



KEEPING MEMBERS IN THE PICTURE – WELCOME TO THE FIRST OMRS NEWSLETTER

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Bristol 2020 – OMRS Convention Update



Four-star comfort at the Bristol Marriott Hotel City Centre

Arrangements for the next OMRS Convention at the four star Bristol Marriott Hotel City Centre from 11 to 13 September 2020 are progressing rapidly and advance booking via the OMRS website will be announced shortly. Up to 16 August the weekend rate for the Convention will be £10 for members and £15 for guests. After that the price is £20 for both groups and bookings made by post will attract a further charge of £5 on these prices.

The hotel – where all Convention events will be held – is right in the city centre and is a five minute taxi ride from Bristol Temple Meads railway station and nine miles from the city's airport. Car parking is available next door. A preferential Convention room rate of £120 single and £130 double per night, both including breakfast, has been negotiated and is available on a first come, first served basis until 16 July.

Publications Sub-Committee

The Society is looking for someone to chair the Publications Sub-Committee which is responsible for production of the numerous books published by the Society for many years which, I am sure you will agree, have been very successful and a useful asset to members. The chair will manage the sub-committee in the selection, preparation and production of the Society's publications. Briefly, their duties will include:

In conjunction with the other members of the sub-committee:

- the selection of titles,
- checking the manuscript,
- proofreading

As chair of the sub-committee:

- negotiations with authors and printers,
- obtaining quotes for external works,
- submission of budget applications
- reporting on progress to the Executive Committee,
- preparing advertisements for the Society journal and website and registration of ISBN.

Previous incumbents have also typeset the books. If you are interested in doing this, the Society will provide the software required and pay for any training, but this part of the job is not absolutely necessary.

You should be conversant with computer software, have attention to detail and a broad knowledge of naval and military history.

Anyone interested in taking on this vital role or requiring further information should contact the General Secretary, Graham Grist, at generalsecretary@omrs.org in the first instance.

Storage Sought by the OMRS

The Society is looking for somewhere to store administration documents, old filing records and its archive all of which are contained in five boxes. These require long term storage with little need for access. The other items requiring storage space are stock offered for sale at Convention and consist of binders, books, a few back numbers of the Journal and various small items which are contained in four boxes. There are also three Society advertising banners and some empty plastic boxes.

The sale items will need to be transported to Convention each year for which all reasonable expenses will be reimbursed. The Society also takes a table at the Britannia Medal Fair twice a year and those members manning the table hold a small quantity of stock which will need to be replenished from time to time. If you have suitable dry storage space available and are able to assist the Society please let Graham Grist, the General Secretary, know by email at: generalsecretary@omrs.org

Branch News

Self Help in Ottawa



Ottawa branch members at their recent meeting

The Ottawa Branch in Canada held a sociable and profitable Medals Day at which they recruited a new member and raised \$650 (almost £380) for branch funds from an auction of books, medal rolls and even a few medals. They brought along their own food to the event and a couple of them had checked out the new OMRS social media platforms (see below).

Reaching Out to the Young in Kent

The Kent Branch is inviting the Army cadets who share the building that they use along to a meeting. The idea has been met with great enthusiasm by the cadets' instructors and seems a perfect way to talk to the younger generation about medals. It might even produce some collectors for the future

Social Media

The OMRS is now on Twitter and Instagram to add to its existing Facebook page. The details are:

Twitter: @OMRS17995839

Instagram: medal_research_society

Facebook

OMRS: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/OMRSmedals/>

OMRS Cotswold Branch: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/pg/CotswoldOMRS/posts/>

OMRS Hong Kong Branch: <https://www.facebook.com/OMRShongkong>

Print on Demand for OMRS Book

On Patrol - The Story of the Khedives Sudan Medal 1910-22 and its Recipients by Brian H. Hewitt, the latest OMRS book, has sold out but is available through the print-on-demand service at Lulu.com.

For more information go to: <https://omrs.org/books/patrol-0>

Keeping Us in the Loop

If you have items for the quarterly Newsletter – particularly branch news – then send it to either the General Secretary at generalsecretary@omrs.org or Will Bennett at willbennett1950@gmail.com