



# Flint & Cap

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

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

July 2016

## Coming Events:

**Next Meeting: 7 August 2016**

**Theme: NZ Wars**

**Maori Wars and NZ's participation in wars**

**Letters: T and U, V**

**September Meeting: 4th Sept 2016**

**Theme: 'My Favourite Things' The one or two pieces that started your collection**

**Kaitoke Range: 18th September 2016**

**Oct Meeting: 2nd October 2016**

## Contacts:

**Branch President: Pat**

Telephone:

Email: [president@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz](mailto:president@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz)

**Branch Vice President: Alwyn**

Telephone:

Email:

**Branch Secretary / Treasurer:**

**Margaret**

Telephone

Email: [secretary@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz](mailto:secretary@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz)

**Flint & Cap Editor: Margaret**

Telephone:

Email: [secretary@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz](mailto:secretary@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz)

**Branch Auction Convenor: Steve**

Telephone:

Email: [info@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz](mailto:info@wellingtonantiquearms.org.nz)

## Branch Committee:

**Terry:**

Telephone:

Email:

**Vic:**

Telephone:

Email:

**Glenn**

Telephone

Email:

**Steve:**

Telephone

Email:

## NZAHAA National Office:

**President: Steve**

Telephone:

Email:

**National Secretary: Katrina**

Address: P O Box 694, Rangiora 7440

Telephone:

Email: [nazahaa.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:nzahaa.secretary@gmail.com)

**Gazette Editor:**

**Phil:**

Telephone:

Email:

## From the Branch President:

Hi all,

The auction has been and gone and what a fantastic one it was with a very low rate of withdrawn from what I could see. The Saturday night meal was well attended and a few laughs exchanged with our Australian colleagues as well, there were a number of relationships renewed and new ones started. I would like to say thank you to all the people who helped members and friends of members alike who without you it would be very difficult to run such an event and I hope you all enjoyed the weekend as much as I did. The next big event is, of course, the Christmas luncheon which has been booked at the Pines for the 27th of November, I hope to see as many of you as can make it and of course your displays.

*Pat*

## What's happening in the Branch?:

### Next Meeting:

**Sunday, 7th August 2016 at the Petone Workingmen's Club.**

**Theme: NZ Wars—Maori Wars, Wars NZ participated in**

**Letters:** T-Tranter, Trade Musket, Thompson, trigger, Terry, transitional, trapdoor, testing, U-Uberti, under-lever, under-hammer, US model, unidentified, universal V-Version, Volcanic, Victory,

## What's happening in the other Branches?:

3 September: Ruahine Branch Auction

5-6 November: Taranaki Gun Show

### **27th November: Branch Luncheon**



We have been able to secure the Pines for the Luncheon. If this works out we will make sure we get an early booking in for next year.

The last time we had a luncheon here was when Ron Stewart received his Life Membership before moving to Tauranga. That was many years ago now but good memory. Since

then the venue has been upgraded and extended, I understand and the photos on their website show a much larger space than I remember. So, you can now lock this in your diary. We will retain our normal meeting day for November.



Stainless Taurus-.38/.357 Revolver plus Ruger Mk II Target .22



Sub Machine Guns. Thompson M1 & Thompson M1928 A1



Remington New Model

Sanders of Pocket Revolver. 1865- London. Rare 16 bore Flintlock, S/N 30. 25000 made.



Lemon Squeezers. 11th Taranaki—C.1914-20; Bot Scout Cadets C. 1910-1921; 17 Ruahine Made in UK, C.1917-21.



Rusty Rocket Requiring Restoration. 2.25" Sub cal Aerial Rocket



Remingtons



Cogswell & Harrison Falling Block .450 cal rifle (No 2 Musket) 1885



Souvenirs of the Great War



Helmets: Soviet Parade; Rare Spanish M21; Siamese (Thailand)



Remington New Model Pocket Revolver. 1865- S/N 30. 25000 made.

### From the July Branch Meeting

Excellent turnout. Over 45 members. 26 displays. Brilliant! Theme of Cadets and Junior Forces saw some interesting items. R and S letters as the letter theme.



Replica Revolvers. Armi San Paolo 1851 Navy in .36 and .44 cal

## Trip to Omapa



The proposed change from a day trip to the weekend Air Show at Easter in April 2017 was discussed at the Branch meeting in July and there was support for the change.

Costs are to be identified, a hand motel to stay and costs in regard to vehicles need to be done and we hope to have this for the August meeting.

What is important that we identify numbers urgently so we can get accommodation booked. Being an air show the bookings will already be heavy and we need to get in quickly. **Stop Press: Mary has booked 10 units.**

Have a think about it and be prepared to come to the August meeting ready to add your name to the list if this is what you want to do. We will be looking for a deposit in the near future to secure your booking. Possibly 10% of the total estimated cost.

## It Happened This Month in 1878-79

by Des Perado.

