



Stedfast News

The Newsletter for former Members, Serving Officers, Associates and Friends of The Boys' Brigade in Brighton Hove and District

The Object of The Stedfast Association

To further the Object of The Boys' Brigade and to foster the spirit of Comradeship between past and present Members of the Brigade and to render Service to Others

The Object of The Boys' Brigade

The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the Promotion of Habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self Respect and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness

Stedfast Committee

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Dick Kent

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John Donoghue
Ben Edwards
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Dear Stedfast Members,

As Retreat was blown, for the last time on the historic Sports Field at Glynde Camp, one could easily sense the presence not only of today's Boys and Staff standing respectfully to attention facing The Union Flag, but that of thousands of past members standing shoulder to shoulder with them for one last time at sunset.

To witness the Masterly way, in the true meaning of that word, in which Dave Slater, the Pastoral Team Leader, engaged The Boys and led the Worship Celebrations was a joy to behold. The sound of laughter and the

Camp singing must have echoed around the hills of Glynde. It was Glynde Born again!

The Olympic theme of worship was continued with an Alternative Olympics on the Tuesday. A wonderful day of sporting fun interrupted, if that is the right word, by a very special lunch of food from every part of the world. This was generously paid for by The Stedfast Association and was a highlight of Camp that will long be remembered. Mark Jago who was an official Olympic Torch Bearer did a lap of honour with his flaming torch held high to great applause from the whole Camp. A perfect Glynde Day!

It will be great if more Stedfast Members can be involved in the first camp at the new site on Glynde Estates next summer. Working with the Young People of today is as great a challenge but equally as great a joy as it has ever been. Please pray for those Companies you especially know. If you are led to offer to help, grasp it with both arms, put your back into it but not your foot!

I recently passed to John Donoghue the large Battalion collection of memorabilia including thousands of pictures of Glynde Camp and even of Battalion Camps before Glynde. John is very generously going to prepare a selection to put on show at the January Reunion which will be an added reason to attend.

*With Stedfast Greetings to everyone,
Peter Ford Stedfast Association President*



Editorial

Welcome to your latest Newsletter. A very busy summer for many with the Queen's Jubilee, the Olympics and Paralympics. I Do trust that you enjoyed these occasions and well done to all that took part. We are now moving into Autumn and the New BB session is getting underway. Your committee have met and a report appears from our Secretary Alan on page 9, but one matter discussed was the possible change to the Newsletter where we may, in the future include articles from existing Companies and news from individuals. The committee have also agreed to have profiles of your committee members and these will appear in this issue and over the course of the next Newsletters. Space does not permit them all to be printed at once, their age means that they have a lot to say!!

Our Secretary, Alan, has also been busy talking to the Battalion Executive in order that we might have a closer relationship in the future and hopefully we can when and where possible, give them our support. Battalion forthcoming events are shown on page 17.

Thanks again to Terry Pomfrey for his assistance in putting the newsletter together I hope that you enjoy reading all the news.

Dick Kent

Federation of Stedfast Associations United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

The Federation of Stedfast Associations met on 18th- 20th May 2012 at the Copthorne Hotel, Manchester for the ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.

I attended the Meetings on the Saturday as representing The Brighton, Hove & District Association. The Meeting agreed to donate £500 to The Boys' Brigade H.Q.U.K. This left the finances with less than £1,000 for administration purposes.

Next Year the Meeting will be held in Dublin and then 2014 in Glasgow. It has been suggested that for 2015 we could take the view of an extended holiday abroad somewhere hot and book a nice Hotel and leave people to make their own food and travel arrangements so that we would all enjoy the venue, breakfast and the great B.B. Fellowship.

The Copthorne Hotel was four star and had excellent rooms, food and service. I took the train to Gatwick and British Airways took me to Manchester Airport where I found Margaret and Ron Powell of Manchester Stedfast waiting for me to take me straight to the hotel.

The whole weekend went so fast with the social getting to know everybody and visits to museums and the Lowry Center and the well organised dinner on the Saturday evening. The Service on Sunday was in a modern Church and attended by the local B.B. Company and then the Church provided us with a buffet lunch and we said our goodbyes and made our way home.

John Donoghue Chairman.

IN MEMORIAM

Since our last Newsletter, Peter White has been called home to rest from his labours on Earth. He was a former member of 12th & 20th Brighton companies, and died on 30th March 2012

We send our deepest sympathy and condolences to his family and friends.

May he rest in peace

Please remember in your prayers all those who suffer either in mind or body especially Stedfast Members and their Families

C

Churches celebrate agricultural produce with a Harvest Festival or Thanksgiving. Traditional hymns speak mainly of wheat, corn or golden grain that provided the staple food of bread. We sing about ripe fruits in the garden or of ploughing the deep for the silver harvest of the sea.

