

Drumbeat



Issue 205

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

October 2014

What's on in the Garrison area

● **Sat 18 Oct** 19:30

Amesbury Town Band Autumn Concert at Amesbury Methodist Church. Tickets from 01980 - 670362 or Amesbury Community Shop.

● **Sun 19 Oct** 13:00 - 16:00

Oktoberfest Families Day at Perham Down Community Centre

● **Tues 21 Oct**

AFF Big Debate at the Institute of Education in London. www.aff.org.uk

● **22-24 Oct Opens 10:00 each day**

Rockbourne Fair at Salisbury Race course iao the hospital Stars Appeal

● **23-25 Oct**

"War Correspondents", a play based on the personal experiences of journalists at The Salberg at Salisbury Playhouse. Tickets 01722 320333 or visit www.salisburyplayhouse.com

● **Fri 24 Oct** 19:30

"Heroes", by Tom Stoppard. A Hog the Limelight show at Shipton Bellinger Village Centre. Tickets : 01980 - 846341 or 01980 - 842429

● **Sun 26 Oct**

Families & Armed Forces Race Day at Wincanton Racecourse iao Combat Stress. Ticket hotline 08445 793014 www.wincantonracecourse.co.uk

● **Sat 1 Nov** 10:00 - 14:00

Craft Fair at the Perham Down Community Centre

● **Thurs 6 Nov** 17:00 - 21:30

Garrison Bonfire Night

● **14 - 29 Nov**

Army Arts Society Annual Exhibition in the Young Gallery, Salisbury Library. Library opening times - all welcome

● **Sat 15 Nov** 10:00 - 15:00

Christmas Fair iao Cancer Research UK at Bouverie Hall Pewsey SN9 5QE

● **Sat 6 Dec** 19:30

Charity concert at The Wellington Academy - see inside.

● **Wed 3 Dec - Sat 10 Jan**

Salisbury Panto "Mother Goose" at the Playhouse : 01722 - 320 333

● **19 & 20 Dec** 19:00

Showoff Dance Show at the Wellington Academy theatre 07792 - 016 645 or www.showoffdance.co.uk



See more inside...

The Military Musical Pageant 2014



Garrison Bonfire Night

Carter Barracks, Bulford Thursday 6 Nov 2014



17:00 Gates open
17:45 Guy Competition
18:30 Bonfire lit
19:00 Fireworks
21:30 Evening ends

Entry : £3 per person Under 5s free
Funfair - BFBS - Burgers - Hot Dogs



Garrison Troops prepare for Exercise in Poland



Garrison troops will be deploying to Poland on Exercise BLACK EAGLE later this month and have received a visit in Aliwal Barracks, Tidworth, from the new Secretary of State for Defence, the Rt Hon Michael Fallon.

"I'm here today to visit the Army before it goes on a very important exercise in Poland", said the Minister. "We're sending an entire Battle Group, over 1,200 men and over 100 armoured vehicles, to demonstrate that NATO is prepared to defend its Eastern flank, which I hope will be an important reassurance for Poland".

The King's Royal Hussars, based in Aliwal Barracks, is the UK's Lead Armoured Battlegroup and will be operating the Challenger 2 Main Battle Tank during the exercise; 1st Battalion The Royal Welsh, also based in Tidworth, is the lead Armoured Infantry Battalion in the British Army and will be operating their Warriors during the exercise.

"We've just come back at the end of July from a couple of months of really good training in Canada", KRH Commanding Officer, Lt Col Justin Kingsford, told Drumbeat. "The majority of the guys have managed to take two or three weeks Summer leave and now we're going to Poland for a couple of months. The Battle group comprises troops from the Royal Welsh, the King's Royal Hussars, 19 Regiment Royal Artillery, 26 Engineer Regiment and a few others and we're deploying for around 5 or 6 weeks over to the West of Poland, conducting live fire and dry training alongside our Polish partners, culminating in a Brigade exercise under Polish command. It should be really fascinating so we're very excited and really looking forward to it."

