

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER – May 2009

To all members of the Branch.

Issue No. (52)

BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 28th May

Thursday 30th July. Thursday 24th September. Thursday 26th November

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

Branch Annual General Meeting. Very well attended with all Officers' being re-elected, as was the entire committee, unopposed. Accounts are in good shape. To summarise, the branch has had another good year and is looking forward to the challenges of the forthcoming 2009-2010.

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.

Bereavement. Since the last newsletter we have lost Sidney Doswell. A good contingent was present at his funeral and formed a Guard of Honour. Before he commenced a long illness and prolonged period of inactivity Sid was one of the original stalwarts of the branch. Our condolences go to his family.

New Member. We welcome on board 23929485 David Hickman who has moved from Manchester to Bromsberrow.

Branch Skittles Team. After almost fifty years as captain, due to health reasons, Nigel Simms is stepping down. Unless a volunteer steps smartly forward to take over then sadly the team will not play any more in the Cheltenham League for the new season that starts in the fall. Anyone who would like to have a shot at being Captain then please make yourself known either to Nigel or the Hon Sec.

Branch Informal Lunch – Sunday 19th April. Venue the Masonic Hall, Lydney. Numbers slightly down but a most enjoyable day was had by all.

St. George's Day Service at Gloucester Cathedral 23rd April. The branch took its full compliments of tickets. Our serving branch member Lee Hillier, recently promoted to Company Sergeant Major attended looking resplendent in his ceremonial uniform. It is nice to have a serving Grenadier present especially as part of the service is the presentation of the Niarac Awards in memory of the Late Captain Robert Nairac.

Beating Retreat – Wednesday 3rd June on Horse Guards Parade. Pleased to report that we now have a full coach.

Branch Canoeing. Thursday 18th June. Assemble at Symonds Yat East. We will then be taken to Kearne Bridge for launching and then to spend a leisurely 2 – 3 hours gently paddling downstream back to the Yat. The surrounding countryside is very peaceful and picturesque. No experience is needed for this opportunity to be together for a little gentle exercise. At the conclusion we will make our way then to Mallards Pike for hot dogs and a picnic. By the way Mallards Pike is chosen for both the cycle ride and canoeing, as it is a beautiful location with the advantage of very clean toilet facilities on site. Once more David Leighton is the one to contact to register your interest or to answer any query.

Grenadier Day Sunday 21st 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 event being held at Wellington Barracks, therefore it was decided that we would not run a coach for Grenadier Day this year. Car Parking will be allowed in The Mall. If you are attending under your own steam then please to not forget to take ID with you. Also if you wish to park in The Mall please contact Hon Sec for a Car \Parking Pass.

Branch Garden Party – Sunday 19th July. Once more Colonel Peel has kindly invited members to join him at his home for a Garden Party. The format will be as previous years with guests invited to attend from 12:00 hours for a full quality Bar b Q lunch at 13:00 hours. During the afternoon the Chedworth Silver Band will play for us. A complimentary bar will run throughout the day. Bowls will be played on the lawn.

Ladies, and those gents who are handy in the kitchen. Please, as you have done on so many previous occasions, if you have a little spare time to make a cake or cakes, scones, pies etc to bring with you on the day this will be most appreciated. As always we will use a selection to cut and distribute to guests during the afternoon. Those items not used will be auctioned at the end of the day. This is always a bit of fun also it helps to defray expenses.

To assist. If you have a portable chair then can you bring this with you, as it will be greatly appreciated. Of course there will be plenty of chairs on site for those who are unable to bring their own.

Branch Cycling. Thursday -13th August. Why not join us for a leisurely ride through the Royal Forest of Dean. Cycles of an excellent quality may be hired. The route will be totally off public roads and therefore suitable for all the family of all ages. A Picnic lunch will be taken at Mallards Pike some halfway round the circuit. David Leighton is the person to contact to register your interest or for any query.

Branch Formal Lunch – Sunday 27th September. For your early warning and to append the date in your diary Sunday 27th September is the date to record. Venue will be the Gupshill Manor, Tewkesbury. Please do your very best to join us. I am pleased to inform you that the Gloucestershire Cadets Corps of Drums will be performing for us. Lets make this a lunch and day to remember so please note the date. Full details together with reservation details are attached. All members are invited together with family and friends.

