GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – July 2010

To all members of the Branch. ***Issue No.* (59)**

BRANCH MEETINGS – AT THE VICTORY CLUB CHELTENHAM

Thursday 29th July Thursday 30th September Thursday 25th November

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

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.

Obituary. Sadly I have to report the passing of Margaret Hackett, the widow of the late George Hackett MBE. Her funeral was held at North Cerney Church. Our condolences go to her family.

New Member. We welcome to our ranks Neil Smith (Grenadier) living in Longhope.

Grenadiers Return - Saturday 26th June Formally Grenadier Day An excellent sunny day possibly contributed to a good turn out at Littlecote House.

Branch Canoeing – Thursday 17th June. Once more a fine sunny day saw members paddle their way down the river. No accidents with no ones pride dented this year. Excellent picnic at Mallards Pike afterwards.

Branch Meetings. Please try and make the next meeting on **Thursday 29th July**. After the interval John Welch, a Branch Coldstream member who is an accomplished speaker, has volunteered to give us a presentation. John is a member of the WFA (Western Front Association) which makes a study of the 1st World War, and has spoken on the subject on radio on several occasions. Having travelled on many battlefield tours he will talk about some of his experiences, particularly the tours relating to the Guards. The first one being where the Guards fought 1914 -16 and then later 1916 -18. On both these tours the **Grenadiers** and the **Coldstream** were prominent. At the conclusion of the normal meeting, after the interval, any ladies who would like to attend the presentation by John are most welcome to join us. The bar is open beforehand for your pleasure while we hold our meeting.

. **Your Branch, your meeting, to which all members are most welcome.**

Branch Garden Party – Saturday 7th August. (Yes Saturday) Yet once again Colonel Peel has kindly invited the branch to his home for a Garden Party. This has always proved to be popular. It is intended to follow previous years format. Guests may arrive from 12:00 hours. A substantial Barbecue Lunch will be served in the region of 13:15 hours. We will have the Chedworth Band entertain us during the afternoon. Plus there may be an additional "Surprise" entertainment. There will be a complimentary bar, soft drinks tea and coffee. If possible can you please bring your chairs with you? We will have chairs already in the garden but chair lugging to and from the village hall is hard work and time consuming. Ladies and of course those chaps that are handy in the kitchen, please can you consider making and bring a cake, cakes, tarts or similar with you. Most years we have had an excellent response with this, hopefully this year will be no exception

Branch Cycling – Thursday 12th August. We will cycle along dedicated cycle tracks in the Forest of Dean. Excellent ten gear cycles are available for hire. An excellent way to spend a day out in the fresh air and beautiful surroundings. Half way around the route we will take a picnic.

Branch Formal Lunch – Sunday 26th September. Please append the date in your diary Sunday 26th September. Venue will be the Frogmill Inn, Shipton Oliffe, Andoversford. Please do your very best to join us. Lets make this a lunch and day to remember so please make an effort to attend. Full details together with reservation details are attached. All members are invited together with family and friends.

Our Guest of Honour is - Yet to be confirmed. Representing the Regiment will be Garth Banks.

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 of your choice from the bar.

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.

Formal Branch Lunch at the Frogmill Inn

Starters

Ham Roulade with Mixed Leaf Salad and Tomato Chutney
Leek and Potato Soup
Seasonal Melon & Pineapple with Orange Sorbet a Fruit Coulis

Main Course ******

Roast Lamb,
Roast Pork with Stuffing
Spinach Lemon and Herb Crusted Salmon
Butternut Squash & Spinach Risotto

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

Desserts ******

Apple Crumble with Custard
Tangerine Mousse with Ice Cream

or

Cheese and biscuits with the usual accompaniments

Tea & Coffee

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.

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** On the day of any event the mobile telephone number to use is:- **07980 019017**

Proforma

Branch Garden Party – Saturday 7th August 2010.

Please reserve me ……places @ £ 15.50 per person. If anyone in your party does not eat steak then please can you append your alternative meat or meats. Please can you note that I would rather have…….than a steak for my lunch. Use reverse of this form if you wish.

Please reserve me ….……..Places.

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Late Additional Items

Fun Day. The day prior to our Formal Lunch the Cotswold Classic Car Club have organised a Fun Day in the grounds of the Frogmill Hotel. As I write the exact details are not known. If interested please telephone Alan Holford.

Visit to the National Memorial Arboretum. The Bristol Branch have organised a trip for Sunday 15th August. There will be a pick up in Cheltenham. A late lunch will be taken at the Riverside Restaurant just a short drive from the Arboretum. The restaurant is in a superb location with members who have dined their previously well satisfied. Please contact Keith Jones, Bristol Branch Chairman, for additional information and to reserve a place. 01454 325852 is the number to call.

PARTY MENU

STARTERS

Leek & Potato Soup

Chicken Liver Pâté, Red Onion Chutney & Toast

Waterfront Prawn Cocktail

Fan of Melon with Fruit Coulis

MAINS

Pan-fried Chicken Breast with a Wild Mushroom & Madeira Sauce

Braised Beef in a Red Wine Sauce

Grilled Sea Bass served with Herb Dressing

Served with Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetarian Option

Gnocchi with Asparagus, Spinach, Onion & Cherry Tomato with a Pesto Sauce

DESSERTS

Brandy Snap Basket with Fresh Fruit and Cornish Ice cream

Bread & Butter Pudding with Custard

Vanilla Cheesecake with Mixed Berries

£16.95

Tea or Coffee included in the price.

Cheltenham Town Hall Sunday 14th November. Every year the Cheltenham Borough Council host an evening at the Town Hall commencing at 19:30 hours. The event reflects National Remembrance Day (11th November). As a branch we have been invited to apply for tickets which are all complimentary. This is befitting way to spend an evening on this particular day of remembrance. When the tickets are received they will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please call Alan Holford or Colin Knight for information or tickets.