

There is a presumption in favour of public access to the Defence Training Estate, on Public Rights of Way, balanced against the overriding national requirement for safe and sustainable military training and conservation. The first priorities for any training area must be military training and public safety. However, archaeology, conservation and agriculture follow closely. At Warcop, training takes place 7 days a week and for virtually the whole of the year. Night Firing is also permitted on most days except for Sundays (pm). For safety reasons, therefore, public access to the danger area is restricted to the public rights of way during non-firing days only. Live shells and mortar bombs, some dating from Second World War, are still found on the ranges during clearance operations. Access is permitted on the public rights of way on 12 access weekends per year, which are publicly notified 12 months in advance. Other short notice access days are advertised locally. Additional access information is available by phoning 0800 7835181. When on public Rights of Way across a training area, follow the Country Code. Additional information can be found on www.access.mod.uk

The Country Code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise
- Keep to the public paths across farmland
- Fasten all gates
- Keep dogs under control
- Protect wild life, plants and trees
- Help to keep all water clean

Great care is taken to ensure the safety of these walks, although areas used by the Armed Forces for training can obviously be dangerous - and this applies throughout DTE North (West). Anyone walking on MOD land must obey all signs and bylaws relevant to the area being used.

Remember! Unexploded Ordnance: Do not touch any unidentified object.

Always comply with the following safety rules:

Safety

- Do not approach, touch, or pick up any metal objects lying on the ground
- Keep to the footpaths and do not deviate from them
- The use of metal detectors is prohibited
- Keep away from all buildings, bunkers and military installations except where it is clearly shown that public access is permitted
- No camping or fires are permitted
- All cliffs are dangerous



One of the range roads winds towards the horizon against the magnificent backdrop of the high fell

Photos courtesy of DTE North (West)



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to this Public Information Leaflet for the North West, Defence Estates (DE) produce other literature.

The DTE Annual Report summarises yearly progress by the DTE organisations; DE's booklet 'Walks on MOD Land' details a number of walks on the 10 DTE Estates including Salisbury Plain, Castlemartin, Catterick, Dartmoor and Otterburn. DE's annual publication Sanctuary contains articles about the Defence Estate across the whole country. All these publications are free and can be obtained from any of the addresses below.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Headquarters DTE North
Wathgill, Richmond, North Yorkshire,
DL11 6AH

Tel: 01748 875504/5

Headquarters DTE North (West)
Warcop Training Area, Appleby - in -
Westmorland, Cumbria, CA16 6PA
01768 343224
Access Information Freephone
0800 783 5181

Halton Training Camp
Lancaster LA2 6LW
Telephone: 01524 66161

Holcombe Moor
Hawkshaw, Nr Bury, Lancashire
BL8 4JJ
Telephone: 01204 82991/01524
66161

Headquarters Defence Training Estate
Land Warfare Centre, Warminster,
Wiltshire BA12 0DJ
Telephone: 0121 311 2000

Defence Estates
Blakemore Drive, Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands B75 7RL
Telephone: 0121 311 2000
www.defence-estates.mod.uk

Further Information on the Defence Training Estate can be found at www.army.mod.uk/dte.

PUBLIC INFORMATION LEAFLET



DE
DEFENCE ESTATES
Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs



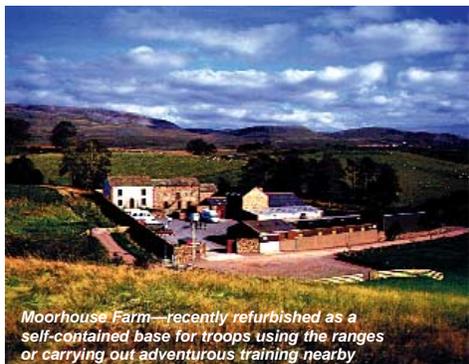
DTE North (West)

WHY THE ARMY NEEDS TO TRAIN

The British Army is held in the highest regard around the world. This respect has been hard - won over recent years in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, the Gulf, the Balkans, Iraq, Afghanistan - and countless other peacekeeping operations. But such professionalism does not just happen by chance. It is attained by constant, thorough and tough training, in realistic conditions. The Defence Training Estate (DTE) provides the principal facilities to achieve this.

