



# Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



[www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk](http://www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk)

Chairman – **Frank Murray**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Mick Walker**

**Minutes of regular meeting on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011 held at Royal British Legion Premises  
Rodney Street , Edinburgh**

## **1.0 Members Present**

Frank Murray , Gil Nicol , Mick Walker , Kim Panton , Alex.McWhirter , Iain McIntyre , John Donaldson , Andy Paterson , Andy Mullen , Hugh McPhee , Kenny Wratten , Ron McCartan , Tom Ormiston , Dougie Archibald , Jim Simpson and Norrie Bishop.

## **2.0 Chairman's Welcome**

Frank gave a warm welcome to all members present (16No)

A minutes silence was held for Iain McLellan , Sir Michael Grey and all fallen members of The Airborne Forces serving in Afghanistan and Iraq

A particular welcome was given to Hugh Mc Phee , who is a new member. This was his first , hopefully not his last , attendance at our meeting.

He also welcomed Iain McIntyre and Kenny Wratten to the meeting.

He reported that Roy Kay was keeping well .

## **3.0 Apologies**

Apologies were accepted on behalf of David Brock , Jimmy Wilson , Willie Grant , Craig Mc Quade , Ronnie Drummond , Roy Kay and all Overseas Members.

## **4.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The previous minutes were proposed as correct by Tom Ormiston and seconded by Dougie Archibald.

## **5.0 Matters Arising**

(1)The funeral of Iain McLellan on 24/1/11 was attended by Jim Simpson , Tom Ormiston and wife , Gil Nicol as well as PRA members and ex 9 Sqn boys with wives/partners. The funeral was well attended.

(2)A letter of condolences was sent to Mrs Alec Smith and Family on behalf of A.E.A.Scotland Branch.

(3)A list of members has been issued to Billy Morris re the Millets and Blacks discount cards.

## **6.0 Secretary's Report**

The following items were intimated to all present ;

( a ) We received a reply from a serving Airborne Soldier in Afghanistan thanking us for our "Shoebox" efforts.

(b) An Invitation was sent out to Hugh McPhee ( a new member of A.E.A ) –Glad to see he turned up.

(c) Details of Medals Parade – 23 Engineer Regiment – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

(d) Info for April issue of "The Journal"

(e)AEA Reunion 2011 – 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in July.

(f)Farewell Party at Weymouth, for Major Andy Tustin—Evening of Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

(g)Army v Navy Rugby match – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

(h)Commando Engineers Reunion --- 10-12 June at Chivenor.

(i)Remembrance Sunday details for those from London and surrounding area takes place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at Harrow.

(j)The Cenotaph Parade in Whitehall will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

(k)The Winter Ball will take place at KB on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

(l)Abseil for Chest Heart and Stroke Association will take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at The Forth Rail Bridge –you can sign up at [www.ultimateabseil.com](http://www.ultimateabseil.com) or if you prefer a wee Sunday morning wander contact the following ; [www.scotlandwalkathon.com](http://www.scotlandwalkathon.com).

(m) We received a survey sheet from Veterans Scotland – this was passed on to our Executive Secretary to deal with.

(n)The funeral of Lieutenant General Sir Michal Grey KCB , OBE , DL , FCMI, FINST d. will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

(o)An enquiry regarding purchasing of Uniform Accessories was received but they were informed that we buy all our accessories from The Airborne Engineers Shop.

All the above items were made available for all members to peruse after the meeting.

(p)Mick Walker will speak to members regarding a tribute to Iain Mc Lellan and then submit a report for "The Journal". This may miss the April issue but will be included in the next issue.

(q)The "Shoebox Appeal" was discussed in detail and it was agreed that any decision to be made will be made at the next meeting(15/5/11)

Tom Ormiston stated that "Sappers" appear to fall in between when it comes to the distribution of shoeboxes.

It was agreed by everyone present that if anyone wished to buy goods we can pool it together before distribution.

Details of goods required was given to members (Wipes,Toothpaste,Soap,Shortbread,Toffee,etc..)

and be brought along to the next meeting.

It was proposed (Mick Walker) and seconded (Andy Mullen) that all goods should be given to The Treasurer prior to distribution.

(s) Airborne Assault Normandy – we have a newsletter from AAN and should anyone require a look at it please contact Gil Nicol (0141 631 2092) or e-mail at [gil.nicol@ntlworld.com](mailto:gil.nicol@ntlworld.com).

### **7.0 Treasurer's Report**

Mick Walker reported that we continue to be in good health, financially and distributed a Financial Report to that effect.

We have approximately £1125.00 in Total Funds—Well done lads.

This report was proposed as being accurate by Jim Simpson and seconded by Kim Panton.

### **8.0 Website Report**

John Donaldson, at an earlier meeting proposed that we change the format of our website, however, after consultation with a Web Designer, decided on the status quo.

He also indicated that costs have risen but we are happy at the level of costs at the moment.

We will monitor this situation until February 2012.

### **9.0 Future Meetings**

Until further notice all future meetings will be held at RBL Central Branch, Rodney Street, Edinburgh—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month.

### **10.0 A.O.C.B.**

(a) Postponed Xmas Lunch – Andy Mullen proposed that we have an alternative Xmas Lunch to compensate for our cancelled lunch.

He suggested a date in June 2011.

It was agreed that a provisional date (25/6/11) be allowed for and Mick Walker will look into a suitable venue and this will be confirmed at the next meeting.

(b) Hospital – Gil Nicol informed the members that he will be going into hospital on Monday 11/4/11, for a hip joint replacement and will be out of commission for a few months.

Dougie Archibald has agreed to look after the Secretary's duties until he is back on his feet again.

(c) Arboretum – The question was raised – do we want to visit in 2012 as an Airborne Memorial will be erected in 2012.

Mick Walker agreed to contact PRA Lothian Branch with a view to linking up with them if they are going to visit.

### **11.0 Date of Next Meeting**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011 (1300Hrs)