

ISSUE  
4/2013

# Custodes

SUMMER  
2013-14

*In this edition ...*

- 2 RVAHJ Contacts
- 3 From the President's Desk
- 3 From the Editor
- 4 AGM Notice & Membership
- 5 Conference Opening
- 6 New Members
- 7 The 100 Club
- 8 Mayoral Thanks
- 9 Around the Branches
- 10 & 11 Justices' Conference
- 12 Benalla Branch
- 13 Detectives on Display
- 14 Quarter sessions
- 15 & 16 Merchandise
- 17 Ministerial Updates
- 19 Hazards of being a JP
- 20 RVAHJ Branch Network

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF ...

THE ROYAL VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION  
OF HONORARY JUSTICES



The Justices' Conference for 2013 kicks off when The Honourable Robert Clark, Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations, opened the event with an update of where the government is with improvements for honorary justices.





## CHIEF PATRON

His Excellency the Honourable  
Alex Chernov AO, QC  
Governor of Victoria

## PATRON

The Rt Hon Cr Robert Doyle  
Lord Mayor of Melbourne

Postal Address: ... PO Box 317, Elwood, 3184

Address: ..... 53 Broadway, Elwood, 3184

Telephone: ..... (03) 9525 7099

Facsimile: ..... (03) 9525 7765

Email: ..... admin@rvahj.org.au

website: ..... www.rvahj.org.au

## PRESIDENT

Glenda Frost JP ..... 0409 719 279 ..... pres@rvahj.org.au

## VICE PRESIDENT

Norman Wittingslow JP ..... 0413 888 688 ..... jp10236@rvahj.org.au

## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Linda Rainsford ..... 0418 333 568 ..... ipp@rvahj.org.au

## COMPANY SECRETARY

Michael Tse JP ..... 0403 732 185 ..... sec@rvahj.org.au

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Geoff Legge ..... 0407 303 205 ..... jp11249@rvahj.org.au

## DIRECTORS

Michael Cheshire JP ..... 0418 500 680 ..... jp33@bigpond.com

Ben Louis JP ..... 0423 284 704 ..... jp12550@rvahj.org.au

Terry McKay JP ..... 0417 306 416 ..... jp10904@rvahj.org.au

Paul Mracek JP ..... 0418 885 122 ..... jp11268@rvahj.org.au

Garry Runge JP ..... 0400 335 251 ..... garryrunge@bigpond.com

Rhonda Smith JP ..... 0408 317 872 ..... jp12830@rvahj.org.au

John Wellington JP ..... 0408 378 665 ..... jp10313@rvahj.org.au

## AUDITOR

Anderson & Associates

## ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Cathy Owens JP ..... (03) 9525 7099 ..... admin@rvahj.org.au

## COMMITTEES

Membership ..... members@rvahj.org.au

Merchandise ..... goodies@rvahj.org.au

Rosters ..... rosters@rvahj.org.au

Training ..... training@rvahj.org.au

## CUSTODES EDITOR

Michael Cheshire JP ..... 0418 500 680 ..... custodes@rvahj.org.au



## CHRISTMAS CHEER

The office will close on Friday, 20 December 2013 and re-open on Thursday, 16 January 2014.

If you need assistance with procedural matters whilst the office is closed, please contact one of the Directors as listed in this edition of *Custodes*.

The president, directors and staff of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices wishes all a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous 2014.





Dear Members, Fellow Justices,

As I sit and reflect on this year as President of RVAHJ the words of **pride, satisfaction, future**, stand out. Pride for the way I see our Members conducting themselves in the standard of our pledge; Satisfaction on a personal level of achievements that the Board has made in my year; Future is bright in my vision for the RVAHJ as my eyes have been opened to the great work that all Honorary Justices do for the

community, along with the ever increasing support from the Victorian Government and the Attorney-General, Robert Clark who has stated that the legislative changes will be with us early next year.

The Conference in October was very well attended and the feedback has been wonderful. The speakers were extremely knowledgeable and informative and those in attendance gained much. The Department of Justice was represented by Carolyn Gale who stated that the appointment of JP's was still suspended with a backlog, but that those with applications pending will be notified and updated with the progress asked whether or not they still wish to continue with their application etc.

Consideration for priority would be given to those areas where there appears to be a shortage of JP's as notified to the Department.

This year I have had the pleasure of traveling all over Victoria and I thank all those branches for their kind invitations and apologies if I was unable to attend yours. I traveled to Darwin to attend the ACJA conference as a representative of RVAHJ and was amazed at the discrepancies between each state and the roles of Honorary Justices. I would love to see a National Standard for honorary justices but feel, now, that there are just too

many differences state to state/territory. Some states do not even have registered numbers for honorary justices and rely purely on the correct spelling of full names. And in Queensland the training and continued development of Honorary Justices has been handed over to the Associations rather than the Department of Justice. What a good idea.

Whilst the DOJ conducts some training for Honorary Justices, I wish to remind our members that we encourage you to attend the RVAHJ sessions that are conducted by certified trainers and honorary justices with hands on experience, in order to keep you abreast of the changing times and technology. We provide this free to our members along with many other benefits. It is so important that we provide the very best service for the community so that we can demonstrate to the Department that we are not just passionate in our role but very competent as well. eLearning is up and running with good responses.

