

# Drumbeat



Issue 128 Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter January 2008

## Riflemen receive Iraq Medals from their Royal Colonel



Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall, the Royal Colonel of the 4th Battalion, the Rifles, presented campaign medals to her soldiers at a ceremony at the battalion's home in Bulford on 14th December.

On her arrival the Duchess was met by Commanding Officer Lt Col Patrick Sanders and senior Regimental officers including Lt Gen Nick Parker the Commander of Regional Forces at Land Command and Colonel Commandant of the Rifles.



The Duchess presented medals to members of the battalion, including Lance Corporal Jonathan Le Galloudec and Private Stephen Vause, both of whom suffered serious injuries in action.



Wearing a specially designed outfit of a Rifles-green crepe dress and military frock coat made from 4 Rifles wool, she spoke to the assembled men saying, "I join you in mourning the loss of those who have not returned ... I have followed the Battalion's progress closely in good and bad times. I know that you were subject to frequent and heavy attacks in unbearable temperatures ... But despite these adverse conditions, the enormous risks and the heavy losses, you never faltered. You showed unswerving courage and professionalism and lived up to your exacting motto - Swift and Bold ... You have made your Royal Colonel very proud, proud of you and proud to be British, and I believe this country owes you a huge debt of gratitude."

Lt Col Patrick Sanders described having The Duchess to present the campaign medals as "incredibly special".



Photo : Dan Harmer

"She bled with us throughout the tour," he said. "She wrote by hand to all the wounded and the families of those killed. She gave each of the wounded presents - whisky or hampers. We feel incredibly lucky to have her as our Royal Colonel. At a time when people in England did not really know what we were going through, she did."

After the parade, the Duchess met privately with the families of soldiers who were injured or killed during the tour, afterwards mingling with soldiers and their families at a reception at the barracks.



New Tesco Store

Now Open ! See full story inside ...



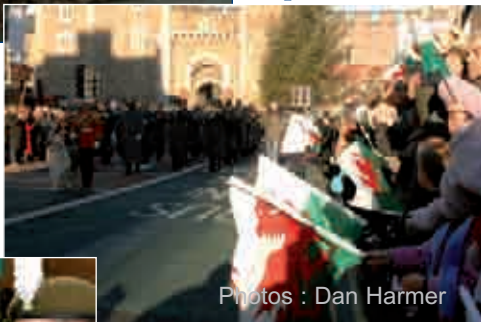
Happy New Year to all Drumbeat Readers !

## A Capital Welcome Home for 2 Royal Welsh



'Welcome home from a job well done', was the message to the 2nd Battalion The Royal Welsh in Cardiff on 11th December, following their six-month tour of operational duty in Iraq.

The Regiment formed up at Cardiff Castle where the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Gill



Photos : Dan Harmer



Bird, took the salute. The 450 soldiers, led by the Band of the Prince of Wales's Division and a Warrior Armoured Tracked Vehicle, then marched from the Castle, along St Mary Street towards the Millennium Stadium. This is the first time that The Royal Welsh have exercised their Freedom Right, which allows them to parade through the City of Cardiff with Colours flying.



At the Millennium Stadium, the soldiers formed up again, in front of families, friends and

the public, to receive their Iraq Medals from Lt Gen Sir Freddie Viggers, the Adjutant General; Maj Gen Andrew Farquhar, GOC 5 Division; and Brig James Bashall, Commander 1 Mechanised Brigade.

Following the medal presentation ceremony, the Battalion held a Drumhead Service, led by Reverend Tony Roache, the Battalion Padre, together with the Commanding Officer, Lt Col James Swift.

Speaking on his return from Iraq, Lt Col Swift said: "This has been the most demanding and dangerous tour in Iraq and the professionalism and bravery of these Welsh Warriors has been awesome.

The support from all those at home, both when we were away and today, has been tremendous and means a great deal to the soldiers. We are very lucky to be able to mark our return to Wales in such style and pay a fitting tribute to our fallen comrades."

