

Minutes

OMSS OTTAWA Meeting

Tuesday, 30 December 2025

OIC – Bob T

Minute Man – Doug C

Photographers – Julian B, Tom W, Bob T

List of Attendees: Kelly Hayes, Doug Cope, Julian Bomford, Juan Lopez, Solez Lopez, Michael Canivet, Steve Hammond, Bob Thompson, Morley Verdier. Scott Paget, Eduardo, Terry Hoskin, Sylvain Allaire, Rob Kelly, Stanley Kershman, Tom Wright, Steve Alexander

INTRODUCTIONS

- **New Attendee introductions:** - none
- **How are our other regulars?** - **Dave Waddell** just had Knee Replacement Surgery and could not attend, - **Dennis D.** is off to the USA for the winter,
- **Brendan H** is back from his overseas deployment to Latvia but did not attend

OMSS CLUB BUSINESS & SPECIAL PROJECTS

OMSS Executive Update – 2 x \$25 Tim's gift cards are coming from OMSS Toronto to be given out to Ottawa group - **Bob T** is still holding the [expired?] Tim's card from last year.- oh what will we do?

OMSS Zoom Meetings – We still need volunteers from Toronto & Ottawa to ensure the continued ongoing operation of the OMSS Zoom meetings. **Bob T** to send out a list of work and help needed to run the OMSS Zoom meetings

OMSS Ottawa in 2026 – As mentioned last month we need an OMSS Ottawa Coordination Committee to ensure the continued operation of OMSS Ottawa meetings. **Bob T** will also send out a list of work and help needed to run OMSS Ottawa. On a happy Christmas note **Bob T** speculated on what would happen to the meeting if he died. No consensus was reached but we did agree that none of us would go to the funeral unless a good meal were provided. After all, to paraphrase an appropriate line from 'A Christmas Carol', – 'we must be fed.'

OMSS 2026 Membership Renewal - – **Bob T** will accept \$40 cash or cheques until end of our January Meeting.

OMSS Ottawa Toy Soldier Show - at Kanata Legion

Tentative DATE – 28 February 2026

- Our Ottawa OMSS chapter plans to run a show with all proceeds going to the Kanata Legion, however without firm volunteers tonight to help organize the show we are unlikely to be able to host the show on this date.

Volunteers to date:

- **Dave Waddell** – [limping] will be Show co-chair, Finance Coordinator and Liaison with Legion
- **Julian B.** – Show Co-chair & Staffing Coordinator
- **Steve A, Alan M** and **Paul T** have volunteered to coordinate some aspects of the show but we still have 3 critical positions that need to be filled for the show to proceed.:
- 1] **Vendors & Exhibitors Co-ordinator** - Contacting, booking & liaison with potential Vendors & Exhibitors – **Morley V** volunteered
- 2] **Public Relations Co-ordinator** – Show Promotion and advertising - **Juan L** has volunteered to prepare any artwork required for posters & flyers for the show;
- 3] **Hall Co-ordinator** – planning the layout, set up, & take down of the Legion Hall

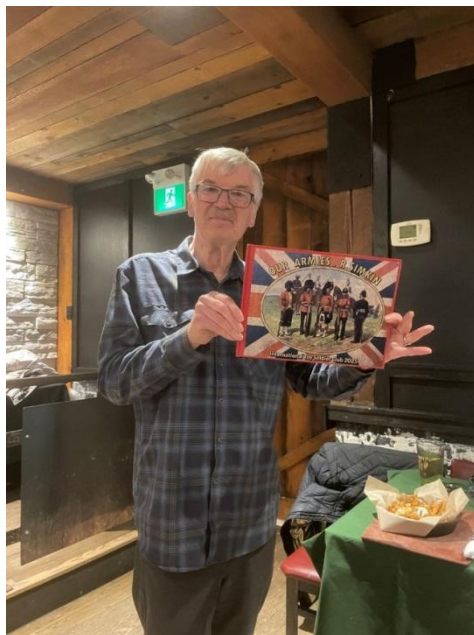
Bob T, yes **Bob T** once again, will produce a priority email regarding the roles and duties of each coordinator position for the show. We [the great universal 'we'] expect all Ottawa members to help out in some way to support the various volunteer coordinators to accomplish the required work for the show.