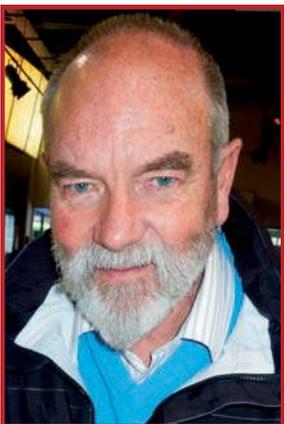
Cathy at our Elwood office has received many claim forms for the "grant" received from the Government not the Department. The Board made this claim in support of the members of RVAHJ and received it as a "gift" and benefit for our members and in no way was it meant as payment for services, but rather as a gesture of goodwill for the acknowledgement that some (not all) honorary justices are out of pocket for service to the community. It is not compulsory to submit a claim. Some of our members have told me that they travel many hours to witness documents and attend meetings. I have also been contacted by non members who feel they are entitled and how do they make a claim; easy, become a member and enjoy the benefits and fellowship that we offer.

Finally on behalf of the Board, I wish to extend season's greetings to all our members and their families and we look forward to a Happy and Prosperous New Year and we will continue to work for the benefit of our members.

*Glenda Frost JP*

President RVAHJ

from the Editor's desk



Fellow Readers

What a busy and fruitful wind-up to the year. Following our Annual Dinner in August, we saddled up for a successful conference in late October.

Thanks to all our presenters who provided good information and thought provoking ideas on a wide range of topics. I have asked those who attended, to provide feedback on the conference and that information will be provided in our next edition. For those who haven't yet done so, I would welcome your comments.

President and I also attended the Australasian Council of Justices' Associations held in Darwin in early October, where, after a few years workshopping a full gambit of what we agree upon, we have moved to an action

plan for 2014. Some 15 justice associations meet now each year to discuss matters of mutual interest and benefit. We have agreed upon many points of harmonisation and agreed support for justice associations by government and we shall now move to communication with Attorneys-General, in all jurisdictions, to find an agreed position on all these important matters. More of that in our next edition.

Until our next edition, I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous 2014.

*Michael*

Michael Cheshire JP  
Editor

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Members for 2014 will be held on Thursday, 29 May 2014 at 7.30 pm at 53 Broadway, Elwood.

The closing date for receipt of Special Resolutions to be placed on the Agenda for this meeting will be 4.00 pm on Friday, 31 January 2014.

## Business

- (1) To confirm the minutes of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 23 May 2013.
- (2) To consider and, if thought fit, adopt the Annual Report of the Board.
- (3) To consider and, if thought fit, adopt the Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended December 31, 2013.
- (4) To appoint an Auditor for the ensuing year.
- (5) To consider any Special Resolutions.

## Proxies

Members may appoint a proxy to act on their behalf at the AGM to attend and to exercise all rights and to discharge all duties, which that Member might have. A proxy must be a member of the Association. Notification, in the approved form, must be received by the Secretary at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the meeting. Proxy forms are available from the office.

Michael Tse JP  
Company Secretary

---

## 2014 MEMBERSHIP INVOICES

A reminder to members that all membership fees become due on January 1 and your invoice for 2014 membership is on the **reverse of the address sheet that accompanied this edition of Custodes**. The membership fee for 2014 is \$54.00.

To reduce our postage and administrative costs, **individual invoices are not sent**.

If you are planning to be away in the new year, we encourage you to send your payment early to avoid having your membership lapse.

*Don't forget,  
if you wish to make a claim for reimbursement  
of travel expenses,  
your membership must be up to date*

How to pay -

We regret that we are unable to take payment over the phone however, a variety of payment methods are available:

### Cheque/Money Order

Make cheques/money orders payable to:  
RVAHJ and post to:

PO Box 317, Elwood, Vic. 3184

### Credit Card

Payments by MasterCard or Visa only will be accepted.

Online - go to our website [www.rvahj.org.au](http://www.rvahj.org.au), click on *Membership* then *Renew* then fill in the details.

By Fax – fill out the credit card section on your invoice and fax to (03) 9525 7765

### Internet Banking

Direct deposits can be made to the following account:

BSB 063-128

Account no. 10331656

Payer Ref: Reg. No./Invoice No

*Please ensure your payer reference clearly identifies **you** as the payer.*

# THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OPENING SPEECH

*The Attorney-General's speech was given  
when opening our 2013 conference*



The Honourable Robert Clark,  
Attorney-General.

It is a pleasure to be here this morning to officially open this conference of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices.

The fact that so many people have travelled to be here so early in the morning from across the state is a demonstration of the enormous commitment you have to your duties.

Whether it is being woken up at 2am as a Bail Justice or the many hours you spend witnessing documents at signing centres as a Justice of the Peace, can I express both my appreciation and the Government's appreciation for all that you do for the community.

## **Document signing centres**

Document signing centres are of course a relatively new development, but all the feedback I am getting is that they are going from strength to strength.

They are greatly appreciated by Victoria Police, as they free up police to do their jobs in better protecting the Victorian community. Victoria Police has expressed its appreciation to the Honorary Justice Office on many occasions for the invaluable work being done in signing centres.

Signing centres are also proving increasingly convenient to members of the public, and as a Justice of the Peace it means you are working in a safe environment and you have support on hand if anything goes astray.

I also understand that the arrangements regarding Births, Deaths and Marriages document witnessing in signing centres are

settling down and are going well.

## **Recruitment and appointments**

There has been a huge response from the community in recent times since applications for appointment as a Justice of the Peace were reopened after they had been put on hold by the previous government.

A large number of applications from across the State are now registered on the books of the Honorary Justice Office. That is why, as you may have noticed from the HJO web site, the HJO has halted general receipt of new applications at this time. The HJO is processing these applications in areas of highest priority, and new applications will be accepted only where there is an identified shortage of JPs.

