

Drumbeat



Issue 124 Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter September 2007

BFBS and Spire FM provide live radio link for deployed troops

On Sunday 23 September the British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS) is teaming up with Spire FM to deliver a live broadcast from Salisbury to soldiers on operations in the Middle East.



Access All Areas is a BFBS Radio 1 programme transmitted every Sunday which is heard by British Forces in 23 countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan, The Falklands, Germany, Belize and even aboard HM Ships of the Royal Navy! This special show is designed to keep loved ones in touch no matter where they are in the Forces' World and, in its bid to reach UK-based Forces families and friends, the show is hitting the road to reach garrison areas in Wiltshire.

"Linking Forces Families together and making them feel just that little bit closer to each other is what we do on Access All Areas and BFBS Radio 1 ... and to get to do it from the families' doorstep is a privilege", said programme host, Dave Simon.

With key support from Spire FM, families from the Salisbury Plain area will be invited to visit the station for an opportunity to deliver live messages on air.

"When we did a similar broadcast a few years ago, the response was amazing" said Spire FM's Stuart McGinley. "I am sure there will be some emotional moments again and I am really looking forward to being involved in such a worthy piece of radio".

BFBS Radio has been keeping British Forces and their families united over the airways for more than 60 years. Until recently, people living in the UK could only listen to BFBS via the internet, but since June this year, BFBS can be heard 24-hours a day on Sky Guide No. 0211, allowing friends and family of service personnel to keep in touch no matter where their loved ones serve.

**Access All Areas 11:00-13:00
Sunday 23 September**

To send a dedication or deliver a live or recorded message, contact the Access All Areas team on 08701 - 20 21 21 (national rate) or send a text to 07740 377 377 starting with the letters AAA, or an email to access@bfbs.com

To listen to the programme, tune in to Spire 102 FM or listen via BFBS online or on Sky Guide No. 0211. The programme will also be relayed through Castledown Radio on 104.7 FM.

A New Regiment is formed



HRH The Prince of Wales saluted three historic regular Army regiments as they rebadged to become the new Mercian Regiment, at a spectacular formation parade held at Tamworth Castle in Staffordshire on 1st September.

One of the units, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters, held a similar ceremony on the helicopter landing pad at their base in Lashkar Gar, in Afghanistan.

- The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment becomes 1st Battalion (Cheshires) The Mercian Regiment;
- The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment becomes 2nd Battalion (Worcesters and Foresters), The Mercian Regiment;
- The Staffordshire Regiment becomes 3rd Battalion (Staffords), The Mercian Regiment. (3 MERCIAN)
- The Territorial Army's West Midlands Regiment becomes 4th Battalion, The Mercian Regiment.

The cap badge of the new Regiment consists of the double-headed Mercian Eagle with the Saxon Crown and the Regimental motto is "Stand Firm and Strike Hard". The parade was followed by a March Past through Tamworth town centre.

3rd Battalion (Staffords), The Mercian Regiment is based in Mooltan Barracks in Tidworth.



Keep in touch! Log on to : www.drumbeat.org.uk



Best Paw Forward !

In Iraq ...

The Contingency Operating Base in Basra is home to the Theatre Military Working Dog Support Unit. This is the first operational dog unit of its kind,



containing Royal Army Veterinary Corps (RAVC), Regimental and RAF Police dogs and their handlers.

The handlers have their work cut out - the Arms Explosive Search (AES) and Vehicle Search (VS) handlers are frequently out on the ground and there is plenty to do manning the main gate, guarding the Ammunition Supply point and patrolling the wire at night.



... and at home in the Garrison



Ministry of Defence Search Dog Teams from all over the country came to Tidworth last month for a training day. All Handlers are required to be licenced annually in order to maintain a good standard of operational efficiency.

The Search Dogs are trained to search for drugs or explosives in buildings, open areas or vehicles and can work alongside the Police at crime searches or security sweeps prior to VIP visits.

Dogs are usually donated by the public and the Ministry of Defence Police is always on the look out for gun dog breeds up to the age of 2 which are suitable for training.

Introducing ...

Meet Stu Campbell, the new Breakfast Show Presenter at Garrison FM.

As an ex-Gunner living in Amesbury, Stu knows the area well and is already getting his teeth into the new job !

