

# Flint & Cap

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

P.O. Box 14-029

Kilbirnie

WELLINGTON.

October 2008

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

<b>President</b>	Alwyn
<b>Vice President</b>	Terry
<b>Auction Convenor</b>	Steve
<b>Secretary</b>	Tim
<b>Treasurer</b>	Margaret

#### Committee

Rex  
John  
Vic  
John  
Glenn  
Terry  
Brent

### Railway workshop visit

We had a good muster of members and a few visitors for the tour. Most were at the gates on time and after Phil gave us a basic run down on the procedures and showed us a video it was time to have a look.

The plant is currently rebuilding several DX class locomotives that are specially adapted to coal trains. They are used to transport coal from the west coast to the Lyttleton port.

The locomotives are completely stripped to the last nut and bolt and all rebuilt or new components are used. It takes a team of 6 workers 3 days to completely strip the loco, with all the separate parts going to the correct work section for further disassembly. All new cabs and wiring looms are made. The original chassis is checked for damage, cracks, and any rusty areas. At this stage the replacement parts start to arrive. The chassis is painted with an industrial priming paint and the new components are fitted by several skilled crews. Each team specialize in one area, ie electronics, diesel engine, upholstery and electric motors, to name a few. Once the rebuild is complete the loco is moved to the

paint shop for a new fresh coat of paint. There was a crew of painters processing a loco on the Sunday of our visit. The team leader indicated that they will spend about 500 man hours preparing and painting a loco. An interesting fact was that they will spend 50 hours masking out areas that are not to be painted and they will apply a coat of primer in 2 hours. When the final coat of paint is applied the loco is tested and handed to Toll for use.

Some interesting facts on DX class locomotive.

They were built in America and started service in N.Z. in 1972.

They have a fuel tank capacity of 5500 litres.

They have a V12, 4 stroke, twin cam, turbo charged inter cooled diesel engine that produces 3300 horse power.

Each cylinder has a 9.25 inch diameter, and a stroke of 10 inches.

The sump holds approx 20 gallons of motor oil.

The engines idle at 300 r.p.m. and rev to 1010 r.p.m. at full load.

A full tank of diesel will easily get a freight train from Wellington to Auckland.

The locomotives weigh about 86 tons, when full of fuel and will travel about 1.5 million kilometres before they will need a rebuild.

It was also mentioned that the coal trains lead a pretty hard life as the locomotives are required to pull loads in excess of 1000 tons up some steep gradients as they come from the west coast to the Canterbury plains. A big thank you must go to the Henry and the team who made this plant tour possible.

Alwyn

## Christmas luncheon

We will be having our annual christmas luncheon on Sunday, 2nd of November. Should you want to attend please contact Alwyn to confirm seats. We need names etc to assist with the catering for this event.



A rather large turbo charger!



A fully stripped loco



Lathe for machining wheel sets



Inspecting a stripped down engine



A rebuilt loco in the paint booth



Alwyn with a fully rebuilt engine



100 Ton crane used to lift locos

## Club Promotions

The first is polo shirts with a NZAHAA logo embroidered to the shirt. Various sizes available. Cost is \$35:00 each plus freight.

We have managed to get the last six of the "southland promoted" gunbags. Should you want one of these please see Alwyn at the christmas lunch. Cost is \$40.00 each.



Roll of Honour boards at Railways workshop



Loco's and parts in the yards

## 2009 Calendar

The new 2009 National Branch calendar is available and can be purchased at the luncheon meeting, please bring \$10.00 to get your copy.

## Christmas family fun picnic shoot

Date 16 November Kaitoke Deerstalkers rifle range. Once again we will be having a family picnic shoot. Match details are as follows.

Match 1 Iron chickens Children under 15 yrs .22 rf rifles only, 6 shots, 6 chickens. 30 metres. Prone position. All competitors must be supervised by a licenced person.

Match 2 Iron Chickens. Ladies, wives, and girlfriends. Any .22cal rifle, 6 shots, 6 chickens. 30 metres. Prone position, competitors must be supervised if unlicensed.

Match 3 Iron chickens. Any iron sighted .22cal rifle. 6 shots, 6 chickens. 30 metres. This match has a chicken trophy Match 4 Iron chickens. Any .22 cal rifle, any sights, 6 shots, 6 chickens, 75 meters.