This is where your feedback can come in and play a valuable role in providing on-the-ground information about areas of need. As you know, particularly with Justices of the Peace, there are significant numbers of people who hold office, but it can be difficult to know how active each of those persons is.

You here today are of course the active ones, but unfortunately a minority of those who have sought appointment have not had the commitment to the job that they should have had, or have lost that commitment and yet still remain on the books. This puts more work on the shoulders of those of you who are active and give hours of service to your role. It also makes it difficult to work out where there is in fact a shortage of people who are actively available,

*Continued on page 6.*

# NEW MEMBERS



The president and board warmly welcome the following new members:

Gary G Allen JP ..... LORNE  
 Russell Allen JP ..... MACLEOD  
 Elisabeth E Barber ..... WEST PRESTON  
 Robert J Broadhurst JP ..... WANGARATTA  
 Jennifer Broughton JP ..... SALE  
 Thomas J Burns JP ..... RINGWOOD EAST  
 Kwai Choi JP ..... MELBOURNE  
 Bernard J Denner JP ..... IRYMPLE  
 Marie A Donahay JP ..... CARRUM  
 Gary W Fitzgerald JP ..... BALLARAT EAST  
 N Mark Gulboyan JP ..... WHEELERS HILL  
 Andrew MJ Harrington ..... HORSHAM  
 Noune Harutyunyan JP ..... IVANHOE  
 Ivan G Hawthorn BEM JP ..... CORIO  
 Daniel Lamanna JP ..... GEELONG EAST

Jill R Lockwood JP ..... FRANKSTON SOUTH  
 Christina Mach JP ..... RINGWOOD  
 Parmod Maharaj JP ..... ROWVILLE  
 Robert L Merlin ..... IRYMPLE  
 Graeme A Millar OAM JP ..... GISBORNE  
 Renae Pitargue JP ..... WEST WODONGA  
 E Anne Reading JP ..... SOMERVILLE  
 Daryl M Smith JP ..... WODONGA  
 Francis W Stuart JP ..... WENDOUREE  
 Kevin W Thatcher JP ..... BROOKFIELD  
 Lee Van Lint JP ..... RYE  
 Gregory M Vaughan APM JP ..... BANNOCKBURN  
 Robert Vermay JP ..... JINDIVICK  
 John White JP ..... BURWOOD  
 Meryl D Whiteside JP ..... TORQUAY

Ω

Continued from page 5.

and where there is not.

So part of the effort of the Honorary Justice Office has been to seek to encourage all JPs to make themselves available, and if they are not available and don't want to be available, to encourage them to step down.

For this reason, one of the aspects of the Honorary Justices Bill that is being developed is to provide for JP's to report periodically every five years or so to indicate whether or not they remain available for active service, so the Honorary Justice Office can get a better idea of who is available and who is not. The Honorary Justice Office has also been giving priority to the recruitment and appointment of Bail Justices, as we all know there is a distinct shortage of Bail Justices in various areas of the state.

The Honorary Justice Office is going flat out processing applications for appointments as Bail Justice, and as many of you would know, they have travelled across many parts of Victoria to recruit people and to meet with local associations.

You will be pleased to know there have been 17 new Bail Justice appointments in just the last

two months, and a total of 55 Bail Justices appointed since September last year.

## Expressions of interest

Going forward, I have asked the Honorary Justice Office to look at the feasibility of moving over from an application-based process to an expressions of interest process for JP appointments, so that people will simply register their interest in being appointed, and then will be contacted by the Honorary Justice Office as and when a need for appointment arises that a person who has registered their interest might be able to meet.

If you are finding at a grass roots level that there are shortages of active JPs, or of Bail Justices, in your area, I would encourage you to let us know so that the Honorary Justice Office can focus on filling that need.

Once again, thank you for inviting me to attend and open your conference this year. The Government appreciates your service to the community, and we look forward to continuing to support and work with you over the years ahead.

Ω

# THE 100 CLUB



Chief Commissioner Ken Lay presents Vishnu Prasad JP with his certificate.



Chief Commissioner Ken Lay presents Robert Bolch JP with his certificate.



Chief Commissioner Ken Lay presents Robert Seiffert OAM JP

As the Foundation Coordinator of the Frankston Police Station Document Signing Centre, working with a group of dedicated colleagues, I have an appreciation of the selfless commitment by team members.

With this in mind, I approached the Senior Officers of Division 4 (South East) Frankston Police Service Area, with a suggestion to set up a program of awarding a suitably framed "Letter of Appreciation" to all JPs in their Division who become members of "THE 100 CLUB."

The criteria for membership of "THE 100 CLUB" is to be restricted to those Justices of the Peace who have attended Document Signing Centres in Division 4 a minimum of 100 times.

Several of our Frankston members attend other Signing Centres within the Division, which takes in all of the Mornington Peninsula; so attendances may be at Carrum Downs, Frankston, Hastings, Mornington or Rosebud Police Station, also from other Signing Centres should more be set up.

The establishment of such an award for commitment to becoming a member of "THE 100 CLUB" holds more value to members because it comes from one of the main beneficiaries of JPs involvement in Police Station

Signing Centres.

This award has an added advantage; in that it not only recognizes members of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices (RVAHJ) but also non-members for some Document Signing Centres welcome their assistance.

Three Frankston Signing Centre JPs Mr. Vishnu Prasad, Mr. Robert Seiffert and Mr. Ian Lyons became the first members of "THE 100 CLUB" from the Frankston Police Station Signing Centre.

