



# Drumbeat



Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter January 2007 Issue 116



Military Driver Training does not come any

better than this! Read more inside ...

The Tidworth Team

Officially launched by Johnny Vaughan, star of Channel 4 and Capital Radio, the Garrison's long-awaited FM radio service went live on 11th December.

"It's like the switch from black and white to colour telly! This signal is going to be fantastic. It's going to get to everyone", Johnny said as he prepared to cut the ribbon. "With so many of the lads and the ladies

serving overseas now, radio really does create more of a community and it will help keep morale up, which is a crucial thing. So often technology goes into machines of war and fighting, but this is one that actually helps the people back home who often have to suffer while their loved ones are away, so it really is a fantastic thing".

With the radio mast located in Bulford, Salisbury Plain Army Radio covers a large part of the Plain, from Upavon to Wilton and from Westdown to Andover, providing better quality reception for soldiers, their families and the local communities in which they live.

The launch was attended by Larkhill Garrison Commander, Colonel Ian Tinsley, and Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Deputy Garrison Commander, Colonel Richard Aubrey-Fletcher, who said:

"Radio is a fantastic medium. In Tidworth and Bulford we are fortunate to have had our own radio station, Garrison Radio, for nearly 6 years now. It broadcasts 24 hours a day and costs the listener nothing. The move to FM is an exciting development which means that Larkhill will also be able to receive it and everyone will benefit from the improved broadcast quality.

"The radio station has an excellent record of helping to maintain the link with the troops when they are away from the Garrison. With operational deployments for both 1 and 12 Mechanised Brigades next year, this enhanced capability to deliver welfare support and maintain community links will prove invaluable."

Call Roger or Lara on 01980 - 602277. or call in at the new studio at the Old Armoury, opposite the entrance gate to Tidworth College.



# SSVC assists in refurbishment of RCDM facility

The Royal Centre for Defence Medicine's Alexandra Wing at Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham has recently been extensively refurbished, thanks in part to funds donated by The Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC).

The Alexandra Wing provides recreational and administrative support and accommodation for military outpatients and families visiting relatives admitted to Selly Oak, the hospital that all casualties from operational tours go to on arrival in the UK.

'This facility is an important part of the medical support given to Service personnel and their families", said Air Commodore Tony Batchelor, Commandant of the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine. "Through generous contributions from SSVC and AIG we have been able to give the unit a new lease of life. Alexandra Wing is now a more welcoming, comfortable and supportive environment."



SSVC is the third largest forces charity in terms of turnover. Their activities are carried out directly

for the Ministry of Defence at cost, with any profits donated to the Forces Central Welfare Funds or distributed through their own Operational Welfare Fund. British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS), which provides radio and television for Service personnel in Northern Ireland and overseas, is part of SSVC.

### An Evening of Music

to celebrate 150 years of The Royal Military School of Music

### Friday 30 March 2007 19:30

Wiltshire Music Centre, Bradford on Avon

The Corps of Army Music Sinfonietta is the Army's orchestra, which performs twice each year, providing valuable training for the musicians and raising thousands of pounds for charity. Don't miss this chance to hear the Sinfonietta in concert!

Tickets from the Wiltshire Music Centre: 01225 - 860 100 In aid of The Army Benevolent Fund

### A Tradition upheld ...

Led by their Commanding Officer, Lt Col Huw Lloyd-Jones, the Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers

from 2Bn The Royal Welsh served Christmas lunch to the soldiers of the battalion, a tradition which dates back to the Middle Ages and still continues in many regiments today.

"My soldiers have worked very hard this year and in 2007 we may well be deployed to Iraq, so this is our way of saying 'thank you' to them all", said Lt Col Lloyd-Jones, who will be relinquishing command in the New Year.



## **Bulford MOD Policeman** receives National recognition

One of the most familiar faces in Bulford has received recognition from Home Secretary John Reid, as one of the nation's top community police officers.



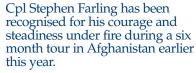
Viv Phillips, who has been in the MOD Police for more than 22 years, 10 of them in Bulford, chatted at length with Dr Reid at an awards ceremony in the City of London, hosted by BBC Crimewatch presenter Nick Ross. He decribed his role as a Beat Officer in an Army Garrison:

"We look after our married quarter areas and step up our patrols, as do the Military Police, when troops deploy and wives and families are left behind," he said. "I deal with Unit Welfare Officers and I go into schools in the garrison to take part in citizenship and drug awareness programmes.

