



Flint & Cap

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

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

September 2016

Coming Events:

Next Meeting: 2 October 2016

Theme: No theme identified for this month

Letters: Y and Z

Nov Meeting: 6 November 2016

Theme: Open to suggestions from the Branch members

Kaitoke Range:

23 October 2016

Start time: 9.00am

Dec Meeting: 4th December 2016

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From the Branch President:

I see in the papers recently an uproar about a revisionist historian slating some of our soldiers for being war criminals. I seem to remember my history teacher in college saying to us that we should not judge those of past eras but simply try to understand what went on. It is easy to arm-chair judge those who can not defend themselves from eras past and I have no doubt that those soldiers' peers did not see them as war criminals but as simply good mates who did their bit to protect their friends and right wrongs done against them.

It is lawyers who seem to write the rules to judge people by, without the benefit of experience. In this case serving on a battlefield with bullets ripping by, gas shells exploding and the threat of constant death. These poor buggers were by and large conscripted so they had no choice but to fight and, as my father who served in World War 2 said, they did it not for the country but to protect their mates who also had to serve. So my advice about judging our ancestors who did their duty and suffered untold horrors, and in the case of my Grandfather brought home mustard gas poisoning which eventually killed him, try and walk a mile in their shoes and if you still choose to criticise, then walk another and another until you understand war is hell and soldiers don't start them politicians do, so who are the real war criminals.

Pat

What's happening in the Branch?:

Next Meeting:

Sunday, 2 October 2016 at the Petone Workingmen's Club.

Theme: No theme identified for this month or to December. Suggestions?

Letters: Y-Z—Well these two are a challenge. It will be interesting to see what people come up with

What's happening in the other Branches?:

29 & 30 October Western Front Military Weekend, Kumeu

5-6 November Taranaki Gun Show

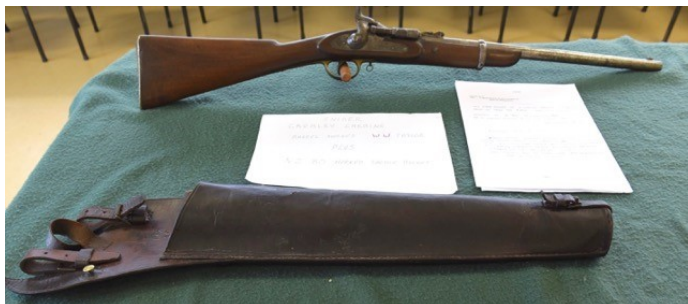
12 & 13 November Armistice in Cambridge.

27th November Wellington Branch Luncheon

A reminder repeated from the last F & C

The list of people coming along is growing so thanks to those who have added their name/s to the list. You can bring your partner/wife to this one so they can see what this business of collecting is all about.

It is also an excellent opportunity for them to bring a display and show us what their collection is all about. We have had some brilliant items in the past that had ranged from very realistic looking dolls to porcelain and other amazing items. A collector will always appreciate what another collector has and, it can sometimes inspire someone else. A map of the location will be included in the November Flint & Cap for those who are unsure where to go. A map will also be at the next meeting.



Snider Cavalry Carbine marked W.W Taylor & saddle bucket



SC C Brand & Co, 1865-1875, Norwich, USA. Whale harpoon gun



French sword, 1813; Russian Crimea sword + 2 Snider bayonets



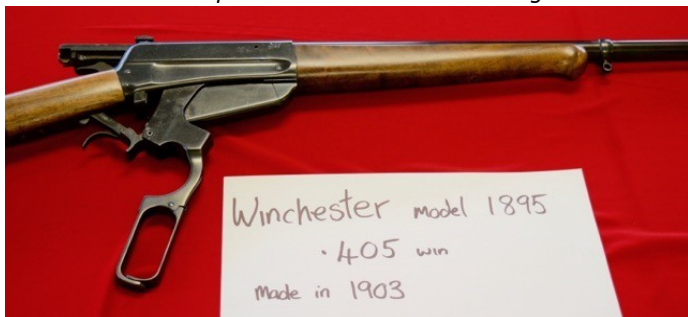
Bayonets, Grenade launchers & cleaning kits to go with the 3 rifles



Sopwith camels. Favourite 'things'



Webley Air Pistols & Rifle in original boxes



Winchester, Model 1895 in .405 WIN. Made 1903



Springfield, Winchester & IHC Garand

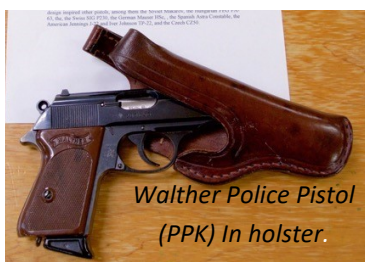


Winchester Model 1886, Lever action, 45-90 WCF. Express sights-double triggers

Walther Model 53 Air Pistol in case



Japanese Knee Mortar, Type 89



Walther Police Pistol (PPK) In holster.