Vishnu Prasad JP has been active in his role as JP for many years, having started at Dandenong Signing Centre, he also works at the Cranbourne Signing Centre and I would not be surprised to find he has attended Signing Centres in excess of 300 times.

Robert (Bob) Seiffert OAM JP has been a JP for over 30 years, yet it was only in the last three years that he has run up his 101 visits at Frankston Signing Centre.

Ian Lyons JP ex-Mayor of Mordialloc is an incredibly busy person even in retirement and he has managed to attend Mornington Peninsula Signing Centres 124 times

*Continued on page 8.*

# MAYOR THANKS ROSTER TEAM



Cr. Angela Long, mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong, held a reception to say thank you to the local justices of the peace for their service to the community. Cr Long, on her last day as mayor made the presentations in the presence of president of the RVAHJ Glenda Frost JP and a number of local members of parliament.

Coordinators Margaret Tinschert JP and Joe De Souza JP of Dandenong and Springvale were in attendance and also received their certificates of appreciation.

Dandenong has 35 justices on roster and

Springvale has 18 justices on roster. Both Margaret and Joe are seeking more justices to assist with their rosters.

The Dandenong Roster was initially set up by Pat Mahoney mid-year 2000 and Springvale in February 2009.

This year Dandenong is expected to process at least 120,000 documents and the team at Springvale are on track for 70,000.

Joe de Souza JP  
Springvale Roster Coordinator

Ω

*Continued from page 7.*

Whilst Ian Lyons was unable to attend, Vishnu Prasad and Bob Seiffert received the first "THE 100 CLUB" "Letters of Appreciation" from the Chief Commissioner of Police Ken Lay when he visited the Frankston Police Station on 28 August.

He spoke highly of the voluntary work JPs do and the valuable assistance they give to his members allowing them to be able to concentrate more on policing work in this important community initiative.

Robert Bolch JP who is the Coordinator of the Frankston Police Station Document Signing Centre received the prestigious award of a

Chief Commissioners "Citizen Commendation" for "Conspicuous and exemplary voluntary public service to the community of Frankston and Victoria Police"

This is the highest commendation the Chief Commissioner can award to a member of the public.

Robert has so far performed 788 days of voluntary service since 2005, at the Frankston Police Station Signing Centre and he has personally signed 133,552 documents.

Robert C Bolch JP  
Frankston Police Station  
Signing Centre Coordinator

Ω

# THE TABLES ARE TURNED IN WODONGA



Upper Murray Branch Wodonga turned the tables and took morning tea to their local Police Station. Branch members wanted to say "thanks for the great job" the Police do in and for Wodonga and surrounding community.

Wodonga JP's initially started this document signing service in April 2007 with 2 days, per week for 2 hours each day. That has now grown to 2 hours 5 days a week plus 2 evenings.

Jane Mulloy, Roster Coordinator, reported that since inception over 80,000 documents have been signed and that fourteen JP's man the roster currently signing approximately 1400 documents each month.

Carol Allen JP  
Upper Murray Branch

Ω

---

# MORNINGTON PENINSULA AGM



Left to right: Ben Loois - RVAHJ director, Inspector Jeff Millar, Graham Unwin, Suzanne Phillips & Fay Hunter.

Inspector, Jeff Millar - Commander of Frankston District was at hand to install the office bearers for the ensuing year, at the Mornington Peninsula Branch AGM. Graham Unwin was elected to the position of Chairman, Suzanne Phillips (Vice Chairperson) and Fay Hunter (Secretary/Treasurer).

Inspector Millar also had the duty of presenting Ian Lyons JP with a certificate in recognition of his 100 days of roster at Signing

Centres' on the Mornington Peninsula.

The next meeting of the Mornington Peninsula branch will be held at Frankston Police Headquarters on February 5th, 2014, 7.30pm. JPs & Bail Justices are invited to attend these informative meetings.

Further details from Branch Secretary, Fay on 59761258. from Ian Lyons, Publicity Officer; Mornington Peninsula Branch.

Ω



# Conference 2013



# REPORT FROM THE BENALLA BRANCH



Front row L - R Dave Hunter, Athol Graham, Joy Poole, Gail Banfield, Ian Roscoe. Dave Hunter has recently left Benalla to live at Portarlington. Back row L - R Donal Robinson, John Erickson, Steve London, Des McNulty, Vince Vaccaro.

The Benalla Branch of RVAHJ held their AGM at Benalla Bowls Club on October 30th. We were pleased to have as our guests RVAHJ President Glenda Frost and husband Max, Immediate Past President Linda Rainsford and Guest Speaker Snr. Sgt. Darren McGrillen of Benalla Police.

Eleven members and their partners attended. Unfortunately a lot of apologies (9) were received due to last minute happenings.

We continue to conduct the Signing Centre at the office of local MP Dr. Bill Sykes. He generously provides space and his staff are all most

helpful. Due to electoral boundary changes this could change after the next elections but we're hoping not as it is located in a very convenient position. The new roster system has been well accepted. Just one person attending each Thursday from 10am until 2pm instead of one from 10 to 12:30 and one 12:30 to 3pm. Documents executed over the 12 month period was 267 so we're not rushed off our feet.

A new Chair was elected, as Athol Graham didn't seek re-election. The new Chair is Mr. Jack Harrison. Unfortunately no-one was forthcoming to take my

position though I'd indicated last year someone needed to step forward. Athol and I believe these positions should be shared amongst the members. I do have someone 'thinking' about it!

The Training Day conducted at Wangaratta earlier in the year was very well attended by our Benalla JPs, as you can see by the photo. Everyone agreed it was an excellently conducted day and much benefit gained by all. Thank you to the presenters.

