



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
Rev. Julian Albrow

CHAIRMAN
John Donoghue

TREASURER
Vacant

SECRETARY
Alan Caperon

MEMBERSHIP SEC
Ken Towner

COMMITTEE
Jim Attwater
Ray Eaves
Dick Kent
Terry Pomfrey
Paul Simmons
Stephen Roberts

Dear Stedfast Members

THE NEW GLYNDE CAMP has arrived and its magic lives on in the many lives challenged, changed and charged to walk with Christ by the Spirit led devotions conducted by David Slater.

At the recent Camp Council the Staff agreed that the new site is the best yet - that says it all.

Make a resolution to visit Camp next Summer and see for yourself what everyone is raving about.

The Battalion is increasingly looking outwards and it is very encouraging to hear of proposed new Companies in several areas.

May this movement gather pace and The Stedfast Association be ready to take every opportunity to assist in whatever ways are needed.

The first part of the Object of The Stedfast Association reads: "To further the Object of The Boys' Brigade". Whether this is praying for your Old Company or helping a new one it is all part of the Great Command which is the life's work of B.B. members.

It seems just a few months since the last Reunion but next month on Sunday 19th January 2014 we have the privilege and pleasure of enjoying the Service and Fellowship once again.

The Rev Brian Stone, an Old Boy of The Battalion and a former Company Captain will give the Address. This is sure to be a challenging Message for us all. Please be present and bring a B.B. friend with you.

One important aspect of expansion is in our readiness to give generously to the work of The Association. With your Annual subscription and at the reunion please help the work to go forward.

I expect many of us watch Spring-watch, Summer-watch and now Autumn-watch Natural History programmes. We marvel at the wonder of God's Creation. This is a study that probably started for us with B.B. badge classes. Everything has a purpose and He is working it out as year succeeds year.

Please accept every good wish for Christmas and The New Year. May we all go forward with optimism and courage knowing that all things are possible.

With Stedfast Greetings to everyone,
Peter Ford Stedfast Association President



Editorial

I had just sat down to write my editorial when I received the very sad news that our recently retired Treasurer Frank Dale had died. This was a really big shock. We were both Members of the 10th many years ago. Frank has been a loyal and valued member of the Association serving on the Committee both as Chairman and Treasurer. He will be much missed not only by us but more so by Pat his wife and his family.

This is the last issue before year end and we have begun to make preparations for the Annual Reunion. I do so hope that we can continue to maintain our numbers attending and would it be too much to hope that they might increase? I look forward to seeing you all in January – weather permitting!!!

During the year our hardworking Chairman and Secretary have continued to have closer relationships with the Battalion. We now await details of the revised Executive following the retirement of Derek Hinton. Alan our Secretary will be able to update at the AGM.

The festive season approaches and I do hope that you will all have the opportunity to be with your Family to Celebrate the Birth of Our Lord. If you are to be alone I will remember you in my prayers.

I send Very Best Wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

God's Blessing to you all

Dick Kent

Membership Secretary's Report

Please note my change of address:-

14, Prince William Close

Findon Valley

WORTHING

West Sussex BN14 0AZ

01903 261630

e-mail:- membership@brightonstedfast.org.uk

I have noticed this year that the number of paid -up members has dropped from 154 to 117.

This is probably due to the fact that we had to cancel the January reunion, by April membership renewal paperwork may have been lost or mislaid.

The Association has a number of expenses which rely on the membership subscriptions.

I would be grateful if you would check with me if you believe your subscription may still be outstanding.

Also if you have recently changed any of your contact details please let me know so that I can amend the records .

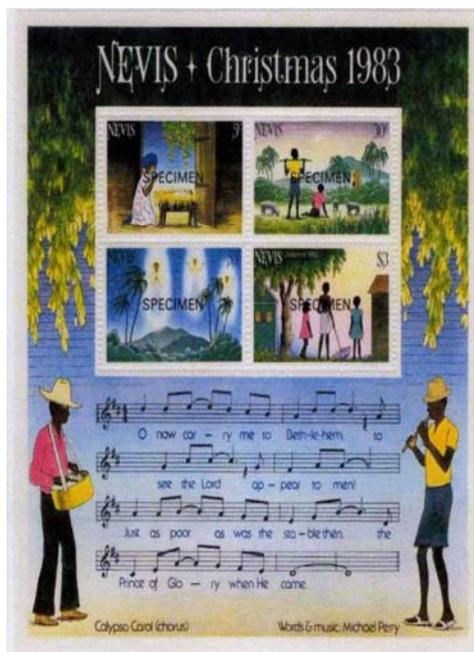
Thank you

Ken Towner Membership Secretary

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

Christmas Sunday

I grew up with candlelight carol services on the Sunday evening before Christmas. There was much preparation in hope of Christ's coming. Not many went to our local chapel on Christmas Day and the Sunday after Christmas was an anticlimax. For us, the Sunday before December 25th was 'Christmas Sunday.' In Guyana, a young Jamaican colleague told me that the Sunday after Christmas was Christmas Sunday. After lengthy arguments, we still disagreed. I was then transferred to Jamaica where people were too busy for church in Advent; they were busy repairing or repainting their houses or making new curtains. But on the Sunday after Christmas it seemed as if everybody went to church or chapel. The Sunday after Christmas was their Christmas Sunday, the day to celebrate that Christ had come – Immanuel, God with us, Christ the new-born King. So my colleague was right after all; in his Jamaican culture he was right and I was wrong.



