

BERLIN BULLETIN



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1987 Brigade Boat & Raft Race

31 August (Bank Holiday Monday)



The 5th Brigade Boat and Raft Race, organised and run by 62 Tpt & Mov Sqn RCT, will take place at Lieper Bucht on August Bank Holiday Monday. Lieper Bucht is a delightful location just south of the Grunewaldturm on the east bank of the Havel with plenty of room to watch the fun and still get away from the crowds for a quiet picnic. If you don't want to take a picnic you could sample some of the traditional British and German fare that will be on sale throughout the day.

This year it has been decided not to run the Birdman Competition but to introduce a

Walking on Water Competition instead. So far there are thirty entries. There are also thirty-nine rafts, twelve more than last year.

If you want to come please try to avoid bringing your car. There are no car parking facilities at Lieper Bucht although permission has been granted to use the one opposite the Grunewaldturm for those who cannot use the Route Bus Service. However, if you can use the Route Bus service, please do so.

The event is sponsored by Townsend Thoresen Car Ferries and North Sea Ferries. Raffle tickets will be on sale on the

day for a North Sea Ferries return ticket for two (plus car, of course) from Rotterdam to Hull. This voucher is worth DM 650.

All proceeds from this very "British" event will go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Route Bus Timetable for Brigade Boat & Raft Race

Route 1 — Alexander Barracks to Lieper Bucht

Alexander Barracks	1030 hrs
Radelandstrasse	1031 hrs
Kisselallee	1033 hrs
Darbystrasse	1036 hrs
Zeppelinstrasse	1041 hrs
Eisfletcherweg	1045 hrs
Westly House	1047 hrs
Wavel Barracks	1050 hrs
Spandau NAAFI	1053 hrs
Walzelstrasse	1056 hrs
Maulbeerallee	1102 hrs
Brooke Barracks/SKS	1105 hrs
Smuts Barracks	1108 hrs
Heerstrasse/Gatower Strasse	1111 hrs
Am Pichelsee	1115 hrs
Lieper Bucht	1130 hrs

Route 2 — Montgomery Barracks to Lieper Bucht

Montgomery Barracks (Innr)	1028 hrs
Montgomery Barracks (Outer)	1030 hrs
Kindlebenstrasse	1032 hrs
Kladow	1034 hrs
RAF Gatow	1037 hrs
Block 111	1038 hrs
Princess Court	1039 hrs
Block 146	1040 hrs
Queensway	1042 hrs
FRIS Shop	1046 hrs
New Quarters	1047 hrs
NAAFI Shop	1048 hrs
Am Pichelsee	1100 hrs
Lieper Bucht	1115 hrs

Route 3 — Edinburgh House to Lieper Bucht

Edinburgh House	1103 hrs
Ahornallee	1106 hrs
Olympische Strasse	1110 hrs
Stadium East	1112 hrs
Stadium West	1114 hrs
Reichssportfeldstrasse	1118 hrs
Dickensweg	1119 hrs
BMH	1120 hrs
Tharauer Allee	1122 hrs
Ragniter Allee	1125 hrs
Lieper Bucht	1140 hrs

All buses will stop at the normal bus stops. Buses will leave Lieper Bucht and follow the return routes at the following times:

Route 1	1550 hrs
Route 2	1600 hrs
Route 3	1610 hrs

The Berlin Bulletin office will be closed on Monday, 31 August.

The deadline for entries to the Berlin Bulletin, 4 September, is 1200 hours on Tuesday, 1 September.

A Second Retirement

Lt Col (Retd) John Watson, OBE, will shortly be retiring to the south coast of England after fifteen years as head of Public Safety Branch in British Military Government.

His acquaintance with Berlin is considerably older than that, however, and he still uses as a paperweight a piece of marble taken from Hitler's shattered desk, presented by the Russians when he was sent to inspect the ruined Reichskanzlei in 1945.

Mr. Arthur West, who takes over the post, was previously Chief Police Adviser in BAOR. He is no stranger to Berlin either; indeed the two officers served here together in Provost appointments during the late Fifties.



Photo: Ergang

"Silver Boot" Trophy and Families Open Day



The OC, Maj A. P. Harris, takes the Salute from WO1 J. E. Chapman, 1 KOSB.

On Saturday, 22 August, 38 (Berlin) Fd Sqn RE held their Inter-Departmental 6-side football competition. The day commenced with the Band of 1 KOSB, who delighted the audience with an excellent opening display.

The Squadron were then entertained by the wives' football match, the only goal being scored by Lynn Tucker. This resulted in the team captain, Debbie Daniels, col-



Debbie Daniels receives the "Pink High Heel" Trophy.

lecting the "Pink High Heel" trophy. The next event was the annual "Silver Boot" trophy competition which, after some dubious decisions, was won by MT section (the SSM drew the team names out of a hat on his own until he got it right!).

Other events on the day included a mini assault course for the children, a barbecue and Treasure Hunt, operating plant, an excellent display by the diving team and a tug-of-war competition which was won comfortably by Field Troop.



