



E - GAZETTE MK II

New Zealand Antique & Historical Arms Association Inc. # 11 Nov 2011

EDITORIAL

Sharing of knowledge among fellow collectors is one of the rewarding aspects of being a member of the NZAHAA, yet in the Objects of the Association it does not get a mention, I wonder why?

Wouldn't it be great if the collectors who hide their treasures away, often sighting security as the reason, would be more willing to research and share their knowledge of the items they collect. By sharing knowledge we encourage others to do the same, and in doing so learn more ourselves.

Fortunately there are members in this organisation who willingly share their knowledge by writing articles, contributing to other people's research, loaning or photographing items from their collection and sharing books and documents for others to study. I am sure we are all very grateful to these members.

Do you have an interesting gun or other collectable that you could write about for the Gazette or e-Gazette? Can you contribute to the various requests for information from the NZART on specific firearms or add to the SAT Register and NZ Carbine Register? In contributing you can choose to remain anonymous.

One way we can help this organisation to prosper is by sharing our knowledge and enthusiasm and thereby encourage others to appreciate the hobby of collecting and studying historic arms.

If you have comments to make or news or articles to contribute, send them to oilrag@xtra.co.nz
All views (and errors) expressed here are those of the Editor and not necessarily those of the NZAHAA Inc.

Phil Cregeen, Editor oilrag@xtra.co.nz

BATTLE OF BRITAIN REMEMBERED, 70th Anniversary, thanks to John Osborne .

What a treat this is, with professional quality photography!

Sound on loud to hear the Merlin engines.

View full screen by clicking on the square with 4 arrows in the lower right corner of the video.

Enjoy seeing sixteen (16) Spitfires performing together!

Battle of Britain Air Show, Duxford, UK

Click on the link below

<http://www.airshows.org.uk/2010/airshows/duxford-battle-of-britain-airshow-review.html>

VIETNAM WAR WEBSITE, thanks to John Osborne.

For those with an interest in the Vietnam War visit:

<http://hotelco2ndbn7thmarinesvietnam.com/>

AN INTERESTING BAYONET, Photograph provided by Mike Wood.



The bayonet of interest this month is the second from the top. This is the bayonet for the Jacobs Carbine, see picture below which I found on the internet. General Jacobs commanded the Scinde Irregular Horse in India and designed his own carbine which had a double barrel, four groove rifling and back action locks. The bayonet has an overall length of 35.7 in. (907 mm), blade of 30.5 in. (775 mm) and a MRD of 20.5 mm. It has a long straight double fullered blade with a steel basket hilt, knurled leather grips secured by four rivets and a double muzzle ring. The scabbard is black leather over wood with steel locket and chape. A contract for carbines and bayonets was placed with Swinburn & Son and the carbines were made between 1859 and 1861, although it is not known who actually made the bayonets. Ref: BCB I 31.

The other bayonets are, from the top: 1879 Martini Henry Artillery Carbine, Jacobs Carbine, 1859 Naval Cutlass bayonet, Jacobs bayonet, 1879 Martini Henry Artillery Carbine bayonet.



Do you have a modified or unusual bayonet that you would care to share with our readers? Send details and a photo to oilrag@xtra.co.nz

WAR RELICS IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Claire Bibby who is currently serving with the NZ Police in the Solomon Islands sent these pictures of WW II relics around Honiara.



Here are some photos I took myself in the Treasury Group, which is close to Bougainville, back in 1993.



NEW ZEALAND ARMS REGISTER

The work of the NZAR Team is progressing well, to date we have over 200 arms listed, from AFVs and Artillery to SMGs and Swords. In addition to compiling a basic list of Arms, various members have drafted Information Pages on individual arms; *see an example sent as a separate e-mail with pdf file attached*. As well as contributions from members of NZAHAA and NZSG information has been received from around the World.

As we research these arms we also discover that there is more to learn. For example, until the first World War Officers were required to purchase their own pistols, resulting in a wide variety that could have been used by New Zealanders in the Boer War and WW I. In WW II Kiwis serving alongside US forces were often armed by them, for example RNZAF in the Pacific, so the register will include more than just Official NZ Government issued arms.

If you can provide information with provenance on any arms used by New Zealanders the NZAR Team would be pleased to hear from you.

