



## Welcome to your February 2022 Newsletter.

John Lane

**A**T THE START OF LAST YEAR, I REFLECTED ON THE PROBLEMATIC PRIOR YEAR IN 2020. WE DID SUCCEED IN HAVING THREE SOCIAL EVENTS INCLUDING OUR ANNUAL TRIP TO CRESCENT HEAD. THERE WERE NO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS BACK IN FEBRUARY 2021, GIVING US SOME OPTIMISM FOR THE YEAR AHEAD.

However, along came the Delta variant and another extended lockdown. Restrictions began to ease towards the end of the year. I will not make any predictions for 2022 except to tell you we are planning our social functions and meetings, and let us trust our fortunes will change for the coming year.

Then we move into the general meeting, where there are two "notices of motions" for the membership consideration. The first is a name change for our Association. The second is broadening eligibility to become a member of our Association. I will discuss later the two notices of motion.

### AGM and February General Meeting

In the newsletter, you will see that **the Association will have its Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by the February General Meeting on Thursday, 24TH February 2022. The meeting will be held at the Petersham RSL, commencing at 10.30 am.** We will also have the meeting via Zoom video conference.

Due to COVID-19 health regulations, there remains some social distancing and wearing of a mask at the Petersham RSL. Therefore, please let Col McQueen know you would like to attend the meeting. Col's details are on page 2 of the newsletter under office bearers.

While we introduced Zoom (many then would not have known existed) for the main purpose to hold meetings during lockdown periods, one of the good by-products of the technology is that it has allowed country members to participate at our general meetings and this year at our AGM.

You will see more information inside this month's newsletter. **The AGM is an important meeting on the Association's calendar. First, there is the financial report for 2021 and the election of new office bearers for 2022.**

**DO YOU KNOW OF FORMER WORKMATES WHO ARE NOT YET MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION?**

**WHY NOT EMAIL THEM OUR NEWSLETTER?**

**YOU CAN EMAIL THEM OUR MEMBERSHIP PDF FILE SENT TO YOU WITH THIS NEWSLETTER**

**THERE IS ALSO A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION INCLUDED WITH THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER**

**REMINDE THEM THERE IS A ONCE ONLY PAYMENT OF \$20 WHEN JOINING.**  
**NO ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE**





**Retired Members Association**

# Notice of Motion

## February 2022 General Meeting

The following two notices of motion are listed for membership consideration at the Association's February 2022 General Meeting:

***Following a recommendation of the Committee, the Retired Members Association agrees to change its Constitution specifically Part II, 5, A of the Constitution to broaden our potential membership base to include all former and retired employees from the Telecommunications Industry.***

Proposed: Colin McQueen    Seconded: Trevor Anderson

***The current name of our Association 'CWU - COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION T.&S. BRANCH (NSW) RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION' be changed to the 'RETIRED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (RTEA)'.***

***Further subject to approval of the general meeting of a name change for our Association. Our constitution will be amended to make reference to the new name and deletion of the current name.***

Proposed: Bruce Noake    Seconded: John McAuliffe.

## Retired Members Association Office Bearers

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>John Lane</b> 0417 238 687 a-lane @bigpond.com	<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Bruce Muirhead</b> 02 9639 0990 muirhead @bigpond.com 22 Cameron Avenue Baulkham Hills, 2153	<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Bob Hamblion</b> 02 9502 2525	<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Bruce Noake</b> ASSISTANT SECRETARY 0409 332 464 bnoake @bigpond.net.au
<b>WELFARE OFFICER</b>	<b>Peter Hack</b> 0408 969 530 hackysnr @bigpond.net.au	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Colin McQueen</b> 0429 151 209 colin.mcqueen @bigpond.com	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Bruce Coxall</b> WEBSITE 0418 414 658 02 9597 2224 webadmin @cwuretired.org	<b>EDITOR</b>	<b>Paul Rewhorn</b> 0418 626 625 pdrewhorn @me.com

## Committee

Alan Bassman, John McAuliffe, Trevor Anderson, John Bryce, Allan Fairbairn, Steve Flynn, Vince Haywood, Terry Livingstone, Arthur McCarroll, Paul Rewhorn, Ron Milosh, Garry Masman, Warren Morley.



