



Location Overview

Hermitage

www.mod.uk/hive

Hermitage HIVE

Crabtree Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9US

Tel: Civ – 01635 202461 Mil - 94231 2461 E: hermitagehive@armymail.mod.uk

www.hermitagehive.blogspot.com

LOCAL AREA

Hermitage village is 6 miles north of Newbury and approximately 2 miles from the interchange of the A34 and junction 13 of the M4.

Hermitage is surrounded by rolling wooded countryside that naturally lends itself to the opportunities of walking, cycling and horse riding. The village has two public houses, a small post office/grocery shop, a butchers and a small garage repair workshop. It has a primary school situated on the main road (B4009) through the village.

In the adjoining village of Curridge there is a public house and a garage with convenience shop and a primary school situated on Curridge Road.

Newbury is the nearest largest town to Hermitage and is approximately 5 miles away. Public transport to Newbury from Hermitage is limited but the town has an excellent selection of shops, restaurants, public houses, sport facilities and a superb library. The town also has a multiplex cinema and is fast becoming a social focal point for day trippers. Newbury also boasts a magnificent horse racing track which also contains a golf course and gymnasium.

Excellent road links give easy access to Reading, London, Bristol, Oxford and the South coast.

Website: www.newbury.net

UNIT OVERVIEW

The Joint Aeronautical and Geospatial Organisation (JAGO) are based at Denison Barracks, Hermitage. The Unit houses 42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic) and the Royal School of Military Survey (RSMS). Amongst other things JAGO is responsible for the provision of field deployable geographic support to the Services, and is very much focused on delivering on operations, particularly in Afghanistan.

HQ JAGO and 42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic) are due to move to Wyton in Cambridgeshire in 2013 or 2014. The future location of RSMS is yet to be determined.

The Regiment does not deploy as a whole but there is a rolling deployment. Exercises and adventurous training do take place. Further information can be obtained on arrival.

UNIT FACILITIES

Inside the Wire

Hermitage Station offers facilities for almost every sporting interest. There are tennis courts, a squash court, a gymnasium, and football, rugby, hockey and cricket grounds. The Gymnasium is open to Military personnel and dependants, subject to an induction course. There is a library within the unit which provides internet access.

Outside the Wire

The Crabtree Community Centre is available for hire to serving personnel and dependants. The hall is large and has a separate kitchen and toilets. During the week various Clubs are on offer; Arts and Crafts, Brownies, Sure Start and Zumba.

The HIVE is located in the portacabin to the left of the Spar shop in the Faircross Area. There is now also a Café in the portacabin.

ACCOMMODATION

Service Families Accommodation (SFA)

There are 110 Other Ranks' SFA on the Faircross Estate next to the barracks and 28 Officers' SFA at Curridge Piece.

Bomford Close RG18 9TS	25-28 Faircross RG18 9TJ
38-55 Faircross RG19 9TL	Clough Drive RG18 9SP
Collins Drive RG18 9SW	Crabtree Close RG18 9TR
Roy Close RG18 9TZ	Thompson Close RG18 9SN
White Close RG18 9TT	

Curridge Piece RG18 9NB

Single Living Accommodation (SLA)

Single or unaccompanied personnel are accommodated either in the Officers' Mess, WOs' and Sgts' Mess or Junior Ranks Block. All three have food and bar facilities and access to washing, drying and ironing rooms. Pay as you Dine is in place.

Officers' Mess Tel:	(01635 204297)
WO & Sgts' Mess Tel:	(01635 204295)

All SLA is booked via the SSM and SQMS prior to arrival on posting. The SLA is Grade 4 and has not been upgraded with SLAM.

Local accommodation

The nearest Contact House is 15 miles away at Abingdon; please contact 01235 543562 for details. There is welfare flat at Hermitage which can be booked via the Unit Welfare Officer on 01362 204239.

Highclere Farm provides Bed and Breakfast, situated just a short drive from Newbury town centre, just off the main A343 Newbury to Andover Road, with easy access from the A34 Newbury Bypass. www.highclerefarmnewbury.co.uk

Willows Bed & Breakfast just 5 minutes from Newbury racecourse with excellent local facilities. www.willowsthatcham.co.uk

TRAVEL

By car: Unit Postcode for Sat Nav is RG18 9TP. To get to the camp from the M4 motorway exit at Junction 13, from the M3 exit at Junction 9 (signed to the Midlands, Newbury and A34), join the A34.

By Coach: Contact National Express on 08705 808080 or visit www.nationalexpress.com Military discount of up to 30% can be obtained by applying for an HM Forces discount card; the card costs £15 and is valid for 3 years.