"The main part of the job is communication. Once a month we have a meeting with both Hampshire and Wiltshire Police and the Military Police. We rigorously enforce the speed limits here - especially on military roads that are open to the public. We have schools here and young children so motorists have to learn to control their speed and be aware of our rules."

As for the future, Viv is happy to stay where he is. "I like the job I do and I like coming to work," he said with a smile.

KRH Soldier rewarded for Courage



Stephen, 32, was Mentioned in Despatches in the Operational Honours List announced on 14th December. Normally a Challenger 2 tank commander, he was posted to northern Helmand province as part of the UK Operational Mentoring and Liaison team to train members of the Afghan National Army.

On 11 June he was operating as a rear gunner on a strippeddown Land Rover when it was ambushed by a large enemy force using Rocket Propelled Grenades, small arms and heavy machine guns.

The citation recording his actions states:

"Cpl Farling remained at his post in a most exposed and precarious position throughout the seven-hour contact. Between enemy engagements he remained alert and was invariably the first to detect enemy activity. He was at all times calm and focussed, encouraging the younger crew members, whilst concurrently relaying messages from the patrol commander to the radio operator.

"Throughout the incident he displayed great personal courage, steadiness under fire and aggressive leadership. With complete disregard for his own safety he remained at his post, which was the focus for enemy fire, suppressing the enemy and preventing them from overwhelming the patrol. As a direct result of his actions the enemy was thwarted and the lives of his fellow patrol members were saved."

### **Project Allenby:** Estates Maintenance

The 10th July 2006 saw a change in the way that maintenance and asset management is delivered to the TidNBul Garrison.

As with all Aspire Defence services, a reactive response to system faults and damage to the estate [in terms of building assets, grounds or infrastructure including roads and pathways], can be reported to the Aspire Defence Helpdesk. Following a call to the Helpdesk in Kannada House, a work docket is produced which is sent electronically to the Resource Allocators, whose job it is to ensure that the right engineer is assigned to attend each request for reactive maintenance. They are also responsible for the scheduling of all planned works.

Aspire engineers are issued with the latest PDA mobile technology which enables the Emergency and Urgent jobs to be sent directly to each individual engineer, resulting in a more focussed and effective response time. The Aspire Defence Service team serving the TidNBul garrison employs more than 50 mobile engineers covering all general trades such as electricians, plumbers, gas engineers and carpenters etc. This has been dramatically increased from the levels

provided under the old Defence Estates regime. Each engineer is provided with a van and a basic stock profile to enable them to affect both temporary and permanent repairs, minimising second and third visits where possible. Whenever you see an Aspire van out on the road, the engineer is probably on his van to attend a breakdown or carry out a repair in order to keep the estate running.



Planned and Routine tasks are also generated via the Helpdesk following calls from our customers. In addition to this, tasks are generated by our scheduling software and from requests from the Garrison Management Team. These requests include minor alterations and additions to buildings, both internal and external. All works that are not covered by our emergency and urgent response teams are initially reviewed by our highly qualified technical support staff that assess the material and labour requirements for each job prior to the job being undertaken. This allows repair and replacement works to be carried out in the most efficient manner.

The start of this 35 year contract has been well received by all our staff, particularly those who transferred to us, and we are sure that the customer has started to benefit from changes in the way that we deliver the estates management service.

Matthew Inskip, TNB Garrison Estates Manager

### Thank you ...

Many thanks to Aspire Defence which has donated £500 to the soldiers from 2Bn The Royal Welsh to help fund adventurous training.

"We are very grateful to Aspire Defence", Lt Douglas told Drumbeat. "We will be spending 3 weeks at the British Forces Adventurous Training Centre at St George's Caye in Belize, where we will be doing diving training and hopefully we will get some good qualifications while we are there."

