



Flint & Cap

A monthly publication of the New Zealand Antique and Historic Arms Association (Wellington Branch) Incorporated

Website: <http://www.WellingtonAntiqueArms.org.nz>

May 2016

Coming Events:

Next Meeting: 5 June 2016

Theme: Royal New Zealand
Navy

Letters: P and Q

Kaitoke Range:

No Range day until September 2016

July Meeting: 3rd July 2016

July Auction:

Friday, 15th to Sunday 17th

August Meeting: 7th August 2016

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From the Branch President:

Hi All

The catalogue is now at the printers so in the next few weeks you should all be receiving one thanks to the dedication and hard work of a small team who have laboured over the year since the last auction. As I have said at the meetings please make yourself available to stand behind the tables at viewing time when asked as this makes it easier and fairer for those who have spent the day setting up and need a break. The auction benefits all our members whether buying new items for our collections or selling items for a new generation of collectors to take care of through subsidised trips or meals for members from the proceeds we make so if we all do our bit it makes it enjoyable for everyone.

Pat

What's happening in the Branch:

Next Meeting:

Sunday, 5th June 2016 at the Petone Workingmen's Club.

Theme: ROYAL NEW ZEALAND NAVY

Battles, Crests, Cap Tallies, Ships, Uniforms, Weaponry-Swords, Dirks,
rifles, Badges, insignia and medals, WWI, WWII, Ammunition

Letters: P—Percussion, Phoenix, Pistol, Pocket, Primer, Prototype, Pyrotechnic,
Pacific,

Parade, Paratrooper, Pike, Police

Q—Quackenbush, Queen, Quality, Quantity

Annual Branch and National Fees:

Still 12 outstanding and I have now, regretfully, taken these people from the mailing lists. Perhaps we will see them again.

Trip to Ruahine Gun Show:

Date: 28th May 2016. Reminder:

The club is looking to hire a van to take members up. \$20.00 per head but we need to know numbers. We have 4 on the list already. The van is a 10 seater so room for some more. Good day out with some good people. Take a display and join in. Please advise Pat or Margaret so we know if we are hiring a van or not. Running out of time.

Trip to Omaka in Blenheim:

Still working on this. Hope to provide more information in the next F & C

Add your name to the list at the next meeting. This trip will not happen until well after winter is over.

From the May Branch meeting:

The theme letter of N and O brought out a few items and the Sporting theme with items from all shooting disciplines was certainly well represented. Not a lot of people there with Ted's auction up the road but an interesting meeting none the less.



Soviet Bayonets, Hungarian, East German



W.C.R Shooting Team 1911



Hutt Valley Gun Club Medals and cups.



VZ 33 Small ring Mauser, .270 cal built by Din Collings plus Pig Gun, 44-40 Rossi, cut down by Alan Carr, laid out on Sika stag and hind skins



Pistol Shooting in NZ. Certificates, Medals and photos of IPSC shooting



Japanese Army NCO Sword and Japanese Type 14 Nambu Pistol in Holster.



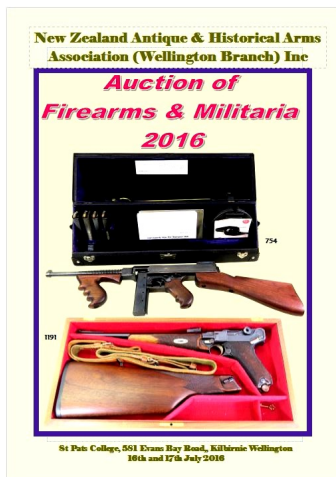
Shooting Cups and Shield won by Mrs Nightingale



Shooting medals, RNZAF-Blenheim plus other clubs

More photos from the ANZAC Day displays:





2016 Wellington Branch

Catalogue

The 2016 Branch Catalogue is finally finished and currently with the printer. By the time this Flint & Cap reaches your inbox / mailbox you may well have it in your hands.

It is the culmination of hundreds of hours of voluntary labour by just a few members of this branch and pre-

sents to the collecting fraternity the opportunity to purchase from 1800 plus lots that will be sold on the floor and a further 200 plus items on the tender tables. After all the time invested one of our Vendors came through when everything was finished with some items that could not be excluded. There will be a late entry list.

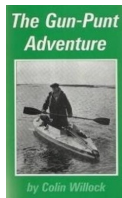
As the catalogue goes to print Maxine is trawling through the hundreds of names and addresses that form our mailing list to ensure that she has the most current address for everyone but the list is only as current as the information we are given. The address labels will be printed in the week prior to the 14th of May but we are always keen to receive updates up until the last minute.

