

Drumbeat



Issue 155 Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter April 2010

What's on in the Garrison area :

● Sun 11 Apr

Pewsey Downs Challenge Walk
Details : www.wiltsltdwa.co.uk or
tel. 01793 - 852 969

● Tues 13 Apr 19:00 - 21:00

Easter Bluez 'n' Zuz Youth Disco
at the Clarendon Club, Tidworth

● Thurs/Fri 15 & 16 Apr

Continental market on Salisbury's
Market Square

● Wed 21 Apr 19:30

Salisbury Cathedral Organ
Recital Series 2010 begins.
Tickets from Playhouse Box
Office 01722 - 320 333

● Sat 8 May

POW Band Concert at Embley
Park, near Romsey. For details
email : powband-bm@mod.uk

● Thurs 27 May 19:15

"Following the Drum - The lives
of Army wives and daughters,
past and present". A talk at
Tidworth Library. Tickets £3 from
the library at the TLC.

● Sun 6 Jun

Mountain bike race in
Collingbourne Woods near
Tidworth/Ludgershall. More
details : www.ridgeracing.co.uk

● 12 & 13 June

2-day Internat'l Cat Show at the
TLC. Details: John Cunningham
(020 867 04408) or Janet
Stanbridge (01980 - 846 324)

Job Vacancies ...

● AWS Job Vacancies

Bank Staff for Garrison pre-
schools always wanted. Call
Chris on 01980 - 673379

● Tutors - Skilled for Health

Part-time Tutors needed. Must
be either qualified teacher or
health professional for a 6-wk
programme running every school
term. Call Lydia or Barbara on
01980 - 603477 or email
lydia.baos862@mod.uk

● Experienced Hair Stylist

Zouch Parade. Call Jade on
01980 - 847 327

AFF Employment Advisor

AFF Training Centre, Bulford
Joanna Durrant 01980 - 673196

Welcome Home !

Soldiers from 26 Engineer Regiment returned to Wiltshire on 24th March after a successful tour in Afghanistan.

8 Armoured Engineer Squadron, commanded by Major Jonathon Scott, deployed to Afghanistan in December. During the tour, they provided essential infrastructure enhancements to 28 Forward Operating Bases in Helmand Province, protecting soldiers not only from the enemy threat, but also from the rigours of winter. This included constructing and repairing medical and living accommodation; improving mortar protection; constructing water tanks; strengthening sangars and constructing ablution facilities, fencing and HESCO fortification. "This involved working in austere conditions until the work they did made other soldiers' and their own lives better!", Major Scott told Drumbeat.

Sappers from **4 Troop 30 Armoured Engineer Squadron**, commanded by Lieutenant Jim Viney, deployed to Afghanistan in January to support Operation MOSHTARAK with three TROJAN armoured engineer tanks, each equipped with a plough and the PYTHON trailer-mounted rocket-propelled mine-clearing system. This was the first time that TROJAN and PYTHON had been used in an operational theatre to clear safe lanes for advancing troops through suspected fields of IEDs.

As PYTHON fires, a series of rockets lift the hose of explosives out of its barrel, shooting it over the TROJAN tank into the air and laying it over a long strip of ground. Seconds later the hose explodes, creating a flash, followed by a thump and a cloud. All families in the area were contacted to ensure that no civilians came near the blast.

"We had an intense period of training on TROJAN and PYTHON and then it was eight days on the ground fast and furious," said Lieutenant Viney. "We used the light-plough on the front of the TROJAN to clear a path for troops coming through behind us, but we also used the vehicle's engineering capabilities to upgrade routes. Deploying PYTHON for the first time in a wadi crusted with IEDs was very impressive." (See library picture below)



**Sig Emily
Gurton
wins
Garrison's
Got Talent !**

Read more
inside ...



**2 R Welsh
wins the
Army
Rugby
Cup !**

Read more
inside ...





2nd Battalion The Royal Welsh celebrated St David's Day in traditional style with their usual inter-Company Leek Eating Competition !

"Today is an important day ! We are a Welsh Battalion ! Our roots, our heritage - all come from Wales and I'm incredibly proud that this strong link endures. If you are not Welsh, you all become honorary Welsh when you join the battalion !" said Commanding Officer, Lt Col Mark Wheeler, speaking just before the competition began.

