



Spring 2023

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

PRESIDENT
Peter Ford

VICE PRESIDENT
Vacant

CHAIRMAN
Ray Eaves

CHAPLAIN
Reverend Betsy Gray
Hammond

TREASURER
Alan Caperon

SECRETARY
Alan Caperon

MEMBERSHIP SEC
Vacant

COMMITTEE
Terry Pomfrey
Les Russell
Sue Standen
Paul Simmons

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Dick Kent

Brighton Stedfast Association ANNUAL REUNION SERVICE and AGM

**YOU are cordially
Invited to the**

Brighton Stedfast Association ANNUAL REUNION SERVICE

Sunday, 26th March 2023, from 2.00pm

The Reunion Service commences at 2.30pm

At

Southwick Methodist Church

Manor Hall Road, Southwick, Brighton BN42 4NA

The service is shared with the BB Brighton Battalion

**Our President Peter Ford
will lead the service**

You are invited to stay for
afternoon refreshments following the Service and
to sit in on the Stedfast Association AGM

**Please bring your company
colours for display**

For up to date information visit www.brightonstedfast.org.uk or telephone
Alan Caperon 07802 602322 – alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk

Dear Stedfast Members,

A generous painter offered to paint the exterior of his local Church. When his stock of paint began to run out he thinned some to finish the job. That night there was a terrible storm and the paint began to run and it all looked a mess. Suddenly he heard a booming voice above the noise of the storm, "REPAINT, REPAINT AND THIN NO MORE!" So often we try to do something and our enthusiasm dilutes and the result is less than our best.



Have you already broken your New Year Resolutions? I hope that you have not broken your resolve to attend this year's Annual Reunion on Sunday 26th March. The opportunity to meet again with old B.B. friends, to sing the familiar hymns and sample the superb homemade cakes is NOT to be missed. Our Secretary has worked tirelessly to organise this wonderful event so come along, bring your friends and have a great time.

A very special Christmas present last Christmas was a superb new edition of Richmal Crompton's "Just William". You know, the eleven year old, William Brown, who set out with so many wonderful plans that somehow became as many wonderful disasters. Each story is a gem and recommended reading.

The Boys of The Battalion and the Staff will I hope be already eagerly preparing for Glynde 2023, and we pray that this year will be the best yet for all concerned. A camp bed rather than a palliasse won't help anyone to sleep quicker or quieter but it is better to waken up in!

Looking further ahead to our Annual Founder's Day Dinner on the 4th October at Preston Bowls Club, we can quickly calculate that this will be the 140th Anniversary of The B.B.. Let's all support Les Russell and make this the best ever.

I recently read some of the long history of The Boys' Brigade by John Springhall. This highlights the wonderful dedication of both Officers and Boys throughout many years and we must pray that this will continue and even increase during the next decade.

I am compiling a list of all the many countries in which The B.B. or kindred Organisations are established. The results of that First B.B. Meeting at Woodside Mission in Glasgow are unimaginable to those who took part. The best is yet to be!

With Stedfast Greetings to everyone.

Peter Ford Stedfast Association President

EDITORIAL

Another year is upon us and hopefully we look forward to a better year with Covid being contained, I do hope that those of you that have suffered are now recovered.

Your committee have been busily preparing for the revised date for our Reunion and I and they look forward to seeing as many of you attending as possible.

Many of our members are now of increasing age and the move was made to ensure that it would enable those that are not happy with night driving could be with us (I am amongst them). Remember if you live near a fellow BB Old Boy you may be able to offer a lift to the Reunion, if possible.

There were comments at the last Reunion that the Sandwiches were missing from the Tea Tables sorry about that, this has now been rectified and sandwiches will be on the menu.

You will be asked to bring the Newsletter with you to the reunion as it will contain all the information for the afternoon events, this reduces the work load from our ever busy Secretary/Treasurer.