"Aspire Defence is extremely proud to be sponsoring Lt Douglas, 2 R Welsh, and his team on their expedition to Belize" said James Thoden van Velzen, Garrison Facilities Director. "Aspire Defence recognises the heavy operational commitment of Units in the 21st Century Army of today and understands the value of undertaking Adventurous Training Exercises such as this. Everyone at Aspire Defence wishes Lt Douglas and his team a safe and successful trip to Belize and we look forward to reading the Post Exercise Report!"

### The chance of a lifetime!



Cpl Steve Hunt (2 R Welsh LAD REME) and Cpl Kev Murray (32 Regt RA Wksp REME) have just returned from New Zealand where they represented the Army at the 81st International 6 Day Enduro event at Taupo, NZ. Over 600 riders from 31 different nations took part in this prestigious offroad motorcycle event the world's most extreme form of motorcycle endurance racing that pushes man and machine

Each day, competitors follow a pre-determined course of around 250 kms, over a variety of different terrains with strict time penalties. There are also Special Tests where competitors ride as fast as they can against the clock over a 4km course. At the end of each day, the riders get 15 minutes in which to carry out all critical maintenance to their bikes and it is not unusual to see a rider change both front and rear tyres, brake pads and oil, all within their allocated 15 minutes!

Despite serious mechanical problems, the British Army team finished 61st out of 133 teams ... and are already training for next year!



Military Driver Training does not come any better than this

### In the beginning ...



A superb view of Tidworth Camp dating from the very early 20th century soon after completion, showing the original cookhouses and restaurants between the rows of accommodation blocks. When they were first built, they were state-of-the-art facilities, far better than most soldiers were accustomed to having at home in 'civvy street'.

### News from the Neighbourhood Policing **Partnership**

Following the successful launch of the Neighbourhood Partnership Team in Tidworth last Summer, two new Teams will be launched this month in the Tidworth Community Area.

PC Mark Eburne will head the new team in Ludgershall which will have its base at the Fire Station and PC Mark Randall will head the Rural team which will cover the Collingbournes and the smaller villages in the Community Area. Both teams will consist of Police Constables, Police Community Support Officers and Special Constables, as in Tidworth.

The Tidworth Team has already carried out several surveys among residents of the town, to establish any particular policing concerns or worries there might be. The survey results and action taken to remedy any problems have been published in Drumbeat.

### Recycling after Christmas.

Over the Christmas period, we place up to 30% more than usual in our household bins, so this year 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 again this year from 2 - 31 Jan 07 at branches of WH Smith and Tesco. In Tidworth, there are local collection points at the Post Office in Pennings Road and at Tidworth Leisure Centre, as well as Clarendon Infants and Zouch Primary School, until Tuesday 23 Jan 07. Christmas cards can **not** be put into the recycling boxes or paper banks so please make use of this local service!

#### 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 ... (but NOT cardboard)

These can all be put into your black recycling box. Additional recyclables that can not fit into your black box can be placed out in carrier bags or taken to your local recycling bring site in Station Road or the British Legion.

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

All waste must be put out by 07:00 on the day of collection in an approved receptacle. The lid must be firmly closed with no side waste present. Wheeled bins placed out incorrectly will not be collected.

> More information from Kennet District Council on 01380 - 724 911.

ALME BUILDING TO THE

### **Tidworth Area Community Awards 2006** "Recognising Endeavour"

This is your chance to foster community spirit by nominating that special person or group which has done something to make our community a better place in 2006.

### Nominations can be registered now! Closing date for Nominations: 31 January 2007

Contact Hilary Hollinsworth or Mike Winterbourne at Tidworth Trust - Telephone 01980 - 846 693 hilary@tidworthtrust.co.uk or mike@tidworthtrust.co.uk

### **Tidworth Leisure Centre New for January 2007**

- Spinning classes (indoor cycling!) Adults & children
- Indoor 6-a-side football League
- NPLQ Lifeguard course
- New Pilates and Yoga course programme.
- Booking starts for February Half Term Activate 19-23 February Full days : 08:30 - 16:00 £16.00 Half days: 08:30 - 12:00 & 12:30 - 16:00 £8.50
  - Squash League Starting
- New Dry Courses starting (Swindon Town Football Club for ages 3-12s, Trampolining for ages 7-12s, Kick-about football for 3-8s)
- New Wet courses starting (Swimming lessons for both Adults & Children)
- Monday Afternoons: Tai Chi for the over 50s, followed by Senior Spinning Session & Swimming
- Thursday Afternoons: Nifty 50s Activity Afternoon (Indoor tennis, bowls, table tennis, for the over 50s squash & swimming) New Members welcome

For further information please contact TLC reception on 01980 847140

### Are you thinking of updating your qualifications?

These are some of the Courses starting in January ...

