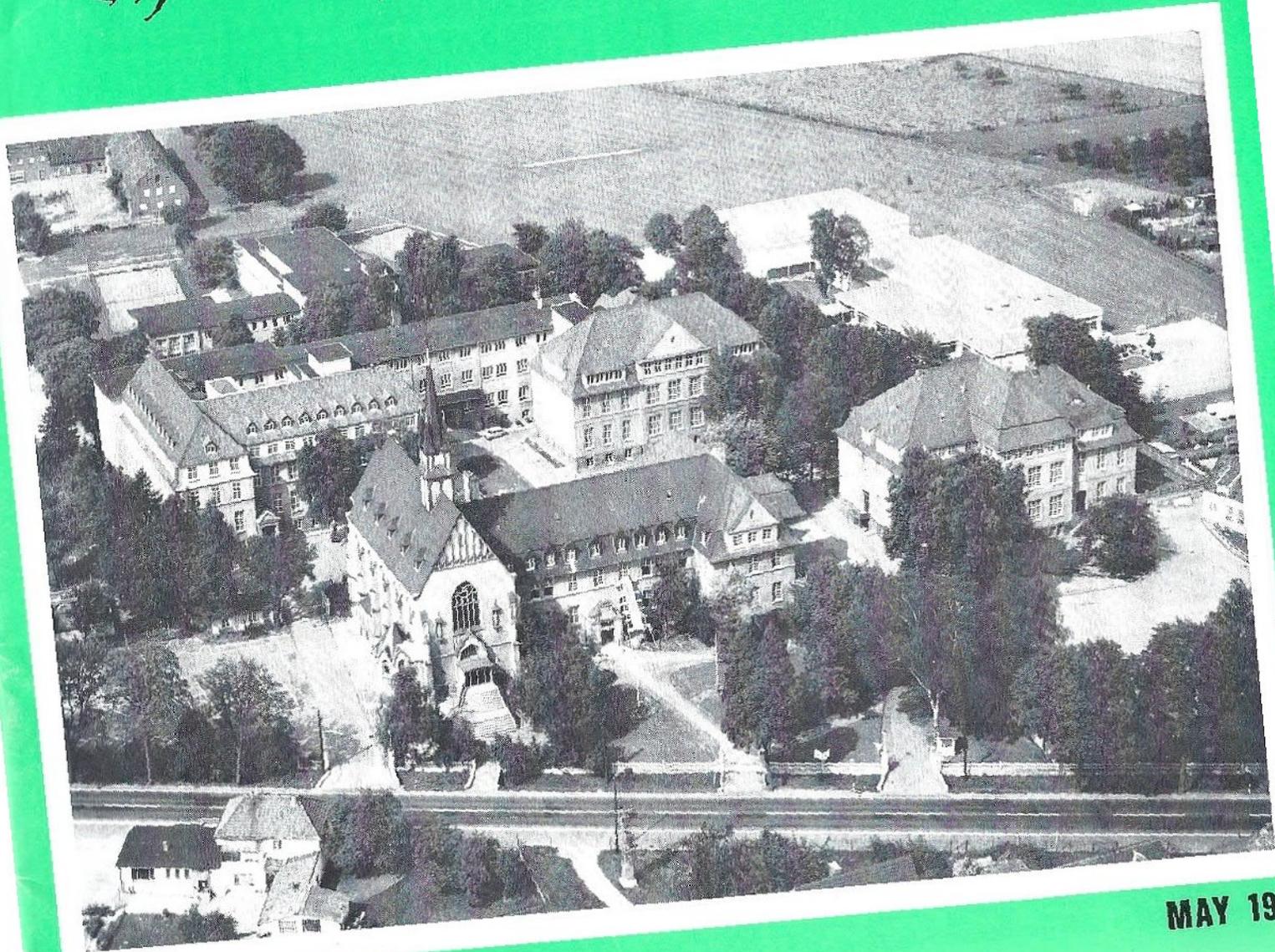
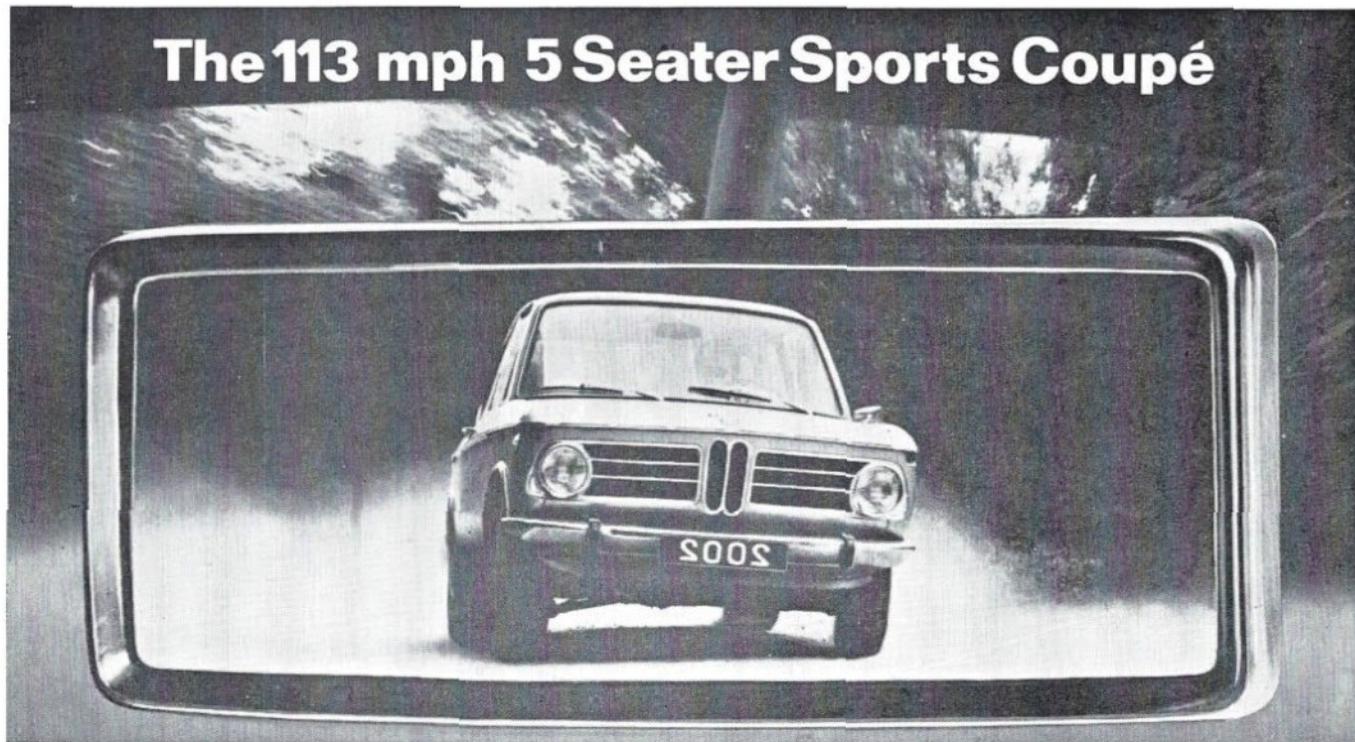


# The Rheindahlen Bulletin



MAY 197

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# Editorial

May is traditionally 'the merry month' and we hope that this edition of the Bulletin will do nothing to dispel the image — despite the fact that we must regretfully say 'Goodbye' to Mrs. Shirley Ball who has been Editor of the magazine for nearly a year.

