



**Special points of interest:**

- ◆ **The Election— Major parties views on Indexation**
- ◆ **May 2010 ACT Government Budget**
- ◆ **Meeting on Workers Compensation**
- ◆ **Claiming SCOA's Membership Fees**

**August 2010**

**SEPTEMBER 2010 General Meeting**

**Ainslie Football Club,  
Ainslie**

**Monday 6 September 2010 at 10:30am**

**Agenda**

Opening - 10:30am  
 Confirm Minutes of June 2010 GM  
 Guest Speaker— Mr Lewis Conn, ABS  
 Other Business  
 Close 12.00 noon

**NOTICE OF MOTION  
HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

Our Rules provide that the Branch may grant honorary life membership to a member who has given meritorious service to the Association.

**SPEAKER FOR SEPTEMBER 2010  
GENERAL MEETING**

The speaker will be Mr Lewis Conn from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, where he is Director of the CPI Section. He will speak on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) and the PBLCI (the Pensioners' and Beneficiaries' Living Cost Index).

Notice of Motion is hereby given that at the September 2010 General Meeting, the Executive Committee will move that Peter Hurley and Ewan Hazell be each granted such membership.

Peter Hurley joined SCOA in 1999 and was invited to join the Branch Executive Committee. He immediately commenced to contribute enthusiastically to the functions of the Executive and at National level. In March 2000, Peter was nominated by the Branch Executive and elected to the position of National (now Federal) Vice President. Federal Council Rules limit the time a person can serve in this position and Peter's term was completed in March 2003. However, he was then appointed as the ACT Federal Councillor, and so continued a major contribution to Federal Council. He stood down as Federal Councillor in April 2009. Peter acted as Federal Secretary for a short period.

**SCOA ACT'S INVOLVEMENT IN  
THE 2010 ELECTION CAMPAIGN**

The 2010 federal election will be held on Saturday 21 August. SCOA ACT's campaign committee is overseeing SCOA ACT's campaign and has proposed that there be two meetings: one at the Southern Cross Club, Woden, ACT, and a meeting at the Catalina Club in Bateman's Bay. Members have been notified of arrangements by a bulletin sent through the mail, and through other media.

From mid 2000 to mid 2004 Peter was the SCOA representative on the Retirement Incomes Conference Australia. In February 2004, Peter agreed to represent SCOA on the Taxation Office Personal Tax Advisory Group (PTAG). He still continues to carry

Contributions from Senate and House of Representatives candidates for Labor, Liberals and the Greens in the ACT, and from House of Representatives candidates for Labor and Liberals in Eden-Monaro are included in this edition of "SCOA News".

*Continued on Page 3*

SCOA (ACT) INC  
ABN: 62-141-637-556

**SCOA News**

## From the Branch President

SCOA has been pressing forward vigorously on the important issue of fair indexation of superannuation, to the same national standard as other pensions. The Federal Opposition has now promised improved indexation for most Defence Force superannuants, which would greatly strengthen the case for consistent treatment for public servants. The ACT Greens have publicly committed themselves to support indexation for former public servants and military personnel in line with wages (MTAWE) rather than the CPI.

We have followed up on our commitment to keep the issue before candidates at the forthcoming Federal Elections. ALP, Liberal and Greens candidates in the ACT and Eden-Monaro were invited to provide a short statement on fair indexation for former public servants, including what specific steps they plan to take if elected, for publication in this issue of SCOA News. We have had some interesting responses, as you can see. But there is more to do.

SCOA remains committed to maintaining indexation as an issue during this election campaign. All SCOA members have received material about our superannuation indexation campaign. Further material can be accessed directly on SCOA's website, at <http://scoa.asn.au/pensionindexation.htm>. It is important that the organisation's efforts are matched by sustained pressure from members, writing to newspapers and contacting their local candidates.

Specifically, we will be seeking to have the Opposition extend its commitment to fair indexation for public servants as well as defence force personnel and to

secure a matching commitment from the ALP.

By the time you read this, we will have held public meetings jointly with the Defence Force Welfare Association to confront major party candidates with the need for fairness for our members.

Nor will our campaign slacken once the election is over. We will then be actively pressing for election commitments to be met.

