1st Bn The Royal Regiment of Wales arrived in Tidworth just in time to raise the flag at Lucknow Barracks before celebrating St David’s Day on 1st March in true Regimental style. Traditionally, miniature leeks are presented to every soldier at the St David’s Day Parade, this year by the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Robert Aitken, (below). Later in the day, all new members of the Regiment take part in the leek eating ceremony: each man must eat a raw leek, washed down by a pint of ale! The Regimental Mascot, 24416905 LCpl Gwillym Jenkins otherwise known as “Taffy V”, see here with Goat Major Cpl Meyrick, will not be joining the Regiment when it deploys to Iraq later this month to be the Divisional Reserve based at Shaibah Log Base.

... and celebrates St David’s Day
**Thank you ...**

Deputy Garrison Commander, Lt Col Stuart Norman, shakes hands with Cliff Fiander, Contract Director at Sodexo Defence Services Ltd, as Sodexo prepares to open the Junior Ranks’ Club in the newly rebuilt Lucknow Barracks in Tidworth.

Neil Watts, Retail Development Manager for Sodexo (second from left), told Drumbeat, “the aim is to provide outside facilities, inside the wire” for 1Bn Royal Regiment of Wales which has just moved to Tidworth from Paderborn.

“The Sodexo team has worked extremely hard in a very short time to make sure that the Junior Ranks’ Club opens for the Unit before they go out to Iraq”, said Lt Col Norman, “We are extremely grateful to them”.

Sodexo Defence Services Ltd is a supply partner of Aspire Defence, the Preferred Bidder for Project Allenby.

**New faces at Garrison Radio**

Tune in to 1287 am mw

**Weekdays**
0600 Wiggy in the Morning with local news bulletins and Army Radio News
1000 Golden Hour (Monday Army Sports Lottery Results)
1100 Tim West
1400 Mike Peters
1800 Nighttime music
2200 The Quiet Storm

**Saturday**
0700 Mathew Barton
1100 Me Mark Page
1400 Mike Peters with sport & music
1800 Nighttime music
2200 The Quiet Storm

**Sunday**
0800 Hazel Maguire
1200 Andy Luckman
1600 Mark Goodier with the Smash Hits chart
1900 Nighttime music

**Services Dry Fly Fishing Association**

Founded 100 years ago, SDFFA provides 6 miles of classic upstream dry-fly fishing for trout and grayling on the River Avon from Bulford upstream past Netheravon to Fifield. The river is keepered and stocked. All ranks (Pte to Gen) and MoD civilian employees are welcome. Annual subscriptions vary according to rank. Contact Maj (Retd) CD Taylor on 01980 - 672161 for more details. Tight lines!

**Bulford Youth Club**

We are planning all sorts of fun at the Youth Club, as well as Summer holiday activities and residential trips away.

- 9 - 12 year olds Tuesdays 18:00 - 20:00
- 5 - 8 year olds Thursdays 17:00 - 18:45

If you are interested - just come along!

We are also looking for volunteers to help with either or both of these sessions, so if you are interested in spending a few hours a week to help us run an even better youth club, please call Melody on 01980 - 673840 or 672105.

**Collingbourne Cricket Club**

We are a friendly village club, able to offer cricket to suit all standards. Our First XI plays in Wiltshire League Division 1, with the Second XI playing in Division 7. We also play a full complement of Sunday friendly fixtures and play on Wednesday evenings in the Savernake Forest evening league.

Prospective new members are invited to come along to

- Indoor Net Practice 19:30 - 21:00 (cost £2 per person)
- Castledown Sports Centre, Ludgershall
- Fridays 8, 15, 22 and 29 April

The Club also runs a very active Colts section. Youngsters between 9-15 should contact our Colts Manager, Graham Chandler: Tel. 01264 - 850638.

For general information about the Club, please contact the Secretary, Karl Rogers: Tel. 01264 - 850700 (office).

**Calling all Gardeners!**

Shipton Bellinger Horticultural Society has a well stocked shop, open to members every Sunday 9:30 - 11:00 (Follow the signs from the bottom end of Hedges Close)

- Pots, seed trays, canes, feed & weed, hanging baskets, etc.
- Membership £2 per year, £1 Seniors

For more information call Gordon Measures: 01980 - 849027

**Clarendon & Tidworth Garrison Football Club**

This thriving Football Club, open to boys & girls aged 8-12, meets regularly on the Marlborough Playing Fields, opposite the Kiwi School in Bulford, every Wednesday 17:30 - 19:00.

