

VERY LIGHT

Very Light Magazine is a magazine of The Antique & Historical Arms Collectors Guild of Victoria, Inc

No 146 June 2025

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Postponement of the 2024 -2025 Guild Annual General Meeting

Members are advised that the AGM of the Guild which was scheduled for the 25th of August will now be held on the 29th of September. This postponement is a once off occasion and in 2026 the AGM will revert to the last Monday of August as usual.

Therefore the original scheduled date will now be just an ordinary Monday night meeting of displays and items for buy and sell.

Notice re Licence Applications, Renewals and PTAs

While the Guild offers email as one method of processing these, **members are advised that photographs of PTAs, licence applications or renewals will no longer be accepted.** Members must submit these for signature by a Nominated Officer in one of the following three ways

1. In hard copy with a stamped envelope addressed to either L&RD or for return to the member.
2. In a scanned PDF format, or
3. In the original .rtf (Rich Text Format) which is the file type used by dealers in their use of the online process created by L&RD. In fact this format is preferred as it is the quickest method for nominated officers to process the form and send it back to the member.

Of course members can always bring the forms to one of our monthly meetings for signature.

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

If there are any questions re this change the Secretary can be contacted on (03) 9584 2907 or by email at cupfire1@ozemail.com.au

Special Notice re Caps & Flints

Please note that the next ***Caps & Flints*** is expected for publication in August 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.

The dates of the Monday Meetings in 2025

The dates for the Guild Monday Meetings in 2025 which are held at Eley Park Community Centre, Eley Rd, Blackburn South, are June 30, July 28, August 25, **September 29 (AGM)**, October 27 and November 24.

Guild Meetings on Public Holidays

Sometimes the monthly Guild meeting which is always held on the last Monday of every month (except December) coincides with a public holiday. Most often, as with 2025, this occurred on the Australia Day holiday. In some years it may also coincide with the Anzac Day holiday. Also this sometimes occurs for the Easter Monday holiday. We remind members that when this happens our Monday meeting on the last Monday of the month still remains on that day even if it is a public holiday.

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.

April and May Guild Meetings Displays

We had some very interesting displays at the April and May meetings.

A Superb Display of Wheellocks





British Customs and Constabulary Pistols



Truncheons



Various British Sea Service Pistol



Various Colt Pistols



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.

FOR SALE

Long Sea Service repro Belt Hook (Peter Dyson made) \$50.

Books for sale

Small Arms of the East India Company 1600-1856, D F Harding. 2 Volumes in slipcover. Excellent Condition, \$790.

Great British Gunmakers, W. Keith Neal and D H L Back. 2 Volumes 1540 - 1740 and 1740–1790. Very good condition, \$290.

Hartman's Dutch Gunmakers From the 15th to the 20th Century. As New \$80

Contact: Eric 0410 558 067

New Book

Ian Skennerton has republished his long OOP *British Commonwealth Bayonets and Fighting Knives*

The price is \$150, and he will do a post-paid autographed copy if requested.

Promo video link... www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApYqhGw6vYI&t=50s

Contact Ian on 0406 925 976

WANTED TO BUY

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

Contact; Adrian Roads 0417 772 535 adrianroads1@gmail.com

BALLARAT ARMS AND MILITARIA COLLECTORS SOCIETY Inc.

MILITARIA & COLLECTABLES FAIR

BALLARAT SHOWGROUNDS NEW EXHIBITION CENTRE

ROSEHILL RD.MT.ROWAN

FEATURING

MILITARIA AND COLLECTABLES,BOOKS,BAYONETS,SCOPES,CLOTHING,CLOTH
PATCHES,KNIVES,FIREARMS,HELMETS,SWORDS,BRIC A BRAC,PRINTS,ANTIQUES
AND SOME SURPRISE EXHIBITS.

SATURDAY 12 JULY 9am-5pm

SUNDAY 13 JULY 9am-3pm

ENTRY FEES

Adults \$15,Concession/Pensioner \$10

Under 16(accompanied by Parent)FREE

Member(with membership I.D.)FREE

ENQUIRIES AND TABLE BOOKINGS

GRAEME STANDEN

Secretary

0419566490

Email ballaratarms.com.au

Armed Guards in attendance as ever.

Victoria Police approval for the event is both necessary and welcome, and we appreciate
their involvement.