H

A modern hymn of Dominic Grant proclaims:

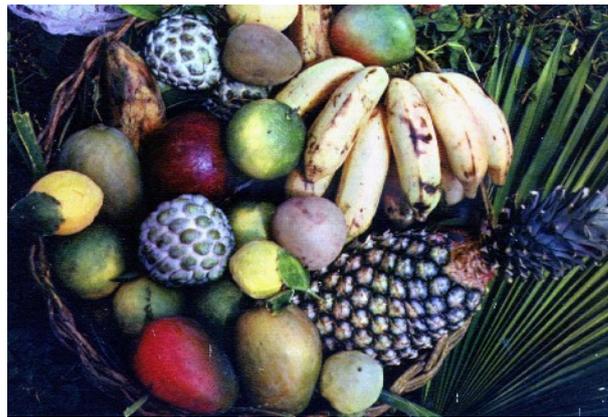
The harvest is here: Earth's bounty we bring!
And as we draw near, God's mercies we sing.
From greenhouse and garden, allotment and store:
these love-gifts we offer and praises outpour. (*Singing the Faith* 128)

A

The average shopping basket today includes fruit and vegetables from around the world. Brian Wren therefore sings:

Praise God for the harvest that's sent from afar,
From market and harbour, from tropical shore;
Foods packed and transported, and planted and grown
By God -given neighbours, unseen and unknown. (*Hymns and Psalms* 351)

P



L

This basket contains at least eight tropical fruits and palm branch fronds. How many can you name? People in other climes write their own harvest hymns. This verse is adapted from Geraldine Alleyne's hymn from Guyana in South America. It is sung to the tune for *We plough the fields and scatter...*

A

Our land is full of mangoes, pineapples and melons,
and plantains and bananas, oranges and lemons.
Cassava, bora, pumpkin, guavas and pears are found,
breadfruit, rice and sugar cane, with coconuts abound.
*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*

I

With the abundance of foodstuffs we have never had it so good. But we do not forget that much overseas produce is produced by poorly paid farmers. At the same time, drought, flood and storms cause starvation for many. So it is with a humble heart that we give thanks and pray and work for the betterment of others.

N

Note: Cassava is a root that grows in South America processed into cassava flour and cassareep. Bora is like a string bean. The pear is an avocado.

Rev. Dr. John C. Neal

Stedfast Chairman's Report

The Committee Members have all been asked to give a life history of themselves as to how they were involved with the B.B. and Stedfast. This is to bring a more personal view of why we are serving in this capacity and to help to promote you into being more responsive to our Association and the Events we arrange within Stedfast and our Battalion.

It would be great if you are able to present at The Remembrance Day Parade at Hove Town Hall on Sunday November 11th at 2pm. The Stedfast Bugle Band leads this Parade and members are invited to march or to attend the Service even if you are unable to march. This does apply to you all, young and old. If you have a uniform or medals or no uniform please come and make yourselves known.

This year at Glynde Camp your Association gave all Boys and Staff a £5 Voucher to spend in the Camp Tuck Shop. On this voucher it explained who we are and that we are supporting them in their activities and that we all as members of Stedfast keep the Boys and Staff in our prayers.

I hope to have a collection of memorabilia on display at the Annual Reunion. Always on the 3rd Sunday in January at Southwick Methodist Church, meeting at 2pm. And Service at 2.30pm. Followed by tea and the AGM. Planning to finish by 6pm. I pray that this year you will want to be present and to grow our numbers in attendance. The 3rd Burgess Hill Coy. will Parade the Battalion Colours alongside our Stedfast Colours.

You will all know that we sponsored the 2nd Burgess Hill Coy. With a donation of £480.00 to help to take them to the finals of the 5-a-side football Competition in Belfast N.I. There is a report and photos on page 8 this edition of Stedfast News.

Many of you will know that I have the role of Quartermaster (QM) at Glynde Camp. This Year being Olympic Year the Camp had their own version of Olympic Games and I was asked to provide a lunch of Foods From Around The World. This proved to be one of the most successful days at Camp. Lunch was amazing with all the Boys trying the different foods. However this lunch took me over my budget. At our Stedfast Committee Meeting on August 2nd, It was agreed that Stedfast sponsor this Luncheon to the value of £235. This I was most grateful, as I will hopefully be accepted for QM next year after the events taking place! enough said. Companies are reminded that we can provide instruments and instructors for Bugles and Drums. We do need to be asked. Please contact me at 01323 501857 or email jndonoghue38@gmail.com or write to 37, Park Avenue Eastbourne BN21 2XG.

The Battalion has much memorabilia, some at my home and also at Battalion HQ. Please there must be an experienced or interested member of Stedfast or B.B. to be able to put this memorabilia into an acceptable order. So a Battalion Archivist is very much required to arrange this. I also suspect many of you have items you would like to donate or to leave in your will to the Battalion. These very special items of sentimental value must not go into the skip or get lost ! Please remember the Battalion or your Association.