Lunch break. A canon, and any odd or unusual rifles you may like to use or demonstrate.

Match 5 Shotgun event. Our knock em over steel disc. Start to the line, load gun with 1 round. With gun pointing downrange, on whistle, aim at disc and fire within 3 seconds. The distance will keep increasing until only one shooter is left, the winner. We have a trophy for this match.

Match 6 Teams event .22 cal rifles, balloons and other challenges. Time to 90 seconds. 4 shooters per team unlimited ammo, all shooters in the prone shooting position.

Things to bring, eye and ear protection, warm clothing. Plenty of ammo, and a bit of assistance to set up or clean up.

## Web sites of interest

Service records of the NZ armed forces  
<http://muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/cenotaph/locations.aspx>  
Old NZ newspapers  
<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>  
Martini Henry site  
<http://www.martinihenry.com>  
Ian Skennerton  
<http://www.skennerton.com>  
NZ Cartridge collectors club  
<http://www.nzccc.org.nz/>

## Half Yearly Meeting in Whangarei

On the 17th of October Margaret and I flew up to Whangarei for the half yearly meeting of the NZA-HAA. The trip didn't get off to a very good start when a passenger had an asthma attack as we were taking off and the plane was delayed for 30 minutes. This meant we missed our Auckland connection and spend 2 and a half hours waiting for the next plane, we finally got to Whangarei and the management committee meeting started at 1pm.

These meetings involve the 12 branch representatives from around the country plus the president and national secretary. With items on the agenda like financial issues, building the membership, the postal and national shoots, strategic reports and sub committee reports plus general business, we were kept very busy and the meeting ran till 8pm.

On Saturday we went down to the venue for the Half yearly meeting and auction. The auction had been set up and we spent some time perusing the items on offer. At 10 am the meeting started with the national President introducing himself and the branch reps to the assembled membership. Two new members were then introduced the subcommittee reports were read and the postal shoot prizes were handed out, there was some discussion on insurance matters, the armies sale of the training rifles and the sale of the calendars, with the meeting closing at 11am.

After a short break the auction commenced this produced some hotly contested items plus a few bargains we managed to pick up a few items and I think everyone went home happy. Phil the Whangarei rep kindly invited everyone back to his home for a barbeque and to view his collection so after a few sausages and a couple of wines we inspected a fine collection of British military rifles. Our thanks to Phil and his team for their hospitality and a well run weekend.

Steve



## Carvells Auction

On my way home from the Whangarei meeting, Rex, Wayne and I stopped off in Auckland on Sunday for the Ray Carvell auction. Most of the items were from a large estate with some very rare and interesting items on offer. With Vickers and Lewis guns, Knox volley guns, double barrel blunderbuss and a lot of cased firearms. Plus Brown Bess, Enfield and just about every other British military rifle you could think of.

The auction is held at the Grand Chancellor hotel with viewing from 8.30 am till 10.30am on the day of the sale, this doesn't allow much time to view items and with 200 people all trying to look at once it can be very frustrating. At 10.30 am as the auction was starting we were given an election speech by Rodney Hide leader of the ACT party who have zero tolerance to crime and are pro gun.

Prices for items were up and down with the machine guns fetching high prices, the Vickers and Lewis guns went for 11K each. Cased duelling pistols were going for 20k and the double barrel blunderbuss went for 25k. However other prices seemed a bit lower with some Sniders going for \$300, Enfields, Brunswick and Remington Lee rifles going for just over a grand each.

This was probably a once in a life time opportunity to see and handle some of these items with Wayne drooling over a collier pistol (this was the first ever revolver), a lot of these items will probably find their way out of the country. All in all a very educational and interesting day.

Steve

## Remember to check your Firearms Licence expiry date

### Christmas Display

There are no theme letters for the Xmas display. We normally get a large turnout for this meeting so please get in early if you require a table as we often run out of space.

We are always keen for people who have not done a display for the club to make a special effort. Venue is Petone Working Mens Club, Sunday 2nd November, setup from 10.30am Lunch will be served around 1.00pm. See you there.