

Flint & Cap



Newsletter of The New Zealand Antique and Historical Arms Association

Wellington Branch Inc. P.O. Box 14-029 Kilbirnie, Wellington

<http://www.wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz/>

August 2012

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Generals' Orders from the President

In recent times we have had Pam N. and Paul C. resign from the committee. Pam was our treasurer, and this role needs to be filled by some one that has the required accounting skills. If you know someone, or you have the skills, and would like to do it, please let us know.

On behalf of the club, I thank both Pam and Paul for their efforts that they have put into the roles that they have held at committee level.

Alwyn

Fun Facts

On the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor the Secret Service realized they did not have a bullet-proof car to transport President Roosevelt safely to Congress to deliver his Infamy Speech. A quick thinking Secret Service agent remembered that the U.S. Treasury had seized the bullet proof limo of Al Capone in 1931. The car was still in working condition and safely transported the president to Congress. President Roosevelt reportedly quipped, "I hope Mr. Capone won't mind."

Colt Books available. Steve has managed to source a small quantity off the new colt book by the late Mr Raply. I believe these books are once again, a wealth of information to the Colt collector. These will be available at the October Meeting.

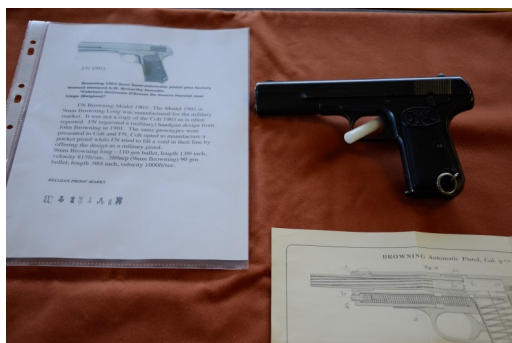
August Displays

The displays were a bit light this month, mainly because many people had travelled and had a weekend off it two weeks earlier, however we had some lovely exhibits with some very rare items.

- Israeli Modified M1 Helmet. Indonesian Kevlar Helmet



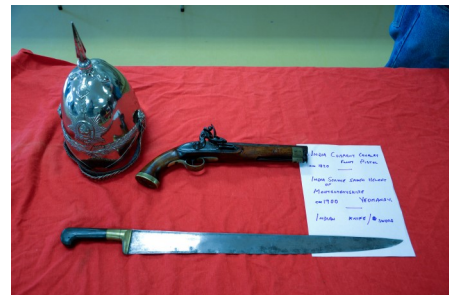
- India Pattern Flintlock Brown Bess Musket complete with Salter brand Brown Bess bayonet.
- Jeffries & Jones – Rare tools. William Palmer Jones, Birmingham “New Adjustable pressure gauge and cartridge rammer combined” George Jeffries, Norwich. “Apparatus for filling cartridges”



- An example of a 1903 Model Browning Long Semi Auto Pistol in 9mm calibre complete with a Parts & Description booklet on this model pistol by A & W McCarthy, Dunedin.
- 303cal Martini Enfield single shot Carbine together with a NZ Home Guard armband and a number of booklets, titled; Total War Training, General Knowledge for Home Guards, Home Guard Signalling, Home Guard Manual, A Booklet on Colt, Webley, Smith & Wesson, Luger, Mauser Auto Pistols, Boys Anti Tank gun, Hand Grenades, Northover Projectiles. Full details on Loading, firing, stoppages, stripping and assembly.
- Jeffery & Jones very rare reloading tools, so rare that several reference books indicate no examples known to exist. Yet we have this gear here for us all to see!!!



- Martini carbine that had been assembled by army armourers for Home Guard training.



- India Pattern Cavalry Flintlock Pistol circa 1820. India Service Spiked Helmet of Montgomeryshire Yeomanry circa 1900. India Knife/Sword.



- An Inglis Hi Power Semi Auto Pistol in 9mm parabellum with detachable stock and extended magazine. An Israeli Arms Semi Auto Pistol in .50 A&E Cal. This was an exceptionally heavy pistol that seemed almost impractical to be carried as a side arm. A Fiipetta PPS 50 SMG in .22LR Calibre. A gun that had the appearance of Russian Sub Machine gun with a round magazine and ventilated barrel.
- A display of various single point gun sights.
- Sights, a selection of SLR sights from various makers and many different models.



STANDING TALL Titled "Human Statue of Liberty," this image was taken at Camp Dodge in Iowa and used eighteen thousand men.

This INCREDIBLE picture was taken in 1918.
It is 18,000 men preparing for war in a training camp at
Camp Dodge , in Iowa

Human Statue of Liberty

Base to Shoulder: 150 feet

Right Arm: 340 feet

Widest part of arm holding torch: 12 1/2 feet

Right thumb: 35 feet

Thickest part of body: 29 feet

Left hand length: 30 feet

Face: 60 feet

Nose: 21 feet

Longest spike of head piece: 70 feet

Torch and flame combined: 980 feet

Number of men in flame of torch: 12,000

Number of men in torch: 2,800

Number of men in right arm: 1,200

Number of men in body, head and balance of figure only: 2,000

Armistice in Cambridge

On Sunday 11 November, Selina and I attended the Armistice in Cambridge at the Mighty River Domain beside Lake Karapiro.

