

# Drumbeat



Issue 84

Tidworth, Netheravon & Bulford Community Newsletter

May 2004

## Tidworth bids farewell to Sergeant Oatway ...



## Live Radio link with Iraq



For the first time ever !  
Tidworth, Netheravon and  
Bulford Garrison Radio  
and  
BFBS Middle East  
will be linking up  
**LIVE ON AIR**  
to provide us with a two-way, up-to-the  
minute music, messages and news  
programme linking our Units in Iraq with  
friends and family back here at home.

Tune in to :

**1287 am medium wave**  
**Every Friday 10:00 - 10:30**  
**Beginning 14th May**

"We are looking forward to hearing from our soldiers and how they are finding conditions out in Iraq, a year on from the Gulf War", Garrison Radio Station Manager Baz Reilly told Drumbeat. "Anyone who wants to put out a message from here should call 01980 - 602424 or drop by our studio in Station Road any weekday morning".

BFBS  
radio  
middle east



## Drums Beat for Exercise Zulu Return

See inside for the full story ...



## Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day !



26 & 27 May  
D-Day Prom Concert at the Museum  
of Army Flying, Middle Wallop  
30 May  
Wilton House Wartime Swing : Get "in  
the mood" with the sounds of the 40s  
9 & 10 July  
Music on Fire at RMAS Sandhurst

More details of D-Day events on the Noticeboard page.

D-Day Events website

Follow the link from the "What's on" page of the  
Drumbeat website : [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)



Keep in touch ! Visit : [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk)



## New Tennis Courts at the Tidworth Leisure Centre Now Open !



Two new floodlit tennis courts in the grounds of the Tidworth Leisure Centre have been officially opened by Major General Simon Lytle CBE, the Director of the Army Sport Control Board. He is pictured here, (centre), with TLC General Manager Stuart McLean and Garrison Commander Col Carron Snagge.

Funding to build the Tennis Courts, amounting to £35,000, was donated by the Army Sport Control Board, the Garrison Commander's Fund and Kennet District Council.

The courts will be available for use by all members of the community, civilian and military, on a first-come first-served basis, seven days a week.

The cost to use the courts is £3.70 per match, which includes use of the TLC's extensive changing rooms, shower facilities and cafeteria; Service personnel will be able to use the courts free of charge upon production of their ID card.

The Tidworth Leisure Centre is unique ! It is an MOD building but it is operated in partnership with Kennet District Council and the Wiltshire County & Army Library Services, with the result that it can be used by both the Garrison and the local community.



For more information about the facilities at the Tidworth Leisure Centre, call TLC Reception : 01980 - 847140

## Tax Credits



Last April, the Government introduced a Tax Credit system to assist working people on a low income and those with children.

Soon, claims will need to be renewed. The Inland Revenue will be sending out review packs between April and July of this year.

Payments will not be stopped whilst renewals are being assessed, but if you have been paid too much in the past year, then any overpayment will be deducted from the amount you receive.

If this adjustment, following an overpayment, in your tax credit award is causing you real hardship or debt problems, you can contact the Inland Revenue helpline to request help.

The Citizens' Advice Bureau can help you do this.

For more details and advice about this, please contact the Citizens' Advice Bureau in the Community Centre, Wylde Road, Tidworth. 01980 - 843 377

Mon & Tues 10:00 - 14:00 Appointments 14:00 - 16:00

## Welcome to Tidworth ...



MDP Constables Colin Ford and Andy Gale and Sgt Mark Venning : three members of the new MDP Salisbury Plain Unit, outside the Police Post in Tidworth. The MDP is committed to providing a service to all members of the defence community and can be contacted as follows :

Telephone : 01980 - 60 30 99

Email : [salisburyplain@modpol.org](mailto:salisburyplain@modpol.org)

## Garrison Radio

1287 am Medium Wave  
Broadcasting to TNB Garrison  
from the studio in Station Road,  
Tidworth



Would you like to say hello to a friend or loved one overseas? TNB Station Manager and Breakfast Show Presenter, Baz Reilly, is out and about in the Garrison and will record requests for you. Invite him along to record messages at your coffee morning or get-together.

