



# THE BULLETIN

Newsletter of the British Model Soldier Society

## Extra

**No. 4**

**2016**

## Norfolk and Suffolk are the 2016 Interbranch Champions

The Norfolk and Suffolk Branch received the much-coveted Interbranch Trophy at the 2016 Interbranch Competitions held at its usual venue of the Masonic Centre in Knowle in September. The competitions were well supported and the final points were very close at the end, with the runners-up, Northants Branch, vowing to come back even stronger next year to attempt to wrest the trophy from their East Anglian colleagues.

The organisation of the event was once again in the capable hands of Terry O'Neill, assisted by the Northants branch members. We are very grateful to them for turning up early to get the hall ready for the event and managing the day to efficiently. Stepping into the role of Chief Judge for the Interbranch was Chris Simmons, who did an excellent job of organising the judging of both the Interbranch and individual classes and resolving any queries as they arose. Julie and Paul Newman took care of the administration work of recording the results, calculating the points, and preparation of the trophies for presentation, and the ladies of the Northants Branch provided very welcome refreshments which were much appreciated by all.

What made the day such a great success was the attendance of so many members from across the country. The competition tables were an inspiring sight, full of models as every class was well supported with branches competing for every point



### ***The Bulletin Extra***

Members will notice that this issue of the *Bulletin Extra* is a little shorter than usual and a few days later than the published schedule. This is because our esteemed Editor, John Regan, has unfortunately been unwell and so has not been able to produce the *Extra* as usual. We know that everyone will join with us in sending John our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We are fortunate that Andrew Dunstan has been assisting John for some while, so between us we have been able to issue this *Extra*, and are also working on the next issue of the *Bulletin* while John regains his health and strength after his illness. If anyone has any items for the next *Bulletin*, please e-mail them to Andrew at [croc2259@hotmail.com](mailto:croc2259@hotmail.com). Although just temporary stand-ins, we will endeavour to maintain the high quality and example John has set until he is able to resume the reins once more, and thank the membership for your patience and understanding.

*Paul Vickers*

towards winning the Interbranch silver salver. The competitions were keenly fought but in tremendous spirit, and the abiding impression of the day was the friendly atmosphere throughout and the shared enjoyment of being among fellow model soldier enthusiasts chatting about our fine hobby.

The accompanying photos give some impressions of the event. There will be a more detailed report, full results and many more photos in the next issue of the Bulletin.

*The picture (right) shows part of the Interbranch competition tables with the members attending the event showing keen interest in the many entries.*



## Society Auction

A reminder that this year's BMSS Auction will be held on Friday 21 October at the Church Hall, St Saviour's, St George's Square, Pimlico, London, SW1V 3QW. Viewing begins at 5.00 pm, and the sale starts at 5.30 pm.

Please note that the BMSS auction is open to current BMSS members only. Because we run it by members for the membership, there is no buyers' premium. Also it is a specialist auction - there are no other items apart from Toy and Model soldiers (with perhaps the odd catalogue or related ephemera).

If you are interested in collecting Britains figures, or like converting/repainting them, then this really is the best auction that you could attend.

The auction list of the lots for sale is on the BMSS Online website, at

<http://www.bmssonline.com/auctions.html>.



## BMSS Publicity Officer

The post of Publicity Officer for the BMSS has been vacant for some time and we would very much like to hear from anyone who is willing to volunteer for this very important role. This is a great opportunity for someone to get involved with our Society and really give practical support to the BMSS. The Publicity Officer is at the heart of Society activities, promoting what we do to the wider modelling world. To put it simply, if no-one knows about us and what we are doing, no new members will be coming forward to swell our ranks.

The only qualifications are an enthusiasm for the BMSS and its activities; access to e-mail and Internet (as these days communication is always electronic); and a fairly organised approach, as it is necessary to always be thinking ahead and issue information in good time for the print and electronic media.

