

# Drumbeat



Issue 111

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

August 2006

## The Royal Green Jackets receive the Freedom of Winchester

On Saturday 8th July, The Royal Green Jackets were awarded the Freedom of the City of Winchester. The Regiment exercised its newly acquired right to march through the city under arms along a route which took them up through the High Street, past the Westgate Tower and on to Peninsula Barracks, to the sounds of the Band and Bugles of the Light Division.

This is the 40th anniversary year of the Royal Green Jackets and this was the last parade before the merger with the enlarged Light Infantry to form "The Rifles". The Regimental Headquarters of the new Regiment will continue to be based in Peninsula Barracks in Winchester, thus the relationship with the City, that stretches back some 148 years, will continue.



The King's Royal Hussars have deployed from their usual home in Tidworth to spend the summer on the Albertan prairie in Canada, providing the enemy forces, known as the OPFOR, for exercising troops coming through the British Army Training Unit in Suffield. An Infantry Company from 1 Royal Anglian in Pirbright, Gunners from 19 Regt in Larkhill and Sappers from 26 Regt RE in Ludgershall have been attached to provide a more potent and flexible enemy. Although the bulk of the time away will be spent on exercise, there will be plenty of opportunities for Adventure Training up in the Rocky Mountains, and a spell of R&R between the two main exercises will give everybody a chance to travel in North America.

The first deployment onto the area was the OPFOR Training exercise, a ten-day exercise culminating in Comd BATUS's confirmatory test exercise. This was successfully completed, although the true victors were the swarms of mosquitoes!

The OPFOR is now looking forward to welcoming 1 Staffords and then 2 R Welsh onto the prairie.

## The Kings Royal Hussars News from BATUS



What's on this Summer ? : log on to [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)



Drumbeat online : [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)

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## Exercise Iron Storm 2006



Although 95% of all artillery training is done on simulators in barracks, nothing can prepare troops for battlefield conditions as well as 'doing it for real'!



"It is essential that the Army continues to prepare its soldiers for operations anywhere in the world as realistically and robustly as possible", said Brigadier

Nick Eeles, Commander Royal Artillery, pictured here on Salisbury Plain with 1RHA.

Iron Storm is the name given to the annual live firing exercise on the Plain for artillery elements from 3(UK) Division. Based in different locations around the country, Exercise Iron Storm is the opportunity for them all to come together to improve battlefield drills and leadership skills in preparation for operations.

Experience on recent operations has reinforced the requirement for units to be capable of deploying in a multi-national coalition force. This year's exercise included soldiers from the Norwegian and Italian armies and aircraft from the Royal Navy, the RAF and the United States Air Force.

"Joint war fighting operations are extremely complex and must be practised in training if they are to be successful on the battlefield", the Brigadier continued. "Exercise Iron Storm 2006 has been the largest Air/Land integration exercise to be conducted this year ... and has presented an excellent opportunity to integrate live fast jet and artillery missions. It is highly likely that the next time many of the soldiers undertake such missions they will be in Afghanistan facing a very real and potent enemy."

## Stop Press : New Court Centre opened in Bulford



The new Courts Martial Centre in Bulford was officially opened on 27th July by the Deputy Adjutant General, Maj Gen Mark Mans CBE.

Read the full report in the next edition of Drumbeat.

## MDP Long Service & Good Conduct Medals

Two Police Constables from the Salisbury Plain Team have been awarded Police Long Service & Good Conduct Medals. PCs Graham Blakeman and



Viv Phillips were presented with their medals by Deputy Chief Constable David Ray, QPM, MA, LLM (Cantab).



Both Police Officers are well known in the Garrison area and these awards, for long and loyal service to the Ministry of Defence community, are very well deserved.

## Are you thinking of updating your qualifications ?

These are some of the courses starting in September ...

