

# *Parthian Shot*

**326th Edition**

**March 2021**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Phil Brown

Phil Smith

Les Lewis

Vic Lane

Mark Reed

David Bruce

Peter Vucinic



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Approved Collector Status as per Section 28 (2) 1996 Firearms Act.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To work in a responsible and constructive manner with Government and the Community to explore innovative ways to achieve the Association's Aims and Objectives

- To promote and encourage a responsible preservation of collections of historical and antique artefacts for future generations.
- To foster and promote a public awareness and importance to preserve our heritage and history for all times.
- To preserve and promote a responsible maintenance and collection of Australian military memorabilia in particular and associated items in general.
- To encourage responsible collectors to maintain and preserve historical and antique firearms.
- To explore innovative ways of assisting collectors in the maintenance of their interests for the future.

Meetings are held on the 2nd. Tuesday of each month at the Quarry Hill Community Hall, Hamlet St., Bendigo from 7.30 pm for 8pm start  
New Members and Visitors welcome.

## EXECUTIVE

President	Greg Penna	03 5444 0093
Vice-President	Chris Jolme	03 5474 2552
Firearms Officers:	Richard Penna, Chris Jolme, Larry Kinross Phil Brown & Matt Carra	
Hon. Secretary	Leighton Rawlings	03 5443 6315
Treasurer & Membership Sec.	Richard Penna	03 5443 3549
Newsletter Editor	Sue Rawlings	03 5443 6315

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**The President's Report**

**Committee Report & Calendar of Events**

**Chasing the Midnight Ghost—follow-up story about Ric Gillespie and his search for the missing plane 'White Bird' that disappeared in 1927 while trying to set the record for the first plane to cross the Atlantic.**

**The Lone Ranger's other sidekick!**

**Reclassification has Collectors in the firing line in W.A.**

**Castlemaine & Kyneton Rifle Club's Military & Classic Shoot on 20 March 2021.**

**John's Jokes**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING—13 April 2021—Only 10 at the Jan. Meeting so looking forward to seeing more of you in the coming months!**

## Presidents Report March 2021

Hi Troops,

To all of our members and/or partners who are not well, I am sure the entire GCCA Members feel for any of you who have health issues, and really hope it all turns for the better. I won't mention names but keep on battling and our thoughts are with you.

March now, usually this is when we start the processes running to get our Annual Show going, BUT again not this year.

The Committee has voted not to go ahead with 2021 Annual Show as we are not confident that Covid is a thing of the past due to what happened recently, a snap lockdown. We are not confident attendees and traders are over the paranoia of COVID-19 and still shying away from crowds and groups, and who could blame them in the uncertain world we find ourselves in. We will wait until the new strains show themselves, or wait to see the outcome of the vaccine

There will be a Collectors Shoot on 21<sup>st</sup> March so keep this in mind, same place, and same time. No theme, just a Shoot. If for some reason because of weather or fire warnings, we cannot have a gazetted shoot, then I will get Phil Smith to include if there is a shoot or not on the website – [www.collectorsbendigo.com.au](http://www.collectorsbendigo.com.au) so check it out if in doubt or just ring me instead - 0427 400 930

It is great that the GCCA can now have Committee and General meetings with Covid Normal, so a good time to start making plans to attend the next General Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month. We will not have our official Don McKinnon Memorial Show & Tell competition this year, but still encourage members to bring along anything they would like to share, as its always interesting listening to how or where people acquired their collectable and a little bit about it.

The Committee has resumed meeting as well, so we are able to catch up with the admin side of the Club. Taking the vote as to whether or not to have a Show in 2021 was like running a 3-ring circus as initially the wording caused confusion! When asked ‘‘who doesn't want a Show this year?’’ No-one put up their hand as let's face it, we'd all love to have a Show, it's not that we don't want one, so the question had to be rephrased ‘‘who thinks we need to cancel the 2021 Show?’’

Well, this was short and sweet,  
Again, leave this with you, in collecting  
Gee Pee

### Calendar of Events

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>20 March</b>              | <b>Military &amp; Classic Shoot. Castlemaine Rifle Range, 74 Tomkies Rd. 10am start. Live Firing demonstration at 1pm Any queries, ring Chris Jolme 5474 2552</b> |
| <b>21 March</b>              | <b>Collectors Shoot at the Shelbourne Quarry Range</b>  |
| <b>1st April</b>             | <b>April Committee Meeting. Quarry Hill Community Hall at 7.30pm</b>  |
| <b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>April General Meeting. Quarry Hill Community Hall, 51 Hamlet Street, Quarry Hill.</b>  |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>Collectors Shoot at the Shelbourne Quarry Range</b>  |

## LONE RANGER'S OTHER SIDEKICK

Darryl E. Owens, Orlando Sentinel Staff Writer

In his day, Gordie Peer crossed paths with many a cowboy wannabe.



