

# DUTY FREED

Official Newsletter of the



RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'  
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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

February 2018

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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 117

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.

## Planned Events 2018

- \* March 7th Lunch @ Challenger TAFE, Beaconsfield
- \* March 9th Motor Museum of WA, Whiteman Park
- \* April 24th Caversham Wildlife Park
- \* May 18th Baldivis Motor Museum

## READING

is to the

# MIND

what

exercise

is to the **BODY.**

Sir Richard Steele



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## Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Iris Bar & Restaurant, Jandakot on Tues February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

In absence of President & Vice-President Secretary Hazel Webb declared the meeting open at 11:35 am and welcomed those attending.

**Members present:** Ken Atkins, Gary Byrne, Dennis Cleverly, Kerry Coleman, Elsie Crowe, Jo Divine, Roly Dixon, Renee Flynn, Fran Foster, Brian & Sue Green, Deb Hall, Neil Hopkins, Ian Jamieson, Karen Jardine, Ron King, Karen Sayers, Mark Skeels, Steve Smallwood, Eleanor & Trevor Smart, Geoff Smither, Val Snedden, Ray Treen, Bernie & Hazel Webb

**Apologies:** Shaun Boylan, Lance Black, Richard Coleman, Peter Constantino, Ron & Wendy Dyer, Jan Hall, Judy & Ron King, Wayne Mitchell, Bev Perrin, Sylvia Shaw, Jennifer Stokes, Bob & Robyn Stone, Julia Storey, Mary Toy, Rob Wales, Brian & Kathleen Ward

**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 and were accepted as correct.  
The accounts have been Audited. *Accepted and agreed by all in attendance*

**Entertainment Report:** We seem to hold most of our events South of the river merely by default more than design. In the past we organised outings north of the river but attendance was very low. If someone knows of a fantastic place to visit let us know, we are approachable to new ideas.

**AGM 2017** - 26 attended the meeting & lunch The Iris Bar & Restaurant  
**March** – 11 members enjoyed a breakfast at The Strand, Byford  
**April** - 23 enjoyed being entertained by Bruce Zlim with Bush Poetry in Wellard  
**Aug** – 9 members enjoyed Lunch at The Strand, Byford  
**Sept** – 7 members had lunch at Sharky's in Mandurah  
**Oct** – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at Kwinana Golf Club attended by 38  
**December** – 24 in total celebrated a Christmas lunch at the Iris Bar & Restaurant

### President's Report:

The highlight of the year that was, was our 40th Birthday celebration, and opportune that it was the Kwinana Golf Club. Elsie Crowe moved to Kwinana with her husband when a new Customs Office was opened there. A new golf course was so inviting to Elsie that the first Ladies Championship Honour Board bears her name. Elsie spoke for a few minutes during which we learnt of her successes in sport and, in International Tennis. Elsie's advice to we elders is: Get up, Dress Up and Show Up. The 40th initially attracted over 40 members and some from afar: Mal & Ruth Cruttenden from Melbourne, Graham Cruttenden & partner Ruth from Canberra. Sadly we lost 'Customs' and with it the Customs Social Club. Some of the Social Club's catering equipment fell into our hands. Many items of memorabilia went to Canberra. Of the few pieces that remained Lee Miles has endeavoured to have them archived, to no avail. Some items are and will be displayed on our Members' Only website. Lee, thanks for your interest and efforts.

Over our last 40 years we have progressed from a Gestetner Newsletter laboriously put together by Alec Shaw and helpers to a computer generated and distributed Newsletter. And now Facebook! Originated by Mark Skeels (the 4WD adventurer) and being updated by a new band of members. Social activities kept us out and about. Mark and his cohorts travelled to all part of Australia, some of us to more sedate surroundings and dining tables. To those of you who wish to spend time further afield, Alan Hall extends an invitation to visit his property in Tuscany. Bruce Zilm, a Bush Poet, made for wonderful entertainment at Bernie and Hazel's. So it has been a good year and good because of the persistent efforts of Hazel and Bernie, with a dutiful supporting Committee. Our future looks bright with some new blood in the camp. Thanks to you all for keeping the organisation alive.

*Ron King, President*

**Election of Office Bearers:** Steve Smallwood 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: Dennis Cleverly, Roly Dixon, Neil Hopkins, Ian Jamieson,
Vice President	Ray Treen	Karen Jardine, Mark Skeels, Bob Stone
Secretary	Hazel Webb	Duty Freed Editor: Hazel Webb
Treasurer	Bernie Webb	

### General Business: Nil

With no further business, Hazel thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11:45 am

The next Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at The Iris Bar & Restaurant

The next committee meeting is 11:00 am Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 78 Arundel Drive, Wellard.

