

JUNE 2003

Flint & Cap

Newsletter of New Zealand Antique Arms
Association Wellington Branch Inc.
P.O.Box 14-029
Kilbirnie
WELLINGTON.

www.nzaaaawgtn.org.nz

President **Ron**
Vice President **Steve**
Secretary **Phil**
Treasurer **Margaret**
Editor **Rex**

Auction Convenor (Vice President) **Steve**

Committee;

Ray
Tony
Vic
Ron
Alwyn
Wayne
Tony

JUNE 2003 MEETING

Even Queen's Birthday weekend wasn't enough to keep people away and a very good group of members made the meeting and brought out their treasures for us to see. The "J & K" letter theme caused no problems and this means another impressive list that includes;

- Kynock (ICI) linen Cartridge Chart – an unusual item from about the 1950's together with a good selection of Kynoch cartridge packets, wrappers etc;
- Knives – Sheath, military & pocket;
- Japanese Knee Mortar (Type No. 72060) – together with its original pigskin barrel sheath and blank high explosive collectors rounds;
- Japanese bayonets – a great selection dating from Model 1885's to Type 100 S.M.G.- accompanied by their literature;
- Japanese Dress tunic, 7.7mm T92 M.G., Arisaka rifle & carbine, Army Pattern Shin-Gunto's & WWII privates 1st. Class tunic;
- Japanese flags all featuring as part of the flags of the Allied Nation on a collection of WWI commemorative china;
- Japanese Surrender Display accompanied with a newspaper report from Rabaul dated Thursday 6 Sep. 1945 and featuring a Japanese Marine Landing Force Sword with its 500 year old Ancestral blade and its surrender tag still attached. Related surrender photographs also

supported this very historical item;

- H Jones (London) 14g. hammer gun & James Rakewell Warrilow (England) 12g. Hammer gun;
- Johnson Semi-auto military rifle, together with its details and documentation;
- Knives – assorted daggers, sheath and decorative – a great selection;
- L1A1 Knife bayonets another wide variety of alternatives available for attachment to the related rifles;
- Webley Kaufman Second Model .476 revolver with its details/literature;
- Bowie Knives – supported by the Bowie Knife Book; Jack Knives – another good selection of various jack knives;
- Sierra bullet board – with a good selection of the projectiles available. Dated "Founded 1947";
- "Japan" – a selection including a flag, trench art shield service money, t94 water bottle etc.;
- Japanese Arisaka rifle in 6.5mm together with ammo belts and representative ammo;
- Jungle carbines – 2 x B.S.A. Shirly & 1 x R.O.F. Fazakerley Sporter dated 10/47 – a 47 year old – together with literature;
- "Julian Live" an early photo together with two model aeroplanes – Kamikaze Yokosuka MXY7 Ohka (Cherry Blossom) & Komet Messerschmitt

Below. A display of Knives - Sheath, Military and pocket knives. A good example of the letter "K"



A Political Lesson

New Zealand's firearms owners swapped their lifetime gun registrations for lifetime firearms licenses in 1983. I remember it well because I was the one who personally negotiated the 'lifetime' bit with Inspector Alistair McCallum from Police HQ. The two of us were in a room at the Police Armoury in Central Wellington. Alistair said that the Police investigations had shown that rifle registration was a costly exercise and that exchanging registration for a license (as existed for shotguns) was a strong possibility. The police that would be freed up from record keeping could then be used for policing.

I told Alistair I feared that Government would eventually see an opportunity to tax firearms owners by insisting on license renewals at regular intervals - perhaps even annually. We discussed this for a while and then he said "If we write the law in such a way that firearms owners have lifetime licenses would shooters accept a license instead of registration?" I responded along the lines of "I think shooters will accept that provided the initial cost is not too high, remember we have already paid for a lifetime registration" We each smiled and stood up. I can't recall if we shook hands - but we had an agreement.

That agreement resulted in Section 25 of the 1983 Arms Act - which reads: "Duration of Firearms License- every firearms license shall, unless sooner revoked or surrendered, continue in force until the person to whom it is issued dies" The cost of the lifetime license was \$11 for persons who already had registered firearms and \$27 for applicants for new licenses.