But the ones he preferred were the Tinseltown tenderfoots he taught to handle a shooting iron -- guys like Clayton Moore, TV's Lone Ranger.

Tutoring matinee cowboys didn't exactly make Peer a household name. Still, he has managed to wrangle a durable legacy as a trick roper, whip-cracker, and gunslinger in more than 50 years on the Wild West circuit as a sidekick to the stars.

Nowhere does his star shine brighter than in his adopted homestead of Okeechobee, where strangers beg autographs from the man whose photos grace a main street cafe.

Peer has had bit parts and performed stunts in dozens of movies and a short-lived TV show. He can crack his whip to the tune of "Dixie" or slice paper at 20 paces. He can twirl his pistol around his finger like a pinwheel and holster it in a graceful flash. He recites cowboy poetry at the drop of a 10-gallon hat.

Over the years, his performances have dwindled, but not his passion for preventing America's cowboy fancy from trotting off into the sunset.

"Cowboys started this whole thing," Peer says of America's pioneering, rugged spirit. "The West was the whole thing."

## HOPPED A TRAIN

When it comes to revealing details about his private life, Peer plays the mysterious stranger. Ask him his age: "I'm 49 years old" (he's in his early 70s). Birthplace? "In the state of confusion." Marital status? "Next question."

The best sketch you get is that when Gordon Vernon Peer was a boy, his parents divorced, and he bounced around foster homes, and stayed on an Indian reservation near Syracuse, N.Y. While there, he and a friend hopped a freight train hauling Col. Jim

Eskew's Wild West Show. Peer, only 12, landed a job tending horses. Later, Peer worked a string of rodeos and Wild West shows, riding bulls and broncos, roping calves, watching the stars, and privately honing his skills, before heading to Hollywood. The pay was lean for extras, so he tried stunt work -- once performing a jump while riding side-saddle in a dress and wig as a stand-in for an actress.

Then, in 1951, a masked man walked into his life. As Peer demonstrated his gunslinger skills at a fair, Clayton Moore asked him to "show me some things" such as spinning a gun from holster to hand and back.

The two struck up a friendship, and soon Moore roped him into doing sidekick work on publicity appearances. To the delight of Lone Ranger fans, Peer would twirl ropes, spin guns, and crack his bullwhip while the Masked Man narrated. Sometimes Moore would shoot the pistol out of Peer's hand.

It was a sweet gig, which paid more than stunt work. Soon, Peer parlayed his sidekick success into work with other film cowboys such as Lash LaRue, who tamed the Wild West with his bullwhip.

Without Peer's "expertise and training they would not have been capable of doing what . . . caused them to get the 'ooohs' and 'aaaahs' of their fans," says Gail Woerner, author of *Cowboy Up! The History of Bull Riding*. "I think this makes him very important."

## TIRED OF THE GRIND

The Friends of the Okeechobee County  
Library presents *free* to the public

**"GORDIE PEER"**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**



Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 5:00 P.M.



**History, humor, stories and TALL tales!**

**In honor of**

**'The National Day of the Cowboy'**

Questions & Answers will follow presentation

While driving through Okeechobee in 1958, Peer ran out of gas. Hungry and broke, he plunked 16 cents on the table inside a tavern at the city bus station.

Soon, the waitress returned with a plate of over-easy eggs, bacon, biscuits, and potatoes and "took 15 cents, and said, 'I can't stand to see a man broke,' " he recalls, laughing.

That year, he moved to town. Peer soon grew weary of the touring grind. And in the 1960s, he quit the regular rodeo circuit. He spent his time working at the Okeechobee Livestock Market for 19 years and delighting schoolchildren with his Western shows.

On a recent Thursday, Peer sits inside Roper's Cafe, where the decor is decidedly Western and the special is pork steak. The tavern with the benevolent waitress is now home to Eckerd Drugs in this town of 5,000.



Some things, however, are constant. Like admiration for cowboys. When Marshall Coker took over Roper's two years ago, Peer's pictures adorned the walls. Exactly where they now hang. Coker grew up in Okeechobee, devouring spaghetti Westerns, rooting for Tom Mix and Roy Rogers. He remembers the man who wowed students with his cracking whip and spinning guns.