The competition consists of the youngest soldier in each of the 5 Companies, escorted in by Welsh-speaking soldiers dressed in white robes, having to eat a raw leek and drink a pint of beer. This year's winner was Pte James Rossi from C Company.

Army Rugby Champions !

The rugby season 2009 – 2010 was one that 2RWELSH wanted to end with the Army Cup. In preparation they have supported the Infantry set up and every one of the team has represented the Infantry at Rugby. They also invited the Osprey rugby team to Tidworth to help with some expert coaching, giving the team the opportunity to play along side Jerry Collins, Filo Tia Tia and tackle the talented Marty Holah ... not many soldiers can say that !



The ARU Final was held on 17 Mar at Aldershot against the Welsh Guards and the occasion was supported by members from all over the Regimental family, Col of the Regiment, RHQ staff, Retired Officers, Regimental Associations, 3rd Battalion, MPC staff with kids from Cardiff and the Valleys. The game was truly entertaining, competitive, physical and a talented match between two Welsh teams. The game was full of the ups and downs that kept the supporters from both sides on the edge of their seats. The end result was 2 RWELSH 31 – Welsh Guards 26.

2RWELSH have won the Army cup 3 times in 4 years and will defend their title next season !



Ex FIRST SUSTAIN

1st Mechanized Brigade Combat Service Support (CSS) units took part in Exercise FIRST SUSTAIN on Salisbury Plain over the period 8 - 12 March. The exercise involved elements of 3 Logistic Support Regiment RLC, 6 Close Support Battalion REME, 5 Medical Regiment RAMC and 158 Provost Company RMP. These units were ably supported by detachments from 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, 2nd Battalion The Royal Welsh and 4th Battalion The Rifles who provided various elements of training support to allow the exercise to run smoothly.

The aim of the exercise was to train 1st Mechanized Brigade Combat Service Support (CSS) units to Collective Training Levels 2/3 (CTL) within a scenario that mirrored the current operational themes as identified on Op HERRICK. The exercise started with an 'In Theatre Training Package' for all CSS units that was expertly organized and run by The Royal Welsh. Following this package units moved to their respective locations across Salisbury Plain prior to conducting specific unit tasks.



One of the key tasks undertaken during the exercise was the Combat Logistic Patrol (CLP) run by 3 Logistic Support Regiment RLC. During the CLP serial, 3 Logistic Support Regiment RLC practised moving large quantities of materiel supported by integrated brigade assets including infantry and armour in a high threat environment that resulted in the patrol coming under attack from insurgents. After dealing with the insurgent threat the patrol was forced to deal with a number of casualties before eventually being able to move on.



Another key serial that took place was 'Recovery in Contact' which tested 6 Close Support Battalion REME. Dealing with the daily grind of broken down vehicles can be testing enough, but throw in opportunist insurgents and you really have a recipe for high pressure and things to go wrong. The exercise was extremely well resourced and saw various air assets support the training including Harrier GR9, Tornado GR4, Lynx, Chinook and Merlin. These assets added realism to the scenario and allowed vital 'hands on' training to take place.

The exercise was a great success and allowed vital skills and procedures to be practised by CSS units whilst integrating with various brigade assets. It also allowed the fighting elements of the Brigade to see how the CSS chain works, hopefully gaining a wider understanding of the black art of CSS! The training will allow those CSS units to move forward in their collective training standards whilst supporting those elements that are preparing to deploy on HERRICK 13 with 16 Air Assault Brigade later this year.

The exercise was a great success and allowed vital skills and procedures to be practised by CSS units whilst integrating with various brigade assets. It also allowed the fighting elements of the Brigade to see how the CSS chain works, hopefully gaining a wider understanding of the black art of CSS! The training will allow those CSS units to move forward in their collective training standards whilst supporting those elements that are preparing to deploy on HERRICK 13 with 16 Air Assault Brigade later this year.



