

Drumbeat



Issue 89

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

October 2004

New Health Centre is named after the Queen Mother

Tidworth's £12 million purpose-built Primary Health Care Centre has officially been named The Queen Elizabeth Memorial Health Centre by their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.



The Duke, who is the Colonel in Chief of the Royal Army Medical Corps, and The Duchess, who is the Colonel in Chief of the Royal Army Dental Corps, toured the Centre and chatted with members of staff before unveiling a plaque outside the Centre.



Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Garrison Bonfire Night

Thursday 4 November 2004

Carter Barracks, Bulford

Tickets £1 available from : your local Spar shop
Transport from Tidworth will be provided : details in Garrison Routine Orders & on the Drumbeat website.
Please do not bring pets, alcohol or your own fireworks to the display.

- 17:30 Stalls, refreshments
- 18:15 The winning Guy is put on the Bonfire !
- 18:30 Lighting the Bonfire
- 19:00 Firework display begins
- 21:00 Evening ends

For up-to-date information about the event, visit www.drumbeat.org.uk



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



News from the MDP ...

The Southern Range Road

The Southern Range Road (marked as "The Southern Transit Route" on military maps), is a private road which runs from Warminster to Westdown Camp just outside Tilshead, crossing the A360 at Tank Crossing "F" between Tilshead and Devizes. It was built specifically for the carriage of military vehicles, but can be used by any vehicle authorised by HQ Army Training Estates at Westdown Camp.

If you drive a private car on this road without authorisation you are breaking the law. You will therefore NOT be insured and if you are involved in an accident with a military or authorised vehicle you could face a personal bill for all damages incurred as well as prosecution as a trespasser - in addition to any other offences related to the accident/incident.

The Southern Range Road/Transit Route enters the Imber Army ranges danger area at several points. If you are located in any of these areas you will face prosecution under the Imber Army Ranges Bye-Laws 1963 Section 3.(a)(b) and (c), and, under Section 17(2) of the Military Lands Act 1892, your vehicle may be seized.

If you are the holder of a "Red Pass", this only entitles you to drive your vehicle on this road whilst you are engaged in the activity for which the Pass was issued; it does not entitle you to drive your vehicle on this road at any other time.

Ministry of Defence Police, Salisbury Plain
69 Grand Trunk Road, Tidworth
Telephone (24/7) : 01980 - 603099
Email : salisburyplain@modpol.org



News from Netheravon ...

Parachutes ...

Netheravon played host to 43 skydiving teams from the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force at the 40th Annual Armed Forces Parachute Championships this Summer.

... and Helicopter Champions !

Two ace helicopter pilots from Netheravon have won the top prize at the British helicopter championships - for the second year running !

It is only the second time in the championship's history that the same team has won the competition two years in a row. Many congratulations to WO1 Ron Watkins and WO2 Russ du Lieu from 7 Regt AAC(V), based in Netheravon.



The competition involved a timed navigation event, a slalom event, which involved dangling a bucket 30' below the helicopter and guiding it through a series of gates and finally a Fender event, which involves placing three boat fenders into very large buckets from varying heights.

Children's Education Advisory Service (CEAS)

Based in Upavon, CEAS is a Tri-Service organisation providing Service parents and relevant MOD civilians with expert and impartial advice about their children's education, both in the UK and overseas.

Olivia Denson, Senior Education Officer at CEAS, commented, "All parents want to ensure their children have access to the right education. We are here to provide the best advice available, free of charge, to all Service parents, irrespective of rank or location.

"Moving and living abroad creates additional pressure for Service families, in particular when considering a return to the UK education system. UK based families can also face pressures which civilian families do not. Today, there are about 85,000 Service children in over 720 State schools in England alone and we work with many of these schools to ensure they are aware of the needs of Service children".

CEAS has expertise in all areas of education, including Special Educational Needs. Amongst other services offered, CEAS will advise parents if in dispute with a Local Education Authority, provide a wide range of impartial advice on choosing a boarding school, educational allowances and many other educational issues.

**CEAS was formerly known as SCE(UK).
to contact CEAS, please call 01980 - 618244 or
email : enquiries.ceas@gtnet.gov.uk**



Don't suffer any more ...

If you are being threatened or abused physically, sexually or mentally by a partner or ex-partner, this is domestic abuse. If you are in an abusive relationship, there are three important steps you can take :

- Recognise that it is happening to you
- Accept that you are not to blame
- Get help and support.

Who can I talk to ?

