



Defence
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**Salisbury Plain Training Area
Newsletter
January 2017**

www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter

This Newsletter can be found at the above link

The DIO runs a Twitter account for news and updates on the Salisbury Plain Training Area using the Twitter hashtag #modontheplain. This account now has over 3700 followers. If you'd like to follow us go to: www.twitter.com/mod_dio

January 2017 Newsletter

The new Training Year will start on a very quiet note for the first two weeks with a Challenger 2 armoured squadron and 2 mechanised infantry company conducting low level collective training in the Centre in the East from 11 January onwards . The last 2 week of January see 2 armoured companies and 2 armoured squadrons with challenger 2 as the main users. 19 Regt RA are also deploying with their AS90 where they will be conducting night firing. There are a number of specialist FIND units out using their optical and radar detection equipment. At the end of the month is the preparation for the next EXERCISE WESSEX STORM from 1-20 February 17.

The red flags will be down in the WEST until the 5 Jan 17 and normal jogging on SPTA will resume on 9 Jan 17. The public should be aware that tank crossings over the A360, A345, A338, B390, and the C22 (Tilshead to Chitterne) roads will be very busy and if conditions are wet mud clearance parties will be working on the crossings. Notice is also given that the training areas in the Copehill Down and Bourne Valley (SPTA East) areas will be heavily used over this period and that recreational use of the Salisbury Plain military lands is to be restricted to public rights of way only as per the byelaws.

Note: NOTICE TO ALL DOG WALKERS

In the recent weeks there have been two serious incidents involving dogs on SPTA, both due to walkers not keeping them under control. The first was a dog had strayed into an out of bounds area where there was hazardous military training infrastructure, the dog injured itself quite severely as a result, the second was a dog had broken into a temporary penning and killed one sheep and severely wounding another, (the latter was destroyed).

Dog walkers are reminded that in accordance with Salisbury Plain Byelaws 1981 : No person when on the Military Lands shall fail to keep under control any dog or animal.

Related News

[Sanctuary Magazine celebrates 40 years](#)

Related Links

Gov.uk/DIO

A leaflet on public access to Imber is available online and should be read in advance of any visit:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/435909/Imber_A5_Leaflet-final_Online_version.pdf

Information about low flying is available from the MOD Low Flying Advisory Service (0845 600 7580) or on line at www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area .

MONTHLY FIRING CALENDAR FOR January 2017 (Subject to Change)

1. ARTILLERY LIVE FIRING DAYS FROM AREAS 6, 7 AND 8: 24th & 25th January 2017
2. ARTILLERY LIVE FIRING DAYS ON SALISBURY PLAIN (EAST): Nil
3. LATE FIRING DAYS ON LARKHILL/WESTDOWN DANGER AREA: 10th, 12th, 14th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 24th, 26th & 31st January 2017
4. NON- FIRING DAYS ON LARKHILL/WESTDOWN DANGER AREA: 01st – 08th, 28th & 29th January 2017
5. NON- FIRING DAYS ON BULFORD RANGES: 01st – 08th, 14th, 15th, 28th & 29th January 2017

Note: Christmas stand down is 17th December 2016 – 08th January 2017 inclusive.

Note: All Complaints/Enquiries should be made to 01980 620819.

ACCESS

Access to SPTA is regulated by Salisbury Plain Military Lands, Bulford, Larkhill and Imber Range Byelaws. Always comply with local signs and flags. Rights of way in Range Danger Areas are closed when red flags are flying.

This Newsletter is published up to 6 weeks before the event and changes may occur. Access timings for the next week can be found on the SPTA Walks Line: (01980) 674763.

Imber Ranges. The public are excluded except when the roads are specifically opened. Planned open dates for 2016 are as follows:

Event	Open	Closed
Christmas / New Year	1800hrs Fri 16 Dec 16	0800hrs Thur 05 Jan 17
Easter	1800hrs Thur 13 Apr 17	0800hrs Tue 18 Apr 17

1. Even when roads are open the village and buildings remain out of bounds to the public.
2. Dates may change if operational training needs dictate.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO REDUCE CRIME ON SALISBURY PLAIN?

If any crime is taking place call 999, (or 101) and do not under any circumstances challenge the offenders.

The new Rural Crime Partnership for Wiltshire and Swindon (hereafter 'the Rural Crime Partnership') has been established by Wiltshire Police in consultation with the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Wiltshire and Swindon to provide governance for, and oversee delivery of, rural crime strategy. It provides coherence, direction and guidance to

the delivery and apportionment of rural policing resources across the county in the context of the Community Policing Model. The first meeting was held at Wiltshire Police Headquarters on 18th October 2016; this is seen by Headquarters SPTA as a positive initiative in order to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour on Salisbury Plain.

Members of the Rural Crime Partnership for Wiltshire and Swindon

Report suspicious activity to PLAINWATCH (01980 674700) or PLAINWATCH@landmarc.mod.uk. The more information received the better, e.g. time, place, vehicle registration, description of individuals and vehicles.

Health and Safety reminder for *all* Military Training Areas and Ranges:

- Do not touch or tamper with Military debris.
- Wash your hands before you eat.
- Clean your footwear before you enter your car or home.

Jim Russell
WO2 (DTSO)
for
Senior Training Safety Officer Salisbury Plain