



The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962



Brig. Gen. Darrell Dean (Ret'd)
Honorary President

2024 Executive

Andy Traverse
President

Duncan Johnstone
1st Vice-President

David Dorward
2nd Vice-President

Scott Paget
Ottawa Chapter Chair

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Silverthorn
Social Media and
Program Chair

Jim Qualtrough
Annual Show Chair

Tom Wright
Technical Committee Chair

Scott Milburn
Past President

Newsletter for June 2024

"On Parade 2024"

Annual show and competition

Saturday, June 15th, 2024

9 am to 3pm

Franklin Horner Community Centre
432 Horner Avenue, Toronto, M8W 2B2

New Larger venue for 2024

See the next page and attached show flyer for more details



Next Ottawa chapter meeting
Tuesday June 25, 2024 @ 7pm
at The Barley Mow, 1541 Merivale Road.
The Show and Tell topic will be announced later



Next OMSS Virtual meeting
Tuesday July 16, 2024 @ 7pm
(there is no June virtual meeting due to "On Parade")
Virtual meetings are open to all OMSS and BMSS members.

Contact Bob Thompson at Thompson_robert@rogers.com
for an email invitation to the next meeting or more details.



OMSS members are cordially invited to attend

British Model Soldier Society's

Monthly Virtual meeting

Friday June 21, 2024 @ 7pm GMT

(that's 2pm for most of us in Ontario)

for those interested in attending;

Contact James Opie of the BMSS at jamesopie@yahoo.co.uk
for an email invitation to the meeting or more details.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The main event on the OMSS calendar is almost upon us. The new venue itself should attract more than the usual interest as it will be back to the old days of a first-class facility to host On Parade.

An honourable mention this month goes to Jim Qualtrough, an unsung hero working hard to organise the show and make it a great experience for the members and the general public. On the topic of my OMSS colleague, I take this opportunity to thank Jim for hosting the toy soldier painting sessions at the regular monthly meetings. His tips on fine details to enhance the quality of the artistry have been invaluable.

Regarding other news, the Annual General Meeting will now be held in November and will precede the OMSS annual auction. The new constitution and by-laws will be voted on and by that time the Ontario Non-profit Corporations Act compliance and registration will have been completed.

I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at On Parade.

Andy Traverse, OMSS President

2024 On Parade Update

- Jim Qualtrough, On Parade Chair

The big day is fast approaching and we are all excited to see how things take shape at our new show venue. The Franklin Horner Community Centre is at 432 Horner Avenue in Toronto. It is easy access from the southbound 427 onto the Browns line exit. Go straight south to Horner Avenue. Turn left and the Community Centre is a short distance east... If you are staying at the Stay Inn in Etobicoke then it is a short five minute drive to the venue.

We will need volunteer help on both days. Starting with set up on Friday June 14th at 3pm. For the first few minutes we will need to place tables into each of the gymnasium size rooms. I will have diagrams of the floor plan available. Once the tables are set up, we can then start moving in vendors tables with everyone's help we shouldn't get log jammed at the loading dock. The loading doors go directly into our vendor room so it will be quite handy. The parking lot is right at the loading dock so let's work together on a safe and efficient process.

We have these rooms for set up of your vending tables and competition / display items until 6pm Friday. At that time we need to vacate the premises and check into hotels as well as try to find a nice place to gather and eat for some camaraderie.

Saturday morning June 15th, starts early at 7am for set up of any other vendors and anyone bringing displays and competition pieces. Again, an orderly loading from the parking lot doors is expected. The Venue has a cafeteria, and they say they will be ready for us at the 7am start for breakfast. I know my hotel doesn't even start the breakfast serve until after that so it's a good chance to grab something for our long day,

Doors open at 9am and all members of the public will be entering through one door towards our admissions table where they can pay their \$10.00 and hopefully grab a pamphlet regarding membership into our club. Our painting table will be in full operation in the competition / display room as well as a wargaming display.

W. Britains will be setup in the cafeteria side-room and have another dedicated classroom where they will put on a 45-minute workshop in the morning and afternoon (10:30 and again at 1pm)



Judging will be carried out throughout the day and please participate by bringing your finest work. Awards and presentations will begin around 2:30. The show ends at 3pm at which time volunteers are desperately needed to assist vendors break down the Tables and load their cars back up.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone and let's have the best show ever.



