



Summer 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
elect-Geoffrey Fitch

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
Dave Norman
Mark Jago

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Vacant

The Boys Brigade celebrates

140 Years Anniversary

Then...



Sir William Alexander Smith and 1st Glasgow BB Company

And Now



Rainbow Over Glynde B.B. Camp 2022

Dear Stedfast Members,

Once again at this very special time of the year the Boys of The Battalion and Members of Staff will be counting the days until they enter the wonderful field at Glynde. Some will be seeing a bell tent for the first time, some will never have eaten in a mess tent before, but we pray that together with these new experiences will be wonderful experiences of fellowship and fun, times to remember for the rest of their lives. We pray that the Christian standards of Glynde will enter and lead them and be a source of great blessing both to them and to all whom they meet.



We can unite in giving thanks for the lives of Peggy Hinton and Dick Kent who have recently passed away and who, in entirely different ways, gave so much to enrich the lives of young people. Well done good and faithful servants.

The Coronation of King Charles III was an awe inspiring occasion and will have been seen worldwide by countless millions of people of all ages. Let us hope that this wonderful spectacle will have been enjoyed by many B.B. Boys and will encourage many to visit the Kingdom where the great vision of The Boys' Brigade was planted.

Please pray specially for The Battalion at this difficult time and ask that it will be as willing as ever to welcome new Members and to help them to be more than conquerors in this restless World.

One date in the B.B. calendar which must never be forgotten is Founder's Day, 4th October. Let us make sure that this year the gathering for The Dinner at Preston Bowls Club, so ably organised by Les Russell, will be the largest ever.

Wherever you are and whatever you are doing give thanks for everything and support the B.B. wherever you can.

With Stedfast Christmas Greetings to everyone.

Peter Ford Stedfast Association President

EDITORIAL

As you may have heard Dick Kent, Our Friend, committee member and news letter Editor for many years passed to higher service on 26 May 2023, but he had submitted his editorial for the summer newsletter. So we, the committee felt it was fitting to include it unchanged as he intended.

Another year has passed by and we have just celebrated another Reunion and Annual General Meeting. It was so nice to see so many Members in attendance, around 74 I'm told. It was a rousing service, good singing of our favourite BB hymns the Service followed by a lovely tea (sandwiches this year!). Thanks are due to everyone who made the Sunday a success and hopefully everyone has made a note of next year's gathering on 17th March 2024.

I am sure that most of you will have noticed that at the Stand Up Sit Down event at The Reunion the majority of those present were from the period of the War and then 60s, sadly we do not have those who joined after that time coming along to be with us for Our Reunion we are very keen to enlarge our committee so that Stedfast can continue for many more years, please give this serious thought it's not a difficult job the committee need your support.

It was good to see the camaraderie very evident when members met those they had not seen for perhaps a long while, the singing of many favourite hymns was very mindful of younger days hopefully enjoyed by everyone. Many will know that our ever present organist Carl Jukes was unable to join us because of feeling unwell. However, he still made great efforts by recording the hymns on YouTube just in case but managed to conjure up an accompanist at virtually the last minute-the moment was saved!

The service behind us we were entertained to an excellent tea - this year the lovely sandwiches were there again and how good they were.

The AGM followed, details further in the newsletter of decisions made and I do hope that all who attended had a very enjoyable afternoon. Planning soon by the Committee for next year. A final word for all those that contributed toward the afternoons events very well done. Those who through what ever the cause of not being able to attend can hear some of the events and hymns played by Carl on line. Sorry that they missed the occasion.

God's Blessing to each and every one of you and your family. Enjoy the forthcoming Summer Regards. **Dick**

IN MEMORIAM

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

Dick Kent 10th Brighton, 26 May 2023

Peggy Hinton 4th Brighton (Hove) BB CO and 2nd Burgess Hill BB Co 20 May 2023

Chaplain's Page

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets

This hymn gives us the sense of frustration that God must have with the way we live our lives. With so much hatred, bitterness, and lack of understanding in the world it is hard to stop and feel for God's presence in the world, this hymn gives us the response in the third and fourth lines of the verses.