## Statement of Receipts & Expenditure Year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

### INCOME

Functions	2,178.00
Subscriptions	1,140.00
Donations (incl Customs Social Club)	829.90
Credit – Functions - Lunch AGM 2018	0.00
Miscellaneous - Promotional Items & Service Fee	333.25
Interest	23.34
Total Income	\$4,504.49

### EXPENDITURE

Functions	2,231.20
Postage	100.00
Administration (General)	58.80
Promotional Merchandise	639.10
Miscellaneous (Transfer & Service Fee)	1,045.00
Total Expenditure	\$4,074.10

Excess Income over Expenditure	\$430.39
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### BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank Balance 01/01/2017	1,506.77
Deposits	4,504.49
	\$6,011.26
Withdrawals	-4,074.10
Bank Balance 31/12/2017	\$1,937.16

### LIABILITIES

Liabilities (Subs 2018 –2022)	1,270.00
Liabilities (Functions 2018)	0.00
Liabilities (Miscellaneous 2018)	0.00
	\$1,270.00

Net Credit	\$667.16
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### Investment Account

Balance at 31/12/2014	\$5,000.00
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## News Of Members

In December I met with Gordon Ewers - a past Senior Asst. Collector who retired in 1975. Gordon was a very popular figure in Customs and will be remembered by many (old) Customs Officers. He turns 102 on 2nd February 2018, yet you wouldn't guess that he is that age - he is quite mobile (only stopped playing golf 4 years ago). Gordon lives in a retirement village (his wife passed away a few years ago) in Madeley, and still looks after himself (cooking etc.). He suffered a minor Stroke a few weeks ago, and, as a consequence, has now decided to stop driving his car !! When he has any spare time, Gordon is happy writing Poetry and/or short articles on his life in the workforce - he has a folder bursting at the seams with a series of such articles. Note, he doesn't own a computer - a friend does the typing.. I was able to borrow 2 short pieces and have attached them for your perusal - if possible, you might consider including them in the next edition of Duty Freed ? (Editors note: They have been posted on our website for perusal if interested under Gallery). Seeing Gordon at the age of 101, and being as alert as if he was 40 years younger, does give one a sense of hope that, one day, we might also get to enjoy the fruits of long life.

Keep up the Good Work.

Ron de Gruchy

PS I realise that not everyone will know what I.N.S.P.E.C.T. is/was



### Lunch @ Challenger TAFE

15 Grosvenor Road, BEACONSFIELD

Wednesday March 7th

Congregate at 11:30am (for pre-lunch drinks)

Lunch at 12 noon

Cost: \$25pp (Concession \$23pp) includes Tea/Coffee

Licensed - pay for own drinks as you order

Booked for 20 people only please get in early to reserve your seat

Bookings & payment for lunch to be made before Thurs March 1st please

For more information refer to our website [www.rcoa.org.au](http://www.rcoa.org.au)



#### Entrée Selection - Choice of:

Duck Liver Parfait, Ginger Jelly, Crisps Breads. (GFO)

Char Grilled Squid, Chorizo, White Bean Puree and Herb Salad. (GF)

Warm Beetroot Tart with Whipped Goats Cheese and Fresh Rocket. (V)

#### Main Course - Choice of:

Grilled Fillet of Chicken with Soft Polenta, Roast Tomatoes and Basil Pesto. (GF)

Braised Pork Cheeks, Carrot Puree, Brussel Sprouts and Red Wine Emulsion. (GF)

Ratatouille Pie, Caprese Salad. (V)

#### Dessert—Choice of:

Fresh Fruit Selection with Basil and Lemon Sorbet. (V, GF, VG)

“Ile Flottante” Poached Meringue, Grand Marnier Anglaise, Macerated Strawberries,  
Almond Praline. (V, GF)

White Chocolate Crème Brulee with Yoghurt Ice Cream and Coconut Tuile. (V, GF)



# Motor Museum of WA | Whiteman Park

Friday March 9th 2018 meet 10am



Address: Whiteman Park, 99 A Lord Street (Entry also from Beechboro Road), Whiteman WA

Open daily 10am—4pm

**Entrance Fees:** Adults \$10, Child/Concession \$7, Family Pass \$25 (**Pay on arrival.**)

Souvenirs are available from the Museum shop includes videos, model cars, postcards, books, badges & key rings. For more info go to [www.motormuseumofwa.asn.au](http://www.motormuseumofwa.asn.au)

