



# GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION Gloucestershire Branch (The Gloucestershire Guards Association)



**President:** Colonel L. C. A. Ranson TD

**Vice-Presidents:** Captain G. L. Banks, Sir Henry Elwes KCVO. W. J. Eykyn Esq. Captain A. Fergusson-Cuninghame  
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Macleod, Charles Malet Esq, Major S. Marcham MBE, Lt. Col. J. G. Peel TD DL, Captain J. G. L. Pugh, Lt. Col C J E Seymour LVO,  
N. J. Simms Esq, Colonel G. W. Tufnell CVO DL, The Lord Vestey KCVO DL, Maj. Gen. Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO OBE DL,  
Major The Lord Andrew Wigram MVO

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**Hon. Secretary:** Colin J. Knight, Ridgeway, Bream Road, St Briavels, Glos. GL15 6TL Tel: 01594 530154 E-mail:  
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## Newsletter – April 2019

Issue (101)

Dear all,

**Meetings:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September:  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November

*All commence at 19:30 hours at the Victory Club, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham.*

The Victory Club, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham is the venue. Ample parking excellent room for the meeting, fair priced bar, and yes, an assortment of **complimentary quality hot pies** available during the interval. All members, to include Associate: Honorary and of course the ladies are most welcome.

### **Your Branch – Your support to ensure its long-term survival**

**Welfare.** As to be expected we have quite a list of those who are not experiencing the best of health. A big “Thank you” is extended to the many members who take the time and trouble to make a visit or two. Visits and contact are maintained by Grenadiers, Coldstreamers, Associate and Honorary Members... Long may the camaraderie prevail. Any member who feels that we might be able to assist in any way then please do not hesitate to get in touch

**Fifty Club.** Please on attachment letter asking for your consideration in joining the club. The first draw in this series will be at May Members Meeting.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Gurkha Meal.** Graham Barton kindly volunteered to organise this, suffice to say that 25 members sat down to a hearty meal not normally eaten daily by members. Thank you, Graham.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Branch Annual General Meeting.** The meeting was attended with members being informed that the Branch, from a financial point of view, was very satisfactory. Membership continues to hold although we could do with a few younger recruits. At the annual election the following were re-elected. David Errington – Chairman. Colin Knight – Secretary. Elaine Knight – Treasurer. Committee Alan Holford, Roy Dowle, Ivor Jones, Nigel Simms, David Hewer and Malcolm Waters (Coldstream). Unfortunately, due to personal reasons Peter Jones, our Social Secretary, stood down. President thanked Peter for his very conscious efforts for the past years while in this post.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April - Branch Walk.** Derek Knott, once more, has volunteered to organise a Branch Walk along the Stroudwater Canal. Meet at 10:00 hours in the Car Park at Stroud Railway Station. Please telephone Derek 01242 604116 to register your interest and for full information.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April St George's Day.** We have an allocation of complimentary tickets for the service in Gloucester Cathedral. Please see proforma to make application

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Regimental Remembrance Day.** We intend to run a coach, as we have done annually since the branch was formed. If you have not joined us before, why not make this year the one to give it a go. We are confident that you will not be disappointed

Coach will leave Maybury, Brockworth at 09:15 hours picking up at Cirencester and the Guards Club Windsor. On route to the capital we will be taking a break at the Guards Club in Windsor. The bar will be open with fresh tea/Coffee also available. Bring your own packed lunch which can be consumed on the premises. From there it is off to Wellington Barracks for the Annual Church Service and Parade. For those who have never been before, this is your chance to march with serving Grenadiers, the Regimental Band, and the Association Corps of Drums from Wellington Barracks to Horse Guards Parade and return. An experience that, in my humble opinion, stirs the body and soul. To march, once again, with the Regiment is a priceless gem. If not able to march, come along and enjoy the camaraderie of the occasion. .

On the return we again stop at the Guards Club for a Fish/Chicken/Pie and Chips supper.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Garden Party at Stowell Park.** Lord Vestey has kindly invited the branch to a Garden Party at Stowell Park.

- Times 12:00 hours. Carriage in the region of 17:00 hours.
- There will be a complimentary barbecue at 13:00 hours followed by a dessert.
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- During the afternoon we will be entertained by the Chedworth Silver Band.
- Stowell Park is vast estate near Northleach. Post code GL54 3LQ.
- Entrance to be found on the A 429. Entrance on your right if travelling from Northleach. We hope to have a sign (Grenadier Guards) at the entrance on the day.
- There is ample car parking.

*Cost will be just £7.00 per person.*

**Footnote (1):** If you would like salad or other accompaniments with your meal, we ask that you consider bringing a picnic hamper with whatever you feel you would like to accompany the barbecue.

**Footnote (2)** Invitation is to branch members with their wives/escorts. Friends can be considered based on the eventual response from branch members.

**Footnote (3)** In the event of adverse weather, the proceedings will take place in the Ballroom on site.

**Dress Code:** Gents – Blazer, Jacket or Smart Casual. Ladies – You always look at your best.

**Any questions or queries please contact the Honorary Secretary Colin Knight.**

If you intend to take advantage of this excellent value treat at a first-class location, please can we have your proformas returned at your earliest in order that we can establish possible numbers. Although the estate is huge, we intend to keep the numbers to a reasonable sized gathering to ensure that a warm personal atmosphere prevails.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July Grenadier Day.** Details on separate sheet.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September** - Garden Party by invitation of Colonel John Peel. Date for your diary. Details to be circulated in the next newsletter.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Branch Formal Luncheon.** This will be at the Hatherley Manor Hotel. Following the disappointment with the meal served last year, this year we will all dine at a greatly reduced cost with management in attendance to supervise. It has now the trappings for a nice very acceptable occasion. Date for your diary. Details to be circulated in the next newsletter.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Branch Christmas Social at the Victory Club.** Date for your diary.