We are committed to the Boys and to help further the Object. We only have an income of £10 Subs per member. Any donations or offer of sponsorship would be very welcome. After much discussion the idea of rebranding our Association has been scrapped. We remain Brighton, Hove & District Association as does our Battalion. If readers have a windfall of some monies please think of your Association or our Battalion.

We now have Stedfast representatives attending the Battalion Executive Meetings and Ray Eaves Vice President of Brighton, Hove & District Battalion has agreed to attend all Stedfast Meetings. This is a first step of finding more ways of supporting the Companies and Boys. This knowledge of our existence we pray will help to bring all Boys discharged automatically to be active members of our Association.

To all the staff at Glynde Camp I had the privilege to get to know you and would find it a great achievement if on the 3rd Sunday of every January each year you would make a special effort to come and be part of the Annual Reunion. This is a great chance to reminisce and to meet old and new members. Talk about the times we enjoyed at Camp and in the B.B. There were 34 Stedfast members in Camp 2012. Can you all please accept my personal invitation to attend the 2013 Reunion and make this a growing organisation.

God Bless, John Donoghue Committee Chairman.

Committee Member Profile;

In the Mid 1930's. I was sent to Sunday School at Lewes Road Congregational Church. My teacher was a BB man named Mr. Garwood, he said all the boy's should join the BB when old enough.

However there was no Life Boy Team at the 13th. So I moved over the road to the 11th. At the Connaught Mission. Captain Jack Rovey. Happy years to follow.

In 1942, back over the road to the 13th My dad's old Company. Captain Harry Norman Very full activities.

1945 War over in Europe , So camp at Glynde, first of so many happy memories.

1949 . The 13th. Provided all the Company Sergeant Major's at Camp.

John Winter, John Bridgland, John Kinghorn, and myself , were honoured to be asked by Sir. John Christy to attend a dress rehearsal of 'La forza del destino' At Glyndebourne It was marvelous.

We came back to camp feeling Ten feet tall.

The Boy's Brigade Council Brighton 1950.

The Best Job Ever, Battalion Sergeant Major. Very Very Proud.

My employer let me have an unpaid day off, to Meet and Greet, The Top Men In our Organization, at Brighton Station (even now I feel humbled.)

Now a week end at Feldon Lodge Officer Training Wonderful what a privilege, I had to share a room with a man named Wallace I did know him, the other man was A R T Perry our Battalion President, I must have been charmed.

The 13th. Were top heavy with starfy's. So a new company The 3rd. Brighton under the captaincy of Bumble Griffin, was to be formed at Christ the King Church Patcham. John Winter and I were invited to help along with Lieutenant Les Harris. Very happy times were had, but a shortage of boys meant we did not last long.

I then found myself back at the 13th with the Life Boys. Bert Hussy, Pat Beeny, and John Kinghorn. but not for long, A young family long hours at work and then a move to Eastbourne took me away from BB. But not from the Old Boys, (Pre. Stedfast).

Then helping with 3rd. Eastbourne. Captain Ron Newman Lieutenant Ray Grout, I then moved from helper to W/O , Lieut. and Captain.

Ron's work took him away, Ray emigrated. Micale Scarlett. and Brian Daws. came on board. Then a move to Mid Sussex, not active in BB. but there is still The Old Boys,

We are now in Worthing, and on the committee of the 13th Old Boys.

As that wound up, Derek Ford, brought me to The Stedfast committee, We were all keen to have our own colour and so in the fullness of time we have it,

As you will see from the above. I had to have some involvement and yes I was the first colour bearer and carried it at it's dedication, in Dorset Gardens.

At the time of writing this I am welfare Officer, for Stedfast.

I have left my name out of the above. But now I remember who I am.

Jim Attwater

My Torch bearing Experience

Back in October last year I found out that my Senior Manager had nominated me for the work that I undertake in the community with Boys' Brigade (33 years as a Brigade Officer, 25 as a Captain) and helping with the homeless in Brighton, to be one of the 200 Torchbearers that Lloyds TSB, as a major sponsor of the Olympic Games could put forward to LOCOG (London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games). It was at that time that I also learned that there were to be 8000 Torchbearers to represent the 8000 miles the Olympic Flame would travel around the UK over 70 days and that each torch was to be designed with 8000 holes, each one representing a torchbearer. It was to be 800 mm tall and weigh 800 grammes.

In December I attended a lunch and presentations at the Savoy Hotel in London, hosted by Jonathan Edwards. Here I was told the good news that I was one of the lucky 200 people whose names had been submitted to LOCOG for their approval and security checks. This was my first opportunity to hold a 2012 Olympic torch.

