



## 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](mailto:stevebrown4@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Mrs Elsie Barrett 0121 628 7578  
Membership Secretary: Mr. George Barrett 0121 628 7578



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### MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING

**Held at Chelmsley Wood British Legion**

**6<sup>th</sup> May 09**

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:15 hrs.
2. **Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Brian Care, Kevin Lambeth, John Phillips, Harry Potter, Bob Potter, George Barrett, Pete Clarke, Mike Cole, Roy Hicks, Rip Kirby, George Hopkins, Eddie Fenwick, Mike Holdsworth, Ray Sands, Alan Parkes, Barrie Aitken, Tommy Smith, Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell, and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Bob Jones, Dave Clarke, Dave Bowron, Peter Pederson, Alan Oakley, Alf Manders, Tony Higgins, John Browning, Danny Flynn, 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, Ray Sands. Seconded, Mike Cole. **Carried.**
6. **Welfare:** Tom Carpenter attended the meeting and said that he was recovering well. Tommy Smiths wife Ann is recovering well after an operation on her spine. Alan Oakleys wife Hazel is now on the mend and Barrie Aitken had visited her this evening and said she was feeling a lot better. The branch sends its best wishes to all and hope for a speedy recovery. Hazel has invited the branch members to her birthday party at the Chelmsley Wood British Legion on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May, thank you.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present. Thank you Elsie.
8. **Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting to be arranged
9. **Shoe Box Parcels:** George and Elsie Barrett and Brian and Pat Care have now resumed sending these shoe box parcels and are sending them to 38 Engineer Regiment.
10. **D-Day visit 2009:** Mike Holdsworth has now finalised the arrangements and will leave for France on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.
11. **Clay Pigeon Shoot:** Mike Holdsworth reported that other venues are to be looked at. Mike will keep the branch informed with a possible date of late June or early July.
12. **St Georges Dinner:** 25<sup>th</sup> April 09, Stechford Club. An excellent evening with a very good meal served and beverages at the right price. 35 attended and with the success of this year it is intended to book for next year. Thank you to Bunny Brown for organising this dinner.
13. **Commando Engineer Reunion:** this reunion will be held from 12 – 14 June at the Royal Marine Barracks, Chivenor, Devon. Anyone who is interested please contact the secretary.
14. **Airborne Forces Day Portsmouth 5/6 July 09:** George Barrett will keep the branch informed.
15. **Brian Care:** Brian informed the branch that the annual shooting competition against the RRF Association will be on 7<sup>th</sup> June 09 at Swynnerton. Cost £5.00 per shooter. The branch can enter 2 teams of 4. Anyone interested please call Bunny Brown

**16. Any Other Business:**

**Bunny Brown:** Bunny reported that a Rugby match between a local team, The Old Yardlians, and a Commando rugby team, with all proceeds going to the Help the Heroes. The game is to be held at the rugby ground in Cole Hall Lane, Stechford. On 30<sup>th</sup> May with activities starting at around 12 midday. It is expected that celebrities such as Ross Kemp will make an appearance.

**Brian Care:** Brian raised two points, firstly the Parachute Engineers have been carrying out ceremonial duties at Buckingham Palace and 40 AEA members and wives had been invited to the last changing of the guard and to be entertained in the Guards Officers Mess. This was the first time in 22 years that Parachute Engineers last carried out these duties. Brian reported that this was an excellent day and all visitors were extremely well looked after. While Brian was in the area they took the opportunity to visit Stan Pepper who is now resident in the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Stan welcomed his guests with glasses of whiskey and sends his best regards to all that remember him.

**Secondly:** Brian has been asked to sell £1.00 raffle tickets for a framed RRF tee shirt signed by the Duke of Kent who is the Colonel in Chief of the RRFs. All proceeds are to go to the Help the Heroes.

**Mike Cole:** Mike is organising a night at the Hall Green greyhound track for the 12<sup>th</sup> June. Cost £10.00 per head which includes admission, meal, 2 drinks etc. Mike must have the names and payment by the next meeting.

**Mike Holdsworth:** Mike, Bunny Brown and Dave Bowron were invited by 299 Association to their annual dinner in Hull. The event was held to raise money for Help the Heroes and £500.00 was raised on the evening.

**George Barrett:** George said that he had attended the Federations St Georges Day parade and said that it was an excellent day with very a good meal. He commented that it would have been nice to have seen more Red Berets there. The Next event is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July which is a 40s Day out on the Severn Valley Railway. Cost £14 Members, £24 Non-members coach travel included. 22<sup>nd</sup> July 26 Regt RA Freedom of the City, 16<sup>th</sup> August Federation Day lunch with monies going to Troop Aid, 8<sup>th</sup> November 09 Remembrance Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas lunch. More information from George.

**Steve Brown:** Informed the branch of the Rhine 2 Rock Charity run by Steve Morris and Bob Chatterton on 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> April 09. The run was from Rhine Barracks, Aldershot to Rock Barracks, Woodbridge a distance of 150 miles in 40 hours. This run has raised almost £4000.00 to date so if anyone wishes to donate to this worthy cause you can do so at [www.justgiving.com/rhinetorock150](http://www.justgiving.com/rhinetorock150).

**Steve Brown:** I have recently been contacted by Wally Gee, Australia, and John Duckenfield, Portsmouth. They both send their best wishes to all that know them.

**16. 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

**17. Next Meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 09** at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945Hrs

**18. Deadline** for items for the **AUGUST** Journal is **MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup>** July 09.

**W. Steve Brown**  
Secretary



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### Diary of Events

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June 09 - Branch Meeting
- 1<sup>st</sup> July 09 - Branch Meeting
- 5<sup>th</sup> August 09 – Branch Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> September 09 - Branch Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> October 09 - Branch Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> November 09 - Branch Meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 09 - Branch Meeting

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_