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Front cover: Bulletins over the years

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## Welcome to the Commemorative Edition

In August 1967 the first ever Rheindahlen Bulletin was issued, and it wasn't long after that in July 1970 that the first Magazine went to print. It was simple in format, in black and white and contained all the information you needed to know while living and working in JHQ. In fact, it wasn't that long ago, in 2001, when we started to produce the magazine completely in colour.



*The Bulletin team - Judith, Katy & Erika*

We issued the last Bulletin in February and I thought that it would be nice to prepare a special commemorative edition of the Bulletin just short of its 43rd birthday, celebrating JHQ.

We've been delving through our many archives of old magazine copies and photos with the hope of highlighting many of the memories of life here in JHQ over the years before the RMC eventually closes later in the year.

We take a look back at some of the history of JHQ and reminisce at the many charity events and Garrison celebrations like The Big Brew Up, Bonfire nights and Party in the Park.

I thought it would be fun to include a few snaps of things we would like to remember like the old Marly Fish and Chips shop, the Blue Pool, and the NAAFI in it's hey day.

Special thanks to Dominic King from Media and Comms who has supplied us with the wonderful nostalgic photos - though he admits he wasn't even born when many of them were taken.

It is sad to be saying goodbye to JHQ but Katy, Erika and I would like to think that you'll hold on to your commemorative edition of the Bulletin as a little souvenir of your time here for however long that has been.

*Judith*

If you don't have your own copy of the Commemorative Edition you can read it on line.<sup>\*FW</sup> Just go to [www.bfgnet.de](http://www.bfgnet.de), click under 'Rhine' and then 'publications'.

**From the Lord Mayor of Mönchengladbach, Herr Norbert Bude, to all members of the British Community serving with Rhine Garrison in JHQ, Mönchengladbach and the surrounding area.**

## **Farewell and Goodbye!**

The withdrawal of our British Friends from the Headquarters is a decisive event for Mönchengladbach. For nearly sixty years we have lived together, worked together, celebrated the various holidays together and interacted with each other at many different levels. Over this long period, we have grown together. You have to imagine the situation: in 1954, when the British Forces founded the Joint Headquarters (JHQ), the British in Germany were an occupying power. The legendary Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery, the first Commander in Chief of the Rhine Army and General Sir Richard Gale, the first British General Officer Commanding in Mönchengladbach, could never have dreamt, so soon after the Second World War, that such a positive and stable development could take place. Together we have succeeded in peace, in generating friendship and mutual respect.



The Headquarters served for decades as one of the central British bases in Germany and for NATO in Europe. It is about a military complex that, in addition to fulfilling its strategic military role, provided the accommodation and supply structures for all aspects of the daily lives of some 10,000 people. There are some 2,000 buildings on the site – as well as countless houses, a water works, a shopping centre, numerous sporting facilities, schools, kindergarten, workshops and, with the 'Big House', once the biggest office building in Europe, a virtual 'city within a city'.

The 'JHQ' as we Mönchengladbachers fondly call it, was always a 'piece of internationality' for me. It is, and will always be, a symbol of the friendly relations between the forces stationed here, not just amongst each other, but with the citizens too. The early acceptance of military and civilian, developed into mutual trust. We welcomed sincerely the people who lived and worked in the Headquarters, the soldiers and their families too, and we have gone a long way with them together, something which 'cements' our relationship. We have experienced the end of the Cold War together, as well as the reunification of Germany. The openness with which we meet each other came from both sides and for that I give my heartfelt thanks to, above all, the British military and all who belong to it.

The parting from the British Forces faces us shortly and irrevocably, and as much as I respect the decision that was made, and not made lightly, I greatly regret the withdrawal of the British troops. It was soldiers who came to work at keeping the peace in Europe, but it is friends who are leaving us now.

I would like to thank those responsible for the close cooperation, the open communication and the friendly encounters we have enjoyed. I personally will miss the British culture and the British way of life. I have always greatly valued the contacts, with their 'typical Britishness', which I was able to experience at parades, receptions, celebrations and remembrance days and which were for me an enrichment. I marvel too at the commitment of the British for the social institutions in our city; my sincere thanks for that too. And however much the thoughts about a sensible civilian conversion of the estate and a future proof solution occupy us – the farewell from our British friends hurts.

### Garrison Commander Brigadier Jim Richardson

In 1953, just 8 years from the end of the most destructive of wars, a new headquarters was built to house the command organisations of the Army and Airforce in Germany and their NATO equivalents. The headquarters was paid for by the occupation budget, a war reparation on the state of Germany. At that time the exchange rate, with Germany's economy still in recovery, was the equivalent of €6 to £1. Since its first use in 1954, JHQ Rheindahlen has continuously housed the headquarters of British Forces in Germany in one form or another. With its closure this year, 60 years after the first turf was cut and trees felled, a significant chapter in the history of Germany and the British Armed Forces will come to a close.

This is a poignant and significant time for us all. My rough calculation is that nearly 1 million British citizens have lived and worked in JHQ. In its heyday the community was a huge vibrant hub for social and sporting activity. It boasted an Olympic size swimming pool, when only 2 existed in the UK at the time of opening, 2 athletics tracks, 2 county standard cricket pitches with pavilions, a rugby and football stadium and over 30 full pitches for team sports. 2 cinemas each showing 8 times per week, a 600 seat theatre, the biggest NAAFI in the world, 8 Officers' and 2 Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' messes and the Queensway and Marlborough other ranks' clubs. There were 5 junior and one senior school with a further provision in our satellite quartering areas. JHQ was a self contained mid size town in the middle of Germany with little need for the inhabitants to venture outside for anything. Happily our relationship with Germany transformed and we became friends, allies and guests. The population started to enjoy the offerings of a recovered nation with much to offer the transient British visitor. Love blossomed; 1200 marriages took place in our 3 churches and 22,000 births in our own local military hospital.

We should be able to judge that the concept and plan to build this headquarters and community was a tremendous success, most memories are warm and happy but also we reflect on the sad memories buried in our cemetery, particularly the young whose lives had hardly started. But the overwhelming memory of JHQ Rheindahlen is one of joy, friendship, vibrancy and community. Perhaps strange to have street names reflecting UK towns and counties but we must remember that this was built while we were occupying and prevented from fraternisation with our hosts.

We will all have our own part of the history of JHQ, each special and all contributing to its unique character. My own, aged 10, on my first visit, was the Blue Pool and endless summers, flying kites on the big house green and watching Borussia Monchengladbach play football as arguably the best team in Europe at the time. I encourage all readers to join in fully with the celebrations of closure, share your memories with all returning visitors who would love to hear them and with our warm and generous German friends who might, just as we leave, understand what this little Britain was all about.



# Why Rheindahlen?



## Bulletin 1991

- The brief was to build a new HQ here at Rheindahlen within a 120M DM budget (no sterling to be spent at all) and the whole job was to be completed within 18 months. The first winter 1953/54 was the coldest for 50 years.

- The site was chosen in Aug 52 and in Oct 126 buildings were "ordered".

- Most of the area was forest or covered in 10 feet high gorse (army Recreation grounds), waist high grass (HQ building), brambles, heather and water. The only cultivated portions of the site were the small areas behind the present German Shops and at the end of Norwich Walk. The area near the St Thomas More Church was one huge rabbit warren.

- The owner of the site used to live in Haus Hellbach and encouraged Fallow and Roe deer by erecting food shelters in the winter. He had many fine trees around his house and the only holly tree on the site was here.

- Over 1 million trees were planted on the site and a nursery of 10,000 4" - 18" high was planted near the site of E Mess and were under the Forstmeisters protection.

- During the construction stage, the policy was to preserve as many deciduous trees as possible and the kink in Queens Avenue was to avoid the line of oak trees.

Enormous trouble was taken to preserve two oak trees in front of the HQ Building but later one was struck by lightning and the other was cut down to make way for a helicopter strip.

- No 4 Marlborough Road was the first officers quarter to be completed. Work was begun on 1 December 1952 and finished on 28 Feb 53 - in the depth of winter. On "March-in" Day (2 March) there was 9" of liquid mud outside the front door!

- F Mess was the first one completed and it soon became a transport mess.

- All of the members of the Siting Board for the 3 Churches were Service Chaplains. All churches were designed by Varvaroskk - a renowned architect. St Andrews (OD) was the first opened. The floors and roof were incomplete, and the text of the first sermon "There is a river" is now commemorated on a brass plate. St Andrews chose to have a church hall and the St Thomas More and St Boniface Churches chose to have a bell.

- The first marriage on JHQ was a Major in the Signals and a Major in the WRAC.

## Water for the Rheindahlen Military Complex

Previous articles in this series have noted frequently the key role played by Colonel Henry Grattan, the Chief Engineer, in the construction of the RMC. One particularly intriguing aspect of his work was for provision of water for the site, for he obtained this through an unorthodox and controversial technique – dowsing.

Once the Rheindahlenerwald had been confirmed as the new site for JHQ, the local German authorities stated that they could meet the demand for water (estimated then at 700,000 gallons per day) through an increase in the capacity of the pumping stations at Rheindahlen, Waldniel and Uvekoven. However the British Army would, of course, be charged for this service and chemical analysis of the water showed that it was both alkaline and very hard.

By chance, Colonel Grattan learned that the owner of what he described as “a hunting lodge in the middle of the forest” (perhaps Haus Helbach?) had his own well supplying soft and slightly acid water. He therefore detailed a geologist doing National Service to sink trial boreholes down to 120 feet in the middle of the site. This was done, but no suitable water was found.

The Colonel was already interested in dowsing but was also well aware of his colleagues’ skepticism, so on the following Sunday he set off alone to prospect. What he experienced was a strong pull on his rod to the West; and indeed, trial bores during the following week at the western end of the site struck water at 80 feet. Even better, this water rose-up the bore to 30 feet, demonstrating the existence of an artesian system and suggesting the possibility of a permanent supply.

At this stage Colonel Grattan called in German geologists for their expert corroboration of what his bores had unearthed. They said that a fault ran through the middle of the site, that no water would be found near it and that further boring should cease. In response, the resourceful Grattan obtained from the Chief Engineer BAOR a letter ordering him to continue his search as he was convinced that a plentiful source of good water lay to the West of the site.



More discreet weekend dowsing followed, on foot, on horseback and by car the Colonel took his rod on exploring trips in the surrounding countryside. His own words bring out the excitement which he must have felt: “By riding or walking outwards on the country tracks I could eventually reach the boundary of what I believed to be our water source. As I proceeded I reached points where, with absolute suddenness, the indication stopped. For instance, I first established how the boundary ran by Merbeck and then Southwards so that it appeared as if the German waterworks at Uvekoven would fall within our boundary. This would have spoiled everything because I knew their

er was entirely different. But it suddenly ked eastward and missed the waterworks a bare 300 yards. It was unbelievable.”

nfident now in his findings, Colonel attan put down boundaries throughout the a. These did indeed find water much ter than that produced by the local water- rks. “I was delighted for I had found the ent of the water source by dowsing and had proved it by engineering”. The find s particularly useful because, as an artesian system, it was constantly replenished.

A waterworks was duly built at the extreme western end of the RMC, where it can still be found immediately behind the bus terminus. We present day occupants of Rheindahlen can only agree with Colonel Grattan that, “we have a water which is in every way admirable for heating and for pipes, for shaving and for drinking. I am fortunate to have had the gift of water divining and, at the same time, the power to use it to so much advantage”.

Originally penned by Major (Ret) RA Laird  
Late RAEC





November 1987

A full tour of the camp was arranged by WO1 (SSM) Gerry O'Toole RSU, highlights included a visit to RAF Wegberg, Ayrshire Barracks and a lunch in the Station Warrant Officer and Sgts Mess.

There was also a personal visit to the Wegberg Military cemetery to find the grave of a good friend, LCpl Mary Wilson who was the first female to be buried in the graveyard after she died of tuberculosis.

There have been a few changes since the Beveridges were in JHQ over 50 years ago but both instantly recognised their old haunts and all the memories came flooding back.

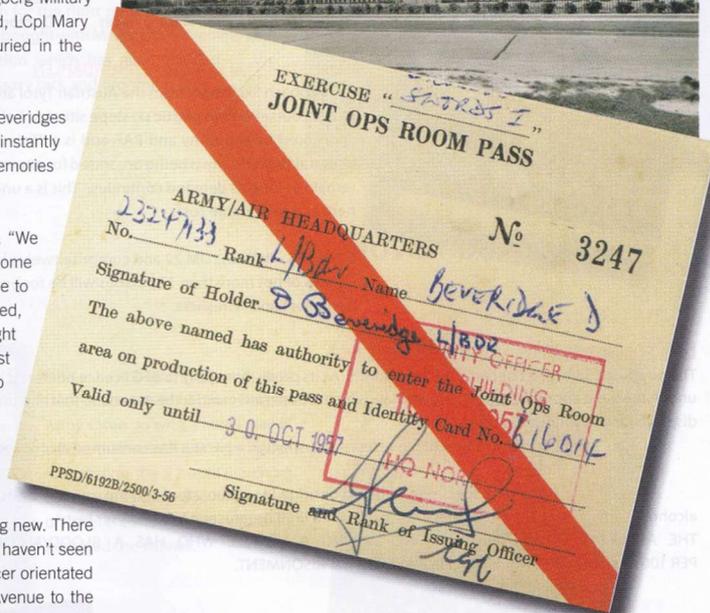
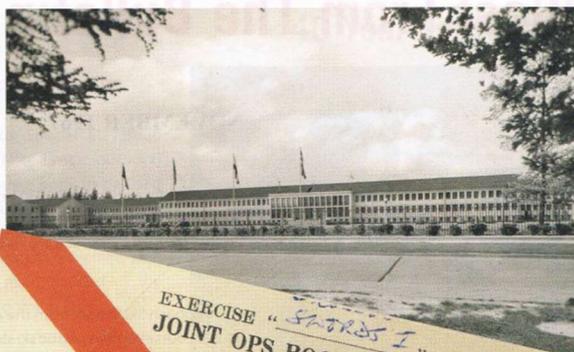
Entering through the main gate June said, "We never had anyone stood guard, you could come and go as you pleased, it's a great surprise to see a fence around the camp." David added, "The local bus service would come straight through the camp and during Schutzenfest the Germans would walk around camp letting off their guns!"

David continued, "It looks slightly different, I was shocked at how many trees there are now and of course it was as smart as a pin in the fifties with it still being new. There were a lot more troops wandering around I haven't seen half as many people now. It was very Officer orientated in our day, if you walked down Queens Avenue to the HQ you had your hand permanently stuck in a salute."

For June the lack of female soldiers was very noticeable, "There were over 300 ladies in JHQ during my 3 year posting, we had a full unit of women. I've hardly seen any girls in green since we've arrived."