The Winner



Garrison's Got Talent 2010



The Judges



The Compères



An idea by 6Bn REME to raise money for SSAFA Forces Help grew to one of the most enjoyable fundraising events the Garrison has seen in a long while ! 18 acts drawn from every unit in the Garrison battled it out in front of a packed audience at the Garrison Theatre : military drummers, singers, rappers, rock bands and a comedian ... the talent was endless and the atmosphere electric as everyone cheered on their own unit ! The show was compered by BFBS DJs Patrick Eade and Dusty Miller and the standard of the acts gave some tough decisions to the four judges, Captain Sean Riley (Director of Music from the POW Band), Richard Hutchinson (BFBS Radio 2), Chris Sturgess (Garrison FM) and Sgt Gavin Harvey (6Bn REME). In the end, after a sing-off, Cpl Liz Lowe from 3RMP singing Beyonce's "Listen" narrowly missed taking the title, with Signaller Emily Gurton from 3(UK) Div Signal Regiment voted the winner, with her powerful rendition of Percy Sledge's "When a Man loves a Woman".



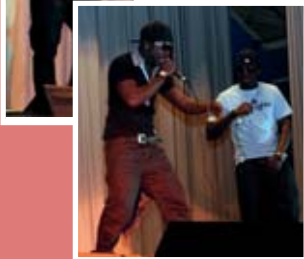
"I'm absolutely elated, I did not expect it at all", said Emily. "I hope to keep singing and a number of bands are interested in me joining them. But I know they raised a lot of money for SSAFA and that's what the event is all about, helping those who go through so much".

Commanding Officer of 6Bn REME, Lt Col Steve Szalay said, "to see 600 people in the theatre and see 18 quality acts is just fantastic, We're all here to help raise money for SSAFA and there have been tremendous efforts behind the scenes by everyone, from the stage crew to the bar staff and unit reps who've sold tickets.

Everyone enjoyed it and everyone got something out of it - Never did I believe it would be such a success!"

Interviewed by Patrick Eade during the show, Sgt Gavin Harvey told the audience how much he and his family were grateful for all the help SSAFA had given them, providing accommodation for his family to be near him in hospital in Selly Oak after he was injured in Afghanistan last year. "SSAFA has been just wonderful", he said.

The show raised a magnificent £4465 for SSAFA Salisbury Plain and, collecting the cheque a few days later outside 6Bn REME Headquarters, Chairman Caroline Everard said : "When I heard how much the show had raised I just couldn't believe it ! It was such good fun too. Money raised for SSAFA in this area will be kept in the Salisbury Plain area and given to people who need it in this area".



Mrs Caroline Everard and Sig Emily Gurton



Back in uniform to present a cheque for £4465 to SSAFA Salisbury Plain

Log on to the BFBS website to watch a short video of this X-Factor style show !
 Log on to : www.bfbs.com or follow the link to it from the Drumbeat website : www.drumbeat.org.uk

228 Signal Squadron raises money for H4H



Captain Jared Cunningham from 228 Signal Squadron has used his passion for his local football team, AFC Bournemouth, for a worthy cause!

He and 15 soldiers from the Squadron, sold "Help for Heroes" wristbands at the stadium on the day of the game against Morecombe FC, raising a total of £2086 for the charity, Help for Heroes. L/Cpl "Geri" Halliwell and L/Cpl Hayley Hamilton led the two teams onto the pitch whilst the remaining soldiers provided the guard of honour. The response was fantastic; AFC Bournemouth and the locals were very welcoming and gave generously. "It has been a great day to chat to football fans about our life in the army and what 'Help for Heroes' does for soldiers", said Captain Cunningham after the match.

The Rollo Club is named

The new Super Diner in Swinton Barracks, used every day by 22 and 26 Engineer Regiments, has been officially named, "The Rollo Club" in a ceremony in Perham Down.



The late Major General Hamish Rollo CBE was a former Troop Commander, Squadron Commander and Commanding Officer of 22 Engineer Regiment, before going on to command Theatre Troops in Netheravon. The ceremony was carried out by Mrs Nicole Rollo on 26th March.

Tickets for Troops

Tickets For Troops is a brand new charity dedicated to offering free tickets for big events to all serving military personnel as well as any veterans who have been medically discharged through injury since 2001.

www.ticketsfortroops.org.uk

The Riding Club returns !



