

Drumbeat



Issue 108

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

May 2006

Kings Royal Hussars receive the Freedom of Winchester

On Wednesday 12th April, The King's Royal Hussars received the Freedom of the City of Winchester.

Following a service in the Cathedral, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel in Chief of the Regiment, accepted the Freedom of the City from the Mayor, Councillor Neil Baxter.

The Regiment then exercised its newly bestowed right to march through the City, "to the beat of drums, with Guidon flying, swords drawn and bayonets fixed", in accordance with the ancient Freedom privilege traditionally awarded by cities to host or guest regiments. Two hundred officers, NCOs and soldiers, accompanied by the Band of Hussars & Light Dragoons and followed by mounted officers and Scimitar Armoured Vehicles, marched from the Broadway, around King Alfred's statue, up through the High Street to Peninsula Barracks, watched by cheering members of the public.

The Regiment's Southern Headquarters is located in Winchester, along with the Regimental Museum which will soon be reopening following refurbishment.



Project Allenby/Connaught The Countdown has started !

After over 5 years of study, data gathering, evaluation and discussions, the biggest ever MOD PFI (Private Finance Initiative) contract has now been signed.

This contract, with Aspire Defence Ltd, will deliver a multi-billion £ scheme to rebuild and refurbish the Garrisons in Aldershot (Connaught) and across Salisbury Plain (Allenby) and to provide, manage and operate associated support services for the next 35 years.

When does it all begin ?

There now follows a 90 day consultation period during which construction work will begin and final preparations will be made for Service Commencement on Vesting Day, the 10th July 2006. This is the day the new contractors assume responsibility for the provision of services to the garrisons, (see below).

The Building Phase

Across the whole contract, Project Allenby/Connaught will see the demolition of more than 400 buildings, the construction of more than 350 and the refurbishment of a further 140. It is estimated that the building and refurbishment phase of the contract will be completed by 2016, by which time 18,000 military personnel and civilian staff will have been provided with brand new or refurbished working accommodation and nearly 11,000 single soldiers with en-suite bed spaces, thereby fulfilling the commitments made in the Strategic Defence Review.

In Tidworth, the demolition and ground preparation work has already begun.

The Service Provision

Aspire Defence will manage and provide associated support services for the Garrisons through a network of supply partners. The services provided will include the maintenance of garaging, training centres, sports facilities and offices; the provision and management of mess and dining centres; the operation of the white transport fleet and the provision of utilities.

In the past two years, Aspire Defence has built up strong working relationships with Garrison Commanders and their staffs, in order to understand what they need to be able to function effectively.

At Service Commencement on 10th July 2006, many people from the MOD and other contractor organisations will transfer over to the Aspire team, bringing their expertise and local knowledge with them, thereby helping Aspire to provide an effective and uninterrupted service from day one.

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison

Ours in the largest of all the garrisons in the Project - covering Tidworth, Perham Down, Netheravon, Ludgershall and Bulford. Work will begin first at Tidworth, which will see 140 buildings demolished and 111 new ones constructed. Construction work at Bulford and Perham Down will follow soon.

The Local Aspire Team

Each garrison covered by Project Allenby/Connaught will have a dedicated Aspire team to run all aspects of the Project. There will also be a locally-based Aspire Helpdesk Service.

More details in next month's Drumbeat

Mike Cooper, Project Manager Project Allenby/Connaught



" Congratulations are at the top of my list as we award the contract for Project Allenby/Connaught to Aspire Defence.

Aspire's approach to contract delivery provides the MOD and the Army with a streamlined organisation that is able to respond to our needs effectively.

Project Allenby/Connaught will bring many changes to life around the garrisons, directly and indirectly. Some of these changes will be seen immediately as preparations for contract commencement start. There will be pre-construction works at Tidworth and Aspire service delivery teams will be completing a range of activities in readiness for service commencement on day one.

During the three months leading up to Vesting Day, [ie Service Commencement on 10 July 2006], many of you will be affected on a personal level by the new contract as you TUPE across to Aspire or one of their partners. Together, the MOD and Aspire are committed to ensuring that this process is completed sensitively. Everyone affected by the transfer will receive a personal letter explaining the process, and the series of presentations and meetings over the next 90 days will give personnel the opportunity to raise any areas of concern. The changes will bring an opportunity to work alongside familiar faces, share experiences with new colleagues and learn new skills.

