

Flashlight



The Newsletter of the Ministry of Defence Guard Service

Issue 42



MGS Officers
assist USFV Army personnel
(see pages 16-17)

Spring 2012

Graeme's Actions Commended

By Trevor McKinnon
MGS B2 CDC



On 14th December I had the privilege to attend the Regional Manager's Office at Imphal Barracks to present a richly deserved HUG Commendation to Graeme Kelly of the MGS in York.

In the course of his duties, on 12th September 2011, Graeme, who is a highly qualified first aider, came across a traffic accident outside Strensall, where a vehicle had been hit by a large falling branch and, along with another driver, was instrumental in summoning all three emergency services. He held the head of the driver, who was possibly suffering from head and spinal injuries, until the arrival of the paramedics. The pictures dramatically depict the scene.

At the request of the police Graeme used the MGS Dog Section vehicle to block the Towthorpe end of the scene and directed traffic away from the

incident, while they dealt with the Strensall end.

Throughout the incident Graeme ensured that the driver's wife, who was only superficially injured, was kept up to date on what was happening to her husband while the fire brigade removed the vehicle's roof and extracted him. In addition, he cared for the couple's West Highland Terrier until

it could be collected from the scene by relatives.

Graeme received a personal thanks from North Yorkshire Police for his actions and assistance throughout the incident. His prompt and professional action brought credit upon himself and the MGS and I was happy to congratulate him for what he had done when presenting the award.



Farewell to Russ Williams, Group Manager RAF Northolt

By Tom Taylor, CSO2

Another departure from Area 8 in London and this time it's a sad farewell to CSO3 Russ Williams. Russ was the Group Manager at RAF & BFPO Northolt.

Russ had been the manager there for a number of years. Prior to that Russ had been a trainer up at Wethersfield before deciding he wanted to do a real job and come and work with us.

Russ had decided that he would leave at the 'normal' retirement age and did so on the 31st of January 2012. He was dined out by his fellow Group Managers

which was tinged with sadness and amazement. Sadness in that he was leaving us and amazement in that he actually turned up at the event. Russ was good at many things but turning up on the right day for something wasn't one of them as the 'apologies' section on various minutes will testify.

We in Area 8 wish Russ the very best for the future and during his retirement. We know he won't be sitting still we just can't guarantee he will turn up where he should be

Russ heading off into the direction of retirement with his new man bag.





Martin Shearin with Brig Mike Griffiths

GOC's Commendation for CSO5 Martin Shearin Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall

By Tom Taylor, CSO2

Thursday the 15th December 2011 was a big day for us in Area 8 London and for the MGS at Kneller Hall Twickenham.

A Passing Out Parade was held for military musicians who had passed their trade training and were leaving to join their Regiment or Corps Bands. During the parade medals and awards are given to military staff for the service. Top billing for us was the award of the GOC's Commendation to Martin Shearin, CSO5 who is based at the Royal Military School of Music.

The commendation which was presented by the Inspecting Officer Brigadier Mike Griffiths CBE ADC (late KORBR) highlighted Martins former service with 1st Battalion the Queen's Regiment as well as his service with the MOD Guard Service. Martin has been based at Kneller Hall since 23 March 1993. In addition to the outstanding work that Martin has done as part of the MGS Team it has been mentioned that he has never had a day off work due to illness. I have instructed his Group Manager John Lewis to go through his records with a fine tooth comb but so far, his record is unblemished.

The MGS at Kneller Hall are part of the fabric of the unit. We are indebted to our MPGS colleagues for 'preparing' Martin for his big day. We also wish to record our gratitude to Major James Fawsitt RLC the SO2 G1/2/3 for all the support he has given the MGS at Kneller Hall.



Martin Shearin, his wife Liz and Tom Taylor Area Manager

Thank you

From: Sub Lieutenant O Watters RNR



MARITIME RESERVES

Burns Supper 2012

CSO4 Frank Farmer
HMS CALLIOPE
South Shore Road
GATESHEAD
Tyne & Wear
NE8 2BE

HMS CALLIOPE
South Shore Road
GATESHEAD
Tyne & Wear
NE8 2BE
Tel: 0191 477 2536

Dear Frank

25 January 2012

BURNS SUPPER 2012

As Chairman of HMS CALLIOPE's Burns Supper Committee, I would like to thank Tony Dryden and Michael Fulton, who were the On Watch MOD Guards during our Burns Supper last Saturday evening.

Both were extremely polite and helpful when our guests arrived and nothing was too much trouble for them.

In true Naval fashion, the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended. I would be most grateful if you could pass on my personal thanks to them.

Yours age,

O Watters



ROYAL AIR FORCE
AIR CADETS
the next generation

14F (Northolt) Squadron
Royal Air Force Northolt
Ruislip, Middlesex
HA4 6NG

Northside Guardroom Supervisor
Royal Air Force Northolt
West End Road
South Ruislip
Middlesex
HA4 6NG

22nd November 2011

14F Squadron ATC 70th Anniversary Celebration

- 1. This note is to pass on our thanks for your help and support last Friday evening.
- 2. The event was a great success, and all the guests commented on how well organised and efficient your security team were.