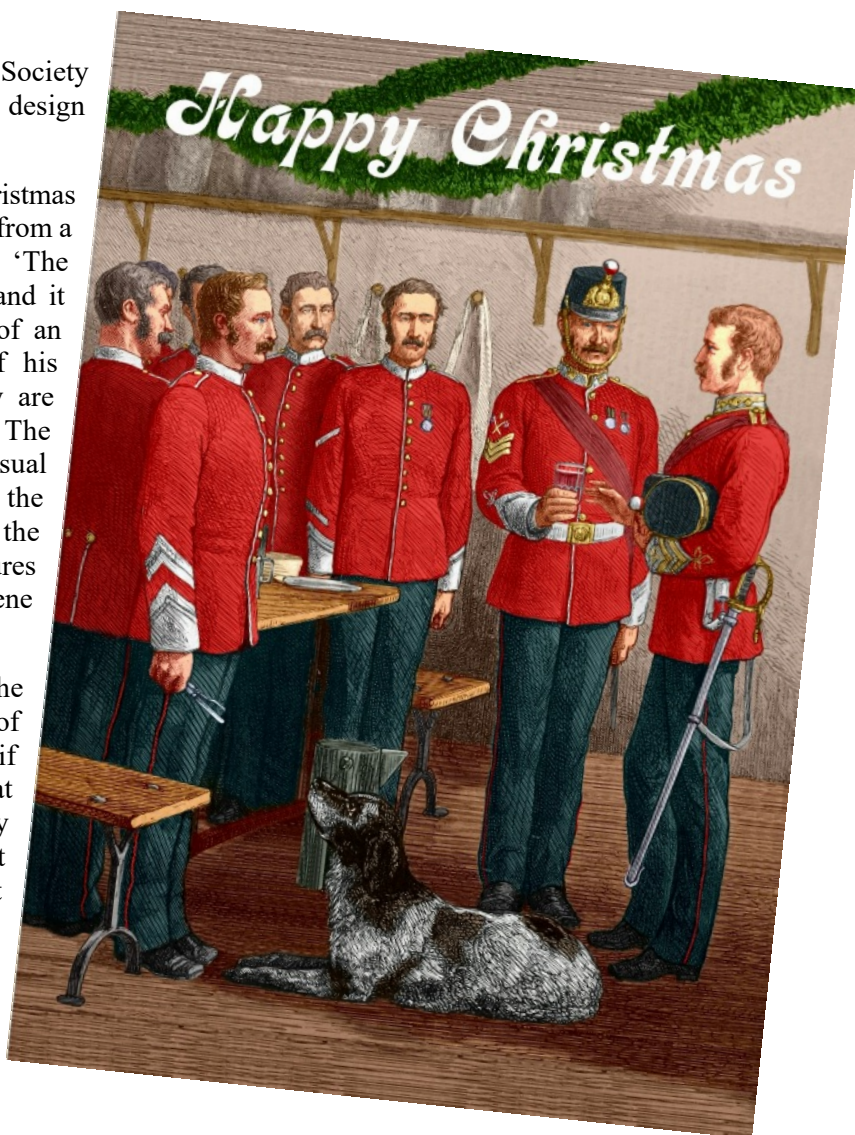
Because we are now all linked by e-mail the Publicity Officer can be based anywhere in the country, so if you think you would like to give it a go, or would just like more information or have any questions, please contact the President, Paul Vickers, e-mail [phvickers@ntlworld.com](mailto:phvickers@ntlworld.com), or contact the Secretary, Julie Newman, e-mail to [bmss.treasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:bmss.treasurer@btinternet.com).

## **BMSS Christmas Card 2016**

The popular British Model Soldier Society Christmas Card is back with a new design for 2016.

The front image, "The Colonel's Christmas Day Visit, 1878", has been adapted from a drawing originally published in 'The Graphic' for 21 December 1878, and it depicts the Commanding Officer of an infantry regiment visiting one of his men's barrack rooms, where they are enjoying their Christmas dinner. The Colour Sergeant follows the usual custom of the time and offers the Colonel a drink for him to toast the season. This colourful picture captures the Christmas spirit in a typical scene from the Victorian Army.

