



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
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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

5th August 09

- 1. Meeting opened** at 20:15 hrs.
- 2. Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, John Phillips, Harry Potter, Bob Potter, George Barrett, Pete Clarke, Tom Smith, Alan Brough, Mike Cole, Dave Bowron, Roy Hicks, Rip Kirby, Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell, Kev Lambeth, George Hopkins, Tony Higgins, Brian Care, Eddie Fenwick, Peter Pederson, John Browning, Mike Holdsworth, Alan Parkes, Barrie Aitken and of course the Ladies.
- 3. Apologies from:** Bob Jones, Dave Clarke, Alf Manders, Ray Sands, Tom Howard, Mac Nash, Jumbo Newey, Jim Hurley, Ron Mason 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, Dave Bowron. Seconded, John Phillips. **Carried.**
- 6. Welfare:** Mac Nash has now been discharged from The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham after undergoing a lengthy procedure and is now convalescing on the south coast. John Phillips reported that his wife Norma is not very well at present. The branch sends its best wishes to both.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present. Thank you Elsie.
- 8. Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting will be on Sunday 9th August 09 at the Bell Inn at Coleshill at 10:30
- 9. Shoe Box Parcels:** George and Elsie Barrett along with Brian and Pat Care have had a good response from 38 Regt and from the ladies, receiving a considerable amount of thank you mail. Brian Care has suggested that a lending library be formed to generate cash for the parcels. He put forward the idea of loaning out a book for the sum of £2.00 per book for the loan and then returning the book when it has been read. This was agreed and the library opened at the end of the meeting. Donations from individuals are also being given and welcome.
- 10. Clay Pigeon Shoot:** 18th July 09. This was an excellent day and thoroughly enjoyable and the branch would like to send their warmest appreciation to Alan and Anne Brough who were the perfect hosts and made everyone welcome. A sum of £230.00 was raised on the day and this will be sent to the Help for Heroes. Well done. Alan did comment that he managed to retrieve most of the clays used and these could be used next year.
- 11. Cromwell Lock.** The chairman has received a letter from the Newark branch, PRA informing the branch that they will be attending the Cromwell Lock remembrance again this year and Bunny confirmed that the branch would also attend. Dates to be confirmed.

12. Any Other Business:

Roger Howells raised the following points,

a, Roger attended a function with the Monkspath Rotary Club to raise funds for Help for Heroes and they managed to raise the sum of £1800.00. Bob Dorrells son also attended while on leave from Afghanistan. Well done for raising such a large amount for this worthy cause.

b, Dr Chris Stockdale is undertaking a cycle ride around the coast of Britain, a distance of 4,500 miles, to raise funds for West Midlands Breast Group Research and Macmillan Cancer Support. Anyone wishing to sponsor, please contact Roger.

c, A Night at the Proms to be held at Wroxall Abbey Estate on the 11th September 09 at 7:30 featuring the Leamington Philharmonic Orchestra. Cost £30.00 per head, black tie and finery, superb 3-course meal.

d, Roger then asked for a round of applause for Alan Brough who has recently gained a BA in history from Warwick University on the 16th July. Well done but you can take the mortarboard off now.

George Barrett. George raised the subject of Combat Stress from the article in the AEA journal where Eldred Grocock is to undertake a charity walk for this appeal. It was voted that £100.00 be donated to this cause. Individuals can also contribute.

Peter Clarke. Peter invited the branch to his 60th Birthday celebrations to be held at the Stechford Club on the 22nd August 09 from 19:30 on. If you wish to attend please let Pete know so he can arrange the buffet.

Bunny Brown raised the following points,

a, He reminded the branch that not many members had booked for the AEA / AGM reunion in Nottingham from the 2nd to the 4th October 09 and asked members to book now to avoid disappointment.

b, Christmas Dinner 09. The date has been arranged and this will be on the 5th December 09 at the Holiday Inn, Elmdon. Cost will be £27.50 per head. If you require overnight accommodation it will cost £49.50 for the room, including breakfast, for 2 people. Seating will be limited to 90, as the branch will be using a different room due to building work.

c, Bunny then presented some bad news that the Chelmsley Wood British Legion had been in some financial trouble due to the steward walking off with the takings. The club looked doomed but a gathering of members, friends and family donated money to relieve the burden. Bunny asked that £100.00 from branch funds be donated. Carried. The steward is due in court in August.

Elsie Barrett. Elsie has asked me to remind members that their membership subs are now **OVERDUE** and could you please pay them now. Elsie will be giving me a list of defaulters at the next meeting, you know who you are.

13. 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

14. Next Meeting: **Wednesday 3rd September 09** at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945Hrs

15. Deadline for the **DECEMBER 2009** edition of the **AEA JOURNAL** is Friday **20th NOVEMBER**.



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W. Steve Brown
Secretary

Diary of Events

- 2nd September 09 - Branch Meeting
- 2nd – 4th October – 20th AEA / AGM Reunion, Nottingham
- 7th October 09 - Branch Meeting
- 4th November 09 - Branch Meeting
- 2nd December 09 - Branch Meeting

“Where is the Prince who can afford so to cover his country with troops for its defence, as that ten thousand men descending from the clouds might not, in many places, do an infinite deal of mischief before a force could be brought together to repel them?”

Benjamin Franklin, 1784.

Gentlemen subs are now **OVERDUE**. 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 _____