Well advertised in the media was the fly over on Sunday of a de Havilland Mosquito and P51, but I had heard a rumour that a T34 and Panzer Mk 4 would also be there so off we went.

The admission was \$10 per adult which was very reasonable and the program was very full and well balanced, I was never really standing around or rushing from one display to the other. There was a Militaria market/ sales area where Central Branch had a few displays as did the NZ Cartridge Collectors Club.

To the fun stuff, yes a T34-85 was in attendance but no Panzer Mk 4. However the T34-85 lived up to my expectations, it was huge. One can only really imagine the destructiveness of the machine and how fearsome a weapon it must have been. The other thing that struck me was the noise that it made; books don't convey that sense very well.

There were plenty of other vehicles to look at including several Bren Gun carriers, M3 Stuart, Hummer, various 1940s army trucks and more modern Soviet, British and American tracked and wheeled APCs.

As it should be, everything stopped at 11:00am for the Last Post.

The de Havilland Mosquito fly by was also well worth the price admission. The Mosquito made about six fly bys over the lake at various altitudes. What a magnificent sound those two Rolls-Royce Merlin engines make.

Also present was model boat and plane enthusiasts. Several small scale models of the Hood, Bismarck and Iowa were on display and their construction must have taken hundreds of hours and I was impressed with how well they sailed.

A highlight for Selina was seeing the 'dog-fight'

between the P51 Mustang and BF108, as they attempted to destroy or protect a German U-Boat anchored on the side of the lake. Both planes finished off with individual aerial displays which were unfortunately impacted by cloud on the day we were there.

Another aspect of these events is the re-enactment groups. Gone are the days of only having to watch WW2 themed Germans battle Brits, you can now watch Roman vs Saxon, Norseman vs Vikings, Boer War re-enactments and the Maori Land wars. I was really surprised by the variety of periods on display and always good fun especially the sword fights and light hearted taunting at close range....

A good series of displays from the Navy, with both boats and helicopter demonstrations over the two days. Something a little different from the NZDF, not often that you get to see the Navy on display.

All in all, a very good day. I might end up attending both days next year and if you need a long weekend before Christmas then I suggest that that you consider this as a possible option.



Bruce Murdoch



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER RANGE DAY (15th)

POSSIBLE .22" cal CoF for NZA&HAA September shoot

- Match 1. Smallbore @ 25 Yards 12 minutes. Small bore targets. S-B club to coach AA members.
- Match 2. Iron Chickens @ 25 yards. 6 chickens 6 shots. Off-hand with open sights. In your own time, within reason!
- Match 3. Trinity @ 25 yards. 5 rounds off-hand, 5 rounds sitting or kneeling, 5 rounds prone. 75 seconds per position, time to re-load between positions.
- Match 4. Long Range Chickens. 6 Iron Chickens @ 50 yards. Prone, supported scoped MG mounts, whatever you think will help! Senior shooters 6 shots. Ladies 8 shots. Juniors 10 shots. 3 minutes approx.
- Match 5. Tri-Person Teams. 2 teams on the mound, 30 assorted targets per team at ranges between 25 and 50 yards. All the ammo you can afford. Knock over all the targets, winning team goes on. Senior members using scopes or semi-autos must shoot off-hand. Juniors must have a supervisor, who may be their magazine loader.

Any questions or comments please talk to Henry or Alwyn

OMAKA TRIP

We are looking at taking a trip to the Omaka museum, and the club committee has decided to give a little towards the day out. If you are interested in going, contact Scott.

A date is yet to be set; however, Sometime in September is looking good.

Firearms License Reminder

Check your Firearms License Expiry Date Now!
It has become a lot harder to get a new license (if it has expired) than renew...

Remember it can take up to six weeks for the Police to act on a renewal request. So keep yourself updated and don't delay.

RANGE CALENDER

- 15th September
- 13th October
- 10th November (XMAS Shoot & BBQ)
- 15th December

A Night at the Movies

It has been mentioned that we could hire a cinema in Petone and have a club viewing off a film with a military theme. One line off thought is a Zulu film.

If you are interested, please put your name on the list at the next meeting.

Half yearly Meeting, 7th September 2013.

It was asked if the club would consider putting on a van to travel to this meeting and the auction. If we have enough people, we will organise a van for the day. Ideally, we would have a Hutt valley pick up point, and a pick up point around Paremata, and come back at the conclusion off the auction. If you are keen on coming in a van, please contact Alwyn. Estimated costs would be approx. \$35 per person.

SEPTEMBER LETTERS: K & L

Some ideas to think about:

Kynoch, Korea, Krag, knife,
Lead, Lyman, Luger, Lock

Venue is Petone Working

Mens Club @ 1:00pm

First Sunday of the Month.