



GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION Gloucestershire Branch (The Gloucestershire Guards Association)



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Newsletter – November 2017

Issue (94)

Dear all.

A further Newsletter to keep you updated. Those with electronic facilities are kept well informed over and above this newsletter.

Bereavement. It is my sad duty to report the passing to the Higher Parade Ground of **Anthony (Tony) Jefferies** who departed on this journey early on the 5th October. A Guard of Honour of seventeen was provided. We also lost **Ernie Miller** who rose from a guardsman to Chief Constable of the Atomic Energy Commission. Ernie was now living up North and we were not informed of his death until after the funeral. Another loss was **Edward Bennett** from Hucclecote a member we have not seen or heard of for some time.

New Member. We welcome aboard former WO2 **Wayne Jacobi** who joined us at our last members meeting.

Potential Visit. We have availed ourselves with an invitation for a tour of the Houses of Parliament, and if + sitting on the day, the House of Lords by courtesy of the **Gloucester MP Richard Graham**. Monday 5th March 2018 is the now confirmed date. The proposal has been already circulated to those on e-mail with an excellent response. The list is now full with a Waiting List. Once a trip, with costing, is finalised it will be circulated to all those who have shown an interest. It may be that there will have to be a draw for places

Gloucester Branch Coldstream Guards. On Sunday 5th November of this year, the Gloucester Coldstream Guards Branch held their final Annual Luncheon at the Hatherley Manor Hotel. Sadly, it would appear, that this will be their last function prior to the branch going into suspended animation. To lend support a sizeable contingent of 19 branch members attended. The Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer are all the same person namely **Malcolm Waters** who after many years in these roles has decided "Enough is enough". Malcolm who has also been a member of this branch for many years is to be commended on his steadfast determination in endeavouring to keep the branch functioning.

Exploratory talks are being held to the possibility of their members joining this branch.

Cheltenham Town Hall Festival of Remembrance – Sunday 12th November. Unfortunately, all our allocation of tickets has now been taken.

Branch Christmas Social – Sunday 3rd December – Victory Club, Cheltenham. Please note this date in your diary. Entry will cost just ten pounds to include a two-course meal, Five pounds for children under 17. The committee has deemed that a charge of two pounds per person is levied on those not wishing to dine.

It is hoped to make this a festive occasion with of course the draw for the main lottery (Christmas Draw Tickets all were sent) also there will be in In-House Raffle, tickets on sale on the day. For the past few years over seventy prizes have been up for grabs. Also, there will be the Pound in the Envelope for a Basket of Booze, (Valued in the region of one hundred pounds). There will also be three games of light hearted Bingo. On entry all attending will be given a complimentary Draw Ticket for a bottle of whisky. Bingo takers will be asked, on conclusion of the session, to append their names on their tickets to enter a further free draw.

Ha ha almost forgot, there will also be complementary Mulled Wine and Mince Pies. All in all, an inexpensive way of spending a Sunday among friends.

All donations for the "In House Raffle", will be gratefully received.

Times – Doors at 12:00 Noon. Conclusion 17:00 Hours.

Reminder, as mentioned above this is also the occasion of our Annual Christmas Lottery (Raffle) to which everyone has been sent a few tickets. **Peter Jones**, our Social Secretary, is greatly encouraged by the numbers of counterfoils, from sold books already been returned. If you have yet to sell or even purchase a book or two yourself, then can I ask that you please consider doing so. With fingers crossed I hope, this year, against all the odds, that it will be the most productive draw we have had for many years.

Many acts of kindness to members are extended every year for a wide and varied list of reasons. A list of twenty names has been prepared to whom your branch will send a cheque to the value of twenty-five pound.

Miscellaneous. Each year we endeavour to arrange a variety of events and gatherings, hopefully, to suit most tastes. Keep a look out for any future outing and or events. On this subject due to the battalion being abroad there unfortunately will be no Grenadier Day next year 2018. A further sad note is that the following two branches have now ceased functioning, Northumbria and Spalding.

How about this for a story. **Nigel Turner**, one of our branch members, was a Musician in our Regimental Band. **Nigel** left the regiment back in November 2006, recently he received an invitation to re-join the band. This he has agreed to and I believe that he goes back into uniform very shortly. So, there you are, some of us oldies might yet get a call to re-join the colours. Any more willing volunteers?

Last week I attended the Bristol Branch Annual Dinner. Many of you must have heard or know of **Sean Bolan** the artist who paints the various guards' scenes used on Regimental Christmas Cards. Sean's father **Ted**, a WW II Grenadier, was a branch member. Sean is an Honorary Member of this branch also the Bristol Branch. Sean gave an after-dinner address which was not only well delivered but interesting in its content. If you read this Sean, how about honouring us with an attendance at our 2018 Luncheon?

I am on the lookout for any stories, news or information from any of the Household Division regiments. Come on chaps, feed me with some information please.

Next Members Meeting will be on Thursday 30th November 19:30 hours at the Victory Club, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham. All members and the ladies are welcome. Complimentary Hot Pies will be served during the interval.

Kind regards to one and all,

Colin J Knight
Honorary Secretary

For those of you not on line. An early "Seasons Greetings" to you all.

Proforma

Branch Christmas Social

From..... Telephone.....Please reserve mePlaces at £10.00 per person. Children under 17 - £5.00 Places.

Non-Dining. Please reserve me Places at £2.00 per person

Menu: -

Beef Stew: **Chicken** Curry: Cottage **Pie**: Served with Boiled Potatoes, Carrot, Broccoli, Cauliflower.

Trifle: **Jelly** & Ice Cream: **Apple** Pie and Custard.

Please indicate choice by using the **bold underlined** word

Il enclose my cheque to the value of £..... Alternatively, I have paid by BACS [] Please tick

Name	Main Course	Dessert

Payment by cheque - Gren Gds Assn Glos Branch. BACS - Account Number 04205251
Sort Code 60-05-16

Please return to: -

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Just a very polite reminder. All members will have received an allocation of Raffle Tickets for the Branch Christmas Draw. As you will observe, for a small branch raffle, the prize money on offer is quite substantial.

At the very least, can I ask each and everyone to purchase a book of tickets. Your branch has never ever asked for any subscriptions. Consider all that is achieved from welfare to the running of the branch plus all the associated events at a very reasonable cost. This is, as I am sure you must agree, quite a remarkable achievement. **Peter T Jones.**

