

Location Overview

Holywood

www.mod.uk/hive

Holywood HIVE

Building 58, Palace Barracks, BFPO 806

Tel: Civ – 02890 420252 Mil -9491 43252 E – <u>holywoodhive @armymail.mod.uk</u> Opening hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs 0900-15.30. Fri 0900-1300. Wed at Kinnegar 0900-1400

LOCAL AREA

Holywood is a busy small town on the outskirts of Belfast; Palace Bks and Kinnegar Station are within walking distance of Holywood where you will find everything you need for day to day living and personal administration. There is also a sports centre and many pubs, clubs and restaurants. Holywood Exchange retail park also has a number of large stores such as Ikea, B&Q and Sainsburys. George Best Belfast City Airport is very close to camp and the ferry port is approximately a 15 minute drive. Belfast is a short distance away and has everything that you would expect to find in a capital city, pubs, clubs, shopping, museums, galleries, hotels and restaurants. The Odyssey Arena is the biggest entertainment centre and houses an events arena, cinemas, pubs, restaurants, ice rink, bowling and more. Bangor and Newtownards are also within easy reach.

The Northern Ireland tourist information website can be found at: www.discovernorthernireland.com

UNIT OVERVIEW

Palace Bks

The resident battalion is 2 Mercian Regiment. Consisting of several companies, 2 Mercian is a light infantry role Battalion.

Unit website: http://www.army.mod.uk/infantry/regiments/6505.aspx

Kinnegar Station

19 Lt Bde CSS Battalion is based at Kinnegar Station. A logistics combat support unit who deploy worldwide. For more details visit www.armynet.mod.uk

There are a number of minor units within Palace Bks, please contact the HIVE for more details.

UNIT FACILITIES

Palace Bks – There are a wide variety of amenities including a multi gym, swimming pool, squash court, football pitches, HIVE, WRVS, Library, Education Centre, Barber, Hairdresser and Sandes Centre.

Sandes Café NAAFI Restaurant
Mon-Fri 0900-1500 Mon-Fri 0800-1400

PRI
In Sandes building. Opening times vary.

NAAFI Bar Mon-Fri 1900-2300. Sat 1900-0100. Sun 1400-0000.

 NAAFI Shop

 Mon-Fri 0800-2200
 Post Office

 Sat & Sun 1000-2100
 Mon – Fri 0900 – 1200

 Counter service available.

WRVS - Inside the NAAFI building. Access to welfare with quiet area and internet access. Contact 02890 420 635 for more details.

BFBS NI - BFBS Radio (British Forces Broadcasting Service) is the global services broadcaster. In Northern Ireland there are broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week including local programmes coming from the studios in Lisburn. There are also special and 'bespoke' programmes broadcast from the studios in Aldergrove, Ballykinler and Holywood. There are link ups with studios in Afghanistan plus live programmes from the frontline. BFBS NI is also a registered centre for recording Storybook Soldier – contact HIVE or BFBS for further details. Tel: 02892 266688 (civ), 66688 (mil), e-mail: studio@bfbs.com, text: start your text with 'NI' and a space to 07740 377 377. Further details such as programme schedules can be found at www.bfbs.com/radio/stations/northern-ireland

Kinnegar - Kinnegar is a working unit base with limited unit facilities. There is a WRVS, NAAFI, post office (no counter service) and fully equipped gym. HIVE provides an outreach every Wednesday.

ACCOMMODATION

Service Families Accommodation (SFA)

All accompanied personnel from any unit within Palace Bks Station and Kinnegar Station will allocated SFA within Palace Bks. The SFA is varied; the DIO HIC can provide further details or contact the HIVE for more details.

To contact DIO Housing Allocations Service Centre at Thetford: 0800 1696322. Fax 01842 890975

Email <u>DIOOpsAccn-HASCTeam5@mod.uk</u>, http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/MicroSite/DIO/

Single Living Accommodation (SLA)

2 Mercian (Palace Bks) – There is a mixture of SLA Z-type accommodation and 4 man rooms; upgrade work is in progress. Please contact your Company CQMS for details.

Sgts Mess 02890 420362.

Officers Mess 02890 420362

For other units please contact your unit directly.

19 Lt Bde CSS Bn, Kinnegar – SLA is Z and Y Type. Please contact the SQMS/CQMS on 9491 43719.

Sgts Mess 02890 394763,

Officers Mess (at Palace Bks) 02890 420362.

Local accommodation

Contact House - Palace Bks Station Staff Office administers the contact house which is available to personnel from all units. The cost is minimal and a small deposit is required. Please call 02890 420212 for further details.

Carnwood House B&B

85 Victoria Road Holywood 02890 421745 www.carnwoodhouse.com

TRAVEL

Palace Bks By car: Unit Postcode for Sat Nav is BT18 9RA.

From Belfast take the A2 to Bangor/Holywood. Keeping Belfast City Airport on your left turn right at the next major junction and pass Tesco on the left. Follow road to second junction and turn left. Keep left and after ¼ mile Palace Bks is on the left.

Kinnegar Station By car: Unit postcode for Sat Nav is BT18 9JT.

From Belfast take the A2 to Bangor/Holywood keeping Belfast City Airport on your left. Follow road into Holywood. At the junction just after the train station turn left under a railway bridge. Follow the road passing the Dirty Duck pub on the left. At the junction turn right and follow the road along to the gates of Kinnegar which face the sea.