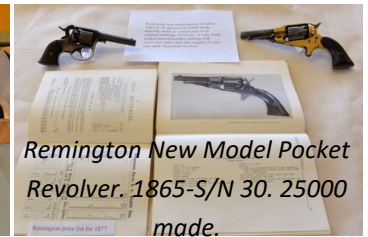


John Beckwith and his brother Bob were ranchers on the east side of the Pecos River in Lincoln County and both were deputized to take on the McSween "Regulators" who included Billy the Kid, in the climatic Lincoln shootout of July 1878 where Bob was killed. The brothers father Henry, a grumpy old bugger, killed his son in law William Johnson during a family argument in August 1878 and had to be restrained from shooting John who had tried to intervene. Johnson's business partner William Olinger then began firing at old Henry but only succeeded in wounding him in the cheek and nose. Olinger was arrested but was later released when Henry recovered. Not a happy family it seems. One year later on August the 26th John quarrelled with rustler John Jones over ownership of a cattle herd. Both went for their guns and during a flurry of shots Beckwith was fatally wounded. It appears that this Jones was the same man that killed Bob Beckwith just over one year earlier.

## More photos from the Branch meeting



Thompson Magazines



Remington New Model Pocket Revolver. 1865-S/N 30. 25000 made.



Railway Workshops photos



Post War Soviet Dissolution Helmets



Naval Sweetheart Badges



Martini Action Cadet rifle in .310 cal. Marked Commonwealth of Australia



Sos Savage's shot gun shooting medals. 1930-1985



WWII Photos take by Japanese. Very rare to find photos taken by the Japs.

## The Rook Rifle

**W.J. JEFFERY & Co. L<sup>td</sup>**  
**GUN & RIFLE**  
**MAKERS**  
9, GOLDEN SQUARE, REGENT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1.  
CLOSE TO PICCADILLY CIRCUS.

A recent firearms display at the Antique Arms Club at the Pe-tone Workingmen's club, brought to my attention a Rook Rifle; it brought back memories of when I was a teenager holi-

daying in the English Lake District at my Uncle's lifestyle block.

It was in the early 1950's, hardly any cars on the road and you could wander over the fields and woods in those days carrying a gun. My Uncle owned several guns and rifles, one of them an old Rook Rifle. I am not sure about the make as it was about 30 years old at the time. I think it was called a Jeffery and had a martini action with an octagonal barrel.

The highlight of my holiday was rabbit shooting with this Rook Rifle in the evenings. I used to borrow one of my Uncle's dogs, a wire haired terrier named Taurus. He was a demon on rabbits; catch them on the run before I could shoot them! At the time, grey squirrels were taking over from the English native reds and were fair game for a hunter. I had shot a few of these with the trusty Rook Rifle and it was while I was looking up through the branches of a large Elm tree that I heard a loud buzzing—what I thought was a squirrel sitting on a branch, was actually a football shaped object—a Hornet's nest. You guessed it—it was too tempting a target to ignore. The English Hornet is twice as large as a bumble bee with a tapering body and a vicious sting. I have heard one sting can give you a fever for 24 hours—but what the hell! I was a teenager and bullet proof. Only an idiot would mess with an English Hornet. I decided to wait until the following evening and leave Taurus the dog at home.

The following evening I slowly crept up behind a dry stone wall, about 70 yards from the nest. A horse standing under the tree gave me a fright as he trotted off down the field. I'll get on to the horse later!

The Rook rifle was very accurate for its age and I rested the barrel on top of the stone wall, inserted a .22 round, centred the 'V' sights on the middle of the nest and fired. I think I was running like a rat below the level of the stone wall before the bullet hit the nest!

I ran about 100 yards under the shelter of the wall and peeped through a gap in the stones. There seemed to be a buzzing cloud of yellow and brown vapour circling the Elm tree trying to see what had damaged their nest. To my amazement the cloud of hornets turned into something

Like the tail of a comet and streaked down the field to the poor old horse. Looking over the top of the wall I could see the horse with ears pricked up, swishing its tail frantically and bucking and kicking its back legs in the air. I didn't stop to see what the end result was in case they came back for me. I felt terrible for the horse and realised I should have left the nest alone.

A few days later, at tea time, my Uncle said 'When you were out shooting the other evening did you see a horse in the field?' I said 'Yes, I've seen it a few times, why?' I asked innocently. My Uncle replied 'Seth the farmer who owns the horse had to call the Vet. Seems like a swarm of wasps or bees attacked it, it was covered in stings. The Vet said it may have been hornets. I can't see how a horse can disturb a hornet's nest. Them being high up in the trees, strange how that happened. The horse is alright, thick skin on a horse, could have been a child though.' Inwards, I breathed a sigh of relief.

I went back a few days later to look at the nest. It hung down from the branch like a brown car-wash leather—limp and empty, the hornets had gone.

My relations have passed on now. After seeing the rook rifle at the Club meeting I often think and hope that the one I used to use is still in use in the Lake District.

## Wellington Branch Auction 2016

*From Steve Privett*

Our annual July auction was held last weekend and once again it turned out to be a huge success. Bidding was very competitive with very few items passed in. If prices are anything to go by then it bodes well for the future of collecting. Prices for bayonets was very strong and we also achieved \$8200 for a Browning pistol and \$16500 for a Luger. A lot of the out of town collectors took advantage of our social meal on Saturday evening and spent time catching up with fellow collectors! after all, talking to fellow collectors and sharing information is what it's all about. Once again the catering was superb, the computers and security ran like clockwork, and the postal wrapping went well. The branch has received great feedback from collectors who attended and it's a credit to the branch and its members as to what we have achieved. I would like to thank all those who took the time to help make this a fantastic branch event. Steve



*The hardy souls who wrapped and processed the postals on the Monday*