



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 10th June 2022 at the Minerva, kick off 20:00 hrs, N/B: meeting moved to the 2nd Friday of the month because of a clash with the Jubilee celebrations.

Members Present: M. Beardshaw, B. Bilton, G. Coe, N. Cooper, T. Cunningham, R. Gill, F. Gray, C. Ham, D. Harvey, D. Hines, W. Holbrook, A. Irwin, S. Knowles, M. Lawrence, A. McGlynn, R. Meachen, K. Morley, B. Oldfield, S. Oliver, F. Pougher, G. Ratten, S. Saxby, C. Shillito, P. Sims, N. Sisson, M. Tindle, T. Walker, A. Weldon, N. Yates.

Apologies: P. Robinson, A. Alcock, A. Costello, C. Duggan, P. Hairsine, B. Steele, M. Maddison, K. Blacker, J. Brooks, A. Foster, D. French, C. Gadd, P. Hairsine, S. Hoyle, D. Ideson, D. Meekin, P. Robson, L. Smith, J. Thompson, C. Walker, D. Woollas.

Welcome and 'Roll Call'

The Chairman **Chris Shillito** welcomed that old 299er **Fred Gray** up from the smoke on one his visits to Hull and it was good to see him looking so well, also a new member **Keith Morley**, all made welcome, then he opened the meeting by asking for a proposer.

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

Proposed by – **Frank Pougher**

Seconded by – **Brian Oldfield** and were carried

Treasure's Report:

Glenn Ratten gave an update on the associations funds and was also actively receiving monies for this year's Arnhem trip, a very busy man, the deadline for total payment of this trip is the 1st July (the next meeting), money has to be paid by this date, **don't miss the boat.!**

Interesting fact: this meeting is the first 299 Association meeting, were members receiving the minutes via snail (ordinary) mail would have to pay for them at the rate of £25 per year, per person, **only one member from the designated and original list of 25 has decided to continue receiving the minutes this way, I can only conclude that a lot of money must have been spent on computers.!**

Correspondence:

Message of thanks posted via message board the day after the last meeting (May AGM) from our Chairman **Chris Shillito**;

“Top night at the AGM last night we raised £300 for charity due to the generosity of the 299 Association. Well done everyone. The same committee was voted in for yet another year.

A big thank you to our awesome photographer **Tony Foster and Tony Weldon** for laying on the chips, (for eating), also **Tony Irwin** for bringing the Standard and of course all the people who donated the raffle prizes to make it happen. The lovely **Steph** and her family sent 299 a message of thanks for supporting her charity, SEN (Special Educational Needs) in raising £300.

Email received from **Craig Gadd** regarding himself, after been kindly invited to a right Royal garden tea party at the Buckingham Palace through the ‘Not Forgotten Association’ who’s patron is the Princess Royal, he represented the many service personal damaged in the line of duty and he openly, and without prejudice, kindly represents our own 299 Squadron men who are serving today, and also includes 299 Association colleagues affected whilst serving their country, and for this we have to thank him. **Craig lost a leg on his 3rd tour of Afghanistan** and is the currant Vice chairman of this association and is greatly respected by all, especially those of us who witnessed his personal struggles with his own disabilities. Also as a veteran of this conflict he was also asked to represent the damaged veterans from the Iraq wars, 3500 guests were invited to enjoy a few very posh sandwiches with tea or apple juice, (no alcohol), but plenty of very polite chatter.



Craig talking to Vice Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence (Princess Royal's husband)

N/B: The Not Forgotten Association is a British Armed Forces registered charity for serving & ex-service personal, including wounded, and operates throughout the UK.

The 'Not Forgotten' helps to combat isolation and loneliness in the armed forces community by providing entertainment, social activities, challenge holidays and respite breaks for all those who are wounded, injured and sick because of their service.

AEA AGM October 2022.

Gentlemen, hope this email finds you all in good health.

Can we ask that if any of 299 Association members are booking for the AGM in October to be held in Birmingham, that when they book their room(s), they must also book for the Gala Dinner at the same time, the hotel are treating these as separate bookings?

Can we also ask that if any of those attending would kindly bring along a raffle prize, it would be much appreciated. The hotel are donating a free hotel stay for the raffle which is very generous of them?

A reminder to anyone attending this event to book in your car(s) on arrival at reception to avoid hefty charges.

We had a meeting at the hotel this morning and the bookings for rooms are filling up nicely and looks good for a well-attended AGM Reunion.

Any questions please get back to me. Regards **Steve Brown** (on behalf of the Birmingham Branch of the AEA).
Tel: 01212 516881.

