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**Salisbury Plain Training Area
Newsletter
March 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 3750 followers. If you'd like to follow us go to: www.twitter.com/mod_dio

March 2017 Newsletter

March 17 continues on from a very busy February. The Plain has heavy Engineer and REME units traversing from East to West. Convoys will be dispatched at regular intervals and disruption to civilian traffic at A and C tank crossings on the A345, CC and DD tank crossings on the A338, GG tank crossing on the A3076, and BB and A2 tank crossings on the A342 is likely throughout both days and the nights. Drivers are advised to exercise extra caution when approaching tank crossing in the area where mud clearance parties will be working. Throughout the month there will be heavy use of all parts of the Plain as armoured, armoured reconnaissance and armoured infantry sub-units train ready for deployment for training in Canada later in the year. The Land Warfare School major armoured exercises COMBAT TEAM and TEAM SPIRIT will take place 13-17 March and 23 -26 March respectively. The gap between these exercises is being utilised by a major logistics exercise TIMBER TRUSS run by the Defence Logistics School involving large convoys of heavy trucks which will be using all training area transit routes and tank crossings. The public are advised to take extra precautions when using the byways and recreational access areas particularly during the peak periods of 13-17 March and 20-24 March 17.

NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The legal impulse noise level is 140dB, but MoD self-impose a 130dB limit. All ranges have been directed to ensure that no impulse noise greater than 130dB is heard outside the range boundary in populated areas or on main routes. If there is an operational imperative STSO HQ DIO SD Trg SP may authorise an increase to 137 dB. Gunfire noise is predicted using the Gunfire Noise Analysis Tool (GNAT) and traces from the Met Office Noise Evaluation Tool (MONET) at Larkhill Met Office. Range Operations monitors noise from both the guns and the impact area using fixed microphones linked to the Gunfire Noise Assessment Tool (GNAT) computer in Westdown Camp and staff may deploy with hand-held noise monitors.

SAFETY NOTICE – HORSE RIDERS

As part of an effort to mitigate the problems caused when horses react to aircraft, the Joint Helicopter Command in conjunction with the BHS, has created a safety leaflet for horse-riders which will be disseminated around the local area. The key message is as follows:

MOD flight trials have shown that high-visibility clothing significantly increases the range at which riders can be seen in open countryside. Whilst wearing high-visibility clothing may not prevent an over-flight, it does enhance rider safety.

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

Related News

[Sanctuary Magazine celebrates 40 years](#)

Related Links

Gov.uk/DIO

MONTHLY FIRING CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2017 (Subject to Change)

- 1. ARTILLERY LIVE FIRING DAYS FROM AREAS 6, 7 AND 8:**
Nil
- 2. ARTILLERY LIVE FIRING DAYS ON SALISBURY PLAIN (EAST):**
Nil
- 3. LATE FIRING DAYS ON LARKHILL/WESTDOWN DANGER AREA:**
02, 07, 09 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 28 & 30
- 4. NON-FIRING DAYS ON LARKHILL/WESTDOWN DANGER AREA:**
04, 05, 11, 12, 25 & 26 (on all other dates live firing takes place)
- 5. NON-FIRING DAYS ON BULFORD RANGES:**
04, 05, 11, 12, 18 & 19 (on all other dates live firing takes place)

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 2017 are as follows:

Event	Open	Closed
Easter	1800hrs Thur 13 Apr 17	0800hrs Tue 18 Apr 17
Summer	1800hrs Fri 25 Aug 17	0800hrs Tue 29 Aug 17
Remembrance Day	0900hrs Sat 11 Nov 17	1400hrs Sat 11 Nov 17

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

1. 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.

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