

BERLIN BULLETIN



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1 KOSB JNCO Cadre

Between 9 November and 18 December 1 KOSB are running their Regimental JNCO Cadre. The Cadre has forty KOSB soldiers plus two members of 29 Sig Regt — Sig Parsons and Sig Smeadon. The aim of the Cadre is to give JNCOs confidence in instructing weapon training and drill.

18 December can not come soon enough for the students when they will have a parade and be presented with prizes. The incentive to do well on this Cadre is the prospect of possible promotion to Lance Corporal.



Sig Smeadon (29 Sig Regt) takes GPMG lessons.

The Havelovely Christmas Show

On 8, 9 and 10 December, The Havel School will present an evening of entertainment that will appeal to the whole family.

You will be able to see 'Mutatis Mutandis', a serious one-act play which deals with the birth of an extraordinary child. There will also be a chance to see a 'home grown' production, 'The Christmas Party Show', performed by members of the Lower School. An evening at this time of year would not be complete without an opportunity to hear some splendid music from members of the school.

Tickets will be available from The Havel School in the very near future — watch out for further details!

British Sector Fun Triathlon

The weather was surprisingly kind, being comparatively mild and rain-free, for the British Sector Fun Triathlon held at RAF Gatow last Saturday, 21 November.

At 1300 hours the first of twelve swimmers entered the 25 metre pool to complete the required 16 lengths. First to finish the swim was Judy Kullich, a PE teacher from the American sector whose 6.39 minutes was the third fastest swim time of the day. Judy was closely followed by Maj Paul Middlemiss of 1 KOSB who took no time at all to change into cycling gear and hit the road for start the 15 mile (five laps) of the airfield course. Paul was also the first to return, abandon his cycle and try to coax his legs into the most difficult transition from cycling to running. He was closely followed by Sgt Charlie Campbell, also 1 KOSB, who was looking very strong. Meanwhile, the other three groups of swimmers had completed their swim and the activity at the changeover points was fast and furious providing interesting entertainment for the spectators and a challenge to Capt Derick Wilkie who, complete with his yellow daglo gloves, was ensuring that some semblance of sanity prevailed. Frantic radio messages were sent from SSgt John Walton of 2 RMP who was trouble shooting on the airfield. One of the lady competitors, Cpl Tracy Mapledoram, also of 2 RMP, had a puncture and was unable to continue until Flt Lt Carl Lane came to her rescue. He provided another front wheel and, in the spirit of the event, allowed her to continue. The pace was hotting up with Ted Martin, G3 PT setting the fastest time for the swim in 6.04 minutes, closely followed by Lt Healdy French of the GLOSTERS. But it was LCpl Gary Law of the GLOSTERS who proved to be the strongest over all three events and was the overall winner in a fast time of 71.55 minutes. Ted Martin was second and the ever youthful 48 year old Peter Krohn won the trophy for first non-British finisher. The first RAF competitor at the finish was Cpl Ian Fowler of 26 SU. The nine lady competitors had quite a battle and all enjoyed them-



Photo: W. Muhs

The British Sector Fun Triathlon — well organised and run by Flt Lt Carl Lane, Capt Derick Wilkie, the PE Staff RAF Gatow and many others.

elves. SACW Caroline Glover of RAF Gatow piloting her "metro" special enjoyed herself the most by winning in 85.27 minutes (this included a deduction of 5 minutes for her heavyweight bike). First team home was 1 KOSB (Maj Middlemiss, Sgt Campbell, Sgt Phinn and Capt Coombe) who won by only 3 minutes from the GLOSTERS. The trophy for the first British civilian to finish went to Peter Bush of PSA Berlin who won by one second from Jon Bennett of BFBS who was not a well man before the event and looked even worse afterwards. The largest trophy of the day was the Commander's Cup and was fought out between Gp Capt Peter Eustace, Station Commander, RAF Gatow, and Col Jay Jaynes, 6912 Air Base Tempelhof. Col Jaynes' secret altitude training in the Colorado Mountains paid off as he won by a rather large whisker!

The event was a huge success and will be repeated, with an increased entry, next spring. The complex organisation ran smoothly thanks to all of the helpers and to the generous support provided by Mr. Peter Goodwin of Mazda Cars and Herr Frank Breidenek of the Porsche Club of Berlin.

The next event of any note at RAF Gatow will be a 5 kilometre Jog/Run/Crawl on Monday, 28 December from the Gymnasium at 1200 hours — Fancy Dress is encouraged!

