

UNVEILING OF THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT & AIRBORNE FORCES NATIONAL MEMORIAL
13 JULY 2012

1. **General.** The Colonel Commandant has directed that the Regiment holds a Memorial Service to unveil The Parachute Regiment and Airborne Forces National Memorial at 1100hrs on 13 July 2012 at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire.
2. **Invitation.** This is an open invitation to the wider Regimental and Airborne Forces family, both past and present, serving or retired, to attend this important commemorative event along with their friends and family.
3. **The Memorial Unveiling Service.** The memorial unveiling and service will take place at 1100hrs. Only NOK and RHQ guests will require tickets which will be sent out prior to the event. The Service is to be led by the Senior Airborne Forces Chaplain, The Reverend K D Mentzel CF.
4. **Lunch Arrangements.** A Band will provide a musical backdrop to all receptions during lunch and a bar will be available for pre lunch drinks. There will be 3 areas for lunch:
 - a. **The RHQ Reception.** Following the unveiling service there will be a reception for NOK and RHQ guests. *This event is by invitation only.*
 - b. **The PRA Reception.** The PRA have kindly agreed to provide a light lunch for their members. *This event will be ticketed.* Details of how to obtain tickets will be promulgated through PRA Branches.
 - c. **The Wider Regimental Family.** For those members of the wider Regimental family who are not either RHQ guest or members of the PRA the NMA runs a cafeteria to provide lunch to the public which is next to the other venues.
5. **Timings.** The programme for 13 Jul 2012 is as follows:

a.	Arrival:	0900 - 1030hrs.
b.	Memorial Service:	1100hrs
c.	Lunch receptions:	1230hrs
d.	Dispersal:	1400hrs
6. **Dress.** The following orders of dress are recommended
 - a. Officers and Warrant Officers – Service Dress, medals, Sam Browne and gloves.
 - b. Other Ranks – PCS shirt sleeves down, PCS windproof smock (wet weather) Green belt either 58 or 72 pattern, PCS trousers and black boots.
 - c. Male guests - Lounge Suit or Jacket and tie
 - d. Female guests – equivalent attire (hat and gloves optional). Please consider that the area is grassed when selecting footwear.
7. **Elderly and Infirm.** Disabled parking can only be accessed providing you have a pass which can be issued by RHQ. Once 'on site' there are a limited number of golf buggy type vehicles which can be booked through the NMA by emailing: info@thenma.org.uk. And it should be noted that the Service lasts for 30mins and there is limited seating!
8. **Weather.** There is very little shelter in the vicinity of the Memorial which is completely open to the elements. Those attending should consider the weather and dress appropriately

24/05/12