The grave of LCpl Mary Wilson at DCCRE



Summing it up they told 'the bulletin', "We've both had an amazing time and would like to thank everyone from our family and the garrison for making this a lovely trip back in time."

After trying to trace their bridesmaid Sylvia Russell with no success, David and June are appealing to 'the bulletin' readers for their help. If anyone recognises the name and it fits with the timescale can they contact the bulletin office?



# Blast From The Bulletin Past

By Gerry Waters



## NOVEMBER 1967

### ASTRA CINEMA

Twice nightly at 1800 and 2030 hrs.  
Sat 11/Sun 12 Nov  
'Zulu' - Michael Caine, Stanley Baker

### GLOBE CINEMA

Twice nightly at 1800 and 2030 hrs.  
Tue 21 Nov  
'Doctor Zhivago' - Omar Sharif, Alec Guinness

### AN AUSTRIAN SKI SCHOOL AT RHEINDAHLEN

The Alpbach Ski School from the Austrian Tyrol are providing two English speaking instructors to run courses on the plastic ski slope situated behind the RAF Gymnasium. The slope is jointly sponsored by the Army and RAF and is sufficiently long enough to complete four turns. A pilot training scheme is being organised for one month and if well supported the Ski School will remain as long as demand continues. This is a unique opportunity for everyone to learn to ski here at a reasonable cost.

COURSES - Will cost DM 22 and comprise twelve lessons of 45 minutes duration. Classes of not more than 12 persons will be for beginners, refreshers, and childrens courses for beginners and refreshers.

### DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE - ROAD SAFETY ACT 1967

The new Road Safety Act became law this month. As its provisions apply to BFG licence holders it is most important for every BFG driver to fully understand and appreciate the changes in law which are operative under the Act and to that end unabridged copies of Part I of the Act have been displayed throughout the Garrison.

- a. Undergo a breathalyser test if it suspected a person has consumed alcohol or suspected he/she has committed a traffic offence.
- b. Provide a specimen of blood or urine for a laboratory test if it appears from the breathalyser test that the proportion of alcohol exceeds the prescribed limit or refuses a breathalyser test.

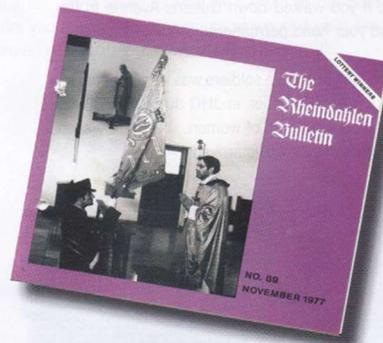
THE ACT LAYS DOWN THAT ANYONE DRIVING A VEHICLE WHO HAS A BLOOD/ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION ABOVE 80 MGMS PER 100 MLS WILL BE LIABLE TO A FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT.

## November 1977



### IS THIS A RECORD?

Army Officer cycles from UK to his new post in Germany. His 200 mile cycle ride completed Lieutenant Colonel Shircliff gladly accepts a welcoming cool glass of beer.



### RHEINDAHLEN BULLETIN LOTTERY

The first lottery winners were drawn by Joanna and Christopher Swinburn, 6 year old twins. Entry fee 1 DM to be placed in an envelope and posted in boxes found in the NAAFI foodhall and PSI RAF Station HQ.



## November 1987



### MIKE LYNCH'S GENEROUS GIFT.

During the St Francis Special Playgroup Appeal last year Mr Mike Lynch, our local 'chippie' offered to buy a pony to be used by the handicapped children. After a long search for the right pony 'Carmen' has now been bought with Mr Lynch's extremely kind donation which has also included all the necessary tack and grooming kit.



## 40 Years of History

## November 1997

### THE 81ST NIJMEGEN MARCHES - MULTINATIONAL CHESS MATES



WO1 'J' Roberts RLC and Adjut George Houben of the Belgian Army came up with a novel way of taking their minds of their painful feet; during the 9 hours marching each day they played several games of travel chess. J Roberts eventually emerged the winner.



### OVER 50 YEARS OF PRINTING SUPPORT TO BFG ENDS

The Survey Production Centre Royal Engineers (SPC RE) based in Niederrhein Kaserne at North Mönchengladbach, has recently had its printing process closed down by Military Survey (UK). This will end more than 50 years of support to British Forces in Europe through provision of mapping and a whole host of other geographic products. Most Forces serving in Germany will have used their 'bestsellers' - the BFG Route Map and Fuel Map.

The Unit was formed in 1945 to provide support to Montgomery's 21st Army Group and was based at the commandeered print works in Bad Oeynhausen. Staffed originally by 70 members of the services the balance was tipped in the late 40s until only a Major and a Warrant Officer were left in charge of the local civilian staff.



The Unit moved to the purpose built establishment at the newly built Nicholson Barracks in Mönchengladbach in 1956 and in 1963 took on responsibility for producing Low Flying Charts (LFC) at a scale of 1:500,000 for the whole of Western Europe. In 1983 Nicholson Barracks was handed over to the German Bundeswehr and renamed Niederrhein Kaserne.

Mapping was required for troops deploying to both the Falklands and the Gulf War and latterly a sudden demand for maps covering the Former Yugoslav Republics has demonstrated that to deploy effectively troops need reliable and up to date mapping.

The Unit has just finished printing 4,000 copies of a new Germany/Poland Route Planner and 2,000 copies of the Polish Drawsko Pommorskie Training Area Map, reflecting the new venues that British Forces find themselves training at. These 2 maps are probably the last to be printed at SOC RE.

# My Memories of JHQ

By Richard Jones - Resident from 1983-2013

Richard Jones was posted to RAF JHQ Rheindahlen in November 1983 and I spent the next four years mostly doing shift work in the MTD Flight on Queens Avenue . He married his wife Mandy in March 1986 and was due to be posted in the November of the same year but made the decision to be demobed at JHQ in March 1987.

Richard has been here ever since spending his time between JHQ and Ayrshire Barracks doing various driving duties. He and his wife have been lucky to have brought up four great boys who are all healthy and doing well. They have always had contact with people in and around JHQ say that they will be sorry to see it go. Richard said, "JHQ provided me with the means to bring up my family and I will always have fond memories of the place."

## A Poem

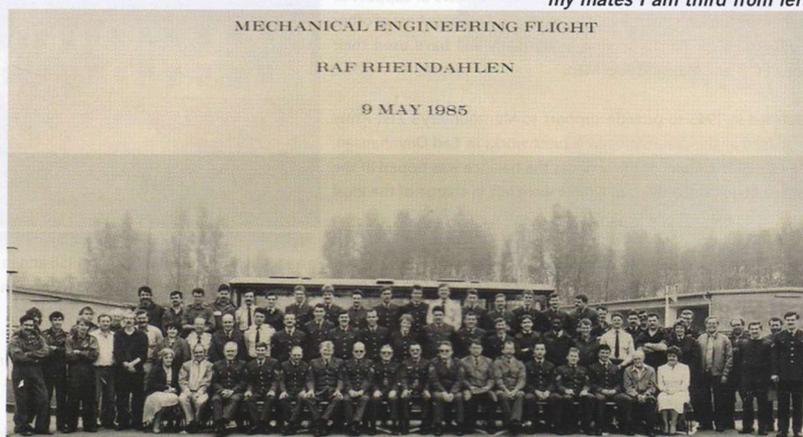
There are generations of memories of JHQ,  
It has been home to the forces and their families.  
It was a Garrison like no other I've ever known  
Such a hive of activity with so many nationalities  
JHQ had it all; it was a Town in its own right  
Now it is due to close but it has left its mark  
Architects and planners just couldn't have known  
What they were about to create at the very start  
JHQ wasn't just, concrete bricks and mortar  
And it won't be remembered as a work of art  
It created a community spirit which is today so rare  
It was a place with character and a beating heart  
Civilians and Forces from many cultures and countries  
Helped to create an atmosphere difficult to describe  
JHQ Rheindahlen, was more than just a place of work  
It has helped create memories which we shouldn't hide  
Now not all of those memories are filled with happiness  
We must remember those who have lost families and friends  
I passed Band Walk the other day and remembered those lads  
Their old block just a memory, before the year ends  
So when they hand over the keys and close the gates  
I'll remember the old place for it was part of my life  
JHQ has left its mark, with many over the past 60 years  
It's the place where I proposed to my wonderful wife.



*After the RAF Bed Push 1985, we tried to get permission from Monchengladbach Stadt to pull the Bedford Truck from MG to JHQ to raise money for charity but couldn't get the clearance needed, so we just pulled it around the hospital as many times as we could*



*RAF MT Section 1985 Just having a laugh with my mates I am third from left*



*RAF MT Section 1985 Official photo taken just after we had converted the buses into Ambulances*

# All Those Years Ago

By Brian Ledger

I was posted to JHQ, Rheindahlen, in September 1955. Having travelled on a troop train around the UK picking up people as we went, we finally ended up at Harwick Docks.

We were marched onto the ship for the overnight journey to the Hook of Holland. Many of us slept on the deck as we could not cope with the hammocks. At the Hook of Holland we boarded the Dutch trains to take us to our final destination. You can imagine our delight at being served breakfast on the rain by young Dutch girls.

Most of us who were posted to JHQ were either National Servicemen - £1.40 a week - or glorified National Servicemen, who had signed on for the extra year and were paid £3.50 a week. We were paid in a special currency - BAVS (?) which could only be spent on camp. Many had not been out of their towns/villages, let alone abroad.

Our barrack rooms slept 8 to 10 - and we employed a German lady to keep the place clean. A haircut would cost us 11.5p, which also included a shampoo and head massage. When we went into town, we would buy 12 DMS for £1.03p.

We were all taught to drive 4 tons lorries and once a month would do convoy practice. This was so that we could evacuate families if the need arose. When the Russians invaded Hungary we were issued with instructions on what to do if they continued into Germany.

JHQ was like a small town and had every type of facility you could imagine. There was no need to leave camp and some stayed on it for the 2 years of their engagement. For the more adventurous of us we could go into MG. Although JHQ was an open camp, we had to book out and be back by 22.00. A few of us went into town on Carnival weekend without booking out. We slept on tram benches and strolled back onto camp around mid-morning with an air of innocence.

I met my wife here. No, I did not see her across a crowded room, but on a crowded train from Roermond. It was her lovely blue eyes that first attracted me. Being a clerk Accounts, it was easy to find out all about her. She worked for Gp Officer Stephens in the Big House. As I did most of the driving for my section, I had the opportunity to take her to work and collect her. Sometimes we would go out for a meal in the YWCA, which was classed as 'up market' and had table cloths.

I managed to buy an old Mercedes which enabled us to visit more places. To help keep the cost down we would order packed lunches from the dining room. On one occasion I drove onto a field so that we could have a picnic. Imagine our horror when we found that the car had sunk up to the hubs. Being a gentleman, I left my girlfriend in the middle of nowhere while I went back to camp to get some lads who helped us move the car.

I returned to the UK 3 months before her and applied straight away for another overseas posting. On my girlfriend's return, she had completed her engagement. I was also due to go to Cyprus so we went from just being good friends to being husband and wife.

In 1979 we were posted to RAF(H) Wegberg. I was Cashier and my wife worked in the Command Library. It was great to be able to re-visit those places we had seen some 21 years previously.



Funny how sights and sounds have a knack of hot-wiring your memory back to the past. As I Jog down Queens Avenue I push my poor frame to its physical limits and pass by the Swimming Pool songs come into my head from 40 years ago when I trod the same footpath on the way to Queens Lower School as a freckled 11 year old boy! 'It's For You' by Cilla Black and 'House of the Rising Sun' by the Animals were hits of the day. "A Hard Day's Night" by the Beatles was showing at the Astra Cinema at the time – a building that occupied the space opposite the Police Station and vied with the Globe for residents' cinematic custom.

In August 1964 my family had just moved to Germany and JHQ was to become home for the next 31 years. With MQ housing at a premium we spent the next five weeks at the D'ORs hostel – in my naivety this had a rather sophisticated French sound to it – the significance of Officers and ORs missing its mark by a mile. Whatever happened to A, B and C'ORs hostels remains a mystery but I know the D'ORs hostel went the same way as the Astra at some point in the intervening years and ended up as a pile of rubble.

My father began work in the Civil Secretariat, HQ BAOR and the family eventually moved into 5 Belfast Walk, a small but snug house with blazing radiators and four floors – only two properly useable but to my brother and I the attic and cellar were excellent places to get up to all kinds of mischief. I had never roller-skated around an attic and now was my chance!

The cellar was equally mysterious especially when it flooded every winter, floating my parents' belongings in a dark soup of unidentified ingredients. My poor mother seemed to spend much of her time down there. Voluntarily, I hasten to add! In our previous life in Liverpool she had become the proud owner of one of one of the first front-loading automatic washing machines – an English Electric Liberator if I remember. Unfortunately it was wrecked during its move to JHQ – falling off the back of a lorry being the likely fate. My father being a rather canny Liverpudlian claimed on the insurance coming out to JHQ...and again going back to the UK – insurance fraud? – Yes probably, but my mum earned every penny of it. The alternative way of washing clothes was to use the 'copper' - a large metal tub cemented into the floor of the main cellar room with the water heated by a gas flame that could be lit underneath. Clothes were poked with a wooden pole then

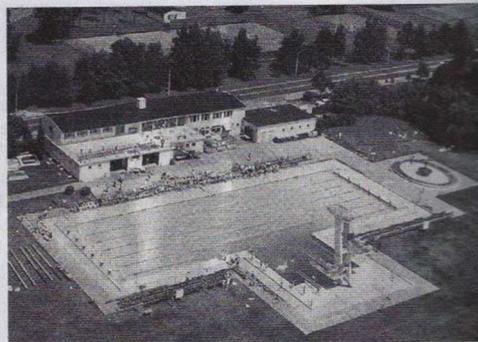
transferred to a manual mangle that squeezed the life out of everything that went through its unforgiving rollers. Everything was supplied with the house and in true MOD tradition had been built to withstand a Russian invasion. There was the mincer (no, not that meaning back in the 60's), made of heavy cast metal, that could be attached to the kitchen worktop and was capable of grinding up a cow – whole. The fly sprayer was a metal canister attached to a bike pump device that, if filled with the powerful liquid supplied, could completely defoliate the woods at the bottom of the garden more effectively than the Americans could with Agent Orange. Ticks? There was no such thing.....

The hot water and heating supply to houses was by means of a central boiler house – and the one behind Belfast Walk still remains although no longer heating water. In those days a crane came out of the building on a gantry – picked up a scoop of coal from below and took it back in to feed the boilers (Today the coal has been replaced by trees).