During that time she has worked tremendously hard both to produce an acceptable piece of journalism and to meet a deadline each month. This in itself is quite a feat and we would like to take this opportunity of saying 'Thankyou' for all she has done and hope she will enjoy a well earned rest for the last few months of her tour.

One of the major headaches for the editorial staff has always been the lack of contributors. There are many critics but few producers! We think there must be lots of unknown talent at JHQ. So with May bringing the lighter, longer evenings — take a photograph,



Shirley Ball shows 'finer points' to the new editors.

Photo by RAFG PR

create a poem, sketch a picture or write an interesting article. It is often said that everyone has a book in them — we don't ask for a book just a short feature — fact or fiction, particularly if it is humorous. We will consider it for future publications.

The article, page 2 of this issue, on the buildings at Hostert in which Kent School is presently housed, recounts much of their history and will be of interest to many readers.

CO-EDITORS: Mrs. B. Jones (Ext 4696), Mrs. N. Bailiff.

EDITORIAL STAFF: Mrs. R. Grafton.

BUSINESS MANAGER: Major A. N. Paul (Ext 2985).<sup>FW</sup>

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MAGAZINE MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE 10th MAY FOR THE JUNE EDITION. They should be sent to the Editor, Rheindahlen Bulletin, RAF Rheindahlen, BFPO 40.

The material in this magazine is copyright reserved and should not be reproduced without permission.  
Front Cover: An aerial view of Kent School, Hostert.

SERVICE ADVISORS TO THE EDITORS: Sqn. Ldr. D. Headland (Ext 4748), Major J. Evans (Ext 3279)

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Herr Thiel (Ext 2934)

PRINTER: Fritz Ecken, 4056 Schwalmthal 1

# THE HISTORY OF HOSTERT



Our front cover this month depicts an aerial view of Kent School, Hostert. The history of Hostert is well worth recording. Some of the details of it's past, particularly during the Second World War, are vague, but the rest of the story is an interesting one.

Soon after the turn of the century the villagers of Hostert began collecting money for the purpose of building their own parish church and thus avoiding the long trek to either Waldniel or Hardt to attend Mass. A wealthy local family by the name of Wix having no heirs, wished to leave their fortune to some good cause, but it was not until 1909 when representatives of a Franciscan Community in Cologne visited Hostert with a view to setting up a home for mentally retarded and handicapped boys, that a solution to the problem was found. The Wix family fortune and the contributions of the villagers would provide the land and initial buildings for the Home, on the condition that the local inhabitants be allowed to attend Mass in the Home's chapel.

When in March 1909, two Franciscan Monks travelled to Hostert, they found little more than a building for the institution. Nothing was ready and only after much hard work were the first pupils able to be received early in 1910. These were from Düsseldorf but later pupils came from Cologne and other towns until the numbers reached 50. The original building was on the opposite side of the road to the present site and still exists. This building, which also housed a small chapel, was found to be too small and in 1911 the construction of the new St. Josefsheim, the present school, was undertaken. The work was completed in 1913.

The Home did well, giving the boys (those who were sufficiently able) a high standard of ability in various trades and enabling some of them to return to their homes and to a normal life. It became almost entirely self-supporting having its own farm, bakery, weaving mill, shoemaker's shop, carpenter's shop etc.

Run by the monks with the assistance of the boys, the work of the Home continued through the 1914-1918 War although part of the building was used as a Military Hospital.

With the advent of the Nazi regime in Germany, the monks, in common with members of other religious denominations, began to be severely persecuted. Firstly there were trumped-up charges accusing them of smuggling, followed by many other charges of a like and a more serious nature. The punishment meted out was in the form of fines and these were made so heavy that there was no possibility of the monks being able to pay. In 1936, St. Josefsheim was taken over by the regime and many of the boys were taken away and put to death under the practice of euthanasia. Several of the monks were arrested and sent to prison.

As a result of the monks' inability to pay the fines, the community was, in January, 1937, publicly declared bankrupt. An inventory was then taken of the entire effects of the Home and chapel in order to meet the so-called debts. All was sold to the State for the sum of DM 600,000 when the real value was over DM 2,000,000. By May no monks were left and from then onwards the Home was run by the State for the same purpose, handicapped children.

Very little evidence remains of the monks' presence at Hostert. What is now the car park, on the left of the chapel as one enters the school grounds, was once a beautiful grotto built by one of the monks from any pieces of scrap material he could adapt for his purpose. The same monk, with the help of a painter from Düsseldorf, was responsible for the decorations of the chapel in 1934. This latter work still remains, a beautiful legacy of, and a testimony to, the monk's skill and art. The grotto was destroyed by the Nazis in 1938.

For a short period in 1943 the buildings were used to house refugees from bomb attacks. Later in the same year retarded girls lived there.

In May 1945, the Americans took control of the buildings and through the good offices of the Roman Catholic chaplain, Padre Talbot, it was again used for a few months as a school for children of the neighbourhood whose own schools had been destroyed in the bombing.

Then followed a period in which the buildings were used as a remand home or approved school for girls in need of moral care and protection. This lasted up to about 1950. In the same year, another Catholic charitable foundation, the Caritasverein, used the school as a home for boys. During this period the local inhabitants were not allowed to use the chapel for their services.

In May 1952, the buildings were officially handed back to the *Franciscan Monks, the rightful owners, and the event was most joyfully celebrated with a High Mass and other festivities.* Having no funds to pay for the many alterations which needed to be carried out, the monks sold the buildings and land to the government from whom the British Military authorities leased them for use as a Military Hospital. This was in 1953. Many of today's pupils at Kent School were born at BMH Hostert as it was called – an unusual coincidence.

It was eventually decided to close Hostert as a hospital as the newly built RAF Wegberg Hospital was now able to cope with both Army and RAF personnel and their families, in the area. Renovations took place and Kent School came into being in September 1963 with little more than 180 pupils on the first day of term. However it was destined to grow rapidly and today has nearly 1,300 pupils aged between 11 & 20 and a teaching staff of over 80.