In 1992 Section 9 of the 1992 Arms Amendment Act substituted Section 25 and replaced the 'lifetime license' with one of 10 years duration. This breach of faith illustrated how fickle Government could be. (They could have simply required a 10 yearly 'examination' and revoked the license of any who did not measure up - that should have satisfied both parties)

This tendency to change the rules while the game is on has happened several times since the 1920 Arms Act and more recently Government did a similar thing to our lifetime drivers licenses. But what to me is even more important is that at the time of changing the drivers license (to one with a photo on it) they assured the public that it would NOT be used as an ID - they even said that it would be unlawful for people to demand it as a form of ID (which of course begs the question 'why the photo?')

Well, our Minister of Justice, Phil Goff, has today announced the introduction of a new Bill - and he says that second hand dealers will have to see identification 'such as a drivers license' to record the contact details of people selling goods. **Another broken promise - how long will it be before we have to carry our license at all times?**

It is promises that deal with 'rights' that are so very important. Don't forget the words of Justice William O'Douglas:
"As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air - however slight - lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness."

Here is today's press release: **Note that it also sets a precedent for FIVE year licenses.**

Justice Minister Phil Goff has introduced a bill tightening

rules for secondhand dealers and pawn brokers.

It orders dealers to make sure they see identification, such as a driver's licence, and to record the contact details of anyone selling goods to them. A new schedule has also been drawn up of goods at high risk of being stolen such as computers and play stations. They cannot be on-sold for two weeks, to give more time to detect whether they have been stolen.

The bill also scraps the lifetime licence for secondhand dealers. It will be replaced with one valid for five years.

John Howat.



An interesting display of Japanese Dirks at the June meeting.



An extensive display of Japanese items including a Jap Hothchkiss Heavy Machine Gun, Japanese Arisaka 6.5mm rifle and bayonet, a Model 99 short rifle in 7.7mm calibre and three swords. Below a large Bowie knife





An example of a Webley Kaufmann revolver displayed along with the published references to this model.



A large display of various Japanese bayonets .



A selection of Jungle Carbines



A display of Knives, Sheath, Military & Pocket.

Our President Ron.

Members attending the meeting on 1st June were advised by Ron that after a collapse a week or two earlier he had been diagnosed as having a serious health problem and was waiting to undergo surgery for removal of a brain tumour.

It is pleasing to report that on the Tuesday after Queens birthday weekend Ron was called into hospital and operated on the following day. He has since made a remarkable recovery and appears in good spirits with no sign of paralysis or impediment that sometimes follows cases of this nature. Ron was discharged from hospital in only 6 days after major surgery and is now recuperating from his ordeal at home. There is still a long way to go before he is back to good health and our best wishes go to Ron and also Maxine and their family who have also endured a harrowing time since this all started.

We often hear criticism of the NZ hospital system where the wheels of bureaucracy are often slow to turn, but this was surely an example of a splendid response from a somewhat beleaguered health system. Ed

Ron would also like to thank the many members who

Howlers

How's this.

Steve received a cheque payable to the Branch in the mail box recently. There was no accompanying invoice or any indication of what it was for, so after some fruitless research here Steve managed to track the sender and phoned him to inquire. The answer was for auction purchases, and after further head scratching it was established that he was a postal buyer for the Otorohanga branch auction, he seemed to think that Antique Arms was all one and the same outfit !

Auction

Our annual auction for 12th and 13th July is all on schedule and looking good at this stage. We can still do with more helpers to stand in behind the tables and keep watch at viewing times particularly on the Friday late afternoon and early evening so if you are available for an hour or two then your assistance would be appreciated.

We can also do with more help for the parcel wrapping exercise on the Monday, this is always an enjoyable day when we can relax a little. Detail of the venue for this will be available later.

You should all be aware that we have no "Shindlers list" of persons who get in to the Auction without paying an entry fee. Everyone pays (except wives or partners) and that includes all of the Committee and others who in some cases have spent months collecting items cataloguing, typing, collating and generally organising the auction for the benefit of all, so don't let us hear any complaints.

Also remember that if you purchase any firearms they must be wrapped before being taken from the hall, we don't want people being seen wandering around outside or in the car parks with firearms. This also goes for the odd Steptoe of this Club who may have trade items in the boot of his/her car. No firearms are to be visible.

Firearms Control

Having recently carried out some research on firearms related deaths I decided to approach my local MP, a senior member of Parliament. A copy of my submission follows.

