

Flint & Cap

Newsletter of The New Zealand Antique and Historical Arms Association

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

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

MAY 2015

President

Alywn

Vice President

Pat P

Auction Convener

Steve Ph (04) 934 2756

Fax (04) 934 2966

info@nzaaaawgtn.org.nz

Secretary

Margaret

Treasurer

James

Editor

James

Committee

Terry

Vic C.

Dave C

Steve P

Glenn M

There is the possibility of putting on a display for the RSA members sometime in the future. This would be for either an afternoon or a whole day, and we would be asking for a few items to help fill space and helpers for the day.

Alywn

It Happened This Month in 1899

George "Big Nose" Curry came with his parents from Canada to Nebraska and at age 15 drifted west eventually becoming a stock thief. He teamed up with Butch Cassidy's "Wild Bunch" and was involved in several bank and train holdups and in 1897 was wounded and taken prisoner but soon escaped along with two cohorts. On June the 5th near the Red River fork of the Powder River after relieving a train of \$8000.00 at Wilcox Siding, Curry, Harvey Logan and the Sundance Kid headed north and camped and settled down for a meal. A posse road up and Logan promptly killed sheriff Joe Hazen. In a cloud of gun smoke the outlaw's road off to fight another day. However, Curry's time was almost up and his grizzly demise could well feature in a future article.

By Des Perado

Anzac Displays

Over the week following Anzac day, we had some items out on display in the RSA rooms that are situated in the Petone Working Mens Club. We had an array of items from clothing, badges, edged items, trench art, photos, and family documents. The display was certainly well accepted on Anzac day, with many positive comments and people having memories to share.

Letters this Month

Patt 42 "Sea Service" Rifled musket with bayonet

Three German postcards and two pieces of shrapnel from German sheet made into letter openers

East German marksmanship lanyards, plus East German specialist badges

Police Whistles- Starting in 1883 and ending in 1970 London, Manchester, Edinburgh, City of London, Liverpool etc...

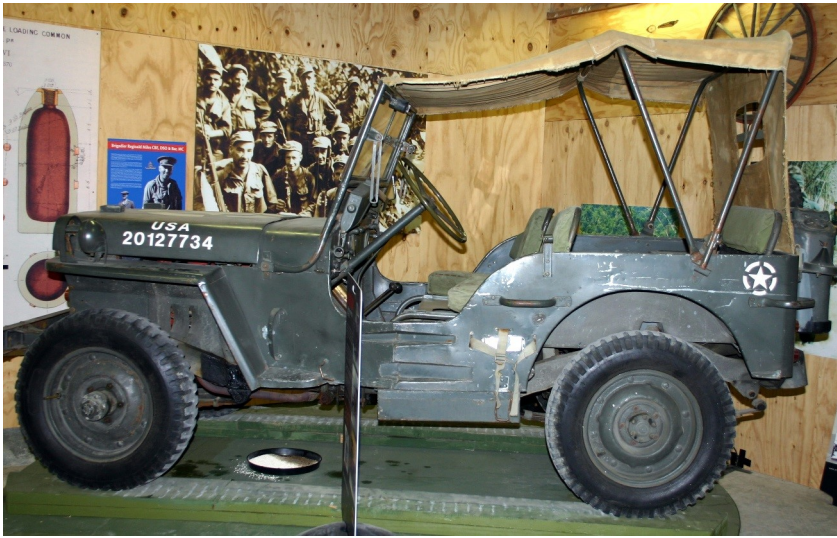
British airborne forces (NZ) Inc. caps, tee shirts, badges etc...

Replicas – Denix and others. 11 pistols and revolvers. No different to the real thing

Remington, Steyrs, Springfield's and stamps. Replica Remington 1875, Remington mod 8 Self loader, Rem mod 760 pump, Steyr Hagn 9mm, Springfield Race Gun and Stamps (kings and queens)







Reloading tools – selection of 6 different models. Hand held capper, de capper

L1A1 New Zealand made items. Black hand guards. Oil Bottles, Combination Tools, Green carrying handles, pull through and cleaning kit rolls

Single Shot semi-automatic target pistol .22 Long by Webley and Scott, 4 ½ barrel and 9" barrel models shown with Webley book.

Box Belonging to John Fredrick Hopper RTP R with bosons whistle ETC... Awarded Ashanti, Africa service.