The KRH's 62-tonne Challenger 2 Main Battle Tanks and the Royal Welsh's 26-tonne Warrior Armoured Fighting Vehicles are being transported to Marchwood, en route for Poland, by 19 Tank Transporter Squadron RLC based Bulford, using the Heavy Equipment Transporter or HET. The HET consists of a 24-metre multi-wheeled truck and trailer which has a turbocharged diesel engine that can move a 72-tonne load for 300 miles without refuelling, with only a two man team to operate it.

In total the Battlegroup will total approximately 1300 personnel, 100 armoured vehicles and 250 other vehicles and will be the UK's biggest armoured deployment in Eastern Europe since 2008.



The Invictus Games

The Invictus Games grew from the 'Warrior Games' in the USA, brought to this country by HRH Prince Harry. Over 400 competitors from 13 nations took part in the Games in London last month, a sporting event for wounded, injured and sick Servicemen and women from the armed forces of nations that have served alongside each other.

The Invictus Games are about survival in the face of adversity and the strength of the human spirit. They send a positive message about life beyond disability, using the power of sport to inspire recovery, support rehabilitation, and generate a wider understanding and respect of those who serve their country.

Several soldiers from this Garrison were among the 130 wounded, sick or injured Servicemen and women who represented the UK at the Games at the Olympic Park. Among them were :

Lance Bombardier Gary Prout CGC, serves with 19



Regiment Royal Artillery. He was the Recurve Archery team Captain, winning a Silver medal in the individual competition and a Gold medal in the Recurve team event. Gary suffers from Complex Regional Pain Syndrome in his right leg.

Sergeant Joanne Morris

is the MT Sergeant with 6Bn REME, and took part in the 14-mile Individual Cycling Time Trials and Novice Archery events. She was delighted to win a Bronze medal in the cycling, with a time which beat her personal best.

Jo injured her knee a couple of years ago in a sporting accident which forced her to change the way she lived her life. She has found sport, together with the encouragement she has received from Help for Heroes at Tedworth House, to have been the key to her recovery.

"They have helped me focus on things I can do rather than those I can't", she told Drumbeat. "It has changed the way I look at life after the accident".



A Fitting Farewell



The Garrison Headquarters bade farewell to Lt Col David Barron as he retired from the Army on 18th September. Riding in an AS90 155mm Self-Propelled Artillery piece from Chestnut Troop, 1RHA, the Deputy Commander was escorted from camp for the last time.

We wish him all the best for a happy retirement.

Welcome to Bulford

Soldiers from 1 MERCIAN celebrated their Formation Day at Picton Barracks on 19th September, with a parade and families day.

Lieutenant General James Everard, Colonel Commandant of the Prince of Wales's Division and Commander Land Forces, spoke to the soldiers of the battalion on parade, congratulating them on their move to Bulford and wishing them luck in their future endeavours.

The battalion has now begun training for its new role as Armoured Infantry within 3rd (UK) Division.

The following day, the Regiment commemorated the battle of Alma in 1854 when one of its antecedent regiments, the 95th (Derbyshire) Regiment of Foot, saw action in some of the heaviest fighting during the Crimean War.

Due to heavy casualties amongst the officers, the Queen's Colour was finally carried by Private Keenan during the battle. This action is now traditionally celebrated in the Regiment by handing over one of its Colours to the custody of a Private soldier on the anniversary of the Battle of Alma, to be trooped through the ranks in commemoration of Pte Keenan's gallantry.



Military Musical Pageant 2014



The largest gathering of Army bands to perform outside of London this year delighted thousands of people at Tidworth's historic Tattoo Ground in Tedworth Park on 27th September. Army personnel, their families and the local community were invited to come together in what was a 'Picnic in the Park' style concert, to welcome all Garrison troops home from operations and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Corps of Army Music.

The concert was kicked-off to a rousing start by the Band of the Adjutant General's Corps, the flagship contemporary band of the British Army, joined by the Fanfare Team and marching bands.