Over the next 35 years the MOD will be working closely with Aspire ... The MOD will be responsible for managing the performance of Aspire as they deliver the project at each location and we have a formal structure with teams who will focus on the project at every level. "

Peter Smart, CEO, Aspire Defence Ltd



" This represents a very significant event for Aspire, our supply chain partners, our people, the MOD and the Army. Project Allenby/Connaught paves the way for a better future for many thousands of people. Increasingly over the next 35 years, how the Army works and lives, and its ability to recruit and retain the best, will be affected by the scope and timescale of this project.

Let's get started ! "

James Thoden van Velzen, TNB Garrison Facilities Director

" Day One of the Contract will be about providing a swift and efficient service with staff who see soldiers as their customers. Previously there were 78 different contractors plus two different property management departments across the Garrison. This Contract will bring all of these together under a single umbrella organisation so that we can deliver a more flexible response that meets the needs of our Army customers.

The added challenge for us is to provide an uninterrupted service to the Garrison during construction. Our service must remain first class throughout the ten years of construction and beyond. Aspire is going to provide a service for 35 years, providing a 'home' for our customers, looking after their needs and working with local people and business to ensure we become part of the community. "

Army Athletics at the Oval

Watch out for Army Athletics fixtures at the Tidworth Oval this Summer :



May 25 & 26	Inter Svcs & Army Decathlon/Heptathlon
May 31	4 Div Athletics Championships
June 7	Army Individ. Athletics Championships
June 21 & 22	Army Athletics Semi Finals
July 5	Army Athletics Finals
July 19	Inter Services Athletics Finals

Spectators are welcome, free of charge

Senior Nurse retires ...

Mrs Jenny Warren, Senior Practice Nurse at the Queen Elizabeth Memorial Health Centre, has retired after 25 years dedicated to the care of Tidworth Service personnel and their families.



In those 25 years she has seen many changes, the most recent being the move from the Old Medical Centre in St Andrews Road to the new QEM Memorial Health Centre in August 2003.

Many of her patients have known Jenny for several years, either through long service in Tidworth or on return postings to the area.

She will be truly missed by patients and staff alike. Julia and Jackie will be holding the fort in the Treatment Room until a replacement is found to fill the gap !

Adult Learners' Week

22 - 26 May 2006

Open Morning for Dependants at 10 AEC

Fri May 26 Visit the Army Learning Centre
Meet Reps from local Colleges & Organisations
(AFF Trg Centre, Tempo, Salisbury College, Cricklade College and New College Swindon)
Career Guidance from North Wessex Training
Competitions, Tea and Toast Call 01980 - 603045

Learn a Language Tasters

in all the Local Libraries, all week
(Bulford, TLC, 10 AEC)



Band Concert Salisbury City Hall



with music by the
Band of the Prince of Wales's Division

Thursday 6 July 2006 19:30

Tickets from the City Hall Ticket Desk

Telephone : 01722 - 424723

Proceeds in aid of The Royal British Legion and
The Wiltshire Blind Association
(many of whose members are ex-Servicemen)

Going to Iraq or Afghanistan ? Now you can watch BFBS TV in your tent !

BFBS is introducing a Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) system, (similar to UK's 'Freeview' service), which will enable users to view BFBS multi-channel TV in specific camps in Iraq and Afghanistan.



No longer will you be limited to a TV attached to a cable or satellite dish in a communal area. With DTT, all you need is a digital TV, or any old TV and an inexpensive 'Freeview' box, and you will be able to watch the 6 BFBS channels anywhere there's a power source - or with a DTT USB stick (and perhaps a set of headphones so you don't annoy your tent-mates) on your laptop or PC.

DTT Transmitters are being erected in May and June. For more information about which camps they will be located in and what equipment you will need, visit :

www.bfbs.com/dtt or email us at info@bfbs.com

Congratulations ...



Sandra Carmichael, who retired as Chief Clerk at Garrison Headquarters at the end of last year, was last month awarded the Imperial Service Medal. It was presented to her by Garrison Commander Colonel Carron Snagge. They are both pictured here with other members of the Garrison Headquarters staff.