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no-one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.
In the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.
Let my care be active, healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me; I will follow you.

John L. Bell and Graham Maule

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Jesus was angry when he saw the money lenders in the temple grounds, he is angry today with the many acts of injustice around the world.

There is a saying that God has no hands but our hands, when we meet injustice, the hymn says we must be fearless bold and active, you could also add, obedient, disciplined, from our motto, to speak up where we can, and as best we can we have to go out into the world and engage with others.

There is a God of love who is concerned with the well being of each and every one of us no matter of our wealth, ethnicity, our gender or our religious persuasion.

Amen.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On the 26th March 2023, Seventy plus Stedfast Members and friends attended our Annual Reunion at Southwick Methodist Church, a great afternoon was had by all who attended, with a great Service in the Church with some great singing and an inspiring address from the Rev Peter Elliott, ex Chaplain of the 10th Brighton (Hove Company, followed by a lovely tea in the main hall, with sandwiches & cake, provided by Janet Spoor. Thank you to all the people who helped set up and serve the teas.

After the tea the Annual General Meeting was held, during which Gary Pickett (Battalion President) gave his report on the Battalion. Committee members were voted to serve on the Committee for the coming year, we still need new committee members to join us so please give it some thought, if you want more details please contact our Secretary, Alan Caperon or any Committee Member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alan for all his hard work and dedication in arranging our Reunion. I would also like to thank all the members of the Committee for their input and views at our meetings through out the year.

If you were unable to attend the Reunion this year please book the date for next year which is; Sunday 17th March 2024.

By the time you receive the Summer Newsletter Easter will have come a gone, I hope you all had a blessed and enjoyable one. With summer now arrived, we look forward to warmer days so that those of us that are able will be able to get out and about and enjoy holidays away. I hope that you all have a very enjoyable summer.

Another date for your diaries is "Founder's Day Dinner", on Wednesday 4th October 2023, please book this date and make an effort to join us for a great evening with great food and comradeship. If you require further information please contact Les Russell, Committee Member.

Best wishes to you all for a happy and healthy summer.

Ray Eaves

Stedfast Committee Chairman.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT

Reunion 26 March 2023

Thank you to those 74 members including our guests that were “on parade” for the Reunion on Sunday afternoon 26 March 2023, together with the Boys from the 1st Southwick BB Co. This was another successful occasion enjoyed by all that attended.

I would like to express my thanks again to our guests the Mayor of Brighton and Hove Cllr Lizzie Deane and the Chairman of Adur District Council Cllr Andy McGregor.

You will note within this Summer newsletter some of the photos taken by Pam Stringer at the reunion. All the photos can be seen on our website brightonstedfast.org.uk

2022 Stedfast Association accounts

The Stedfast Association accounts for the year to 31 December 2022 were approved at the AGM. The Independent Examiner has certified these accounts on 13 May 2023.

Membership

Our Stedfast membership subscriptions are being maintained with 75 members having paid their subs in 2023 (75 paid in 2022).

We will be making a special effort in 2023 to make contact with former BB members and to encourage them to join the Stedfast Association. Please can you also make an extra special effort to make contact with any BB colleague who hasn't attended our Reunions in recent years and pass this Summer Newsletter to them with our contact details or ask them to visit our website.

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 to join the Stedfast Association.

Continued on next page

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

17 March 2024, 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 decisions, office bearers and appointments

We are pleased to report that Dave Norman (formerly 13th, 22nd, 26th and 29th BB Cos) has agreed to return to our committee. Geoff Fitch (formerly 13th Brighton BB Co) has agreed to take on the position of Vice President and we hope that Mark Jago (9th Brighton BB Co) will also be joining us on the committee.

The committee has approved the following donations on your behalf in 2023:-

- Brighton BB Battalion for Gynde Camp £300
- Southwick Methodist church £380
- Federation of Stedfast Associations £20
- Preston Bowls Club for Founder's dinner £35

And finally and sadly we remember Dick Kent (10th Brighton (Hove) BB Co who has passed to higher service)-my memorial

I used to collect Dick and go with him to our committee meetings. Dick and I would talk about the BB and Stedfast during these car drives from his home in Henfield to Southwick Methodist Church. We had many chats over the years and also when I collected him to go to the Founder's dinner at Preston Bowls Club in Brighton.