The next task is to add the lot numbers to the tags on the auction lots. If you can spare some time to help with this we welcome additional hands for this job. Contact Steve or Pat. They will love to hear from you. No skill required, just commitment.



It Happened This Month in 1878 by Des Perado.

Seaborn "Seab" Barnes was a tough gunman and won notoriety as chief lieutenant of the Sam Bass gang. Barnes was wounded during a train hold up in April where the gang received strong resistance from passengers, guards and railroad employees. Several of the gang were hit and Barnes suffered the most damage. However they all managed to escape. Pursued by Texas Rangers led by Sheriff W.F. Eagan and Ranger Captain June Peak the gang were located a few weeks later camped at Salt Creek in Wise County. A sharp gun battle ensued and gang member Arkansas Johnson was killed as were some of the gang's horses, the rest being captured. Barnes and the rest of the gang escaped on foot, quickly stole more horses and eluded the Rangers. Time was running out for Barnes and three months later he cashed in his chips but that perhaps could be another story.



HOW I CAME TO APPRECIATE FIREARMS—TERRY

Many years ago, living in England, I borrowed a book from the local library entitled "Gun Punt Adventure." It narrated the experiences of two men who went shooting on the Essex marshes.

For some reason or other an idea came to them that they would like to purchase a punt gun and they bought an old muzzle loading punt gun. They decided that they would like to fit the gun out with a breech loading mechanism and they were given one by an acquaintance of theirs; he had been employed during the war working on such things as breeches and he gave them a breech which he had developed.

They then described going to an engineer who did machining which they needed to fit the breech. The engineer inspected the barrel and found some pitting in it which needed to be removed. The book went on to describe how the barrel was re-bored and a lot of metal was removed. It also described how the polishing tool was produced by filling the barrel with lead and when it shrank, covering it with an abrasive and spending a long time just moving the barrel backwards and forwards by hand in the lathe. It took quite a long time to get a good polish in the barrel.

They then took the barrel to the Proof House in London to get it officially stamped as being suitable. They had to do this two or three times before the inspector was satisfied. Finally, the barrel was ready and the breech was screwed on to the end. It was taken to the Proof House again and a heavy charge fired.

Unfortunately, the barrel burst.

I was fascinated by this book and I determined that I would make a breech loading punt gun. I had no idea as to the design of a suitable breech and therefore I wrote to the Model Makers Magazine to see if they had a design which they could let me have. They contacted me and said they had no specific design but put me in touch with a retired engineer who had designed breeches. I corresponded with him several times until, by mistake, I informed him that I was only 12 years old, and that was the end of my punt gun!

However, from then on I have had a life-long interest in firearms but still have not managed to get a punt gun!



ANZAC DAY 2016

ANZAC DAY

Several members put on some lovely displays at the Petone Workingmen's Club, on ANZAC day. We had an amazing array of silk postcards, family documents, uniforms, firearms, and a large array of associated gear. On opening, we had some 50 or so scouts come along and many certainly showed a great deal of interest, often asking questions, and being amazed at the answers. As a club, we got a formal thank you, as a number of the scouts are in the process of getting badges that relate to N.Z. ANZAC history.

Not long after the scout team had left, we had a strapping young lad come along. Within several minutes he had convinced a certain person that he would look great with a small selection of uniform items on and several other military items held in place while his mum took a few photos.

We had a number of current service personnel, some of the RSA members, and a few of the PWMC members come up stairs and have a look at our exhibits.

Later in the day, we had a fine old gent come along with his own display of his families ANZAC items. Among the items, was a webb bag and shaving gear that had been struck by a bullet. Other item that he had included a French bayonet, a gas mask, photos, and a selection of other small but interesting items.

I thank the people that helped with the display, be it one item or a cabinet full of bits and pieces, as it all adds to the quality of the final display. Alwyn.

ANZAC DAY 2016.

When Alwyn put out the call to the Branch members for support and displays for ANZAC Day at the Workingmen's Club there were responders. Phil McC, Glenn McM, Alwyn D, Vic C and Margaret B with support from Ted Carton. A number of Branch members came to have a look. The displays were superb. Some great photos from the day but the ones below sum it all up. Vic remembering his Boys Brigade days, a young feller who was just into the Military stuff and knew his protocols. Then we met Melby, a wonderful 92 year old who had his own and his father's gear to display. To 'cap' it all off, Phil gave him a cap to replace the one that had been stolen. You rock Phil McC! You made Melby a VERY happy man. MB

