



299 ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to the AEA, but as always open to ALL 299 men past & present.

The aims and ideals of this association are decreed as being:

Promoting and maintaining contact with past and present members of 299 Para Squadron RE.

Promoting and maintaining contact with the members of 131 Independent Commando Squadron RE; and all other Airborne/Commando associations.

Relieving where practicable any hardship or distress suffered by a member, or dependent(s) of a member of this association.

Promoting and encouraging such events that may bring pleasure to all members of this association.

W. Dick, (Seadog), 2/8/2002

Date: 2nd June 2023 at the Minerva Hull.

Members present: Ricky Abel, Mike Beardshaw, Brian Bilton, Neil Cooper, Terry Cunningham, Chris Duggan, Craig Gadd, Carl Ham, W Holbrook, Tony Irwin, Percy McGlynn, Bob Meachen, Kev Millington, Bud Pougher, Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Kenny Russell, Stewart Saxby, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Nigel Sisson, Reece Swatman, John Thompson, Martin Tindle, Terry Walker, Tony Weldon.

Apologies:

Tony Alcock, Gaz Coe, Derek French, Marten Hall, John Harrison, Dave Harvey, Dave Hines, Mike Maddison, Dave Meekin, Steve Oliver, Dave Woollas, Kev Blacker, Paul Jefferson, Arthur Stimpson, Jack Brooks, Brad Steele, Tony Foster.

Guests: Steve (Scouse) Hignett.

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed all members present and thanked them for attending on a lovely sunny evening. As usual a great turnout during the summer months.

Chris went on to welcome our guest **Scouse Hignett**, who would always look after the Commando Training when they turned up at 03:00 and there was no accommodation. Really good to see you and thank you for looking after us at CTCRM all those years ago.

Minutes proposed: as a true record

Proposed by **Mick Beardshaw**

Seconded by **Terry Cunningham**

Treasurers report: Glenn went on to say the funds was in a healthy position, any member wanting to see the statement of accounts, can on request just speak to Glenn. Glen is also taking monies for Arnhem 2024.

We still have rugby shirts, ties and shields etc for sale, please speak to Glenn

Correspondence:

The Chairman received a phone call and letter from an ex 3 troop Liverpool man **Fred Kennedy** who thanks us for sending him our newsletter/ minutes and asked us to send him a 299 Association rugby shirt which the Chairman has done. **Fred** lives in Oregon USA and sends his best wishes all 299 Association men and would like to be remembered to **Ken Newton** Ex Doncaster/Hull (Thanks **Fred** all the best from us all)

Dave Pace the web master from the Airborne Engineer Association web has asked for any articles that members would like in the journal to forward them so he can add them to the journal. Anyone wishing to have an article submitted please forward them to **Craig Gadd** and he will forward to Dave Pace.

Chairman's comments:

Cromwell Lock: A big thank you to our ex 301 troop brothers who carried on the maintenance rota by tending the memorial in May. **Mike Holdsworth** and **Eamon Smyth** did the work on 20th May (well done guys). If our next team **John Thompson** and **Ricky Abel** can do their stint around the middle of June that would be maintaining the memorial around every four weeks.

We have bought some gardening tools and weed killer plus sprayer with the £100 retrieved from the AEA so our volunteers have the right tools for the Job. If you have volunteered for a maintenance slot and find you can't do it, please let the Chairman know as soon as possible so we can make alternative arrangements.



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The Chairman has been in touch with **Marten Hall** and from a good start fighting leukaemia. Marten has had a small set back, but his medical team are confident he can move forward with bone marrow treatment in the near future which he states that he doesn't want any donors from 299 as he knows where you have been. He is mega positive, and we wish him a speedy recovery. Good luck **Marten**. Keep us informed mate.

Any other Business:

Tony Irwin informed the members that Hull City Council has cancelled this years Armed Forces Day due to bad management of the council road works. I strongly suggest we complain to our local councillors

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Pete Robson went on to say that he had been in touch with **Arthur Stimpson** and it's about six weeks since he had is operation but had left hospital with Covid. He said okay but feeling very tired, but he is getting there. Speedy recovery **Arthur**.

Craig Gadd informed the members that **Colin Sangwin**, **Norman's** son (one of 299 founder members) **Colin** also joined 299 albeit briefly, before joining the regulars and going 9 Sqn RE had been quite ill over the last 18 months with gall stones and had been in and out of hospital but has made a recovery and back riding his motorcycles. He had asked if the Association would send him the minutes by post as doesn't do email (another technophobe) Glad you're back on the mend and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Tommy Winston Burns, mate of **Paul Robinson** who always joins us for our Arnhem trips has been involved in a motorcycle accident. He messaged **Gaddy** the following.

Hi Gaddy mate, yeah dodging sheep on the fells on way to Stanhope, bike wrote off but all my gear did its job, I've had surgery to reattach my bicep at forearm via some hook anchors they screwed in to my radius or ulnar bone, so 3 months off work, cast off and stitches out week Tuesday then another semi cast on until 6 week consultation then stretching out, physio yada yada ya, I'm mentally well, have a plan, financially not great but is what it is and lucky to be alive and just the arm to worry about.

I sent him our best wishes on behalf of the Association and wished him a speedy recovery. He said he was in good spirits considering but gutted about the bike.

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With no more to discuss the chairman closed the meeting.

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Gents the bus stop, helps us keep our subs topped up, so please bring some change, failing that the bar does cash back when you buy a drink.

Simbo's Bus Stops.

Winner. **Chris Duggan**

Next meeting: 7th July 2023 at the Minerva kick off 20.00 hrs

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

CONTACTS:

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WELFARE:

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