How well do you know Berlin? (3)

This week, part three of our competition to test your knowledge of Berlin for which you could win a copy of Penny Croucher's book 'Know Berlin — A Guide to Unknown Treasures'. The publishers, Haude & Spensersche Verlagsbuchhandlung GmbH, have kindly offered fifteen copies of these useful and informative books as prizes.

You can enter all three parts of the competition but please only give one answer per entry coupon.

All you have to do to enter the competition is to read a short description about a well-known Berlin personality or place and then guess who or what is being written about. Then fill in the answer in the box provided together with your name and address. Follow this procedure for each of the three weeks that the competition runs. Then send in your three answers **together** to: Berlin Bulletin, HQ Infantry Brigade, BFPO 45. All entries should be received by Friday, 11 December.

'Know Berlin — A Guide to Unknown Treasures' is on sale at the YMCA Bookshop.

★ ★ ★

Reinickendorf is the largest borough, in area, of West Berlin and makes up the greater part of the French Sector. Its character is truly diverse: it has large-scale industry and wide stretches of urban development but it is the woods, lakes, open farmland and old village centres which continue to attract visitors from Berlin and beyond.

As long ago as the end of the fourteenth century Reinickendorf was a village owned by the Berlin municipality. It was sold during the Thirty Years War but was re-acquired by the city in 1710 and in 1797 the estate was split up and farmed out to the peasants. Building began after 1870 and factories invaded the borough spreading out from north Berlin. The arms of Reinickendorf show Reynard (Reineke) the fox and six golden ears of corn, symbols of the six villages united in 1920.

I have written enthusiastically about the area around Tegeler See with its beautiful woodland, sandy beaches, boating trips, promenade and leisure facilities. Frohnau is another part of Reinickendorf which I have recommended as well worth exploring for its pleasant garden suburb atmosphere and peaceful forest walks. The old village of Heiligensee is extremely picturesque too. It lies on a strip of land between the Havel and the Heiligensee lake and has a wide village green featuring a 15—16th century church with the old school house, blacksmith's and village tavern grouped around it.

However, if it is unadulterated country air that you seek, the true gem of Reinickendorf is the village whose name you should find out.

This delightful village on the Barnim plateau in the most north-eastern corner of the borough is separated from West Berlin by large areas of fields and market gardens. It lies on a hillock that has been settled since prehistoric times; it was first mentioned in 1247 and was the property of Spandau nuns in the Middle Ages. Although much of the landscape is overshadowed by observation towers and nearby is the point where West and East Berlin and the GDR meet, the choice of walks through open countryside is endless.

Large areas to the south of the village are devoted to agriculture with the result that the rural character of the village with its little church (1793), peasants' cottages and a dozen or so farms has survived unspoilt. It is a rare sight in Berlin to see horses and ponies in open paddocks and chickens and geese wandering freely in yards. In this small corner of a city, the peace and tranquility of country life in the Mark of Brandenburg is still tangible.

What is the name of the village?

How well do you know Berlin?

The answer to Question 3 is

Name _____
 Mil Address _____
 BFPO _____
 Tel. _____ (days)

Meet an Author — Win a copy of her book!

This week the author of 'The Naked Years', Marianne MacKinnon is in Berlin to give talks and promote her book, a account of her formative years spent in Nazi Germany.

Tomorrow, 28 November, Ms. MacKinnon will be signing copies of her book in the YMCA Bookshop on the first floor of Summit House from 1030 hours. If you have already purchased a copy you can take it along to be signed, alternatively you can buy a copy in the bookshop on the day, price DM 40.15.

The YMCA have very kindly given us one copy of 'The Naked Years' as a prize for our competition. All you have to do is answer the following question:

When were the European Youth Games held in Milan?

To enter the competition just fill in the entry form below and send it to:

The Editor
 Berlin Bulletin
 HQ Berlin Inf Bde
 BFPO 45

Entries must arrive by 1700 hours, Wednesday, 2 December. The winner will be announced in The Berlin Bulletin on 4 December.

'The Naked Years'

The European Youth Games were held in Milan:

Name _____

Mil Address _____

Tel. _____

Entries to arrive by 1700 hours, Wednesday, 2 December.

Christmas Carol Service

The Havel School's Christmas Carol Service will be held again this year in the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtnis Kirche (Blue Church), on Friday, 18 December from 1000 to 1100 hours.

Adults who wish to attend are very welcome; please inform the Headmaster's Secretary (tel. 3092567) if you intend coming, so that seats may be reserved for you.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Carol Service.

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We are pleased to consider contributions for publication. Material should be typed and submitted by 1200 hours on Tuesday for the Friday of publication. The office is situated in Gloucester Block.