"Gordie goes back as far as when I was in the fourth grade," says Coker, 51. "Everybody knows him. I kid him sometimes: 'Gordie, you're a legend in your own mind.' "

The crack, Coker says, in a way underscores Peer's modesty: "He's not the kind to just sit down and say, 'Hey, I knew the Lone Ranger.' You can ask him, and he'll tell you, but as far as broadcasting it, he's never been that kind."

But since he is asked, between bites of a hamburger, he recounts the time Moore spoofed a waitress. She thought she recognized Moore, wearing sunglasses, not his mask. Moore never let on. After the meal, he exited, then quickly returned:

"He "opens the door," Peer says, "and yells, 'Hi-Ho, Silver, away!' This woman just shrieks and drops dishes and everything, and says, 'It is! It is! It's him!' He runs like heck and gets in the van and away we went."

## THE LAST OF THE COWBOYS

At Peer's 20-acre ranch, you get the sense you've crossed into a shrine dedicated to all things Western. Cowboy movies fill shelves of his home. Photos of Will Rogers and the Lone Ranger, and Western movie posters wallpaper the walls -- though none are among the films in which Peer did stunts or played bit parts. The only film he worked whose name he remembers was his first, *Battle Cry*, a World War II epic.

But listening to him reminisce about Hollywood's golden age of Westerns is like taking in a scratchy newsreel:

"Lash [LaRue] could recite any verse in the Bible. . . . Tom Mix started on the 101 Ranch as a cowboy. . . ."

In a way, his home, his memories, are time capsules preserving an age when movies and TV often came with clearer message of right and wrong. Peer frowns on today's morally ambiguous fare.

"When television came out, television was one of the biggest things to educate people, kids as well as adults," he says. "If you're going to educate them, put something on there that they need to learn. We're sending the wrong messages, and the crime rate is way up. It would help for the [motion] pictures to have a message in them."

He's wistful for the days of the Lone Ranger Creed, which read in part: "That all things change but truth, and that truth alone, lives on forever."



Truth is, the men who embodied such creeds largely have passed on: LaRue, Mix, the Duke and Moore, who died in 1999. Peer penned an ode to his friend, which, as the years pass, reads more like an epitaph to a fast-fading era:

*I wonder who's going to ride the silver stallion*

*Who's going to sing our cowboy songs?*

*Who's going to save us from the outlaws?*

*With all of our western heroes gone.*

For now, the sidekick has taken up the reins. Peer has begun hosting the

Roper's Gathering, which annually draws Wild West aficionados, rope-spinning wannabes, and Western entertainers from all over. They savour memorabilia, write cowboy verse, strut their stuff.

And the semi-retired Peer still makes the rounds performing at Western festivals, judging Wild West contests, giving face time at Western reunions and film festivals.

Call it one man's last stand against creeping irrelevance. "It was cowboys and Indians that founded this country," Peer says. "It will always be a symbol."

**Golden City Collectors Assoc. Inc. of  
Bendigo Committee Meeting held on 4  
March 2021**

**Present:** Greg Penna, Phil Smith, Chris Jolme, Les Lewis, Peter Vucinic, Richard Penna, David Bruce, Leighton Rawlings, Sue Rawlings, Mark Reed, Phil Brown & Vic Lane

**Apologies:** Nil

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the last Committee Meeting held on 4 Feb 2021 were read.

Moved: L Lewis. 2<sup>nd</sup>. M Reed. Carried

**Business Arising:**

1. GCCA Constitution – Ongoing
2. Walk through Security Door Frame. Phil Brown reported that there were done in Australia & we are not going to buy from China, so the U.S.A. was the best option via eBay to ensure delivery. Cost: approx. \$2500 includes a six-zone unit plus freight & import duty. As no show this year, pursue in future.
3. Range Rules – Peter Vucinic tabled an example of brightly coloured, clear easy to read rules and will bring a draft pertaining to our Club to the next committee meeting.

**Correspondence In:**

1. Tax invoice for photocopying of Feb. Newsletter including receipt of payment.
2. Richmond & Associates, Invoice for Public Liability Policy. Payment due in sum of \$2637.00
3. Australia Post Box renewal \$136
4. Newsletter – A & M Collectors of N.S.W. February 2021
5. Northern Victorian Arms Collectors Guild of Shepparton newsletter including notice of cancellation of their 2021 Fair.
6. Various Newsletters from other Clubs received via the Club Gmail & forwarded to members

**Correspondence Out:**

1. Parthian Shot via email and Australia Post

Moved by P Smith that 'Correspondence In' is accepted & 'Correspondence Out' endorsed. 2<sup>nd</sup> C Jolme Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Richard Penna read out the ledger balance and bank statement balance of our Working and Investment Accounts and other relevant information including accounts to be paid & moved that his report is accepted. Seconded: L Rawlings. Carried. (Detailed report at General meeting)

**Membership Report:** Former member Hayden Wilson wishes to re-join. Once the Membership Secretary has received a Police Check and back payment, he will reinstate Hayden with his original membership number.