Call Baz on : 01980 - 602424 (studio)  
or 07710 - 436981 (mobile)  
online at : [www.garrisonradio.com](http://www.garrisonradio.com)



Wednesday  
6th June  
The Guildhall,  
London

Updates on issues such as Education, Employment, Special Needs and Housing. Guest Speakers include The Secretary of State for Defence, The Chief of the General Staff and The Adjutant General.

Debate on the future for Army Families, chaired by Edward Stourton from BBC Radio 4's Today programme, with representatives from DHE, the Service Families' Task Force, Service Personnel Policy, Service Children's Education and Director Personal Services (Army).

Use Your Voice - Voice Your Views - Find out more :

- the March issue of the AFJ (AFF Families Journal)
- the AFF website at [www.aff.org.uk](http://www.aff.org.uk)
- or contact AFF Central Office on 01980 - 615 525

## The Community Challenge 2003 Award Ceremony



Photograph : Andover Advertiser

2003 was another great year in the history of the Challenge, which was begun in 1995 with the aim of creating and fostering pride in our community.

Community projects carried out by local people throughout 2003 were praised by the Lord Lieutenant, Lt General Sir Maurice Johnston, as he presented awards to those who took part.

Some of the projects entered in the Challenge included the **Castledown School Gardening Group**, set up to encourage pupils to take more responsibility for and have pride in their environment by taking on the upkeep of the Ludgershall War Memorial and rose garden; the **Zouch Primary School Wildlife & Pond Project** which built a wildlife corner at the school opened by Charlie Dimmock; and the **Chute Gardening Club Potato-growing competition**, an event which engendered much friendly rivalry and community spirit in the village!

This year, however, the Barclays Shield was presented to the **Friday Drop-In at the Ludgershall Memorial Hall**, a

group run by volunteers which meets a real need within the community and which celebrated its 10th Anniversary this year.

The first of the two Tidworth Parish Council Shields was presented to the **South Tidworth Chapel Group**, whose members completed the Herculean task of clearing undergrowth and rubbish from the burial ground surrounding the Memorial Chapel, recording and photographing the burials and removing ivy from the headstones and Chapel walls;

The second Parish Council Shield was presented to Annette Scott for organising "Eve's Day" which raised £3,530 for cancer charities, the disease from which her daughter-in-law had died earlier in the year. Mrs Scott was praised for her achievement, supported especially by 1PWRR, her son's regiment. Eve's Day was chosen by the Judges as being the best Challenge of 2003, recognising Mrs Scott's considerable personal effort - an outstanding contribution to the community.

## DJ Baz Reilly opens Tidworth's new Information, Advice & Guidance Centre

The Tempo and e-info Information, Advice and Guidance Services which have, up until now, been situated in Melksham House in Wylde Road, have now moved to a new location on Pennings Road, two doors up from the Post Office, which will be a far more convenient location for everyone using the Centre.

"This centre seems to be able to meet the needs of pretty much anyone in Tidworth", said Baz Reilly, as he opened the Centre. "I could use the service if I needed advice and guidance about work or training, if I wanted help with IT solutions for a small business, if I was a student wanting to do some research, if I fancied improving my IT skills or even if I just wanted to email some photos. It's a great idea and I think the people of Tidworth will really benefit from it".

This centre has been made possible by financial help and support from a number of different partners including the Smartplace Partnership, Kennet District Council, the Learning and Skills Council through the Learning Curve Network, Learndirect, Sustain the Plain and Wiltshire and Swindon Information, Advice and Guidance Partnership.

"Without these partners we would not have been able to



provide such a multi-functional and professional service", said Steve Lawton, Chief Executive of Tidworth Development Trust.