New gymnasiums and dining halls were completed in Sept 1969. Reconstruction work continues to this day with renovations to the building adjacent to the chapel as a Teachers' Mess. Continued enlargement and success in the future is foreseen. We hope that this will be the most successful part of the History of Hostert.

# Good Gardening in May

"The bees are glad the livelong day,  
For lilacs in their beauty blow  
And make my garden glad and gay.  
The bees are glad the livelong day,  
They to my blossoms wing their way,  
And honey steal from flowers aglow.  
The bees are glad the livelong day,  
For lilacs in their beauty blow."

Dylan Thomas.

Not only is it lilac time, for many flowering shrubs including laburnum are in blossom. If you failed to note last year, the importance of having flowering shrubs in your garden and subsequently did not plant; well then do so this year and for many seasons to come you will enjoy the beauty and scent of lilac and the glory of laburnum.

Up to the very end of May be on the lookout for frosts, give protection to anything which is not hardy, and replace losses by fresh sowings.

From the beginning of May, green vegetables should be transplanted. French, runner beans and cucumbers should not be put out before about 12th May. Tomato plants may be transplanted towards end of the month. Pinch out tips of broad beans soon after the flowers have come.

In May, generally after the second week, many plants may be transplanted to places where they are to bloom; as a guide, some of the popular ones are begonia (all varieties) to be planted

in a shady place if possible. The following like a sunny position: alyssum, ageratum, asters, lobelia, stocks, salvia, marigolds and zinnias. Geraniums and fuschias like a protected place with limited sun.

Dahlia tubers or cuttings may be planted. So that you may have a continuous supply of gladioli blooms, sow a few bulbs every 2 or 3 weeks from now onwards.

Plant our Early Chrysanthemums about 2nd week in May and nip out the tops at end of month.

Prune early-flowering shrubs as they cease to bloom. Trim back rock plants that have finished flowering.

May is the time for lupins, and if you remove the flowers before they turn into seed pods, the plants will flower again later in the year. In order to grow large bushy plants with plenty of blooms, nip out the centre from plants such as the marigold, antirrhinum, salvia etc.

Watch out for aphids on your fruit trees, caterpillars on fruit bushes, and spray with derris powder or a suitable insecticide. Parts of trees or bushes which are badly affected by pest or disease, should always be removed and burned.

At the Garrison Nursery, there will be plenty of bedding plants, green vegetables and tomato plants for your garden. Sprays, insecticides, garden lime, nitrophosphate and many other garden requisites will also be on sale. Visit the Garrison Nursery, Snyders Road, (Tel MG Civil 58124) which is open during working hours and on Saturday morning between 0900 and 1200 hrs, for sale of all of these things which will help to keep your garden glad and gay.

Until June Goodbye and Good Gardening.

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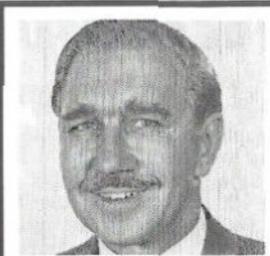


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# NAAFI NOTE BOOK



BY  
DOUGLAS McBIRNIE

## CAMPING DISPLAY

An eight day camping display will be staged by NAAFI on the playing fields behind the main car park at the rear of the JHQ shop, starting on Saturday, 6 May. The complete range of tents, camping equipment and garden furniture will be on show in NAAFI's largest marquee and customers will be able to examine, at their leisure, the different types of holiday tents on display. NAAFI staff will be on hand to explain and demonstrate and stocks will be available for immediate purchases. Needless to say, instalment credit facilities will be available on the spot.

The camping display will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. throughout the week and from midday until 6 p.m. on Sunday 7th May.

## FASHION JEWELRY

The display of costume jewellery in the gifts section of the shopping centre is arousing a considerable amount of customer interest. This is a new venture for NAAFI, undertaken in co-operation with Corocraft, a well-known British fashion jewellery firm, and sales indicate that we have found yet another way of increasing sales! Corocraft replenish the stocks on a fortnightly basis, providing an ever changing variety of inexpensive fashion jewellery for customer selection.

## MORE HI-FI

Hi-fi enthusiasts will have been quick to note the dramatic extension of our range and the extremely competitive prices being charged for amplifiers, tuners, pick-ups, tape-recorders, loud speakers, earphones etc. from the leading manufacturers of top quality hi-fi equipment Akai, Sony, Dual, Garrard, Bang & Olufsen, Tanberg, Sonics, Pioneer and, of course, Philips, Eindhoven, are all represented and Mr. Heinz Thompson, our audio specialist, is there to demonstrate to potential customers.

## 4711 DEMONSTRATION

The famous firm of 4711, Cologne, will be represented in the NAAFI Fashions department from Tuesday 2 May until Saturday 6 May when a 4711 beauty consultant will be on hand. She will be giving free beauty consultations and practically the whole range of 4711 products will be available. There will be some free samples given away to interested customers.

## DRY-CLEANING SERVICE

Now is the time to sort out your winter clothes and have them dry-cleaned in readiness for Summer storage. The NAAFI dry-cleaning shop adjacent to Cassels House in Trenchard Road provides an inexpensive and speedy service. Mrs. P. Yates, who runs this NAAFI service, can usually take your clothing in the morning, process the dry-cleaning and have them ready for you the same day. Occasionally an extra heavy rush of business prevents a one day service but this is comparatively rare. It costs just DM 7.50 for a full 8 lb load. Pressing facilities are not available.



C. in C.'s Certificates for 25 year's service with the British Forces, Germany were presented to Herr "Harry" Diekmeier, the popular head-waiter at the United Services Officers' Club, and FrI Hildegard Goretzka, a member of the Club's clerical staff, by Mr. Clive Hall, NAAFI catering manager at a ceremony held at the Club last month. Left to right: FrI Goretzka, Mr. Hall, Herr Diekmeier, Frau Diekmeier.

# CAMPING WITH NAAFI '72

Now in all Naafi shops. The 1972 camping catalogue shows the entire range of tents, camping equipment and accessories in full colour for your easy selection.

- orders can be placed at any Naafi shop
- dividend and discount terms apply
- instalment credit terms available
- bonus dividend certificates can be used
- purchases by units and messes are subject to full unit discount rates

## CAMPING DISPLAYS

The full range of tents and equipment will be displayed at JHQ Rheindahlen from Saturday 6 to Saturday 13 May; near the Naafi shopping centre.



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or see Mr Banthorpe outside the main NAAFI JHQ  
 every afternoon.

*Personality of the Month*



Photo by BAOR PR

**SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE, YWCA**

There can be few people who live or work in Rheindahlen who haven't — at one time or another — visited the well-stocked YWCA bookshop in the main shopping centre.

With an office behind the scenes, but very much to the forefront in ensuring the smooth running of the bookshop and its next-door twin, the stationery shop, is the Senior Representative of the YWCA in Rheindahlen, Mrs Margaret Johnston.