Joy Poole  
Benalla Branch

## DETECTIVES ON DISPLAY



Actor Dan Aykroyd visited the Museum in October, accompanied by Chief Commissioner Ken Lay. After spending time looking round the exhibits and buying some items from the Gift Shop, he declared that the Museum was 'splendid'.

From murder and serious assaults to bank robberies and fraud, detectives solve crimes of all descriptions. An exhibition to highlight the work they do, starts at the Victoria Police Museum in September.

The first Victorian detectives began work as early as 1844. They operated independently of any uniformed police and many were ex-convicts. They wore plain clothes, mingled in the murky underworld, concealed their identities and tried to win the confidence of known criminals.

An exhibition titled *Trouble is my Business: A History of the Victoria Police Detective Force*, looks at the formation and development of the detective within Victoria Police.

Victoria Police Museum public program curator Kate Spinks said despite the many changes to the profession over the years, the core attributes of a detective have not altered.

"Having an exceptional memory, quick comprehension, ability to mix with all walks of life and a determination to get answers have been qualities possessed by those in the job in the 1840s and today.

Tracing the very first time forensic techniques such as blood pattern analysis were used by maverick detectives in the 1920s to the creation of specialist crime squads, the exhibition reveals the details and diversity of work carried out by detectives."

A number of items from real-life crime scenes will also be on display in the exhibition. Some of these include:

- forensic evidence from crimes including bullet fragments removed from a body during an autopsy;

- an identikit from the 1970s that includes hundreds of images of eyes, mouths, chins and hairstyles that were used to create images of suspects. This was completely manual, with detectives carefully piecing together parts of a person's face to get a likeness. Today computer generated graphics are used;
- early crime scene photographs and mug shots from the 1920s and 1930s;
- fingerprinting equipment;
- a detective's notebook detailing an international gold smuggling ring he was investigating.

Ms Spinks encouraged anyone interested in crime-fighting to come along to the exhibition.

"The work of detectives often fascinates people, especially because it has been the subject of many popular novels, films and television shows", she said.

*Trouble is my Business: A History of the Victoria Police Detective Force* will run from Monday, 2 September 2013 until Friday 5 September, 2014 at the Victoria Police Museum, World Trade Centre, 637 Flinders Street, Melbourne (entrance via Siddeley Street).

Source: Editorial Janae Houghton - Police Life

Other current exhibitions: *Crime: It's a Mug's Game* until 24 January 2014.

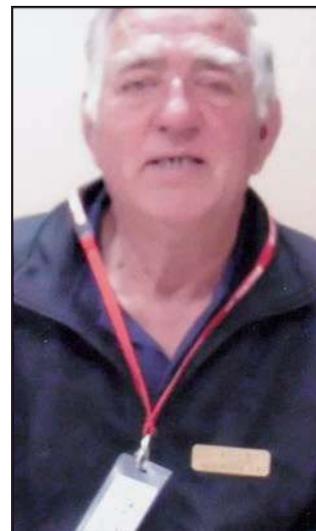
View Melbourne's delinquent citizens through the eyes of the police photographer in an exhibition of 1930's police mug shots from the Victoria Police Museum collection.

### Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 10am - 4pm  
Closed on weekends & public holidays

## Alan Potter

**Position in RVAHJ:** ..... Committee Treasurer  
**Branch:** ..... Central Gippsland  
**Year appointed:** ..... 1994  
**Birthplace:** ..... St Vincent's, North Melbourne  
**Present home town/suburb:** ..... Warragul  
**Wife:** ..... Heather  
**Children:** ..... 2 boys, 5 grandchildren  
**Occupation:** ..... Retired  
**Football team:** ..... Collingwood  
**Like Dog or Cat:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite book:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite film:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite food:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Which 4 people would you invite to dinner:** ..... The wife and friends  
**Hobbies:** ..... None  
**Sport played:** ..... Umpired football & lawn bowls



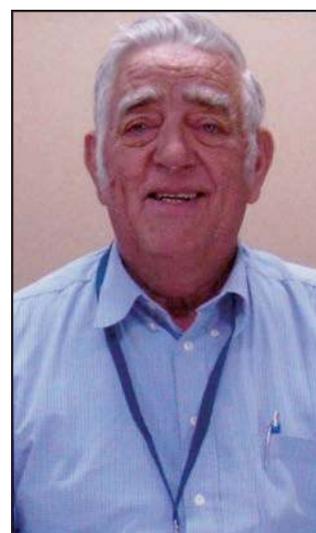
## Bob Kirkland

**Position in RVAHJ:** ..... Training Coordinator  
**Branch:** ..... Central Gippsland  
**Year appointed:** ..... 2004  
**Birthplace:** ..... Melbourne  
**Present home town/suburb:** ..... Warragul  
**Partner:** ..... Laurel  
**Children:** ..... Colin & Anne  
**Occupation:** ..... Retired  
**Football team:** ..... Richmond  
**Like Dog or Cat:** ..... 2 cats  
**Favourite book:** ..... Bryce Courtney books  
**Favourite film:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite food:** ..... Wholesome plain food  
**Which 4 people would you invite to dinner:** ... Quintin Bryce, Kevin Sheedy, Gough Whitlam & Barrack Obama.  
**Hobbies:** ..... Wood turning  
**Sport played:** ..... Football & cricket



## Kevin Potter

**Position in RVAHJ:** ..... Signing Coordinator  
**Branch:** ..... Central Gippsland  
**Year appointed:** ..... 1998  
**Birthplace:** ..... St Vincent's, North Melbourne  
**Present home town/suburb:** ..... Warragul  
**Partner:** ..... Helen  
**Children:** ..... Nil  
**Occupation:** ..... Retired  
**Football team:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Like Dog or Cat:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite book:** ..... \*\*\*  
**Favourite film:** ..... Crack a Jack  
**Favourite food:** ..... Fish & chips  
**Which 4 people would you invite to dinner:** ..... The Seekers  
**Hobbies:** ..... Gardening, mowing lawns  
**Sport played:** ..... Football, lawn bowls



# CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

## Do your loved ones scratch their heads over buying gifts for you ?

Why not choose your own, from our many useful and attractive merchandise items.