NATIONAL SHOOT TROPHIES

If you hold one of the trophies from the NZAHAA National Shoot would you please contact John Collins at:

jcollins@orcon.net.nz

GUN REVIEW-Westley Richards “Monkey Tail Carbine”, by Phil Cregeen



This is a Westley Richards “Monkey Tail” Capping Breech Loading 52 Bore Percussion Carbine, so named because of the tail on the breech latch. This particular carbine was one of 2,000 supplied to Portugal in 1867 as a Cavalry Carbine and known as a Clavana. In 1873 they were converted to Artillery use by removing the saddle bar and fitting an upper band with bayonet bar and sling swivels. This carbine has a 20 in. rifled barrel with Whitworth Patent octagonal rifling of .450 nominal calibre. It has a front hinged rear sight graduated to 800 metres. The barrel is retained in the walnut stock by one band, one steel pin and a screw in front of the trigger under the trigger guard. The furniture comprises of a brass nose cap, trigger guard and butt plate and a steel cleaning rod. Portugal also purchased 8,000 Monkey Tail Rifles with 33 inch barrels and 1000 pistols of the same design. The Carbine fired a 400 grain bullet with 2 drams of black powder contained in a paper cartridge.



Monkey Tail Breech



1880 dated Lock a replacement

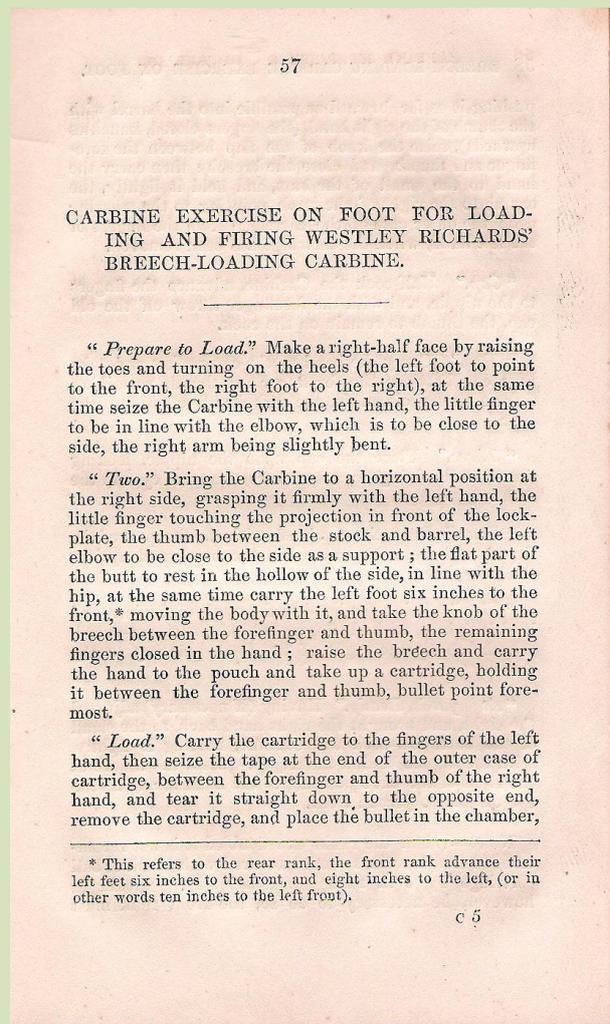
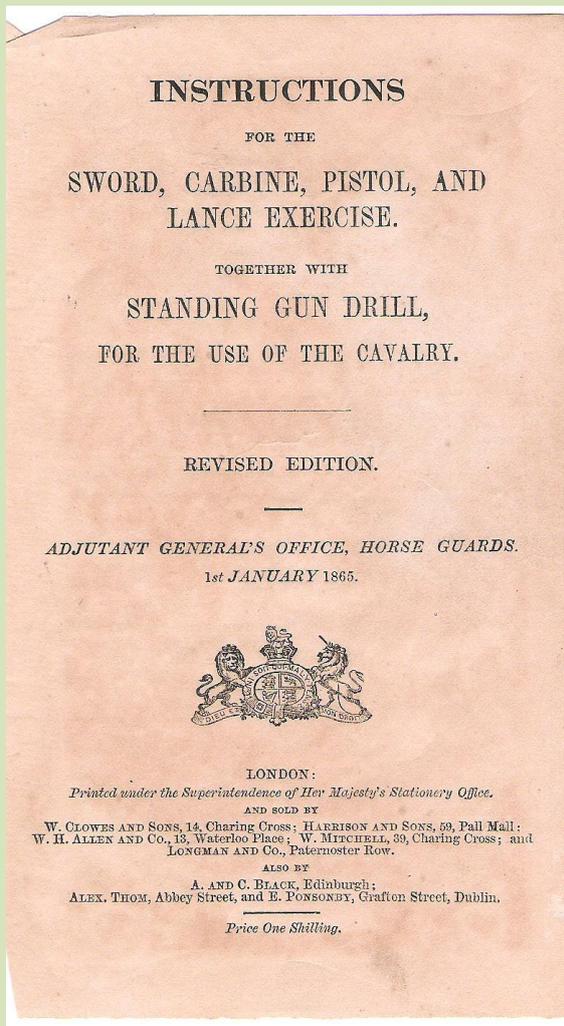
It is thought that New Zealand Provincial Governments imported a small number of Monkey Tail carbines in the 1860s and these may be marked with NZ and a number. These British Ordnance Pattern Carbines have a barrel length of 25 inches, and a butt trap with two holes for cleaning rods.



