

# ROMAN HANDLE 26



The Journal of the Bearly Made It Skydive Squad, The International Brother and Sisterhood of Parachuting Flora and Fauna and the U.K. Ted Devils, The Worlds Number One Repository for 100% Mindless Drivel, you have been warned.....

By the time you are reading this issue, we will be well on the way to the end of another Seasons worth of Kiting mayhem. The 92 season was memorable and at the same time rather sad for the BMISS as we lost one of our Friends. "Owd Lad", our correspondent from "Oop North" left this Vale of Tears at a very untimely age. John Spendlove to our knowledge never inflicted pain on Parachuting Fauna (a good Guy) but, he was a neverending fund of suggestions as to how Parafauna could inflict Pain on Dropniks and certain Kiters.

We like to think of John under a lamp post somewhere in the great hereafter, Flying his latest creation, whilst thinking up another Devilish Go Wrong, and saying out loud. "Eck as Lyke, This'll give Bloody Neighbors, Summet to Talk About". Farewell Owd Lad.

One of the Highlights of this Season was the Bomb Dump Bash, oh, alright, have it your own way, The Greenham Common Kite Festival. Abley organised by the White Horse Mob and Thatcham Rotary, this Fest was literally Lost on the amazing openness of Greenham. What was memorable Parafaunawise were a couple of incidents which occurred whilst Dave and his Sky Squad were doing the Bizzo on the Dosh raising Bear Drop. The first was where one poor Bear Drifted away only to end up Draped across the Razor Tape Triple Fence around the Tomahawk Bunkers. When Rocket Ron and the BOF went to try and extricate the Bear from

## Last Post for the Sandhurst bear...

By ALISON GORDON

**SENIOR** Under Officer Edward Bear, Sandhurst's oldest, shortest and longest-serving cadet, is finally passing out.

Bear, who is just 2 ft tall, was enlisted as the official mascot of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Parachute Club in 1950.

His career has by no means been a picnic. Over the years he has been taken on more than 400 jumps and has even been on operations with the SAS and Royal Marines.

### Stuffy

His service record has been meticulously updated by the RMAS's Edward Bear Club, recently revived by Captain Harry Bucknall of the Coldstream Guards.

Entries include his first parachute jump when he displayed a 'complete indifference to instructions'.

Then he escaped all the Army bull by going AWOL in an officer's cupboard for four years.

But SUO Bear, described as a



**GERONIMO: SUO** Bear set to jump with Sandhurst's parachute club

'stuffy but brave' soldier who by tradition was always first out of the aircraft, is now opting for a quiet life in the RMAS museum.

Curator Dr Tony Heathcote said: 'He's had a long and distinguished career with a few black marks but he will be missed.'

Meanwhile a new Officer

Cadet bear has arrived at Sandhurst from Harrods kitted out in a uniform made by leading military tailors Gieves and Hawkes.

He is to be given his official club wings by RMAS commandant Major General Tim Toyne-Sewell when he joins cadets on their final exercise in France next week.

this dodgy spot, they found that the Bear was snagged on the middle fence, unretrievable in fact, whilst the shroud lines had been neatly cut by the Tape. The chute was recovered but not the Bear. The second incident was where a Bear was dropped from about 30ft/10 meters, the chute deployed, then drifted away rising all the while and was last seen about a mile away at a height of about 1,000 ft/300 Metres. Amazing....

This piece about the Sandhurst Bear was supplied by Geoff Adams via the Mail on Sunday. Geoff reckons that judging by the expression on the Paratroopers Face, the Bear must have had Curry for Lunch, Ooh, very nasty. Yoo Wot.

Apologies, apologies to Dingley Dell, twas he who supplied the Maritime Bear Pic in our last issue.

Brain Dead BOF, wot are you like Boy?

# PARAS FACE THE LOW JUMP TO SAVE LIVES

HIGH-flying Paras are aiming low to increase their chances of survival.

The crack Parachute Regiment is trying out a technique to cut jumps on military operations from 600 ft to 350 ft.

If successful it means they spend less time in the air, when they are most vulnerable to attack. The

advance is the result of a device which allows a parachute to open more quickly.

