

Zouch Primary School achieves Gold ...

Recently awarded "Active Mark Gold" by Sport England for its outstanding provision of physical education, Zouch Primary School has also secured a £150,000 lottery grant to build a Multi-Use Games Area at the school which was officially opened on 18th April by Alex Danson, National Ladies Hockey medallist.



The new "MUGA" is already very popular with pupils at the school, not only during PE lessons, but also during free time and lunch times.

"The new facilities at Zouch can also be used by other sport groups in the community", Headteacher Tina Evans told Drumbeat. "All they have to do is get in touch with us and complete all the necessary paperwork!"

The next event at Zouch School will be Party in the Park which takes place on the school playing field on 18th May, 15:30 - 18:30. Everyone is welcome to come along.

It's a Wild LIFE on the Plain !

For the past four years, wildlife has been given a helping hand on the Plain. Alongside an unusual alliance of homegrown conservation organisations, (English Nature, Ministry of Defence, Defence Science and Technology Laboratories, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Butterfly Conservation and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds), the multi-million pound Salisbury Plain LIFE Project, funded by the European Union, was begun in 2001, with the aim of improving wildlife management in the military training areas of Salisbury Plain and Porton Down.

Salisbury Plain is one of the UK's hidden wildlife treasures, containing some of the largest areas of chalk grassland habitat in Europe. Chalk grassland has been likened to tropical rain forests in terms of the number of wildlife species found there : this includes creepy crawlies, butterflies, rare orchids and endangered birds such as the stone curlew, a strange wader-like bird with wide staring yellow eyes and a screeching call. The Stone Curlew has its second largest stronghold on and around the Plain; the LIFE project has enabled us to improve their breeding habitat , thus helping to increase the UK breeding population.

Due to the use of the Plain for military training, it has been little touched by the ravages of intensive farming and development, meaning that the grasslands of the Plain have survived relatively intact. However, grasslands do not naturally remain without intervention, ie grazing. In time, if left to their own devices, they become overwhelmed by scrubby bushes such as hawthorn and invasive tree species; they decline in quality and the amount of wildlife they support

One of the main objectives of the LIFE project has been to remove some of this "scrub" as well as surplus coniferous plantations from the wildlife-sensitive areas. In total, 300 hectares of scrub and 120 hectares of plantations and self-sown pine trees have been removed from areas all over the Plain, most noticeably perhaps from Sidbury Hill (pictured) and the Bulford Ranges.



Helping to safeguard areas important for rare forms of wildlife has been one of the commitments of the LIFE project, focussing on several specific species of national importance, such as the Marsh Fritillary butterfly, juniper bushes and the Stone Curlew. Additional grazing has been undertaken throughout the Plain, such as the Herdsman Project, where a herd of 120 cattle has been steadily munching its way across the Plain, helping conservation in the process.

2005 is the final year of the LIFE project. Conservation work will continue on the Plain to ensure that the chalk grasslands and their wildlife are maintained in the best possible condition. For more information about the project, please visit www.english-nature.org.uk/salisbury or www.rspb.org.uk/england/southwest/farming/salisbury_life-project.



SSVC Managing Director David Crwys-Williams shakes hands with WO2 John Donald KRH, after presenting him and fellow members of the Regiment with radios to take with them to Iraq on Op Telic VI.

Army Families Federation

The Army Families Federation is concerned itself with issues that are important to YOU : housing, welfare support, employment, training, education and healthcare. If you have a problem which you think we might be able to help you with, please get in touch.

Salisbury Plain Co-ordinator Tricia Kaye : 01722 - 790121
Local Representative . Leanne Farley 01980 - 846476



Drumbeat Noticeboard



Tidworth Junior Youth Club
AWS Hall at the TLC Tues 18:00-20:00
Call Jimi on 01980 - 602191

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.

Live Radio Link with Iraq
Garrison Radio & BFBS Middle East
Every Friday 10:00 - 10:30
Tune in to 1287 am medium wave

Garrison Radio
Broadcasting to TNB Garrison
1287 am medium wave
Call 01980 - 602277 or Email :
tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com

Kennet Kanter
10 mile trail run & family fun day
11:00 Sunday 3 July
Start & finish on the Green, Devizes
For entry forms, call 01380 - 729408
or visit www.kennetkanter.co.uk

Army Women's Cricket Team
On the look-out for new players !
If you wish to get involved with the
successful team, please phone
Maj Ruth MacGill on 01980 - 628390

