



Brunssum and GK Community Newsletter



November 2022

It has been another busy few weeks and as we start to move into the Festive Season, calendars will be filling up even faster!

The UK delegation hosted Coffee & Culture for the Brunssum International Club on 1st November. With around 150 people present, it was a very well attended event. A huge THANK YOU to all those who got involved whether that was making cakes, hosting, putting out chairs and tables or tidying up afterwards.

DIO top tips are now included in this newsletter. This month focuses on getting your boiler ready for winter. Please let us know if there are any specific topics that you would like to be covered over the coming months.

Hopefully everyone is aware that the role of Senior National Representative (SNR) has been handed over from Col Eddie Corrigan to Gp Capt Matt Roberts. Now that Matt's feet are firmly under the table, he will be holding a Town Hall on 14 November. Timing TBC, but likely to remain virtual and out of working hours to allow maximum participation.

NAAFI Christmas pop-up shop. Delivery date for December will be changed from 5th to Tuesday 6th to allow for the pop-up shop. Timings 10.00—14.00 in the Brit café—Tea, Coffee and biscuits will be available, maybe even mince pies!

As we start thinking about Christmas, there's even more going on than usual—keep an eye out for updates on facebook, WhatsApp and the newsletter.

Finally, a plea. Help us to help you by getting involved, taking part, giving feedback, making suggestions.

Happy November Everyone,

Your NSE Team

What's On!

in the coming weeks...

16 NOV

NSE Closed 0900-1000

18-20 NOV

Foggy Fields Bazaar

GK - Open to all NATO ID Card holders

26 NOV

**AF North Thanksgiving /
Christmas Fayre**

1 DEC

Exchange Drinks

Service Personnel Only

6 DEC

**NAAFI Pop-Up Shop and
December Delivery**

9 DEC

Christmas Function

@ the Biesenhof

**For more information about any of these events,
check Facebook or contact the CLO Office**

Images with FosterMidway.com

If you know of anything else that's going on in the local community, please share it with us on Facebook or WhatsApp

The poster features a background of various autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and brown, scattered across a light cream-colored surface. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts in dark brown and red colors.

Autumn Leaves Competition

**Time to get creative and
produce a piece of artwork on
the theme of autumn leaves**

**BFBS footballs for most creative
artwork**

**Please submit artwork to the CLO office by
30th November**

Getting your boiler ready for winter

It's never too early to check that your boiler is prepared for the winter months. To help you ensure that your central heating system is working to its full capacity, DIO have put together some advice to help you safely test your boiler.

Testing your boiler:

1. Turn on your central heating system
2. Turn the room thermostat right up, making sure that the boiler turns on. Don't forget to turn the thermostatic valves on your radiators up too
3. Wait 5-10 minutes. Carefully use your hand to check all the radiators in your home are warming up and there are no cold spots
4. Turn your thermostat down and get to know how the timer and room thermostat for your central heating system work
5. Do you know how to bleed your radiator? Contact your Estate Manager for advice or assistance.
6. Consider having your heating on a constant low temperature (18°C) to prevent damp and condensation

If you spot any issues with your boiler or central heating system, please report your fault via the DIO Fault reporting system to log a repair as soon as possible.

<https://www.ejsu.net/dio-fault-reporting/>



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**



Afnorth
International School

Christmas AND Thanksgiving Fayre

Saturday
26th Nov'

11am-2pm
Admission:
2 Euros
per adult.

Festive
Food

Great Raffle Prizes

Open to all NATO ID card holders

Fun
and
games

International Vendors

Christmas/Thanksgiving Fayre

26th November 1100-1400

Can you help?

Secret room

Always a favourite with the children, the Secret Room provides an opportunity for the children to choose, purchase and wrap gifts for their parents. For this, we need donations of small gifts for men and women such as candles, ornaments, toiletries etc etc.(no razors)

Tombola

We are looking for donations for the Tombola - this can include unopened tins, bottles, jars etc but is not restricted to foodstuffs – all we ask is that the items donated are unused and in date.