Tune in to Garrison FM 106.8

Phone 01980 - 602424 or call in at the studio in the Old Armoury at the top of Ordnance Road.



4 Rifles raise Cash for the RBL Poppy Appeal



Five soldiers from the 4 Rifles Battle Group have raised over \$3500 for the Poppy Appeal by 'bench pressing'

the equivalent weight of a Warrior, a Bulldog and a Snatch land rover ... 58 tonnes in 24 minutes 59 seconds !

Exercise Wyvern Rifle

With the Territorial Army (TA) being asked to take on roles abroad, it is important that they be well trained. To this end, several hundred TA soldiers from all over the south west of England took part in the 43 (Wessex) Brigade exercise Wyvern Rifle on Salisbury Plain this Summer, practising combined arms manoeuvres to better prepare for operations overseas.

The role the TA plays has changed in recent years, according to Deputy Brigade Commander, Colonel Charles Ackroyd. "Fifteen years ago we trained at weekends for an assault from the east - from Russia and East Germany," he said. "Now the TA is here to support the Army and TA soldiers deploy, including many of ours, on operations. In this Brigade, we have sent sub units to both Iraq and Afghanistan." The final assault of Ex Wyvern Rifle centred on Imber village, with 6 Rifles attacking the entrenched forces of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry involving house-to-house fighting.



Exercise Wyvern Rifle went ahead, despite many of the command and control elements being deployed for real - not overseas, but to provide the military help during the major multi-agency effort to combat the floods in Gloucestershire.



Are YOU Ready ?

On 13th September, residents in Tidworth and Ludgershall will start hearing a lot about RUBBISH !

With everything we know nowadays about the increasing scarcity of the world's natural resources, the loss of animal habitats and "global warming", perhaps we should all take a careful look at the packaging on the products we buy and how we dispose of our rubbish generally.

The "Rubbish Awareness Programme", (RAP), initiated by the Tidworth Community Area Partnership and involving local schools, press and radio stations, will focus on different aspects of rubbish disposal, in an effort to let everyone know the different ways they can dispose of rubbish responsibly.

The main thing everyone will need is a Black Recycling Box !

If you don't have one, or if you need more, phone Kennet District Council on 01380 - 724911 or visit their website at www.kennet.gov.uk

"Let's create some pride in our communities !", said David Wildman, Deputy Chairman of the Tidworth Community Area Partnership and initiator of the Rubbish Awareness Programme.



The Garrison will be devoting around 1000 man-hours towards the clean-up effort 'behind the wire'



The "Black Box" ...

Kennet District Council operates a fortnightly kerbside "Black Box" recycling collection.



What goes in it ... and what doesn't ?

Yes Please :

- Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, catalogues, white paper, brochures and leaflets - (upright in the box)
- Phone books (but not yellow pages)
- Glass bottles and jars (clean with lids taken off)
- All food and drink cans and aerosols
- Clean aluminium foil. ie. yoghurt tops, baking foil, take away food containers, metal lids
- Textiles, clothes, blankets, pairs of shoes (tied together), leather belts, handbags etc (Put in a separate knotted carrier bag in, or beside, the box but please don't put them out on wet days)
- If your box is too full, put paper in separate open carrier bags next to the box. Reuse carrier bags rather than black sacks, which could be confused with household rubbish. Hessian sacks are also available from the Council.
- Do not tie bags other than those containing textiles

No Thank You :

- Yellow Pages
- Cardboard, windowed envelopes, shredded paper
- Duvets, pillows
- Plastic bottles
- Shiny metallic plastic, eg: crisp packets / sweet papers
- Greaseproof or carbon paper, Shredded paper

These materials cannot be put in the black box, but can be recycled at any Household Recycling Centre.

Bulford :

Salisbury District Council's Black Box collection is not currently available in Bulford, but rubbish for recycling can be taken to any Household Rubbish Recycling Centre

Remember the 3 "R"s ...

Reduce the amount you throw away :

Waste is everyone's problem - we all produce it when we throw things away. But putting things into a bin is not the end of the story. The contents of your bin are not sorted. Instead, they are taken to a landfill site where they may take many generations to rot, if they do so at all.

It costs money to collect your waste, transport it to landfill sites, bury it in the ground and manage these sites. This is a cost we all bear through our Council Tax.