Three members of 2nd Battalion The Royal Welsh lost their lives during the deployment : Cpl Paul Jozsko, LCpl Ryan Francis and Pte Craig Barber. Two soldiers from The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland who were attached to the Royal Welsh. Ptes Jamie Kerr and Scott Kennedy, also lost their lives.



## 4Bn The RIFLES march through Salisbury



Soldiers from 4th Battalion The Rifles (4 RIFLES) - called "The Lions of Basra" by the British press - were invited by the Mayor and Charter Trustees for the City of New Sarum to march through Salisbury on 11th December.

After welcoming the battalion home on behalf of the city, the Mayor, Councillor Kevin Cardy, along with the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire and The High Sheriff, inspected the troops formed up on Choristers Green in their desert combat uniforms. The vote of thanks was given by the Colonel Commandant of The Rifles, Lt Gen Nick Parker.

Some 550 officers and soldiers then marched from the Cathedral Close to the Guildhall. The civic party included more than 15 Lord Lieutenants from many of the Rifles' recruiting areas across the country. Also present was Field Marshall Lord Bramall, former Chief of the Defence Staff and a lifelong Rifleman.

People of Salisbury lined the streets to pay tribute to the Riflemen who, led by their Commanding Officer, Lt Col Patrick Sanders, returned to Bulford last month after a successful but gruelling six-month deployment in Iraq.

The 4 RIFLES Battlegroup was based at Basra Palace for the first 4 months of the tour, where they successfully withstood rogue militia who attacked them with over 2,000 mortar and rocket attacks, 400 rocket-propelled grenade attacks and 100 IEDs. However, the Battlegroup hit back, mounting successful operations to detain numerous senior insurgents.



Photos : Richard Watt

"My resounding personal memory of Basra Palace will be of the immense courage, fighting spirit and fortitude of our young men who have served there" said Lt Col Sanders. "They have made great sacrifices but have responded to it all with enormous strength and resilience, maintaining their sense of humour throughout the mission and displaying great strength and bravery when called upon. They have been simply magnificent and have left with their heads held high. I am intensely proud of them all."

4th Battalion The Rifles lost five of its soldiers during the tour : Cpl Jeremy Brookes, 28, Cpl Rodney Wilson, 30, Major Paul Harding, 48, Cpl John Rigby, 24, and Rfn Edward Vakuba, 23. The 4 RIFLES Battlegroup as a whole lost 11 men and had 62 soldiers injured during the tour. Tragically, two other soldiers from the battalion, LCpl Nathan Long, 22, and LCpl Paul Knight, 20, died in a road traffic accident outside the camp in appalling weather conditions on 21 November. LCpl Knight had returned from Iraq just hours earlier.

## 1 RHA Iraq Medals Parade



1 Royal Horse Artillery held their Medals Parade on 3rd December, just a few days after their return from operations. The 127 medals were presented by Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Timothy Granville-Chapman and Commander Royal Artillery, Brigadier ND Ashmore.

Several personnel also received GOC's commendations for their service on Op TELIC 10.



## 1 Mech Brigade gives thanks



Soldiers from 1 Mechanized Brigade attended a special Service in Salisbury Cathedral last month, after a successful tour in Iraq. More than 1200 soldiers from the Brigade filled the Cathedral to give thanks for the Brigade's safe return from operations. During the service an Act of Remembrance took place, with a Brigade flag and a lit candle to remember those friends and colleagues who fell and did not return.

The Service provided the opportunity for everyone to mark the end of the tour together, before going home to families for Christmas and a well-earned period of leave.



Photos : Dan Harmer



Photo : Dan Stephens

## Royal Military Police hold Medal Parade

158 Pro Coy Royal Military Police held their Medal Parade in Bulford on 3rd December.

Iraq Medals were presented to those who had deployed on Operation TELIC 10 by Col I E Prosser, the Provost Marshall Land.

## 2RTR Medal Parade

2nd Royal Tank Regiment held a Medals Parade at Aliwal Barracks on 12th December.