Colt Revolvers, Colt Walker, Colt Rev (London) 1873 Single Action, Colt new service cal .455 Eley

Soviet 5SH 40 Navel Infantry Parade Helmet, Plus WWII Coca cola bottles made by various bottling plants from Solomon Islands

Steyr MP 44 Herman WWII Rifle

Recently acquired rifles. Collings and Bradley .303 Target Rifle and C&B 303 Hunting Rifle

Japanese Army NCO Sword and Japanese Flag

Royal Irish Constabulary revolver belonging to the late lieutenant Lyttle who was killed at the Dardanelles 100 years ago.

Waionuru Trip – 23rd May

Early on Saturday morning on the 23rd a hardy group of Wellington Branch members made their way up to Waionuru to visit the vehicle sheds and be guided on their history by George the guy responsible for their ongoing preservation. Once all members 17 in total were assembled we were shown around the vehicles and given a talk about their history and significance to NZ history, one such example was how the Valentine tank there was involved in saving a Kiwi soldier in a battle in the Pacific when he was wounded and hiding behind a log pinned down and another Valentine happened to roll over the log as it was attacking the Japanese and flicked the soldier into the air and onto the back of this actual tank which was alerted by another tank and promptly reversed out of the battle zone in order to get the soldier to safety, he survived WW2 thanks to this act and lived a long life only dying recently.

Another such example was the YMCA truck which served food and sundry items to soldiers of the Maori battalion in the desert and Italy, the driver was a conscientious objector

but decided to serve in a non-combat role, as well as caring for the troops he was also involved in combat on occasion by being strafed by the Luftwaffe along with the troops and also taking part in a bayonet charge driving his truck with the troops to attack the Germans ? this was witnessed by a British officer who could hardly believe his eyes when he saw these fierce men racing down the hill with a YMCA van in their midst.

We got to clamber in, on and around all the vehicles that were there and found out just how tight armoured vehicles are especially for us middle aged folk , we managed to squeeze three people into the Valentine tank turret and close the hatches to experience the closeness of combat and there wasn't much room left, I sat in the driver's seat as well and found out how uncomfortable it would have been and tiring to drive for any distance and this tank.

We got to experience a Scorpion light tank and while this was much better in the turret than in the WW2 era Valentine the driver was still a snug fit. there were also Universal carriers, Lloyd carriers, Royal Enfield motorbikes, Jeeps and land rovers in the shed.

After a lunch break that we didn't get due to the local cafe on base being closed due to staff shortages we went off to two other sheds to see a number of trucks undergoing restoration or storage including a Matador heavy truck for towing heavy artillery pieces. George then led us to the last shed which contained a great collection of vehicles. Included in this was a Quad 25 pounder towing vehicle, a Indian designed but NZ built artillery observation armoured vehicle of WW2 vintage.

In this shed they were rebuilding the engine of a NZ used M41 Walker Bulldog light tank which we got to examine in detail which of course meant climbing into every seat and over every inch, this was much more spacious than previous tanks and of course much bigger being a post WW2 American design.

All in all it was an amazing day with lots of smiles and excited adults acting like children in a candy shop especially me.

Pat

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club meetings

**Venue is the Petone working mens Club
Starting at 1.00pm**

7th June
5th July
2nd August

Club Auction
11 and 12th July

**Shooting will be starting again later this year but
has stopped for the Winter Months**

Tony Stephens

We have heard that Tony passed away recently. Tony was one of our members from way back and will only be known by our older members but he had an extensive collection of flare pistols and BSA rifles. I am uncertain of when he joined our Branch but his name appears on an old listing dated 1985 however he retired and moved away from Wellington possibly as long as 15 years ago and around that time disposed of his collection. Tony had become a very keen and knowledgeable collector of BSA firearms and it came as quite a surprise when he sold off his collection and retired. He moved to Putaturu and I am told he was a very keen fisherman.

Rex



Notice regarding Import of Firearms parts

Someone recently asked Paul Gatland (Advisory Officer – Firearms and PIMS) to clarify what requires a permit to import and his reply was for A-cat no parts other than the ones defined in the Act as parts need a permit (basically the action) . A permit is required for any parts for B,C,E cat .

CLUB AMMO FOR SALE

Plenty of Winchester .22 ammo for sale.

A box contains 555 rounds @ \$38.00.

Bring \$\$\$, no credit given



**Letters for the month are
T and U**

**Target, Thompson, Texas,
telescope, Tower, Tranter,
Tube, Turret, Trooper,
Uberti, USA, USSR, Union,**