On one memorable day my mother, probably after slaving down in the cellar with the washing, decided to have a bath. Aahh, endless hot water – and so it proved - as the hot tap shot off sending a fountain of scalding hot water into the air. My poor old mum ran into the street with only a bath towel to cover her modesty – meanwhile I like to think that the boiler houseman, seeing the demand for hot water suddenly exceed supply, jumped on his crane and proceeded to shovel tons of nutty slack into the steaming boiler house. Fortunately in those pre GWA

days (sorry guys) the water was swiftly turned off.

There were many unusual characters living in Belfast Walk at the time – there were Spanish next door and Americans up the road – Chuck (well he would be wouldn't he) was a rather chubby boy who went to school with me. His father owned a Chevrolet Impala which had pointed rear wings and a very bouncy suspension – especially so when he indulged in the habit of giving his wife a lift down the road on the bonnet. Parked up it took up half the available space and forced the poorer Brits to squash their cars into a huddle at the other end of the road.



At the far end of the road lived the most beautiful 12-year-old girl of all time – Beverley Fairbanks. I used to sit at the bedroom window and watch her glide down the road as if she had A+ in deportment. Did I ever speak to her? No way – she was much too pretty for that! Every time I hear 'Pretty Flamingo' by Manfred Man - a single from 1966 – I think of her. I wonder how she looks now as a mature 50 year old?

The houses in JHQ were well thought of by the local German population, who spent Sunday afternoons driving up and down the estate in the 60's choosing the house they would buy once the British Army moved back to the UK. Of course they gave up waiting long ago and surely bought something far superior outside of JHQ.

Back in the 60's very few people had television –and then only in Dutch and German. We had only radio – BFBS of course – and

## • Reminiscences

rarely missed 'the box' – my brother and I spending endless hours playing outside in the woods and going on long bike rides. Only occasionally when "The Thunderbirds" was showing on Dutch TV would we generously be invited next door as a special treat – otherwise we would be forced to listen at the wall with a glass for a 'sound only' episode



Summer holidays for kids seemed endless. The Blue Pool was a magnet and its freezing waters didn't deter the youth of the day. In those days, such was its popularity, that its use was split into two hourly periods alternating between Officers and ORs. Such an inconvenience for kids, it soon became popular to exchange entry cards so that whole days could be spent by the pool. It was not recommended to over indulge in the YWCA canteen crusty cheese rolls and then dive off one of the towering 'Olympic standard' diving boards. There would have been no survivors.



JHQ in the 60's was really the time for 'baby boomers' – there were so many kids that the camp had its fair share of schools – St Andrew's, St Patrick's and St David's all stood together in a row at the top of the camp whilst Queens Lower for old style 1st and 2nd years were exiled to the other end. Queens Lower, post baby boomers, was put to other uses and its most recent reincarnation sees it posing as a bowling alley – its

lanes running across the music, geography and art classrooms. My own form room, owned by Mr Macallion the Maths teacher, is still intact around the side of the building, its blackboard now looking a little forlorn. Queens Upper School, now of course Windsor School, seemed a big jump from the Lower School and I can clearly remem-

ber Mr Aspinall, the head teacher at the time, inviting us raw 2nd year pupils for a quick visit to the Upper School. By way of a special treat he invited us to his office and proceeded to play us some Flanders and Swan 78s on his gramophone. I wonder what the youth of today would have thought?

Back then the children of the camp and the outlying areas were able to catch green Army Bedford buses to school. I suppose that funds to support such a luxury were less of a problem back then and the children from the 'top end' of camp caught their bus from the end of Roxburgh Drive.

JHQ in the 60's also saw it in the frontline of the Cold War. The attack alarm in those days sometimes went off in the middle of the night and a quick look out of the bedroom window saw many soldiers running down the road hastily donning their kit before the Russians invaded. Fortunately they never did and the attack alarm is now only heard at 11 o'clock on the first Thursday of every month – much more convenient.

Funny how the camp has changed very little outwardly over the last 50 years – at least until PUMA took hold recently. But internally the buildings have seen many different uses. For instance the Medical and Dental Centres have swapped places. The Messes in particular have seen so many changes. In the 60s there were 3 Civilian Messes as well

as a Teachers Mess. No1 Civilian Mess still exists but used to be a Military Mess – the original one still lies abandoned in Wolseley Road. No2 Mess has occupied two separate buildings but both are now used by RMP within Inkerman Lines. No 3 Civilian Mess is now Windsor House Boarding Annex. Confused – so am I!

The NAAFI is of course still there, but now much larger! In the 60's the food hall was where the electrical/Hi Fi area is now. Looking up at the walls it's still possible to see the painted over sign boards that indicated where the canned foods, sweets, toiletries etc were sited. The room that now sells Bose Hi Fi used to be the butcher's area. I'd swear that some of the racking the NAAFI uses still dates back to that time!

The 'Big House', that dark and satanic paper mill on the top of the hill also looks the same on the outside. But on the inside, offices, branches and departments move within it at an increasingly alarming rate as personalities vie with each other to 'empire build' or to somehow strive to improve its effectiveness. Each office move is accompanied by the noise of hammer drills and the smell of newly painted walls. I think that the Big House has suffered so many internal alterations, at whoknows what expense, that it is likely to implode at some point scattering hundreds of tons of paperwork and breezeblocks all over the surrounding area.

I have lived in JHQ over three tours – in the 60's, the 80's and into the new Millennium – a total of 10 years or more when I finally leave here. It's sad but true that I feel some belonging to this Military Camp, but I do. Its population changes constantly but it remains the same – its people are from similar backgrounds and so seem to gel together to make a homely community. I even met my wife here when, as a sales assistant in SSVC, she tried to sell me a TV. Although I eventually bought the TV from the NAAFI I was sold on the assistant! I will be sorry to leave in the next year or so – JHQ has maintained a sort of consistency across the years even though in-between-times I have lived in Liverpool, Nottingham, Shrewsbury, Preston, Hong Kong and Brecon. But there will always be JHQ. I wish it a Happy 50th Birthday.

Finally a request for whoever lives in 5 Belfast Walk – an invitation for a last look around would be gratefully accepted.

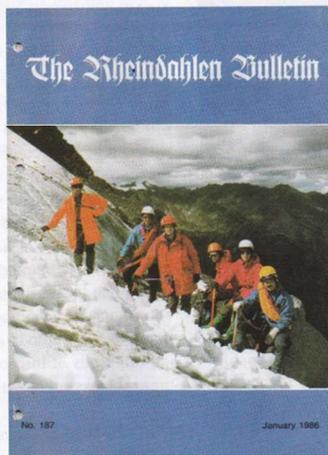
# Thank You ARS Grafisch

After a happy and successful 27 years collaboration with our printers, ARS Grafisch, we delivered the Bulletin to the offices in Roermond to be printed for the very last time.

As the commemorative edition of the Bulletin rolled off the press for the very last time, it was indeed a sad day for the Bulletin team.

There was certainly a big difference to the look of the commemorative edition compared to the first magazine produced by ARS back in 1986.

A.R.S. Director, Thomas Martens, said "We have printed the Rheindahlen bulletin for 27 years. This is the last one so we are at the same time sad but also proud and grateful. The bulletin has given us over the years special contacts and an insight into the British community in Germany. Our contacts with the editors, Naafi, our visits to the Little Theater. What strikes us is that you have a positive attitude, a lot of humor and joy. We dutch could learn from that. We wish you all the best, wherever you go from here. Thank you very very much."



The first Bulletin printed by ARS in January 1986



The last Bulletin printed by ARS in May 2013

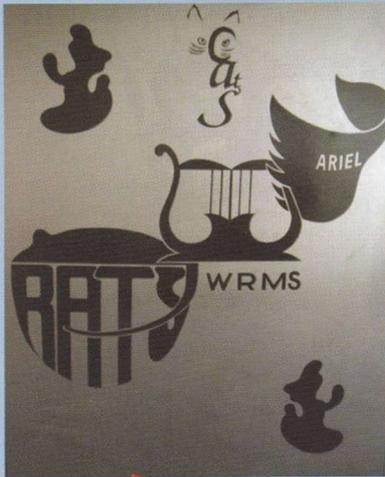


Katy and Judith with the ARS Grafisch team

THE BIG  
BREW  
UP



# Theatre At JHQ



There have been several theatre groups in JHQ over the years; Ariel, WRMS, RATS and CATS, all putting on very popular and successful performances.

Each group has been recognised for their hard work over the years, receiving many trophy's and awards. They have also donated a significant amount of money to various charities.

Below are photos of some of the many performances over the years.







## ARRC BIDS FAREWELL TO GERMANY

Words ARRC Public Affairs, Photos ARRC Public Affairs and Charlie Booker

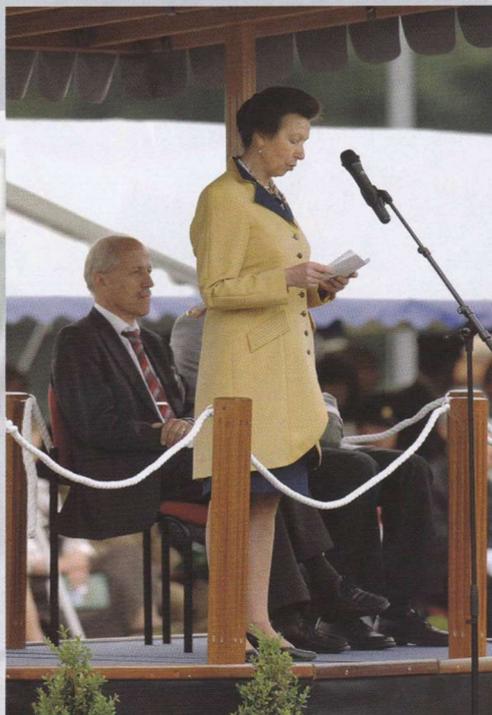
In the presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, HQ Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, with its Commander Lt Gen Richard Shirreff, officially bid farewell to Germany and to Moenchengladbach at a glittering international farewell parade at JHQ Rheindahlen.

The Parade formally marked the move of HQ ARRC to Imjin Barracks, Innsworth this summer after 18 years in Moenchengladbach. Hundreds of British and multinational Service personnel and their families gathered in the sunshine to watch the parade. Forces children were also amongst those who enthusiastically greeted the Princess Royal on her arrival.

Her Royal Highness was joined for the occasion by numerous senior British, German and NATO officers and dignitaries, in recognition of this historic milestone in HQ ARRC's history. These included Dr Walther Otremba, German State Secretary for Defence, Mr Gerald Howarth, British Minister for International Security Strategy, and Dr Jürgen Rüttgers, Ministerpräsident North-Rhine Westphalia.

Also at the Parade were General Sir John McColl, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Sir David Richards, British Chief of the General Staff and a former Commander ARRC, and General (Retired) Sir Jeremy MacKenzie, also a former Commander ARRC.

Addressing the Parade, the Princess Royal said, "I am delighted to have been invited to take this Parade, marking the departure of the ARRC from Germany. As a regular visitor to British Forces in Germany, I have always been struck by the warmth and friendship shown to British and Allied Forces by the German community. This makes an enormous difference to the families, especially when the soldiers are deployed on operations."



The Princess Royal then continued, "I am grateful to North Rhine Westphalia for hosting British Forces, and to the people of Moenchengladbach, who show unstinting friendship and support, not only to the British but to all the nations of the ARRC. Dr Otremba, may I express my gratitude to you and your colleagues in the Federal Ministries who make such a vital contribution when the ARRC deploys on operations".

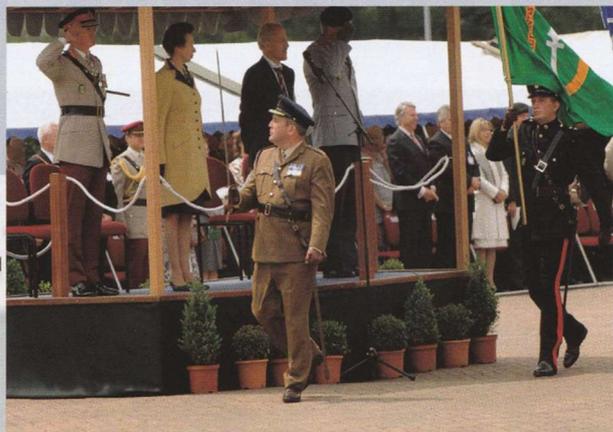
In his reply, Dr Otremba said, "The ARRC has always maintained the highest of standards and is quite simply



## ARRC FAREWELL

unique. You and your families are an asset to both North Rhine- Westphalia and to the people of Moenchengladbach. Today, 20 years after German unity, we retain a wonderful memory of living together in multinational cooperation. My best wishes for your new start in your new location, and my thanks for all you have done for us”.

The Parade was also the occasion for a very rare distinction, when Dr Otremba presented HQ ARRC with a Federal ‘Mission for Peacekeeping and Freedom’ Fahnenband, or honorary pennant, Germany’s highest military honour. The Fahnenband was awarded to the ARRC by the Federal Government for its enormous contribution to the cause of peace. This rare distinction is only conferred at the discretion of the Federal Government.



have given the Corps their unstinting support over many years.



Formed up on the JHQ Parade Square in immaculate formation, for inspection by Her Royal Highness, were some 160 members of 7 Signal Regiment, the ARRC Support Battalion, two Multi-national Guards, and a British Colour Party. The Parade was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Al Long, Commanding Officer, 7 Signal Regiment. As Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Lt Gen Shirreff, inspected the Parade, pausing to speak to many of the soldiers, a colourful repertoire of music was played by the Band of the Adjutant General's Corps.

Following the Parade, the Princess Royal signed the Moenchengladbach Golden Book, accompanied by Herr Norbert Bude, the City's Mayor. Then at a formal reception, Princess Anne had the opportunity to meet staff and families of HQ ARRC, as well as British, German and NATO guests from all walks of life who

At the Reception, Lt Gen Shirreff thanked The Princess Royal and the many guests for joining HQ ARRC on such a special. Lt Gen Shirreff said, “Today is all about saying goodbye and thank you to our German friends who have made us feel so at home here in Rheindahlen. I am quite clear that it is Germany, this area and this community that have laid the foundations for the success of the ARRC, and shaped its ethos and esprit de corps. Not only have we worked together, trained together, thought and operated together here and in Bosnia, Kosovo and Afghanistan, but it is here that we have prepared for our next tour of Afghanistan. Most importantly, we have lived together in a garrison with unrivalled facilities, supported and encouraged by the friendliest of local communities. All this has been fundamental to the way the ARRC has developed. The soldiers and families of all the Partner Nations have been made to feel very much at home here and without this firm base, none of what the ARRC has achieved on operations would have been possible. We of course look forward to the future and we embrace change, but I am very conscious that our move will leave a huge gap in the local community. Germany has been good to us and it has been a privilege to have shared something of the German way of life.”



