



**THE GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION**  
**BRISTOL BRANCH**

**PRESIDENT**

*Major General Sir Evelyn Webb – Carter*  
*KCVO OBE*

**CHAIRMAN**

*Mr K Jones*

**TREASURER**

*Mr A F Lock*

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

*Mr M Allen*

**BRANCH NEWSLETTER**  
**SEPTEMBER 2009**

**BRISTOL BRANCH CONTACT DETAILS**

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

**MATTHEW ALLEN**

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## THE BRISTOL BRANCH

THE BRANCH AGM WHICH WAS HELD IN MARCH, HERALDED SOME CHANGES WITHIN THE BRISTOL BRANCH, THE MAIN EVENT OF THE EVENING BEING THE RESIGNATION, DUE TO FAMILY REASONS, OF THE BRANCH SECRETARY JOHN MORGAN. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS REGRET AT THIS NEWS AND RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTED JOHNS RESIGNATION, THE PRESIDENT THEN CALLED UPON THOSE PRESENT FOR A VOLUNTEER TO SUCCEED JOHN, WITH NO OTHER VOLUNTEERS FORTHCOMING, THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED THE CHAIRMANS OFFER TO TAKE OVER THE ROLE OF SECRETARY HIMSELF, THIS WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL PRESENT AND MATTHEW ALLEN WAS DULY ELECTED. KEITH JONES WAS ELECTED TO THE NOW VACANT CHAIRMANS POSITION AND TONY LOCK GALLANTLY STEPPED INTO THE BREACH AND WAS DULY ELECTED TO BRANCH TREASURER. WE ALL WISH JOHN 'ALL THE BEST' IN WHAT WE HOPE IS A LONG AND HAPPY RETIREMENT AND ALL BEST WISHES TO THE INCOMING OFFICERS.

THE BRANCH WEBSITE IS NOW FULLY BACK UP AND RUNNING AT A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT WEB ADDRESS THAN BEFORE, YOU CAN VISIT THE WEBSITE AT [www.bristolgrenadiers.coxreasercher.com](http://www.bristolgrenadiers.coxreasercher.com) THE NEW WEBSITE IS THE RESULT OF A LOT OF EXREMELY HARD WORK DONE BY OUR VERY OWN ROY COX, I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL ALL AGREE THAT ROY HAS DONE A MARVELOUS JOB IN SETTING UP AND MAINTAINING THE SITE, IT IS WELL WORTH A LOOK AT, AMONGST MANY INTERESTING PAGES IS THE BRANCH FORUM, THIS IS WHERE BRANCH MEMBERS CAN COMMUNICATE AND LEAVE MESSAGES FOR EACH OTHER. I WOULD URGE THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER TO HAVE A LOOK AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON EITHER THE FORUM OR GUESTBOOK TO LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THE SITE, IT IS ARGUABLY THE BEST WEBSITE WITHIN THE GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION.

CONTINUING WITH THE COMPUTER THEME, YOU WILL FIND ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER A RETURNS FORM FOR BOOKING FUTURE EVENTS AND FOR UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS, THIS IS SO THAT WE CAN KEEP BRANCH MEMBERS FULLY UP TO DATE WITH BRANCH AFFAIRS, WOULD ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE E-MAIL ADDRESSES PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THEY ENTER THEM ON THE FORM , AS IN FUTURE WHEREVER POSSIBLE THE NEWSLETTERS WILL BE SENT VIA E-MAIL, THIS WILL NOT ONLY SAVE ON THE TIME INVOLVED WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTERS BUT ALSO HELP TO KEEP BRANCH POSTAL COSTS TO A MINIMUM.

WITHOUT EXCEPTION THE RETURN FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARY IN ALL CASES, IF YOU DO NOT RETURN THE FORM WE WILL ASSUME THAT WE NO LONGER HAVE YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS OR THAT YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

WITH REGARD TO THE BOOKING OF FUTURE BRANCH EVENTS, DUE TO A RECENT TRIP WHERE WE HAD A LOT OF MEMBERS DROP OUT AT THE LAST MINUTE, THE BRANCH HAD TO RUN A COACH TO LONDON AT A CONSIDERABLE LOSS, THIS COACH WAS FULLY BOOKED THREE WEEKS PRIOR TO THE TRIP, SO YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT THE DROP OUT RATE WAS VERY COSTLY. THEREFORE THE BRANCH COMMITTEE HAVE DECIDED THAT ALL FUTURE BOOKINGS FOR BRANCH EVENTS MUST BE SECURED BY A DEPOSIT OF 50% OF THE TOTAL COST, THE COMMITTEE APOLOGISE FOR THE INCOVENIENCE THAT THIS MAY CAUSE BUT FEEL THAT IT NECERSARY FOR THE FINANCIAL SECURITY OF THE BRANCH, YOUR UNDERSTANDING ON THIS MATTER IS MOST APPRECIATED.