The Riding Club is now back in Tidworth after three years away at Cholderton. It can now be found, conveniently based at the Tidworth Equestrian Centre, in the walled garden beside Tedworth House.

Facilities include the recently-completed state-of-the-art Outdoor Arena, (picture), and more on the way!

This garrison facility is open to everyone interested in riding or learning to ride, whether tots, teenagers or adults! Call the Saddle Club on 07500 - 868 940

22 Engineer Regiment PTIs raise money for H4H

A team of five All Arms PTIs led by SSgt Andy Harvey, APTCI at 22 Engineer Regiment, recently conducted a charity bike ride on gym bikes, cycling the equivalent of Lands End to John O Groats, completing the 837 mile distance outside the Meadows Shopping Centre in Camberley, Surrey, over a two day period.

Despite the discomfort of the hard gel seats, the team maintained a strong pace and completed the challenge in



a total of 13 hours 6 minutes, raising the sum of £3070 for the charity, Help for Heroes, thanks to the generosity displayed by the public.

Op ARTISAN



The Garrison hosted a visit from military teams from Ukraine and Moldavia last month. As part of the CFE Treaty, reciprocal inspections of treaty-limited equipment are routinely undertaken. It was a professional and good-humoured visit and 1RRF was the Unit inspected.

Tidworth Community Area Health Fair

Find out what is available :

Wednesday 14 April 2010 15:00 - 18:00

Tidworth Leisure Centre, Nadder Road, Tidworth

Who : NHS Wiltshire, Wiltshire Council, Leisure Centres, health charities, Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service, Wiltshire Police, recreational clubs and more ...

What : Screening, advice, information, techniques, support - health care, home safety, NHS services, Council support, carer support, access to voluntary services and lots more ...

More details from Val Powley, Community Area Manager
Tel. 01722 - 434 217 Email. val.powley@wiltshire.gov.uk

4 RIFLES raise money for SSAFA



4 RIFLES held a Regimental Christmas cake competition at the end of last year. Afterwards, the cakes were raffled and £1000 was raised, which was split between SSAFA Forces Help and BLESMA.

"You are our most prolific fundraisers!", Commanding Officer, Lt Col Rupert Jones told Masterchef, SSgt Steve Wright, and the assembled Regimental catering staff.

Mrs Caroline Everard, Chairman of SSAFA's Salisbury Plain Branch, thanked them for their efforts as she presented a certificate to WO2 RCWO Adrian Curtis in the new Super Diner in Bulford.

It was a proud moment for Pte Marlon Stoner when he presented the cake which he had made to HRH the Duchess of Cornwall after the 4 RIFLES Medals Parade.

Sugababe meets the Red Devils



Sugababe, Amelle Berrabah, came to the Joint Services Parachute Centre in Netheravon last month to carry out a tandem parachute jump with the Red Devils, the Parachute Regiment and the British Army's official parachute display team.

"I'd definitely do it again, it was amazing and out of this world," she said, once back on land after jumping from more than 13 thousand feet and freefalling at 120 miles per hour. Amelle carried out the jump to raise money for the charity Cancer Research UK, in memory of her father who died of cancer nearly eight years ago.

The Red Devils' team members are widely regarded as among the best display parachutists in the world. Every member of the 25 man team is a serving Paratrooper from the British Army's elite Parachute Regiment and each one has seen active service.

Community Awards 2009-10

Following the demise of Tidworth Development Trust in August last year, it had been feared that the Community Awards scheme would fall by the wayside. However, the scheme was picked up by Alex Bostock, Hilary Hollinsworth and Godfrey Tilney and was a great success.

At the Awards Ceremony held at the Ludgershall Sports & Social Club on 18th March, the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mr John Bush, praised the scheme as he

presented awards to all those who had been nominated for their endeavours to improve or benefit our community in the past year, including "Drumbeat's Civilian Postmen" (right).



This picture courtesy of The Andover Advertiser

In a departure from previous years, local schools were involved in the judging process. Shields for the best nominations were awarded to Rick Young (Castledown Radio), David Beaton (Everleigh Parish Council and Castle Practice in Ludgershall) and to the Welsh Warrior Wives from 2 R Welsh who raised £15,000 for the Ty Hafan children's hospice in Wales. Another innovation was the entertainment provided to the audience by the massed choirs of Clarendon Junior, Zouch and Castle Primary Schools and later on by a Fijian choir composed of soldiers and families from 2 R Welsh.