I also referred in my previous column to the importance attached by SCOA ACT to ComCare and workers compensation. We sponsored a public meeting on the subject on 21 June (reported on elsewhere in this issue), which underlined the depth of feeling and serious difficulties of members seeking to pursue Comcare issues. It reinforced our commitment to continue to press for both policy improvements and a change in the culture which leaves so many of our members angry and frustrated.

I am also pleased to be able to foreshadow that the Committee is working on preparation of a substantive SCOA retirement check list covering a wide range of issues, services and contacts. We anticipate that this will both provide a useful reference and also help bring SCOA and its work to the attention of public servants recently-retired or approaching retirement.



John Blount  
j.b.canberra@gmail.com

### Put it in your Diary

The December General Meeting of SCOA ACT will be held in the Southern Cross Club, Woden, on Monday 6 December, starting at 10.30am. The speaker will talk on identity theft as an issue for older people.

*Continued from Page 1*

out this service and is recognised by the Tax Office as a very significant contributor.

SCOA Federal Council recently formally commended Peter on his significant achievements and efforts.

In April 2005 Peter agreed to take over the role as SCOA's representative on the ACT Government Seniors Card Advisory Committee, a task which he continued until the recent disbandment of that Committee.

Peter was elected Branch Vice President in 2003 and Branch President in 2007.

Peter continues to be a major contributor to the functions of the ACT Branch Executive.

Ewan Hazell joined SCOA in 1999. In March 2000, he expressed interest in joining the Branch Executive Committee and was appointed to fill the then vacant position of Treasurer. This was a very fortunate recruitment for SCOA as Ewan has been a major contributor.

From March 2002 Ewan served for 3 years as ACT Branch President meeting all the demands of the office to the satisfaction of his fellow Branch Executive Committee Members. In March 2003, Ewan was nominated by the Branch Executive and elected to the position of Federal Vice President. He continued in this position until he was elected as Federal President at the Federal Council AGM in March 2004.

Ewan served two terms (four years) as Federal President, stepping down in March 2008. Ewan led and guided the Federal organisation through a period of major management reorganisation and intensive activity, especially in escalation of the campaign for improved indexation of our superannuation pensions, and in the extension of the range of expertise available to Federal Council. The last of these he effected through the use of expert volunteers, including SCOA's advisers on superannuation and on taxation, SCOA's Federal Treasurer (CPA), and the Indexation Campaign Manager. His revitalisation of the relationship of the Australian Council of Public Sector Retirees (ACPSRO) with SCOA continues to be of value especially in support of the indexation campaign and efforts to secure a better tax deal for Commonwealth superannuants.

Ewan continues to be a major contributor to the functions of the ACT Branch Executive.

#### **Disclaimer**

**“SCOA News” is produced for the information of members of SCOA ACT Branch. It is written with care, in good faith and from sources believed to be accurate.**

**However, readers should not act, or refrain from acting, solely on the basis of information in “SCOA News” about financial, taxation or any other matter. Having regard for their own particular circumstances, readers should consult the relevant authorities or other advisers with expertise in the particular field. Neither SCOA nor the Editor accepts any responsibility for actions taken by readers.**

“... the Executive Committee will move that Peter Hurley and Ewan Hazell be each granted life membership.”

## Minutes of General Meeting, June 2010

President John Blount chaired the meeting. Approximately 100 members were present. No apologies were recorded.

A summary of minutes of the General Meeting of 7 December 2009 had been published in SCOA NEWS. They were taken as read and confirmed. There was no business arising.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:** Peter Hurley, SCOA representative on the Government's Personal Tax Advisory Group (PTAG), reported on the following:

- The Tax Office has implemented a new income tax processing system and some problems with it have not yet been solved. This is causing delays in processing returns and some 4700 hardship requests have had to be processed. Problems are occurring also with superannuation processing, notices of assessment and statements of accounts. The problems could continue beyond 1 July and cause delays in 2009-10 returns.
- Now is the time to prepare documents for 2010 returns.
- Auditing of tax returns has increased and new processes are more likely to identify returns which warrant audit.
- Many problems with e-tax have been addressed and corrected.
- TAX HELP service is available for low income earners.
- New restrictions and audits are in place for Self Managed Superannuation Funds.
- The Henry Tax Review was released on 2 May 2010 but SCOA is still awaiting receipt of some documents before analysing potential effects on Commonwealth superannuants. Some aspects will be dependent on legislation being passed by Parliament for the "Resource Super Profits Tax".
- The Government has rejected 19 of the recommendations of the Review. In the main, these rejections are of benefit to superannuants.
- The next meeting of PTAG will be on 24 June 2010.

