

**Minutes for BMS meeting 19.30hrs 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2023 at Holiday Inn, Bromsgrove.**

1. **Welcome:** to members and ZOOMers by President Paul Handford.
2. **Present:** 19 members, 7 apologies and 3 ZOOMer's. [**Secretary's note:** I must apologise to the ZOOMers who'd already logged in and those that were unable to log in – we had some ZOOM difficulties which meant the ZOOM ended at 19.45hrs].

Paul briefly reflected personally on the late Norman Gooding and his long service to the OMRS and to the hobby of medal collecting generally.

3. **New members:** No applications received.
4. **Research Question:** Would an old soldier of the Indian Army pre-WWI who been discharged from the service, who'd returned to England and then reapplied and was accepted for service during WWI. He had developed a cardiac condition leading to his death in Britain some twelve months later. It was understood that he would not receive any Great War medals but he had received the Memorial Plaque and Scroll. Would such a recipient be entitled to a Commonwealth War Graves [CWG] headstone? Answer after much discussion – Yes!
5. **Committee points:**

**Update on Members' ZOOM vote:** There were still some votes to be received but initial responses to 'should we continue live ZOOM Yes or No?' were 50:50. The responses to the ZOOM recording question were heavily polarised towards 'No'. There were some excellent comments with your votes. Secretary will attempt to collate these and the results asap and circulate the results before 2.3.2023. Your committee will next meet on the day of the AGM 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 to reflect on 'ZOOM'.

**Miniconvention:** Short talks needed for 4th June, 2023. Please advise Paul Handford, Martin Harrison or Chris Davies if you are able to give a short talk on that day.

**Ukraine Freedom Company:** This appeal is ongoing for equipment, 'comfort items' in a shoebox or donations. For the attention of Dave Seeney – Thank you!

6. **Events:** Next ZOOM social will be on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. Invite to follow.
7. **Tonight's meeting:** The New Zealand Expeditionary Force in the Great War by Ken Weston.
8. **Next meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023. The Drummond Lecture [rescheduled from November, 2022] 'Two Doctors and Four VCs' by Peter Starling.