Perception

The common perception is that firearms are dangerous, and in the wrong hands they can be. However if you look at the official statistics you see that the incidence of deaths from firearms is miniscule and the conclusion that committing vast sums of money to further enhance gun control will be of little benefit to the public of New Zealand.

Current estimates of \$50 million on proposed new gun control could be better used if allocated to our beleaguered health sector where the funds would provide an immediate and tangible benefit. The latest statistics available (for 1998-99) showed;

Cancer deaths - 7674

Heart Disease - 6203 (with Maori having a much higher rates than European)

Road deaths - 537 (since reduced with increased Police resources)

Hospitalisation from suicide attempts - 3567. Deaths - 561 (Youth suicide rates at one of the highest in the developed world)

These are but a few of the 27,457 deaths in the 1998-99 period and I believe that many deaths could have been avoided and much suffering relieved with more resources in early diagnostic services and treatment.

By comparison in 1999 there were eight firearms related deaths, one of which was a legal shooting by Police. Six were homicides and one was an accidental death. Much as these deaths are to be regretted, the conclusion I have arrived at is that to spend large sums on Police resources to further control a miniscule problem is ridiculous in the extreme. It should also be noted that some of the firearms incidents were the direct result of failures by the mental health system.

My MP seemed surprised and said he thought all of this had been forgotten. I also gave him my conservative estimate of the cost of what I thought licencing control might run to, which was well in excess of the \$50 million suggested. His response was "but surely this cost would be borne by gunowners." Clearly this user pay mentality is an indication of the way most MPs are thinking.

The firearms owners of this country, remember there were 468,187 of us (Thorpe report) plus families, collectively represent 33% of the voting population (2,863,470 Dept of Statistics 2001). We must make a greater effort to convince the Government that committing vast sums of money, whether it comes directly from you as gun owners or indirectly as a taxpayers would result in little benefit to the public. In essence do we want to see resources channelled to a reduction of around eight firearms related deaths a year or do we endeavour to reduce the appalling waiting time for cancer and surgical treatment so badly need by many.

The only way we can influence Government is if you make an effort.

Write something down, get a friend to help, form a group to organise a concerted effort to influence your politicians on arms control. Don't

WANTED

Hi, does anyone know were I can find some old .50 cal BMG projectiles. They are for display purposes (I have machine gun belt links and fired cases). Jermy

If anyone can help please contact the Editor for his address.



Two similar Jo Lo Ar unusual automatic pistols displayed at the June meeting. One in .380 cal the other in 9mm Long. Circa 1924 these were designed for the Spanish Cavalry with a cocking lever to facilitate one handed operation. By raising the barrel as shown they could be also used as a single shot pistol. There were only about eight thousand made with a number going to South America.

Wanted - Buy Trade or Swap.

Any Jo Lo Ar manufactured firearms or other products by this maker.

Bill Voisey.

Krupp Gun

Rex Brady says there is still no word on when the Gun will be placed in the Botanic Gardens although he was aware that ground work was in progress for the site. Accordingly I went there on Sunday (22nd June) and had a look for myself. Sure enough there are some very extensive foundations being prepared and appear to be ready for concreting.

As much as I would have preferred to have seen the gun situated on Lambton Quay near the Cenotaph I must say that the site chosen is very impressive and a very good alternative. The site is adjacent to the old Dominion Observatory building on a main walking track overlooking the harbour. It appears that provision is being made for lighting as conduits are placed in the foundation. Some photos of the site and general area are included.

Ed.

Shooter grabs Aussie gold

Article from the Manawatu Standard of 14th June 22, 2003
By AARON SMALE

ALLAN Colville shot the Aussies to bits on their own turf recently when he took out five individual and five team medals in a transTasman shooting competition. The bi-annual competition alternates between the countries and Mr Colville relished beating the Australians in front of the Adelaide crowd.

"We gave the Aussies a bit of a towelling, actually, which is always good," he says.

Mr Colville has competed in five of the transTasman duels and believes New Zealand has always had the edge.

"Over the years, we've probably done better, although it's not one-sided by any means. They're very competitive people. There's a fair bit of banter, some of which wouldn't be printable. "But you make some damn good friends."

He won in both rifle and shotgun categories, which takes a bit of adjustment in your shooting approach, he says.

He has been shooting most of his life and the skill has taken him around the world.

"We all started off with air guns when we were kids and haven't looked back," Mr Colville says.

He has competed in world championships in Canada, Germany, England, Switzerland and the United States.