The TEMPO and e-info Centre is accredited to deliver Information, Advice and Guidance to the **matrix** Quality Standards and will be open 8:30 - 16:30 Mondays - Wednesdays, 9:30 - 16:30 on Thursdays and 8:30 - 16:00 on Fridays. For more information, please get in touch with: Steve Lawton, Chief Executive of Tidworth Development Trust, on 01980 - 842117

**Tempo e-info Information Advice & Guidance Centre**  
01980 - 840 220

## Drums Beat for Exercise Zulu Return

5 Field Squadron, 22 Engineer Regiment



Seven members of 5 Field Squadron were invited to South Africa to represent the Corps on behalf of the British High Commission at several acts of remembrance and reconciliation to mark the 125th anniversary of two battles which took place in January 1879: Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift.

At Isandhlwana, Zulu warriors armed only with assegais, spears and shields, defeated British forces armed with the most modern of weapons. The few British survivors escaped to the small garrison of Rorke's Drift, where they withstood Zulu attack for 10 hours until a relief column arrived. Victoria Crosses were awarded to eleven of the defenders of Rorke's Drift, one of whom was Lt John Chard of the 5th Field Company.

After taking part in the 20 km road race from Isandhlwana to Rorke's Drift, the route taken by the survivors, the seven members of 5 Fd Sqn returned to Isandhlwana for the official events to mark the 125th anniversary. The King of Zululand and the British High Commissioner watched a re-enactment of the battle, afterwards laying wreaths at the Zulu memorial. The Engineer in Chief, Brigadier DR ff Innes ADC, laid a wreath on behalf of the Corps.

Seeing the places, meeting the people and hearing so many different accounts of bravery from both the British and the Zulus brought the events of 125 years ago to life. It was a great honour to take part in the events, as representatives of the Corps and the British people.

### Would you like to learn something new ?

Learndirect offers many courses  
( most of them FREE ! )

to soldiers, dependants and civil servants.

Learn at your own pace at any time that suits YOU

For more details call Tidworth Army Learning Centre  
01980 - 602275 or Tid. Mil. 2275

## Use it - don't abuse it ...

Spring is here - and, unfortunately, the good weather has brought the vandals out of hibernation too. This very recent damage to the new skateboard half pipe is substantial and deliberate. The Garrison and the Community Authorities want to continue to offer this facility, but Public Liability Insurance and the cost of repairs of this nature are expensive and will be weighed against the cost of closure.



This is YOUR facility - its future is in your hands.

**Crimestoppers : 0800 - 555 111**

**"Call anonymously with information about crime"**

## Due for Promotion soon ?

Does your Platoon Commander complain about your maths or spelling ?

Do your children boggle you when they ask you about multiplication, long division and adjectives ?

You could be working towards getting the National Qualifications you need to enrol on JNCO CLM - even while you are deployed !

Speak to your RCMO or get in touch with Michèle Blain at 10/78 AEC. Write to Candahar Barracks, Tidworth SP9 7AY or send an email to [bs@10aec.detsa.co.uk](mailto:bs@10aec.detsa.co.uk)

## ... and while he's away ...

These FREE courses will be running :

**Aromatherapy / Interior Design**

Courses at Zouch School, starting in May

**Aromatherapy**

Evening course at the TLC, starting 7th June

**CLAIT : 21 - 25 June** in the 1RHA Training Wing

**Car Maintenance & Driving Test Theory**

Courses to be held in June and September

**Call Lesley Britton on 01980 - 603045 for details**

## News from the 1PWRR Families Office

1PWRR Welfare Office can be contacted for routine matters on the following telephone numbers :

Welfare Officer WO2 Ken Furie : 01980 - 846028

Welfare SNCO Sgt Richard Kendall-Tobias : 01980 - 849013

For urgent enquiries or emergencies, please call the 1PWRR Guard Room on 01980 - 602425 and ask for the Duty Welfare Officer to call you back. Do not forget we are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support all PWRR families and family members. If in doubt, give us a call.

Please read your "Compassionate Cards" and call the Compassionate Cell if necessary.

