



**SSAA (MILDURA) ARMS & MILITARIA  
COLLECTORS GUILD**

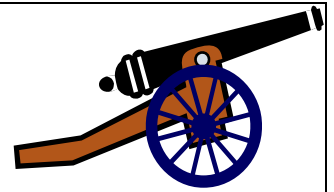
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2009 - March Issue

**THE ROLLING VOLLEY**  
**THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE ARMS AND MILITARIA**  
**COLLECTORS OF SUNRAYSIA & OTHER PARTS OF**  
**AUSTRALIA**

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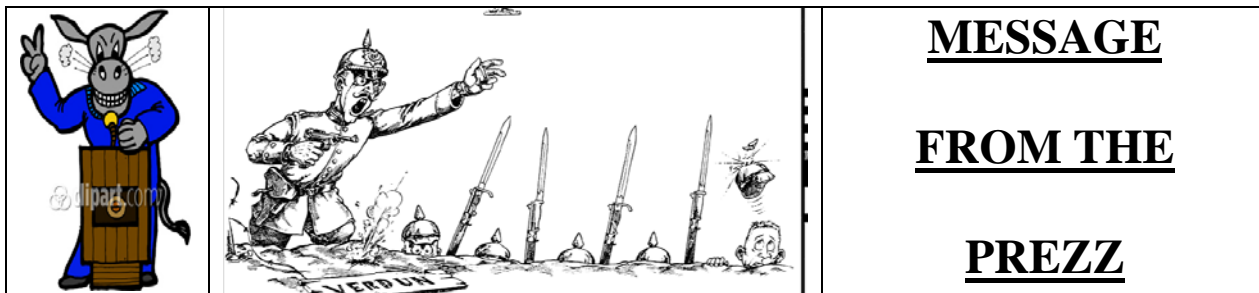
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**Meeting: First Wednesday of the month except January at Tyrepower,  
Corner 9<sup>th</sup> Street & Madden Ave, Mildura at 7.00 pm.**



**2009 commences:** Well a new year is upon us, the world is in crisis, super-funds are disappearing, the Ozzie \$ has slipped, overseas travel is expensive and dangerous so just sit back, relax, don't stress and read the next volume of the rolling volley. Think about the articles that you will be writing for the 2009 editions, think what themes we will be having for the show this year, think about where we can go for a club trip, there is plenty to keep us away from the doom and gloom of the world's problems.

What can we do to promote our club and an interest in the things we love. I would like to have an information stall with a few exhibits at one of the local markets, Merbein, Red Cliffs or Mildura mall or perhaps all of them. We will discuss at our next committee or planning meeting

Another item that we haven't quite fitted into our yearly calendar is a "Range day". A day for us to try some of those lovely collectables that we have stored away and would love to pull the trigger of. Many dual membership members (Collectors/MMR&PC) have old material that is now being used on regular Range Days and it stimulates a huge amount of interest.

Looking foreword to another year of collecting and more of that "Show and Tell"

TJ



### **THE EDITER'S COMMENT.**

Very quiet on the Editorial Front, haven't read any new books, saw the Film/Docco about the Somme on the ABC, disappointing to see so many No 4's where No 1 Mk 3's should be. The show itself was entertaining but that is all you can hope for when it is produced for the general public and not for the Military Historian.

E-bay has stacks of collectables for sale in most parts of the world, a little warning, postage can be a killer especially from the USA.

Trevor Johns

## Gun Feature – 1

### Martini Henry MK1 1871-1876



The Martini-Henry Rifle is a weapon of Empire. Unlike the [Snider-Enfield](#) it replaced, it was England's