If you would like details about joining the club, please get in touch with WO2 John Kuzera on 01980 - 672407 or mobile 07730 - 579625

**Tidworth Saddle Club**

Lessons for all standards: lunging, long lining, hacks & events

Open to all ages - Come and have fun!

Call Mrs Lewis: Tel. 07899 - 687 466
Soldiers and Officers on operations in Iraq can now keep up with their education, following the opening of a Theatre Education Centre (TEC) at the Shaibah Logistics Base in the Al Basra Province.

OC 10 AEC, Major Tim Farthing, has flown out to Basra to be OC TEC Iraq. He and Captain Katy O’Brien will ensure that the new Theatre Education Centre offers a full range of educational courses and developmental opportunities for soldiers and officers deployed on Op Telic VI.

Courses available at the TEC range from Basic Skills, (numercy and literacy), through to compulsory courses for promotion (CLM, JOLP & MA), and elective courses such as foundation degrees and resettlement advice.

In addition to a full range of mandatory and elective education, the TEC also delivers basic Arabic courses, designed to give soldiers a better understanding of Arabic language and culture which will help them when out patrolling the streets of Basra.

10 AEC in Tidworth has been preparing resources for Units from 12 Mech Brigade to take out to Iraq. In the picture, Lt Chris Burrows, Operational Unit Education Officer attached to 1 STAFFORDS, collects boxes of educational materials from 10 AEC to take out to Iraq.

Educational Development Tutor from 10 AEC, Michèle Blain, will soon be travelling out to Shaibah Log Base in May and June to deliver Numeracy and Literacy courses at the Theatre Education Centre.

1RRW and KRH have trained Mentors to help assist soldiers with literacy and numeracy during the deployment. They will be working closely with both Michele and the TEC to ensure opportunities for soldiers to gain qualifications continue while they are away.

The Iraq TEC builds on the success of a similar TEC that has been operating successfully in Bosnia since 1996.
Castledown Media Centre is officially opened ...

The Castledown Media Centre was officially opened on Saturday 12th March, by Phil Harding from Channel 4’s Time Team programme. Phil’s enthusiasm for prehistoric archaeology is well known and when not doing television work he is also a member of Wessex Archaeology. As he declared the new Media Centre officially open, Phil said, “When we start a dig, what we are trying to find out about is how Stone Age people lived in communities. Nowadays the ways of communicating have changed, but the principle is still the same! Castledown Media Centre will be a marvellous way for the everyone to find out what is going on in the Tidworth Community Area”.

The new Media Centre is located in the grounds of Castledown School, next to the Sports Centre. For the moment, Castledown Radio can only be heard online at www.castledownradio.info, but an FM licence has been applied for. The new radio station is looking for volunteers to train in all aspects of radio work, so if you are interested, please get in touch with Baz Reilly.

The media centre also produces a bi-monthly Community Area newsletter. The first edition appeared with the temporary name, “No Name News” - if you have a suggestion for a name, you could win £50! Get in touch with Baz Reilly or Mike Winterbourne.

The Centre also houses an IT suite which is open to everyone in the Community Area. Use the computers to surf the net - write a letter - email a friend - send an e-bluey- or do your homework!

**IT Suite Opening Times:**
- **Monday & Thursday:** 10:00 - 12:00
- **Tuesdays:** 14:00 - 16:00
- **Wednesdays:** 17:30 - 19:30

Volunteers willing to help run the Centre, please get in touch:
- **Baz Reilly**, “The Man in the Hat” Tel : 01264 - 791929
  Email : studio@castledownradio.info
- **Mike Winterbourne** : Tel. 01980 - 846693
  Email : mike@tidworthtrust.co.uk
- **Helen Winchcombe** : Tel. 01980 - 840223
  Email : helen@tidworthtrust.co.uk

--

**Community Area Awards : Recognising Endeavour**

Presentation of Awards by the Lord Lieutenant for Wiltshire, Mr John Bush OBE

**Wednesday 6 April** 19:00
Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall
Everyone is Welcome

---

**Tidworth Residents’ Forum**

**Monday 11 April** at **19:00**
in the Wylye Road Community Centre
Come and hear the latest news about what is going on locally
**Don’t miss out ! Everyone Welcome**