Tidworth's newly-arrived Band of the Royal Artillery joined with the Band and Corps of Drums of the Royal Logistic Corps and the Mased Bands and Bugles of The RIFLES, to play musical tributes to countries which took part in the First World War.

The Pipes and Drums of the Royal Tank Regiment and The Scottish Gunners, both based in Tidworth, were joined by Andover's Southern Jacobites Pipes and Drums. There were also performances by the Salisbury Plain and the Tidworth Military Wives Choirs.

The concert's finale was a poignant reflection on the Great War when all the bands came together to play music from the hit stage show 'War Horse'.

Fireworks signaled the end of the concert and the start of the 'Party in the Park', when the AGC Band brought the audience to their feet playing bang up to date pop and rock numbers.

Tidworth and Bulford Garrison Commander Colonel James Denny, who hosted the event, said:

"This has been a chance to thank local communities for all the support they have given the military community whilst we have been engaged on active operations. It has also been an opportunity for the newly re-organised bands to perform under their new cap badges.

"We were blessed with excellent weather and had a fantastic turn-out on the day, with people coming from far and wide. The performances and music were great and enjoyed by all.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the bands, choirs, units and personnel who have assisted in making the event possible; their time and effort is greatly appreciated by us all.

"We hope to repeat the event next year and to make it a bigger musical extravaganza. We look forward to seeing you next year!"



Photo : Musn S Keast CAMUS

Garrison Soapbox Derby

This is another new event on the Garrison calendar - an exciting competition which this year raised £2,500 for ABF The Soldiers' Charity.

There were some inspired cart designs and the entrants were judged on vehicle sturdiness, its fun factor and its speed down the track.

Congratulations to the winners from 6 Bn REME who we hope will be defending their title next year!



Early Early Christmas Fair 2014



The Early Early Christmas Fair in aid of ABF The Soldiers' Charity was opened by Lady Carter on 23rd September. This now-traditional annual event took place in Tedworth Park, open for two days this year rather than one.

Many thanks to everyone: organisers, sponsors, stallholders and shoppers, who helped make it such a success, raising around £30,000 for the charity.

Fire Station visit



Fire Crews from Amesbury Fire Station visited the Garrison last month. They were given a familiarisation tour by the Garrison SHEF staff to enable them to respond more quickly and efficiently in case of an emergency. Exercises are planned for the New Year.

Pictured : Claire Bithrey (HQ TNB Garrison) with Fire Fighter Bill Smith and Crew Manager Chris Petty.

Charity Concert

at The Wellington Academy Theatre
on Saturday 6 December 19:30

Treorchy Male Choir

The Southern Jacobites Pipes & Drums

Tickets from Queen's Head Pub, Ludgershall or from Martyn Evans on 07919 - 957 560 evans-martyn1@sky.com
Concert in aid of local charities and Pancreatic Cancer UK

Congratulations



Congratulations to the T2A Youth group from Tidworth Leisure Centre which has been awarded the Roberts Trophy 2014. This trophy is awarded to an exceptionally successful Youth Club in Youth Action Wiltshire's membership. T2A is run by Joyce Stretton, the AWS Community Development Worker.

Storybook Soldiers

Being Deployed? Going to BATUS?
Off on a long exercise?

Would you like to record a story for your child to listen to while you are away?

For more information :

Website : www.storybooksoldiers.co.uk

Email : storybooksoldiers@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone : 01980 - 650 515 or (Tid Mil) 94342 2515



Free Functional Skills Courses

Gain confidence in your basic skills and help yourself get back into the workplace !

Sign up now for free two week Level 1 and 2 English course. Relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Mornings only.

Maths : 6 - 24 October

English : 3 - 14 November

Bulford Community Learning Centre (BCLC) in The Haig Centre, Bulford (behind the Canadian Estate).

For more information, call Claire on 01980 672981 or email bulford-clc@hotmail.co.uk

Tidworth 10K: Registration now open

Registration now open for the Tidworth 10K run and 3K fun run, starting and finishing in Tedworth Park. The event raises money for the Salisbury Hospital Stars Appeal and will be organised with the help of the Royal Tank Regiment.