Mrs Johnston, who formerly lived in Rye, Sussex, is one of Rheindahlen's more permanent residents, having come here in July 1965 as a YWCA assistant. She took over her present responsibilities eighteen months later, and has been here ever since.

She is assisted by a nucleus of United Kingdom-based YWCA contract staff, who not only head the various departments of the shop, but include the manageress of the neighbouring YWCA canteen.

Mrs Johnston applies to her work the tact she learnt as the manageress of a bookshop in St Leonard's, Sussex, before coming to Germany. And tact is often called for, not only when the day's papers fail to arrive — the causes of that are usually clear — but more often when customers' favourite magazines fail to put in an appearance due to hidden causes such as obscure strikes or unexplained postal delays.

Every effort, therefore, is made by Mrs Johnston and her staff to ensure that her customers are kept as fully informed as possible.

Off-duty, Mrs Johnston has taken up golf since coming to Rheindahlen, and is a member of the Bruggen Golf Club.

"I'd rather not reveal my handicap, though", she said. "I just play for pleasure."

Footnote: Customers may wonder why Mrs Johnston and her YWCA assistants wear the letters 'C.V.W.W.' on the shoulders of their grey uniforms. They stand for "Council of Voluntary Welfare Work" — the governing body of most welfare organisations within BAOR through which the YWCA is linked with the YMCA, the Salvation Army, Toc-H and the Church Army.

## GERMAN TRAFFIC ORDINANCE (1971)

1. The attention of all road users is drawn to the following changes in the German Traffic Ordinance 1971 relating to halting and parking.

### HALTING

2. The round sign with a red border on a blue background, with a red diagonal, means "limited prohibition to stop". It prohibits stopping on the carriageway, except to allow passengers to board a vehicle, or alight from it; or load/unload a vehicle. Loading/unloading must be carried out without delay. Note that:

- a. Any voluntary stopping for more than three minutes constitutes parking.
- b. A vehicle which has been left unattended is deemed to be parked.

3. A similar sign with two red, crossing diagonals, means "no halting - no parking".

4. The priority sign (yellow diamond) prohibits parking on the carriage way outside a built up area.

### PARKING

5. Parking is also prohibited:

- a. 10 m before traffic lights, and the signs "give right of way" and "stop".
- b. Before and beyond the rail crossing sign (St Andrew's Cross):

- (1) 5 m within a built up area
- (2) up to 50 m outside a built up area.

6. Halting, or parking, in the second row (double parking), and using warning flashers is prohibited, and is punishable by a fine.

## PHILATELIC NEWS

### DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST ISSUES

#### EUROPA STAMPS 1972

The Europa Stamps 1972 valued at 25 Pf and 30 Pf, the design having been made available from Finland by the Conference of European Postal & Telecommunications Administrations Secretariat, is to be used for the joint issue. The common date of issue will be 2 May 1972.

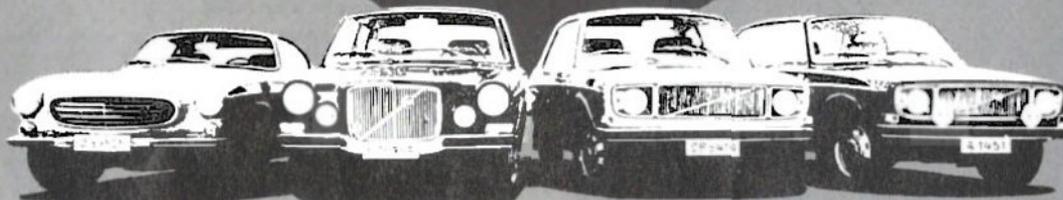
#### "LUCAS CRANACH" Commemorative Stamp

To mark the 500th Anniversary of the birth of the painter Lucas Cranach, a commemorative stamp valued at 25 Pf will be issued on the 18 May 1972.

#### EXHIBITIONS - 26th LANDESVERBANDSTAGE BIELEFELD

- a. Venue -  
OETKER HALLE BIELEFELD  
11 - 14 May 1972.  
An International Philatelic Exhibition and Exchange week-end.
- b. Opening Times  
1100 - 1800 hrs - 11 May  
0900 - 1800 hrs - 12 - 14 May

# TOUGH CARS



# VOLVO

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Our photograph shows the General inspecting the Guard of Honour.  
Photo by BAOR PR

General Ulrich de Maiziere, Inspector General of the German Armed Forces, will have a silver cigarette box to remind him of his connection with the British Forces in Germany.

General de Maiziere was presented with the cigarette box when he paid a pre-retirement visit to the Headquarters of the British Forces in Germany. He was welcomed at Rheindahlen by General Sir Peter Hunt and Air Marshal Sir Harold Martin. In addition to the Guard of Honour, which was provided by the 1st Battalion, The Welsh Guards, and the Royal Air Force, the bands of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment, and the Royal Air Force Germany, were in attendance.

#### ANGLO-GERMAN POLICE WINE AND CHEESE PARTY



Left to right: Hauptkommissar Huesgen RSM E. A. Jones & Hauptkommissar Krull.  
Photo by BAOR PR

# RHEINDAHLEN

AS GOOD COOKS GO . . .



Photo by BAOR PR

The Army Catering Corps team from Headquarters 1 Division and Signal Regiment won the BAOR 1972 Cookery Competition, while Corporal T. J. Reddings, ACC (23), attached to QR1H, distinguished himself again by winning the advanced Individual Competition.

Runners up were the team from 4 Field Workshops, REME, and Corporal N. G. Larke, attached to the HQ 1 Div and Sig Regt, respectively.

In the special section for hospitals the team from BMH Iserlohn won for the second year running.

Five teams took part in the finals, which were held in Queen's Lower School, Rheindahlen from 5th to 7th April, 1 RTR, HQ 1 Div & Sig Regt, 16 Sig Regt, 1 DERR and 4 Fd Wksp REME.

The final culinary battle began at seven o'clock on Friday morning 7th April in a mouth-watering menu set by the organisers. Judges included Brigadier H. A. Decker, Director Army Catering Corps and Mr. Harry Salmon, Honorary Catering Adviser to the Army.

Prizes were presented by the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Peter Hunt, KCB, DSO, OBE.

The Team Prize Winners were: — L-R Sergeant C. Austin, Corporal B. Wright, Lance Corporal R. Hanigan, all of HQ 1 Div & Sig Regt.

<

The close co-operation which exists in the field of work between the Mönchengladbach Police and the British Royal Military Police at Rheindahlen was strengthened socially when Senior Police Officers from the City were entertained to a Wine and Cheese Party by their British counterparts.

Held in the Royal Police Sergeant's Mess in Rheindahlen Garrison, the party was attended by Polizeidirektor A. Claasen, Schutzpolizeidirektor Hörr and Kriminalpolizeidirektor Hartmann and other Police officials and their ladies. Among the British present was the Provost Marshal, British Army of the Rhine, Colonel D. B. Rendell.

