



Summer 2017

# 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

Rev. Ian Suttie

### CHAIRMAN

Ray Eaves

### TREASURER

Alan Caperon

### SECRETARY

Alan Caperon

### MEMBERSHIP SEC

Stephen Roberts

### COMMITTEE

Jim Attwater  
Adrian Attwater  
Dick Kent  
Terry Pomfrey  
Les Russell  
Paul Simmons

## Dear Stedfast Members,

Since our last Newsletter The Battalion has held a very important Meeting on the 11th April to seek God's Will for the way forward, and to pray for the strength to carry out His plan.

Members of Stedfast are encouraged to seek ways in which they can support and encourage their local Company or Companies with which they have a special affinity.

*There are three ways in which to carry this out:-*

### 1. Pray 2. Make contact 3. Offer to help

1. Pray for guidance as to where to offer your help.
2. Make contact where you are led to make a difference.
3. Be ready to offer assistance in any way knowing that you are doing it for Him.

If every Company has Stedfast Members ready to encourage and work it will be of great value in helping The Battalion to Advance.

Have you been on holiday yet? Whether life is one long holiday or whether you take an occasional short break to somewhere of interest, it is good to get away from the everyday familiar things and experience more of God's World and of His wonderful provision. As we look around the earth we can see and hear about much that disturbs and concerns us but we have the knowledge that above our own freewill God is in charge.

Members of The Battalion will be looking forward to another Glynde Camp with all the fun and fellowship, and our good wishes go out to all The Staff and Boys.

So many charities have well established shops selling on their behalf. Why not The Boys' Brigade? If any Member knows of any potentially suitable premises please email or call me and I will be very pleased to investigate.

Congratulations to The Tenth on their Display and Awards Evening, it was a great joy to be present and to know that next year it will be The Music Hall again.

With Stedfast Greetings to everyone.

**Peter Ford Stedfast Association President:** [peterford7@gmail.com](mailto:peterford7@gmail.com)

07790 064 983



## EDITORIAL

Time passes so quickly it seems but a short time ago that we were enjoying the Annual Reunion and before we know it the next one will be upon us, - *Looking forward to that.*

The committee continue to work hard to ensure that the Brighton Stedfast continue to remain strong.

Happily our membership continues to stay in good numbers and we have good membership attendances at the reunion, - *See some of you at the Founders Day Supper.*

This has not been a good time for the country just recently, please remember in your prayers those who have lost their lives and those who have been injured and are still suffering together with their Families, Loved ones and friends. Our thoughts are with them.

I wish all of you the very best of summers and for those of you(including myself) who may have differing health problems. I wish you well.

To all of you God's Blessing **Dick**

---

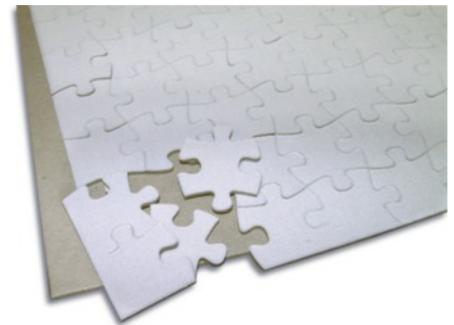
## PRAYER

Lord, many of us like doing Jigsaw puzzles, but without the picture on the lid of the box we are often lost. Too many young people are struggling and feel they have no place to fit into. Help us that through the Stedfast Association and with the Brighton District Battalion we might help all of the young people in our companies to find their place in life's great puzzle. May we listen for your guidance as you fit us into your great jigsaw puzzle of life, help us to hear and respond to your challenges for us, for the coming months in our association, and also in our everyday lives.

We do not know what the picture on the box of life is but we can rest assured that there is a home for each piece of our jigsaw puzzle and that it will be perfect fit.

Lord bless each and every one of us, your puzzle pieces.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



### **The next Newsletter will be Autumn/Winter 2017**

Please submit all contributions (electronically or typed if possible) before 31/10/2017

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.*

## IN MEMORIAM

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

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

**Peter Walker**, 16th May 2017 9th Brighton

John Goodwin 29th

### **Peter Walker-**

This photo was found among his personal effects. Peter is the chap wearing the keepers pads front row second on the left. Do you know who the other boys are ? If so please let us know.