Initially the system was tested with weights but now individual soldiers are using it and there could be mass jumps soon. "The testers are all volunteers," a spokesman said.

Does anybody know who BEARJAMIN FRANKLIN is? Leroy swears blind that he is some Bear he used know a long time ago. He reckons that BEARJAMIN used to do thier Washing Up, but that he was fired for drinking the washing up water and then he went to America wher he flew Kites and invented Lightning . We're not really sure if this is true or not (it sounds so Barmy it probably is ) anyway be that as it may, the reason we asked the question in the first place was because BEARJAMIN has sent the Bof a rather nifty Tee Shirt which features a nice print of BEARJAMIN flying a Kite in Bearsalem. Thanks B,F. for a very nice prezzie.

B.M.I.S.S. has had one Foreign trip this Year, when we went on Safari to Wild Welsh Will Kipper Land, Cor, that was a bit of alright, as its a Lovely Country and Monmouth is a niceTown. Wales also seems to have remarkable effects on Dropniks as we witnessed Wesh born Rocket Ron (who sounds more Cockney than most Cockneys) and Hackney Wick born Kuddely Keef( whose more Welsh than most Welshmen) transformed into full blown Patois spouting Taffys who were even trying to teach the BOF some of the more common Welsh Swear Words. This was a good Kite Fest and some good Fauna Bombing was done,

A River ran down one side of the Fest Site , and of course we decided to put the wind up the Dropniks by heading for the river on every drop. Ayteesecond did a near Wet One into a large Bush on the Bank witch required a nice paddle through an Icey River by Keef, then yours truly, who the BOF had finally twigged had'nt dropped for some time, decided to Liven up the proceedings by diving into a Tall Tree right on the riverbank.

Wot a Laugh,I kid you not. Picture the scene, Kuddely Keef and the BOF doing a paddle in a River whose bed consisted of Rocks, Broken Bottles and Dead Fish, all the while being Hotly pursued by 1500 Plastic Ducks, whom some other idiots had released further upstream for the Monmouth Duck Race, The two Dripniks won by a short head, but it was a close call.

Right, our two twits had braved the river and were now set to get yours truly out of the Tree. What went on next, was by any stretch of the imagination very weird. we had one half baked, half Welsh idiot trying to climb a tree whilst carrying a Nine Metre Fishing Rod, with which I might add he was trying to poke up my Khyber, Ooh nasty, whilst another Idiot was trying to impersonate a Bobsleigh on the 60 degree riverbank, atleast I think thats what he was doing as he kept climbing up the bank, falling base over apex and sliding to the bottom again. All this palava was accompanied by vast amounts of swearing in both English and Welsh which quite entertained the crowd on the opposite Bank, who had come to see what all the noise was about. After about 90 minutes of having GRP poked up my nethers and seeing as how the tree Idiot was all tuckered out and the bobs sleigh had finally slid into a large Nettlepatch I consented to being rescued . When Monmouth is mentioned in future no doubt two Dripniks minds if they have one, concentrated wonderfully, will be.

## Skydive peril at 7,000ft

SKYDIVER Terry Wakenshaw was seconds from death when he leaped from a plane and his parachute tangled in its wheels at 7,000ft.

Terry, 34, was smashed into the side of the Cessna aircraft, breaking his arm, crushing his chest and injuring his head.

He used his emergency chute and was taken to hospital after landing at Brunton, Northumberland.

Although we sympathise with the poor battered sky diver in this cutting (right) once again its still not enough to enrol him as a BMISS member.

Bear faced thieves recently nicked the world famous Paddington Bear from his Glass case on Paddington Station wher he has been living for the past 15 years trying to make a Parachute from Marmalade Sandwiches. We're glad to say that that the Drunken Tealeaves were quickley apprehended by the Boys in Blue and Paddington Bear is now back in his now repaired Display Case, hopefully stuck down with Marmalade.



THIS IS A  
TEDDYBEAR  
WATCH  
AREA

News, Views and the usual complaints from smiling Phizog challenged Kilters to the TEDDYTORIAL, which seeing as we still aint dun a runner yet is C/O The BOF. 48 Laurel Lane, West Drayton, Middx, UB7.7TY. U.K.