He says in those countries, shooting has many competitors and regular competitions.

"It's a very competitive sport. In Europe, it's terrifically strong."

Mr Colville is a member of the Rifle, Rod & Gun Club in Palmerston North and doesn't mind passing on his knowledge to others.

"You always make yourself available to give someone a hand where you can."

He says fewer children were interested in shooting these days in the face of stiff competition from other sports and recreational activities. Tightening gun laws in many countries had also affected the sport, Mr Colville says. "It has altered the competitive side of it." But he says the people who cause the problems ignore the laws anyway. There aren't any problems in travelling overseas with firearms, as long as the correct procedures are followed with police and customs, he says.

He adds that he was grateful to the Palmerston North City Council for a grant that helped him compete.

"You can spend \$10,000 easily. Every little bit helps."

Mr Colville's results were:

gold — 200m rifle; gold — 100m rifle; gold — shotgun, clay target; silver — 100m original military rifle; bronze — 50m offhand rifle. In the team events, he won: gold — 200m rifle; gold — 100m original military rifle; silver — 100m rifle; silver — shotgun clay target; bronze — 50m offhand rifle.

The New Zealand shooters in the pistol category won all four events.

Unfortunately I have been unable to satisfactorily reproduce the photo of Allan with one of his winning



Above. Position of the Krupp Gun foundations at the top of the Botanic Gardens overlooking Wellington Harbour and City.



Entrance to the Gardens from the Kelburn Cable Car Terminus. The Gun Position is about 100yds around to the left from this entrance.



Another view of Wellington City from close to where the Krupp Gun is to be sited.

Wellington Firearms & Militaria Show 2004

February 14th & 15th
2004
Saint Patrick's College
Silverstream
Upper Hutt
Wellington

Sat 9am to 4:30 pm
Sunday 9am to 3:30 pm

Sales tables
Displays
Firearms & Accessories
Militaria Collectables
Ammunition
Hunting and shooting
accessories
Shooting Club displays &
information

*For a great day out,
\$5 per adult, \$15 per
family,*

*Children under 16 must be
accompanied by an adult.*

For more details contact;
John 021 344 684 or Gerry 021 461520
or email us info@gunshow.co.nz

The Law

Once again we see a high profile offender convicted who has got a freebee sentence, this time on a firearm conviction. Yes, John Burrett the clown from Upper Hutt convicted for kidnapping was given the maximum penalty this month on the kidnapping charge but only a concurrent sentence on the firearms charge. Interestingly the Judge said he did not think the law permitted him to do otherwise.

What's wrong with our Justice system when an evil character like Burrett effectively gets no additional penalty for breaches of the Arms Act. Why should we all be subject to pressure about firearms registration and security when the Law fails to apply an effective penalty in such a blatant case where a sawn off shotgun was involved. Penalties in the Arms Act mean very little when a Judge is prevented from applying a jail term except as a concurrent sentence. No wonder the crims equip themselves with guns when they are unlikely to be treated any more harshly if they are caught with a firearm than without one.

We have been advised that the character who burgled a member's home and stole a large number of firearms was released from Prison this month after completing two and a half years of a seven year sentence for the offence. It seems ridiculous that a seven year term can be in fact mean only two and a half years but that's the Law. I presume he will still be on Probation.

Unfortunately in this case the offender has a long history of previous convictions and not all of the firearms stolen were recovered. This character is now reported to be living in the Hutt Valley and has previously shown a fascination for firearms. He obviously has to be given a chance to live a normal life and hopefully has now changed his ways, time will tell. Meanwhile everyone should be vigilant and ensure they maintain proper security at all times.

Perhaps we should all be joining Sensible Sentencing – we might be able to exert a bit more clout than we seem to be having with Arms control.
Ed.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday 5th July 2003 at the usual venue, Petone Workingmen's Club, Udy Street Petone from 1.30pm. Display theme for the meeting will be **Letter L**. A few suggestions
L.1.A.1. Lahti, Lancaster, Lancer, Lead, Lebel, Le Fauchaux, Leige, Lilliput, Little Big Horn, Loading Gear, Lock, London, Luftwaffe, Luger, Lyman.

We appreciate that this meeting is less than a week out from our big annual auction and may be too much of a commitment for some of our many supporters particularly the out of town members who travel significant distances to attend, however we would like to see you all if you can make it.

If not we look forward to seeing you all at our