Regards,

M Higgs

Mr M Higgs
Senior Instructor
14F (Northolt) Squadron Air Training Corps



SO2 G1/2/3
Royal Military School of Music
Kneller Hall, TWICKENHAM
Middlesex TW2 7DU
Military telephone: 94641 8622
020 8744 8622. Fax (last 4): 8668
or civil: SO2coord@rsm.mod.uk
Email:



Reference: 01_08_08

Date: 23 Nov 11

CSO3 John Lewis
c/o
Kneller Hall Guardroom
Kneller Rd
TWICKENHAM
TW2 7DU

Dear John,

KNELLER HALL MGS COMPLEMENT

As the time comes in the year that we are invited to apply for Special Awards for our Civil Service Staff, my thoughts return to the sterling job that the unmanned complement of MGS personnel have done here at Kneller Hall this year.

They are ever polite, diligent and professional in carrying out their duties, despite having been significantly undermanned, due to departures and long term sick personnel, all year.

They have all put in extra graft and have been extra flexible in order to meet the needs of the unit and for that they ought to be recognized.

If I were their Line Manager, I would be applying for a team award bonus for those men; in a year which has been characterized by under manning and uncertainty of job futures, they have persevered and delivered unfailingly and morale has remained buoyant, despite the pressures.

As I am unable to recommend them for a team bonus, I urge that you may consider doing so.

Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

J C Fawsitt
Major
Royal Logistic Corps



TEL: 0208 833 8383 NORTH: 9222 8383 WWW: RAF.CO.UK



for a job well done

From: Bruce Houlder QC DL
Director of Service Prosecutions



Service Prosecuting Authority

RAF Northolt, West End Road, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 6NG

Telephone: Military Network: RAF Northolt (95233) 6100
Military Fax: 95233 6157
Civil Direct Dialling: 020 8842 6100
Civil Fax: 020 8842 6157
Email: Intranet: SPA-HQ-DSP
External Internet: spa-hq-dsp@mod.uk

Mr Russ Williams
Manager, MGS
Royal Air Force Northolt
West End Rd
HA4 6NG

4th October 2011

Dear Russ

I would like to thank you and your staff for the assistance you provided to the Service Prosecuting Authority in preparation for our Annual Conference and Dinner.

Organising passes and permits and entry to RAF NOR for such a large event cannot be easy and you and your staff handled this well. Last minute alterations were received with patience and good humour. The assistance you provided helped in the planning and smooth running of this event for the staff of the SPA and our guests.

*Yours truly,
Bruce Houlder*



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE AND GUARDING AGENCY
(A Defence Agency)

Sergeant 2805 Alan Stamp
Ministry of Defence Police
HM Naval Base Portsmouth
Hampshire PO1 3LH
Tele: 02392 72823



Steve and Anne,

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 20 January 2012

My section has spent the last 5 weeks working with Green watch of the MGS and I can truthfully say I have been very impressed with them. The CSO 5's have shown enthusiasm and professionalism in their duties throughout this period which culminated in a very good stop and search which discovered a very impressive haul of stolen copper wire. The team have led off this and have been carrying out high profile, high quality, and high volume exit searches which I feel has had a significant effect on the Dockyard community, who certainly have known they are about.

Green watch have been led in their endeavours by CSO4 Colin Rickard who appears to have encouraged his team to their high standards, and certainly as I have seen myself, supported them by his presence during their operations. He has shown a high level of leadership and Green watch have responded to this.

In this period of uncertainty when it would be easy for our professionalism to decline it has been a pleasure to work with a cohesive team who are obviously enjoying their role in preventing crime and the security of the Dockyard and I feel their efforts are worthy of mention.

Alan Stamp
PS2805

Obituaries

Neil McClenaghan, CSO4

Friends and colleagues at Faslane were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of CSO4 Neil McClenaghan on 26 March 2012.

Neil was a respected and extremely well liked member of the Faslane Supervisory Team and his tragic death at age 38 has stunned everyone who knew him.

Neil served with the MGS since March 2011, having previously worked for the Ministry of Defence Police as a Clothing Officer. He will be remembered for his friendly pleasant manner, for his good humour, his sense of fun but most of all he will be remembered as a truly nice guy who will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts and condolences are with his wife, Jane.



Roy
Funnell

It is with deepest sadness that we have to report the death of Alfred (Roy) Funnell who died on Monday the 5th December after a short illness. Roy fought his illness with quiet dignity never complaining even though he was in a lot of pain.

Roy joined the MGS on the 2nd January 1996 and served at HQ Minley (his beloved Gib Barracks) where he was a dog handler. He thoroughly enjoyed being out and about with his PAT dog "Tiger" & he also worked at RNAD Faslane allowing him to be nearer his ailing parents, before joining the MGS at DM Longtown on the 29th October 2001 until the 30th September 2011 on his retirement.