Army Welfare Service : 01980 - 672105
Victim Support : 0845 - 30 30 900
Royal Military Police, Bulford : 01980 - 672251
Wiltshire Police, Salisbury : 01722 - 411 444
Ministry of Defence Police, Tidworth : 01980 - 603099
Your Unit Welfare Officer

Or, in an Emergency, Dial 999

All calls in complete confidence

News from 22 Engineer Regiment in Iraq



22 Engineer Regiment deployed to provide Engineer support to the continuous development of Iraq's Essential Services and to military operations. What a varied and

challenging 5 months it has been ! A huge amount of work has been put into stabilising and progressing Iraq's essential services (power, fuel and water) while at the same time completing force protection and camp infrastructure works to protect and support the soldiers of 1 Mechanized Brigade.

The Regiment is split between 3 locations in Basrah; with RHQ at Basrah International Airport, 3 Armoured Engineer Squadron and 5 Field Squadron in Fortress Lines and 6 Headquarters Squadron at Shaibah Logistic Base. 69 Gurkha Field Squadron, 61 Field Support Squadron (Air Assault), a troop from 21 Field Squadron (EOD) and a TA troop from 71 Engineer Regiment (V) are attached to the Regiment in Iraq and have effectively doubled its size.

Significant improvements have been made to the Essential Services in Southern Iraq. Power supplies for the residents of Basrah,



although still not continuous, are now reliable and dependable. The supply of power in the Basrah region has doubled during this tour. On the fuel front, increases in fuel storage levels have helped meet the ever growing demand. There are no longer fuel shortages in Basrah. The water supply is fragile and huge efforts are being put into increasing supply and improving the reliability of distribution. This took a major step forward recently with a secondary source of water being made available using low lift pumps to draw water from the Shatt al Arab waterway. There should not be any serious shortages in the future for the people of Basrah.



Force protection works have also been a major focus for the Regiment. Work has been completed in all of the Brigade's locations, providing a safer living and working environment for the

soldiers there. At Camp Abu Naji alone this involved constructing nearly 10km of sand filled protective walls ! With temperatures in excess of 50 degrees Celsius, this type of work has demanded a considerable effort from those involved. However the enthusiastic and determined attitude of the Regiment's Sappers, which has remained a common attribute throughout the tour, has ensured a successful deployment so far.

On the Home Front ...

For further news from Iraq, log on to the Regiment's website at www.army.mod.uk/royalengineers and the new secure website on Army Net at www.armynet.mod.uk .

Lucknow: "A job well done"

18 months after the first sod was turned, the new Lucknow Barracks project is nearing completion and should be ready by the end of this month. It will become home to the First Battalion the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment and the Lucknow Band of the Prince of Wales's Division.

1PWRR has been based in Tidworth for nearly 4 years; during that time the battalion has twice deployed to the Balkans and is currently on tour in Iraq :



They left earlier this year from an Edwardian-built barracks beyond its useful life - and they will return later this month to the new Lucknow Barracks - the most modern and fit-for-purpose accommodation in the British Army !

The Lucknow rebuild project has been the largest of the Army's "stand alone" Prime Contracts to date and shows how well this kind of contracting can work. The working partnership between the Army, Defence Estates and Industry has produced a first class barracks, against tight timescales - and to cost.

The rebuilt Lucknow Barracks will not only provide the technical and working environment where the battalion will train and prepare for operations, but it will also be home for 450 single soldiers and a social focus for the married soldiers and their families as well.

The Army is determined to improve the living and working conditions for soldiers, their families and support staff. Over the next 15 years, the ensuite single living accommodation which has been built here will be rolled out across the Army; Project Allenby-Connaught will transform Aldershot and the other Salisbury Plain Garrisons, bringing them up to the same standard as Lucknow.

At the recent "Topping Out" ceremony at the new barracks when the clock tower on the Battalion Headquarters building was unveiled, Brigadier Ian Cawes, Director of Army Infrastructure Organisation, praised Phil Shelton and his team from Carillion Construction Ltd, John Tout and his team from Defence Estates and Colin Heggie, the Project Sponsor and his team, saying : **"You can all be proud of a job well done. I know the Battalion cannot wait to get its hands on the barracks !"**

Pictured :

Colonel Colin Heggie - Project Sponsor Team
Mr Phil Shelton -Project Manager, Carillion Construction Ltd

Major Ian Townsend - OC Rear Party, 1PWRR
Brigadier Ian Cawes - Director of Army Infrastructure Organisation
Mr Roger Richardson - Executive Director of Carillion Construction Ltd

3 (UK) Div Field Cookery Competition



Military chefs from all over the country gathered in Bulford last month to compete in the annual 3(UK) Division Field Cookery Competition - the Army's version of the TV programme, "Ready, Steady, Cook" !