One of our favourite carols was written by Michael Perry in 1964 for an end-of-term concert in London and was first published in Youth Praise II (1969) It has been translated into Welsh and Swedish, with a German version.

It even appeared on a set of 1983 Christmas stamps in the Leeward Island of Nevis. Surprisingly, the new hymn book of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas, Voices in Praise, does not contain the Calypso Carol “See him lying on a bed of straw.”

On the other hand this hymn has surpassed many Wesley hymns and finds a place in the new British Methodist Book Singing the Faith, No. 216, where the second line of the chorus has been changed to “see the Lord of love again.”

The message of the carol is summarized in the last verse, “mine are riches from your poverty”, from 2 Corinthians 8:9 – God as Jesus became poor and a refugee at Christmas time so that we might become spiritually rich.

Mine are riches from your poverty; From your innocence, eternity;
 Mine, forgiveness by your death for me; Child of sorrow for my joy.
 O now carry me to Bethlehem to see the Lord appear to men,
 Just as poor as was the stable then, the Prince of Glory when he came.

May I wish you all God's blessings as you experience the Incarnation of God in Christ before, during and after the Day of celebration.

John C. Neal

C

H

A

P

L

A

I

N

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A Very Happy Christmas and a very healthy New Year to all our readers, I look forward to meeting you all on 19th January 2014 from 2pm for our Annual Reunion when the Band will be playing before the service and to give our members time to sign in etc before the service at 2.30 pm.

I have received a letter from Michael Moss regarding the band instruments that have been gratefully received by the Sierra Leone Boys' Brigade. He writes that if I can obtain further instruments he would be pleased to send them to Sierra Leone.

I have also supplied many instruments to the 9th London Company, which is in Peckham. The Captain and Band Master were very happy with the collection that they took back to their Company. They said they will keep in contact with me. I have also made contacts in Nottingham and Manchester who are also very keen to find band Instruments for their Boys. Please let me know if you would like me to collect instruments in your care or from your Church to supply those that wish to use them.

The Battalion Camp at Glynde was indeed a wonderful week in bell tents and in the new field which proved very popular with Boys and staff alike. The £5.00 Vouchers that our Association provided for the Boys and Officers were indeed very much appreciated. The vouchers explained that this was a gift from the Stedfast Association so that all Boys and Officers in Camp now know what we are about.

I can safely say that the Boys were well fed and that the Cooks led by Bernie Gebbles and the Mess Staff under Peter Ford worked tirelessly in making sure that the food was of the highest standard.

The Founders Day Dinner on 4 October was successfully attended by 24 diners and a toast to our founder Sir William A. Smith was made at 8pm celebrating 130 years since the 1st Glasgow Company first met. £50 was collected on the night towards the costs of the Holkham Hut.

The Stedfast Band again led the Portslade Remembrance Parade and the Hove Town Hall Parade on Sunday 10th November. Seven of our members also paraded as well as representatives from the 26th Company who carried their BB colour as well as the Stedfast colour on our behalf.

The Acting Treasurer will no doubt explain at the Reunion about our Associations finances and that our reserves are much lower this year owing to the fact that the subs collections for 2013 were way down on 2012. I do hope that many of you who missed the 2013 Reunion and did not pay your subs will make up for this in 2014 perhaps by paying up to £20. We will be unable to support our Battalion financially to the extent of previous years if finances are not available to do so. To also to produce this very professional Stedfast News we do need you to support us.

Finally to remind you we still need an Archivist and to find out the whereabouts of the Stedfast Colour Stand, the Book of Remembrance, the Wooden Cross and the Millennium Plate. You can contact me by email at jndonoghue38@gmail.com or telephone 01323 501857 or write to me at 37, Park Avenue Eastbourne East Sussex, BN21 2XG

God Bless!

John Donoghue Chairman.

P.S. A collector of postcards is enquiring (do you know of a William Stenning who died in 1910 and his funeral was with a Grand Carriage led by a contingent of The Boys' Brigade). The photo was taken by McCarthy Bros, the card is embossed and is from the Lancing area or The Coombs.

The Holkham Hut

On Wednesday 31st July, with my son Richard and daughter Mags, I went to visit Glynde camp – the new site (still a lovely field) and the cook house looked almost exactly the same as it did in the old field by the pavilion.

We had been invited to the evening meal, stew and dumplings, which was very much up to standard! Afterwards, we all moved over to where the storage containers are now; they have been covered with a very impressive wooden cladding and roof. I had the great privilege of ‘pulling the string’ and naming it the ‘Holkham Hut’.