# VIP visits To JHQ



*On 19th September 2006 Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, visited the Headquarters of the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (HQ ARRC)*



*HRH The Duchess of Kent represents the Queen at the Joint Headquarters' Queen's Birthday reception 16th June 1987*



*HRH Prince Philip visits JHQ in May 1993*



*Visit of Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, to JHQ, seen here with CnC BAOR 20th Sept 1983*



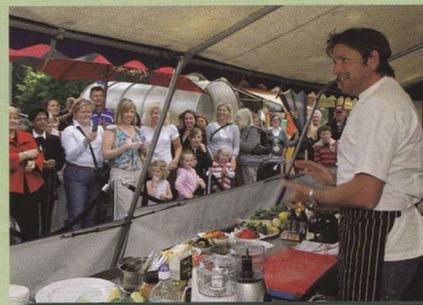
2010 - Visit of HRH Prince Michael of Kent, president of SSAFA Forces Help to Rheindahlen Community Health Fair part of SSAFA Forces Help 125th Anniversary.



2009 - Launch of NAAFI Break products, with guest speaker John Simpson



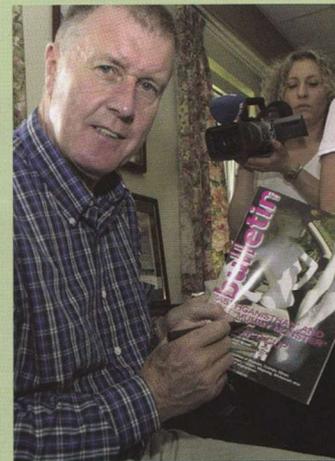
Visit by Michael Heseltine , Defence Secretary, with Air Marshall Sir Patrick Hine, on his visit to JHQ sometime between 1982 & 1985



2009 - TV Celebrity Chef Mr James Martin was a Special guest and judge at NAAFI's Catering Heros Competition.



Cherie Blair's visit to JHQ in June 1999, seen here with Major General Christopher Elliott CVO CBE



On 20th June 2006, Sir Geoff Hurst visited JHQ

# Rheindahlen Ladies Netball Club

By Julie Wright



JHQ holds lots of fond memories for Rheindahlen Ladies Netball Club which has been running for over 30 years. Amongst the still devoted club members are two sisters who have been playing from the beginning.

The club has competed at a high level in the local league, winning on a record number of occasions. When that folded due to drawdown, they moved to play alongside members of the Gütersloh League.

In the last 7 years Rheindahlen Ladies have participated in tours to Spain, giving club members the opportunity to play with some great players young and old, and also enjoy down time in the sun. We have met some lovely people who have become life-long friends.

Thank you to all who have played and supported the club over the years, you will be missed.



# Sporting Events



## 1987: 30 hurt as car bomb hits Army base

(Newspaper report at the time)

Thirty-one people have been injured after a car bomb exploded at a British army base in West Germany. The device, believed to contain 300lbs (136kg) of explosive, went off close to the officers' mess at Rheindahlen, 50 miles (80km) from the West German capital Bonn.

Twenty-seven West Germans and four Britons were hurt in the bombing at 2230 local time.

The force of the blast ripped up the road and caused extensive damage to parked cars and surrounding buildings.

The injured have been treated for shock and wounds caused mainly by flying glass. Firefighters at the scene say none of the injured are in a critical condition.

Army spokesman, Nigel Gillies, said: "Indeed we were very lucky that people were not killed."

Mr Gillies said the fact that it was night-time when the bomb went off and the heavy curtains at the base had helped to protect people.

Most of the injured were German officers and their wives, who were enjoying a farewell party at the base.

The injured have been taken to the RAF hospital at Wegberg, a few miles south of Rheindahlen, near the Dutch border.

The bomb caused parts of the ceiling to collapse and doors were ripped from their frames. A police spokesman said the blast blew out windows in buildings several hundred yards away.

A German air force officer at the base said: "We are investigating the possibility that there may be other bombs on the base."

Servicemen have been put on alert and police have sealed off the area around the barracks.



Public roads run through the middle of the base, which is the Army's largest in Europe. Service personnel, families and civilian staff make up the community.

All vehicles are being checked by soldiers to stop any other attempts to breach security after the bombers drove into the open base.

Armed Forces Minister John Stanley said Rheindahlen was on a higher state of security alert than normal at the time of the attack.

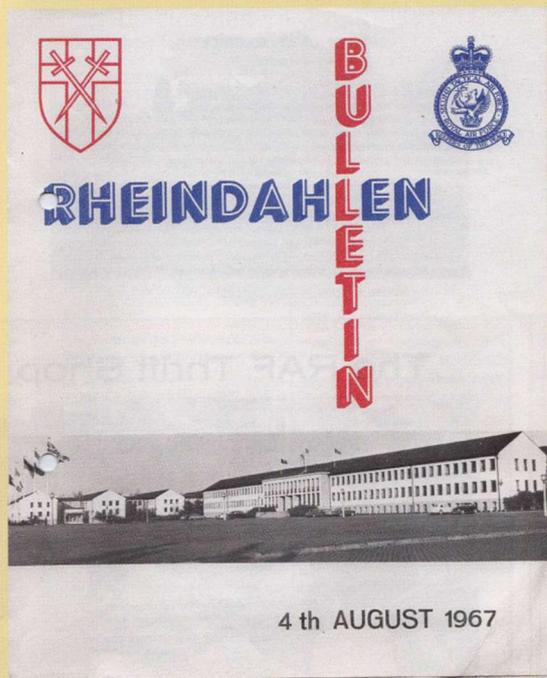
Mr Stanley said if this had not been the case, casualties would have been much higher.

A man speaking in English had telephoned a warning to the German press before the blast, Mr Stanley confirmed.

An internal investigation is to be held but Mr Stanley has spoken to MPs about the "immense difficulties" of ensuring total security on such a sprawling base.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman has denied that the public have unrestricted access to the mess area although he said there are "different security levels at various parts of the base".

## First ever Rheindahlen Bulletin newsletter



## First Bulletin magazine



## What's In A Name?

### Band Walk

On 11th February 1985 the Band of RAF Germany was involved in a road traffic accident at Langenbruck while travelling to an engagement at the RAF Winter Survival School in Bavaria, resulting in the loss of nineteen RAF musicians, the coach driver and an RAF Policeman.

During their time as musicians with the Band of the Royal Air Force Germany, members helped to maintain the high esteem in which Royal Air Force Music is held and were fine ambassadors of the service.



### ARRC INTERNATIONAL CHILDRENS DAY

17 nations took part at the Rheindahlen Youth Centre. Visual presentations from all of the JHQ primary schools adorned the entrance and the welcome from each of the 17 nations, each in their own language, set the tone for an enjoyable evening.

COMARRC welcomed those present, "This provides a wonderful chance to mix with children of other nationalities, and we must trust our children to choose the right path for them in the future... hopefully the children will make a better job of it than we did! Today's children are tomorrow's grown ups". A massed choir or at least 60 children sang, "We Are the World" arm in arm, embracing the evening with a gusto that they carried to the selection of foods on offer from each participating nation.

Dave Donaldson of the Youth Centre said, "It's been fantastic- it's been a lot of hard work; but the Turkish element have worked really hard, and we've worked well as a team, it's been a great partnership". To highlight this fact, a troupe of young Turkish dancers performed on stage to a packed audience and rapturous applause. The feeling of expectation before the event had been proved to be correct.

This was a great evening's entertainment and more importantly saw the bonding together of 17 nations under one roof, showing what can be done when nations are prepared to work together.



### The RAF Thrift Shop



Photograph by RAFG PR

The official life of the RAF Thrift Shop began in November 1958 when a committee was formed to control its activities. However, there is evidence of the existence of the shop since at least the middle of 1956.

The Thrift Shop provides two valuable welfare services in Rheindahlen; it supplies a simple means of buying and selling good second-hand clothing and miscellaneous articles at reasonable prices and it assists worthy charities from profits which accrue from a 10% charge on all sales.

Since the shop first opened its doors in 1956, nearly 200,000 various articles have been taken in for sale and a total of nearly DM 660,000 has changed hands. Of this DM 650,000 has been given to various charities. An extension to the shop in 1968 has also been paid for. The charities which have benefited include the RAF Benevolent Fund, Cheshire Homes, Wegberg Hospital, Lord Robert's Workshops, Cancer research, SSAFA, and the appeal for Thalidomide babies.

The shop is run on a voluntary basis by the wives of RAF Officers. The helpers in the shop have made many friends through their activities, which have not been altogether confined to selling. A couple of years back, a lady came into the shop before returning to the United Kingdom. She said that whilst in Germany she had led rather a lonely existence and had much appreciated the opportunity she had had to call into the shop and have a pleasant 'chat' to the helpers. These visits had helped her considerably.

On the lighter side, there is the story of the helper on the 'taking-in' team. At the end of her session she could not find her coat. It was eventually found on the rack with a ticket on it ready for sale the following day!

## 250th Edition of the Rheindahlen Bulletin

Invited to produce something 'meaningful' for this, the 250th edition of the Rheindahlen Bulletin, and having left this task to the eleventh hour, I have resorted to the obvious expedient of comparison. If, halfway through, this does not appear to be working, I shall revert to some other subject - starlings, leaves, drains, litter, etc.

As seen through the eyes of the Bulletin, what has changed in this community since 1 July 1970? What has not? Do these changes, or continuances, tell us anything about ourselves?

Issue No. 1 of what was described as 'the new Bulletin' was a modest, tasteful little number of 16 pages with a black and white photographic cover bordered fetchingly in green. Compare this with the monster, 48 pages, multi-coloured, mega-bumper issue No. 249. Sober Gothic print announced the title in solid black; this has given way to a far more artistic, but lightweight, construction built out of a venetian blind.

Examination of the premier issue cover reveals that it is a birds-eye view of our rural retreat. Since birds are no longer officially encouraged to take these pictures, it may be something of a rarity. There have certainly been some changes since 1970; many of them however, are in the usage of buildings rather than in their physical appearance; the Rheindahlen Rooms, now in sad and forlorn decay, housed a splendid Officers' Club complete with Ballroom and a string quartet who had played for the Kaiser; the Visitors Mess, now a repository for I know not exactly what because I missed the opening ceremony, was the scene of many a risqué encounter not quite repeatable in Casse's House; the Army sports fields marked out with no less than four cricket pitches, all of which were presumably used; no less than 6 Army Officers Messes, some of which are now grass and others now used for lesser purposes. The great new car park opposite the space station, once the realm of golfers and



hot-pants. And what about the licensed restaurant (jacket and tie, please) where now throbs the 'Royal Pub' (plastic glasses only) and an elevated 'fitness' centre.

Inside the cover of Issue No. 1, the grim faced, steely eyed, Garrison and Station Commanders glower out across time with a look that has seen the world and found it full of.....leaves. Some things never change.

The advertisements are revealing. The first issue contains, apart from faithful NAAFI, one Ostend-Harwich travel, four car firms and Ellen Culpeck Insurance. There are no restaurants, no furniture shops, no dreaded video outlets. Compare Issue No. 249: At least seventeen car firms, umpteen choice eateries, any number of solid oak purveyors and a variety of other ways of getting rid of money. And NAAFI, and Ellen Culpeck.

So much for the wrapping; what of the insides of these sibling publications? One would expect many similarities in content from issue to issue and year to year and this is indeed the case. A major proportion of each Bulletin is devoted to the advertisement of clubs and societies. Some are enduring: Youth Clubs, Thrift Shop, Theatre Guilds; others are transient: What happened to the Household Division Club? I know what happened to the Railway Modellers, we knocked it down. The Historical Society has probably transmogrified to the Wargamers with the more aesthetic members forming the Decorative and Fine Arts group.

Another major contributor from the very beginning has been the RAF Station who

have always been good for 3-4 pages of each edition. The Garrison, being unhomogenized, has significantly failed over the years to produce a coherent entry.

Feature articles are interesting to compare. Issue No. 1 contains an article on the medical preparations for going on holiday (Enterovioform, Rennies, Iodine and Calamine lotion). Issue No. 249 contains no less than three articles of a medical bent (Breast investigation, Mental Illness and Coronary Heart Disease). Issue 1 covers the fascinating topic of caravanning with cats; Issue 249 takes us to a number of exotic locations sans chat. The RAM marches on: The format is little changed but the 1970 photograph is of a disciplined, uniformed marching team whereas in 1991 we are an undistinguished, if colourful, rabble.

What else appears to have concerned the burghers of 1970? The drains were not holding out very well; the citizens were warned that it might take 5 years to put matters right. NAAFI trolleys, removal, non return, use, abuse and dumping of; the solution to this problem is to charge for the trolleys. Hopefully this revolutionary concept will be introduced ere long. Other snippets from 1970: The Inter Church Senate Fete raised the grand sum of DM 6000 of which handiwork and hand-made toys made DM1500. Someone wanted to borrow slides of Libya and Rita De'ath lost a rolled gold USA playmate biro pen. There was no mention of terrorism and no notice of a security or crime prevention nature.

What does all this prove? Probably nothing that is not obvious: We are a richer,

more venal, more sophisticated society with considerably greater aspirations and the wherewithal to realise them. We have undoubtedly lost some innocence and, for many, the simple pleasures no longer satisfy. What the future holds is uncertain but I am sure the Bulletin will continue to chronicle the ups and downs of RMC life and I congratulate the Editor and her staff on an excellent publication.

And now, back to the drains.

lan Cameron  
Garrison Commander

As the historians will tell us, life on the Rheindahlen Military Complex, as we know it today, started with completion of construction in October 1954. Not everyone is aware, however, that the entire planning and building process was achieved within an extremely tight time scale of 2 years. Given this remarkable achievement and the fact that the end result has largely met the needs of our community with little major alteration since that date, I often wonder whether those involved or those who first worked and lived in the area, could ever have imagined the Europe of today. Equally remarkable too, is the fact that the Rheindahlen Bulletin has withstood the passage of time so successfully and that it still meets our needs, despite the many pressures that must have faced our predecessors over 3 decades in a divided Germany and the long years of the Cold War. Reunification of Germany, destruction of the Berlin Wall and publication of this 250th edition of a truly first class magazine is, to my mind, a fitting tribute to the dedication of them all.

As we ourselves face the many changes and challenges that will come with draw-down under "Options" in the months ahead, I am sure that we all look forward to the continued publication of "our Bulletin" under the able direction of the Editor and her Staff. Well done to you all.