Reducing the amount of waste that is taken to landfill makes sense - it is the best option for the environment and it will save money !

Re-use :

Re-using products gives them a second life. Take unwanted items in good condition to a charity shop; Your local Council will take away bulky items for you.

Recycle :

Recycling reduces the amount of rubbish going to landfill sites and therefore reduces the emission of 'greenhouse gases' produced by rotting rubbish in those sites. Instead, "green" rubbish, like vegetable peelings and garden rubbish can very easily be turned into compost. Have you considered having a compost bin in your own garden ?

Recycling your waste helps save the world's scarce natural resources and preserve wildlife habitats otherwise lost due to quarrying, mining or forestry.

Materials such as glass, steel & aluminium can be recycled over and over again without loss of quality. Consider buying recycled products rather than new ...

FLY TIPPING ? No excuses !

Have bulky items collected or take your rubbish FREE to your nearest Household Recycling Centre :

BULK RUBBISH

Your Local Council will come to your house to collect and dispose of bulky items such as fridges, freezers, old furniture, etc

SALISBURY DC
Call 01722 - 434320

£10 for 1st item
£20 for 2 - 6 items

KENNET DC
Call 01380 - 724911

£14 for 1 - 4 items
£28 for 5 - 8 items

TEST VALLEY DC
01264 - 368000
£12 for 1st item
£24 for more than 1

ANDOVER RECYCLING CENTRE

Summer Opening Times
1 Apr-30 Sept
7 Days 09:00 - 19:00
Winter Opening Times
7 Days 09:00 - 16:30

EVERLEIGH RECYCLING CENTRE

OPENING TIMES
Mon-Fri 07:30 - 16:30
WEEKENDS
April - Oct 09:00 - 17:00
Nov - March 09:00 - 16:00
LATE NIGHT OPENING
Weds & Thurs until 19:00
April - Oct only

SALISBURY RECYCLING CENTRE

Summer Opening 1 Apr-31 Oct
7 Days 09:00 - 20:00
Winter Opening Times
7 Days 09:00 - 18:00

THRIFT SHOPS

Tidworth : Zouch Parade
Mondays 9:00 - 14:45
Bulford :
at The Haig Centre
Term time Thursdays
9:30 - 13:00

TIDWORTH Recycling Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish

Skips will be in Wylve Road Community Centre car park
10:00 - 12:30
19 Sept & 17 Oct

AMESBURY RECYCLING CENTRE

Summer Opening 1 Apr-31 Oct
Wed & Thurs 09:00 - 19:00
All other days 09:00 - 17:00
Winter Opening Times
Mon - Sun 09:00 - 16:00

Free Parcels for Troops in Afghanistan and Iraq

The Royal Mail has announced that from Monday 3rd September 2007, parcels may be sent to British troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan for FREE.

Relatives and friends in the UK may send items only to named service personnel or entitled Ministry of Defence deployed civilians at specified BFPO numbers.

The free service applies to first class items up to 2kg, not including Special Delivery. All items must be posted via Post Office counters, not pillar boxes - and normal BFPO restrictions governing the dimensions and content of items apply.

The existing freepost services to hospitals supporting the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan remain in place.

For further information about the free service, please visit your local Post Office.

The Ministry of Defence has welcomed the announcement and General Sir Richard Dannatt, Chief of General Staff, said:

"I am delighted by the support shown by the Royal Mail, and am extremely grateful; this decision to provide a free parcel service to troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan will mean a great deal to our soldiers and to their families."

From Thursday 8th November 2007, the service will be supplemented by the standard pre-Christmas free postage scheme, operated by the British Forces Post Office to wider destinations.



Blue Light Day 2007

Having fun with the Emergency Services ...

Volunteer firefighters from Ludgershall Fire Station demonstrate the dangers of a chip pan fire



L/Cpl Jo Brown, 721 Sqn EOD RLC, explains how to operate the 'wheelbarrow'

Cpl Darryl Guy, 158 Pro Coy RMP, with an aspiring young motorcyclist



Are you thinking of updating your qualifications ?

