



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

1st October 08

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:15 hrs.
2. **Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Pete Clarke, Kevin Lambeth, Rip Kirby, Harry Potter, Bob Potter, George Barrett, Mike Cole, George Hopkins, Alf Manders Dave Bowron, Ron Mason, Eddie Fenwick and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Bob Jones, Dave Clarke, Roy Hicks, Larry Perry, Brian Care, Ray Sands, Mike Holdsworth, John Browning and John Mason.
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 Bob Potter. Seconded, Kev Lambeth. **Carried.**
6. **Welfare:** Roy Hicks is back in hospital to have emergency treatment to his eye. Tony Higgins has recently had a hip replacement and is recovering well. The branch sends its best wishes to both and hope for a speedy recovery.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present. Thank you Elsie.
8. **Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting to be arranged.
9. **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. Dave Clarke reported that almost 200 returns have been received so far.
10. **Branch Christmas Dinner 6th December 08:** Proforma attached for return A.S.A.P.
11. **Any Other Business:**

Baz Clark: Baz has informed the branch that there is the Midlands Festival of Remembrance on the 2nd November 08 at Birmingham Town Hall. The Festival will commemorate the centenary of the Territorial Army. Tickets are £5.00, £10 or £15. Baz also reported that Paul "Doc" Daily would be there.

Mike Holdsworth: D-Day trip. As Mike did not attend the meeting this item is passed over until the next meeting for confirmation of costs.

Kev Lambeth: Kev informed the branch that he has provisionally booked rooms for 57 people. Costs in the region of Single €95, Twin €120 and a family room €200. A coach will be discussed if there is sufficient interest. It was also mentioned how long members would like to stay for, 5 days or less? Kev also met with the 299 boys who send their regards to all branch members

George Barrett: George informed the branch of the Federation Christmas Dinner on the 21st December at 12.00hrs at the B.U.S.C. Entertainment would be live Big Band music. Cost to be confirmed.

12. 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

13. Next Meeting: Wednesday 5th November 08 at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945Hrs

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

W Steve Brown
Secretary

A Salute to the Royal Engineers

*Now it's very well to fly through the air,
Or to humour a gun or to ride in tanks,
Through the ranks of the crushed Hun,
And it's nice to think, when the U-boats sink,
Of the glory that outlives the years,
But whoever heard one vaunting a word for the Royal Engineers?*

*Now you mustn't feel, when you read this spiel,
That the engineer is a jealous knave,
That he joined the ranks for a vote of thanks,
In search of a hero's grave.*

*No, your mechanised cavalry's quite all right
And your Tommy has few peers,
But where would the lot of them be without the Royal Engineers?*

*Some look like tramps but they build your camps
And sometimes, lead the advance,
And they sweat red blood to bridge the flood,
To give you a fighting chance.*

*Who stays behind, when it gets too hot,
To blow up the roads in the rear?
You can tell your wife that you owe your life to some muddy old engineer.*

*`Honi soit qui mal pense` is a gruesome sort of phrase,
But their modest claim to fame
Has probably reached your ears,
The first to arrive and the last to leave
Are The Royal Engineers*

`Ubique` Anon

Appeared recently in the Daily Mail



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Diary of Events

- 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
- 6th December 08 – Branch Christmas Dinner

AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.
ANNUAL DINNER DANCE
AT THE HOLIDAY INN HOTEL ELMDON.
6th DECEMBER 2008

REPLY PROFORMA

FROM: - (Please print name & address)

Number of tickets required ----- @ £27.50.00 per head.

Please find enclosed a cheque, made payable to **AIRBORNE ENGINEER ASSOCIATION (B'HAM BRANCH)**
 FOR THE SUM OF £-----

Please send a list of your guest's names for the seating plan. And any request for vegetarian meals.

Return to Mrs E Barratt. 292 Brays Road, Sheldon, BIRMINGHAM. B26 2PP.
 TEL 0121 628 7578

Please REPLY ASAP.