WHAT'S NEW? – ANNOUNCEMENTS, & SHOWS

HOBBY NEWS, COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

Hobby News

- **Michael C** (former Toy Soldier Market) – still has items to sell and has found some not seen before items to sell
- **Scott's Soldiers on YouTube** – nothing new
- **Replica Miniatures from England** – As we watched **Bob T** opened his new Simkin's Book – different cover from the original and it seems to cover both infantry and cavalry. **Scott P**, Replica's Canadian rep, reports that Replica is to produce a book of French Infantry prints



- **Scott Dummitt** – New order just in from Jenkins – UELs including female loyalist with children [**See A Below**], Capt. Ross British Marines Rogers Rangers, plus Jacobite rebellion pipers [**See B Below**] & Kings colour of the 37th Regt.
- **Toy Soldier Club (Quebec)** – no news

Other Toy Soldier News -

- **Large collection in Toronto for sale** – Frank Barrett Collection - \$6,000. **Bob T** is looking for partners to buy & share collection (6 buyers at \$1,000 each, or 10 buyers at \$600 each for a 10% share) – **Bob T** has photos but little detail. **Bob T**, yes again, will email those who have expressed interest in sharing the purchase of the collection
- **General Dean Collection** – OMSS honorary President is selling part of his collection
- **Doug C** still has a copy of the **Great Book of Britain's** for sale – [See E Below]

EVENT REPORTS:

International Toy Soldier Club - Video Meeting – Andrew hosts – 13 December - Show & Tell topic: “Blood & Bandages (and things seasonal of course!)” – those who attended were from Canada, US and the UK alas **Bob T** was all prepared but couldn't get on-line – **Scott P** did attend and his detailed report was ‘it was fun’. There was also GI JOE Blue and his London Red telephone booth.

OMSS Toronto Meeting – 14 December – Dinner & awards, & new executive positions
- No one from Ottawa attended – a new president was elected – see their latest newsletter

OMSS December Zoom Meeting – 16 December – **Bob T** hosted the 13 Participants (6 Ottawa, 2 Toronto, 2 Quebec, 1 Montreal, 1 new participant Jonathon from Newfoundland, plus 1 unknown who later was known ask **Bob T**) - Show & Tell topic: “Sand & Sandals ... Snow & Snowshoes Rain & Rubber Boots” . – **Bob T** reports lots of good presentations & discussions and **Scott P** delivered another amazingly detailed report – ‘it was OK’ [not certain if this is better than ‘fun’]

BMSS Zoom Meeting – 19 December – **James Opie** hosted - Show & Tell topic: “Old Toy Soldiers”
- Mostly 54 mm metal models – most who attended were from the UK

UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

OMSS Toronto Meeting – 11 January

International Toy Soldier Club Video Meeting – January - Show & Tell Topic is: ?

BMSS Zoom Meeting – 16 January (3rd Friday of every month) – Show & Tell Topic is: ?

OMSS Zoom Meeting – 20 January – (3rd Tuesday of every month) – Show & Tell Topic is: ?

OMSS Ottawa Meeting – 27 January (**Bob T** has booked Last Tuesday of every month for 2026)

OMSS OTTAWA TOY SOLDIER SHOW – 28 February 2026 – Saturday – Kanata Legion - see above

Ottawa Nostalgia Show 2026 - Sunday 15 March 2026 - 9am to 3pm. Nepean Sportsplex

Ottawa Military Heritage Show will be held on Saturday 25 April 2026 at the Nepean Sportsplex.

ON PARADE – Toronto – 13 June 2026

SHOW & TELL PRESENTATIONS – This month topic : **Christmas Gifts**

Julian B – brought back his 1/6 scale French building with its new operating windows and doors

The windows are reversible so they can appear to be boarded up or not

He plans to build a village of at least 6 buildings when finished

– **Bob T** insists that this would only be a hamlet so he needs to build a lot more.