From the September Branch Meeting

17 Displays with a 'Favourite Things' theme. Challenge was to bring along that items that started the collection. Unable to include everything. Some other great items as well.

Trip to Omaka—**CANCELLED**



With little interest shown in this weekend the committee decided to cancel the Motel bookings and if this idea is to be pursued then perhaps just a 1 day trip sometime.

It Happened This Month in 1871 by Des Perado.

A group of about 50 Texas cowboys led by Phil Coe were on a drunken spree in Abilene, Kansas and City Marshal James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok who recently had clashed with Coe warned the rowdies to settle down and behave. At 9pm a shot was heard and Hickok ordered his deputy Mike Williams to stay put while he went to investigate. Bill forced his way through a group of cowboys and found Coe with gun in hand claiming that he had shot a dog. Hickok went for his six guns as Coe fired but his shot missed but the Marshal rarely missed and his shot entered Coe's stomach and out his back. As Coe fell Hickok was heard to mutter that he had fired too low having aimed for his head. At this point Williams pushed through the crowd perhaps hoping to assist his boss, but Hickok, on edge and surrounded by a hostile mob, detected his deputies approach, turned and fired twice both shots hitting Williams in the head and he died instantly. An enraged Hickok dispersed the crowd and shut down the town. Coe suffered a lingering death that lasted 3 days. The Marshal paid Williams funeral expenses and it is claimed that he never again fired at a man. The shooting took place at 9 pm and Williams was to board the 9.45 pm train to visit his ailing wife in Kansas City. I guess as they say "Them's the breaks".



"See, Pop, I found yer missin' cow,..... She's on FaceBook and has 641 friends."

Display—Trentham Camp

Sunday 10 September 2016

The invitation to provide some displays for the Trentham Officer's Mess on the 10th of September was too good an opportunity to miss.

The Flint & Cap was at the printer and the email version was still to go. The addition of a notice to the email was not problem but, thanks to Mark at the printers, we were able to get a single sheet printed off to go out with the mailed version.

Some 14 people arrived at the mess on the Saturday with their display items and we had some amazing rifles, machine guns, helmets, cartoons, pistols and equipment assembled in the small room at the back of the mess which turned out to be an ideal size.

The theme for the day was 'Mans Day' and, appropriately, the Prostate Organisation was there as well as handcrafted beer, motorbikes and a simulator that took 3 people on a roller coaster ride with some shooting skills called for as well. The young kids loved it as well as some of the bigger ones.

The facility is large and has a welcoming atmosphere. We have been offered the opportunity to have our monthly displays there and the Mess President is to send Terry the form for us to complete. I would imagine that the area we displayed in would be where we could hold our displays and meeting as it is a good size.

The bar is available to visitors as well as afternoon tea in the room where they served lunch.

The main Dining area is very large and we have said we would revisit the possibility of holding our Luncheon there next year.

Nothing is a 'done deal' as yet. I would envisage that we see this year out at the Workingmen's Club before any changes are made. The committee needs to consider that we will be required to:

- A) Sign in through the gatehouse each time
- B) In the event of mobilization we would not be able to hold our meetings there during that period.

However, apart from the very suitable facilities there would be no charge for the hire of the room with just the afternoon tea and any food to pay for.

Watch this space for further news.

Display—Trentham Camp—Sunday 10 September 2016

An offer to be part of the Trentham Army Officer's Mess 'Mans Day' went out just as the Flint & Cap was due to be sent. Short notice but some 14 people arrived either with their collection items or as helpers, and set up an amazing display of a wide range of items.

On behalf of the Trentham Camp Junior Ranks, Warrant Officers & Sergeants and Officers Mess's and following the successful ladies (Mothers) day event in May.....we bring to you:


MANS DAY 10 September 2016

Venue: Trentham Camp Warrant Officers & Sergeants Mess

Timings: 1300-1800hrs

Mess members and children from 5 years and up are welcome. Please remember you must register attendance on the WO's & SNCO's Mess website:

http://orafl-trb-sc/Lists/OWSNCOMessFunctions/MANS_DAY_SAT_10SEP16.aspx



Great food, 9 D virtual reality rides, Motor bike and Vintage weapon displays, whiskey and beer tasting.....