He was a much loved and respected not only by his MGS colleagues at DM Longtown but with everybody who worked or had the pleasure of meeting Roy.

Roy was one of life's gentlemen who was very proud and dedicated to work for the MGS. On nearly every card received by the family and on many floral tributes the words "A True Gentleman" were attached.

During the funeral service at Kirkcudbright the Priest from Annan described Roy as a quality man. Everybody agreed this was a fitting tribute to his memory. He made friends at each depot he worked and many of his colleagues were there from Minley, Faslane & Longtown to help celebrate his life.

He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him, and our sincere condolences go to all his family.



Martin Paul Davey

It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the passing of Martin Davey. Martin passed away at Peterborough City Hospital with his family around him on 11 January 2012, after losing his brave fight against a lengthy illness at the age of 52. Martin was a popular member of the MGS at RAF Cottesmore not only amongst his immediate colleagues, but also the Station personnel with whom he served while in the RAF.

Martin joined the RAF Police in May 1985 and served with distinction for 22 years. In that time Martin studied for, and gained, a BSc entirely in his own time while continuing his RAF Police duties – an achievement that was recognised by an additional, and one off award, by the RAF education authorities. Leaving the RAF in March 2007 Martin worked for Peterborough City Council and South Kesteven District Council in an environmental role, but all the time still kept in touch with friends in the MGS and the RAF at Cottesmore.

Martin later returned to RAF Cottesmore in April 2009 but this time in the role of a MGS Officer. Sadly due to a recurrence of his illness and lengthy hospital treatment, Martin had to be released from shift work and took up a day post at RAF Digby.

Due to his jovial and yet professional manner he was an integral part of the team. He was always willing to go that extra step to help others,

Martin was known as an avid Chelsea fan and made sure everybody knew about it. Martin was a very family orientated man, he enjoyed holidays abroad, but especially enjoyed those he and his family spent near Okehampton in Devon.

Martin is survived by his wife Val, his children Tom, Matt, Will and step children Claire and Tom to whom we all send our deepest sympathies.

Martin will be sadly missed not only as a work colleague but also as a very good friend to us all.

Just like the ex Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho Martin was also 'the special one'

Rest in peace.

MGS Assistance to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service at Altcar TC, Hightown, Liverpool

On the 30th November 2011 MGS Officers Dave Giles and Bob Morris took over duties from their colleagues to start their night shift. With nothing major to report and no night shooting they expected to have a routine steady night with a regular flow of military personnel and residents coming and going. How wrong could they be?

During one of the routine camp security patrols Dave Giles drove past B Range and saw a glow in the distance which on closer inspection he realised was a fire that seemed to be growing rapidly in size.

A quick Airwave message was passed to Bob Morris back at the guardroom, who immediately contacted the Emergency Services and began a log of the incident. Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service were alerted at 2000hrs.

The fire was in a remote part of the camp near the estuary of the river Alt. The nearby Coastguard was informed and residents who live on site close to the fire were also contacted. Camp Commandant Major Bill Hunter and Duty Group Manager, Dawn Haselden were next to be alerted.

The Fire and Rescue Service arrived and were quickly escorted towards the seat of the fire. They followed the MGS vehicle but when they got as close as they could by way of the road or hard

standing it was decided by the Fire Officer in charge that their vehicles could not proceed any further. They were concerned that to cross rough terrain would cause large scale damage to their vehicles.

It was suggested that some equipment could be carried to the site and some could be transported in the MGS duty vehicle. Dave then began the relay of water and equipment assisting the fire crew to be ferried to a location from where they could tackle the fire. Meanwhile Bob was acting as focal point in the MGS guard room and by now receiving more fire crews and appliances while keeping the line of communication open and relevant personnel updated of the situation. The Altcar duty officer and Camp Commandant arrived and Bob provided them both with a sitrep.

After several hours of transporting the fire crews and water, with Bob and Dave alternating their duties, it wasn't until the early hours of the morning that the

situation was confirmed as being under control by Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service. It transpired that the bales of hay on top of the stop butts had caught fire and had probably been smouldering for some time.

The fire crews and appliances left at about 0230hrs giving instructions that the MGS would need to maintain half hourly checks on the area until a fresh fire crew could return some hours later and reassess the situation. Dave and Bob finished their eventful shift with a full debrief to their oncoming MGS colleagues and left knowing that because they had carried out the patrols they had prevented large scale damage to MoD property, buildings and materiel and possibly loss of life as there are a number of civilian residents that live near to the fire.

Altcar Training Camp has a very active Conservation Committee and it is also designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest with many rare and valuable species of flora and fauna, not least of which is the natterjack toad which has breeding grounds close to the seat of the fire. Had the fire spread it could have proved catastrophic to their continued existence.

