

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

## GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION



### NEWSLETTER – November 2009

To all members of the Branch.

*Issue No. (55)*

#### BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November Thursday 28th January 2010

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

#### **It is the British Soldier**



*It is the soldier, not the minister  
Who has given us freedom of religion.*

*It is the soldier, not the reporter  
Who has given us freedom of the press.*

*It is the soldier, not the poet  
Who has given us freedom of speech.*

*It is the soldier, not the campus organiser  
Who has given us the freedom to protest.*

*It is the soldier, not the lawyer  
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.*

*It is the soldier, not the politician  
Who has given us the right to vote.*

*It is the soldier who salutes the flag  
Serves beneath the flag.  
Whose coffin is draped by the flag  
Who allows the protester to burn the flag*

**Branch Garden Party – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August.** Once more Colonel Peel kindly invited members to join him at his home for a Garden Party. The day went well with over one hundred members in attendance the best for many years. The weather held fine and thanks to Messrs Dean and Jones a delicious barbecue lunch was enjoyed by all. The Chedworth Band performed during the afternoon and gave us all first class entertainment. Bowls and Boules were played on the lawn. Nigel Simms was present with an engraved mug on a stand for his stalwart achievement as nearly 50 years as captain of the Skittles Team. His wife Sylvia was present with a rose bush. Many thanks to those who assisted in the setting up and clearing up

afterwards. Your help was very much appreciated. As always "Thank you Colonel Peel for your hospitality, understanding and co-operation.

**Branch Cycling. Thursday -13<sup>th</sup> August.** Fifteen members enjoyed the perfect day for a leisurely ride through the Forest of Dean. Lunch was taken at Mallards Pike. A couple of spills but fortunately without serious injury. Thank you David Leighton for arranging this.

**Branch Formal Lunch – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September.** As I write we are heading for perhaps the best attendance in thirty years or more. Any members who have yet to book on then please get in touch at your earliest. If you have never joined us before then how about making this year to break your duck. All branch members and their friends are invited to join us.

### **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 was to have been Colonel Russell Parsons. Unfortunately the Colonel is to be posted to Afghanistan and as I write we are awaiting a replacement.

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.

Full details of the menu were given in the last Newsletter. Please contact Hon Sec if you would like a copy.

**Meetings.** All meetings so far this year have been very well attended, thank you gentlemen for taking the interest in your branch.

**Grenadier Guards Sergeants' (Past & Present) Club Dinner 2009.** This will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at The Thistle Hotel, Marble Arch, London. Cost £35.00 per person. Full details available from Hon Sec.

**Visit your branch site – [www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk](http://www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk)** Your views and or comments are most welcome. Also any stories news items 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 30<sup>th</sup> July. 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 of any event the mobile telephone number to use is:- **07980 019017**

**H A Clive Pat O'Donoghue New Mike Fawcett**

