

Drumbeat



Issue 110

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

July 2006

Project Allenby/Connaught 10 July 2006 ... Vesting Day ... Service Commencement ...

10th July will be an important day in Tidworth, Netheravon and Bulford Garrison : this is the day that Aspire Defence will be assuming responsibility for providing and managing the services that support life on the Garrison.

The services provided will include : estates and grounds maintenance, garrison stores and facilities (such as the TLC), messes and restaurants, the white fleet transport and utilities.

Aspire will do this through a network of "Supply Partners", which you will be able to learn more about in future editions of Drumbeat : Sodexo Defence Services, VT Land and MUJV.

What does it mean for us all ?

In practice, the vast majority of people in the Garrison should not notice any immediate changes on 10th July. Many of the familiar faces who provided these services to the Garrison in the past will still be doing the same jobs - they will just be wearing a different uniform ! Aspire Defence is aiming for a "seamless transition" and to this end, key personnel have transferred across from previous contractors and from the MOD.

"This is the start of an exciting period which will see support services delivered more efficiently and effectively", Deputy Garrison Commander Colonel Richard Aubrey-Fletcher said.

The Aspire Team, led in Tidworth by James Thoden Van Velzen, moved into Kannada House, near VCP2, at the end of June. James is delighted with the new location and said :

"Kannada House puts the Aspire at the heart of the garrison, in a place that means we have everyday contact with the people and

organisation we are here to help".

Aspire's focus will be on its customers, whether that is a soldier living in garrison accommodation, families using the leisure facilities or Army personnel working in the garrison. Their operations will be co-ordinated from Kannada House, where there will also be a local help desk to provide a focal point for information and support. More about the helpdesk soon ...



Deputy Garrison Commander Colonel Richard Aubrey-Fletcher shakes hands with James Thoden van Velzen, who heads the Aspire Team in Tidworth, Netheravon and Bulford Garrison



Rare Wild Flower flourishes on Salisbury Plain



Conservation work by the MOD has significantly increased the numbers of the "Pheasant's Eye" flower on the Salisbury Plain Training Area - one of the last refuges for this rare native plant.

Pheasant's Eye plants produce

very few seeds and their numbers have dramatically declined due to intensive agricultural practices. In fact it has only been recorded in the wild on 18 sites since 1987.

Dominic Ash, an ecologist from the Defence Estates Environmental Support Team at Westdown Camp said, "Because wild Pheasant's Eye is so rare, it is important that we manage Salisbury Plain in a way that will help to increase its numbers. This year we have hundreds more than we did last year and the year before and over the next month we should see them in full flower along with the Common Poppy and Common Fumitory. It is hard to believe, but military disturbance significantly helps Pheasant's Eye to reproduce. Recently, tanks were forced to create a temporary parallel track across the Plain and this disturbance has encouraged hundreds of flowers to germinate, including the Pheasant's Eye."

MOD policy aims to ensure that nature conservation is fully integrated with operational and training requirements. Environmental management, heavy rainfall in May, military disturbance and a lack of pesticides and herbicides have all contributed to the unexpected reintroduction of the Pheasant's Eye and the work of Defence Estates Ecologists will ensure that it continues to flourish.

Local Schools' Sport Success

The third Tidworth Primary Schools Sports Festival involved 450 children from 13 local primary schools, taking part in various sports at the Tidworth Leisure Centre and the Tidworth Oval. Local Tidworth schools were among the winners. Congratulations!



< Clarendon mini hockey team



Clarendon Boys' mini soccer team



< Zouch Girls' mini soccer team

Operation First Monte



Officers from across 1 Mechanized Brigade travelled to Italy on a battlefield tour of World War 2 last month where they were joined by officers from The 8th Bersaglieri Regiment.

In an operation called DIADEM, the Allies pushed North through Italy, trying to rout the Germans as well as draw troops away from Normandy. It was the area around Monte Cassino that was the focus for the group. The days included lectures, vignettes, discussion groups and Tactical Exercises Without Troops (TEWTs) where modern doctrine was applied to ground the allies had fought over 60 years ago. The officers also visited the Commonwealth Cemetery in Cassino for a service.

A week of hard work - albeit with good food and wine, concluded with a weekend R & R in Rome.