ORGANISATION

The Defence Training Estate in the UK is controlled by Headquarters DTE, based at Headquarters Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire (see address at the end of this leaflet). The Estate is sub-divided into 10 regionally-based areas, each with its own headquarters and staff. DTE North (West) consists of one major training area at Warcop, and two training camps at Halton and Holcombe Moor.

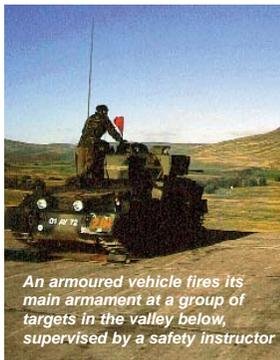


Moorhouse Farm—recently refurbished as a self-contained base for troops using the ranges or carrying out adventurous training nearby

Moorhouse Farm was recently refurbished as a self-contained base for troops using the ranges or carrying out adventurous training nearby. Warcop also caters for medium sized artillery, guns mounted on tanks and other armoured vehicles. Halton has a small training area of its own which is used for bridging training and its camp is the base for adventurous training in the nearby Pennines. In the south of DTE North (West) is Holcombe Moor, used for Cadet and TA training. Each of these areas is described below.

WARCOP TRAINING AREA

The Warcop Training Area is situated in Cumbria in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty 40 miles south of the Scottish border. It covers approximately 24,000 acres (9,715 hectares), of which more than half is MoD freehold land, with the balance being held on lease or by licence. Large areas are used for grazing sheep on both the high and low fell. Some limited land purchases have also been made in recent years enabling the development of useful additional facilities. Warcop was established in 1942, as a tank gunnery range, urgently needed to prepare for the coming invasion of mainland Europe. Most of the armoured formations which took part in the D-Day landings trained there. During the ensuing years, generations of tank crews came to Warcop and armoured vehicles are still frequently to be seen. In 1960 the area became an all arms facility, catering for artillery and infantry units as well as the RACTR at Catterick. However, with the RACTR's demise in 1994, the training emphasis at Warcop changed and about £2m was spent that year to construct 6 new ranges and refurbish existing range facilities. This ensured the concurrent training of five platoons with a total strength of up to 240. Infantry recruits train for a week at a time and the ITC is at Warcop for at least 27 weeks a year. There is also increasing pressure from many other regular users for the live firing of a wide



An armoured vehicle fires its main armament at a group of targets in the valley below, supervised by a safety instructor

TRAINING IN DTE NORTH (WEST)

With the demise of the Armoured Training Regiment at Catterick in 1994, and the concept of the Infantry Training Centre there firmly established, Warcop itself is now principally an Infantry Field Firing Range for small arms and all infantry weapons.

(19 hectare) site with barrack accommodation and a small wood running parallel along the North Bank of the River Lune. From 1964 onwards it became an all-year-round, general-purpose training camp with the emphasis on TA and Cadet training at weekends and mid-week as a base for regular army units undergoing adventurous training. In 1996 the slipways were further developed.

HOLCOMBE MOOR TRAINING AREA

Holcombe Moor Training Area was built in the 1940s and like Halton it is now an all-year-round general purpose training area. TA and Cadet organisations train at weekends, and regular army units take part in low-level tactical training and live firing during the week. The area consists of 750 acres (303 hectares) of freehold land on open moorland to the north and east, and grass farmland with young plantations to the south. Three sites of biological interest are situated on the training area, and there are 5 well-used public rights of way that cross the site. It is an integral part of the West Pennine Moors.