I know a lot of officers put in a huge amount of work and expertise into this undertaking, and I would like to mention a few here, and thank them for the smooth continuation of Glynde Camp. Adrian, Darell, Paul, two Christophers and John P.

With the short service and many lovely comments on George’s Boys’ Brigade life (intense, full and happy!) it was a very moving experience. Thank you for inviting us to be there. I hope that the Battalion’s association with that field will be equally as long and fulfilling.

Mrs Olive Holkham



RECTOR DESIGNS A QUESTIONNAIRE

Hollington Parish Fayre on 17th August asked for a Boys Brigade Stand be sited on the grounds to advertise The Boys' Brigade.

Nigel Evans from H.Q. Provided the stand with banners etc. from Brigade H.Q. He asked me to assist him on the day. Hollington Parish is north of St. Leonards and part of the East Sussex Battalion.

I had an enjoyable day! The 1066 Pipe Band performed and I met up with two Old Boys of the 3rd Eastbourne Coy. Nigel French – Base drummer and Martin Hacker – Piper. This performance was followed by Belly Dancers !?!

During the day we met several Boys who put their names down to join the New Coy. One of the

Boys Fathers was a football coach and would be interested in helping in the New Coy. I talked to a mother who used to be an Anchor Boys Leader and her two sons went through the ranks of B.B. in the 1st. Hastings Coy. She said she would be interested in helping in the New Coy. Her youngest son now 22 years old and might also be interested in starting the Company.

The Rector is now in the process of following up our days work and watch this space for further news.

John Donoghue - Chairman



Committee member profile.

Alan Caperon, former boy of 22nd Brighton (Hove) Company and 4th Brighton (Hove) Company. Now Brighton Stedfast Secretary.

I am the son of John Caperon ex 4th Hove Company where I started as a Life Boy.

I started my BB life for one session in the 4th but then transferred to the 22nd Hove because I wished to play in the Silver Band under Eddie Patching and Bill Roberts.

For my age, I must have been to more Old Boys Reunions than anyone else since I started attending the Reunion at Dorset Gardens with the Silver Band from when I was about 12 and am now 55.

My Company you may know was based at Portland Road Methodist Church where we had Dyliss Croucher in charge of the Anchors and Juniors who sadly died. After Eddie Patching passed to higher service, I served with Colin Currie, Alan Pratt, Ray Eaves, Terry Pomfrey, Peter Davies and his brother Simon, Pat Carpenter and Barry Goacher who all played in the band. Sadly the 22nd Hove Company closed despite the efforts of Terry Pomfrey who continued as an Officer of the Company for many years after the rest of us were unable to continue due to working and personal commitments.

My claim to fame was my success as the Captain of the Draughts team and winning the Draughts Cup which was presented to me on behalf of the team at the Corn Exchange in Brighton. I also played football for the 22nd. We had some successes in the drill competitions under Ray Eaves but my greatest achievement was being proud to play a baritone and then a Euphonium in the Silver Band and to play at band engagements throughout Sussex and of course playing around the streets of Hangleton before Christmas every year. We even toured Denmark when I was a boy and played with our Danish colleagues. Such fond memories!

As a serving Stedfast Committee member my vision is to see new members joining us and seeing the Stedfast Association maintain its numbers so that it can continue in order to both support the work of BB Captains and our Brighton Battalion and also so that the young men that hopefully will join us might enjoy the comradeship that I have found from the Stedfast Association.

alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk

Regards

Alan Caperon

Lindfield's annual awards evening

This article should have been included in the summer newsletter, our apologies.

"At the 1st Lindfield's annual awards evening, the Chief Guest, Charlie Simmons, Captain of the 3rd Burgess Hill, presented Duke of Edinburgh's Awards to four Boys: Wesley Heyward and Thomas Hewitt received Silver Awards, and Danny Lucas, and Jack McDonald received Bronze Awards. Three of them were also presented with Presidents Badges".

Thanks,

Geoffrey Cocksedge



Secretary's report

In my summer report, I set out a summary of the notes that formed the basis of my presentation to the Brighton Battalion AGM on 11 July 2013. I intend to update the Members on these matters at the Reunion but in the meantime would like you to give some thought to a couple of the points that are crucial to the future of the Stedfast Association and what it does.

Funding

As a consequence of our declining membership, the subscription monies we receive from our Members is reducing and this means we have less monies to spend. I expect this trend to continue in 2014 and as a result we will have to make savings. One potential major saving is the distribution cost of the newsletter which we still send to over 130 Members three times a year. The printing cost is £200 per issue, plus postage and envelopes. For every Member that receives the newsletter by post, please can you obtain access to email or the internet so that we can still send the newsletter to you but make these savings which we expect could save the Stedfast Association over £500 in 2014. If we can make this saving, then I am sure we can continue to maximise donations including to the Battalion to support the Boys at Glynde Camp and to cover the costs of the reunion and tea and our donation to the Southwick Methodist Church.

New Members

Since Derek Hinton retired as Battalion President in the summer of this year, the BB Executive is going through a period of change in trying to find the right person to lead the Brighton Battalion in 2014. We do not have a Stedfast representative on the Battalion Executive but I hope that once a new President has been appointed we might ask to be included at meetings of the Executive Committee.