Keith Corrans  
Stn. Commander

# NAAFI NOTE BOOK



## 1970

BY  
DOUGLAS McBIRNIE

### LEGAL LOOTING!

The "Ransack the Naafi" competition sponsored by the makers of Three Castle Cigarettes provided 100 lucky winners with the opportunity of legally looting their local Naafi shop. They were given a large sack and let loose in the foodhall of the shops concerned, with an allowance of ten minutes to fill the sack. The competitors either kept the goods they had collected or were given a credit note to the same value which could be used for any Naafi purchases.

At the JHQ Rheindahlen shop sixteen "looters" were lined up in Grand Prix fashion, each with his or her sack in a Naafi trolley. The 'ping' of a Sweda bell set them off on a pell-mell chase round the shelves while staff and friends cheered them on from the other side of the check-outs.

The most valuable haul was made by Mrs R. Chave, who collected goods to the value of DM 323 and took a credit voucher. Mrs M. Y. Murray was second best with DM 294 and the lowest



They're Off! Sixteen competitors get away to a good start with ten minutes "ransacking time" at their disposal. Mrs R. Chave - No 16 in the foreground - gathered in the biggest haul - DM 323 worth of Naafi goods.

total was reached by Mrs S. Morton, whose sack-full of goods added up to DM 103. Cpl Gleeson, of G Ops & Trg, HQ BAOR, had a double responsibility - his wife was a winner too, but as she was in the UK at the time of the "ransack" it was agreed that her husband's 'winnings' would be doubled to include his wife's share of the proceeds. He scored DM 126, which resulted in a family win of DM 252.

### REVISED SHOPPING HOURS

In order to standardise Naafi shopping hours throughout Germany and avoid customer confusion caused by half-day closing during the last week of each month, the once a month Saturday afternoon opening has been cancelled and so has the mid-week half-day closing. The revised shopping hours, effective from Monday, 4 January are as follows: -

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	1100 to 1315 hours	1415 to 1730 hours
Tuesday & Wednesday	0900 to 1315 hours	1415 to 1730 hours
Thursday	0900 to 1315 hours	1415 to 1800 hours
Friday	0900 to 1315 hours	1415 to 1730 hours
Saturday	0900 to 1300 hours	

### MEN AT WORK!

Work on the £300,000 extension to the JHQ shopping centre is proceeding on schedule, the mild weather in November and December having allowed the contractors to push ahead with the minimum of interference with the planned programme. There has been some unavoidable delay in the construction of a baffle wall to reduce a noise nuisance for the residents of Cassels House but every effort is being made to expedite this work.

By the middle of this month, the base for the new stores area and the preparation rooms will have been cast and weather permitting, for the new foodhall area as well. The foundation sockets for the prefabricated framework are all complete and factory production has started on the prefabricated sections. By the end of January some of these frames should be in position. The new foodhall, which will provide 12,000 sq ft of shopping space, is expected to be completed in July of this year and this will be followed by the move of the gifts and durables department to the existing foodhall area and the transfer of the clothing shop to the JHQ complex.



## THE RHEINDAHLEN SHOW 1996



The second Rheindahlen Show was held here over the weekend 3-5 May 1996, based on the successful 1995 show. A number of differences brought about by the experiences of the Show Committee who organised both events, proved to make the event an unqualified success.

The most significant and notable change was to the Show layout. The attendance of the Royal Signals White Helmets Motorcycle Display Team and the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas caused the Show Committee to rethink the position of the Arena. Sadly, the RAF Falcon Free Fall Parachute Display Team withdrew at short notice as their aircraft was diverted for use on EX PURPLE STAR. Thereafter, the Show ground took on a more logical layout. In

addition and due to the increase in the number of traders attending - some 200 - the site naturally was larger, but compared to the previous year, more compact.

The event this year was staged over 3 days and opened with a procession of 700 school children to the centre of the Show ground, where 1000 balloons were released. This year there was also a small German Fair, which provided additional colour and atmosphere. In the NAAFI Refreshments Tent, a Band Stand was provided and again many people made positive comment on its contribution to the overall flavour of the event. Though there were a host of other significant changes to the event, the final two to be highlighted are the Church Service and the Beating

Retreat, which were held on Sunday. All these changes added considerably to transforming the Show and making it the major event it has now developed into.

The weather during the Show was very changeable but in the main it stayed dry. However, this did not detract from the attendance figures and the event was visited by over 15,000 visitors, many of whom attended the event on more than one day. All the surplus money raised at the event will go to charity and it is hoped that this will equal, if not exceed, last year's donation to charities which was DM81,000.

As to an event next year? No formal decision has yet been made as to whether the event will take place in 1997, but one thing is for sure - as long as it follows the template of this year's event, it cannot fail to be a success.



# Every Picture Tells A Story...



*John Van Reyer opens a new section of the Stables in 1994*



*Best hanging Basket Winner 1997*



*Annual RAF Bed-push 1997*



*Fun at the Blue Pool back in 1992*



*Rheindahlen Garden Centre*



*Cheque presentation (in Deutsch marks) at Wegberg Hospital*



*JHQ Kennels*



*Rheindahlen Brownies*



*Chque presertation at the Saddle Club*



*St Andrew's pupils receive complimentary Support Battalion HQ ARRC sweatshirts*



*Winners of the District Heats 'Chatterbox Competition' with Leaders*



*Finalists in the first NAAFI Serviceguard Tournament 1996*



*Wegberg Bed-push 1992*



*Annual Wargames Convention at the Rheindahlen Rooms*



*Annual Race For Life*

## A Cut Above The Rest! Figaros at 50

On the 7th March, Figaro's Hair Salon in JHQ, celebrated its 50th anniversary in style, with guests, food and a cake cutting ceremony whereby Brigadier Max Marriner helped Figaro's owner, Ute Penatzer cut the beautiful cake, artistically decorated with a chocolate hairdryer and a comb made of icing.

The founder of Figaro Salons, Mr Albert Penatzer was born in 1914, and in 1953, one year after JHQ was built, Albert and his wife Magda saw their chance to set up a barber and ladies' hairdresser's shop in the rooms of the former 'Junior Ranks Club', today's 'Marlborough Club'. They were the first German tenants on this 'foreign territory' and in 1955 when the German shopping mall was built the Penatzers added a new hairdresser's and barber shop to their name, calling it Figaro Salons and registering it on the 7 March 1956. In 1962 the ladies hairdresser's shop was expanded as part of reconstruction works and the barbershop moved into part of the building now accommodating the Sparkasse. After 8 years the first shop in the Junior Ranks Club was closed and replaced with the 'South West Extension' shop in 1963. Two years later Albert died at the age of 51, and his wife Magda continued running the shops by herself. Their daughter, Ute, became infected by the 'hair bug' and started her training in 1970, sitting the master qualifying examination at the Dusseldorf Chamber of Trade in 1978 after which mother and daughter ran the business together.



April 2006



In the meantime the South West Extension shop had been closed and the barbershop reintegrated into the main business. In 1988, Magda retired and passed sole management on to Ute. Under her management, the rooms in the current Figaro Salon were upgraded and reopened and thorough renovation and modernisation of the rooms took place in 2004.

What remains now is one of the most friendly and pleasant hair salons, with 8 staff, who have been working with the organisation from 10 to 32 years. Anita Konig, started working at the Salon at the age of 17, with Ute's mom Magda and 32 years later has only happy memories. 'It has been the best 32 years', says Anita. 'I have seen a lot of changes but the staff have been great and the clients are always really friendly'. Reminiscing about the decades of different hairstyles and cringing at the thought of feathered and lacquer-to-death

hair of the 80's and dreaded perms, Ute has nothing but fond reflections of the salon. 'We are proud and grateful to have this salon in the family over such a long period of time and we would not be able to hold this anniversary if my parents would not have had the ambition to open this shop 50 year ago,' she commented. 'There would be no success without the engagement of our staff and all of the effort we go through would be useless without our clients, who show us with their loyalty that the work we do is exceptional,' Ute continued.



# Success Stories

By Sharon Samy



The Rhine 14-19 Partnership is a collaboration of organisations working within the Rhine area for the benefit of young people. It aims to provide the best possible training and educational opportunities, drawing on the work of Dr Henry Dixon, SCE's 14-19 Strategy Manager and following the practice of the Rhine Education and Life-long Learning Group, which had a long history of providing bespoke learning packages for young people.

Monthly Partnership meetings provide a forum to introduce the needs of current and prospective clients to local professionals and volunteers pooling knowledge, experience, expertise and support. From the outset these meetings have been, and still are, chaired by Mrs Karen Clark, Deputy Head of Windsor School.

The first Rhine Partnership Manager was Mrs Fiona Yoward. Within six months of being appointed, she had established the Rhine 14-19 Partnership's JHQ Centre which opened in January 2010. It provided a focal point for young people to find out more about education and work related training opportunities in the area. The service included regular visits from the Rhine Career's Advisor, Mrs Liz Martin and development of a database of work placement opportunities, complementing the opportunities provided by Mrs Dee Hulson as Director of VTS (Vocational Training Services).



In the summer of 2010, Fiona Yoward returned to the UK and the Partnership Manager role was taken on jointly by Mr Julian Downham and Mrs Veronica Dixon. Over 40 young people have registered with the Partnership and have been offered opportunities to match their aspirations.

The current Partnership Manager, Mrs Sharon Samy, has now included a second location for young people to access the service – Room 14, 34 Army Education Centre, Javelin Barracks, which has been provided through the support of Major Kate Wilden.

This office is currently manned for two days each week but appointments can be made at other times at the request of clients and their families. In the long term, a service will continue after the closure of the Rhine Military Complex, as part of PSP (Partnership, Skills and Progression) based in Gutersloh – SCE's new service incorporating the work of the Rhine 14-19 Partnership and VTS.

As one location is closing and another is becoming established, the Rhine 14-19 Partnership would like to review and celebrate the successes of some of the young people in the area who have made the most of opportunities whilst living in Germany and are now on the way to achieving their aspirations – faces old and new!





**HQ ARRC U.S. ARMY** element celebrated American Independence day in style on Friday 24th of June.

Fireworks, Hotdogs, Burgers and Chilli all had their place on an evening that Brigadier General Steven Layfield said, "Made all American chests swell with pride. I would like to thank everyone who helped make this possible, and everyone who came along to help us celebrate our special day."

2003



## BFG RECOGNISES ITS YOUNG ACHIEVERS



*For 13 years SSAFA recognised Germany's Young Achievers, with the event being held at JHQ and awards presented by BFBS presenter, Sim Courtie.*

*In 2003 the Duke of Kent was also in attendance.*



## NOMINATED CHARITIES FOR THE JHQ INTERNATIONAL SHOW 2003

The main beneficiaries from the JHQ International Show 2003 will be the Service Charity the Army Benevolent Fund. Nominated local charities are Deutsche Kinder Schutzbund - Mönchengladbach for physically and mentally abused children, and the Adult physically and mentally disabled charity group Carillon in Roermond.

### ATTRACTIONS

#### THE RED DEVILS

The Parachute Regiment Freefall Team is arguably the most spectacular and gifted outdoor display team in Europe and is world class in its special skill of freefall parachuting. So who are the Red Devils? The Red Devils were formed in 1964. All team members are serving soldiers from the 3 Battalions of the Parachute Regiment. Team members will usually spend three years with the Red Devils before returning to their respective Battalions and continuing with normal Regimental duties. Each member must have at least 200 parachute jumps to their credit before being allowed to participate in public displays.



#### THE FLYING GUNNERS

The Flying Gunners represent the cream of riding skill from the Royal Artillery. The professional soldiers, drawn from all Regiments within The Gunners are selected for their skill and courage. These talents are honed to perfection to produce a display of breath-taking speed, excitement and showmanship. The Flying Gunners display includes 12 riders closing at 90mph performing jumps and mid-air crossovers, jumping over 2 cars and 10 motorcycles and a Rolling Pyramid – performed by 17 men on the move. The Flying Gunners' aim for this year is to develop their spectacular skills, which are their hallmark, and continue evolving a display suited for the 21st century.

#### THE KNIGHTS OF ARKLEY

The knights of Arkley bring to life the excitement, colour and style of a medieval tournament. The six knights with their six pages, a commentator, and their specially trained horses present a spectacular display for the whole family. The knights demonstrate the art of medieval weapon control: One part of the training, at the gallop, picking up rings from the ground with their lances, attacking their enemy (in the shape of a dummy), and duelling with swords and battle axes. The finale is a mounted joust. Shining costumes, fanfares and music complement the tournament. The knights of Arkley have demonstrated their talents at the Royal Tournament, the Berlin Tattoo, the Royal Highland and Royal Ulster Shows and at the Tower of London.

#### JEAN MONTI HIGHWIRE.

Jean Monti causes Heart palpitations! The many visitors to the JHQ International Show will hear a pin drop when Monti climbs 60 metres above their heads to the top of the swaying mast to perform hand and head stands! The spectators will notice the

change, and feel the tension in the air. However once again Jean Monti the coolest artist between heaven and earth will master the Show. On the wire, some spectators will look away as Monti prepares for his "Death Salto". Monti's high-wire act is world class - breathtaking and sensational. 300 years of successful family history on the wire, self control, talent and years of experience. To date 160 metres is the highest that Monti and his wife have worked.

#### PERTSHIRE FALCONRY SERVICES

Veteran falconer Adrian Hallgarth founded Perthshire Falconry in the summer of 1995. Adrian has practiced falconry for over 20 years and learnt the art from his grandfather.

Adrian has shown his talent during the last 16 years, and in that time has travelled extensively in Europe and the USA. Having taught falconry at 2 of the UK's most recognised schools and managed one of the largest collections of birds of prey, he decided it was time to work for himself.

In the summer of 1995 his collection numbered 8 birds, but with skill and dedication, the collection has quickly grown, as has the company. Perthshire falconry services are now internationally recognised as a leader in their field of expertise.

### MUSIC

#### THE BAND OF THE ROYAL LANCERS:

The Band of the Royal Lancers formed on the 1st of August 1994, comprises of 35 musicians and is based in York Barracks Münster. The band is primarily in support of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers, (Prince of Wales) and the Queens Royal Lancers, but also supports other RAC Units.

#### THE SSB BIG BAND

Located in Geilenkirchen the SSB Big Band specialises in a big band sound including Glenn Miller, swing tunes and foxtrot.

#### THE SOLOISTEN BAND:

A 7 piece band including 3 singers based in Mainz. They are a dance and entertainment band with international experience dating back to the 1970's. The German Chamber of Commerce for several promotional tours to the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Japan and the United Arab Emirates selected the band, then known as the Rhythm and Blues Band. Their repertoire includes music from Joe Cocker, Tom Jones, Kool and the Gang, Nena, and the Beatles to Jennifer Lopez, Herbert Grönemeyer and Robbie Williams.

#### ESCAPE COMMITTEE & HALF CUT

Both bands are made up of serving military personnel, and have performed at the JHQ International Show in the past, and can be seen on the Band stand on both days of the Show.