In March this year I received confirmation that I was to be an Olympic Torchbearer and in April that I was to carry my torch in Portsmouth on 16th July. Although my BB lads, parents etc. were a little disappointed that I would not be carrying the torch in Brighton, this did not matter to me, I would have gone to John O'Groats if necessary for this once in a lifetime experience. I also knew that the BBC/LOCOG were to cover the Torch Relay live on TV and the Internet.

As time went on everyone kept asking if I was in training, but as more information was received, I felt that I could manage the 300 metres without too much worry. I didn't want to run too fast, as I wanted the run to last as long as possible. I was to be one of the 10 Torchbearers that took the Torch to the outskirts of Portsmouth City before it visited many villages, towns and cities before its evening arrival in Brighton.

On the Sunday 15th July the Olympic flame travelled to Portsmouth. We drove to Southsea Common, where 65,000 people turned out to watch the flame arrive and see the overnight cauldron lit. Here was my first taste of the Community Olympic fever that was gripping the country, young and old wanting a glimpse of the Olympic Flame, 5 or 6 deep along the roads from the Historic shipyard to the common.

We went back to our hotel and even after a couple of glasses of champagne, I still felt very anxious.

After very little sleep, my alarm woke me at 5.15am. I showered and was ready to go wearing my Official white Olympic Torchbearer tracksuit. I was too nervous for breakfast. 6am, Fratton Park, home to Portsmouth Football Club, was where I met the other 9 Torchbearers and the Metropolitan Police escorts and LOCOG support staff. Here we were given our final instructions, shared amazing stories and were made to feel at ease and special. There were numerous photos, radio, press interviews. At around 7.15am, 9 of us boarded the Torchbearers Coach which travelled 6 minutes in front of the carnival of sponsor vehicles, police motor bike outriders and the Olympic Flame. The first Torchbearer was a 92 year old amazing gentleman called John Jenkins who has worked at Portsmouth Football club since he was 20. He jogged out of the stadium to the cheers of Portsmouth school children. In the meantime, we were being dropped at our change-over-points. I was number 010 on the day, which meant I was the last Torchbearer in Portsmouth before the flame travelled on to Petersfield via coach.

Continued on next page



The moment I stepped off the coach with my Torch, a huge cheer went up, it was amazing. I was protected by 2 local Police officers at the side of the road. Everyone wanted to touch the torch and have photos taken. The Police had instructions to keep people away, but I was really happy for people to stand with me and have their pictures taken to enjoy that moment. After a short time one of the Met Police Flame support team arrived on his Mountain Bike to give me a 2 minute warning and move the crowds back. I was positioned in the middle of the road. As Bron Carter ran towards me the cheers got louder and louder. The flame was passed to me at around 8.04am, via the 'Kiss' as it is known and then holding my Torch aloft the realisation hit home that I was the only person in the whole World at that time holding the Olympic Flame! It is very difficult to put into words how I felt at that moment.

As I jogged along the route waving to everyone, it was very emotional, I couldn't help notice the smiling happy faces of children and adults, together with the incredible noise of all the cheering. At the end of my 300 metres, the flame was taken by taper from my torch to light one of the special Miners Lamps which enabled them to take the flame to the next destination. I then went back on another coach at the back of the convoy, which then returned us to Fratton Park for more photo's, interviews and for our Torches to be decommissioned so we could take them away.

Meeting up again with my family and friends, I enjoyed a full English breakfast before travelling back to Brighton to make an 11am School assembly at Stanford Junior where my BB Junior Section eagerly awaited the chance to see and hold the torch. That afternoon I visited Stanford Infant School, where the children showed me their Torches they had made. I will always remember their faces when I uncovered a real Olympic Torch.

The following day I visited 2 further Schools, showing my torch and sharing my experience. It really was a once in a lifetime experience and one that I will never forget.

Mark Jago, Company Captain 9th Brighton.

Dear Stedfast Association,

As promised here is an account of what happened in Northern Ireland 5 - side - football comprised by different comments from all the boys of 2nd Burgess Hill who were involved.

We set off on the train from Burgess Hill Friday evening on the way to the hotel for the night. The journey was long but we had a laugh and got excited for what was to come. We arrived at Southend and checked into the hotel for the night, as we had to leave really early in the morning. We left the hotel at 5am to go to Southend Airport and we all went through security with no issue except Isaac who had to be searched, haha. We had a good flight to Belfast and may have been too excited compared to others on the flight. We were met up by some Irish B.B. Officers who had broad accents that made it all feel real.



We arrived at Rathmore House and had a good breakfast and settled in before we had to get ready to leave for the competition. It was held at a University Sports hall which even had a huge score board which was used for all the games.

We realised we were the youngest team by far and that it would be a challenge as most of them were teams fully made up of 18 year olds. We played really well in the first two matches and won which got us really going. We then played a team who turned out to be the winners which was really tough which was the turning point for us.

We then lost the next three games, which we hated as we were so close to beating the winners and they only won with a last minute goal.

In the end we came 5th Nationally and 2nd from England. We had an amazing time and it was an experience of a lifetime.

