



# SMALL ARMS SCHOOL CORPS

## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2011 – EDITION 2

*Welcome to the second edition of the SASC Newsletter. Please distribute widely to all SASC within your Unit.*



### COMMANDING OFFICERS FOREWARD

The aim of this newsletter is to inform all members of the SASC of current issues and initiatives across the G1 to G9 spectrum. You will see there is much activity, particularly on the MS front. I would like to draw your attention to the 'Basics' and Active Range Management Working Groups. Whilst you may not necessarily be a member of the Working Group; this should not preclude you from having ideas or opinions and I encourage you to voice such through our thread on the Army Knowledge Exchange or to either the Corps Adjt or SO2 Trg Safety as applicable.

### G1 – OFFICERS (Point of Contact – Capt Mick Ronan on 94381 2220 or DINF-SASC-ADJT)

#### Promotions and Conversions.

##### Conversion to REG (C)

- Maj AJ Cleminson
- Maj KJ Anderson

##### Promotion to Maj with effect 31 Jul 11

- Capt JP O'Connor
- Capt SR Hanson

##### Commission to IRC with effect 2 Apr 11

- WO1 (SMI) Renton
- WO1 (SMI) Milton

### MS Calendar - 2011

Event	Date
SSgt – WO2 Promotion Results	3 Feb 11
Pink List Main Board Sits	7 – 11 Feb 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Sits	8 – 9 Feb 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Results	24 Feb 11
Pink List Results Public	24 Feb 11
Sgt – SSgt Promotion Board	1 Mar 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Sits	14 – 18 Mar 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Results	31 Mar 11
Sgt – SSgt Promotion Results	7 Apr 11
Capt's OJARs Due	31 May 11
Maj's OJARs & WO SJARs Due	30 Jun 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Sits	5 – 7 Jul 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Sits	13 – 14 Jul 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Results	21 Jul 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Results	28 Jul 11
SSgts SJARs Due	30 Sep 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Sits	4 – 5 Oct 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Sits	18 – 20 Oct 11
No 5 Appt Board (Capt) Results	20 Oct 11
No 5 Appt Board (Maj) Results	3 Nov 11
LE Commissions Public	3 Nov 11
Reg (C) Results Public	10 Nov 11
Beige List Main Board Sits	21 – 25 Nov 11
Sgts SJARs Due	30 Nov 11
WO2 – WO1 Results Public	1 Dec 11
Beige List Results Public	15 Dec 11

### Planned Officer Posting Plot. Posts going to the No 5 Board in Feb & Mar 11:

- SO2 Trg Safety - Maj K Sandison, Sep 11
- 2IC Inf Sch, Kabul - Maj P Redding, Aug 11
- Ops Offr BSN - Capt G Wright, Oct 11
- SO3 G7 Trg Pol SCHINF- Capt N Hirst, Nov 11
- SO3 Trg HQ 16AA - Capt M Else, May 11

- RLO DTE (G) - Capt R Watson, May 11
- NWFT Lead Adv, Helmand - Capt S Harrod, Mar 11
- SO3 J7 RAF (H) - WO1 A Renton, Apr 11
- SAA Offr IWD - WO1 D Milton, Apr 11

### Operational Commitments Establishment (OCE).

All Officers should endeavour to receive CoC agreement in order to make themselves available for OCE posts as and when they occur, both E1 and E2. We have recently been asked to fill the following commitments:

- RMTC G3 (Asst SMA). Dep Comd UK Contingent.
- NWFT Lead. Field, train and mentor the ANA NWFT SAA Instrs.

### G1 – SOLDIERS (Point of Contact – WO1 (RSM) Owen on 94381 2496 or DINF-SASC-RSM)

#### Promotions.

##### To WO1

A/WO1 Douglas – AFC Harrogate.  
A/WO1 Rennie – HQ ITG.  
WO2 Murray – To be SMI ITDU.  
WO2 Wesley – To be SMI 22 SAS.

##### To WO2 with effect 30 Jun 11

A/WO2 Adewole – SASC TAG (UK).  
SSgt Bowden – SASC TAG (UK).  
SSgt Colville – SASC TAG (UK).  
A/WO2 Ellicker – ITC(C), 2 ITB.  
SSgt Hall – Brunei Garrison QMSI.  
A/WO2 Hirst – ITC(C), 1 ITB.  
SSgt Johns – ATC(P), 1 ATR.  
SSgt Maclean – LSP Oman, AFAIW HQ QMSI.  
A/WO2 Stuart – RAF(H).  
A/WO2 Sullivan – DTE SPTA.  
SSgt Trainner – ATFC(W).  
SSgt Wilbond – OCE, Inf Branch Sch, Op HERRICK.  
A/WO2 Wood – 5 RIFLES.