### 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, ECDL Advanced Word ...

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

Beginning January 2007 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 Lesley on 01980 - 603045

### Army Learning Centre

Candahar Barracks, Tidworth 01980 - 602275 Open to soldiers, dependants, civil servants & (4) Learndirect

**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!

## A new look for Bulford Medical Centre

The Bulford Group Practice has undergone an extensive refurbishment programme in the last couple of months.

You will notice the difference as soon as you walk in! There are now three separate reception areas, one for families, one for Military personnel and a third for Unit administration. The aim is to ensure that you are seen and dealt with as quickly as possible, to minimise your waiting time. The Army Dental Centre now also has a separate

reception area.

Chairnady

Regional Peripatetic Pharmacy Technician Kevin Adcock stands at the hatch You will also notice that the Dispensary hatch is more user-friendly! It is now at a more accessible height so that patients can obtain their prescriptions more easily. Senior Practice Sister Maggie

Senior Practice Sister Maggie Lane and her colleagues, Sam Barnes and Susie Elloway, are delighted with the Treatment Room, which has been

completely refurbished. It now has brand new medical cabinets, a dividing wall, new floors and has been completely repainted!

"All the work has been completed on

completed on time with only minor problems encountered", SSgt Paul Cornish, the Practice Manager, told Drumbeat. "I would like to thank both the staff and patients for their help and support during this period. All this work has been for the benefit of our patients and I feel that you all appreciate the benefits. I would also like to thank Aspire and the workmen contracted to do the works; they have been polite and helpful throughout".



### BFBS radio 🬘

### Now on Sky Digital!

BFBS Radio has launched the first UK-wide digital radio service for British Forces. BFBS studios in Iraq, Germany and the UK are now broadcasting live, 24-hours-a-day on:

### Sky Digital, Channel 0184

This new service gives any of the 8 million Sky subscribers in the UK the opportunity to listen to daily, live programmes from BFBS Radio from the very heart of the operational areas where British troops are based.

Did you have a favourite programme you used to listen to on BFBS Radio when you lived in Germany, or were on exercise in Canada? Now you will be able to continue listening to it, here in the UK.

It also means that family and friends of service personnel will now be able to keep in touch with those who are away on operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans or virtually anywhere in the world, as never before.

Contact details for requests and dedications are on the Drumbeat Noticeboard page.



A major exercise on the Salisbury Plain Training Area was called to a halt after just a few days, to prevent damage to the Plain.

For The Kings Royal Hussars, Exercise Druids Dance was to have provided general training in core tank skills followed by a TESEX, (Tactical Engagement Simulation Exercise), in advance of preparations for operational deployment in the Spring; but days of torrential rain had made the ground waterlogged and too soft for the heavy Challenger 2 Battletanks to continue the exercise without causing serious damage.

Lt Col Roger Fellowes, the Commandant of the Salisbury Plain Training Area, based at Westdown Camp in the centre of the Plain, is also a Kings Royal Hussar and sees both sides of the situation:

"We have to balance the training needs of the Army with a responsibility to look after the Plain, which we take very seriously", he said. "We monitor everything very carefully. We have had 120mm rain this month - with 20mm falling last night alone. With a build up of water like that, the chalk just can't absorb it. We usually try to programme these (heavy tank) exercises in drier weather". Salisbury Plain is the largest unbroken expanse of chalk grassland in NW Europe and one of the best nature reserves in the country, thanks to conservation work by the MOD whose dedicated team of experts at Westdown Camp takes care of the flora, fauna and the unique archaeology on the Plain.

But, as they began to remove the mud from their vehicles and prepared to return to Tidworth, there was frustration among the soldiers, whose vital training for an operational deployment had been interrupted.



"We managed to get some training in the field and, although we did not achieve all objectives, we can still provide a potent and credible tank force ready for any eventuality", said Commanding Officer Lt Col Nick Orr.

