

Spring 2021



# 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**  
Rev. Ian Suttie

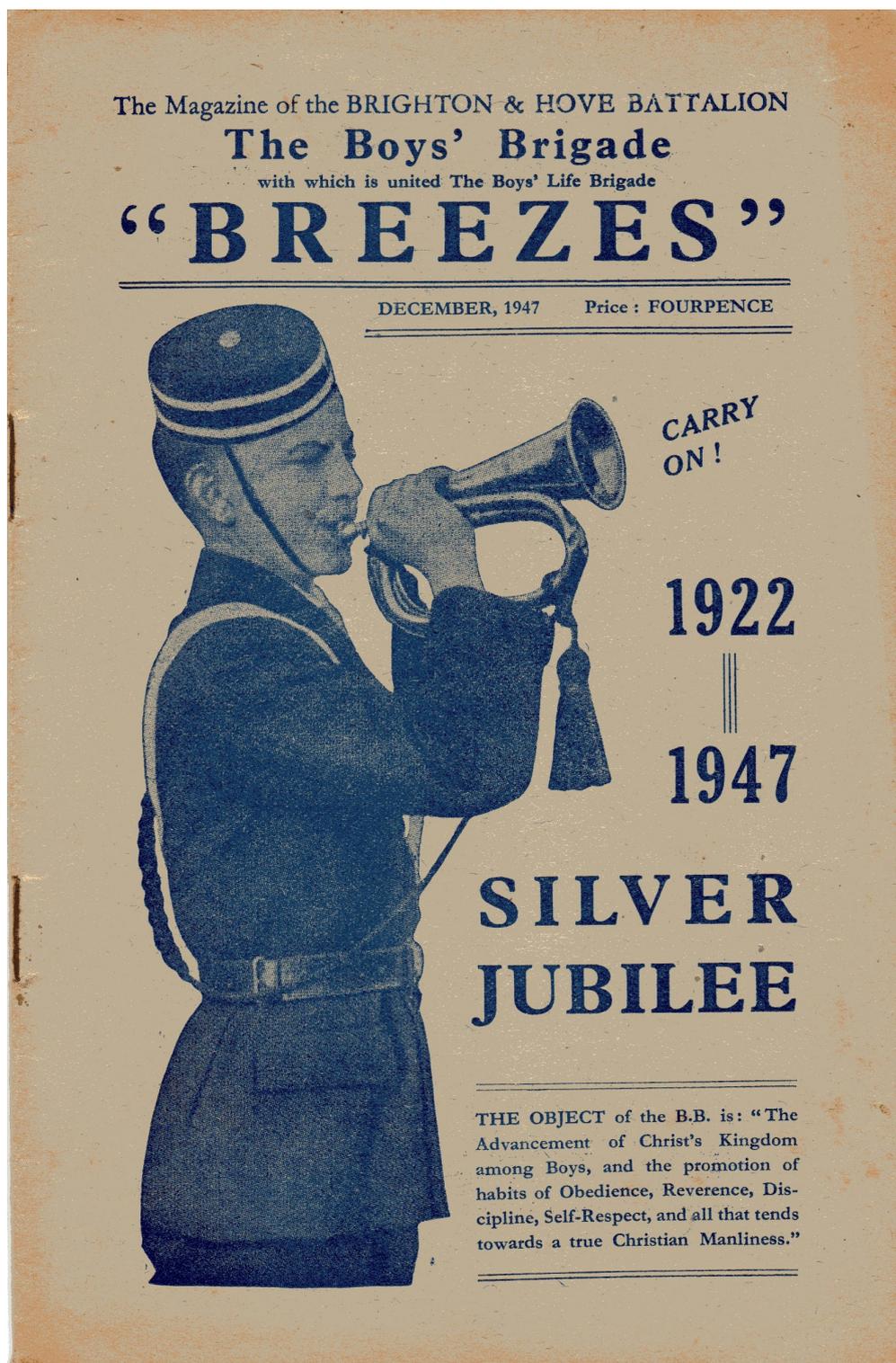
**TREASURER**  
Alan Caperon

**SECRETARY**  
Alan Caperon

**MEMBERSHIP SEC**  
Ann Austen

**COMMITTEE**  
Dick Kent  
Dave Norman  
Terry Pomfrey  
Les Russell  
Sue Standen  
Paul Simmons

## BREEZES Magazine feature



See inside for further photos

## Dear Stedfast Members,

The greatest EASTER BLESSING on each one of you and on all those who will join The Boys' Brigade in the years to come.

