

NEWTOWN RANGE & JERSEY CAMP INFORMATION SHEET

Brief History

1. The Newtown Estate was purchased by the then TAVRA from Sir John Simeon of the Swainstone Estate in 1911. It is now one of the only two Range/Training Areas that are still administered by an RFCA. Jersey Camp was built in 1989, replacing an old wooden hutted camp. The funding for the build came from the Jersey Government, hence the name Jersey Camp. In 1952 80% of the area was designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Jersey Camp

2. Jersey Camp is a modern facility with accommodation for 120 personnel with separate rooms and ablutions for females. The accommodation consists of a combined mess/dining room, TV and video area, briefing & class rooms, washing machines and drying facilities. There are two external classroom facilities ideal for weapon training. The guard room is equipped with CCTV and co-located with the armoury and ammunition store.

3. Tented camp areas are available adjacent to Jersey Camp, near the troop shelter on the range and adjacent to the Range House. .

Newtown Range

4. The range is a 300 metre 10 lane ETCGR with two electronic targets in each lane and a 25 metre pistol range. The 300 metre range has retained the Hythe frames and can also be used as a standard gallery range. The 25 metre range cannot be used when the 300 metre range is in use. No tracer, night firing or GPMG are allowed on either range. A troop shelter with seating and toilets is available for waiting details.

5. The range requires that a sentry is posted on Shepherds Hill during live firing. There is also a requirement for Flags to be flown on the area when the range is in operation, these are to be hoisted by the user before firing commences.

6. The range opening times are as follows:

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|----|------------------------|---|
| a. | Wednesday and Thursday | 08 00 to 21.30 hours
(or ½ hour before last light in winter) |
| b. | Saturday and Sunday | 08.00 to 17.00 hours |

Newtown Training Area

6 The training area consists of 810 acres. The northern border of the area is 1½ miles of coastline and is ideal for beach landing exercises (without vehicles). Clamerkin Creek runs 2 miles along the training areas western boundary and can be used for watermanship training, canoeing and other forms of water based adventure training. Claydens Pond, situated to the rear of the Range 300 metre firing point can be used for rafting and canoe capsize drills.

7. The northern part of the training area is **out of bounds to training** when the range is in use. The majority of the northern training area is farmed by two tenant farmers and sensitivity to the welfare of livestock is essential. The training area has several wooded areas, one of which is Locks Copse, which is to the east of the 300 metre range. Locks Copse has 12 purpose built clearings ideal for lecture areas with connecting tracks. Helicopter training can take place on the area and the Range Officer can advise on landing sites and other restrictions.

Catering

8. Jersey camp has a fully equipped kitchen facility. Caterers are **NOT** provided, you have a choice of bringing your own qualified caterers or applying for Short Term Catering Contract Support from Logistic Support 145 (HC) Bde at Aldershot (01252 347759). Caterers (Contract/Civ/Military) are the responsibility of the visiting unit for discipline and ensuring that they comply with current catering legislation.

Adventure Training

9. Newtown Training Area with its 1½ mile coastline and 2 mile long creek, make an ideal location for water based adventure training activities. Jersey Camp has, on site, canoes plus trailer and rafting equipment for use by visiting units. Two pre-set orienteering courses with maps are set up within the confines of the training area. Orienteering maps are available from the camp staff at 25p per map.

10. The Isle of Wight is suitable for conducting DOE expeditions up to the silver award. Additional activities available on the island include Mountain Biking, Pony Trekking, Sailing, Windsurfing, Orienteering and 600 miles of tracks and paths for hill walking. The camp staff can supply further information and contact details for the above activities.

Training on Private Land

11. All units staying in Jersey Camp or using Newtown Ranges should fully understand that the only Army Training Area on the Island is Newtown Training Area.

12. Any training outside Newtown Ranges will involve training on Private Land. The rules for Training on Private Land are laid down in HQ 4th Division Standing Instruction No.121, a copy of which is available from the Range Officer.

Standing Orders and Health & Safety

13. We are obliged to provide a specific site risk assessment to assist in planning your own action safety plans and risk assessments. Copies of Standing Orders for the Range, Training Area, Jersey Camp and Site Risk Assessments will be issued on your recce against your requirements.

General

14. This Information is to help units in their preplanning and assist in making the maximum use of the training facilities on offer at Newtown Range/Training Area and Jersey Camp. Units who have not used the area before are strongly advised to carry out a ground recce in advance of their booking.

15. It is important that training programmes, reach the Range Officer 6 weeks in advance of any booking to allow for the information to be included in the monthly range programme. Exercise Action Safety Plans / Range Action Safety Plans & Risk Assessments are expected to be produced before any training /firing takes place on the area.

Maps

16. *OS Landranger Map 196 Grid: SZ 443908 or Google Earth (type in Post Code)*

Contact

17. If you have any queries with regard to the use of any training or accommodation issues at Newtown Range & Jersey Camp please contact ;-

Maj (Rtd) D C Maidment Range Officer & Estate Manager by :-

a. **Telephone :01983 523503**

b **Fax: 01983 523503**

c **Email: jerseycamp@serfca.org.**

d **Post at: Newtown Range & Jersey Camp. Locks Green Newport. Isle of Wight. PO30 4PF.**

18. **Check availability by telephone before submitting bid form.** Bids for the facility should be completed and be made through the Range Officer & Estate Manager.