**Secretaries Annual General Meeting London .** I attended the meeting held in Wellington Barracks on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The following are the main points that were raised, or which came under discussion.

Branch Closures. This year the sad news is that Sussex, North Lancs and Cambridge Branches are closing.

Association funds are in good shape although the investments took a bit of a downturn on the stock market. Did you know that there is now a Sergeant Major for the Armed Forces, this is the Army, Navy and Air Force. Yes, you guessed it, he is a Grenadier who now attached to the Ministry of Defence as an adviser. He can visit any military establishment at his discretion. Be interesting to see how the appointment eventually works out as it is a brand-new appointment. We were given a presentation by him at the AGM. Most interesting and enlightening. Anyone know him - Glen Haughton.

The Association President Colonel Aubrey Fletcher has invited all Branch Presidents' to join him for meeting at Lille Barracks later this month. First meeting of this nature that I can recall. I will also be attending and will report back accordingly.

### **Coldstream Dates.**

**26<sup>th</sup> April.** Curry Lunch followed by presentation about the Armed Forces by the Chief of the General Staff's Briefing Team at the Reading Hilton Hotel. Please contact [peter.walker@zen.co.uk](mailto:peter.walker@zen.co.uk) (01189 712409) for tickets.

**11<sup>th</sup> May** Coldstream Day at Victoria Barracks, Windsor.

**12<sup>th</sup> May** Black Sunday (Coldstream) Free Lunch available after the march. Meal ticket will be required. Please contact L/Sgt Strudwick RHQ to obtain a ticket no later than 30<sup>th</sup> April.

**Coldstream Gazette.** Please e-mail your RHQ for a copy. They will advise on cost £8.50 plus postage.

**Important Notice.** I am aware that many members back in 1990's took out an MBNA Credit Card (Grenadier Guards Logo thereon) Including myself, I am aware that several members have made application for PPI and have had substantial reward for their trouble. Myself, I got back in excess of £4,000.00 It does not matter if you now have none of the paperwork and are no longer holders of the card. I put in a claim and they paid out for transactions made in 1990. If you use a claim company, be prepared to pay their fees of anything from 25% – 40%. It is relatively easy to do this yourself and to receive all the monies that may be due. Anyone not sure, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and I will endeavour to point you in the right direction. Worth applying as I was firmly under the impression that compensation would not apply to me. **I was wrong.**

**Annual General Meeting Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.** A well-attended meeting saw the Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer re-elected. Peter Jones who stood down as Social Secretary was replaced by Graham Barton. Committee elected en-block as before with the deletion of Peter Jones and the addition of Graham Barton. Roy Claridge volunteered to undertake the task of administrating the sending of Birthday Cards. Credit awarded here to the Welch Guards.

If you are receiving this newsletter by snail mail and are on line, please would you forward me your e-mail address as it makes life, for me, so much easier and saves cost of postage and printing.

Kind regards to one and all,

**Colin J Knight** Honorary Secretary

## Proforma

### Saint George's Day Service – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

#### Gloucester Cathedral.

Tickets are complimentary. I apply for .....tickets for the Service

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#### Grenadier Gazette

Please reserve me .....copies. Cost per copy £7.00. Please add £1.25 if you would like a copy posted to you. Alternatively, they may be picked up at the next meeting.

I enclose my cheque to the value of £.....

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#### Regimental Remembrance Day – Sunday 19th May 2019

Please reserve me ..... places for the trip at a cost of £22.00 per person.

Please pick me up from Cheltenham [ ] Gloucester [ ] Cirencester [ ]

I would like the following supper on the return journey at the Guards Club Windsor: Fish/Chicken/Pie and Chips. Tea/Coffee and a Bread Roll will come with the order. Cost £7.50 per person. Please indicate clearly Fish [ ] Chicken [ ] Pie [ ]

Name.....Telephone Number.....

I enclose my cheque to the value of £.....

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#### Garden Party at Stowell Park – Sunday 16th June 2019

Please reserve me ..... places at a cost of £7.00 per person.

Name.....Telephone .....

Name of Members/Escort.....

I enclose my cheque to the value of £.....

Alternatively-I have paid by BACS. Please indicate if you have paid by this method.[ ]  
BACS details - Account Number 04205251 Sort Code 60-05-16

Payment my cheque. Gren Gds Assn Glos Branch

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Please return Proforma to Colin J Knight Telephone 01594 530154 e-mail – [grenadiersglos@tisali.co.uk](mailto:grenadiersglos@tisali.co.uk)

Ridgeway, Bream Road, St. Briavels. GL15 6TL

# Addendum to Newsletter

## \*\*\*Stowell Park\*\*\*

### Footnote to the Garden Party at Stowell Park.

Should there be availability I would like to bring the following guests.

Name.....Name.....

Name.....Name.....

You will be notified direct as soon as it can be established as to the possible numbers attending.

## \*\*\*Grenadier Day Sunday 14th July 2019\*\*\*

If there is enough support, we will run a coach to Lille Barracks, Aldershot.

Interested - please append you name and total size of your party. No obligation until it is established if we have enough support to run a coach.

Support - If there is enough support to run a coach cost per person will be in the region £23.00

**Name**.....

**Number in Party**.....

***Please return to Colin Knight.***

**e-mail** grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk

**Post.** Ridgeway, Bream Road, St. Briavels. GL15 6TL