

Flint & Cap

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

Aug 2006

www.nzaawgtn.org.nz

President Steve
and Auction Convenor Email
steveprivett@paradise.net.nz

Vice President Alwyn

Secretary Tim

Treasurer Margaret

Email info@pistolnz.org.nz

Editor Rex

Committee.

Terry
John
Vic
Wayne
John
Glen
Terry
Frank

- Orberndorf Mauser Sporting rifle complete with original Zeiss scope.
- Orberndorf Mauser GEW98 military rifle complete with bayonet.
- A collection of rare reloading tools, all old and quality items.
- Oriental WW2 headgear, flags and wire cutters, entrenching tools, gas masks and rifle maintenance kits.
- Officers' Warsaw Pact berets, a number of different types.
- Officers equipment including holsters, binoculars, swagger sticks, whistles and pistol lanyards.
- Quality .45ACP pistols with holsters and literature on their history.
- Quite rare percussion pistols. A Rogers and Spencer 6 shot .44cal and a Remington 6 shot .44cal.
- Quite a small size and calibre Webley, Woodward Derringers and a cased Tipping and Lowden 4 barrel Derringer in .30cal and a Webley .25cal semi auto pistol, some lovely items.
- Quite old. A selection of NZ made Snider cartridges, all different years of manufacture.
- Quite Old. Metal fittings and brassware that has been recovered by our No1 Metal Detector enthusiast. Many of these fittings are parts of Brown Bess muskets.
- Odd stones. Opal, a vial of opal chips obsidian volcanic glass from Mayor Island. Quartz, synthetic quartz and natural quartz crystal.
- One inch Nordenfelt machine gun round.

August Meeting

Letters O and Q, what would come out ??

- Quirky. Our SLR man yet again butt plates, sights, magazines, forewoods, flash suppressors and bayonets. Accessories from all corners of the world.
- Relic of old flintlock pistol and quality Ross rifle.
- Japanese NCO Officer's Sword with information and a Japanese flag.
- Queen Victoria era newspaper dated 22nd October 1864.
- Question. What caused the barrel rupture. A rather unusual rupture in one of a 12g double barrel shotgun barrels.
- Quite quirky collectables, some 20 different pairs of pruning shears. Perhaps this member grows grapes or does he cut the edges with these.
- Under and Over shotguns. Russian, Chinese and Spanish.
- Quite rare repeating shotguns. Two Winchester repeaters Models 1887 and 1893.
- Optical instruments as used with the Vickers machine gun, complete with literature and other associated items.
- Oh a lovely gt 80 hunting rifle, This display was put on by one of our youngest members.
- "Our members Father" photos, badges, SAS, memorabilia, fighting knives and literature.

All in all some pretty amazing displays and a good attendance. Thanks to all who took the trouble to display items. Alwyn.



A display of Quite Small pistols including two Derringers, and a Webley .25 Auto

Japanese Battleship "Yamato"

The most biggest and powerful battleship ever built, *YAMATO*, the ancient name of Japan. She was the first of a class of super ships covertly constructed by Japan before World War II, was 862 feet long, displaced 72,000 tons, sheathed in the heaviest Armour plate ever milled, had a speed of over twenty-seven knots, and three turrets (each weighing 2,800 tons), each holding three 18.1-inch guns capable of firing a shell weighing 3,200 pounds. Although four Yamato-class ships were planned, only one other, the *MUSASHI* was completed. Both were sunk during the war and never took part in any ship-to-ship battles. The third vessel, *SHINANO*, was completed as an aircraft carrier, while the fourth was scrapped during construction. Overall, the project was a waste of scarce resources, although the ships were an excellent example of the technical skill of the Japanese

Sunk by American aircraft in 1945 while en-route on a suicide mission to Okinawa to engage and wreak havoc with the American naval task force blockading Okinawa and then beaching itself and the crew were then to be used to reinforce the garrison of Okinawa. *YAMATO* finally sunk after being hit by ten torpedoes and six bombs. Of a total crew of 3,332 only 269 were saved.

Dimensions: 863x127x35Feet.

Protection: Main belt armour 16 in., deck 7 3/4 in., turrets 20-25in.

Armament: 9 18-inch, 12 6.1-inch, 12 5-inch AA, 24 25-mm AA,

4 13-mm guns, plus 6 aircraft. Crew: 3,332.

