



THE BIRMINGHAM BRANCH AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

President: Mr. Tom Carpenter 0121 779 3488
Chairman: Mr. Bunny Brown 0121 770 1880
Secretary: Mr. Steve Brown 0121 251 6881
Mobile 07882843958
e-mail: stevebrown4@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Mrs Elsie Barrett 0121 628 7578
Membership Secretary: Mr. George Barrett 0121 628 7578



MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING

Held at Chelmsley Wood British Legion

6th August 08

- 1. Meeting opened** at 20:15 hrs.
- 2. Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Pete Clarke, Kevin Lambeth, Eddie Fenwick, Tony Higgins, Rip Kirby, John Browning, George Barrett, Jim Hurley, Brian Care, George Hopkins, Mike Holdsworth, Barrie Aitken, Alan Parks, Mike Cole, Roy Hicks, Larry Perry, Ray Sands and of course the Ladies. A warm welcome also went to Reg Foxall and wife who attended the meeting while in the area.
- 3. Apologies from:** Bob Jones, Dave Clarke, Alan Oakley, Gordon Page, Alf Manders, Harry Potter and Bob Potter.
- 4.** The Chair thanked all for Attending.
- 5. Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were read and voted as correct and true. Proposed by, Kevin Lambeth. Seconded, Larry Perry. **Carried.**
- 6. Welfare:** The Branch received a "just wanted to say card " from Fred Boyles partner Phyl. In the card She thanked all who went to Fred's funeral and also for the donations which were sent. A total of £256 was donated and this was divided between the Army Benevolent Fund and a local Children's Hospice. Rip Kirby attended after his recent knee replacement and said he was recovering well.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present. Thank you Elsie
- 8. Ramblers Club:** Next meeting 10th August at the Tame Otter pub Hopwas, 1030.
- 9. Golden Brick Charity BBQ:** Held on the 5th July at Mike and Sue Holdsworths house. A good turnout of members attended but unfortunately the weather deteriorated in the evening and guests had to seek shelter. The food and company were, once again, excellent and the pig roast enjoyed by all. A big thank you from the branch to Sue and Mike Holdsworth who hosted the event. A very special mention to Les Chester who did the pig roast under extreme conditions. Also a special mention to Maureen and Barrie Aitken, Harry and Bob Potter and to Dave and Peter Clarke who worked very hard in setting up the event. Thanks to All. The event however resulted in a loss but £51 was raised through the raffle and this will go to the Shoe Box Fund, thank you Brian Care.
- 10. Shoe Box Parcels:** A sum of £411.00 has so far been raised and spent on this worthwhile welfare parcels and there will be more funds available when the cheques have cleared and this is in addition to the funds available from the branch donation, thank you George. The raffle, which is run by Brian Care to raise funds for the Parcels, is to be run by Mike Holdsworth for the next 3 months, as Brian is unable to attend the meetings during this time. Six letters have been received from soldiers serving in Afghanistan with 9 Sqn and 51 Sqn thanking the branch for the generous amount of parcels being sent to the Troops. The Chairman read the letters to the branch. A special mention went to Maureen and Barrie Aitken for the generous amount of books donated for this cause. The troops are asking for people to send DVDs, books and magazines. Anyone wishing to send parcels directly the address is,

**W01 (RSM) Glen Walton
23 Engineer Regiment (Air Assault)**

**TFH H. Q.
LKG
BFPO 715**

**Those wishing to send to the 2nd Parachute Regiment, the address is,
25121208 L/Cpl Reynolds
5 Platoon, B Company
2nd Parachute Regiment
Op. Herrick
BFPO 792**

- 11. AEA AGM and Reunion: 17th- 19th October 2008** The Royal Court Hotel, Coventry. Booking forms are now available from Bunny Brown and the forms have also been included in the AEA Journal.
- 12. Greyhound Racing Evening:** The evening was a huge success and a vote of thanks went to Sue and Mike Cole who organised this event. The only negative point was that George Barrett lost all but his shirt. Sue and Mike are looking to arrange another evening later in the year.

13. Any Other Business:

Gordon Page: Has been contacted by Alex Cook who is trying to contact Bob Varley who served in 9 Sqn and SAS. Anyone who can assist with this please contact me. Thank you.

Jim Hurley: Jim has contacted me to say that he can no longer be contacted by e-mail.

Dave and Wendy Clarke: celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary which was an excellent evening and the branch pass on their thanks to a wonderful couple and may there be many more anniversaries.

Branch Shop: George Barrett reported that there is still a lot of stock that has not been sold, George had taken the items to the Golden Brick event but sold only a few items. So come on all MEMBERS do the right thing and purchase this stock.

Ray Sands: Ray has spoken to Billy Boyle who is Fred Boyles Brother and wished to pass on his thanks for all those who attended Fred's funeral.

Kevin Lambeth: Arnhem 2009 65th Anniversary. Kevin explained that planning for this occasion should now be started. Kevin is to provisionally book 25 rooms in Arnhem and also cost the transport. A stay of 5 days is proposed. More info to follow.

Mike Holdsworth: Normandy 2009 65th Anniversary. Mike is organising a one week visit, from 4th June 09, for the D-Day celebrations. Preliminary costs are €190 for the ferry and €346 for the accommodation. More info to follow.

John Rock Bust Commemoration: No programme has been confirmed but Friday 21st November 08 will be the day that the John Rock Bust will be commemorated and also Afghan Medals are to be presented to the Regiment.

14. Branch Shop: Your support is needed to sell the remaining stock. Prices are;

Polo Shirt	£17.00
Baseball Cap	£10.00
White cotton dress shirt, short sleeve	£18.00
White cotton dress shirt, long sleeve	£20.00

15. Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd September 08 at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945Hrs

16. AEA Journal. Deadline for the December issue is Monday 10th November 08

W Steve Brown
Secretary



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Diary of Events

- 3rd September 08 – Branch Meeting
- 7th September 08 – Double Hills, Somerset. 14.15 Hrs
- 18 – 20th September 08 – Music on Fire RMA, Sandhurst
- 1st October 08 – Branch Meeting
- 17th – 19th October 2008 – AEA AGM & Reunion
- 5th November 08 – Branch Meeting
- 21st November 08 – Presentation of John Rock Bust, Woodbridge.
- 3rd December 08 - Branch Meeting

Gentlemen subs are now due. If you still wish to receive the branch minutes please pay your subs to Elsie Barrett (0121 628 7578) 292 Brays Road, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 2PP, so that the mailing list can be kept up to date.

Name. _____

Telephone _____

Cheque / Cash £5.00 enclosed _____

Date _____