A New Zealand Monkey Tail (photo John Osborne)

To read more about Monkey tails visit <http://www.roaring-forties.co.uk/home/monkey-tail-history> Robbie Betteridge who compiled this history is compiling a register of Monkey Tails and would be pleased to hear from any New Zealand owners. Contact Robbie at: r_f@btinternet.com

If you want to shoot your Monkey Tail here is the proper way to do it (contributed by Pat Glynn):



pushing it as far forward as possible into the barrel with the thumb of the right hand, (the fingers closed, knuckles upwards), seize the knob of the flap between the forefinger and thumb, and close the breech; then carry the hand to the small of the butt, and hold it lightly, the thumb to the right of the knob pointing to the muzzle; drop the outer case of the cartridge from the fingers of the left hand, when the cartridge has been removed.

“Cap.” Half-cock the Carbine, advance the fingers to the nipple, and with the forefinger throw off the old cap, the thumb to remain on the cock.

“Two.” Carry the hand to the cap-pocket and take up a cap between the forefinger and thumb, remaining fingers to be closed in the left hand, elbow to the rear.

“Three.” Place the cap upon the nipple, looking down while doing so, afterwards raise the eyes to the front.

“Four.” Press the cap home with the flat part of the thumb with the fingers closed in the hand, and against the lock-plate.

“Five.” Bring the hand to the small of the butt and hold it lightly, with the fingers behind the trigger-guard, the thumb on the right of the knob pointing to the muzzle.

“At yards, Ready.” Having (if necessary) adjusted the sight, and brought the right hand back to the small of the butt, full-cock the Carbine, holding it lightly, with the fingers behind the trigger-guard, the thumb at the right of the knob pointing to the muzzle, and fix the eye on some object in front.

Note.—When the ranks are doubled it is not recommended that Carbines should be fired with blank or ball cartridge by both ranks simultaneously. Should it, however, be necessary to do so, the front rank must

kneel on the right knee, and the word of command will be “At yards, front rank kneeling, ready.”

“Present.” Without moving the left hand from its grasp of the stock, or stooping, or raising the heels off the ground, bring the Carbine to the shoulder (carrying it to the front so as to clear the body as it ascends), press the centre of the butt firmly to the shoulder with the left hand, bringing the elbow well under the Carbine as a support, and raising the right elbow nearly square with, and to the front of, the right shoulder so as to form a bed for the butt; the right hand to hold the small lightly, with the thumb at the right of the knob pointing to the muzzle, which is to be a few inches below the object the right eye is fixed upon, the forefinger to be along the outside of the trigger-guard, and the left eye closed.

“Two.” Place the forefinger round the trigger like a hook, that part of it between the first and second joints to rest flat upon the trigger, and restrain the breathing.