# ROUNDAABOUT

## 23 REGIMENT SAY 'GOODBYE' TO MRS. COX

A farewell for Mrs. Betty Cox from the Headquarters staff of 23 Rgt. Royal Corps of Transport, at Ayrshire Barracks, Mönchengladbach, when she left, after working there as a typist for the past seven years. During her time with 23 Regiment she has seen it commanded by four Commanding Officers. Betty, who is the wife of Captain Ronnie Cox, the Adjutant of the Command Pay Office BAOR has given up her job pending her husband's retirement and return to the United Kingdom.



Photo by BAOR PR



## RAY'S MOUSTACHE WAS BEST IN CONTEST

Chosen as a winner in the Easter moustache competition at Mönchengladbach, Master Pilot Ray Rowe of Headquarters Royal Air Force Germany wasn't aware that he had entered the contest. It was all a joke, as the newspaper readily admitted in its next issue, the first one after April 1st, when it apologised to the 'contestants' for involving them in its 'hairy story'.

Photo by 2 ATAF PR

## CHAPLAIN VISITS WEGBERG HOSPITAL



Photo by RAF PRU

The Royal Air Force Chaplain in Chief, the Venerable L J Ashton, has spent ten days touring Royal Air Force units in Germany.

One of the stops on his tour was at Wegberg Hospital where he visited the wards and talked to patients, including the children's, families' and maternity wards.

Our Photograph shows the Chaplain talking to some of the children — left to right: George Donaldson, son of a Corporal at RAF Laarbruch; Susan Roberts, whose father is a civilian at Joint Headquarters; and Richard Williams, son of a Captain at JHQ.

## PRESENTATION OF COMSTAR AWARD



The award, sponsored by the Defence Communications Network, is made for efficiency in the handling of signal messages during a three month period.

This is the second Silver COMSTAR (Commendation for Signals Transmitted Accurately and Rapidly) that has been awarded to RAF Commcen Germany and in view of the large amount of messages handled, is a highly commendable achievement.

Our photograph shows Communications Flight RAF COMM-CEN GERMANY with the COMSTAR Award. Photo by RAF PRU

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# Theatre News

## RATS AND THE FESTIVAL

Ian Gane is to produce "The Ghost Train", that well known suspense thriller by Arnold Ridley, as the next production by the RATS on 14-17 June. This follows the festival performances in March of Jean Anouilh's "Dear Antoine", which achieved a high standard, clearly reflecting the hard work and skill of everyone in the cast, the production team, construction crew and all connected with the many aspects of the presentation. The play was commended by the Adjudicator, Mr Stanley Hildebrandt, as being an outstanding performance of a difficult play and he praised both Ian Gane and Beryl Mullin on their acting abilities.

About the festival in general, Mr Hildebrandt wrote of the fifteen plays performed: — "There is no doubt in my mind that it is far and away the highest standard I have ever judged in a three-act Festival. It was so good, and so difficult to judge that I had to revalue every mark."

The overall winner was SHAPE, with Laarbruch second, three other clubs were runners up of whom RATS was one. Ariel won the prize for the best presentation, and Sennelager was awarded the Adjudicator's Prize for coping successfully under very difficult circumstances.

Don't forget "The Ghost Train", and watch for the booking office opening date at the end of May.

### WEST RHINE MUSICAL SOCIETY

The Spring production of the Society — MERRIE ENGLAND — will be staged in the Garrison Theatre in May with music by the Royal Artillery Allenbrooke Band under their Director of Music, Captain R. Pinkney, RA.

This colourful musical comedy is set in Windsor in the heyday of Elizabethan England. The effervescent music by Edward German contains many well-known songs which have been played, sung and whistled by everyone from philharmonic societies to office boys for more than half a century — The Yeoman of England, O Peaceful England, and many more. Courty and bucolic love are the main themes.

Performances are on Wednesday 10th May at 7.30 pm, Thursday and Friday 11th and 12th May at 8 pm and Saturday 13th May at 8.30 pm. The box office (phone RA 2262) is open on Saturday 29th April from 10.30 to 1.30 and then on weekdays from 1.30 to 5.30 pm. Tickets are DM 3 and DM 4, but on Wednesday and Thursday reduced rates of DM 2 and DM 3 are offered for block booking of 12 or more seats.

Anyone interested in joining the Society is invited to contact the Secretary, Flt Lt R A Jones at 1 Cornwall Drive (phone 4436) or to come to a rehearsal at St. David's School on Mondays and Thursday at 8 pm.

## SMALL ADS DM 5,—

### ANGLO-GERMAN CONTACT

German family 42/43 with two children (boy 9 years, girl 12 years) is interested in a contact with a British family for English-German conversation in domestic circle. Please contact: Mr. Rudolf Reinhardt, 4045 Kleinenbroich, Albert-Schweitzer-Strasse 6, Telephone: MG. 28738.

### JOB VACANCIES — QUEEN'S SCHOOL

Meal time supervisors will be urgently required at Queen's Upper and Lower Schools when the new term starts.

Applicants are asked to contact 6 PCLU, Bedford Walk, Rheindahlen.

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# EASTER BONNET

For the second year in succession, teams drawn from units within Rhine Area took part in a 700 mile pre-Easter motoring event. Designed to test standards of map reading, night driving, and driving at a set average speed, it was won by a team from 40 Army Support Regt, Royal Engineers.

Sponsored by 23 Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, based at Mönchengladbach, the exercise was nicknamed Easter Bonnet. Twenty-one teams took part in this year's event, which lasted from March 22nd to 24th, and had as its starting and finishing point the sidings of 79 Railway Squadron.



Drivers plan their routes at the start in 79 Railway Squadron's lines.

Photo by BAOR PR

Before beginning the first part of the competition, drivers had to undergo a matrix test, identical to that carried out by applicants for British Forces Germany driving licences – just to ensure that they had remembered all that they ought to know about driving on Germany's roads. This test was carried out in the novel setting of a British Army railway dining saloon, while the vehicles were themselves given a thorough inspection by REME technicians.

The first part of Easter Bonnet was a 500 mile circuit, ending at the Vogelsang Training Area, in the Eifel close to the Belgian border. During this circuit, the three-man teams were required to visit a number of grid references, and at each place a simple question was posed that could be answered without leaving the vehicle, or annoying local inhabitants.

Included in the 500 mile circuit were two more difficult short sections over minor roads through the hills and forests of the Sauerland where navigation was more complicated.

At the end of the first 200 miles of this circuit, the competitors had a welcome break at a Hotel in the village of Garbeck, south

of Iserlohn. Arrangements had been made with the proprietor, Herr Hubert Schmoll-Klute, himself a young and dedicated motor enthusiast, to establish a refuelling point in the Hotel car-park.

