



299 ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to the AEA, Charity No: 1009201

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 association.

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

Date: Friday 3rd July 2015

Members Present: M. Beardshaw, B. Bilton, J. Brooks, J. Cherry, G. Coe, N. Cooper, A. Costello, G. Crum, T. Cunningham, W. Drayton, J. Duffy, C. Duggan, R. Franklin, D. Harvey, D. Hines, A. Irwin, A. Kitching, C. Lickiss, J. Mace, M. Maddison, F. Pougher, L. Ransom, G. Ratten, K. Robinson, C. Shillito, P. Sims, R. Swatman, Mart. Tindle, A. Weldon, C. Wilcock, C. Woodward.

Apologies: G. Beaumont, C. Gadd, A. Green, G. Grindley, S. Hoyle, O. Nelson-Girchen, P. Robinson, P. Robson, L. Smith, J. Thompson, Mike. Tindle, C. Walker.

Guests: Lynda Kitching.

Welcome and 'Roll Call'

The chairman welcomed all present then opened the meeting.

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

Proposed by – **M. Maddison**.

Seconded by – **C. Shillito**.

Treasure's Report: **Martin** reminded the meeting that all monies for this year's Arnhem pilgrimage are needed by the end of July, therefore just smile and pay up please.

A donation to the association's funds has being made by that "long time, no see" ex 299 Association member, **Steve "Nobby" Oliver**, apparently this is his way of thanking the association for the private and personal use of its marquee, he has received our thanks for his donation, "it all helps" This association is open to all 299 men, nobody is excluded.

Another injection to our "coffer's" has been gratefully received from the skill and efforts of **Dave Hines** who has been beavering away on historic video & film footage of 299s activities taken over the last 40-50yrs, with much of the material coming from **Tony Kitchings'** collection of archive material. **Dave** has produced some brilliant DVD's of this film footage, all presented in a very professional way, and at no cost to the association. These are being sold on a donational basis for the benefit of our funds.

We can only applaud this activity and thank the lads for their commitment to this association.

Correspondence: Lord Mayor of Hull Charity Appeal Fund

Craig Gadd & Gary Coe attended the Lord Mayor of Hull Charity Appeal Fund Committee meeting on 24/6/2015 as representatives' of the 299 Association; this was the first of bimonthly meetings designed for the planning and promoting the raising of funds for the Lord Mayors given Charities during her year in office. The agenda and minutes taken were read out to the meeting, 299s' participation in this fund raising appeal was then thrown open to the floor for discussion. This association would be expected to help, support and contribute to the **Lord Mayor Cllr. Anita Harrison's** agenda of fund raising activities throughout her year in office, 299s' committee are open to any suggestions, and put the question of support for this appeal to the meeting, this was proposed by **A. Kitching** and seconded by **Les Ransom** with the vote for supporting this Charity being unanimous.

We are already making plans for a clay pigeon shooting competition, on a day out basis, between us all, **Tony Kitching** is sorting the details out for this, probably earmarked for a quieter part of the year, more details at the next meeting.

Sqn News: **Chris Duggan** gave a brief update on the Squadrons agenda and intends to introduce 1 Troops' new **PSI S/Sgt Dilks** to this association ASAP; apparently he is keen to meet you all and is an ardent supporter of 299 past and present, he's a 9 Squadron legend and a positive asset for the Hull Troop.

Social Calendar: Tony Irwin

The Summer "bash" at the Barracks is fast approaching, 1st August, this event has being organized in response to a popular request by members of this association and is open to 299 past & present, family and friends of 299, **all welcome**, dress: smart casual, 7.30pm -> Late, tickets £10 each, this gives you a buffet, disco, raffle, prize draw and good company, this is the last event before the Squadrons' block leave, therefore come and support the lads and meet up with some of your old mates. 299 Squadron's **2IC Capt. John Thompson** proposed this "do" and **S/Sgt Carl Ham** helped by **Tony Irwin** have done the spade work, all we have to do is pay our money and enjoy, look forward to seeing you there..!

Tickets available from S/Sgt Carl Ham (07926276002), or Tony Irwin (07928956592), or any committee member.

N/B: "Simbo" is in charge of the raffle, he therefore asks you all to look through them unopened bottles that will never get drunk and any other potential prizes and bring them along on the night.

Matters arising: Bill Drayton

The association marquee: The Chairman informed the meeting that we have a marquee and have had for about the last 9yrs, he believes its dimensions are 17ft x 10ft approximately, and it is available for use by all association members for a nominal donation every time it is used. He believed this arrangement had being imposed to try and slowly recoup some of the initial cost to the association funds, this marquee had been an impulsive purchase by a previous administration.

Les Ransom has kindly agreed to store the marquee at his place in Woodmansey, and it is now at your disposal, please, always do a courtesy check first for availability through either the committee, and /or Les, remember that the marquee belongs to us all, the responsibility for its care lies with the borrower.

The associations website: Massive thank you to **"Gaddy"** for doing the business, I know how pleased you all are because I've read the message board, it is now up to us all to treat it with respect.