The ISM was created in 1902, and is awarded to Civil Servants who have had over 25 years meritorious service. It is silver, suspended on a red ribbon with a blue central stripe and is engraved with the name of the recipient around the rim and the legend 'FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE' on the reverse.

Neighbourhood Partnership Teams begin first in Tidworth

A new Neighbourhood Partnership Team based at Tidworth Police Station came into being on 24th April.

The new Neighbourhood Team will comprise two Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs Maria Downham and Hollie Thompson); two Special Constables, (PSCs Sharon Friend and Kevin Richards) and two Police Constables, (PCs Chris Spackman and Darren Penny). The Team will be managed by PC Chris Spackman.

Following a meeting of the Tidworth Community Area Partnership, it has been decided to oversee the new team by extending the current Community Area Safety Committee (CASC) by including a member of the Fire Service (Ian Rennie) and Tidworth Town Council (Humphrey Jones).

The new Neighbourhood Team will be approachable by all members of the community, giving everyone the opportunity to influence Policing priorities in their neighbourhood.

"To start with, we will be knocking on residents' doors, talking to people to find out what their concerns are", PC Chris Spackman told Drumbeat. "We will then report back to the Safety Committee".

A Ludgershall Neighbourhood Policing Team based at the Fire Station will start in October and a TCA Rural Team in April 2008.

PCSOs Maria Downham and Hollie Thompson outside Tidworth Police Station



Calling all Painters & Decorators !

AWS will be giving the Beeches Families Centre a Spring clean and redecorate over the weekend of 20-21 May.

Put a team together to assist the AWS with their Spring Challenge and get a family ticket to Longleat or single tickets to Thorpe Park in return !

Basic painting and decorating will be the order for the weekend, 10:00 - 16:00 each day. All volunteers will be very welcome !

Many thanks to UWO 2RGJ for continued support.

If you can help, please call Michelle Morton at the Beeches on 01980 - 672342

Getaway After School Club

Located at the Haig Centre in Bulford
Club staff collect children from Kiwi School and Bulford C of E School.

Open : 15:00 - 18:00 daily Cost : £7

On Teacher Training Days, half terms and some weeks during the Easter and Summer Holidays :

Open : 08:30 - 16:00 Cost : £17 whole day, £10 half day

Discount to families with more than one child
Spaces available for children aged 5 - 12 years

News from Castledown School

Head Teacher John Pender talks to Drumbeat



Following the removal of Special Measures in June 2005, Castledown's progress has not only been maintained, but has exceeded expectations. The GCSE results in July 2005 were the best ever achieved by the school, and I am confident that they will further increase this year to 55%, an improvement of 17% in one year !

But the success story does not end here. Last year the school was nominated by Wiltshire LEA as one of the leading schools in the county for teaching and learning, and the pupil numbers continue to rise significantly. Last year the LEA had anticipated a year 7 intake of 45 pupils for September 2005, but the school enrolled over 100. Current predictions show that this number will be equalled in September 2006, and within one more year the school will have at least 500 students on roll.

Other exciting developments for the future include the school's successful bid for Extended School Status from September, working in partnership with other schools and stakeholders in the local community. The school will shortly be advertising for someone to co-ordinate this exciting development. Also, plans for collaboration with local FE colleges are well under way, as are discussions about a sixth form within the next three years. The school will be seeking Specialist College Status next year.

The number of teachers at the school continues to rise, and with its new found successes is finding it easy to recruit highly qualified and committed staff.

Castledown School : 01980 - 40 50 60

Bluez 'n' Zuz : every 2nd Tues

Wiltshire Police Officers have joined forces with Tidworth Leisure Centre and Castledown Radio to put on a new monthly Disco for 11-15 year olds in the Tidworth Community Area.

"It has been a runaway success so far", PC Chris Spackman (Wiltshire Police) told Drumbeat. "We had 70 young people here on the first night ! I would like to thank everyone who has contributed towards making it such a success, including Castledown School, Sarah Fanshawe from Wiltshire Youth Services, Parnham Coaches for the free transport and to Kennet District Council and the MOD for use of the TLC".



Included in his thanks are (L to R, back row) : Donna Miles (Sodexho), Rick Young & Baz Reilly (Castledown Radio), PC Chris Spackman, Sgt Mark Udale (RMP), Insp Jerry Dawson (Wilts Police, Marlborough). (L to R, front row) : Maria Downham and Hollie Thompson (Community Support Officers), Special Constable Sharon Friend (Wilts Police) and Steve Miles (KDC).

