

Flint & Cap

Newsletter of The New Zealand Antique Arms
Association Wellington Branch Inc.

P.O. Box 14-029

Kilbirnie

WELLINGTON.

January 2005

www.nzaaawgtn.org.nz

President Steve
and Auction Convenor

Vice President Alwyn

Secretary Phil

Treasurer Margaret

Editor Rex

Committee.

Ray
Tony
John
Ron
Vic
Wayne
Tim

December Meeting

Our December meeting was not as well patronised as usual, undoubtedly because of the time of year and perhaps also on account of the number of recent Branch activities with the luncheon meeting and the bus trip to Waiouru in November and the Christmas picnic shoot scheduled for the following weekend. Never-the-less the displays were to the usual high standard and included;

- Bomb rack – with a display of aerial practice bombs.
- A pair of Baskethilt Broadwords. One with Victorian Cypher and named to the Seaforth Highlanders and the other made by Wilkinson Sword, dated 1934 and named to The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- A display of Belgium Sword Bayonets with nine examples showing details that included manufacturing dates ranging from 1848 to 1889.
- A Ballard No6 Schuetlin Single Shot Sporting Rifle in Cal 38-55. Circa 1881-1891
- British Sporting Rifles. Four examples with one in .450 No 1 Express Cal, one Double rifle by John Rigby in cal .450 x 3 ¼", A double Cape rifle by

Isaac Hollis & Sons in 12g and .450 and a Kangaroo Rifle by Isaac Hollis & Sons in Eley No 1 Cal.

- L1A1 Assault Rifle termed the NZSAS Bitch with explanation. The display included bandolier, grenade and a strip of machine gun cartridges in disintegrating links.
- A pair of lovely old Brass Fireman's helmets together with rescue axes and a collection of Fire Service badges, buttons and shoulder epaulettes.
- Books. Two catalogues from Brown Bros dated 1916 listing all sorts of hardware including bolts, bearings, paints, valves, batteries and numerous other items.
- A very nice Bren Gun complete with wooden transit case, spares and training manuals of various other guns and including a full diagram of parts and assembly etc of the Bren.
- Bullet moulds – a display of early bullet moulds, mainly bronze or brass two cavity types together with details of each and a reference book on the subject.
- A Colt Burgess Lever Action Repeating Rifle in .44-40 cal Circa 1883-85. A scarce model with full length magazine and octagon barrel. Detail included the numbers manufactured.
- A display of Skennerton's Lee Enfield books and Collector magazines.
- A framed document listing the number and disposition of all German Navy ships surrendered to the British Navy at the end of World War One.
- A pair of Browning 12g Double Automatic shotguns (circa 1965) and a Beretta Model 1934 .380 cal semi auto pistol captured from Italian troops in North Africa.
- A display of Military webbing gun carry cases.
- A trade table with numerous items, a number of which found new homes.

Christmas Family Day 2004

For the first time in several years we haven't had to postpone this event. The day was fine and our shoot was all on, so by 9am the tent was up and other preparations well in hand. The sighting in and practice session went on until 10.30am and then we commenced with the airgun matches. All of the scores were high, either standards are improving or else the targets should have been smaller or placed further away. The youngsters' matches proved popular with those who participated.

By lunch time Dave had wheeled out his big canon and was ready to do battle. Shortly after the place resonated with tremendous bangs as he attempted to hit a distant target.

A wide variety of rifles came out over the lunch break as many members and youngsters tried out various types and calibres and also took the opportunity to try out one anothers guns.

After lunch the Martini match proved popular as was the shotgun match for the Percival Trophy.

A big thanks must go to Wayne and his team who once again came up trumps with a substantial barbecued lunch. It was quite evident that an enjoyable day was had by all.

Thanks, Alywn.

Scores at Christmas Picnic Shoot Sunday 12th December 04

Air Guns

- 1st Alan C.
- 2nd Brian J.
- 3rd Tony C.

Air Guns – Youngsters.

- 1st Stephen
- 2nd Andrew B
- 3rd Taghd

Iron Chickens 25yards Standing

- 1st Allan C.
- 2nd Brian J.
- 3rd = Henry F.
Tony C.
Phil Mc

Iron Chickens – Youngsters

- 1st Stephan
- 2nd Taghd
- 3rd Andrew B

Iron Chickens 70 yards

- 1st Allan C
- 2nd = Ray B.
Robin W.
Mark B.
Rob D,
- 3rd Many others

Martini – Zulu Shield

- 1st Glen Mc
- 2nd = Allan C.
Stu W.
- 3rd Vic C.
- 4th = Rob, Tony & Phil.

*Glen was awarded extra bonus points due to having a bayonet fitted and demonstrating a bayonet charge. (Must have been a hilarious sight. Ed)

Shotgun event – Percival Trophy.

- Winner Dave G.
- 2nd Stu W.
- 3rd = Allan C.
Vic C.

Wanted.

Collector of Household Division collectables needs a complete set of buttons for a Blues and Royals Tunic and Riding Cape. If anyone can assist please contact **Ross on 569-9579**



Photos from the December Picnic shoot

1. Our most regular and visible activities are Club Monthly Meetings

- a. Do you enjoy the present format 95% said Yes
- b. Do you think the Meetings could be improved. 13% said Yes
Specific comments on summary at end.
- c. Have you exhibited items/collectibles in last year 68% said Yes
- d. Have you learned anything about your collectibles 78% said Yes
from other members recently.
- e. Do you ever put out items for sale at meetings 48% said Yes

2. Shooting.

- a. Have you taken advantage of the Club shoots 34% said Yes
in the past 2 years.
- b. Are you able to, or do you intend to patronise the 53% said Yes
Club shooting events in the next 12 months.