#### LEAF

The rock sensation from Lüttelforst just 1km from JHQ. An English band recognized as one of the up and coming bands in Germany. Recently featured on EinsLive the German radio 1 and certain to have a big future ahead of them.

The band creates a unique sound similar to new rock/ Crossover. They convince the listener with emotional ballads and melodic rock songs. On [www.myownmusic.de](http://www.myownmusic.de) one of the biggest music Internet portals "LEAF" is one of the 3 featured artists to represent the firm on the 2003 MOM and "In da family" tour.

At the start of May the band will be recording their first album "Circle of Ways" which should hopefully be released in time for the JHQ International Show 2003.

They will be appearing on the Bandstand on both days of the show and have waived their fee due to the charitable nature of the Show.



JHQ  
International  
SHOW

8 & 9 June 2002

No. 368 July 2002

Rheindahlen

## SERVICE OF CONDOLENCE FOR ISOBEL CALLAGHAN

The cover of the last edition of the Rheindahlen and Elmpf Bulletin advertised the JHQ International Show, which promised to be a wonderful holiday weekend for the Garrison. It still seems hard to believe that, within a few hours of opening, the Show was hit by a freak storm, which resulted in the death of five year old Isobel Callaghan from Paderborn Garrison.



We were all deeply shocked and upset by this awful incident. The general mood within the Garrison and the enormous number of flowers, teddy bears and other gifts that were placed against the fence of the show-ground, indicated that many of us needed to express our grief and that perhaps a service of some kind might be appropriate. In the event, approximately 700 people, which included representation from the local German community, attended an interdenominational Service of Condolence at Saint Boniface's Church on Friday 13 June. It was a moving occasion, which did much to help our community unite in grief with each other and with Isobel's family. Extracts from the service and the Order of Service itself are reproduced in this article.

I am sure that none of us will ever forget the events of that week, but I genuinely feel that this service played an important part in helping us to get back to normal – which we must do. Clearly, this is not going to happen for Isobel's family, but we hope and pray that they will, in time, come to terms with this traumatic change in their lives.

So many members of our community have helped in so many ways throughout the week, either on the day of the accident itself, or since. I am tempted to try to list them, but I would surely miss many out. In any event, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to them all.

*Brigadier Tim Inshaw,  
Commander 1 Signal Brigade and Rhine Garrison.*

### ORDER OF SERVICE OF CONDOLENCE

Introduction	
Hymn	<i>Abide with me</i>
Prayer of Petition	
1st Reading	<i>Book of Revelation Ch 21 3-4</i>
Hymn	<i>Psalms 23</i>
2nd Reading	<i>St Mark 5</i>
Homily	
Hymn	<i>Thine be the Glory</i>

### INTRODUCTION – PADRE PHILIP MAJCHER

*"Most of us didn't know Isobel but we all know an Isobel."*

*She's a pretty little mischievous girl in whose mouth butter wouldn't melt.*

*Perhaps she's our daughter, a niece, the daughter of a friend but she touches our heart and has a place within it surrounded by our love.*

*Perhaps that's why the tragic circumstances of Isobel Victoria Callaghan's death has touched us all so deeply.*

*Perhaps that's why, though we didn't know Isobel, we have a sense of the loss and pain felt by Bob and Hannelore Callaghan and their family.*

*We too grieve with them and try to make sense of what happened last Sunday and we rightly ask... Why?*

*In our searching we've come to worship God, to hear his word and make our prayers...*

*We've come to remind ourselves that because of the resurrection of Jesus, death isn't the end and it can be faced without fear, bitterness or guilt."*

### PRAYER OF PETITION

#### POEM

*I'll lend you for a little while,  
a child of mine God said.  
For you to love while she lives,  
and mourn for when she's dead.*

*It may be six or seven years or just two or three.  
But will you, till I call her back take care of her for me.  
She'll bring her charms to gladden you,  
and should her stay be brief,  
You'll always have her memories as a solace for your grief.*

*Now, will you give her all your love nor think the labour vain.  
Nor hate me, when I come to take that lent child back again.  
For all the joys thy child will bring, the risk of grief we'll run.*

*We'll shelter her with tenderness,  
we'll love her while we may.  
And for the happiness we've known forever grateful stay.  
Should the angel come for her much sooner than we've planned.  
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes,  
and try to Understand.*

### HOMILY FATHER TERRY MAKINGS

#### THANKSGIVING OF LIFE: ISOBEL VICTORIA CALLAGHAN RIP

"Speaking to Robert and Hannelore yesterday – Isobel's parents – I was touched by their faith and trust in God – believing truly that their daughter is now an angel in Heaven.

Faced with such tragedies I am mindful of my own brother, killed by a van when he was three.

The faith of my parents – how on his birthday and anniversary we would remember him with tears – how he was never far away, my special angel and a brother whom I'd meet again.

Today I pray for 4 year old Stuart who heard the cries of Isobel as she was taken up into the sky – may he too have only happy memories of a sister whom he will surely meet again.

Tragedies such as this are never the Will of God. That would be to suggest that God has evil intent. It is rather the finite world we share – and our fragile nature...

The external happiness Jesus promised was never to be in this world – but in the next (hence – the whole purpose of our faith and the desire each of us should have to seek the truth in this world.)

There were times when Jesus showed the greatest compassion. In the Gospel account we have just heard – he raised Jairus's daughter to life "Taf Tha Koum" ("Little girl I tell you – get up") and Jesus gave her back to her parents.

There is nothing any of us would have loved more – than a miracle to have restored Isobel Victoria's life – but it wasn't to be.

At moments like this we return to that first Easter Sunday morning – when we're told the Disciples reached the empty tomb, they saw and they believed.

When Jesus appeared to them in the upper room showing them the holes the nails had made.....

"Peace be with you" he said. Not just a greeting – but – "I have conquered death and you are to follow me" "Peace be with you"

Thankfully Robert and Hannelore believe this too – for although they will never again in this world be able to hug Isobel, kiss her and shower her with love – Jesus has raised her to life – Eternal Life. She will truly be waiting for them.

This tragedy has rocked all our lives and devastated Isobel's family and friends.

As we leave St Boniface may there be joy in our hearts in the promise of Resurrection – Isobel's and ours. It is truly Robert and Hannelore who need our prayers."



Rheindahlen  
and Elmpf

No. 379/10 July 2003

# Party in the park



# BONFIRE NIGHT OVER THE YEARS



**Anglo-German Garden Party 2008**



42 | the bulletin Commemorative 2013

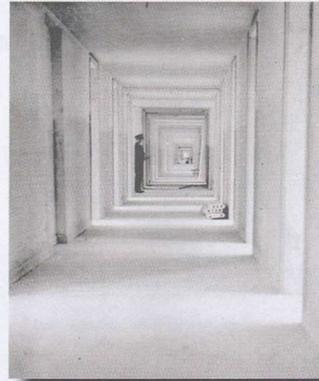
# Station Volunteers' Party 2008 Memories



# Memories in Black & White



Visit from the King Boudouin of Belgium in 1961



Guarding the Big House during construction



Local Mayor visits the British Forces main Post Office, JHQ 1985.



Handover of command at RAF HQ, JHQ Rheindahlen - 1991



An aerial view of JHQ



Opening of Mothercare at JHQ 1990



Dry Ski Slope on JHQ Rheindahlen. 1893, located near the swimming pool



# Memories in Black & White



1990 a piece of the Berlin wall arrives at JHQ Rhiendahlen.



RAF Station Commander being thrown into the Blue Pool, JHQ in the late 80's  
(Does anyone know why?)



NAAFI checkout in days gone by



Shoppers at the NAAFI 1972



German Tatto, farewell to AM Palin COMTWOATAF. Seen here leaving JHQ on the 22 April 1991



St Nicolaas visits JHQ



British Military Police outside JHQ 1966.

# Memories At A Glance



*The JHQ Ultra Bowl*



*JHQ Medical Centre*



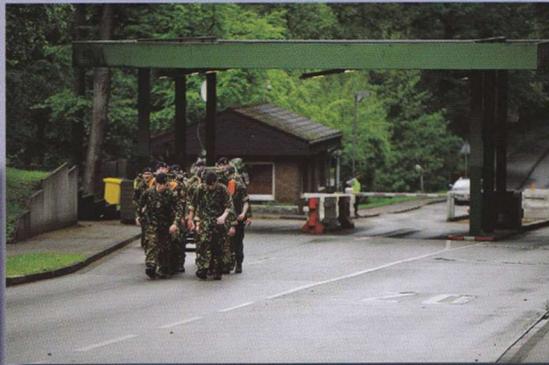
*BP Garage on a busy day*



*Christmas Bazaar*



*CATS Ticket office at the Little Theatre*



*Soldiers on the march*



*The Big House NAAFI shop*



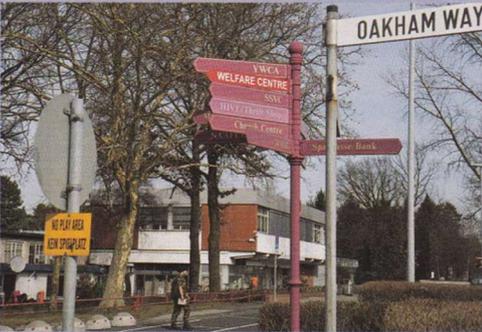
*The late Glen Mansell on air at BFBS studios in Grattan Building*



At Andrew's Church



St Boniface church



Show me the way to go



St Thomas More



Fish 'n' chips at the Marly



NAAFI - the way it was



BFBS TV Reporter, Rob Olver, reporting for duty



A night at the Big Theatre



On Guard duty at the Big House



*Get what you're looking for at Aladdin's Cave*



*The Blue Pool....on a good day*



*Deutsche Post Office*



*Vehicle Repair Garage*



*HQ P&SS take delivery of new RAF Police cars in 1994*



*Sweepers at the Horseshoe*



*The American Px*



*The shop that sells everything*

## Extract from the Queen's Courier school magazine - Christmas 1958 Log

By Mr JV Taylor, Headmaster

From Brian Davies



One of the results of splitting up a school year into three terms is that the year seems to pass with a most unusual rapidity. There are always examinations or holidays just a few weeks ahead, and in the anxiety to fill each week with its due quota of work the passage of the months tends to be overlooked. It seems a very short time since Queen's Courier first appeared, and yet these notes are now being written for the third edition of a magazine that has already established itself as a worthy companion to the publications of the other BFES schools.

The year began with 453 pupils on our roll, but it was not long before it became evident that accommodation would have to be found for some of the children of secondary school age who had come into our catchment area and for whom, under our existing arrangements, we did not have room. Re-arrangement, compression and adaptation were the order of the day, and by the month's end we had 468 pupils and a new 1st Form. That represented high water mark for the remainder of the 1957 academic year, and the tide gradually ebbed until by July only 392 remained. The start of the new School year in September however saw it return in full spate. At the time of writing these notes our numbers are 554, a number we would almost have been prepared to swear we could not deal with – until we tried it and found we could. This has not been entirely possible within our existing buildings. We have been given the use of two rooms in the Army Instructional Centre and these are used by some of our 1st Year Forms: but since these children join the main body for Assembly, Games, Music, Clubs and practical subjects there can arise no feeling that they are with Queen's School but not of it. The numbers of Staff too have increased and during the year our new recruits have included Mrs Joslin, Mrs Davey, Miss Baxter, Miss Smith, Miss Hudson, Miss Worton, Mr Stephens and Mr Weatherhead. On the debit side we have lost the services of Miss Hardy, Miss Harner and Miss Knight. An old member of Staff also appeared in new guise, since Mr Chignell was appointed Deputy Headmaster.

Though not occurring in 1958 mention must be made here (since it occurred too late for inclusion in the last Log) of the Christmas play which was produced by the School in the Garrison Theatre. This was an outstanding performance, both for the beauty of the staging and costumes, and the singing. According to some, the Angels were particularly to be congratulated on a fine piece of acting, since their stage performance was so quite out of keeping with their character as known in school!

During the Spring Term we had our usual sporting fixture with Windsor School. On this occasion the venue was Hamm and the weather was shocking, with ice and a heavy and steady fall of snow. There was a feeling of considerable relief when the journey back by bus was safely completed. The weather was kinder when a party of boys taking the Technical course visited the Mannesmannrohren Steel Works in Dusseldorf, where they were received with great kindness and hospitality. This term too a school party organised an expedition to the Van Gogh Museum at Arnhem, while another went to Wuppertal Zoo. The Summer Term, as always, was a busy one. We had our usual Swimming Gala and Sports Day and once again entertained Windsor School for games. For the first time this was made a two-day fixture and this precedent was so popular and successful that it seems likely to become established.

Accommodation for our visitors for the night was kindly provided by the parents of our teams. Another event of note was the visit of almost 200 of our pupils to the Brussels Exhibition. This was our most ambitious expedition so far, but the results were well worth the effort though it did mean some tired heads and lighter pockets. The Summer Term of course also means public examinations, and while not content to rest on our oars we have every reason to be satisfied with our GCE results. In particular the two Distinctions which were gained at A Level by our Head Girl and Head Boy, Christine Parkinson and WHL Williams were a source of pride and pleasure. In this Term too we had our Speech Day which, unfortunately, because of wet weather, had to be held indoors – unfortunately, because of the size of our Assembly Hall is such that seats could not be provided for other than the guests, some parents and prize-winners. The Guests of Honour were Air Marshall Sir Humphrey and Lady Edward-Jones and the Address was well up to the high standard which we have learned to expect on these occasions.

During the year we have been honoured to receive visits from a number of distinguished guests. These have included General Sir Charles Loewen, the Adjutant-General, Major General Brocklehurst, GOC Rhine District, Major General Moore-Coulson, Director of Army Education, Air Vice-Marshal Kermode, Director of Educational Services of the RAF, Mr Howard, a member of thy Grigg Committee, and Sir Ifor Evans, Chairman of the Army Education Advisory Board.

Last, but by no means least, in this Log of the year's events one must chronicle a very happy and significant increase in the intellectual life of the school. Extra-curricular activities and clubs have increased rapidly. All these now take place outside school time and the keenness and enthusiasm shown have surprised everyone. There is particular pleasure too to be found in the efficient functioning of our CCF – now one year old and in the process of forming a new RAF section; and in the institution of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award which, though still preparing for the first award, will shortly be moving on to the second. It is hoped soon that we will be able to start the Award too for our girls. All these signs of the vitality one can feel in the school and give tangible proof of it. And they are also signs that though Queen's may be the most junior of the BFES schools it is maturing and growing up – fast.