HUTY VALLEY SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

From: hvsa-allboard@googlegroups.com [<mailto:hvsa-allboard@googlegroups.com>]

On Behalf Of Gerry V

Sent: Wednesday, 31 August 2016 7:29 a.m.

To: hvsa-allboard

Subject: HVSA Update

It has taken a while to get to where we are and the effort applied so far belittles what we have completed but in the world of shooting, nothing can be left to chance as safety and public opinion are paramount.

With the closing of ranges still occurring across the country plus challenges to long established ranges such as Auckland Pistol Club seemingly being successful, how we go about establishing the Wainui complex is far more important than how long it will take.

Three years ago, Wainui was just a concept, scribbled out between myself and Wayne Chapman on loose leaf pads and talked about every way over coffee. It was clear to both of us that the current models of one-club, one-range was well dated and no longer possible. Nor was it possible to simply set up in someone's paddock and run serious competitions. The rules had changed significantly and I had learnt the hard way through looking after the Kaitoke NZDA range just what sort of challenges there can be to keep a range going, let alone establishing one. The Kaitoke range would not exist today without the constant effort of many people over many years and it might pay to remind ourselves that nothing is forever so we should not take any facility for granted. Indeed, it was the on-going issues at Trentham with access and control that influenced much of the design of the HVSA. Joint governance, while often challenging, was the only logical way forward and the Sportsville model as supported by LHCC made good sense.

Collectively the HVSA represents around 1000 active shooters within the Wellington region and we have the opportunity to establish a complex similar to that of Rotorua and Timaru. Council support has been awesome as that's the only word that comes to mind and without this support, we would not be where we are but Wayne must be credited for getting the HVSA up and running in the first instance. Clubs have a lot to gain from our collective efforts and the general public will also benefit from this facility as will the local community so making it work is important although I'm sure that many of our club members must be doubting it will actually happen but like a duck on a pond, much of the work and activity is behind the scenes.

To date we have had provisional signoff on our range design from Pistol New Zealand who will certify the ranges, have fleshed out an operating model, engaged a sound testing professional and ticked off a long list of other important steps. As we are all volunteers, this has been a long and sometimes painful process but we have reached an important stage with the resource consent process now before us which is where our due diligence will pay off.

To avoid the pitfalls that have taken so many ranges down, we have decided to look to engage with a consulting firm to help us prepare as best we can for the actual application as a mistake here could severely limit what we can do once operational.

It is now that funding becomes the hand brake and although there is nothing to physically show our members at present other than an open site, money is the engine that will get us to where we all want to go. At club level, mention of large sums being paid to consultants and towards processes rather than bricks and mortar is a hard sell but now is not the time to let our committees sit back and watch. No doubt once we are up and running, a host of other clubs will be at our door and this is why the Founding membership exists to ensure that those that do the work, keep their stake and say in what will be a unique facility in the lower north island.

I wish to thank all those involved to date for the effort and patience displayed. Once our consent has been approved, a lease will need to be signed before we can begin actual construction so we have a long and possibly complicated way to go but as the sayings goes, "Good wood grows slow" and we remain committed to the long game and goals of the associ-

The Taranaki Tool



Twenty-four years ago my friend and I travelled across the North Island visiting Antique and second-hand shops.

We stopped in a second-hand shop in New Plymouth where we spoke to the owner and she asked "What are you looking for?" I told her "We are looking for reloading tools" She surprised me as she knew what reloading tools were.

She told me "She doesn't have any" Only that she knew someone who was selling reloading tools. I told her "Thank you very much" and that if you had a contact number or their address.

She drew me a map of the location of his house. My friend and I thanked her for her help and we went to visit the person who was selling the reloading tools.

When we arrived at the person's house I knocked on his front door where an old man came and answered the door and I explained why we were here and how I got his address for the reloading tools. I asked him if he still had the reloading tools for sale and he told me "Yes and if you were interested I could show you the tools" I said "Perfect I can wait" He went back inside the house and came back a couple of minutes later with the reloading tools. I was pleasantly surprised when he came back and told me about the history of the tools that he had.

He told me that the only surviving tools that he had was the tools that came from his granddad. His granddad used the tools for reloading ammunition in the War between British and Maori in the North Taranaki war (1860-1861)

I was so excited when I saw the tools and the story behind it I immediately asked How much? I was even more excited when he told me the price. The price was \$30.00. Straight away I gave him \$50.00 and told him that \$30.00 is for the tools and \$20.00 for your story.

As a collector for over 35 years this was the one of the best feelings that I've ever had. The reloading tools is not my most valuable of collections however the story behind finding the tools and the story that the owner told me made it extra special.