All of us thank the Stedfast Association for enabling us to go to the finals, which we will never forget

Many thanks for your support.

Chris, Simon, Kealan, Joe, Grady and Ben



An update on The Stedfast Association and the Battalion from your Secretary Alan Caperon

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE AND OUR NEWSLETTER

Whilst there is positive news to report, it will of course take time to see the effects of the changes. We hope by the next reunion to have a Stedfast website to demonstrate to you so you can see for yourself what it has to offer. Also we now have a Facebook page.

We do appreciate that some of you do not have computers or the internet and rely on the Newsletter we send you. This will continue for as long as the members seek this by post. Of course you can go on the Internet even if you do not have a computer and can go to the library or an Internet café to visit your Stedfast website or ask a friend. This technology is the present and the future and we must grasp it if our Association is to appeal to the new generations of Boys from 18 years of age that we hope will want to participate in Stedfast.

Progress has already been made with the work we are doing with The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion and this will be reported in the Newsletter and indeed on the new website address;

The Battalion already allows us to use their website where you can see the Newsletter in colour. Please follow the link below to the Battalion website address;

brighton.boys-brigade.org.uk

THE BOYS' BRIGADE CONSTITUTION AND FEDERATION

At the Federation of Stedfast Associations ("the Federation") annual Council meeting in May 2012, the committee acknowledged that they needed to work more with The Boys' Brigade and in fact have made a donation to the Brigade of £500.

The Federation are also considering changes to its annual meetings in the hope of boosting attendance. We must hope that the Federation grows in the future and in turn can build on its existing relation with the Brigade which is what we are doing with The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion.

OUR BATTALION AND COMING EVENTS

It is your committee's intention to invite Senior Boys over the age of 16 to attend the next reunion. It is important that we meet these young men and find out what will appeal to them if they are to join us when they are discharged from the BB at the age of 18.

We intend to invite the Battalion to parade their colour at the reunion and also for them to attend with us on parade on Remembrance Sunday when we march to Grand Avenue in Hove.

We are also to canvass the views of current Company Captains as to whether they will promote the Stedfast Association as well as a joint Newsletter involving the BB. It follows that as Stedfast members Company Companies will expect your support in some way. This must be a reciprocal arrangement. We will need to support the Boys "now" if we are to expect these young men to want to carry on from us in years to come. Please see the 2012/13 programme of our Battalion in the newsletter. Please visit their website and we will do what we can to link this site to The Stedfast Association in due course.

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UPDATE ON OUR PLANS

We now have a representative from the Executive of the Brighton Battalion (Ray Eaves) who attends our committee meetings. We have been to a couple of Executive meetings and hope to attend their next meeting in October.

I hope that as we develop our plans and have feedback from the Company Captains and the Battalion Executive, we will find out what might appeal to the Boys in the Stedfast Association and we can look to support the future of the BB.

Once we have a combined plan, we will let you know and seek your comments upon it. We intend to go into detail in the next Newsletter so that we can then discuss with you at the Reunion.

CONCLUSIONS

We are still committed to The Stedfast Association and The Brighton Boys' Brigade joining together in more events and in circumstances which will lead to a greater connection in due course.

Please respond with any views and ideas so we can consider and perhaps debate at the AGM in January 2013.

Yours sincerely and Stedfastly

Alan Caperon
Secretary for the President and Committee

Taking the salute at Madeira Drive,

This photo has written on the back; "*Brigade Council September 1975*" (37 years ago).

I have counted 47 uniformed female Officers ahead of a contingent of male officers who are just coming into shot. There are at least 27 boys in the Drum and Bugle band. Opposite, taking the salute with the Brigade President is the Mayor.

It is worth noting that there are a number of Officers who are watching, not part of the actual parade. If you have an interesting photo send it to us with a few lines telling us about it and we will do our best to publish it.

Terry Pomfrey



Drill Competitions 2012

Competitions for the three trophies, Company Colour, Squad Medal, and Drill Shield, were held at Southwick Methodist Church in mid March. The judge was Alan Watts, Captain of the 5th London, and also an Honorary Brigade Vice President. 3 Companies, 3rd Burgess Hill, 1st Lindfield, and 1st Southwick participated.

3rd Burgess Hill held on to the Company Colour Cup they won last year, Lindfield won the Squad Medal, and the same two Companies shared the Drill Shield. Both the Burgess Hill Colour bearer, Corporal. Alex Ward, and the Lindfield Squad Commander, Lance Corporal. Tom Hewitt, were excellent. The judge commented that the standard of drill compares well with London District, with many more Companies!

(It is worth pointing out that two of the drill instructors, Bernie Dignum and David Walters are ex- London, from the 88th London and 9th London respectively).