Easter is the time to rejoice and be overwhelmed with joy and saturated with love for all that Our Lord has done and continues to do for us.

Where would we be without Him? We would be lost in an endless whirlpool of conflicting currents pulling us into a vortex of abject misery. Imagine for a moment the benefits of Love, Hope and Joy which he has bestowed upon us. The undying Love, The eternal Hope and The everlasting Love which surround us every day.



Our Lord is closer than a brother and leads us throughout all time to perfect His great purpose to redeem the world and create Heaven on Earth.

The Boys of The Battalion will be eager to renew old friendships and make new ones, and The Officers and Staff will be just as eager to introduce them to their Great Captain and enter the most challenging era in B.B.history. They need you to pray for them and to shower them with all the help you can give.

The world is now far smaller than it was only a few short years ago. I sent an email to the Pacific Cook Islands last week and received the reply less than an hour later! How James Cook would marvel!. Every day new heights are being achieved and this will continue until all on earth acknowledges The Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Remember to pray for The Staff who welcomed you into your Company and the lads who were your boyhood friends. Where they are now only The Lord knows and He knows everything about them and loves them all with unconditional love - as He loves you

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

**Editorial - Spring 2021**

It appears that we may be getting to grips with the dreaded Covid-19 virus. Only time will tell and we hopefully will be able to return to our previous days, fingers crossed. Our committee will be able to meet and the Annual General Meeting will be able to recommence which will give us a chance to meet with old friends again. Depending on circumstances notice will of course be given when we can renew activity.

I know from my own experience It has not been a good time for many so I do hope that that with the approach of summer things will improve for everybody, getting out in the fresh air and sunshine it will be a blessing indeed. I look forward to the return of something that we can say is near to our normal ways and we can return to those ways of the past, all the things of which we were familiar can again be part of the life that we previously enjoyed be it Church, Sport, Shopping or very important the ability to visit and enjoy family and friends being together.

The Newsletter has been an important part of the committee being able to keep in touch with the membership over the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, if any of you have an item that you may find of interest to members please let me or the Secretary know. It would be nice to have some material to have available for future issues. Be safe during the next few months, obey the rules and see the hopeful demise of this dreadful virus.

God Bless you all.  
See you again soon.

**Dick**

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**The next Newsletter will be Summer 2021**

Please submit all contributions (electronically or typed if possible) before 30 June 2021

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

Email; Pomf3es@virginmedia.com

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## IN MEMORIAM

We have to sadly report the following members, who have been called to higher service since our last reunion.

### MEMBERS PASSED TO HIGHER SERVICE

Name	Company
Ron Baldey	11th Brighton Company.
John Marchant,	6th Brighton Company
Brian Steinicke	13th Brighton Company
Celia Elliott	10th Brighton (Hove)
Jill Long	1st Southwick Company

#### **Brian Steinicke**

Brian passed away in December and his funeral was on the 14th of January this year. Brian and I were close friends in our youth. Our mothers led the Sunday school, so after bible class Brian and I would go to his house at in Hartington place until junior church was over and dad came to fetch my mum and sister.

Brian had been diagnosed with bowel cancer, but his cause of death was kidney failure. Brian leaves a wife Theresa a daughter Claire and a son Charlie.

*Dave Norman*

#### **John Marchant,**

John joined the 6<sup>th</sup> Brighton Coy of The Boys' Brigade at Dorset Gardens when he was 13 yrs old. It was a large company. My three brothers, two cousins and two neighbours also belonged to it. They met at Dorset Gardens for weekly Bible Class and gymnastics each week and at Elm Grove School for Drill ,Band Practise, and First Aid. They had Church Parade at Dorset Gardens once a month. Several of them would meet at Gizzi's in St. James Street for coffee after meetings. When they were at Elm Grove they would leave their gear at our house and collect it later.

John, Colin Currie and Les Russell (my brother) became Church Members on the same day. Several of the boys would meet at The Dome service on Sundays and also to the Epworth Club at Dorset where John met Jean.

John became a Church and Dome Steward. He also, along with Colin and Les, became a member of The Stedfast Association. They always paraded on Remembrance Sunday right up until John went into a nursing home. Right up until his last Sunday at Dorset John always knew who I was and asked after Les.

I think it was because John came to Dorset Gardens and Dome that his Mum and sister Elsie also came. Elsie married Bob Archer one of the BB Officers. Brian Leaney who had been coming to Dorset, either alone or with a carer, before Lockdown was also a BB friend of John. I was 11 years old when I first knew John.

