

Drumbeat



Issue 121

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

June 2007

10th Anniversary Edition !

News from The Kings Royal Hussars

The King's Royal Hussars have arrived in Iraq on the leading edge of the 1 Mech Bde deployment. The Battle Group Headquarters and C Sqn are patrolling the desert in Maysaan Province, with A Sqn of the Household Cavalry Regiment, while D Sqn have deployed to support operations in Basrah in Warrior Armoured Vehicles. After a short stay in Kuwait to acclimatise and undergo some last-minute revision of skills and drills, everybody has now got stuck in to their operational roles.

Lt Col Nick Orr, CO KRH, marks the flag change with Lt Col Richard Nixon-Eckersall, CO QRL.



Meanwhile, back in the UK, the Regimental Football Team travelled up to the Burton Court ground, in London, for the final of the Cavalry Cup competition, which is contested by all Regular Regiments within the Royal Armoured Corps and Household Cavalry. The match, played against the Queen's Dragoon Guards, was close, but a goal scored by Cpl Gaz Blacklock during the first half secured the silverware for the King's Royal Hussars. Congratulations !



KRH 1st XI - Winners of the Cavalry Cup, 2007

New Cap Badge for the ETS



New cap badges, berets and stable belts for the Educational and Training Services (ETS) were introduced last month. Major Ed Flute, Officer Commanding 10 AEC, and his team (above) show off their new headdress outside the Centre in Tidworth.

The new badge, beret and stable belt have been introduced in order to enhance the Branch's identity within the Adjutant General's Corps at a time when education has never been so central to Army business and Army life.

The new items of dress acknowledge a strong heritage from the past, dating back to the Corps of Army Schoolmasters in 1846. The new cap badge depicts the flaming torch of knowledge set, uniquely, above the Royal Crown. The flaming torch was the symbol of the Royal Army Educational Corps which was formed in 1946.

Coming soon to the TLC

The Tidworth Leisure Centre is delighted to announce that Coffee Carousel has been appointed to take over the running of its cafeteria service.



The accent will be on healthy food and high quality coffees.

Coffee Carousel is a successful catering company from Andover who are pleased to be able to expand their high quality personal service to the TLC and its many customers.

The café will reopen in early July, after refurbishment.



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



Drumbeat online : www.drumbeat.org.uk

www.drumbeat.org.uk

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Marking the Anniversary ...



By any standard a 10th Anniversary is a significant milestone. From the visionary direction given by the Garrison Commander at the time, (now Lt Gen John McColl), Drumbeat has grown under the energetic and inspired editorship of Rosemary Meeke to become a unique publication. A glance at the items of news opposite shows how much has changed in the Garrison over the past 10 years, all of which has been faithfully reported in a timely and informative fashion to a

generation of soldiers and their families.

Drumbeat has also undergone change, embracing technological opportunities such as Full Colour and the Web - and circulation has increased significantly from a couple of thousand to some 7,000 copies delivered monthly to military and civilian households across the Tidworth Community area. Whether deployed on operations or back home in the Garrison, Drumbeat links us all with what is happening on our patch. Across the Army, Drumbeat is synonymous with the Garrison.

I am delighted to mark this 10th Anniversary by placing on record my thanks to Rosemary Meeke for all she has personally done to ensure the success of Drumbeat. Put simply, without her devoted work you would not be reading this article.

Much will change in the next ten years but of one thing we can be sure. Drumbeat will be here to record it. So read on!



Colonel Richard Aubrey Fletcher
Garrison Commander

The toughest footrace on earth ...

On the 3rd April 2007, I returned from the Sahara having completed the Marathon des Sables (Mds). The Mds is a footrace across the Sahara Desert covering 151 miles/243 km in 6 days - essentially a full marathon every day! To add to the usual difficulties, all food, supplies, equipment and water have to be carried. The Mds has become one of the most prestigious 'extreme marathons' in the world, and is believed to be "the toughest footrace on Earth"....

I ran on behalf of the Meningitis Research Foundation, the charity that funds research to prevent meningitis and septicemia, and to improve survival rates of young children.

The Mds is a race that most people with a good level of fitness could complete if they can handle long, intense and specific training, and do their homework. The fact that the pursuit of this goal had taken nine months of my life, and filled my every waking thought and much of my dreams, had a great deal to do with my crossing that line.