The Tiger's Den is open full time now, so drop in for a chat or a coffee ! Our trips out are filling up fast, so start booking now : Call the Tiger's Den 01980 - 849013

PWRR website : <http://192.5.30.113/pwrr/main.html>

Email : [1pwrrwelfare@fsmail.net](mailto:1pwrrwelfare@fsmail.net)

## Tidworth bids farewell to Police Sergeant Paul Oatway



When Paul Oatway was posted to Tidworth in 1996, he was told that he would only be here for a few months, but, 9 years later, he is still here and has enjoyed his time here so much that he will be sorry to leave.

His biggest achievement has been the great improvement in the crime figures in this area. Recent figures show the number of crimes reported in Tidworth to be 515, (compared with 1015 in Marlborough and 1382 in Devizes). In addition to this, the detection rate in Tidworth is 37.5%, (compared with 27% in the whole County). "My ambition when I arrived here, was to make Tidworth a safer and better place to live and work", Sgt Oatway told Drumbeat. "In fact we have driven crime down and the detection rate up".

"I shall miss working with the Army and the local community; there are a lot of fine people on both sides who have done a lot to develop the community in recent years and although I shall miss being part of that, I am sure my successor will continue the good work.

"In my time here I have worked with 4 Garrison Commanders and 5 GSMs and have always had a very good working relationship with Garrison Headquarters, the Royal Military Police and the Ministry of Defence Police, all of which has added to the way we have been able to police the town effectively.

"Wiltshire Police is part of the whole community : I have enjoyed working behind the scenes helping to organise major parades for regiments such as the RDG and the KRH and Officers from Tidworth Station have taken part in the Community Challenge every year since it began: we have cycled from Land's End to Westminster and trekked over Dartmoor - not forgetting the Purbeck Plod ! - all to raise money for local charities. This year, some of the money we raised will be donated to the Army Benevolent Fund.

"For me, the most memorable event in my career came last year when I received the Queen's Police Medal, recognising 32 years' service and what has been achieved in Tidworth. This, of course, would not have been possible without the very, very dedicated Police Officers in my team and I would like to thank them for all their hard work."



Sgt Oatway leaves Wiltshire Constabulary after 32 years' service and will be joining the Senior Management Team at Salisbury Police Station where he will be responsible for the whole of "A" (Salisbury) Division as Head of Criminal Justice.

The Garrison Commanders, past and present, and all ranks thank him for his sterling support to the whole of our community and wish him well for the future.

## Brand New Website for BFBS



Launched by Kate Adie OBE

As the BBC's top News Correspondent, Kate Adie has reported from most of the world's trouble spots, including the Gulf and the Balkans, and has won awards for her coverage of Northern Ireland.

After years of travelling around from place to place, Kate knows what it is like to be away from home and recognises the importance of getting news, whether it is hearing from family and friends - or just finding out what the latest football score is !

After launching the new BFBS website, she spoke to Drumbeat :

"Communication is important in people's lives nowadays", she said. "People are used to feeling in contact. It keeps normal life going. TVs and radios are not luxury items any more - they are integral to good morale. Through BFBS, the service soldiers get overseas is as professional as what they get at home, whether it is information, music or news".

Kate Adie has recently joined the Board of Management of Services Sound & Vision Corporation, (SSVC), the charity whose object is to entertain and inform Britain's Armed Forces around the world.

**[www.bfbs.com](http://www.bfbs.com)**

- To request dedications for people you know in theatres of operations overseas and in N Ireland.
- To listen live online to BFBS Middle East, the radio station which our troops will be listening to in Iraq.

**Telephone : 08701 - 20 21 21**  
(calls are charged at the national rate)

## News from Basra ...

**Stuart Macaulay, Media Ops Officer with 1 Mechanized Brigade reports from Basra :**

"The boys are all here, they've arrived safely and are raring to go ! We've had 4 - 10 days down south to acclimatise ourselves to the heat; temperatures are 35 - 40 °C and rising, although thankfully there is a bit of a breeze at the moment and humidity is down.