*June Cooke (nee Russell).*

*We send our deepest sympathy to their Family and Friends. May they Rest In Peace.*

**Dear Friends,**

Another Lent in lockdown! One of my colleagues was heard to say that this was the 'Lentiest Lent' he had ever experienced. He felt that he has had to give up so much over the last months: handshakes and hugs, going to the cinema or the theatre, going out for meals at restaurants or for coffees; going to 'unessential' shops and going to Church. Given that he has had to give all these things up, he said, he certainly wasn't going to give up chocolate too! I expect we will all want to sympathise!

This last lockdown has seemed to many of us to be particularly hard going. Unlike last time, the winter months haven't been conducive for going out for walks or for enjoying our gardens. If you have been stuck inside for a few weeks, it must have been tough. And, coupled with all the restrictions, many of us will have had worries about loved ones, finances and work. The light at the end of the tunnel is, of course, the vaccination programme. It has been amazing to see how quickly the vaccination programme has been rolled out with so many people having now received their first injection, and many their second as well. It seems that some restrictions are going to remain in place for some time, but at least there is the prospect of a little easing as we move into the spring and the summer.

Churches will all be adopting different policies about reopening for 'live' worship. I had originally hoped that the churches I am responsible for would reopen on Easter Sunday, but we have taken the decision to wait until the first Sunday in May. In the meantime, we will continue to offer Zoom Services and send out weekly worship resources to those who cannot access the internet. No doubt there will be considerable variation across the churches on reopening, but we will all have the intention of doing what is best and safe for our congregations.

The light at the end of the tunnel that is Lent is, of course, the good news of Easter Sunday: 'The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!' I am writing this letter on the verge of Holy Week. On Palm Sunday we will be remembering our Lord entering Jerusalem and the crowds greeting him as they waved their palm branches and sang their 'hosanna's.' We will then go in heart and mind with Jesus as the events of that momentous week unfold. It certainly was a momentous week and remains so for us as we not only look back on it, but also relive it in our hearts and minds. What must it have been like to be at the table when Jesus broke bread and poured out wine and said, 'This is my body ... this is my blood, poured out for you and for everyone for the forgiveness of sins?' What must it have been like, struggling to stay awake in the Garden as Jesus wrestled in prayer before the arrival of the band which came to arrest him? What must it have been like to have fled into the darkness, knowing that you were deserting your Master and friend? What must it have been like seeing the cross from afar?

On Easter Sunday we celebrate the victory of love over these dark moments, and not just those of the disciples of long ago, but also those dark moments that confront us now. The resurrection of Jesus assures us that in him we can find forgiveness and new beginnings, that whatever our past hesitations and failures, he still calls us to his side, and that through his victory we can be assured that his love will hold us both now and for all eternity. However you will be spending Holy Week and Easter Day, I hope that you will find once again the joy and peace of the Risen Christ surrounding you and keeping you steadfast in his service.

*Easter Blessings,*

*Ian Suttie*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I SEND YOU STEDFAST GREETINGS FROM ALL OF YOUR COMMITTEE AND HOPE THAT YOU ARE ALL KEEPING SAFE AND WELL.

WITH CORONA VIRUS RESTRICTIONS BEING SLOWLY LIFTED WE HOPE THAT IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL WE CAN MEET AS A COMMITTEE TO PLAN FOR THE LONG AWAITED REUNION IN 2022.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED TO HIGHER SERVICE AND WILL NOT BE WITH US AT OUR NEXT REUNION. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES.

WITH EASTER APPROACHING ~~AND~~ RESTRICTIONS BEING LIFTED, WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET OUT AND ABOUT AND TO SEE OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS. WE MUST ALSO REMEMBER THE SACRIFICE JESUS MADE FOR US BY DYING ON THE CROSS.

ON BEHALF OF YOUR COMMITTEE I WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL AND YOUR FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY EASTER.