What's New in the Hobby – June 2024

By Scott Dummitt

Recently released by William Britain Limited is the “Maid of Orléans” better known as Joan of Arc. Joan led a French army to victory in 1429 against the English during the Hundred Years War at the siege of Orleans. Dressed in armour this 19 year old had no military training but had endeared herself to her fellow countrymen that they were willing to follow her into battle. Joan did not carry a weapon or participate in actual combat but did hold her banner up for her soldiers to rally from. Joan led her soldiers in several battles but in 1430 was captured by the Burgundians, and eventually turned over to the English. Tried as a heretic, she was eventually executed. This exquisite figure sells for approximately \$79.00 Cdn.



Above: W. Britain Ltd's Joan of Arc



Left: Tradition of London's Special Edition: The Royal Company of Archers, created for SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS

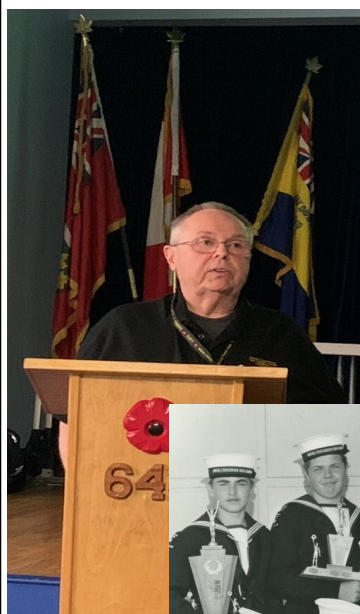
King & Country will be releasing a pair of M4 US Sherman tanks this month. The first represents a tank from 37th Tank Battalion of the 4th Armored Division. The 37th painted cartoon characters on the hulls of their vehicles and in this case the character was “Tonto” the Lone Ranger's side kick. There will only be 300 of these released. The second Sherman is from the U.S. Army's 6th Armored Division which landed on 'Utah Beach' on 18 July, 1944. The 6th Armored Division fought at the Cotentin Peninsula before moving on to liberate Brest and the Brittany Peninsula. This is limited to a production of 200 sets. The price tag for these tanks is \$571.00 Cdn each.



Toronto's May meeting

May's meeting was well attended and busy with a good turnout. A larger than usual number of sales tables were setup by members prior to the meeting which was busy with interested buyers.

Our hosts at the Legion decided to try selling freshly cooked hot dogs with all the trimmings at the meeting. This proved to so popular, we have asked them to continue selling hot dogs when meetings resume in September.



Scott Milburn was the guest speaker who gave an interesting and informative talk and slideshow about the history of cadets in Canada.



For the latest hobby and club news and information;
Follow the "Ontario Model Soldier Society" on Facebook



Connect with others that are interested in model soldier collecting
Go to LinkedIn and type **"Ontario Model Soldiers Society"** in the search bar

OMSS Ottawa Chapter May Report

By Tom Wright

May 21st - OMSS ZOOM Meeting: 16 participants (9 Ottawa, 5 Toronto, 1 Montreal, 1 England)

The presentations included Gene Maynard's system for displaying toy soldiers. It was made up of a base he painted depicting ground and water areas, and backed with a large image of the outdoors that he had custom printed at Staples. Here he could arrange toy soldiers in different configurations for a variety of pictures and displays. For the topic of pageantry Andrew showed a number of photos of the Horse Guard on parade in both 1:1 and 1:32nd scales.

May 28th - OMSS Ottawa In-Person Meeting

This meeting focused on Ottawa peeves, the Military Hobby show, and the show and tell topic of pageantry. The meeting started off with Scott Pagent reporting on the OMSS executive meeting and his concern that the OMSS does not have an 2023 annual financial report for members to see. Also he reported on Ottawa's frustration with the delay of the OMSS 2024 calendar getting to Ottawa members as late as May. I still do not have mine. Scott is now recommending an electronic calendar, on our website and/or as a downloadable to reduce costs and eliminate the wait.

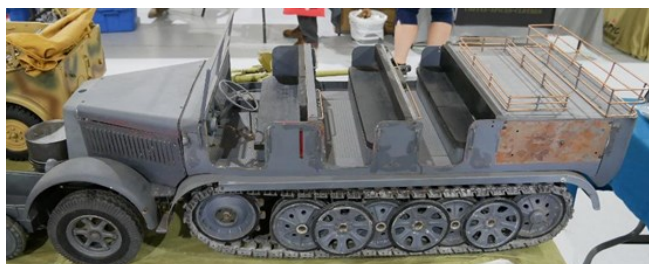
Pageantry and the RCAF was the show and tell topic. For this Kelly H. brought out Britains mediaeval set #1298: 'the Tournament'. Also he displayed a RCAF paper mache figure that was made in Canada. Alan M. displayed four full scale flags: Canada Defence Flag, RCAF 1964, RCAF current, and 424 Helicopter squadron. Terry H. displayed a RCMP colour party. John S. showed Britain Set #40184: Delhi Durbar Collection Maharajah Of Bikaner State Elephant, and Doug C displayed Britain Set #40187: Delhi Durbar Collection Huntington Cheetahs Of The Nizam of Hyderabad. For more on this show-and-tell see Doug's May 2024 minutes.