Details from : www.tidworth10k.co.uk



Tanks for the hospitality !



A group of local young adults, all of whom had either had a kidney transplant or are hoping for one in the near

future, visited the Royal Tank Regiment on 1st September. They would like to thank everyone for a very interesting visit and making them feel so welcome.

South Wiltshire University Technical College

A new type of school for 14-18 year olds will be opening in September 2015 offering highly-valued technical skills alongside full programmes of GCSEs and A Levels.

43 (Wessex) Brigade has been closely involved in the development of the UTC and Service families have special priority in the allocation of places.

The UTC is organising a series of free careers evenings where young people and their parents can learn more about the UTC and talk to many top employers about career options :

Tues 7 Oct 18:00 - 19:30 Warminster Civic Centre

Wed 15 Oct 19:00 - 20:30 Andover Guildhall

Thurs 23 Oct 18:00 - 19:30 Salisbury Guildhall

www.wiltshire-utc.co.uk 01722 - 344238

A farewell message :



"It has been a great honour to lead 1 Armoured Infantry Brigade over the last two years. It has been an extremely busy period with the tour to Afghanistan last year and then conducting low level training and supporting others this year. The highlight for me was undoubtedly leading the Brigade in Helmand. It marked a vital stage of the campaign as the Afghans took the lead for security and everyone should be very proud of the part they played and the opportunity that they helped shape for the Afghans.

I know that the Brigade will excel through the Training Year and onto readiness and that you will go from strength to strength under Brigadier Bill Wright. I will watch from afar with admiration.

It was a great privilege to serve alongside such great units and soldiers. Good luck to all of you and to your families, who support you so tirelessly."

Commander 1 Armoured Infantry Brigade, Brigadier Rupert Jones CBE

HIVE returns to the TLC

The Salisbury Plain HIVE marked its return to the Tidworth Leisure Centre with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony on 4th September, attended by Garrison Commander, Colonel James Denny.

In the same office in the main foyer of the TLC, you will now also be able to find the Tidworth Mums and the Army Welfare Service Community Development Worker.



Aspire help out at St Andrews

Many thanks to the team of volunteers from Aspire Defence who recently refurbished the play area at St Andrews Playschool in Tidworth.



New sound system for the RRU

The Tidworth Regional Rehabilitation Unit based in the Garrison SuperGym has been presented with a Bose sound system by the Aaron Lewis Foundation.

Lt Aaron Lewis RA had only recently passed the commando course and was on his first operational deployment in Afghanistan when he was killed in December 2008.

Following his death, his family and friends raised a huge amount of money towards a Commando Gunner Memorial in Plymouth. Following the success of this, they decided to keep fund raising and 'The Aaron Lewis Foundation' was registered as a charity in 2012/13.

Aaron had been a spinning instructor for a while before he joined the Army, running rehab spinning classes and it is fitting that the charity which bears his name now has a mandate based on providing access to sport and welfare for Essex-based civilians and Service/ex-Service personnel nationally.

Lt Col Steve Fraser MBE RA was Aaron's Commanding Officer and is now a Trustee of the charity.

"The charity provided a similar sound system to the RRU in Essex last year and, having personally attended the Tidworth RRU, I thought it would be good to do the same here", he told Drumbeat.



Bulford Pool reopens

The Bulford Swimming pool officially reopened on 1st October. It may be used by Military personnel and their dependants, MOD Civil Servants and their dependants and Aspire Employees. All swimmers, apart from military personnel, will be required to have 3rd Party Liability and Personal Accident Insurance before using the pool. There will be no charge for swimming.

Lane & Free Swimming sessions :

Monday - Friday 07:30 - 08:30 and 12:30 - 14:00

Free Swimming sessions :

Friday 14:00 - 16:30

Join the Kiwi Divers !



