

# Flint & Cap

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

P.O. Box 14-029

Kilbirnie

WELLINGTON.

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[www.nzaaawgtn.org.nz](http://www.nzaaawgtn.org.nz)

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## Ian Skennerton Day 3rd Sept

The displays started rolling in from 9.30am and as tables were set out these quickly filled to reveal some outstanding items including,

- English Webleys with gauges accessories and armourers tools
- Sniders and Martinis – a nice collection.
- A comprehensive display of Webley auto handguns and revolvers with relevant information.
- A large display of Webley Service revolvers
- Enfield Pattern 1853 rifles, Calisher & Terry rifles and Carbines, Sniders, Bayonets, Martinis and Long Toms.
- SMLE 's various models by different makers
- British and Commonwealth fighting knives. A display case full of various styles.
- A large display of NZ marked rifles from a Pattern 53 Rifle, Calisher &



The man himself, Ian Skennerton

- Terry rifle and carbine, Snider rifle and carbines, Henry rifle, Remington-Lee rifle, Martini-Henry rifle and carbine, a Lee-Metford rifle and Tranter .450 1878 Model revolver
- Technical drawings, blueprints and photographs relating to Precision Engineering Ltd with other information relating to the manufacture of Military Components.
- Long Toms and Training rifles
- US Firearms of the Civil War era including Springfield Musket, Spencer Carbine, Starr Carbine, Sharpes Carbine, Burnside Carbine and a number of percussion revolvers of the period. This was an outstanding collection of rare items.
- NZ Army trials light machine gun Minimi by FN in 5.56mm together with documentation on the gun.
- Enfield Pattern 1853 rifle and Calisher & Terry carbine.
- Rifles. L1A1 SLR's. What a display, rifles fittings, cleaning gear, oil bottles, armourers tools all with information. A very well presented display.
- Rifles .303s different models and variants dating from the 1880's to 1950's. Many with bayonets.
- Hispano ammunition. A selection of drill and specialist rounds manufactured from around the world
- Revolver. A Smith & Wesson revolver with eight bullets lodged in the barrel. Plus Hand Books on Small Arms, Thompson Machine Gun, Light MG's and the Bren Gun.
- A display of Service revolvers from WW2 including a Webley and holster and two S&W Victory Model 38's
- Calisher & Terry rifle and Carbine. The rifle had a presentation plaque inset in the stock engraved with the name of Thomas Tunnicliffe.
- Sniders and yet more of them. One marked Tisdalls and a Hay Pattern by Bonehill.
- Sniders. NZ Government purchases, many with bayonets.
- Lee-Enfields. A small part of the Lee-Enfield story.
- British Cavalry swords – an amazing selection with relevant information
- American moving targets. These were apparently attached to motor cars, usually on the bonnets so people could hone their skills at hitting moving targets. A bit hard to imagine!
- The British Army in New Zealand 1840-1870 with a display based on the British Army and the exploits of Von Tempsky in the NZ

Land Wars. This display included two life sized dressed mannequins one as Von Tempsky and the other as a Maori warrior. A very professionally presented display to a world class standard

- A large collection of English made brass hand reloading tools.
- A selection of British handgun holsters.
- Two Vickers Machine guns set up on tripods the firing position and complete with accessories, instruction manual and spares. A very impressive display.
- Another machine gun, was it a Browning, a Bessa or something similar. I forgot to ask but it appeared to be fixed mount type perhaps from an aircraft.
- A New Zealand made Charlton machine gun with an excellent display of photos and literature. This would be one of the rarest of the rare New Zealand made items we are ever likely to see and we were privileged to have not only the real thing but also to be treated to an excellent display of photos, machine drawings and documentation relating to the history of the gun's development from and the man who designed it. The owner says there are only 12 known to exist worldwide from a production of about 1500
- British Bayonets – an amazing selection of British bayonets.
- A D.P. stamp and Armourers drawings relating to No4 rifles.



**The Charlton Machine Gun**

It was all there and the talk by Ian Skennerton went well and was illustrated with a display of photos projected from his computer onto a large screen. Interestingly quite a number of photos were taken of displays in New Orleans where he had visited some three months previously. He was concerned that some of these collections may now have been lost or damaged by hurricane Katrina.

Alwyn

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**US Firearms of the Civil War era**



**FN MiniMi Light Machine Gun**

**September 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting and Buy, Sell Swap Day.**

As usual the gear came out in quantity, caps, hats, brass helmets, lanterns, locks, magazines, oils, lubricants, guns ammunition, reloading gear, books, badges, medals, buttons, grips, holsters, phones, cleaning rods, Winchester accessories, woodworking tools, compasses, pistol accessories, the list just goes on and on.

Trading was brisk to say the least with the usual people bringing goodies and the vultures standing over them to swoop as soon as they unpacked their items.

It was pretty obvious that lots of items found new homes as money was seen to be changing hands in all directions.

A number of visitors from other clubs were present as most had decided to stay over from the Saturday show with Ian Skennerton and they were not disappointed.

Displays were modest as most had put such an effort into the previous day's show but these included;

Remington-Lee NZ marked rifle in .43 Spanish, Martini-Henry MkIV rifle, SLR's with revolutionary new optical sights, Enfield pistols, S&W Pistols, Snider rifles and carbines, Medals, Russian belts and badges.