"We have to react to uncertainty by being flexible", he continued. "This time last year, the word was that we would be going to Cyprus. Half way through this year it was changed to Bosnia/Kosovo and now it is to be Iraq. Last time we went we were training in the snow! We shall be re-engaging in what is

the Army's priority operation".



# Doumbeat Noticeboard



### B F B S Forces Radio Radio requests & dedications Call: 08701 20 21 21

(calls are charged at the national rate) 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, Channel 0184

Broadcasting to Tidworth, Netheravon, Bulford and Larkhill on 106.8 FM

Call 01980 - 602277 or Email: tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com or drop in at the new studio in The Old Armoury at the top of Ordnance Road

### Castledown Radio

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

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

### Tidworth Residents' Forum 15 Jan 07 19:00

Wylye Road Community Centre Come and hear the latest news about projects which will affect the future of tidworth. Everyone welcome.

### War Pension Advice Day War pensions & Armed Forces

Compensation Schemes 25 Jan, 22 Feb & 29 Mar 10:30-13:30 Regional Resettlement Centre Delhi Barracks, Tidworth No appointment necessary

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

### **Sodexho Defence Services**

Job vacancies: Catering & Cleaning Call 01980 - 656 026

### AWS Job Vacancies

Childcare bank staff Call Chris 01980 - 673379

Call 01980 - 670540 or 01980 - 670345

### (Mil) 96340 2300 (Civ) 0845 168 2300

MODern Housing Solutions Helpline Call 0800 - 707 6000

COLUMN CO

#### **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 08:00 - 19:00 Saturdays 08:00 - 21:00 Sundays

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 10:00 - 13:00 Call: 01980 - 843460 or 602568

Oasis Café Opening Times: Mon - Fri 09:00 - 17:00

10:00 - 16:00 Sat & Sun

**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**

#### Tidworth:

Ordnance House: 01980 - 602398 at Tidworth Leisure Centre: 602191

**Bulford:** 

The Beeches: 01980 - 672342 The Haig Centre: 01980 - 673840 AWS Main Office: 01980 - 672105

### Great Business Opportunity!

Someone is urgently needed to set up and run a coffee bar / café at the Beeches Families Centre in Bulford. Call 01980 - 672061 for details

Candahar Barracks, Tidworth Mon-Fri 09:30 - 13:30 Tid Mil 3043

Ward Barracks, Bulford Camp Mon-Thu 9:00-16:30 Fri 9:00-12:30

**Tidworth :** Mondays 9:00 - 14:45 Behind the Zouch Spar/Naafi Bulford: Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00 At The Haig Centre Volunteers URGENTLY required

idworth C

Wylye Road Community Centre Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 - 14:00 Call 01980 - 843377 or 01380 - 728771 on other days

idworth Saddle Club

Riding for all ages and abilities, Tots' Rides for under 5s Call Rob Evans on 07967 - 048277

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

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

Ordnance House, Tidworth Term time Mondays 17:00 - 18:30 Call Claire Davies on 07900 - 262 119

Tidworth 8-12s Youth Club AWS Community Hall at the TLC Tues 18:30-20:30 Cáll 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

AWS Haig Centre for Youth Activities Mondays 5-8s 18:00 - 19:30 Wednesdays 9-12s 18:00 - 20:00 Thursdays 13+ 19:00 - 21:00 Call Tonia Hopkins on 07785 357065

Tidworth Garrison Football Club For details about the club, call Sgt Chalky Wiltshire on 01980 - 673956

"Bluez 'n' Zuz" Youth Disco 9 January 2007 19:00 - 21:00 Prizes & Competitions! at the Tidworth Leisure Centre

FREE Riding!

Come and help exercise the polo ponies. You must be able to ride but polo experience is not necessary. We also need helpers at the stables. For details: 01980 - 602508 or 846705

### JAM Club

Wednesdays 17:30 - 18:45 Fun activities & good stories in a Christian environment for 5-8s Thursdays 18:30 - 19:30 All ages! St Michael's Church Hall, Tidworth Call Sue on 843359 or Beth 602326

### Stay with the beat !

Deadline for February 2007 issue: 11 January 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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