

6.12.18 meeting summary

President's cup, Members Bring and Buy and recent acquisitions

1. Apologies JC and KW
2. Stats - M 14, D 7 and ONS 1.
3. No new members. Mr President welcomed guest Mrs Rees
4. Library requests none.
5. Clarification by Mick Atkinson re: the 'Waterloo' talk reference Instructions on how to access to the 'SK Brown Military Collection – access via <https://librarybrownedu/cds/askb> – this brings up search page – input your search. See attachment - copy of Mick's hand written more detailed instructions for members. Also, there is a site called 'Archive.org' <https://www.archive.org> – out of copyright books can be searched for on this site.
6. Pension record cards can be searched for on ancestry.co.uk [but this requires premium rate subscription].
7. Committee points – Holiday Inn Bromsgrove confirmed as venue for BMS meetings for the next twelve months with sponsorship of meetings by Worcester Medals. Miniconvention details confirmed – Sunday 21.7.19 tickets £16 including buffet – **Members are requested to confirm their availability early if this is possible [Thank you]** The 'break even' number of attendees for the miniconvention is 20 persons. Meeting 7.2.19 to be given by Martin Harrison on 'The Crown of England' 4.4.19 AGM and Dave Seeney's talk 'Easter rising' . Meeting for 2.5.19 will now be 'Members short talks and recent acquisitions' [Previously Mick Atkinson's Waterloo talk]. 4.7.19 meeting will also be 'Recent acquisitions/Short talks'. Also younger members' fees to be £5 per annum for those aged 18 or under.
8. President's cup. Roger Bragger thanked members for the five high quality entries to this year's President's cup. This year's judges were Paul Handford, Mick Atkinson and Chris Davies. There was a clear winner this being the presentation re the King's Shropshire Light Infantry 'A Hill in Korea'. Please see BMS website for information and images of all entries.
9. President Roger Bragger welcomed members to give their short talks re recent acquisitions.
10. Next meeting 07.02.2019 Martin Harrison – 'The Crown of England'.

Recent acquisitions:

Mick Atkinson presented a father and son group to the surname 'Bowyer-Bowen'. Bowyer-Bowen junior was present at the battle of Loos then joined the RFC – On 19.3.1917, he was shot down and killed by the German ace and Blue Max winner Werner Voss [His 20th of 48 allied aircraft]. Bowyer-Bowen senior was serving in the Royal Engineers and was by chance in the locality of where his son had been shot down - He was able to locate his son's grave and exhume the body. The story subsequently drew marked newspaper attention as he had two half-sisters [one in India and one in London] both of whom experienced apparitions of their half-brother at the time he was shot down.



Above: Bowyer-Bowen father and son British War Medals 1914-1918.

Paul Murray talked about Rhodesian gallantry to a native Isaac M Lanchera – In 1978, he'd been injured by gunfire but went on to track the terrorist attackers for a distance of five miles – His gallantry commendation came in the form of an MID to append to his Rhodesian GSM [General Service Medal].

Paul Handford referred to BRCS chauffeur Phillip Webster who went on to join the ASC [Army Service Corps] 03.10.1916 – He'd been awarded the MSM [Meritorious Service Medal] but the reason for the award was unclear – Possibly gallantry not in the face of the enemy or meritorious service over a period of time?

There was a further update on Herbert Mowle Kendall [BAC] a civilian KIA with no known grave – Through a long process, the Mayor of Soissons has approved a new panel so that Kendall's name could be added to the memorial. He is also commemorated in Altringham church.



Above: medals to Herbert Mowle Kendall British War Medal, Croix de Guerre and Victory Medal.

John Scott presented a Victorian LSGC [Long Service and Good Conduct] to a colour sergeant in the Shropshire Light Infantry , transferring to the Herefordshire Volunteers in 1902 and to the Herefordshire regiment in 1908 as a rifle instructor.



Above: Victorian LSGC.

He also showed a WWI trio to Lovat's scouts who'd transferred to the Cameron Highlanders – This soldier had been awarded the Greek Medal of Military Merit [4th class] in itself quite a rare award.[Group pictured below].



Martin Harrison presented two long service groups – The first was a double long service award to Frederick Levy a Dunkirk veteran who'd been awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal - He then joined the RAF to receive an RAF long service award in about 1966.



Above L to R: 1939-45 Star, Defence Medal, 1939-45 War Medal, General Service Medal 1918-1962 bar Malaya, RAF Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and Territorial Efficiency Medal.

The second was a Police long service group with cadet forces medal with long service clasp to Squadron Leader Frederick John Angeletta.



Above L to R : War Medal 1939-45, 1977 Silver Jubilee, Police Exemplary Service Medal and Cadet Forces Medal with long service clasp

Dave Seeney presented several bronze medallions of the Queen Anne era which included '1706 Barcelona relieved' as well as commemorative medallions to the 6th foot featuring the capture of Sardinia, capture of Majorca and the 1710 action at Almeida.

Mark Platt referred to a single 1914 star to a soldier in the 1/28th London regiment – who then became a second lieutenant in the tank corps but was KIA 23.8.1917. He also had two Ebay purchase 're-unites' the first being an MSM LSGC to a John Carter of the Durham Light Infantry – this soldier went on to serve in India [No IGS award] retiring in 1940 with the rank of Major. The second reunite was an MSM to Sergeant H Finlayson of the ASC – the MSM was awarded in 1916 – he also had MID's in 1916 and 1918 – Finlayson's other entitlements were the QSA, KSA and WWI trio.

Chris Newton had had a busy collecting week [!] starting with a George V DSM group to R Burns RMLI HMS Orvieto – then a German group which included a 1937 Coronation Medal [it wasn't clear how this entitlement had arisen], a Victorian LSGC to Walter Duike HMS yacht Osborne, a 'Wakefield' Gold Medal to gunner named to F Dargan awarded after the shooting down of zeppelin L15 on a raid over London – These medals were a privately funded issue by Colonel Sir Charles Wakefield, Mayor of London in recognition of good shooting. He finished with a WWI MC/DCM group to Lt Thomas C Maynard – He had regimental number '16' and was awarded the DCM in August 1914 whilst with 120 Heavy battery RGA.

Reg Cook rounded off the excellent evening with a soldier's good luck charm for those going out to the front in WWI – known as a 'Fumsup' 'thumbs up' – this particular example had silver body with a wooden head with a four leaf clover['touch wood...'] and articulated limbs. They were also made in brass and there are some rare gold examples too.

Typed 22.12.18- 4.1.19

C Davies BMS secretary.

[With apologies for absence of pictures for some of the material presented]