I have many stories that Dick shared with me about the wonderful effect on his Christian life resulting from being in the BB. Dick would reminisce about his life long friendships from his days as a Boy in the 10th Brighton (Hove) BB Co which remained with him right up to 2023. Dick also had many friends that he made during his membership of the Stedfast Association and with all the committee members that also became life long friends and I am proud to be one of his friends.



Continued on next page

Dick used to think of others before himself and used to nag me about taking on too many Stedfast responsibilities but was always there for me as a sounding board.

Dick has been the Stedfast Newsletter Editor for more years than even I can remember. Dick was so focussed on the newsletter that he had already written his editorial for this Summer Newsletter. Dick would read every word in the newsletter and correct all the spelling errors and to make sure every article was written correctly. I apologise now for any errors you find in this newsletter since we don't have Dick to check it and to make sure it is appropriately written.

I wish God speed to Dick in his journey and leave you with my prayer at our last committee meeting:-

We commend you, our dear friend Dick to almighty God and entrust you to your creator.

May you rest in the arms of the Lord. May holy Mary, the Angels and all the saints welcome you now that you have gone forth from this life.

May Christ who died for us all admit you into his garden of paradise.

May Christ, the true Shepherd, embrace you as one of his flock.

Christ who forgave all our sins, set you amongst those he has chosen.

May you see your redeemer face to face and enjoy the vision of God forever,

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Amen

Next committee meeting 7 September 2023

Please let me know whether you would like the committee to consider any matters at our next meeting when we will start the planning for the 2024 reunion.

I hope you will all have a very happy Summer and I pray you all stay safe and well.

Yours Stedfastly

**Alan Caperon,
Secretary and Treasurer**

STEDFAST ASSOCIATION BRIGHTON HOVE AND DISTRICT BRANCH				
2021	2021	ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022	2022	Dec-22
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT				
	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	242.99
	0	Reunion tea collection	97.94	
		Donations to Stedfast Association		0.00
75	75.00	RSM-donation	0.00	
100	100.00	Other conations-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				
<u>ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022</u>				
<u>BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022</u>				
2021		2021		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
<u>620.32</u>				
		-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
	<u>3,163.19</u>		Surplus funds carried forward	<u>3,294.84</u>

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

I have examined the Stedfast Association-Brighton, Hove and District branch's books and records and confirm that the Accounts set out above are in accordance therewith for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Garry Leck
Chartered Accountant
Dated 13 May 2023

The 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 26th March 2023. Annual Reunion Service at 2.30pm followed by tea and AGM.

President Peter Ford

Our Stedfast Association president thanked our guests the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Cllr Lizzie Dean and Cllr Andy McGregor the Chairman of Adur District Council for attending. Peter also thanked the Stedfast members for their attendance, and to Jinny Smith for playing the piano during the service. Rhys James was thanked for saying the remembrance verses. The 26th Brighton BB company was thanked for attending and for acting as the Battalion colour party.

Chairman Ray Eaves

Welcome before tea and refreshment followed by the BB Camp grace

Ray welcomed the members and guests.

Ray thanked Peter Ford for officiating during the service, Reverend Frank Okai-Sam for the prayers, Rev Peter Elliott for giving the address, Gary Pickett for the Bible reading, Paul Simmons and Paul Hotton for playing the bugles during the service. Thanks, were expressed to the colour party of John Pigott (carrying the Stedfast colours), Mark Jago and Mick Shorter for acting as the Stedfast Association colour party. Ray also expressed our thanks to the St Johns Ambulance, who provided first aiders for the afternoon.

Ray thanked the 1st Southwick Boys' Brigade members for assisting us with the afternoon. Ray gave our thanks to Janet Spoor who made the sandwiches and the cakes. Our gratitude goes to Carol Simmons and Susan Gale who carried out the kitchen duties and cleared up after the tea. Also to Pam Stringer for acting as our photographer for the afternoon as usual. Thanks also need to go to Phil Webb at Southwick Methodist Church who assisted in the reunion arrangements beforehand, and to Julie Scarratt and the IT team that participated during the afternoon and at the service. The Southwick Methodist church is also utilised during the year for committee meetings.