The Awards and Shields were funded by grants allocated by Wiltshire Council through the Area Board.



Force Protection visits 4 (CS)Bn REME



Force Protection Europe Ltd manufacture both the MASTIFF and RIDGEBACK platforms. On 9th of March, David Hind (Managing Director) and Charles Hookey (International Business Development Director) visited 4CS Bn REME where they were given a series of briefings in the 10 Armoured Company lines on the recent activity on Op Herrick 10.

Recovery Pl was first up: LCpl Sargant, Cfn Baker and Sgt Trevarthen gave a short brief followed by a winch display and a walk around a CRARRV. Cpl Mars from Fwd A Pl accompanied by SSgt Weston and Cfn O'Neill from Fwd B Pl then briefed on the repair of Warrior and CVR(T) in Afghanistan. After this came a display of the crane operations on the Warrior 512 and then Cpl Downing from Fwd B Pl and Cfn Morris from 17 Field Company described the running of the Mastiff Repair Section in theatre. At the end of the visit, the Force Protection representatives presented a cheque for £5000 to the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Stuart, for the Army Benevolent Fund and the Help for Heroes Charities.



Drumbeat Noticeboard



B F B S Forces Radio

To make Radio requests & dedications, call :
01494 - 372 786

Visit www.bfbs.com/messages
Listen on Sky Guide 0211
DAB digital radio
and Freesat Channel 786
BFBS Local Reporter : Call Shirley
Swain on 07854 - 094 202
shirley.swain@bfbs.com

Garrison 106.8 FM

Broadcasting to Tidworth,
Netheravon, Bulford and Larkhill
from the new studio in Bulford
Call 01980 - 672277 or Email :
salisburyplain@garrisonfm.com

Castledown Radio

Broadcasting to the Tidworth
Community Area on 104.7 FM
email : studio@castledownradio.info
or call: 01264 - 841047

Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish

Skips will be in Wylve Road
Community Centre car park
08:00 - 10:30 14 Apr & 12 May

Tidworth Thrift Shop

Zouch Parade, Tidworth
Open Mondays 09:00 - 14:45

Photography @ Ordnance Hse

6 week course for 11+
Thurs 19:00 - 20:30 Cost : £10
Limited places Starts 22 April
Details from Colin on 07769 - 878 874

Street Dance, Acting, Singing Sunday 23 May

FREE taster classes at the TLC for
ages 4-16. Call Sonnets Theatre Arts
School on 0845 - 003 8910 for details.
Essential to book your place

MHS Housing Surgery

Got a problem with repairs to your
quarter ? Come and meet MHS at
the Beeches in Bulford
10:00 - 12:00 on these dates :
21 April, 16 June, 21 July

AFF Salisbury Plain Coordinator

Lucy Scott Tel: 07527 - 492 783
Email: salisburyplain@affgb.org.uk

Aspire Defence Helpline (24/7)

0845 168 2300 or Mil 96340 2300

DE Housing Information Centre (The HIC)

Call 0800 - 169 6322
Mon - Fri 08:30 - 16:30

Repairs to Army Quarters (24/7)

MODern Housing Solutions Helpline
(MHS) Call 0800 - 707 6000

Emergency Numbers :

MDP 24/7 : 01752 - 553384
MDP TNB : 01980 - 60 3099
RMP : 01980 - 67 2251 & 67 3530
Service Police Confidential Line :
0800 - 616 888
Wiltshire Police : 0845 - 408 7000
Police Emergency : 999
Crimestoppers : 0800 - 5551111
Plain Watch : 01980 - 67 47 00

Tidworth Leisure Centre

TLC Opening Times

Monday - Friday 09:00 - 21:00
Saturdays 08:00 - 17:00
Sundays 08:00 - 21:00

Telephone : 01980 - 847 140

General Manager : 602030

Outside Pitch Bookings : 603416

Library Opening Times :