**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 ...  
On-site crèche with great rates for students !

**Tempo Drop-in Centre**  
Pennings Road, Tidworth 01980 - 840220

**Tutor led courses open to everyone**  
**Courses include :** Introduction to computers, English for Business, Bookkeeping, Management, Business Administration & Starting your own business ...  
Call or come to the Drop-in Centre near the Post Office

**10 Army Education Centre**  
Candahar Barracks, Tidworth Tid Mil. 2370

**Wives' Maths :** 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

**CLM : Next courses starting :**  
JNCO CLM : 5 Dec 06 SNCO CLM : 16 Oct 06  
WO CLM : 8 Jan 07 Please book through your RCMO  
**OCD : JOLP : 23 Oct 06 MA (C) : 2 Oct 06**  
For further information, call Dee on 01980 - 60 2430

**Army Learning Centre**  
Candahar Barracks, Tidworth 01980 - 602275  
**Open to soldiers, dependants, civil servants & MOD contractors. Learn online using your own computer !**

**Courses include :** ECDL, Literacy and Numeracy (including online national tests), Business & Management, Home and Office IT, Web publishing ...  
Enrol at the ALC, at the Library in the TLC, or at Army Libraries in Bulford, Upavon, Wilton or Middle Wallop.  
Call 01980 - 602275 to make an appointment

## Sailing round the World ...



Photo : Nigel Gillies

Five soldiers from 3 (UK) Div Sig Regt will be taking part in different stages of the Mercury Challenge, a round the world sailing expedition organised by the Royal Corps of Signals.

During the next 11 months, over 130 Service personnel will be taking part in the 10 legs of the expedition which will include stopovers in Rio de Janeiro, Cape Town, Perth, Sidney (for the Sidney to Hobart race), Wellington, Burenos Aires and Antigua (for Antigua Race Week) before arriving back at Gosport in June next year.

## Garrison troops in Africa



16 Med Sqn has just returned from 2 months in remote parts of northern Kenya on Ex Sharp Point, an annual live medical exercise to assist the Kenyan Expanded Programme for Immunisation.

This year, however, the Squadron pushed further north than the British Army has been in recent times, surviving the oppressive heat around Lake Turkana, successfully negotiating the extremely rugged road system and negating the dangers from wildlife and bandits through good field skills and patrol drills.

Hundreds of children were vaccinated against a wide range of diseases, including measles, polio and diphtheria, ultimately saving many lives.

## Rundle Cup Success for the Army

On a perfect sunny afternoon, in front of a crowd of more than 4000, the Army celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Rundle Cup Polo match being played in Britain by winning the annual contest against the Royal Navy by a resounding eight goals to three and a half. Prince Harry - Cornet Harry Wales, Blues and Royals - was a member of the Army team, scoring 3 of the goals.



In what turned out to be a clean sweep of wins for members of the Royal family, earlier in the afternoon, Prince

William was a member of the Combined Services Team which beat South Africa 5 goals to 2 and Zara Phillips led a team of Eventers in a light-hearted charity match that included a chukka on bicycles rather than ponies !



Photos : Sgt Gary Tyson

## 6Bn REME to the rescue again !



Many thanks for their hard work to 6Bn REME RLC Stores Troop who returned to Eden House last month, to help Staff and residents get the old vicarage garden back to a manageable state.

Eden House is now run by the Alabaré Trust as a home for young people who have been experiencing problems at home. The Trust helps and encourages them to return to school or college or to find work.

## Tidworth College

Aspire Defence is to purchase Tidworth College from the Royal British Legion and hopes the sale will be finalised in the next few weeks. The building will become the Headquarters for Aspire Defence and, it is hoped, for the MOD staff from Project Allenby/Connaught.

Aspire are very keen that the Poppies Day Care Nursery should continue to operate, as well as the many users of the Business Units on the site.

The Old Dental & Medical Centres, which Aspire currently occupies, will be demolished. This is the proposed site for the new Garrison Theatre.

## Kia Ora from Aotearoa !

As the children from Kiwi Primary School in Bulford learned last month, this means "Hello from New Zealand" !



Kiwi School stands at the foot of Kiwi Hill, so called because of the Kiwi carved into the chalk of the hillside by New Zealanders awaiting repatriation at the end of the Great War in 1918.

Links between Bulford and New Zealand are still strong and on the last day of the Summer Term, Kiwi School pupils welcomed two New Zealanders to the school : WO1 Lou Kirby from the Royal New Zealand Army Logistics Regiment, currently working in the New Zealand Embassy in London, and WO2 Sonny Mortiboy, a New Zealander serving in the British Army with 20 Transport Sqn RLC.

They talked to the children about life in New Zealand and read them a story about Kapai the Kiwi, a book which children of the same age in New Zealand would be reading.

What did the children think of the story ? "Choice !" (very good!) as people would say in New Zealand !

## Fruit & Veg : 5 Portions a Day !



Many thanks to Sgt Marcus Turner and the team from 26



Engineer Regt who came to Clarendon Junior School on one of the hottest days so far this

Summer to talk to the children about healthy eating.

