



Airborne Engineers Association Aldershot Branch



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at
Potters International Hotel
Sunday 16th November 2008

President
Colonel D.M.R.Eagan

Meeting Opened at 11.30hrs

Chairman: Fred Gray.	E-mail F.gray3@ntlworld.com	Tele: 01252 668339
Secretary: Betty Gray.	E-mail b.gee33@ntlworld.com	Tele: 01252 668339
Treasurer: Dave Rutter.	E-mail d_rutter@sky.com	Tele: 01252 326140
Entertainments: John Smith BEM	E-mail thesmith@sky.com	Tele 01252 326100

Members Present

John Barrie, Bob Chatterton, Harold Covington, Colonel Denis Eagan, Tony Gilbert, Fred Gray, Tommy Handley, Gerry Hicks, Roy King, Tony Manley, John Mason, Roger Mockford, Billy Morris, Peter Myatt AFC, Ralph Pedder BEM, John Pfiffner, Dave Rutter, Roy Sands, John Smith BEM, Steve Stephenson, Joe Stoddart MBE, Bob Sullivam MBE, John Thompson, Bob Wardle

Apologies

Colin Bond, Jack Braithwaite, Syd Dane, Ron Day, Don Doherty, Ted Ellis, Bert Flatters, Bob Ferguson, Brian Hubbard, Mick Humphries, Barry Ladlow, Mick Leather, John Lee, Derek Leggett, Bill McPherson, Rick Mogg, John Murphy, Jim O'Hagan, Harold Padfield, Norman Penny, John Shave MC, Sir Donald Spiers CB, Phil Taverner, Derek Taylor, Denis Thomas, Tom Tuddenham, Peter Wade.

Meeting Opened.

The meeting was opened by the Branch President Col Denis Eagan at 1135hrs.

A one minutes silence was held in memory of Douglas Phillips, formally of 131 Para Engr Regt (TA). Doug died shortly after the reunion at Coventry this year. The branch was represented at his funeral, by Dave Rutter.

Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman informed branch members of the very good attendance at the three garrison churches in Aldershot and other services in our catchments area for the Remembrance Day Service. Problems that had been forecast in regards to parking and seating did not materialise and even the weather was reasonable.

It had been brought to our attention that the wife of one of our members had suffered an injury that had left her unable to walk for some considerable time. It was stressed that the branch must have a system where any member, including wives and partners, should first inform any other member of the branch who in turn would inform the Chairman who could then activate some kind of response.

A complaint has been notified of inappropriate emails to family members that have not been well received. Branch members are asked to be very careful about forwarding emails to other people that might offend.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Proposed by: Joe Stoddart

Seconded by: Roy King

That the minutes of the previous meeting were correct.

Matters Arising

A number of charity runs and swims by either members of the branch or wives and family had taken place since the last meeting. These had been made known in the minutes of the September meeting and all have now been completed. Billy Morris ran a total of 64 Miles and raised £1378, Maggie Stephenson and friends swam a mile each in less than one hour and raised slightly under £6000, Jo, the daughter of Steve and Maggie, raised £600. A magnificent effort by Maggie, Billy and Jo. Congratulations to them all. The money has been donated to "Help our Heroes fund".

Treasures Report

Proposed by: John Smith

Seconded by: John Thompson

That the treasurer's report be accepted subject to audit

Correspondence

The minutes of the Birmingham Branch and the Yorkshire Branch were made available to members. One point from those minutes informed members that the "Shoe Box" parcel scheme was no longer required as a large backlog was clogging the system and MOD were having difficulty in moving those already donated. Only parcels addressed to a specific individual should be sent

Branch Representative

Joe Stoddart gave a very comprehensive report on the AGM and OGM held on Saturday 21 October in Coventry. Because the report was very long only the Chairman's report is reproduced with these minutes plus the statement of accounts.

Our congratulations to Dave Rutter on being made a Life Vice President of the AEA in recognition of his considerable contribution to the Association during the last fifteen years. The proposal for his nomination is enclosed with these minutes.

Entertainments

John Smith pointed out that tickets for the Windsor Castle Tattoo for 2009 are now on sale. Although they are expensive a whole day of entertainment is available. For further information telephone or email: 0175 3 847 900 or info@windsortattoo.com.

John is making enquiries about an alternative venue for our Spring Dinner. Details later.

The trip to Arnhem in September 2009 is still on course and there are still a number of seats available. Contact John on 10252 326100

AOB

The Chairman suggested that a Christmas card designed by Betty Gray be sent to our overseas members and those living out of area. This was agreed unanimously and Dave Rutter proposed a £20 grant from branch funds to cover the cost. It was also suggested that the card might be a design suitable for a branch Christmas card for 2009.

The proposal that the branch have a membership card was rejected as un-necessary

Billy Morris and Bob Chatterton made known that next year they are planning to run from ALDERSHOT to WOODBRIDGE (a distance of over 140 miles) to raise money for the "Help our Heroes" fund. They both have a certificate to prove they are sane and of sound mind.

The branch nominal role is now correct and all members should now have a copy. The secretary will only send additions and amendment with the bi-monthly minutes. A new copy is to be sent on an annual basis with the next one due in September 2009

Meeting Closed

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 1245Hrs

Next Meeting

**The next meeting will be on
Sunday January 18th 2009,
1100hrs for 1130hrs**

As the branch meeting is to be preceded by the AEA committee meeting, starting at 1000hrs, members are asked to wait in the hotel foyer until this meeting is over.

Booking for lunch is as normal. Would those requiring lunch please telephone John Smith (01252 326100) at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Merry Christmas To Every
And
Very Best Wishes
For
For 2009

