



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: Friday 5th July 2024 at the Minerva.

Members present:

Mick Beardshaw, Brian Bilton, Kev Blacker, Neil Cooper, Terry Cunningham, Craig Gadd, Andy Green, Walter Holbrook, Syd Hoyle, Tony Irwin, Keith Moreley, Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Nigel Sisson, Lee Smith, Arthur Stimpson, Martin Tindle, Tony Weldon, Dave Woollas.

Apologies:

Ricky Abel, Tony Alcock, Gaz Coe, Chris Duggan, Tony Foster, Derek French, Carl Ham, John Harrison, Dave Harvey, Carl Henrickson, Roger Holding, Mike Holdsworth, Dean Ideson, Martin Lawrence, Mike Maddison, Bob Meachen, Bud Oldfield, Paul Robinson, Rhys Swatman, John Thompson, Terry Walker.

Guests: Frank Ryan, Former 9 Sqn lad. Hopefully see you more often, now you know where we are.

Chairman: The Chairman Chris Shillito, welcomed members present albeit a bit light on numbers due to the summer holidays but still a great turnout.

Minutes proposed: A true record of the last meeting.

Proposer : Tony Irwin

Secunder: Martin Tindle

Treasurer: Glenn Ratten, informed the meeting that the funds are healthy, as everyone had paid for the upcoming Arnhem trip.

Glenn, encouraged members to purchase tickets for the AGM/Dinner on the 12th of October 2024. Please support this year's event, let's make this bigger and better. You can book this through Glenn and if you require accommodation, contact the hotel to book a room. (there won't be any actual tickets, but we know who will get a seat on the tables) Performa attached.

Correspondence: Vice Chairman and Acting Secretary Craig Gadd, thanked members for reply emails once the minutes had been sent out. He often gets many emails of thanks from the members and the wider community but doesn't get chance to reply to all but thanked them for their replies. Craig also apologised for any inaccuracies or anyone he misses off the list of attendees or apologies. Craig did offer anyone wanting to take up the position of secretary if they wanted, they are more than welcome, but there were no takers (☺)

Craig specifically mentioned Dave Staniforth, as he had received an email from him, thanking the association for the minutes he receives and remembered most of the names mentioned. He went on to say he had very happy memories of being in the troop. Now living in Merseyside, he misses it dearly, "*but carry on lads*".

Craig apologised for missing Gary Coe and Neil Cooper off the attendee list off last month's minutes.

Craig is aware that Haley is no longer working at the Village hotel and hasn't been for some time also Ling has left too, who had taken over from her. When booking just ask for the events team.

CHAIRMANS COMMENTS:

Chris, went on to say that the association gave our good friend and brother Frank (Bud) Pougher a good send off with many attending and then onwards to the wake after the funeral which the family truly appreciated. RIP Bud

Good to have our vice chairman back from America after completing the Wild West challenge in Arizona and parts of Route 66 with Bike Tours for the Wounded, but we don't have him for long as he goes back to Colorado next week. (International playboy) have a great time pal.

Dave Harvey is having a course of Chemo at the moment and the association sends their best wishes to him and his family.

Apology for missing Gary Coe off the attendee list last month and wish him a happy belated birthday for the 6th July.

Also, apologies for missing our staunch supporter Neil Cooper off the list. Just a senior moment gentleman.

Cromwell Maintenance: On Wednesday the 10th July. Volunteers: Craig Gadd, Tony Irwin, Chris Shillito, Martin Tindle, Tony Weldon, and Dave Woollas. will be going to the memorial to do their half of the maintenance as the Brummies did their bit last month. The Birmingham Branch are doing the maintenance in September ready for the service on Saturday the 28th September.

299s first maintenance team for 2025 will be Richard Gill and Percy McGlynn details to follow.

Any other business:

Chris mentioned that due to the Humber Sesh next month's meeting, will be at the Ship Inn Dunswell.

.....

Bus stop winner: Dave Woollas

Next meeting 2nd August 2024 20:00hrs at the Ship Inn Dunswell

Dates for your diary

Commando Sapper, Reunion 26th to 28th July 2024.

Arnhem Pilgrimage, Thursday 19th September 2024 - Monday 23rd September 2024. Hotel, Coach, and Ferry are now booked. Price £420. Save up with Glenn.

The Cromwell Lock Memorial, Saturday 28th September 2024.

AGM and Gala Dinner 12 October 2024

CONTACTS:

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

Chairman: Chris Shillito, chrisshillito299@outlook.com Mob: 07877277288.

Vice Chairman & Acting Secretary: Craig Gadd, craig.gadd@hotmail.com
Mob: 07771880733

Treasurer: Glenn Ratten, glennratten@icloud.com Mob: 07795248328.

Web Master: Dave Hines, davehines2@davehines2.karoo.co.uk Tel: 01482 860981,
Mob: 07821698522.

Archivist: Tony Irwin, bigtirwin@hotmail.com Tel; 01482 793847, Mb: 07928956592.

WELFARE:

Hull 4 Heroes Supporting those that Served <https://hull4heroes.org.uk> 01482 534483.

Help for Heroes <https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk>

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

SSAFA <https://www.ssafa.org.uk>

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