First Aid Course
for Service Personnel & Dependants
Mon & Thurs 18:30 - 20:30
Call Sgt Carr on 07840 - 373976

Tidworth Saddle Club
Lessons for all standards
Lunging, long lining, hacks & events
All ages - Come & have fun !
Call Mrs Lewis 07899 - 687 466

Tidworth Polo Club
Job vacancies : Grooms needed
Free Riding : Help exercise the
polo ponies !
Call the Club for details : 602508

AWS Job Vacancies
Pre School Manager
to cover maternity leave. Bulford
Manager & Deputy Manager for
Garrison After School Club, Bulford
Call Chris on 01980 - 673379
Full & part time bank staff for the
Haig Nursery. Call Vicky on 672331

Emergency Numbers :
MDP : 01980 - 60 3099
RMP : 01980 - 67 2251 & 67 2334
Tidworth Police Station
09:00 - 17:00 : 01980 - 842 303
Devizes HQ : 01380 - 722 341
Police Emergency : 999 or 112
Crimestoppers : 0800 - 555111

Tidworth Leisure Centre

Centre 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 01980 - 602224

Busy Bees Crèche : 603160
Caterpillars Pre-School : 602460
JD After School Club : 602019

Open during half term week
Tweenies Parent & Toddlers :
Thursdays 9:30 - 11:30 Call 601501

Purity Beauty Salon :
Mon - Sat 9:00 - 20:00
Call Yvonne on 07958 - 911 928
Physiotherapy & Sports Injuries :
For appointments, call in or phone
Physiotherapy : 07768 - 737646
Sports Therapy : 07811 - 358101

Employment Fair
Garrison Theatre
Thurs 26 May 10:00 - 13:30
Come and meet potential employers
with job vacancies on offer

Mother knows Breast
Tidworth & Ludgershall
Breastfeeding Support Group
Fridays 12:40 - 14:40 at the AWS
Community Hall at the TLC
Siblings welcome - Refreshments

Quit Smoking Group
Wednesdays - 8 week course
18:00 - 19:00 Starting 11 May
at the QEM HC
Call Jackie on 01980 - 602544

Ordnance House, Tidworth
Call Claire Davies : 01980 - 602398
Fun Factory Crèche : Call 602398
Hairdresser : Call 842492
Holistic Therapist : 9:30 - 12:30
Chill Out @ Heather's !
Call in or phone 07717 - 510 862

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
Thriff Shop Call 673355
Term time Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00
Bulford Youth Club Call 672105
Tuesdays 18:00 - 20:00 9 - 12s
Thursdays 17:00 - 18:45 5 - 8s
Bulford Scout Group Call 556294
Leaders needed urgently - see inside

The Beeches
Families Centre, Bulford
Call Michelle : 01980 - 672342
JJ's Beauty Salon
Call Jo on 01980 - 597 679
Hairdresser : Curl up and Dye
Tanning Studio now open.
Call Lisa on 01980 - 590 020
Noah's Ark Under 5s
Call Denise on 01980 - 673479
Little Rascals Parent & Toddler
Tues & Thurs 10:30 - 12:00
Call Denise on 597834
Play Session for 2-4 yr olds
Term Time Tuesdays 13:00 - 14:30
Call Ines on 07900-276120
The Bistro - Job vacancy for a
person to run the café.
The Beeches is available for hire
for functions & children's parties.

Bulford Library
Ward Barracks, Bulford Camp
Mon - Thurs 09:00 - 16:30
Fri 09:00 - 12:30

Bulford HIVE
7 Kandy Road, Bulford Camp
Open Mon - Fri 9:30 - 13:30
Call Jackie Bird on 672109

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for June 05 issue : 9 May 2005
Drumbeat, 10 AEC, Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, SP9 7AY
Call Rosemary Meeke on 01980 - 602980
or email : drumbeat_tidworth@hotmail.com
www.drumbeat.org.uk

Drumbeat is funded and produced by Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison. A contribution towards the cost of copies for the Civilian Community in Tidworth is made by Tidworth Parish Council. Civilian copies are distributed by Tidworth Trust.

Drumbeat



Issue 96

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

May 2005

New Supermarket for Tidworth ...

Tesco Supermarket has purchased Station Road Green in Tidworth from the MOD.



The area of land is roughly triangular in shape, enclosed by Station Road, Ashdown Terrace and Hampshire Cross. It is envisaged that planning permission will be sought for a Tesco store comprising 30,000 sq ft net sales area with 10,500 sq ft additional retail space and car parking.