June 2nd - 2024 Ottawa Military Hobby Show Mini Report

On the day of the show the OMSS Ottawa vendors were: Micheal C., Doug C., Morley V., Rob T. and Michel C. For displays Steve H. had two 1/6th scale all metal half-tracks. One came as a flat-pack kit of 1/16th sheet steel, which Steve had to bend himself. Juan L. had a new 1/6th display that people will be able to see at On Parade 2024. Mark H. and Tom W. manned the OMSS Ottawa display and information table. Mark also helped the Armoury Museum with uniforms, and Tom did a painting demo.



Left Photo: Bob Thompson and Mark Hilash volunteering at the OMSS information booth



More new OMSS videos are available on YouTube!



Mark Silverthorn continues producing more great YouTube videos for members to enjoy.

New videos include several chapters of Stuart Hessney's visit to Toronto's April meeting and his presentation regarding the mythical land of "Bermudina" and his related toy soldier collection. Also be sure to check out several short videos Mark has produced on a variety of interesting hobby related topics. Simply go to YouTube and type in "**Ontario Model Soldiers Society**" or "**Scott's Soldiers**" (of OMSS Ottawa chapter) in the search bar to find the channel you are interested in.

Remember to click on **LIKE** and **SUBSCRIBE**; there is no cost to do so and it shows your support and encourages the making of more videos for your enjoyment.



The Quartermaster's Store



If you are not a vendor and have something hobby related you are looking to sell or if you are hunting for the hard to find piece for your collection, OMSS members can list it here at no cost and space permitting.

Simply send your request to the newsletter editor at scottm33@live.ca

June 16 Open House – Scott Dummitt Presents

Over the years, many members who travel from the east for 'On Parade' have commented that they would like the opportunity to drop by Scott's to see his collection and peruse his store on their way home.

So for those that wish to take a break from their journey, Scott is hosting an open house from noon until 5pm on Sunday June 16. Scott is a short 15 minute drive north of the 401.

Take exit 464 off the 401 and head north on County Road 28 to **1754 Carmel Line** in the small hamlet of Bal-lieboro. We hope many members take the opportunity to drop by for a chat, a cold drink and a sandwich.



"Complaining about a problem without proposing a solution is called whining"

Teddy Roosevelt

The newsletter is edited by Scott Milburn.

News items, notices and upcoming events can be submitted to scottm33@live.ca.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings.
Articles that cannot be accommodated will be forwarded to the Journal Editor.

Becoming an OMSS **ZOOM** Host

By Tom Wright, person for some of the OMSS technical matters



Introduction

This article is being put out to the OMSS membership to give you an idea what it may be like for you to be an OMSS Zoom host. I will cover the 'lay of the land' and the OMSS Zoom team, what may be expected of you, training, and what kind of benefits you will get in learning more about Zoom.

What does a 'Zoom host' do? In short the 'Zoom host' runs the Zoom software and oversees the technical operation of a Zoom meeting. A 'Zoom host' enters the date and time for a new meeting. This could be done from your own Zoom account if you have already created it, or from an existing account such as the OMSS Zoom account.

When the Zoom meeting starts the host would attend using the 'Zoom host' account, and from there he would let people into the meeting. Once everyone is in, the 'Zoom host' would let the chair/moderator/host conduct the meeting. At the end of the meeting the 'Zoom host' would be the last to leave and would close the meeting down.

Benefits

There are a number of benefits in knowing how to use the Zoom program.

It is a great way to get people together who live in different places. A friend of my brother's has his friends meet every year via Zoom for his birthday. For another example, I met a chap just the other day who gets together with his sons every so often via Zoom, so Zoom can be a great way to bring people together.

Another benefit of Zoom is that it can replace long distance calls. If you were to phone England without a long distance plan you could be looking at over \$1 per minute. For 20 min you would be looking at \$20 for just that call, but with Zoom it would be free, and you get to see them too.

In conclusion, Zoom can be very useful to know.