Thanks also goes to Piero Thomas, CSO4 and the rest of the MGS Officers at Altcar for their support in helping to mop up the water in the back that spilled in the back of the vehicle during the transport of the fire crew and equipment over the rough terrain.



Policy Update

Flashlight Issue 42



Have Your Say

By Trevor McKinnon B2 CD and C

The Have Your Say 2011 revealed a number of areas in which there was a clear call for improvement. In particular the responses tell us that we must be seen to be taking action on the results of the survey. The return rate was 5% lower in 2011 than it was in 2010 with just over a quarter of the workforce providing a response.

This is disappointing as HYS is an effective way of ensuring senior managers know what is going on at the coal face, what is good about working in the MOD and their bit of it and what could be improved. I do, however, recognise that in the MGS the focus is very much towards the future of the organisation and that the interests of the workforce are likely to be more parochial and directed towards their particular work place and that this might have had an impact.

The areas on which you said we need to improve are:

- Involving individuals in decisions that affect their work.
- LMs providing regular feedback on performance which aids improvement (although there was an increase in positive scoring in this area, it is still a low scorer).
- Dealing with poor performance in teams effectively.
- Valuing individuals for the work they do.
- Ensuring senior managers/leaders are sufficiently visible.
- Ensuring change is managed well.
- Ensuring individuals are kept informed about matters that affect them.
- Allowing individuals to contribute views before decisions are made that affect them.
- Ensuring managers help individuals to understand how the Defence Transformation will affect them.
- Ensuring managers actively provide opportunities for individuals to develop their leadership skills.
- Ensuring managers deliver results by getting the best out of everyone.

That's a long list. As the person responsible for cultural change and the Continuous Improvement Programme I have to say, however, that I am actually encouraged by some of these results because they feature as part of the work we are doing to improve communication, develop best practice and eliminate waste. It shows we are going along the right path by engaging with the workforce more directly. Many of you contributed to the CI Improvement Grid and have seen changes emerge from that. The CI Focal Points and Focus

Groups are there to take forward the work and promote other suggestions for change. Others will have been involved in Well Being Reviews directed towards addressing attendance issues, establishing the root causes and taking forward workforce ideas for change. Well Being reviews have been universally well received and staff have appreciated the opportunity to engage and see some of their ideas adopted. MGS Managers have through syndicates at Exercise Rolling Progress put forward a number of ideas for change which have been quickly implemented. An ideas page can be found on the MGS Website which not only provides a platform for anyone to put forward a proposal for improvement but also provides an additional means of communication.

The results showed that while we have scored better on issues relating to line management and discrimination, harassment and bullying, we have fallen back in others, in particular objective and purpose; learning and development and inclusion and fair treatment. On objective and purpose we have issued the MGS Core Values – HIPE – which are at the centre of our activity and posters can be seen on notice boards around the country. The link between the MGS and the wider department can seem obscure and we will try to explain this better against the backdrop of various Planning Rounds measures and the changes to the higher management structure based on the working assumption that the MGS will move to the DIO in April 2013. On Learning and Development we now have the MGS Training Centre which joins up the previously fragmented L+D effort and provides a focus for assessing training needs, course design, delivery and evaluation. While Wethersfield will continue to be the centre of our training effort, we will look to increase local delivery to minimise disruption to the service and individuals. On inclusion and fair treatment the MGS has formed its own E+D Panel which co-ordinates the efforts of local panels. There is an action plan (which can be found on the MGS Website) which focuses the MGS input to the Diversity Programme Board.

I once attended a NATO conference where the key note speaker, a senior official from the US Department of Defense, opened his address by saying 'the biggest room in the world is the room for improvement'. That sounds like a rather cheesy cliché but there is more than a grain of truth and I hope that those who responded to HYS will be reassured that we have listened and we will continue to look for improvement.

New behaviour mandated for all staff

DIN 2012DIN01-046 announced changes to the PADR for broader banded and retained grade staff below the SCS. The changes included the addition of a mandated objective and a new behaviour for all staff.

The new objective concerns efficiency in the use of resources, which means that:

All staff should:

- Be resource aware (people, money, assets and time): only use what is needed and make the most of what is available.
- Deliver quality output on time and in budget
- Always look for ways to make things work better.
- Committed to sustainable and efficient use of energy and natural resources, without unnecessary consumption and waste e.g. power and travel.

Line managers should:

- Promote and deliver maximum value for money from all resources.
- Deliver objectives within agreed time and costs
- Reduce costs by finding better ways to deliver outputs or increase outputs.
- Use energy and natural resources sustainably, and include sustainability impacts in business decisions.

The objective links in with the core competence of 'Planning and Managing Resources to Deliver Business Results'.

The new behaviour concerns supporting transformation by putting Defence first, which means that:

All staff should:

- Work with others to identify the best answer for defence as a whole;
- Be cooperative and flexible in supporting others.
- Be willing to volunteer and support tasks that extend beyond current scope of responsibility
- Take personal responsibility for delivering outputs.
- Set a good example.