One poignant moment: we had to say goodbye to Rev. Julian Albrow, Captain and Chaplain of 1st Southwick, as he will be taking up a new posting in the West Country in the autumn. Julian has made a great contribution to drill in the Battalion; although it wasn't Southwick's year this session, the Company set the standard for the rest for many years, winning all three trophies on at least one occasion.



[The photo shows Corporal. Alex Ward receiving the Company Colour Cup from Alan Watts]

Brighton Stedfast Band Report

Regrettably this is a somewhat rushed report. It is difficult to define what sort of year this has been, but your band has at least been active.

Checking my diary I am reminded that on the fourth of June we took part in the Bexley Heath Civic Parade. This is strange because I don't remember doing it, although I do remember Paul Simmons vehicle suffering a blow out as we re-entered Brighton. I remember the Simmons family and myself standing behind the barrier at Braypool, Patcham, whilst we awaited assistance; of course we had to wait for the Police to block off the lane.

On the sixteenth of June we played at The British Queen, Willingdon. We played in the car park surrounded by American Military Vehicles; I am sure that their purpose was to remove us from further harming the community should we perform badly. We're still here so we must have played moderately well. Prior to this engagement we assembled at John Donoghue's Impressive establishment where we practised the complete routine, including movements which were to make us appear less boring to Joe Public. While we practised on his Lordship's expansive lawns, It occurred to me that our noisy presence might annoy his neighbours. The day went well, thanks to Brian White's play list, and John Donoghue's hospitality.

On the first of July some of the band took part in a G.B. Church Parade in the London Area. 22nd of July saw us practising at Felden Lodge, and on the 4th of August one or two of our number took part in a double event in the Oxfordshire area, one at Amersham and one at Long Marston. Along with all this we practice regularly at Southwick Methodist Church on the first Friday of every month. Unfortunately as far as Brighton is concerned Buglers seem to be going the way of the Dodo. I must add that at Felden we introduced a new lady Bugler, Mrs Lynn Burtenshaw, who played a few years ago with the 14th Brighton Girls' Brigade. She is currently Drill Officer with the 26th Brighton Boys' Brigade/Girl's Association.

The next parade will be the Remembrance Day Parade at Hove Town Hall/All Saints.

Yours Stedfastly

David Norman. (Bugler)

Most of the band members can be seen here playing at the 2012 Reunion.



GLYNDE CAMP

Here are photos taken of the Glynde Camp mini Olympics.

The event was held on the Tuesday and there was also a special lunch to celebrate the event, thanks to the Stedfast Association.

As you can see Mark Jago was there with his torch and the boys are clearly delighted to be able to hold it.

If you have photos of your time at camp send them to us (we will ensure their safe return) along with your recollections, and we will include them in forthcoming newsletters



See page 15 for a photo taken at Glynde Camp in 1938

Profile on the Bugles & Drums of the Stedfast Association.

The band draws its members mainly from Old Boys and Officers of the Boys and Girls Brigade. It was originally the brain child of Mr David Kemp of the London Stedfast Association. These days it is administered by Mr Paul Hern of Malvern. The Band draws the bulk of its members from London, Brighton and Malvern as well as other parts of the country.

The Brighton 'Old Boys' band was founded by our late President Derek Ford who had been a major driving force in the Brigade, Stedfast Association and various BB Bands. Derek was succeeded by Mike Baker of the 13th Brighton and now by me.

Over the years we have played in a variety of locations including the Lord Mayors Show, Biggin Hill Air show, Edinburgh and Dublin. On a local level, we have played at various venues in Sussex and Kent. One of our requirements is and has been leading the Hove Civic Remembrance Day Parade.

Our band meets on the first Friday of the month at Southwick Methodist Hall, Headquarters of the 1st Southwick. We practice from 7pm till 9pm. Our bandmaster/musical director is Mr Brian White formerly of the Worthing Battalion.

Finally, I would like to invite any current Company Section member, Officer or Old Boy to come along and join us. Instruments provided as our Quartermaster/Adjutant John Donoghue has a large stock of Bugles, Drum and Bell Lyres.

For more information please call me on 01273 725368 ,or paul.simmons52@gmail.com

Regards *Paul Simmons*

Bugles & Drums of The Stedfast Association at RAF Holton 15-4-2012.



APOLOGY

In our last issue the article on the Stedfast Band failed to acknowledge the author of the report. The item in question is on page 16, (*Spring 2012*), The article actually refers to the 'national collective band' (not just those from Brighton) and the proper name of *Bugles & Drums of The Stedfast Association* should have been used. We are sorry would like to offer our apologies to David Kemp and Paul Hern, (National Band Coordinator) for publishing the article without ensuring that full permissions had been obtained. It is our policy always to seek permission before publishing articles in the newsletter.

Here is picture of the Lindfield band who took part in the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations



News from Overseas

Alan Caperon's father has received the following letter from Reg Skinner (Pictured front left) Officer & Old Boy 10th Brighton(Hove).