**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Retired Members Association

## **2022 ANNUAL & FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETINGS**

**Both the Annual and February General Meetings will be held on**

**THURSDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10.30 AM**

### **Annual Meeting Agenda**

*Treasurer's Report: A/g Treasurer, Colin McQueen will present the 2021 Financial Report (a copy of the report is inside this month's newsletter).*

*Elections for all executive and committee positions (more details below).*

*Nominations for all executive and committee positions will remain open until just before the meeting; if you would like to stand for a position, please feel free to do so. Please contact our Secretary, Bruce Muirhead for a nomination form. A nomination form is included with this newsletter.*

### **February General Meeting Agenda**

*There will be two notices motions for members consideration. The motions are in relation to name change for our Association and an amendment to the constitution to broaden membership eligibility. The full text of both notices of motions are on page 2 of this newsletter.*

**Both the AGM and General Meeting will be a hybrid meeting with members either in person at Petersham RSL Club or via Zoom Video Conference. If you wish to attend in person, please advise Colin McQueen (see page 2 under Office Bearers).**



**You will find more details about attending the meetings via Zoom inside the newsletter.**



## Financial Balance Statement - 2021

<b>CWU Retired Members Association (NSW)</b>				
<b>Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021</b>				
			<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>			<b>\$30,529.99</b>	<b>\$24,155.49</b>
<b>Represented by.</b>				
<b>Great Southern Bank (formerly Credit Union Australia)</b>				
	<b>Current Primary Saver Account</b>		\$115.02	\$52.24
	<b>E Saver A/C</b>		\$7,336.72	\$1,193.80
<b>Cash at Call</b>			<b>\$7,451.74</b>	<b>\$1,246.04</b>
<b>Great Southern Bank (formerly Credit Union Australia)</b>				
	<b>Investment A/C 1</b>		\$11,723.24	\$11,635.97
	<b>Investment A/C 2</b>		\$11,355.01	\$11,264.92
<b>Term Deposits</b>			<b>\$23,078.25</b>	<b>\$22,900.89</b>
<b>Accrued Interest</b>		<b>No longer used</b>		<b>\$8.56</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>			<b>\$30,529.99</b>	
	<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>Pre-paid trip away monies</b>	<b>\$8,120.00</b>	
<b>Total Assets</b>			<b>\$22,409.99</b>	
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure Statement, For Year Ending 31st. Dec.</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
	News letter mailout		\$675.00	\$670.00
	Badges		\$45.00	\$45.00
	Donations		\$140.00	\$174.00
	Membership		\$300.00	\$150.00
	Investment Income		\$191.17	\$408.68
	Other Social Outings			\$8,100.00
	Christmas Lunch		\$3,465.00	
	Annual Trip Away		\$8,120.00	
		<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$12,936.17</b>	<b>\$9,547.68</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
	Holiday Magic Cres.Hds. Deposits			\$7,050.00
	Stationery		\$300.74	\$181.25
	Postage		\$425.70	\$589.20
	Hard Drive, Printer & Thermometer			\$334.02
	Posting and Packaging		\$125.50	\$30.27
	ZOOM Meeting Subscriptions		\$300.17	\$92.36
	CRUMA Affiliation Fees			\$100.00
	CPSA Membership		\$50.00	\$50.00
	COTA Membership			\$100.00
	Badges			\$66.99
	Repayments / Refunds		\$530.00	\$1,050.00
	Secretary Allowance			\$50.00
	Christmas Lunch		\$3,156.92	
	www.Domaine Hosting, Bulkmailer		\$120.00	\$120.00
	Welfare Expenses			\$75.00
	Dementia Australia Donation - Mary Kovacs		\$500.00	
	Meeting Costs - Speakers/Mic's/ Survey Monkey		\$757.49	
	Office Supplies - Toner / ink etc.		\$176.89	
	Friends of the ABC Subscription		\$120.00	
		<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$6,563.41</b>	<b>\$9,889.09</b>
		<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$1,747.24)</b>	<b>(\$341.41)</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
	<b>Opening balance (1 January)</b>		<b>\$24,157.49</b>	<b>\$24,500.90</b>
	<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>(\$1,747.24)</b>	<b>(\$341.41)</b>
	<b>Interest Accrual Accounting Ceased - add final accrued interest</b>		<b>\$0.26</b>	
	<b>Closing balance (31 December )</b>		<b>\$30,529.99</b>	<b>\$24,157.49</b>
	<b>Actually available</b>		<b>\$22,409.99</b>	
<b>N.B. Wentworth Trip in 2021 deferred until 2022 due to COVID, deposits carried forward see Liabilities</b>				
Compiled and prepared by R.W.Hamblion, Treasurer and C.F. McQueen a/g Treasurer.			<i>R W Hamblion</i>	<i>C F McQueen</i>
This is to certify that I have checked the books of the CWU, RMA and found them in order. A.R.Fairbairn.			<i>A R Fairbairn</i>	