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.

Apologies were received from:

Ken Towner- 7th and 26th Brighton. **Brian Griffin**- 3rd/6th/16th/17th Brighton. **David Robertson**- 10th Brighton Hove. **Chris Hinton**- 4th Brighton 2nd Burgess hill. **Derek Hinton**- 4th Brighton and former Battalion President. **Malcolm Barr Hamilton**-22nd Brighton (Hove). **Carl Jukes**-10th Brighton (Hove) . **Les Russell**-6th Brighton. **Sue Standen**- Stedfast minutes secretary. **Geoffrey Cocksedge**-1st Lindfield. **Peter Webb**-30th Brighton. **Peter Gear**-10th Brighton (Hove). and Paul Simmons gave the apologies of **Derek Rance**.

Adoption of the 2022 reunion AGM minutes and matters arising

Alan Caperon asked the meeting to vote upon the Adoption of 2022 Reunion AGM minutes which were unanimously approved.

Presentation and adoption of the 2021 accounts-Alan Caperon

Alan Caperon referred to the Stedfast Association's accounts for 2021 which had been certified by Garry Lock, Chartered Accountant as printed in the Stedfast Newsletter. The members unanimously approved the adoption of the accounts.

Presentation of the 2022 accounts-Alan Caperon

The accounts for 2022 had been printed in the newsletter. There were no questions on the accounts which will be passed to the independent Examiner for certification. These accounts will be printed in the Summer newsletter with an update upon whether they are approved with or without any amendments.

The Battalion President-Gary Pickett

Gary Pickett gave a report about the battalion

Glynde Camp-Isaac Conroy

Isaac gave a report on the 2023 Glynde summer camp and made a request that any donations made to camp this year could be unrestricted so that the camp committee can utilise the money in the best way possible. This utilisation would also include financial assistance to any person wishing to attend camp that isn't able to pay the full cost.

Nomination and Election of the Officers and Committee members for 2023/24

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

President- Peter Ford

Chairman of the committee- Ray Eaves

Hon Secretary- Alan Caperon

Hon Treasurer- Alan Caperon

Vice President-position vacant

The nomination and role of a Vice President was discussed but no nomination had been received. Committee nominations all elected as follows:-

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

An appeal for new committee members was also made.

Oldest and youngest old Boy's present- Ray Eaves

Ray Eaves ran through the hand's up lists, before he established the oldest and youngest members present. Nigel Evans (19th Mid Surrey) and various other BB Cos as Captain (including 20th Mid Surrey, 1st Peaslake, 2nd Horley and 3rd Horley) was the oldest member on parade and Isaac Conroy was the youngest (2nd Burgess Hill and 26th Brighton BB Cos). Peter Ford presented them with plaques to celebrate this.

The vesper was sung at the close of the AGM**Any other business**

The date of the 2024 reunion will be held on 17 March 2024

There were 6 BB company colours on parade, including the Stedfast colours and Battalion colours. The church collection was later counted and totalled £242.40.

The tea table collection was later counted and totalled £138.46.

The attendance was 74 members and guests, plus the Boys from the 1st Southwick BB company.

There were attendees from BB Companies from the district of the Brighton and Hove Battalion, with representatives from London District and from the 1st Greenock in Scotland (there were also other BB cos represented from other counties).

The AGM concluded at 5pm.

Battalion President Address to the AGM

Good afternoon to you all,

I wish to thank you for allowing me to stand before you and update you on the Battalion.

During 2022 the Brigade put out a Company census to every company to see what is important to them and what support they needed and all but one of our Companies filled in the census with a fairly positive response on most questions. Our biggest things we need to work on is supporting companies with the online brigade manager that the Brigade had launched some years ago.

