



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Salisbury Plain Training Area Newsletter August 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-imber-range-perimeter-path>

This Newsletter can now be found at the above link.

STOP PRESS

The military road between Charlie Crossing and Charlie 1 will be closed between 5 and 8 Aug for essential bridge repairs. Alpha to Alpha 1 is scheduled to close from 12 to 15 Aug.

During Exercise PASHTUN DAWN (27 Aug to 5 Sep) the whole of Salisbury Plain Training Area will be in use and permissive recreational use is suspended (see Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaw 8). There will be no access to Imber and Larkhill Artillery Ranges and the permissive stone tracks in the Tilshead, Chitterne, and Shrewton triangle (Copehill Down area) will also be closed. The public are requested to avoid areas where troops are training and to be aware that "back door" areas such as Heytesbury will also be used.

The range fire on Larkhill Ranges that was reported on radio and television on 12 July was in the 10,000 acre artillery impact area and could not be fought due to the possibility of unexploded ordnance "cooking off". The fire burned out over the following weekend. Range fires are quite common but this was larger than normal due to the exceptional grass growing conditions last year which provided more fuel than normal.

TRAINING

1 – 26 Aug. Levels of training will be very low as preparations start for the next Mission Specific Training period. Troops and equipment from 7 Armoured Brigade, based in Germany, will arrive on the Plain over the period 24 – 26 August to conduct pre- deployment training in preparation for their forthcoming tour in Afghanistan.

27 Aug – 5 Sep. Ex PASHTUN DAWN will take place across the Plain and involve some 6100 troops, 300 tracked and wheeled armoured vehicles, and both fixed and rotary wing aircraft. Convoys, some in excess of 80 vehicles, will operate on the Plain. Tank crossings on the A360, A345, A338, A3026 and Chitterne/Tilshead roads will be in use.

Late firing on Larkhill Ranges on: 1, 3, 6, 8 Aug.

Live firing from Salisbury Plain (East): Nil

AS90 Firing from Tilshead, Chitterne, Shrewton triangle: Nil

Complaints about Firing Noise should be made to (01980) 620819.

Military Flying – Helicopters, Hercules (C130) and fast jets may be active at any time. Fox Covert & Everleigh Dropping Zones will be active for most of the period.

Complaints about low flying should be made to 0207 218 6020 or e-mail www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area.

Provisional Dates for Major Exercises. During the following exercises access may be restricted on Larkhill Ranges and in the Chitterne – Shrewton – Tilshead Triangle north of the B390.

27 Aug 13	-	5 Sep 13	Ex PASHTUN DAWN
11 Nov 13	-	25 Nov 13	Ex WESSEX THUNDER
28 Apr 14	-	5 May 14	Ex PASHTUN DAWN
11 Jun 14	-	25 Jun 14	Ex WESSEX THUNDER

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) 67 4763.

Larkhill Ranges. No firing is planned for: 10 – 26 Aug.

Note: Due to the risk of “cook off” from unexploded ordnance the range is closed during fires.

Bulford Ranges. No firing is planned for: 1 – 26 Aug.

Imber Ranges. The public are excluded except when the roads are specifically opened.

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.
3. Church opening times can be found at www.imberchurch.org.uk.

Road Opening Dates. Provisional summer dates are from 1600 2 Aug to 0800 23 Aug.

St Giles Day. The St Giles Day service will take place at 1500 on Saturday 21 Sep (due to an exercise access is from Warminster only). The other entry points will be closed.

Service of Remembrance. The Remembrance Service is on Saturday 9th Nov (with access from Warminster only). Details to follow.

Christmas and New Year Dates. Provisional dates are: 1600 20 Dec 13 – 0800 6 Jan 14.

PLAIN WATCH

What Can You Do to Reduce Crime on Salisbury Plain?

If a crime is taking place call 999 and do not challenge the offenders.

Report suspicious activity to PLAINWATCH (01980 67 4700). The more information received the better e.g. time, place, vehicle registration, description of individuals and vehicles.



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Lt Col (Retd)

for Principal Training Safety Officer DIO Ops Trg SW