He had also agreed to keep his Hotel Restaurant open as long as necessary to provide a place where the crews could relax for up to an hour each, and have a hot meal if necessary.

The Clerk of the Course, Major James Payne, RCT, who was at Garbeck as the first competitors arrived, said: "After Garbeck they head off into the wood for one of the forestry stretches."

"To make it a little more interesting, we have worked out a minimum mileage in which we estimate that they can complete the course. The teams then collect penalty points for exceeding it – a good test of their map reading."

The competitors were able to relax during the afternoon spent at Vogelsang, before setting out at dusk on the second phase of the event over a more complicated 220 mile route to Mönchengladbach. Although this stretch covered open roads, speed was not the object. In fact, a series of secret controls were established to ensure that anyone who had fallen behind did not try to make up his time by driving too fast, and the penalties for excessive speed were high.

Normal time controls were also set up to certify that the drivers were keeping to the set average timings, and the rally ended with a regularity run over the last 40 miles.

Staff Sergeant Jim Thorne, an Assistant Clerk of the Course, revealed an ingenious method of overcoming the technical difficulty of setting up accurate radar checks on public roads.

"After one of the difficult night stretches, where we thought the drivers might be tempted by the open road to put on a bit of speed, we hid a man by the roadside with an ordinary camera flash-light", he said.

"When the drivers saw the flash, and realised that their picture had been taken, we hoped they would keep their speed down for the rest of the event. Two bookings for speed, and they would be disqualified."

Throughout Easter Bonnet, the term "rally" was avoided, because of its connotations with lines of vehicles roaring through sleeping villages with headlights blazing. Every effort was made to consider other road users and stay within the law.

At the close of the event, Brigadier G. E. Bavin, the Commander Rhine Area, congratulated the teams which took part, and presented the prizes to the winners.

The results of the teams which qualified for places were: 1. 40 Army Sp Regt RE; 2. 60 Stn Wksp REME; 3. 21 Sig Regt; 4. 40 Army Sp Regt RE; 5. 101 Army Pro Coy RMP; 6. 500 Mob Mvt Tp RCT; 7. 28 (Br) Sig Regt (NORTHAG).

## RAF Benevolent Fund

The Royal Air Force Dependents Fund exists to provide an immediate cash grant of £700 to the nominated beneficiary of a member of the Royal Air Force who dies while serving. For only 2P per week any member of the Royal Air Force or Womens Royal Air Force can join the fund, and thus ensure that his or her dependants receive immediate funds long before life assurance or probate claims are settled. For further details contact OC Accounts Flight RAF Rheindahlen Ext 4360.

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# Conquest by Marriage

The Story of the Dukes of Burgundy 1346-1477

Few people who came to the meeting of the Historical Society on 16th March recalled that in 1456 the Duke of Burgundy possessed the greatest Army in Europe and ruled over a domain which consisted of not only the present Burgundian wine-growing area but of the whole of the present day BENELUX territory!

Major VAN DEN DAELE, with expertise and a splendid selection of slides, took his audience into an aspect of the 100 years war which, in the traditional studies of this struggle between England and France, is seldom so highlighted.

In the Battle at Poitiers in 1356 between JOHN II (the 'Good'-King of France) and the Black Prince (son of EDWARD III of England) JOHN's youngest son, PHILIP, distinguished himself so much that he was given the Dukedom of Burgundy, the small SW corner of the present wine country. By this deed, and the skill of his descendants, Burgundy was not only expanded but, in the next 100 years enveloped the whole of the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.



In 1369 this 'PHILIP the Bold' after long negotiations married MARGARET, daughter of the Count of Flanders and added to his domains the County of Flanders, including the French speaking area, the Duchy of Nevers, Rethel and the towns of Antwerp and Malines. At this time the English territories in France were reduced to CALAIS, BORDEAUX and BAYONNE!

But PHILIP was a faithful son of France and fought the English beside his brother Charles V — the Wise, of France.

In 1385 PHILIP the 'Bold' continued the marriage process by marrying his son JOHN with MARGARET of Bavaria; his daughter MARGARET with WILLIAM of Bavaria and his nephew (CHARLES VI of France) with ISOBEL of Bavaria. Interwoven with the marriage plot was the freeing of the prisoner Duchess of Brabant in exchange for her title which went to PHILIP'S wife, and the donation of the Bishopric of Liege to MARGARET of Bavaria's brother JOHN (of Cambrai)! In 1404 PHILIP the 'Bold' died and his son JOHN the Fearless succeeded. In 1413 JOHN made an alliance with the English against the French. Then came the Battle of Agincourt in 1415.

In 1419 JOHN the 'Fearless' was assassinated by a servant of the Dauphin CHARLES of France. His son, PHILIP the 'Fair', succeeded and became the greatest of the Burgundian Rulers — like his father he set about marrying his offspring and relatives with territorial gain in mind.

His plan was facilitated to some extent by the fact that in 1420 by the Treaty of Troyes, the Prince of Wales (the future HENRY VI) became King of England and France (31 Aug 1422). Other terms of the treaty made CATHERINE de VALOIS (daughter of CHARLES VI of France) the Princess in Wales and established the King of England's right to the Crown of France.

There followed a long pause for manoeuvre and then in 1435 by the Treaty of ARRAS between BURGUNDY and FRANCE, PHILIP changed his allegiance to the French side and gained the SOMME towns, PONTIEU and all the French territory between the Somme and FLANDERS-ARTOIS.

By 1456 the BURGUNDIAN State reached its apogee. The Pope made LOUIS of BOURBON (Brother of ISOBEL of France, wife of CHARLES, Count of CHARLOIS and son of PHILIP the Fair) the Prince-Bishop of LIEGE. Where the Duke of BURGUNDY did not rule in Western Europe, one of his relatives or allies did!



Philip the Fair

PHILIP's son CHARLES (the 'Reckless') did not have his father's skill and the haydays waned under his leadership. It was unfortunate for him that in 1475 the 100 years war came to an end, because, from then on, France had a free hand to deal with the Dukes of Burgundy and, under LOUIS XI their power was sapped for ever. There remained a Burgundy proper but the northern BENELUX part went to Austria by the marriage of MARIA of Burgundy with MAXIMILLIAN of Austria.

## KEEP FIT EXERCISE OF THE MONTH

— MAY —

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For further details about RAF Rheindahlen Rowing Club, Phone Ft. Lt. Swain. Ext. 4206.

## Hazards and Perils in Gardens and Countryside

The following table of poisonous plants is published with the object of helping to protect, in particular, young children from the dangers which exist in gardens and the countryside.