Your committee, who meet three times a Year is getting smaller and requires a small influx of members willing to join and ensure the continuation of our Association.

Most of you will have recognised that the majority of those attending the reunions are those that were members of the Brigade during and just after the war, we do not at the moment appear to attract the Very New Leavers.

Please give thought to helping keeping the Association alive for the future.

I do wish to say that those of our members who have not been in the best of health over the weeks, months or perhaps years are remembered especially at the Reunion and of course in our thoughts during the year. God Bless You All

Very Sincerely Dick

God Bless to You and Your Family.

IN MEMORIAM

The Boys' Brigade was proud to have Queen Elizabeth II as its Patron until she passed to higher service on 8 September 2022.

MEMBERS PASSED TO HIGHER SERVICE NOTIFIED TO US SINCE LAST REUNION

We have to sadly report the following members, who have been called to higher service. We send our deepest sympathy to their Family and Friends. May they Rest In Peace.

Martin White - 1st Hassocks

Chris Hawes - 1st Storrington

Robin Bolton - Stedfast Band

Jill Aylward - 10th B'ton and 23rd Portslade

Donald Peacock - 3rd, 14th and 15th B'ton

John Neil OBE Founding Patron of the Glasgow Stedfast Association-

John Neil attended one of our reunions some years ago and told us about his life in the BB

Chaplain's Page

I am very grateful to The Reverend Canon Tim Peskett of St John The Divine Church, West Worthing who agreed to be our guest chaplain for the Spring Newsletter.

You will see that Father Tim has given us his Lenten message.



Immediately after His baptism in the River Jordan, Jesus faced and resisted three powerful temptations during 40 days in the wilderness of Judea. This time of testing and temptation was His preparation for the work God had sent Him to do on Earth. It's the principle behind the season of Lent, which begins on 22 February. Although the temptations were personal to Jesus, many of us will recognise their relevance in our own lives.

The first was simple. 'You're hungry. You can do miracles. Well, turn these stones at Your feet into loaves of bread'. It sounds quite plausible, 'but in fact it's an invitation to put one's own needs first. Temptation rejected.

Then came the second: 'throw yourself off a pinnacle of the Temple. You know that God will send His angels to catch you before you hit the ground'. Again, it's plausible (there was even a verse from the Bible to back it up).

But this would be to substitute one spectacular publicity stunt for the hard slog of travel, preaching, healing and touching individual lives. Temptation rejected.

The third was outrageous. 'Fall down and worship corrupt and evil power, and You will have infinite worldly power and success'. In other words, the divine Son of God should deny His Father and worship the devil, to glean success without going to the Cross. For the third time, temptation resisted.

I know these temptations were tests of the Lord Jesus Christ, but can't we see in them temptations that come to all of us from time to time? Look after number one, and all will be well. Take the short cut to success and avoid all the hard slog. Compromise your integrity, in order to fulfill your ambitions. Or choose the hard way: walk the narrow path of honesty, commitment, and truth. That's really the Lenten choice.

Love, joy and peace to you all.

Fr. Tim

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

With Christmas now behind us we can look to the New Year with thoughts on things to look forward to, in March there is the Reunion which I know many of you look forward to, a chance once again to meet up with old friends and colleagues from our BB days. Please book the date Sunday 26th March so that you don't miss this very important event in the year. If you know of anyone who was in the BB, tell them of this date or bring them along. Your Committee are meeting to make arrangements for an enjoyable afternoon. Special thanks go to our secretary, Alan Caperon for all his hard work, coordinating and making sure things are right for the Reunion.

In May we look forward to the Coronation of King Charles III a time I am sure we are all looking forward to celebrating this historical event. How many of our older members can remember the last coronation in 1953? I can just about remember it.

We also look forward to the summer, warmer days and holidays, if you are going away I hope that you have a good time.

In October there is the Founder's Dinner to look forward to, if you haven't been before why not book the date, Wednesday 4th October 2023, come along and join us for an evening of good food and fellowship.