Falcon Squadron received medals for Operation HERRICK 6; Badger & Cyclops Squadrons received Iraq Medals for Operation TELIC 10.

The medals were presented by Lt Gen David Leakey, CMG, CBE, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Tank Regiment. Lt Gen Leakey is currently the Director General of the EU Military Staff in Brussels.



## \*\*\* Stop Press! \*\*\*



Fund to improve the community gardens at the Army Welfare Centres in Tidworth, Bulford, Larkhill and Upavon.

The Army Welfare Service, in conjunction with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, have been successful in obtaining a grant of £28,000 from the Heritage Lottery



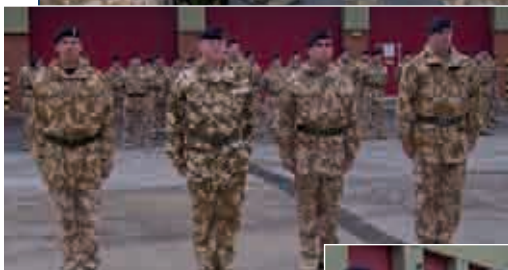
## Forces' Discount Offer ...

Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group is offering a special deal to UK Forces Personnel returning from operations and their families to attend two of his most popular shows in the West End of London at discounted rates.

From Monday to Friday, starting on 1 Jan 08, Service Personnel will be able to obtain 50% off "The Sound of Music" and 25% off "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat".

Please contact Chrissie Tanner at the Really Useful Group, 22 Power Street, London WC2 9TW

## 6 Bn REME Medal Parade



On a cold morning on 13th Dec 2007, - Brigadier NTS Williams MBE - DEME(A)

awarded Operation TELIC Medals to 3 Close Support Coy from 6 Battalion REME in Jellalabad Barracks, Tidworth. The company had just returned from Iraq in support of 1 Mech Bde where they had a highly successful tour.



In addition a number of personnel had returned from Afghanistan as individual augmentees on Op HERRICK and others had been to Kosovo, Northern Ireland and the Falklands.

The whole Battalion paraded while the medals were presented. Afterwards, commendations were presented to SSgt Pedley, who received a GOC's Commendation, and to WO2(AQMS) Treadwell, Sgt Bayly and Cpl Robinson, who all received DEME(A)'s Commendations.

## New Tesco Store now open



The new Tesco store in Station Road opened its doors for business on Monday 3rd December, officially opened by Commander, 43 (Wx) Brigade, Brigadier Jolyon Jackson and Steve Dagger, Chairman of the Tidworth Town Council.

The new branch has 400 car park spaces and expects 20,000 customers a week. "We employ 215 staff, of which about two thirds are part-time and around 60% of those part-timers are Army dependants", said Jon Roberts, Manager of the new branch.

### " Thank you " from the ABF ...



Jon Roberts went on to present a cheque for £500 to the Army Benevolent Fund from the Tesco Charity Trust, saying :

"The Army Benevolent Fund was an obvious choice, due to the close proximity of the store to the Army base."

The donation was accepted by Colonel Moorby from the ABF.

### from 1st Royal Horse Artillery ...

Tesco, together with Costain Construction Ltd, has paid for the coating of a muzzle break for an AS90, the Artillery's largest gun - seen in this picture with a scale model !

The muzzle break, weighing 127 kg, was presented to Capt Matt Kelly and his team from the 1RHA LAD.



The AS90 will be used as a gate guard for the two Artillery regiments, 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery and 19 Regiment Royal Artillery, which will be moving to Tidworth from Larkhill next year.

### ... and from Jammie Dodgers



Tesco has also donated £3780 to Jammie Dodgers, the AWS-sponsored After School Club at the Tidworth Leisure Centre. The money will be used for kitchen equipment and baking/ grocery supplies.

"It is fantastic. It will keep the group going for a whole year !", the manager of the Jammie Dodgers After-School Club, Louise Chant, told Drumbeat.