The children were also taught the importance of food hygiene and shown how easy it is to make a nutritious and very delicious smoothie using fresh fruit and yoghurt, which afterwards they were all able to taste.



## News from the Neighbourhood Policing Partnership

The results are in from the first survey done by the new Neighbourhood Policing Partnership.

Three hundred households in Tidworth were visited by members of the Neighbourhood Policing Partnership, to establish any particular concerns or worries that residents might have.

The first important thing to say is that nearly a quarter of those taking part in the survey had no concerns at all and were extremely happy to be living in such a safe area of the country !

The remaining results are reported by area. The top concerns in each area are as follows :

### Zouch Estate

Speeding - Anti-social behaviour - Dog fouling

### Mathew Estate

Anti-social behaviour (play parks) - Speeding - Dog fouling - Litter

### Station Road

Parking on yellow lines - Litter - Speeding - Anti-social behaviour

### George VI Road

Litter - Speeding - Abandoned vehicles

### Beech Hill Road

Youths loitering in groups - Litter - Speeding

### Avon Estate

Litter - Dog fouling - Youth loitering in groups

To help alleviate the main concerns of these residents, the following action will be taken jointly by Wiltshire Police, the Royal Military Police and Ministry of Defence Police :

- **Speed checks** at various places and at various times in Tidworth
- **Joint patrols in residential areas**, including the Married Quarters areas, to keep an eye on any anti-social behaviour
- **Joint patrols in Station Road** to help control anti-social behaviour, speeding and illegal parking
- **Joint initiative** between the three Police Forces, Tidworth Town Council, Tidworth Development Trust, Kennet District Council, and local Housing Associations to help prevent litter.
- **Youth activities during the Summer holidays** are being organised by the Leisure Development Officer at Kennet District Council to help reduce anti-social behaviour.

Another survey will be done in September, visiting different people/streets, to assess the progress of these measures.

The Neighbourhood Policing Partnership in Tidworth, based at Tidworth Police Station, was set up in April and comprises two Police Constables, two Special Constables and Two Community Support Officers, liaising with the Tidworth Community Area Safety Committee (CASC).

### Neighbourhood Watch Scheme



Are there any public-spirited people out there interested in becoming a Neighbourhood Watch representative in their street ? Please get in touch with PC Chris Spackman at Tidworth Police Station. Telephone : **0845 - 408 7000**

## Whether in Batus, Belize, Bosnia, Basra or Camp Bastion ...

### Keep in touch !

#### By Post :

Forces Air Mail Letters (Blueys) FREE  
Write the Theatre of Operations in the top left corner and remember that enclosures (eg photos) are not permitted.  
Letters and cards up to 100 gms 32p  
All other letters and packets go at Royal Mail INLAND rate, up to a MAXIMUM of 2kg.  
When using a BFPO address, geographical locations are not needed and SHOULD NOT be included as they could lead to items circulating via civilian postal channels, causing delay and/or excess postal charges.

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

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

#### Radio Requests :

For requests on BFBS Forces Radio in all overseas Commands and Northern Ireland, or local radio stations at home, contact details are on the Drumbeat Noticeboard on the back page.

#### Access All Areas :

This radio programme from BFBS goes out live on Sundays, linking together listeners in : BFG, the Balkans, Northern Ireland, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Turkey, Kuwait, Iraq, Gibraltar, the Ascension Islands, Canada, Cyprus, Brunei and on the World Wide Web.

To get a dedication on this show, send an email to [access@bfbs.com](mailto:access@bfbs.com), send a bluey to: Access All Areas, BFBS Radio 1, BFPO 15 - or go to the dedications page at [www.bfbs.com](http://www.bfbs.com)

#### Online information :

##### [www.armynet.mod.uk](http://www.armynet.mod.uk)

A useful and secure site for use by serving soldiers and their families worldwide. Families sign on as "guests" of the serving soldier.

##### [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)

Keep in touch with the Forces' world !  
Follow the links on the Drumbeat website.  
You can also keep in touch with life in the Garrison while you are away by reading your copy of Drumbeat online !



## WARNING

### PARENTS :

#### Do you know what your children are doing ?

Salisbury Plain is tinderbox dry ! It is forbidden to light fires anywhere on the Plain. The Plain is primarily a Military Training Area which is governed by bye-laws; it is open to the public in accordance with these laws and subject to military use. When RED FLAGS are flying it is OUT OF BOUNDS.