With the start of a New Year we make resolutions, why not make a resolution to come and join us on the Stedfast Committee, with some of our Committee members getting older and having to retire from the Committee our numbers are now starting to dwindle, so we need some new young members who have new ideas to take our Stedfast Association forward into the future.

Please give this some very careful thought, because if we don't get new Committee members the Stedfast Association will not survive and will have to close as did the London District Stedfast Association.

Myself and your Committee look forward to welcoming you to the Reunion on the 26th March 2023.

Ray Eaves

Stedfast Committee Chairman.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT

“Reunion 26 March 2023”

Please make every effort to be “on parade” for the Reunion on Sunday afternoon 26 March 2023 and please arrive by 2.15pm so you have time to sign the attendance registers, pay subs and hand in your membership forms.

I know that all our members do their best to attend the Reunion but please remember that your partners and BB friends are also very welcome.

Once you have read this edition of the Spring Newsletter you will have seen your reunion invitation, you will also see the order of service which will commence at 2.30pm with your favourite hymns and you will see at the Reunion our invited guests the Mayor of Brighton and Hove Cllr Lizzie Deane and the Chairman of Adur District Council Cllr Andy McGregor.

Please note in the Order Of Service section of the newsletter the catering for the afternoon refreshments. Once we have sung the BB Camp Grace at the start of tea, you will receive your favourite sandwiches and cakes with tea and coffee, followed by the annual general meeting. At the end of the afternoon, we will close with the singing of the BB Vesper.

Guest chaplain

I am very grateful to The Reverend Canon Tim Peskett of St John The Divine Church, West Worthing who agreed to be our guest chaplain for the Spring Newsletter. You will see that Father Tim has given us his Lenten message.

2022 Stedfast Association accounts

The Stedfast Association accounts for the year to 31 December 2022 have been prepared and are shown in the Spring newsletter for you to study before the reunion.

The accounts have not yet been certified by our Independent Examiner but I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have on the financial affairs of our Association at the AGM.

Membership

Whilst our Stedfast membership subscriptions have declined in numbers over the last two years, we received subs from 75 members in 2022 but hope that in 2023 the membership will increase since we are hopeful that more of our members will be able to attend the reunion now taking place in the Spring time. Please make an extra special effort to make contact with any BB colleague who hasn't attended our Reunions in recent years and pass this Spring Newsletter to them with our contact details or ask them to visit our website.

Continued on next page

There are many former BB members, former BB officers, current BB officers as well as their partners and BB friends that will be resident in Sussex and especially will live in the Brighton, Hove and District area. All are invited and are welcome and please make contact with any BB friend you know and tell them about the Stedfast Reunion and bring them along with you.

Our committee are looking forward to joining you in BB fellowship, to recall our BB memories and rekindle the comradeship we all have in the Stedfast Association and The Boys' Brigade since we last met in April 2022.

Website

Please visit our website at brightonstedfast.org.uk.

We will keep you informed on the website of any updates in relation to the Stedfast Reunion on 26 March 2023, including updates on the Founder's dinner on 4 October 2023 at Preston Bowls Club Brighton, the Remembrance Parades in November 2022 and any other relevant events.

Stedfast Association committee

Your Stedfast Association is **"greatly in need"** of new committee members for the forthcoming year and therefore please volunteer to keep our Stedfast Association continuing for another year.

I would like to give me personal thanks to the committee members that have worked so hard during the year and please come and see me should you wish to join our committee.

And finally

I look forward to welcoming you at the door of Southwick Methodist Church from 2pm on 26 March 2023.