"The whole ethos is to get out there, meet the Iraqi people, find out their problems and try to solve them. It's the British way, it's what we've been doing and it works. We are making some real progress here helping the the Iraqi people to rebuild their country and hopefully the momentum will increase as time goes on.

"We'll be reporting back to the Garrison every week to let everyone know how we're getting on."

**To hear Capt Macaulay's full conversation with Garrison Radio's Baz Reilly, log on to [www.drumbeat.org.uk](http://www.drumbeat.org.uk) and click on "News from Iraq"**



# Drumbeat Noticeboard



## Tidworth Junior Youth Club AWS Hall at the TLC

18:00 - 20:00 Call Jimi on 602191  
**Children's Disco : 4 May 04**  
18:10 - 19:00 5 - 8s,  
19:15 - 20:15 9 - 12s

## Sponsored Bluebell Walk

**Sunday 9 May 2004 13:30**  
Approx. 5 miles - Starts at  
Ludgershall Castle Car Park  
Sponsor forms & details from  
Rev M Freeman on 01264 - 791202  
Julie Walker 790448 Anne Wise 790644

## D-Day Prom Concert

**Wednesday 26 & Thursday 27 May**  
19:30 (doors & bar open 18:30)  
Band of the Army Air Corps  
at the Museum of Army Flying in  
Middle Wallop  
Tickets from the Museum Shop  
or phone 01980 - 674421

## NSPCC Ashdown Centre

**New ! St Michael's Drop-In**  
at St Michael's Church Hall  
next to the Health Centre.  
Wednesdays 13:00 - 15:00  
Free Refreshments  
**Starts May : Fun Crafts for Carers**  
For more information on these and  
other sessions, call in at the  
Ashdown Centre or phone 846164

## Wilton House Wartime Swing

**Sunday 30 May Gates open 18:00**  
Listen to the sounds of the 40s !  
Tickets from Wilton House Shop or  
call 01722 - 746720  
In aid of SSAFA Forces Help



**Friday 9 & Saturday 10 July 2004**  
RMAS Sandhurst 17:00 for 19:30  
Ticket Hotline : 020 8675 3582  
www.musiconfire.com  
In aid of the Army Benevolent Fund

## Job Vacancies at Tidworth Polo Club

**Grooms** : Full or part time  
**Free Riding** :  
help exercise the polo ponies.  
**Helpers** at the Stables  
Call Jax 846661 or Muriel 846705

## AWS Job Vacancies

- Staff for After School Clubs in  
Tidworth and Bulford  
- Bank staff for Preschools  
Crèches Tidworth & Bulford  
Call Chris on 01980 - 673379

## 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 - Fri 10:00 - 19:00  
Sat & 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

### 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

## 1CHESHIRE Wives' Café

In the 1CHESHIRE Sports Bar,  
Picton Barracks, Bulford. Open :  
Mon - Fri : 9:30 - 13:30  
Mon - Wed : 19:00 - 21:00  
Fri & Sat : 19:00 - 23:00  
Call 01980 - 672488 for details

## Job Vacancy

Part time sales advisor for  
Naafi Financial in Station Road.  
Call Donna Cheetham on 846222

## Car Boot / Table Top Sale

**Sunday 23 May 11:00 - 14:00**  
The Grapevine, Perham Down  
Call 01980 - 603514 for details  
Everyone Welcome  
Proceeds to 22 Engrs Wives' Club

## Ordnance House

### Fun Factory Crèche

Phone Marie on 602398

### Hairdresser

Call Chris or Sharon on 842492

### Wednesday Activity Mornings

for accompanied pre-school  
children. Start 10:00

## Tidworth in Bloom 2004

Gardens (Whole or just part)  
Baskets & Tubs - Group Entries  
Enter your own or someone else's !  
Call Hilary Hollinsworth for more  
details : 01980 - 846693

## 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

### Pilates Courses

Call 595502 (day) or 590374 (pm)

### 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

## Stay with the beat !

**Deadline for June issue : 10 May 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**

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