I believe that we can add value to the BB Executive by publishing events and issues in the newsletter and on our new website which is now up and running (www.brightonstedfast.org.uk). If we are to encourage new Members to join us this has to be by forging links with BB Companies, the boys and their parents. We have to keep trying to find ways to encourage BB Officers to attend the Reunion with serving boys over 16 years of age and perhaps have some of them join the Stedfast Committee.

Your Committee is committed to securing the future of the Stedfast Association but we do need your support in many ways so please find the time to attend the Reunion (with another BB member) and to let us have your thoughts in person at the reunion or by email or by letter as all ideas are appreciated.

Regards,

Alan Caperon

Founders Day Dinner

Les Russell sent his report.

130 years on. On Friday 4th October 25 diners assembled at Preston Bowls Club to celebrate the founding of The Boys' Brigade. In the presence of the Brighton Stedfast colours at 8pm, exactly 130 years later, to the minute. A toast was made to the Founder to celebrate the moment when William Smith opened the Mission Hall Doors to the youths of Glasgow. Following an excellent dinner by Michael the Club Chef a raffle was held and a sum of £50.00 was donated to the George Holkham Hut, the new storage facilities at Glynde Campsite. Favourable feedback from many of the diners means that a provisional booking has been made at the venue for Saturday 4th October 2014; Please put this date in your diary. There will be space for more than 50 additional diners next year!!!!

OBITUARIES

Tony Donoghue

Those present who have served or had any association with The Boys' Brigade will know that Tony set a standard that most of us could only hope to achieve. Tony lived a life very much parallel to that of the Founder of The Boys' Brigade. He believed whole heartedly in The Object of The Boys' Brigade, which I now ask those present who know this to stand & recite it with me.....

Tony was leader. He knew how to instill the core values of life into young men. A Boy under Tony's leadership would learn OBEEDIENCE, REVERENCE, DISCIPLINE, & SELF RESPECT. Tony's aim was to teach young men, through these values, to live a life of TRUE CHRISTIAN MANLINESS & those young men he led, some of whom are here today, will doubtless testify to the lasting effects of Tony's leadership.

The motto of The Boys' Brigade is '*Sure & Stedfast*'. this motto was, again, something very dear to Tony. He was always 'SURE' that what he was doing was right & he remained STEDFAST in his belief that through his leadership young men would remain true to the values of our object.

Tony will be remembered for many things. He was a devoted Husband to Margaret. A proud & tolerant Father to Paul, Father-in-Law to Helen & a doting Grandfather to Ben, Charlie & Georgia.

In the past before his own family came along Tony & his brothers had little time for anything other than The Boys' Brigade. Tony was always an 'achiever'. As a young man he attained the highest award in The Boys' Brigade - The Kings Award & proudly stood with other 'Old Boys' at our Annual Reunions to be acknowledged for this achievement from over 60 years ago. This award was a major landmark in Tony's young life, but is very much overshadowed by what he achieved next....

1952. - The now thriving Victoria Drive Baptist Church, which had been started by a small group from Ceylon Place Baptist Church looking to reach out into the Old Town Area was looking to invest in the youth of Old Town, despite the woeful lack of Church halls The Reverend George Cummings had researched what was required to start a Company of The Boys' Brigade - the largest Christian boys organisation in the world.

The search was on for a young & dynamic Captain to lead the proposed new Company & following much discussion with Mr Fred Sinden Captain of the 2nd Eastbourne Company based at St Lukes Church in Hampden Park it was decided that a shy 19 year old Mr Anthony Donoghue would be the man. The 3rd Eastbourne Company of The Boys' Brigade was formed.

The first night in September 1952 was attended by just 3 boys: Frank & Brian Thrower & Ian Wake. Bearing in mind that The Boys' Brigade was then only available to the 12+'s.

It's fair to say that the Church so warmly welcomed this organisation, Reverend Cumming was, of course, the Chaplain. The whole Church totally supported The Brigade & got involved with all the boys did. Supporters from in & out of the Church Community would regularly rally around, under Tony's direction & head off to Company camps, & even when away Tony's strict standards were upheld; Boy's would Parade in full uniform & have to complete Tent & kit inspection, before the fun could begin.

Under Tony's leadership the Company thrived, with a waiting list to join & parade nights being held in 'shifts' to fit everyone in the tiny halls. Displays were held at the Town Hall - then the most prestigious venue in the



Continued on next page

town. Drill & band competitions were won. In fact if you were to browse through the local paper there was rarely a week that Tony's Company wasn't in it!

Tony had such a quiet bearing he was immensely calm & unflustered, but possessed of a self assurance that left you in no doubt as to fact he was a great leader. If Tony asked - you did it, no questions, such was the esteem in which he was held as a leader.

Tony, often known as 'The Action Man' had a reputation, quite simply he got things done. Tony adopted a phrase that Reverend Cummings was fond of - 'Just do it!' & Tony many years on passed that to me & often said to me - "if you're unsure - just do it".