Yours Stedfastly

**Alan Caperon,
Secretary and Treasurer**

ACCOUNTS

STEDFAST ASSOCIATION BRIGHTON HOVE AND DISTRICT BRANCH				
2021	2021	ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022		2022
		INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		Dec-22
	71	Members paid subs		75
£	£	INCOME		
	1,174.00	Total Subscriptions and members donations 2022		1,277.00
	0	Reunion collections		
	0	Reunion service collection		145.05
		Reunion tea collection		97.94
		Donations to Stedfast Association		0.00
75	75.00	RSM-donation		0.00
100	100.00	Other donations-members		0.00
20	20	Donations for The Brighton Boys' Brigade-Founder's dinner		0.00
	1,369.00	TOTAL INCOME		1,519.99
		EXPENDITURE		
0		Stock c/f (see below)		
	255.44	Newsletter costs		276.04
5		Stationery/envelopes		15.40
55.44		Postage (stamps purchased for year)		50.64
75		Printing -newsletters Spring		100.00
60		Printing -newsletters Summer		50.00
60		Printing -newsletter Winter		60.00
	0.00	Reunion 2022		293.76
0		Reunion tea and refreshments costs-no reunion in 2022		174.00
0		Reunion-adverts		27.60
0		Reunion-St John Ambulance etc		92.16
	155.06	Other costs		195.55
86.26		Computer software and website		100.65
		Stedfast plaques		26.10
68.8		Insurance		68.80
	670.00	Donations		622.99
45		Federation of Stedfast Association- Subscription		45.00
50		Wreaths- Remembrance Sunday for British Legion		50.00
350		Brighton Boys Brigade camp-donation		250.00
200		Southwich Methodist Church-donation		242.99
25		Preston Bowls Club-donation		35.00
	1,080.50	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1,388.34
	288.50	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		131.65
	100.00	Costs provision written back for previous years (not spent)		
	2,774.69	Surplus funds brought forward		3,163.19
	3,163.19	Surplus funds carried forward		3,294.84

STEDFAST ASSOCIATION BRIGHTON HOVE AND DISTRICT BRANCH				
2021	2021	ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022		
		BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022		TOTAL
New account	C/f			
	2,307.75	Cash at Bank		2,479.75
	-15.00	Creditor-sub for 2022 in advance		
620.32	887.32	Cash at Bank		994.34
620.32				
	-86.26	Creditors for website costs-2020		-86.26
		Subs in advance for 2023		-50.00
		Winter newsletter		-60.00
	60.38	CASH IN HAND		11.01
	9.00	Stock of Stedfast badges for sale=2 badges at £3		6.00
	3,163.19	Surplus funds carried forward		3,294.84

**STEDFAST ASSOCIATION
BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT BRANCH
Minutes of church service followed by the annual general meeting**

Held at Southwick Methodist Church, Manor Hall Road, Southwick on 10th April 2022. Annual Reunion Service at 2.30pm followed by tea and AGM.

President Peter Ford

Peter thanked our guests the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Cllr Alan Robbins and Cllr Andy Mc Gregor former Chairman of Adur District Council. Peter also thanked the Stedfast members for their attendance, and to Carl Jukes for playing the organ during the service. Sgt Harry Newman for saying the remembrance verses.

Chairman Ray Eaves

Ray welcomed the members and guests.

Ray thanked Peter Ford for officiating during the service, Reverend Frank Okai-Sam for the prayers, Rev Ian Suttie for giving the address, Gary Pickett for the Bible reading, Paul Simmons, Paul Hotton and Brian White for playing their bugles during the service. Thanks, were expressed to the joint colour party of Terry Pomfrey, Ray Eaves (carrying the Stedfast colours), Alan Caperon and Simon Davies (all of the 22nd Brighton (Hove) Co and to Sgt Harry Newman (1st Southwick Co) for carrying the Battalion colours.

Ray thanked those Boys' Brigade members for assisting us with the afternoon. Ray gave our thanks to Janet Spoor who provided the refreshments, and to our friends including Carol Simmons and Angela Eaves who set out the tea and refreshments. Ray also expressed our thanks to the St Johns Ambulance, who provided first aiders for the afternoon. Also to Pam Stringer for acting as our photographer.