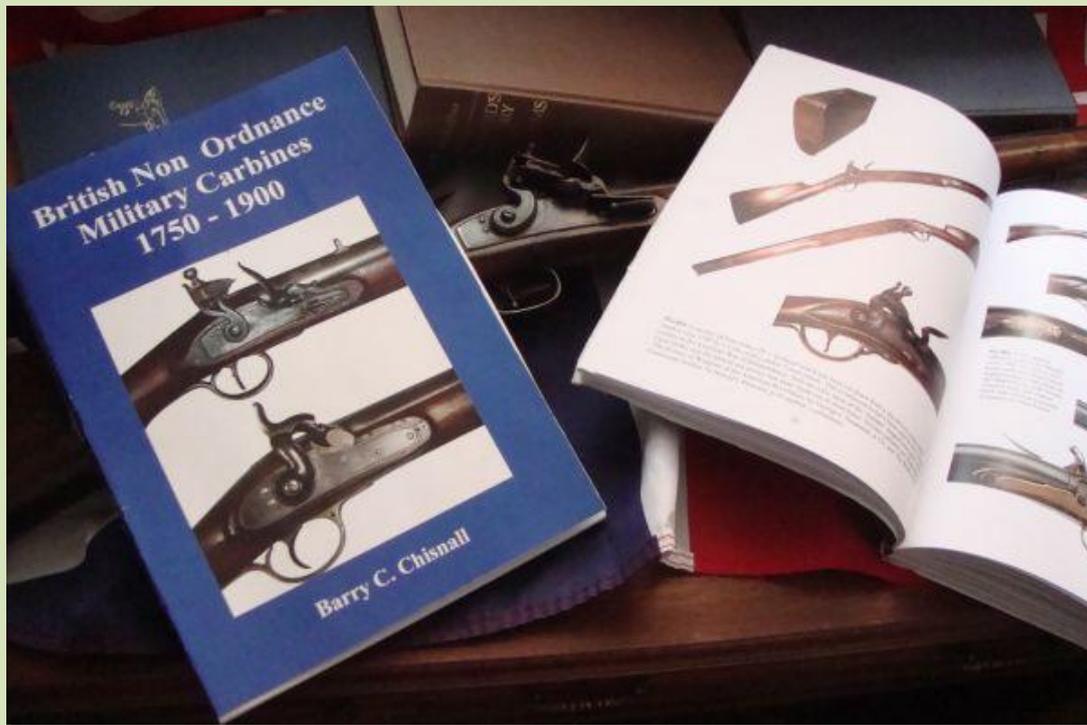
“Three.” Raise the muzzle steadily until the top of the foresight is brought in a line with the object through the bottom of the notch of the back sight.

“Four.” Press the trigger without the least jerk or motion of the hand, eye, or arm, until the cock falls upon the nipple, still keeping the eye firmly fixed upon the object.

“Five.” Bring the Carbine to the capping position; if the flap has been raised shut it down, but without moving the sliding bar, and proceed as detailed in the second motion of “Prepare to Load.”

Note.—As the Recruit will not get into the position above detailed without practice, and much care, the instructor will frequently command “As you were” (when the Carbine is to be brought down to the loading position without moving the eye from the object, or any part of the body but the arms), and point out the defects observed. By this means the Recruit will soon be accustomed to get into the position readily, and acquire a full command of his Carbine with his left hand.

NEW BOOK NOW AVAILABLE



This new book by Barry Chisnall on British Non Ordnance Military Carbines, mentioned in the September e-Gazette, is now available to order from www.britishcarbines.co.uk

SHOW AND TELL AT NORTHLAND BRANCH OCTOBER MEETING, Photos by Darren Hill

The theme was sporting guns and accessories.



WHAT DID YOUR BRANCH DO THIS MONTH

WRITE AND TELL ME ABOUT IT.