first service rifle designed from the ground up as a breechloading metallic cartridge firearm. It protected and served the British Empire and her colonies for over 30 years. This robust weapon utilized a falling block, self-cocking, lever operated, single-shot action designed by [Friedrich von Martini](#) of Switzerland. The barrel used the Henry Rifling System, designed by Alexander Henry. Henry Peabody, an American, was actually the father of the Martini action. His design utilized an external hammer to strike a firing pin for cartridge ignition. Mr. Martini's refinement of the design basically consisted of conversion to an internal coiled spring activated striker. Martini's improved design flourished and Mr. Peabody's is nearly forgotten. Later in the British Martini's career, other rifling patterns such as the Metford System and even a system devised at Enfield were adopted. It is therefore common to hear these weapons also referred to as Martini-Enfields or Martini-Metfords. The first Martini adopted for service in the British Army was the M-H Mark I, which entered service in June of 1871. There were an additional three main variations of the Martini-Henry Rifle...the Mark II, III and IV. There were also sub variations of these that are commonly called Patterns. In 1877 a Carbine version of the M-H was entered into service. There are five main variations of the Carbine Model: the M-H Carbine Mark I (a.k.a. Cavalry Carbine), the M-H Garrison Artillery Carbine, the M-H Artillery Carbine Mark I, the M-H Artillery Carbine Mark II, and M-H Artillery Carbine Mark III. Initially, British Military Martinis used the Short Chamber Boxer-Henry .45 Caliber black powder cartridge. The original cartridge case was made of a thin sheet of brass rolled around a mandrel, which was then soldered to an iron base. These cartridges were assembled by the orphaned children of British Soldiers, and were relatively cheap to produce. They were found to be vulnerable to being easily damaged, and produced inferior muzzle velocities. Later, the rolled brass case was replaced by a solid brass version which remedied both of these problems. There was also a Carbine version of the Boxer-Henry .45 Caliber cartridge. This round used a 410 grain bullet with 70 grains of black powder, instead of the 480 grain bullet and 85 grains of powder used in the infantry rifle load. The primary reason for the milder load was that the recoil of the rifle load was very punishing when fired in a carbine, and this was found to be the cause of many failures in prototype carbines. In an emergency, either load could be used in either weapon. When the advantages of small caliber, flatter trajectory, high velocity cartridges became evident, an experimental Martini in .402 caliber was designed. Known as the Enfield-Martini Rifle, these rifles offered superior ballistic performance compared to Martinis in .450 caliber. With the adoption of the .303 caliber

service cartridge however, the British realized it would be a supply nightmare having to equip units with .450 Martini-Henry, .303, and .402 Enfield-Martini (not to mention pistol and Gatling Gun cartridges as well). Thus, the .402 caliber Enfield-Martinis (of which thousands had already been built) were converted to .450 Martini-Henry caliber, and morphed into to what we know as the "A" and "B" pattern Martini-Henry Mark IV. "C" Pattern Martini-Henry Mark IV's were original manufacture weapons, not conversions from the E-M .402.

### **Martini Henry MK1V 1888-1889**



### **Martini Henry Mk1 Carbine**



*An original "Rolled .577 / 450 cartridge alongside a .22 long rifle for comparison.*





## **The Sins of Our Fathers.**

The following picture reminded me of a cold & frosty day before the misting rains commenced at the Swan Hill Recreational Ovals back in 2003 standing outside the Buy Back Centre and seeing a couple of these shooters going through the crusher. I only hope that these will have a better history as “War Souvenirs” than those I saw on that cold, wet & frosty day. “Who said Hell doesn’t freeze over”



*A couple of quality British Pryse Military revolvers in 450. These have been picked up in Afghanistan by a US soldier along with many other antique original service revolvers and Martini rifles*

### **UP & COMING DATES TO REMEMBER.**

*May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Arms Auctions P/L 32nd Collector's Auction!*

*[http://www.australianarmsauctions.com/next\\_auction.htm](http://www.australianarmsauctions.com/next_auction.htm)*

*May 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> SHOT Expo - Melbourne Showgrounds, Exhibition Pavilion*

*Website - <http://www.ssaavic.com.au/ShotExpo.php?id=35>*

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**



Membership renewals are due. By the 31<sup>st</sup> of December each year. You are required to be a current member of the SSAA and we certainly would like to see a current photocopy of that membership along with your renewal.

Application forms can be obtained from our website.

[SSAA Mildura Collectors Guild](#) (Google) or  
<http://www.ssaamildura.org/cg/index.htm>

Tim (Membership Secretary.)

## OUR LOCAL WEBSITE.

The local Branch of SSAA, Vic. Has a website that has been up and running for 12 months now. The address to save is:-

### [Sporting Shooters Association of Australia - Mildura Branch](#)

From there have a look around at our sister subclubs, If you're a shooter then have a look at the Range programs and you'll see that there's plenty on in Mildura, if you decide to holiday here. Anyway the site is worth the value for the links, renewal forms and newsletters.

## **A Visit to Broodseinde Ridge. A Family Affair :Trevor Johns**

When I was a young bloke I knew that my Uncle Albert had disappeared in Europe during WW1, but the family knew little more and my Uncle Jack, the other vet would never say anything about what happened. Ron and I visited the War Memorial in Canberra a number of years ago and by accessing the "Missing In Action" files I was able to ascertain that he was killed at Broodseinde Ridge during the Third Battle of Ypres, 04/10/1917. He was found by another platoon and buried near Zonnabeke.