The Tug-of-War team "Under Pressure".

One of the highlights of the day was the game between the Officers and wives in which WO2 (SSM) Ernie Stables displayed great skill in kicking the ball into his wife's face. The result was, inevitably, a win for the ladies.

The sun shone throughout the day and enhanced the occasion which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Proficient Cyclists at The Havel School

During The Havel School Activities Week a National Cycling Proficiency course was introduced. The course lasted for four days during which time the children received intensive training on cycle maintenance, riding skills and German traffic law.



National Cycling Proficiency Certificates are awarded to the pupils by Maj Speight.

Following their instruction each child was tested on what he or she had learnt. Mr. Wilkinson, a teacher at The Havel School, who instructed the children, was so nervous he couldn't bear to watch and spent two hours pacing the staff room floor. Thankfully Mr. Wilkinson's nerves did not rub off onto the children and they all passed their National Cycling Proficiency Test with flying colours. The test is not easy and all deserve congratulations in achieving such a high standard of riding skill. A special thank you is also extended to Mr. Bernard Wilkinson, whose enthusiastic, hard work resulted in such a successful course.

The awards were presented to each child at the school's final assembly before the summer holidays. Maj Speight, Chairman of the Berlin Road Safety Committee, kindly agreed to say a few words and presented the certificates and badges to the children.

Finally, the importance of thorough training for young cyclists cannot be emphasized enough. It will continue to pay dividends when they become adults, for not only will they have a knowledge of the fundamental principles of road safety, but they will also have received proper instruction in the management of their first road vehicle. For information about this and other aspects of road safety, contact the Brigade Master Driver.



Mr. Wilkinson and some of the children who attended the course.

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The Rawson Cup

The Rawson Cup is an annual competition testing various military skills between the Rifle and Support Platoons of the 1st Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment.

This year the event, held on 24 August, was started by the klaxons of Wavell Barracks. The Platoons then had two hours to prepare for the rigours of a 25-mile march around the Grunewald. Apart from the map reading between checkpoints, platoons were further tested (and exhausted) by a river crossing, an assault course and a falling plate shoot.



A welcome sight!



The HQ team before the assault river crossing.

9 Platoon, 'C' Company, emerged as the overall winners of the competition while Recce Platoon came second.

Due to the hot weather and distances marched all those who participated will look back (with the reminder of blisters and webbing sores) on the competition as one of the hardest courses in recent years.

Congratulations go to the winning Platoon and all those who took part. Some consolation can be gained in the two-week rest before embarking upon the Brigade competition to be held in early September.

Gatow Players

The Gatow Players present their next production 'Not with A Bang' for your entertainment. It is a modern comedy about a modern situation, written by Mike Harding, and produced by Jim Bushnell. Performances will be on 6, 7 and 8 November at 2000 hours in the Station Theatre, RAF Gatow. Tickets will be on sale at the YMCA Gatow soon. Buffet tickets may also be purchased if required.

An extraordinary General Meeting will be held in the Station Theatre at RAF Gatow on 3 September at 2000 hours. Members of the Club are requested to attend as a new chairman is to be elected.

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If you go down to the woods today . . .

Although Napier Barracks doesn't have the same ring as Sherwood Forest, the medieval spirit was brought alive by thirty young Cubs as they relived the era of 'Robin Hood and his Merry Men', the theme of the recent 1987 Cub Scouts Outdoor and Camping Skills Competition.

Deep in the woods, young lads were found carving bows and arrows, while campfires crackled and Maid Marion and Robin Hood look-alikes (pack leaders) helped to set up camp.

The competition, organised through NAAFI and sponsored by Smiths Crisps & Snacks, was designed to test Cubs' camping and cooking skills over a two-day period.

The first task for all competitors was the Friar Tuck Challenge — cooking a meal. The winners, 1st Berlin (British) Curlew Cub Scouts, certainly prepared a feast fit for a king. Judges Norma Mathers, Assistant District Commissioner Cub Scouts and NAAFI representative Celia Bell were treated to Meat of Boar (home-made hamburgers), Nottingham Fries (fried potatoes), Sherwood Leaves (cabbage), Scarlett's Surprise (button carrots), Friar's Feed (bread rolls), Robin's Temptation (instant whip) and Quencher of Thirst (water).

1st Lippstadt Cubs from Sennelager were second with an equally mouth-watering menu. Standards were high as competition co-ordinator, Maj Trevor Douglas-Hill, Field Commissioner British Scouts in Western Europe explained: "Considering the boys were given a set budget and menu, they've all done extremely well."



Competition winners — 1st Berlin (British) Curlew Cub Scouts. Neil Callaghan, Nicky Bland, George Anderson, Anthony Gaymer, Graham Gaw and Christopher Hall receive the cup and medals from Brig Barry Reeves.

Following on from the Friar Tuck's Challenge, all Cubs had to construct three different types of camp gadgets and take part in the Alan Adairs challenge which consisted of producing a camp-fire entertainment.