Start dropping hints now - only one more Custodes before Christmas!

*(Find our Merchandise Order Form on the reverse of the address sheet)*



**RVAHJ Clock** This go-anywhere clock has easy to read numerals in a polished chrome case with the Association's logo laser engraved.

**RVAHJ Name Badge** Be recognised at meetings and functions wearing our stylish Name Badge. With gold/metallic finish and the logo of the RVAHJ, the magnetic fitting makes it suitable to wear with even delicate fabrics.

**RVAHJ Cards** Make yourself known with these handy "business" cards. Printed on quality card stock with plain finish so you can write on the back!



Royal Victorian Association  
of Honorary Justices

John Citizen  
Justice of the Peace 12345

29 Smith Street  
MELBOURNE 3000  
jp12345@rvahj.org.au

Ph: 03 9555 9999  
Fax: 03 9555 9995  
Mob: 0494 955 599

**RVAHJ Plaque** This shield-shaped wall plaque bears the association's logo, surrounded with gold-coloured oak leaves. With an optional engraved name-plate, it is an elegant display for office or home.



**RVAHJ Lapel badges, Tie Bars & Cufflinks** Proudly display your membership of the association by wearing these tasteful dresswear items. Available with the association logo in gold on either a red or blue background or, limited stocks of our centenary designs



**RVAHJ Ties & Scarves** You'll be well turned out whether you choose our navy and green tie with gold scale motif or our limited-edition gold tie with blue and red stripes. And, for the ladies, our navy polyester square scarf with scale motif, is just the thing to set off an elegant outfit. Stocks of these popular items are currently limited so, order now to avoid disappointment.



# Merchandise Order Form

## Summer 2013/14

PO Box 317, Elwood, Vic. 3184 Ph: (03) 9525 7099

Email: admin@rvahj.org.au Fax: (03) 9525 7765

Item	Cost \$	Qty	Sub-Total
<b>2014 Membership</b> ★	54.00		
<b>Photo ID's</b>			
JP/BJ Wallet with RVAHJ badge	86.00		
Leather ID Holder on cord	27.00		
Tag with Clip (No PFee)	14.25		
Tag with Cord (No PFee)	14.25		
<b>Dresswear</b>			
Name Badge (Magnetic) ◆	26.95		
Lapel Badge <i>Blue</i>	9.95		
Lapel Badge <i>Red</i>	9.95		
Cufflinks <i>Blue</i>	19.95		
Cufflinks <i>Red</i>	19.95		
Cufflinks <i>Centenary</i>	19.95		
Tie Bar <i>Blue</i>	12.95		
Tie Bar <i>Red</i>	12.95		
Tie Bar <i>Centenary</i>	14.95		
Tie - RVAHJ	33.50		
Scarf	10.00		
<b>Stamps – Self Inking</b>			
ID Stamp *	32.70		
ID Stamp with seal *	46.20		
Certified True Copy	38.50		
Cert'd True Copy with ID & seal *	46.20		
Annexure/Exhibits	45.20		
<b>Stamps – Handle</b>			
ID Stamp *	25.95		
ID Stamp with seal *	38.00		
Certified True Copy	25.95		
Cert'd True Copy with ID & seal *	36.50		
Annexure/Exhibits	33.25		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Business Cards ( x 100) ▲	66.00		
Business Cards ( x 200) ▲	99.00		
Clock	19.95		
Plaque (with engraved plate) ♣	79.95		
Oaths Card (No PFee)	3.60		
Window Transfer (No PFee)	4.00		
<b>Processing Fee</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Item - \$8.50		\$	
then \$2.50 each extra item -		\$	
(No PFee items excepted)	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$	

★ 2014 Membership for:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL ORDERS:**

♣ **Plaque (Engraved plate text):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

▲ **Business Cards:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. No/s. \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Mob: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ P/code \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

◆ **Metallic Name Badge (Print as you want name to appear):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\* **Stamps: Notes: Full, legal name (no initials) and a street address (not PO Box) required.**

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First & Middle Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Delivery Details:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Pcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Send Chq/Money Order or Credit Card Details:

MasterCard Visa (Note: Phone payments not accepted).

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
M M Y Y Cardholders signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# DNA INVESTIGATION LAWS STRENGTHENED



Laws on the use of DNA evidence in the investigation and prosecution of serious crimes in Victoria will be strengthened under new legislation.

The Crimes Amendment (Investigation Powers) Bill 2013 will improve the use of DNA evidence by:

- expanding the range of offences for which a DNA sample may be taken from a suspect or offender to include all indictable offences;
- enabling the automatic retention of the DNA profile of any adult suspect subsequently convicted of an indictable offence, or found not guilty by reason

- of mental impairment;
- simplifying procedures for the destruction of DNA samples and profiles where a suspect is found not guilty; and
- establishing rules for the collection, retention and use of elimination samples from police and forensic teams involved in the processing of DNA from suspects, witnesses and crime scenes.