Speed: 27 knots. Displacement: 64,170 tons.

Japanese movie makers have recently released a movie covering the last days of *YAMATO* from a Japanese perspective with an insight in to the daily lives and loves of the crew members, and of their families before departing on there fateful journey. It is rare for the Japanese to make movies concerning W.W. II, particularly about *YAMATO* as all design plans, records and drawings were destroyed by naval authorities after she was sunk as if she never existed. The movie hopefully should be in New Zealand cinemas some time later this year and it will make interesting viewing.

Ross T.



The Yamato. It seems that few photos of this battleship exist and Ross suggests that photographing warships in Japan was probably illegal at that time. Lower is probably a drawing.



An early example of a 7.92mm Oberndorf GEW Military Mauser with straight bolt, Lange rear sight, original sling with correct fittings and 1898/05 bayonet.



The original foresight and muzzle protector on the above Military Mauser. The clearing rod is also visible.



Quirky - FAL items of the world displayed at our August meeting



Officers Berets - from Warsaw Pact countries.



Japanese NCO's Officers Sword with information and a Japanese flag



A Vickers machine gun optical dial sight in exceptionally good condition



A good display of photos and items illustrating the exploits of a member's father in World War II



A display of New Zealand made Snider cartridges



A pair of quite rare Winchester 12g Repeating shotguns. Models 1887 and 1893. Pretty good for 119 years and 113 years old and a tribute to the designers and manufacturer.



Oriental WWII equipment including flag, entrenching tools, wire cutter, gas mask etc



A selection of Under & Over shotguns, Russian, Spanish & Chinese

A selection of rare Reloading tools.



Editorial.

We don't have a lot to report at present, it is the time of year when things slacken off after our big auction effort and there is very little to report. It is an ideal time for some of our members to assist with items of interest.

I am always looking for articles or pointers for the newsletter and I am sure there are lots of you who could help. A good example is Ross T who has provided two quite exceptional items, one on Japanese swords and another on the battleship Yamoto in this edition. There must be others who are knowledgeable on all sorts of subjects of interest to us.

I appreciate that we all tend to look to firearms and edged weapons as the main subjects of choice for militaria collecting but it seems to me there are numerous other avenues which few pursue. We have already seen marvellous examples of historic papers, memoranda and numerous rare publications but on another tack I recently found an Australian 20c piece in my possession which was dated 2005 and shows a soldier with his wife and child and is marked "World War 1939 - 1945 Coming Home" As I am not a coin collector I have no knowledge of this, but it would appear to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of World War II, possibly this is one of a series of other denominations. Sure it's not a New Zealand item but Australia is pretty close to us and it does illustrate the resurgence of interest in the War and things militaria.

Another collectors' item that was given to me recently was a sheet of four NZ postage stamps to mark New Zealand contributions to various Wars. I am not certain of the date these were issued but the stamps are in denominations of 24c, 40c, 58c and 70c so it must have been some time ago, as it is a while since you could post a letter for 24c.

So as they say "think outside the square." We already see examples of this on occasions with exhibits at our meetings so don't be constrained.

Ed



A colourful collection of Quirky items - Secateurs - perhaps our man grows grapes - or does his wife grow roses. Maybe he will bring along the wine or the flowers next time.

Next Meeting.

Sunday 3rd September at the usual venue, Petone Workingmen's Club, Udy Street, Petone. will be our **Buy, Sell, Swap and Trade Day** with set-up from 11am so bring along all the surplus pre-loved items you would like to cash in and try your luck. No displays will be required but if you wish to display any items feel free to do so, however, we would rather you kept your best displays for the November luncheon meeting when we will be looking to everyone to make an effort.

Set-up for the Buy, Sell, Swap will be from 11am with trading to commence any time thereafter (From what I have seen in other years some people barely get a chance to unpack their goods before the vultures swoop. Ed) so be early for a first look at the bargains. These days have proved very popular with members and visitors travelling from other parts of the country.

Alwyn

National Postal Shoot

This year we would like to compete in this New Zealand wide event. Most of the matches are for black powder firearms but I am aware that we have a number of black powder shooters who compete in other competitions so I would like to see some of you "give it a go" and shoot for your Branch. If you can assist please contact me.

Alwyn



A sheet of New Zealand stamps commemorating our involvement in various Wars



An Aussie 20c piece depicting a World War II soldier returning home