



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

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BRANCH NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2010

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BRANCH NEWS

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of our Web Master, Roy Cox, the Branch now has a new Website. The address for the new site is www.bristolgrenadiers.org.uk Roy has put in a lot of hard work developing this new site and it is well worth spending some time looking through the wealth of information that it contains. I am sure that Roy would be appreciative of any feedback that you wish to leave for him regarding his efforts.

The Bristol Branch has had a fairly busy time since the last Newsletter was sent out in May. A full coach of Branch Members attended Regimental Remembrance Day on Sunday 16th May. Although the weather could have been a little kinder we had a thoroughly enjoyable day. We arrived in London a little earlier than usual to enable members to find suitable lunch venues if they wished, and on the return journey we joined the Gloucestershire Branch at the Guards club in Windsor for a 'fish and chip' supper. Both of these new arrangements were very well received by those attending and will be put in place again next year.

On Saturday 26th June another full coach was heading along the M4 bound for Littlecote House in Berkshire for Grenadier Day, we were fortunate to have glorious weather for the day and all those who attended had an excellent day out. The Bristol Branch entered two teams in the Boyton Cup which this year took the format of an archery shoot, Bristol 'A' led by the Secretary took to the range first and not being used to the firing mechanism of a bow and arrow, and not being able to 'zero' their weapons before shooting, did not score very well, their effort was, quite rightly, met with a large degree of derision from Bristol 'B' who were next to take up their firing positions. Obviously the 'B' team, led by the Chairman had learnt a great deal from the A teams dismal display and turned in a far more impressive set of scores. The shoot of the day went to the 'B' team's Lance (sir lancelet) Cambridge who returned a magnificent score of 35 out of 40, however there was a stewards enquiry afterwards into the amount of arrows Lance had actually fired, but the score was upheld due to insufficient evidence of foul play. The cup was won this year by Manchester. Sales on the Branch cider stall were slow and we returned two thirds of the cider that we took with us back to Bristol, this was due to several beer tents on site selling chilled beers at very competitive prices, Also the Branch TV raffle did not happen this year due to a faulty generator so this also affected the Branch's profit on the day. However a very good day out was had by all and the overall opinion was that Littlecote House made for a splendid setting. All credit for this is due to the tremendous amount of work put into arranging the event by Colin Knight of the Gloucester Branch and John Southern of the Reading Branch.

The Branch Sunday Lunch on the 18th July at Shirehampton Golf Club was very well attended with some Branch Members travelling from as far afield as Cornwall. We were treated to an excellent Lunch and a very pleasant afternoon by the Golf Club, this is the second time that we have held a Sunday Lunch at Shirehampton and due to the popularity of this years event we shall return again in 2011.

Sunday 15th August saw another coach full of Branch Members departing Bristol, this time heading North to the National Memorial Arboretum, we were joined en-route by several Members of the Gloucestershire Branch. This trip proved to be a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, we were fortunate to have Dennis Ward of the Burton-On-Trent Branch as our personal guide. Dennis was an absolute font of knowledge regarding the Arboretum and captivated our attention for several hours with his detailed tour of the site. All to soon it was time to board the coach for the short drive to the Waterfront Restaurant at the Barton Marina for a (very) late lunch. Credit goes to the Branch Chairman for arranging what turned out to be a fantastic venue to relax and enjoy some very pleasant hospitality.



*BRANCH MEMBERS AT THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION MEMORIAL
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM*

BRISTOL BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER 2010

The Branch Dinner this year, as detailed in the May Newsletter, is to be held at the Officers Mess, Royal Artillery Grounds, Whiteladies Road in Bristol on November 20th. We have been trying to secure the Artillery grounds as a Dinner venue for a number of years, and are fortunate to have succeeded in doing so this year, this promises to be a superb setting for the Branch Dinner as the Artillery grounds Mess has hosted numerous successful dinners over recent years. A lot of Branch Members have already booked this event and due to the fact that numbers are limited you are highly recommended to book your places as soon as possible. Timings for the Dinner will be confirmed at a later date but the menu is as detailed in the pro forma booking return that you received in May, dress will be the same as last year, Black tie preferred but lounge suits are acceptable. Please contact the Branch Secretary for booking details if you no longer have the return booking form.

COLDSTREAM GUARDS ASSOCIATION DINNER

The Coldstream Guards Association Dinner, which used to be held under the name of Household Division Dinner, will take place this year on Friday 17th December at the Rookery Manor Hotel in Edingworth near Weston-Super -Mare, North Somerset. All Branch Members are invited to this event. The cost for the Dinner which includes complimentary drink on arrival, Table wine and Port, Three course meal with a choice of menu and after dinner musical entertainment (disco) is £28.00 per person. Free coach travel to and from the dinner has been arranged with the coach departing and returning to Staple Hill, Bristol, alternatively accommodation is available at Rookery Manor for a discounted rate of £60.00 per double room which includes breakfast. For further details and booking information please contact Jim Reagan of the Coldstream Association on 01179 601736

BRANCH WELFARE

The Branch Committee have decided that due to increasing numbers of welfare related matters being brought to the Branch's attention that it would be in the best interests of the Branch to appoint a Welfare Officer. Due to the vast area that the Bristol Branch encompasses it was decided to appoint a Welfare Co-ordinator who could then delegate certain cases out to other volunteers from within the Branch. Whilst this system has only been in place for short time it is proving to be a success. The branch Welfare Co-ordinator is Andy Dane who unhesitatingly volunteered for the post (well done Andy) Any matters of welfare that you think should be brought to Andy's attention, ie: hospitalisations, bereavements, Branch Members in financial difficulties etc, can be directed through the Branch Secretary or Chairman.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Bristol Branch has moved from the Royal British Legion in Staple Hill to the Royal Artillery Grounds in Whiteladies Road, all meetings as from October 2010 will take place at the new venue, the Branch will still meet on the first Monday of every Month excluding January in the Officers Mess at 20.00. Be advised that the Royal Artillery grounds is an 'active' military establishment and as such has a secure entry system therefore any Branch Members wishing to attend meetings are advised to contact the Branch Secretary or Branch Chairman to obtain access codes before their arrival. I would take this opportunity to inform ALL branch members that you are welcome to attend meetings and hopefully now that we have a new venue we shall start to see some of our more unfamiliar faces coming along.

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LEST WE FORGET

21006144 Douglas William Hancock of Seamills Bristol 1st June 2010

2625964 Ray Cambridge of Staple Hill Bristol 30th July 2010

2623408 Percy G Gregory MM of Bath September 2010

