

# VERY LIGHT

Very Light Magazine is a magazine of The Antique & Historical Arms Collectors Guild  
of Victoria, Inc No 120 August 2021

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## 2019 – 2020 and 2020 – 2021 Annual General Meetings

As all members are by now no doubt aware, the recurring COVID-19 restrictions have caused multiple cancellations of the 2019 – 2020 Annual General Meeting. Members were advised in our special issue of *Very Light* No. 115 at the end of May that we had been forced to seek yet another approval for a postponement due to the introduction of another sudden lockdown.

This was granted and accordingly (if all goes well) we will combine the postponed 2019 – 2020 AGM with the scheduled 2020 – 2021 AGM and hold both on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August.

(If there are any further changes you will be advised)

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**The Combined Annual General Meetings of the Guild for the years 2019 – 2020 and 2020 - 2021 will be Held at 7.15 PM on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 at the Eley Park Community Centre, Eley Rd., Blackburn South, Victoria.**

As you are aware the COVID-19 restrictions have caused multiple postponements of the 2019 – 2020 AGM. After several necessary applications to the Department of Justice for extensions of time to hold the meeting, the Guild received approval for a postponement until the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, which means it will be combined with the 2020- 2021 AGM scheduled for that date.

Any notice of motions and nominations for committee positions must be in the hands of the Secretary seven days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. All Committee positions will be declared vacant and nominations are called for the position (s) of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Officer/Editor of *Caps & Flints*, and seven other officers.

Ordinary Business (as required by Rule 9 (4) of the Guilds Rules):

- To confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting;
- To receive from the Committee, reports upon the transactions of the Guild during the last preceding financial year;
- To elect officers of the Guild; and
- To receive and consider the statement submitted by the Guild in accordance with section 30 (3) of the Act;
- To appoint an Auditor.

The annual General Meeting may also transact special business of which notice is given in accordance with the Guild's Rules.

Due to rising costs over the past decade a motion will be introduced to increase current membership fees. At the time of the preparation of this notice the amount is yet to be decided.

Please do attend the AGM (and enjoy the supper). We need a quorum of 20 members which means we need you to come along!

### **Resumption of Monday Meetings - Requirements**

After the sole meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April we were then forced by a lockdown to cancel the scheduled May meeting, then another lockdown forced the cancellation of the July meeting.

There will, however, still be some attendance conditions in place, due to the requirements of the Whitehorse City Council.

Attendance can be in excess of 20 people in the Hall. Members attending will be required to record their attendance in one of two ways -

1. The Guild will have a QR Code which will be displayed and members may record their presence by using their smartphones as they would if attending restaurants or other venues where the use of the QR Code is a condition of admission, or
2. Any members who do not have the smartphone facility to use a QR Code to record their attendance will have to do so by writing their name and contact details (name, email address or phone number) on the record sheets which will be placed on the table inside the doors to the Hall itself.
3. When in the Hall the social distancing rule is still to be observed and face masks must be worn.

We ask members to observe these simple rules as the more members who do so means that we will not be restricted to a maximum of 20 attendees which has been the reason why we have had to prolong returning to our normal Monday night meetings.

### **Volunteers Needed to set up Tables**

We will need some extra hands to help set up tables. No need to contact us just get to Eley Park before 7.00 and help out.

### **Volunteers Needed to Clean up Kitchen**

Like with setting up the tables, and helping put them away we need some willing hands to clean up the area where we make tea and coffee – it's basically making sure the disposable cups, teabags etc. are binned and the sink area and counter tops etc. are wiped down. Members can help immensely by binning their cup when finished with.

### **27<sup>th</sup> of September Meeting - Buy & Sell**

Because we were forced to cancel the scheduled July Buy and Sell the committee has decided to make the 27<sup>th</sup> of September meeting a Buy and Sell night. We want members to bring along items for sale which can include exempt firearms i.e. pre-1900 genuine antiques like single shot percussion pistols, flintlocks etc. and other types of exempt firearms such as longarms taking obsolete ammunition.

We are doing this to liven up the Monday meetings which, let's face it, were, even before the COVID problems, becoming increasingly uninteresting and frankly requiring a boost to enthusiasm levels.

### **National Firearms Amnesty**

Australia governments have come together to hold an ongoing national amnesty to reduce the number of unregistered firearms and improve public safety. The amnesty will commence Thursday 1 July 2021.

The amnesty allows people to surrender the following possessions without fear of prosecution:

- Firearms (including homemade firearms)
- Firearm related parts and accessories
- Cartridge ammunition

Please note, commercial and military explosives and explosive ordinances are not covered in Victoria under the amnesty.

In Victoria, the community will be able surrender the above possessions to Licensed Firearms Dealers (LFD's) for destruction, register or sale to appropriately licenced individuals in accordance with the conditions of their licence.