Café is open 10am—3:30pm for meals

BBQ & Picnic areas are available if prefer, you can BYO or buy a BBQ pack from the Café

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## Caversham Wildlife Park

Tuesday April 24th 2018 meet 10am



Address: Whiteman Park, 99 A Lord Street (Entry also from Beechboro Road), Whiteman WA

Open daily 10am—5:30pm

**Admission Price** includes all attractions, animal feed and photo opportunities. (**Pay on arrival.**)

Adult \$29, Child \$13 (3 years to 14 years)

Student \$22 (Western Australian in-date Student Card must be presented to receive concession rate)

Aged Pension \$22 (WA in-date Aged Pension Card must be presented to receive concession rate)

For more info go to [www.cavershamwildlife.com.au](http://www.cavershamwildlife.com.au)

# West Coast Motor Museum, Baldivis

Friday May 18th 2018 meet 10am

Address: 227 Woodland Parade, Stake Hill



Open by Appointment only

Entrance Fees—Not Known

Lunch afterwards at Vernon Arms Tavern, 1441 Mandurah Road, Baldivis pay as you order

## Celebrating 40 years

2017 saw the RCOA turning 40 years old and we celebrated the event last year.

We have stubby holder and pen sets available for the low, low price of \$10.00 and Coasters \$5.00 each (plus postage for those that require it). How could you not have these added to your collection?

Please contact Hazel to place your order with postal address if being posted and find out how much you need to pay. Details are on our website along with an order form.

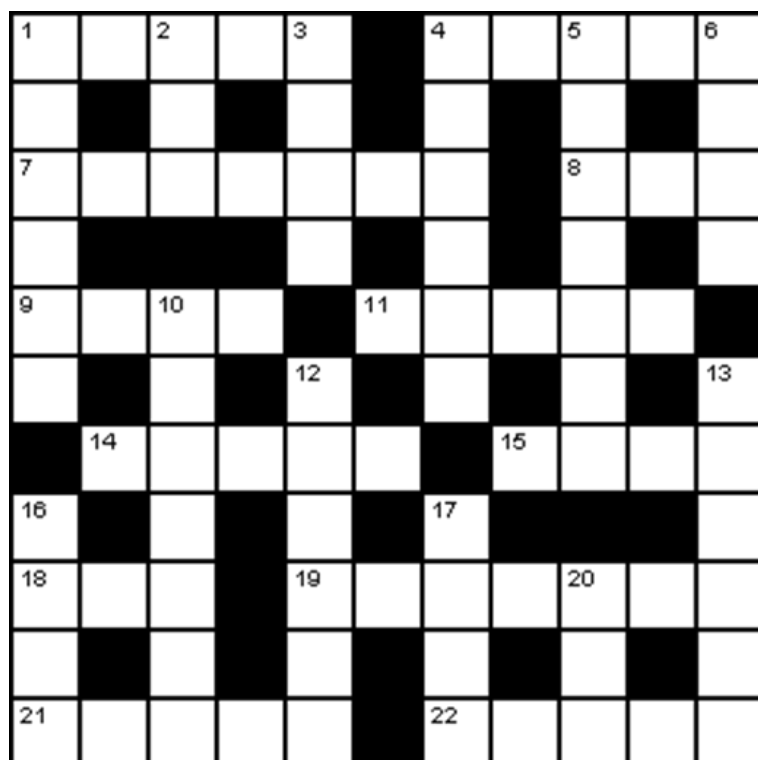
The money can be paid direct to our bank account, details on page 9.

We will have them at upcoming events to collect if prefer.



## Puzzle Page

### Quick Crossword



#### Across

1. Comical (5)
4. One of the senses (5)
7. Freedom (7)
8. Regret (3)
9. Woodwind instrument (4)
11. Ire (5)
14. Valuable item (5)
15. Singing voice (4)
18. Large antelope (3)
19. Greed (7)
21. Force out (5)
22. Compare (5)

#### Down

1. Bird of prey (6)
2. Seize suddenly (3)
3. Tall story (4)
4. Attempting (6)
5. Dreamlike (7)
6. Level (4)
10. Vague (7)
12. Leave (6)
13. Forward-looking (6)
16. Monster (4)
17. Shopping precinct (4)
20. Writing fluid (3)