On the morning of the competition, each team was given the same raw ingredients, which this year included plaice, pork belly, chicken and a supply of fresh vegetables and fruit. The teams then had to decide what they were going to cook, being able to draw extra basic commodities from the "Ration Tent" to enhance their dishes - for example, herbs, spices or tomato purée. The only rule was that any extra item drawn from the Ration Tent HAD TO BE USED !

Before they started cooking, the teams had to build their own field ovens and the meals they produced were judged on a number of different criteria, including hygiene, food preparation, menu, timings, health and safety and use of materials.

TNB Garrison was represented by 1Staffords based in Tidworth, 26 Engineers based in Ludgershall, 3 DSR based in Bulford and 1 Mech Bde Rear Party composed of men from 6Bn REME, 1CHESHIRE and 1RHA.

The winner of the competition this year was the team from the Coldstream Guards. Congratulations !

Local MP visits Garrison Radio

MP for Salisbury, Robert Key, has been a visitor to the Garrison Radio studios in Tidworth, where he spoke to Richard Wyeth on the Breakfast Show and sent a message to soldiers in Iraq : "Keep it up, you're doing a fantastic job - a very big thank you from your representatives in the British Parliament ..."



Garrison Radio links up with BFBS Middle East every Friday 10:00 - 10:30. If you would like to send a message to a friend or loved one in Iraq, please get in touch. Contact details are on the Drumbeat Noticeboard page.

Tune in to Garrison Radio on 1287 am medium wave

Listen out for the new local news bulletins in the breakfast show right after the national news at 06:00, 07:00 and 08:00, as well as Army Radio News at 06:30, 07:30, 08:30, 15:30 and 16:30.

Get "BFBS Reports" ... 24 / 7 !

BFBS Reports is the the Forces' favourite TV news magazine show from British Forces Broadcasting Service Television. This flagship news programme is now available online, which means that for the first time, it is available in the UK and not just overseas.

Surfers online can see the show's trademark hard-hitting reports with the troops on the ground in Iraq or Afghanistan or at sea on exercise in Chinese waters. You can find out what the kids are up to in BFG schools - see candid briefings from Forces Chiefs - exclusive interviews with the PM and Defence Secretary - the latest military sports news and results - reports from exercises in Ghana, Belize, Canada and all the latest news relevant to the Forces' community.

BFBS Reports goes out live each Tuesday and Friday at 18:30 Central European Time (CET); the top five stories will go online individually from 20:00 CET the same evening and will stay on the website for two weeks. Online viewers won't have to watch the whole show to find the story they want : log on and go straight to the news you want to see !

To watch BFBS Reports online, go to www.bfbs.com/tv and click on BFBS Reports.



Op Telic : 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 : 28p

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)



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

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.

Radio Requests & Live Radio Link

Details on the Drumbeat Noticeboard page

... and don't forget !

The Drumbeat Garrison website has news from the Gulf and links to the websites of Garrison Units

www.drumbeat.org.uk



Of Local Interest ...

Tidworth Blue Light Day 2004



The first Blue Light Day was held in 1998 when our three local police forces invited local children to the Wylve Road Community Ground to inspect some police vehicles and see police dogs up close.



Today, many more of the Emergency Services take part, bringing along as many different displays and vehicles as operational commitments allow ...



... recent years have seen the Army Bomb Disposal Team from 721 Sqn EOD and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance helicopter.

The aim of the day was - and still is - to promote community safety by highlighting the work of the Emergency Services ...



... and have some fun along the way !



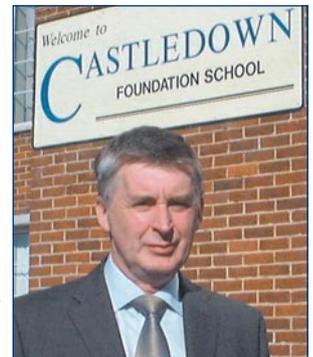
Many thanks to PC Mark Eburne from Tidworth Police Station for taking these pictures



On 26th October It's Snowdon, or bust !

On 26th October, Servicemen, Parish, District and County Councillors will be climbing Mount Snowdon in Wales, aiming to raise the £1000 needed to buy a new wheelchair for local Tidworth girl, Chelsea Bloomfield. Baz Reilly, Tidworth Parish Councillor and Chairman of the Tidworth Community Area Partnership (TCAP) Communications Group, told Drumbeat : "As well as raising the money for the wheelchair, we hope to increase local awareness of the problems faced by people in the Community Area who suffer from disability." While the walking team climbs Mount Snowdon, Baz will be here in Tidworth, keeping in touch with them and keeping us all informed of their progress. Watch out for him outside local shops - and all contributions in the collecting bucket will be very gratefully received !

"We're going to make this school the best in the County!"



