

VERY LIGHT

Very Light Magazine is a magazine of The Antique & Historical Arms Collectors Guild
of Victoria, Inc No 143 December 2024

Notice re *Caps & Flints*

Caps & Flints Journal No. 10 has finally reached the members of the Guild after quite a wait. Apologies to all. I was a little late, but the larger reason was that the printers chose this period to completely disassemble their machines, move to a new site, then reinstall the machines. Unfortunately, our printed pages had to wait until the binding machines, the last piece of equipment, was up and working.

Please note that the next *Caps & Flints* is expected for publication in August 2025. Articles for this can be submitted any time before the end May 2025.

Thanks to all our previous authors and advertisers. The authors of articles prepared for *Caps & Flints* are vital to the success of this publication. Please accept the appreciation of the editors and all Guild members for the willingness to share knowledge and time by creating the articles we all read in each volume.

We would be pleased to have contributions from a wider range of collecting disciplines than previously. For example, only a limited number of articles about edged weapons have appeared in *Caps & Flints* over the past five years. Informative articles about these and other topics, such as cartridge collecting, would be very welcome. Reviews of new and relevant books will also be appreciated.

Whatever your specialty area, spread the word and help develop interest and knowledge in the antique and historical arms collecting fraternity. Become an author in your field of interest and add your name to the list of authors.

Fred & Diana Bienvenu, – Editors.

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

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.

Alternatively members may scan and send by email the page that requires a Nominated Officer's signature and this will be signed and returned by email to the member.

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

The dates of the Monday Meetings in 2025

The dates for the Guild Monday Meetings in 2025 are January 27, February 24, March 31, April 28, May 26,, June 30, July 28, August (AGM) 25, September 29, October 27 and November 24.

Notice Regarding Security and Safety at Meetings

We note that while it is pleasing to see increasing attendance at the Monday night meetings there has been a slackening of necessary security measures by members presenting displays.

Accordingly the Committee has resolved that –

1. All registerable firearms displayed must have either cable ties locking their actions, or trigger locks, or be firmly affixed to the table by locked cables, and the display must be attended at all times. The Guild has some cables and locks and these can be supplied if requested.
2. In regard to ammunition the sale of ammunition by individual members who do not possess the necessary WorkSafe permit to sell cartridge ammunition is banned.

This does not apply to licensed dealers and members who hold the appropriate Ammunition Collectors Licence who may be presenting displays. Any members who can sell ammunition under these conditions are reminded that they need to physically confirm that the purchaser has the appropriate licence before a sale can be made.

The restrictions on ammunition display either for sale, or as part of a display is because we run the risk that someone may take a loose round and chamber it in a firearm in an unattended display. The results of that would be horrendous for the club.

We also run the risk of a spot check by a L&RD Officer. This has not happened in the past. However the future is uncertain we must assume a visit will only be looking for trouble.

Attendance and Participation in Monday Night Meetings

THE COMMITTEE HAS MADE ALL MONDAY MEETINGS BUY AND SELL NIGHTS

Besides presenting displays we encourage 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 remind members that it would be helpful if we could have some volunteers to help set up the hall before our normal start time of 7.00 PM.

Guild Meetings - Monday 27/10/2024 and 25/11/24

The meetings were only lightly attended which, given that the weather was OK for the November meeting, was disappointing. Nevertheless there were some interesting displays and here are pictures of some of the items.

Amongst the October displays were the following –

A cased pair of gentleman's travelling pistols



A display of British Sea Service pistols



Some engraved and nickel plated revolvers.



In November we saw the following –

Two Sappers and Miners muskets. The top one is the 1843 Pattern, while at the bottom is the ultra-rare 1841 Pattern



A cased walking stick and airgun combination.



A pair of flintlock pistols by Thomas Richards of Birmingham, c. 1765



Duelling Video on YouTube

There is an interesting video on YouTube for all duelling aficionados in the Guild.

<https://youtu.be/cPTY-LuEp78>

Here is the **introductory** text:

Just How Deadly Were Guns In The 18th Century?

“Mike Loades has the world of pistol duelling firmly in his sights. We stare down the barrel of famous encounters, such as Hamilton vs. Burr, and restage a pistol duel to explore how duelling evolved from swords to firearms in the 18th and 19th centuries. Mike also gets hands on with the technology of skilfully crafted original duelling pistols, from hair triggers to hidden rifled barrels. And BBC Diplomatic Correspondent, James Landale, recounts the incredible story of his ancestor who fought a lethal duel with his bank manager! When the smoke clears, you'll know all about the incredible story of duelling.”

FOR SALE

SWORDS AVAILABLE FOR SALE :

Selection of British Naval and Military Swords offered.

Pritchard-Greener Bayonet for Webley .455 Revolver
\$1,000 ONO



Contact: Eric, 0410 558 067

FIREARMS FOR SALE

2 Remington Rolling Blocks (1 x .22 octagonal barrel and 1 x .32 round barrel)

Offers welcome, **contact Ross Morton 0468 484 441**

Registered in NSW.

ALL SALES OF LICENSABLE FIREARMS MUST BE THROUGH A LICENCED DEALER

Books for Sale

British Single Shot Rifles by Wal Winfer.

I have several copies of each of the following volumes. All are new and still shrink wrapped.

Price for each is \$80 including postage Australia wide.

Volume 1; ALEXANDER HENRY, Volume 2; GEORGE GIBBS, Volume 4; WESTLEY RICHARDS, .Volume 5; HOLLAND & HOLLAND, Volume 6; WEBLEY, KYNOCH & ELEY.

Contact Frank Staig 0432 693 242,

WANTED TO BUY

British Ordnance percussion Coast Guard/Constabulary Pistol – 6 inch barrel, .65” Calibre, NO belt hook, with TOWER or ENFIELD lock, dated between 1843 to 1847 inclusion.

British Ordnance Sea Service Pistol – 6 inch barrel, .56” calibre, WITH belt hook, with TOWER or ENFIELD lock dated 1855 or 1856.

British Ordnance flintlock Sea Service Pistol – 9 inch barrel, with belt hook.

British Ordnance Brunswick Rifle, made by ENFIELD or TOWER, with back-action lock.

Contact Adrian Roads 0417 772 535 adrianroads1@gmail.com

Vigilante Colt Revolver Lost for 170 years A Californian story - with Australian links

By John R. McLean

A4 size soft cover book, wire-bound, 140 pages printed on quality silk paper
with over fifty photographs and maps

Price: \$40.00 (plus postage) Weight packed, 600 g. approx.

All enquiries to: John R. McLean 0408 641 716 j.mclean@optusnet.com.au