Toy shop

Have you been having a clear out of toys your child no longer plays with? We also welcome donations for the 'Toy Shop' this can include soft toys or games which are clean and in good condition.

Cafe

We will also have a Cafe again this year and would be very grateful for any delicious treats you would be willing to donate-cakes, sponges, tray bakes, loaf cakes, cup-cakes etc. etc.

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE NUT/PEANUT FREE

**THE SUCCESS OF THE DAY Relies TOTALLY ON
YOUR SUPPORT & GOODWILL**

If you would like to make any contributions, then please send them directly to the British Office by 23rd November. Any items for the Cake Stall can be brought to the Office on the 25th November or on the morning of the Fayre.

THANK YOU

Dinotastic Fun !

JFC LIBRARY PRESENTS: DINOVENBER

**Starting Monday 7 NOV 22
Every Mon-Fri 1300 to 1700**

**DINO ACTIVITIES:
DINO HUNT
EXCAVATING DINO BONES
DINO CRAFTS
AND MORE**

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME
AND ENCOURAGED TO
WEAR THEIR FAVORITE
DINOSAUR GEAR**



What is the Brunssum International Club and why would I join?

The Brunssum International Club (BIC) is open to all NATO ID holders and spouses. It meets monthly for Coffee and Culture mornings, hosted by different delegations and runs various events throughout the year. This month they are running a workshop to create ceramic Christmas ornaments. Membership is 12 Euros for the year.





Ceramic Christmas Ornaments and Jewels

@ Arts&Crafts Centre – JFC Brunssum
23rd November, 18.00-20.00

Create your own Christmas decorations and unique gifts, with the «dip and slip» ceramic techniques.

Authentic beauty made simple!

Members: 15€
Non members: 20€
(sponsored by a member)

NOEL

RSVP by Wednesday 16 Nov.
Via <https://bit.ly/3zjDTvX>



Looking for a child friendly space to use?

Want to get out of the house?

Want somewhere quiet to gather your thoughts*?

Use the Community Room!

With the café currently not regularly opening, you'll need to bring your own coffee, but you're very welcome to use it. No booking required**

Coffee drop in held every Wednesday 10-11—EVERYONE WELCOME!!

*We can put a Do Not Disturb sign on the door, the amount of thinking is up to you!

**Unless this proves really popular...

ssafa | the
Armed Forces
charity

WE NEED YOU!



Our Service committee is small and friendly but we'd love to be a bit bigger!

Do you have an hour a week or a month that you are willing to offer to support our British community here in Brunssum? Would you like to meet friendly people with local knowledge?

Please get in touch as we have vacancies coming up in our Service committee which must be filled for us to continue. The committee meets 4 x a year and runs events a few times a year.

Come and meet us at the CLO's Wednesday Coffee group or email Suzy.Matten@Brunssum.ssafa.org.uk

Want to know more?

The British Community Facebook page (Brunssum and Geilenkirchen British Community) is where we post all of our official notices, and these are usually repeated in the WhatsApp group. However, there are lots of other places where you can find out about what's going on in and around JFC Brunssum.

****Please note that some of these sites are unmonitored / open forum. If you need accurate advice, it is advisable to contact the NSE. Inclusion in this page does not imply endorsement****

