

## Minutes of BMS meeting 3.11.2022:

1. **Welcome:** to all members, two guests and three ZOOMers by President Paul Handford. Thanks to Steve Mills for sorting tonight's live ZOOM. Members were reminded of the need to register their vehicles at the hotel reception desk. Mr President explained that tonight's Drummond lecture had to be cancelled at short notice because of illness.
2. **Statistics:** Present tonight 21 members, 2 guests, and 3 ZOOMers.
3. **Apologies:** 6 received.
4. **New members:** Enquiry received at the recent Stratford-upon-Avon Medal Fair from the mother of potential new member [see item 6].
5. **Research questions:** A query was raised on the entitlement of Allied Forces to the 'Ushakov' medal [the Russian 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Arctic Convoy medal] – answer - individuals had to apply for this directly to the Russian Government.

6. **Committee points:**

Discussed earlier tonight was a possible new young member [aged 10 years]. Agreed to invite him with his mother/father to our next meeting for them to assess what we do/offer.

**The 'Ukraine Freedom Company'** – Dave Seeney explained this is a new volunteer reserve company in Ukraine which has a severe shortage of equipment. Already requested and received was a van full of kit from ex-servicemen. Their latest appeal is the 'shoebox' appeal for items eg chocolate, soap, Christmas cards and other comforts. There is a detailed PDF list of suitable items already circulated by email. Cash is a welcome alternative should members prefer! ***Further similar monthly deliveries are planned so please bring any boxes or equipment to December's meeting! [for the attention of Dave Seeney]***

Committee vacancy – should any member wish to join the committee, please advise Mr President or the secretary [Secretary's note: a member has volunteered – confirmation of this will be at December's meeting].

7. **Other items:**

Phil McDermott advised that he'd been notified of the death [in late October] of past member Roy Wooley. **Funeral arrangements** are 18.11.2022 at 13.45hrs at Bretby Crematorium DE15 0QE. [Secretary's note: I have sent a condolence card on behalf of the membership].

**Combined BMS/OMRS Cotswold group ZOOM meetings** – These are the planned collaborative ZOOM talks/ meetings to be held on one Sunday per calendar month at

11.00hrs. They have followed on from our BMS 'social' ZOOMs from the lockdown era. The last talk was given by a speaker in Canada. *Further details of the next ZOOM to be distributed by email shortly.*

**Miniconvention 4.6.2023: keep the date!** Members are invited to offer short talks/presentations [*please let Mr President, the secretary or Martin Harrison know*].

8. **Rearrangement of BMS schedule:** Tonight's talk is 'Bablake's last casualty' by Martin Harrison. Rescheduled to 2nd March, 2023 will be the Drummond lecture 'Two Doctors and Four VC's' by Peter Starling and Dave Seeney's talk 'Forty Years in Uniform' is now moved to 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. Thanks to all involved in this matter.
9. **Next meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2022: 'A Rare WWI VAD Group with Foreign Awards' by Paul Handford.

Typed 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

Chris Davies

BMS Secretary.