If you have any photos you would like to share with us and perhaps have a question about them answered, please send or e-mail them to the address on page 2 (they can be jpg PDF scan or photo copy or photo). NOTE; Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you wish to have the photo returned.

## Chaplains Page... Sunny days



“Rainy days are gone, sunny days are here again” are lyrics from a Reggae song by Luciano.

Barbara Streisand sang; “Happy days are here again, the skies above are blue again.”

Looking forward to summer camp we hoped for sunny days and blue skies. Occasionally we have to accept hurricane force winds. At our 1954 camp at Wallasey we lost the big marquee during the night. But we sang from the BB booklet Camp Songs [No.14] the chorus;

Sing when the day is bright, sing thru the darkest night;  
Ev'ry day...all the way, Let us sing, sing, sing.

My first BB camp was at Bognor Regis in 1953. Being a sickly youth, I took with me pills, potions and an inhaler. Camp was the best thing that happened to me as I was introduced to fresh air. That was the turning point to health and fitness.

The 11th Coy went to camp with three generations of Harrisons, The Captain Emeritus at 93 years of age, his son Henry the current Captain and grandson “Sam”. Henry was a carpenter and Sam was a tool maker in the factory where I worked. When the Northamptonshire cricket team had a problem, Sam was called off the factory floor to keep wicket. You may remember at last year's Reunion you saw the bugle band of the 11th Company who were on the BB Jubilee cassette. There were Officers of several other Companies who went to camp, one of whom persuaded me to take over Secretaryship of the Battalion football leagues.



You have your memories of sunny and happy days. Did you sing No. 12 from The BB Song Book?

Blow the good old bugle, Boys, and give a hearty cheer;  
Step it out! The baggage cart is bringing up the rear.  
We're off to spend the happiest week in all the year,  
While we are camping at \_\_\_\_\_.

One of my memories is that of the Captain of the 30th Northampton who went to camp for his honeymoon! For adolescent boys this was fascinating.

In today's world of violence and instant death, let us give thanks “for peaceful homes and healthful days and for all the blessings earth displays” [The Boys' Brigade Hymn Book, No. 17] Let us appreciate the freedom to travel and the finances to associate with others. “When Summer suns are glowing over land and sea” and “Happy light is flowing, bountiful and free” we pray “Light of light, shine o'er us on our pilgrim way; Go Thou still before us to the endless day.” [BB Hymn Book No. 180.]

At the same time we remember others who are suffering and persecuted and pray that Isaiah's prophecy may be fulfilled. “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining upon them.” [Isa. 9:2]

I close with words of a Charles Wesley hymn [BB Hymn Book No. 103]

Christ, Whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise triumph o'er the shades of night:

Day-spring from on high, be near Day-star, in my heart appear.

*John C. Neal*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Greetings to you all from your new Stedfast Committee Chairman, Raymond Eaves.

In case you don't know me I would like to give you a brief detail of my B.B. life. I was introduced by a friend at Sunday School and joined The Boys' Brigade at the age of eight in the "Life Boys" of the 22nd Brighton (Hove) Company. Methodist Church, Portland Road, Hove. The "Life Boys" was run by a lovely Christian lady whose name was Enid Fletcher. The Company Captain was a truly Christian man whose name was Eddie Patching, who had a big influence on my future life, not only within B.B. but with becoming a Christian, he was someone you could look up to and the Boys throughout the Company certainly did.

At the age of eleven I was transferred up into the Company Section, I went through the ranks and was discharged having gained the rank of sergeant, I then became a staff sergeant, warrant officer and the full lieutenant. During my time in the 22nd I was a member of the "Silver Band", helped the Company win the "Drill Shield", "Draughts Cup", "Athletic Trophy" and "First Aid Trophy", to name a few. I also took over as drill officer and helped the Company to win the "Drill Shield" on a few occasions.