Line managers should:

- Be aware of the bigger picture and ensure that work of team support this.
- Be prepared to take on essential tasks even if out of comfort zone.
- Embrace new ways of working and is willing to collaborate in tasks that extend beyond current scope of responsibility.
- Be a good ambassador for both the team and the Department.
- Challenge 'tribal' behaviour.
- Take personal responsibility for outputs.
- Lead by example and engage with team.

The behaviour links to the core competences of 'Improvement and Change / Working Together / Planning and Managing Resources to Deliver Business Results'.

There will be a further article in April's Defence People and when the changes are launched on 2 April 2012, they will be supported by revised guidance on the People Service website.

Software Assurance Benefit Scheme

By David Keown CSO5 RNAD Culpport

In today's current economic climate, Guards are always looking out for ways to help save money, and a very good example of a great saving is the Software Assurance Benefit Scheme, that allows all Guards the opportunity to download software at unmatched rates.

As a MoD employee, you can qualify for Microsoft Home use. The link to access the Software Assurance Benefit Scheme is <https://sabs.sbl.r.mil.uk>, which is available on the RLI: http://defenceintranetds.diiweb.r.mil.uk/sites/polestar/cs/DES/18/1744_MSHomeUse%20Flyer%202010.pdf also gives full details.

The Home Use Scheme offers Office Professional Plus 2010, Office for MAC 2011, Project 2010 and Visio 2010. All these products are available as a download at just £8.95 each. (Individual entitlement is a single purchase of each product)

For further information ring the SBL DII Helpdesk on 01347 812103 or e-mail diia_helpdesk@softbox.co.uk

Managers Programme – Part 3

As most of you will already be aware, in September 2011 MGS HQ decided, in an attempt to provide more flexibility and support to managers, that a change in process to the third stage of the Managers Programme was necessary.

The change in process came in the form of the option to provide a written report to MGS HQ (using specified headings and a word count) instead of a completing a PowerPoint presentation following their work based project.

In October, letters were sent to individuals that had already attended the course asking them to state their preference when presenting the results of their project. Letters were also sent to those that were booked onto the November courses informing them that they would need to state their preference when attending the courses.

The majority of managers responded to HQ stating which option they would prefer to undertake; however, some managers have yet to inform HQ of their decision. If you have not yet informed HQ which option you would like to undertake, please contact Sam Collins (MGS-HQ-LD-SupMgr@mod.uk) outlining your preference as soon as possible.

The change in process appears to have been a welcome one, with positive feedback having been received. Many managers have already sent their reports to HQ via the Regional Managers, some of which have received feedback. The rest are in the process of being read by Trevor McKinnon and feedback will be provided as soon as possible.

Some individuals still wish to complete a PowerPoint presentation and in order to be as flexible as possible we are holding local events. We currently have two events booked for 24th April at Foxhill and 23rd May in Preston. We are also looking to hold events in Region 1 in the near future.

For managers who complete a PowerPoint presentation, certificates are issued on the day of the event. For those who submit a written report, certificates are sent in hard copy to the Regional Manager (after feedback is provided) for local presentation as appropriate.

In amending the process we hoped to make stage 3 of the programme easier to manage and to provide greater flexibility whilst ensuring the learning outcomes of the programme were still achieved. If you wish to provide any feedback on the change in process please send it to Sam Collins on the above email.

MGS E&D Panel

By Trevor McKinnon

When Sandy MacCormick retired I assumed his place on the Agency's Diversity Programme Board. Sandy had a much better grasp of E+D matters in the MGS than I did and so with the invaluable help of Vic Christopher, I set about finding out about the subject and thinking the best way to handle it.

I decided that the best way to represent the MGS voice on the DPB was to engage with those involved in the subject at local level who could then report the issues back to me. It also occurred to me that there would be pockets of best practice and local problems and solutions that might be of wider interest or assistance to the organisation at large. With the approval of HUG I therefore established the MGS E+D Panel. The Panel is comprised of Regional representatives and the trade unions. It has agreed terms of reference and a plan based on the Agency's Diversity Action Plan. Copies of these documents and the minutes of meetings can be found on the MGS Website. If you have an E+D issue or an idea please contact your local Panel representative.

E+D Panel

Vice Chair – Vic Christopher	- 01225 885182 / 9355 85182
Sec – Emma Popczynski	- 0207 2183333 / 9621 83333
R1 – Derek Carrie	- 0141 2242449
R2 – Julia Rouse	- 07833 295734
R3 – Julie Jones	- 01743 262607 / 94461 2607
R4 – Derena Akers	- 01252 349851 / 94222 4851
R5 – Nigel Pickard	- 01684 856253 / 94249 4253
TU – John Connolly	- 01225 467410 / 9355 67410

EXERCISE ROLLING PROGRESS II

As part of the follow up actions of Exercise Rolling Progress II it was agreed that we would provide an "Ideas Section" on Blog linked to IMOSS. This is where we will include your idea's to improve any aspect of the MGS. We look forward to receiving and publishing your idea's to benefit all of us who work for our organisation.