Many people are enjoying a paddle or a quick dip in the River Avon at some of the Tank Crossing Points : Tank Crossings are dangerous places and jumping from bridges may not be a good idea, especially if the water is shallow or there are hidden hazards ! There have also been recent cases of people causing criminal damage, leaving litter, lighting fires and poaching. Be aware – you will be caught and may be prosecuted or banned from the Plain.

**IF IN DOUBT – KEEP OUT !**

## The Aspire Defence Helpline



#### Telephone :

(Mil) 96340 2300

(Civ) 0845 168 2300

#### Fax :

(Mil) 0 0845 168 2350

(Civ) 0845 168 2350

Email : [helpdesk@](mailto:helpdesk@aspiredefence.co.uk)

[aspiredefence.co.uk](http://aspiredefence.co.uk)

Brigadier  
Jolyon Jackson,  
Commander 43  
(Wx) Brigade, sees  
the Aspire Defence  
Helpdesk in action.

### One single point of contact ... 24/7

Aspire Defence provides a helpdesk service to all personnel living and working on the garrison. The helpdesk provides a single point of contact for advice and assistance on all the services provided by Aspire.

The Helpline operates a 24/7 service at TidNBul and, out of hours, also takes calls from the Aldershot, Larkhill and Warminster Garrisons.

### How to get in touch ...

For ease of use the Helpdesk can be accessed by telephone, fax and e-mail, (details above), but if you find yourself passing Kannada House, we also offer a 'walk-in' service at Reception.



#### Giles Bassett, Support Services Manager

" For us, the helpdesk is the focal point for all that we do. The first week of operation was a busy one which tested our operators fully. In essence any job will start and finish with the helpdesk and if we maintain this principle then our customer can be guaranteed a consistent service. "

#### Linda Steer-Smith, Helpdesk Manager

" Staff have joined the team at the Helpdesk either directly or by transferring from the MoD. Everybody has received thorough training in the Aspire systems and procedures and, given the complexity of the contract and the vast scope of services being delivered by Aspire, we feel that they have responded admirably ! We have already received some good feedback from our customers in the Garrison. However, the team recognises that there is more to be achieved and we will continue to work hard in order to provide all our customers with a first class service. "



# Drumbeat Noticeboard



**B F B S Forces Radio**  
 Radio requests call : 08701 20 21 21  
 (calls are charged at the national rate)  
 Email : [requests@bfbs.com](mailto:requests@bfbs.com)  
 For overseas commands and  
 N. Ireland visit [www.bfbs.com](http://www.bfbs.com) and  
 go to the "Dedications" page.

**Garrison Radio**  
 Broadcasting to TNB Garrison  
 1287 am medium wave  
 Call 01980 - 602277 or Email :  
[tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com](mailto:tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com)

**Castledown Radio**  
 Broadcasting to Tidworth  
 Community Area online at  
[www.castledownradio.info](http://www.castledownradio.info)  
 Call 01264 - 791929

**Blood Donors are needed !**  
 23 August  
 13:30 - 15:30 and 16:30 - 18:30  
 Village Hall, Chicks Lane,  
 Collingbourne Ducis  
 To book an appointment please call  
 08457 711 711

**Tidworth CAB**  
 Wylde Road Community Centre  
 Tuesdays 10:00 - 14:00 Call 843377  
 or 01380 728771 on other days

**T 2 A**  
 Adventure Sports Club for 11 - 18 yr  
 olds Call 01980 - 847140 for details

**Tidworth Saddle Club**  
 Riding for all ages and abilities,  
 Tots' Rides for under 5s  
 Birthday "pony parties" for children  
 Special courses arranged in Summer  
 holidays.  
 Call Rob Evans on 07967 - 048277

**Jo Jingles**  
 Music & movement for accompanied  
 1-4 yr olds. Restarts 11 Sept at TLC.  
 Call Becky on 626562 for details

**NSPCC Ashdown Families Centre**  
 FREE Summer Play Sessions for  
 parents/carers with young children  
 Limited places Call 01980 - 846164

**AWS Job Vacancies**  
 Childcare Bank Staff  
 Call Chris on 01980 - 673379

**AFF Salisbury Plain Coordinator**  
 Call Donna Langford : 01980-599 010

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

**Service Police Confidential  
 Phone Line : 0800 - 616 888**  
 Please call if you have information of  
 value to Service Police, or would like  
 a confidential interview  
 All calls are strictly confidential