This is only one tool in my collection that I have named myself and I named it.... "Taranaki Tool."

John Koppan

More items from John's remarkable collection



Did you know?

(Thanks to Tony Bruce)



The term shrapnel, fragmentation thrown out by an exploding munition or bomb, comes to us by way of Henry Shrapnel, a British officer who invented the first anti-personnel round—an explosive hollow cannon ball filled with lead shot—in 1784.

Lieutenant General **Henry Shrapnel** (3 June 1761 – 13 March 1842) was a British Army officer whose name has entered the English language as the inventor of the *shrapnel shell*.

Henry Shrapnel was born at Midway Manor in Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, England, the ninth child of Zachariah Shrapnel and his wife Lydia.

In 1784, while a lieutenant in the Royal Artillery, he perfected, with his own resources, an invention of what he called "spherical case" ammunition: a hollow cannonball filled with lead shot that burst in mid-air. He successfully demonstrated this in 1787 at Gibraltar. He intended the device as an anti-personnel weapon. In 1803, the British Army adopted a similar but elongated explosive shell which immediately acquired the inventor's name. It has lent the term *shrapnel* to fragmentation from artillery shells and fragmentation in general ever since, long after it was replaced by high explosive rounds. Until the end of World War I, the shells were still manufactured according to his original principles.

Shrapnel served in Flanders, where he was wounded in 1793. He was promoted to major on 1 November 1803 after eight years as a captain. After his invention's success in battle at Fort New Amsterdam, Suriname, on 30 April 1804, Shrapnel was promoted to lieutenant colonel on 20 July 1804, less than nine months later.

In 1814, the British Government recognized Shrapnel's contribution by awarding him £1200 (UK£ 76,000 in 2016) a year for life.

Bureaucracy however prevented him from receiving the full benefit of this award.

He was appointed to the office of Colonel-Commandant, Royal Artillery, on 6 March 1827.

He rose to the rank of lieutenant-general on 10 January 1837.

Shrapnel lived at Peartree House, near Peartree Green, Southampton from about 1835 until his death.

Vacancy:

Branch Representative to the National Association:

Alwyn is stepping down and his replacement needs to be appointed in time for the April AGM of the National Association. This would mean being in place by at least early February in order for travel and accommodation arrangements to be made.

Two meetings a year, Travel and accommodation costs are covered. Involves being available for a Friday meeting and the meeting on the Saturday morning. Talk to Steve.

From the Branch Representative to the National Association

Half yearly meeting, Christchurch, 9th September. The management meeting went well, with some good news for us all. The finance committee have been working very hard behind the scenes, and believe that we are in a position to offer a greater discount to people that pay their subs on time. There will be a ten dollar increase, or fifteen dollar discount for those that pay their annual subs before the end of February. It was also noted that our annual membership has grown, all so, bringing more funds into the working accounts. We thank Steve P. and his team for this, as he has been at the helm of the finance committee at a national level.

Andrew E. spoke on the issues with licence renewals, COLFO, and what is happening with a government select committee that is reviewing firearms laws. Licence renewals are being processed in approx four weeks. COLFO have been busy on a number of fronts, hosting an organized shoot for a group of select committee members, bringing our concerns forward to both police and members of the select committee, and doing a great deal of work behind the scenes to try to ensure that all of the shooting public can continue to enjoy their sport. Andrew did point out, that in recent times we all had a chance to put forward a submission to the select committee. As a result the select committee received about one hundred submissions, with a number coming from the anti gun people. This equated to less than .05 of a percent of licenced firearms owners submitting a submission. Andrew has asked us to discuss our concerns with your local MPs and the like.

Phil Cregeen is always looking for articles for the Gazette. I do note that several Wgtn branch members have submitted some superb articles in recent times. How about a few more from others.

The Canterbury Branch hosted the half yearly meeting at the Riccarton race course. They had a number of sales tables, club members displays, and ran a mickey mouse type auction with no formal catalogue. A lot of goodies managed to change hands and find new homes on the Saturday. We thank the Canterbury branch for their efforts in putting this event together. Alwyn

Vacancy:

Branch Secretary. Initially Mary Anderson was going to undertake this role but has since advised the Branch that as she now has 2 jobs she will not be able to take it up. Perhaps an hour or two a week. The role includes:

- i) Calling meeting (in conjunction with the President, sending out the agendas and keeping the minutes.
- ii) Arranging meeting venues and facilities
- iii) Dealing with the incoming correspondence
- iv) Working with the Treasurer in regard to Membership notices and processing.
- v) Keeping the records of the Branch
- Vi) Working with the membership of the Branch

Talk to Pat.