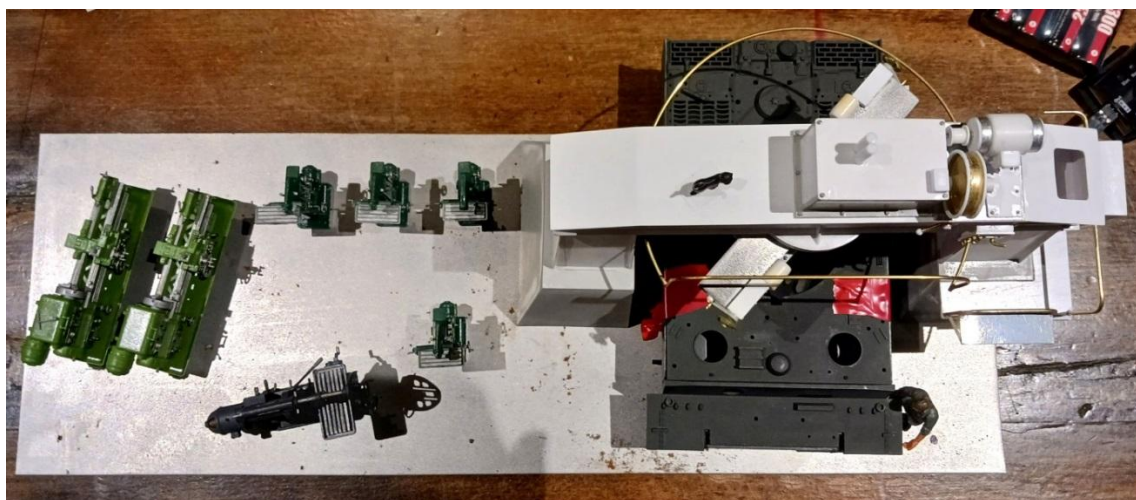
Kelly H – brought two of his old Christmas gifts = the Britain's 1984 Limited Edition set of 'The Lifeguards of the Household Cavalry' – also a Britain's red box set of Black Watch infantry.



Stanley K – reports that he has small card file boxes if you need them



Steve H – brought out the highly detailed two tool lathe that he made
– in WW2 it was used to make German tanks – he has plans to build
an entire miniature German Tank factory





Scott P – brings out the surprise gift that he received from a fan in the UK
It consisted of 8 repainted 54 mm Canadian military figures of the following:
2 PPCLI infantry, 1 mounted GG's horse guard, 3 GG's foot guards and 2 RCR.s



Doug C – brought a 1/72 Chinese snap together kit of an American tank
Also 3 Hallmark Christmas train ornaments that he got as a Christmas gift
○ diecast and very detailed [See D Below]



Juan L – has great plans but did not bring anything tonight – however he did have **Bob T's** plastic wheel

Solez L – showed her animated Lego people film clip on her phone – that took a lot of photos to produce



BOB T – reported that he did not get any soldiers for Christmas this year – [we all moaned in sympathy] However he did show off his Christmas presents to himself: some great deals on King & Country sets plus from the Brockville, Ontario Hobby Store he did bring a set of “The Gingerbread Gang (part of the War in Christmas Village series)” Plus a recently purchased “Bess” of the 95th Rifles by Thomas Gunn. [See C Below] plus Roman Legionnaires including these Women Legionnaires.





Steve A – a battered Steve arrived late into the meeting with a plethora of excellent sets
– especially the band – see photos



MEETING ADJOURNMENT & LAST POST

The 27 January Meeting

The results of the vote for Show & Tell Topic were 'Naval' first with 'Cats and Dogs' a close second - So maybe it is Cats and Dogs on ships?

Meeting Adjourned at: 2028

ADDITIONS

A] United Empire Loyalist (UEL; or simply Loyalist)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Empire_Loyalist

This is an honorific title which was first given by the 1st Lord Dorchester, the governor of Quebec and governor general of the Canadas, to American Loyalists who resettled in British North America during or after the American Revolution.

Following the end of the American Revolutionary War and the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783, both Loyalist soldiers and civilians were evacuated from New York City, most heading for Canada. Many Loyalists had already migrated to Canada, especially from New York and northern New England, where violence against them had increased during the war.

The Crown-allotted land in Canada was sometimes allotted according to which Loyalist regiment a man had fought in. This Loyalist resettlement was critical to the development of present-day Ontario, and some 10,000 refugees went to Quebec (including the Eastern Townships and modern-day Ontario). But Nova Scotia (including modern-day New Brunswick) received three times that number: about 35,000–40,000 Loyalist refugees.

Many of these loyalist immigrants did not stay in Canada; they eventually returned to the United States. Some families were split in their loyalties during the war years. Many Loyalists in Canada maintained ties with relatives in the United States. They conducted commerce across the border with little regard to British trade laws. In the 1790s, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe's offer of land and low taxes, which were one-quarter the level of those in the U.S., in exchange for allegiance resulted in the arrival of 30,000 Americans, often referred to as Late Loyalists. By the outbreak of the War of 1812, of the 110,000 inhabitants of Upper Canada, 20,000 were the initial Loyalists, 60,000 were later U.S. immigrants and their descendants, and 30,000 were UK immigrants and their descendants, or immigrants from the Old Province of Quebec. The later movement of many to Upper Canada suggests that land was the main reason for immigration.

