GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – October 2008

To all members of the Branch. ***Issue No.*(49)**

This is last Newsletter of the year making it a total of seven sent this year. The letter is short, as it is mainly to draw attention to the final event of the year the Christmas Social and Draw.

If any member is still receiving these newsletters by Royal Mail and has now availed themselves of e-mail then would you please be as kind as to forward your details in order that I may communicate to you by this method. Not only does it save your branch a considerable amount in postage printing and stationery but it also relieves your Honorary Secretary of the laborious task of stuffing envelopes. Please do not fret if you are without a computer, as mail will still be sent to those without this facility. As a point of interest we are now just a little short of 50% of the membership with electronic facilities.

BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 27th November. Thursday 29th January 2009. Please note start times of meetings 19:30 hours**.**

Welfare. Due to Jimmy Green stepping down as Welfare Officer following his own personal health problems I am delighted to announce that David Leighton has volunteered to be the Branch Welfare Officer as with immediate effect. David himself is recovering from a recent operation but is expected to make a full recovery.

Colonel's Fund. The total amount now raised exceeds £700,000.00 a magnificent response to date. Thank you to the many members who have supported the cause. The fund is still open and it is hoped that early in the New Year that it will exceed £1,000,000.00

Branch Walk – Sunday 7th September. Unfortunately due to the prevailing weather condition and flooding in the area we were to walk, the day had to be cancelled.

Christmas Social – Sunday 7th December. Venue Norton Village Hall. As previously agreed and announced this will be a day event commencing at 12:00 hours. Please make a note in your diary.
Now for the good news. In this climate of rising prices and gloomy news your committee is pleased to inform you the entry cost per person this year will just £5.00, yes just five pounds. This will include a welcome drink or even two. Hot and cold food will be available, cold food in the form of a Substantial Cold Buffet and the hot food will come in the form of a Chicken Curry with rice. This will be followed by a desert then tea and or coffee. Later warm Mulled Wine with Mince Pies will be served. All this for the low cost of just five pounds as it has been subsidised.

The other bonus is that there will be no Official Bar you just bring whatever is your favourite tipple. Glasses will be available there will be no corkage or other charges.

The day will consist of dining in the region of 13:00 hours. After we have been fed and watered then providing that no one is asleep we will commence with the activities which will include drawing the winners of the Official Lottery, One pound in the envelope. Draw for a Hamper of Assorted Booze. Lucky ticket given to everyone, winners receive a Bottle of Scotch. A couple of games of Fun Bingo with a prize for any line then any two lines then on for the full house. Of course there will be the Grand Draw where tickets are only sold on the day and the prizes drawn during the afternoon. If you have any item that you would like to donate for the draw then this will be gratefully received.

Your committee can do no more to conclude the official year's calendar than to invite you to join us on the 7th December for what promises to be a fun afternoon with friends and family. Put the date in your diary, complete and return the proforma.

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Pre Christmas break at Littlecote House 19th – 21st December. A very healthy interest so far. For full details please contact Honorary Secretary. ***STOP PRESS***. Our Regimental Band will now be joining us at Littlecote.

Formal Lunch – Sunday 26th October. If you have not yet made your reservation there is still time to book on and join us. Please call Colin Knight or Alan Holford.

Festival of Remembrance – Cheltenham Town Hall Sunday 9th November. I have a few tickets for this annual event. There is no charge as it is sponsored by the Cheltenham Borough Council. Please telephone Hon Sec if you would like to attend, subject to availability they will be forwarded to you.

Visit your branch site – www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk It has only been up and running for very short time. "Log in" and have a look around. Your views and or comments are most welcome.

Please try and make the next meeting on Thursday 27th November. Your Branch. Your meeting, to which **all members are most welcome.**

Colin Knight **Honorary Secretary.**

If you require further information on any of the items in this Newsletter, then please telephone **Alan Holford 01452 534175** or **Colin Knight 01594 530154** Alternatively e-mail **grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk**

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