**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 14:00 - 17:00  
 Tues & Thurs 14:00 - 19:00  
 Wed & Fri 10:00 - 17:00  
 Sat 10:00 - 13:00  
 Call: 01980 - 843460 or 602568

**Oasis Café Opening Times :**  
 Mon - Thurs 10:00 - 19:00  
 Fri - Sun 10:00 - 17:00

**HIVE Opening Times :**  
 Mon - Fri 09:00 - 15:00  
 Call Kelly Wilson : 01980 - 602224

**Purity Beauty Salon :**  
 Mon-Sat 9:00 - 20:00 Call 07958-911928

**Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :**  
 Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737 646  
 Sports Therapy : 07796 - 230 571

**New at the TLC this Summer**  
**ACTIVATE** re-activated for young  
 people aged from 3 to 16 years !  
**New** discounted rates for under 17s!  
 Call 01980 - 847 140 for details

**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

**AWS Families Centres**  
**Tidworth :**  
 Ordnance House : 01980 - 602398  
 at Tidworth Leisure Centre : 602191  
**Bulford :**  
 The Beeches : 01980 - 672342  
 The Haig : 01980 - 673840  
**AWS Main Office : 01980 - 672105**

**Tidworth Junior Youth Club**  
 AWS Community Hall at the TLC  
 Tues 18:00 - 20:00 Call Jimi on 602191

**Tidworth Youth Centre**  
 Tues, Wed & Thurs 18:30 - 21:00  
 St Andrew's Hall opposite the Oval  
 Call Sarah Fanshawe : 01980 - 842748

**Bulford Youth Club**  
 Tuesdays 17:30 - 20:00 9-12s  
 Thursdays 17:00 - 19:00 5-8s  
 Call Melody Abbott on 07785 357065

**AWS Children's Activities**  
**RESIDENTIAL TRIPS**  
 7-10 Aug Avon Tyrell in New Forest  
 Call 01980 - 672105 for details

**BULFORD**  
 24 & 31 August 18:00 - 20:00  
 Youth Club for 9-12s at The Haig  
 4 & 25 August 11:30 - 13:30  
 Family picnics at The Beeches

**23 August**  
 Sports Afternoon at The Beeches  
 14:00-15:30 5-8s, 16:00-17:30 9-12s  
**29 August**  
 Treasure Hunt at The Beeches  
 14:00-15:30 5-8s, 16:00-17:30 9-12s

**30 Aug - 1 Sept** (£5 for all 3 sessions)  
 National Trust at The Haig Centre  
 Music, costume & weaponry of the  
 past, with day trip to Stonehenge &  
 Salisbury Museum on day 3.

**More information from Melody  
 Abbott on 07785 - 357065**

**TIDWORTH**  
 Ordnance House open days &  
 Summer fun activities - details on  
 the noticeboard at Ordnance House  
 or call 01980 - 602398

**New 5-8s Youth Club** at Ordnance  
 House starting in September.  
 Details from Claire on 07900 - 262119

**"Bluez 'n' Zuz" Youth Disco**  
 8 August 19:00 - 21:00  
 Competitions & Prizes at the TLC !

**Tidworth Blue Light Day**  
 Thurs 31 August  
 Wylde Road Community Centre

**7AAC(V) Families Day**  
 Fri 1 Sept 10:00 onwards  
 Airfield Camp, Netheravon

**Service Families Sports Fun Day**  
 Sat 2 Sept 11:00 - 15:00  
 Cricket, tennis, rounders, bouncy  
 castle, BBQ, etc at Tidworth House  
 No charge for this SSAFA sponsored  
 event, but please book your place :  
 01980 - 672522

**Rhythm Force**  
 14 Sept : Kneller Hall, Twickenham  
 An outdoor music festival from the  
 Corps of Army Music.  
 FREE to soldiers and their guests  
[www.armymusician.mod.uk](http://www.armymusician.mod.uk)  
 or call 020 8744 8608

**Early Early Christmas Fair**  
 27 September 9:30 - 15:30  
 Tidworth House - in aid of the ABF

## Stay with the beat !

**Deadline for September 2006 issue : 10 August 2006**  
**Drumbeat**, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY  
 Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980  
 or email : [drumbeat\\_tidworth@hotmail.com](mailto:drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com)  
**Website : [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)**

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