A member commented that charges had been increased for blood testing and asked if this had been examined. Mr Hurley noted it for consideration.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Mr Blount introduced Guest Speaker Hena Power, Senior Financial Adviser, of Ord Minnett stockbrokers. His subject was "Volatile Markets – What's Next". He stayed after the closure of the meeting to be available for questions.

Mr Blount thanked Mr Power and this was carried by acclamation.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The President reminded members that SCOA was organising a public meeting on the subject of Workers Compensation. It would be held on Monday 21 June at the Ainslie Football Club. He encouraged all interested members to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12.10pm.

### Associate Membership of the Community and Public Sector Union

If you were a member of the Community and Public Sector Union while in the public service, you are entitled to continue as an Associate Member. The annual fee is \$24.55. The benefits that go with membership can be accessed on the CPSU's website: [www.cpsu.org.au](http://www.cpsu.org.au)

Advertise  
in *SCOA News*

Commercial  
Ads

\$500 full page  
\$300 half  
page  
\$150 quarter  
page

Charges for  
community  
organisations  
or individuals  
are  
determined by  
the Committee  
case by case

# The Election

SCOA sought views from the 3 major political parties with regards to the indexation of pensions of Commonwealth public servants and military personnel.

## SENATOR HUMPHREYS' STATEMENT

I believe my personal views on the inappropriateness of the CPI as an indexation device are well documented in the report of the Senate committee I chaired, the media and Hansard.

After a long campaign of activity in this particular area, I am delighted that my Coalition colleagues have now taken an important step towards equity for Commonwealth pensioners, by announcing a policy to change the indexation methodology to be applied to military pensions from 1 July 2011, if elected.

The Coalition leader, Tony Abbott, announced on 27 June that superannuants within the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme will receive improved indexation from 1 July 2011. The DFRDB pension will be indexed to whichever measurement is the higher each year between the CPI, Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (MTAWE) and the Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index.

As a long term advocate for indexation reform, I realise that many superannuants will be disappointed that the Coalition's policy does not go further. But I believe it does demonstrate that the Coalition has understood, and is acting on, this issue.

While I am personally disappointed that the current financial situation did not allow for the increase to all Commonwealth super pensions, I am heartened by, and fully support, the Coalition's recently announced policy. This is obviously a sound step in the right direction.

As always, the position of the Commonwealth Budget under Labor must be taken into account when considering potential reforms. After inheriting a

Budget with a \$20 billion surplus and no net debt from the Coalition, Julia Gillard and Kevin Rudd plunged Australia's finances into historical levels of debt and deficit. Labor's 2010 Budget will increase spending by over \$26 billion through the next three years. Australia's net debt will peak at \$93.7 billion. Eliminating that deficit and debt must be tackled before any further reform to indexation can be undertaken.

As demonstrated by our announced policy on military pension indexation, the Coalition is committed to a fair, equitable and financially responsible Commonwealth superannuation system.

Be assured that I personally intend to keep pursuing this issue towards a goal of indexation parity for all Commonwealth superannuation pensions, both civil and military.

Gary Humphries  
 Senator for the ACT  
 Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Families, Housing and Human Services  
 Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship

**I'm Lin Hatfield Dodds and I'm the Greens Senate candidate for the ACT.**  
 The Australian Greens are solidly behind the campaign by former Commonwealth public servants and military personnel to have their superannuation pensions linked to wages rather than the consumer price index as is presently the case. Latest forecasts indicate wages growth in the next two years will be around 7.9%, compared with a projected consumer price index increase of 5.1%. Because the CPI measures inflation rather than the real cost of living, many retirees are now struggling as their pensions have not kept pace.