I was very pleased with the Stedfast News and to see names in it that I knew when we lived in the UK, Ben Edwards and Dick Dench were Officers with me in the 10th and Dick Kent and Frank Dale were about 17 years old then.

I still keep in touch Bern Blake he still lives at Shoreham Beach, Cliff Hall who lives in Canada, Roy Priestley who lives in NSW Australia.

I was with the Boys' Brigade for 20 years when we lived in South Australia. You would remember Bern at Stoneham Hall. All the best Reg.

(I was a lad in the 10th when Reg was an Officer, he was the son of the Company Captain Bob Skinner a man for whom I have a great respect. Nice to hear from him I unfortunately was unable to meet up with him when I visited Australia. I was going north and he was going south! Dick Kent)



Photo: Sussex Daily News

Fathers and sons in Camp (1938). R. E. SKINNER and REG.; VIC DUNFORD and ROGER; CHARLES HITCHINGS and DONALD; H. L. NORMAN and LESLIE.

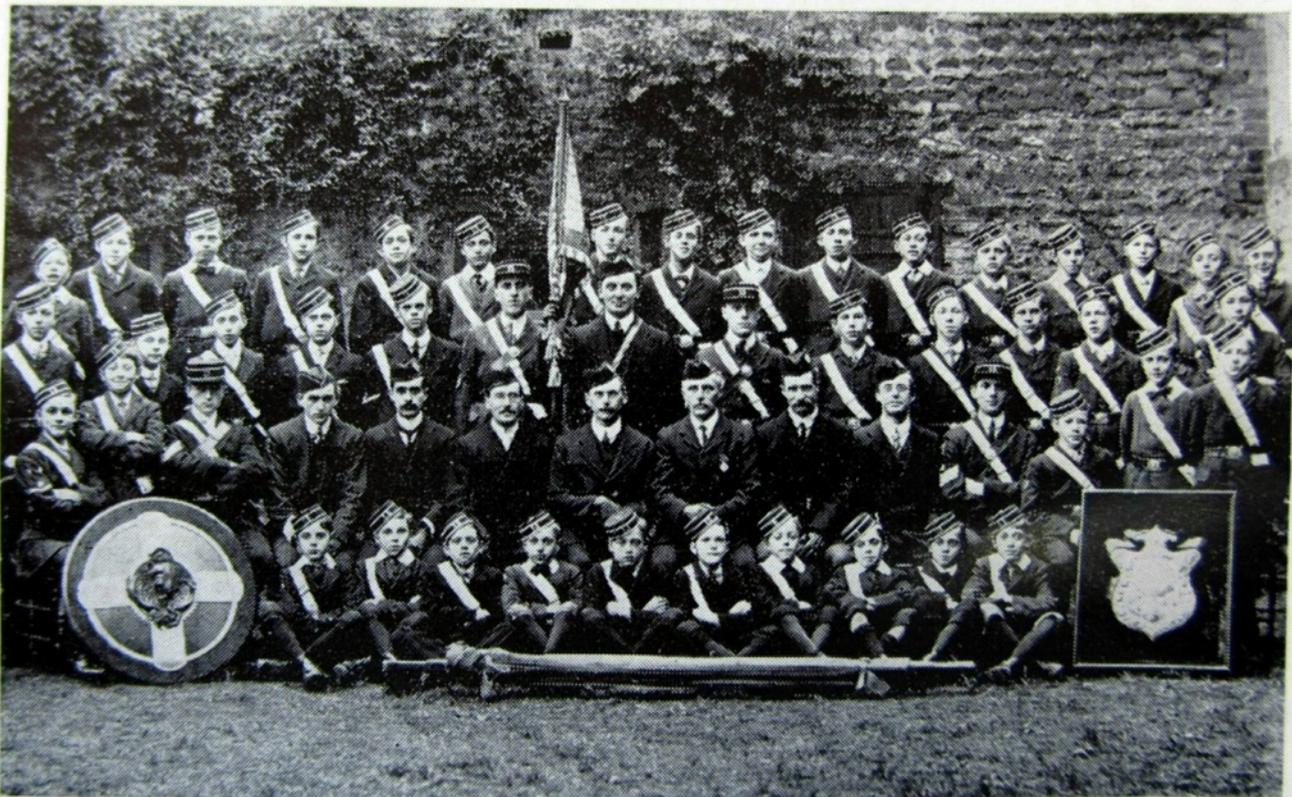
Looking Back

The Battalion suffered great loss in the First World War, through the death on active service of such Officers as Austen Hill (1st), Ernest Beal, V.C. (13th), Kenneth Faulkner (8th) and Harry Wright (13th) and perhaps even greater loss through the untimely death of many Old Boys who went straight from the ranks of the B.B. into the Forces.