In Brigade life Tony was a mentor to all who came into the Company Leadership after him. When I too became Captain here at the age of 19, Tony was the first person I sought out for advice.

Last year saw our Company's 60th Anniversary & we proudly made Tony our Company President, an event that he recalled as one of his proudest moments. Tony was a regular visitor on Wednesday Evenings & made a point of talking to the Boys whenever he met up with them - even in the rain at the War Memorial Parades on Remembrance Sundays.

You will have noticed that I have referred to The 3rd Eastbourne Company as 'Tony's Company'. It was Tony's Company at the start, always has been & always will be.

I hope that Tony's whole family will take some comfort in legacy that he has left us in our Company, continuing the work which he started 60 years ago.

God Bless you all at this time

Adrian Attwater, Captain 3rd Eastbourne Company

Ken Lonsdale

I'd just like to pass on my thanks to the Steadfast Committee for sending the condolences card following the passing of my father Ken Lonsdale on 7th Aug 2013.

Ken, born 1925, was a member of 'Dandy 5th' Brighton and a member of The Steadfast Association.

Age and health had prevented him from attending more recent reunions but he was always interested in the BB and I mentioned that in his eulogy. In a photo tribute to Dad, we included a certificate that he had achieved whilst in the BB.

I thought you might be interested?

Dad leaves a Son Michael Lonsdale and Daughter Clare Johnson.

Best regards

Michael Lonsdale, ex 23rd Brighton.



William Linstead

I was saddened to read of the passing of Bill Linstead in the recent news letter.

I first met Will (he was always known to me as Will and not Bill) in 1947 at a Battalion sports day at Preston Park. I was eleven years old at the time and had gone there because my sister was “walking out” with one of the lads in the 21st.

Will was a lieutenant in the 21st Brighton at the Bentham Road Mission. He had been in the Royal Navy at the latter end of the 2nd World War but I believe he had been a lad in the 21st prior to that. However, he invited me to go along to the Company in a couple of weeks at the beginning of the next session and because I had promised, I went along albeit somewhat reluctantly. Needless to say, I never left.

The 21st was obliged to close in 1954 and the company moved lock stock and barrel to join the 5th Brighton at Bristol Road Methodist Church. Will was never at home in Methodism and soon left to join the congregation at the Connaught Institute in Lewes Road. It was inevitable that he would join the 11th Brighton Company there.

I often met Will in subsequent years at reunions and other events and he was one of those people that it was a pleasure to know. A true Christian gentleman.

David Wright (ex 21st & 5th Brighton Companies)

Michael George Grimes

27/12/1938 – 6/09/2013

Michael joined the 16th Brighton Company and served through the ranks to become an officer of the 16th. He then became the Captain of the 1st. Peacehaven Company. He married Betty in 1961 and Brian Griffin was the Best Man at their Wedding.

The photograph of Michael carrying the 16th Brighton Colour has Michael Hooper on the left side of the photo, can anyone please name the Boy on the right of the photo?

The funeral took place at the Eatbourne Crematorium and the hymns were “Will Your Anchor Hold” and “Love Divine, all loves excelling”. The 16th Brighton Colours led the coffin and were displayed throughout the Service. The Service Celebrating the life of Michael George Grimes (Mike) was led by the Rev. Tom Duncanson.



Arthur Braiden

Arthur came from a BB Family. His father, Alf Braiden, was an Officer in the 4th B'ton(Hove) and obviously the Company that Arthur joined. (About Ralph Virgo's time). In 1958 he moved with his family to Australia and for most of his working life was with the Prison Service. He was also a long serving member of the Shoalhaven Ex Serviceman's Club, mainly Bowls, and shortly before he died he was surprised with the Naming of a Green after him, Arthur had 5 children and several grandchildren. His Brother Barry who died last year was a member of the 10th. Our condolences to all his Family, especially his wife who is unwell and in a nursing home.



Frank Dale

Until April of this year Frank was our Treasurer, he had served on the Committee for several years, one of which as Chairman.

Frank was 77 years of age and sadly passed away suddenly after collapsing in his garden.

Frank was a member of the 10th B'ton(Hove) Company as was his brother Mike. He married Pat who was a member of the 1st Hove GLB and both of them were eventually officers in the 10th BB Company and helped run the Life Boy's section. Pat's Mother and Father were the Leaders.

In his daily life he worked in Banking and was a Building Society manager. You may also remember that we produced a copy of the Argus report when Frank retired.

As a 'Lollipop Man' a job he did after he retired Frank worked very hard for the Association and his familiar face will be missed at the subs table at the reunion.

We send our very sincere condolences to Pat and his Son Colin and Family. May he rest in Peace.



IN MEMORIAM

We have to sadly report the following members not mentioned above, 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.

Ray Brookes Former Captain:- 1st & 3rd Coventry Died 3rd November 2013

Peter Hills (77) (10th Brighton)

FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE

The Boys' Brigade Council Meetings for 2013 were held in Belfast, who are also celebrating the Irish 125th Anniversary of the 1st. Irish Company of The Boys' Brigade.