'Lay of the Land'

For the 'lay of the land' the OMSS has two Zoom meetings per month (Sept to June). The first one is the OMSS executive meeting, usually held the first or second Wednesday evening of the month starting at 7pm and running for an hour. The second Zoom meeting is a general OMSS members meeting and it is held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting at 7pm, and running about 2 hrs. At the present time Gary Lenius is the primary Zoom Host for the Executive meeting and Rob Thompson is the primary Zoom Host for the OMSS General Zoom meeting. Currently I am the backup Zoom Host, and I would fill in if Gary or Rob become unavailable for a given evening. Right now we are looking for at least one more OMSS member to become the second backup Zoom Host

Becoming a ZOOM host, conclusion



Expectations

What I will be asking of a second backup Zoom host is that they host two planned Zoom meetings over the entire fall & winter session (Fall 2024/Winter 2025). Also I may ask you if you could possibly do one unscheduled fill in over the 2024/25 session. Note that we would certainly aim to accommodate your schedule for any of these 3 instances. In any regard, going into this you should generally have Tues or Wed evenings available. For the length of commitment I would like if you could do one complete fall/winter session or 2 instances, if possible. That all said, if something critical comes up in your life that takes you away from this, I will understand. It has happened to me.

Training

There will be 3 basic training sessions. Each running from 30 min to 1.5 hr. These would be held at a time mutually conducive to our schedules. Note that you may be able to skip the first training session if you have already participated in a zoom meeting before.

Training Sessions

- 1) Learn how to join a Zoom meeting and how to participate using basic features.
- 2) Learn how to create a zoom account and to host from that account, and learn some more features.
- 3) Learn how to use the OMSS Zoom account to host a meeting, and learn of the more advanced features.

Conclusions

If you would like to help the OMSS in some way and learn how to use Zoom you may want to consider becoming an OMSS Zoom host. If you would like to look into this further I would certainly be pleased to discuss this with you.

Thomas Wright, twright240@gmail.com

Did you know?

British Model Soldier Society members regularly attend OMSS virtual meetings and fifty percent of the attendees at the May BMSS virtual meeting were members from the OMSS!



Come and check out an OMSS virtual meeting for yourself. You will find it informative while enjoying the comradery and share a few laughs with of fellow club members. *Contact Bob Thompson for an invite to the next meeting.*

A] W. Britain Limited



<https://www.wbritain.com/company-history>

It all began in 1893, prior to this W. Britain had produced a number of mechanical toys with varied success, but in 1893 William Britain Senior cracked the hollowcast toy soldier process and the rest, as they say, is history. Until 1893 the German toy makers had dominated the toy soldier world and then as if from nowhere W. Britain launched its first few hollowcast figures. Hollowcasting was the process where molten lead was poured into a figure mould and before the entire figure could set some of the molten metal was poured back out again.

From 1893 onwards, W. Britain continued to grow and evolve as the hollowcast toy soldier gained in popularity with production only slowing/stopping during the First and Second World Wars. Little changed with the style of the figures (apart from the introduction of the farm series in 1921) until the late 1950s when the introduction of plastic figures from companies such as Herald made Britains sit up and take notice (Britains eventually bought out Herald in 1959). Plastic figures now became the mainstay of Britains business with the metal hollowcast figures finally ceasing production in 1966.

From 1966 until the early 1980s, Britains continued to be a toy company focusing on space and agricultural toys as well as plastic military figures. In 1983, Britains launched its first all metal figure in nearly 20 years, and although in 1973 it had introduced a diecast metal Scots Guard figure set, these still featured plastic weapons so couldn't be called true metal models.

The next big change to take place was also during 1984 when **the first sale of the Britains** company took place. As Dennis Britain wished to retire, and no other family shareholder wished to take over the company, it was sold to a small Midlands-based conglomerate, **The Dobson Park Group**, who in 1986 changed the company name to **Britain Petite Ltd.**

Metal models continued to appear in the main Britains catalogue during the 1980s until 1987 when it was finally decided that these lines were collectibles rather than toys and as such were given their own special four page catalogue. During the late 80s the popularity of these new metal toy soldiers continued to grow with collectors the world over, until finally in 1993, the W. Britain Centenary, **the W. Britain Collectors Club** was launched.

The Dobson Park Group remained in control of W. Britain until its acquisition by US toy company **Ertl** in **1997**. Ertl bought W. Britain primarily for the farm series, not the toy soldier business, as Ertl was already an established manufacturer of farm toys in the USA and thought the Britains farm lines would be a good addition to its company. Ertl however did not hold on to W. Britain for very long as in **1999 the entire Ertl company, including W. Britain**, was bought out by an even larger US toy company **Racing Champions**. During Ertl's ownership it had moved most of the W. Britain production to the Far East, not to reduce costs but simply to improve quality (something Britains had already done years before with the Deetail range of figures), Racing Champions continued with this plan and finally in **2001 moved** all remaining toy soldier production **from the UK to the Far East**.

