



# The Arms & Militaria Collectors' Association of NSW Inc.

Volume 52 Issue 3

ABN 81 741 653 113

April 2026

## MINUTES of April 26<sup>th</sup>

Venue: NSW Rifle Assn building ANZAC rifle range, Malabar NSW

**Meeting Opened at 12:51:** The Chair Mr. Norm Tyrrell welcomed all members and visitors attending. The electronic (Teams) meeting was opened.

### Apologies:

Lindsey Cheal	Richard Knowles
Margaret Jarosz	Graham Cleary
Peter Jarosz	
David Jarosz	

### Visitors:

per sign in book

**Minutes of the previous business meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> February and 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were tabled and asked for two members to move their acceptance as a true record of the meetings.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Paul Martin and seconded by Damien Allen and CARRIED on the voices that the minutes as circulated be accepted.

### Business arising from the Minutes

None.

### Correspondence:

There has been no significant correspondence received since the March meetings. The Firearms Registry has a "Frequently asked questions" paper on the December 2025 legislation. This had been distributed electronically to members and for members receiving paper copies was distributed with the March Journal.

### TREASURER's REPORT

For April 2026

General account balance \$14,898

IDB Bank balance \$27,054.79

This financial report was noted.

### NEW MEMBERS

The Chair advised that applications for membership had been received during the past month from the following persons

Mr Ben BROOKS  
Mr Graeme MORGAN  
Mr Max SZARYCZ  
Mr Tim TURTON  
Mr Carlo WEBB

Mr Morgan WEBBER  
Mr Brett JONES

The Chair asked if any member knew any reason why these persons should not be admitted to membership of the Association. There being no objections the Chairman declared the above listed persons be admitted as members of the Association. The Chairman after declaring them duly admitted into membership added that a copy of the Association Constitution & Rules be provided to them and that they be reminded that if they collected firearms and wish to nominate the ACMA as their primary collecting club that they must attend one meeting during the financial membership year before 1st July 2026.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Hannah Mansour and seconded by Steve Brown that the applicants as listed be accepted, and the motion was CARRIED on the voices.

### REPORTS and GENERAL BUSINESS

The President thanked those that have presented displays for the day as the more members bring in the more interesting the day is.

As this is a collectors meeting, and was to concentrate on the display of material related to the Great War and Gallipoli Campaign, reports were limited to announcement of the recent deaths of the following persons:

Vale

#### Nigel Ayres

Nigel and his wife Robyne have been members of the association since 2003.

#### Dave Wills

Dave had been a member of the association since 1976

#### Ross Wood

Although not a member of the association, Ross has managed the Bathurst and Maitland Arms Fairs for many years and assisted the association in operating displays at the fairs.

Each was well known to many of our members and we offer our condolences to their families.

There being no further business the Chair declared the business meeting closed at 1:04pm.

The historical presentations and swap meet then proceeded. Some of the items displayed included: a range of hook quillon P1907 bayonets including a Lithgow 1913, - a

## 2 The Arms and Militaria Collectors' Association of NSW

periscope rifle with WW1 British drill training rifles, - a Long Lee-Enfield converted to magazine feed, captured by Turks at Gallipoli and converted in the 1930s to 8mm mauser, a large display of Gallipoli related militaria, a c96 holster-stock that was part of a pre-1900 Ottoman Army order, some WW1 AIF uniforms, slouch hats and pith helmets.

### AMCA 2026 meeting dates

**at Ingleburn RSL Club Limited from 1pm to 3pm at 70  
Chester Road, Ingleburn 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month**

17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday to avoid mothers day)  
14<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
12<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
13<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026  
11<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
8<sup>th</sup> November 2026  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2026 Christmas Luncheon

**At NSW Rifle Assn Malabar at 1pm  
9<sup>th</sup> Aug 2026 (AGM)**

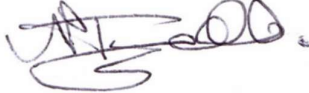
**Hunter Valley Arms Fair  
Maitland**

Date not yet confirmed usually last weekend September  
(With Ross Woods passing, this fair is cancelled)

**At Vacy Carnival**

Date not yet confirmed usually 13<sup>th</sup> September

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Approval/confirmation of Minutes



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Chairman of this Meeting  
Norm Tyrrell  
President AMCA of NSW Inc



WW1 Uniforms



WW1 (&2) P14 Sniper



Lee-Enfield converted to magazine feed, captured by Turks at Gallipoli and converted in the 1930s to 8mm mauser



Headdress leading up to WW1

Note RH side Australian Modified Pith style (Very Rare)



