

Grenadier Guards Association-Gloucestershire Branch

NEWSLETTER – March 2015

(Issue 79)

To all members of the Branch.

First and foremost a Happy New Year to each and everyone.

BRANCH MEETINGS – ALL AT THE VICTORY CLUB, CHELTENHAM.

Thursday March 26th (AGM) Thursday May 28th

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

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

Complimentary hot pies will be served during the interval.

There is plenty of parking. Use the Car Park to your left as you look at the club if the Club Car Park is full. We all have full permission to park there

New Members. Disappointing to report that there are none since the last newsletter. Come on everyone, when you are out and about and spy a potential recruit, take his name together with contact details and forward them to the Hon. Sec.

Obituary. Most of you are most probably aware of the passing of Joel (Joe) Roberts. Joe was a former Life Guards and for many years has been a staunch branch supporter together with his fictional horse Dobbin. His funeral was very well attended with a large Guard of Honour not only from the branch but also from the Aden Veterans. Farewell Joel you will be sadly missed. We have also lost a Branch Vice President Richard D. N. Fisher. Mr Fisher has been a Vice President for over fifty years and always was present at the Formal Luncheon.

Welfare. David Leighton, ably assisted by Jeanette, continues to be very active with welfare. Many members, too many to mention, have had their individual problems during the past year; unfortunately several with spells in hospital. If any member, for whatever reason, would like a welfare visit or assistance, please make contact with David – your dedicated branch Welfare Officer.

Branch Meetings. These continue to be well supported. Just a reminder that the AGM is in March. All posts from Chairman, Secretary, Social Secretary, Welfare Officer, Treasurer and the complete committee are as always up for re-election. Anyone in the branch that fancies having a go at any of the appointment please make your view known to the Chairman or Secretary.

St. Georges Day – Thursday 23rd April 2015. As in previous years we should receive a number of complimentary tickets for the service. Applications please on the proforma,

Regimental Remembrance Day – Sunday 17th May 2015. Coach will leave Cheltenham at [09:00](#) Hours: Gloucester – 09:20 hours - Denmans Car Park: 09:45 hours Cirencester Beeches Car Park. En-route we will stop at the Guards Club Windsor. Do not forget to bring your own packed lunch. Bar will be open as will be the availability of tea and coffee.

All are invited to the Guards Chapel for the service. Afterwards there will be the traditional march to Horse Guards for the laying of wreaths at the Guards Memorial.

On the return journey we will stop again at the Club for a Fish/Pie/Chicken and Chips Supper. This

is your opportunity to not only visit the Guards Chapel for a Regimental Service but also the chance to march behind the Grenadier Guards Regimental Band. Put a price on that if you can!

Branch Trip to Waterloo – Departing 17th June for four nights five days. A reminder that the branch has organised a five day four night trip next June to witness the two-hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. We have been fortunate enough to secure seats in the stand for the re-enactment of the battle. As I write all places have been taken.

Branch Members Meeting – Thursday 30th July. This meeting, as I write, is scheduled to take place at the Soldiers Museum, Gloucester. Ladies are cordially invited. Full details together with timings will be notified later.

Branch Garden Party – Sunday 2nd August. Once again Colonel Peel has kindly invited us to his home for a Garden Party. Please note date change from that given in the previous Newsletter. Full details will be circulated at a later date, in the meantime please append the date in your diary.

Branch President;s Formal Luncheon – Sunday 11th October. The venue is confirmed as the Hatherley Manor, again please make a diary entry.

Branch Trip to the Isle of Wight – November. At the last meeting it was agreed to run a branch trip to Norton Grange on the Isle of Wight. Departing on Friday 13th November for three nights on a half board basis. Every evening from 18:00 hours through until midnight all drinks will be priced at just £1.00. One night will feature the Diamond Nights Neil Diamond Tribute Show. A Full Day Excursion is also included as is the coaching together with ferry to and from the resort. The knock down cost is just £223.00 per person. There are a limited number of single rooms. As I write there are a few seats left on the coach. Please contact Honorary Secretary for more information and availability.

Christmas Social. Sunday 6th December. Advance date for your diary of the Branch Christmas Social at the Victory Club. Details will be published later in the year.

Regimental Goods. If you wish to purchase any items from the Regimental Shop or to find out what is going on in the Regiment and or Association www.grenads.com is the method to enter the web site. Always interesting to login and have a look around.

Regimental Christmas Cards. This year application for cards have to Reach RHQ by the end of July, **yes July.** Details of the card this year will be circulated as soon as it is announced.

Branch Fifty Club. On separate letter please read and consider joining our Branch Fifty Club. Since its inception we have had an excellent response and a big “Thank you” must go to all those who participate. The club helps keep the branch in funds bearing in mind that no one has ever been asked to make a subscription.

Keep up to date. www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk is the branch web site which will keep you up to date with branch affairs.

It is your branch to which your committee is always willing to listen or action any ideas from the membership.

If you require further information on any of the items in this Newsletter or any other branch business, please telephone **Alan Holford 01452 534175** - alnonoyes@virginmedia.com or Hon. Sec 01594 530154 - grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk

All cheques made payable please to:- **Gren. Gds. Glos. Branch. BACS Payments** accepted.

Colin Knight (Honorary Secretary)