The Bill will also make important changes to simplify the process police must follow when they wish to speak to a suspect who is already in custody in relation to another matter. The changes will allow police to interview a suspect

who is in custody over other, unrelated matters, where the suspect agrees to be interviewed. Currently, police must seek a court order to do so.

Where an offender is convicted, it will be automatic to keep their DNA samples taken as a suspect on file, instead of the police having to apply to the court. This will reduce the administrative burden on police and ensure a permanent record is kept of these DNA profiles.

Source: Office of the Attorney General

Ω

---

# ABOLITION OF SUSPENDED SENTENCES CONTINUES



From 1 September 2013, any crime serious enough to be heard in the County Court or Supreme Court will no longer be eligible for a suspended sentence. This will include crimes such as culpable driving, serious theft and fraud and various drug trafficking offences.

Suspended sentences have already been abolished for offences committed on or after 1 May 2011 and sentenced in the Supreme Court or County Court, including murder, manslaughter, rape and other serious sexual offences, armed

robbery, intentionally or recklessly causing serious injury, aggravated burglary, arson and commercial drug trafficking.

This second stage sees all remaining suspended sentences abolished in the Supreme Court and County Court for offences committed on or after 1 September 2013.

The remaining stage, to commence no later than 1 September 2014, will see suspended sentences abolished in the Magistrates' Court, bringing all suspended sentences to an end.

A suspended sentence is

where an offender is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, but the imprisonment is suspended as long as the offender does not re-offend.

With the abolition of suspended sentences, if a judge thinks an offender should not go to jail in a particular case, the judge will need to say so openly and impose a community correction order or other sentence.

Source: Office of the Attorney General

Ω



**MASTER  
PAINTERS  
AUSTRALIA**

*"painting a brighter future"*

**VICTORIA / TASMANIA**



*"painting a brighter future"*

Address: 399 Camberwell Road, Camberwell Vic 3124

Email: [mail@mpav.com.au](mailto:mail@mpav.com.au)

Tel: (03) 9813 5922

Since its foundation over 100 years ago, Master Painters Australia has functioned as an independent representative for firms and individuals conducting business in the painting, decorating and sign writing trades. We are a non-profit employer association managed by a group of elected directors.

The single most authoritative organisation in its field, the MPA has two principal objectives assisting the interests of its members in a business sense and ensuring that the professional standards of the industry are upheld. The MPA also offers consumers an independent inspection and reporting service for disputes in relation to VCAT.

As the demand by consumers grow for sustainable paints and products, MPA members that have completed the **22002VIC** Sustainable Painting Practice Course will be ready to meet that demand by having qualified operators that will be able to inform potential customers on enviro friendly paint products and accessories.

**We recommend that you employ only members of the industry association.**

## **AN MPA MEMBER WILL**

**Meet strict guidelines and follow a Code of Ethics**

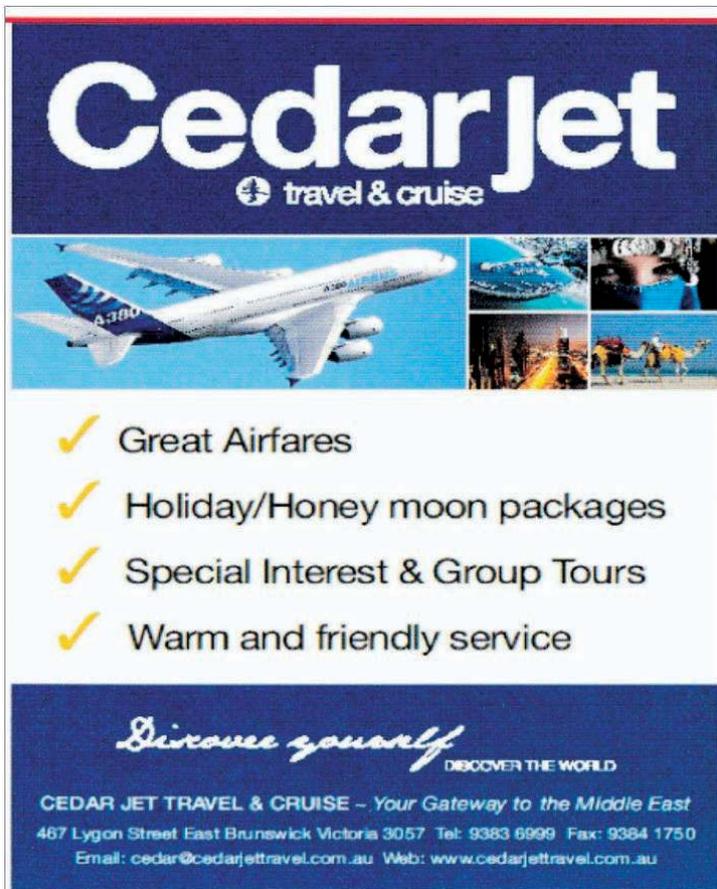
**Have all relevant insurances**

**Provide a written quote**

**Give you a professional painting solution**



**Website: [www.mpav.com.au](http://www.mpav.com.au) FREE REFERRAL SERVICE - 03 9813 5922**



**Cedarjet**  
travel & cruise

- ✓ Great Airfares
- ✓ Holiday/Honey moon packages
- ✓ Special Interest & Group Tours
- ✓ Warm and friendly service

*Discover yourself*  
DISCOVER THE WORLD

CEDAR JET TRAVEL & CRUISE – Your Gateway to the Middle East  
467 Lygon Street East Brunswick Victoria 3057 Tel: 9383 6999 Fax: 9384 1750  
Email: cedar@cedarjettravel.com.au Web: www.cedarjettravel.com.au

## State Trustees would like to say Thanks with a 20% off special offer

State Trustees has been helping Victorians with their financial needs for over 70 years.