## Festival of Sport at the TLC

**Saturday 12 January All Day**

**Adults £4, Children £2, Family (2+2) £10**

### Sport Hall :

Zig Zag state of the art 'Dance Mats' and 'Sportwall' Climbing, Trampolining, Tae Kwon Do Penalty Shoot-out Competition, Mountain Biking, Group X, Ultimate Frisbee

### Squash Court Area :

Studio Cycling, Jo Jingles, Party games, Bouncy Castle, Dance by T2a, Face Painting, Various Exhibitors

### Swimming Pool :

10:00 - 11:00 Fun and Floats

11:00 - 12:00 Monster Island & Flume

12:00 - 13:00 General Swim

13:00 - 14:00 Fun and Floats

14:00 - 16:00 Monster Island, Learner Pool & Flume

The entry charge covers most activities during the day. Places on some sessions are limited, but bookings can be made in advance using your Kennet Leisure Card.

### Free Leisure Cards for 100 Young People :

The Garrison has donated £500 for 100 young people aged 11-17 to receive a FREE Leisure Card, valid for 12 months from 12 Jan 08. A Leisure Card will enable you to book activity sessions in advance throughout the year and one will be given to the first 100 young people to approach the Kennet District Council stand.



## Army Steeplechase 2007



Photo : Dan Stephens

The second Army Steeplechase Competition was held in Tedworth Park at the end of last year with 180 runners taking part.

Organised by Capt (MAA) Rick Young, the challenging cross country course included jumps, water and steep hills, providing



Photo : Dan Stephens

competitors with an interesting run and an opportunity to raise funds for the Army Benevolent Fund and the Army Physical Training Corps. The prizes were presented by Col Rob Herring, President of the Army Athletics Association.

## 3 Mercian to the Rescue !



When Father Christmas needed to get to the Shipton Bellinger Pre-School Christmas party, 3 Mercian stepped in to give him a lift on a Scimitar.

Many thanks to WO2 Heap and Pte Tavernor from the Recce Platoon from 3 MERCIAN and to Ministry of Defence Police and the Garrison Provost SNCO who provided an escort.

## Meet the Team ...



Introducing the Defence Estates Tidworth/Bulford Housing Team : from left to right Janet Thompson, Jeff Birks, Sara Marchment, Vince Avery (Housing Manager), Michelle Rose, Jim Ayres and Terry Hughes

## Running Fun Day

Sunday 17 Feb 08 11:00 - 15:00  
Fox Lines, Queen's Avenue, Aldershot

organised by SSAFA Forces Help to raise money to provide short term accommodation for families visiting injured Service personnel at Selly Oak Hospital and Headley Court

**Runs : 10km, 3km Fun Run, 1km Children's Run**

There will be prizes for the Winners of all events and a Trophy for the fastest Military Unit

Music from the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas  
Raffle - Bouncy Castles - Face Painting - Side Shows  
For further details, entry and sponsorship forms, visit [www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk) or contact your local HIVE

## Woodland Wonderland Week Half Term at The Beeches in Bulford 18 - 22 February 2008

Come and spend the week with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the Community Support Team and take part in a range of activities, including :

- Bird Boxes and Bird Feeders ● Map Making
- Minibeast Hunting ● Environmental Arts
- Woodland Trails and Exploration

Cost : £10 per day - second child half price !

To book places, please ring 01980 - 672105 or call in to AWS office at Horne Road.

Bookings and payment must be made by 1st Feb 08



## A New Year Resolution ...

"Do your bit" for the environment by recycling your rubbish !

**Christmas cards :** Take these to branches of WH Smith, Tesco, TK Maxx or Marks & Spencer (until 31 Jan 08). In Tidworth, you can also take them to the Post Office in Pennings Road, the TLC and Clarendon Infants, Clarendon Junior and Zouch Schools.

Christmas cards can **not** be put into the recycling boxes or paper banks so please make use of this local service.

**Wrapping Paper :** This can not be put into your black recycling box this year. If it can't be re-used, put it into your black wheeled bin.