On Friday 6th September the Civic Reception was in Belfast City Hall commencing at 7pm. With a drinks reception and guided tours of City Hall. At 8pm there was a very well organised programme of excellent speeches. Also entertainment by two young B.B. men, one on the keyboard and one on the trumpet.

Fifteen young gentlemen and three young ladies then came onto the stage to receive their KGV1 Certificates. These young people are now fully trained for all sections of B.B. work. A young man who was made



a special award for his long service through the ranks of B.B. although handicapped was recognised for his achievements. The evening was followed by excellent light refreshments.

Saturday 7th September the morning contained three workshops with refreshments followed by lunch at 12 noon – 1pm. The workshops were very interesting giving information on Support Services, Growing Bigger, Growing Better and Public Relations.

The B.B. engage over 50,000 children and young people every week. They provide over 650 holidays giving over 14,000 children and young people over 60,000 nights away from home. Over 700 young people have completed their Queens Badge, the highest award in The Boys' Brigade. Over 800 young people have participated in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award working towards their Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards. Session 2012 - 2013.

The Annual Meeting of Brigade Council took place from 1pm. - 4.30pm. The President The Rev'd The Lord Griffiths of Bury Port Presided in his usual charm and wit which kept the meeting moving through the afternoon with the help of the Brigade Secretary Steve Dickinson at his elbow.

The proposal by the Belfast Battalion in bringing in a new section of 3 – 5 years was overwhelmingly voted against. In the evening I attended the Grand Opera House to see Evita, which was next to our hotel. (because no social event was organised). Afterwards I met up with the Glasgow young Officers at the hotel with many a yarn and laughter. (I did need one member to translate for me at times)!?!

These young Glasgow Officers of which two were Secondary Modern Teachers came to Belfast to invite us all to Glasgow 6th September 2014 where there will be a Conference Dinner on the Saturday Evening with a Burns Supper Theme with a Special after Dinner Speaker. The B.B. in Scotland is inviting all Leaders to this Conference which is having a facelift and so hope to have a wider representation at the Annual Conference and Council Meeting.

Sunday Morning we were all on Ulster Radio celebrating the 125th Anniversary of 1st Irish Company of The Boys' Brigade at the Parish of Saint Mary Magdalene Belfast.

John Donoghue – Chairman.

3rd Oct 2013 by BB Headquarters

Taken from The Boys' Brigade website

Today, 4th October 2013, we celebrate 130 years since The BB was conceived by William Alexander Smith in Glasgow on 4th October 1883. Since its inception The Boys' Brigade has grown from a group in Glasgow to a worldwide organisation.

Today The Boys' Brigade works in over 1400 communities across the UK & Republic of Ireland and over 50,000 children and young people on a weekly basis.

Much has changed in the last 130 years... The organisation, which started just seven years after the invention of the telephone, 20 years before Wilbur and Orville Wright's first successful aeroplane was built and 25 years prior to the Model T Ford, has survived two world wars, 44 UK prime ministers, six monarchs and the birth of the computer.

Despite this, the past year has seen membership increase for the first time in more than a decade and the organisation is enjoying a renaissance.

Steve Dickinson, CEO, The Boys' Brigade said: "One of the key factors in the longevity of the BB is the thousands of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes. The BB activities have also evolved over the years and this helps to keep the organisation relevant. We have embraced computers, social media and our programme is open to all.

"The Boys' Brigade aims to provide positive role models and an opportunity to learn new skills, make friends and enjoy new experiences and these principles will always stay with the BB."

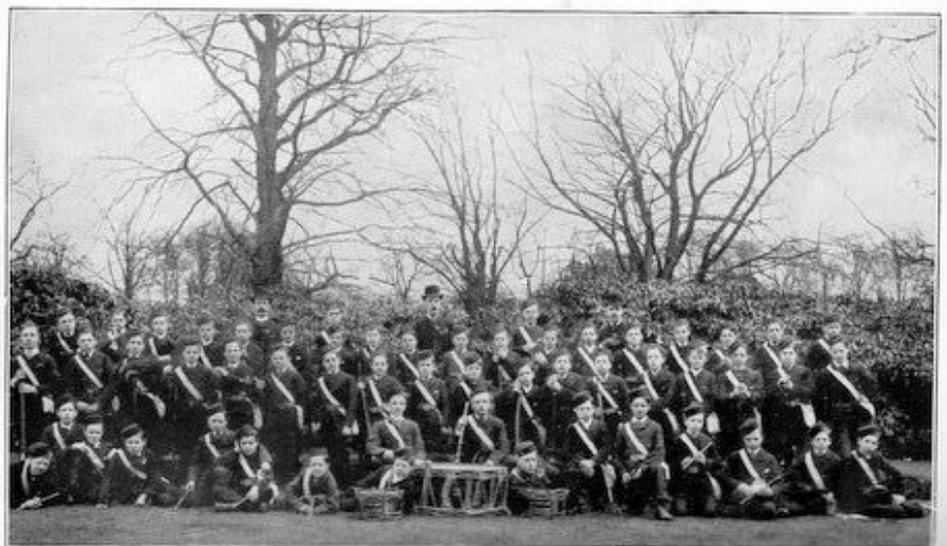
Over the years, many famous faces have been part of the Boys' Brigade, including Sir Alex Ferguson. Speaking in 2007 about his time in the The Boys' Brigade, he said:

"I did the signalling badge, the camping badge, about nine or ten badges in my time there. As I got to 16 they wanted me to come on as a staff sergeant, but by that time I had drifted away - but that spell from nine to 16 was a very important part of my life. It gave us discipline and confidence, and trust in the relationships we developed with the officers."