Plant	Description	Results from eating
Hyacinth	Sweet smelling flowers, flowering early spring	Bulb may cause death.
Narcissus	Spring bulbs	Bulb - bad digestive upset.
Daffodil		
Black Nightshade	A 1 - 2 ft high bushy plant, small white flowers, black currant like berries	Berries - 2 or 3 may cause a burning sensation in the mouth, diarrhoea and sickness.
Black Bryony	Hedge rambler, with large shiny leaves and clumps of red berries	Berries - violent intestinal pains; paralysis may result.
Caper Spurge	Shrub with yellow, amber, green, or red flowers and green berries	Berries - a violent purgative; sap from the shrub could cause dermatitis.
Deadly Nightshade	A bush 5ft high with long purple bell shaped flowers, and black cherrylike berries	Berries - 1 or 2 could cause death.
Elderberry	A bush with pithy stem and black berries in clusters	Berries, if uncooked, could cause attacks of sickness.
Hemlock	A large plant with a hollow green stem, and clusters of tiny white flowers at the top	Juice causes paralysis, which may eventually become fatal.
Laburnum	A tree with hanging yellow flowers and producing seed pods	Seeds - causes dreadful pain, and could lead to death.
Larkspur (Delphinium)	Tall, or low plant with white, mauve, or purple flowers	Any part of the plant, if chewed, may produce severe stomach upset.
Monk's Hood (Aconish)	Similar to larkspur	As for larkspur, but may result in death.
Rhubarb	Well known	Stems are edible, but the leaves cooked, or uncooked, could be fatal, if eaten.
Privet	Has white, sweet smelling flowers, and black berries	Berries cause stomachache; a lot of berries could prove fatal.
Spindle Tree (Priests' little hats)	Scarlet flowers which in autumn, scatter their three-cornered berries	Berries and seeds are very poisonous.
White Bryony	A hedge climber, with ivy shaped leaves, tiny green flowers, and clusters of red, currant-like berries	About 15 berries could prove fatal.
Wisteria	A climber, which flowers in May, with hanging blue, or white flowers; these are followed by seed pods	Seed or pods produce gastro-intestinal disturbances, sickness and diarrhoea.
Wild fungi	Mushrooms, toadstools	Should never be eaten. Even experts can mistake them, with fatal results.
Woody Nightshade	Small bush with egg shaped small fruits, red, gold, or green on same plant	Berries - burning of the mouth and throat. Sickness and diarrhoea.
Yew	Evergreen with needles, not leaves, and bright red berries	All parts of the tree are very poisonous. Seeds in berries can cause heart failure.

If you suspect that your child has eaten something poisonous, this is what you should do:

- Telephone the doctor immediately, describing the symptoms, and explaining all you know of the cause; or take the child to the MRS with all possible speed.
- Keep any remains of the plant taken from the mouth, or present in vomit or stools.
- While waiting for transport give your child drinks of milk, white of egg, or strong black tea to neutralise the poison. Follow this with as much as the child can drink of warm, salt water (1 heaped teaspoon to a cup of water) to make it vomit, and thereby rid its system of as much of the poison as possible.

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## SMILING LOSERS



The RAF Germany Badminton Championships were held in the RAF Gymnasium last month.

The outstanding feature was the performance of Sgt. Phill Kemp "WRAF" from AFCENT who won four of the ten events.

Cpl Baldwin and Mrs. Rhodes of RAF Bruggen receive their Runners Up Trophies from Mrs. Gingelf after losing the Mixed Doubles Final to Mr. & Mrs. Buswell from Rheindahlen.

Photo by RAFG PRU

## FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN RAF GERMANY AND ROYAL NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE



Photo by 2 ATAF PR

Our photograph shows the teams in action during the first match of the annual football competitions between teams of RAF Germany and the Royal Netherlands Air Force, which take place in turn at airfields of both airforces.

The result was 4:0, a very decisive win for the Dutch players.

## 16 SIGNAL REGIMENT – NETBALL TEAM



In Nov 71 the team became BAOR Champions. They represented BAOR in Aldershot (28, 29 Feb), and by winning all their matches are now Army Netball Champions.

**Back Row**  
(from Left to Right):  
Ptes Jane Thirkell, Vron Kewell, 2 Lt Wendy le Gas-sick, LCpl Claude Kelly.

**Front Row**  
(from Left to Right):  
LCpl Chris Morris, LCpl Di Winter.

Photo by BAOR PR

## Rowing Facts

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## May Sporting Fixtures

Date:	Event	Venue
<b>MAY</b>		
4 – 8	<i>BAOR Hockey Festival</i>	Garrison Sports Ground
10	BAOR v French Forces (Germany, Football) 14:30 hrs.	Garrison Sports Ground
11 – 12	<i>BAOR Cricket Trials</i>	Garrison Sports Ground
13 – 14	BAOR Cricket 11 v Stragglers or Asla	Garrison Sports Ground
27 – 28	BAOR Inter Divisional Lawn Tennis Competition	Garrison Sports Ground
<b>JUNE</b>		
4	Anglo-German Athletics Meeting – 14:30 hrs.	RAF Athletic Ground

## RHEINDAHLEN SADDLE CLUB

It would be very much appreciated if parents of children who are not members of the Rheindahlen Saddle Club would help by asking their children not to play on the Stable premises. This is an attempt to stop the damage that is being done to Stable property and the teasing of the horses and ponies.

## RAF HOSPITAL WEGBERG FETE

RAF Hospital Wegberg is holding a fete on Saturday 13th May in the hospital grounds. The fete will feature an 'It's a Knock-out' Competition, stalls and side-shows and a Motor Show at which the latest designs of cars from the main car manufacturers will be on display. The fete will be opened at 2 p.m. by Uncle Bill of the BFBS Kinder Club.

## LADIES COFFEE MORNING

The next coffee/sherry morning for wives of members of the RAF Officers' Mess, and their guests, will be held in the Ladies Room of the Mess at 1030 hrs. on Friday 26th May. Please come along and meet old friends and make new ones.

## RHEINDAHLEN FLOWER CLUB

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 9th May at 2.30 p.m. in the Marlborough Club Ballroom. Mrs. Jane Attlee, one of our Founder members, will be coming from England to demonstrate and her theme will be 'Design for Spring'. The Sales Table will be open from 2 p.m. and the nursery will be available as usual. Members free, non-members DM 2.

It is hoped that Mrs. Attlee will be able to give a lesson in addition to the demonstration, and details of this will be announced as soon as possible.

# STOP PRESS

## GARRISON ATHLETICS

The annual Garrison Athletics Meeting will take place on the Athletics Ground north of York Drive on Wednesday 24th May from 0930 to 1700 hrs. There will be a full range of team and open events, including Tug of War, Open Relay, Highland Events, Ladies', Childrens' and Veterans' Races. A band will be in attendance and refreshments will be on sale. All military and civilian personnel and their families are cordially invited.

