GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – March 2010

To all members of the Branch. ***Issue No.* (57)**

Another Newsletter so soon? Afraid so as there is plenty to report including, received at short notice, an invitation to apply for a place to witness the Presentation of New Colours to the First Battalion at Buckingham Palace by Her Majesty the Queen.

BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 25th March (AGM) Thursday 27th May

Thursday 29th July Thursday 30th September Thursday 25th 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 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.

Welfare. David Leighton our Welfare Officer has had a very busy year in office. He has made many visits and telephone calls to some of our more elderly members and those not in good health. Most visits were accompanied by a gift of flowers a basket of fruit of a bottle of a brand of medicine not available on the National Health.

Informal Lunch Sunday 25th April 2010. Venue - the recently refurbished Frogmill Inn at Andoversford. Three course lunch with tea/coffee. A lovely venue to enjoy each others company. Anyone wishing to stay over rooms are available at a discounted price. Contact Alan Holford for any details required on the lunch or accommodation. Full details on reverse of the Proforma. We hope to have join us Sergeant Michael Beasley a branch member who will have just returned from Afghanistan. We may be able to persuade him to give a brief account of his experiences.

Presentation of New Colours by H M The Queen to the First Battalion Tuesday 11th May. Official notification only received on the 3rd March. Venue Buckingham Palace. The Parade will take place at 11:00 hours and will be followed by a reception on the Wellington Barracks Parade Square from approximately 12:20 to 14:00 hours. The reception will include a buffet lunch. Tickets will be limited and will cost ten pounds per person limited to a member and his guest. All applications have to be at RHQ by the 1st April. If there is sufficient combined interest then a coach can be considered. Also due to the fact that it will mean a very early start then again if interest is shown we can travel up the night before and stay over. **As we do not have much time** and if you are interested please can you telephone Alan Holford or Colin Knight at your earliest with your request and preferences also for up to date information.

Regimental Remembrance Day Sunday 16th May 2010. This will follow the usual format picking up at Royal Well, Cheltenham, Gloucester and Cirencester. En route we will stop at the Guards Club, Windsor to consume our packed lunches and to take liquid refreshment. On the return journey we will again stop at the Guards Club for a Fish & Chip (Chicken or Pie) Supper.

Grenadiers Return - Saturday 26th June Formally Grenadier Day To be held at Littlecote House on Saturday 26th June. Yes **Saturday** is the day and not on a Sunday as it has been since the day was first held. Full arrangements will be announced later however anyone wishing to stay over for three nights commencing Friday 25th through to Monday 27th June then please contact Hon Sec for full details. At the last meeting it was thought that as Littlecote was not that far away that we would only order a coach for the day if there were enough demand. If you would like to avail yourself of coach travel for the day please call Alan Holford or Colin Knight.

Scarlet & Gold – Saturday 18th September. A Scarlet and Gold Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London to look forward to. The concert will feature the massed bands of the Household Division, all seven of them. Those who attended the last Scarlet and Gold, which was held at the Royal Festival Hall, back in 1997 will recall what a magnificent concert it was. Your branch will run a trip staying overnight at the Union Jack Club. Full details by contacting the Hon Sec. We have ordered a 53-seater coach together with rooms at the Union Jack Club. If you are interested in joining us, then please let us know at your earliest, as we are very confident of a very early sell out. Late entry – as I write almost all places have been taken.

Formal Lunch – Sunday 26th September. Please note the date in your diary. Full details in the next newsletter.

Christmas Social – Sunday 5th December. This will be a lunchtime event at the Victory Club, Cheltenham. Full details will be announced at a later date. Make a date in your diary.

Dumbleton Christmas Lunch - Sunday 12th December. This is a private event organised by Derek Knott. Please see comprehensive details on separate page.

Branch Member in Afghanistan. Sergeant Michael Beasley is currently serving in Afghanistan. Michael has been in touch and asked me to pass on his grateful thanks to all those who have sent him a parcel.

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.

Visit your branch site – 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 25th March. (AGM). Your Branch. Your meeting, to which **all members are most welcome.**

Please everyone keep me informed of any information or stories that I can use in the Newsletters.

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**

PROFORMA

St. George's Day Service – Friday 23rd April. Gloucester Cathedral. Tickets are complimentary. I apply for ……. Tickets for the Service.

^^^

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

March 2010

During 2009 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.

Informal Sunday Lunch at the Frogmill Inn

Sunday 25th April 12:00 for 13:00 Hours

Starters

Chunky Vegetable Soup
Chicken Liver Pate and a Prune & Apricot Chutney with a Fresh Salad
Melon & Parma Ham

Main Course ******

Roast Lamb, Yorkshire Pudding
Roast Chicken Breast
Poached Salmon, with Herb Butter
Mushroom Risotto

(All served with bowls of Roast and Boiled/mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Greens and Parsnips & Gravy)

Desserts ******

Warm Bread & Butter Pudding with Custard
Tangerine Mousse with a spiced Orange Sorbet

or

Cheese and biscuits with the usual accompaniments

Tea & Coffee

Name	Starter	Main Course	Desserts

Should any guest wish to stay over for either the Saturday and or Sunday Night then the Frogmill are offering us the incredible low rate of just **£29.50 per night per room**. (£14.75 per person). Breakfast is available at a reasonable additional charge. To take advantage of this offer then please telephone the Frogmill 01242 821101 ask for Natalie and quote Grenadier Guards.

Grenadier Guards Family & Friends Christmas Fayre Lunch & Band Concert
Dumbleton Hall Hotel. Sunday 12th December 2010.
Assemble 12.00 Hours. Lunch served prompt 13.00hours. Dress Smart Casual.

After a most successful event last year, and the demand for another function this year, please find for your perusal details of this year's function.
Due to the heavy demand and the limit of 100 places, I would be most grateful to receive your confirmation of £10.00 pp. as quickly as possible. As in previous years the balance must be with me no later than November 1st. Menu's soonest possible.

Starter.

Red Pepper and Goats Cheese Roulade
Guinea Fowl and Wild Mushroom Terrine with Madeira Jelly and Micro Herbs
Poached Salmon on a Watercress Salad and Cucumber Salad
Melon and Pineapple Carpaccio with Lime Syrup and Citrus Sorbet.

Soup Course

Butternut Squash and Sage Soup (Yes or No)

Main Course

Roast Turkey Cranberry Farce, Bread Sauce and Gravy
Steamed Sea Bass, Crab Mousseline Provencale Essence
Braised Brisket of Beef, Seasonal Vegetables Barley Broth
Gratin of Leeks in a Cauliflower and Hereford Hop Cheese.

Dessert

Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce
Local Cheese & Biscuit Platter
Ice Cream & Sorbet in a Brandy Snap
Pear and Hazelnut Meringue Roulade with Double Chocolate Ice cream

Tea/Coffee and Mince Pie. Please only use the *underlined* word for menu details.

The Total cost of this event will be **£26.50** Children 4-14 years **£13.00**. As last year, I have included in the total cost £1.00 per person for staff gratuities. If you are not satisfied with the service or meal, I will of course refund your pound, providing you inform me before leaving Dumbleton. Hall Hotel.

Payment. Please make out cheques to D.S.Knott. 5 Wincel Road, Winchcombe. Glos. GL54 5YE. Tel. 01242 604116. PatandDerek@talktalk.net Return Form to Derek.

********** Cut along dotted line and return **********

Name	1 Course	Soup	3 Course	4 Course	T /C

Your telephone number for reference ……..