



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 5th Sept. 2025 At the Minerva Inn Hull.

Members present:

Mike Beardshaw, Neil Cooper, Chris Duggan, Derek French, Craig Gadd, Dave Hines, Walter Holbrook, Tony Irwin, Martin Lawrence, Bud Oldfield, Steve Oliver, Glenn Ratten, Pete Robson, Chris Shillito, Paul Sims, Andy Thomas, Martin Tindle, Tony Weldon, Dave Woollas, Neil Yates.

Apologies:

Ricky Abel, Tony Alcock, Kev Blacker, Gaz Coe, John Harrison, Carl Henrickson, Mike Holdsworth, Roger Holding, Lee Smith, Rhys Swatman, John Thompson

Guests:

None

Chairman

Chris called everyone to stand for the exhortation and for Tony Irwin to say the exhortation in respect of all those we lost at Cromwell Lock.

Minutes proposed:

A true record of the last meeting.

Proposer: Tony Irwin

Seconder: Mick Beardshaw

Treasurer

Our treasurer Glenn informed the meeting that the funds are healthy.

Secretary

Stated there was no correspondence and would somebody please write to him?

Vice Chairman

Informed the meeting that arrangements for Cromwell Lock are gathering momentum and going to be 'mega' busy with the number of dignitaries and families attending. He suggested that everyone be there for 10am. There will be parking at the lock and attendants on site and there's likely to be a tea/coffee tent? Craig's going to be there for 9am. Re those staying over at Cromwell to get in touch with Nige. Garden's looking good. Re taking crosses, anyone wanting to plant crosses to plant outside the Memorial Garden or just lay them against the memorial lock to avoid tearing the membrane that's laid to prevent weeds coming through. Craig then thanked everyone for all the efforts over the last few years in making the memorial look brilliant.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman began by thanking Craig, Eamon Smyth and Mike Holdsworth for their hard work on the Cromwell Lock memorial. Chris then asked re the gala dinner in Scotland, if anyone was going? Craig mentioned there was only 6 places left. No one is going. Chris asked for volunteers to go do some maintenance work at Cromwell Lock as near as possible to the 28th September. Four volunteers came forward, Mike Beardshaw, Craig Gadd, Tony Irwin and Tony Weldon volunteered to go with Chris. The provisional date for this is Wednesday 24th September. Chris then asked for a vote on presenting our Association shield to the lock keeper. This was carried. Chris and 'Weldo' have been given the honour of throwing a wreath into the lock and asked Martin Tindle, who was there on the night, to lay the troop wreath.

Welfare:

Tony Irwin said he'd received a call from Tony Costello who, sends his regards to everyone and said he's doing ok, not getting out much but he's fine.

Bus stop:

Due to lack of numbers, it was agreed to carry this month's Bus Stop forward to the next meeting.

Any other business:

Tony Irwin informed the meeting that it was VE Day at Eden Camp this weekend

Next meeting:

3rd October 2025 at The Minerva Inn, Hull

Dates for your diary:

Cromwell Lock Memorial 50th Anniversary 28th September 2025

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.