



**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
6th July 11**

1. **Meeting opened** at 20:00 hrs.
2. **Members Present:**, Tom Carpenter, Bunny Brown, Steve Brown, George Hopkins, George Barrett, Brian Care, Roy Hicks, Mike Holdsworth, Eddie Fenwick, Roger Howells, Bob Dorrell, Tony Higgins, Dave Clarke, Pete Clarke, John Phillips, Ian Hendry, John Browning, Chris Green, Mike Cole, and of course the Ladies.
3. **Apologies from:** Neville Collins, Kevin Lambeth, Terry Howard, Mac Nash, Jim Hurley, Alan Brough, Alf Manders, 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, Dave Clarke. Seconded by, Eddie Fenwick. Carried. Minutes from other branches were made available.
6. **Welfare:** Bob Jones is out of hospital but his whereabouts is unsure, George Barrett will keep the branch informed. John Holmes has recently had a fall which has left him a little shaken as he was not able to get up for some hours but appears to be recovering. Alf Manders has recently had operations and is recuperating. Ian Hendry has also been unwell recently but is up and about. The branch sends its best to all concerned.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Funds are healthy at present.
8. **Boots and Beer Club:** Next meeting Sunday 17th July 2011. Meeting at the Bell Inn, Coleshill. 10:00hrs for 10:30hrs move.
9. **Shoe Box Parcels:** Brian and Pat Care have sent a further 20 boxes since the last meeting and have received several thank you letters from 24 Engr. Regt.. George and Elsie Barrett are to resume sending parcels shortly. **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. Alan Brough has kindly loaned his land and equipment for this event. The branch is supply the food. Anyone wishing to attend will need to contact Bunny Brown so that names and numbers can be entered into the attendance book.
11. **Mike and Sue Holdsworth.** Sue and Mike will be hosting a garden party on the 9th July 11. Bunny Brown spoke on this event to say that Sue and Mike have "worked their socks off" in arranging this event and asked for 100% support. There will be a BBQ and roast with draught lager and bitter served. There will be a £10 per head charge to cover the food and will include draught lager and bitter with a curry being served in the evening. Maureen Aitken is supplying the bread rolls etc. Dave Clarke and Les Chester are also supplying food. There will be an Olympic archer attending to demonstrate and instruct on archery followed by a small competition. There will be a raffle on the day with prizes including archery lesson, a golf day and other prizes. Could members please bring along items for the raffle also. The beer will be free but donations for this will be appreciated. Timings, from 4:00 pm **Anyone** wishing to attend please let Bunny know so that he can make a record of who is attending.
12. **Airborne Forces Weekend.** This was attended by Bunny Brown Pete Clarke and Chris Chambers who had an excellent time.

13. Veterans Badges. Application Forms are now available through the branch.

14. LATE ENTRY. John Duckenfield has asked that the Farewell party for Major Andy Tustin in Weymouth be mentioned. This was attended by branch members John Duckenfield, Bunny Brown, Pete & Dave Clarke along with Mike Williams and Paddy Denning. An Excellent weekend.

15. Hotel Rooms at the Royal Court Hotel. Enquiries are still in process.

16. Any Other Business:

- a. **Bunny Brown.** 299 Squadron have invited the branch to their Airborne Forces day on the 29th July 11 in Wakefield by the OC Chris Wilcox. More to follow.
- b. **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.
- c. **Dave Clarke.** Dave suggested that an album be purchased so that the letters received from Afghanistan could be displayed and for reference. CARRIED. It was also suggested an album for photographs. CARRIED.
- d. **Roger Howells.** Roger reported that discussions were underway for the annual Christmas Dinner to be held on the first Saturday in December at the Holiday Inn, Elmton. It was hoped to keep the same price as last year. Rooms will be £50 per room.
- e. **Bob Dorrell.** Bob reported that his Son will be doing a sponsored walk in South America next year and asked that the branch donate to this. The company Bob's Son works for has pledged £2500.
- f. **John Rock Dinner.** George along with other branch members attended this Dinner and had an excellent time. Honoured guests included Tom Carpenter and George Hopkins.
- g. **George Hopkins.** George mentioned that there will be a Charity Cricket day at Bournville Cricket Club on Sunday 7th August between England National Physical Disability X1 and Army Development X1. Free admission, gates open at 11:30am. George also produced a reminder to branch members. Printed below.

17. Closing date for articles for the April edition of the Journal is **MONDAY 14th July 11**

18. Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd August 11 at the Royal British Legion, Chelmsley Wood, 1945 Hrs.

W. Steve Brown
Secretary.

Diary of Events

- 9th July 11 – Mike & Sue Holdsworth garden party
- 29th July 11 – 299 Association Airborne forces day.
- 3rd August 11 – Branch Meeting
- 6th August 11 – Clay Shoot
- 7th September 11 – Branch Meeting
- 5th October 11 – Branch Meeting



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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 _____

From George Hopkins:-

What Kind of Member

Are you an Active member?
The Type who would be missed.
Or are you just content to be
A name upon a list.

Do you come to all the meetings?
And mingle with the crowd,
Or would you rather stay away
And complain long and loud.

Do you give a little time to us?
And help to make things tick
Or leave the work to others,
Then moan about the clique.

There's quite a programme scheduled
That means success if done,
And it can be accomplished
With help from everyone.

So join in events
And help with hand and heart
Don't just be a member
Take an active part.

Think it over member,
Are you right or wrong,
Are you an active member?
Or do you just belong?

ANON