Before arrival please contact your unit who will provide you with guidelines before you travel. If you are arriving on foot, by sea or air, then you must contact your welfare office who will make arrangements to meet you.

By Train: There is a train station in Holywood. www.translink.co.uk or 02890 666630.

By Bus: Translink operate all bus and train services in NI (see details above). Ulster bus and Metro service run past Palace Barracks and Kinnegar very frequently. Visit the journey planner page on the translink website.

By Air: George Best City Airport, BT13 9JH, 02890 939093, is approximately half a mile away from Palace and Kinnegar on the outskirts of Holywood. www.belfastcityairport.com. Belfast International Airport, BT29 4AB, 02894 484484 is approximately 25 miles from Holywood.

By Sea: Port of Belfast, Corporation Square, 02890 554422.

Stena Line <u>www.stenaline.com</u>

DFDS www.dfds.com

P&O Irish Ferries www.poirishsea.com

Taxi: Value Cabs 02890 80 90 80. NI Garrison Security Awareness Site contains details of out of bounds firms, however there is no such thing as a cleared taxi firm. **London-style taxis/hackney cabs (black or any colour) must not be used.**

Motoring: On arrival In Northern Ireland, you must register your Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) with the Drivers Vehicle Agency Northern Ireland (DVA NI) if you will be staying for a period of twelve months or more. This is a legal requirement. There is no legal requirement to change to Northern Ireland number plates, but if you would like further advice on this issue then contact the Centralised Risk Assessment Cell on 028 92263601. The purchase of registration plates is an individual responsibility. A list of DVA (NI) authorised outlets is available from the DVA offices.

HEALTHCARE

Service Personnel: (For both Palace Bks and Kinnegar)

Station Medical Centre - Civ: 02890 420258. Mil: (9) 49162258

Station Dental Centre - Civ: 02890 420630 . Mil: (9) 492 62630

Dependants:

Medical - Priory Surgery, 26 High Street, Holywood, BT18 9DA, Tel: 084 4477 3396

Brook Street Clinic, 9 Brook Street, Holywood, BT18 9DA. Tel: 0844 4773350

Dental - Oasis Dental Surgery Tel: 02890 397782, Shore Road Dental Surgery, Tel: 028 9042 7325, Maypole Dental Practice (NHS) Tel: 028 9039 7782

The nearest hospital is the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald, BT16 1RH Tel: 02890 48451.

Please note NHS Direct does not operate in Northern Ireland.

SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE

In Northern Ireland there are no catchment areas and under the open enrolment arrangements that exist parents are able to express a preference for the schools they wish their child to attend. However there are strict rules in relation to transport assistance and parents must consider these rules when choosing a suitable school. Transport assistance rules are available on the Education and Library Board websites.

Contact the HIVE for a full list of schools in the local area.

Applications for school places are made through the relevant Education and Library Board. The Education and Library Boards covering schools in the Holywood area are the South Eastern Education and Library Board (SEELB) and the Belfast Education and Library Board (BELB). SEELB telephone: 028 90566200, www.seelb.org.uk. BELB telephone: 028 90564000, www.seelb.org.uk.

Inspection reports for all schools can be found on www.deni.gov.uk

Tiggers Palace - playgroup located on Palace Bks Tel: 02890 420 253.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

These are the main Unit contact details. For any other Unit contact numbers please call the		
HIVE on 02890 420252		
	Mil	Civ
Army Welfare Service	66371	02892 266371
Guard Room Palace Bks	43163	02890 420163
Guard Room 19 Lt Bde CSS Bn	43628	02890 394628
Chaplain 2 Mercian	58683	02890 420683
Padre 19 Lt Bde CSS Bn		07825257127
Unit Welfare Office 2 Mercian	43341	02890 420341
Unit Welfare Office 19 Lt Bde CSS	43103	02890 420103
NI Security Risk Assessment Cell	66509	02892 262509

SECURITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Since the end of Op BANNER, life in Northern Ireland for service personnel and their families has improved considerably. However, the unique situation in Northern Ireland means that the military community must pay particular attention to their personal safety. This can be achieved by following a number of measures.

Information on these measures can be obtained by attending a security brief on arrival in Northern Ireland. Service personnel are to receive the Northern Ireland Induction Brief from their unit within 48hrs. A security brief is also available for all families on arrival from their unit welfare offices.

There are many ways to receive up to date security information:

- -The Northern Ireland Garrison Security Awareness website is available through DII on the intranet at www.nisyaware.dii.r.mil.uk Unit welfare staff can access this site on behalf of dependents.
- -Sign up to your unit's text messaging system via your welfare office and receive information via your mobile phone.

-If you require specific security advice, for example all out of bounds areas, then call the team at the Centralised Risk Assessment Cell (CRAC) on 02892 263601 -Information about out of bound areas can also be obtained from the Northern Ireland Special Guard Service at the main entry point to camp.

Before arriving in Northern Ireland contact your unit for up to date information about both the current security situation and how to travel to your new unit.

If you are at all unsure about how to obtain information on security in Northern Ireland then call any of the Northern Ireland HIVEs or your unit welfare office.

This is a brief overview of the area and facilities available at Holywood. The HIVE holds further information and will research information on your behalf.

Please ensure that you access the NI Garrison Security Awareness site on the NI Intranet, your Unit Welfare Office or the Centralised Risk Assessment Cell on 9491 63601 (military) or 02892 263601 for the latest details on any restrictions.