



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: 8th August 2025, Monthly Meeting at the Minerva Inn, Hull.

Members present:

Tony Alcock, Mike Beardshaw, Brian Bilton, Neil Cooper, Chris Duggan, Craig Gadd, Carl Ham, Tony Irwin, Paul Jefferson, Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Kenny Russel, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Nigel Sisson, Andy Thomas, John Thompson, Martin Tindle, Tony Weldon

Apologies:

Kev Blacker, Gaz Coe, Terry Cunningham, Tony Foster, Derek French, Carl Ham, John Harrison, Carl Henrickson, Dave Hines, Mike Holdsworth, Syd Hoyle, Dean Ideson, Martin Lawrence, Mike Maddison, Percy McGlynn, Keith Morley, Bud Oldfield, Paul Robinson, Lee Smith, Dave Woollas.

Guests:

None.

Chairman

The chairman Chris Shillito, opened the meeting and welcomed all, to our August meeting. He went on to thank everyone for attending on a lovely summer's night.

Minutes proposed:

That is a true record of the last month's meeting.

Proposer: Tony Alcock.

Seconder: John Thompson.

Treasurer

Our treasurer Glenn Ratten, went on to say nothing was paid out, so our funds, "still remain healthy".

Vice Chairman:

Craig Gadd, mentioned that members who's contact details, are on the data base, should have received an email from the REA confirming or asking which branch they wish to attend. Obviously, members need to put down 299 Association if they want to remain!

Please see the link to join the AEA if you haven't received or don't think you are a member. You will only receive the Decembers and future journals if your contact details are correct. At present we only have 14 members present on the data base. It is quite important we do this to help maintain the structure and our future of 299 Association within the AEA and the REA

<https://www.airbornesappers.org.uk/jointheaea.html>

Last month Chris, Tony and Craig went to Cromwell Lock, to continue with the maintenance and planted the new rose bush, painted the railings, and pointed up the paving slabs around the garden. It is starting to really take shape ready for the memorial service in September.

Please make every effort to attend in September this is our focus of events for this year, especially with some surviving family members in attendance, along with various dignitaries also.

A lot of effort has gone into this year's event to make sure our fallen brothers will never be forgotten.

If you are attending, please fill in the link that Olaf Dudley has sent to try and keep a tally of the numbers.

<https://forms.office.com/e/CjdL6W5tn2>

Anyone who receives the minutes by mail and cannot access the internet, please let the Vice Chairman know, and he will help with access to the services mentioned above.

Chairmans Comments

Transport for Cromwell lock on the 50th anniversary on Sunday the 28th September will be own transport anyone requiring a lift get in touch with Chris.

Members who have kindly offered their cars for lifts up to now, are Chris Shillito, Craig Gadd, Brian Bilton and Dave Woollas, if you have room in your car let us know.

We need to have a good turnout out for Cromwell Lock, to Remember the 10 young airborne sappers who perished there. Dress for the service, Blazer, Beret, Association tie, The Service begins at 11:00 hrs please be there no later than 10.30hrs.

Cromwell lock [Cromwell Lock, North Muskham, Newark NG23 6HX](#)

Any other business

Nigel Sisson, gave some info regarding Cromwell lock and staying over at the travel lodge Newark-on-Trent on the Sunday 28th, £53 pound for a double twin. There is an Asda carpark opposite which is £3.50 24hrs. It's approx 6-8min taxi to the Lock. So, Nige suggested drive to hotel and park up then taxi to memorial and taxi back later, then back to the hotel to check in and ready for the evening food and beers. Please note when you book your room you change it to a twin if sharing when you receive your confirmation booking. Nigel Sisson and Tony Alcock have already booked, with some interest from others.

Bus stop winner:

Pete Robson

Next meeting:

Will be on the 5th September 2025 at The Minerva Inn, Hull.

With no more to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting.

Dates for your diary

Cromwell lock.

50th Anniversary to be held at the lock on the 28th September 2025 service to commence at 1100hrs.

Remembrance Parade

9th November Hull more details will be available nearer the time.

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.