Mon 10:00 - 17:00
Tues & Thurs 14:00 - 19:00
Wed & Fri 10:00 - 17:00
Sat 10:00 - 13:00

Call: 01980 - 843460 or 602568

Library Videos and DVDs for hire
From £1.60 for up to a week

Café Leisure Open 9:00-20:00

Tidworth HIVE See HIVE below :
Also at the TLC :

Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinics,
Holistic massage, Lifestyle coach,
Counselling Services, Purity Beauty
Salon, Hairdressing, Reflexology and
more ! Details at TLC

Local HIVE Information Centres

Mon - Fri 09:00 - 14:00

Tidworth HIVE at the TLC :

Call Nicole : 01980 - 602224

Bulford HIVE at the Beeches :

Call Carla : 01980 - 672420

Larkhill HIVE, Community Centre

Call Lisa : 01980 - 675715

HIVE online at www.hive.mod.uk

Bulford Army Library

Mon-Fri 08:30-12:00 12:30-16:30
Horne Road. Tel. 01980 - 673510

Army Welfare Service

Main Office : 01980 - 672105

Ordnance House, Tidworth

Colin Wheaton : 07769 - 878 874

Tidworth Leisure Centre

Joyce Stretton : 07810 - 771 630

The Beeches in Bulford

Carol Treadwell : 01980 - 672342

Larkhill Community Centre

Rachel Troughton : 07702 - 706 482

Netheravon, Upavon & Amesbury

Denise Barr : 07919 - 415 092

Windmill Hill Children's Centre

Wylve Road, Tidworth

Services for 0-5s and their families

Call Carolyn Melvin on 01980 - 843 010

for details of half term activities

NSPCC Ashdown Family Centre

Drummer Lane, off Station Road

Tidworth 01980 - 846164

Open to all local children and their
families. Call in/ring for more details

Uniformed Youth Groups

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Explorers

Call Chris Scott 01980 - 591900

Guides, Brownies & Rainbows

Call Karren Madden 01980 - 551088

The Shipton Bellinger Rams FC

Shipton Bellinger Playing Fields

U 9s, U 10s and U 14s. New members

and volunteer help / referees / coaches

please contact Sgt Chalky Wiltshire

01980-673474 (day)/01980-846570 (pm)

Tidworth Royals FC

U8 - U17 & adults. Helpers welcome

Tue & Wed Tidworth Astro turf 18:00

Sat Soccer School 5-8s 13:30-15:00

Marlboro' Sports field by Kiwi Pub

Call Denise 01980 847005 / Jim 601657

Tidworth Saddle Club

Riding instruction available 7 days

per week - all ages, group/individual

For details call 07500 - 868 940

Tidworth Polo Club Wanted :

Grooms: full or part time vacancies.

Experience useful but not essential,

but must be able to ride.

Riders: to help exercise the polo

ponies - polo experience not

necessary.

Helpers at the stables

Call 01980 602508 (Stables) or 01980

846705 (Office)

Perham Down Youth Club

Swinton Welfare Centre

Tues 19:00 - 21:00 11- 17

Call SSgt Welch 01980 603514

Youth Activities at the TLC

T2a Adventure Sports Club

Youth Only Zone

Details from TLC : 01980 - 847140

Tidworth Youth Dev Centre

in the newly-refurbished St

Andrews Hall near VCP2

for ages 13 - 19

Mon 18:45-21:15 Open session 50p

Tues 19:00-20:30 Break dancing

session for boys FREE

Thurs 19:00-20:30 Dance session for

girls FREE

Ludgershall Youth Dev Centre

Andover Road (next to the Co-op)

Wed 18:45-21:15 Open session 50p

Details from Wendy : 07917 - 174 623

Tidworth Town Council

Mon-Thurs 9:30 - 13:00 at the Wylve Rd

Community Centre, Tidworth

Tel: 01980 - 847390 Fax: 01980 - 843265

Email: janet.white2@btconnect.com

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for May 2010 issue : 12 April 2010

Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY

Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980

Email : drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com

Website : www.drumbeat.org.uk

Drumbeat is funded and produced by Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison.
A donation towards the cost of copies for the civilian community in Tidworth is made by
Tidworth Town Council.