Thanks, were given to the Stedfast committee, for all their hard work and a special mention was given to Alan Caperon for everything he does on behalf of the association.

The members sang the BB Camp grace together.

Greetings, announcements and apologies

Greetings, announcements and apologies were read by Alan Caperon as follows: -

Apologies were received from:

Ken Towner- 7th and 26th Brighton

Continued on next page

Brian Griffin- 3rd/6th/16th/17th Brighton
David Robertson- 10th Brighton Hove
Peter Davies- 22nd Brighton Hove
Jack Cant- 10th Southampton and London District
Pamela Cant- 10th Southampton and London District
Julian Becher- 23rd Brighton
Chris Hinton- 4th Brighton 2nd Burgess hill
Derek Hinton- 4th Brighton and former Battalion President
Paul Eaves- 10th Brighton Hove
Michael Ormerod- 10th Brighton
Derek Rance- 13th Brighton
Dave Norman- 13th 22nd 26th 29th Brighton and Stedfast band
Fred Rudwick- 26th Brighton

Adoption of the 2020 reunion AGM minutes and matters arising

Alan Caperon asked the meeting to vote upon the Adoption of 2020 Reunion AGM minutes which were unanimously approved.

Presentation and Adoption of the 2020 accounts-Alan Caperon

Alan Caperon presented the Associations accounts for 2020 which had been verified by Christine Townsend, Chartered Accountant. The members unanimously approved the adoption of the accounts.

Presentation and Adoption of the 2021 accounts-Alan Caperon

The accounts for 2021 were presented (to be independently examined by Chartered Accountant Garry Lock) and to be published in the Summer newsletter.

The Battalion President-Gary Pickett

Gary Pickett gave a positive report about the battalion. Despite lockdown and restrictions, the BB has continued for the boys, with the help of the BB at Home program and some companies meeting on zoom. Glynde camp was able to take place in 2021, although in a different format, split into two four-day camps it was the largest camp for several years. Gary thanked the association for their part in the funding for ten new bell tents. He was sad to announce the closure of the 10th, 14th, 25th Brighton and 1st Roffey companies, but said the seven remaining companies are all showing growth and stability. During this time 6 Queens badges had been awarded and the Ernest Beal VC award was presented to Harry Newman in 2020 and to Tom Baty in 2021. Gary thanked the members for their support and prayers.

Continued on next page

Nomination and Election of the Officers and Committee members for 2022/23

Dave Norman, Dick Kent, Ann Austen retired from the committee and Rev Ian Suttie gave notice of his intention to retire from the committee by 31 July 2022. Thanks were given to them for their work.

The members elected the Officers and Committee members that were all nominated as follows: -

President- **Peter Ford**

Chairman- **Ray Eaves**

Hon Secretary- **Alan Caperon**

Hon Treasurer- **Alan Caperon**

Committee nominations all elected

Paul Simmons, Terry Pomfrey, Les Russell and Sue Standen.

An appeal for new committee members was made.

Oldest and youngest old Boy's present- Dick Kent

Dick Kent ran through the hand's up lists, before he established the oldest and youngest members present. Peter Gear (10th Brighton Hove) who joined in 1941 was the oldest member on parade and Sgt Harry Newman (1st Southwick) the youngest. Peter Ford presented them with plaques to celebrate this.

Any other business

Dick, our newsletter editor, made an appeal for items to go in the newsletter.

It was discussed whether to keep the reunion in April or revert back to its January date, in 2023. There were concerns mentioned for both months and after an inconclusive vote, it was decided that prospective dates would be published in the next newsletters for approval by the membership.

The vesper was sung at the close of the AGM

There were 6 BB company colours on parade, including the Stedfast colours and Battalion colours.

The church collection was later counted and totalled £145.05.

The tea table collection was later counted and totalled £97.94.