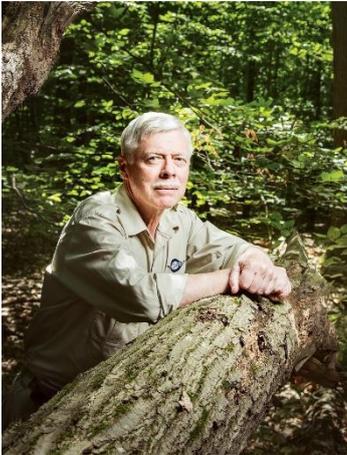
**General Business**

1. A vote was taken, and it was decided to cancel the 2021 Annual Show due to the continuing uncertainty due to the pandemic.
2. All Committee Meetings for 2021 will take place at the QH Hall so if restrictions re the number allowed in people's homes is reintroduced, we will remain unaffected and be able to continue to hold meetings.
3. Members are welcome to bring interesting items to share but the official Show & Tell competition will not take place in 2021.
4. Mark Reed agreed to organise expiry date stickers for Membership Renewals in June 2021
5. Chris Jolme thanked the GCCA for sponsorship of their Classic Military Shoot
6. Greg Penna will be an apology for the General Meeting which will be chaired by VP Chris Jolme

Meeting closed – 8.40pm

## Chasing the Midnight Ghost (Continued from last month)

On an overcast day in 1927, two French pilots set off across the Atlantic Ocean all but destined to beat Charles Lindbergh in a race between New York and Paris. Then they disappeared. Now, 90 years later, has one man finally found history's most mythic missing plane buried in New England? *By Michael J. Mooney*



*Airplane archaeologist Ric Gillespie has been searching for the downed aircraft on and off for more than three decades. / Portrait by Ryan Donnell*

**In 1980, Ric Gillespie** was opening the mail at his home in Pennsylvania when he spotted a letter from his younger brother, Bob, containing an article from *Yankee* magazine. The story told of a hermit who'd heard a plane crash in the hills of eastern Maine on the day the White Bird went missing. The article was extensive, and it included a map. Fascinated that a famous missing plane was buried in the forest somewhere, Gillespie carefully placed the magazine clipping in a drawer for safekeeping.

If anyone was destined to search for missing airplanes, it was Gillespie. Raised in upstate New York, the eldest son of a decorated World War II pilot, he's been consumed by aviation for as long as he can remember. He learned to fly around the same time he learned to drive a car, and he worked his way through college, where he majored in history, piloting charter planes. After completing a brief stint in the Army, he took a job in aviation insurance that allowed him to fly in and out of small airports all along the East Coast. Gillespie sold policies, but he also performed risk assessments and accident investigations. That was the part of the job he liked best: He had an eye for looking at the scene of a crash, examining all of the known evidence, and piecing together the puzzle of what had happened. "Aviation accidents were taking people away from the people they loved," he tells me. "It was traumatic. I said to myself, 'I want to help keep this kind of thing from happening. This kind of thing should be preventable.'"

Still, the longer he worked in insurance, the more time his managers expected him to sit in an office and stare at spreadsheets. Throw in an unpleasant divorce from his wife, and Gillespie was ready for a change. He'd always remembered the *Yankee* article and knew that if he could apply his accident-investigation skills and find the White Bird, it would change his life forever.

A veteran pilot with ruddy cheeks and a finely trimmed moustache, Gillespie's first step was comparing maps of Maine to the one in the magazine article. He recognized that at this point, the only thing left of the plane, which was made mostly of wood and cloth, would be some wires and the engine. He also knew there were stories that had been passed down, like folklore, of hunters seeing an engine in the woods near Round Lake.

After researching the mysterious case, Gillespie theorized that Nungesser and Coli likely made it all the way to Maine, where they faced stronger headwinds than they'd expected. Perhaps the pilots tried to find another route around the icy weather and ran out of fuel where Anson Berry heard the crash. It was possible, Gillespie thought, that a hunter or woodsman could have stumbled upon the wreckage and, having no idea it was part of a famous missing plane, scavenged for anything valuable and left or buried the rest. Gillespie decided to go to Maine and look for himself.