## Gregory (Greg) Gifford



The Retired Members Association is sad to report the passing of Greg Gifford. Greg had a rare form of inoperable cancer.

Greg passed away peacefully at his home on the 23<sup>RD</sup> November 2021. Greg was aged 69. A funeral service for Greg was held on the 3<sup>RD</sup> December 2021 at Creighton's Lawn Cemetery & Memorial Park, Palmdale.

Greg was a member of the Retired Members Association for over nine years.

Greg commenced with the PMG on the 20<sup>TH</sup> of January 1969 as a Technician in Training. Early in his career, Greg worked at Peakhurst, Kingsgrove, Hurstville, Randwick, Blakehurst, Miranda, Cronulla exchanges, including one of the first ARE11 installations. Next, Greg went to work in the NDC Lines and Network Augmentation Project Management Team, managing databases and progress reports from field teams before leaving Telstra in March 2001 after 34 years.

In retirement, Greg used his entrepreneurial skills and set up his own business building audio speakers and providing maintenance on hospital electronic equipment.

Outside of work, Greg was a keen motorsports enthusiast for many decades. Highlights include his participation in the 1979 Repco Reliability Trial Rally in a GTS Monaro. He also had success in the Southern Cross Rallies and was also a Queensland State Champion in the early 2000s.

Greg is survived by his soulmate Narelle.

The Retired Members Association extends its profound sympathy and condolences to Narelle, family members and his former workmates.

### Tributes

*I was very saddened to hear about Greg who in my opinion was nature's gentleman and he will be missed. The sad part of all this is that due to Covid we have not had the opportunity to have our 2020 and 2021 Christmas get togethers where we had the chance to catch up with each other. Vale Greg, rest in peace mate.*

*Dave Dixon*

*Rest in peace mate*

*Chris Wilkie.....*



## Welfare News

**Peter Hack**

I am sad to report the passing of **Alan Barbour** and **Robin Lovell** over the Christmas break.

**Alan and Toni Stevens** are both suffering from ongoing medical problems. **Vince Haywood** has had a stint in the hospital and is now waiting for a date when further treatment will commence.

**Bob Hamblion** had major bypass surgery and is now home in the recovering. I am pleased to report he is recovering well. **Warren Morley** is having a medical problem that is still under investigation. **On top of this, Kate has contracted COVID, followed soon after by Warren.** They have just recently come out of isolation.

**Sam Caltabiano** suffering is having ongoing medical treatment. **Cath Hickey** was confined to her room for many days due to a COVID outbreak. Visitors can only visit and see her through a glass partition.

**Col Wilson** is now in palliative care. Helen can visit every day as Col slips in and out of consciousness

**Irene Clifford** is not travelling well and is looking forward to the trip away. Mick Byron is recovering from another round of sun cancer treatment and looking forward to the trip away.

**Warren (Nostradamus) Croft** was reminded by **John Lane** that his prediction that **Ash Barty** would never win a major was wrong.