A huge thank you to friends, family and colleagues who sponsored me and provided fantastic support both prior and during the event. Also, a big thank you to all my 'corporate sponsors', especially Sodexo Defence, Lafarge and 3Net.

James Thoden van Velzen
Garrison Facilities Director, Aspire Defence



A lot can happen in 10 Years !

The first edition of Drumbeat hit the streets in June 1997, with the declared aim of keeping everyone in the Garrison area informed about what is going on.

These are some of the items of news which have appeared in Drumbeat in the past 10 years ...

- 1998**
 - March : New War Memorial at the RBL Club
 - June : National Theatre performs "Oh what a Lovely War" in a big top in Tedworth Park
- July Station Road improvements
- September New All-Weather Sports pitch opened
- 1999**
 - April : Netheravon joins the Garrison
- September : Haig Centre opens in Bulford
- October 1st Tidworth Scouts' new scout hut opened
- 2000**
 - Millennium Yew planted in Tedworth Park
 - Tidworth Development Trust formed
- May-Aug 69 rebuilt quarters on the Australian Estate in Perham Down are completed
- June Millennium "Beating Retreat" held in Tedworth Park includes the first public display by the Apache attack helicopter
- September Mathew/Avon Estate Rebuild project. Phase 1 begins. The 2 phases of the project eventually provide 484 new Army quarters in Tidworth.
- November Official opening of the Tidworth Leisure Centre & the refurbished Oval
- December Following radio trials earlier in the year, the Garrison gets its own Radio Station
- 2001**
 - Feb : Army Learning Centre opens at 10 AEC
- May : The Time Team visits Salisbury Plain
- 2002**
 - April : Antiques Roadshow held at the TLC
 - April : Tidworth & District Chamber of Commerce formed
- June Mathew/Avon rebuild : phase 2 begins
- July Jubilee Beating Retreat in Tedworth Park
- Nov 2002 **Drumbeat is printed in FULL COLOUR**
- May 2003 **The Drumbeat Website goes LIVE !**
- 2003**
 - May : Tidworth's Roadhouse demolished
 - Aspire Defence is named as the Provisional Preferred Bidder for Project Allenby
- July New Health Centre opens in Tidworth
- December Community Plan for Tidworth produced
- 2004**
 - Jan : 12 Mech Brigade HQ arrives in Bulford
 - April : New Tennis courts open at TLC
- Parishes of North & South Tidworth merged
- September Queen Elizabeth Memorial Health Centre opened by the Duke & Duchess of Gloucester
- December Lucknow Barracks rebuild completed
- 2005**
 - April : Castledown Media Centre opened
- May : Tidworth adopts Town status
- October Tidworth Community Area Partnership produces Strategic Action Plan to take forward the ideas of the Community Plan
- 2006**
 - Mar : First of the Edwardian barrack buildings demolished in advance of Project Allenby
- April Neighbourhood Policing Partnership formed
- 10 July Vesting Day - Project Allenby begins - Aspire Defence now provides and manages services that support life in the Garrison
- July New Court Centre opens in Bulford
- 2007**
 - Jan : Bulford Medical Centre refurbished
- Work begins on Tidworth Equestrian Centre
- May Work begins on new Tesco store in Tidworth
- June 2007 **Drumbeat's 10th Birthday !**

Find out more - and see the photographs! - log on to www.drumbeat.org.uk/timeline

Keep in Touch ...



Picture : Cpl Dan Harmer

As 1 (Mech) Brigade troops arrive in Basra (above), and with 12 (Mech) Brigade already deployed in Afghanistan, the best thing family and friends can do to support them is to keep in touch with news from home ...

By Post

Use the correct postal address !

When using a BFPO address, geographical locations are not needed and in fact should not be included as they can lead to items circulating via civilian postal channels, causing delay and/or excess postal charges.

Blueys

Postage on the Forces' blue aerogramme letter forms to operational addresses is FREE.

Write "Op TELIC" or "Op HERRICK" in the top left corner of the front cover and remember that enclosures (eg photographs) are not permitted.

Letters / Large Letters

A letter measuring up to 240 x 165 x 5mm and weighing up to 100g, costs 34p.

Larger letters, measuring up to 353 x 250 x 25mm and weighing between 100 - 750g are priced according to their weight. Insufficient postage will cause delay - take your letter to the Post Office to make sure it is correctly stamped.

