



# So what comes next? When is a member a

With the photo shoot out the way and it not being as fruitful as we needed. This leads us to a fair dire need to get these remaining photos. So planned for March is a weekend at Holdy, mainly for anyone who construction wants to feature in a book, or get can squeeze themselves in out some photos we need. Even I can take some of the ones we need as they are going to be fairly small in the book, but still very important. Next event is in April and is

to be treated as a standard event. Bring everything for a tip-top impression this will be for all the remaining photos. If we don't get them at this, then are NOT HAPPENING. So last chance for anyone who wants to feature in a book, or get can squeeze themselves in out some photos we need. Even I can take some of the ones we need as they are going to be fairly small in the book, but still very important. Next event is in April and is

May will bring that show. All us onto the last impressions private event nailed down, if to hone in you need everything something specific, you have attend the until then to get Overlord show it! ... and for the at Denmead in love of god, let us June. So we know if you are need to get all coming or not... our ducks in a organising things row before is hard enough!



Something for us to discuss at some point. Let me elaborate on that title. Someone usually expresses an interests in the Miss Drop 44, we have a few chats with them and then they join the dreaded Whatsapp chat. I pity them at this point, its quite an introduction to us all! They are usually added onto the company rosta some points after joining the chat. Eventually some of these potential make it to an meet on home ground... soooo....

When is a member actually a member. Thinking long term, when if ever, do we ever start charging subs. I'm sure we have talked about this a few times and although I'm not sure if anything was ever full decided upon. Something that I recall was that if the group ever disbanded, what would happen to the group items and funds left over. A suggestion which came from Daz was that all group items be sold off and all

monies be donated to a charity of the groups choosing. Most likely a veterans charity. So again, more to discuss and put in place for the future. Items purchased by members to be used by the group remain property of that person unless otherwise stated. We will keep a log of all items donated/owned by the group. So please don't think that if you purchase a load of zelts and others use them that they are not yours.

Items I will be purchasing for the group but still owned by me will be some of the following:-  
 60mm mortar  
 .30 Browning LMG  
 yet more Zelts...  
 A couple of German officers tents with beds etc  
 More M42s, more shirts, more boots and a good pile of Garands.  
 All the extra items carried by Company Hq as spares, listed in TO&E, like spare SCR536s, M3 grease guns etc.



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## paratrooper guide book

and Callum got to work. Kelly looking a bit lost went in doors to get herself warm, prepared and ready for her photos. Around this point we had a message from OJ the photographer and he was a the gate. Callum ran down to fetch him and show him the way to Holdy. They both appeared a short while later and I spoke with Oli quickly about what sort of photos I needed of the guys. Kelly's photos we would cover later on. We mistakenly started with the new profile photos for the website, in the Daz style that he set at an early meet in MD44 history. This would later prove to be a giant waste of time as all the other photos just had so much more character and put the gormless mug shots to shame. Then after those mugshots came a series of photos for the book in the guise of front, back, left and right full body shots. Oli also put some more interesting photos as well, which is the ones that we would later use for the profile photos. Some of them are truly

works of art and this is what we need to concentrate on in future. We slowly cycled through all the guys and had multiple photos done... except one person who for some reason did a couple of group photos with Harvey and Harry, but then didn't say anything and his single photos never got properly taken! I had to cut one of him with other people to include him in the book! CALLUM BAD BOY! Kelly appeared in her M42s and finery underneath that I had only seen in photos when discussing what was needed about a month or so prior to this moment. I didn't get to see it now... and had to wait until after the photos. I showed Oli the one photo I need him to

replicate and the rest was up to them to sort out and do some magic. Kelly had some idea as I had tried to draw what I needed. We all retired to the stables and left them too it. Eventually they both came to find us in the stables, I was warming myself with a coffee. Kelly meanwhile was frozen to the core... again! Oli showed me a few of the photos and I was amazed! I simply said "my god, that's my friend that is!". Our new logo and branding was suddenly born and looked fucking stunning! The photos just needed adjusting for the website, hoodies and the leaflets... as well as everything else you prats suggest... boxers shorts... really?!?!



So you all know the book is getting hammered into being finished. I have spent the last week proof reading and now our own S2 Sgt (Henry Zoid aka Danny) is sat next to me doing the same. However, I thought while writing this if any of you actually really know what is included in this mighty book with the catchy title of -

'A re-enactor/living history guide to a paratrooper in Normandy'. It goes into some crazy levels of depths on items, some more than others, depending on what I know, discovered or thought was relevant or interesting.

Divisional, Regimental characteristics.

The isms!

D-Day+ variations due to dates

Overview of rifleman impression

Official uniform & equipment lists

info on -

M1 Helmets

Garrison caps

Jeep caps and scarves

M42 jackets

Trousers and suspenders

M42 trousers

Jumpers

Wool shirts

Gloves

Wool trousers

Undergarments

Jump boots

Raincoats

Raincoat

A-class & B-class

M1936 pistol belt

M1936 suspenders

M1936 Musette bag

Canteen covers, canteens and cups

Parachutist 1st aid packets

E-tools and variants

Rigger pouches

GP bags and Bandoliers

M7 Gasmask bag

Drop rope

Rifle cleaning kits

Cot straps

M1 Garands

M7 grenade launcher

M1 bayonet

M2 knife

M3 combat knife

.30-06 ammunition

Mk2 Grenade

Gammon Grenade

Hawkins mine

M15 WP Grenade

M16/M18 Smoke Grenade

Wash Kit

K rations

D rations

Watch

Smoking paraphernalia

ID / dog-tags

Stationery

Mess kit

Manuals

Prophylactics & V Packets

Compass

Invasion currency & cash

M1 eyesheids

Name tapes

Ranks and TO&E

Jump wings

Jewellery

Radioman, Messenger, Mortar roles, LMG roles

Cpls, Sgts

TO&E E7 August 1944

Zelts, Vehicles, Houses, Blankets, display items

and more and more!