



# GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

## Gloucestershire Branch

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## NEWSLETTER – February 2009

To all members of the Branch.

*Issue No. (51)*

I decided to present this newsletter on headed paper in order to remind you of your Vice Presidents and officers of the branch. **Vice Chairman** John Head, **Treasurer** Elaine Knight. **Committee** – John Carter, Alan Holford, John Head, David Hewer, Ron Hill, Peter Jones, Colin Knight, David Leighton George Rimell, Nigel Simms, Gordon Willis.

### BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March (AGM). Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July. Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November

**Please note start times of meetings 19:30 hours to which all members are welcomed**

**Branch Annual General Meeting.** Just to remind everyone that the post of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Social Secretary, Welfare Officer, Treasurer and committee members are all up for re-election. If you would like to consider yourself for election to one of these posts then please let your views be known to the Chairman. As a matter of interest I am delighted to be able to report that at the January meeting we had the largest attendance for many years. Thank you all those who turned out on what was a very cold night.

**Welfare.** David Leighton our Welfare Officer already this year has undertaken a number of visits and made contact with many members. Do not be shy in coming forward with any item if you feel that we may be able to be of assistance.

**New Member.** We welcome 23452140 John Welch Coldstream Guards.

**Dumbleton Christmas Lunch – 2009.** This private venture organised by Derek Knott is already a “Sell out” before any publicity was released. Derek apologises to anyone who would have liked to attend but has been unable to do so. The problem he faces is demand that far exceeds the venue capacity. A nice problem to have but in its own way causes a few headaches.

**Future Events.** Your committee will be busy organising further events for the year, which will include. Formal Lunch and a possible visit to the National Memorial Arboretum for the unveiling of the Guards Monument which is now under construction. Walking, cycling and canoeing are also included in the programme for the year.

**Regimental Remembrance Day – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May.** Coach will leave Royal Well at 09:00 hours; Gloucester Car Park at Denmans Electrical) 09:20 hours: Cirencester Beeches Car Park 10:00 hours. Arriving at the Guards Club Windsor at about 11:45 hours where we will stop for lunch and a drink. Do not forget to bring your own packed lunch with you. The bar will be open also cups of tea and coffee will be available. On the return journey we will stop once again at the Guards Club for a Fish and Chip Supper. A bread roll with tea and or coffee will be included.

**Beating Retreat – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June on Horse Guards Parade.** Commencing at 21:00 hours. On parade :-

*The Bands' of the Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots Guards, Irish Guards and the Welsh Guards.*

*Also the Mounted Bands of The Life Guards and the Blues and Royals.*

*The Corps of Drums of the Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards and the Irish Guards.*

*Pipes and Drums of the Scots and Irish Guards.*

*The event will also be supported by The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery.*

*"Special Guests" His Majesty King's Guard from Norway.*

I am sure that everyone must agree that this certainly is a "Full House" with the top Regimental Bands all on parade at the same time. We will be staying overnight at the Union Jack Club. As I write there are only four places left for a full compliment. Please call Hon Sec for availability.

**Branch Informal Lunch – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April.** Venue the Masonic Hall, Lydney 12:00 hours for 13:00 hours. This will be the third time we have used this venue and members will recall that the bar prices are indeed very reasonable. The food on the two previous occasions has also been to a very high standard. Why not join us on a Spring Sunday for good food and company. Also ladies it will save you a day in the kitchen. And yes chaps no washing up fatigues.

## Menu.

### Starter.

Baby Leek & Potato Soup with Cream Cheese & Chive Croutons

Or

Home Made Pate

### Main Course.

Slow Roasted Shoulder of Lamb

Tender shoulder of lamb slow roasted with fresh rosemary,  
Served on a bed of roasted red onion mash, and accompanied

By a rich port & redcurrant sauce.

Or

Mediterranean Vegetable Basket

Pan-fried Mediterranean vegetables lightly cooked & nestled  
In a filo pastry basket & served with a herb & crème fraiche

Dressing.

### Dessert

Lemon Tart

*Tangy lemon tart dusted with icing sugar & served with a  
Clotted cream sphere.*

Or

Orange Marmalade Bread & Butter Pudding

*Sugar crusted bread & butter pudding, layered with orange marmalade,  
Served in a pool of creamy fresh home-made custard.*

**Cheese & Savoury Biscuits**

## Tea & Coffee

**Branch Formal Lunch – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September.** For your early warning and to append the date in your diary Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September is the date to record. Venue will be the Gupshill Manor, Tewkesbury. Please do your very best to join us. Full details to be published later.

**Grenadier Gazette.** This excellent publication is issued in March. It is an interesting read and contains a good selection of photographs. Please support your regiment by reserving your copy by completing the proforma to reserve your copy. **Come on chaps lets have a bumper response.**

**Grenadier Day Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June.** The venue is to be Wellington Barracks. At a Committee Meeting and later at a Members Meeting it was felt that there would be little support for this especially as a programme and car-parking etc had not been announced. After a debate it was agreed unanimously that the branch would not be running a coach this year. Of course this does not prevent anyone from attending under their own steam. It may be that car parking may be allowed in The Mall but this has to be conformed. If you are attending please remember to take ID with you.

