



**THE BIRMINGHAM BRANCH
AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION**

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MINUTES OF THE BRANCH MEETING

**Held at Chelmsley Wood British Legion
2nd February 11**

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:00 hrs.
2. **Members Present:**, Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, John Phillips, George Hopkins, George Barrett, Brian Care, Roy Hicks, Bob & Harry Potter, Alan Parkes, Mike Holdsworth, Tony Higgins, Mike Cole, Pete Clarke, Dave Bowron, Tom Smith, Derek Platt, and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Neville Collins, John Browning, Peter Pederson, Dave Clarke, Barrie Aitken, Les Chester, Terry Howard, 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, John Phillips. Seconded. Brian Care. Carried. Minutes from other branches were made available.
6. **Welfare:** Bob Jones is now out of hospital but it is not known exactly where he is. Peter Pederson could not attend the meeting due to his son being taken into hospital again. The branch sends its best wishes.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present.
8. **Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting Sunday 20th February 11, meeting at the Bull, Barston 10:00hrs for 10:30hrs move. The meetings so far have been very good, let's hope for good weather.
9. **Shoe Box Parcels:** Brian and Pat Care have sent a further 10 parcels. George and Elsie Barrett are waiting for funds to filter in so that they can continue sending the parcels. 24 Regt are due to be deployed in May. **Note** if anyone intends to send parcels they are asked to place senders name on parcel to avoid it being treated as unsolicited mail.
10. **Clay Pigeon Shoot 2011.** A provisional date of 6th August 2011 has been pencilled in.
11. **Any Other Business:**
 - a. **Bunny Brown.** Bunny reported that his Birthday party which was to be held on the 12th February 11 at the Chelmsley Wood Royal British Legion will now be held at the Stechford Social Club, Victoria Road. Anytime after 20:00 hrs and everyone is welcome. Dates for diary, Yorkshire branch Dinner, Wakefield, 12th March to include AEA OGM on Sunday 13th, 299 association dinner 16th April venue to confirmed, St Georges Dinner, TS Stirling 23rd April, John Rock Dinner, Chatham, 18th June cost £25.00
 - b. **Steve Brown.** Date for your diaries, 10th to the 12th June, Commando Sappers 40th Anniversary, Chivenor. Cost about £40 per head which will include accommodation, crystal tankard, commando coin, and a live video link to the Regiment. Journal, anyone wishing to enter items for the journal must send them to Dave Rutter by 21st February.
 - c. **Brian Care.** Brian reported that he, John Phillips and Roy Hicks had recently met John Holmes for lunch and he said that he was doing very well. Maxine Cosco had recently got married and she decided to have another reception at the TAC Barrows Lane, it was a very good evening and was well attended, congratulations. Mike Cloonan is off to Afghanistan shortly, good luck. Major Andy Tustin is due to leave the army in September,

good luck. Brian also reported that the current tours by Para & Commando Brigades would be the last to Afghanistan as they will be reverting to their previous roles.

- d. **Tom Smith.** Tom reported that John Duggan is fine and well after a recent hip operation and still continues to work in the Middle East.
- e. **George Barrett.** George asked if the branch would like to re-join the Birmingham Federation. The consensus was to say yes and George will put the branch forward.
- f. **Bunny Brown.** Bunny reminded the branch that the April meeting will be the branches AGM and that if anyone was wishing to nominate for committee then they need to apply 6 weeks prior to the AGM.
- g. **Mike Holdsworth.** Mike reported that he will be holding a Garden Party with a lamb roast on the first weekend in July, more to follow. Mike also reported that the Monkspath Rotary Club are holding a Daffodil Ball on behalf of the Marie Curie cause on the 5th March 11 at the Holiday Inn, Elmdon, anyone wishing to go please contact him or Roger Howells.

12. Closing date for articles for the April edition of the Journal is **MONDAY 21st February 11**

13. **Next Meeting: Wednesday 2nd March 11** at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945 Hrs.

W. Steve Brown

Secretary.

Diary of Events

- 12th February 11 – Bunny Browns Birthday Bash.
- 2nd March 11 – Branch Meeting
- 6th April 11 – AGM & Branch Meeting