Wayne experienced some difficulty with the food on this occasion as we are no longer permitted to take our own food into the hall. It appears that under OSH Health regulations the licence holder is responsible for all food consumed on the premises and in the event of a problem such as food poisoning they would be prosecuted. As a result it appears we will now have to arrange for all food to be supplied by the Workingmen's Club.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As most of the NZAHAA delegates had come to Wellington for the Skennerton weekend, it was decided to have an extraordinary Committee meeting on the Friday evening. There were 6 delegates present plus the National President, Vice President, Secretary and Newsletter editor.

The theme of the meeting was "How do we move forward" from the incidents of last few years that have stripped us of our working capital and created disharmony throughout the membership.

The meeting was very positive with everyone agreeing that we must try to put differences behind us, start building membership numbers and improving communication among branches. Everyone agreed that our past problems could have been avoided if we had more dialogue between branches.

It was resolved that delegates would submit a monthly report to the National Secretary for circulation, and that we would look at having either one or two extra meetings a year .

All the delegates said that their committees were looking into the adoption of the new rules, and those that were not Incorporated would do so.

Dennis Lally, the new National Newsletter editor, outlined his ideas for the Gazette which should take effect with the December issue.

The meeting ended at 10.40pm with everyone agreeing to go back to Branches for ideas that could be presented at the October meeting in Nelson.

## SKENNERTON

The following day we were privileged to have Ian Skennerton as a guest speaker. Ian had accepted our invitation to travel to NZ, so the Committee took the opportunity to combine his visit with a luncheon and displays, and to extend the invitation to all NZAHAA members.

The day started with a setup of displays from 10am and it was great to see the tremendous effort that members had gone to in mounting displays. The quality and variety of exhibits were of an amazing standard and it was hard to take everything in.

Ian had a table at one end of the room and set up a display of his books where he did a roaring trade selling and signing his books. At 12pm we went through for the buffet lunch after which Ian talked for 2 hours, aided by his computer generated display.

There was supposed to be time afterwards for a more detailed examination of members' displays but at a late stage the Workingmen's Club informed us that they needed most of the tables at 4pm and unfortunately a lot of the displays had to be packed away before some people had a chance to see them properly.

This was a new venture for the Wellington Branch Committee but I have had such great feedback from members and out of town guests that I think we might repeat this idea in the future with other guests.

Steve



A display of old cartridge reloading gear



A pair of Vickers Machine Guns



A selection of various Lee-Enfields



Enfield Pattern 53 Percussion Rifle & Calisher & Terry Carbine



**A large display based on Von Tamsky and the British Army in New Zealand between 1840 and 1870**



**Percussion pistols from the American Civil War period**



**The display of Webley revolvers**

**Wellington Branch Shooters do well again.**

Further to the article last month about Tony Bruce and Alan Colville doing well at the Trans Tasman Black Powder Championships in Rotorua, more results have been posted.

At the Trans Tasmans, the shooters physically shot each event only once.

The scores were then used several times for different competitions. ie: TT Individual results and TT Team results; the scores were also posted off to Canada for the World B Zone Championships.

Each 2 years the MLAIC World Championships are held, and on the alternate years Zone Competitions are held.

This year they were held in August in Canada.

(The B Zone countries comprise NZ, Australia, Canada, USA, South Africa and Japan.)

B Zone Results were a combination of scores shot on the

day in Canada, and also incorporated the Postal results from the NZ Trans Tasmans.

Alan did exceptionally well gaining an Individual Gold in the Minie Competition

(100m Prone Military rifle, using a Minie Projectile), and a Bronze in the Rigby Team competition (prone 100m Free rifle, 3 man team).

Tony did well coming 3rd = in the Kuchenreuter, (25m Percussion single shot pistol), but he missed out on a medal on countback.

note 1st and 2nd in this event were both New Zealanders.

New Zealand won a total of 16 medals at the B Zone Champs.

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**Range Day 9<sup>th</sup> October**

**Kaitoke Deer Stalkers Range**

Along with the summer months comes daylight saving and of course our Club shoots at the Deer Stalkers Range with our opening shoot on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Setup from 9.30am.

We will run a general plinking/practice day with .22's in the morning and the loud bangers later on.

Things to bring;

Any new rifle or shotgun acquisitions you may wish to try.

Plenty of ammo

Warm and wet weather clothing.

Lunch and a drink

Ear and eye protection

Any interested friends.

We have had another keen shooter come forward to assist with range duties. He comes with Military shooting experience and I believe has some interesting shoots planned.

Alwyn.

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**Coming Events**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Auckland Gunshow.

2<sup>nd</sup> October Melbourne Auction.

8<sup>th</sup> October National Shoot Auckland Deer Stalkers Range.

15<sup>th</sup> October NZAHAA AGM & Auction at Nelson

16<sup>th</sup> October Carvell's Auction Auckland.

13<sup>th</sup> November Wellington Branch luncheon meeting.

**Next Meeting.**

Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the usual venue, Petone Workingmen's Club. Udy Street, Petone

From 1.30pm

Display theme for the meeting will be letter "I" A few suggestions, Imperial, Implements, Inches, Indian, Inertia, Inglis, Instruments, Interchangeable, Irish, Israeli, Italian, Ithaca, Iver Johnson and wait for it Frank, Ivory.

**Remember to check your Firearms Licence expiry date**