# 65<sup>TH</sup> Year Reunion

TECHNICIANS IN TRAINING

**CLASS of 1957**

**Wednesday, 9th March 2022**

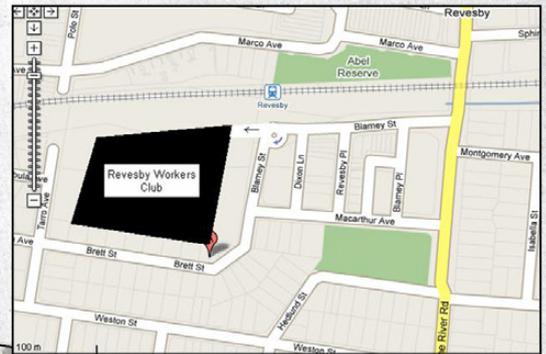
This function is planned to commence from 10am for 11am welcome

**Revesby Workers Club 28 Brett Street, Revesby**

The Revesby Workers Club management has offered the Club facilities free of charge for our use for this reunion. A reunion to remember 65 years of life following training as a Telephone Technician. The time table for the day is for welcome at 11am. Lunch will be enjoyed in one of the many food outlets of the Club from 12 noon. This will be followed by celebrations, reminisces and other remembrances from 2pm. Please bring an item of memorabilia to share at this time.

Please RSVP to Bob Speer by 27th February, by one of the following: e-mail to [speer.r.65@gmail.com](mailto:speer.r.65@gmail.com): or call me on **mobile 040 88 639 00**, if your circumstances require just turn up on the day.

**The Revesby Workers Club is just a short walk from Revesby Station. If you are coming from the City via train, you will clearly see the club on your left from the train station.**



Ian Dodd, Dick Laney, Ray Dean, Ray Reynolds



Graham Mckew, Peter Hack Bob Korff, Sherwin Hensby Albert Smith



Photo from 2019 Reunion



## THE MUDGEE BOARDING HOUSE

**Arthur McCarroll  
2021**

*The boarding house at Mudgee  
Was run by Pearl Winks  
She was a spartan worker  
With motherly instincts*

*She kept a tidy kitchen  
And all the rooms were neat  
But pity wouldn't help you  
If you didn't wipe your feet*

*Full board for males only  
From all walks of life  
But don't be late for mealtimes  
Or you'd surely be in strife*

*Conversation at the tables  
Sometimes was quite vex  
Especially for the subjects  
Religion, politics and sex*

*Religion was quite varied  
With Anglicans and 'Tykes'  
Methodists and 'Presos'  
Would all 'get on their bikes'*

*Some rooms were very large  
With beds for four or three  
But some were private rooms  
That cost an extra fee*



*The bathroom had four showers  
No privacy was had  
But just like after football  
It wasn't all that bad  
The laundry had a copper  
And a place to wash and iron  
There was ample room for clothing  
On the backyard line*

*The lawns were vast and verdant  
And neatly mown short  
With shade from peppercorns  
A good spot for some sport*

*In the summertime  
On those balmy nights  
Some of the younger boarders  
Enjoyed their water fights*

*Alas there are no boarders now  
It's now a nursing home  
So with a note of sadness  
I'll finish up this poem*



## Welcome to your February 2022 Newsletter (cont'd).

### Notices of Motion

There was a survey late last year on a change of name and the broadening eligibility to become a member of our Association. The committee considered both matters as significant milestones. Hence, the need was to canvas the opinion of as many members as possible.

One hundred forty-one members participated in the survey. Thirty-one per cent of members preferred our name change to "**Retired Telecommunications Employees Association**", twice as many as other options for the name change proposals. On broadening membership eligibility, an overwhelming 95 per cent of members agreed on a broadened eligibility. You will find full details of the survey results in the November 2021 issue of the newsletter.

Now, members at the February General Meeting will have the opportunity to approve or otherwise change our constitution to reflect broadened eligibility and the name change. Accordingly, the meeting will consider both matters separately. **You will find the text for the two notices of motion on page 2 of the newsletter.**

### Annual Election of Office Bearers for 2022

As mentioned earlier, at the AGM, we will have the annual election of office bearers for 2022. In addition, over the past couple of years, fresh faces on our Executive Committee have reinvigorated our Association. Therefore, please nominate me for a position if you want to contribute. This month's newsletter includes a nomination form which will also be on our website. Nominations close at the AGM.