John Pender is the new Head Teacher at Castledown School and he has great plans for the School's future.

"My focus is on teaching and learning", he told Drumbeat. "GCSE and Key Stage 3 results at the School this Summer showed a great improvement, which is a really good basis for moving forward".

Indeed, there are targets to be met and Mr Pender aims to get the School out of Special Measures by next July.

"There is nothing earth-shattering about what we are doing; it is all about quality", Mr Pender said. "A good teaching team, producing good quality lessons, will make Castledown into a school that the children can be proud of. We have a lot to do and don't need to be distracted by such frivolous things as uniform or jewellery ! The Governors have been hugely supportive and we share a common view for the School. There is a great future for Castledown School."

Mr Pender comes to Castledown from Avon Middle School in Salisbury, where he has had considerable experience of working with the County Intervention Team for the last 4 years.

News from Tidworth Chamber of Commerce ...

The contract to agree the sale of the Castledown Business Park (known as "Site 23") to the developers, St Modwen Properties plc, has been signed by the South West Regional Development Agency.

Mike Murray, the site manager from St Modwen, said that he was pleased that he can now get on with organising the development of the site.

"This is a great opportunity to build long term sustainable businesses and add value, employment and income to the area", David Wildman, Chairman of the Tidworth & District Chamber of Commerce, told Drumbeat.



Drumbeat Noticeboard



Tidworth Junior Youth Club AWS Hall at the TLC

Restarts after holiday on 14 Sept
18:00 - 20:00 Call Jimi on 602191
Children's Discos : 26 October
18:10-19:00 5-8s, 19:15-20:00 9-12s

Tidworth Youth Centre

Bulford Road, next to VCP 2
Mon, Tues, Thurs 18:30 - 21:00
Open to ages 13-19 50p Entry
Call 01980 - 842748

B F B S Forces Radio

For requests call : 08701 - 20 21 21
(calls are charged at the national rate)
Email : gulfrequests@bfbs.com
For other overseas commands and
N. Ireland visit www.bfbs.com and
go to the "Dedications" page.
Visit www.bfbs.com and listen in
to what our soldiers in Iraq are
hearing live on BFBS Middle East

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 Richard Wyeth on 602277
or Email :
tidworthbulford@garrisonradio.com

Tidworth Residents' Forum

Monday 11 October 2004 19:00
Wylve Road Community Centre
Come and hear the latest news
about what is going on locally

Ludgershall Residents' Forum

Tuesday 2 November 2004 19:00
Ludgershall Scout Hall

AWS Job Vacancies

Deputy Supervisor :
Getaway After School Club,
Bulford Call 01980 - 673355
Keyworker for Noah's Ark Under
5s, Bulford Call 01980 - 652 711
Supervisor & Staff : After Schools
Club, Tidworth Leisure Centre
Call Chris on 01980 - 673379

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 Gillian Hansell on 602224

Busy Bees Crèche : 603160

Caterpillars Pre-School : 602460

JD After School Club : 602019

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

Proms Band Concert

Featuring The Lucknow Band of
The Prince of Wales's Division
at the Garrison Theatre, Tidworth
26, 27 & 28 October 2004 19:00
Tickets : Call the Theatre Box Office
01980 - 602390 between 9:30 - 12:00

Car Boot Sale

Sun 10 October Castledown School
Set up 12:00 Buyers 13:00 - 16:00
Call 01980 - 602751 for details

Royal British Legion Club

New Members always welcome.
Entertainment every Saturday
Evening. Call 01980 - 843 317

Netball : Phoenix Knights

Picton Bks Mon & Thurs 18:00-20:00
Compete in Salisbury League
New players welcome
Call Emma Vanandel on 673525

Stop Smoking !

8 week course begins 6 October
Call QEM HC on 01980 - 602640

Ordnance House, Tidworth

Hairdresser : Call 842492

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
Thrift Shop Call 673355
Term time Thursdays 9:30 - 13:00
Bulford Youth Club
Tuesdays 17:00 - 18:30 5 - 8s
1845 - 20:45 9 - 13s
Call Paul Wood on 01980 - 672105
Bulford Scout Group Call 633494

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 673479

Little Rascals Parent & Toddler

Tues & Thurs 10:30 - 12:00
Call Denise on 597834

The Bistro

Mon - Fri 10:00 - 14:00

The Beeches is available for hire
for functions & children's parties.

Bulford HIVE

7 Kandy Road, Bulford Camp
Open Mon - Fri 9:30 - 13:30
Call Jackie Bird on 672109
Also at the Haig Centre : First
Thurs every month 10:00 - 12:00

Stay with the beat !

Deadline for November issue : 11 October 2004

Drumbeat, 10/78 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.