The successful development of the site will depend on planning permission for the construction of the supermarket being granted and suitable access to the site from Station Road being provided. The Developer will also re-provide elsewhere the garages behind the top end of Ashdown Terrace.

Two detailed studies of Tidworth, prepared by Shankland Cox (1993) and Entec (2002), both stressed the need to attract more retail interest in Station Road.

Colonel Carron Snagge, Garrison Commander and Chairman of the Tidworth Community Area Partnership, told Drumbeat, "This is a tremendous step forward for the Tidworth Community Area. Catterick Garrison has had a Tesco Store operating

alongside its Naafi for some time. A supermarket of this calibre will benefit everyone in our community and help to regenerate the local economy".

The supermarket will not cover the whole of the site, with the area between the sub station and the gardens belonging to the houses in Hampshire Cross remaining "green". The new car parking area will be on the Station Road side, as it is at the moment, so that shoppers in Station Road will be able to continue to make use of it.

The contract also provides for Drummer Lane, leading to the Ashdown Centre and the new Doctors' Surgery, to be brought up to "adoptable" standard, to include street lighting, road drainage and pavements.

It is hoped that a Planning Application may be presented to the Planning Authorities by June this year. All being well, building work could start by the end of the year and the new supermarket could be open as early as next Summer.



Want to know what's on ? Visit : www.drumbeat.org.uk



New Commander 1 Mechanized Brigade



Brigadier Richard Toomey CBE

Brigadier Richard Toomey arrived last month for a two year tour as Commander 1 Mechanized Brigade. He was commissioned into the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment in 1980 and has come from a Colonel's appointment on the Commitments (Operations) Staff in the Ministry of Defence in London. Prior to that he was Commanding Officer of 1D&D in London and Northern Ireland.



"It's tremendous to be back in the area and to be given command of the "First Brigade", Brigadier Toomey told Drumbeat. "I last served here (in Bulford) from 1987 - 1991 with the Devon and Dorsets; in fact my first married quarter was in Bulford. I am looking forward very much to working with everyone in 1 Brigade, which has such a high reputation following the tough operational tour in Iraq last year. My family is also very pleased to be in Tidworth. We have lived in London for my last two tours and we all think it's great to be back in the countryside. I think I need a mountain bike and a kite!"

Exercise Warpaint

From the sun and sand in Iraq last year, to the snow and mud in Canada this year, it's all in a day's work for 5 Field Squadron from 22 Engineer Regiment!



Exercise Warpaint began in October last year, when the rece party swapped their desert combats for chunky thermals and departed for Canada to get some advance digging done before the ground froze for the winter. The Exercise resumed earlier this year when the full detachment returned to Canada to complete the task : the construction of several bridges and a new and unique training facility for the infantry. I'll say no more

- you will have to wait until you get there and see it for yourselves!



DHE News ...

Tidworth Quarters Rebuild Project is Completed!



Four and a half years after it began, the Tidworth quarters rebuild project is finally completed.

This project, which saw the demolition and rebuild of 463 quarters on the Mathew and Avon Estates, was split into two parts : 213 houses being built in the first contract by Contractors Cowlin Construction Ltd and 263 in the second by Contractors Laing O'Rourke.

Architect Robert Hughes from Shepherd Epstein has created a real community feel to the houses he designed, with village greens, pedestrianised streets and children's play areas, taking account of the challenging topography of the site. The houses themselves are made of good quality materials with different designs and finishes, all to a high specification - all greatly appreciated by the families who have moved into them.



BFBS Forces Radio wants to hear your Stories of VE-VJ Day!

When Whitehall and St James's Park host events in July to mark the 60th VE-VJ Day Anniversaries, British Forces Radio will be there too. BFBS Radio will be on air from its studio in St James's Park throughout Veterans' Week (4th - 10th July), telling veterans' stories of VE Day and VJ Day.

"This is probably the last chance we'll have to talk to large numbers of veterans all coming together to mark significant events from the Second World War", BFBS UK's Managing Editor, Alan Phillips, told Drumbeat. "We want to hear their stories", he added.

And now that the Government has opened up the event to any registered war veteran from any recognised conflict, BFBS wants to hear stories from those times too.

Perhaps you have an unusual or heroic story to tell from either Gulf War, the Falklands, Korea, Aden, Suez, Second World War, or elsewhere - or know someone else who does? Or perhaps you work for a charity who helps war veterans and would like to tell us about your history and how you are still supporting veterans today? Or you could be someone who supported the war effort as a civilian. Whoever you are, if you have a story to tell, BFBS wants to hear from you!