Send articles for inclusion to: Berlin Bulletin, HQ Berlin Infantry Brigade, BFPO 45.

Berlin HIVE Takes off



Those of you who regularly visit the Summit House NAAFI complex to shop, may have noticed a distinct "buzzing" sound which has occurred since about the middle of August? No, I am not referring to all the building projects taking place, although these are very closely linked with the peculiar noise which appears to be coming from the fifth floor. The simple answer to this mystery is that what can be heard is, in fact, the frantic activity of the new Berlin HIVE or Help Information and Volunteer Exchange. The HIVE is at present, situated on the fifth floor of Summit House, however, the latest news is . . . that the "buzzing" will be getting louder, when the HIVE is relocated in its new accommodation, opposite the YMCA Papershop.

The new HIVE opens in December, there will be a wide variety of information, covering a massive range of topics, all in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. There is also a volunteer Bank, so if anyone has free time on their hands and wants to volunteer to do something interesting and worthwhile or, if any organisation within the Berlin Garrison requires a volunteer, then they can contact the HIVE. The HIVE is here for everyone, so please help to make it a success, if you have any useful information and ideas, or you need publicity for yourself or your club, society or support group, then please let us know.

If you need help or information now, you can contact me, Sandra Thomas, or any of my Volunteer Helpers on 309 51 43, or why not struggle up to the fifth floor and see us?

Watch the Berlin Bulletin for details of the Grand Opening of HIVE.

Charity Bazaar

The RAF Gatow Wives' Club Charity Bazaar was held in The Havel School last Saturday, 21 November. Mrs. Eustace opened the proceedings and throughout the afternoon the various stalls were well patronised and the magnificent sum of over DM 2,000 was raised. The money will be given to Esther Rantzen's "Child Line" in aid of abused children. The Chairman, Mrs. Jill Hunt would like to thank all contributors and organisers as well as all those who attended and spent their money.



Photo: M. Mall

The Charity Bazaar held at RAF Gatow.

Ex Long Look

On Tuesday, 17 November, Cpl Clegg of the 2nd Bn Royal Victorian Regiment, Australian Army, visited 1 KOSB. Cpl Clegg is a member of the RAAOC, there is no Women's Army Corps every servicewoman is a member of the male corps. Cpl Clegg began Ex Long Look on 6 August in Donnington, she has swapped with a Corporal from there, but since then has travelled in UK and Europe seeing Paris, Munster and Berlin. WO1 (FOWO) Turner (Ord Svcs Berlin) brought Cpl Clegg to 1 KOSB where she saw the Recce and 432 Platoons.



Sgt Culling getting ready to impress Cpl Clegg.



Poppy Appeal

Record sum
raised by
Berlin Branch

As Chairman of the Royal British Legion, Berlin Branch, I wish to express my sincere thanks to everyone of the Berlin British Community for generously supporting the Poppy Appeal Fund this Remembrance Day.

We are proud to announce that the record sum collected this year within the British institutions amounted to DM 4,060 an increase of 25% over last year.

Readers may not know that since 1945 over 4,000 service people have been killed and over 16,000 injured. Also, since 1945, there have been over seventy so-called "peacetime conflicts" around the world involving British Forces.

The money you so kindly contributed will be forwarded to the Royal British Legion Central Benevolent Fund in London and will enable the Legion to carry on its welfare and benevolent work for all British ex-Service people and their dependants throughout the world.

George Newman, (Chairman RBL Berlin Branch)

BERLIN BULLETIN

BERLIN DIARY

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

1957

Berlin News

On Saturday afternoon the rocket of Sputnik I was observed over Berlin.

Pigeons from West Berlin will be exhibited for the first time in London at the pigeon show on 8 December.

A few days ago 400 cartridges were fetched out of the New Lake in the Tiergarten. In the weeks to come the whole lake will be systematically searched for ammunition.

Commander-in-Chief's Visit

General Sir Dudley Ward, Commander-in-Chief British Army of the Rhine, paid a short visit to Berlin last weekend, his second visit to Berlin this year.

Cordiality was the keynote when on Friday the Commander-in-Chief paid a courtesy call on Marshal Gretchko, Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Group of Forces at his Zossen/Wünsdorf Headquarters in Eastern Germany.

Lieutenant-General Kalyagin, one of the Marshal's Deputies, met the British party at Potsdam. He escorted them to Zossen/Wünsdorf where General Sir Dudley Ward was received by Marshal Gretchko. At the Marshal's invitation the British Commander-in-Chief inspected a Guard of Honour. The Guard resplendent in the red-breasted, blue-grey tunics of Soviet full dress was congratulated by the Commander-in-Chief.