### March 2022 Trip Away

I can confirm our March 2022 trip away to the Southern Highlands will go ahead. I have had to make a few changes to the itinerary because of the recent Covid-19 omicron outbreak and heavy rains in the area. Members who have already booked for the trip would have received an email detailing our latest itinerary

The trip starts on Sunday, 13th March and goes through to Friday, 18th March 2022. So, I would ask all those booked to pay the \$245 for the itinerary.

We are staying at the Springs Resort Motel, adjacent to the Mittagong RSL Club. The motel is accommodation only; however, we can have breakfast and dinner in the club at our own expense. Members can pay direct to the motel for their accommodation.

It is not too late if you would like to join us on the trip away. However, you will need to let me know very soon. We are less than a month away.

### Christmas Lunch

I would like to thank the fifty-five or more members who attended our Christmas Lunch on the 7th December 2021. I appreciate the effort you all made to be at the luncheon; many of you had to sidestep the train strike adding extra travel time. If the train strike was not enough, a thunderstorm struck as many members left on their way home.

The Petersham RSL Club did an excellent job for us, allowing us to use their auditorium with its additional space. The club's caterers did a fantastic job as well. Unfortunately, the club's caterers have had to close due to COVID-19. The same caterers have served our Christmas luncheon for many years and throughout the year after our monthly general meetings. It is sad to witness many businesses close because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hopefully, we are seeing the final stages of the pandemic.

### Social Function Calendar

You may be wondering why there is no social calendar for 2022 in this month's newsletter. The committee will finalise the social calendar and guest speakers for our general meetings ready for the March 2022 newsletter. There is no social function for March because of our trip away. We had hoped to have lunch at the Petersham RSL in April to coincide with opening their new premises across the street. Unfortunately, completion of the new premises is experiencing a delay. At this stage, it seems likely we will have lunch in April at the Woolwich hotel. The March newsletter will have more information.

Continued on Page 9



## Welcome to your February 2022 Newsletter (cont'd).

However, I can confirm a guest speaker from **Seniors Rights** for our April General Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The guest speaker will discuss documents for the future on Wills, Power of Attorney, Guardianship, and Advanced Care Directives documentation. The March newsletter will have more information.

### Bob Hamblion

Bob Hamblion has advised me that he will not be seeking re-election for the treasurer position at this year's AGM. Bob recently underwent major surgery. While I can tell you he is making a good recovery, Bob considers that he wishes to step down from the role after nineteen years as our treasurer.

The treasurer role for our Association is an important one. Although the Association wants to report its income and expenditure accurately, for the treasurer the role requires attention to detail and dedication. None more so, when collecting monies and writing receipts for our trips away and social functions. All of this has fallen on Bob's shoulders over the past nineteen years.

While I need to check our archives to be absolutely certain, I believe Bob is our longest serving executive on committee.

I thank Bob for his hard work and dedication as our treasurer on behalf of the membership.

**You will find Financial Balance Statement – 2021 inside this month's newsletter.**

Also, I would like to thank Col McQueen for undertaking the treasurer's role while Bob was undergoing surgery and recovery. Because of the timing of Bob's surgery, much of the work preparing the 2021 Financial Balance Statement landed on Col. Thanks and appreciation go to Col.



2013 Reunion Group Photo Port Macquarie.

**50 Year Reunion - 1973 ATT / TOIT technical intake NSW.**

**Seeking expressions of interest.**

**When** Saturday March 25th 2023  
**Where** Club Forster on the NSW Mid North Coast.  
**Contact** Shaun Higgins 0419 235 488 [sdhiggins56@gmail.com](mailto:sdhiggins56@gmail.com)



## \$250 Regional Seniors Travel Card

Back in March 2020, the newsletter featured an article about the Seniors Regional Travel card. The travel card provides seniors with \$250 for travel such as the payment of fuel, pre-booked Trainlink services and taxis. We featured the article back then because the travel card was introduced with little fanfare. It would seem there is little fanfare again with the 2022 card.

For more information and access to the online application, visit

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/regionalseniorstravel> or call Services NSW on **13 7788**. You may have to wait up to 20 business days from the time of application for your card and pin to arrive.