Email : stories@bfbs.com with brief details and a contact number, and BFBS will get back to you.

Telephone : 01494 - 878 354

Write : VE-VJ Day, BFBS UK, Chalfont Grove, Gerrards Cross, Bucks. SL9 8TN

From BFPO locations, write to : VE-VJ Day, BFBS UK, BFPO 786



Keep in touch ...

By post

Forces Air Mail Letters (Blueys) : FREE
(Write "OP TELIC" in the top left corner and remember that enclosures (eg photos) are not permitted)

Letters and cards up to 60gms : 30p

All other letters and packets go at Royal Mail INLAND rate, up to a MAXIMUM of 2 kg. (NB at the 2kg rate it is cheaper to send the packet by Special Delivery)



If anyone isn't sure about the weight of the packet they wish to send, take it down to the Post Office unsealed and they will be pleased to help you. Please take your own tape with you for doing up the parcel afterwards. NB. All packets must have a Customs label attached.

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.



By telephone

Every soldier on deployment will receive a "Paradigm Card" which is valid for the duration of the tour, entitling them to 20 minutes free telephone time each week.

E-blueys

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.



Log on to www.bfpo.com or follow the link from the Drumbeat website.

Need help? If you need help with how to set out or send an e-bluey, 10 AEC is running an "E-Bluey Workshop" on 17 May 05. Call 01980 - 603045 for details

Radio Requests

For requests on BFBS overseas & Northern Ireland :

Call BFBS on 08701 - 20 21 21
(charged at national rate)

Email : gulfrequests@bfbs.com - or visit www.bfbs.com and go to the "Dedications" page



For requests on TNB Garrison Radio :
Call Garrison Radio on 01980 - 602424



Live on the Radio

Live Radio Link between Tidworth, Bulford & Iraq
Every Friday 10:00 - 10:30
Tune in to 1287 am medium wave

Online Radio

Log on to www.bfbs.com and listen live to BFBS Radio 1 to hear what our troops are listening to on the radio in Iraq.

Online Information from the MOD

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.

Follow the links from the Drumbeat website : www.drumbeat.org.uk



Things to do in the Garrison

10 Army Education Centre

E-Bluey Workshop 17 May
Ladies' Maths course 13 - 17 June
Coming soon : Driving Test Theory & Car Care, Interior Design, Aromatherapy Call 01980-603045 for details

The Grapevine, Perham Down

The Hunny Pot Café Mon - Fri 10:00 - 14:00
Call Rose to place orders to be collected: 07909 - 566917

The Lavender Room Beauty Salon 9:30 - late
Call Rebecca to make an appointment : 07788-832381

From the Rural Needs Initiative : Tuesdays 10:00-12:00
(Free childcare while attending yoga &/or taster sessions)

Yoga

Call Susie on 07781 - 650956 or RNI on 01672 - 513010

"Find out about" Taster Sessions

03 May Interested in becoming a childminder ?
10 May Meet your Health Visitor for coffee and a chat
17 May Manicure (book now to avoid disappointment)
24 May Tempo - Find out about local learning opportunities

Army Welfare Service Activities

The Beeches, Bulford

3 May 9:30 - 12:30 "Little Monsters" children's clothes sale
Coffee morning for Units deployed on Op Telic VI
- alternate Thursdays : 5 May - 19 May - 2 June More information from L/Cpl Gemma Johnson on 01980 - 673385

Ordnance House, Tidworth

Coffee Mornings for Units deployed on Op Telic VI
- alternate Thursdays : 12 May - 26 May - 9 June - More information from L/Cpl Gemma Johnson on 01980 - 673385

Tidworth Leisure Centre

17 May Tidworth Junior Youth Club Disco

Choulston Close Youth Club, Netheravon

New Youth Club in the Community Centre for 5-8 yr olds opening 11 May 18:00 - 19:45
Volunteers / Donations of equipment, toys, games, etc. please get in touch with Ines 07900 -276120 or James 01980 - 672105

The Haig Centre, Bulford

Bulford Youth Club will be organising some special activities at half term and summer holidays, including: a trip to Finkley Down Farm (5-8s), an arts & crafts week (5-8s) and a family BBQ. For more information call Melody Abbott on 673840

Day out at Chessington World of Adventures

2 June A fun day out for 8 - 12 year olds
Call Jimi Littlejohn on 602191 or Claire Davies on 602398

Big Green Hamster Community Challenge and Fun Day Out !