"Everyone looks at the foundations of their life - what you are taught and what you are given. I had great parents who set me in the right direction, my football, the BB, my first job - all of those things."

To celebrate 130 years of The Boys' Brigade, local events were held across the UK including world record attempts, parties and outdoor activities.

*Picture from the Glasgow guide discussion board website;
1st Glasgow company 1885*



1st Glasgow Company, The Boys' Brigade 1885.

Facing Page 12

Brighton Stedfast Band



The London Stedfast band supported by the Brighton Stedfast Band attended a Girls Brigade Parade in London on Sunday 7th July 2013

The Band still meets on the first Friday of the month at Southwick Methodist Church **meeting at 7.00 pm.** Sadly because of a reduction in band members and holidays, work etc, so some of our recent practices have been cancelled. **Forth coming events,** At the time of compiling this article we are rapidly approaching a national band Practice in Swindon, in readiness for the bands trip to Flanders next year, also we have our regular outing at the Hove Remembrance parade on the 10th November.

It is with deep sadness that we have said our goodbyes to one of our non playing band members, Tony Donoghue. Tony was one of our most loyal supporters and could regularly be seen filming the band on some of our past events. So I'm sure you will all join me in passing condolences to his two surviving brothers, John and Bill and their families.

In closing. We desperately need more band members in all sections, Bells, Bugles and Drums. So just to remind you that we meet on the first Friday of the month at Southwick Methodist Hall, Southwick Street, Southwick at 7.00 pm. For more details please contact me on 01273 725368.

Regards
Paul Simmons

KING'S BADGE

2013 saw the Centenary of the inauguration of the King's Badge after permission was granted for the award by HM King George V. Now the Queen's Badge, the badge is the highest award in The Boys' Brigade and requires a young person to undertake community and Company service, develop an interest, physical activity or undertake an expedition To mark the centenary, HRH The Duke of York presented Queen's Badges to 50 young men from throughout the Brigade at St James's Palace.

Bugles And Drums Of The Stedfast Association (BADOTSA)

Thanks to those attending Swindon last Sunday (October 27th) which I think was perhaps one of the best practices we have had for some time. Especially considering the intervening layoff.

56% of those who are going to Flanders were in attendance.

There was great spirit aboard and everyone made a great effort so thanks very much.

Extremely positive reports on the outdoor performance were made; so much so that the manager of the Shopping Mall has enquired if we can do the same again before Christmas!

Thoughts please...

Thanks and Kind regards

Paul Hern



Remembrance Day Parade - 'What a stroke of Luck'

On Sunday 10th November your band, once again led the Annual Civic Parade incorporating the Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Grand Avenue, Hove. As the title says, "What a stroke of luck", the weather on the day although cold, was kind to us, as the day before was wet and horrible. We were again supported by some of our friends from London, all of whom travel down every year, so a big thank you to Louise, Bert, Dave, Malcolm, Paul, Chris, Alan and Noel.

This year, both our Stedfast Colour and a B.B. Company Colour were paraded. The Company colour was supplied by the 26th Brighton, who had been very active, in supporting this year's Poppy Appeal with both officers and Company section members "flying the BB flag".

On Remembrance Day, the 11th November, I was privileged to play both the "Last Post and Reveille" at the Cenotaph at the request of the British Legion.

All for now

Paul Simmons

STEDFAST ASSOCIATION
BRIGHTON AND HOVE DISTRICT BRANCH

ANNUAL REUNION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

President: Peter Ford

01273 492655

Staples
Staples Barn Lane
Henfield West Sussex
BN5 9PR

rkent 09@aol.com

November 2013

Dear Colleague

On behalf of Our President and Committee it is my pleasure to extend a most sincere invitation to attend our Annual Reunion Service and Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 19th January 2014 at the **Southwick Methodist Church Manor Hall Road Southwick commencing at 2.30pm and followed by TEA & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS and Annual General Meeting.**

The Stedfast Band will be on parade shortly before 2pm.

Our Speaker on this occasion will be the Rev Brian Stone and our President will lead the Service. Carl Jukes will be the organist.

Should you wish to nominate anyone for the various offices (including President and Vice President) of the committee please advise me no later than Saturday 6th January 2014. Consent of the nominee must be obtained.

A précis of the minutes of our AGM was published in the summer newsletter. The full text is available from the Secretary.

Anyone wishing to have any matter raised at the AGM please let the secretary know in writing by 6th January 2014.

