



Airborne Engineers Association

Chatham Branch



Branch President Lt. Col. (Retd) Brian Awford RE
Secretary ~ Nick Gibson, 48 Phoenix Road, Lords Wood, Chatham, Kent, ME5 8TA.
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MINUTES OF 189th O.G.M IN THE WO'S & SGT'S MESS BROMPTON BARRACKS 17th September 2012

Committee Members

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|---|
| Chairman | ~ | Baz Bassett | |
| Secretary | ~ | Nick Gibson | * |
| Treasurer | ~ | Peter Kershaw | * |
| Welfare | ~ | Mick Fisher | * |

* These Committee Members were in attendance

1. Members Present

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bill Shield | Eric Blenkinsop | Bill Perry |
| Bob Seaman | Jim Rogers | Streaky Farrant |

2. Apologies

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Keith King | Jon Elliott | Caz Cazaly |
| Jon O'Conner | | |

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Proposed ~ Eric Blenkinsop | |
| Seconded ~ Peter Kershaw | Carried |

4. Matters Arising

Bill Shield attended last month

5. Chairman's Report

Chairman Was unable to attend due to exploration of tunnels in Ho Chi Minh City – Spec Ops assignment – Peter Kershaw took the Chair .
Welcomed Capt 'Streaky' Farrant to the branch as out newest member.
Formerly SSM of 61 Sqn and RSM at 74 Ragt, Capt Farrant is presently 2i/c 24 Trg sqn

6. Secretary's Report

- Sec passed round minutes from other branches
- Informed branch that the Mess building will be closing after November 12th 2012 and the new building will not be available until after January 6th 2013. Branch considered options and decided to maintain our regular meeting date in November. Sec to contact King Charles Hotel with view to meeting there on 19th November 2012

7. Treasurers Report

Treasurer reported that we have 26 paid up members so far for the coming year

As at 17th September 2012

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Cash at bank | £811.20 |
| Petty Cash & Cheques in hand | £2.00 |
| Cash available to Branch | £ 813.20 |

Branch voted £150 donation for Combat Stress Charity

Proposed ~ Eric Blenkinsop

Seconded ~ Jim Rogers

Carried

8. Welfare Report

- a. Keith King and Brian Cazaly are both soldiering on

9. Museums and Archives

- a. RE Museum Airborne Exhibit Display boards are still not replaced but will be soon. Commented that there is an excellent new Afghanistan display.
- b. Branch intends to attend the talk in the museum on 18th October any member planning to attend please notify Nick Gibson details are on the attached proforma

10. Branch Events

- a. Branch Christmas Lunch in King Charles Hotel Sunday 2nd December 2012 12:30 for 1:00 pm Cost £17.50 per head - £10.00 for Children. Please return the attached proforma to Peter Kershaw
- b. John Rock Dinner 22nd June 2013 – Theme to be Aden & Radfan

11. Any Other Business

- a. Eric Blenkinsop noted that a recent article in the RE Journal incorrectly stated that General 'Boy' Browning was the founder of Airborne Forces rather than Lt Col John Rock – he will write to the editors to ask that the error be corrected.

12. Next Meeting

Next meeting 15th October 2012 at the RE WOs and Sgts Mess, Brompton Bks NB as this will be the last ever meeting in the old mess a full turnout would be fitting – please attend if you are able.

13. Branch Diary

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Branch OGM | 15 th October 2012 | RE HQ WO's & Sgts Mess |
| Falklands Talk RE Museum | 18 th October 2012 | RE Museum |
| Branch OGM | 19 th November 2012 | King Charles Hotel |
| Xmas Lunch | 2 nd December 2012 | King Charles Hotel |
| Branch OGM | 21 st January 2012 | New RE HQ WO's & Sgts Mess |
| John Rock Dinner | 22 nd June 2013 | King Charles Hotel |

14. Notices

Not Strictly Branch Business but Nick Gibson recently took part in a Falklands era re-enactment at the War and Peace show. The Living History Display was composed of Falklands era soldiers and Falklands Veterans. The display was voted best post WW2 display at the show but most importantly raised around £850 for donation to our branches chosen charity – Combat Stress.

Look out for the 5 Bde Living History Group