When I got married, family life meant that I had to give up B.B. work. But when my son was five he joined the "Anchor Boy Section" of the 10th Brighton (Hove) Company. Central United Reform Church, Blatchington Road, Hove. They soon found out that I was an ex-B.B. Man, so I joined the Company, first as a helper and then I became an officer within the Company Section and took over as drill officer. When the Captain Alan Lee had to give up due to ill health, I took on the role of Captain, which I did for six years, before I had to give up due to a back injury sustained at work.

Once I had recovered enough from my back injury, I was asked if I would become a Battalion Vice-President and serve on the Battalion Executive committee, which I did up until July 2013. During the time that I was on the Battalion Executive, I also judged the Battalion Drill Competitions.

I joined the Stedfast Committee later in 2013 and have enjoyed serving on the committee until the present day. When John Donoghue retired at the Reunion in January, I gave a lot of thought and prayer to taking on the role of Chairman, and decided to give it a go. At the committee meeting in March 2017, committee members voted on behalf of you for me to be your new Chairman. I will try to serve you well as Chairman, John Donoghue being a very hard act to follow. I wish him best wishes in his retirement from the committee.

I look forward to serving you as Chairman and look forward to seeing you at the next Reunion in January 2018.

Best Wishes to you all,  
**Raymond (Ray) Eaves** *Committee Chairman.*

## **Wanted - We need you.**

**Did you blow your own trumpet (or Bugle)?**

**You may well think it's a bit early, but preparations for this Remembrance Services have already started, and with next year's Centenary (the end of the first world war) also rapidly approaching, we need as much help as we can get.**

**I get numerous requests for buglers, most of which I've been unable to assist, hence this plea for help.**

Instruments can be provided as well as refresher training. It doesn't automatically mean you'd need to join the band, Unless you want to. You just need to be a registered Stedfast member.

So please contact me. Paul Simmons on 01273 725368 or via email at;  
[paul.simmons52@gmail.com](mailto:paul.simmons52@gmail.com).

I look forward to hear from you.

Paul Simmons

---

## **Response to Events in Manchester**

Tuesday 23rd May 2017

What horrible news to wake up to. All those families shell-shocked by the trauma and wrapped in such grim tragedy. We in The Boys' Brigade have Manchester very much on our mind as we prepare to hold our next annual Conference there in September. Now all our arrangements for that gathering will be clouded by the sadness of the times we are living in. Words are useless but we have to use them all the same.

All of us feel some of the pain though none of us can know it in the same way as those grieving the loss of loved ones or anxious about the health and well-being of the wounded. Our love and prayers go out to all those afflicted in this dreadful event. And we continue to ask ourselves how to reach the minds and change the hearts of those who have perpetrated it.

May God bless us all.

**The Lord Leslie Griffiths of Burry Port**  
President, The Boys' Brigade

## Secretary and Treasurers Report

### Membership

We have received an increase in subs this year where so far 124 members have paid with some members including an extra donation. This means we have been able to make our donations to Glynde Camp and to the Southwick Methodist Church.

We hope to have a small surplus of income after expenditure this year compared to the deficit in 2016. This has been made possible by members continued generosity and also by savings in printing and postage costs as we are now sending more newsletters by email rather than by post. If you have not paid your subs, please do so in case we have any price increases in expenditure during 2017.

### Budget for 2017 (comparison with accounts for the year to 31 December 2016)

You will remember that I provided a funds budget for the Stedfast Association in the Summer newsletter last year and therefore have done this again this year as follows:-

	2017 £	2016 £
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions to date	1,592	1,540
Reunion collections	441	432
Donations		78
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,033</b>	<b>2,050</b>
<b>Expenditure estimated</b>		
BB-Glynde donation paid	-300	-300
Southwick Church donation paid	-500	-504
Federation subscription to be paid	-40	-20
Other donations to be paid	-20	-20
Website costs estimate	-80	-80
Remembrance wreaths Nov est.	-60	-56
Newsletter costs estimated	-510	-644
Insurance	-64	-64
Reunion costs	-406	-393
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>-1980</b>	<b>-2081</b>
<b>2017 Est surplus (2016 Deficit)</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-31</b>
<b>Bank balance B/F</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>1,677</b>
<b>Bank balance C/F estimated</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>1,646</b>

### Newsletter

Please let us have your comments on the Summer newsletter with any other matters you wish to bring to our attention for inclusion in the Winter issue.

