



299 ASSOCIATION RE

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 the members of 131 Independent Commando Squadron RE, 299 Para 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 1st November 2024 at the Minerva Inn Hull.

Members present:

Tony Alcock, Mike Beardshaw, Brian Bilton, Kev Blacker, Gary Coe, Neil Cooper, Craig Gadd, Walter Holbrook, Syd Hoyle, Tony Irwin, Rob Meachen, Keith Morley, Gary Newton, Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Nige Sisson, Arthur Stimpson, Andy Thomas, Martin Tindle, Tony Weldon.

Apologies:

Terry Cunningham, Chris Duggan, Tony Foster, Derek French, John Harrison, Dave Harvey, Carl Henrickson, Dave Hines, Roger Holding, Mike Holdsworth, Dean Ideson, Mike Maddison, Dave Meekin, Steve Oliver, Lee Smith, John Thompson, Dave Woollas, Neil Yates.

Guests:

None.

Chairman:

The chairman Chris Shillito, opened the evening and welcomed all members present at the Minerva Inn. Chris asked all members to be upstanding, as Tony Irwin read out the exhortation.

Minutes proposed: A true record of the last meeting.

Proposer: Nigel Sisson.

Seconders: Mick Beardshaw.

Treasurer: Glenn, informed the meeting that the funds are still healthy, even though all bills have now been settled.

Acting Secretary

Craig, reminded members of the forthcoming REA/AEA merger. Members with the correct contact details held at AEA HQ should have received an email so they can cast a vote on the merger. Those members that haven't received an email should contact Craig with your correct contact details and he will endeavour to get your details updated, so you can have your vote.

Craig, went on to say, he was overwhelmed by the many emails of thanks from the branches and its members, regarding the AEA Gala Dinner and even received a card of thanks from the Chatham branch. It truly was a team effort and Craig would like to thank John Thompson, Nigel Sisson for their assistance and of course Glenn Ratten, for keeping an eye on all the money coming in. A great night was had by all.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chris, went on to congratulate the organising committee and a massive thank you to Craig, Tomo, and Nige for all the hard work they put in to make the Golf Day, AEA AGM and Gala dinner run smoothly and the great turnout from the 299 Association members.

Chris, received a message from our webmaster Dave Hines.

As the program I use for the website is over ten years old now and no longer is supported since Explorer was ended, I don't know how much longer I can keep the current website going in its present form. As I said a few months ago, the way forward if we want to keep the site is to transfer to WordPress. I don't have the skill to use this program, but I have spoken with Central Computers regarding the way forward. Chris at Central Computer has told me he can create a new site using WordPress of a similar appearance to our present one at a cost of no more than £150. It would be the new year before he is able to do this. What are your thoughts. I will continue to update the present site for as long as the current program allows.

Regards Dave.

The Association voted to keep the web site and pay the £150. Chris has spoken to Dave and if we go for this new system, it will be much easier to maintain and update. A big thank you to Dave who has maintained our website for many years in my opinion one of the best I have seen.

Two of our committee members were awarded the Presidents Commendation at the gala dinner, Craig Gadd and Glenn Ratten, were presented with the framed commendations and citations, well deserved to them both. As chairman I would personally like to thank them both, for the hard work they put in to make the association run smoothly, looking after our money, organising events and trips. Also, for backing me up in my role, thank you to both, and all the committee.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.

Change of venue this year, as we are mustering at the Queen Victoria Square, near Empress Public House at 10.15 hrs.

Dress: Blazer, Beret, Association tie, Medals. After the parade we will meet back at the Minerva Inn Public House, where there is a buffet laid on for members and families.

It is very important that we make every effort to March, so we can show our respects, to the fallen at the Cenotaph. As our numbers dwindle each year through age and infirmity, so please play your part while you can. Hope to see you all there, Thank You.

A big thank you to all, for all the generous members who have donated raffle prizes for Remembrance Sunday. A lot of you have donated raffle prizes already but if you haven't and can afford to donate a prize, just hand one into one of the girls behind the bar at the Minerva between now and Sunday.

Welfare:

Dave Harvey is in Castle Hill Hospital having treatment now, I don't know any more details.

John Harrison is still receiving care for prostate cancer and urged all members to get yourself checked out.

1 in 8 men will get prostate cancer. If you're over 50, or you're black, or your dad or brother had it, you're at even higher risk.

Prostate cancer is not always life-threatening. But when it is, the earlier you catch it the more likely it is to be cured.

Source: Prostate Cancer UK

Any other business:

Tony Irwin, updated us on this year's remembrance parade. (As above).

Also, the parade at North Bransholme with U.R.B.A.N. Muster at the urban office, Appin Close, Grampian way off Lothian way North Bransholme. Wednesday 6th November at 10.30 hrs for 11.00 hrs. Where wreaths will be laid at the monument.

Dress Blazer, Beret, association tie, Medals.

Bus stop winner: Arthur Stimpson.

Next meeting: 6th December 2024 20:00hrs at the Minerva. Although no formal meeting this will be a get together for Christmas drinks.

Dates for your diary

Remembrance Parade 10th November 2024

CONTACTS:

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WELFARE:

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>

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