MDP Officers receive Awards



Ministry of Defence PCs Graham Blakeman and Paul Maratty have received Humane Society Awards for rescuing two women and their 5 children from a house fire in September 2005. Presenting the awards, Assistant Chief Commissioner Gerry McAuley, Director of Divisional Operations at MDP HQ said, "Congratulations and well done. These awards are thoroughly deserved".

When PCs Blakeman and Maratty arrived at the married quarter on the Mathew Estate, they could hear the women and children screaming and shouting for help from an upstairs window. They forced open the front door to find the house full of smoke, with the smoke alarm ringing. They both made their way through the smoke to a first floor bedroom where they found the women and children in a state of distress, leaning out of the open window. Initially they had difficulty in persuading them that it was safe to leave the house via the stairs. However, they managed to do so and escorted them to safety, returning to search the house to ensure that there were no other occupants.

The Humane Society was founded in 1774 by two doctors, William Hawes and Thomas Cogan. The original aim was to save people from drowning by resuscitation - then a controversial new medical technique. In Victorian times, the Society employed "Icemen" to prevent lives being lost by drowning in London parks.

Early monetary rewards for saving lives were gradually replaced by medals and certificates. These are now awarded to people who have put their own lives at risk to save or attempt to save someone else.

Thank you ...

Many thanks to the Spar in Station Road for the £236 they donated to Caterpillars Under 5s at the Tidworth Leisure Centre. The money will be used to help develop the garden area for the children to play in.

Improve your Skills with a Learndirect Course :

Enrol at :

Bulford Army Library (Monday)

Upavon Army Library (Tuesday)

Wilton Army Library (Wednesday)

Middle Wallop Army Library (Thursday)

Tidworth Leisure Centre Library (Friday)

Tidworth Army Learning Centre (Monday - Friday)

Please contact Tidworth Army Learning Centre
on mil: 94342 2275/2855



or civ: 01980 602275/602855
to make an appointment

Congratulations ...



The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal is awarded to Non Commissioned Officers who have completed 15 years exemplary service.

Last month, Brigadier Richard Toomey CBE, Commander 1 (Mech) Brigade, presented LS&GC medals to three NCOs : Sgt Howard (RLC), Sgt Seabrook (REME) and L/Cpl Kingston (R Sigs).

He also presented Royal Warrants to : WO2 (SQMS) Applegarth, WO2 (FoS) O'Hara and WO2 (YoS) Vanandel.

Jump for Charity ...

Help raise money for the Queen Alexandra Hospital Home by making a sponsored freetail parachute jump !

Salisbury Airfield, 17th September

The QAHH provides both permanent and respite residential care for disabled ex-servicemen and women.

For details, call Kate Matthews, QAHH, 01903 - 213458

1 (Mechanised) Brigade SAAM



2nd Royal Green Jackets took home an impressive array of silverware from the 1 (Mech) Bde Skill at Arms Meeting, held last month. Teams from the following Brigade Units took part : Brigade HQ, HCR, 2RTR, 1IG, 2 R WELSH, 2RGJ, 3LSR, 6Bn REME and 1 Mech Bde HQ & Sig Sqn (215).

Results :

Best Major Unit : 2RGJ Best Minor Unit : 6Bn REME

Individual winners :

Best Shot : Rifleman Michael Towe, 2RGJ

Best Youngster : Pte Alex Starkov, 3LSR

Best Young Officer : Lt Julian Roberts, 1IG

Falling Plate winners : 2RGJ

"The boys are all looking forward to the next stage in the competition !", the 2RGJ Shooting Team Captain, Lt Charles Maxwell, told Drumbeat.



