



**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
3rd November 10**

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:00 hrs.
2. **Members Present:** Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, Ray Richards, John Browning, John Phillips, George Hopkins, George Barrett, Brian Care, Pete Clarke, Dave Clarke, Eddie Fenwick, Bob Dorrell, Dave Bowron, Alan Parkes, Tony Higgins, Mike Holdsworth, Bob & Harry Potter, Rip Kirby, Gordon Page, Brian Fosbury, Roy Hicks, Barrie Aitken, and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Neville Collins, Terry Howard, Roger Howells, Alan Brough, Jim Hurley, Kev Lambeth, 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, John Phillips. Seconded. Dave Bowron. Carried. Minutes from other branches were made available.
6. **Welfare:** Bob Jones has again been in hospital for a further 2 weeks and has now returned home, but it appears his personal belongings have gone missing. Roger Howells is not very well at present and is to have a scan to find the cause.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present.
8. **Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting 8th November 10 at the Dog and Doublet, Bodymoor Heath. 10:30 Hrs.
9. **Shoe Box Parcels:** Brian and Pat Care have sent a further 15 parcels to the Para Engineers and Brian read out a thank you letter from WO2 (SSM) Warren Iverson of 7 Sqn. 21 Eng. Regt. George and Elsie Barrett have sent 30 parcels with a donation from Wolverhampton PRA and a donation from an Arnhem Vet. George has also received a thank you letter from WO2 (SSM) Nadollek of 12 Sqn. 23 Eng. Regt which was read out by the chairman. **Note** if anyone intends to send parcels they are asked to place senders name on parcel to avoid unsolicited mail.
10. **Book of Events:** This is to be implemented.
11. **Branch Annual Dinner 4th December:** Holiday Inn, Elmdon. £27.50 per head. Rooms £49.50. Return Proforma **below**. Menu for the dinner is roulade of salmon and prawn with spiced marie rose sauce, roast seasonal turkey with festive trimmings, traditional xmas pudding with brandy sauce, coffee and chocolates, cheese and biscuits. Roger stated that the cost has been held and that wine will be on the tables. Accommodation will be £49.50 per room. Dinner will be in the same room as last year. Please return proformas ASAP. **Anyone attending the dinner could you please bring items for the raffle.**
12. **Clay Pigeon Shoot 2011.** A provisional date of 2nd July 2011 has been pencilled in.
13. **Any Other Business:**
 - a. **Brian Care / Steve Brown.** For those not yet aware, S/Sgt Craig 'Gaddy' Gadd of 299 Para Sqn (and formerly of 299 troop, 131 Commando Sqn) was injured 2 weeks ago by a

pressure plate IED during a compound clearance in Helmand, where he was working on mobilised TA service as a commander of a Royal Engineers Search Team. He has been evacuated to the Selly Oak hospital in Birmingham. This was Gaddy's fourth operation tour as a TA soldier. Contact details for writing or visiting are through S/Sgt Taff Davies of 299 Sqn on 07595692737 who is the first point of contact to avoid wasting individual's time etc. Latest news is that he is progressing well and is upbeat thanks to all the contact from members of 299 and 131.

- b. **Paddy Denning.** Paddy has sent an e-mail to the branch thanking for the sponsorship donations for his Kilimanjaro climb on behalf of Help for Heroes. The climb wasn't without incident with some of the party being taken to the local hospital. Once again thank you.
- c. **Steve Brown.** Steve passed on a thank you from his daughter, Lucy, to all those that sponsored her on a recent half marathon. Lucy ran the half marathon on behalf of Help for Heroes and raised a total of £335.00. Thanks to all concerned.
- d. **Les Chester.** Les recently got married to Debbie on the 22nd October in St Ives, Cornwall. Members of the branch attended and it was a wonderful occasion. The branch sends its best wishes to the happy couple and wishes them all the best for the future.
- e. **John Phillips.** John reported that he had been in contact with John Holmes who is not very well at present but is planning a trip to Denmark in December. John Holmes sends his regards to the members of the branch.
- f. **Brian Care.** Brian reported that there would be no Remembrance service at the BUSC this year; however the Chairman, Bunny Brown, stated that the Yardley service would take place with the AEA Birmingham branch attending. If anyone would like to attend please meet at the Yardley Arms Pub on the 14th November 10 at 10:00 hrs with a march to the service at 10:40.
- g. **Dave Clarke.** Dave has received a letter from Terry Disley with a \$50 bill enclosed which was covered in dust. The note read "please pay 5 years of branch dues" Thanks Terry.

14. Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st December at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945 Hrs.

15. Please note that the **DEADLINE** for entries for the December publication of AEA Journal is **MONDAY 15th NOVEMBER 10**

W. Steve Brown
Secretary.

Diary of Events

- 1st December 10 – Branch Meeting
- 4th December 10 - Annual Dinner proforma below.



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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 _____

Proforma

**Airborne Engineers Association
BIRMINGHAM Branch
Annual Dinner Dance
Holiday Inn Hotel, Elmdon
4th December 10**

From (please enter Name and Address)

Number of tickets required, _____ at £27.50 per head. Total paid _____

Please find enclosed a cheque for _____. Please make cheques payable to AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.

Please enclose names of guests for seating plan and any request for vegetarian meals.

Please return to Mrs Elsie Barrett, 292 Brays Road, Sheldon, BIRMINGHAM B26 2PP
Tel. 0121 628 7578.

Reply A.S.A.P. to avoid disappointment.