



**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
7th March 2012**

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:00 hrs.
2. **Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell, Jim Hurley. Dave Bowron, Brian Care, George Barrett, George Hopkins, Dave Clarke, Pete Clarke, Tony Higgins, Bob Potter, Harry Potter, Kev Lambeth, Al Parkes, John Phillips, Rip Kirby, Roy Hicks, and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Neville Collins, John Browning, Eddie Fenwick, Barrie Aitken, Mac Nash, 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, Bob Dorrell. Seconded by, Dave Bowron. Carried. Minutes from other branches were made available.
6. **Welfare:** George Barrett is recovering well after his knee operation. Harry Mennie is undergoing a hip replacement on 8th March. Brian Care is to undergo hip replacement on the 31st March. John Phillips reported that John Holmes has recently had a fall and is soldering on but John is a little concerned about his eldest son, David. Sue Holdsworth is recovering well and has recently been on a break to France.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Elsie reports that funds remain healthy at present. Thank You Elsie.
8. **Boots and Beer Club.** Next meeting will be on Sunday 11th March 2012 meeting at the Dog & Doublet, Kingsbury. 10:00 hrs for 10:30 hrs start.
9. **Shoe Box Parcels.** Brian Care and George Barrett report that no parcels have been sent recently.
10. **Veterans Badges.** Application Forms are now available through the branch.
11. **Remembrance Parade.** The AEA president, John Lee, has requested places for the AEA at this years Cenotaph parade and the Chairman, Bunny Brown has requested 5 places for members of the branch.
12. **Move to Shard End British Legion.** The decision will be discussed and decided at the April branch meeting. It is recommended to branch members that they attend to cast their vote on this important decision.
13. **AEA Branch Standard.** The consecration could take place on the same day as the planned St Georges day Dinner on the 20th April 2012, this to be confirmed
14. **St Georges Evening.** Friday 20th April 2012 at the Shard End British Legion from 7pm. There will be a buffet meal and entertainment by a singer, Frankie, and a disco. This will hopefully coincide with the blessing of the branch Standard. Cost will be £5.00 per ticket. On sale now.
15. **Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.** Brian Care reported that the Chelmsley Wood British Legion has been booked for this event to take place on the 5th June 12 with a buffet and entertainment by a female singer who specialises in all music from the fifties to the present day. Cost is £6.50 per

ticket. 100 tickets have been requested John Phillips will be selling these at the next meeting in Brian's absence. Please support your branch 100% for this occasion.

16. Branch AGM 4th April 2012. The current Chairman and Secretary will be standing down at the AGM after both serving for 5 years so nominations are required for these positions. Brian Care has volunteered to take over the Chair and Bunny Brown has volunteered for the Secretary position.

17. Any Other Business:

- a. **Bunny Brown.** Bunny has purchased a book which was written by Peter Stainforth who was a troop Officer with 1st Para Sqn. RE. This book has been signed with a dedication to the branch from the author and this will be held by George Barrett along with other archive items. Bunny has also obtained a paperback version which will be on loan to branch members. Thanks to Bunny for this generous gesture.
- b. **Steve Brown.** With the impending rise in postal stamps he suggested that stamps be purchased prior to these rises. Carried
- c. **Steve Brown.** Steve reported that he has currently 4 proxy votes for the branch to remain at Chelmsley Wood British Legion.
- d. **Roger Howells.** Roger asked if the branch would like to continue using the current venue for the Christmas Dinner as he is due to negotiate other dinners and felt he may get a better deal with a promise of large numbers. Carried.
- e. **Jim Hurley.** Proposed Bob Dorrell for the Chairman's position.
- f. **Dave Clarke.** Dave reported that tickets are available for the Tower of London visit which includes the tour and lunch in the tower. Cost £45 and is on Palm Sunday.
- g. **Kev Lambeth.** Kev wanted to raise 2 points, the first being that he wished to sincerely thank Tony Higgins for all his assistance over the past months while Kev was unable to drive. The second point was that he had heard off Terry Bark that a celebration is being held in Kent to include ex Para and ex Royal Marines. More detail to follow.
- h. **George Barrett.** George wished to pass on his thanks to the branch for their kindness while he was recovering after his knee operation, special thanks went to Brian and Pat Care for giving George a special bottle of medicine which George said went down very well with a few ice cubes.
- i. **George Barrett.** George informed the branch of a Gala Day by the Birmingham Society of Model Engineers to be held on 1st July 2012 at Waring Green Road, Solihull starting at 13:00 hrs. Troop Aid being the chosen charity.
- j. **Brian Care.** Brian proposed that the June meeting be bought forward to Tuesday 5th June to coincide with the Queens Jubilee celebration. Carried.
- k. **Bob Dorrell.** Proposed a toast to the six soldiers recently killed in Afghanistan.

18. Next Meeting: The next meeting is on Wednesday 4th April 2012 at the Chelmsley Wood British Legion. 1945 Hrs. This is the branch AGM so please make the effort to attend.

W. Steve Brown
Secretary.

Diary of Events

- 4th April 2012 – Branch Meeting
- 20th April 2012 – St Georges Evening
- 5th June 2012 – Branch meeting
- 5th June 2012 – Queens Jubilee Celebration



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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 _____