UPCOMING EVENTS

2011

5 & 6 November Rogers Militaria Auction, Wellington

5 & 6 November Taranaki Branch Gun Show, New Plymouth

12 & 13 November Armistice in Cambridge

13 November Carvell's Auction, Auckland

2012

7 & 8 January Northland Branch Invitation Shoot, Oromahoe

17 March Hawkes Bay Branch Auction, Napier

24 March NZAHAA National Shoot, Auckland (Provisional date)

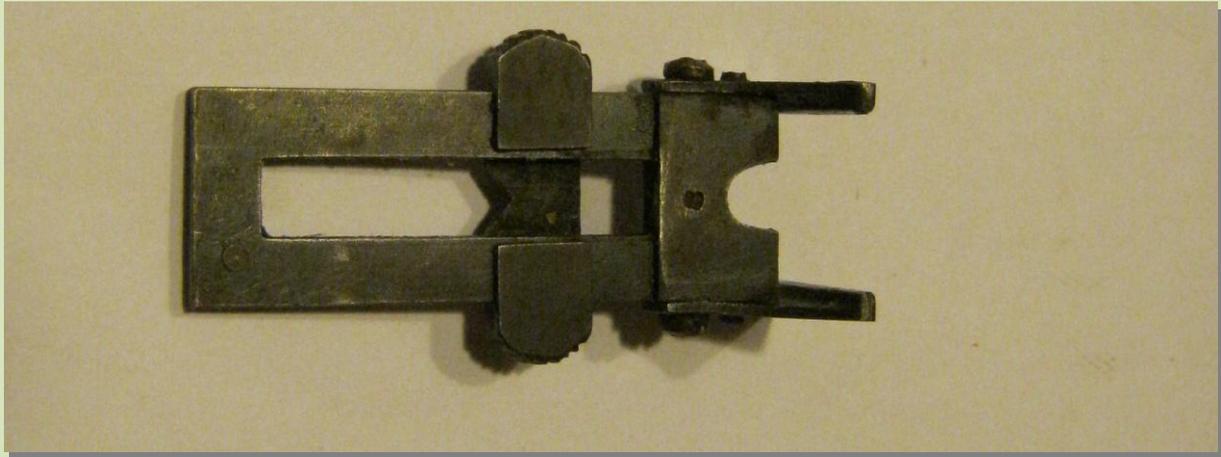
21 April NZAHAA AGM & Auction, hosted by South Canterbury Branch, Timaru

23 June Whangarei Hunting Shooting & Fishing Show

7 & 8 July Wellington Branch Auction

MYSTERY OBJECT

What is it? Send your answer to oilyrag@xtra.co.nz

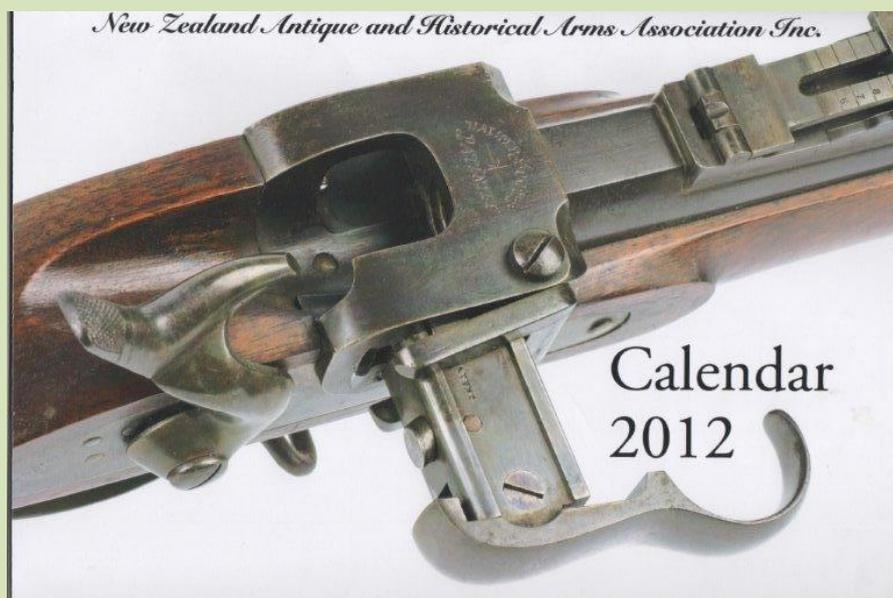


Darren Hill was the first nearly correct answer for last months Mystery Object, with trigger pull tester, for which it could be used. However I believe it is a Lewis/Vickers Machine Gun Combination Tool for testing springs pressures.



NZAHAA 2012 CALENDAR, 200 still to be sold

PLEASE BUY ONE AND SUPPORT YOUR CLUB



Calendars cost \$12.00 each plus \$2.50 P & P for up to 4 Calendars.

They make an ideal Christmas gift. Or you could twist his arm and sell one to your mate!