WW1 Militaria

### 3 The Arms and Militaria Collectors' Association of NSW



WWIMilitaria



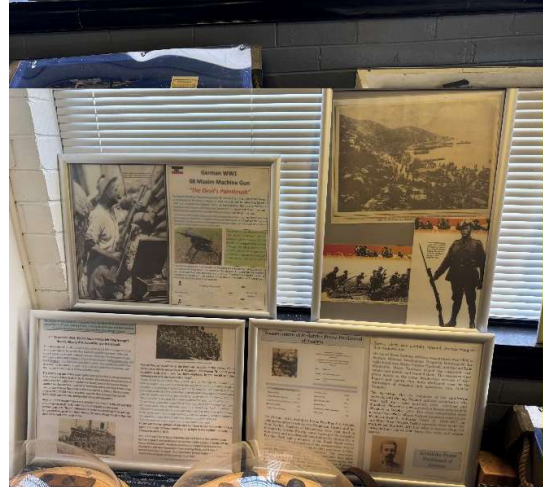
WWI German



WWIMilitaria



Note Trench shotgun on top (Very rare)





**HOOKED QUILLON Pattern 1907 SWORD BAYONET DISPLAY**

**AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURE**

- AUSTRALIAN (LITHGOW) 1913
- AUSTRALIAN (LITHGOW) 1913  
(with Hooked quillon removed)
- AUSTRALIAN (LITHGOW) 1914
- AUSTRALIAN (LITHGOW) 1915

**BRITISH MANUFACTURE WITH AUSTRALIAN PROVIDENCE**

- British Hooked Quillon with 1908 "CARRIER INTRENCHING TOOL, HELVE AND CARRIER TOOL HEAD. ALL WITH MATCHING NSW ISSUE NUMBERS
- British Hooked Quillon with 1915 LEATHER "CARRIER INTRENCHING TOOL, HELVE AND CARRIER TOOL HEAD. ALL WITH MATCHING NSW ISSUE NUMBERS
- 4 X British Hooked Quillon Bayonets (With AUSTRALIAN Providence)

Wire cutter & barbed wire display (Includes Wire cutter SA & WW1 wood & mirror Trench Periscope) (Front RH display, box.)

Trench Rifle periscope frame with SMLE Training rifle (Top Right of photo)

Recruiting posters (top left)

WW1 trench (Candle) lantern (Top left)



## Gallipoli Inventors: The Periscope Rifle



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H10324

*The Periscope Rifle saved many soldiers' lives as it allowed them to see the enemy without showing themselves over the parapet.*

The periscope rifle was an ingenious ANZAC device, improvised from the need for soldiers to find a way to snipe at the Turkish enemy, a short distance away, without showing their heads above the trench parapet.

A box-wood frame held aloft a rifle that rested on top of the parapet. Reflecting mirrors set into the frame allowed a soldier, safely hidden below, to see across to enemy lines. The soldier then used a length of wire to pull the trigger whenever the enemy was spotted.

These rifles were used constantly at ANZAC Cove, from late May 1915 until the evacuation. A “factory” was even set up on the beach to make the frames. The periscope rifle saved many ANZAC lives, especially at Quinn’s Post, where the enemy line was very close.

An interesting question is whether South Australian soldier, Private George Tostet, 10th Battalion, AIF was involved in the invention of the periscope rifle? A photograph held in the collection of the Australian War Memorial certainly suggests this possibility. It is most likely, though, that Victorian soldier, William Beech, was the original inventor with others, including Tostet, making various adaptations and improvements.

**Source:** *Australian War Memorial*

## 6 The Arms and Militaria Collectors' Association of NSW Pattern 1915 Australian Leather Equipment

British manufacturers of the pattern 1908 web equipment struggled to keep up with the logistical demands of an expanding army. In late 1915, Australia's answer to a webbing shortage was found in the Commonwealth Government Harness Factory (C.G.H.F) and its contractors, whom began manufacturing its own version of the Pattern 1908 equipment in leather. The Pattern 1915 Leather Equipment replicated the original 1908 design.

Production in Australia began in late 1915 and drew to a close in late 1918. Over the four year period 178,000 complete sets of the 1915 Leather Equipment were made in Australia, in a variety of colours and finishes. The Commonwealth Government Harness Factory manufactured the greatest number of complete sets (118,000) at Clifton Hill, Melbourne.

The Pattern 1915 Leather Equipment was mainly used during the early stages of the war on the Western Front, and for training in Australia. However, it was found to be insufficient in wet conditions, uncomfortable and the leather stretched over time. The leather versions were not as water resistant as Pattern 1908 cotton webbing, and required higher maintenance. In wet weather, the brass buckles slipped, and adjusting the straps while wearing it proved difficult. Due to these design flaws, Pattern 1915 Leather Equipment was replaced with the 1908 web equipment as it became available.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

H13976

**Accession Number: H13976**

AIF soldier sporting a complete set of Australian Pattern 1915 leather equipment

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