



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: March 4th 2016.

Members Present: M. Beardshaw, B. Bilton, J. Cherry, G. Coe, N. Cooper, A. Costello, T. Cunningham, W. Drayton, A. Grimes, M. Hall, D. Harvey, D. Hines, A. Irwin, A. Kitching, C. Lickiss, J. Mace, F. Pougher, L. Ransom, G. Ratten, K. Robinson, P. Robson, K. Russell, C. Shillito, P. Sims, B. Steele, R. Swatman, Mart. Tindle, C. Walker, T. Walker, A. Weldon.

Apologies: F. Gray, D. French, R. Able, M. Tindle, D. Ideson, G. Beaumont, J. Brooks, J. Duffy, C. Duggan, R. Franklin, C. Gadd, M. Maddison, A. O. Nelson-Girchen, L. Smith, J. Thompson, J. C. Thompson, C. Wilcock, C. Woodward, D. Woollas, R. Gill.

Guests: Benny Bridges.

Welcome and 'Roll Call'

The acting Chairman **Chris Shillito** welcomed all present then opened a well-attended meeting by thanking all for turning out on such a bad evening.

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

Proposed by – **P. Robson**.

Seconded by – **K. Robinson**.

Treasure's Report: **Martin** brought the meeting up to date with our finances and reminded all that a £50 deposit is the only sure way of reserving a place on this year's Arnhem Pilgrimage. A list is being drawn up now with 24 places booked already.

Correspondence: Sad news via **Fred Gray** that **Rick Mogg** died on the 24th February 2016, some of you may have served with him in 131 Reg. I received the following letter from **Fred** and I quote: "At **Ricks** request there is to be no funeral. He will be taken from the hospital straight to the crematorium without any fuss or bother. Not even his close family will be there. **Ann**, his wife will hold a lunch at a later date for his close family only. That's how he wanted it, so being **Rick** that is how his last wishes will be carried out"

Message of thanks received from all the **Ideson** family for the many flowers, congratulations and best wishes showered upon them to celebrate the arrival of **Sebastian George** their brand new son, we wish them all the best for their future happiness.

Letter of thanks has been sent out to **Nick Marshall MD** Giacom Wold Networks Ltd for his assistance in setting up the new web-site which is still being developed by **Dave & Craig**.

Social Calendar: The Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull's **Charity Race Evening** held at the Guildhall on Thursday 25th February was well supported by this association and we have to thank those members, usually the same people, in representing us as our primary fund raisers to the tune of about £2000, well done 299 your support was necessary and needed. It all helps to keep the wolf away from the door and helps pay for the odd little trip out that we all enjoy.

Is there anybody out there willing to risk an evening of clairvoyance with Lesley Moreno? It will be held in the Reception Room, Guildhall, Hull on Wednesday 23rd March at 7.30pm, Tickets £5.00p/p, 299 are invited, **if you dare**, give your name and money to **Gary Coe. Tel: 01757 268188, or direct at the Civic Office on 01482 615093**, (Profits to the Charity Appeal Fund). It has been "**predicted**" to be an unmissable night and 299 support would be appreciated.

The Lord Mayor of Hull, Councillor Anita Harrison has invited 299 Association to the Grand Charity Ball to be held at the Guildhall on Friday 15th April 2016, Ticket cost £40 p/p from the Civic Office 01482 615093

This prestigious event takes place every year drawing people from both business, sporting and many walks of life from in and around the Hull area, included in the evening's entertainment you can expect music from Soul patrol, a chocolate fountain, Auction, raffle and tombola. This is a dinner suite occasion.

Chairman's Comments: Chris ran through the arrangements for the renaming parade at Kingsbury Barracks and is trying to keep the mini bus hire down to one day, therefore it's a midday start, down to London for the evening parade, and we've been cleared for head down at the barracks over night, but must have an early start back to Hull the following day. I do believe there are a couple of places up for grabs.

Matters arising:

The annual Norland Service will take place at 14.00hrs on Sunday 17th April 2016 at Holy Trinity Church, Kingston upon Hull.

After the service there will be a short march to the Pier Head. The Humberside Police Band will head the parade followed by the Regimental Standards, the Veterans, including many 2 PARA representatives from around the country, and cadets from all three services. At the Pier there will be a short service followed by a wreath laying ceremony.

After the service both the Minerva and the New Clarence Public House will be open for refreshments.

N/B: Because the Battle Honours and Ships Bell from the Hull Ship, and North Sea Ferry 'Norland' were entrusted to Holy Trinity during 2014 for safe keeping when she was scraped, this service has become an annual event. The Norland took 2 PARA down to the Falklands in 1982 and this association has supported the event every year. Unfortunately this year approx. 20 association members are away in Normandy but it is hoped that some of you will hold our end up, **Simbo & Kitch** have agreed to coordinate 299's part, including parading our Standard and all they need from you lads is some support. **Tel; No's Simbo: 07717887465, Kitch: 07941799063.** It's just a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon to honour our Falkland hero's.



Group photo taken at the February meeting

Items from members: a request from **Dave Hines, (new web-site designer):** for those of you without computers **Dave** has kept our "Role of Honour" on the new web-site, to honour those no longer with us, but has updated it by including a photo of each one of our departed friends, he feels that a few words could be included about each man, whilst we are still actively able to remember them, and asks **you all to take your part** by just putting a few words down on a piece of paper, or telephoning him directly on: **01482 860981** regarding a person known to you, once he has all the info he can edit accordingly. Remember this is one place none of us can avoid. I will enclose a list for those without a computer and remember to use your friends as, and, if needed for the written word, please don't ignore this request, every one of us will have made, and lost friends throughout our 299 service, therefore just class this as one of your last acts of friendship for some of your old mates, somebody, in the future will have to do it for you, **if they can be bothered**, can you?
Dave is prepared to visit you at home if this would make it easier for you, or you could send any notes to his home address as follows: **11a Maple Drive, Beverley, HU17 9QJ.**

N/B: To all of you out there who have not viewed the association web-site, I strongly suggest you find someone with the computer and the skills and get them to show you what you are missing, and I guarantee you will not be disappointed. You are all on there in one way or another.

Web site address: www.299association.com

Welfare update on Colin Woodward: **Colin** continues to baffle the medics and we have just been informed that has had to be rushed back into Hospital, (not yet sure which one), please watch the message board for further developments.

Next Meeting: to be held at the "Minerva" on Corporation Pier, Hull at 20.00hrs on Friday 1st April 2016.

Dates for your diary:

Renaming of Kingsbury Barracks: Tuesday 12th April 2016, Renamed as the "**Lonergan Lines**" in memory of **SSM Lonergan** killed in action whilst attending camp at Al Milah, Aden in 1965.

N/B: There are 16 definites already wanting to attend this function, there is no restriction on the numbers, people are prepared to use their own cars, therefore if you're interested let the committee know ASAP. It will be an overnight stay!

Normandy Trip: 14th – 19th April 2016, timings to be confirmed.

Grand Charity Ball at the Guildhall on the 15th April 2016

Norland Service at Holy Trinity 17th April 2016 at 14.00hrs.

Arnhem Pilgrimage: 15th – 19th September 2016.

AEA Reunion/AGM 2016. The Royal Court Hotel, Keresley, Coventry. Friday 14th October – Monday 17th October. Booking forms can be obtained from the Secretary and will also be included in the next edition of the AEA Journal.

Remembrance Sunday: 13th November 2016.

Tonight's Bus stop was won by Simbo