Uncle Jack fought with the 2nd Division at Gallipoli and later on the western Front. My grandparents did not let Albert enlist initially but when he was old enough he enlisted and joined my Uncle Jack's 22nd Bn in France. Uncle Jack requested Albert join his section so that the "new boy" would be looked after

The battle began in the early hours of 4/10.

The Australian troops crawled out into no-mans-land and waited for the word to attack. At this point they were hit by a massive German Artillery Bombardment, taking many casualties. When the bombardment stopped the signal for the attack was heard, they rose only to find a line of Germans about 30m away. The Lewis Gunners, firing from the hip, quickly went into action and a complete route ensued. Many prisoners were taken and many miles gained.

Uncle Jack frantically looked for his brother who he had sworn to protect, he joined the stretcher bearers and worked for 10 hours in an effort to find him. Which was never to be. Uncle Jack was awarded the Military Medal for his bravery

Why am I telling you all of this you might well ask? Well on our trip to Ypres Ron and I visited the site of the battle. With the help of Nick, our guide from the War Memorial, I was able to pin-point the area where Uncle Albert disappeared and was buried and where Uncle Jack won his Military Medal working with the stretcher bearers.

How good is that, it doesn't come any better!

The Medieval city of Ypres was rebuilt after the war and the main gate to the city is called Mennin Gate. The Australian MIA's are listed here and Uncle Albert's name is there for all to see.

Uncle Jack returned to Rainbow to a hero's welcome, but when he went to the family home my grandmother made him remove his uniform before he was allowed inside. How sad was that, she blamed him for Albert's death.

## **RECLASSIFIED CATEGORY D FIREARMS**

The following Centre Fire Rifles have been classified as Category D firearms under the legislation introduced in September 2008.

In 2008, amendments to the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act) gave the Chief Commissioner new powers to classify or re-classify certain firearms to be a higher category of firearm in certain circumstances. Specifically:

1. Section 3A was inserted into the Act to allow the Chief Commissioner, in consultation with the Minister, to **temporarily declare** a firearm or type of firearm to be a category E handgun or D or E longarm if the firearm has the basic functions of a lower category firearm, but has the modifications of a higher category firearm; and
2. Section 3B was inserted to allow the Chief Commissioner to **permanently declare** a firearm or type of firearm to be a category D or E longarm if a firearm has been designed or adapted for military purposes or substantially duplicates a 'militaristic-type' firearm in design, function or appearance.

Under the Firearms Delegation Schedule, the Superintendent LSD is responsible for making these declarations as the Chief Commissioner's delegate. To ensure that a fair and informed decision making process is undertaken, the Licensing Services Division Classification Review Committee (LSDCRC) was established to act as an advisory body and make assessments and recommendations to Superintendent LSD in regard to firearm declaration matters. The LSDCRC includes four LSD staff members and one external member:

1. **Trent Brickle**, Senior Project Officer (Secretary of the LSDCRC); and
2. **Robert Schwarz**, Technical Advisor; and
3. **Dennis Toccock**, Senior Sergeant; and
4. **Michael Johnstone**, Import Permits; and
5. **Gary Fleetwood**, Australian Crime Commission.

### DPMS Panther Pump Action Rifle AR 15



“Pump action” is usually a phrase used to refer to shotguns, not rifles; but, in true DPMS Panther Arms style, the innovative DPMS Panther Pump Action Rifle is just that: pump action. Chambered for the .223 Cal, this DPMS AR 15 features:

- Barrel Length: 20”
- Sights: Dual aperture rear sight adjustable for windage and elevation; Elevation adjustable Mil Spec front sight post
- Weight Unloaded: 8.5lbs
- Length: 39.5”
- Stock: Black Zytel composition A2 Buttstock with Trap Door Assembly OR Aluminum Telescoping Carbine Stock Assembly
- Handguards: Aluminum Free Float Tube

With a black Teflon coating on the upper and lower receivers, this DPMS AR 15 is as cosmetically appealing as it is high-performance. With the choice of 10, 20, or 30 round magazines (where available), an A2 compensator (flash hider), and 4140 steel heavy barrel, it’s almost impossible not to love the DPMS Panther Pump Action Rifle.

Please Note Also\*\*\*\*\*This Gun is NOT California Compliant\*

### THE HECKLER AND KOCH MODEL R8 RIFLE



This is a straight pull bolt action rifle in .223 Remington calibre capable of being fitted with 5/10 and larger capacity magazines. It has already been classified by the Northern Territory Government as a Class D rifle in 2007. H & K Australia (NSW) had limited numbers for sale.