As Racing Champions continued to grow as a toy company it wasn't long before the decision makers realised that the W. Britain toy soldiers were a very small part of their overall business especially considering it required an inordinate amount of time and effort. So in mid-2005, when a small US collectible diecast vehicle manufacturer **First Gear** approached Racing Champions about acquiring the W. Britain name and toy soldier ranges, they accepted.

In early September 2005 **First Gear** acquired W. Britain toy soldiers. The brand now seems to have gone full circle, as what was once started as a small family business is now once again owned by a small family business, the only difference being now the family is American not English.

Additional Notes: continued

First Gear has a reputation for making some of the most detailed die cast replicas vehicles in the market today. This same attention to detail, quality and authenticity has been applied vigorously to the W.Britain range. In 2006, W.Britain under First Gear, launched half a dozen new ranges with greatly improved sculpting and painting detail, a renewed commitment to the finest quality — from the figures to the packaging and customer service, and authentic, historically accurate figures researched in partnership with world renowned military museums and sculpted by military historians.

B] The Frank & Son Collectible Show

<https://www.frankandsonshow.net/>

17835 Gale Ave. City of Industry, CA. 91748

With over 200 individual Vendors... We are your one stop shop for all your collectible needs. For that one special piece to start or finish your collection.... We have the finest vendors with the hottest and most unique collectibles under one roof.... What will you find here, you ask? Comic Books new and old from Marvel to DC... The hottest Hand-Painted Statues from Sideshow to Gentle Giant... Sports and Movie Memorabilia... Baseball Trading Cards and Gaming Cards.... New Age and Retro Video Games to Board Games.... Disney Trading Pins to Action Figures.... Hot Wheels to Barbie Dolls... G.I. Joe's to Hot Toys... Anime to Funko Pops...and much much more.... so come on down and bring the family! Free admission and parking every Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday!

C] Gettysburg Miniature Soldiers <https://www.gettysburgminiaturesoldiers.com/>

Gettysburg Miniature Soldiers is located at 200 Steinwehr avenue in historic downtown Gettysburg. Open 7 days a week, year round 10AM to 4PM Monday-Saturday 10AM to 3PM Sunday

Gettysburg Miniature Soldiers is a family owned business founded in 1998. We are a factory authorized dealer for W. Britains, King and Country, Conte Collectibles, Collectors Showcase, John Jenkins designs, First Legion, Armies in Plastic, BMC, Warlord games, Perry Miniatures, Games Workshop, Old Glory Miniatures, Imex, Italeri, Revell, Armour fast, L.O.D, TSSD, Paragon, Americana, Caesar Miniatures, and many more. We stock both new and retired items as well as vintage figures and board games from manufacturers like Marx, SPI, and Avalon Hill. We carry battlefield accessories from Woodland Scenics, Paints from Valejo, Citadel, and Army Painter, as well as brushes and spray cans designed for modeling.

D] Virginia Museum of the Civil War

<https://www.vmi.edu/museums-and-archives/virginia-museum-of-the-civil-war/>

Virginia Museum of the Civil War - New Market Battlefield State Historical Park
8895 George Collins Parkway P. O. Box 1864 New Market, VA 22844

Located in New Market, Virginia, our museum provides opportunities to reflect upon the Battle of New Market which raged just outside on May 15, 1864. Students from the Virginia Military Institute as young as 15 years old fought in the battle. In addition to museum exhibit galleries, the site features the state-certified Shenandoah Valley Tourist Information Center, an Emmy-winning film, Field of Lost Shoes shown every hour, and a 300-acre battlefield park preserving the core areas of the battlefield and historic Bushong Farm.

E] REPLICA METAL SOLDIERS & MODELS <https://www.replicametalsoldiers.co.uk/>

"NEW CONTACT NUMBER FOR RMSM - After about a year of being plagued by poor telephone reception, and call failure I have changed providers and have a new contact number for Replica :

(+44) 07405 099200 - I can only apologise for the communication difficulties experienced and hope that these issues are now resolved. Thank you for your understanding."

Additional Notes: continued

F] Monogram Models [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monogram_\(company\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monogram_(company))



Monogram is an American brand and former manufacturing company of scale plastic models of cars, aircraft, spacecraft, ships, and military vehicles since the early 1950s. The company was formed by two former employees of Comet Kits, Jack Besser and Bob Reder.