Packets / Parcels

Airmail packets must not weigh more than 2kg, and have a maximum length + depth + width measurement of 900mm, with the greatest single dimension no more than 600mm.

There is no parcel service (ie for items weighing more than 2kg) to Op Telic or Op Herrick.

By Email

E-Blueys

E-Blueys are printed, folded and sealed without anyone but the sender and the receiver viewing the contents. They are delivered like normal blueys, ie First Class in the UK, or through the BFPO system overseas.

To send an E-bluey, log on to www.bfpo.mod.uk

ArmyNET

Use the email facility provided by ArmyNET. Emails sent from one ArmyNET account to another are protected by a security firewall.

Use the Internet :

For news from Operational Theatres :

Both 1 Mech and 12 Mech Brigades have dedicated websites, to keep family and friends up-to-date with what is going on in Iraq and Afghanistan. These sites can be

accessed **only via ArmyNET**, where visitors log on as guests of the serving soldier who must register them before he/she goes.

Log on to www.armynet.mod.uk and click on these links :



- 1 (Mech) Brigade : **ONE VISION**
- 12 (Mech) Brigade : **Op EMBRACE**



Also on ArmyNET : **Secure Instant Messaging coming soon**

Wi-fi internet connection in Basra :

BFBS is operating a new wi-fi internet trial at the COB in Basra. Access to the BFBS website and the Army, RAF and RN sites is free, otherwise £5 buys you two hours which can be used at different times - and there is no expiry date. Just take your laptop along to the Echos or the BASbados Coffee Bar, switch on and click on the BFBS wi-fi pop-up.

For news from the Garrison :

We can find out what is happening in and around the Garrison by reading Drumbeat every month - and so can they !

Read Drumbeat online at : www.drumbeat.org.uk

On the Radio ...

Garrison FM :

A weekly radio programme dedicated to the 12 Mech Bde deployment to Afghanistan can be heard on Thursday mornings by listeners in the Salisbury Plain area. Tune in to 106.8 FM on Thursdays 10:00 - 11:00 for a show hosted by Roger Clarke and featuring situation reports and interviews from 12 Mech Bde in Afghanistan, along with interviews with rear parties. A similar programme is planned for 1 Mech Bde, starting in August.

Requests to Garrison FM - details on Drumbeat Noticeboard page.

BFBS Radio :

Broadcasting live in Afghanistan and Iraq, from BFBS studios in Theatre.

This includes : **Access All Areas**, a live programme from BFBS which links listeners in BFG, the Balkans, Northern Ireland, Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Oman, Gibraltar, Ascension, Canada, Cyprus, Brunei - and on the internet and on Sky TV. Tune in and keep in touch with friends and loved ones anywhere in the Forces' world! Requests to BFBS - details on Drumbeat Noticeboard page.

Internet Radio

Salisbury Plain Garrison FM online at www.garrisonfm.com

BFBS Forces Radio online at www.bfbs.com

Radio on the Television

BFBS Radio now on Sky TV !

This is a 24-hour a day service which includes live radio programmes from the heart of the operational areas where our troops are based, as well as from BFG and the UK.

Tune in to Sky Guide No. 0211

By Telephone

Deployed personnel receive 30 minutes of free calls each week. Additional top up cards are available for purchase in Theatre and provide extra time and better rates than mobile phones. A messaging service allows those at home to leave a voicemail message.

Mobile Phones

Personnel are strongly advised not to use mobile phones in Theatre. There have been cases reported of telephone numbers being copied, resulting in unsolicited bogus calls to family members back in the UK. In addition, the mobile coverage in theatre is poor and gets turned off/on almost daily.

The layout of the new Tesco store in Station Road, Tidworth



New Tesco Store on the way...

The final plans for Tidworth's Tesco store were reviewed by the Town Council at their meeting last month and final approval from Kennet District Council is expected imminently.

Preliminary ground work for the new store in Station Road has already begun; a new car park area is being made at the Hampshire Cross end of the site, with a new entrance from Station Road, near the traffic lights. The creation of this new car park will replace the existing car park and enable work on the Tesco store to begin as soon as approval is given.

If anyone would like to view the plans, please get in touch with the Clerk to the Tidworth Town Council on 01264 - 790 213

Castledown Academy update

The proposal to set up the first Rural Academy in the country at Castledown School has reached the next stage of development.

