



Picture: the torchlight procession from the Dom to the Market Place formed the starting point for the *Schützenfest*, led by the Drum Corps and the “Blau-Gelb” Band. The Fire Brigade’s youth and children’s sections were also present.

#### Grand Tattoo and International Friendships

The Königsutter *Schützengilde* is pleased with the good attendance figures.

**Königsutter.** The attendance figures at the 548th *Schützenfest* showed a pleasing rise in numbers. It is always falls to the *Bürgermeister* to open the event from the Town Hall steps. The present incumbent, Alexander Hoppe, did this on Friday, and noted with pleasure that the square was well-filled with spectators.

This was partially due to the presence of the Rock and Pop music of “Fisherman’s Band” who had been booked by the Society for Local Heritage and Tourism. The music continued in the festival marquee, where a Helene Fischer double performed, on Saturday the “Frankenbläser” band created a Bavarian atmosphere, and one of the highlights was Sunday’s march round the town.

The opportunity was taken by the town council to invite deputations from the twin-towns, *Bürgermeister* Jens Hühnerbein came from Gommern in Saxony-Anhalt, Mayor Tomsz Szule from the polish town of Opalenica and the deputy Mayor of Taunton in England, Francesca Smith. At the signing of the town’s “Golden Book”, all promised to continue to foster the international friendships. The “Langeleben Reunion Association” with around 90 guests, including 61 former soldiers from England, attended all three days of the *Schützenfest* and formed the largest party of all the European participants.

*Schützenmeister* Rainer Stark jr. presented Major-General Tim Inshaw with a souvenir ornament by Jens Warnecke depicting the Kaiserdom.

The committee of the *Schützengilde* carried out the presentation of shooting trophies. The “Clubs and Businesses” section was won by Autohaus Stark, followed by the Fire Brigade Corps of Drums. In the same section, but for those without active members of the *Schützengilde*, the “Landsknecht” Restaurant beat Autohaus Stark. The individual competition was won by Rainer Stark jr., followed by Raffael Dilger.

A highlight of the Fest was the appearance of the Helene Fischer double Viktoria. On Saturday night the “Original Frankenbläser” band with its many musicians immediately whipped-up the festive atmosphere in the marquee.

A further highlight was the Grand Festival Procession on Sunday. Invited clubs participated with their Standards and demonstrated their active participation in shooting sport. At 6.30 p.m. the new *Schützenkönig* and his entourage were proclaimed. The Fire Brigade Corps of Drums and the “Blau-Gelb” Band provided marching music for the Grand Tattoo.