Grenadier Gazette. We have just a couple of copies left. Please give us a call if you would like a copy.

Branch Fifty Club. 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. **If you have mislaid your form then please give the Hon Sec a call.** The first draw in the new series will take place at the next Members Meeting on the 28th May.

Of interest. Your branch of 230 members comprises of the following - 173 Grenadiers: 6 Coldstream: 5 Welch Guards: 1 Scots Guards: 4 Horse Guards: 3 Blues and Royals: 1 RAPC: 1 RAMC: 1 RMP: 1 Honourable Artillery Company: 1 REME: 1 Gloucester: 1 RAF: 2 Royal Navy: 1 French Army: 9 Honorary Members (non military) Ladies 19. 107 Members are now on e-mail.

Request. To make the newsletters more interesting, come on you members who are non-Grenadiers, lets have some stories or articles appertaining to your regiment or Corps. To all of you, and this includes the ladies, surely some of you must have something of interest to contribute.

Museum Appeal. From the Guards Museum. If any member has anything that they think may be of interest covering the operations as follows. Campaigns since the Second World War especially Northern Ireland, Rhodesia, Palestine, Egypt, Aden, Cameroon's, Suez, Borneo, Malaya, Singapore, Cyprus, The Falklands and the First Gulf War. If anyone has anything that could be considered for the collection especially artefacts, photographs (Which can be copied and returned) then the Museum would be interested to hear from you. Also the Museum are endeavouring to build up its badge collection from earliest times to the present day, the interest covers cloth as well as metal badges. Contact Hon Sec if you think that you may be able to contribute. This appeal is the all the Foot Guards Regiments.

National memorial Arboretum. On a separate sheet please find details of an appeal from the Arboretum. If you would like to become a "Friend" on the Arboretum then it will cost just £6.00 per year. To update you all. The Brigade of Guards Memorial is now under construction together with "The Mall". It is anticipated that the project will be completed by late summer and there will be an official unveiling and dedication. Full details will be announced when known.

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. I am confident that there are a few of you who now have this facility and have not informed me, so please let me know if you have an e-mail address.

Visit your branch site – 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. Past editions of the newsletter can be retrieved by looking in the Newsletter Section

Please try and make the next meeting on Thursday 28th May. 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** For any event. On the day the mobile telephone number to use is:- **07980 019017**

Branch Formal Lunch

Gupshill Manor, Tewkesbury

Sunday 27th September - 12:00 Hours for 13:00 Hours

Our Guest of Honour is the Lord Lieutenant of the County Henry W G Elwes Esq..
Representing the Regiment we have Colonel Russell Parsons.

This is our one formal event of the year and I ask you all to please consider attending. A good turn out ensures a good atmosphere, which is essential, if you want a successful occasion. Once you have finished reading this letter, check your diary and if free, ask the good lady for the chequebook in order that you may send in your payment to secure your place. For those of you who have never joined us before, then make this the year to "Break your duck", I am sure that you will not be disappointed.

On arrival you will be greeted with a welcome drink

There will be a raffle, however the good news is that no one will pester you to buy tickets as envelopes containing tickets will be on the tables in multiples of one pound. As usual, if you have an item that you would like to bring and donate for the draw, then this will be appreciated.

Menu

Starters

Home made Vegetable Soup: Fruit Salad: Chicken Liver Terrine with Mixed Leaf Chutney.

Main Course

Poached Scottish Salmon – Dill Veloute: Roast Striplion of Beef – Pan Gravy (Pink or well done): Chicken Breast - Provence Sauce: Taglietele Pasta, Mediterranean Vegetable - Tomato & Basil Sauce. – All with Seasonal Accompaniments:

Desserts

Lemon Sorbet Brandy Snap Basket: Apple and Sultana Crumble – Crème Anglaise: Vanilla Cheesecake with Mixed Berries.

Tea/coffee with mints.

My choice of menu is:-

Starter

Main Course

Dessert

Name			
Name			
Name			
Name			

If Beef is chosen please indicate if pink or well done.