3. Subscriptions.

Our subs are subsidised by other Club activities, mainly 97% said Yes
our annual auction. Do you think this situation should continue.

4. Auctions.

The activity that takes the most time, effort and organisation is the annual auction and while this is a good earner for the Club it is clear that too many members take this for granted .

- a. Do you favour continuing with auctions. 95% said Yes

If income from Auctions was not forthcoming our subs would need to double to maintain the present level of activities.

- a. **If you would prefer to scrap auctions would you be prepared to**
 - 1. Pay a higher sub 39% said Yes
 - 2. Reduce activities 0.02% said Yes
 - 3. What would you suggest. –Refer to comment answer sheets.
- b. **Could our Auctions be improved, and if so what do you suggest.**
Refer to comment answer sheets.

d. Would you or your partner be prepared to assist with our auctions by;

- 1. Selling through the Branch. 73% said Yes
- 2. Assisting with cataloguing items. 46% said Yes
- 3. Carrying and storing items. 36% said Yes
- 4. Venue set up and clearing 60% said Yes
- 5. Holding up of items on auction days 46% said Yes
- 6. Security on Auction days 56% said Yes
- 7. Clerical assistance 0.17% said Yes
- 8. Kitchen assistance 0.09% said Yes

The following is a summary of the comments received.

1b Talk time too long.

Have formal part earlier in the meeting.
Guest speakers.
Microphone for hard of hearing.
Impromptu auction
Have everyone bring something, no matter how small.
Try something different
Saturday meetings – perhaps in Porirua.
More displays with good descriptions.
More exhibits and more sales tables.
Make goods available that did not sell at auction.

4b iii Keep auction going.

Increase levy/reduce activities.
Do away with Xmas function.

4c More member involvement.

Soundproofing so people can hear better.
Good to buy at – bad to sell. Too much junk.
Different time of year – too close to Ted’s auction.
Set limit of lots on first day.
Entry fee value levy on successful postal bidders
Cut down on junk – have less items of better quality
Good as it is.
Militaria specialist auctioneer.
More integrity with tender table – insider trading ??
Free entrance for people who help with auction.
Better venue.
Move to warmer time of year.
Reserve figure in catalogue.
Reduce queues at viewing night,
Send out attendance forms before auction.
Auctions are great, very well run now.
Auctions and catalogue a credit to all.
Remove tags added by vendors.



Fairburn Sykes Commando Daggers

Fairbairn Sykes commando daggers were originally made during WW2 by Wilkinson Sword. Eventually, to fulfil the quantities required, other manufacturers also made the 3rd pattern dagger.

After the war some manufacturers had blades left over, so they made up 3rd pattern daggers for sale to sports shops and other retailers. Apart from the blades, the other parts of the daggers, in particularly the sheaths, did not have the better finish of the WW2 issue.

Move forward to 1982 when the British reoccupation of the Falklands was imminent. The Commandos requested some Fairbairn Sykes daggers from Army stores. There were none available. The stores then ordered urgently from Wilkinson Sword, 100 3rd pattern daggers, all black. Presumably, the stores then purchased more daggers to replenish their stock, and most likely the lowest tender got the contract.

The dagger illustrated is made by A.Wright & Son. It is stamped with a broad arrow and dated 1983 and is all black. It exhibits the sports shop poor quality standard of finish. The sheath is quite cheaply made and the chape is a particularly bad fit. Sometime after the panic was over, the stores possibly disposed of these daggers. This one was purchased in 1990 and is unused!

From an Anonymous Contributor.



**Gun Show & Hobby Crafts Expo
Lower Hutt Town Hall
16th 17th April 2005**

Once again we will be putting on an extensive Club display and require help with members to exhibit and watch over displays during the weekend. If you can participate in any way please contact Alwyn for further info.

Whats on in 2005
Feb 6th Club meeting. Petone Workingman's Club.
from 1.30pm Display theme letter C
 Feb 13th Club range day .22's and shotguns
 March 6th Club Meeting.
 March 12th Hawkes Bay Arms & Militaria Auction
 April 3rd Club Meeting. Petone Workingman's Club
 April 16th & 17th Wellington Firearms & Militaria Show L/Hutt.
 April 22nd & 23rd NZAAA AGM Northland Branch hosts.

**Club Shoot .22s and Shotguns. Sunday 13th Feb
Deerstalkers range Kaitoke.**

Setup from 9am
 1st .22 rifles, no formal course of fire. We will supply iron chickens and paper targets. Come and plink to your heart's content.
 2nd Shotguns at clay birds. We will run a few rounds of clays for people who want an early practice for the duck shooting season.
 3^{rs} Any other requests we will try to fit in. **Things to bring.**
 Guns, ammo, ear & eye protection Lunch and drinks, warm clothing.

President's Report

Another year has rolled around and I hope everyone had a happy Christmas and New Year. Your committee has been working on activities for the coming year and we have quite a lot planned.

We are involved in the Militaria and Models show coming up on the 16th and 17th of April. It would be good to see every club member involved in this Show in some way, either with displays, setting up, transport or security. Then there is our own auction on the 16th and 17th of July, cataloguing is under way and if you have items that you wish to include please give me a call.

This year we have a full shooting calendar, plus our regular monthly meetings, and perhaps guest speaker later in the year .

NZAAHA subs are now due, and I urge all of you to renew them, the National body gives us a united voice, and keeps us informed on events around the country. This year's National Association AGM will be held in Northland on the 22nd and 23rd of April .

Our first meeting for the year will be Sunday the 6th of February at the Petone Working Mens Club. I will not be able to attend but don't let that stop you, Alwyn will be there and will no doubt have something to say. So bring along all those new acquisitions and he will see you there.

Steve