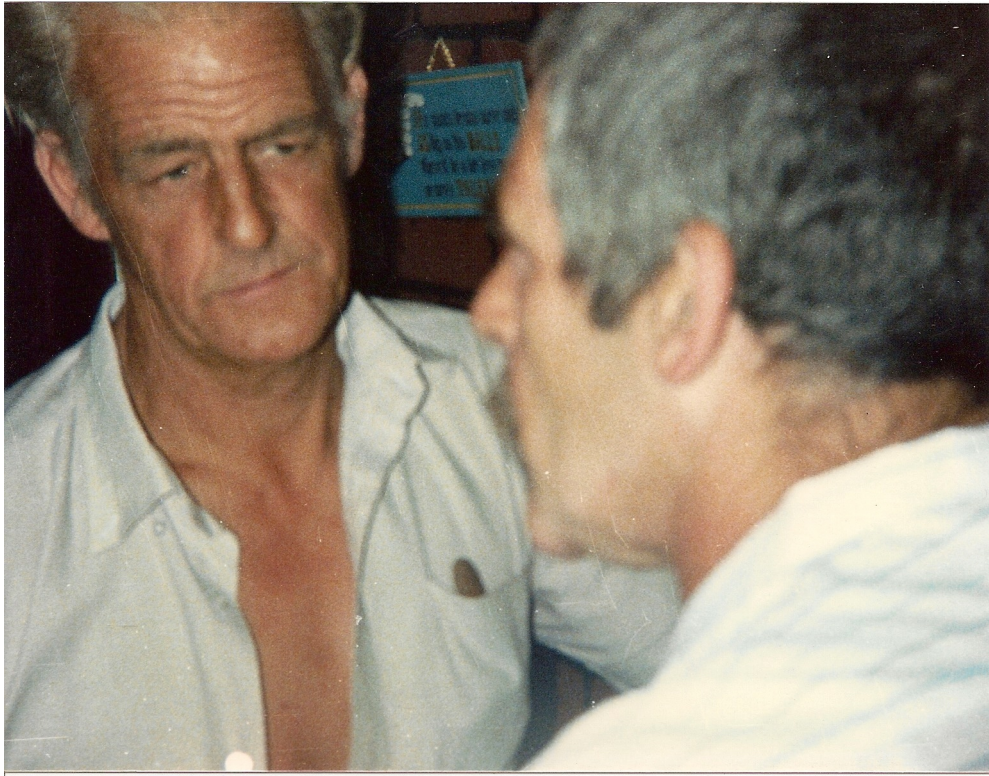
Past meeting minutes on the web: The problem facing this association with regards to any historic minutes is that under the control of previous administrations we can prove significant tampering & alterations to association records. The content of minutes taken at some meetings differed from the same minutes appearing on the web. This minute re jiggig activity was carried out on a regular basis, and this committee is reluctant in including any of this material into the new website, because all previous records passing through the control of earlier administrations may be deemed unreliable, and therefore next to useless; this matter was put to the meeting and the following options were put forward by the members;

- a) Do not include onto the website any minutes taken before the previous site was closed down.
- b) Start to include the minutes as and from now.
- c) Put no minutes onto the new 299 website at all.

This last option was proposed by **Chris Shillito** and seconded by **Keith Robinson** with the provisos that the association minutes are open to anybody who wants them, just ask, likewise, anybody not wanting them, just say, it's a free country. Anybody requiring historic minutes would have to go through the elected Secretary of the day; the vote for this motion was unanimous.

Items from members: Is there anybody out there who could put a name to these 299er's? Jungle warfare experts from the Malayan emergency back in the 1950's, I believe.

Unfortunately there could be an outstanding bar bill..! Pass any info on to the Barracks, (admin.).



Armed Forces day in Hull: Many thanks to Colin Woodward for parading our standard at this event, his presence did not go unnoticed.

Humber Bridge half marathon: Congratulations to Tony Weldon upon completing the course, not bad for a nearly seventy year old, although he had to put his cigar out this year. The Lord Mayor of Hull attended both events and was pleased to see 299s' involvement.

The Les Ransom Shield: has been awarded to **Gary Coe**, (me), by the lad's for being a bit of a **WAG** and good all-round association man, this award had been held for years by the present day Chairman **Bill Drayton**, who has allowed his pigeon fancying to take his eye off the ball. I am very flattered in receiving this award and thank you all for your vote of confidence; I also thank Les for doing the presentation like a seasoned professional, almost like royalty.

This is all getting a bit embarrassing:

Tonight's bus stop winner is Gary Coe.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending what proved to be a very good meeting.

Web site address: www.299association.com

Next Meeting: To be held at the “Minerva” on Corporation Pier, Hull, at 2000hrs on Friday 7th August 2015.

Dates for your diary:

Airborne Forces Day at Eden Camp 11th July 2015

Admission free for the wearer's of the maroon beret..! Standards are to be paraded.

Summer Bash at the Middleton Barracks, Hull, Saturday 1st August 2015

Get yourselves down to the Barracks for a bit of a do..! Put together for the past and present 299er's, family & friends, everybody welcome, 7.30pm – late, £10p/p includes buffet, Disco, prise draw and a few surprises.

Memorial Day at the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington, Nr. York, on Sunday 6th September 2015

Names needed please.

Arnhem Pilgrimage 2015

One trip this year: 17th – 21st September 2015, (28 attending).

Wreath laying at Cromwell Lock: 27th September 2015. (Confirmed)

It is the 40th Anniversary of the Cromwell Lock disaster when 10 of our Scottish friends perished whilst taking part in the **Trent Chase exercise of 1975**. (There are still a few places available).

The AEA Reunion / AGM 16th – 19th October at Coventry. (For more info see the Sec.)

Remembrance Sunday: 8th November 2015.