**Ray Eaves**

**Committee Chairman**

*(Ray was having computer problems but still managed to submit his article using a more traditional method).*

**SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT****REUNION-2021 cancelled NEXT REUNION 16 JANUARY 2022**

**We have now reached the stage where your Stedfast Committee is able to confirm that our Annual Reunion Service and Tea for 2021 has been cancelled.**

The current Government Rules will allow the Committee to meet up after 21 June 2021, although this date may change nearer the time depending on developments in the meantime. This means that your committee will hopefully be able to meet up in July 2021 to start the arrangements for the 2022 reunion which will be on 16 January 2022. **PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES.**

Regrettably, Covid-19 will be around throughout 2021 and into 2022 and the Government has still not mentioned the rules for the long term. For example, in our situation how will some 100 people be able to meet, sit together and stand together to sing hymns at the reunion service? How can we then sit together at the tea tables? Once the decisions have been made by the Government, your Committee will be able to consider the implementation of the new rules so they can be adopted and all necessary safety procedures put in place.

The arrangements and programme for the reunion on 16 January 2022 will be reported in the Winter newsletter. Let us all hope the reunion will resemble those previously enjoyed every year by us all up to 2020?

**Membership and benefits**

Your membership subs each year contribute to the following:-

- The Reunion;
- The 3 newsletters;
- The Founder's dinner;
- Support to our Stedfast band;
- Support to our BB Battalion and for Glynde Camp;
- To cover the costs of the Stedfast Association, including its website and Facebook
- Making our usual donations;
- Various other costs.

This year your Stedfast Association will have to reduce its costs because the reunion will not take place meaning there will be no collections in church.

Our members usually pay subs at the reunion, but majority of you have not yet paid for 2021, probably because you have been waiting to find out whether the 2021 reunion will take place so you can pay on the day.

*Continued on next page*

The members subs so far received in 2021 are insufficient for us to cover the usual Stedfast Association costs and to maintain the same level of donations to Southwick Methodist Church, to BB Glynde camp (if it occurs in July 2021) as well as our other donations?

We will keep you updated.

### Stedfast Association Accounts

The accounts for the year to 31 December 2020 haven't yet been independently checked by Ms Christine Townsend, Chartered Accountant, in view of us both being in isolation at our respective homes and I am unable to get the records to her. I hope that I will be able to meet up with Christine within the next 3 months in order to report to you on the status of the certified accounts.

Please see the following draft accounts:-

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Income</b>	Paid up Members 115	Paid up Members 114
Subscriptions	1,533	1,528
Reunion collections	349	349
Donations received-members	190	-
Donations received-RSM	150	160
Donations received-for the BB		15
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>2,052</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
BB-Glynde donation	Cancelled in 2020	(235)
BB-KGVI officer training donation	-	(75)
Southwick Church donation (including reunion orders of service)	(525)	(500)
BOBS donation	(35)	-
Federation membership costs	(45)	(45)
Band-Worthing carnival expenses	Cancelled in 2020	(100)
Preston Bowls Club-Founder's dinner donation	Cancelled in 2020	(20)
Website-estimated	(100)	(98)
Remembrance services (laying of one wreath due to restrictions imposed in 2020)	(50)	(70)
Newsletter costs etc	(339)	(328)
Insurance	(69)	(69)
Reunion costs (excludes order of service costs in 2020), includes donation to St John's Ambulance	(337)	(465)
Sundries-Medals for members etc	-	(13)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(1,500)</b>	<b>(2,018)</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>34</b>
Bank B/F	2,052	2,018
<b>Bank C/F</b>	<b>2,774</b>	<b>2,052</b>

I would like to thank our members for their generosity last year and to those members that paid additional donations. Due to the lock-down, RSM UK, the accountancy firm that I work for, printed the Summer 2020 and Winter 2020 newsletters at no cost. I have treated this cost saving of some £150 as a donation in the accounts (RSM also printed the newsletters on 2 occasions in 2019). I have thanked RSM for their kind donations on your behalf.

The surplus in the year was also as a result of the cancellation of events because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

### **Budget for 2021**

So far in 2021, we have received in total £562 representing 40 members subscriptions.

We have made a donation to St John's Ambulance of £57 this year representing the amount owing for the cancellation of the January 2021 reunion.

I will provide an updated budget in the next Newsletter.

### **Members passed to higher service**

It is with sadness that we have to inform you that five of our members have passed to higher service as follows:-

- Ron Baldey-11<sup>th</sup> Brighton BB Co
- Celia Elliott-10<sup>th</sup> Brighton (Hove) BB Co
- Jill Long-1<sup>st</sup> Southwick BB Co
- John Marchant-6th Brighton BB Co
- Brian Steinicke (13<sup>th</sup> Brighton BB)

We have passed our sincere condolences to their families but have been unable to attend their funerals due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

### **Brief history of Breezes for The Boys' Brigade, Brighton Hove and District Battalion**

Whilst I have been in lock-down at home for much of the last year, I have read through my collection of Breezes and once again have gone down memory lane.