*Continued on Page 6*

"Latest forecasts indicate wages growth in the next two years will be around 7.9%, compared with a project consumer price index increase of 5.1%."

*Continued from Page 5*

In contrast, both the age pension and veterans' pensions are linked to the Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (MTAWE). Likewise, pensions enjoyed by politicians and federal judges regularly increase in line with the wages of their professions. So it is simply a matter of fairness that pensions of public servants and military personnel are also increased in line with wages.

The Government went to the last election with a promise to address the indexation issue but after commissioning the Matthews Review, it decided against any change. Earlier this year, Greens leader Bob Brown strongly urged the Government to reconsider its stance and will continue to push this issue strongly with the next elected Government.

The Greens will continue to work hard for the fair indexation of all commonwealth and defence superannuation. ACT Senators take their place in the Senate straight after the election instead of a wait of months, shifting balance of power right away. If I am elected, I will do all I can to make Canberra count and ensure decent superannuation for all commonwealth and defence superannuants.

**The ACT Federal Labor candidates'** support for your campaign for fairer indexation for Commonwealth superannuants has a long history. During the 11 years of the Howard Government, Senator Lundy pressed for the findings of the relevant Senate committees to be implemented, and for the release of Department of Finance figures on the cost of indexation changes. On coming to Government in 2007, Labor commissioned Mr Trevor Matthews to review indexation arrangements for Australian Government civilian and military superannuation schemes.

We understand that many SCOA members were disappointed with the conclusions of the Matthews Review, and with the Government's acceptance of this report.

Together with Mike Kelly, Bob McMullan and Annette Ellis, Senator Lundy wrote publicly to the Minister for Finance expressing our concerns with the report, and urging action on indexation consistent with Recommendation 4 of the report. We have gained the support of many MPs and Senators in other electorates.

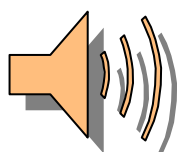
Following our intervention, the Government has tasked the Department of Finance and Deregulation and the Australian Bureau of Statistics to examine the feasibility of developing a new index that specifically reflects the price inflation experience of Commonwealth civilian and military superannuants.

Finance and the ABS have had initial discussions and will scope the cost and statistical methodology requirements to develop a robust new index for Government consideration. The preliminary advice from ABS is that production of a measure to more accurately target sub groups of households would require a larger Household Expenditure Survey as well as additional collection and processing costs.

I appreciate SCOA's ongoing campaign on behalf of its members. As valued constituents, we will continue to actively represent your views to our Ministerial colleagues and to push for fairer indexation for Commonwealth superannuants. However, the Minister has said that his priority in the current fiscal circumstances is returning the Budget to surplus in three years. We are committed to working with SCOA and the Government on this debate. We reject the cynical attempt by the Coalition to inject chaos and disunity into this campaign by offering a change in indexation to one section only of the Defence superannuants but not indicating what this would mean for other superannuants or how any change would be funded.

Thank you for continuing with us the campaign for fairer indexation for Defence and ComSuper pensions.

**"We understand that many SCOA members were disappointed with the conclusions of the Matthews Review, and with the Government's acceptance of this report."**



## GUEST SPEAKER AT JUNE GENERAL MEETING – Volatile Markets—What Next?

This was the subject of a very interesting talk given by the Guest Speaker at our June General Meeting, Mr Hena Power, Senior Financial Adviser, Ord Minnett Stockbrokers. He gave an overview of the changes and concerns in financial markets and world economies over the past twelve months and commented on where the situation might now be moving.

Mr Power said we are in very uncertain times. Markets always look forward and expectations and sentiment drive everything. The Global Financial Crisis (GFC) created major damage for banks, financial markets, consumers, business and investors. V-shaped recovery has occurred since the bottom of the crisis in May 2009 but there are large global debts. Government debts need global economic growth to assist recovery but there are many complications in Europe, the US recovery is sluggish, most world banks remain weak, and China is trying to slow down its growth rate to a more manageable level.

He showed a chart of world fiscal imbalances as a percentage of countries' GDP: The Euro area is at 7%; Germany 5%; France 8%; Greece 13%; USA 10%. Australia is in a better position with 3% of GDP.