During the weekend, the Cubs had to answer a number of questions on general health, build a fire and make a bow and arrow. They also had to show knotting skills and take part in stretcher races where 'injured Cubs' were carried down a course.

Smiths Export Manager Henner Lembeck visited the 'Sherwood Forest' site over the two days to offer moral support to the Cubs and hand out some well-earned crisps.

Henner said: "It's great to see the Cubs enjoying themselves this way, the whole weekend has been fantastic."

Although the prize of a week in the St. Walrick Centre in Holland could only be won by one group of Cubs, everyone agreed the weekend had been a great success.

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BERLIN DIARY

A look at the news and events in the Berlin Bulletin this week ten, twenty and thirty years ago.

1957

British Architects in Berlin

Last night, a specially chartered plane arrived at Tempelhof with a group of thirty-six British architects on a visit to Berlin organised by the Architectural Association of London. Besides being a social and professional club, the Association boasts the largest and most forward-looking school of architects in the country, based on the traditions of its founders who, as students one hundred years ago, rejected the academic training fostered on them by their elders, and started the Association in protest.

The visiting party, led by the Vice-President of the Association, Denis Clarke Hall includes students as well as prominent architects. Among them are Miss Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry, CBE, who were responsible for the planning of the new Indian capital at Chandigarh in conjunction with the Swiss-born architect Le Corbusier and Ove Arup, CBE, chief structural engineer to many of London's South Bank pavilions erected for the 1951 Festival of Britain Exhibition.

The prime motive of the trip is to visit the Interbau and associated building and town-planning projects in Berlin, and the party will meet architects from West Berlin and Switzerland at a formal reception this evening. They are staying at the Plaza Hotel, and will remain in the city until 3 September.

1977

What a way to spend Sunday!



A group of 35 youngsters from RAF Gatow Senior Youth Club spent last Sunday afternoon dragging a three-ton lorry up and down the runway.

Sounds like a crazy way to spend Sunday — but it earned them £300 for charity.

Their aim was to pull the lorry for a distance of five miles up and down the runway. Led by Cpl Hunt and C/T Iles, the 35 volunteers stuck manfully to their task over the five miles which took the best part of two hours. They were rewarded afterwards with cold drinks and hamburgers and hot-dogs from the barbecue which was held later. When they had eaten their fill they dragged their own weary bodies home for a well-earned rest.

1967

News from 62 (Berlin) Sqn RCT

In our last Notes, our cooks were congratulated on their success in winning the 1 Division Cookery Competition. They subsequently went forward to the BAOR finals and finished a very creditable third.

Also to be congratulated is Cpl Booth. He has received the Heming Belt, an award made to the person who contributed most towards RCT boxing in 1967.

Before the next publication the following will have left: Maj Hallum, Capt Soden and Lt Osborne. They are steeling themselves to go back into the outside world, cutting down on tobacco, going into temperance training and rediscovering the use of their legs. They would like to say thank you to all their friends in Berlin for a wonderful tour.

It has been a long, hot and fairly uneventful summer for 62 Squadron, in fact — marvellous.

A Photocopier's Lament

Cpl Karen Walsh, who works in the Central Registry, HQ Berlin Field Force, sent us this plaintive little poem. So, spare her a thought and try to smile the next time you want something photocopied.

Bright and early in the morning
When the birds sing — come arise,
When the dawn light through the curtains
Bids me open up my eyes.
When my mind is slowly waking,
Looking to the day ahead,
Mulling over all my dreaming
And of all my dreaming said,
When I think of my arising
And it must be time for work,
Wonder that I'm loath to wake
Or that I'd rather rest and shirk.
I must face a place I hate,
My four white walls of stone,
And start the photocopier
And work there all alone.
Bare my blouse to dust and ink stains
Or I'll suffer from the heat
For I have no air conditioning
Or soft carpets for my feet.
I must enter through the doorway,
Say my very fond farewells
To the rain or snow or sunshine
And the lovely fresh air smells.
Changing them for hot confinement

And the harsh fluorescent light.
They're to be my sole companions
'Til the time I leave at night.
And my feet will ache from winking
And my head from endless noise,
Four machines whirr out their lifespan
Causing me to lose my poise.
And my brain — abused, frustrated,
Will rebel and tell me, nay,
Why subject yourself to torture
Why not stay in bed today?
Then at once I hear the footsteps,
Then the knocking at the door.
Hi — Good Morning, time to wake!
And you must go to work once more.
Then I know there's no escaping,
I must rise, obey the call.
Photocopy, duplicate and
Labour all day for you all.
Do you ever pause to wonder
Why you're waiting at the hatch,
Tapping your impatient fingers
(in annoyance then I snatch),
— "Only these, please, just a hundred.
Could you do them back to back?
And this MOD Form 90
Has so strangely formed a crack!"
One day I'll ignore your pleading,
Shut the hatch — return to bed,
But 'til then I'll work — but dreaming
All that I could do instead . . .