### SASC Selection Course 09.02

SSgt (SSI) Cooke to AFV (Gunnery School).  
Sgt (SI) Russell to IWD.  
Sgt (SI) McGarvie to IWD.  
Sgt (SI) Tainton to IWD.  
Sgt (SI) Winchurch to IWD.

### SASC Selection Course 10.01

The following SNCOs are currently on Ph 2 of the course;  
Sgt Arnould – IWD.  
Sgt Farrer – SWS.  
Sgt Fowler – IWD. (Propose to move to SWS)  
Sgt McCartney – IWD.  
Sgt Muir – IWD.  
1 Sgt Pettersen – IWD. (Propose to move to SWS)

Sjt Smith – IWD.  
Sgt Thamesh Rai – IWD.  
Sgt Tucker – IWD.  
Sgt Whale – IWD.  
If successful they will be accepted on 25 Feb 11.

#### **Versatile Engagement ((Full) & (Long)) Update.**

A VEng Board convened at HQ SASC on 15 Jul 10 and selected personnel for both contracts. The Corps non commissioned ranks are now employed on the following contracts;

VEng (Long) – 16.

VEng (Full) – 95.

Open Eng – 3.

Continuance – 1.

**Total Manning – 115.**

All personnel are listed in their apparent rank i.e. rank worn. The figures do not include personnel on LSL or in the SASC (V).

The likelihood of personnel being boarded for a longer contract is now very low as manning levers are being applied in APC and the Corps has more personnel on VEng (L) than is ideal. As a result of this all personnel are advised to plan ahead and work to their Run out Dates paying particular attention to resettlement planning and courses.

#### **Warrant Officer Class Two Post Tier System.**

The WO2 post tier system was discussed at the Officer and WO1 study periods in 2010. The system is designed to better manage the careers of the WO cohort and to ensure that individual expectations are managed more realistically. All personnel are encouraged to read the policy document which was widely distributed in 2010. If you have not seen a copy, contact the Corps RSM who will forward a copy to you.

#### **SASC Posts Lost and Gained.**

The following posts have been lost;

##### **WO1**

LSP Oman AFAIW HQ SMI

##### **WO2**

BFC J7 Trg Adv.

SASC Exchange Australia.

SASC Exchange Canada.

BATSU Belize.

##### **SSgt**

OPTAG Instr x 1

The following have opened or will be opening in 2011;

##### **WO2**

1 SG – BGWO – Oct 10.

12 Bde Trg Adv – Apr 11.

4 Bde Trg Adv – Oct 11.

1 RRF BGWO – Mar 11.

LSP Oman AFAIW HQ QMSI

CSM Mentor OCS Kabul – To be boarded in Mar 11.

#### **Officer/WO/SNCO Manning Figures - Jan 11;**

Lieutenant Colonel – 1.

Major – 14.

Captain – 21.

Warrant Officer Class One – 16.

Warrant Officer Class Two – 59.

Staff Sergeant – 18.

Sergeant – 21.

Resettlement (WO2) – 1.

**Total Manning – 151.**

#### **SASC Selection Course “Basics” Working Group.**

CO SASC directed a study with the primary goal to identify areas for improvement in the methodologies currently employed to teach basic SAA lessons, encompassing the following specific tasks:

- Examine Directive 001 in order to determine CFDT intent and how to meet that intent through Basic SAA.
- Examine, and where necessary change both “The What” we teach and “The How” we teach the basics of SAA.
- Rationalise SAA instruction to show relevance and provide instructors with the power to use innovative methods set against a target audience or weapon system (SuT, Trained Soldier, UOR Wpn etc.).
- Compare and contrast methods employed within professional teacher training in order to identify best practice and relevance in order to modernise SASC Instruction.
- Draw deductions from the character of conflict with the aim of contemporising SAA.
- Identify how attitudinal coaching can be embedded within SAA instruction in order to activate students and empower them to learn.

#### **G7 Training Points (Point of Contact – Maj Paul Redding on 94381 2366 or DINF-SASC-SO2)**

**Pam 21 Amendment 2.** Issued before the start of the 2011 Training Year and will include:

- New section in Ch 1 on NSPLW and training with Foreign Forces.
- New section on Non-Engagement Firing (on ops) – SASC mandatory involvement in the process.
- New INCREPs and ND reporting Forms.
- New RASP and EASP format.
- Changes to Qual courses for PNCO, FSG, RN, UKSF and GGS.
- Change to wording for declarations to include the individual's responsibility to report others that have retained ammunition.
- Clarification of the rules for firing from vehicle platforms and Firing on the Move (FOTM).
- The rules for handing off targets during LFTT at night with II and TI sights
- Type A and B now Grenade Posting Trench and Bunker.
- New MST CALFEX and RSOI Section for Chapter 13 – recognition of need for Risk in Training.