This has led to significantly higher sovereign debts: As a percentage of GDP some of these are Euro area 83%; USA 94%; UK 82%; Japan 227%. Again Australia is in a better position with Government debt at 22% of GDP.

Governments can repay debt only through borrowing, cuts in expenditure, or increased taxation. Borrowing may not be sustainable and Government spending cuts are difficult until the private sector recovers. Mr Power commented that the Government's current proposal for Resource Super Profits Tax is attractive but is creating some disruption in financial markets.

China is the key global economic driver. It has had a large fiscal package. Exports have contributed largely to their GDP but fixed investment has surged. There are some current uncertainties on how China will adjust.

Mr Power said we should expect more short-term volatility. The business cycle will eventually take over, but investors are impatient. Concerns about defaults on debt are pushing up interest rates and banks remain under pressure. However, advanced mineral and energy projects are placing Australia in a good position. There will be setbacks, as have occurred in the US, but confidence is a key to success.

In Australia, we have not had a technical recession. There is a positive sentiment, low Government debt and definite movement towards return of a balanced budget. Corporate balance sheets are strong. Many deadwood investments have been cleaned out and there has been a switch from debt to equity. The Aussie market has risen about 40% since the bottom in May 2009, but is still down about 30% since the peak of July 2007.

In final summary, Mr Power added a positive note that there is value in the market and share price drivers have shifted higher. For those who are investors, he recommended that they should expect more volatility but adopt a three point strategy involving management of portfolio risk - watching all asset classes; buying in the dips – with focus on stocks with strong performance history, whilst watching out for value traps; and noting how the business cycle will eventually overwhelm the negatives.

“Governments can repay debt only through borrowing, cuts in expenditure, or increased taxation.”



## MAY 2010 ACT GOVERNMENT BUDGET

Big funding items including public transport, roads, Home and Community Care (HACC) and health have received significant coverage in newspapers and the press generally. SCOA has been pursuing improvements in these areas.

However some other items of interest to SCOA members have received little coverage. Some examples follow.

### **Carers**

\$424,000 has been committed to establish a Carers Advocacy Service, which will give carers access to information from one central point about respite care, financial and legal assistance as well as education, employment and community activities that they could access.

### **Trial bulky waste collection service**

The trial is scheduled to commence by December 2010.

The service will be free to holders of a Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card, an ACTION (Gold) Concession Card or a Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card. The service will also be offered to other Canberrans for a small fee.

A maximum limit of two cubic metres will apply to the amount of waste that will be collected from households.

It should be noted that certain types of materials such as garden waste, engine oil, paints, chemicals, asbestos, tyres, mattresses, computers and TV's will not be collected through the service.

SCOA has pursued these needs and welcomes the provisions made in the Budget..

### **Disappointments**

SCOA is disappointed that the Government did not fund the 'Information and Communication' key priority of the ACT Strategic Plan for Positive Ageing. Had this been done the broader ageing community would have benefited from a one stop shop facility similar to that to be provided for Carers.

SCOA is also disappointed that the eligibility age for the ACTION Gold Card wasn't reduced from 75 to 70.

### **Centrelink's Financial Advisory Service**

SCOA ACT receives many enquiries from members about financial information and advice. Many are dissatisfied by their experience of the private sector in this regard. While Centrelink's Financial Advisory Service provides information about the options facing enquirers it does not make any recommendations for action. SCOA ACT has had a number of excellent presentations by Centrelink's Financial Advisory Service at its quarterly General Meetings.

“SCOA is disappointed that the Government did not fund the 'Information and Communication' key priority of the ACT Strategic Plan for Positive Ageing.”



## Meeting on Workers Compensation

SCOA ACT sponsored a public meeting on workers compensation at the Ainslie Football Club on Monday 21 June. The speaker was Mr David Lander, a Canberra lawyer. There were thirty-two people in attendance, most of whom seem to have been affected by workers compensation issues. The meeting was chaired by the Branch President, John Blount, who provided a resume of SCOA ACT's involvement in the issue. David Lander outlined key issues in the way workers compensation is handled, and then threw the meeting open to questions and discussion. At least two members were recruited from the meeting and both will be joining SCOA ACT's e-mail list of volunteers. A four part motion was unanimously passed by the meeting. It commended Comcare's new CEO Mr Paul O'Connor for his commitment to correct problems in Comcare's administration of workers compensation; it called on Comcare to take urgent action to make provision for compensation of Comcare clients for detriment due to defective administration; and it called on Comcare to modify its computer systems to produce documentation that will enable Comcare clients to effectively check their payment arrears.