### Website

It would be beneficial if you can advise us whether you have visited the website at [www.brightonstedfast.org.uk](http://www.brightonstedfast.org.uk) and if so let us have any comments.

### Reunion-2018

Please let us have any comments ahead of the next reunion on 21 January 2018 which we can consider at our next committee meeting in September.

Yours Stedfastly

Alan Caperon, Secretary and Treasurer

## Brighton, Hove and District Battalion Brigade Secretary

After many years, the Battalion has now appointed a new Secretary. Mrs Lynn Burtenshaw has been part of Boys Brigade in the city for around 7 years and is currently captain at 26th Brighton. She has a background in Girls Brigade, spending almost 14 years at 14th Brighton, and her two brothers attended Boys Brigade at the same church. She has worked tirelessly to improve numbers at 26th taking the total from 5 across the sections to 25 in just 6 years.

Lynn has been a Battalion Vice President for the last 4 years and is passionate about the inclusion of girls and taking the Brigade into the future, while being sympathetic to those who do not want the inclusion of girls.

*“There is much to do within the Battalion, and things will not change overnight, and I may make mistakes along the way, however I will do my best for this Battalion and the future.”*



The menu for this years founders day dinner remains largely unchanged from last year as it proved so popular, and now with the addition of included coffee & mints. Members and guests who attended last year will be contacted later in the year. If you and your guests were unable to attend last year, you will be welcome to join us on this pleasant informal evening.

## **Founder's Dinner**

**Wednesday 4th October 2017 7.15 for 7.30pm**

**Preston Bowls Club 189 Preston Road Brighton. BN16SA**

### **MENU**

#### Starters

Homemade Soup of the day

Prawn cocktail

Deep Fried Camembert Cheese with cranberry Sauce

King prawns in breadcrumbs served with sweet chili sauce

### **Main Course**

Chicken Breast Stuffed with cheese and spinach,

Wrapped in Bacon with a rich tomato sauce

Grilled Sirloin steak with pepper sauce (optional)

Lamb Kleftico Slow roasted lamb in herbs and wine

Grilled sea bass fillet with lemon and olive oil drizzle

*All served with Fresh Vegetables and Potatoes*

### **Desserts**

Fruit Salad

Apple pie with ice cream,

Toffee and pecan roulade,

Cheese and biscuits

**Cost £18.95**

The menu arranged with the chef, which can be adjusted to take account of any special dietary requirements. The dinner is open to all who wish to celebrate the foundation of The Boys' Brigade.

During the evening there will be a raffle to raise funds for The Brighton Battalion Summer Camp at Glynde. If you wish to contribute to the prizes please bring them on the night.

To confirm your place at the dinner contact Les Russell on e-mail at;[lc.russell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lc.russell@hotmail.co.uk) or by text; 078833531069, or by phone; 01273 888032, or post ; 3 Pelham Terrace, Lewes Road Brighton BN2 4AF

## London Boys Brigade and Girls Association visit Brighton



Hove Methodist Church played host to 8 young people and 5 youth leaders from North Lambeth and Kinston, Circuit (4th London Boys Brigade and Girls Association) when they came to the seaside.

They visited Brighton & Hove seafront on Saturday 22nd April, played Crazy Golf and enjoyed an ice cream among other things.

After a full day of activities they ‘camped’ overnight in the Church hall.

On Sunday morning they shared in the Service which was Led by Bob Hinton (pictured with the Brighton and Hove Albion scarf). The visit was part of their celebrations to mark their 125th anniversary year .

**Note;** This article was accidentally omitted from the autumn 2016 newsletter, so it is with my apologies that I include it now and we can read this whilst thinking of the Young men and boys who will have recently attended the 2017 Glynde camp.

## **Glynde Camp. Or as it now.... Sussex 2016**

Advance started – officially on Wednesday evening 20<sup>th</sup> July. That said we all know that the work starts in October the previous year.

With numbers down the work remains the same, but with only 14 staff we were stretched to say the least.

Advance went very well with the marquee's going up by 9pm on the Wednesday.

Thursday was a flurry of activity & it is fair to say that fewer numbers actually seemed to put more effort in & by Friday we were ship shape.