*Queen's school badge  
1955-1987*



*Kent School badge  
1963-1987*



*Windsor School badge  
1987-2013*



*Staff football team 1958*



*Hockey Team*



*School trip to Berlin in front of Brandenburg Gate  
with the Berlin Wall in the background.*



*Netball Team*



*Pupils at Queen's School 1960*

# WINDSOR SCHOOL



Although the new Windsor opened in September 1987 both sites were retained with Years 7, 8 and 9 on the Queens site and Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form on the Kent site. Many staff and students had to travel in order to meet their timetable requirements. Windsor School remains in the same grounds and building as the former Queens School but has received upgrades to its building, such as an expansion of its West wing.

Options for Change (1991-1995) resulted in a reduction of Service personnel in BFG from 66,000 to 29,000, reducing the pupil population to approximately 10,000 of who 80% were primary.

In January 1993, after lengthy consultation, 'Schools for the Future 2' was published, providing four secondary schools to cater for BFG. Gloucester, King's, PRS and Windsor. The reduction in secondary provision and the closuschools in Berlin, Dortmund and Munster resulted in significant changes of staffing throughout the remaining secondary schools.

At its height Windsor School catered for over 1100 students from military and MOD civilian personnel. However, due to reductions in the British Army of the Rhine and related military drawdowns since, Windsor now caters for an average of 550 students. Students are a mix of daily pupils from the JHQ garrison, pupils bussed in from nearby MOD garrisons and weekly and termly boarders from AFNORTH, SHAPE, Ramstein plus a number of ISODETS being accommodated within the boarding houses. Initially three houses – Windsor, School and Chatham. Chatham House closed its doors to boarders in July 2006 due to falling rolls. The Chatham building was handed back to RSU in 2007.



In 1992 West Block was completed, adding two floors of classrooms and a Sixth Form Centre. It also became the highest part of the school. As a result of this build Kent School site at Hostert closed and was handed back to the German authorities in 1993. The new building was opened by HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief RAMC on 25th March 1992.

HRH The Princess Royal included a visit to Windsor School on 19th September 2006 as part of her JHQ programme. Whilst in the school she watched a group of sixth form students, under the direction of Head of Drama John Grant, perform a thought provoking play based on the impact of deployment on families and met representatives of the Afghan Appeal.



Chatham House, one of three boarding houses, was closed early in 2007. School House now catered for the juniors, Years 7, 8 & 9, and Windsor House for the seniors, Years 10, 11 and the Sixth Form.

Windsor School achieved a Silver Artsmark Award in May 2008 in recognition of the provision and opportunities available throughout the arts at the school. As a result of this increased focus on the arts a number of students were introduced to the Arts Awards Scheme. It developed rapidly in school with many successes, including one teacher who received SCE's first Gold Award.



Father Bill Boyd, padre to Queens and Windsor School for 36 years, retired in November 2008 at the age of 91. After celebrating his 90th birthday on JHQ with colleagues and friends from over the years, he started to think about retirement. His bishop finally persuaded him to take up an offer of a place at his order's retirement home back in the UK. Father Bill was a great supporter and friend of the school for many years. He always knew when someone needed a quiet word, a little time or words of advice.



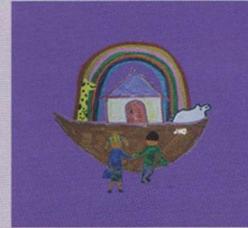
Windsor School achieved the Healthy Schools Award and the Green Flag Eco Award in July 2009. Staff and students were involved in both awards. The healthy dimension of the school was praised in the assessors report for the way in which health is very much part of the ethos of the school.



# ARK SCHOOL *By Mike Chislett*

Ark School opened in September 2010 and has served the children of JHQ during the final three years of the camp. Since St George's closure in 2011, Ark has been the only primary school here.

Ark was created from the facilities of St Andrews and St Patricks, which meant we were blessed with some of the best school grounds and equipment in BFG as well as lot of useful internal space. We have two halls, for example, as well as rooms for art, music, extended day care and so on.



The school inherited talented staff from its founder primary schools, as well as experienced early-years workers from Stepping Stones and Ladybirds. The name 'Ark' caused a little discussion at first, but we had wanted something that could incorporate aspects of the previous schools' identities and could serve as a metaphor for a vibrant and creative environment, while JHQ was pared away around us.

The school has been blessed with delightful children and supportive families, in a garrison context of encouragement and problem-solving. The three years has seen the school roll range from over 250 (through 2010 and 2011) to 136 in summer 2013. However, over 500 children have attended Ark School at some time or other during its three year life.

The staff and governing committee have set out to make sure that these children have received the best that SCE could offer and to ensure that memorable experiences would be enjoyed by all as lasting memories. These have been far too numerous to list, but the school's web-site ([www.ark.sceschools.com](http://www.ark.sceschools.com)) contains well over 100 memorable photo-galleries.

During our final term we are working hard with an artist-in-residence. All the children are involved in designing and making a sculpture with Melissa Cole, from UK. This stunning creation – all in metal – will feature in our closing celebration on Thursday 11th July 2013. Everyone with a connection to a JHQ primary school is welcome, past and present: so if you know any former pupils or parents out there – please let them know and ask them to get in touch.





## Ark Mark School Closure With A Sculpture

By Judith Wake

Last December, Wiltshire based Blacksmith Artist, Melissa Cole, came out to JHQ to talk to parents and pupils about JHQ and what the closure meant to them with the mission of offering expertise and advice on how to design and make a memorable sculpture to commemorate the impending closure of Ark School.

Together they came up with concept of a British post box with metal wands attached with a bird on the end of these – representing the pupils' migration, with the chance of some of the children re-gathering in another destination.

Altogether, hundreds of pictures of birds were designed by the pupils and 15 were selected to be sent to Melissa who chose 10 to actually make for the sculpture.

Recently, over a period of 9 days, pupils from 8 years upwards, under the supervision of 2 teachers, worked with Melissa on the forge to mould copper and steel into the shapes of birds' wings and bodies while the younger children took great delight in making wire birds, which they will eventually take home. Most of the materials were sourced from the cellars of Windsor School where they could have been lost forever after closure. This makes the project even more poignant. Students' parents were also offered artistic sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays when some made copper feathers and others worked with the forge.

There were very thorough health and safety conditions, with kids dressed in goggles and aprons, and the area was cordoned off during the actual hot anvil work.

Melissa has been a blacksmith for two decades and is a Bronze medallist with the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths. She takes commissions to make private sculptures but has also worked in schools for almost 20 years. She said that she was absolutely delighted to be helping with the project. "The teachers wanted me to give an educational experience using the forge and I wanted to involve the wider community. It was daunting really considering the short period of time we had. But I'm working with different age groups and I found that the younger ones were just as keen as the older students, including teenagers from Windsor School and from the local German Gesamtschule."

Head Teacher, Mike Chislett, was delighted that something so memorable and creative was being produced. He said, "From an educational point of view, we're trying to create something that the children will remember long after they have made it. They will remember the smell of the smoke, the thud of the metal and the creativity of the forge work. Who knows, they may get to see it again one day and be proud to say that they were involved in making it."

The school is running a children's competition to find a name for the sculpture, front runners so far are 'Posted!' and 'Birds of the Ark'; suggestions are flocking in.

On 11th July during Ark School Festival Day, the sculpture will be displayed for all to see before it's moved to Bielefeld and it will eventually end up back in the UK when all BFG Garrisons have closed.



**Melissa shows the pupils how it's done**



**Teachers, Ian Rowles and Sue Chislett with younger pupils making wire birds.**



**Melissa Cole moulding copper**



**Carefully crafted metal birds**

# Community

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Elmpt Civ (02163) 972752

## NEW OPENING TIMES



The Club is open on the first and third Tuesday  
of each month.

All members and future members are welcome.

If you are in the Rheindahlen area, why not pop  
in.

Further details from Peter (Chairman):-  
[tollesburyboy@msn.com](mailto:tollesburyboy@msn.com)



Time to spare on an evening?  
Why not try volunteering at the

## Javelin Youth Club

We are looking for all types of people to help out  
at various opening times and for various activities.

Contact Steve Cook on Mil x 4667 or Mob. 0173 887 3610  
Email [steven.cook596@land.mod.uk](mailto:steven.cook596@land.mod.uk)

## Tutors Wanted!

34 AEC and Elmpt ALC are looking for new  
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qualifications, just a willingness to teach  
others your skill/craft. If you would be  
prepared to put your skills into practice call  
into 34 AEC for an informal chat or call the  
PCDL Coordinator for more details.

JHQ Mil 72 3279 • Civ 02161 472 3279  
Email: [pcdl@34aec.detsa.co.uk](mailto:pcdl@34aec.detsa.co.uk)

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## How can I contact Relate?

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72 2826) or email us at [office.relatebfg@gmail.com](mailto:office.relatebfg@gmail.com)



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# Notice Board



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Small Animal Care

10 Reading Way, JHQ  
M11 4768  
Civil 02161 4724768  
[maddogmair@freenet.de](mailto:maddogmair@freenet.de)  
[www.bfgnet.de/Community/actf/actf.html](http://www.bfgnet.de/Community/actf/actf.html)

**Open until 31st August**

**JHQ Wives' Choir**  
Meet every Thursday  
in the Guide Hut  
(behind the British Legion)  
between 5 and 7pm  
Enthusiasm more important  
than ability, with no  
experience necessary  
If interested ring Jay on  
07816857797.



## The Lion's Head

10 Reading Way, JHQ  
(Behind the Rheindahlen Bowl)

### Opening Hours

Tuesday 13.00 -16.00  
Wednesday 16.00 -18.00  
Friday 11.00 -16.00

The facilities that are available are as follows:

- Fax and copying facilities (1)
- Scanning of documents (1)
- Assistance in writing important letters (1)
- Countersigning and official stamping of British Passport applications (2)
- Royal British Legion Membership Applications
- Applications for Veterans passes and badges (2)
- Welfare assistance
- Library Book Swap Scheme
- Assistance with British Pensions (1)
- Assistance with Injury claims
- Bookings for functions within the premises

**NOTES:**

- (1) Only where the facilities cannot be provided by the Military.
- (2) For Veterans only

Contact details for the Office are:  
Tel Civil Line: 02161 557346 (also Fax)  
Military: JHQ 2551  
Mobile: 01748919003

Both the above telephones have answering machines.  
When the Office is unmanned messages should be left with your telephone number and you will be contacted. Email: [RBLRheind@hotmail.com](mailto:RBLRheind@hotmail.com)

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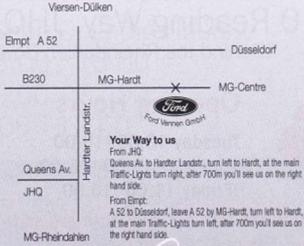


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Just go to [www.bfgnet.de](http://www.bfgnet.de) and click under 'Rhine' and 'publications'.

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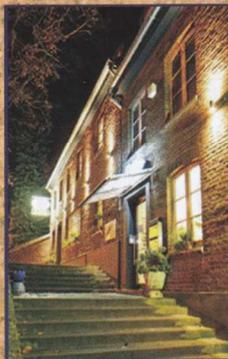


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# Rhine Garrison Clubs And Activities

## Youth Clubs

### AWS Javelin Youth Club

Steve Cook, 02163 97 4667  
Mon 1830-2100, Snr Youth Club - Sch Yrs 7+  
Tue 1730-1930, Jnr Youth Club - Sch Yrs 4-6  
Wed 1830-2100, Snr Youth Club - Sch Yrs 7+  
Thu 1730-1930, Jnr Youth Club - Sch Yrs 4-6

### AWS Rheindahlen Youth Club

Andy Williams, 02161 472 4483  
Mon - Boxing Yrs 4+, 1700-1900  
Snr Youth Club Yrs 7+, 1830-2100  
Tue - Jnr Youth Club Yrs 3-6, 1730-1930  
Wed - 1830-2100 Snr Youth Club Yrs 7+  
Thu - 1730-1930 Jnr Youth Club Yrs 4-6  
Fri - 1830-2100 Snr Youth Club Yrs 7+  
Sun Rock Music Workshop Yrs 4-6, 1300-1500,  
Yrs 7+, 1500-1700

### AWS Projects & Awards - Duke Of Edinburgh

Grant Davis, 02161 472 4009  
aws-projects@hotmail.co.uk  
Mon-Fri 1245-1345, Info Shop Windsors School  
Mon 1800-2000, Silver DoF - Yrs 10+  
Tue 1600 onwards Gold DoF - 16yrs +  
Wed 1800-2000 Bronze DoF - Yrs 9+  
Fri 1800-2200 Drop in - Yrs 10+  
Sat 1600-2200 Drop in - Yr 10+  
Mon to Fri 0900-1500 14-19 Partnership

## Home-Start

### Home-Start Rheindahlen

Claire Webber, 02161 472 3570  
First Steps Mon 0945-1130  
Bigger Darlings Thu 1315-1500  
Music, Mummies & Me Thu 1030-1500  
Little Darlings Wed 0945-1130

### Home-Start Elmpt

Julie Johnson 02163 972473  
Weigh Your Baby Mon-Fri 0930-1130  
Baby Talk Tue 0930-1130  
Winter Tea & Toast Wed 0930-1130  
Normal Drop In Mon, Thu & Fri 0930-1130

## Garrison Guiding

**1<sup>st</sup> Elmpt** - Maria Johnson, 02163 5722562  
Groups Meet Tue  
Rainbows 1600-1715, Girls 5-7 age  
Brownies 1745-1900, Girls 7-10 age

**Rheindahlen** - Max White, 02161 472 3748  
Groups Meet Mon  
4<sup>th</sup> Rainbows 1730-1830, Girls 5-7 age  
3<sup>rd</sup> Brownies 1730-1900, Girls 7-10 age  
1<sup>st</sup> Guides 1700-1830, Girls 10-14 age

## Garrison Scout Groups

P Worth, Chairman Rhine Garrison Scouts,  
02161 472 2589. Volunteers as helpers or  
leaders are required for all three locations.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Rheindahlen (RMC)

David Haigh, 02161 550824  
Groups Meet Mon, 1830-2000  
Cubs age 8-10 1/2, Scouts 10 1/2-14

### 1<sup>st</sup> Bruggen (Javelin)

Emma Dell, 02163 5725031  
Groups Meet Mon  
Beavers 1615-1730, Cubs 1745-1915

### 1<sup>st</sup> Nord Park (Ayrshire)

Tam Pearce, 02154 2647  
Fri - Scouts, Explorers 1730-1900

### ATC - Air Cadets

8 Overseas (Rheindahlen) Sqn, Lana Achilles,  
02161 472 2085 or 01713692561  
Mon & Thu 1830-2030, Age 13-18, Boys & Girls

## Sport

### Rheindahlen Youth Football Club

Simon Fuller 02161 472 2980  
ryfc@hotmail.co.uk

### Elmpt Station Youth FC

Sgt Ian Shaw, Work 02163 97 4514  
Home 02163 5714552  
16SR-ELJ-LAD-VRS@mod.uk  
Sat 1000-1130, Boys & Girls, Age 4-10

### Rheindahlen Sharks Swimming Club

Lt Col Andy Thorne, 02161 472 2088  
jhq.swimclub@googlemail.com  
Classes Wed, Between 1800-2000  
Rheindahlen Swimming Pool

### Ladies Netball, RMC

Mandy Jones 02434 20891,  
Debbie McEwan 02161 4722517  
Wed 1900-2030, No 1 Gym, RMC

### Mini Rhinos Rugby

Henry Dixon 01738 873607  
rheindahlenrugby@hotmail.co.uk  
Training: Sun 1030-1200, RMC Rugby Pitches,  
6+

### Rheindahlen Sub Aqua Club

Tue 1700-2100, The Blue Pool, JHQ  
Jnrs 4-16, Adults 16+ WO1 Keith Atkinson,  
02163 973076 elmptstn-swo@mod.uk

### Fitness Classes For Women - RMC

Ann-Tuck Brown, 02161 472 3603  
**Body Conditioning** No 1 Gym, All standards, Cost  
€4, Mon 1730-1830, Wed 1730-1900  
**Spinning** RMC Fitness Centre, Thu 1700-1800

### Harmonise Me Fitness

Emma, 0171 3821736  
Facebook: Harmonise Me Fitness

### Javelin, Dancercise Classes

Wed 0930-1030, Elmpt Gymnasium

### West Rhine Golf Club

www.westrhinegc.co.uk 02163 97 4463  
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www.bsailinbclub.co.uk - Visit website for info.