PART OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Along with the rest of the Defence Training Area, DTE North (West) has made excellent progress in the development of planning and management systems to ensure that training on the Estate is sustainable. In close co-operation with both statutory and non - statutory bodies, together with the local people, DTE North (West) continues to strive for the required balance between the Army's training needs and the interest of the general public. Within the UK there are nearly 200 military Conservation Groups. Conservation interests in DTE North (West) are safeguarded by a Conservation Group involving a partnership between the Commander and his staff, Defence Estates, Statutory Bodies, farmers and other highly qualified volunteer members. A regular Firing Notice informs residents of forthcoming exercises and other planned military activity. Noise levels are also monitored and exercise planning



The control centre for a firing range. Targets emerge from the small huts in the middle distance from which the set up team is returning

range of weapons, using a complex of 24 field-firing ranges. These are situated on the low fell, with firing towards an area of high fell which acts as an excellent backstop.

HALTON CAMP AND TRAINING AREA

Halton Training Camp was a TA Militia Training Area prior to the Second World War, during which and up until 1964, it was developed and used by Royal Engineer Units as a wet and dry bridging training site. It accommodated some 1,000 personnel in buildings and tented areas. Nowadays it is a 47-acre

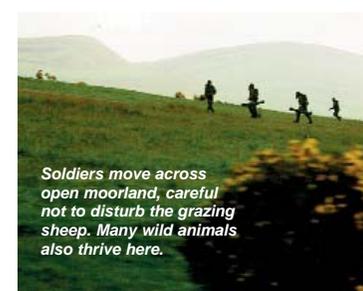
takes due account of the effects of training on the local population.

CAREFUL CONSERVATION OF A UNIQUE HERITAGE

Warcop's use as a military training area has preserved a valuable landscape. The area has remained home to a wealth of rare species of flora and fauna already lost in other parts of the country. Numerous archaeological remains attract great geological interest and the area contains some of the UK's finest untouched limestone pavement. This striking rock formation, dating back 10,000 years ago to the ice age, is in pristine condition thanks to the restricted access over the past 60 years. Warcop includes many conservation designations. The whole training area, including Stainmore, lies within the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with the exception of the south west corner beyond Hag Lane. There are also areas within the Appleby Fells and Upper Teesdale Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which forms part



The striking limestone pavement, among the finest in the UK, seen at one of the highest points of the training area



Soldiers move across open moorland, careful not to disturb the grazing sheep. Many wild animals also thrive here.

of the Moor House - Upper Teesdale Candidate Special Area of Conservation. Helbeck Wood situated in the south eastern corner of the training area is also a SSSI in its own right along with Hilton Beck which forms part of the River Eden and Tributaries SSSI.

Warcop also participates in the Black Grouse Recovery Project, protecting the Black Grouse population and improving its habitat, thereby benefiting other threatened

species on the training area, such as the grey partridge, skylark, song thrush, linnet, reed bunting and spotted flycatcher. Badgers thrive too, undisturbed by live firing, and there is significant activity to protect red squirrels against encroachment into the area by grey squirrels. Another project is providing bat roosts, by including them in some new buildings, in old mine workings sealed against trespassers and also in modified underground bunkers. Six species have been identified, representing one of the most important colonies in the north. The ranges are also home to many butterflies, moths and other insects, including some rare species. Projects have been initiated to improve the training area's wetlands, home to the great crested newt, as well as others to re-establish old hedgerows and dry stone walls. To the south of Warcop, the Halton camp site includes 20 acres (eight hectares) of ancient semi - natural woodland. Further south still, Holcombe Moor is situated within the green belt and is an area of local landscape importance with several woodlands of varying ages scattered throughout the training area. Many of the mature woodlands are confined to the valley sides adjacent to Holcombe Brook and Simon's Lodge. The area surrounding Simon's Lodge is designated as a Site of Biological interest and at least one of the Spenleach Farmsteads and the field system on the southern half of the training area are of archaeological interest, dating from the 17th century.



Black Grouse, a rare and threatened species whose numbers are increasing at Warcop