LFD's will be granted a reasonable time-frame to appropriately dispose of the items received during the amnesty and collection arrangements will be made between LFD and their local Divisional Firearms Officers (DFO).

### Who is managing the Amnesty?

Whilst Victoria Police can accept surrendered items under the amnesty the public is encouraged to surrender possessions to LFD's as directed by Crime Stoppers.

Crime Stoppers Victoria are leading in managing the national coordination of the campaign through Crime Stoppers Australia.

Crime Stoppers Australia will be a central location for information on how and where to surrender, register or sell firearms, parts and ammunition.

## **Members' Displays**

The general apathy shown by club members does not encourage club spirit in Monday night Guild meetings. Over the years we saw members keen to show items from their collections. But for the last 5 years or more this task, which is meant to make the meetings interesting and a pleasure to attend, has fallen increasingly on the shoulders of a small number of regulars – members willing to bring items of interest to share with others.

This situation is disheartening. The answer to those who complain of boredom is bring a display yourselves. Large or small, it doesn't matter, but it makes Monday club meetings what they should be – **a club night**.

## **Caps & Flints**

The August 2021 issue will be due out soon so we are requesting articles for the February 2022 issue. Authors are reminded to provide photos taken with adequate lighting and sharpness. While the Editor can help improve/redeem some images, he is not a miracle worker. A photo which is blurred by movement of the camera or subject is almost impossible to improve by sharpening the image using magical software. The use of an even, clean, texture-less and white/very light background is also essential.

Please forward articles, advertising or enquiries to the Editor *Caps & Flints* by email to [cupfire1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cupfire1@ozemail.com.au) or by mail to PO Box 2976, Cheltenham, 3192, or contact the Guild Secretary on (03) 9584 2907.

## **Advertising in Caps & Flints**

**Caps & Flints Journal No. 5** is expected to be ready for distribution in February 2022. If you would like to place an advert in that issue of the Journal, please read on.

To reserve a **size** and **position**, please indicate your preferences by contacting the Secretary. This will facilitate aid the editor in formatting of the journal.

Suitable **final versions** of your adverts should be submitted as a PDF or JPG format in the required size. The sizes and charges currently available are:

Full Page @ \$500

Half Page @ \$350

Third Page @ \$250

Quarter Page @ \$200

The prices and conditions are set by the Executive of the Guild.

### **2021 Monday Meeting Dates**

The dates for the Monday night meetings are August 30 (2019 – 2020 & 2020- 2021 Annual General Meetings), September 27, October 25 and November 29.

### **Licence Renewals and PTAs**

Members are requested to submit licence renewals, licence applications and Permits to Acquire requiring the signature of a Nominated Officer to the Guild at PO Box 2976 Cheltenham, 3192, or by email to [cupfire1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cupfire1@ozemail.com.au)

Please remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope so that we may forward them to the required destination. Mail costs are increasing, and we appreciate members' cooperation in this matter.

The Secretary can be contacted on (03) 9584 2907 or by email at [cupfire1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cupfire1@ozemail.com.au)

### **Wanted to Sell**

#### **Books for sale:**

*Small Arms of the Sea Services*, Rankin. \$45

*List of Changes in British War Materials*, Volumes 1, 2 & 3, Skennerton. \$150

*Swords for Sea Service* Two Volumes / May and Annis \$450

**Please ring Eric 0410 558 067 to discuss.**

### **Wanted to Buy**

#### **British Sea Service Pistols**

\* Pattern 1821

\* Pattern 1824 ( Similar to a New Land Pattern, but with a belt hook )

**Please ring Eric 0410 558 067 to discuss.**

### **20 Gauge Roll Crimping Tool**

If anyone has one of these for sale could they contact David at Mob. 0409 435 818 or [hawkeyepearce556@gmail.com](mailto:hawkeyepearce556@gmail.com).

### **Member seeking two Victorian Volunteer marked items**

Pattern 1856 Sergeants Model marked VV (Victorian Volunteers),  
.577 cal. Hay Pattern rifle also marked VV.

Contact Bob Bates 0407098413 or [batesbob@bigpond.net.au](mailto:batesbob@bigpond.net.au)

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### **Proposed New Book**

#### ***The Calisher & Terry in British and Colonial Military Service 1856 -1900***

**by Brian Knapp**

Brian Knapp who is a well-known authority on small arms of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries has announced a new book.

The book is a comprehensive study of the Calisher & Terry rifle, illustrated with over 170 rifle images and 50 period photographs, most of which have never been published in book form before. With many cuttings from contemporary newspaper and magazine articles, the C&T story is not only about one of the most popular capping breech loading rifles and a famous Birmingham manufacturer but also a social snapshot of Victorian life in a provincial manufacturing city during the industrial revolution.

It is proposed that the book will be A4 size, hard back with over 200 pages. UK target price to be £48 including P&P [sales price outside the UK £45 plus P&P]

**Enquiries please contact**

**Barry Chisnall**

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