



299 Association Meeting, Friday 1st December, 2023

Guests

None

Members present

Dave Barker, Carl Ham, Walter Holbrook, Keith Morley,
Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Nigel Sissons, Martin Tindle, John Thompson,
Tony Weldon, Dave Woolas,

Apologies

Ricky Abel, Tony Alcock, Mick Beardshaw, Kev Blacker, El Gazo Coe, Neil Cooper, Gordon Crumb,
Terry Cunningham, Chris Duggan, Derek French, Craig Gadd, Richard Gill, Fred Gray, Marten
Hall, John Harrison, Dave Harvey, Carl Henrickson, Dave Hines, Martin Lawrence, Will Mahon,
Bob Meachen, Dave Meeking, Ken Newton, Bud Oldfield, Steve Oliver, Bud Pougher, Paul Robinson,
Mal Hollis, Kev Saddington, Lee Smith, Rhys Swatman, Arthur Stimpson.

Minutes a true record of last meeting

Proposer: Pete Robson.

Seconder: Paul Sims.

Treasurer

Glenn informed the meeting that the funds are healthy.

A non refundable Hundred pound deposit is required from everyone going to Arnhem by the
end December 2023 most have paid but just waiting for a few so get your money sent over to
secure your place.

Craig needs to book the hotel

For the AEA gala dinner and needs to lay out £500 for a deposit which we will recoup from the AEA
but we need a vote to use your money. A vote was taken and it was a unanimous OK.

Secretary

Our acting secretary Craig is on holiday in Colorado again he sends his best wishes and seasonal
greetings for Christmas and New Year to you all.

Chairman's Comments

Thanks to all of you who marched on Remembrance Sunday it's very important that we pay our respects at the Cenotaph we have guys who would love to March but can't for one reason or another, Age, illness, etc so it's left to those who can to keep up the tradition, 299 has always marched on Remembrance Sunday since it was formed in 1947.

A big thank you to all who very generously donated a raffle prize which made for a well stocked prize table, Thanks to you all especially Tom James who raided the 299 Para Sqn PRI and brought Airborne tee shirts cuff links and other goodies thanks Tom.

A big thank you to Dave Hines, Tony Weldon Glenn Ratten and all the helpers who made the raffle run smoothly and helped pay for the buffet.

A lovely buffet was laid out by the staff of the Minerva who reserved extra space for us besides our usual brew room and generally looked after us as normal, Lovely people.

On a sad note, our old friend Nev SMALES died on Remembrance Sunday 12th November his funeral was held At

Rosehill Crematorium Doncaster on the 1st December at 1100hrs Eleven 299 men turned up to give him a send off. His family was so grateful to the guys who turned up and couldn't thank us enough. Nev was one of life's characters he worked down the coal mines for many years he was always game for a laugh and a lovely friend to serve with. God Bless him.

Para Medic Mick Burrows a gulf war veteran who spent a short time with 299 troop passed away on the 2nd November as mentioned at the last meeting. His funeral was held at 11 am on Monday 20th November one of our men Lee Smith attended as he was a close family friend, Unfortunately after he passed away his bar which he built in his garden was broken into and some scumbags took his medals and other Para memorabilia which was on look north television asking for any information leading to the return of his special belongings. We believe the burglars have been apprehended and hopefully he will get his medals back. Condolences to his family. RIP Mick.

Two weeks ago our meat pie and a beer Thursday in the Minerva was spent with our 299 Spanish contingent Willy Harrison and El Gazo aka Gaz Coe and their ladies with Chris Shillito , Glenn Ratten and Tony Weldon, a very enjoyable day on the beer.

This Thursday with Chris Duggan Weldo and Shags very enjoyable.

Three things have changed one on contacts The Chairman no longer has a land line telephone as he changed his broadband provider and KC took away his old telephone number but you can always get him on his mobile 07877277288. Also on welfare the Goodwin centre is now closed more information to follow.

Simbo has changed his email address to one capital S then all low case

Simbo50simbo50voyager299@gmail.com

Merry Christmas and a happy new year from the 299 Association committee. Thanks for your support in 2023.

Next Meeting. Friday 2nd February 2024.

Simbo's Bus stop. Won by John Thompson

Arnhem Pilgrimage 2024 Dates

Thursday the 19th Monday 23rd September. Hotel booked, coach booked, Ferry provisionally booked. Price £420. Make sure you have £100 deposit in by the end of December, Save up with Glenn.

Web site address: www.299association.co.uk

CONTACTS:

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WELFARE:

This will be updated soon

The veterans Hub & Forum, coordinator Callum Day for all your problems

Address: Goodwin Community Hub, Anlaby Road, Hull. HU3 2LL, (opposite the Tigers Lair).

Tel: 01482 485958, email: veteranshub@goodwintrust.org

Veterans Welfare Service <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/veterans-welfare-service>

SSAFA <https://www.ssafa.org.uk/get-help/welfare-and-benefits/support-for-homeless-veterans>

Royal British Legion <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk>