



# Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



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

**Chairman – Gordon McLeod      Secretary – Gil Nicol      Treasurer – Craig McQuade**

## **Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting held at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4EL at 1300hrs on Sunday 17 March 2019**

- 1. Members Present;** Gordon McLeod, Gil Nicol, Craig Mc Quade, Douglas Archibald, Mick Walker, John Donaldson, Bob Hamilton, Brian Earl, Bob Masson, Andy Gemmell, Alex Cockburn, Andy Paterson and John Carter.
- 2. Apologies;** Willie Grant, Tom Ormiston, Eoin McIntyre, Eoghann macLachlainn, Andy Mullen, Dave Henderson, Ronnie Drummond, Norrie Bishop, Ron McCartan, Kenneth Wratten and all overseas members.
- 3. Chairman's Welcome;** Gordon McLeod welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending
  - (a)** He informed us that Alex McWhirter and Jinty Murray, the late Frank Murray's widow, were unwell.  
Gil Nicol has sent a get well card to Jinty Murray and has already received a thank you call from her and she is very touched that we remembered her. Gordon McLeod will send a get well card to Alex Mc Whirter.
  - (b)** The Chairman also informed us that a good representation from A.E.A.Scotland attended the funeral of Robert Mitchell (P.R.A.Loathian Branch) on 1 February 2019.
  - (c)** Paul Scoble's Eulogy has been forwarded to Gordon McLeod by John Ferry. Gordon will forward it to anyone who is interested. 300 Para Squadron RE and John Donaldson are mentioned in the eulogy.  
We were all asked to stand for a minutes silence in memory of past members.  
**"We will remember them"**
- 4. Welfare;**
  - (a)** Alex Mc Whirter (Haemorrhaging Haemorrhoids)—he will be operated on today
  - (b)** Jinty Murray has had an operation to her neck and requires further hospital treatment.
- 5. Minutes of the previous meeting-O.G.M. 20 January 2019;** The minutes of the last meeting were passed as being accurate by Brian Earl and seconded by Douglas Archibald
- 6. Matters Arising;** No matters arising.
- 7. Secretary's Report;**
  - (a) Former SSM Allan Stewart** passed away on 23 January 2019. He was formerly the last SSM of 131 Parachute Engineers and latterly with 131 Commando Engineers.  
Gordon McLeod (Chairman) has sent a letter of condolences to the family.

**(b) WO2 John Lonergan;** Apparently on the Roll of Honour in St Barbara Garrison Church, Gillingham, John Lonergan's name has been misspelt. John Donaldson has contacted Brompton Barracks and has been informed that someone from RSME will look into it and get back to John.

**8. Treasurer's Report;**-Craig McQuade, after giving us report he stated that we are still in a healthy financial position

**9. Webmaster's Report;** John Donaldson informs us that all is ok with our website and we are still receiving hits. He is still updating our website on a regular basis .There is a small increase in cost for this service and it was agreed unanimously that we accept this increase .He has submitted his invoices to the Treasurer and has been reimbursed

**10. Future Meetings;** All future meetings will be held , on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every 2<sup>nd</sup> Month starting from 20 January 2019 meetings will commence at 1300hrs except for the AGM which will commence at 1230hrs.

**11. A.O.C.B; (a) AEA Scotland—Annual Lunch** will be held on Saturday 7 September 2019 at The Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh (1230hrs for 1300hrs).The costs will be similar to last year £25.00 per head and must be paid by or on the July meeting. Details of the menu choices are attached to the minutes. Should there be a surplus of monies, it was agreed that same surplus be given to the branch funds.

Dress code is Blazer/Suit, Regimental Tie.

Please contact Gil Nicol at either of the following;

Home Address; 198 Ardencraig Road, Glasgow, G45 0HR

Email address;[gilbertandmyra@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertandmyra@gmail.com)

Home No; 0141 631 2092

Mobile No; 07707468530

Cheques to be made out to G.Nicol.

It is imperative that we know A.S.A.P number who are attending and also course of meal choices

The choices should be shown as the following example;

Starter---A1, A2 or A3

Main Course—B1, B2 or B3

Dessert –C1, C2 or C3.

Gordon McLeod will contact the widows whom we intend to invite on behalf of the branch.

**(b) Al Milah Get together;** It was agreed that we would meet up at the Guards Club on Friday 12 April at 1300hrs as a follow on to Captain (Retd) Eoghann Maclachlainn receiving his GSM 62 with Clasp South Arabia.

Please contact Gil Nicol A.S.A.P if you wish to attend so that he can organise a finger buffet or similar.

Dress code to be Berets, Blazer/Suit, Regimental Tie so that we can get a proper group photograph

**(c) Arnhem 2020;** Craig Mc Quade suggested that we start an Arnhem Bank for future trips, payments would be by direct debit. This was agreed on and members will discuss it in more detail at our next meeting. Members who are interested to contact Craig.

His details are as follows;

**Craig McQuade, 37 Riverview Park, Mangerton, Newcastleton TD9 OTF**

**(d) General Service Medal (Aden);** John Donaldson received a letter from Angus MacNeil MP that he had received from Lord Howe. It was in answer to Johns letter to the MOD on their double standards on the awarding of medals, which he read out to members. A copy of this letter is attached to the e-mail.

**(e)** John also informed us that he has been in contact with John Lonergan (Junior) who is delighted that we remember his late father every year at The Garden of Remembrance, Edinburgh. John intimated that John Lonergan (Juniors) son was born on 12 April 2001. Its uncanny that Johns late father was killed in action on 12 April 1965.

**(f) New Members—**John Carter will be meeting up with former members of 131 Commando Engineers, some of whom were ex 300 Sqn Para Engineers to see if any are interested in joining AEA Scotland. He feels that there may be approx. 20 – 25 number interested. He also asked about having subsidiary meetings held in Grangemouth. The Chairman and Secretary, on behalf of the members, stated that AEA Scotland was raised and started in Edinburgh therefore since we have members who already travel from South Uist, Coldstream, the Borders, Ayrshire, Helensburgh, Stirling and Glasgow it should not be asking too much for people to travel from Grangemouth which is considerably closer.

John will meet up with the ex 131 Commando chaps and report back at our next meeting in May 2019.

**(g) John Donaldson** —has been in contact with Jinty Murray and she has kindly passed on Ties and Books previously owned by the late Frank Murray.

**(h) A.E.A.Standard** —John Carter asked if we had our own branch standard and was informed we did not. He asked if someone could look into the price for obtaining one. This duty fell to Gil Nicol.

**12. Date of Next Meeting; OGM on Sunday 19 May 2019 (1300hrs) at R.B.L. Rodney Street, Edinburgh.**

**The meeting was brought to a close and everyone thanked The Chair.**