Please have a read below about how to apply for the card and eligibility requirements.

It is important to note if you already have a card, you will need to create a new login with a new username for your 2022 card (you cannot add your 2022 card to your existing card login on the card services website. The regional seniors travel card provides eligible seniors living in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW with a \$250 prepaid card to help ease the cost of travel. You can use the card at certain retailers to pay for:

- ◆ pre-booked NSW TrainLink Regional trains and coaches,
- ◆ fuel
- ◆ and taxis.

The travel card is valid for 14 months from the date the card is issued. The expiry date is available on the front of the card. The regional seniors travel card program is available for a 2-year trial period (2020-2021).



Eligibility for the trial, you must be:

- ◆ receiving the Age Pension (you must have received the Age Pension for at least one month); or
- ◆ a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holder (you must have held your card for at least one month); and
- ◆ living outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.

The trial will be expanded in the coming months to include more seniors receiving pensions from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. You will be eligible if you are:

- ◆ aged over 66 years
- ◆ you reside outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong
- ◆ you receive one of the following pensions:
  - ◆ Service Pension
  - ◆ Disability Pension under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*
  - ◆ War Widow(er) Pension



# Retired Members Association

## *Photos from Christmas Lunch 2021*





# Retired Members Association Executive and Committee Nomination Form

## CWU RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION NSW TELECOMMUNICATION AND SERVICES BRANCH

### Nomination Form Executive and Committee Positions for 2022

#### NOTE TO CANDIDATES AND NOMINATORS – GENERAL INFORMATION

- » The Candidate and the two Nominators must be members of the Retired Members Association.
- » The Candidate must be nominated by members of the Retired Members Association.
- » The Candidate must agree to the nomination by signing this form
- » The election applies for ALL positions on the Management Committee.
- » A separate nomination form is required for candidates who are applying for election to multiple positions.
- » The completed form must be lodged with the nominated Returning Officer prior to the Retired Members Associations’s Annual Meeting for 2022 to be held on Thursday, 24th February 2022, commencing 10.30 am or via post or email to the Secretary

**Position Nominated For:**

*Vacant Positions are: President, Vice President (2 positions)  
Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and  
Committee (15 positions)*

**Nominee Full Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*I Accept the nomination (sign above)*

**I nominate the above member**

*First Nominator*

*Print Full Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(sign above)*

**I nominate the above member**

*Second Nominator*

*Print Full Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(sign above)*

Please complete and print the form mail or email a copy to:

SECRETARY  
Bruce Muirhead  
22 Cameron Avenue,  
Baulkham Hills NSW 2153.  
muirhead@bigpond.com  
Phone 02 9639 0990



RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION: APPLICATION FORM

Step 1 - Application

Form with fields for First Name, Last Name, Spouse/Partner Name, Date of Birth, Address, Postcode, State, Contact Phone Number, Monthly Newsletter Preference, Email Address, and Name on Badge.

Step 2 - Work History

Brief Description of your work history in Telecommunications Industry

Step 3 - Payment

A membership payment together with postal edition of the newsletter and badge payments (only if later two items are applicable) can be made by posting a cheque to the Secretary, or via electronic transfer.

Cheque payments are payable to CWU Retired Members Association and post to:

Secretary, CWU Retired Members Association
22 Cameron Avenue,
Baulkham Hills
NSW 2153

Bank Transfers (electronic payments)

Great Southern Bank
BSB 814-282,
eSaver Account No: 10642769.
Please include your surname on the electronic payment reference.

Payments preferences are:

- Membership plus free Newsletter via email \$20
Membership plus the current year's Newsletter via Post \$35
Membership plus Name Badge \$35
Membership plus Name Badge plus the current year's Newsletter \$50

I wish to apply for membership of the Retired Members Association. I understand that by completing this application form and making payment, I agree to abide by the constitution of the Association. Please tick if you agree.

You can read and download (pdf) the Retired Members Association's constitution at: http://www.cwuretired.org/docs/CONSTITUTION.pdf

Retired Members' New Member Application Form - Issue 1: 25 October 2021