IN FUTURE THE BRISTOL BRANCH WILL ISSUE A NEWSLETTER THREE TIMES A YEAR, YOU SHOULD RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTERS IN SEPTEMBER, JANUARY AND MAY. THIS MEASURE IS BEING TAKEN SO THAT YOU CAN BE KEPT FULLY UP TO DATE ON WHAT IS HAPPENING WITHIN THE BRANCH AND HOPEFULLY ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE INTEREST IN BRANCH EVENTS, ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AT THE MONTHLY MEETINGS

AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE MEMBERS ATTENDING AND TAKING AN INTEREST IN BRANCH EVENTS.



## THE OUTGOING SECRETARY

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, THE BRISTOL BRANCH HAS BEEN MOST FORTUNATE TO HAVE BENEFITED FROM THE DILLIGENCE AND SELFLESS ATTENTION OF JOHN MORGAN AS BRANCH SECRETARY, JOHN HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE SECRETARY, AND THE BRANCH HAS BENIFITED IMMENSLY FROM HAVING HIS STEADY HAND ON THE HELM, THE NEWS OF JOHNS RESIGNATION WAS A HUGE BLOW FOR THE BRANCH AND LEAVES HIS SUCCESSOR MATTHEW ALLEN, WITH VERY LARGE BOOTS TO FILL. WE WAIT WITH BAITED BREATH TO SEE IF MATT IS UP TO TO THE TASK. AS (only ) A DRUMMERS BOOTS ARE VERY LARGE BOOTS TO FILL.

IT HAS BEEN SAID, THAT BEHIND EVERY GREAT MAN, IS A GREAT WOMAN, THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY THE CASE WITH JOHN, JOHN'S WIFE, ANNITA HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY IN SUPPORTING JOHN AND HAS BEEN A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF THE BRISTOL BRANCH, I AM SURE THAT EVERYONE WHO HAS ATTENDED BRANCH EVENTS HAS SEEN THE EVIDENCE OF THIS. THE BRISTOL BRANCH EXTENDS IT'S THANKS TO BOTH JOHN AND ANNITA, AND WISHES THEM ALL THE BEST FOR THE FUTURE.



CHANGING THE GUARD  
THE OUTGOING & INCOMING  
SECRETARIES

## THE INCOMING SECRETARY

MATTHEW ALLEN WHO HAS TAKEN OVER AS SECRETARY HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF THE BRANCH FOR MORE YEARS THAN HE PROBABLY CARES TO REMEMBER, MATT SERVED IN THE 2<sup>nd</sup> BATTALION FROM 1978 UNTIL 1983, SPENDING MOST OF HIS SERVICE IN SUPPORT COMPANY, HE ALSO SERVED IN THE INKERMAN COMPANY AND NUMBER 2 COMPANY. MATTHEW COMES FROM GOOD GRENADEER STOCK, AS HIS FATHER, LAURENCE SERVED IN THE REGIMENT WITH THE 3<sup>rd</sup> BATTALION IN THE LATE 1940 'S AND EARLY 50 'S.



## REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY 2009

OUR FIRST TRIP OF THE YEAR SAW 30 BRANCH MEMBERS HEADING DOWN THE M4 FOR REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY ON MAY 17<sup>th</sup> 2009, THIS YEAR THERE WERE SOME DEVIATIONS FROM WHAT HAS BECOME ACCEPTED AS THE NORMAL, THERE WAS NO MARETH CROSS CEROMONY INSTEAD A SHORT SERVICE DEDICATED TO THE 6<sup>th</sup> BATTALION WAS HELD INSIDE THE GUARDS CHAPEL AND ALSO THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT COULD NOT BE IN ATTENDANCE SO THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, COLONEL HOUSTON DEPUTISED IN PRINCE PHILLIPS ABSENCE. THE BRANCH COMMITTEE FEEL THAT THE TIMINGS FOR THE COACH DEPARTURE FOR BLACK SUNDAY COULD BE REVISED AS THE PRESENT TIMINGS MAKE FOR A TIGHT SCHEDULE AND SOME MEMBERS DID NOT HAVE TIME FOR LUNCH UPON ARRIVAL IN LONDON, CLEARLY, MISSING LUNCH IS A LAMENTABLE STATE OF AFFAIRS AND TIMINGS WILL BE LOOKED AT FOR NEXT YEAR.

## GRENADIER DAY JUNE 2009



JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> SAW 42 BRANCH MEMBERS HEADING FOR LONDON FOR GRENADIER DAY, THIS YEAR WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT GRENADIER DAY HAD BEEN HELD IN CENTRAL LONDON, AND WELLINGTON BARRACKS PROVIDED A MAGNIFICENT VENUE.