We had a very enjoyable reunion earlier this year and I earnestly ask you to come along to this reunion on the 19th January 2014 and, if possible, bring a Friend who may not have attended before, so that we can enjoy the BB fellowship together.

Committee Members will be present so that subscriptions may be paid on the day, membership form enclosed. Dues still £10 or what you can afford. Forms included.

There is facility for on street parking in the area and at Southwick Square just south of the Church. There is a Bus Service on the Old Shoreham Road. The stop is just a short distance away from the Church (Service 2/2A alight Southwick Street- Nearest to Church) or (Service 46 alight bottom of Downsway use underpass)

Yours sincerely and Stedfastly

Dick Kent

**IN THE EVENT OF ANY POSSIBILITY OF
POSTPONEMENT DUE TO BAD WEATHER
I WILL EMAIL OR YOU SHOULD TELEPHONE ME
OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE
www.brightonstedfast.org.uk**

For the President and Committee
PLEASE USE THE MANOR HALL ROAD ENTRANCE



Battalion programme of Events 2013/14

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

DECEMBER 2013

Tuesday 3rd Executive BBHQ
 Saturday 7th Badminton competition
 Oathall School Haywards Heath
 Tuesday 31st Battalion & Brigade Statistical
 Returns Due

JANUARY 2014

Saturday 11th Junior New Year Party
 Sunday 19th Stedfast Reunion Service & AGM
 HQ 1st Southwick
 Friday 31st Ernest Beal VC Award Entries Due

FEBRUARY 2014

Tuesday 4th Executive BBHQ
 SAT B" Company swimming sports
 Steyning
 SAT S" Junior swimming Sports
 Steyning
 Monday 10th Camp Council BBHQ

MARCH 2014

Monday 3rd Company Section Scripture
 Competition BBHQ
 Saturday 8th Junior Section Spring Competition
 HQ 25th
 WED 19th Company Drill Competition ????

APRIL 2014

Tuesday 1st Executive BBHQ
 Monday 28th Camp Council BBHQ
 FRI-SUN 25th /27th Junior Section Holiday TBC.

MAY 2014

Tuesday 6th Finance Committee
 Tuesday 13" Company Section 5-a-side
 Oathall School Haywards Heath
 Sunday 17th Junior Section 5-a-side
 Triangle Burgess Hill

JUNE 2014

Monday 2nd Company Athletic Sports
 Withdean/Brighton
 Tuesday 3rd Executive BBHQ
 Monday 9' Camp Council BBHQ
 Friday 13th or 20th Junior Sports Day ?????
 Tuesday 17th Company Harriers Competition
 Glynde

JULY 2014

Tuesday 1st Executive HQ 25th
 Tuesday 8th Battalion AGM HQ 25th
 Monday 14th Boys Camp Meeting HQ 25th
 Friday 25th Battalion Camp Commences
 Glynde

AUGUST 2014

Friday 1st Battalion Camp Finishes
 Sunday 31st Battalion Financial Year Ends

The next Newsletter will be Spring 2014

Please submit all contributions (electronically or typed if possible)
 before 1st March 2014.

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.

I'm pleased to let you know that we are now accepting entries for the 2014 Boys' and Girls' Brigade National Music Festivals.

This year there will again be two festivals:

- The Southern festival will be on Saturday 29th March 2014 at Chandlers Ford Methodist Church, Hampshire
- The Midlands festival will be on Saturday 17th May 2014 at Carter's Lane Baptist Church, Halesowen

All ages and abilities are welcomed and encouraged, and entries can range from solos and duets through to bands or choirs made up of entire sections or companies. Group entries can also include friends, as long as at least 50% of the group is from Boys' or Girls' Brigade.

More information can be found on our website, and in particular;

- The syllabus for entries can be found here, with all the information about costs, classes and categories
- The online entry form can be found here.

We're also very happy to announce that this year we will be offering "free" workshops at the festivals, due to generous donations in 2013.

We hope you'll be able to join us at a festival this year - a lot of fun is always had by all and it's a great opportunity to meet other BB & GB members from across the country.



Do you have talented musicians in your church or BB/GB Company?

If so, why not tell them about the

National Music Festivals 2014 for the Boys' & Girls' Brigade and friends

Southern event Saturday 29 March

Midlands event Saturday 17 May

Vocal, Brass, Keyboard, Woodwind, String, Percussion and Mixed instrumental classes for soloists, duets, small groups, choirs and bands
An 'all-age' event

Why not have a go – it's great fun!

For more information visit:

<http://natbrass.boys-brigade.org.uk/brassfest.htm>

[facebook.com/NatbrassMusicFestivals](https://www.facebook.com/NatbrassMusicFestivals)

twitter.com/BB_GB_Festivals

or email: bbgbfestival@live.co.uk



Organised by
the Boys' Brigade National Brass Band Association



Find us and follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/NatbrassMusicFestivals](https://www.facebook.com/NatbrassMusicFestivals)) and Twitter (twitter.com/BB_GB_Festivals)