Dependants in Bulford, Tidworth & Perham Down who are unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week can get the cost of any training courses that could lead to employment refunded. For details, call Kirsty or Louise at 10 Army Education Centre on 01980 - 603045

There are several educational providers in our area, offering a wide range of courses :

AFF Training Centre, Bulford

Kandy Road, Bulford 01980 - 67 2981

Tutor led courses for Army Dependants

Courses include : New Clait 2006, ECDL Version 4, Book-keeping, Web Design, English & Maths Refreshers, Sage Levels 1 & 2 ... call us for more details.

Also : on-site Crèche with great rates for our students ! If interested please ring Claire or Gwen on 01980 672981

Tempo Drop-in Centre

Pennings Road, Tidworth 01980 - 840 220

Tutor led courses open to everyone

TEMPO has a wide range of courses available. For more information, ring 01980 840220 or call at our Drop-in Centre for advice and career planning from our friendly and professional staff.

10 Army Education Centre

Candahar Barracks, Tidworth

Wives' Maths & English : Call Leonora on 01980- 602743

Soldiers' Literacy & Numeracy Courses :

Do you have a GCSE or equivalent qualification ready to enrol on JNCO CLM ? Call Wendy on 01980 - 603045

CLM, MA & JOLP : Call Dee on 01980 - 602430

For information about Open University and Correspondence courses : Call 01980 - 602370

For help with Dyslexia : Call Kirsty on 01980 - 602223

10-11 October : Part 1 Basic Skills Mentoring qualification, leading towards a City & Guilds level 2 certificate in Adult Learner Support. Free course open to military personnel & dependants Call Val 01980 - 603044

Army Learning Centre

Candahar Barracks, Tidworth 01980 - 602275

Open to soldiers, dependants, civil servants & MOD contractors 

Enrol at the ALC, at the Library at the TLC or at Army Libraries in Bulford, Upavon, Wilton or Middle Wallop.

Do your course online from your own computer : ECDL, New Literacy and Numeracy (including online national tests), Business & Management (including ILM Certificate in Team Leading), Home and Office IT, Web publishing, Integrated document production, and lots more ...

Soldiers can use their Standard Learning Credits on certain courses - and others are completely free !

Harvest & Flower Festival

23 - 29 September St Michael's Church, Tidworth

The main part of the Festival will be a central display of 'Doves of Unity' bearing messages or prayers for members of the Garrison on deployment.



If you would like to make a dove or a flower arrangement for the Church and would like more information, please call Beth on 01980 - 602326, Mon - Thurs, 8:30 - 16:00 hrs.

Free Blood Pressure Testing ...

Get yours tested during National Blood Pressure Testing Week (10-16 September) at the Tidworth Leisure Centre

Kings Royal Hussars update



Cpl Harmer, 1 Mech Bde

The KRH Battlegroup has now reorganised and is ready in its new role based at Basrah Airport, along with the majority of the rest of the Brigade.

It has taken a lot of effort and a significant change of mindset from everyone in the Battlegroup ... as C Sqn converted to the new BULLDOG armoured personnel carrier, (picture), and A Sqn took on an Airmobile role.

The daily challenge of surviving in the desert has been replaced by the ever present threat of indirect fire that pervades our life in the COB - neither being particularly attractive alternatives !

Tanks ready for action ...



Cyclops Squadron, 2 RTR, is currently serving with the 2 R Welsh Manoeuvre Battlegroup in Basra

All in a day's work ...



Work at the COB began on Day 1 for 2 Field Troop, 3 Armoured Engineer Squadron Royal Engineers - all trades and skills have been called on - but no job has been too big for 2 Troop to fix !

Garrison MOD Policemen are commended for Bravery



On 8 Jun 05, the Ministry of Defence Police received a call to help search for a man who had threatened to kill himself, somewhere in Tidworth.

PCs Colin Ford (left) and Andy Gale (right) located the man on Tidworth's Station Road Green, sitting on the grass under a tree with a can of petrol beside him and a cigarette lighter in his hand. They very quickly realised that he had poured petrol over himself and, while PC Ford began talking to him, PC Gale coordinated the Emergency Services. At great risk to themselves, the two policemen then sat down with the man and spent 45 minutes talking to him, until he was eventually persuaded to hand over the lighter and go to hospital.

"These two Police Constables put themselves at personal risk, acting in the true tradition of the Police Service", said Chief Superintendent Ray Morrison, MoD Police Divisional Commander for Western Division, as he presented them with their Divisional Commander's Commendations. "They are a credit to themselves and to the Ministry of Defence Police".



