

### **Information on Greener Guns**

The company can no longer supply detailed information or carry out research on individual guns for clients. The following provides actual or approximate dates for the manufacture of individual guns extracted from our records.

### **William Greener's Percussion Muzzle Loaders**

<b>Years</b>	<b>Serial Numbers</b>	<b>Number of Guns Made</b>
<i>1829 - 1840</i>	<i>0 - 2499</i>	<i>2,500</i>
<i>1840 - 1850</i>	<i>2500 - 4999</i>	<i>2,500</i>
<i>1850 - 1869</i>	<i>5000 - 12000</i>	<i>7,001</i>

## W W Greener's Hand Made Guns

The following provides a list of serial numbers of hand made guns built by William Wellington Greener and the company, W W Greener Limited, from 1855 to 1999.

Types covered by these serial numbers:-

1. W W Greener's Percussion Muzzle Loaders
2. All Pin Fire shotguns, rifles and pistols
3. All Central Fire shotguns and rifles with External Hammers including;
  - a. Schneiders
  - b. Rotary Underlevers
  - c. Double Holding Down Bolt Guns
  - d. Treble Wedge Fast Guns
  - e. Dolls Head Extension to Top Rib Guns
  - f. Field's Patent Target Rifles
4. The Following Hammerless shotguns and rifles including;
  - a. Anson and Deeley Boxlock Guns
  - b. Murcott Mousetrap Guns
  - c. Facile Princeps Guns
  - d. Needham Self-acting Ejector Guns
  - e. Self-acting Ejector Guns
  - f. Unique Ejector Guns
  - g. Sovereign Guns
  - h. Emperor Guns
  - i. Early Empire Guns (see also below under Machine Made Guns)

If gun owners are not sure of the type of gun they own information can be found in *The Greener Story*. It may be possible to obtain this book from libraries or the author by e-mail to [g.greener@btinternet.com](mailto:g.greener@btinternet.com)

Year			Year		
Hand Made Guns			Hand Made Guns		
Date	S/Nos	No made	Date	S/Nos	No made
1855	0-100	100	1874	11501-13000	1500
1856	101-200	100	1875	13001-14575	1574
1857	201-300	100			
1858	301-400	100	1876	16001-17500	1500
1859	401-500	100	1877	17501-19000	1500
1860	501-750	250	1878	19001-20497	1497
1861	751-1000	250	1879	14576-15999	1424
1862	1001-1500	500	1879	22009-22347	339
1863	1501-2000	500		<i>Yearly Total</i>	1763
1864	2001-2500	500	1880	21001-21630	630
1865	2501-3000	500	1880	20498-20562	65
1866	3001-4000	1000	1880	22860-23160	301
1867	4001-5000	1000		<i>Yearly Total</i>	996
1868	5001-6000	1000	1881	20563-20810	248
1869	6001-7000	1000	1881	23161-24848	1688

1870 7001-8000 1000  
 1871 8001-9000 1000  
 1872 9001-10000 1000  
 1873 10501-11500 1000

Yearly Total 1936  
 1882 20811-30143 332  
 1882 25304-26065 762  
 1882 24849-24981 133  
 Yearly Total 1227

**Year Hand Made Guns**

**Year Hand Made Guns**

Date	S/Nos	No made
1883	30144-30388	245
1883	26066-27106	1041
	Yearly Total	1286
1884	30389-30730	342
1884	27107-27988	882
	Yearly Total	1224
1885	30731-30952	222
1885	27898-28804	816
	Yearly Total	1038
1886	30953-31235	283
1886	28805-29000	196
1886	35000-35654	655
	Yearly Total	1134
1887	31236-31833	598
1887	35655-36437	783
	Yearly Total	1381
1888	31834-32276	443
1888	36438-37185	748
1888	37186-37357	172
	Yearly Total	1363
1889	32340-32740	401
1889	37358-38094	737
	Yearly Total	1138
1890	32741-33370	630
1890	38095-38803	709
	Yearly Total	1139
1891	33371-34014	644
1891	38804-39710	907
	Yearly Total	1551
1892	34015-34890	876
1892	39711-40649	939
	Yearly Total	1815
1893	40650-41782	1133
1893	34891-34999	109
1893	41783-41829	47
	Yearly Total	1289
1894	41830-42828	999
1895	42829-44058	1230
1896	44059-45271	1213
1897	45272-46484	1213
1898	46485-47619	1135
1899	47620-48724	1105
1900	48725-49643	919
1901	49644-50514	871
1902	50515-51335	821
1903	51336-52573	1238
1904	52574-53957	1384
1905	53958-54748	791
1906	54749-55546	798
1907	55547-56235	689
1908	56236-57132	897
1909	57133-57652	510
1910	57653-58707	1055
1911	58708-60373	1666
1912	60374-62174	1801
1913	62175-63975	1801
1914	63976-64737	763
1915	64738-64759	22
1916	64760-65003	244
1917		0
1918		0
1919	65004-65891	888
1920	65892-66588	697
1921	66589-66887	299
1922	66888-67043	156