News from Tidworth Brownies



You never know when you might need a bit of First Aid knowledge! Tidworth Brownies have recently earned their First Aider badges after completing a First Aid Course. They are pictured here outside St Michael's Church Hall where they meet every Thursday evening.

If you would like information about Brownies or the Guide movement in this area, please get in touch with Connie Patrickson (District Commissioner & Brownie Guider) on 01980 - 845715.

Congratulations

to Connie, who last month received an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, for services to the Ministry of Defence.

"I am absolutely delighted and very proud", she told Drumbeat.

Connie is also the HIVE Information Officer in Larkhill.



For Long Service & Good Conduct



Brigadier John Lorimer MBE, Commander 12 (Mechanized) Brigade, last month presented Long Service & Good Conduct medals to four NCOs from the Kings Royal Hussars.

Medals were received by Cpl Ian Caldwell, Sgt Stuart Garner, Sgt Christopher Portwood and Sgt Wayne Ruddick, whose wife Jutta also attended the presentation which took place in the KRH WO's & Sgts' Mess.

The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal is awarded to Non Commissioned Officers who have completed 15 years exemplary service.

Generals visit the Garrison



Lt Gen Freddie Viggers CMG MBE, Adjutant General, and Lt Gen John McColl CBE DSO, Commander Regional Forces, came to Tidworth, Netheravon and Bulford Garrison on a fact-finding visit prior to the Army Families Federation Conference. They are pictured here talking with Mrs Michelle Boyd and her family at the Beeches Families Centre in Bulford.

The Generals visited Families Quarters in Tidworth and Bulford and had the opportunity to meet Unit Welfare Officers from Garrison Units and Army Welfare Service staff.

John'o'Groats to Lands End !



This Summer, a group of soldiers from 6Bn REME, led by Captain George Vosper AGC (SPS), will again be taking to their bikes to cycle from John'o'Groats to Lands End, with the aim of raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

"Pledges at the moment have reached £2500 and we have a target of £4000", Captain Vosper told Drumbeat..

Anyone wishing to contribute can get in touch with Captain Vosper at Jellalabad Barracks, Tidworth.

6Bn REME deploy to Canada and then Afghanistan on operations later this year.



Interim Medium Armoured Squadron exercises for the first time on Salisbury Plain

A new type of Armoured Squadron was deployed for the first time onto Salisbury Plain Training Area in May.



C Squadron of the King's Royal Hussars deployed in their Scimitars to support 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment on their 3 week long Exercise Druid's Dance. This exercise was the culmination of six months of hard work to convert from being a Challenger 2 Squadron to become one of the Army's first Interim Medium Armoured (IMA) Squadrons.

The concept behind the change is based on the requirement to deploy a direct fire platform around the world quickly and with minimal effort, to support light role and mechanised forces. Having an established Scimitar-equipped Armoured Squadron will allow crews to train in a dedicated fighting, as opposed to information-gathering, role.

Lieutenant Pete Perow, a Troop Leader with the Squadron said, "Despite looking like recce, we offer an enhanced direct fire capability to the light infantry."

New FM radio stations go live

Military radio stations in Northern Ireland and in Colchester went live on FM at the beginning of May.

BFBS Lisburn 100.6 FM from BFBS Forces Radio and Colchester Garrison FM from Colchester Army Radio Ltd can now be heard by British troops, their families and the local communities in Lisburn and Colchester. They replace the previous AM transmissions in those locations.

In our area, community FM licences were recently granted to Salisbury Plain Army Radio and to Castledown Radio. Both stations expect to start broadcasting later this year.

Would YOU know what to do ?

Firefighters from Amesbury and Salisbury recently attended a house fire in Bulford which had been caused by a pan which had been left on the cooker unattended. Luckily on this occasion the fire had not spread to the rest of the kitchen, although there was a great deal of smoke in the house.



Would YOU know what to do ?

**Don't take risks :
Get everyone out
and call the Fire &
Rescue Service**

- Turn off the heat if it is safe to do so
- Don't move the pan
- Don't throw water over the pan.

Smoke Alarms :

Fit a Smoke Alarm on every floor of your home, but NOT in the kitchen. Test the alarm every week, vacuum inside it every six months and replace it every 10 years.