**AOSP Amendment 2.** Issued before the start of the 2011 Training Year:

- Re-write of the matches from Pam 20 and into AOSP Vol 1-Ch 12.
- GMG and HMG LF solution – DCCT now an integral part.
- The merging of Browning and Sig chapters to make one In-Service Pistol Chapter.
- Change to Laser Aimer (LA) assessment –now 100 m and different firing positions used.
- Reduction in the ammunition required for 60 mm LF.
- Clarification of FOTM which now also includes GMG.

## General Training Issues.

- **Live Firing (LF) Review** – into the synergy of training through Initial, HFT, MST and deployment whereby:
  - Output from one phase should overlap the start standard for another.
  - OSTT increased involvement at CPTA for coordination of ranges at Hythe and Lydd.
  - Issue of the ACMT and currency – primary and secondary weapons (policy decision is that WHT and personal weapon ACMT requirements remain unchanged but troops need only be current on secondary weapons on their deployment date to maintain their ACMT validity for their tour).
- **DC3 Review** – Review of all training estates, funding, fielding, competency of non-Inf training and issues include:
  - Role of SASC – HMG and GMG training areas – role out into core for DC3 Wpns.
  - TAGs and OSTT – shift of training emphasis post introduction of FSG?
  - Availability of 'Black Light' for FIST and Thermal Targets for FTS.
  - Savings measures post SDSR including savings on ammunition.
- **CQM** – JSP 403 limited the use of CQM targets. The resolution now permits all issued targets to be engaged at all points on the target.
- **CQB LFTT Shoot Through Facilities** – Issue now resolved. Key elements:
  - Entry for JSP 403 Vol 2 and Pam 21.
  - Clarification that the SST is in place.
  - Training on T3 courses.
  - Formal training by SRW.
  - Competency assured by chain of command/rehearsals/ex troops' competency (non-Inf).
- **LMG** backslash issue. The current ban on personnel in markers gallery remains for all ranges although there is no restriction on the firing distance. Trials are ongoing to resolve the issue.

## Weapons Update.

- L129A1 Sharpshooter Rifle – fully fielded. Well received by Bdes. No issues.
- SLW training solution – 66 mm HEAT training will be on DCCT to remove need for current 2\* dispensation. This will be available in the next 6 months.
- ASM Counter Mass Gel – separate flame ignition. User to be aware that no indoor firing can be conducted.
- AW50 revised use for snipers to defeat enemy behind cover. Feedback from ops is required.
- L115A3 SBFS now available (but L96 still being used for TES. No SBFS so additional controls in place) and GPMG SBFS available in 2011.

## Active Range Management Working Group

CO SASC directed a study into the policy and procedures for LFTT with IWS and Pyrotechnics<sup>1</sup> with particular emphasis on training for operations. Policy is articulated in Pamphlet 21 which remains a constantly evolving document reflective of the need to provide training as close to that of operations and the ongoing work in this area will continue throughout

the review period. The Active Range Management Working Group is to produce recommendations in order to further develop 'Realism in Operationally Focused Training' by a recognition and acceptance of increased 'Risk in Training'. This is where benefit to operations can be identified and where the Safe System of Training is not compromised. The report will support the HQ Inf led Review into Combined Arms LF in preparation for Operations.

## The Weapons Collection.

The Infantry and SASC Weapons Collection is a valuable source of historical information reflecting the development of weapons and ammunition. Furthermore it provides a facility to enable research and training for the enthusiast and serviceman preparing for training and operations. It must be used or we face the prospect of it being lost. Every member of the Corps has an obligation to promote the facility and to encourage their units to book a visit. Additionally members of the SASC should aim to visit in order to maintain their professional currency.

## The Army Knowledge Exchange (AKX).

The Army Knowledge Exchange enables Land operational knowledge to be shared. The SASC has a thread (a singular topic titled SASC) that enables SASC personnel to share best practice, ask questions and allows the remainder of the Field Army to seek advice from the training SMEs. If the AKX is to grow and become a valuable reference tool we must search the forums and contribute. The link is below:

[Army Knowledge Exchange](#)

## Corps Journal

Currently the Corps Adjt is responsible for collating all Corps Journal articles. As a reminder:

- Use MS Word and save as a .doc file with no protection.
- Use Arial 10 pt. We will develop fonts in the layout as required and format paragraphs
- Indicate where photos or graphics are to be placed using a host text box with the name of the photo file to be inserted plus the title or caption.
- If you do embed the photo, also send a separate image file that has not been reduced in size on CD.

This years journal will have an operational, Bde and AI Bn theme. However, we need more articles of other natures, so please get typing. Articles should be with the Adjt by 31 Mar 11. If you intend to write an article inform the Adjt soonest.

We are still accepting Journal front covers with a prize of £50 for the winner. Front covers must relate to current ops.

If you require further clarification, please call the Corps Adjt.

<sup>1</sup> The areas where DInf is the CAA&I.