

# Drumbeat



Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

December 2007









Soldiers have started to return home after a six month tour of duty in Iraq on Op TELIC 10. Other Units from the Brigade will be coming home this month, all looking forward to being reunited with family and friends and a well earned period of leave.



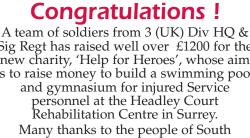


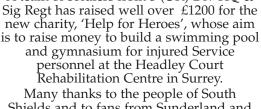


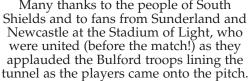
















# Welcome home to 1 Mech Brigade from Tidworth Town Council

Dear Brigadier Bashall,

There has been much debate in the national press as to whether our troops' remarkable efforts in Iraq are properly appreciated by the general public.

Please be in no doubt that Tidworth Town Council is very proud that a significant part of every contingent is made up of Tidworth based soldiers. We appreciate the sacrifices made by each and every person when they put themselves in harm's way for the cause. In addition to the high-profile herioc and selfless acts which are well reported in the national press, we are aware of the many small acts of compassion and kindness carried out by Units and individuals on hehalf of the local inhabitants whilst engaged on their main military task, which do not always get the same coverage.

As the representatives of the residents of Tidworth, the Town Council would like to congratulate your troops for their exceptional and impressive efforts. We would wish you to convey this message to them, that they might know how much their local community appreciates them.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Dagger, Chairman, Tidworth Town Council An identical letter was also sent to Brigadier Lorimer when 12 (Mech) Brigade returned from Afghanistan

## **KRH Medals Parade**



6 Regimental Medals were presented by the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Christopher Price CBE.

In a message to the families at the parade, Lt Col Orr wrote, "The Kings Royal Hussars is extremely proud to be a family Regiment and I recognise the importance of your role in the lives of my soldiers. The successes that we achieve while on operations are made possible by your continued support and encouragement; therefore, your presence today is as important as the soldiers on Parade."

On tour in Iraq, the Regiment performed many different tasks, from counter-smuggling operations on the border with Iran, living in the desert like nomads, to escort duties for convoys and raids in the centre of Basra City which involved leaving Challengers behind and learning how to crew Warriors and WIMIKs!

After the Medal parade, the Regiment marched to St Michael's Church for a Service of Thanksgiving.

# A Christmas Message

2007 has been a long and hard year for the Brigade. It has been a challenge, not just for those deployed on Op TELIC 10, but also for those left behind who have had to cope without fathers, mothers, husbands and wives through a long and difficult summer. The worry and anxiety for everyone has been emotional. But for most of us those days of uncertainty are behind us. We can look forward to spending Christmas together as a family. It



is an important time; it is a time to give thanks, to be together, and to draw strength from each other. It is a good time to be at home.

But in our joy we should also remember those families who are without a loved one this Christmas; whose son, daughter or father didn't make it home from Iraq. And also those who remain badly wounded in hospital. For these families, the pain of Op TELIC 10 bears heavy upon them, and they should not be forgotten.

It has been a difficult year, but 2008 promises to offer new challenges and fresh opportunities. We will pick it up again in the New Year. For now, enjoy your well deserved break, and I wish everyone in the Garrison a very Happy Christmas.

## ... and praise for Rear Parties

Op TELIC 10 has seen the Brigade involved of some of the most intense fighting in the campaign's history. The men and women of the Brigade have faced great physical and mental challenges with courage and fortitude. It is easy to forget the burden on those we left behind, but it is important to acknowledge the important role those who supported us played in sustaining our spirits. Their challenges were often more daunting than our own.

Without exception the units of 1 Mechanised Brigade have enjoyed fantastic support throughout their tour. The Rear Parties have worked tirelessly to provide for both the soldiers on operations and those family members left behind. The Brigade has sustained casualties and the vital work the Welfare and Visiting Officers have provided for those wounded in action, and their families, cannot be praised enough.

I know this has been a hard time for families whose loved ones have been away. I would like to thank them and all the Rear Parties on behalf of all the soldiers in the Brigade. Their contribution has been invaluable.