Cromwell Lock Memorial Service,

Gentlemen. I have made an application to the Canal & River Trust to hold the annual memorial service at Cromwell Lock, Newark to remember those members of 131 Indep Para Sqn RE(V) who lost their lives there whilst on Ex Trent Chase in 1975.

The service will be held on Sunday 25th September commencing at 11:15 hrs and it is planned to meet up after at the Muskham Ferry Inn for refreshments after the event, berets and medals are to be worn and Standards are to be carried as in previous services. The **Rt. Rev'd John Finney** will be conducting the service.

I will notify you formally when the application has been approved. (Please collate approx. numbers attending).

Regards **John Lee (President AEA)**.

The Funeral of James David Lannigan.

Chairman Chris Shillito made an appeal on the message board for the remembrance of an old Paratrooper from our city, **Jim Lannigan** had passed away and was in need of a military presence at his funeral, and volunteers were needed and asked for, men from this association and the Hull branch of the PRA paraded on the 27th May at 11:00 hrs at the Chantlands Ave. Hull. Crematorium in Berets, Blazers and decorations, including Standards, giving him the farewell he deserved. Although he was not a part of our association he was an airborne brother and **'There for the grace of god go I'**

A Big Bike Ride

Two 299 Association men set about saving their train fare's and biked from Edinburgh to Scarborough and still managed to get two ladies to fly the 131 colours for them (see Face book), well done lads, good effort.



Rich Gill & Mick Sunderland

Chairman's Comments:

It's a big well done to **Gilly & Mick Sunderland's** bike ride, we have seen our 131 flag and 299 rugby shirts all over the world and at lots of events which you guys get involved in, therefore well done to you all, and if you are going anywhere on holiday, up the mountains or wherever, don't forget who you are, the expats amongst you have no excuse in showing the colours, please get a photo in at every opportunity and let's get them on the Face Book page.

N/B: If you have any old photos or things of interest we all need to see them.

A great day out at Deano's retirement bash on the Hull Marina, a good turn out from the lads with plenty to drink in the sunshine.

Jim Lannigans funeral witnessed a great turn out from 299, **Jim**, a close friend of **Tony Alcock** reported that his family were impressed and thankful for our support.

I will list the 299 member attendees: **Alcock, Ideson, Shillito, Sims, Beardshaw, Cooper, Coe, Hoyle, Weldon, Irwin, Robson and Holbrook.**

I thank these men who made the effort, especially when there was nothing in it for them, other than the support for one of their own, so very commendable.

Arnhem Is all booked up with deposits paid in on the hotel, ferry and coach, we need to pay for these in full, therefore get your money paid in by 1st July. We have four ex 301 troop brothers joining us for our Friday night meal at the hotel on 16th September, great news.

Some of our more athletic members are in the act of planning various physical challenges around this trip, e.g. running the whole distance from the UK to the hotel, swimming the Rhine delta near the RE monument at Dril cross roads, and we wish them well.

Note: these men undertake these challenges under their own steam, self-supporting and without input from the 299 Association.

If you ordered a 299 Association Shield please pick them up ASAP.

The 299 Association Rugby shirts are ordered but will be quite a while before completion.

Matters arising: the manageress at the Minerva, **Stephanie** interrupted the proceedings to present a framed and mounted thank you print to the meeting, put together by her special needs children in appreciation for the monies raised for their charity at the AGM (May meeting) via the raffle. This was gratefully received.

Items from members: **Tony Irwin** brought news of the events in Hull in remembering the 40th Anniversary of **The Falklands War**.

The proceedings will be centered on the Queens Gardens where you will find various stalls & stands and it will all take place during the week end 17, 18 & 19th June 2022. There will be a service in the Minster and parade on Sunday the 19th with a march after the service from the Minster to the Cenotaph, led by the band of the Royal Marines, wreaths will be laid by this association at the Cenotaph.

He also brings news from the last CESA meeting (Combined ex Servicemen's Association) regarding new enforced rulings to the Hull people's great Church, The Hull Minster, formally known as The Holy Trinity. The latest dictat states that all military within the Minster is to be removed and never mind any sacrifice made by the people of Hull who will have no say in the matter, such is the power of 'woke'

Simbos striptease bus Stop: one winner this month **Terry Cunningham** with 'Teddies' not a pretty site.

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

Next Meeting: Friday 1st July at the Minerva, 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 Memorial service

The service will be held on Sunday 25th September, at the Lock, commencing at approx. 11:15 hrs, meeting up after at the Muskham Ferry for refreshments.

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 direct 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, Mb: 07877277288.

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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