Date	S/Nos	No made
1923	67044-67219	176
1924	67220-67550	331
1925	67551-67904	354
1926	67905-68085	181
1927	68086-68334	249
1928	68335-68533	199
1929	68534-68707	174
1930	68708-68903	196
1931	68904-68949	46
1932	68950-69031	82
1933	69032-69123	92
1934	69124-69223	100
1935	69224-69289	66
1936	69290-69393	104
1937	69394-69498	105
1938	69499-69585	87
1939	69586-69638	53
1940	69639-69642	4
1941		0
1942		0
1943		0
1944		0
1945	69643-69654	12
1946	69655-69689	35
1947	69690-69705	16
1948	69706-69751	46
1949		0
1950	69752-69753	2
1951	69754-69755	2
1952		0
1953	69756-69756	1
1954		0
1955	69757-69763	7
1956	69764-69775	12
1957	69776-69781	6
1958	69782-69804	23
1959	69805-69807	3
1960	69808-69813	6
1961	69814-69822	9
1962	69823-69840	18
1963	69841-69845	5
1964		0
1965	69846-69851	6
1966		0
1967		0
1968		0
1969		0
1970		0
1971		0
1972		0
1973		0
1974		0
1975		0
1976		0
1977		0
1978		0
1979		0
1980		0
1981		0
1982		0
1983		0
1984		0
1985	69852-	Information confidential

## J V Needham Hand Made Guns by W W Greener

### All Models

Date	Serial Numbers	Numbers made each year	Date	Serial Numbers	Numbers made each year
1886	6001-6492	492	1914	7312-7413	102)
1887	6493-6986	494		9893-9912	20 ) Yearly Total 122
1888	6987-7690	704	1915		0
1889	7691-8773	1083	1916	9913-9920	8
1890	8774-9099	326	1917		0
1891	9100-9663	563	1918		0
1892	9664-9817	154	1919	9921-10003	83
1893	9818-9892	75	1920	10004-10204	201
1894		0	1921	10005-10290	286
1895	5000-5083	84	1922	10291-10710	420
1896	5084-5239	156	1923	10711-10996	286
1897	5240-5302	63	1924	10997-11765	769
1898	5303-5366	64	1925	11766-12085	320
1899	5366-5404	39	1926	12086-12699	614
1900	5405-5451	47	1927	12700-12886	187
1901	5452-5519	68	1928	12887-13021	135
1902	5520-5689	170	1929	13022-13248	227
1903	5690-6165	476	1930	13249-13534	286
1904	6166-6239	74	1931	13535-13646	112
1905	6240-6298	59	1932	13647-13703	57
1906	6299-6339	41	1933	13704-13735	32
1907	6340-6418	79	1934	13736-13762	27
1908	6419-6544	126	1935	13763-13807	45
1909	6545-6916	372	1936	13808-13895	88
1910	6917-6919	3	1937	13896-14015	120
1911	6920-7016	97	1938	14016-14045	30
1912	7017-7141	125	1939	14046-14058	13
1913	7142-7311	170	1940	14059-14070	12
			1941	14071-14071	1

Some J V Needham guns outside this numbering system are included in the main W W Greener archives with serial numbers above 14071, but this does not mean they were made after 1941. Readers should refer to the dates and serial numbers of W W Greener's hand-made guns above to determine the year of manufacture of these weapons.

## Machine Made Guns

### Empire Models

Date	Serial Number	Numbers Made
1910	The first Empire models produced were incorporated in the hand made guns numbering system in the main archive books. The new numbering system started in 1912 on 16th October of that year with number 62,000. In 1920 the last gun made in the 63,000 series was 63999. Empire guns made after that date start with numbers in the 70000 series. Production of Empire models ceased in 1965.	
1912	62000 - 62200	201
1913	62201 - 62945	745
1914	62946 - 63138	193
1915	63139 - 63141	3
1916	63142 - 63173	32
1917		none
1918		none
1919	63174 - 63854	681
1920	63855 - 63999	145
1920	70000 - 70121	122
1921	70122 - 70211	91
1922	70212 - 70244	33
1923	70254 - 70546	293
1924	70547 - 71160	614
1925	71161 - 71408	248
1926	71409 - 71818	410
1927	71819 - 72200	382
1928	72201 - 72606	406
1929	72607 - 72894	288
1930	72895 - 72994	100
1931	72995 - 72997	3
1932	72998 - 73007	10
1933	73008 - 73095	88

### Small Bore Single Barrel Rifles

Date	Serial Numbers	Numbers made each year	Date	Serial Numbers	Approx. number made each year
1900	010030-010531	502	1907	017526-020355	2829
1901	010532-011485	954	1908	020356-021740	1385
1902	011486-012690	1204	1909	021741-022146	406
1903	012691-013816	1126			
1904	013817-014870	1054			
1905	014871-015933	1063			
1906	015934-017525	1591			

The company continued to produce rifles up to 1939 but after WW II production ceased and rifles sold later were finished from pre-war stocks. The archives with details of rifle serial numbers above 022146 are missing.