Brigadier James Bashall Commander 1 (Mechanized) Brigade and Commander, Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison

# If you go down to the woods

The Army Welfare Service, in partnership with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, has secured funding to create an exciting new Nature Trail at the Beeches Families Centre in Buford.

Features will include new woodland trails, seating areas, hides for watching animals, bird and bat boxes and habitat piles to

attract wildlife and a woodland safari for yourng children. A number of local pre-schools have already visited and children from Kiwi School have helped plant bulbs in the woods.

Any volunteers to help with planting or building benches, please call Sue Harper on 07785 355428 for more details.



Housed in the largest vehicle which is road-legal, this amazing rig can transform from articulated lorry to plush cinema in just half an hour, with one man driving and operating it. With its air-conditioning and full-size cinema seats, the Movie Machine will provide a welcome respite for Service personnel, offering 3 screenings a day of the latest films, soon after their UK release.

After spending 5 years in Bosnia and Kosovo, the £500K Movie Machine is now being flown into Afghanistan on the world's largest heavy-lifter aircraft, the Antonov 124.

Commanders in Theatre will find it a useful asset, as the Movie Machine can be used for showing military training films, briefings - and has even been used by Padres for church Services!

The Movie Machine was purchased by the SSVC Operational Welfare Fund and is maintained by the MOD.

# 2 RTR celebrates Cambrai Day

20 November 1917 saw the British launch a surprise massed tank attack at Cambrai on the Western Front. Within





hours, the Germans were forced back some 6 km to Cambrai, with the threetrench systems of the Hindenburg

Line pierced for the first time in the war. This was the first time that tanks had been used successfully in battle, demonstrating their potential in offensive operations.

The Royal Tank Regiment celebrates 'Cambrai Day' on 20th November every year. 2RTR held a Drumhead Service outside their new Regimental Headquarters in Tidworth, after Iraq Medals for Op TELIC 9 had been presented to Egypt Squadron by Director Royal Armoured Corps, Brigadier S. Caraffi. During a football match held later that afternoon, a team was chosen to play against 1RTR at Cambrai, where the two Regiments gathered at the end of the month, to mark the 90th Anniversary of the battle.

# 100 down ... 340 to go! Another milestone

was passed by Project Allenby/ Connaught last month as the 100th building, an old power station in Tidworth, was demolished.



Deputy Garrison Commander strikes the first blow!

"Demolition within the construction industry does not get a lot of acknowledgement - it deserves more than it gets", said Keith Hutton, Aspire Defence's Tidworth Project Director. "If we don't demolish things on time, the programme is delayed. What we

have here is well planned, well managed and well executed demolition ... 100 buildings down, 340 to go!"

"This Project is beginning to make a significant difference to the way soldiers lead their lives", said Deputy Garrison Commander Colonel Richard Aubrey Fletcher. "Soldiers coming back from demanding operational tours are now beginning to live in better accommodation. I have been hugely impressed by the organisation of the project, the demolition process and not least by the recycling effort. Clearly we all know how fragile our planet is and clearly the recycling effort that has been made here is a shining example of how it should and can be done!"

The old power station dates back to 1913 and it will take sub-contractors Hughes and Salvidge around two weeks to demolish it, salvaging many of the bricks and tiles which will be re-used elsewhere on site.

The original steam beam engines at the power station provided electricity for the garrison and the local area, using coal which was brought into the garrison by train on a railway line which ran directly to the power station. It remained in use until 1937 when the garrison was connected to the national grid.

# Catterick to get FM Radio ...

After a long wait, Catterick Garrison has finally been awarded an FM Community Radio Licence by broadcast authority OfCom. The "Garrison FM" service will launch in the New Year, taking over from the current MW service.

# Run helps local SSAFA

A team from 10 Army **Education Centre in** Tidworth has won the SSAFA Team Help Run, part of the Multi-Terrain Fun Run in this year's Swindon Half Marathon.



Team Leader, Lt Cornel Oosthuizen, said, "We were delighted to take part in this event for SSAFA, which we know undertakes such vital work for Service personnel and their families in Wiltshire".

The aim of the Team Help Run was to raise the profile of SSAFA locally and to recruit more volunteer Case Workers and Friends. More details: www.ssafa-wilts.com

# Report it!

The money it costs the Defence Training Estate to clear it up is money that can't be spent on training soldiers ... which could ultimately COST LIVES on operations.



