

The
**Ontario
 Model
 Soldier
 Society**
 Founded 1962
 www.omss.ca



Monthly Newsletter for September 2021

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2021

All meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Annual Show

The show is cancelled for 2021. Stay tuned for 2022.

Monthly Newsletter for September 2021

2021 Executive
 Keith Ritchie
 President

Scott Milburn
 1st vice president

Andy Traverse
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
 Secretary/Treasurer

Lorne Farr
 Past President

Vacant
 Program Chairman

Brendan Hogan
 Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt
 Annual Show
 Chairman

Alex Monsour
 Newsletter Editor

Dave Norman
 Facebook Page
 Manager

Frank MacKay
 Calendar Co-
 ordinator

Jeff Duncan
 Club Table &
 Donations

OMSS Archivist
 Ian Pearson

OMSS Ottawa Chapter hosts a zoom meeting on the last Tuesday of the month from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm or later. This is open to all OMSS members. For an invite and link, please contact Bob Thompson at Thompson_robert@rogers.com.

Letter from the President



It will be a year and a half since the COVID-19 state of emergency was declared. The pandemic is still with us, we are in the 4th wave, and the Ontario Government has announced a Vaccination Certificate beginning later in September. More places are open, and it is to be hoped that we can avoid any further lockdowns or other restrictions. As a hobby club, we must operate within it.

My thanks to Robert Thompson of the Ottawa Chapter for his monthly Zoom meetings, and bimonthly Zoom Swap Meets. The OMSS Underground Railroad continues to allow exchanges through most of the province. I am pleased to hear members are keeping in touch – via email, telephone and safe in-person visits. The Newsletter and Journal are also key. But we miss the in-person club meetings.

There is still uncertainty for the rules of in person meetings at the Legion and the restrictions that apply. I am looking into this. Hopefully, with the Vaccination Certificate rolling out, there will be more guidance and we can meet in-person. We will share more information when we can on charting our path forward.

As for the hobby, new releases are coming out, but costs have risen, and there are delays often in delivery. Smaller shows have occurred in the U.S. and the Chicago show is going ahead but we are not free to attend these with travel restrictions. Still, we soldier on.

Until then, keep in touch, and stay safe.

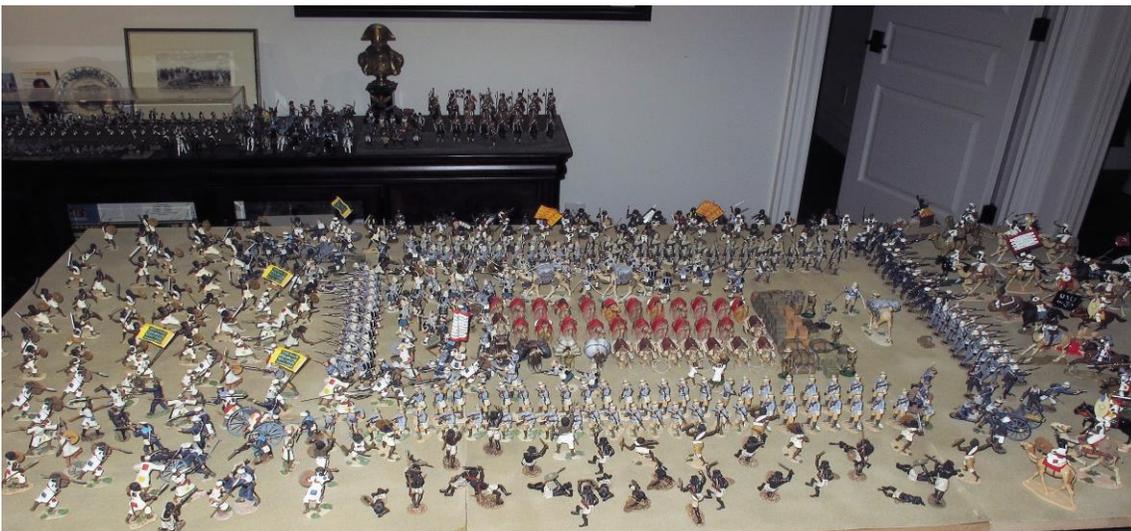
Andy Traverse has shared the following photos of projects he worked on during the pandemic.



A late Victorian civilian scene depicting town life on a Saturday with a band, spectators, a farmers market in addition to an antiques show. Together with this, the street is full of pedestrians and tradesmen, making the entire diorama very busy and captures a snapshot of Victorian life.



**World War I
Scene**



This display is a blend of the Battles of Tamai and Abu Klea in 1884 when the Dervishes broke the British square on both occasions.

Whats New in the Hobby –
September 2021
By S. J. Dummitt

Remember the scene in the epic movie “Cleopatra” when the future Queen of the Nile is introduced to Caesar? Well Thomas Gunn Miniatures has produced their version although a little more risqué than the censors would allow in 1960s Hollywood. This wonderful 5 piece set is limited to a production of only 150 sets. The set retails at approximately \$152.00 Cdn and is a must for fans of ancient Rome.



Gunn has also started expanding his line of the Zulu campaign. Last month he introduced 3 Zulus in various firing positions and this month he has introduced

3 more in various charging positions. Another interesting set of figures he has brought out include several Waffen SS figures in non-combat poses taking a time for a break. The new singles sell for approximately \$62.50 to \$69.00 Cdn each.