**Christmas trees :** Take these to Household Recycling Centres in Everleigh, Andover or Amesbury, or put into your KDC green wheelie bin with other garden waste.

**Glass bottles, aluminium & steel drinks cans, paper :** These can be put into your black kerbside recycling box

**Refuse & Recycling Collections :**

Normal service resumes 7 Jan 08

More information from Kennet District Council on 01380 - 724 911 or [www.kennet.gov.uk](http://www.kennet.gov.uk)

## Tidworth Community Area Awards 2007 " Recognising Endeavour "

This is your chance to foster community spirit by nominating that special person or group who has endeavoured to make our community a better place.

Make your nominations for 2007 now !

Award ceremony will be held in early 2008

Contact Hilary Hollinsworth or Mike Winterbourne at Tidworth Development Trust Tel. 01980 - 846693 Email: [hilary@tidworthtrust.co.uk](mailto:hilary@tidworthtrust.co.uk) / [mike@tidworthtrust.co.uk](mailto:mike@tidworthtrust.co.uk)



# Drumbeat Noticeboard



**B F B S Forces Radio**  
 Radio requests & dedications  
 Call : 08701 20 21 21  
 (calls are charged at the national rate)  
**Website :** For overseas commands  
 and Northern Ireland visit  
[www.bfbs.com](http://www.bfbs.com) and go to the  
 "Dedications" page.  
 Or by email : [requests@bfbs.com](mailto:requests@bfbs.com)  
 Now on Sky Digital Guide no. 0211

**Garrison 106.8 FM**  
 Broadcasting to Tidworth,  
 Netheravon, Bulford and Larkhill  
 from the studio in The Old Armoury  
 at the top of Ordnance Road  
 Call 01980 - 602277 or Email :  
[salisburyplain@garrisonfm.com](mailto:salisburyplain@garrisonfm.com)

**Castledown Radio**  
 Broadcasting to the Tidworth  
 Community Area on 104.7 FM  
 email : [studio@castledownradio.info](mailto:studio@castledownradio.info)  
 or call: 01264 - 84 1047

**E Blueys**  
 Log on to [www.bfpo.com](http://www.bfpo.com)

**Tidworth Residents' Forum**  
 Mon 21 Jan 08 19:00  
 Wylve Road Community Centre

**Holy Trinity Church, Tidworth**  
 Rector : 01264 - 791 202

**Army Scripture Reader**  
 Nick Wilson 05601 - 793 541

**SSAFA Forces Help**  
 Call 01980 - 670540 or 01980 - 670345

**AFF Job Vacancies**  
 - Administrator for Upavon office  
 - Events and Fundraiser  
 See [www.aff.org.uk](http://www.aff.org.uk) for more details  
 or call 01980 615715

**Sodexo Defence Services**  
 Job vacancies : Catering & Cleaning  
 Call 01980 - 656 026

**Festival of Sport at the TLC**  
 More information inside ...

**AWS Job Vacancies**  
 Cook for the Haig Nursery in  
 Bulford. Call 01980 - 672331  
 Full & part time childcare job  
 vacancies in the Garrison  
 Call Chris on 01980 - 673379

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

**Defence Estates Housing  
 Information Centre Service**  
 Call 0800 - 169 6322  
 Mon - Fri 08:00 - 16:30

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

**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 - 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 £1.50 for up to a week

**Coffee Carousel :**  
 Open 7 days a week from 9:30  
**Tidworth HIVE Opening Times :**  
 Mon - Fri 09:00 - 15:00  
 Call Carol Morris : 01980 - 602224  
 Website : [www.hive.mod.uk](http://www.hive.mod.uk)  
**Purity Beauty Salon :**  
 Mon-Sat 9:00 - 20:00 Call 07958-911928  
**Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :**  
 Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737 646  
 Sports Therapy : 07796 - 230 571