---

**Tidworth Leisure Centre**

- **Archery**
  3 April 9:30 - 12:30 New Tester Session Ages 8-adult
- **Swimming Lessons**
  Enrolment for new customers starts 2nd April.
  Courses starting 11th April :
  - **Trampoline**
    Mondays & Thursdays. Different age groups
  - **Swindon Town Football Coaching**
    Fridays Different age groups
  - **Kick-a-bout**
    Tuesdays & Saturdays Different age groups
  - **Yoga**
    Wednesdays
  - **Pilates**
    Tuesdays & Fridays Different skill levels

For further information about all activities at the Tidworth Leisure Centre please call in at Reception or phone 01980 - 847140

---

**The future of Tidworth College ...**

Salisbury College has given notice to the Royal British Legion (RBL) that they will terminate their lease of Tidworth College with effect from July 2006.

The Tidworth Community Area Partnership (TCAP) has set up a task group to study the long term future of the College, to support the continued development of the training and economic activities on the site and to foster a close working relationship between the College and other organisations in Tidworth, such as the Leisure Centre, the Army Education Centre and Tidworth Development Trust.

It is understood that the Royal British Legion, which owns the College, will soon be calling for expressions of interest from organisations which might wish to take over the College site when the Salisbury College lease expires in 2006.

---

**Tidworth Leisure Centre**

- **Archery**
  3 April 9:30 - 12:30 New Tester Session Ages 8-adult
- **Swimming Lessons**
  Enrolment for new customers starts 2nd April.
  Courses starting 11th April :
  - **Trampoline**
    Mondays & Thursdays. Different age groups
  - **Swindon Town Football Coaching**
    Fridays Different age groups
  - **Kick-a-bout**
    Tuesdays & Saturdays Different age groups
  - **Yoga**
    Wednesdays
  - **Pilates**
    Tuesdays & Fridays Different skill levels

For further information about all activities at the Tidworth Leisure Centre please call in at Reception or phone 01980 - 847140
Minister opens Soldiers’ New Accommodation Block

Project Allenby/Connaught will improve the standard of living for 11,000 soldiers in Aldershot and across Salisbury Plain and the changes have started to take shape. The first of the 144 Single Living Accommodation Blocks to be built by Aspire Defence for Project Allenby/Connaught was officially opened on 24th February by the Under Secretary of State for Defence, Ivor Caplin MP.

The Minister stressed the benefits of providing first class accommodation for our troops, saying that investment in this type of living accommodation will aid Army recruitment and retention. “I congratulate Aspire and the MOD’s Project Team on what they have achieved so far”, he said.

Shaking hands with the Minister after the ceremony, Arthur Moore, Chairman of Aspire Defence, said, “Aspire Defence is proud to be working with the MOD and the Army on such a significant project.” This new building has been developed as a demonstration unit and it will enable both the MOD and Aspire Defence to evaluate its suitability and performance. Soldiers living in the new block have praised the quality of the facilities provided, saying that it is a massive improvement on the accommodation they have experienced in the past. They can now either enjoy the privacy of their own rooms with en-suite shower rooms or get together with others in the communal lounge.

The scope of Project Allenby/Connaught is enormous, spanning 35 years and costing many millions of pounds. It is estimated that the building phase of the new project will take up to 9 years and it is hoped that it will begin later this year.

Patrolling the Peace Line …

Tidworth-based 1 RHA assume the duties of UN Roulement Regiment in Cyprus on 6 April.

A/E Battery, merged specifically to act as the Operations Battery for the six month tour, will deploy with command and support elements from O/HQ Battery. Joining 1 RHA to act as the Mobile Force Reserve will be 10 Battery RA, who normally provide Close Air Defence to 1 Mech Bde. Whilst their colleagues patrol the Buffer Zone in Sector 2 from their base in Nicosia, much of the Regiment will remain in Tidworth. Due to the UN drawdown in Cyprus, only 250 troops are required. A large rear party, including the whole of B Battery, will provide support to training activities throughout the year.

Professional Excellence …

The Educational Development Wing at 10 AEC, whose members are pictured here with Officer Tutor Major Rob Howells, has enjoyed recent success at the Employer Training Partnership Awards 2005. These awards, run in association with the Learning Skills Council, are for all employers in the Wiltshire/Swindon area and are presented in recognition of excellence in the provision of educational support to employees.