Mattel acquired Monogram in 1968, and the firm passed through various owners and was merged with Revell, the combined company being bought by Hobbico in 2007.[1] Along with Revell, AMT, and MPC, Monogram is sometimes called one of the traditional "Big 4" in plastic modeling.[2]

History[edit] - Auto kit makers AMT and Jo-Han started early but focused on manufacturers' promotional models and did not enter the kit fray until the late 1950s. As the 1950s progressed, Monogram increasingly included more automobile models and custom wheeled creations in competition with the other makers. Through the 1970s, competition required increased production of a variety of fantastical vehicles. **Company defunct**, "Monogram" brand logo disappeared from products since Hobbico acquired it.

G] Reginald Charles Frederick 'Richard' Courtenay Figures

https://www.planetdiecast.com/index2.php?option=com_content&id=107&page=0

Reginald Charles Frederick Courtenay was born in Paddington, London on 16th October 1892. In the last year of his education at the Slade School of Fine Art he was discovered to have an ability in miniature painting which set him on a path that he was to follow for the rest of his life. At the end of the 1914-18 War, aged 26, he set up in business with Ernest Doran producing boxed sets of 45 mm lead mediaeval toy soldiers, marketed as 'Courtenay & Doran'.

In the February of 1928 Courtenay signed a quitclaim to the business, which Ernest Doran continued until 1932. Courtenay had decided that what he wanted to produce was something a little more ambitious; a more anatomically accurate series of figures of the middle ages which would act as a canvas for his painting abilities.

These were to be standardised at a 50 mm figure size for a foot knight and slightly larger for foot soldiers and others. By 1936 Courtenay had a whole range of knights selling at Charles Morrell at Burlington Arcade, Piccadilly with a selection of over 20 historical figures. For the time these figures were expensive items, ranging from one shilling & nine pence to twenty one shillings for each figure. I note in my book 'Heraldic Miniature Knights' that in 1936 the higher price could buy a Britain's guards Company complete with officers, band, colours and pioneers with a squadron of the Royal Horse Guards thrown in!

Clearly Courtenay did not intend these figures for children, but for parents, and wealthy parents at that! By the end of his life in 1963 Courtenay had produced a range of over 140 designs, making some 300 figures a year. Of these original productions eight were designed by Roy Selwyn Smith to Courtenay's brief. In the year of his death Courtenay's son Reginald **sold the moulds to Hummels House of Miniatures of Burlington Arcade**, Morrell's successor, and **these were franchised out to Frederick Ping**, a well-established figure maker working out of Salisbury, Wiltshire. Freddy was a retired Naval Commander with a high reputation for his scratch-built models in the continental style. p(focuson). What Freddy lacked in finish he made up for in variety and, though his Courtenay-Ping figures were not of outstanding interest to dedicated Courtenay collectors, his boundless imagination found a new and committed clientele for his productions. Unfortunately Ping's preference for sheet lead and matt colours has left a legacy of unstable items prone to lead disease and decay. Those figures not affected are much prized today and high on the list must be his animated Courtenay-Ping Samurai, demonstrating great imagination.

Freddy died in July of 1977 and in '78 (acting on Ping's recommendation) **Hummels sold the Courtenay moulds to Gilly & I. In 1977** we had already been producing our own range of half a dozen mediaeval knight figures intended to compliment Courtenay's style, so the adoption of Courtenay's business was a welcome expansion. These have been marketed as 'Courtenay-Greenhill' figures for the past 30 years.

Additional Notes: continued

There are 182 Courtenay moulds into which we cast a high quality tin rich pewter. The resulting figure is bright, hard and light and very receptive to gloss enamels, which are our preferred choice. From the outset in 1928 the business was designed for the American market, aimed at outlets like **Polks Hobbies in Fifth Avenue and The Soldier Shop on Madison Avenue**. When in the late 60's auction houses showed an interest in soldiers as collectables Courtenay's work fetched high prices at Christie's, Phillips & Sotheby's on both sides of the Atlantic.

Gilly & I continue the business today in exactly the same fashion, drop-casting hot metal from a long-handled ladle into iron handled moulds. The resultant castings are cut, filed, drilled, polished, assembled & painted, a time-consuming business. On average we produce around 100 figures a year, a third of Courtenay's output and about a fifth of Ping's.

H] DML – Dragon <http://www.dragon-models.com/>



DML was established in 1987 to manufacture plastic Model Kits according to its own designs, and then export them to all parts of the globe via agents in different countries. Recent years have seen DML's products marketed under the label "**Revell/Monogram**" in the USA, "**Revell**" and "**Italeri**" in Europe, and "**Hasegawa**" and "**GSI**" in Japan, all ODM products.