**Firearms Act** - declaration of category d firearm

I, MARK McADIE, an authorised delegate of the Commissioner of Police, in pursuance of section 8(1) of the *Firearms Act*, declare the Heckler & Koch Model R8 rifle to be a category D Firearm.

Dated 10th July, 2007. M. McADIE Assistant Commissioner Delegate of the Commissioner of Police



## **THE OLYMPIC ARMS MATCH E2 MK2 RIFLE**



This is another straight pull bolt action rifle in .223 Remington calibre specifically designed to get around the British Firearms Laws.

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE B CLASS FIREARMS TO RISE TO A HIGHER CLASSIFICATION.**  
**BE WARNED DON'T BUY AS THERE IS NO COMPENSATION.**

## **4 MILITARY MEDALS AND AN INOCIOUS END**

I recently visited the Canberra War Memorial with two mates. Whilst walking around "The Hall of Valour" room, I came across the medals of 'Ernest Albert Corey' I have never hear of him and I suggest neither has many Australians. What makes this bloke stand out from the rest is, he was awarded the Military Medal four (4) times, recommended for the DCM twice! He fought in the First World War in France and Belgium. Then he re-enlisted for the Second World War. I decided that I wanted to know more. The following ramblings are what I came up with.

### **ERNEST ALBERT COREY: 1892 – 1972.**

Corey was born in Numeralla, New South Wales. He was educated at Thubergal Lake Public School. When he left school he became a blacksmith's striker (?) at Martin's Smithy in Cooma. In January 1916, Corey marched from Cooma to Goulburn as a member of the "Men from Snowy River" recruiting march, and enlisted on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. Along with the majority of the other members of the march, he was allotted to the 55<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Following training at Goulburn, he left for England on HMAT Port Sydney. When he arrived in England he spent 3 months further training. He was posted to 55<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Charlie Company, Grenade Section at Mountauban in France where took part in the capture of Doignies in April

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, Corey's Brigade was in action near Queant. Suffering heavy losses, the CO called for volunteers to assist the stretcher bearers. Corey was one of thirty men who volunteered. During the enemy attack on the front line facing Queant. Private Corey, whilst acting as a stretcher bearer, showed great courage and devotion to duty. Although under direct enemy observation, he carried out his duties for 17 hours without a rest, and in a manner worthy of the highest commendation.

Although an untrained stretcher bearer, he saved by first aid, the lives of serious wounded men. The Commander of the 54<sup>th</sup> Battalion wrote an appreciation for the help given and a special mention to the stretcher bearer for his good work. FIRST MILITARY MEDAL.

Following engagements in Bullecourt the 55<sup>th</sup> Bn spent 4 months in reserve, before moving to Ypres in Belgium. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of September during the battle of Polygon Wood. Major General J. Talbot Hobbs, CO of 5<sup>th</sup> Div, had the following words to say. "This stretcher bearer showed great courage, devotion to duty and untiring energy during the attack. The greatest danger did not deter this man from doing his duty when his services were required. He tended the wounded and carried them to a place of safety continuously throughout the engagement, often under very heavy artillery and machine gun fire. Throughout the whole operation he set a fine example of bravery and coolness to all ranks. RECOMMEND DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL. AWARDED SECOND MILITARY MEDAL (1<sup>st</sup> BAR).

During the winter of 1917-18, the 55<sup>th</sup> Bn was posted to Messines. Corey was granted leave to England, where he became sick (who wouldn't) he spent 90 days in hospital before rejoining his battalion in July. In August the Allies launched an attack on the Germans along the Somme, where the 55<sup>th</sup> Bn became involved in the capture of Peronne in September. It was here that Corey received a Second Bar to his Military Medal. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations at Peronne on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. This man dressed and carried wounded of several units, throughout the whole operation. Although the enemy artillery and machine gun fire was exceptionally heavy, this did not deter this man from carrying on. He worked continuously and arduously and was the means of saving lives of many of the wounded. He was unselfish throughout and cheerful at all times. His careful handling of the wounded and knowledge of first aid helped greatly to relieve their sufferings. Throughout the operation he set a fine example of courage, coolness and determination under heavy fire. RECOMMEND DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL. AWARDED MILITARY MEDAL with 2nd bar.