Escape Plan :

Make sure all your family knows what to do if a fire happens. Plan your escape routes, keep exits clear and keep door and window keys handy.

FREE home fire safety checks and smoke alarms :

Contact Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service's Community Safety Department on 01722 - 439300



In our picture you can see a chip pan fire demonstration at Blue Light Day last year.

**Date for your diaries :
Blue Light Day 2006 : 31 August**

TAF

Tidworth Area Festival 2006

Sunday 30 July

Tedworth House Grounds

A fun day for all the family !

Fairground rides, free children's activities,
Wild West Inflatable Adventure Run,

Parachute Display Team, static displays including a Warrior, a Gazelle & a CRARV, trade stands,



food stalls, dog show, arena displays and live music, including the Band of the Prince of Wales's Division

and a guest appearance by X Factor star, Chico !



The TAF Xtra Factor Competition

Age groups : 7-12 yrs, 13-16 yrs and over 16 yrs
An iPod Nano to be won in each category !

What you have to do : make a recording of yourself singing a song of your choice. If judged a finalist, you will be asked to sing this song live on stage at the Festival, with a backing track provided by the organisers.

For details how to enter, go to the Festival website :

www.tidworthfestival.info

Crime Prevention Advice ...

- Think about the security of your house, garden and car during this Summer weather :
- If you are out in the back garden of your house it is always worth locking the front door.
- Take care if you leave windows open ... could someone still get in ?
- If you leave car windows open to keep the vehicle cool, are there valuables on view inside ?

It is a sad fact that some people will take advantage of these easy access points and although such crime is fairly unusual, it really is better to be safe than sorry.

- There have been instances recently of young children playing on building sites and tampering with vehicles. Building sites are not safe play areas for children. Parents are asked to make sure their children don't go onto building sites - for their own safety as well as preventing damage / anti social behaviour.

Tidworth in Bloom 2006

Enter your own garden into the competition or nominate someone else's !

Gardens (all or just part) - Tubs - Baskets - Boxes

Closing date for nominations : 14 July

Presentations will be made to the winners at Blue Light Day on 31st August

Landfill rubbish one week, Recycling the next !

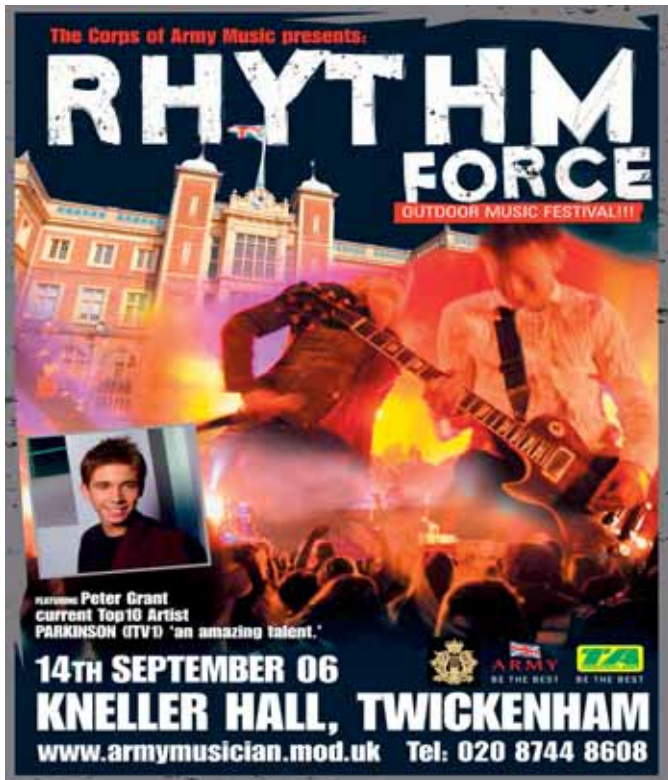


Kennet District Council's new Alternate Week Rubbish Collection system will be starting in the week beginning 3rd July and their vehicle fleet is ready ! Three of the old waste collection lorries have been exchanged for kerbside recycling vehicles and two others have been reallocated to the new Garden Waste Collection Service.