## Report of National Seniors Policy Forum "Strengthening the Rights of Older People"

The forum was held on Friday 2 July at the National Convention Centre. It was attended by more than 50 people. SCOA was represented by Frank Mines, Graeme Evans and Greg O'Regan. The facilitator was Virginia Haussegger from the ABC. The keynote speaker was Dr Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner and Commissioner responsible for Age Discrimination. The panel consisted of Professor Frank Brennan from the Australian Catholic University, Phil Lynch from the Human Rights Law Resource Centre, Wendy McCarthy, and Dr Broderick.

There were three parts to the forum: a presentation by Dr Broderick "Older People's Human Rights – Is it Time for an International Convention?"; a panel discussion "Strengthening the Rights of Older People"; and a question and answer session "Where do we go from here".

A number of issues are suggested by the forum: retirement income, health, housing, palliative care, and end of life issues.

"A number of issues are suggested by the forum; retirement income, health, housing, palliative care, and end of life issues."

### AUSLAN Interpreter

SCOA ACT would welcome the services of anyone who could provide interpretation of the proceedings of its public meetings, using the AUSLAN sign language. The Branch attempts to help its hearing impaired members by the use of Powerpoint presentations during its meetings but further explanation by an AUSLAN interpreter would be helpful.

"SCOA News" is published by the Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Association, ACT, Inc.

### SCOA (ACT) Inc Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Association

ABN: 62-141-637-556

Grant Cameron Community Centre  
27 Mulley Street  
HOLDER ACT 2611  
PO Box 3989  
WESTON CREEK ACT 2611

Phone: (02) 6287 3024  
Fax: (02) 6287 3023  
scoa.act@scoa.asn.au

### Subs for 2010

SCOA annual subscriptions become due at the beginning of each calendar year. Fees for 2010:  
Ordinary membership \$29  
Joint membership \$40  
Surviving partner of Contributor membership \$21

*Cheques should be made payable to SCOA (ACT) and sent to SCOA (ACT), PO Box 3989, Weston Creek (NOT SCOA Federal Office—it adds to their already heavy workload)*

### Subs for 2011

It would help ease the workload of SCOA ACT office staff in January and February 2011 if members would consider making an early payment of their subscriptions for 2011. Subscription rates are the same for 2011 as in 2010.

### DONATIONS TO SCOA

The Branch is grateful to those members who make donations to SCOA. Although most of the work of SCOA is carried on by volunteers there is inevitably the need for expenditure on items such as media advertising, rent of premises, purchase of equipment, occasional hire of premises and so on. SCOA's only source of income is the subscriptions paid by members. The relatively modest level of the retirement incomes of most members is a constraint on the amount of money that can be raised from this source. Therefore, SCOA is always grateful when those members who do have adequate incomes make donations to SCOA. However, donations to SCOA are not tax deductible as the Taxation Office does not classify SCOA as a charity.

### Claiming your membership subscription in your 2010 taxation return

Firstly, an apology to members who attempted to claim their membership fees against Item D15 (Other deductions) based on the advice in the previous "SCOA News". The advice was from the Tax Office and correct at time of writing but has now been revised by the Tax Office because of changes made to e-tax and TaxPack 2010 Item numbering.

The error was discovered when a copy of TaxPack 2010 was examined in early July and changes in Item numbers were noticed.

The Tax Office has since advised that:

'For 2010. SCOA fees claimed as a deduction should be included at Item D16 (Other deductions) on the income tax return. This is the correct Item whether the TaxPack form is used or e-tax. The Short Tax Return does not have an equivalent Item as it only caters for a restricted range of deductions. Therefore, if you do not use a tax agent, you will have to use e-tax or TaxPack 2010 to claim your SCOA membership fees. Item D16 is in the TaxPack 2010 supplement.'