We recognise that JPs have played a crucial role in helping State Trustees to achieve this. By way of thanks for your ongoing assistance, we'd like to offer you and your partner **20% off the standard State Trustees price** for a Will and Enduring Power of Attorney (Financial)\*.

Call us today for an appointment to have one of our experienced team prepare your Will to help reflect your wishes.

\*Offer valid until 30 June 2014.



To make your appointment or for more information, call  
**03 9667 6076**  
or visit [statetrustees.com.au](http://statetrustees.com.au)

ABN 68 064 593 148

## THE HAZARDS OF BEING A JP

by Peter Cocks JP



Providing voluntary services at Police Station Signing Centres is an interesting way to meet a wide variety of community members. You meet many interesting and varied people with a big variety of needs. The work is very satisfying being able to help so many people.

The growth in certified copies is quite amazing with people sometimes arriving with up to 100 documents. Sadly a growth area since I began is the number of people swearing affidavits for their divorce. I also chuckle at the number of people who walk in with a blank stat dec saying they were told to get a stat dec signed – “nobody said I had to write anything on it”.

But one thing I never expected to happen was to be the victim of capsicum spray.

At Epping the JPs sit in an office directly off the main reception area. Sitting there one evening I heard a commotion at the watch house counter. A man had run in claiming to

have been assaulted out the front of the Police Station. As an officer went to get help to venture outside the victim took a seat to calm himself. The assailant then burst through the doors and continued the assault.

Two officers then entered the area and decided the best way to separate the brawling blokes was to spray them, which they did.

So here was I sitting securely in the side office, awaiting the next client, when all of a sudden my eyes began to water. Then my throat began to catch. Then I was coughing and spluttering. I had become the victim of overspray coming under the door and through the air-conditioning.

Let me assure you that stuff tastes terrible. I did have an early night and was offered some comfort by the Police – eye wash etc – but just went home and recovered fine, although I have milked the story for quite a while now.

The hazards of being a JP.

Ω

## RVAHJ branch network

### METRO

#### City & Northern

Bob Williams JP  
(B&H) 03 5427 3366

#### Dandenong

Nigel Carter JP  
mapaandus@optusnet.com.au  
(H) 9795 8798

#### Diamond Valley

Cheryl Duff JP  
Cheryl.duff@bigpond.com  
(M) 0417 318 173

#### Glen Waverley

Richard Sluggett JP  
bowls7@optusnet.com.au  
(M) 0403 023 288

#### Maroondah

Brian Ross-Soden  
bdross@optusnet.com.au  
(H) 9874 7793

#### Monash

Helen Gilhorne JP  
monash@rvahj.org.au  
(M) 0401 338 176

#### Mornington Peninsula

Fay Hunter JP  
fayhunter2@bigpond.com.au  
(M) 0427 267 607

#### Sunbury & Districts

Carmel Clemson JP  
Sunbury@rvahj.org.au

#### Westgate

John Boles JP  
aapatrol@optusnet.com.au  
(H) 9311 8931  
(M) 0418 102 701

#### Wyndham

Craig Murray JP  
(M) 0412 185 459

### COUNTRY

#### Ballarat

Bob Coleman JP  
sandbnicholls@bigpond.com  
(H) 03 5332 0975  
(M) 0408 519 500

#### Benalla

Joy Poole JP  
(M) 0405 304 556

#### Bendigo

Helen Yorston JP  
d.d.wright@bigpond.com  
(H) 03 5442 8859

#### Buloke

Garry Larmour JP  
ray\_suewalker@gjr.net.au  
(B&H) 03 5491 1647

#### Central Gippsland

Don Ferguson JP  
donaldferguson@optusnet.com.au  
(B&H) 03 5127 1718

#### Geelong

Alston Park AM JP  
jp12742@rvahj.org.au  
(M) 0418 582 565

#### North East Victoria

Nancye Byrne JP  
(H) 03 5722 3281

#### South Gippsland

Wendy Caple JP  
(H) 03 5662 2184

#### South West

Michelle McQuilton JP  
shell\_730@hotmail.com  
(M) 0419 537 940

#### Sunraysia

Jenny Bennett JP  
rvahjsunraysia@rvahj.org.au  
(H) 03 5025 2757

#### Upper Murray

Ian Elston JP  
jp11679@rvahj.org.au  
(B&H) 02 6024 3917

#### Wellington

Prinesh Narayan JP  
quincy1935@bigpond.com  
(M) 0417 304 054

#### Wimmera

Geoff Penna JP  
ararat@hansenprint.com.au  
(M) 0438 522 375

#### Yarra Valley

Wendy Booth JP  
(M) 0407 051 757

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The official journal of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices has appeared in various formats since 1910. As is practice in publications, the current *Custodes* does not necessarily represent the views of the RVAHJ since it encourages contributions from a wide cross-section of members and beyond. Articles and letters are most welcome, but are subject to the discretion of the editor.

### ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising in *Custodes* reaches a state wide audience of influential community leaders and business professionals. Advertising costs: full page : \$345; half page : \$175; quarter page : \$90 & business card : \$45; member discount 20%. Contact the editor for advertising for your business.

### CUSTODES DEADLINES

Autumn - February 1 | Winter - May 1 | Spring - August 1 | Summer - November 1