If you spot a vehicle fly tipping, report it to

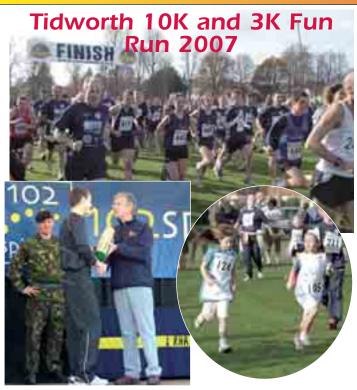
#### 01980 67 4951

with as many details as possible. for example:

 Date
 Time
 Location
 ( if not a grid reference, then as much information as possible, eg East, Centre or West, plantation name, tank crossing number, farm or training feature name.)

- What or who were seen, vehicle registration number
- What were they doing that caused concern
- Your own contact details : tel no, address etc.

Do not enter into a confrontation but merely report what you have seen from afar. Your evidence may be needed by the Police.



The third year for this popular event to raise money for the Salisbury District Hospital Stars Appeal saw over 100 people run 3K for fun around the Lucknow/Mooltan Sports pitch - and a record 700 runners take part in the 10K race out onto Salisbury Plain.

The 10K run was won by Simon Plumber with the very fast time of 28 minutes 52 seconds.

The event was organised by HQ 1 (Mech) Brigade, with many thanks going to Sgt Bruce Scott and his team from

1 Royal Horse Artillery.

With over 800 people taking part, organisers hope that last year's total of £15,000 will easily be beaten!

Sponsorship money or donations



should be sent to Hannah Paye, Charity Office, Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury SP2 8BJ.

# Tidworth Community Area Awards 2007 "Recognising Engeavour"

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 / mike@tidworthtrust.co.uk

# New Tesco to open this month Tidworth's new Tesco Store in Station Road is due to open

its doors to the public on Monday 3rd December. The opening ceremony will be performed at 10:00, jointly by the Commander, 43 (Wx) Brigade, Brigadier Jolyon Jackson and Steve Dagger, Chairman of the Tidworth Town Council. The 5 attached retail shops are due to open 21st January.

" The opening of Tesco's is the start of an economic revival for our town", David Wildman, Chairman of the Tidworth Area Chamber of Commerce, told Drumbeat. "It will act as an anchor store, which should attract other high street names to come here."

Local businesses, councils and public organisations, including the Army, have recently joined together to launch the **Kennet Economic Partnership** to promote our area and encourage economic growth in the district.



## Thank you

Pupils from Clarendon Iunior School have collected Christmas goodies for the charity, 'Support Our Soldiers' and raised over £300 for

BBC's 'Children in Need' Appeal in a sponsored football match on their "Wigs & Wellies" charity day.

Clerical staff at 10 Army Education Centre continued their tradition, this year dressing as pirates and raising £614.10 for 'Children' in Need', by rattling collection buckets at VCP2. Many thanks to everyone who contributed!

# Windmill Hill Children's Centre

Officially opened last month by the Rt Hon Michael Ancram MP, the Windmill Hill Children's Centre in Tidworth's Wylye Road Community Centre offers informal support for parents and carers with children under the age of 5, drop-ins, eg 'Stay & Play'and information about all local children's services.



#### Term-time activities:

Mon 9:30-11:30 Ludgershall Scout Hut "Time for you" Tues 13:15-14:45 WHCC, Tidworth 'Stay & Play' drop-in Wed 9:30-11:30 WHCC, Tidworth 'Time for you' Thurs 9:00-11:00 Zouch School Parent & Toddler Group 9:30-11:30 Beeches, Bulford 'Time for you' Last Thurs of each month: Twins Club 13:15-14:45

WHCC Office in the Wylye Road Community Centre:

Mon & Wed 9:00-13:00, Tu 9:00-15:00, Th & Fr 12:00-15:00 Call Kay Capon on 01980 843 010 for more information

#### A Christmas Present with a difference ...

A robin nesting box for your garden! Made by the Aspire Defence environment team from recycled construction wood, the proceeds from the sale of these nesting boxes goes to local community conservation groups to support educational projects.