Did you know the following:-

- First edition of Breezes was in December 1922,
- 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of Breezes therefore was in December 1947
- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of Breezes was in December 1972
- May 1975 Breezes headline "*1,296 Highest ever Battalion strength*"
- My own BB story was reported in April 1975 and May 1975
- Did you know that Peter Ford, our President, was the editor of Breezes in 1975!

*Continued on next page*

I have another question. Do you have any Breezes at home and if so are you mentioned in Breezes? If so, do you want to share your story with your fellow members?

I have read so many Battalion BB company reports containing names of so many great leaders that served our Battalion from 1922 onward. The names are too many to single out, but you know the leaders that meant so much to you. Due to my membership of the Stedfast Association, I have been able to stay in touch with so many of my friends that I served with as you will have done. It is so important that we nurture these friendships and also remember all our BB friends that have passed to higher service.

Please share your stories with us.

Please see extracts in this newsletter from the above mentioned Breezes.

### **Welfare officer position**

I previously reported upon the need for a “**Welfare Officer**” which is the role that James Attwater fulfilled admirably.

The position needs to be filled and I have made some enquiries which we will report to you once we have had our next Committee meeting.

### **Committee members and officers**

I am pleased to report that your Committee and all current Stedfast officers have agreed to remain in post until the next AGM.

### **And finally**

I hope you all have a very safe and Happy Easter.

**Yours Stedfastly**

**Alan Caperon**

**Secretary and Treasurer**

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## **Band Report.**

Sadly, owing to the current Covid-19 situation, there is very little to report except that our Zoom bugle practices are continuing on a monthly basis and is gradually increasing in numbers from all over the UK.

We are still awaiting to hear about future events and that we have applied and hope that we will be invited to take part in the London Mayors Show in November, that's If we get invited and that it takes place, unlike last years which was cancelled due to Covid.

Best wishes to all, Stay safe and hopefully see you at our Reunion, when ever it happens.

**Paul Simmons.**

## BOYS' BRIGADE BREEZES

The Magazine of the  
BRIGHTON & HOVE BATTALION.

TO OUR FRIENDS :—

Every Officer and Boy is asked to try and sell two copies with a view to extending the work of the Battalion.

WILL YOU BE A SUPPORTER  
AND BUY ONE ?

DECEMBER, 1922.

PRICE 2<sup>D</sup>.

MOULTONS (PRINTERS) LTD., BRIGHTON.

## BOYS' BRIGADE BREEZES.

The Magazine of the Brighton and Hove Battalion of the Boys' Brigade.

VOL. 1. No. 1.

DEC., 1922.

LET me introduce myself as your new friend, "Boys' Brigade Breezes". Of course—you don't know me yet—I've only just arrived—I hardly know myself yet. This is my first outing. For the last three weeks I have been cooped up with a very worried looking chap who calls himself the Editor—he nearly worried the life out of me—he cut a word out here and pushed another in somewhere else—but as the boy said—"All's well that ends well, and here I am."

Now you and I know that the B.B. is the best boys' organization in existence and it is up to us never to let it down. You've got to aim at being the best boy, in the best Company, in the best Battalion in this best organization, but in order to do this you must know what the other fellows are doing, and this is where "Breezes" comes in :—

Boys' Brigade Breezes  
Tells of other chaps' wheezes.

Every month "Breezes" is going to report the doings of the various Companies in the Battalion.

If a boy comes on to parade with his pill-box over the wrong ear, "Breezes" will remind him. If a chap doesn't play the game and "Breezes" hears about it—look out for the next number.

"Breezes" is out to help you chaps, and "Breezes" is out for fun, but "Breezes" will never forget that the chief aim of the B.B. is to bring you fellows into touch with Jesus Christ, because it is only when this happens that you get the very best out of life. So, if you stick to "Breezes," "Breezes" will stick to you, and he hopes that a friendship will spring up, so that in time to come, you will regard "Breezes" as a real pal.

The Magazine of the BRIGHTON & HOVE BATTALION  
The Boys' Brigade  
with which is united The Boys' Life Brigade

## "BREEZES"

DECEMBER, 1947 Price : FOURPENCE



CARRY  
ON!

1922

1947

### SILVER JUBILEE

THE OBJECT of the B.B. is: "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."