**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

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



# BIRTHDAYS

## March

Bob DANKS	4	Marjorie DECAUX
Geoff THUNDER	5	Amanda BOTT
Ted Elliott	6	Geoff Calkin
Ron Saker	13	Maureen BECK
Robyn WOLSKI	13	Jim HUNTER
Warrick GATES	13	Jean DE GRUCHY
Sue Green	21	Colin Hardman
John WAIGHT	21	Denise Spencer
Malcolm Plant	22	Ray Treen
Patricia JOHNSON	25	Robyn STONE
Kerry COLEMAN	26	Juliet KINSELLA
Darrol Horrocks	27	Derek KOCH
Kathleen WARD	27	Ian FORREST
Maira HERON	27	Lorraine FORREST
Rod Spencer	27	Linda GIBSON
		Marie GLOVER
		Alan HALL

## April

1	Narelle WALSH	2
2	Neil HOPKINS	3
3	Ros GATES	9
4	Julia Storey	10
5	Bob Martin	12
7	Vicki Elliott	13
8	Graham CRUTTENDEN	13
9	Peter COSTANTINO	19
13	Emma DAVIES	20
14	Les Preedy	21
16	Jennie Lewis	22
18	Can Greenwood	25
18	Melody Mitchell	26
19	Colleen SORENSEN	27
22	Dennis Whiteside	27
24	Paul HUBBARD	28
25	Frances FOSTER	28
	Greg KITNEY	31



# WEDDING ANNIVERSARY'S



## March

Bob & Chris DOUGLAS	2
Peter COSTANTINO & Narelle	5
Darrol & Joan Horrocks	8
Sue & Brian Green	15
Geoff & Robyn WOLSKI	18
Lance & Nita Black	27
Jim HUNTER & Carol MOREY	27

## April

Dennis & Lin Whiteside	1
Geoff & Helen Smither	4
Marie & Peter Alexander	6
John & Juliet KINSELLA	19
Bob & Robyn STONE	20
Rob Wales & Jennifer STOKES	21
Tim & Sheryl Pilkington	22
Jack & Jess ELEY	27

## May

Ross & Wendy BLACKALL	3
Terry & Emma DAVIES	25



**Sending Money** - be it for membership renewal or for an upcoming function - remember that you can send electronically to the 'RCOA of WA' Account at the Bendigo Bank - BSB 633-000 - A/c No. 160404489

## 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.				
ICE:	Please insert 'Who' & 'How' to contact <b>In Case of Emergency</b> .				

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 DOB:		Partner DOB:		Wedding date:	
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Membership \$10 per year	Joint or Single <input type="checkbox"/>	x No. Years <input type="text"/>	= \$ <input type="text"/>	
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Send Newsletter by post <input type="checkbox"/>	and / or e-mail <input type="checkbox"/>	Signature & Date	/ / 2018
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☐ Tick here only if receipt required

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

Office Use Only:	Rec'd / / 2018	EFT <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> AMO <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque <input type="checkbox"/> No.	Trans' No(s).
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## RCOA - Functions Booking Slip

Names Attending:

Function:	Venue:	Date:	No.		\$ p/p	Subtotal \$
TAFE Lunch	Quinlan's Training Restaurant	7/March/2018	<input type="text"/>	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
			<input type="text"/>	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
			<input type="text"/>	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Signature & Date:  / / 2018

Total Amount Enclosed \$

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

Office Use Only:	Rec'd / / 2018	EFT <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> AMO <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque <input type="checkbox"/> No.	Trans' No(s).
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This page as well as all copies of 'Duty Freed' from the past 13 years are available to download as PDF files from our website:-

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

## January Puzzle Answers

Z	E	R	O		B	A	R	R	E	L	*
I		A		C		I		A		I	
P	A	D	L	O	C	K		D	A	M	
		A		B		I		I		I	
C	U	R	T		A	D	R	I	F	T	
A				C		O				E	
J	A	R	G	O	N		A	V	I	D	
O		E		R		A		I			
L	O	G			N	A	T	I	O	N	S
E		A			E		E		L		U
D	O	L	L	A	R		M	A	Z	E	



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

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

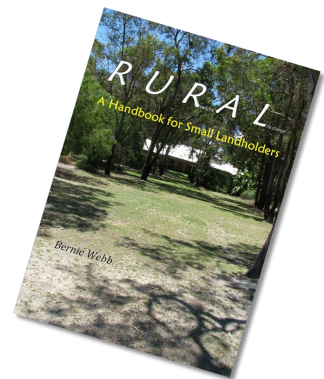
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Special Price to RCOA Members  
**\$20**

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RETIRED CUSTOMS OFFICERS'  
ASSOCIATION

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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