Under the new system, the black rubbish bins will be emptied one week (starting Wed 5 July) and the black recycling boxes and green garden waste bins the next, (starting Wed 12 July). The new system will encourage residents to recycle as much as possible and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

Any resident with a query about the new collection service, or needing extra black boxes, should contact Kennet District Council on 01380 - 724911

Rhythm Force : The Army's answer to Glastonbury !



Army bands are the public face of the Army and perform at many State and Ceremonial occasions in front of millions of people. But, this role is just one side of the capability of Army bands; beyond the parade ground Army musicians perform in lots of different musical groups. Come and see just how versatile they can be !

Rhythm Force on 14th September will be a musical extravaganza, organised by the Corps of Army Music in the grounds of Kneller Hall in Twickenham, featuring rock, pop, jazz, blues, swing and soul bands whose musicians come from across the Army.

FREE to Army Personnel and their guests ...

This is the first time an event of this kind has been staged by the Corps of Army Music and it is FREE to Army Personnel and their guests. For more information and tickets, visit :

www.armymusician.mod.uk or call 020 8744 8608

All Units' Families welcome ...

6Bn REME will be hosting a regular "Open Door" morning on the 2nd Monday of every month, 9:00 - 11:00

Dates for your diary : 10th July & 11th September

at 120 Sidbury Circular, Zouch Estate, Tidworth
Telephone : 01980 - 847 791

Come along for a coffee and a chance to meet new people and find out what's happening in Tidworth. You will also be able to have a chat with Donna Langford, the AFF Representative for the Salisbury Plain area. The AFF has specialists in areas such as Housing, Education, Special Needs and Employment who can help you get answers to any problems you may be having. For example, if you are experiencing any difficulties with the new MHS helpline, please inform your UWO, the HIVE or AFF Representative, so that the information can be passed up the Chain of Command. AFF Representative contact details on Noticeboard Page

An Exhibition of Aerial Photography and Archaeology 100 Years of Discovery



An exhibition showing how aerial photography has developed from the days of Victorian balloonists to the 21st century, and the impact it has had on our knowledge of the past

1 - 7 August STONEHENGE

Free Admission to Exhibition at Stonehenge.

21 - 29 August OLD SARUM, Salisbury

At Old Sarum, the Exhibition will be one of the displays during "Battle of the Somme" week.

The above photograph of Stonehenge was taken in 1906 from a Royal Engineers hydrogen balloon by 2nd Lt Philip Sharpe, published by the Society of Antiquaries in their journal, *Archaeologia*, in 1907. It is the first aerial photograph of Stonehenge and, indeed, of any British archaeological site.

Aerial survey is one of the most important tools for the discovery of archaeological sites. Every year thousands of previously unknown sites, from Neolithic to the 20th century, are discovered through the analysis of aerial photographs.

Operation Wyvern Dragon



One of the highlights of the year for staff at 43 (Wessex) Brigade is "Operation Wyvern Dragon", an annual team-building exercise in Devon which gives staff in all branches, military

and civilian, of all ages and abilities, the opportunity to get to know more about what makes each other "tick".



The result is a very enjoyable week and a more cohesive team which works together even better once they get back to Bulford !





Drumbeat Noticeboard



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
 1287 am medium wave
 Call 01980 - 602277 or Email :
tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com

Castledown Radio
www.castledownradio.info

Health & Social Care Forum
 12:30 Wednesday 5 July
 Ludgershall Scout Hall All welcome
 Call TDT on 01980 - 846693/840226

Tidworth Residents' Forum
 Mon 10 July 19:00
 Wylve Road Community Centre
 Come and hear the latest news about
 projects which will affect the future
 of Tidworth. Everyone welcome.

T 2 A
 Adventure Sports Club for 11 - 18 yr
 olds Call 01980 - 847140 for details

Trampoline Club
 Tues & Sat at the Leisure Centre
 Call Nicky Griffiths: 01980 - 654452

Tidworth Saddle Club
 Riding lessons & Organised Hacks
 Adults & Children Call 01980-603416

Tidworth Community Link Scheme
 Volunteers needed!
 Ability to drive useful, but not
 always necessary. For details call
 Mrs Lowence on 01980 - 846 786

Service Families Sports Fun Day
 Sat 2 Sept 11:00 - 15:00
 Tedworth House
 Cricket, tennis, rounders, bouncy
 castle, sausage sizzle, etc
 No charge, but please book your
 place : 01980 - 672522