The attendance for the afternoon was in excess of 60 members and guests, including the Boys and officers from the Battalion.

30 BB Companies had former members on parade along with representatives from London District and from the 1st Greenock in Scotland.

The AGM concluded at 4.50pm.

Annual Service & Reunion

Southwick Methodist Church

Sunday, 26th March 2023 at 2.30 p.m. Followed by Tea & the A.G.M.

All are invited and very welcome

ORDER OF SERVICE

RECEIPT OF COLOURS

WELCOME BY THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Peter Ford

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.

1st Hymn

O WORSHIP THE KING

PRAYERS-Rev Dr Frank Okai-Sam

2nd Hymn

UNDERNEATH THE BANNER

BIBLE READING-Mark 4; 1-9 (The Parable of the Sower)

ROLL CALL OF COMPANIES: Ray Eaves-Stedfast Chairman

3rd Hymn

WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD

Offertory

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

REMEMBRANCE

TO GIVE THANKS FOR ALL MEMBERS THAT HAVE BEEN CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE. AFTER READING THE NAMES OF THOSE MEMBERS THAT

HAVE DIED SINCE OUR LAST REUNION, PLEASE STAND IN SILENCE FOR THE LAST POST AND REVEILLE

4th Hymn

SHINE JESUS SHINE

ADDRESS-Rev Peter Elliott

5th Hymn

WE THANK YOU OH OUR FATHER

RETURN OF COLOURS

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

REUNION TEA AND AGENDA FOR the
Annual General Meeting
to be held at the tea tables at 4.15 p.m.



1. Welcome and thanks – Ray Eaves
2. BB Camp Grace
3. Greetings, announcements and apologies-Alan Caperon
4. Adoption of 2022 Reunion AGM minutes - Alan Caperon
5. Presentation of 2022 accounts - Alan Caperon
6. The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion
8. Nomination and Election of Officers and Committee members

President - Peter Ford
Vice-President-to be nominated
Hon. Secretary - Alan Caperon
Hon. Treasurer-Alan Caperon
Committee nominations

10. The Oldest and Youngest Members Present-Les Russell
11. Any Other Business and date of next Reunion
12. BB Vesper and Close of AGM

B.B. Camp Grace
to be sung at the start of tea

O Lord of heaven and earth and sea,
 To Thee all praise and glory be.
 Accept our thanks we give to Thee,
 Who givest all. Amen.

The B.B. Vesper
which we will sing at the close of the A.G.M.

Great God, who knowest all our need,
 Bless Thou our watch, and guard our sleep;
 Forgive our sins of thought and deed,
 And in Thy peace Thy servants keep.

We thank Thee for the day that's done,
 We trust Thee for the days to be;
 Thy love we learn in Christ Thy Son,
 O may we all His glory see.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL MEN MEMBERS OVER THE AGE OF 65

This morning I went for an ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM (AAA) screening. I went because a friend insisted I did - after he had gone following the death of a friend of his who didn't go! A timely test in that case would undoubtedly have saved his friend's life!

The test is (supposedly!) offered to all MEN over 65 and SHOULD be offered automatically. **I was never offered one - and I'm willing to bet that most of our male members over 65 haven't been offered one either.** I got my appointment by going on-line and requesting one. Entering my NHS number, the system knew that I hadn't had one - and instantly offered me a choice of venues and appointment times: I got an appointment within two weeks: probably much quicker than my GP would have got me one! It was as simple as that.

The scan itself took about 3 minutes and I was back home within an hour of setting off to the Hove Polyclinic. All the test entailed was baring my chest. I was given the result there and then. Fortunately I was OK.

All the 65+ men should take the test - it can be a life-saver.

This is obviously an important test and should not be ignored. I certainly wasn't aware that it should have been offered to me when I got to 65, or that my GP should have arranged it. He didn't! I was particularly annoyed because, about 30 years ago, a friend of ours dropped dead aged about 50 when just such an aneurysm burst: when they burst there is no other outcome. No time to call an ambulance - you are DEAD!!