### Rheindahlen Karate Club

Sarah Parkin  
02161 4763314, smparkin@msn.com  
Mon & Wed, 1800-1930,  
Windsor School Gym, JHQ, 8+

### Rhine Garrison Angling Club

Rob Tuck-Brown 02161 472 4731  
Fishing Lake, Javelin Barracks

### Hash House Harriers Running Club

Maj Mike Hepburn, 02161 472 4624  
mike.hepburn513@mod.uk  
Facebook: Rheindahlen Hash House  
(Winter Season Times) Running Mon 1800  
NAAFI JHQ, Car Park, All standards

### RMC Fitness Classes

WO2 (QMSI) Rowan Mills  
**RMC Fitness Centre**  
**Spinning Classes** - Mon & Fri 0710-0750,  
Mon-Thu 1800-1845, Fri 1245-1345  
**No 1 Gym**  
**Circuit Training** - Mon, Tue & Thu 1215-1300

### Elmpt Ladies Circuits

- 02163 973083  
Wed, 1830-1930, Elmpt Station Gymnasium  
Liability Insurance & Induction required

**Rheindahlen & Elmpt Shooting Club** - Steve Slater  
02161 472 2231, www.resclub.de

## Other

### JHQ Military Wives Choir

Jay Joyce 07815867797  
Thursday 1700-1900,  
Guide Hut behind the British Legion

### Slimming World

Stephanie Johns, 02432 892357  
Tue 1715 onwards, Cassels House,  
Cumberland Lounge, JHQ.

### Combined Amateur Theatrical Society (CATS)

Judith Wake, 02161 472 4789  
judithwake@hotmail.de, Little Theatre, RMC  
Club Night Tue (Term Times), 1930 onwards

### JHQ Ceramic Club

Thursday evenings 19.00 - 21.00 hrs. 0151  
17049611, rsu-qm-dgsa-do@mood.uk  
€10 a month

### Rheindahlen Music Centre

Frank Gillett, 02161 472 2837  
www.rheindahlenmusiccentre.org  
Weekly Music Lessons, and Sat Music School

### Elmpt Station Music Club

Malcolm Littlefair, 02161 472 2954  
Club Nights Tue & Thu, 1900-2100, Old Air  
Traffic Control Building, Javelin Barracks

### Javelin Motor Club

WO2 Das Pullman 02163 974808  
Mike Vince 0172 3907956  
South side of javelin Airfield

### RMC Motor Club

WO2 Phil Guest, 02161 472 4255

### Rheindahlen War Games Club

Adrian Russell - 02161 472 4218  
adrian.russell@scschoools.com  
1830-Late, Age 12+, (Under 12s with adult)

### Bingo

**Javelin Bistro** - Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thu, Eyes Down 2030

**JHQ Royal British Legion** - 02161 3086071

Wed 1900-2200, The Lion's Head

### Quilting Club

Karin Clark 02161 660744

### Parentcraft & Antenatal

Rhine Midwifery Team 02161 4722968

**If you are planning on closing your club, please contact Major Mir Zaman for guidelines either by email at [RSU-HQ-OC@mod.uk](mailto:RSU-HQ-OC@mod.uk) or phone him on 02161472 2762**

**If your club is struggling and you need volunteers, then you can get the Garrison's support. Just email [RSU-HQ-GIO@mod.uk](mailto:RSU-HQ-GIO@mod.uk) or phone 02161 4724789**

# Garrison Telephone Numbers

## Elmpt Station Telephone Numbers Javelin Barracks

Codes: Civ +49 (0) 2163 97 + ext  
or mil 948 68 + ext unless full number is given

### FIRE & MEDICAL

Elmpt **Emergency - 4444**  
Elmpt Civ 02163 97 4444  
Enquiries 4319  
Station Fire Officer 3149

### POLICE

RMP **Emergency - 2222**  
Enquiries 2653  
German Police 110 (German Freephone)  
BFG Crimeline 0800 184 2222

### HEALTH

Elmpt Medical Centre 2600  
Rehabilitation Facility (Physio) 2388  
Elmpt Dental Centre 2524  
Germany Hospital Hot Line\*  
(German Freephone) 0800 588 9936

### HOUSING

Estate Managers Javelin 2496/2729  
Housing Office Admin Clerk 2530/2613  
Dog Registration 2541

### WELFARE

1MI UW0 2227  
16 Sig Regt UW0 3759  
ABF – Soldiers' Charity  
abfgermany@hotmail.com  
Army Family Federation 0174 494 6209  
Community Charity Fund (CCF) JHQ 2488  
rsu-welfare-om@mod.uk  
Forces Children's Trust JHQ 3377  
Mob. 01738953511  
eddiedevine@hotmail.com  
Home Start Elmpt 2473  
Relate BFG JHQ 2826  
office.relatebfg@gmail.com  
Royal British Legion 02161 3086071  
Mob. 0174 8919003  
WRVS 02163 97 2668

### EMPLOYMENT

RALSU Tues/Thurs Am 2723/228  
(At other times Contact JHQ 2306/4281/3253)  
Dependant Employee Council JHQ 3603

### EDUCATION

Army Education Centre 2460  
Brüggen School 2681  
Cheeky Monkeys Toddler Group 2232  
Noahs Ark Nursery 2430  
14-19 Partnership  
Weds - Elmpt 02163 973366  
Mon/Tues, Thurs/Fri - JHQ 02161 4952576  
Vocational Training Services (VTS)JHQ 4086

### INFORMATION & MEDIA

Elmpt Information Officer 3635  
BFBS Radio 02161 9010614  
01725 83 2596  
BFBS TV 02161 9010658  
Sixth Sense Newspaper JHQ 4006  
news@sixth-sense-newspaper.de  
Elmpt Library 3331  
HIVE Elmpt Elmpt 3183

### MAINTENANCE

Babcocks Technical Service Centre  
0800 888 4242 (German Freephone)  
http://bssghelp.babcock.co.uk  
Javelin Refuse Depot 4613  
Mon-Fri 0800-1700

### YOUTH SERVICES

Elmpt Youth Centre 4667  
AWS Awards And Projects JHQ 4009

### CHAPLAINS & CHURCHES

Chaplaincy Centre Elmpt 4410  
Mob. 01722068906  
St Nicholas - CofE 2516  
St Boniface Catholic 2518

### LEISURE & FITNESS

Elmpt Strn Gymnasium 3083  
Bowling Alley 2402  
Golf Club 4463/2226

### SHOPPING

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BFG VLO Helpline JHQ 4100  
Elmpt Tax Free Car Sales 02163 5768833  
Mob. 0031652303151  
Fuel Coupons 3661/3379  
NAAFI Car Sales Elmpt 02163 5711241

### MESSES & ENTERTAINMENT

Bistro 02163 5751954  
Officers' Mess 4372  
JB's Javelin 2537  
Shannon's Bar 02163 81882  
Wall & Willow 4474  
WOs' & Sgts' Mess 4369

### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND INSURANCE

Cashier 3661  
Tax Free Services (Mwst) 2282  
George Bull Insurance AXA 02163 81358  
0160 1137198

### PETS

Dog Registration 2541

### SERVICES LIAISON OFFICE

Services Liaison Officer JHQ 4683  
Liaison Assistant JHQ 4684  
Liaison Clerks JHQ 4685/4686  
Fax JHQ 4505

### SSAFA Forces Help

SSAFA Confidential Support Line 0800 182 7395 (Freephone)  
SSAFA BFG Social Work Services 02161 472 4751  
SSAFA Victim Support 05251 1809340

**For Clubs and  
Activities Info  
see p. 61**

\*If you or a member of your family needs to go to hospital in an emergency anywhere in Germany,  
this Hospital Helpline is open 24 hrs a day and will liaise with the hospital on your behalf – DON'T GET STUCK WITHOUT IT.

Call 112 or military line 4444, the National Emergency for an Ambulance.  
If you call outside of these hours, you will either be diverted or given another number to contact.

**If your number is missing or incorrect or you have any queries please let us know.  
Tel: 02161 472 4789 (GIO)**

# Garrison Telephone Numbers

## Rheindahlen Military Complex (RMC) Numbers

Codes: Civ +49 (0) 2161 472 + ext  
or mil 948 72 + ext unless full number is given

### FIRE & MEDICAL

**Emergency - 4444**  
JHQ Civ 02161 472 4444  
Enquiries 2345

### POLICE

**Emergency - 2222**  
RMP 4000/2333  
Enquiries 4000/2333  
German Police 110 (German Freephone)  
BFG Crimeline 0800 184 2222  
Detention Rooms/RSF 2082

### HEALTH

Dental Centre Elmpt 2524  
Medical Centre 2969  
Rehabilitation Facility (Physio) Elmpt 2388  
Germany Hospital Hot Line\*  
(German Freephone) 0800 588 9936

### HOUSING

Estate Managers:  
North 1 - CSgt C Leinster x 4498  
North 2 - Sgt I Blythe x 4498  
Central 1 - WO2 C Hill x 3022  
Central 2 - WO1 M Parkin x 3446  
South 1 - D Thompson x 3022

**\*\* BOOK YOUR PRE-MARCH OUT \*\***

**WITH YOUR ESTATE MANAGER  
USING THE NUMBERS ABOVE.**

**THEY WILL THEN DIRECT YOU  
THROUGH THE PROCESS**

Housing & Community Officer 2390  
Housing Admin Office 4771/2425

### WELFARE

ABF - Soldiers' Charity  
abfgermany@hotmail.com  
Army Family Federation 0174 494 6209  
rhine@affgermany.org  
Army Welfare Service Office Mgr  
3603 / aws-bfg-bsm-rhine@mod.uk  
Community Charity Fund (CCF) 2488  
rsu-welfare-om@mod.uk  
Forces Children's Trust 3377  
Mob. 01738953511/eddiedevine@hotmail.com  
Home Start 3570  
Relate BFG 2826  
office.relatebfg@gmail.com

Royal British Legion 02161 3086071  
Mob. 0174 8919003  
RSU Pass & Permits 2098  
RSU Welfare Office 2488/4268  
WRVS 02163 97 2668

### EMPLOYMENT

RALSU 4281/3253  
Dependant Employee Council 3603

### EDUCATION

34 AEC 3303  
Ark School Green Site 3151  
Blue Site 2344  
Rheindahlen Childcare Centre 4069  
Windsor School 2466  
14-19 Partnership  
Weds - Elmpt 02163 973366  
Mon/Tues, Thurs/Fri - JHQ 02161 4952576  
Vocational Training Services (VTS) 4086

### SHOPPING

NAAFI Max 02161  
901110/801112  
SSVC 02161 955975  
Post Office Counter 2475

### INFORMATION & MEDIA

Garrison Information Office (GIO) & Bulletin  
Magazine 4789 or teambulletinads@yahoo.  
com  
BFBS Radio 02161 9010614  
Mob. 01725832596  
BFBS TV 02161 9010658  
Sixth Sense Newspaper 4006  
news@sixth-sense-newspaper.de  
Library 2616  
HIVE - 09.00-14.00 2519  
www.bfgnet.de/hive-europe/Rheindahlen.htm

### YOUTH SERVICES

Rheindahlen Youth Centre 4483  
Awards and Projects 4009

### CHAPLAINS & CHURCHES

Chaplaincy Centre COE - Mob.  
01722585468  
Roman Catholic Church - Mob  
01735112080

### LEISURE & FITNESS

Fitness Centre 4731  
Globe Cinema 2146 or 02161 559518

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

Marianne's Hair Salon (Cassels) 550550

### MOTORING

BFG Vehicle Documentation 2934  
BFG Test Booking Line Elmpt 2300  
BFG VLO Helpline JHQ 4100  
Fuel Coupons 2908  
NAAFI Car Sales JHQ 562960  
JHQ Tax Free Car Sales 8287343  
jhqtaxfree@yahoo.co.uk

### MAINTENANCE

Babcocks Technical Service Centre  
0800 888 4242 (German Freephone)  
http://bssghelp.babcock.co.uk  
Refuse Depot Mon-Thur 0730-1600  
Fri 0730-12

### FINANCIAL SERVICES & INSURANCE

Cashier/Tax Free Services (Mwst) 2832  
Culpeck Insurance 02161 559655  
O'Girke Insurance 02161 55317  
Head Office: 02941 96720

### MESSES & ENTERTAINMENT

Sanctuary Café 559684  
Cassels House 2183  
Churchill Officers' Mess (Reception) 4297  
(Accounts) 4251  
Encounters (For hire - contact JB's)  
JB's Restaurant 4408  
No 4 Civilian Staff Club 3544  
mel.goodall651@mod.uk  
Rheindahlen Rooms 4187  
RMC WOs' & Sgts (Reception) 4048  
(Mess Manager) 6174

### PETS

Dog Registration 2499  
Rhine Garrison Animal Care & Training Facility  
4768 or maddogmair@yahoo.com

#### SSAFA Forces Help

SSAFA Confidential Support Line 0800 182 7395 (Freephone)  
SSAFA BFG Social Work Services 02161 472 4751  
SSAFA Victim Support JHQ Mil 2272

**For Clubs and  
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Goodbye JHQ

Lebewohl