Saturday 18 June Dalton Barracks Airfield, Abingdon
Organised by the Community Support Team of the Army Welfare Service. Teams must construct a vehicle powered by "push power" to bring to the event and will compete in a series of games and challenges throughout the day. Great fun for everyone. Water pistols a "must" !!
Bulford contacts for more information : Inez on 07900 - 276120 or James on 01980 - 672105

Residential trip to Avon Tyrrell

25 - 29 July An adventure-packed week
Call James Fenn on 01980 - 672105 for more information

Visit to Winnie the Pooh Village

5 Aug 8-12 yr olds
Call Jimi Littlejohn on 602191 or Claire Davies on 602398

For more information about the activities being organised by the Army Welfare Service, call 01980 - 672105

Of local interest ...

Town Status for Tidworth ...

Under Local Government Act 1972 s.245(6) - (9) the Chairman of Tidworth Parish Council, Councillor Steve Dagger, proposed a resolution that Tidworth adopt Town Status from 1st May 2005.

The resolution was carried with 12 votes in favour and 3 votes against.

The first Tidworth Town Council will meet on 3rd May 2005 when the positions of Chairman/Mayor and Vice Chairman/Deputy Mayor will be filled.

1st Bulford Scouts needs help ...



Due to postings, 1st Bulford Scouts urgently needs new Leaders, to prevent the Group from having to close.

1st Bulford Scouts meet at the Haig Centre in Bulford every Friday 19:00 - 21:00

and is open to those aged 10 and above.

For more information, please call Group Scout Leader Andy on 10980 - 556294

News from 1st Tidworth Scouts



Boys and girls from 1st Tidworth Scout Group recently competed for their Troop Inter-Patrol Trophy, camping for the weekend in the grounds of the Scout hut and cooking their own meals.

The competition, "I'm a Tidworth Scout, Get me out of here!", organised by Bruce "Scotty" Scott and Scout Leader Rich Catt, consisted of an exhausting weekend of challenging outdoor exercises including a hike over Salisbury Plain and a Troop Challenge involving barrels, scaffolding poles, wooden boxes and fresh fish! Congratulations to Falcon Patrol, the winners by a narrow margin.

1st Tidworth Scout Group is looking for adult leaders to run the Beaver section. If you are interested, please call John Sparrow (Group Scout Leader) on 01264 - 398625 or visit the website at www.wiltshirescouts.org.uk/1sttidworth

Tempo Information, Advice & Training Centre



Pennings Road, Tidworth
(2 doors from the Post Office)
Call 01980 - 840 220

Fast track bookkeeping & accounts course starts 6 June
Call now to book your place!

Don't forget to vote !

National and County Elections will take place on 5th May. Polling Stations open 07:00 - 22:00
Details of candidates at www.kennet.gov.uk/elections

Community Awards 2004



The Tidworth Community Challenge of previous years was relaunched in 2004 as "Community Awards - Recognising Endeavour" for the whole of the Tidworth Community Area. Anyone in the Community Area can now nominate a person or a group they consider has done something to improve or benefit our community.

At the Award Ceremony held at Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall, the Lord Lieutenant, Mr John Bush OBE, presented awards to all those nominated and shields to those considered to have made the most impact on our community :

Tony Pickernell, Manager of the Garrison Theatre, for his work at the Garrison Theatre and Sports facilities, raising substantial sums for the Garrison Commander's Fund;

The Lucknow Band, for their involvement with local schools and community events throughout the year;

Rodney Haverson, for his work in establishing "The Courier" as the thriving magazine of the Collingbournes and Everleigh;

Joan Parsonage and Baie Heelas for their work with the Chernobyl Children Lifeline.

A special award was made to Mike Parker, until recently the Economic Regeneration Manager for Wiltshire County Council, who has been involved with the development of the Tidworth area since the early 1990s.

Bank Holiday Rubbish Collections

After consulting residents, Kennet District Council is making improvements in the way it collects waste during a Bank Holiday week.

As from the May Day Bank Holiday on 2nd May 2005, residents' waste will be collected on the usual day without any changes.

This means that if your usual waste collection day is a Monday, your waste will be collected on the Bank Holiday Monday. If your usual collection day is a Tuesday, your waste collection day will continue to be a Tuesday, and so on throughout the Bank Holiday week.

Keeping the waste collection days the same all year round will remove any confusion about which day to put rubbish out.

For more information, call KDC on 01380 - 734665