In the summer of 1984, he called up his brother and asked if he might want to spend a weekend in Maine looking for an old plane. They had a fun trip, talking with locals and playing Indiana Jones in the woods, but they didn't find anything.

It was around that time, though, that Gillespie met his second wife, Pat Thrasher. "She was crazy enough to find all this stuff as interesting as I did," he says. Together, they quit their jobs and dedicated their lives to finding missing planes. In January 1985, the couple founded the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR).

Over the years, Gillespie has examined historical crash sites around the world, worked with the U.S. government to reinvestigate decades-old incidents, and appeared on countless television shows and documentaries. Gillespie also wrote a history book about the Amelia Earhart mystery, and he has a convincing theory about what may have happened.

Earhart's story tends to get more attention, Gillespie says, because Americans learn about it in elementary school. Conversely, he believes, the White Bird is more important. If the plane had landed ahead of Lindbergh, he says, it might have sparked an alternative history: Imagine, for instance, if the French—and not the Americans—had been inspired by their hometown heroes and taken the aviation industry by storm?

For generations, Mainers have earned a reputation as rugged and self-reliant, and along with that comes a healthy distrust of outsiders. Gillespie certainly didn't expect many people would talk to him when he first started hunting the White Bird. He was, in the parlance of the locals, "from away." Much to his delight, though, nearly everyone he met was willing to open up. Gillespie sat down with Harold Vining, the blueberry farmer who'd heard plane noises that fateful day in May 1927. He talked to acquaintances and relatives of Anson Berry, the reclusive woodsman who said he'd heard the crash. He even talked to hunters who said they'd seen the wreckage over the years.

The plane's precise whereabouts have never been known. When it first disappeared, experts assumed it had plunged into the roiling swells of the Atlantic. The French, United States, and Royal Canadian navies launched a massive sea search along the planned flight route but came up empty. Eventually, though, reports began to surface of people in both Maine and south-eastern Canada who saw or heard a plane on May 9, the day Nungesser and Coli would have been flying overhead. Gillespie believes the chances are "100 percent" that the French pilots made landfall. "It's just a matter of where they decided to land," he says.

**Gillespie and his wife** made expedition after expedition through the Maine woods, thrashing the thickets with machetes, walking the old logging trails with metal detectors, and making camp in the dense brush. One summer, they teamed up with the author of the *Yankee* magazine story, a 6-foot-4 actor turned writer named Gunnar Hansen, who played Leatherface in the original *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*. Together, they borrowed planes and helicopters to search the steep hillsides and valleys near Round Lake. At various points throughout the mid-1980s, Gillespie attracted dozens of volunteers from across the country to join his search. The fact that none of the hunters who said they'd seen wreckage were able to find it again was frustrating, but the stories—and the tantalizing possibility of discovery—pushed them forward.

In the fall of 1987, Gillespie finally had exciting news. He staged a press conference and announced that his team had discovered a narrow piece of wood that may have belonged to the White Bird. It was broken into different segments that, when pieced together, amounted to the approximate width of one of the plane's wings. Botanists and archaeological experts had verified that the stick wouldn't have grown naturally in Maine, Gillespie explained, and that it may not have even come from North America. Tree rings in the area also indicated that there may have been a fire there years earlier—the type you might see at the site of a plane crash. "We are not trying to convince anyone that we have found the White Bird," Gillespie told reporters, "but we suspect we know where it is."

In a small town an hour outside of Philadelphia, not far from the Delaware state line, Gillespie, and Thrasher's 200-year-old house is overflowing with boxes and historical files. On the wall near the back door is a framed sketch of the White Bird. Behind the bar is a painted wooden model Gillespie made a few years ago. Many of their neighbours are Amish and have never been on a plane.

In eight full years, Gillespie and Thrasher made 20 trips to Maine, each time testing a different theory or searching a new hill or bog. Yet aside from the mysterious stick and questionable tree rings, they have never found anything that could pass as evidence of the plane. "We finally realized that all there was in Maine was stories," Gillespie has said. "People in Maine love stories. They're very good at telling stories and those stories always get better each time they're told." His organization, he says, "has to follow the evidence."

Source : <https://nationalshooting.org.au/blog/f/reclassification-collectors-now-in-the-firing-line>

Thanks to GCCA member Alan Cox for bringing this to my attention.