5

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS YOUNG

Editorial

"Breezes" was born in a gale in the depth of winter and first saw the light of day in December, 1922. It was fathered and named by one who was then the Battalion Secretary, Mr. W. A. Habens, Lieutenant 14th Brighton, known to one and all as "Billie." It was a modest twelve-page issue, but, like most babies, it soon yelled its head off and from the start won a place in the heart and home of every B.B. Officer and Boy. Month by month it grew in size and circulation and in time established itself as an integral part of the Battalion—a binding force and linking into one whole first the seventeen Companies existing in 1922 and the twenty-seven existing to-day. It made one family of the Brighton and Hove Battalion—its Officers, its Boys, its Instructors, its Church supporters, the Parents of our Boys, and by no means last that vast and growing body of Old Boys.

Nor must all the credit for this happy family spirit be laid on the pages of "Breezes" alone, for "Breezes" itself is but a continuation of the magazine tradition. The Brighton (and Hove) Battalion first issued a monthly Bulletin in 1897, a cyclostyled sheet. Then in 1900 came a monthly magazine, *The Grasshopper*, popularly known as the "Insect." This flourished till 1914, when the war snuffed it out for eight years—the only break in fifty years of Battalion work.

It was in August, 1926, that Billie Habens and the present Editor shared a tent at Glynde Camp as was their custom. Sharing a tent is hardly the word—it was a dog's life for poor Chas.—but let it pass. And then it was, his lordship Billie announced that he was shortly going on holiday. The poor little slave must run the September issue on his own. (It was the year and month when the Brigade Council visited Brighton too.) He obeyed orders and has been waiting ever since, all those twenty-one years, for the return of the original Editor. It has been a long holiday . . .

The staff of "Breezes" deserves a word of mention. Frank Sinden, of the 5th, was its most enthusiastic Publicity Officer. He put "Breezes" on the public map and he sent copies to everyone from Royalty to the humblest Old Boy. He once left a copy on the top of Ben Lomond. He sent them to every corner of the globe from China to Portslade. "Our Frankie" was succeeded by that happy warrior, the late George Martin, whose loss we still feel, and who became our first Advertisement Manager. The actual running of "Breezes", however, has been in the hands of three men: Mr. E. L. Wise, the Distribution Manager, Mr. W. W. Waddington, the Business Manager, and the Editor. The work of the two former Officers is done behind closed doors and out of the limelight, but never were there two more faithful and efficient husbandmen. If you would honour "Breezes", you must first honour these two men whose labours have made "Breezes" what it is.

"Breezes" without Nikhs is unthinkable ("I should jolly well fink so 2," sez I), but then he is a comparative newcomer, having joined the Staff only twenty-four years and nine months ago. He celebrates his Jubilee on April 1st, 1948, so we will leave it to him to blow his own trumpet in that issue.

Let "Breezes" blow, let "Breezes" grow.

ARE YOU SAVING UP FOR CAMP ?

GLYNDE CAMP, JULY 31st to AUGUST 7th  
31 Weeks to Go

A Bob a Week will see you through with ample pocket-money

WILL YOU BE ONE OF THE 400 ?

# THE BOYS' BRIGADE

The Brighton, Hove and District Battalion

# BREEZES

1922 - 1972

## 50th Anniversary Issue

(A SURE FOUNDATION!)

Oh, hearken, for this is wonder!  
Light looked down and beheld darkness;  
'Thither will I go', said Light.  
Peace looked down and beheld war.  
'Thither will I go', said Peace.  
Love looked down and beheld hatred.  
'Thither will I go', said Love.  
So came Light, and shone.  
So came Peace, and gave rest.  
So came Love, and brought life.  
And the Word was made Flesh, and dwelt among us.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN.

**PRAISE THE LORD**

December 1972

THE OBJECT of the B.B. is:-  
The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom  
among Boys & the promotion of habits  
of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-  
Respect and all that tends towards true  
Christian Manliness.

2½ p.

## THE BOYS' BRIGADE BRIGHTON, HOVE and DISTRICT BATTALION "BREEZES"

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43 Fonthill Road, Hove. Tel: 732052.



Patron:  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

## The Fruits of The Kingdom

The first issue of "Breezes" appeared fifty years ago in December, 1922. In every copy has been included the words of our Object, "The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and all that tends towards true Christian Manliness".

Our Lord emphasizes the need to test ourselves by results and therefore included in this issue are illustrations of some of the "Fruits of The Kingdom" - Love, Joy, Peace, Long-Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness and Temperance - to help us see the progress that we and our Companies have been led to make during the whole or part of the past fifty years.