**Police Guns**

Date	Serial Numbers	Approximate Numbers Made	Date	Serial Numbers	Approximate Numbers Made
1922	0000-2499	2500	1950	48476-49344	869
1923	2500-4999	2500	1951	49345-50213	869
1924	5000-7499	2500	1952	50214-51082	869
1925	7500-9999	2500	1953	51083-51951	869
1926	10000-12499	2500	1954	51952-52820	869
1927	12500-14999	2500	1955	52821-53689	869
1928	15000-17499	2500	1956	53690-54558	869
1929	17500-19999	2500	1957	54559-55427	869
1930	20000-22499	2500	1958	55428-65296	869
1931	22500-22499	2500	1959	56297-57165	869
1932	25000-27499	2500	1960	57166-85034	869
1933	27500-29999	2500	1961	58036-58903	869
1934	30000-32499	2500	1962	58904-59772	869
1935	32500-34999	2500	1963	59773-60641	869
1936	35000-37499	2500	1964	60642-61511	869
1937	37500-39999	2500	1965	61511-61511	0
1938	40000-42499	2500			
1939-1945		0			
1946	45000-45868	869			
1947	45869-46737	869	Made by Webleys		Actual Numbers Made
1948	46738-47606	869			
19494	47607-48475	869	1966	61511-64860	3350
			1967	64861-68211	3350

**Gaffer Guns or General Purpose Shotguns (GP)**

Date	Serial Numbers	Approximate Numbers Made	Date	Serial Numbers	Approximate Numbers Made
1922	0-79	80	1963	46334-48689	2356
1923	80-974	894	1964	48690-51045	2356
1924	975-1869	894	1965	51046-53400	2354
1925	1870-2764	894			
1926	2765-3659	894	Made by Webley & Scott Limited		
1927	3660-4554	894			
1928	4555-5349	894	1965	53400-58281	4882
1929	5350-6244	894	1966	58282-62821	4540
1930	6245-7139	894	1967	62822-65154	2333
1931	7140-8034	894	1968	65155-67079	1925
1932	8035-8929	894	1969	67080-68603	1524
1933	8930-9824	894	1969	25000-25472	473
1934	9825-10719	894	1970	68604-71210	2607
1935	10720-11614	894	1971	71211-72699	1489
1936	11615-12509	894	1972	72700-74299	1600
1937	12510-13404	894	1973	74300-75649	1350
1938	13405-14299	894	1974	75650-76426	777
1939	14300-14746	447	1975	76427-77860	1434
1940 - 1944		0	1976	77861-81999	4139
1945	14747-15194	447	1977	82000-84396	2397
1946	15195-16089	894	1978	84397-85836	1440
1947	16090-16984	894	1979	85837-86153	316
1948	16985-17879	894	1980 - 1985		0
1949	17880-18774	894			
1950	18775-19669	894	Made by W W Greener Limited		
1951	19670-20564	894			
1952	20565-21459	894	Date	Serial Numbers	Numbers Sold
1953	21460-22354	894	1986	11055- )	Not all numbers in between
1954	22355-23249	894	1998	-11636)	these figures were made or sold
1955	23250-27424	4175			
1956	27425-31729	4305			
1957	31730-35559	3830			
1958	35560-38774	3215			
1959	38775- 39400	626			
1960	39401-41619	2219			
1961	41620-43977	2356			
1962	43978-46333	2356			

The last GP made by W W Greener Limited no. 11636 was sold in 1999. GP shotguns and spare parts for both Mk I and Mk II versions are no longer made and are unavailable.

## **Company Archives**

Some action and order book records exist for guns made between 1875 and 1887 but these are not listed in either numerical or chronological order. To add to the problem of researching individual gun, numbers there have many gaps where serial numbers and the details of guns are missing entirely. From 1880 production records exist for most best and medium grades of guns. Serial numbers start at 22806 in the main archives but is complicated because up until 1890 two books were used concurrently, one to record hammer and ejector guns and one to record hammerless guns. This is why there are two batches of numbers for each year during the early years and sometimes three batches, when one book is finished and another started. Ejector guns are almost all hammerless, but it is not known why these were recorded in the books which detail hammer guns. Because two books were in operation at any one time it was inevitable that mistakes were made by clerks recording gun details. An occasional ejector or hammer gun finds its way into the books for hammerless guns and vice-versa!

Other Types made by W W Greener for which there are no records are:

1. Air Rifles
2. Farquarharson Falling Block Rifles
3. Lee Metford Magazine Rifles
4. Mauser Single Barrel Magazine Rifles
5. One Inch Signal Pistols
6. Bulldog Revolvers
7. Cox Cattle Killers
8. Safeti-Killers
9. Pocket Horse Killers
10. Humane Killers
11. Line Throwing Guns
12. Light Harpoon Guns