£6 for one or £10 for 2

Contact the Environment Team on 01252 - 352600

or email environmental.mailbox @aspiredefence.co.uk

Charity Christmas Cards for sale at the Devizes Visitor Centre **80p in every £ goes to charity** including many local charities eg Wiltshire Air Ambulance & Dorothy House Hospice, etc. Open: Mon - Sat 9:30 - 17:00

**Holy Trinity Christmas Bazaar** Sat 1 Dec 14:00 - 17:00

RBL Club, Pennings Road, Tidworth Live entertainment including a visit from Father Christmas Everyone welcome

#### Hanzel & Gretel and the Glorious Glasses of Glee

Sun 2 Dec 15:00 Shipton Bellinger Village Centre Fairytale fun for ages 4 and up! Tickets from Parkhouse Stores 01980 - 846341 or 842429

#### **Christmas Concert**

Sat 8 Dec 19:30

Shipton Bellinger Village Centre Hampshire Ex-Servicemen's Band Tickets from Parkhouse Stores or call Pam on 01980 - 842011

Amesbury Tree of Light

Sponsor a light bulb on the Amesburv Rotary Club Christmas Tree and help raise money for local charities ...



Call 01980 - 623084 for details **Tree of Light Carol Service** 19:00 10 Dec 05 Amesbury Central Car Park

Christmas Shopping Days 5 and 12 Dec 10:00 - 16:00 at the Museum of Army Flying Craft stalls, Coffee & Mince pies

# Centenary Christmas Concert 11 Dec 19:30 - 21:30

at the Museum of Army Flying Band of the Army Air Corps Tickets: 01264 - 784 421

New Year's Eve Barn Dance 31 Dec 20:00 - Midnight

Shipton Bellinger Village Čentre Dancing to 'The Black Bear Band' Licensed Bar - Bring your own supper Tickets : Adults £8 Children £5 from Parkhouse Stores or 01980 - 846341



Happy Christmas to all **Drumbeat** Readers

## Garrison **Christmas Services** Tidworth:

#### St Michael's Garrison Church

13 Dec Garrison Carol Service 11:30 **15 Dec** Family Nativity Service with refreshments 18:00 23 Dec Morning Prayers 10:00 23 Dec Candlelight Carol Service 18:00 24 Dec Christingle Service 16:00 24 Dec Midnight Service 23:00 25 Dec Family Communion Service 10:00

#### Catholic Garrison Church of St Patrick and St George

Service times on Church Noticeboard or call 01980 - 602328

#### **Bulford**:

#### St George's Garrison Church

**24 Dec** Christingle Service **10:00** 24 Dec Midnight Service 23:30 **25 Dec** Christmas Day Service **11:00** 

#### Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Service times on Church Noticeboard or call 01980 - 672427

# **Local Services**

Holy Trinity, Tidworth

23 Dec Carols by candlelight 18:00 22 Dec Crib & Christingle Service 14:30 24 Dec Midnight Communion 23:30 **25 Dec** Service in Ludgershall

#### St James, Ludgershall

2 Dec Advent Carol Service 16:00 **16 Dec** Carols by candlelight **18:00** 24 Dec Crib & Christingle Service 16:00 24 Dec Midnight Communion 23:30 25 Dec Christmas Communion 10:00

St Peter's, Shipton Bellinger

9 Dec Advent Christingle Service 16:00 23 Dec Carol Service 18:00 **24 Dec** Crib Service with Carols **16:00** 24 Dec Midnight Mass 23:30 25 Dec 09:30

Christmas Carols & family Communion

## Watch out! a thief will be about ...

Don't leave Christmas shopping parcels visible in your car where a thief can see them. Take them with you or lock them in the boot.

Make sure your car is secure each time you park - even if you are only paying for fuel at a service station!

### Latest recommended **Posting Dates for Christmas**

**30 Nov** Surface mail to Western Europe and BFPO addresses **13 Dec** Airmail to Western Europe and BFPO addresses **14 Dec** UK standard parcels **17 Dec** UK Second class letters **20 Dec** UK First class letters **22 Dec** Special Delivery

For further details, pick up a leaflet from your local Post Office

#### FREE DELIVERY

to operational Theatres of Packets up to 2kg in weight

The free mail service to Op TELIC, Op HERRICK and HM Ships in support, has been authorised to continue until further notice

# **Recycling at Christmas**

Over the Christmas period, we place up to 30% more than usual in our household bins, so why not "do your bit" for

the environment by reducing the amount you throw away: Recycle your rubbish!