The Department for Education and Skills has informed Castledown School and Wiltshire County Council that the initiative has been approved. The project has now reached the Feasibility Stage, during which detailed discussions will take place about the implementation of the Academy.

A project manager will be appointed in the next few weeks to oversee the development of the project for the DfES.

John Pender, Headteacher at Castledown told Drumbeat that the school was delighted that the project was being so actively supported by its sponsors, the Local Authority and the Department. He went on to say that the school's longer term planning was all being based around the proposed implementation of the academy in 2009 and that pupil numbers were already increasing substantially.

The Academy project will bring about huge new investment in the school, leading to the introduction of a sixth form and many other benefits to students.

Service children, who make up around 40% of the school population, could also benefit from the creation of a certain number of boarding places which would provide a stable educational environment for pupils who might otherwise, because of postings, be forced to change school half way through an academic course.

Noah's Ark Under 5s

AWS Crèche and Preschool

at The Beeches Families Centre in Bulford for children aged 1 - 5 years.

Sessions as follows:

- Morning 09:00 - 12:00
- Lunch Club 12:00 - 12:45
- Afternoons 12:45 - 15:15

Call Lisa Baker on 01980 - 673479



EVERLEIGH RECYCLING CENTRE OPENING TIMES

- Monday - Friday 07:30 - 16:30
- WEEKENDS**
- April - October 09:00 - 17:00
- November - March 09:00 - 16:00
- LATE NIGHT OPENING**
- Wednesdays & Thursdays until 19:00
- April - October only

MDP reorganises ...

The Ministry of Defence Police now have Community-based Police Teams spread around the Garrison area - still the same faces that we all know, but just organised a bit differently !



Unit Beat Officer Andy Gale joins UBO Viv Phillips in Bulford. They are co-located with the 158 Pro Coy Royal Military Police, near Kiwi School.

Telephone : 01980 - 672340

Rural Beat Officer Gary Mogford, (right), is joined by PC Colin Ford, (left), and PC Ivan Bentley. They cover the rural areas across the whole of Salisbury Plain.



Unit Beat Officers Graham Blakeman and Paul Maratty are based in the Police Post inside the camp in Tidworth. Their patch covers Tidworth, Perham Down and Shipton Bellinger. They will be conducting patrols of the

quarters areas, both on foot and mobile, as well as targetting anti-social behaviour, public disorder, community safety and any priorities identified by local residents. They can be contacted on : 01980 - 603099

"We're all very much looking forward to the challenges ahead", they told Drumbeat.

Calling all Photographers !

Entries to the Army Photographic Competition should be submitted by **Friday 29th June 2007**.

An entry form is available to download from ArmyWeb at www.army.mod.uk/whatson/apc/index.htm.

For further information, please contact : Defence Public Relations (A) on (Mil) 9621 87901 or (Civ) 020 7218 7901

Looking for something to do while he is away ?

Why not come along to the Army Education Centre :

- Brush up your skills
- Bring a friend !
- Help you to help your children with homework
- Get yourself a Qualification
- Daytime Numeracy and Literacy Courses (5-day Courses or 2-day Workshops)
- Open to all Dependants and Civil Servants ... FREE !

For more details, phone Lesley on 01980 - 603045 or log on to our website : www.10aec.army.mod.uk



Op SAFE HOME

Home Security

Always check who is at the door before opening it - use a chain or spy hole.

If you are going away :

Don't leave curtains drawn, it draws attention to the property. Cancel milk, papers, etc.

Use the GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME - Police can check your empty Quarter.

Tell a neighbour that you are going to be away and leave a key with them for emergencies.

Use timer switches to turn on lights at random times.

For help and advice, please contact the RMP Crime Reduction Officer, Sgt Mark Udale, on 01980-673530 or 07850-609837
All Police Emergency numbers can be found on the Drumbeat Noticeboard



Wiltshire Police News

● Farewell to Sgt Nigel Porter from Tidworth Police Station who has moved on to the NBC Centre in Winterbourne Gunner, where his new job will involve training national Police teams in responses to nuclear, biological and chemical threats.

During the past year, the local Neighbourhood Police Teams have been

set up in Tidworth and crime detection rates in the area have risen.

The Garrison thanks Sgt Porter for his contribution to life in the community and wishes him well for the future.

Inspector Martyn Sweett, Sector Commander for Amesbury and Tidworth, told Drumbeat that Sgt Porter will be replaced by Sgt Mark Freeman on 1st July. In the interim, the post will be covered by Sgt Mike Standing from Amesbury.