Promoted to Corporal, he was placed in charge of the Battalions stretcher bearers, whom he led during the battle north of Bullecourt on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. Corey attended to the wounded whilst exposed to fire, and continued to direct other bearer parties throughout the action until he was wounded himself, receiving two wounds to the groin area. (I don't know for sure but those big old German Mauser rifles carried bloody great cartridges, didn't they used them to hunt Elephants?) It was during this engagement that he received his third bar to the Military Medal. The attack on the Hindenburg line regardless of his personal danger, whilst the enemy were firing on him, he continued to direct bearer parties and care for the wounded, whilst in full view of the enemy, he continued his duties until he was severely wounded. AWARDED MILITARY MEDAL with 3<sup>rd</sup> bar.

He was repatriated to Australia in 1919, after many operations in English hospitals. He was medically discharged in June. Corey returned to Cooma and was employed as a 'Rabbitier'. He married a young lady in 1924, Sarah Jane Fisher. They had one child a daughter, Patricia, and their marriage was dissolved in 1935. (I wonder if the cause was something to do with his wounds.) Between 1927 and 1940 Corey worked as an Office Cleaner (how demeaning of a hero, couldn't they find a job more befitting).

Corey re-enlisted for service in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in 1941. He was posted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Garrison Battalion for 2 years until he was discharged a private in 1943 medically unfit. Over the next number of years he had jobs as a caretaker. Couldn't the Government make more use of this man? By 1951 he was admitted to a nursing home almost crippled with Osteoarthritis. He died in that nursing home

in 1972 and buried with full Military Honours in the Woden Cemetery (near Canberra).

His life sounds sad and lonely, how pathetic we treat our heroes like shit. This guy should have had a cosy job for life. The only person in the world to be awarded 4 Military Medals. I hope I haven't bored you but I needed to get this off my chest and tell everyone I know about this man. I hope you send this on and tell all your friends.

Warren Williams [willie@internode.on.net](mailto:willie@internode.on.net)

## **JOKES, HERE'S A COUPLE I SENT ACROSS TO THE MMR&PC NEWSLETTER.**

### **1.                                **Soldiers****

**A platoon of soldiers was marching north of Fallujah when they came upon an Iraqi terrorist, badly injured and unconscious. On the opposite side of the road was an Australian soldier in a similar but less serious state. The soldier was conscious and alert and as first aid was given to both men, the Platoon Leader asked the injured Australian what had happened.**

**The soldier reported, 'I was heavily armed and moving north along the highway here, and coming south was a heavily armed insurgent.' We saw each other and both took cover in the ditches along the road. I yelled to him that Saddam Hussein was a miserable, lowlife scum bag who got what he deserved.**

**He yelled back that Kevin Rudd is a bureaucratic, Good-for-nothing, left wing labour dickhead who knows bugger all about running the country.'**

**'So I said that Osama Bin Ladin dresses and acts like a frigid, mean-spirited lesbian!' He retaliated by yelling, 'Oh yeah? Well, so does Julia Gillard ! '**

**'And, there we were, in the middle of the road, laughing, shaking hands, when a bloody great, yank truck hit us.'**

### **2.                                **THIS WILL BRING A TEAR TO YOUR EYE SO HEART WARMING****

#### **Bless Her Little Heart**

**Little Melissa comes from Bondi beach Sydney and attends third grade. After school she tells her father that they learned about the history of Valentine's Day.**

**"Since Valentine's Day is for a Christian saint, I was wondering if I gave a Valentine to someone who was not, will God get mad at me for giving them a valentine?"**

**Melissa's father thinks a bit, then says "No, I don't think God would get mad. Who do you want to give a Valentine to?"**

**"Osama Bin Laden," she says.**

**"Why Osama Bin Laden," her father asks in shock.**

**"Well," she says, "I thought that if a little Aussie Christian Girl could have enough love to give Osama a Valentine, he might start to think that maybe we're not all bad, and maybe start loving people a little bit. And if other kids saw what I did and sent Valentines to Osama, he'd love everyone a lot. And then he'd start going all over the place to tell everyone how much he loved them and how he didn't hate anyone anymore."**

**Her father's heart swells and he looks at his daughter with new-found pride. "Melissa, that's the most wonderful thing I've ever heard."**

**"I know," Melissa says, "and once that gets him out in the open, our Aussie Soldiers can shoot the bastard."**

### **FOR THE OLDIES. (Trev)**

The nice thing about being senile is  
you can hide your own Easter eggs.

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I've sure gotten old!  
I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement,  
new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes.  
I'm half blind,  
can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine,  
take 40 different medications that  
make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts.  
Have bouts with dementia.  
Have poor circulation;  
hardly feel my hands and feet anymore.  
Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92.  
Have lost all my friends. But, thank goodness,  
I still have my New South Wales driver's license.