**Branch Fifty Club.** At the last meeting we concluded the final draw for the present series. With the letter you will find details and an Application Form with an invitation to join. Last year saw a record number of members participating which was most encouraging. Remember your branch does not charge any fees. Many acts of welfare are undertaken each year. Also there is the cost of running such an active branch like postage and stationery. Please consider joining; if you are already a member please consider renewing your membership. Your branch intends to maintain the strong links with the regiment and branch members. By joining you are supporting your branch also you have a chance of winning a cash prize.

**Branch Skittles Team.** The first time Nigel Simms had anything to do with the Branch Skittles Team was way back in the early 1960's when the then secretary George Warmington ran the team which was in the Old Comrades League playing their matches at the Conservative Club. At that time members included Eric Lewis Eric Newell, Charles Taylor, John Gwilliam, Maurice Thomas, Peter Hooper all of whom are now playing in higher league. Nigel together with Peter Gwilliam and Derek Dean are still playing for team to which Nigel has been captain for some forty years.

The Old Comrades league was disbanded due lack of support so it was decided to apply to the Cheltenham Skittles League for acceptance. The application was approved and the team was named the Grenadier Guards. The first matches were played at the Lansdown Inn. Of interest the team consists of twelve players. Matches are played on and home and away basis match consists of four legs each having three players bowling six hands of three balls. Each player has to be registered with league before the start of the season. On average eighteen players' sign on for the season of which 80% are branch members.

After fourteen years at the Lansdown Inn the team had to move as the alley was pulled down. Staverton Airport was chosen were the team stayed for some two years before moving to the Cheltenham Cricket Club where the team still played their home matches.

At present the team are in Division Ten. George Rimell, Peter Jones, John Carter, David Leighton, Gordon Willis, Stan Jones, Peter T Jones, John Knight, Tony Jefferies and Alan Holford have now played with the team for many years. Past members include David Cresswell, Tom Budd and Tom Breen. Although the team never seem to win any cups the support for the team is excellent. Members travel from all parts of the county to play. Any member who would be interested in having their name placed on the list of potential players then please contact **Nigel Simms** alternatively contact the Hon Sec. You will be made most welcome.

**Request.** If you are receiving newsletters and correspondence by post and you are now on e-mail, please would you be kind enough to inform me of your address in order that I may correspond with you in this way. As I write 106 members have now availed themselves of this facility.

**Visit your branch site** – [www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk](http://www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk) “Log in” and have a look around. Your views and or comments are most welcome. Also any stories or interesting accounts would be appreciated.

Please try and make the next meeting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. 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](mailto:grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk) For any event. On the day the mobile telephone number to use is:- **07980 019017**



# GLoucestershire BRANCH

## GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

**February 2009**

During 2008 we ran a "Fifty Club" with a record number of participants. We hold six branch meetings per year with the draw being held at four of these meetings.

The seven prizes for each draw were as follows:- First Prize - £100.00: Second Prize - £70.00: Third Prize - £60.00: Fourth Prize - £55.00: Fifth Prize - £50.00: Sixth Prize - £40.00: Seventh Prize - £30.00.

Should additional members join then the prize money will be increased or additional prizes added, or indeed a combination of both. Of course should membership decrease the prize money would have to reduce accordingly.

We intend to run the draw again this year and accordingly I am writing to see if you would like to participate, or if already a member, continue your membership for a further year.

The cost is £30.00 for the year. Alternatively an easy payment scheme is available, please see proforma. Should you join you will be issued with a number, which will be entered into each draw. All prizes are sent by way of a cheque. Every participant is notified after each draw with a list of winning numbers together with names.

I do hope that you will consider joining, as not only is it a bit of fun with the gambling instinct, but it concludes the meetings nicely with it being the final item on the agenda.

Any profits generated will go to branch funds. As you are aware we continue to be very active branch especially with welfare. Also while writing it gives me an opportunity to remind you that no subscriptions have ever been asked for continued membership of the branch. Together with welfare and associated items, the cost of running the branch is met entirely from prudent housekeeping, several generous members and of course the Christmas Lottery and the Fifty Club.

Please give your active consideration in joining.

Yours most sincerely,

*Alan E Holford.*

Social Secretary.

**Should you wish to join, then please complete the enclosed proforma and return to Alan Holford.**

**The first draw in the new series will take place on Thursday 28th May.**

**Support your branch and join in.**

**Please complete the Application Form and return at your earliest.**

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

## GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

### Application Form – Fifty Club

To:- Mr A. E. Holford,  
41, Teddington Gardens,  
Gloucester.  
GL4 6RL

Please enrol me as a member of the Gloucestershire Branch Grenadier Guards Association Fifty Club.

I enclose my cheque to the value of £..... (£30.00 per year – 4 entries)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Post Code..... Telephone Number.....

E-mail.....

Signed.....

NB. Should you wish to purchase another number then please add an extra £30.00 per entry.

If you have a member of the family, relative or close friend who would like to join us then please get in touch for additional application forms or photocopy this form yourself.

#### **Easy Payment Scheme**

1. Should you prefer you may send one cheque to the value of £30.00
2. You may also send two cheques each to the value of £15.00 the second cheque post-dated six months after the first.
3. Alternatively you may send four cheques to the value of £7.50 each post dated at three monthly intervals.

If you are already a member then thank you for your participation last year. You will be re allocated with your existing number for the next series should you continue your membership.

Cheques payable please to – Gren Gds Assn Glos Branch.

Thank you for your support.