**THE BOYS' BRIGADE**  
The Brighton, Hove and District Battalion

# BREEZES

1296

**HIGHEST EVER  
BATTALION STRENGTH**

NOW

**"Our utmost for His highest"**

THE OBJECT of the B.B. is -  
The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom  
among Boys & the promotion of habits  
of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self  
Respect and all that tends towards true  
+ Christian Manliness +

MAY 19755p.

## IT'S SHOW TIME

In the presence of Mr. A.A.J. Hudson, The Brigade Secretary, The Battalion entertained a capacity audience to another highly successful, quick moving and skilful evening on St. George's Day. The Battalion Trophy winners are as follows:-

**JUNIOR SECTION:**

- The Potted Sports Trophy ..... 26th Brighton Company
- The Festival Trophy ..... 1st Lindfield Company

**COMPANY SECTION:**

- Draughts ..... 22nd Brighton (Hove) Company
- Table Tennis ..... 18th Brighton (Hove) Company
- Squad Medal ..... 25th Brighton (Portslade) Company
- Bugle Band ..... 23rd Brighton (Portslade) Company
- P.E. .... 22nd Brighton (Hove) Company
- First Aid ..... 14th Brighton Company
- Drill Shield ..... 23rd Brighton (Portslade) Company
- Football Div. 1 ..... 14th Brighton Company
- Football Div. 2 ..... 23rd Brighton (Portslade) Company
- Football Sen. K.O. .... 14th Brighton Company
- Football Jun. K.O. .... 8th Brighton Company
- Harriers Senior ..... 14th Brighton Company
- Harriers Junior ..... 23rd Brighton (Portslade) Company

## BATTALION DRAUGHTS TOURNAMENT

No doubt about the Champions in this Competition. The lads from Portland Road the 22nd won all eight matches by the amazing average of 14½ - 3½ per match. In the game of draughts this shows a very high degree of skill and concentration, well done the 22nd. The 4th after several years as champions have to be content with second place this year with 7 out 8 wins the 22nd inflicting their only defeat 13 - 5. The 13th and 30th kept their leaders on their toes and all teams this year managed to win at least one match. I would like to thank all Companies entering this Competition for keeping exactly to the fixture card and its good to report that every match was played. Well Done Everybody.

**FINAL LEAGUE TABLE**

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
22nd .....	8	8	0	0	16
4th .....	8	7	0	1	14
13th .....	8	5	1	2	11
30th .....	8	4	1	3	9
9th .....	8	3	2	3	8
28th .....	8	3	0	5	6
1st .....	8	2	0	6	4
10th .....	8	1	0	7	2
26th .....	8	1	0	7	2

**22nd BRIGHTON (HOVE). Portland Road, Hove Methodist Church. Capt. E. Patching.**

The news this month is that our Draughts Team have now completed their fixtures in the Battalion League and are undefeated, and so win the Cup outright for the first time. Well done Sgt. P. Carpenter, Cpls. A. Caperon, D. Pomfrey, L/Cpl. K. Sanders, Ptes. B. Burtenshaw, A. Marjoram, A. Caplin, C. Penten.

We are practising hard for "Showtime", and our Company Display May 7th, the Band will also be in the Corn Exchange for the Junior Section Church Parade Service on May 3rd.

At our Company Church Parade held on Sunday 13th May, our Battalion President presented Sgt. Garry Mitchell with the Presidents' Badge, during the Service, we thank Mr. and Mrs. Derek Hall for being with us on this occasion, and again congratulate Garry on gaining the award.

All our runners in the Harriers Competition finished the course and the Junior Team finished 3rd in the Battalion. The Senior lads also gave a good account of themselves.

We shall be almost at Camp when this report is read, and although we have had a lot of rain in the past, this will not dampen our spirits. Cowfold here we come.



SUBJECT OF  
this award is  
a young Boy & the pro-  
moter of the  
of Obedience, Reverence  
Respect and all that  
+ Christian Manliness +

MAY 1975

## MY BB YEARS AND ON

Like many of you I became involved with the Boys' Brigade by joining the Life Boys of the 10th BB Company at the then Cliftonville Congregational Church in Blachington Road Hove. My Sisters attended the 1st Hove Company of the Girls Life Brigade.



At the age of 11 I was transferred to the Company Section and I think that there were about 40 Boys in the Company. The Captain who I much admired was Bob Skinner the Company was also blessed with Officers to respect i.e Harry Stone, Bill Bleach, Dick Dench, Mr Thompson.

