



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 Squadron RE.
Promoting and encouraging such events as may bring pleasure to all members of this association.
Relieving where practicable any hardship or distress suffered by a member, or dependent(s) of a member of this association.
Promoting and maintaining contact with the members of 131 Independent Squadron RE; and all other Airborne/Commando associations.

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

Date: Friday 5th August 2022, 20:00 hrs at the Minerva

Members Present: M Beardshaw, B Bilton, K Blacker, N Cooper, T Cunningham, D French, C Gadd, C Ham, D Harvey, W Holbrook, A Irwin, R Meachen, K Morley, B Oldfield, F Pougher, P Robson, G Ratten, K Russel, C Shillito, M Tindle, A Weldon, D Woollas, N Yates.

Apologies: R Able, A Alcock, D Barker, J Brooks, G Coe, C Duggan, T Foster, R Gill, M Hall, D Hines, R Holding, D Ideson, M Lawrence, M Maddison, A McGlynn, D Meekin, S Oliver, K Saddington, P Sims, L Smith, RSwatman, J Thompson, T Walker,

Guests: Nil

Welcome and 'Roll Call'

The Chairman **Chris Shillito** welcomed all present to our August meeting and was very pleased to see a relatively good turnout in the middle of the holiday season. He also wanted to pay special thanks to all those "die hards" that continue to turn up month in month out. But also, to those that can't make regular visits, and that you have not been forgotten about, he hoped everyone is keeping healthy, and look forward to seeing you soon.

Chris thanked the Vice Chairman **Craig Gadd**, for standing in as secretary for **Gary Coe** who is still on an overseas Exped, enjoying life with his new partner Jacquie and wishes him all the best.

Minutes from the last meeting were proposed as a true record.

Proposed by – B Pougher
Seconded by – Tony Irwin

Treasure's Report:

Glen Ratten brought the meeting up to date with the association finances. He went on to say all monies for Arnhem is now in and look to make final payments out to the relevant parties.

Anyone wanting to pay any monies online please speak to **Glen** as the account details have changed.

Correspondence

The men of 299 Para Sqn, 23 Para Regt RE have been working hard on the refurbishment of Cromwell lock and is now complete. **Steve Wallis** the National chairman is now looking at the branches to keep up with the upkeep of the monument garden. Once this has been agreed amongst the branches, we will let you know the outcome. As always if members happen to be passing you are always welcome to stop by, and do a bit of house keeping whilst paying your respects.



Kev Blacker ran another 100miles the Montane Lakeland 100 the UK's premier Ultra Distance trail race, with a toatal ascent 28000 feet with a total of 39hrs running starting on Friday night. **Lee Smith** who did the pre warmer, a mere 50 miles. Greta effort guys. This was a hard run, and the guys were still feeling it in their legs a week later.

The web site quotes "ordinary people achieving extraordinary things" by no means these guys ordinary.

Kev is trying to raise funds for Help Jon Build a Wheelchair

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-chef-jon-build-a-wheelchair?qid=e266cc09a7dd9c557aa7155c4e707f88>





The 32nd AGM & Reunion will be hosted by the Birmingham Branch AEA.
The Hotel lies at the centre of the motorway network and is easily accessible.
The Hotel is situated next to Birmingham Airport on the A45 and in close proximity to Birmingham International Railway Station. The Holiday Inn hotel has a Gym, Swimming Pool, Sauna/Steam Room and Jacuzzi.
If any member or Branch would like any further information, you can contact:

AEA Birmingham.

Tom Smith. smithtom131@gmail.com Mobile 07736666337.
Roger Howles. r.howles301@gmail.com Mobile 07831262512
Steve Brown. stevebrown4@hotmail.com Mobile 07702597546

Kind Regards
Steve Brown
On behalf of the Birmingham Branch AEA

.....

Chairman's Comments:

Chris mentioned that we were all looking forward to Arnhem and asked members that your Covid injections are up to date, which should be the third booster. Also, that you proof of vaccination, either a hard copy or on the NHS App on a smart phone that is up to date for travel.

The **E111** is no longer available and had been replaced with the **UK EHIC**. It has now been replaced by **UK GHIC** because of Brexit. If you have a EHIC card this remains valid until expiry. You can then apply for a UK GHIC or if you don't have any health card on the NHS website.

The link is below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Beware of unofficial websites, they may charge you a fee to apply.

Items from members:

Just a reminder **Nigel Sisson's** invited everyone to his reception on the evening of the 8th October 2022 at Canham Turner, Hull University from 18:30. Please RSVP Nigel on 07976979826

T Irwin, attended 4 funerals this month and as usual carries our standard with pride.

Billy Drayton's sister, sends her regards to the lads.

Tony Costello who fought at Palestine sends his regards. Tony we hope you are keeping well and hopefully see you soon.

Simbo's Bus Stop:

Won by: **Bri Bilton**

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

Next Meeting: will be at the **Ship Inn** on Friday 2nd September 2022 kick off 20:00 hrs.

WITH NOTHING MORE TO DISCUSS THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING THANKING ALL FOR THEIR ATTENDANCE

.....

Dates for your diary:

ARNHEM PILGRIMAGE 2022

15TH – 19TH September 2022, all details to follow for the people going on this trip.

Cromwell Lock 2022

25th September 2022, 11:00 RV, service at 11:30 Members from the Airborne Engineers Association will attend and associated Airborne Associations

32nd AGM Birmingham 2022

32nd AGM will be held in Birmingham Holiday Inn, Birmingham Airport 21st – 23rd October 2022 anyone wanting to attend can book directly with the Birmingham Branch

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 13th NOV. 2022, muster 9:30hrs down Pease Street, Anlaby Road, Hull. Dress for parade & service at the Cenotaph.

1 Troop 299 Squadron are parading in Hull this year and will be sharing the buffet at the Minerva with the association.

CONTACTS:

Chairman: Chris Shillito, chrisshillito299@outlook.com Tel: 01482 806690, Mob: 07877277288.

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

Secretary: Gaz Coe, coeblimey240@gmail.com Tel: 01757 268188.

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:

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