Are you interested in diving? The Kiwi Divers have been meeting on Wednesday sports afternoons at the Tidworth Leisure Centre while the Bulford Pool was being refurbished. Once the Bulford pool re-opens, the Club hopes to hold sessions in both locations each week, catering for troops at both ends of the garrison.

More details from : kiwidiversbulforduk@gmail.com



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 : Steve Randall
**Standing in while Chris Sturgess is in
Cyprus. Call : 01980 - 672424**
Regional Reporter : Shirley Swain
Call : 07823 - 351 087

Email : shirley.swain@bfbs.com

**To make 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 212

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 - new office at
Wylve Road Community Centre
01980 - 840722 / 07765 - 382678
www.tidworthcommunityarea.info

Rubbish & Recycling

For details about collections, visit
www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Army Welfare Service

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

AFF Salisbury Plain Coordinator

Carol Morris : 07527 - 492 783

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

DIO Ops Accommodation :

[www.mod.uk/
servicefamiliesaccommodation](http://www.mod.uk/servicefamiliesaccommodation) or
contact the **HASC** (Housing Allocations
Service Centre) in Aldershot.
0800-169 6322 Mon-Fri 08:30-15:00

Repairs to Army Quarters (24/7)

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

Emergency Numbers :

RMP : 01980 - 67 2251 & 67 3530
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

General Manager : 650 030

Outside Pitch Bookings : 651416

Tidworth 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 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**

Local HIVE Information Centres

Salisbury Plain HIVE

at Tidworth Leisure Centre

Mon - Thurs 8:00 - 16:00

Fridays 8:00 - 14:30

Call Nicole & Chris : 01980-650224

HIVE at The Beeches in Bulford

Wednesdays 09:00 - 14:00

www.salisburyplainhive.blogspot.com

Larkhill HIVE

Call Lynsey Jones on 01980 - 845623

HIVE online at www.mod.uk/hives

Bulford Thrift Shop

Term time Weds & Thurs 9:30 - 14:30
In the grounds of the Haig Centre

TNB Garrison Early Years & Play

Sessional and all day care for
children 0-5 years

Afterschool & holiday clubs for
children 4-13 years

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

Perham Down Mums & Tots

Mon, Wed & Friday 09:30 - 11:30
at Perham Down Community Centre

Tidworth Town FC

Girls & Boys U8-U14 (sch yrs 2-8)
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/
shiptonbellingeramsfc](http://www.clubwebsite.co.uk/shiptonbellingeramsfc)

Durrington FC

Girls & Boys - U7 (academy) U8-U12
Training Weds & Sats at Avon Valley
College. Matches on Sun ams. 07917
-228708 / durrington@btinternet.com

Pewsey Rugby

The Club has 1st & 2nd XV's and a
thriving youth section. Community
Touch Rugby in the Summer - Tues
7pm. Contact Mick Haynes 07584
577901 mick.haynes638@mod.uk

Tidworth (Comb Svcs) Polo Club

Courses & instruction for all levels.
01980-846705 or tidpolo@tiscali.co.uk

Tidworth Riding Club

Riding instruction available
Sat - Thurs every week. All ages &
abilities - groups/individuals
Call Vickie Angelo 07500 - 868 940

Military Wives Choirs

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

Job Vacancies

Housekeeping Assistants for Centre
Parcs, near Warminster.
FREE Transport. Call 01980 - 848343

Wanted

Volunteer Drivers for PHAB Devizes
needed urgently. Call 01380 - 870 274

www.ticketsfortroops.org.uk

For all serving Forces personnel and
those medically discharged since 2001

Storybook Soldiers

Off on Exercise ?
Being deployed overseas ? Record a
story for your child to listen to while
you are away. Call 01980 650515
storybooksoldiers@hotmail.co.uk
www.storybooksoldiers.co.uk

Tidworth Youth Centre

St Andrews Hall near VCP2
Mon, Tues & Thurs for ages 13-19
Ludgershall Youth Centre
Andover Rd (next to the CoOp)
Wed & Thurs for ages 13-19
Details from Wendy : 07917 - 174 623

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for the November edition : 13 October 2014

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