



Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation

Salisbury Plain Training Area Newsletter August 2018

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 #modonthepain. This account now has over 6000 followers. If you'd like to follow us go to:
www.twitter.com/mod_dio

August 2018 Newsletter

The first week of August sees the end of EX LIONS STRIKE in the light role and the HCR squadron training. The middle two weeks of the month will consist mainly of Army Cadet Force (ACF) training. Cadets from the Volunteer ACF and the Sea Cadets HQ will be conducting their annual camps on the Plain over this period. The last week in August is particular quiet with only 3rd Battalion Royal Welsh on the Plain. The roads into Imber village will be open from Saturday 18 August until 0800 hours on Tuesday 28 August. The public are reminded that access is restricted to the carriageways only, with the exception of St Giles Church. It is the responsibility of the public to ensure that their vehicles (including cycles) are properly lit at night and in poor visibility when using the Imber roads, and that the 30 mph speed limit is strictly adhered to.

Please report all concerns to the Complaints Help Desk on 01980 620819 in the first instance.

Related Links - Gov.uk/DIO

RANGE FIRES

Range fires become a problem in dry weather and may endanger plantations, buildings and standing crops if there are strong winds, and can cause excessive smoke. On Salisbury Plain the MoD put in a vast amount of fail safes to ensure surrounding communities are safe and do not endure too much nuisance as a result of the military training that is conducted throughout the year. In order to prevent and control range fires occurring the following measures are in force:

- 5 day weather forecast in order to mitigate the future effects of the prevailing weather.
- A grazing programme agreed with local farmers in order to keep the grass short during the summer months.
- Control of firing incendiary ammunitions during extreme dry conditions.
- A fire watch scheme in order to ensure fires are constantly monitored.

Salisbury Plain Training Area Headquarters strives to meet the military needs for realistic training whilst at the same time endeavouring to take into full account public concerns. We will continue to do so.



TRAINING ESTATE PUBLIC SAFETY

There are two recent Defence Infrastructure Organisation blogs that relate to keeping safe whilst legally using the Military Lands on Salisbury Plain, please take the time to read them - the links can be found below:

<https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/2018/04/19/how-to-risk-your-life-on-the-military-training-estate/>

<https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/2018/04/24/six-ridiculous-excuses-for-risking-your-life-on-the-training-estate/>

Monthly firing calendar for August 2018 (subject to change)

1. Artillery live firing days from areas 6, 7 and 8 (east of Chitterne):
Nil
2. Artillery live firing days on Salisbury plain (east) (north of Bulford & west of Tidworth):
Nil
3. Late firing days on Larkhill/Westdown danger area (north of Larkhill):
02, 21, 23, 28, 30
4. Non-firing days on Larkhill/Westdown danger area:
04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
5. Non-firing days on Bulford fixed firing ranges:
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
6. Late firing days on Imber ranges, areas 1, 2, 3, 4 (east of Warminster)
Nil

Note: Close down of Larkhill/Westdown Danger Area, is PM 05th to AM 20th Aug.
Close down of Bulford fixed range is PM 10th to AM 28th Aug.

Byelaw Governance – Antisocial Behaviour

Parish members are encouraged to report all illegal activity on Salisbury plain to the Wiltshire Police. If serious crime is experienced 999 should be dialled, and for all other reports including: illegal off-roading, illegal motor biking, drone use, poaching, hare coursing, petty theft, camping on MoD land, kite flying please call 101 and list the call as ‘antisocial behaviour’ and a byelaw violation. Once reported please inform range control on the Plainwatch number: 01980 674700 or email PLAINWATCH@landmarc.mod.uk.

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 at all times, except when the roads are specifically opened. Planned opening dates for 2018 are as follows

Event	Open	Closed
Summer	1800hrs Fri 17 Aug 18	0800hrs Fri 24 Aug 18
Christmas	1800hrs Thur 27 Dec 18	0800hrs Wed 02 Jan 19

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

Note. Dates may change if operational training needs dictate.

What Can You Do To Reduce Crime On Salisbury Plain?

There has been an increase of thefts from motor vehicles that have been left unattended on the training area. Owners are reminded not to leave valuables in plain sight. **If any crime is taking place call 999, (or 101) and do not under any circumstances challenge the offenders.**

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.

Chris Shears
Major (Training Safety Officer)
for
Senior Training Safety Officer
Salisbury Plain Training Area