The Battalion will ever hold its "V.C." Officer, Ernest Beal, in proud memory. His old "skipper," Philip Carden, another stalwart to whom the Battalion owes much, said of him that what happened in France in 1918 was almost bound to happen. *"He did not know how to spare himself. He led two magnificently courageous and successful attacks upon machine-gun posts and, later that same day, when a wounded man had been left in the open under heavy fire, he, regardless of danger, walked up close to an enemy machine-gun and brought in the wounded man on his back. He never knew that the great letters "V.C." would forever attach to his name, for he was killed by a shell the following morning"*.

A memorial award is presented annually to the most efficient Boy in the Battalion.

The earliest (and the latest) Winners of the "Daily Telegraph" General Efficiency Shield.



1912—The 13th (Lewes Road Congregational). The late ERNEST BEAL, V.C., is seated on the left, the Officer next but one to the Sergeant.

Extract from "The trumpet of the jubilee" a publication which celebrated the first 50 (1900-1950) years of the Brighton district Boys Brigade. Compiled by Terence Pomfrey

Battalion Forthcoming Events

Below are details of forthcoming events for the Battalion and hopefully some of you may be able to support the events.

October 2012

- 2 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 8 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 20 Saturday Junior Potted Sports (TBA)
- 27 Saturday Anchors Christmas Outing (Bluebell Railway)

November 2012

- 6 Tuesday Finance Committee (TBA)
- 11 Sunday Remembrance Day Parade

December 2012

- 1 Saturday Company Badminton Competition (Oathill Com College H/Heath)
- 4 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 31 Monday Battalion Statistical return due
- 31 Monday Brigade Statistical return due

January 2013

- 20 Sunday Stedfast Association Re-Union 2.30pm (Southwick Methodist Church)
- 31 Thursday Ernest Beal VC Award - entries due

February 2013

- 5 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 11 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 16 Saturday Company and Junior Swimming Sports (Steining Sports Centre)

March 2013

- 4 Monday Company Scripture Competition (Battalion HQ)
- 9 Saturday Junior Spring Competition (HQ 25th?)
- 20 Wednesday Company Drill Competition (HQ 1st Southwick)

April 2013

- 9 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 15 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 26/28 Friday-Sunday Junior Section Holiday

May 2013

- 7 Tuesday Finance Committee (TBA)
- 14 Tuesday Company 5-a-side Football (Oathill Com College H/Heath)
- 14 Tuesday Junior 5-a-side Football (TBA)

June 2013

- 3 Monday Company Athletic Sports (Withdean Stadium Brighton)
- 4 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 10 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 14 or 21 Friday Junior Sports Day (TBA)
- 18 Tuesday Company Harriers Competition (Glynde)

July 2013

- 2 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 10 Wednesday Battalion Council A G M (HQ 25th Brighton)
- 15 Monday Sussex 2013 Boys Camp Meeting (TBA)
- 26 Friday Camp Sussex 2013 commences (Glynde)

August 2013

- 2 Friday Camp Sussex 2013 concludes (Glynde)
- 31 Saturday Battalion Financial Year End

The next Newsletter will be December 2012.

Please submit all contributions (electronically or typed if possible) before 1st November 2012.

To Dick Kent, Staples, Staples Barn Lane, Henfield, West Sussex. BN5 9PR.
Email; rkent09@aol.com

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Reunion and Annual General Meeting

Our Next Reunion will be held on SUNDAY 20th JANUARY 2013 at Southwick Methodist Church. 2.30pm

We hope to see as many of you as possible for this our Annual Get Together.

We hope that this year we will have some Senior Boys and Company Captains with them.

They will be very welcome and we look forward to seeing them. They are our future.

Please come along and support your committee



At the AGM we will be electing our officers, as usual, but because of the departure of our Vice President The Rev Julian Albrow we will need to give thought to another candidate(s).

Any names to me, Dick Kent please. You will need to obtain their permission first.

We will need to appoint a new Treasurer, when long serving Frank Dale retires.

If you are interested, please contact Dick Kent for further details. A further update will appear in the Autumn edition of the Newsletter.

Remembrance Day Parade

11th November 2012

HOVE TOWN HALL Meet at 2.00 pm. Our band will be leading

WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE ON PARADE.

NUMBERS HAVE BEEN FALLING OVER THE YEARS

Band practice, First Friday of each month at Southwick Methodist Church meeting at 7.30 pm.

The Stedfast Association - Brighton is an organisation for past members of The Boys' Brigade Brighton Hove & District Battalion. If you have been a boy or member of staff in any company past or present within our Battalion you are automatically a member. Past Members of The Boys' Brigade from all over the world are welcome to join our Association by registering with our membership secretary

We invite you to register your membership with our membership secretary:
Ken Towner, 3 The Dene, Spencer Avenue, Hove BN3 8BY (01273 414688).

If you also send a subscription of £10.00 you will receive our regular newsletter keeping you up to date with all our events and news. (cheques payable to the Stedfast Association)