



**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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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 September 11**

- 1. Meeting opened** at 20:00 hrs.
- 2. Members Present:**, Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, George Hopkins, George Barrett, Roy Hicks, Alan Parks, Mike Holdsworth, Ron Mason, Eddie Fenwick, Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell, Jim Hurley, Gordon Page, Pete Thornett, Eddie McNulty, John Browning, Brian Care, Tony Higgins, Tom Smith, Derek Platt, Kevin Lambeth, Pete Clarke, John Phillips, Bob Potter, Harry Potter, and of course the Ladies.
- 3. Apologies from:** Neville Collins, Dave Bowron, Rip Kirby, Dave Clarke, Mike Cole, Brian Fosbury and John Mason.
4. The **Chair** thanked all for attending and especially those members that we have not seen for a while.
- 5. Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were read and voted as correct and true. Proposed by, Bob Dorrell. Seconded by, Kev Lambeth. Carried. Minutes from other branches were made available.
- 6. Welfare:** George Barrett reported that there was no further news on Bob Jones. Ian Butler is not too well at present and was recently visited by Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell and Alan Brough. Dave Bowron has a hospital appointment soon.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present.
- 8. Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting Sunday 24th September 2011. Meeting at the Plough, Shustoke. 10:00hrs for 10:30hrs move.
- 9. Shoe Box Parcels:** Brian and Pat Care have suspended posting at present while units are changing but have received thank you letters from 24 Regt. George and Elsie Barrett have sent 20 parcels and also received many thank you letters. **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.** 6th August 2011, Mike Holdsworth read a letter from Alan Brough who kindly loaned his land and equipment for this event. The basis of the letter being that the turnout for this event appeared a little disappointing with only a small number of shooters taking part (8). The small turnout meant that only a small amount for good causes was raised. Mike added that Alan had gone to great deal of time and effort to make the event 1st Class but obviously was disappointed. Brian Care said that these types of event are arranged not only for those who wish to shoot but also as a social event as well for all to enjoy. Brian Care ran a raffle for the shoe box parcels. The branch sends it's thanks to Alan and his wife for all their efforts and apologies for a small attendance.
- 11. Mike and Sue Holdsworth.** Mike stated that the monies raised at the garden party have now been distributed. Mike added that Al Sutton who runs the local Troop Aid is to be given an award from the Edgbaston Rotary Club for his efforts with Troop Aid. Al Sutton is to be asked to a branch meeting to give a talk on Troop Aid.
- 12. Veterans Badges.** Application Forms are now available through the branch.

- 13. Hotel Rooms at the Royal Court Hotel.** Bunny Brown and Dave Clarke visited the hotel and discussed the hotel room arrangements and were given an explanation of the costs. All costs are comparable with other functions arranged by the AEA
- 14. Remembrance Parade.** Bunny Brown reported that tickets will be made available to the branch for this parade at the Cenotaph. 8 Tickets will be requested. Names put forward for these places are Tom Carpenter, John Phillips, Kev Lambeth, Brian Care and George Barrett.
- 15. Branch Christmas Dinner.** 3rd December 2011 at the Holiday Inn, Elmdon. Roger reported that the price per person will remain at £27.50. Rooms will be £50 per room. Proforma below.
- 16. Any Other Business:**
- a. **Kev Lambeth.** Kev reported that Terry Bark is organising an Engineers Fest to be held in Buxton on May 17 – 19 2012. Gents only.
 - b. **George Barrett.** George appealed for shoe box's so that these can be used to send parcels to the troops. Bob Dorrell said he would try and obtain some for the branch.
 - c. **Bunny Brown.** Bunny has asked for volunteers for the AEA AGM weekend Alan Parkes volunteered to drive the minibus but also needs people to run the raffle on the Friday and Saturday and also to man the desks assistance will be appreciated.
 - d. **Mike Holdsworth.** Mike asked that because of the poor turn out at the Clay Shoot and for everyone's information, that the fact that the Attendance Book is now to be used for all future events be recorded in the minutes. It was also suggested that a non refundable deposit be introduced.
- 17. Please Note. Closing date for** Items to be included in the **DECEMBER** issue of the Journal is **MONDAY 14th DECEMBER 2011.**
- 18. Next Meeting: Wednesday 5th October 11** at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945 Hrs.

W. Steve Brown
Secretary.

Diary of Events

- 5th October 11 – Branch Meeting
- 15th October 11 – Commando Engineers AGM & Dinner
- 28th - 30th October 11 – AEA AGM & Dinner
- 2nd November 11 – Branch Meeting
- 3rd December 11 – Branch Christmas Dinner
- 7th December 11 – Branch Meeting



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WHO ARE THESE MEN?

Who are these men who march so proud,
Who quietly weep, eyes closed, head bowed?
These are the men who once were boys,
Who missed out on youth ad all its joys.

Who are these men with sorrowful look,
Who can still remember the lives that were took?
These are the men who saw young men die,
The price of peace is always high.

Who are these men with aged faces,
Who silently count the empty spaces.
These are the men who gave their all,
Who fought for their country, for freedom for all.

These are the men who in the midst of pain,
Whispered comfort to those they would not see again
These are the men whose hands held tomorrow,
Who brought back our future with blood, tears and sorrow.

Who are these men who promise to keep,
Alive in their hearts the ones God holds asleep?
These are the men to whom I promise again.
Veterans, my friends,
I WILL REMEMBER THEM.

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
3rd December 11**

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.