

Newsletter



Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly on-line Newsletter. Here you will find highlights from the latest press releases and you can read more by clicking on 'Full Press Release' link below. Please send any suggested items, news or events you would like to see included and any subscription requests to fred.hughes@serfca.org.



BUSINESSES RECEIVE AWARDS ON HMS DARING

Representatives from eight Hampshire based Businesses were invited on board HMS Daring, currently based in Portsmouth, for a guided tour of the Royal Navy's newest and most powerful Destroyer.

During the evening representatives from two of the Companies were awarded certificates by the Ministry of Defence for their support of the Reserve Forces.

The evening was organised by the Ministry of Defence Campaign - SaBRE, (Supporting Britain's Reservists & Employers). And was an opportunity to thank employers for their support of the Reserve Forces.

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Support for Armed Forces Day 2011

How can you lend your support to Buckinghamshire's Armed Forces Day?

On Saturday 25th June 2011 Buckinghamshire will be showing its support to the Armed Forces based in the county and beyond. Armed Forces Day, a national day of celebration, gives the chance to express thanks to Veterans, Regulars, Reserves, Cadets and their families. Buckinghamshire County Council, along with partners, will be hosting a family fun day with an evening concert. The event takes place on Saturday 25th June at Aylesbury Rugby Club, 11 am until 11pm. The Armed Forces and the general public are invited to a day packed full of entertainment.



"I very much hope that between us all we can put on an event for our armed forces in the County not only to match but hopefully exceed the huge success of the first Armed Forces Day at Fawley in 2009. Whatever you can do to help will be greatly appreciated; these brave men and women deserve nothing less."

*Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher,
Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire*

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LOCAL GP, YOUTH PRISON WORKER AND CHEF, RECEIVE TERRITORIAL ARMY MEDALS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR LONG SERVICE

Three Territorial Army Soldiers from the Milton Keynes based E Company 7RIFLES were awarded medals by Brigadier Neil Baverstock OBE, at a ceremony held last week at John Howard Barracks, Blake-lands.

Major Thao Nguyen, and Corporal Tim Lindsell were awarded Voluntary Reserve Forces Medals (VRSM) for serving 12 years continuous and exemplary service. Lance Corporal Daniel Driscoll was awarded his 1st Clasp to his VRSM for an additional period of 5 years service. All three Reservists are members of E Company 7RIFLES.

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ENERGY CONSERVATION

In May 2010 the new Prime Minister directed all Government Departments to reduce energy consumption by 10% within this Financial Year.

Due in part to a number of "Spend to Save" and energy efficiency measures introduced within our Estate in the previous year, and the encouragement of both Reservists and Cadets at all our sites, we are pleased to announce that we are on target to meet the 10% reduction with combined consumption currently running at a 11.4% reduction across the estate.

Following Energy Reports, a number of sites have now completed a full energy efficiency upgrade. This has included additional insulation, lighting/heating upgrade, automated controls and installation of renewable energy.

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AIR CADET 70th



2011 is the 70th anniversary of the Air Training Corps.

To celebrate this historic occasion, the Air Cadet Organisation, including the Combined Cadet Force (RAF) will be holding a number of top events, parades and competitions, all under the title of Air Cadet 70th or AC70.

As well as continuing to build its reputation in 2011, the Air Cadet Organisation is also looking to build a new identity. AC70 will be utilised to help bring the organisation closer to the famous RAF family and has already

seen the ACO launch a brand new logo.

2011 also sees the development of a dynamic new Outreach programme and the establishment of an Alumni of former cadets. If you are a former cadet or know someone who used to be part of the organisation then please contact us through the link below.

To stay up-to-date with everything you need to know about AC70, be sure to regularly check www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets and your latest copy of Air Cadet Magazine - which is also available online.

QUALIFICATIONS

FUN

SPORTS

REWARDS

SKILLS

ADVENTURE

For more information on the Reserves and Cadets visit www.serfca.org



Hampshire helps armed service leavers find employment

The Employment Fair held at FIVE in Farnborough, and part-funded by the County Council, is an initiative of the Hampshire Military Economic Partnership, which was set up to assist in developing training, investment and employment opportunities for people leaving the Forces, veterans and reservists.

Approximately 22,000 serving personnel are stationed in Hampshire along with approximately 6,000 civilians directly employed by the Armed Forces.

The Employment Fair helped service leavers, veterans and reservists recognise how their skills could be transferred, identify future career opportunities and provide useful contacts with prospective employers. Over 1,000 service leavers from all three Services attended the fair to take up the opportunity to meet over 100 major employers who had stands at the event.

Brigadier Neil Baverstock OBE, from the Ministry of Defence, added:

"The hard work and endeavours of the Hampshire Economic Military Partnership has resulted in a highly positive response to this event from employers seeking the unique skills and experiences that service leavers can bring to the workplace."

Councillor Ray Ellis, Executive Member for Economic Development and Rural Affairs, said:

"When coming out of the Armed Forces it can sometimes be difficult to see what your next step should be and how the skills you have can be applied elsewhere.

"The aim of Employment Fair was to offer practical assistance to service leavers and put them in touch with training providers and potential employers.

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Hailsham Squadron Leader is moving on

THE start of the month saw a change of command at the Hailsham Air Cadets 249 Squadron as Squadron Leader Neil Banks handed over the reins to newly appointed Flying Officer Craig Thompson.

Members of the Squadron Committee were on hand to watch the ceremony as Squadron Leader Banks was presented with parting gifts and kind words from the cadets, staff and committee members, wishing him all the best in his new position.

He will take up a Sussex Wing post, as a Wing Adventure Training Technical Officer, where he will be responsible for the adventure training needs of 22 Squadrons across Sussex.

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FLYING HIGH WITH A NEW MAN AT THE HELM

The cadets of 2366 Bletchley Park “Enigma” Squadron welcomed a new Commanding Officer to their ranks last week.

Joined by their Hon President, Civilian Support Committee and Wing HQ officers at last Friday’s parade, they introduced Flying Officer Ian Toye as the squadron’s new man in charge.

Flying Officer Toye, himself a past cadet corporal of the Bletchley Squadron, brings a wealth of aviation experience for the benefit of the cadets.

The Bletchley cadets are looking forward to an exciting year of activities while they prepare to celebrate the squadron’s 50th anniversary in September.

The Squadron is beginning its preparations to mark the event with a ceremonial parade attended by local and regional dignitaries.

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LOCAL TA INFANTRY BATTALION CELEBRATES ANOTHER MBE

Territorial Army Officer Captain Clive Phillimore from Dover has been presented the MBE by HRH Prince Charles at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace this week. Currently posted at the TA Centre in Rochester (C Company 3 PWRR) as the Permanent Staff Administration Officer since October 2010, Captain Phillimore was awarded the MBE in recognition of his community involvement on behalf of the the MOD in the South East. Commenting on his award, Captain Phillimore said, “I am immensely proud and humbled to receive the MBE.

I was just doing my job the best way I know. I have only recently started my job with 3 PWRR and I am in the process of letting the local community know what great opportunities there are here, at C Company with the Infantry Territorial Army in Rochester.”

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BIG WEEKEND FOR SEA CADETS

It has been a weekend of celebrations for Cowes Sea Cadets, who held their annual presentation night on Friday and gala dinner on Saturday.

The awards were made by Commander-in-Chief Fleet Admiral Sir Trevor Soar who, the next evening, attended the unit’s prestigious fundraising gala dinner at the Royal Yacht Squadron. Admiral Sir Trevor Soare, right, presents the Boatwork Cadet of the Year to Jonathan Marvin.

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SOLDIER'S GREAT NORTH RUN RAISES MUCH NEEDED CASH

Territorial Army members of 165 Regiment, including 266 Squadron Port and Maritime who are based at the TA Centre, presented the monies to Mandy Finch the Community Fund Raiser for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The monies were raised as 10 members of the Squadron took part in the Great North Run (Newcastle finishing in South Shields) last year. The 10 lads all made good time, and the team leader Staff Sergeant Dave Rush (right) who completed the 13.2 miles in full soldier kit carrying his 15

Kilo army pack. Staff Rush said "The NSPCC is a great cause and we are pleased to be able to hand over such a good sum of money that will help the Charity especially in these tough times."

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E COMPANY 7 RIFLES OPEN WEEK

Milton Keynes has always been a unique location for recruiting in that if people want to join they will make the effort to approach and walk through the door. In addition, the geography of Milton Keynes has always been an issue for E Coy with regard to its location within an Industrial estate and the lack of public transport passing. This has previously been and remains one of the main factors of recruiting and overall retention.

On reflection the campaign has worked and been a success. The areas that produced the most awareness were the Radio advertisement and the Newspaper adds. Out of the 3000 flyers being produced and distributed 1 undecided enquiry resulted.

The week also generated good interested in 1 Signal Squadron in Bletchley.

All those who popped along were invited to come back and visit again on their regular training night the following week. It is anticipated a further drip feed effect to continue for the remainder of the month.

TERRITORIAL ARMY OPEN WEEK



7-12 March, 10am-4pm
8 March, 7.30pm-9.30pm

TA Centre, John Howard Barracks,
Blakelands, Milton Keynes MK14 5NQ



Come and find out more

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www.therifles.mod.uk

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