John Jenkins is releasing a unique set of Mountain Men in his “Fur Trade” series, reminiscent of the classic



Movie “Paint your Wagon”. The first two figures from this group are Jean-Paul Clymer and Didier Dupont. The Rendezvous was an annual gathering of traders held by the fur trading companies at various locations where the trappers could sell their furs and hides and replenish their much needed supplies. This first set retails for approximately \$125.00 Cdn.

Another interesting series Jenkins is about to release is the “Wellington in India” series featuring the Battle of Assaye 1803. The first two sets to be released depict a Subedar and a Havildar of both the 1/8th and 2/12th Madras Native Infantry Regiments. The 1/8th Madras Native Infantry were originally raised as the

9th Battalion Coast Sepoys in 1760, becoming the 1/8th Madras Native Infantry in 1796. They retained this title until 1902 when they became the 8th Gurkhas until they were disbanded. During the years that Wellesley was in India, they took to calling themselves “Wellesley’s Own”. The 2/12th Madras Native Infantry were to become the 10th Battalion 1st Punjab Regiment. These two piece sets retail for approximately \$112.00 Cdn each.

Historical Events over the Centuries

1021 - Emperor Rajendra Chola I extends his influence of the Chola Empire to the banks of the Ganges River and invades Bengal.

1121 – In the Battle of Didgori, King David the Builder of Georgia with a force of 56000 soldiers defeats a Seljuk-led Muslim coalition army of 400,000.

1221 - The Jews of Erfurt, Germany are massacred. Their synagogue and the Jewush quarter are destroyed.

1321 - The Byzantine civil war of 1321–28 begins.

1421- The French surprise and defeat an English force under Thomas, Duke of Clarence, a brother of Henry V of England, at Bauge, Normandy during the 100 Years War.

1521 - A coalition of Spanish Conquistadors and Indigenous combatants led by Cortes conquer the Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlán.

1621 – Myles Standish is elected as the first commander of the Plymouth Colony.

1721 – Peter 1st is proclaimed the first Emperor of Russia changing it from a Tsardom to an Empire.

1821 - Greek War of Independence against the Ottoman Empire begins.

1921 -The Irish Republican Army and British forces agree to a ceasefire and the Irish Free State is founded.

2021 – In weak moment which he will deny, Jeff Duncan admits matte soldiers are nicer looking than gloss ones.

More Mark Felton History Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aKBpTThDopY>

The Royal Afghan Army - "Prussians of the Orient"

WW2 Afghanistan had good relations with Nazi Germany, so much so that its German-looking army was called the "Prussians of the Orient".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F41714kTGTY>

SS Parachute Assault - Yugoslavia 1944

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sBqztosCVmg&list=RDCMUCfCKvREB11-fxyotSIONgww&start_radio=1

Hitler's Female SS General A Nazi from the 1920's An Inner Circle Hitler Member unknown today.

Celebration of Life for Don Ritchie – Sunday September 26

Joanne Ritchie and family have planned a Celebration of Life for Don. It will be held on Sunday, September 26 from 1 - 4 pm at

Jesse's Tap and Grill
583 Robinson Road
Bridgenorth, Ontario

This is a local establishment up near Don's place north of Peterborough. The venue has both indoor and outdoor facilities.

At 2:30 we welcome anyone to share their memories and afterwards we will then raise a glass to honour and toast Don.

Due to COVID please RSVP for numbers by emailing Joanne Ritchie at j_ritchie@rogers.com or by phone at 705-292-5337.

George Lamb

We are sad to report the passing of George Lamb, a member of our Ottawa group on July 3rd. He had been a member of the Society since 2018.

The obituary can be accessed at:

<https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/robert-george-lamb-1082772154>

New Movie – The War Below

Here is a preview for a World War One movie to be released October 1st. During World War I, a group of British miners are recruited to tunnel underneath no man's land and set bombs from below the German front in hopes of breaking the deadly stalemate of the Battle of Messines.

Director
J.P. Watts

Writers
J.P. Watts, Thomas Woods

Stars
Sam Hazeldine, Tom Goodman-Hill, Kris Hitchen

THE WAR BELOW Official Trailer (2021)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIGA14yTMBk>

The Last Word of a Civilian Bureaucrat

This is my one year anniversary issue of being the Newsletter Editor. When I was first considering it, John Hambly said to try it for a year and see if I enjoy it. I must report to the Club that I do and it is a way I can contribute without the restraints of my role as an Engineering Manager as well as a church Elder that demand so much of my time.

When Scott Dummitt my predecessor spoke of the Newsletter's importance as a communication tool prior to the pandemic, I had no idea how critical it would be when the pandemic hit. Along with the Journal, these modes provide the link that help bind the Club together as not all have access to the Zoom meetings hosted by the very welcoming Ottawa Chapter or email communications sent by Gary.

Thank you for the contributions that continue to come in, Gary's coaching on how to get the boxes to stay where they are supposed to and Scott's ongoing "suggestions".

I look forward to another year of service.

The newsletter is edited by Alex Monsour.

News items and notices can be submitted to artmons@rogers.com.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings. Note due to postal costs the Newsletter is limited to 6 pages maximum. Articles that cannot be accommodated will be forwarded to the Journal Editor.

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