STARS
APPEAL

A sponsored run across Salisbury Plain to raise funds for the Salisbury District Hospital Stars Appeal

Principal Sponsor





Being back for the Stars Appeal's exciting new campaign:

Starboard Cancer Campaign
Raising £200,000 for a specialist breast surgery theatre.

Little Lives Campaign
Raising £100,000 to provide the most advanced treatment for premature and critically ill babies.

or support the world's most important of our jobs



Tidworth 10k

& 3k Fun Run



Organised by
1 Mechanised Brigade Headquarters
and 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

Supported by the
Salisbury Journal

Sunday
4th
November
2007

Starts

10h - 10.45am
1h - 10.00am
10.00am
10.00am

Free recovery t-shirts
and medals for all participants

Prizes for class winners in each race

Call 01753 428001 for an Entry Form
or Register online at www.tidworth10k.org

Hosted by Sports for a Cause

Entry: £10 adults
£5 under 16s (3k only)

More details online at :
www.tidworth10k.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 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

NEW ! Hot Lips Coffee Shop

at The Grapevine, Perham Down
 Mon - Fri 9:00 - 14:00
 Full Breakfast, baguettes, paninis, lunch specials, home made cakes, etc
 Call Sarah on 07917 - 413 450 to order your lunch !

Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish

Skips will be in Wylve Road Community Centre car park
 10:00-12:30 19 Sept & 17 Oct

Job Vacancies

Experienced ODP/Scrub Nurses
 Full/Part-time/Bank Contracts
 Salisbury District Hospital
 Call 01722 - 336262 extn 4302

Job Vacancies

Grooms for Tidworth Polo Club
 Full or part time. Must be able to ride
 For details : 01980 - 602508 or 846705

Sodexo 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

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
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

Home on R&R ? Record a story for your child to listen to while you are away. Phone Helen at 10AEC : 01980 602234 (Tid Mil. 94342 2234)

War Pension AFCS Advice Day

at the Regional Resettlement Centre, Delhi Barracks, Tidworth
 27 September
 More info : 0117 - 971 8302

Career Transition Partnership

RRC Tidworth : 01980 - 602689

AWS Families Centres

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

Windmill Hill Children's Centre

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

Paddington Playstation

Autumn Fair to raise funds for equipment for the playschool
9 November 14:00 - 16:00
 Drummer Lane, Tidworth
 Bouncy castle, face painting, crafts, stalls

SSAFA Forces Help

Call 01980 - 670540 or 01980 - 670345

Uniformed Youth Groups

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

T 2 A Adventure Sports Club

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

Tidworth Youth Centre

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

Tidworth Royals Football Club

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

Jammie Dodgers at the TLC

AWS After School & Holiday Club for 5-13s Excellent Ofsted reports
 Call Louise on 01980 - 602019

Aqua-cise Classes

If you are interested in joining a new Aquacise class at the Bulford pool, please call Kate on 07724 - 281304

FREE Riding !

Help exercise the polo ponies. Polo experience is not necessary. We also need helpers at the stables. For details : 01980 - 602508 or 846705

Rhythm Force II

Fri 21 September 19:00
 Kneller Hall, Twickenham
 Outdoor music festival from the Corps of Army Music. FREE to all military personnel & their guests.
www.armymusician.mod.uk
 0208 - 744 8608

Tidworth ROC 2007

Sat 22 Sept 15:00 onwards
 Wylve Rd Community Centre Field
 Live music, BBQ, Beer tent, Bouncy Castle, Family entertainment
 Advance tickets £5 from AVDJ, Pennings Rd or call 01980 - 601692
 On the gate £6, After 8pm £8
 U12s must be accompanied by adult

Early Early Christmas Fair

Wed 26 September
 9:30 - 16:00 Tidworth House, Tidworth
 Food, Homes & Gardens, A shopping and social event ! All welcome
 Lunch & Refreshments Entry £4
 In aid of the Army Benevolent Fund

Proms Concert

23, 24, 25 October Garrison Theatre
 All the Proms favourites and music by the Band of the Prince of Wales's Div.
 Tickets : 01980 - 602390

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for October 2007 issue : 12 September 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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