



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 4250 followers. If you'd like to follow us go to: www.twitter.com/mod_dio

January 2018 Newsletter

The range is fully operational from 8 Jan 18 although the majority of staff are back on 2 Jan 18. The new Training Year will start on a very quiet note for the first two weeks with a Challenger 2 armoured squadron and 2 mechanised infantry company conducting low level collective training in the Centre in the East from 15 Jan onwards. A brigade Headquarters is conducting a manoeuvre and communication exercise run by 3 (UK) Armoured Division. The last 2 weeks of January see 2 armoured companies and 2 armoured squadrons with Challenger 2 as the main users with various courses from Warminster and Larkhill. Live firing is taking place in the centre with Lt Gun, Mortars and Small arms. There are a number of specialist FIND units out using their optical and radar detection equipment.

The red flags will be down in the WEST and CENTRE until the 8 Jan 18. The public should be aware that tank crossings over the A360, A345, A338, B390, and the C22 (Tilshead to Chitterne) roads will be very busy and if conditions are wet mud clearance parties will be working on the crossings. Notice is also given that the training areas in the Copehill Down and Bourne Valley (SPTA East) areas will be heavily used over this period and that recreational use of the Salisbury Plain military lands is to be restricted to public rights of way only as per the byelaws.

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

Related Links - Gov.uk/DIO

Monthly Firing Calendar For January 2018 (Subject to Change)

1. Artillery live firing days from Areas 6, 7 AND 8 (East of Chitterne):
Nil
2. Artillery live firing days from Salisbury Plain (EAST) (North of Bulford & West of Tidworth):
Nil
3. Late firing days on Larkhill/Westdown Danger Area (North of Larkhill):
09, 11, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 30
4. Non-firing days on days on Larkhill/Westdown Danger Area (North of Larkhill):
01 – 08, 13, 14, 27, 28
5. Non-firing days on Bulford fixed firing ranges:
01 – 08, 20, 21, 27, 28
6. Late Firing on Imber Ranges, Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 (East of Warminster)
Nil

Governance

Members of the public are reminded when on land subject to the Salisbury Plain Military Lands Byelaws 1981 (S.I.1981/1982) under Byelaw 5 it is an offence to fail to comply with the provisions of Byelaw 3. Under section 3(1(d)) no person may “engage in or carry on any trade or business of any kind whatsoever...” To do so may result in a Warning Off, whereby you will be asked to leave the Training Area or a fine being issued.

In simple terms - this means for example Commercial Dog Walkers are not permitted to conduct their commercial activities on Military lands without prior permission, (meaning a commercial licence issued by the MoD). This does not affect your right to use public rights of way, but you are reminded that you are expected to have your dog(s) under effective control, as advised by the Countryside Code and must not interfere with military training.

Prohibited Activities

- (2) No person when on the Military Lands shall:
- (a) loiter, or commit any nuisance, or behave in any indecent or unseemly manner;
 - (b) do, or cause or allow to be done any act which is likely to cause nuisance, annoyance or injury to other persons;

Byelaws – Warning Off

4. (1) No person shall remain on the Military Lands after having been warned off by an authorised person or return thereto after having been so warned off.
- (2) No person being the owner or person for the time being in charge of any animal, vehicle, aircraft or thing upon the Military Lands, shall permit the same to remain upon the Military Lands after having been warned to remove the same by an authorised person.

In simple terms this means – if you are told to leave military lands, (the training area) by a member of the authority staff, then you should do without hesitation.

Byelaw Governance – Antisocial Behaviour

Parish members are encouraged to report all illegal activity on Salisbury to the Wiltshire Police. If serious crime is experienced the 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
Easter	1800hrs Thur 29 Mar 18	0800hrs Tue 03 Apr 18
Summer	1800hrs Thur 23 Aug 18	0800hrs Tue 28 Aug 18

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?

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.

Ewan R Smith
Major (TSO)
for
Senior Training Safety Officer Salisbury Plain