HIVE	You can pop into the HIVE, located in the NSE building from 0900—1300 Monday to Thursday, 0900-1200 Friday to pick up information or speak to HIVE Officer, Charlotte Graham.
JFC Brunssum Morale and Welfare	JFC Brunssum Happenings is the name of the facebook page of the Morale and Welfare organisation covering JFC Brunssum. Movie Schedule, library information, it can all be found on this page. They also have a website: www.jfcbunssum.com
JFC Physical Activities	Facebook page advertising sporting activities, classes and challenges for JFCBS, GK and USAG
GK/AFNorth/JFC Friends and Faux	Facebook page of the wider community. A great place to look for things going on and ask questions. This is a non-official site.
JFC Brunssum International Club	If you want to meet new people from across the NATO community, then join the International Club. They also have a website: www.jfcbic.com
Buying and Selling	There are (at least!) 3 buying and selling groups for the NATO community. PCS season can throw up some amazing bargains! GK/AFNORTH/JFC Childless Classifieds Easy Buy & Sell GK USAG, JFC, GK, NATO CLASSIFIED PAGE
AFNORTH School British Section Unofficial Site	A group for parents to share information. This is a non-official site.
Curios Thrift Shop	The facebook page of our very own Thrift Shop. Find opening hours and promotions here.

Nothing on?
Want to do something
different?



Volunteers

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU



Is there something you want
to do?

Can you spare some time to help
the community?

The CLOs can help support you to
run events and access funding.

If you are interested in becoming
a community volunteer or have
ideas, please pop in and see us in
the office, come to a coffee
(Wednesdays 10-11:00) or drop us
a line:

[gso-ejsu-netherlands-community
@mod.gov.uk](mailto:gso-ejsu-netherlands-community@mod.gov.uk)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Useful Telephone Numbers

Duty Officer: +31 65152 0896 / 06 5152 0896

EJSU

+3145 526 / 045 526 followed by the extension you require:

Head of Location: 2506

Chief Clerk: 2480

DIO: 3593

Registry: 2231

CLO Office: 2615

HIVE: 2891

E-learning Centre: 3455

MT Office: 3836

HNLO: 2850

Healthcare

CEP +31 45 526 2497

Dutch Med Centre: 0889 502 717 #3

For out of hours medical issues – Nightcare Heerlen: +31 45 577 8844 / 045 577 8844

Healix: +44208 481 7800 / 0208 481 7800

Security

Military Police: +31 45 526 2616 / 045 526 2616

Emergency Number: 112

Main Gate: +31 45 526 4041 / 045 526 4041

your army life survey

What do you think about the support and allowances designed to reward your soldier for their service? Do they compensate for the impact of army life?



every family matters

Support Contacts

In addition to contacting your CLOs, JFC Welfare Champions and the NSE, there are organisations and people who can help in many ways.

Please take note of the below welfare points of contact for future use:

For details on multiple available supporting organisations, and to contact the EJSU welfare team, please visit: www.ejsu.net/welfare

Padre:

Maj. Nia Williams: Email: Nia.Williams264@mod.gov.uk

European Welfare Officer (EWO)

Ann Mckenzie

Office: 0032 (0) 6544 8082

Mobile: 0032 (0) 478 97 02 80

Email Address: annmarie.mckenzie114@mod.gov.uk

SSAFA Health Visitor, Kerry Riley: UKStratCom-DMS-DPHC-EJSU-CEPGrp@mod.gov.uk

Army Families Federation: ejsu@aff.org.uk

Brunssum Hive: brunssumhive@armymail.mod.uk

Did you know....??

There is now an electronic referral form for EJSU Welfare Services.

In addition to reaching out directly to any of the contacts provided above, you can complete the form on EJSU.net to request contact from either a Welfare Officer or the Chaplaincy service. You can also use the form to refer on someone else's behalf if you have concerns.

Just go to EJSU.net, click on the Welfare Heading and the form can be found under 'referrals'.

CHRISTMAS

Mail times

Possible Delays and Industrial Action

In normal times, mail can take up to 3 weeks to reach the UK when sent via the Registry. As there is a possibility of further industrial action, please consider this when mailing items for Christmas. Additionally, mail coming to us from the UK could also be effected by strikes. Please take this into account to avoid disappointment. www.gov.uk/bfpo will post updates where possible.



Save the Date!!



SNR's Town Hall
Mon 14 November
Time TBC