The page is published at the following address:

<http://defenceintranet.diiweb.r.mil.uk/DefenceIntranet/Teams/BrowseTeamCategories/TeamBlogs/MGS/YourIdeasPage.htm>

For those of you without access to the website or IMOSS we would welcome you to submit your ideas to MGS HQ by completing the box below and sending them to: MGS HQ, Room 107 Building 1070, MDPGA Wethersfield, Essex, CM7 4AZ.

NAME		UNIT	



Farewell to Eamonn McCarthy Manager Area 8 Regent's Park

By Tom Taylor, Area 8

On Thu 1st September 2011 it was a sad day for us as we had to say goodbye to Eamonn McCarthy the manager for Area 8 Regent's Park. Eamonn had decided to quit while he was ahead and left in the first wave of VERS.

The leaving function was arranged by his Group Managers and they decided it would have to be a memorable day and a fitting tribute for someone who has done so much for Area 8 here in London.

It was meant to be a surprise and by and large, that was achieved. Whilst Eamonn knew 'something was up' he wasn't quite sure.

Proceedings commenced in the Officers Mess Regent's Park with a presentation of a framed print of Horse Guards. The gift was particularly relevant as Eamonn had spent many happy years there before relocating to Regent's Park.

From Regent's Park we took a brief tube trip to Embankment and boarded the river taxi with refreshment stops along the way. A meal was booked at a Bavarian Beer House near Tower Hill. Eamonn was attended to by German waitresses in traditional costume and photographs are available by mail order from his successor.

Needless to say Eamonn was stunned by what had been laid on for him on the day and big thanks is given to his 'former' Group Managers Lil McGarrity, John Lewis, Peter Edwards, Peter Plaster and Russ Williams for all their planning.

We have kept in touch with Eamonn and whilst he misses us, he is enjoying his retirement.



Imperial Service Medal awarded to Mr David Morris



Mr David Morris known to his colleagues as Dai began his working life in July 1961 with the Forestry Commission as a wages clerical officer. After 10 years, however, he got fed up paying lumberjacks and left for a job with the British Steel Corporation, Port Talbot as a production worker. In the 1970s British Steel was an enormous firm employing thousands in the Swansea Valley, but in 1980 a recession led to redundancy.

Not one to be put off by adversity, Dai re trained as an engineering miller in 1981 and started working for Borg Warner, a gearbox manufacturer. Unfortunately, the recession was still in force and he was again made redundant in 1984. Dai had worked in manufacturing with both British Steel and Borg Warner engineering for over 13 years. The

future of manufacturing jobs within South Wales in 1980 was extremely poor, however.

Dai therefore decided that he had had enough of furnaces and heavy engineering and in July 1985 was employed by 39 District Workshops REME, in Bridgend as a general hand. He then transferred to the Security section and took up his duties as a patrolman. Yet again due to Defence cuts in 1992 the Bridgend workshops were closed and he was again facing the threat of redundancy. However at the same time as the Defence cuts were being made, the MOD Guard Service was being formed. Dai was given the opportunity to transfer to Maindy Barracks Cardiff as part of the MGS and moved to his new post in 1993, where he has remained until his retirement on the 22 April 2011.

Dai's total service with the Ministry Of Defence was 25 years and 9 months and, in recognition of his valuable service and exemplary conduct, Mr David Morlais Morris was awarded the Imperial Service Medal.



MGS Officers assist USFV Army personnel in Vehicle Searching techniques



By Andrew Cross, Group Manager,
RAF Menwith Hill

I was approached by Sgt Roberts (US Army) who said he was impressed by the MGS Officers performing high profile vehicle searching in the Main Gate area, and wondered if I would be able to provide any training for USVF Army staff.

USVF Army personnel are required to comply with a list of requirements on an annual basis and this would greatly assist them in achieving this particular tasking.

I was grateful that the MGS at MHS were being appreciated by the US affiliates and I informed the sergeant that I would see what could be arranged.



I spoke to the Dayshift MGS Officers who usually carried out these tasks and asked if any of them would be willing to assist in the Vehicle Search training of up to 100 US Army staff. CSO5 Tony Sims, CSO5 Mike Trodden & CSO5 Chris Ashworth all put their names forward, so I was able to report back favorably to Sgt Roberts.

Over the next few days CSO5 Sims took the lead and put together a schedule and briefing format that would ensure that the presentation went smoothly, drawing on his previous experience in

the TA as a Section Commander in the 4th Parachute Regiment prior to joining the MGS in 2003.

The MDP kindly allowed us to use their de-activated 1911 Colt 45 also; CSO5 Sims and CSO5 Trodden constructed a dummy VB-IED (Vehicle borne Improvised Explosive Device) to assist in the training presentation.

The presentation of the lesson was given by CSO5 Sims; CSO5 Trodden carried out the practical demonstration and CSO5 Ashworth performed the role of the driver/terrorist.