The “Ed Dev” team were Winners of the Essential Skills for Life Award and Runners Up for the Skills for Business Employer Award. Mrs Michèle Blain (2nd from right, front row) was the Individual Winner of the Employer Trainer of the Year Award.

Recycling at Easter …

We all tuck in to tonnes of chocolate at Easter: what to do with all the extra packaging that comes with it? Detach the cardboard from the foil and plastic and you can then either take it to your nearest Household Recycling Centre, or tear it into small pieces and put it into your compost bin. People are becoming increasingly aware of environmental problems such as pollution and the need to conserve the world’s scarce resources. You can help by recycling as much as possible and by composting all your bio-degradable rubbish. If you would like to obtain a home composter (prices from £5), or would like details of Kennet District Council’s new green waste collection service, please call 01380 - 734665.
Tidworth Junior Youth Club  
AWS Community Hall at the TLC  
Tuesdays  18:00 - 20:00

B F B S Forces Radio  
Radio requests call : 08701 20 21 21  
(calls are charged at the national rate)  
Email : requests@bfbs.com  
For overseas commands and N. Ireland visit www.bfbs.com and go to the “Dedications” page.

Garrison Radio  
Broadcasting to TNB Garrison  
1278 am medium wave  
Call 01980 - 602277 or Email : tidworthbullford@garrisonradio.com

Extended Opening Hours  
The Veterinary Hospital, Station Rd  
Surgeries : 9:00-10:00 & 17:00-18:00  
Mon - Fri  Call 01980 - 672251 & 672334  
Call 01672 - 511901 or 01980 - 670540

“The Haig Centre, Bulford  
Day Care Nursery  
Call Michelle : 01980 - 672331  
Parents & Toddlers  
Call 0197200 

Getaway After School Club  
Ages 5-13  
15:00-18:00  Call 673355

Thrift Shop  
Call 673355  
Term time Thursdays  
9:30 - 13:00

Bulford Youth Club  
Call 672105  
Tuesdays  
18:00 - 20:00 9 - 12s  
Thursdays  
17:00 - 18:45 5 - 8s

Bulford Scout Group  
Call 633494

The Haig Nursery  
Call Vicky on 672331

Tidworth Leisure Centre  
Centre Opening Times  
Monday - Friday  09:00 - 21:00  
Saturdays  08:00 - 19:00  
Sundays  08:00 - 21:00  
Telephone : 01980 - 847 140  
General Manager : 602030  
Outside Pitch Bookings : 603416

Library Opening Times :  
Mon - Thurs  13:00 - 17:00  
Tues & Thurs  14:00 - 19:00  
Wed & Fri  10:00 - 17:00  
Sat  10:00 - 13:00  
Call: 01980 - 843460 or 602568

Oasis Café Opening Times :  
Mon - Thurs  10:00 - 19:00  
Fri - Sun  10:00 - 17:00  
HIVE Opening Times :  
Mon - Fri  09:00 - 15:00  
Call 01980 - 602224

Busy Bees Crèche ; 603160  
Caterpillars Pre-School ; 602460  
JD After School Club ; 602019

Open during half term week  
Tweens Parents & Toddlers :  
Thursdays  9:30 - 11:30  Call 601501

Purity Beauty Salon :  
Mon - Sat  9:00 - 20:00  
Call Yvonne on 07958 - 911 928

Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :  
For appointments, call in or phone  
Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737646  
Sports Therapy : 07811 - 358101

1st Tidworth Scouts need Help  
Adults wanted to join as leaders to help with Beavers (6-8 yr olds)  
Call John Sparrow : 01264 - 398 625

Job Vacancies  
Director of Employment & Training at the AFT Training Centre, Bulford  
Casual Crèche staff & Cleaner  
Call 01980 - 672981 for details

Vacancies : APHCS Nurses  
Short notice/Bank staff needed  
Call Heath Burns 01980 - 603064

First Aid Courses  
for Service Personnel & Dependents  
Mon & Thurs  18:30 - 20:30  
Call Sgt Carr on 01980 - 672102

Stay with the beat !  
Deadline for May issue : 11 April 2005

Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY  
Call Rosemary Meke on 01980 - 602980 or email : drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com  
www.drumbeat.org.uk

Drumbeat is funded and produced by Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison. A contribution towards the cost of copies for the Civilian Community in Tidworth is made by Tidworth Parish Council. Civilian copies are distributed by Tidworth Trust.