● PC Graham Wilkins has been named as the new Community Beat Manager for the Ludgershall Neighbourhood Police Team.

● Gemma Clark is the new Community Support Officer, working with PC Chris Spackman in the Tidworth Neighbourhood Police Team. She replaces Hollie Thompson - who has left to join the Police Force !

Home for R & R ?

Children do not always understand why Daddy or Mummy has to go away and isn't there to read them a bedtime story as usual, so why not do the next best thing ...



Come along to the Education Centre and record a story for your child !

The Storybook Soldiers team will produce a professional story CD, complete with sound effects, music and a special message from you, which your child can listen to as often as he or she likes.

For more information - or if you are interested in joining our dedicated team of volunteer editors - come along to the Education Centre in Candahar Barracks, Tidworth or call Helen on 01980 - 602344 / Tid Mil. 94342 2344

or visit www.10aec.army.mod.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

Shipton Bellinger Fête Week

16 June Village Fête 14:00 - 17:00
 Playing Fields at the Village Centre
 Many other events during the week

Murder and Madness !

Two minimalist Shakespeare plays !
 Sat 23 June 19:00 Tickets from Parkhouse Stores or 01980 - 846341

AFF Salisbury Plain Coordinator

Call Lucy Oglesbee 01980 - 601078

Job Vacancy

Cleaner for the Haig Nursery in Bulford. Mon - Fri 18:00 - 20:00
 Call Vicky Harker on 01980 - 672331

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

Job Vacancies

Red Shield Defence Services Canteen Assistant and Cook
 For information & application form call 01980 - 843 359

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 - 19:00
 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

Library Videos and DVDs for hire

From £1.50 for up to a week

Call: 01980 - 843460 or 602568

Oasis Café Opening Times :

Mon - Fri 09:00 - 17:00
 Sat & Sun 10:00 - 16:00

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

AWS Families Centres

Ordnance House, Tidworth: 602398
 at Tidworth Leisure Centre : 602191
 The Beeches, Bulford 01980 - 672342
AWS Main Office : 01980 - 672105

Bulford HIVE at The Beeches

Open Tues & Thurs 9:00 - 13:00
 Call Tracey O'Neil on 01980- 672109
 Email : bulford@hivegb.co.uk

Army Library at 10 AEC

Candahar Barracks, Tidworth
 Mon-Fri 09:30 - 13:30 Tid Mil 3043
Bulford Army Library
 Ward Barracks, Bulford Camp
 Mon-Thu 9:00-16:30 Fri 9:00-12:30

Plastic & Cardboard Rubbish

Skips will be in Wylve Road Community Centre car park
 10:00-12:30 27 June & 25 July

Thrift Shops

Tidworth : Mondays 9:00 - 14:45
 Zouch Parade, behind Londis shop
Bulford : Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00
 At The Haig Centre

Tidworth CAB

Wylve Road Community Centre
 Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 - 14:00
 Call 01980 - 843377 or 01380 - 728771

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 5-8s Youth Club

Ordnance House, Tidworth
 Term time Mondays 17:00 - 18:30
 Call Claire Davies on 01980 - 602398

Tidworth 8-12s Youth Club

AWS Community Hall at the TLC
 Tues 18:00-20:00 Call Jimi 07810-771630

Tidworth Youth Centre

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

Netheravon 13-19s Youth Club

Tues 19:00 - 21:00 Phoenix Hall
 More details from 01980 - 671325

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

Tidworth Garrison Football Club

Boys 9-14, Girls 11-14
 For details, call Chalky Wiltshire
 01980 673956 or Ian King 01980 672083

"Bluez 'n' Zuz" Youth Disco

12 June 19:00 - 21:00 Entry £2
 Clarendon Primary School, Tidworth

Holy Trinity Fete

30 June RBL Club, Tidworth 14:00
 Live entertainment, BBQ, Stalls
 Everyone welcome

Aldershot Army Show

14 & 15 July 2007 10:00 - 18:00
 More details : www.armyshow.co.uk

Falklands Exhibition

opens 13 June at the Museum of Army Flying, Middle Wallop, to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Liberation

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

Buggy-Fit Taster Session

11:00 7 June
 at The Beeches Families Centre
 The ultimate fitness class for Mums and babies ! All Welcome

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for July 2007 issue : 11 June 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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