AWS Job Vacancy - Bulford
 Nursery Nurse at The Haig Centre
 Call Carol on 01980 - 672331

AFF Salisbury Plain Coordinator
 Call Donna Langford : 01980-599 010

Repairs to Army Quarters
 MODern Housing Solutions Helpline
 (24/7) Call 0800 - 707 6000

Service Police Confidential Phone
 Line : 0800 - 616 888
 Please call if you have information of
 value to Service Police, or would like
 a confidential interview
 All calls are strictly confidential

Emergency Numbers :
 MDP : 01980 - 60 3099
 RMP : 01980 - 67 2251 & 67 2334
 Wiltshire Police : 0845 - 408 7000
 Police Emergency : 999 or 112
 Crimestoppers : 0800 - 555111

Tidworth Leisure Centre
TLC 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 14:00 - 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 Kelly Wilson : 01980 - 602224

Purity Beauty Salon :
 Mon-Sat 9:00 - 20:00 Call 07958-911928

Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :
 Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737 646
 Sports Therapy : 07796 - 230 571

Army Library at 10 AEC
 Candahar Barracks, Tidworth
 Mon-Fri 09:30 - 13:30 Tid Mil 3043
Bulford Army Library
 Ward Barracks, Bulford Camp
 Mon-Thu 9:00-16:30 Fri 9:00-12:30

AWS Families Centres
Tidworth :
 Ordnance House : 01980 - 602398
 at Tidworth Leisure Centre : 602191
Bulford :
 The Beeches : 01980 - 672342
 The Haig : 01980 - 673840
AWS Main Office : 01980 - 672105

Thrift Shops
Tidworth : Mondays 9:00 - 14:45
 Behind the Zouch Spar/Naafi
Bulford : Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00
 At The Haig Centre

Tidworth Junior Youth Club
 AWS Community Hall at the TLC
 Tues 18:00 - 20:00 Call Jimi on 602191

Tidworth Youth Centre
 Tues, Wed & Thurs 18:30 - 21:00
 St Andrew's Hall opposite the Oval
 Call Sarah Fanshawe : 01980 - 842748

Bulford Youth Club
 Tuesdays 17:30 - 20:00 9-12s
 Thursdays 17:00 - 19:00 5-8s
 Call Melody Abbott on 672340

AWS Children's Activities
 31 Jul-4 Aug Trip to Lake District
 7-10 Aug Avon Tyrell in New Forest
 Call 01980 - 672105 for details

Band Concert
 Prince of Wales's Division Band
Thursday 6 July 19:30
 Salisbury City Hall 01722 - 424723

Bulford Village Fun Day
 Sunday 9 July
 Recreation Ground, Watergate Lane
 Starts with Car Boot Sale at 12:00

"Bluez 'n' Zuz" Youth Disco
 11 July 19:00 - 21:00
 at the Tidworth Leisure Centre

Open Day & Fun Day
 Sat 15 July 10:30 - 14:30
 Noah's Ark Under 5s at The
 Beeches, Bulford 01980 - 673479

Holy Trinity Fete & BBO
 Sat 15 July 14:00 - 17:00
 at the RBL Club, Pennings Road
 live music, stalls, puppets, raffle ...

Rundle Cup
 Sat 15 July 12:00 - 17:00
 Tidworth Polo Ground

Hamlet
 Sun 16 July 19:30
 Havelock House grounds, Tidworth
 Tickets : 01980 - 672522

BBO at The Grapevine
 Sat 22 July 13:00 - 18:00
 BBQ, Bouncy Castle, Laser Quest
 Bar open all evening - All welcome
 Call 01980 - 603514 to book a place !

Music in the Air
 Sat 29 July
 Middle Wallop Airfield
 Tickets : 0870 - 060 2311
www.musicintheair.co.uk

Tidworth Area Festival
 Sunday 30 July 11:00 - 19:00
 Details inside ...

Tidworth Blue Light Day
 Thurs 31 August
 Wylve Road Community Centre

7AAC(V) Families Day
 Fri 1 Sept 10:00 onwards
 Airfield Camp, Netheravon

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for August 2006 issue : 10 July 2006
Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY
 Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980
 or email : drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com

Website : www.drumbeat.org.uk

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