PLEASE, DO NOT IGNORE THIS, GO STRAIGHT ON-LINE AND BOOK YOUR TEST NOW.

What happens during AAA screening

Screening for AAA involves a quick and painless ultrasound scan of your stomach. When you arrive for your appointment, a screening technician will check your details, explain the scan and ask if you have any questions.

For the scan:

you lie down on a table and lift up or unbutton your top (you do not need to undress) the technician rubs a clear gel on your tummy and moves a small handheld scanner over your skin - pictures from the scanner are shown on a monitor and the technician will measure how wide your aorta is the gel is wiped away and you pull down or button up your top the technician tells you the result straight away. The whole test usually takes about 10 to 15 minutes.

Sometimes the technician might not be able to see your aorta clearly. This is not anything to worry about. If this happens, you'll be asked to have another scan, usually on a different day.

Results of AAA screening - You'll be told your result at the end of the test. If a problem is found, you'll also be sent a letter confirming the result and letting you know what happens next. There are 4 possible screening results;

No aneurysm found

If your aorta is less than 3cm wide, this means it's not enlarged. Most men have this result.

You will not need to have any treatment or monitoring afterwards, and will not be invited for AAA screening again.

Small AAA

If you have a small AAA, this means your aorta measures 3cm to 4.4cm across. Just over 1% of men screened have a small AAA. You will not need any treatment at this stage as the chance of the AAA bursting is small. You'll be invited back for a scan every year to check its size. Treatment will usually only be needed if it becomes a large AAA. You'll also be given advice on how you can stop an AAA getting bigger, such as stopping smoking, eating healthily and exercising regularly.

Medium AAA

If you have a medium AAA, this means your aorta measures 4.5cm to 5.4cm across. About 0.5% of men screened have a medium AAA. You will not need any treatment at this stage as the chance of the AAA bursting is small. You'll be invited back for a scan every 3 months to check its size. Treatment will usually only be needed if it becomes a large AAA. You'll also be given advice on how you can stop an AAA getting bigger, such as stopping smoking, eating healthily and exercising regularly.

Large AAA

If you have a large AAA, this means your aorta measures 5.5cm or more across. About 0.1% of men screened have a large AAA. As large AAAs have the highest risk of bursting if left untreated, you'll be referred to a specialist surgeon within 2 weeks to talk about your treatment options. Most men with a large AAA are advised to have surgery to stop it getting bigger or bursting. While surgery carries a risk of serious complications, this is generally smaller than the risk of not treating a large AAA.

Band Report

Greetings to all our members,

Since my last report, there has been little change in the fortune of the bugle band. We still try and meet up and practice every couple of months, with our friends from London and together we are still able to make a noise.

We are still meeting at Woodmansterne Baptist Church, in Coulsdon, Surrey. Our next get together is in just over a week at the time of writing this report. It's surprising how much noise we can make, when there are only about a dozen of us. But we have a good time, meeting up with friends from various locations.

Our monthly, bugle zoom practices on a chosen Monday and now the Thursday of the same week, for those who can't make the Mondays, are still taking place. These sessions are organised and run by my good friend, Paul Hotton, who has strong connections with our Battalion. Paul is a serving Captain and band master in the London district. He attends our reunion every year and joining me in our "ceremonial part of our Service along with Brian White, our own band master.

We have recently revised our play-list and have incorporated new tunes. "Swing March" and "St Louis Blues". Also we are learning a new fanfare, written by Paul and his late brother, Martin. The piece has had several names, but now is known as, Fanfare, Rob Bolton. Rob passed away a short while ago and is greatly missed. He was BB through and through and came from the Wolverhampton area. He was our National band's President, and had written several books about The Boys' Brigade. He was a true Christian Gentleman dedicated his life to youth work.