US Security were made aware of the situation and it was decided that we would give three separate presentations split over two days, after which the Army NCO's could practice the techniques themselves, before carrying out training and testing of the other ranks

After the training events had taken place the MGS received very positive feedback from the US Army Battalion Commander, with thanks for putting together a very interesting and informative briefing.



Message from the Editor

The Editor takes it for granted that any material received has been cleared through the relevant management chain and also that no information received is classified or commercial in confidence.

Deadline for the next issue of Flashlight is 4th August 2012. All articles must be in electronic format and all pictures must be in jpeg format in the highest possible resolution, not embedded within the article.

Please send entries to Mr Tony Jackson, Editor Flashlight, MGS Training Centre, Building 401, MDPGA, Wethersfield, Braintree, Essex, CM7 4AZ, or email me on MDP-ATC MGS TRN HEAD, or tony.jackson861@mdpqa.mod.uk.

The Flashlight Coordinators for the Regions are as follows:

Region 1:

Area 1 - Faslane

Jo Carr BT: 01436 674321 Faslane ext 4001
Mil: 93255 4001

Area 3 – Coulport/Glen Douglas

Mags Williamson BT: 01436 674321 Coulport ext 5694
Mil: 93254 5694

Area 4 – Glasgow, Edinburgh and rest of Region 1

Marjorie Wilson BT: 0141 224 3538 Mil: 94561 3538
& Linda Gilmour

Region 2: John Biggerstaff 01904 662664 Mil: 94777 2664

Region 3: Adele Sheppard 01743 262604 Mil 94461 2604

Region 4: Lil McGarrity 01303 222082 Mil 94281 2582

Region 5: Shona Stewart shona.stewart795@mdpqa.mod.uk
Mil 94331 2305/3602

London: Emma Popczynski 0207218333 Mil 9621 83333



November Managers' Course

Left to right: Back row –

Arron Buckingham, Lawrence Holloway, Steve Lewis, Donald McLeod, John Madden, Cambell Robison, Ann Dwild.

Front row – Steve Rudd, Jaqui Bastable, John Bills, Karen Christian. (Missing from the photo; Jane Drew)



Managers' Course 27 Feb to 2 Mar

Left to right: Back row – Pete Johnson, Robert Cowe, Ian Kerr, David Pablo, Mike Harlow, Karen Beesley, Graham Glass, Steven Care.

Front row – Danny McGauley, John Bills, Marc Shreeve, Kevin Graham, Steve Rudd.

Getting to know you

Continuing our regular look at individual MGS team members

NAME: Tina Corke
JOB TITLE MGS Training Centre Administration
LOCATION Wethersfield



Where were you born?

Colchester.

Tell us about Your family?

I have two grown up children and one granddaughter.

Where did you Spend your Last holiday?

Minorca Spain.

Where would You like to Travel in future?

Anywhere warm and sunny.

What is your favourite book?

Anything by Cathy Glass.

Do you have a favourite quote or saying?

“You can’t change it, so build a bridge and get over it”.

When you get the chance, how do you like to spend your free time?

Spending time with my family and enjoying the sunshine – if we get any!

During your career, what would you consider as the most interesting job, and why?

I am torn between my days as a CS05 and my current E1 post. Both roles were very enjoyable but challenging at times. I have developed skills I thought were beyond my reach and welcome the development.

If your house was on fire and you could save one thing, what would it be?

A very old clock that was a gift some time ago.

If you could invite two personalities to dinner, one male and one female (dead/alive, real or fictitious) who would you invite and why?

**Gok Wan – for his humour
&
Mr George Clooney - why? Just because!**

Suppose I gave you £100,000 to spend on whatever you wanted what would you buy?

Travel the World and spoil myself.

What talent would you like to have?

To dance ballroom.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

Helping people, supporting their needs and meeting their requirements. Having a diverse role profile I get to speak to people from across the UK – And I like to chat!

“Helping people, supporting their needs and meeting their requirements.”



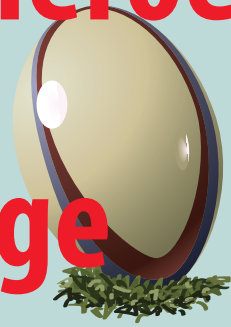


Working at Tedworth House In Tidworth has been a pleasant eye opener in lots of different ways, it is one of the new Help 4 Heroes establishments which has been established 'to inspire our wounded, injured, sick and returning veteran's to lead an active, independent and fulfilling life, which will enable them to reach their full potential, to support them and their families for life'. Tedworth House has been open since June 2011, but since it opened there have been many visits from many famous and not so famous visitors such as, Lorraine Kelly, Ross Kemp, Ray Winston, the Duke of Gloucester, Mark Cavendish and also his girlfriend (who most of the men might know) Peta Todd, I will leave it to you to decide who falls in to which category.

