

Flint & Cap

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

P.O. Box 14-029
Kilbirnie
WELLINGTON.

March 2007

*Check the Web to see this newsletter in full
colour*

President Alwyn
Vice President Terry

Auction Convenor Steve

Secretary Tim

Treasurer Margaret

Editor Ross T

Committee.

Vic
Rex
Wayne
John
Glen
Brent
Terry
Frank

Meeting 4th March

The March meeting was a Mickey Mouse Auction and Annual General Meeting.

Attendance was quite good but perhaps not quite the numbers we have seen at some AGM's. The same could be said for auction entries. Last year we were to the stage of turning things away but this year entries were well down, perhaps our members have disposed of all their odd items in past years or were afraid they may not have got in early enough. However, almost everything sold and the total turnover figure was quite surprising. Our President Steve did not stand for re-election and was unable to attend the meeting so his Annual Report was read out by Alwyn. Extracts of this have been published by the National Association with their notice of AGM, however for those who may have missed this or not been at our AGM I will include Steve's report with this newsletter. The election of Officers continued with Alwyn being elected President. Terry A, Vice President, Steve as Auction Convenor and Branch representative, Tim Ryan was re-elected Secretary; Margaret Brown, Treasurer; Ross T, Newsletter Editor; and the following were elected to the Committee, Vic, Rex, John, Glen, Brent, Terry S and Frank. The Treasurer's report was well received and showed the Branch to be in a strong position with another satisfactory result for the past year. Alwyn made mention of the forthcoming visit to Ruahine branch and members were invited

to join the bus trip. A contribution of \$10 per seat is required with the remainder of the cost being met by the branch. A suggestion from the floor was for a branch visit to the new Aero museum at Omaka, Blenheim. A number of good reports have been received about this and it seems New Zealand has a world class museum of early aviation at Omaka. A club trip to a South Island venue is a rather tall order but perhaps the Committee will investigate the feasibility of a visit at some stage. Alwyn also gave a report on the Gun Show and thanked those who took the trouble to assist. A vote of thanks was passed to the Committee and then the auction proceeded without delay.
Ed

From the (New) President's pen.

Firstly I would like to thank Steve for his enormous effort over the past few years and thank the Committee and members for their support.

I would also like to welcome Brent to the Committee, Brent is a good keen man whom I believe has plenty to offer to our organization and we look forward to his input.

Once again we are into a new financial year with auction cataloguing well under way and a busy schedule ahead which I hope will result in an enjoyable year for all members of the branch. We have been invited by the Wellington Service Rifle Club to participate in their ANZAC day display at the Kaitoke Deerstalkers range which is held in conjunction with their Service Rifle shoot. They would very much like members to display military items and militaria, particularly from the WW1 period. If you would like to put a few items out please let me know.

Visit to Ruahine Branch

A reminder that we are putting on a bus trip to visit the Ruahine branch on Sunday 22nd April. We will be leaving from Johnsonville at 8am sharp with pickup points at Porirua, Paraparaumu, Otaki and Levin. Members have been invited to attend from Taranaki and Hawkes Bay. We have booked a bus so if you want a pleasant outing for the day to visit these guys and possibly purchase some goodies please get your seat reserved. Ruahine branch has suggested a Buy, Sell, Swap and Trade day so hunt out a few of those things you didn't have time to search out for our Mickey Mouse auction and bring those along too. The cost will be subsidized by the branch but a contribution of \$10 per person is required. To book put your name on the list at the April meeting or contact me. We currently have 30 names on the list so the bus is approximately two thirds full.

Alwyn.

President's Report

I would like to welcome you all to the AGM and firstly like to apologize for my absence but I had to take my son to the surf life saving champs (I am lying on a Mt Maunganui beach as we speak). Alwyn has kindly agreed to read my report.

The past year has once again been another good one for the Wellington Branch. Our auction was again a great success and is probably the best in the country and brings together collectors from all over the country. Our meetings were always well patronized with museum quality displays and our range days were enjoyed by all the club shooters. The Christmas luncheon put on by the branch was also enjoyed by a lot of members.

The highlight for me would have to have been the Arms Fair that we put on two weeks ago. The displays were a credit to all who exhibited and we had dealers from all over the country in attendance and the accolades are still coming in. This was a wonderful promotional exercise showing the public what firearm collecting is about and very worthwhile. None of these events would have been possible without the help and enthusiasm of all our members but I would especially like to thank my Committee members for their help and dedication over the past twelve months. This team of individuals has worked tirelessly on your behalf.

It is with a touch of sadness that I step down from the Presidents position, I found it very rewarding doing this job over the past few years and it taught me a lot, I hope I have made a worthwhile contribution. However, I believe to keep the Branch vibrant and members interested we need to give people with energy, innovation and new ideas the chance to make a difference.

Having said all of that you don't get rid of me that easy as I would still like to stand for the Committee and continue with the Auction Convenor's role.