The arrival of the Loyalists after the Revolutionary War led to the division of Canada into the provinces of Upper Canada (what is now southern Ontario) and Lower Canada (today's southern Quebec). They arrived and were largely settled in groups by ethnicity and religion. Many soldiers settled with others of the regiments they had served with. The settlers came from every social class and all thirteen colonies,

Doug C reports that he is descended from UELs and William Cope

– also note link to the Jacobite Rebellion [**See B Below**]

Copetown is a rural neighbourhood of the city of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, located northeast of Brantford. **William Cope**, a **United Empire Loyalist** from the U.S. state of New York settled here in 1794. The community was renamed after his son Conradt in 1851.

William Cope (1719-1813), head of the family after whom Copetown was named, was a Scot, who fled to Württemberg in Germany after the **Jacobite Rebellion** of 1745.

The Cope brothers were U. E. Loyalists, and were born on Long Island. They settled at Niagara in 1794, it is said, and two or three years afterwards, one of them William, came up to Long Point and settled on Lot 24, lake front of Walsingham. Here, on the high bank overlooking :Lake Erie's broad expanse, he erected his log cabin. For many years the place was known as **Cope's Landing**.



B] Jacobite

<https://www.google.com/search?q=jacobite&rls=com.microsoft:en-US:&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sourceid=ie7>

A **Jacobite** was a supporter of the exiled Stuart dynasty (King James II and his descendants) who sought to restore them to the British throne after the Glorious Revolution of 1688, deriving their name from Jacobus, the Latin for James; the movement led to several risings, most famously the 1745 Rebellion under "Bonnie Prince Charlie," uniting dynastic loyalty, Catholic faith, and opposition to the ruling Hanoverians and Whig government, particularly strong in Scotland and Ireland.

Jacobitism was a political ideology advocating the restoration of the senior line of the House of Stuart to the British throne. When James II of England chose exile after the November 1688 Glorious Revolution, the Parliament of England ruled he had "abandoned" the English throne, which was given to his Protestant daughter Mary II of England, and his nephew, her husband William III. On the same basis, in April the Scottish Convention awarded Mary and William the throne of Scotland.

The Revolution created the principle of a contract between monarch and people, which if violated meant the monarch could be removed. A key tenet of Jacobitism was that kings were appointed by God, making the post-1688 regime illegitimate. However, it also functioned as an outlet for popular discontent, and thus was a complex mix of ideas, many opposed by the Stuarts themselves. Conflict between Prince Charles and Scottish Jacobites over the Acts of Union 1707 and divine right seriously undermined the 1745 rising.

Jacobitism was strongest in Ireland, the Western Scottish Highlands, Perthshire, and Aberdeenshire. [Pockets of support were also present in Wales, Northern England, the West Midlands and South West England, all areas strongly Royalist during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms. In addition, the Stuarts received intermittent backing from countries like France, usually dependent on their own strategic objectives.

In addition to the 1689–1691 Williamite War in Ireland and Jacobite rising of 1689 in Scotland, there were serious revolts in 1715, 1719 and 1745, French invasion attempts in 1708 and 1744, and numerous unsuccessful plots. While the 1745 Rising briefly seemed to threaten the Hanoverian monarchy, its defeat in 1746 ended Jacobitism as a serious political movement.



James II, 1685, dressed in military uniform

C] The 95th (Rifle) Regiment of Foot

[https://www.95thrifles.com/history#:~:text=The%2095th%20\(Rifle\)%20Regiment%20of,like%20Bussaco%2C%20Salamanca%20and%20Vittoria.](https://www.95thrifles.com/history#:~:text=The%2095th%20(Rifle)%20Regiment%20of,like%20Bussaco%2C%20Salamanca%20and%20Vittoria.)



In 1800 the *Experimental Corps of Riflemen* was formed, eventually becoming the *95th (Rifle) Regiment of Foot* in 1803.

Riflemen were different, in many ways, to the soldiers that made up the bulk of the British Army. Instead of the classic 'redcoat' with white cross belts worn by most infantrymen, the Rifles wore a distinctive 'green jacket' and black leatherwork. This was the first attempt at camouflage by the British Army and was a reflection of the very different role expected of this brand new soldier.

Of course the other most notable difference between a Rifleman and most of Wellington's redcoats was the weapon he carried, the Baker Rifle. Redcoats were generally issued with the 'Brown Bess' musket, capable of wavering accuracy at 75 yards. The 'Baker' was able to hit a man-sized target 200 yards away, and there are legendary characters within the Regiment, such as Tom Plunket who achieved accuracy well beyond this range using a patched ball. This accuracy was down to a combination of the weapon and a revolutionary new training initiative.

