	27
Michael & Robyn METCALF	27

## May

Jim & Norma ANDERSON	2
Ros & Wendy BLACKALL	3
Paul & Pauline MURPHY	11
Bryan & Pat BISSAKER	24
Terry & Emma DAVIES	25
Susan ARMSTRONG & John DANIELS	31





## Events Page

### Dinner @ TAFE Fremantle

15 Grosvenor Road  
BEACONSFIELD

[Date to be confirmed]

Congregate at 6:30pm  
(for pre-dinner drinks)

Dinner at 7pm — Sit down meal

Cost: \$25.00pp

Licensed - pay for own drinks as you order

Maximum 20 people, please get in early to reserve  
your seat

Bookings for dinner to be made before [Date] please



For all bookings (unless stated otherwise) please contact  
Hazel Webb, 78 Arundel Drive, WELLARD 6170

 9439 2268  0409 105 101 or email  
(See RCOA - Functions Booking Slip - page 9)



## AUSTRALIAN TRIVIA—HISTORY & SCIENCE

1. How many ships were in the First Fleet?
2. What year did Cyclone Tracy hit Darwin?
3. Who invented the bionic ear?
4. Where was Ned Kelly's last stand?
5. Who was Australia's first Aboriginal Senator?
6. What date did "new" parliament house open?
7. Which Australian promised to "Go all the way with LBJ"?
8. In what year was gold first discovered in Victoria and NSW to begin the "Gold Rush"?
9. Which Australian won a Nobel Prize for immune defence research?
10. In what year was decimal currency introduced?

**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    /    /2013	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
				X X	
				X	
				X	
<b>Signature &amp; Date</b>	/ / 2013			Total amount enclosed	\$

Office use only:	Rec'd    /    /2013	EFT	Cash	AMO	Cheque	No:	Trans #
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## Last but not Least

⇒ Those of you who receive this by email will be advised by the Treasurer of your financial status.




Retired Customs Officers'  
Association of WA inc.




### REDGUM RURAL SERVICES

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

**Bernie Webb**

 (08) 9439 2268

 0419 903 218

### *RW Sales*

*For your quality Japanese manufactured pruning saws and secateurs*

- † High quality carbon tool steel
- † Hard chrome plated rust proof finish
- † Super sharp cutting edge
- † Impulse hardening teeth, (lasts three times longer than conventional teeth)
- † Comfortable ergonomic hand grip
- † Light weight, ergonomic non slip grip
- † various sizes and styles

*Ideal for the professional or home gardener*

*Contact Ross Blackall*

*Mobile 0418 162 493 Home 08 9259 1268*



RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'  
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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