In 1999, DML brought its modelling background and expertise to 1/6 scale with the introduction of its New Generation Life Action Figure series. By January of the following year, this series - which features fully posable military and licensed 12-inch figures with meticulously researched cloth. Currently, DML's business scope includes plastic models, action figures, die-cast collectables, resin, PVC and vinyl, and R/C products. Dragon sets the industry standard in many areas, and is a market leader in many of its lines.

I] Lesney Products & Co. Ltd. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lesney_Products

Lesney Products & Co. Ltd. was a British manufacturing company responsible for the conception, manufacture, and distribution of die-cast toys under the "**Matchbox**" name. The company existed from 1947 until 1982.

Lesney was founded on 19 January 1947 as an industrial die-casting company by Leslie Smith (6 March 1918 - 26 May 2005) and Rodney Smith (26 August 1917 - 20 July 2013). The name "Lesney" was an acronym from both partners' (who were not related by blood) names. Rodney Smith introduced to his partner a man named John "Jack" Odell, an engineer.

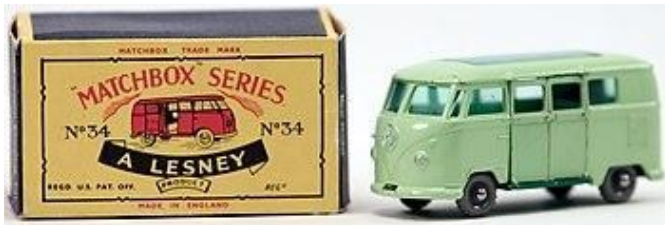
In late 1947 they received a request for parts for a toy gun. As that proved to be a viable alternative to reducing their factory's output during periods in which they received fewer or smaller industrial orders, they started making die cast model toys the following year. Seeing no future for the company, Rodney Smith left in 1951.

The first model toy they produced in 1948; a die-cast road roller based clearly on a Dinky model (the industry leader in die-cast toy cars at that time). The next crucial milestone was the production of a replica of the Royal State Coach in 1953, the year of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Two versions were created, the first in a larger scale, followed by a smaller-scale model. It was this second model that sold over a million units, a massive success at the time. The profits from the sales provided valuable capital for further investments.

Additional Notes: continued

The final and decisive stepping stone in the pre-Matchbox era was a toy which Mr. Odell designed for his daughter Annie: a scaled-down version of the Lesney green and red road roller. The toy's origin is debatable; it's been said that the daughter's school only allowed children to bring toys that could fit inside a matchbox, but Nick Jones debunks this story in his book, Matchbox Toys.

According to the book, Annie "kept bringing home spiders and creepy-crawlies inside a matchbox", so Odell promised to make her a toy that fit in the matchbox if she didn't bring any more spiders home. Odell then made her a scaled-down Road Roller, which became popular at her school. The idea was then born to sell the model in a replica matchbox – thus also yielding the name of the series which would propel Lesney to worldwide, mass-market success. The road roller ultimately became the first of the Matchbox 1-75 miniature range; a dump truck, a cement mixer, and a Massey Harris Tractor (labelled 1a, 2a, 3a, and 4a respectively) completed the original four-model release.[1]



A Matchbox Volkswagen Camper Van

In the early years of the series, Lesney used a partner company, "**Moko**" (itself also named after its founder, Moses Kohnstam), to market/distribute its toys. This distribution was documented on the boxes themselves, on which the text "**A Moko Lesney product**" appeared. By the end of the decade, Lesney was able to buy Moko, marketing its products under its own name from that point on. A period of great expansion, tremendous profit, and recognition followed: In 1966, Lesney received their first (of several) Queen's Awards for Industry. By the mid-'60s, Matchbox was the largest brand of die-cast model vehicles in the world, and had diversified the line into multiple series.

On 11 July 1982, after years of difficulties due to the economic climate in Britain at the time, Lesney went bankrupt and into receivership. Competing companies Mettoy (Corgi) and Meccano (Dinky) also suffered the same fate. The Matchbox brand as well as Lesney's tooling were bought by and **became a division of Universal Holdings/Universal Toys**, where the company re-formed as "Matchbox International Ltd." **Tooling and production were moved to Macau.** Jack Odell went on to form, Lledo, where he produced models similar to early Matchbox Models of Yesteryear. Since **1996 the Matchbox brand has been owned by Mattel**, creators of Hot Wheels. Some of the tools and dies created in the Lesney era were still used in the Matchbox line of 2007.

JJ Tradition of London Ltd

Toy Soldiers and Model (U.K., 54mm painted metal figures)

<https://www.facebook.com/TraditionofLondonLTD/>

<https://www.toysoldierco.com/Metal-Toy-Soldiers/Brands/Tradition/Brand.aspx?BrandID=38&AssocDeptID=12>

Toy soldiers & model soldiers of highest quality. Handmade in England and Sweden, Delivered painted or unpainted all over the world. All scales and time periods!, Items listed as not in stock will have a delivery time of 8-12 weeks.