THE 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION BEING IN ATTENDANCE BOOSTED THE CIDER SALES ENORMOUSLY, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS WE SOLD OUT. THE BRANCH TELEVISION RAFFLE WAS KINDLY DRAWN BY THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT COLONEL HOUSTON, AND OUR OWN COMMITTEE MEMBER, TONY JONES WAS PULLED FROM THE HAT, WELL DONE TONY, THE TELEVISION

WAS OBVIOUSLY DESTINED TO RETURN TO BRISTOL WITH US. THOSE THAT ARRIVED EARLY WERE ABLE TO WATCH THE GUARD MOUNT, AND SUBSEQUENT RETURN OF THE REGIMENTAL BAND, WE WERE THEN ENTERTAINED BY THE BAND THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

DISAPOINTINGLY THE BRANCH BOYTON CUP TEAM DID NOT FARE TO WELL, IT WOULD BE FAIR TO SAY THAT NOT MANY TEAMS FINISHED BEHIND US, OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO TO THE WORTHY WINNERS, SUPPORT COMPANY. TEAM BRISTOL LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEARS COMPETITION, WHERE WE WILL HOPEFULLY GIVE A BETTER ACCOUNT OF OURSELVES

WE WERE BLESSED WITH GLORIOUS WEATHER AND A THOUROUGHLY ENJOYABLE DAY WAS HAD BY ALL.



TONY JONES ACCEPTING HIS TELEVISION FROM THE BRANCH SECRETARY



## FUTURE EVENTS

### BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 2009

THIS YEAR THE BRISTOL BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER WILL BE HELD AT LONG ASHTON GOLF CLUB ON SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, AFTER THE DISSAPOINTMENT OF HAVING TO CANCEL THE DINNER LAST YEAR IT IS HOPED THAT THIS YEARS DINNER WILL BE A RESOUNDING SUCCESS, GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE COLONEL LESINKSKI, DRESS WILL BE BLACK TIE PREFERED BUT OPTIONAL, SO DIG OUT THOSE REGIMENTAL BOW TIES.

THE PRICE HAS BEEN SET AT £22.00 PER PERSON FOR THE THREE COURSES, THE BAR AT THE GOLF CLUB IS SUBSIDISED SO IT WILL NOT COST YOU A FORTUNE FOR A FEW DRINKS, THE COMMITTEE RESPECTFULLY REMIND YOU THAT £11.00 PER PERSON WILL SECURE YOUR BOOKING, AND THE REMAINING £11.00 PER PERSON WILL BE PAYABLE ON THE NIGHT.

THIS PROMISES TO BE A VERY POPULAR EVENT, AND BEING AS NUMBERS ARE LIMITED TO 80 COVERS, YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

ANY MEMBERS THAT WISH TO ATTEND AND WHO HAVE TO TRAVEL FROM SOME DISTANCE FROM LONG ASHTON, MAY WISH TO KNOW THAT ACCOMODATION MAY BE FOUND AT REDWOOD LODGE WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY  $\frac{3}{4}$  OF A MILE FROM THE GOLF CLUB.

### PROPOSED TRIP TO THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT THE HOUSHOLD DIVISION MEMORIAL IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM IN STAFFORDSHIRE, AT THE TIME OF WRITING THIS MEMORIAL IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER, HOWEVER IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT IT WILL BE COMPLETED AND DEDICATED IN THE SPRING OF NEXT YEAR.

THE BRISTOL BRANCH IS PROPOSING A TRIP TO STAFFORDSHIRE SO THAT MEMBERS CAN ATTEND THE OPENING AND DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION MEMORIAL.

THIS TRIP WILL ALSO INCORPORATE LUNCH AT BRANSTON GOLF CLUB, HOWEVER THE ARBORETUM HAVE THEIR OWN CATERING FACILITIES IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO HAVE LUNCH AT THE GOLF CLUB.

AS DATES ARE UNCERTAIN AT PRESENT, NO ARRANGEMENTS OR DETAILS ARE CONCRETE, BUT COACH TRAVEL TO THE ARBORETUM IS LIKELY TO BE IN THE REGION OF £12.00 PER PERSON AND LUNCH AT BRANSTON GOLF CLUB WILL BE AROUND £17.00 PER PERSON.

ON THE ATTACHED RETURNS FORM YOU WILL FIND PROVISION TO INDICATE YOUR INTEREST IN THIS TRIP, NO DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED AT THIS TIME, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS TRIP YOU WILL BE ADVISED AT A LATER DATE OF TIMINGS AND DEPOSITS.



LEST WE FORGET

2623708 HENRY DIAMOND OF MARK SOMERSET 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 2009



**RETURNS FORM~~~~ PLEASE RETURN TO THE BRANCH SECRETARY**

NAME

REGIMENTAL NUMBER

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

MOBILE TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

I WISH TO ATTEND THE BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER \_\_\_\_\_ YES / NO

TOTAL NUMBER YOU WISH TO ATTEND THE DINNER

I HAVE ENCLOSED A DEPOSIT OF £11.00 PER PERSON TOTAL..£.....

NAMES OF PEOPLE ATTENDING THE DINNER

I WISH TO REGISTER MY INTEREST IN VISITING THE ARBORETUM YES / NO

NUMBER OF PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE ARBORETUM