Prices are extremely reasonable, at the same price as for previous cards of only £5 for a pack of 12 cards if bought at the October Auction or at the London meetings. To order by post, one pack of cards will cost £5.50 including postage. If you want to order two or more packs, or order from overseas, please contact BMSS Support Services (either on the address below or phone 0208 868 1081) who will advise on the postage costs.



Cards are available from: BMSS Support Services, 37 Yeading Avenue, Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 9RL.

Please make cheques/POs payable to: The British Model Soldier Society. There are only a limited number of cards available so we would advise members to submit your orders as quickly as possible to avoid disappointment.

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## **Bristol Area Branch Show - Bugle Call 2016**

The ever-popular "Bugle Call" show is back for 2016 in a new venue. Presented jointly by the BMSS Bristol Area Branch and South West Figure Modellers, "Bugle Call 2016 - Reveille" will be held on Sunday 27 November 2016 at Nailsea School, "The Link", Mizzymead Road, Nailsea, North Somerset, BS48 2HN. Admission is £5 for adults, £4 for OAPs, and £2 for

children under 12. A family ticket is £9, and there is free parking.

This is probably the largest exhibition of military models to be seen in the South West, with numerous displays of miniature figures, AFVs, aircraft, ships, cars, and fantasy/garage kits. There will be a large selection of trade stands, plus modelling and painting

demonstrations. Refreshments are available all day.

For more information, exhibitors should contact Kevin Peart at [selnderboy0247@gmail.com](mailto:selnderboy0247@gmail.com), trade contact is Bob Orr at [boborr@taltalk.net](mailto:boborr@taltalk.net), or see the BMSS Bristol website at <http://www.bmssbristol.org.uk>.

## ***Support model soldier shows! Support model soldier traders!***

### **BMSS Diary**

- October 21st** **BMSS Auction**  
St Saviour's, St George's Square, Lupus Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 3QW.  
Viewing from 5.00 pm, sale starts at 5.30 pm.
- November 18th** **Armies of Europe.** (BMSS monthly national meeting)  
Pimlico Room, St Saviour's, St George's Square, Lupus Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 3QW. Winter meeting time: 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm.  
Contact Arthur Smith 020 8856 0064
- 27th** **Bugle Call 2016 Reveille.**  
Presented by the BMSS Bristol Branch and South West Figure Modellers.  
Nailsea School, Mizzymead Road, Nailsea, North Somerset BS48 2HN.  
Admission: Adults £5, Under12s £2, OAPs £4, Family ticket £9. Free parking.  
For latest information visit the website:  
www.bmssbristol.org.uk, or email Bob Orr at boborr@talktalk.net.
- December 16th** **Old Toy Soldier Competition.** (BMSS monthly national meeting)  
Pimlico Room, St Saviour's, St George's Square, Lupus Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 3QW. Winter meeting time: 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm.  
Contact Arthur Smith 020 8856 0064

#### **2017**

- April 29th** **BMSS Annual Show 2017**  
Church Hall, St Saviour's, Lupus Street, Pimlico, London, SW1V 3QW. Doors open at 10.30 am (BMSS members 10.00 am.)  
Competitions, trade stands, paint 'n' take, demonstrations.  
Admission: £3 (BMSS members £2).  
For show information ring 01895 832757.

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#### ***"Bulletin" Schedule 2016***

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Copy Date</b>	<b>Publication</b>
Bulletin no. 4	3rd October	End of November

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#### **Some shows of interest to vintage model soldier collectors**

*Dates and details believed correct at time of printing but unforeseen circumstances can arise. If travelling any distance it is advisable to check with organisers. Admission charges usually apply (higher fee where early entry is available)*

**Sunday 23rd October** Birmingham Central Toy Soldier Fair, Edgbaston Stadium, Edgbaston Cricket Ground, Edgbaston Road, Birmingham B5 7QU. Entry 10.30am. Contact: 07588 224961

**Saturday 3rd December** The London Toy Soldier Show, Islington Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH. Entry 10.30am (early bird 9.30am). Contact: 01908 274433

*As well as vintage pieces, most of these shows also have more modern figures and accessories.*