But also looking at some of the other positives in the Battalion

- The 7 companies we had last year- we still have all of them which is great
- We presented the Ernest Beal VC award in 2022 to Rhys James
- Our Anchors and Juniors had a good programme of events last year
- Glynde 2022 took place as a full week as a whole camp but after the success of Glynde 2021 the seniors asked for some time together so we changed camp slightly so we had the seniors from the Friday night to the Sunday when the rest of camp joined us. We had a full programme of events and sports with a slight change of our normal style of cross country changed to a tough mudder instead which was great fun.

I want to thank you for listening to me today and thank you for your support and continued prayers for the Battalion.

Thank you

Gary Pickett, *Battalion President*





Please see the reunion photos over the next two pages





Nigel Evans and Isaac Conroy
(Oldest and Youngest members
present).



In 2012 I asked each committee member to write a profile of themselves for our newsletter this is what Dick Kent wrote;

It was just before the outbreak of the Second World War that I with my two sisters left the Church at Rutland Hall and went to Sunday school at the Cliftonville Congregational Church in Blatchington Road Hove. My sisters joined the 1st Hove Girls Brigade and I the 10th Btn (Hove Company Life Boys).

I progressed eventually by age to the Company section, enjoying the busy involvement of the various activities particularly learning the playing of the Bagpipes when Bill Bleach restarted the Pipe Band. I went to work for the Essex and Suffolk/Atlas Insurance Company where I met Ted Slater, and then I believe with the 6th Btn who was one of the accountants.

Less than a year later I was called for National Service and spent most of the next two years stationed in Germany (BOAR25 serving in the Royal Artillery. For some of the time there I helped with the children of the married families at Sunday school. When discharged I signed on for the Territorial Army and served for 14 years.

I returned to the Insurance Company studying for my qualifications. In 1958 I married and then in 1962 I was transferred to the office at Crawley as a salesman. I moved home to Crawley and joined the newly formed Lions Club where I served as Secretary and President.

I was a member of the Local Insurance Institute and became its President in 1972. Prior to that I was the educational secretary responsible for all the examinations.

In 1976 I was appointed to the Crawley Bench and then in 1980 I was promoted to be sales manager at East London (Gants Hill). I was again involved with the Insurance Institute and became Education Secretary again in the Essex Region and then became President of this branch of the Institute. I had transferred to the Harlow Bench and became a Deputy Chairman.

In 1989 I became Area Sales manager working then from our office in Chelmsford.

In 1993 following large changes within the Industry in which I had reduced staff considerably I retired my self and moved back to Sussex.

During my time away from Sussex I had attended many of the Old Boy's Reunions and at the 1993 reunion I volunteered!!!! As editor of the Newsletter and still there now.

I transferred back to Crawley Magistrates and served as Bench Chairman for two years and was a member of the Magistrates Court Committee responsible for the running of the Court Service in West Sussex.

I retired at the required age of 70 and now spend time as a member of Henfield Lions Club and of late a Carer to my wife.

A varied and interesting career meeting many friends along the way.

Dick Kent

BAND REPORT

I have just received notification that the Bugles and Drums of the Stedfast Association have been accepted to take part in the 2023 Lord Mayors Show in November more details to follow once known.

After a very successful practice on Sunday 2nd June, at Woodmansterne, when we were joined by two additional drummers, things have started to look up, however, we still need more buglers and Bell lyre players. The more members we have, then the more we can do.

We are looking forward to a National practice in Birmingham, also we are still continuing with our monthly bugle practices via zoom. These are now two a month, normally on the first Monday and Thursday of the month. This gives those members an opportunity to attend at least one.

We are also hoping that drummers and bell players will also take up the opportunity to log in. Our good friend and local supporter, Paul Hotton (Reunion bugler, who has strong connections with Brighton and Hove with his vast knowledge of band work will have an opportunity to pass on his expertise. We concentrate on the music, learning the various parts. Paul runs a very enjoyable, informative practice. Instruments are not always used as we often mute our transmissions, to keep the noise level down, in case it disturbs our families.

On the reminder front, We had our annual visit and participation at Bexley on the 25th June and on 28 August Bank Holiday Monday, we will once again take part in the Worthing carnival. (Hopefully we will have some photos of these events to share with you in our next Newsletter) It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of our dear and much valid mentor, Dick Kent. It was through Dick that our very first band appearance, all those years ago at the Henfield Carnival. This was when our dear late mentor, Derek Ford was the inspiration behind our band.