On one such visit on Tuesday 29th November, I was fortunate enough to be working, along with my colleague Bob Mitchell, when members of the Southern and Northern

Hemisphere rugby teams came to Tedworth house for a training day, this was prior to their match at Twickenham on 3rd December 2011. It was a day when all the women of the house came out of hiding and made an appearance and did a lot of hovering in and around the reception area as there were

Help 4 Heroes Rugby Challenge



hunky rugby players everywhere. The players spent the morning on the rugby field and then came back to the house for lunch with the residents.

We also had an opportunity to meet some of the players such as for the Northern Hemisphere Lawrence Dallaglio, Dean Ryan, Jason Leonard, John Kirwan, Danny Grewcock,

Will Greenwood and for the Southern Hemisphere Wayne Smith, Nick Mallell, Michael Lynagh, Sean Fitzpatrick and Jackson Wilson too name a few. A great day was had by both residents and staff. Just out of interest the final score in the rugby was Southern Hemisphere 36pts, Northern Hemisphere 22pts.



IN SUPPORT OF
HELP for HEROES



9. Patrols

This Annex is to explain the patrols that are required i.e. Mobile, Foot, Internal, Perimeter, External Perimeter etc. It is to provide Patrol timings - Patrol Routes - Patrol Frequency - Patrol Reporting procedures. For example Report to the Control / Guard Room every 30 minutes or on starting or completing pre-designated patrol areas / zones - Patrol duration etc.

10. Records

This Annex is to explain how and where records will be filed and for the periods they are to be retained before disposal.

11. Emergency Procedures

This Annex is to explain the immediate Actions i.e. The chain of command and control - Incident command - Contact details of essential personnel and departments - The use of the 5C's and W's for an incident i.e. Fire, Flood, Explosion, Suspect Package / Vehicle etc - The recording of a Bomb threat.

Further details on Assignment Instructions can be found in the MGS Operations Manual.

If you have any queries or questions you can contact the MGS Operations Manager on:

Civ: 01371 854492

Mil: 94667 4492

Email: MGS-HQ-Ops-Mgr@mod.uk

How To Guide



**Complete Annexes
in the
Assignment
Instructions
(AIs)**

Generic Assignment Instructions

The Generic Assignment Instructions (AI's) were produced by HQ MGS were done so to assist Managers in producing their own Unit / Site specific set of AI's.

The general content of the generic AI's is relevant to the majority of Units / Sites. Unit / Site specific procedures / instructions for Access / Egress control, Searching, Keys, Pass Issue, Emergency Procedures, Patrol routes etc, are to be added as Annexes and a full explanation as to the requirements for such tasks. Please see below.

1. Access / Egress Control

This Annex is to explain the exact requirement for gate staff when checking passes for expected, unexpected, escorted or unescorted visitors i.e. directing, escorting, recording etc. For example, the action to take when a Visitor on an escorted pass has not been escorted back to the gate.

2. Searching

This Annex is to explain the types of search i.e. Condition of Entry / Service and what is to be searched. For example Vehicle, Baggage or personnel searches - including how many searches are to be completed in a

24 hour period - the times at which searching is to be conducted i.e. In / Out musters, silent hours etc. - How searches are recorded i.e. on the MGS Form 19 - What to do in the event of a find. For example what actions are to be conducted if items were being brought into your Unit / Site Illegally or going out of your Unit / Site illegally.

3. Keys Control

This Annex is to explain the authorisation of key/s Issue i.e. To authorised staff on a nominal list or on production of a key card - Who is responsible for up dating nominal key list/s, key cards - Specify the times when keys have to be mustered - Who is responsible for mustering the keys - What actions are to be conducted for key/s not returned or lost.

4. Passes

This Annex is to explain the issuing of Personal and vehicle Permanent and Temporary passes i.e. **When** (During Normal / Silent working hours) - **How** (By Computer, MOD Form 5's) - and by **Whom** (CSO4 / 5) - If issued by the aid of a computer, what actions should be conducted if the computer system fails to work - What actions are to be conducted in the event of passes not being returned.

5. Gate / Posts

This Annex is to explain the day and night shift

timings and routines for all gates / posts.

For example Specific Gate / Post opening and closing times - Conduct searches - Issue all types of passes - monitor and answer telephone etc.

6. General Site / Unit Information

This Annex is to provide a general overview of the Site / Unit i.e. Is it Army, Navy, RAF or a Trading Fund - What is their business (if applicable) - Who are the Key Personnel and their contact details - Which Departments are there and their contact details etc.

7. Communication and Monitoring

This Annex is to explain the communication procedures i.e. The frequency and method for lone workers (hourly by Radio, Telephone) - Who and where the checks are made from / to (Control / Guard room duty controller) - Instructions for immediate actions to be conducted for a non response of Lone Worker or emergency button activation etc.

8. Specialist Duties

This Annex is to explain specialist roles i.e. Dog Patrols - Their Kennel routines - Their patrol routes and times - Their continuation training commitments - Their expectation to assist with meal breaks etc.