Please send an email to order@traditionoflondon.com in order to confirm exact timings!

Tradition was one of the first of the "New Toy Soldier" makers to emerge after the demise of Britains and other lead soldier manufacturers in the late 1960s. Their limited edition sets were initially produced in the same scale and "look" as Britains. But as the years passed, they introduced a more detailed series of castings that look more like real people. Ground-breaking and traditional, with figures in both the old-fashioned 'Britains' style and the 'New Toy Soldier' style so popular in America, Tradition has been a leader in the field for 40 years!



Additional Notes: conclusion

K] TAKOM <http://www.takom-world.com/index/home/index.html>

Takom is a progressive manufacturer of injection molded polystyrene miniature model kits located in Dongguan, China. The primary focus of our products has been historical military vehicles in 1/72, 1/35, and 1/16 scales. We work with a global network of research consultants, who provide us with photos & measurements taken in the field, as well as rare documentation which allows us to ensure the most accurate representations of our subjects. Our products are manufactured to exacting standards using the latest technologies available in the industry, and each item is carefully tested to ensure our customers the highest quality. Our e-mail business@takom-world.com

L] ATI Outdoors <https://www.atioutdoors.com/product-category/ati-minis/>

ATI Outdoors is the premier manufacturer of leading-edge rifle stocks, shotgun stocks, and accessories for a wide variety of firearms. Our products are manufactured in the USA.

Well-known to both collectors, hunting enthusiasts and members of the Military and Law Enforcement communities; ATI Outdoors has a long and proud tradition of total commitment to top quality, excellent customer-care and affordable prices. All of us at ATI Outdoors are dedicated to being the leader in high-quality, easily-installation, affordable rifle and shotgun stocks.

OMSS Member in the Spotlight



Garry (Rusty) Robson, is a long time OMSS member and reenactor. Here he is as a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force during World War 1

CARRIED BY EACH SOLIDER

RIFLE BAYONET CATRIDGES 303 200 rounds
FIRST AID PACKETS CANTEEN 1 pt. (water)
UNIFORM: COAT BREECHES PUTTEES
UNDERWARE SOCKS GLOVES
GREAT COAT BALACLAVA
SOFT CAP (TIN HAT after summer 1915)
GAS BAG MASK GLASSES
LEATHER BOOTS RUBBER BOOTS
WOOL BLANKET RUBBER GROUND SHEET
HAVER SACK CUP PLATE KNIFE FORK SPOON
WEB: AMMO POUCHES SHOULDER STRAPS
LARGE PACK SHOVEL&HOLDER
DUFFEL BAG HOUSE WIFE
LARGE SHOVEL SAND BAGS WIRE CUTTERS
POCKET KNIFE BANDOLIERS of ammo(200 rds.)
Total weight 100 pounds (50kg)

Food rations:

FOR ONE MAN EVERY OTHER DAY (SOMETIMES A WEEK)
1 lb. BREAD (hard as a rock) .5kg
10 oz. RICE (full of wevels) .5L
2oz BUTTER .2kg
3oz APRICOTE JAM (made from turnips& brown sugar) .4kg
1oz TEA\COFFEE .1kg 4YEARS OF TOBACCO
2oz. CHEESE .2kg 75 DECKS FAGS
2oz. OATMEAL .2kg 15 PACKS of TOBACCO
1oz. SUGAR .1kg 9 PLUGS CHEW
1oz, CONDENSED MILK .1kg ¼ PLUG PIPE
1oz. PICKLES .1kg 1 PIPE

ON PARADE 2024

Presented by the
Ontario Model Soldier Society

**Saturday June 15
2024**

9 am to 3 pm

**Admission \$10
(children under 12 free)**

Free Parking

**Franklin Horner
Community Centre**

**432 Horner Avenue Toronto (Etobicoke)
M8W 2B2**

New Larger Location for 2024!

See massed displays of
Model Soldiers in
Military Parades,
Bands
and Dioramas.

Highly detailed
connoisseur figures.

1/6 scale action figures.

Military vehicles,
artillery and more.

The show includes our
annual modelling
competition,
which is open to all.

Shop our extensive flea market
for hobby merchandise.

The latest figure releases
as well as vintage toy soldiers,
books, prints, hobby tools and
supplies and much more.



Show details at www.omss.ca
Show Contact: Jim Qualtrough 416-543-0873
email omss@bell.net

Canada's Largest Model Soldier Show