The weather held all week & we were truly blessed. Our C.O. Gary Pickett proved, once again to be extremely able & despite a lot of pressure he ran a very tight, organised & most of all – enjoyable camp.

Our new Q.M Paul adapted to the role very well & even managed to come in very close to budget. Even with Strawberries & cream ....At Camp!

Of course the food was superbly prepared & cooked – well done Bernie. & No one died! - again!

The activities kept the boys amused both night & day. (*from what I'm told as I was in bed by 9!*)

In the days of plenty & technology it still amazes me that lads will compete for a leaf of crown, but compete they did. Of course the Arabs won, quite obviously as I was on their team.

Brian led the Pastoral role & we had some very enlightening interviews in the mornings & some great musical worship in the evenings. Well done to the 'geezers' for the leadership.

(*nb. The geezers are a group of outstanding young men who have grown up through BB & Glynde. They may or may not have been involved in ensuring that the great unwashed boys actually got a bath! Some of us were served tea by them at the reunion in January – although their true identity remains a mystery*)

It is humbling to note that 9 young men & staff were moved to commit or recommit their lives to Christ this year. Having moved location from when many of you attended Glynde His work continues & The Boys' Brigade continues to Advance His Kingdom.

*Continued on next page*

Camp striking is always done with one eye on the weather & as Rear Party Officer I develop a visible twitch about Wednesday. With less numbers we started earlier than usual. It is always my aim to shut the gate about 7pm, but this year thanks to the efforts of **all** the staff & **all** of the boys we were actually waiting & ready when the parents arrived.

A great debt of thanks is owed to the leadership of Gary who worked tirelessly over the year against a lot of unfair odds that befell him as C.O. Without his tenacious attitude there would not have been a Sussex 2016. Well done Gary.

As always camp is about the boys & I believe, about what they bring to camp. We have a great hard working crowd who brought together the whole camp in true fellowship.

I pray that Sussex 2017, which will see many new challenges & changes will be such a success as this year was. Please pray for camp. Changes must be made for it to continue & not all of these will be easy. Tough choice must be met, but by the grace of God we will be able to expose young men to Him through this valuable event.

**Adrian Attwater** (*unwilling Camp correspondent!*)

---

## Battalion and Stedfast Events

### August 2017

31st Battalion Financial Year End

Start of 2017-2018 session TBA

### October 2017

4th Wed Founders Dinner at  
Preston Bowls Club

### November 2017

Remembrance Parade and Service

### January 2018

21st Sun Stedfast Reunion and AGM 2pm  
Southwick Methodist Church  
(All Welcome)

---

*Extract from the "BREEZES" Magazine October 1965;*

### B.o.B's. CRICKET CLUB

Saturday 18th September, saw the last match of the 1965 Season end with a convincing win for the B.o.B's over Brighton Hospitals. The Season has been a happy and successful one, 15 matches having been played of which 9 were won, 1 drawn and 4 lost. In spite of the poor weather this summer, only one match was cancelled due to rain. Two matches were cancelled owing to opponents not turning up as also was the August Bank Holiday match against the Battalion. The B.o.B's were particularly disappointed that the Battalion cancelled this one as the (Lamp issue of Breeze: stated, 'It is common knowledge that the Battalion has some good Cricketers.' August Bank Holiday left the B.o.B's wondering 'where are they!')

Highlights of the season were John Bridgland's 103 against St. Lenard's (the first century for the B.o.B's since the war} whilst three other fifties were scored - Les Norman 75 against Beaumont, John Bridgland 60 against Brighton Banks, and John Cook 54 against Mile Oak. Best bowling performances were by John Cook, 5-15 against Mile Oak, Ron Bliss 5-15 against Mile Oak, Lee Pane 5-14 against Brighton Hospitals, Wally Fairhall 4-8 against Adelaide and Jim Pane 4-8 against Brighton Hospitals. Highest number of wickets in one match was Wally Fairhall's 8-52 against Mile Oak.

## Reunion and Annual General Meeting

Our Next Reunion  
SUNDAY **21st** JANUARY 2018  
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 Poulters 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*  
*(cheques payable to the Stedfast Association)*