



## THE BIRMINGHAM BRANCH AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

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Treasurer: Mrs Elsie Barrett 0121 628 7578  
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### MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING

**Held at Chelmsley Wood British Legion**

**20<sup>th</sup> January 10**

- 1. Meeting opened** at 20:15 hrs. This meeting had been moved to this date due to the very poor weather conditions on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- 2. Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Brian Care, John Phillips, Pete Clarke, Bob Dorrell, Roger Howells, Tommy Smith, Derek Platt, Dave Bowron, Jim Hurley, John Browning, Brian Fosbury, Gordon Page, Al Parkes, Mike Cole, Kev Lambeth, and of course the Ladies.
- 3. Apologies from:** Bob Jones, Roy Hicks, George Barrett, Eddie Fenwick, Alf Manders, Ray Sands, Ray Richards, Neville Collins, Mike Holdsworth, Harry Potter, Bob Potter, Dave Clarke, George Hopkins, Peter Pedersen, Alan Brough, Mac Nash, Ron Mason and John Mason.
- 4.** The Chair thanked all for attending and wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- 5. Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were read and voted as correct and true. Proposed by Tom Smith. Seconded, Bob Dorrell. **Carried.**
- 6. Welfare:** Bunny Brown has recently spent 5 days in hospital with kidney failure but is now improving. Bob Jones had been transferred from Heartlands Hospital to Moseley Hall but has now been discharged from there. Enquiries were made but no one seems to know where he is. Roy Hicks is now at home and is improving. Eddie Fenwick is now at home and bearing up. The branch sends its best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery to all.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present. Thank you Elsie.
- 8. Boots and Beer Club:** Meetings will resume in the near future. Future dates will be posted on the Diary of Events page.
- 9. Branch Christmas Dinner 5<sup>th</sup> December 09.** 5<sup>th</sup> December 09 at the Holiday Inn, Elmdon. Another excellent evening and greatly enjoyed by all. The dinner was very well attended and there was a large contingent from 299 Association who also enjoyed the evening. There were 2 guest speakers on the evening, Mike Hookem who is Chairman of the 299 Association and Stuart Messer who is a director of the Military wing of Selly Oak Hospital. Mike gave an update of 299 Association, which is doing very well. Stuart gave a presentation of ward S4 at Selly Oak hospital and the work that the Royal Centre of Defence Medicine is involved in. All proceeds from the evening will go to the Military Ward S4 at Selly Oak Hospital. An excellent response from those who attended raised a great deal of money and this will go to the Military S4 ward. Details below. Roger Howells commented that he thought that the Raffle on the night was chaotic and confusing.
- 10. Shoe Box Parcels:** Brian and Pat Care have sent a further 20 parcels and has received 3 letters from 2 Majors and the RSM of 28 Engineer Group in which they thanked everyone for their generous and greatly received parcels especially at this time of year. Brian was asked at a previous meeting by Harry Potter as to how long the parcels actually took to arrive at the destination. Brian stated that he had posted 20 parcels on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 09 and received a letter of thanks dated the 12<sup>th</sup> December 09 which he received on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 09. Which is an impressively quick time considering the amount of post before Christmas.

## 11. Any Other Business:

**Bunny Brown.** Bunny asked for numbers who would attend an St Georges dinner in April he also suggested other dates for a dinner evening. It was decided that the next dinner would be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 to mark the Queens Birthday. This will be held at the Stechford Club.

**Donation to the S4 Ward.** Bunny gave a break down of the monies collected over the year including the money raised at the Christmas Dinner, in all £974 was collected / donated and a vote was taken to round this up to £1000.00. This money will go to the Military ward S4 at Selly Oak Hospital. Well done to all concerned.

**Roger Howells.** Roger proposed a big thank you and a round of applause for the effort Bunny gave in organising the Christmas Dinner. Excellent response.

**Bob Dorrell.** Bob suggested putting the branch onto Facebook to see what response this would create. This will be investigated and possibly used. Brian Care said that the RRF association had tried this with great results.

**Neville Collins.** Neville had sent an e-mail wishing everyone a Happy New Year and to be remembered to all at the association.

**Roger Howells.** Roger has recently had contact with Bob Lees and Paul Lightwood and asked that they be put back on the mailing list. I will of course do this when I have the addresses.

## 12. Branch Shop: Your support is needed to sell the remaining stock

**13. Next Meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 10** at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945Hrs.

**14.** Deadline for the April 2010 edition of the **AEA JOURNAL** is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 10. Please don't leave it until the last moment

**W. Steve Brown**  
*Secretary*

### Diary of Events

- 3<sup>rd</sup> February 10 – Branch Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March 10 – Branch Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> April 10 – AGM / Branch Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May 10 - SA-80 Shoot v RRFs