#### Christmas cards

The national scheme for recycling Christmas cards is available from 2 31 Jan 08 at branches of WH Smith, Tesco, TK Maxx and Marks & Spencer. 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 placed into your black recycling box this year. Please try to re-use it where possible or put it into your black wheeled bin.

#### Christmas trees

These can be recycled at the 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 all be put into your black kerbside recycling box

#### **Refuse & Recycling Collections**

**KDC** Refuse Collections on Wed 19 Dec 07, Thurs 3 Jan 08 and Wed 16 Jan 08.

Recycling Days will be Wed 12 Dec, Thurs 27 Dec and Wed 9 Jan 08.

Normal service resumes 7 Jan 08

More information from Kennet District Council on 01380 - 724 911 or www.kennet.gov.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 and go to the "Dedications" page. Or by email: 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

#### Castledown Radio

Broadcasting to the Tidworth Community Area on 104.7 FM email: studio@castledownradio.info or call: 01264 - 84 1047

#### E Blueys Log on to www.bfpo.com

Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish Skips will be in Wylye Road Community Centre car park 10:00-12:30 12 Dec 07 & 23 Jan 08

Career Transition Partnership RRC Tidworth: 01980 - 602689

Holy Trinity Church, Tidworth Rector: 01264 - 791 202

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



**Help for Heroes** 

Volunteers urgently needed to help man the Tidworth office Please call 01980 - 846 459 www.helpforheroes.org.uk

SSAFA Forces Help Call 01980 - 670540 or 01980 - 670345

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

**AWS Job Vacancies**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 by - Friday 09:00 - 21:00

Monday - Friday Saturdáys 08:00 - 17:00 Sundays 08:00 - 21:00

Telephone: 01980 - 847 140 General Manager: 602030 **Outside Pitch Bookings: 603416** 

**Library Opening Times :** n 10:00 - 17:00 Tues & Thurs 14:00 - 19:00 Wed & Fri 10:00 - 17:00 10:00 - 13:00 Sat 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:** 

09:00 - 15:00 Call Carol Morris: 01980 - 602224 Website: 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

#### **AWS Families Centres**

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

**Bulford HIVE - Now Open** Monday - Friday 9:15 - 13:15 at The Beeches Families Centre Call Silke Linthwaite 01980 - 672420

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

**Tidworth CAB**Wylye Road Community Centre
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 - 14:00
Call 01980 - 843377 or 01380 - 728771

Windmill Hill Children's Centre

Wylye 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 Tues & Thurs 18:30 - 21:00 13+ St Andrew's Hall opposite the Oval Call Sarah Pearce 01980 - 842748

#### T 2 A Adventure Sports Club

Wall climbing, orienteering & mountain biking for 11 - 18s For details call TLC 01980 - 847140

#### Bluez 'n' Zuz Youth Disco

13 Nov and 11 Dec 19:00 - 21:00 Clarendon Junior School, Tidworth Come in November and get free entry to the December Disco!

#### Tidworth Royals Football Club

For details, please call Head Coach, Chalky Wiltshire: 01980 - 846 370

#### **New 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

Netball Team seeks new players

plays in the Andover Netball League Détails from Julie on 07906-208 572

#### Link-up with Basic Skills

Helping others improve their basic skills can lead to a City & Guilds Qualification for YOU!

Next introductory course 23-24 Jan 08 Call Val Pearce at 10AEC for details 01980 603044 or Tid Mil 3044

# Looking for a course for the New Year?

**AFF Training Centre, Bulford** 01980 - 67 2981

Tempo Drop-in Centre, Tidworth 01980 - 840220

Learndirect at 10 Army Education Centre 01980 - 602275

# Stay with the beat !

Deadline for January 2008 issue: 10 December 2007 Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980 or email: drumbeat tidworth@hotmail.com

Website: www.drumbeat.org.uk

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