A very Happy Company regular days for meetings and events such as Bible Class, of course, Gymnastics, Band Practice (We had Bagpipes and Drums) first aid and sport.

I was discharged as with many life long friends in the Company, Ernie English, Peter Gear, Barry Braiden, Vic Hayward among them. I left school when I was 17 and obtained a job in Insurance but a year later I was conscripted and joined the Royal Artillery serving firstly training at Oswestry then a Clerks Course at Woolwich Barracks then moved to Oldenburg in Northern Germany until I was demobbed in July 1953 sent to the TA Centre in Dyke Road.

After a while I joined the TA on a regular basis (Bounty Paid £30 appeared attractive at the time) and I served there until 1963. in the meantime I had been moved to Crawley by my Company, although prior to this I had been back the 10th and ran Monday Night Gymnastics. I gave up the Monday Classes and I then moved on to East London then Chelmsford before retiring in 1993 and moving back to Henfield.

Being local I had no further problem in coming along to the Annual Reunion in January, although I had come down from London and Chelmsford when weather permitted. I became involved with the Committee following a request from Derek Ford and I then started as Editor of the Newsletter and continued until now.

Age now has caught up with me and I feel I need to hang up my pen! Alan and Terry have supported and made sure I was helped over the last few years, so I know the newsletter is in good hands, a necessary connection with our members, and is one of the reasons that we maintain good membership and have splendid attendances at our reunion.

A brief summary of my life and hopefully we can get other stories relating to our members journeys since retiring from the Brigade.

The Newsletter needs news!!!

**Dick**

# THE BOYS' BRIGADE

## BRIGHTON HOVE & DISTRICT BATTALION

Hassocks United Reformed Church, 23 Keymer Road, Hassock, BN6 8AB  
 email: [bbbrighton@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:bbbrighton@boys-brigade.org.uk) Personal Email: [gazzabb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gazzabb@hotmail.co.uk)



Battalion phone number: 07745 299289

From the office of:

**The Battalion President**

Tuesday, 23 March 2021

Dear Old Members of the Brighton Hove and District Battalion,

I wanted to get this letter to you personally from myself the current Battalion President. This has been a very hard year for the Battalion which most of you have very fond memories of.

We have been recently applying for grants to support our Battalion Camp due to happen in July 2021 due to current restriction we will need to buy another marquee to be able to house and social distance everyone who has signed up. We need to raise £7,230 for another marquee, I have managed to so far secure £1,250 so we still need another £6000 we are also needing to purchase new bell tents as many of you will know some of our tent date back to the war and these are slowly needing to be replaced at a cost of £600 each.

If anyone would like to make a personal donation for either of these needs, we would truly be grateful, I am aware that some people are upset that visits to Glynde Camp are no longer possible due to guidelines from national headquarters. I am happy to write to you individually with a photo of the campsite with an update of how it has gone either this year or next depending on the guidelines later this year. I know it's not the same but I want to show you we do care about the support and prayer you still show to the Battalion.

Over the last year the Battalion has tried to adapt to the situation and to help run activities and support the companies which are all still supporting the young people they work with either through virtual session, BB@Home activities or when allowed they have met face to face. It has been good that no company has shut down through this pandemic but the financial constraints on some companies is now starting to show.

We have held a photo competition this year and we are currently awaiting entries to our baking competition but photos can be seen below or on our Battalion website.

Blessings

Gary Pickett

Battalion President

*Photographs shown on next page*

Patron: H.M. THE QUEEN

Registered Charity number 1071122

Object: 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.



## Reunion and Annual General Meeting

Our Next Reunion  
16 January 2022

at Southwick Methodist Church. Service starts 2.30pm Meeting from 2.00pm for enrolment.



If you are reading the Brighton Stedfast Association newsletter for the first time we hope that you have found it both interesting and informative. If you have any items that you think may be of interest to our members you can contact the Editor or secretary, (details inside this newsletter) or visit our web site;

<http://brightonstedfast.org.uk/>

**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](mailto:alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk)**

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



Membership Form for 2021

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    £

Cheques payable to “ **Stedfast Association** “.. please

Company

Name

Address

Tel Number

Post Code

Confirm e-mail

Newsletter via email **OR** Hard copy by post Please indicate in one box

E mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Post	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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

**If you wish to send any letter with a BB story for us to include in the newsletter, please tick this box:-**

Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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](mailto:alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk)