

Drumbeat



Issue 228

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

November 2016

What's on in the Garrison area :

- **Thurs 3 November 17:00 - 21:30**
Garrison Bonfire Night, Carter Bks
- **Sun 6 November 11:00 - 16:00**
Christmas Fayre iao Julia's House
Children's Hospice. See inside
- **Sun 6 November 15:00**
'We will Remember Them' concert
in aid of the Royal British Legion at
Salisbury City Hall. 01722 - 434 434
- **Fri 11 November 19:30**
Festival of Remembrance Salisbury
Plain at Larkhill Garrison Church.
Full details inside ('Remembrance')
- **Sat 12 November 10:00 - 15:00**
Christmas Fair iao Cancer Research
in Bouverie Hall, Pewsey SN9 5QE
- **16 & 17 November**
FREE 2-day Art Symposium open
to serving soldiers & MOD Civil
Servants at Bhurtpore Pub, Tidworth.
Call 01264 - 382308 for details.
- **Thurs 17 November 11:00 - 18:00**
Christmas Gift Fair at St Francis
School, Pewsey SN9
- **Thurs 24 November 18:00 - 20:00**
Christmas Fayre at The Wellington
Academy. Free Entry
- **Fri 25 November 14:00**
'The Bulford Kiwi', a presentation by
NZ author, Colleen Brown at Kiwi
Primary School, Bulford. Free Entry
- **Thurs 1 December 12:00 - 20:00**
Larkspace Open Day at Sharp
Hall, Larkhill. All welcome. Further
information from 07810 - 773 120
- **Thurs 1 December**
Salisbury Lantern Parade from the
Cathedral Close to Guildhall Square
- **5 - 31 December**
'The Night before Christmas' at
Salisbury Playhouse
- **Fri 9 December 15:15 - 16:30**
Christmas Fair at Netheravon All
Saints Primary School
- **Sat 10 December 19:30**
Concert at Durrington Village Hall in
aid of SSAFA Kennet, with music by
the Tidworth Military Wives Choir and
the Navy Larks Male Voice Choir.
Tickets from 01980 - 653 655
- **9 & 10 December**
Showoff Dance Takes the Stage
2016 at the Wellington Academy
Theatre. Details : 07792 - 016 645
- **Thurs 15 December 19:00**
Christmas Concert at the Garrison
Theatre. Details inside ...



The British Army's Combined Arms Manoeuvre Demonstration took place on Salisbury Plain last month.

More news inside ...



The Regimental Mascot of the Mercian Regiment, a Swalesdale Ram by the name of Derby 31st, was on hand to greet visitors to the Combined Arms Demonstration.

Prime Minister visits Bulford

The Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Theresa May MP, visited 1st Battalion the Mercian Regiment in Picton Barracks on 29th September, to meet the soldiers and families of the unit that is part of the Army's high readiness Task Force.

The 1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment (1MERCIAN), joined by members of 32 Regiment Royal Artillery, 1 Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, 22 Regiment Royal Engineers and the Royal Tank Regiment, were conducting a readiness inspection under Commanding Officer, Lt Col Paddy Ginn, when the Prime Minister dropped in to join him and meet the soldiers and families of the Regiment.



The Prime Minister met members of the Battalion's B Company along with members of Ajax Squadron, The Royal Tank Regiment who supported the inspection with their Challenger 2 main battle tanks that would support 1MERCIAN in the event of any deployment.

The readiness inspection, led by the Commanding Officer, is designed to ensure that all members of the unit are

fully prepared to deploy within their high readiness timelines and involves the



inspection of personal kit and equipment, training standards, vehicles and documents. All of this ensures that the unit is ready to deploy anywhere in the world to achieve the desired effect.



After meeting the troops, the Prime Minister moved to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess to meet the families of the Officers and Soldiers of the battalion in an informal setting to discuss service life for the families.

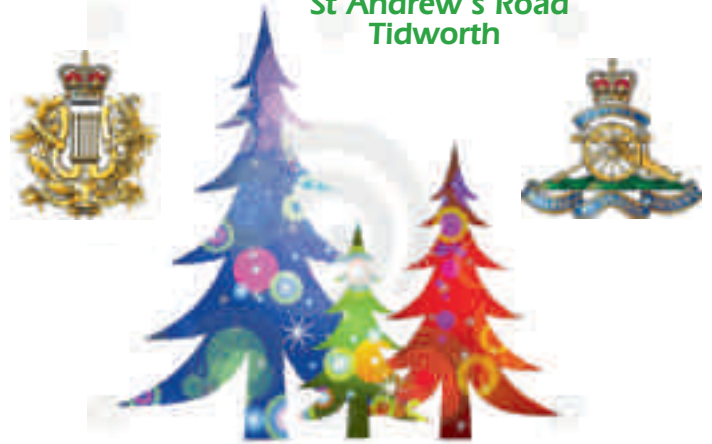
SSgt Amy Baker, who works in the Headquarters 3rd (United Kingdom) Division and is married to Sgt Jon Baker of 1MERCIAN, met the Prime Minister during the visit. "It was a fantastic opportunity to speak with the Prime Minister in an open and honest environment," she said. "She genuinely took an interest in what we were talking about".

1MERCIAN is part of 1 Armoured Infantry Brigade which is currently the British Army's high readiness formation with elements held from 2 days notice to move in support of any operation unilaterally or with allies including NATO partners. As armoured infantry, the soldiers of the battalion are trained in mounted and dismounted combat operating out of Warrior Infantry Fighting vehicles alongside the Challenger 2 tanks, AS90 artillery and armoured engineers to form the Lead Armoured Battle Group of the high readiness Armoured Infantry Brigade.

A Christmas Concert

Thursday 15 December 19:00

at the Garrison Theatre
St Andrew's Road
Tidworth



with
The Royal Artillery Band

FREE ENTRY by Advance Tickets only
Call Tony Pickernell on 07765 - 382678
or apply in writing to TCAP Coordinator,
Wylve Road Community Centre, Tidworth

Celebrations at Kiwi School

Kiwi Primary School in Bulford celebrated the opening of their new school wing on 10th October. L/Cpl Richard Jones from the Band of the Household Cavalry Regiment, perhaps better known as a Magician and Winner of Britain's Got Talent 2016, treated everyone to a short magic show in the school hall before performing the opening ceremony.



The new extension has been built to accommodate children of Service personnel moving to Wiltshire as part of the Army Basing Programme, providing seven new classrooms and 150 new primary school places.

"I am absolutely delighted to have such a wonderful new facility here at Kiwi School", said Head Teacher, Susan Raeburn. "Over the past seven years, our roll has risen from 82 to 256 so the extra space was very much needed. We are working in close partnership with Wiltshire Council and the MOD to ensure that we have the kind of school facilities that Service families moving into Bulford truly deserve".



The celebrations would not have been complete without cake and family fun on the school field. Many thanks to SSVC's Combined Services Entertainment - as well as to

BFBS Ice Cream Ops for the free ice cream !

Royal Engineers receive a Royal Visit



On 13th October, HM The Queen joined the Corps of Royal Engineers at Brompton Barracks in Chatham for the final part of their Tercentenary celebrations and was welcomed by a pair of saluting divers and an Honour Guard of 140 soldiers.



Her Majesty is Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps of Royal Engineers, and addressed regiments on parade, saying :

“It gives me great pleasure to be here today, to see my Corps and its capabilities in this, the 300th Year of existence. I am delighted to be able to share with you, and everyone present here, this significant milestone in the history of the Corps.

“The Corps of Royal Engineers has served the Nation proudly since 1716, often at the forefront of operations and often in difficult circumstances. You and your families have always risen to those challenges; I congratulate you on reaching this point in your long and distinguished service and I would wish all Sappers, wherever they may be, every success and good fortune in the future.”

A contingent from 22 Engineer Regiment were in Chatham for the occasion.



On Exercise on Salisbury Plain

Troops from Tidworth's First Fusiliers have been on exercise with the Royal Wessex Yeomanry, conducting a combined arms assault on Copehill Down urban operations training area.



The BFBS Big Salute at Tesco !



The BFBS Salisbury Plain team were out in force at Tesco Tidworth last month, bag packing and collecting money for the 'BFBS Big Salute'. The Big Salute is the Broadcaster's annual fundraising effort, this year raising money for BLESMA, Combat Stress, Veterans' Aid, FAB and Blind Veterans UK. The Big Salute is one of Tesco's chosen charities this year.

“This was the first of many events with Tesco Tidworth”, said BFBS UK Bases Manager, Chris Pearson. “Stay tuned to 106.8 FM for details of the next one!”

Remembrance

Festival of Remembrance Salisbury Plain

19:30 Friday 11 November
at Larkhill Garrison Church

An evening of music, memories and reflection led by Durrington Walls Wind Band, with Salisbury Plain Military Wives Choir and Netheravon & Durrington Junior School Choirs. Free admission - Refreshments Proceeds in aid of Royal Artillery Charitable Fund

St Michael's Garrison Church, Tidworth
09:30 13 November Service of Remembrance

Afterwards, led by the Royal Artillery Band, everyone will make their way to the grounds of the Wylve Road Community Centre where a wreath will be laid at the site of the new town War Memorial, following a short Drumhead service.

St George's Garrison Church, Bulford
10:20 for 10:45 13 November Service of Remembrance

1RHA conduct Public Duties



In recognition of its Tercentenary this year, B Battery 1RHA are currently deployed in London conducting Public Duties as Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace and St James's Palace, for the first time. 1RHA will be taking turns on duty with the Foot Guards.

Outstanding !



The Caterpillars Under 5's nursery at the Tidworth Leisure Centre was delighted to celebrate their 16th birthday by having their Ofsted 'Outstanding' Certificate presented to them by the Garrison Commander, Colonel Steve Lawton.

Caterpillars is the third TNB Garrison Early Years nursery to achieve this grade and the setting is eager to continue providing an outstanding provision for their children.

"Caterpillars is proud to be able to reach all areas of the community" said Stephanie Ball, the Manager. "We will continue to offer a high level of support to Service families and civilians."

Christmas Markets

Bath

Thurs 24 Nov - Sun 11 Dec

Mon - Wed 10:00 - 19:00

Thurs - Sat 10:00 - 20:30

Sunday 10:00 - 18:00

Salisbury

Thurs 17 November : Christmas Lights switched on at 18:00

Thurs 24 Nov - Sun 18 Dec

Sundays 10:00 - 16:00

Mon, Tues, Wed 10:00 - 18:00

Thursdays 10:00 - 20:00

Fridays & Sats 10:00 - 18:30

Winchester

Fri 18 Nov - Tues 20 Dec

Sun - Wed 10:00 - 18:00

Thurs - Sat 10:00 - 19:30

Christmas market & Ice Rink



Bulford & Tidworth Garrison Shoot

The Bulford & Tidworth Garrison Shoot operates on Salisbury Plain and offers game shooting and other sporting opportunities to military and ex-military personnel and their families, and to MOD Civil Servants. The shoot has three thriving syndicates providing full driven pheasant shooting, in addition to pottering guns, Air Rifle and Ferreting licences. We are a fully kept shoot and welcome potential beaters or anyone with an interest in field sports.

Concessionary rates are available to Serving personnel. Some days are still available during this season.

Further details are available from the Shoot Secretary : Email btgssshoot@yahoo.co.uk



Our Community Matters

A Conference at

The Wellington Academy, Tidworth SP11 9RR
Wednesday 9th November 18:30 for 19:00 start

What has changed in Tidworth Area over the last two years?

A brand new report on the issues affecting our community will be presented and you will have a chance to shape how we respond. The Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment will cover local issues across health and wellbeing, community safety, the economy, transport, the environment, housing, older people, children and young people and culture. The assessment will allow us to see what has changed since 2014 and decide what needs to change over the next two years.

Are you shaping the future of our community?

This evidence will help us decide how we can deliver local projects to address local challenges and we want to hear your views on how we can, together, make the Tidworth Community Area a better place to live in, work in and to visit.

Please register your interest at : <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-community-matters-tidworth-tickets-28188591837>

Christmas Fayre

in aid of Julia's House Children's Hospice

Sunday 6 November 11:00 - 16:00

The Stones Hotel, Highpost, Salisbury SP4 6AT

40 Craft Stalls offering a fantastic range of local crafts and produce

Santa's Grotto with his helpers; Facepainting, Kids' activity workshop, Photographer, a fabulous Raffle - and much more ...

A great event for the whole family !

Free Admission



Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Pop-Up Workshops

Come and join Wiltshire Wildlife Trust this Autumn at one of our many repair and re-use workshops run by WWT as part of the Recycle for Wiltshire project funded by Wiltshire Council.

Learn new skills and see what amazing things you can do, how much fun you can have and how much money you can save from repairing or reusing something old or household items considered rubbish !

White Goods Maintenance

Wed 2 Nov 19:00 - 20:30 Wylde Rd Community Centre

Furniture Upcycling

Wed 9 Nov 19:00 - 21:00 Wylde Rd Community Centre

Toiletries & Gift Sets

Wed 16 Nov 10:30 - 12:30 TLC

Christmas Cards & Gift Boxes

Wed 23 Nov 10:30 - 12:30 TLC

Christmas Tree Decorations

Thurs 1 Dec 15:00 - 17:00 Wylde Rd Community Centre

Everyone is welcome, refreshments will be provided - for more detail about each of the workshops please see the events listing on Tidworth Our Community Matters website.

For any queries or to book a place on the November workshops please email : rethinkrubbish@wiltshirewildlife.org or call 01380 - 736077. Follow us on twitter @SlimBinsWilts

The British Army's Combined Arms Manoeuvre Demonstration 2016



This Exercise took place on Salisbury Plain near Larkhill last month, to display the capabilities of a Lead Armoured Battlegroup, with Command, Intelligence, Surveillance and Battlegroup vehicles all working together to deliver a joint effect.

Led by Bulford-based 1 MERCIAN, the demonstration included live firing of a range of weapons, including the Challenger 2 main battle tank and the Javelin anti-tank missile, with air support given by the Apache attack helicopter and the RAF's Tornado attack aircraft.



The Military Covenant in Action



The organisations involved in the 'Our Wilton' project put pen to paper last month, signing up to the Armed Forces Covenant to pledge support for Service veterans.

Watched by representatives from all three Services, including the Reserves, the documents were signed by John Fletcher, Managing Director of Redrow Southern Counties and Matthew BELL, CEO of Our Enterprise/Our Wilton. The Armed Forces were represented by Col James Coote OBE, Commander of Headquarters SouthWest, who said :

"This is an amazing initiative and one that we really value. The opportunities that this project will provide are unique at this stage and so it is really leading the way in terms of initiatives. It is particularly apt that it should be taking place on the site of the former HQ Land Command, even though veterans from all three Services will benefit. We look forward to working together and making this whole project a success."

The Alabaré Christian Care charity, a partner of 'Our Wilton' for the delivery of the project, had already pledged its support for the covenant and was represented by its CEO, Andrew Lord.

Readers of the September edition of Drumbeat will have read that the 'Our Wilton' project will establish Wiltshire's first purpose-built, community-based campus for vulnerable Service veterans, providing them with housing and support to move back into civilian life. The project also includes an enterprise hub which will offer training and help veterans to launch their own businesses. Veterans will be able to rent homes on the site for a period of 6-24 months while they receive business and skills training. They then move on to make room for another veteran.

A contractor will be chosen in the coming months and building work is expected to begin in the Spring.

Cambrian Patrol Winners



Congratulations to the team from the King's Royal Hussars, led by Captain Tom Padgett (centre), for winning Gold in this year's Cambrian Patrol competition.



Drumbeat Noticeboard



B F B S Salisbury Plain 106.8 FM

Broadcasting to military audiences
all over Salisbury Plain
from studios in Bulford

Breakfast Presenter: Chris Sturgess
Call : 01980 - 672424

Email : chris.sturgess@bfbs.com
Twitter : [bfbsSturgess](https://twitter.com/bfbsSturgess)

Regional Reporter : Shirley Swain
Call : 07823-351 087 / 01980-672277
Email : shirley.swain@bfbs.com

For Radio requests & dedications,
email ops@bfbs.com or download
the new smartphone app

BFBS Worldwide Radio service on :
Sky Guide 0211, DAB digital radio
and Freesat Channel 786

**BFBS TV on Sky Guide 264,
Virgin 277 & Freesat 652**

Castledown Radio

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

Local Member of Parliament

Claire Perry MP, House of
Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Please call to make appointment at
local surgery : 01380 - 729 358
claire.perry.mp@parliament.uk

Tidworth Town Council

Mon-Fri 9:30 - 13:00 at the Wylve
Road Community Centre, Tidworth.
Tel : 01980 - 847390
Drop in 10:30 - 12:30
Email : carly.lovell@btconnect.com
www.tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

TCAP Coordinator

Tony Pickernell, Wylve Road
Community Centre, Tidworth
01980 - 840722 / 07765 - 382678
www.tidworthcommunityarea.info

Army Welfare Service

Main Office at the new Garrison
Theatre : 01980 - 656789 (Mil. 5789)

AFF Wiltshire Coordinator

Carol Morris : 07527 - 492 783
wiltshire@aff.org.uk

Bulford Community Learning Centre

A wide variety of courses available
For details call Claire 01980 - 672981

Aspire Defence Helpline (24/7)
0845 168 2300 or Mil 96340 2300

Defence Housing Service :

Repairs to Quarters, Furniture,
March-in/outs, Improvements
Call the **CarillionAmey Helpline** on
0800 707 6000

Allocations : Please apply online via
the Defence Intranet
Further details www.gov.uk/dio/sfa
or www.carillionamey.co.uk

Emergency Numbers :

RMP : 01980 - 67 2251
& 67 2241
Service Police Confidential Line :
0800 - 72 72 72
Wilts Police (non-emergency) : 101
Police Emergency : 999
Crimestoppers : 0800 - 555111
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 - 20:00