Until my next report, stay safe and healthy, one and all.

Paul Simmons.

Stedfast Prayer

Father, we ask for your blessing on our Stedfast Association and all its members, bless our Committee as we strive to do our best to support the work of our Battalion here in Brighton and the surrounding district and in our planning for future events.

Bless our Battalion, give strength to all the Officers and Leaders of all the Companies as they strive to Advance your Kingdom among Boys and Girls not only in our Battalion, but throughout our country and the world.

Father we pray for those Old Boys and Stedfast members who aren't in the best of health, some are in hospital and Care Homes, some are unwell at home, some who can't get out and about as they used to.

Father we ask you to bless each and every one of them, you know what their individual needs are, and if it be your will, that you will lay your healing hands on them, so that their health may be restored to them.

Father, we pray for those of our members who have been called to higher service since we last met. Especially we pray for Dick Kent a true B.B. and Christian man and also Peggy Hinton wife of Derek Hinton ex-President of the Battalion.

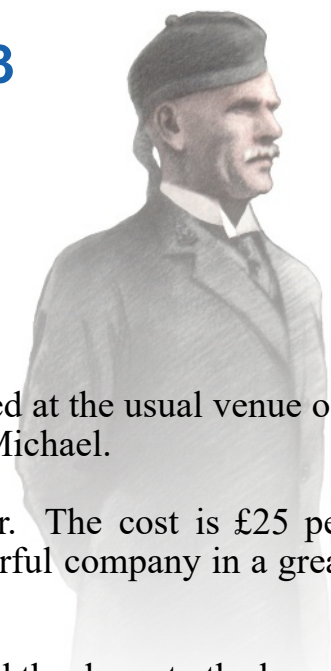
You know these and all other members by name as you welcomed them with open arms into your everlasting kingdom.

Father, we ask that your blessing be with their families who are mourning them, be with them and comfort them and may they know that they are now safe with you.

Lord we ask all these things, through your son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



FOUNDER'S DAY DINNER
TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER 2023
7PM for 7.30 (Until 9pm)
PRESTON BOWLS CLUB
£25 PER HEAD



The Founders Day Dinner on Wednesday Oct 4th 2023 has been booked at the usual venue of Preston Bowls Club. The Club has excellent Catering under the chef Michael.

We have agreed the usual choice menu that has proved so popular. The cost is £25 per head for a great three course meal, beautifully cooked, and in wonderful company in a great venue with **FREE PARKING**

This year we will celebrate 140 years since William Smith first opened the doors to the boys' of Glasgow on October 4th 1883. It is also ten years since our first celebration at this venue. 2013 was the first time we held The Founder's Day Dinner at Preston Bowls club, so it will be a double celebration.

It would be nice to have more members and guests. We will sit on tables of 8 and every effort will be made for you to sit with your family and friends. I have personally recruited promises for 8 more this year.

MENU

Starters

Homemade Soup of the day
Prawn cocktail
Liver pate served with warm toast
King prawns in breadcrumbs served with sweet chili sauce

Main Course

Chicken breast in white wine and mushroom sauce
Grilled Sirloin steak with pepper sauce (optional)
Lamb Kletico 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 Trifle
Apple pie with ice cream,
Toffee and pecan roulade,
Cheese and biscuits

I will require your menu choices to me by September 17th.

My contact details are as follows: e-mail, lc.russell@hotmail.co.uk, Land line: 01273757896
Mobile: 07833531069, by post; 10 Beechwood, Curwen Place, Brighton, BN1 6UJ I can also be contacted through the Preston Club internal mail system.

Put it in your diary now: **Wednesday, October 4th 2023,**

The next Newsletter will be Autumn 2023

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

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

Email; Pomf3es@virginmedia.com

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Welfare

Please let me know if you are aware of any of our members who are unwell or in need of Support. We will try and help
(Contact Ray Eaves or Alan Caperon)

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

(cheque's payable to the Stedfast Association)