RECLASSIFICATION: Collectors now in the firing line



23 February 2021 | Reclassification, Western Australia Police



Mauser C96 Broomhandle

**WA POLICE** are looking to ban pistols that can be fitted with detachable stocks using “appearance laws” in what could become a serious problem for collectors nationally. Their choice is to fight - or watch their highly valuable and collectible pistols go into the crusher.

**REGULAR READERS** will be familiar with the NSC’s fight in the WA State Administrative Tribunal over the Ruger PC Charger handgun.

We won our case against WA Police last year however WA Police have now decided to continue denying ‘licences’ (equivalent to Permits to Acquire) to WA shooters for reasons which include the “*ability to affix a detachable rear stock, which substantially increases the utility of this [handgun] as a centre fire rifle*”.

In other words, this issue is not just about the Ruger PC Charger: it is about any handgun that *can have a detachable rear stock affixed to it*.

**Other guns that can have detachable stocks fitted to them**

The NSC team has identified at least three valuable and highly collectible, handguns that fit the same description, that would be caught by the latest panic move by WA Police that could catch a number of firearms in WA collections. If WAPOL is successful in getting the WA State Administrative Tribunal ( SAT) to uphold its opinion then a legal precedent will be set and other state regulators could follow suit, then this could quickly become a national problem.

From pistol grips and box magazines on straight-pull shotguns to the addition of detachable stocks on pistols, the NSC’s legal challenges to reclassifications decisions have shown that the legal basis for these decisions is not that difficult to disprove.



## Detachable stocks on collectable handguns

Here are three guns which will, if WAPol continues decides to ban other handguns with detachable stocks, end up on the banned list:

*Left: Luger P08 Artillery Model*

### 1. WW1 Luger P08 Artillery Model:

Manufactured in long barrel versions, circular drum magazines and fitted with a detachable wooden stock .

2. **Mauser C96 Broomhandle** (*pictured at top of article*): Fed with a box magazine and fitted with a detachable wooden stock)

3. **Browning Hi Power (Chinese Nationalist Army Contract)**: Also fitted with a detachable wooden stock and target sights. (pictured below)

Adding to this is that these three examples were supplied with stocks as ‘extras’ by their manufacturers, whereas the Ruger PC9 Charger is NOT sold with any stock, meaning that this is the least likely of the four handguns to ever have a stock attached to it.

## The choice for collector groups

We appreciate that collector groups are just like other shooting groups – they just want to ‘do their thing’ and not get caught up in political fights.

Collectors in WA and elsewhere have spent serious money to have the three pistols mentioned in their collections. They are historic, rare, and valuable.

However, this latest decision out of WA gives collector groups there – and potentially elsewhere – a simple choice.

Watch your guns end up in the crusher or fight to keep them. Collectors in the UK saw many of their collections wiped out when the UK introduced new gun laws years ago.



*Browning Hi Power (Chinese Nationalist Army Contract)*

**WA shooters: time to take action**

The NSC has already run and won several reclassification fights and is likely to soon have more fights in the eastern states.

However, WA

continues to ‘lead the pack’, and with a state election now only days away, we urge shooters in WA – whether they are collectors or not – to **VOTE** to keep their guns.

The NSC will be publishing it’s voting advice for WA this week. However, shooters also need to back the legal actions being taken to stop reclassification if they want this to stop.

**Reclassification benefits no one.** All it does is create instability in the firearms industry and frustrate more and more shooters.

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## AN OLD LADY

An older lady headed to the bank to make a withdrawal. She handed her bank card to a bank cashier and said, "I would like to withdraw \$10.

The cashier told her, "For withdrawals less than \$100 please use the ATM."

The old lady wanted to know why ... The cashier returned her bank card and irritably told her, "These are the rules. Please leave if there is no other matter. There is a line of customers behind you."

The old lady remained silent for a few seconds, then handed the card back to the cashier and said, "Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The cashier was astonished when she checked the account balance. She nodded her head, leaned down and told her, "You have \$500,000 in your account and the bank doesn't have that much cash currently. Could you make an appointment and come back tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked how much she could withdraw immediately. The cashier told her any amount up to \$3,000.

"Well, please let me have \$3,000 now".

The cashier then angrily went back to the vault retrieved stacks of \$20's and \$10's and spent the next ten minutes counting out \$3,000. "Is there anything else I can do for you today?", the teller asked sternly.

The old lady put \$10 in her purse and said "yes, I'd like to deposit \$2,990 into my account."

The moral of this tale ...

Don't be difficult with old people, they spent a lifetime learning the skills.