By train: Nearest Railway Stations are; Newbury – 3.5 miles south of Hermitage, Thatcham – 4 miles south of Hermitage. The nearest Mainline Train Stations are Reading – 20 miles east of Newbury and Didcot – 15 miles north of Newbury.

National Rail Enquiries – for times and information call 08457 484950 or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk

Air

Heathrow is the nearest airport, approx. 1 hour travel time away depending on mode of transport. A Rail air link operates from Woking. Visit www.railair.com for details on getting from the airport to Reading. Gatwick Airport is also approx. 1 hour 34 mins travel time from Hermitage and can be accessed by rail or road.

Taxi: All taxis charge an additional fee for picking up from Hermitage as they come from either Thatcham or Newbury.

Cabco	(01635 523388)
Alpha Cars	(01635 866777)
ABC Taxis	(01635 503603)

** Should you require transport in an emergency please contact the Unit Welfare Officer, on 01635 204239 **

HEALTHCARE

Service Personnel:

Station Medical Centre - Civ: 01635 204440. Mil: (9) 4231 4440

Station Dental Centre - Civ: 01635 204440. Mil: (9) 4231 4440

Medical – Service personnel attend the Medical centre at Hermitage, which is served by a civilian doctor from the Army Primary Health Care Service, and he visits the camp five times per week. The Medical Centre has a part-time nurse and Army Medical Services (AMS) SNCO, who are trained to deal with minor ailments and treatment prescribed by the visiting GP.

Dependants:

Families at Curridge and Hermitage quarters may register with the local surgery, The Downland Practice at Chieveley. The Chieveley practice is located 3 miles east of Hermitage, it operates an appointments system for all patients on the register, and can be contacted by telephoning 01635 248251 for enquiries, emergencies and appointment. It is

open between 8.30am to 1pm and 2pm to 7pm Monday to Friday. Saturday morning emergencies are held at Chieveley from 9am to 11am but routine appointments cannot be made at this time.

Dental – Service personnel either attend the Dental Centre at Hermitage or Arborfield for all dental treatment.

Service families may register with civilian dental practices in Newbury or Thatcham.

For emergency dental treatment, when you haven't already registered with a dentist, go to Holey Molars at Reading's NHS Dental Access Centre, Health Clinic, Corwen Road, Tilehurst or call: 0118 945 2967. No appointment needed but call for opening times first. Usual NHS dental charges apply.

NHS Direct will advise on dentists providing NHS care (see below for contact details).

The nearest hospital is West Berkshire Community Hospital, London Road, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG 18 3AS Tel: 01635 273300 www.berkshire.nhs.uk/newbury

NHS Direct offers a 24-hour nurse advice and health information service, and provides details of local healthcare services, such as doctors, dentists or late night opening pharmacies. **NHS Direct - Tel: 0845 46 47** www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE

Crabtree Pre School (2.5-5yrs), open Monday to Friday and offer lunch club and additional afternoon sessions. For further information call the manager on 01635 204387.

For Primary education the Hermitage and Curridge quarters fall into the catchment area for Curridge Primary School. Schools in the area are popular and alternative places may be available at Hermitage Primary School or Chieveley Primary School.

Curridge Primary School

Curridge, Thatcham RG18 9DZ Tel: 01635 200486 www.curridge@westberks.org

Chieveley Primary School

School Road, Chieveley, Newbury RG20 8TY Tel: 01635 248281

Free home to school transport is available to Chieveley School (by application to the LEA)

www.chieveley@westberks.org

Hermitage Primary School

Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9SA Tel: 01635 200355

www.hermitage@westberks.org

SFA falls within the catchment area for The Downs School, a Foundation Comprehensive school with language College status and a Beacon School.

The Downs School

Manor Crescent, Compton, Nr Newbury RG20 6NU Tel: 01635 270000

Transport is available by application to the LEA www.thedownsschool.org

- Applications for school places are made through the Local Education Authority (LEA). The LEA for Berkshire is West Berkshire LEA, Avonbank House, West Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1BZ Tel: 01635 519771 www.westberks.gov.uk. Ofsted reports can be accessed at www.ofsted.gov.uk

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

These are the main Unit contact details. For any other Unit contact numbers please call the HIVE on 01635 202461		
	Mil	Civ
Army Welfare Service	94231 4239	01635 204239
Guard Room	94231 4288	01635 204288
HIVE	94231 2461	01635 202461
Padre	94231 4441	01635 244441
Medical Centre (for serving pers)	94231 4230	01635 204230
Newbury Hospital (minor Injuries)		01635 32500
Royal Berkshire Hospital		0118 322511
NHS Direct		0845 4647

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