Telephone : 01980 - 847 140

Outside Pitch Bookings : 651 416

Tidworth Library Opening Times

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

Call: 01980 - 843460 or 650568

Paula's Café : Mon-Sat 9:00-18:00

Youth Activities : T2A Adventure
Sports Club and Youth Only Zone

Also at the TLC : Counselling,
Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinics,
Purity Beauty Salon, Hairdressing, etc

Salisbury Plain HIVE

at the Tidworth Leisure Centre
Mon-Thu 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-3:30pm
Margaret Prentice 01980 - 650 224
www.salisburyplainhive.blogspot.com

Bulford Thrift Shop

Term Time Weds & Thurs 9:30-14:30
in the grounds of the Haig Centre
behind the Canadian Estate

TNB Garrison Early Years & Play

Sessional and all day care for 0-5s
Afterschool & holiday clubs for 4-13s
www.tnbearlyyears.org
Job vacancies inc. casual bank staff
Tel Barbara Sealey on 07436 - 070904
or email ec@tnbearlyyears.org

Local Children's Centres :

Activities for children 0-5 yrs, and
their parent/carer. Call for info :
NSPCC Ashdown Family Centre
Drummer Lane, off Station Road,
Tidworth. Call 01980 - 846164

Windmill Hill Children's Centre

Wylve Road, Tidworth SP9 7QR
Activities in Tidworth, Perham Down
and Ludgershall Call 01980 - 843 010

Bulford Children's Centre

Next to Kiwi School. Activities also
at The Beeches and in Larkhill.
Call Kate Fry 01980 - 632 660

Tidworth Mums at the TLC

Wed : Crafty Monkeys 10:00 - 11:30
Tues & Thurs: Soft Play 10:00 - 11:30
Fri : Play Monkeys 10:00 - 11:30
for parents & children up to 5 yrs
www.tidworthmums.co.uk

Marlborough Hockey Club

Marlborough College astro pitches
Email mhcsecretary2016@gmail.com
www.pitchero.com/clubs/marlboroughhc

Tidworth Town FC

Girls & Boys - Humber Lane,
Tidworth. Tel 07872 - 565650
secretary@tidworthtownfc.co.uk
www.tidworthtownfc.co.uk

The Shipton Bellinger Rams FC

Shipton Bellinger Village Centre
[www.clubwebsite.co.uk/
shiptonbellingerramsfc](http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/shiptonbellingerramsfc)

Durrington FC

Girls & Boys - Avon Valley College.
Trg Weds & Sats. Matches Sun
ams. Tel. 07917 - 228708 [durrington@
btinternet.com](mailto:durrington@btinternet.com)

Pewsey Rugby Club

1st & 2nd XV's and a youth section.
Contact Mick Haynes 07584 577901
mick.haynes638@mod.uk

6th Wiltshire Kiwi BPSA

Baden Powell Scouts for ages 5+
Thursdays 18:00 - 19:30 in the Cadet
Hut, Ward Barracks, Bulford.
Tel. 07788 - 244 636

Kiwi Divers

Garrison Scuba Diving Club
Every Tuesday at Bulford Pool for
training, lectures & try dives
Email kiwidiversecretary@gmail.com

Swimming Lessons

Clear Water Sports at Bulford Pool
07544-384604
www.clearwatersports.co.uk

Showoff Dance/Fitness/Drama

Classes for 0 - 60 yrs + [www.
showoffdance.co.uk](http://www.showoffdance.co.uk)
07792 - 016645

Tidworth (Comb Svcs) Polo Club

Courses & instruction for all levels.
Call 01980 - 846 705 or
Email info@tidworthpolo.com

Tidworth Garrison Saddle Club

Riding instruction available at
Tidworth Equitation Centre.
www.tidworthgarrisonsaddleclub.uk

Tidworth Garrison Golf Club

Discounted rates & flexible
membership for Armed Forces.
Call 01980 - 842301 for details. [www.
tidworthgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.tidworthgolfclub.co.uk)

Perham Down Youth Clubs

Tuesdays at PD Community Centre
Junior Youth Club 18:00 - 19.30
Senior Youth Club 19.30 - 21.15
Contact Jenni on 07786 - 395 067

Military Wives Choirs

Bulford : The Salisbury Plain Choir
Thursdays 7pm Kiwi School
Tidworth : The Tidworth Choir
Thursdays 7pm St Michael's Church

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for the December edition : 11 November
Drumbeat, Building 59, Jellalabad Bks, Tidworth, SP9 7BN
Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 650980
Email : drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com
Drumbeat Website : www.drumbeat.org.uk

Drumbeat is produced by Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison