



Defence  
Infrastructure  
Organisation

**Salisbury Plain Training Area  
Newsletter  
November 2018**

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/salisbury-plain-training-area-spta-newsletter](http://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](http://www.twitter.com/mod_dio)

### **November 2018 Newsletter**

Following a very busy October the month of November will see an increased level of activity across the whole of Salisbury Plain. The month is dominated by Exercise WESSEX STORM which will conduct live firing phase and dry training exercise for the Light Dragoons reconnaissance Battlegroup. The first and last weeks will see Land Warfare School running 3 major training exercises with Challenger 2 and CVRT. There are numerous live firing events into Areas 15 and 16 with Mortars, Lt Guns and AS90 firing. 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](http://Gov.uk/DIO)**

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 Nov 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):  
01, 06, 08, 10, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29
4. Non-firing days on Larkhill/Westdown danger area:

03, 04, 17, 18, 24, 25

5. Non-firing days on Bulford fixed firing ranges:

03, 04, 10, 11, 24, 25

6. Late firing days on Imber ranges, areas 1, 2, 3, 4 (east of Warminster)

Nil

Note: Ex Wessex Storm between 2<sup>nd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 18.

### **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](mailto: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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Closed</b>
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](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.

## MILITARY VEHICLES – OUT OF BOUNDS AREAS

In order to try to become good neighbours with the local populace Headquarters Salisbury Plain Training Area have instigated a number of roads and streets around the neighbouring villages as Out of Bounds to Military Vehicles; this is a local agreement and is not a legal enforcement measure. . Only 'Stopping Officers' appointed under section 66B of the Road Traffic Act 1988 are authorised to stop traffic.

Local troops are informed of the out of bounds areas in the following methods:

- Marked as 'Out of Bounds' on the Salisbury Plain Training Area map.
- Signage stating as 'No Access to Military vehicles' sited at entry points.
- Unit training briefings are told of the out of bounds areas.
- The out of bounds areas a stated on the monthly Salisbury Plain Training Area military training newsletter.
- Royal Military Police and Training Area Safety patrols are sited at entry points on a weekly rotation in order to stop offenders.

On occasion troops in vehicles do stray into the out of bounds areas due to map reading errors and/or ignorance; on these occasions I encourage members of the public to report the vehicle index number to the complaints/enquiries line, the driver will be tracked and the appropriate military disciplinary action will be taken. *Note – when calling-in a vehicle index number the complainant might not always receive a call back unless explicitly requested.*

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