BUY SELL OR SWAP (Free advertising for NZAHAA members for 2 months)

***FOR SALE OR TRADE :** WW II Australian Issued U.S. M1917 Sniper Rifle with Australian Lithgow S.A.F. 1943 dated Cartouche on Stock; U.S. Issue M1922 .22 calibre Training Rifle in Excellent Original Condition; U.S.M.C. Issue M.1.C. Garand Sniper Rifle fitted with Kollmorgen 4x Scope & M2 Flash Hider; Vietnam Issue U.S. M.1.D. Garand Sniper Rifle fitted with unique one inch mount and Weaver K4 Scope & T37 Flash Hider; Have 3 Boer War Mauser Rifles with magnificent hand carved stocks, all Rifles include details of their history; Large Collection of British & Australian Lee Enfield Range Sights including many RARE examples.

WANTED : Early Canadian Longbranch No 4 Rifle with waisted front sight protector; British Commonwealth Trials Rifles especially Pattern 1913, No I MK VI & No 4 Trials Rifles; WW I Lattey, Gibbs, Martin, and similar Optical Sights; British & German Trench Magazines, Winter Triggers, Rifle Grenade Cups & Spigots, Metal Action Covers, and Wire Cutters & Breakers.

CONTACT : Colin Green, 5 Tiffany Grove, Templestowe, Victoria 3106, Australia.

Phone :61 3 98462070. Email : colingreenaust@hotmail.com

*** FOR SALE: BOOKS (SECOND HAND)**
\$10ea+P&P

The Flying Bomb War by Peter Haining, 2002.
Beckoning Skies (a NZ Pilots story WWII) by BE Young, 2002.
Victory in WW II by N Cawthorne, 2005.

CONTACT: Phil e-mail oilyrag@xtra.co.nz

***WANTED: PARTS of Winchester / Colt Lever & Pump actions long arms; Winchester SL (05-07-10) Magazines all calibres; Pre-WW2 Colt and S&W revolvers /pistols parts.**

Please contact **Fred:** 021 023 023 75

(09) 4866935 / coltparts@yahoo.co.nz

WANTED For NZART

Information on NZ Issued No 4 (other than Long Branch and Savage) & No 5 .303 Rifles, also 7.62 mm conversions L 8 series, L 39 and Sterling conversion.

Maker.....?

Mark.....?

Serial No.....?

Date of manufacture.....?

NZ Issue marks.....?

Please send to oilyrag@xtra.co.nz

***WANTED:** Military radio equipment and Accessories, ZC1 and other sets.

e-mail Mark at markarnott@rocketmail.com or phone 0274 572 124

***WANTED PHOTOS: British Cavalry Carbines of the Napoleonic Era**, is a new joint project by Barry Chisnall & Geoff Davies, and it has only just started.

Barry writes: We've written the outline and drafted a 'trial' chapter on Paget carbines. One problem, we have already found is the lack of data available to research the subject so we don't expect this new venture to be finished in the near future, (2012/13?).

Barry asks if our members can help. He is looking for pictures of Napoleonic and pre-Napoleonic carbines such as Harcourts, Elliotts, Bakers and Pagets, particularly if they have unusual features or regimental provenance?

CONTACT: Barry Chisnall barry.chisnall@yahoo.com

WANTED

YOUR ADVERTISEMENTS

REPORTS OF YOU BRANCH ACTIVITIES

YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUR SHORT ARTICLES

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**12-13 NOVEMBER 2011
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**NZAHAAI Hawkes Bay Branch in
conjunction with the Hawkes Bay Chapter
of IMAS**

are calling for quality lots for an

AUCTION

to be held on the 17th of March 2012.

Vendor & Buyer commission will be 5%.

**Venue: Clive Rugby Club Rooms between
Napier & Hastings**

Delivery of goods to HBAHAA:
C/O Ahuriri Liquorland
West Quay
Ahuriri
Napier

Contacts: Paul 06 844 7321, E- Mail
jo_paul@clear.net.nz

HBAHAA - Alan 06 835 4425

Northland Branch

Invitation Shoot 2012

7th & 8th January

At Oromahoe Range, as per last year.

(map available)

**Camping at the range encouraged, but you must be
self sufficient.**

**Organised events on Saturday with prizes, and the
usual evening auction. So bring along your excess
stuff!**

All members and families are welcome.

Fee \$20 for weekend.

For details contact: Paul Deeming Branch Secretary

09 435 3232 gunnerpwd@gmail.com