General Sir Dudley Ward then inspected a Regimental Barracks, vehicle sheds, dining hall and the pride of the Regiment — the soldiers' club. Basically this is a combined theatre and cinema. One of the other recreation rooms is devoted to the history of the Regiment.

The British guests were next taken to the Officers' Club. There they were entertained to a concert by the Choir and Dance Ensemble of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. An original feature in an otherwise traditional Russian programme was the singing in English of the sea shanty, 'Where, Have You Been All The Day, Billy Boy?'. This was extremely well rendered by the Choir.



Marshal Gretchko greets General Sir Dudley Ward.

1967

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in Berlin



On Wednesday, 29 November, The Duke of Edinburgh visited the 1st Bn The Queen's Own Highlanders whose Colonel-in-Chief he is. His Royal Highness lunched in the Officers' Mess and later had tea in the Sergeants' Mess before departing for Minden. During his stay Prince Philip toured the Primary School of the Regiment and talked to teachers and children who gave him a particularly rousing welcome.

1977



Christmas is coming — traditional preparations under way at Smuts Barracks.



Commandant et Général de Division Bernard d'Astorg inspecting a Guard of Honour, provided by 2 PARA, when he paid his first visit to British Sector Headquarters on Wednesday, 23 November.

RAF Gatow Thrift Shop

Measles is a Misery



The interior of the shop.

Photo: M. Maill

It was in 1945 that the RAF took over the former Luftwaffe Training Station at Gatow. A few years later the first houses and flats were built and families arrived. Of course, once the families were here a major requirement was a Thrift Shop.

From these small beginnings the RAF Gatow Thrift Shop was at the start of the Royal Air Force tradition of "a shop on every Station" and now provides a service for the 2,000 plus people who live at RAF Gatow as well as other people living at this end of the city. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers. The usual 10% is added to all selling prices and the profits thus collected are then distributed to both local needs like the children's library and major charities in UK. Last season we made donations to Childline, Helen House, the Multiple Sclerosis Society and Help the Aged.

The shop is situated on the left just inside the Main Gate and is open at the following times:

Monday	1900—2000 hrs
Tuesday	1000—1200 hrs
Thursday	1400—1600 hrs

The Thrift Shop is closed during school holidays.

Why not combine a visit with a trip to the PSI shop opposite the Thrift Shop on a Monday evening or, on the first Tuesday in the month to the Wives' Club Coffee morning held in their rooms nearby, or with an expedition to the refurbished Gatow NAAFI complex?

The Thrift Shop accepts all manner of items for sale including clothes which must be clean, repaired and in good condition, winter items from October to April, summer items from May to September. Only children's shoes, winter boots, sports shoes / boots and wellingtons are accepted. Any household items are accepted under the general heading of bric-a-brac, from coffee machines and stereos to glasses and egg cosy's! Both children's and

adults' books are stocked, records, toys, prams, pushchairs, and rocking horses to name a few more.

Items are kept in the shop for two months at full price and then for a further month at half price. Owners may withdraw their items at any time during this period. At the end of three months all items are disposed of to charitable sources. Clothing is usually sent to the German Red Cross. Selected heavy coats and menswear goes direct to the Sisters of Mercy in Kreuzberg. On request baby items have been given to BMH, children's clothing to the



The entrance to RAF Gatow Thrift Shop.

Photo: M. Maill

crèche for the "emergency box", men's shirts as painting overalls to the Primary School, toys to St George's Hall toy library and the Nursery School. At present we are putting aside baby and children's clothing to send to Hackney Hospital, London who have a need.

Hopefully you may now have a little knowledge of the service the RAF Gatow Thrift Shop provides. Come and see us, you will find a bargain or two — or how about joining the band of volunteers? Do pop in. We will be happy to see you.



Photo: Army PR

Measles is a misery which your child need not have — that was the message put over by the SSAFA at a presentation in Summit House last week to encourage mothers to have their youngsters vaccinated. SSAFA Health Education Officer for British Forces Germany, Miss Nesta Mapp (centre), travelled to Berlin to assist the Association in the city in providing the good advice. Pictured with her is SSAFA Health Visitor, Mrs. Kathy Lavin and a lady from the British garrison.

The Havel School
Presents

**The Havelovery
Christmas Show**

On 8, 9 and 10 December, The Havel School in RAF Gatow will present an evening of entertainment that will appeal to the whole family.

Tickets are available from the school (tel. 3092567) at DM 6 for adults and DM 3 for children. *Tony Marsden*