The focus of the band has now changed nationally with the main membership drawing in members, from the East of England, North of England, West of England, and Wales. We also have membership from Scotland, Germany, and Guernsey. So we can still put out a good sized National Band for large national events like the "Lord Mayor of London's Show". As screened by BBC 1 in November each year.

As always, we are looking for new members regardless whether they are experienced musicians or novices who have never played. Sadly, because of the loss of Companies in the South and South East, recruiting is hard as the younger members are few and far between.

We look forward to catching up with as many of you who are able to attend our annual Reunion on the 26th March at Southwick. Please come along if you can and enjoy the camaraderie you experienced many years ago and join us for tea and our AGM (sandwiches are now back on the menu as well as tea/coffee and cake). It'll be good to see old friends and make new ones. Blessings to you all.

Paul Simmons

Band Representative for your Committee.

**FOUNDER`S DAY DINNER WEDNESDAY EVENING 4th OCTOBER
2023**

Preston Bowls (Brighton) Ltd., have confirmed that the facilities will be made available to us again this year.

This means that if you have penciled in that date on your diary or your calendar now:-

INK IT IN.

Please remember this date if you have any, non-perishable, unneeded gifts over the festive season. The venue can seat up to 70 diners so there is room for more members this year.

E-mail Les Russell to book your place; lc.russell@hotmail.co.uk.

Les.

Stedfast Prayer

Lord bless the work of The Boys' Brigade, we pray for the boys girls and officers, that they will be enriched by their experience of The Boys' Brigade for the rest of their lives.

We pray for the Stedfast Association, that it can continue to support the work of The Boys' Brigade, in all its endeavours in any way it is able to.

We pray for all the former members of The Boys' Brigade, who are now Stedfast members and also for those who have not yet joined us, that they will be inspired to join us, and that they can be active within the Stedfast Association.

We pray for our members who are feeling the weight of their advancing years, that they know they are remembered and upheld by the Stedfast Association.

We pray for our committee that they will continue to guide us for for as long as they are able.

We pray and give thanks for the life of our patron, Queen Elizabeth II, and of all our members who have passed to higher service in the last year. We hope that the lives that have passed will inspire the lives of those who are yet to come.

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen.**



Membership Form for 2023

May we remind you that subscriptions are due, the present recommended subscription for members and associate members is £10-00 per year (more/less if you wish).

Subscription/Contribution enclosed £

Cheque's payable to "**Stedfast Association**" .. please

Or pay directly to the following bank account:-

Lloyds Bank plc

Account name-The Stedfast Association Brighton

Sort code-30-90-89

Account number-56240860

Company

Name

Address

.....

..... Tel Number

Post Code

Confirm e-mail

Newsletter via email **OR** Hard copy by post
box

Email

Post

Old Boy..... Officer.... Helper Friend /Supporter..... Band
Member

Please return this completed form together with your subscription to:-

The Secretary

Alan Caperon

72 Poulter's Lane

Worthing

West Sussex BN14 7SZ

Should you no longer wish to remain on our mailing list, would you also please inform the Secretary by email to alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk

The next Newsletter will be Summer 2023

Please submit all contributions before the end of May 2023
(electronically or typed if possible)

To Terry Pomfrey 148 Mile Oak Road Portslade Brighton BN41 2PL.

Email; Pomf3es@virginmedia.com

All reasonable efforts have been made to seek permission from the owners of works included in this publication and acknowledge their work. However, if you believe that copyright work has been included without your permission, please contact the editor.



Photo; Worthing Carnival 2019

Welfare

Please let me know if you are aware of any of our members who are unwell or in need of Support. I will try and help
(Contact me at; rkent09@aol.com)

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.

To register, contact our secretary:

Alan Caperon 72 Poulterers Lane Worthing, West Sussex BN14 7SZ
alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk

To help with the association costs, we would suggest a donation of £10
Associate members now welcome
(cheque's payable to the Stedfast Association)