Steve



A Vickers Machine Gun for Sale at our Arms Fair

Right. A section of the Dealers' tables at the Arms Fair last month.



A fine pair of Rifle Volunteer uniforms from the 1890's period



Nazi badges displayed at our February meeting.



An old fashioned clay thrower the type you might see in a 1930's Tisdalls Catalogue



MASTERS GAMES 2007

Well, 2 more years have gone past and I grabbed my guns off the wall (for the 1st time in 2 years) and raced up to Wanganui for this years Masters games. There were round 10,000 competitors at the games this year, and the numbers are going up each year. See www.nzmastersgames.com/

For more information about it. Next year the games are in Dunedin (there is a Black Powder shooting event there as well) and in 2009 it's back in Wanganui.

Anyway, this year the BP rifle event was on the Saturday, and I was suitably embarrassed by the amount of rust that came out when I dried out the bore.

The day was informal ...but well organized. We all assembled about 8:30 and had to wait for a couple of guys who got delayed at the registration tent back in town. The weather was a bit suspect early on in the day, but cleared up and became quite hot in the end.

The format of the event is the same each games... a Vetterli (50m standing) followed by a series of 5 shot fun shoots/matches (Indian feather, turkey etc). This year we shot 9 of these shoots, culminating in a couple of mystery targets. They were reversed and you had to guess where the scoring zones were. Overall a fun day was had by all.

The interesting thing was that there were no Flintlock shooters this year...so there's an opportunity for someone for next time.....or maybe the flinter shooters are a dying breed.

Afterwards some of us went to the Event Marquee on Saturday night. The Marquee is about 40m x 60m. This was an amazing venue, with hundreds and hundreds of people partying. They had a live band and a bar along one wall, food bars and a throng of people and music.

It is a massive undertaking to put this event on.

On the Sunday was the Pistol events. It was a bright and sunny morning with the wind swirling round making one work for ones points.

The shoot was followed by a barbeque and prize giving, then we all had a group photo taken by the local papers photographer.

The next Wanganui Masters Games is to be held in 2009 and I would encourage people to mark their diaries and attend if they can.

The more the merrier ...and we're looking forward to the next games.

Tony

AAA Wgtn Members Shooting Results :

BP Free Rifle	Tony B	Gold
BP Rifle Aggregate	Tony B	Gold
BP Revolver	Tony B	Gold
	Brian J	Gold
BP Single Shot	Tony B	Gold
	Brian J	Gold
10m Air Pistol	Brian J	Bronze
IPSC Practical Pistol	Ray B	Silver

Margaret B Bronze

NRA Action Ray B Gold
Margaret B Silver

Speed Shooting Ray B Gold
Margaret B Silver



Our Tony blasting off for Gold



Master Games Competitors checking their targets

Below. The Krupp gun at the Botanic Garden site. Some rust is beginning to show through on the wheels etc and stains are visible on the concrete base. Not too serious at this stage but clearly needing attention.



Omaka Aviation History Centre

On a recent trip to Blenheim I found the time to visit the new Omaka Aviation History Centre which is about 20minutes out of Blenheim on the road to Nelson. The Centre is well signposted and a must see attraction for members and those interested in aviation history. The focus is on World War 1 aircraft which are displayed in full sized life like settings with pilots and gunners etc. There are as many British as German aircraft displayed and the highlight of the exhibits is the demise of the Red Baron with a continuously running video of his funeral. There are very informative notes with each display and these include audio commentaries and oral histories recorded as interviews with World War 1 pilots.

Examples of interesting displays include a wounded pilot being removed from a plane to a waiting ambulance, an armourer's cabin, aircraft workshop and a plane crashed into a tree and surrounded by German soldiers.

Make your visit short or long but leave yourself at least an hour to feast on these amazing displays. Entry fee is \$18 but I felt was value for money. The exhibition is held in a new purpose built hanger complete with coffee bar. Peter Jackson and Weta Workshops are mentioned in the documentation and it is clear that these world class entrepreneurs have had a major input to this facility.

Wayne



Jeep with 50cal machine gun seen at the Wings Over Wairarapa Airshow Jan 07



Corsair at the Wings Over Wairarapa Airshow 2007



Another WW1 plane taken at the 2005 Wairarapa Air Show



Above No these are not at Omaka but photos taken at the 2005 Wings Over Wairarapa Air Show

Next Meeting

Sunday 1st April at the usual venue, Petone Workingmen's Club, Udy Street Petone **from 1.30pm**. Display theme for the meeting will be Letters U and V Remember Terry will be running his Lucky Draw for exhibitors so make sure you are in the draw. A few suggestions are; Uberti, USA, Universal, Unwin, USSR, Vest Pocket, Victoria/Queen/VR, Volcanic

Coming Events.

14th Apr. NZAHAA Annual General Meeting. Central Branch, Otorohanga.

22nd Apr. Wellington Branch trip to Ruahine Branch, Palmerston Nth.