## INTERNATIONAL LADIES CLUB

On Thursday 18th May at 2.15 p.m. in the U.S.O.C. the British Civilian Ladies present 'Come to Britain'. They are showing two British Travel films, and Travel Brochures are to be available in various languages. The films will be following by a Traditional Cake Tasting Tea. They hope to have recipes on posters available for members to copy. (Bring a pencil and paper!)

There is also to be a small competition — The Best Dressed Baking Spoon — Three entries per nation (Mrs. Sylvia Dickerson, 4, Newport Way can give you further details of this competition).

Raffles and Nursery as usual.

## FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES

There will be a programme of three weekly lessons in the art of Flower Arranging, specifically for beginners, starting on Wednesday 17th May, from 1000 to 1200 hrs. in the RAF Hobbies Centre, Grenville Rd. Any ladies interested please ring either Mrs. Charles RA 4706 or Mrs. Hopson RA 4775.

## RAF WIVES CLUB — RHEINDAHLEN

PLACE: Sports & Social Centre, RAF Sportsfield. TIME: 8 p.m.

Spring is already with us — Summer well on its way — what better time of year for a few hints on health and beauty. MONDAY 8th MAY, Miss Rita Guard, the Elizabeth Arden make-up advisor will give a short talk on the beauty aspect and Doctor Ron Nixon from the RAF Medical Centre — some expert advice on slimming and health generally. MONDAY 22nd MAY, Herr Fleming and Mrs. Thomas from the Garrison Nursery will advise on the care of plants for the house and garden.

Coffee, Tea and Squash is always available and the evening ends with a game of Bingo — Raffle prizes to be won — and generally a very relaxed and enjoyable evening.

Buses collect members at the following times:

Dorthausen	7.30 p.m.
St. Andrews School	7.50 p.m.
St. Christophers School	7.55 p.m.
Return approximately:	10.45 p.m.

## GOLF

Do you like to see wild life in its natural environment? Rabbits by the hundred cavorting playfully; Wild Boar ploughing the fairway in search of truffles; many varieties of birds and homo sapiens in all his moods from joyful exhilaration to darkest depression.

How? where? why, at the RAFG Golf Club. New members welcome — particularly if they can get rid of our boar!

## BULLETIN

Any spare copies of the Rheindahlen Bulletin, (after house distribution) will be put into the Library at Cambridge House.

# CINEMA PROGRAMMES

## ASTRA CINEMA - MAY

Performances at 18.00 & 20.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

1	THE DESERTER - Bekim Fehmin, John Houston	AA
2	MAYERLING - Omar Sharif, Catherine Deneuve	A
3, 4	A MAN CALLED HORSE - Richard Harris, Judith Anderson	AA
5, 6	BIG JAKE - John Wayne, Richard Boone	AA
7, 8	NO ROOM TO DIE - Anthony Steffen, William Berger	A
	GENDARME IN NEW YORK - N.B. at 19.00 hrs only	U
9	EL CONDOR - Lee Van Cleef, Jim Brown	AA
10, 11	TORA! TORA! TORA! - Martin Balsam, Soh Yamamura	U
12, 13	CREATURES THE WORLD FORGOT - Julie Ege, Tony Bonnon	X
14, 15	A GUNFIGHT - Kirk Douglas, Johnny Cash	A
16	HEAVENS ABOVE - Peter Sellars, Eric Sykes	A
17	OSS 117 - MURDER FOR SALE - John Gavin, Curt Jurgens	A
18	THEY SHOOT HORSES DON'T THEY - Jane Fonda, Gig Young	AA
19, 20	LITTLE BIG MAN - Dustin Hoffmann, Martin Balsam	AA
21	MILLION DOLLAR DUCK - Dean Jones, Sandy Duncan	U
22	THE WILD COUNTRY - Steve Forrest, Vera Miles	U
23	THE CHEYENNE SOCIAL CLUB - James Stewart, Henry Fonda	AA
24	CHISUM - John Wayne	U
25	THE YOUNG ONES - Cliff Richards, Robert Morley	U
26, 27	VILLIAN - Richard Burton, Ian McShane	X
28, 29	IN SEARCH OF THE CASTAWAYS - Hayley Mills	U
30	HELLO DOLLY - Barbara Streisand, Walter Matthau	U
31	A BULLET FOR ROMMEL - Jack Palance	A

## MATINEE

13	THE LITTLE PRINCE AND THE EIGHT-HEADED DRAGON - (at 10.30 hrs)	U
13	SHENANDOAH - James Stewart (at 14.30 hrs)	U
27	EL HAKIN - Nadja Tiller (at 10.30 hrs)	U
27	20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA - (at 14.30 hrs)	U

## GLOBE CINEMA - MAY

Performances at 18.00 & 20.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

1	THE HUNTING PARTY - Oliver Reed Candice Bergen	X
2	TOO LATE THE HERO - Michael Calne, Denholm Elliot	X
3	HOFFMAN - Peter Sellars, Sinend Cusack	AA
4	MOSQUITO SQUADRON - Davis McCallum, Susanne Neue	U
5, 6	PLEASE SIR - John Alderton, Joan Sanderson	U
7, 8	GET CARTER - Michael Calne, Britt Ekland	X
9, 10	HANDS OF THE RIPPER - Eric Porter, Jane Merrow	X
11	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN - Dinah Sheridan	U
12, 13	THE MAGNIFICENT 7 DEADLY SINS - Bruce Forsyth	A
14, 15	SOLDIER BLUE - Candice Bergen, Peter Strauss	X
16	I START COUNTING - Jenny Agutter, Bryan Marshall	AA
17	THE FIXER - Alan Bates, Dirk Bogarde	X
18	KING AND I - Deborah Kerr, Yul Brynner	U
19, 20	MILLION DOLLAR DUCK - Dean Jones, Sandy Duncan	U
21, 22	SUNDAY BLOODY SUNDAY - Glenda Jackson, Peter Finch	X
23	HELLO GOODBYE - Michael Crawford, Curt Jurgens	AA
24	CARRY ON LOVING - Sidney James, Charles Hawtrey	A
25	VIOLENT CITY - Charles Bronson, Jill Ireland	X
26, 27	CARRY ON AT YOUR CONVENIENCE - Sidney James	A
28, 29	THE McMASTERS - TOUGHER THAN THE WEST ITSELF -	X
30	FRAULEIN DOKTOR - Suzy Kendall, Kenneth More	AA
31	CARNAL KNOWLEDGE - Jack Nicholson, Ann Margret	X

## MATINEE

6	CLASH OF STEEL - Gerard Barry (at 10.30 hrs)	U
7	MAROONED - Gregory Peck (at 14.30 hrs)	U
14	VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA - (at 14.30 hrs)	U
20	KING SOLOMON'S MINES - (at 10.30 hrs)	U
21	WIND CANNOT READ - Dirk Bogarde (at 14.30 hrs)	U
28	STAR - Julie Andrews (at 14.30 hrs)	U

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