### SCOA'S VOLUNTEERS

SCOA ACT has an e-mail list of volunteers who assist with the quarterly newsletter mailouts and with some other activities such as shopping centre stalls and the processing of membership renewals in the peak January period. There is no obligation on volunteers to participate in any particular activity. If you would like to be put on the volunteers e-mail list, please telephone Frank Mines on 6253 9096 or e-mail him on: [frankmines@bigpond.com](mailto:frankmines@bigpond.com).

"The error was discovered when a copy of TaxPack 2010 was examined in early July and changes in Item numbers were noticed."

.....  
: Electronic Transfer of Subscription Payments

: Please do not use e-mail to make subscription payments as it is not  
: a secure means of transmission. Use fax as it is relatively secure. Thanks!



## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(sourced from www.abs.gov.au)

### JUNE QUARTER KEY POINTS:

#### THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- ✦ Rose 0.6% in the June quarter 2010, compared with a rise of 0.9% in the March quarter 2010.
- ✦ Rose 3.1% through the year to June quarter 2010, compared with a rise of 2.9% through the year to March quarter 2010.

#### OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- ✦ The most significant price rises this quarter were for tobacco (+15.4%), hospital and medical services (+3.8%), automotive fuel (+2.1%), rents (+1.1%) and house purchase (+0.6%).
- ✦ The most significant offsetting price falls were in domestic holiday travel and accommodation (-6.0%), fruit (-4.8%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-6.3%), vegetables (-3.0%) and overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-1.9%).



### SUPPORTING THE CLUBS THAT SUPPORT US

SCOA ACT is fortunate in being provided with venues for its General Meetings by the Southern Cross Club, Woden, and the Ainslie Football Club, Ainslie. SCOA ACT urges its members to reward the generosity of these clubs by patronising their premises and taking up membership in the clubs. Their fees are as follows:

**Ainslie Football Club:** Associate Membership: \$5.00 for one year or \$10.00 for three years; Senior/Pensioner Membership: \$2.00 for one year, \$4.00 for three years.

**Southern Cross Club:** Ordinary membership: \$10.00; family membership: \$12.00; senior or pensioner membership: \$5.00; senior or pensioner family membership: \$6.00; for a three year membership the rates are: ordinary membership: \$25.00; family membership: \$30.00; senior or pensioner membership: \$12.00; senior or pensioner family membership: \$15.00.

### ACT Branch Executive Committee (as at 27.7.2010)

President: John Blount  
Imm Past President: Peter Hurley  
Vice President: Annette Barbetti  
Vice President: Graeme Evans  
Secretary: Frank Mines  
Treasurer: Wal Collins  
A/S Finance: Vacant  
A/S Information Technology: Peter Barker  
A/S Membership: Vacant  
A/S Minutes: Joe Clark  
A/S Correspondence: Bob Steins  
A/S Research & Compensation: Ian Buchanan  
Federal Councillor: Graeme Evans  
(Proxy) Frank Mines  
Members: Ewan Hazell  
John Coleman  
Public Officer: Bob Steins  
IT Manager: John Blank  
Administration Officer: John Richmond  
"SCOA News" Editor: Kylie Pryde

### SCOA ACT Membership (at 19 July 2010)

Life	8
Joint	1206
Ordinary	1464
Partner of deceased contributor	329
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3007</b>

### Have you provided your current e-mail address to SCOA ACT?

SCOA ACT is making increasing use of e-mail addresses to keep members informed of developments and/or requirements. Much can happen in the three month period between issues of "SCOA News" and not all developments find their way onto relevant websites.

So if you have an e-mail address but have not advised it to SCOA ACT please give consideration to doing so. If you have changed your e-mail address but have not advised SCOA ACT of the change, it would be appreciated if you would now provide the current e-mail address. The SCOA ACT e-mail address is [scoa.act@scoa.asn.au](mailto:scoa.act@scoa.asn.au)



**E-MAIL DELIVERY OF NEWSLETTERS:** Do you want your newsletters delivered to you by e-mail rather than in hard copy? Please let us know.