**Storybook Soldiers**  
 Being deployed ?  
 Home on R&R ? Record a  
 story for your child to listen to while  
 you are away. Phone 10AEC :  
 01980 602370 (Tid Mil. 94342 2370)  
[www.storybooksoldiers.co.uk](http://www.storybooksoldiers.co.uk)

**AWS Families Centres**  
 Ordnance House, Tidworth: 602398  
 at Tidworth Leisure Centre : 602191  
 The Beeches, Bulford 01980 - 672088  
**AWS Main Office : 01980 - 672105**

**Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish**  
 Skips will be in Wylve Road  
 Community Centre car park  
 08:00-10:30 23 Jan 08 & 20 Feb 08

**Thrift Shops**  
 Tidworth : Mondays 9:00 - 14:45  
 Zouch Parade, behind Londis shop  
 Bulford : Term time Thursdays  
 9:30 - 13:00 at The Haig Centre

**War Pension/AFCS Advice Day**  
 at the Regional Resettlement Centre,  
 Delhi Barracks, Tidworth  
 31 Jan, 28 Feb, 27 Mar 08  
 More information : 0117 - 971 8446

**Windmill Hill Children's Centre**  
 Wylve Rd Community Centre, Tidworth  
 Services for 0-5s and their families  
 Call Kay Capon on 01980 - 843 010

**Uniformed Youth Groups**  
 Scouts, Cubs, Beavers & Explorers  
 Call Arthur Kendrew 01980 - 597 341  
**Guides, Brownies, Rainbows**  
 Call Connie Patrickson 01980-845715

**Tidworth Youth Centre**  
 Mon & Tues 18:30 - 21:00 13+  
 St Andrew's Hall opposite the Oval  
 Call Sarah Pearce 01980 - 842748

**Ludgershall Youth Centre**  
 Wed & Thurs 18:45 - 21:15 13+  
 Youth Centre, Andover Road  
 Call Sarah Pearce 01980 - 842748

**AWS 9 - 12s Youth Club**  
 AWS Community Hall at the TLC  
 Tues 18:15 - 20:15 9-12s  
 Call Joyce Stretton on 07810 771 630

**Beauty and the Beast Panto**  
 Shipton Bellinger Village Centre  
 Fri 25 Jan 19:30  
 Sat 26 Jan 08 14:30 & 19:30  
 Fun for all the family ! Tickets from  
 01980 - 846341 or Parkhouse Stores

**Tidworth Leisure Centre**  
**T2a Adventure Sports Club for 11+**  
 Thurs 18:30 - 21:00 Wall Climbing  
**Group X** Wed 16:30-17:30 11+  
**Drop-in Youth Club at the TLC**  
 Thurs 19:30 - 21:00 11+  
**Youth Only Zone & Project Night**  
 Fri 18:45 - 20:45 11+  
**Get Kickin'** Tidworth Astro Pitch  
 Mon 19:00 - 20:30 All Ages  
**For details call TLC : 01980 - 847140**

**Perham Down Youth Club**  
 The Grapevine £1 per session  
 Tues & Thurs 19:00 - 21:00 11-17  
 Details : SSgt Welch 01980 603514

**Bluez 'n' Zuz Youth Disco**  
 8 Jan 08 19:00 - 21:00  
 Clarendon Junior School, Tidworth

**Castledown Youth Radio Club**  
 At the studio Wed 15:00-16:30 11-16

**Karate Club**  
 Beeches Families Centre, Bulford  
 Tues & Fri Children (from 7yrs)  
 Adults (from 16 yrs) All abilities  
 Call Sensei Rob Howells (6th Dan)  
 for more details 01980 - 602644

**Bulford Youth Club**  
 The Beeches Families Centre  
 Mondays 5-8s 16:30 - 18:00  
 Wednesdays 9-12s 18:00 - 20:00  
 Call Tonia Hopkins on 07785 357065

**Stay with the beat !**  
**Deadline for February 2008 issue : 14 January 2008**  
**Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY**  
**Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980**  
**or email : [drumbeat\\_tidworth@hotmail.com](mailto:drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com)**  
**Website : [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)**  
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