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
 For overseas commands and
 N. Ireland visit 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

KRH PRI Shop
 Aliwal Barracks, Tidworth
 Mon, Tues, Thurs 9:00 - 16:00
 Wed & Fri 9:00 - 12:00
 Call 01980 - 603178

**Army Families Federation
 Annual Families Conference**
22 June Inst. of Education, London
 Voice your views to the decision-
 makers. For more information and
 tickets, call 01980 - 615 525 or visit
www.army.mod.uk/aff

"Bluez 'n' Zuz" Disco
9 May 19:00 - 21:00
 at the Tidworth Leisure Centre

The Constant Gardener
 An award winning film at the
 Shipton Bellinger Village Centre
15th May 19.30
 Tickets: in advance £4 from
 Parkhouse Stores or £5 on the door.
 Ice creams on sale in interval

T & C Garrison Football Club
 New players welcome, age 11 needed
 Call Sgt Chalky Wiltshire for details
 01980 - 673956 or (pm)846570

Tidworth Saddle Club
Riding lessons & Organised Hacks
 Adults & Children Call 01980-603416

Tidworth Jogging Club
 The Oval Thursdays 19:00-20:30
 Call Anne-Marie on 07796 - 230 571

Tidworth Polo Club : WANTED
Job vacancies for Grooms
Free Riding - help exercise the polo
 ponies. Polo experience not needed.
Helpers needed at the stables.
 Details from 01980-846705 or 602508

Job Vacancies
 Bank nurses for the Army Primary
 Health Care Service in the local area.
 Call Heather Burns on 01980 - 603064

AWS Job Vacancies
 Call Chris Nelberg on 01980 -673379

Repairs to Army Quarters
 MODern Housing Solutions Helpline
 (24/7) Call 0845 - 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 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

Caterpillars Under 5s : 602460

JD After School Club : 602019

Purity Beauty Salon :

Mon - Sat 9:00 - 20:00

Call Yvonne on 07958 - 911 928

Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :

Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737 646

Sports Therapy : 07796 - 230 571

Army Library at 10 AEC

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

Bulford Library

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

Darts

Contact UWO KRH : 01980 - 603159
 or 22/26 Engrs : 01980 - 603514

AWS Residential Activity Week

for ages 9 - 12 yrs 7 - 10 August
 Avon Tyrell in the New Forest
 Call 07810 - 773120 or 01980 - 672105

Tidworth Thrift Shop

Every Monday 9:00 - 14:45
 Behind the Zouch Spar/Naafi
 Call Florence Foakes 07808 - 125 724

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

Ordnance House, Tidworth
 Call Claire Davies : 01980 - 602398

Fun Factory Crèche : Call 602398

Places available for 18mth-3yr olds

Messy Mitts Parent & Toddlers

Fridays 9:30-11:30

Rooms for hire : would suit
 Hairdresser, Beauty therapist, etc

SSAFA/Forces Help

Call 01980 - 670540 or 01980 - 670345

The Haig Centre, Bulford

Day Care Nursery Call 672331

Parents & Toddlers Call 672700

Getaway After School Club

Ages 5-13 15:00-18:00 Call 673355

Bulford Thrift Shop

Term Time Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00

Volunteers always needed

Bulford Youth Club

Call Melody Abbott on 673840

Tuesdays 17:30 - 20:00 9 - 12s

Thursdays 17:00 - 19:00 5 - 8s

1st Bulford (Kiwi) Scout Group

Call Arthur Kendrew on 597341

Beavers Thursdays 18:00 - 19:30

Cubs Wednesdays 18:00 - 20:00

Scouts Fridays 19:00 - 21:00

**The Beeches
 Families Centre, Bulford**
 Call Michelle : 01980 - 672342

JJ's Beauty Salon

Call Jo on 01980 - 597 679

Hairdresser : Curl up and Dye

Call Lisa on 01980 - 590 020

Noah's Ark Under 5s

Call Lisa on 01980 - 673479

Little Rascals Parent & Toddler

Tues & Thurs 10:00 - 11:30

Call Mandy Budding 01980-638772

Potty about Painting Parent

& Toddler Mondays 9:30 - 11:00

Call Melody on 673840 or 672088

Garrison Barber - Bulford

Bdg 19, Ward Bks - near the JRC
 Mon-Fri 9:00-12:00 Bul Mil 2710

Picton Launderette, Bulford

The cheapest Service Wash for miles!

Open 08:30 - 18:00 Mon, Wed & Thu

Fri 8:30 - 17:00 Call 01980 - 673210

Bulford HIVE

at The Beeches Families Centre
 Open Mon & Tues 9:30 - 13:30
 Call Jackie Bird on 01980 - 672109

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for June 2006 issue : 10 May 2006
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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