The first Riflemen were selected from various regiments across the army and marched to Horsham where they held their first parade on the 1st April 1800. Schooled in the art of skirmishing, the Riflemen were encouraged to push the enemy on their own initiative, using aimed fire to harass and defeat their foe. Deliberately aiming a weapon was a relatively new concept to the British infantryman. A traditional soldier armed with a musket did not aim, but merely pointed or 'presented' his musket in the direction of the enemy as, unlike the Baker Rifle, it was not an accurate weapon.

From Google the following answer to:

'Did women ever serve in the 95th Rifles?'

Officially, women did not serve as soldiers in the British 95th Rifles regiment during the Napoleonic Wars (early 1800s); however, many women did follow the army as **camp followers**, and **some women throughout history have disguised themselves as men** to fight in various conflicts.

The Role of Women in the Napoleonic Era British Army

Official Roles: British Army policy, formalized in 1800, generally limited the number of women officially allowed to accompany troops to six wives per 100 men. These women, chosen by lot, performed essential support roles such as washing, sewing, cooking, and tending to the wounded, receiving half rations in return.

Unofficial Participation/Disguise: Despite official prohibitions against women serving as soldiers, historical records indicate that some women did manage to serve in combat roles, often by disguising

themselves as men. The 95th Rifles were present at major battles like Badajoz and Waterloo. One account from the Battle of Waterloo mentions that a volunteer from the 95th Rifles found the body of an unidentified Frenchwoman dressed in a uniform who had gone "into the thick of the action".
Regimental Wives: A famous example associated with the 95th Rifles is Juana Smith, the teenage wife of an officer, Harry Smith, whom he met and married during the Peninsular War. While she did not serve as a soldier, she became a favorite of Lord Wellington and traveled extensively with the army throughout the campaigns, demonstrating resilience and adaptability to the harsh conditions of army life.
In summary, while the 95th Rifles was an all-male fighting regiment, the presence of women (primarily as camp followers or in disguise) was a reality of army life during that era.

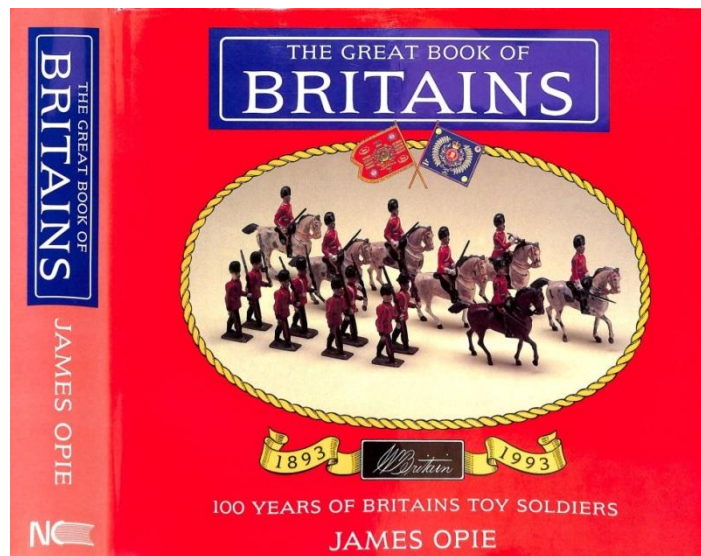
D] Hallmark Lionel Train Christmas Ornaments

https://www.hookedonhallmark.com/Lionel-Trains_c_142.html#:~:text=The%20Hallmark%20Lionel%20Trains%20series,by%20generations%20of%20train%20enthusiasts.

The Hallmark Lionel Trains series ornaments feature miniature versions of Lionel trains that have been beloved by generations of train enthusiasts. Each ornament in the series captures the charm and detail of these iconic trains, from the vibrant colors to the intricate designs. The Lionel Trains series began in 1996 and has continued to captivate collectors and train enthusiasts ever since. These ornaments are a great way to add a touch of nostalgia to your holiday decor or to commemorate your love of trains.

The regular ornaments are roughly N scale of around 1:148

E] The Great Book of Britains – from Google



"The Great Book Of Britains: 100 Years of Britains Toy Soldiers 1893-1993"
[640] pp. New Cavendish Books 10 7/8" x 11 5/8"

At the age of 28 James Opie set himself the task of collecting examples of every toy soldier produced by Britains since 1893. Ten years later he had all but succeeded and in the process had acquired the expertise to become the world's leading specialist in the subject. Produced to celebrate the centenary of Britains, the company which launched the first hollow-cast toy soldier sets in 1893. This book discusses production of the soldiers, and also includes extensive appendices, listing all Britains' non-military figures and giving a rarity rating.