



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. Julian Albrow

CHAIRMAN
John Donoghue

TREASURER
Frank Dale

SECRETARY
Alan Caperon

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Ken Towner

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Jim Attwater

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Dick Kent

COMMITTEE
John Donoghue
Ben Edwards
Paul Simmons
Stephen Roberts
Terry Pomfrey

Dear Stedfast Members,

November is a wonderful month, November is an in between month. In between looking back to the holidays and camps of the last Summer and looking forward to the joys of Christmas and The New Year. May I therefore wish you a very wonderful time this Advent and a truly happy New Year. Wherever you are spending Christmas, whether it is with your Family and Friends or alone, hold tight to the One who came to bring Peace. Look into the eyes of the One who lived to show compassion and be led by the One who can turn all our impossibilities into His possibilities.



When you come to make your New Year resolutions, make one to take every opportunity to support The Boys' Brigade of Today. By prayer, by giving of your time and energy and sometimes by just being there for the Companies.

If you visit Glynde Camp next July it wont be any use looking in the old familiar places for the old familiar faces. Camp is going up country, out into the rough where men are men and strange creatures lurk in the undergrowth! Thanks to the inspired Spirit led leadership of the C.O. Darrell Ward working parties have already been hard at work preparing the new site. When all is ready it will be fit for Heroes for the Boys and Staff who will attend the first New Glynde Camp. What a moment the Opening Ceremony will be.

Your next resolution must be to attend the Annual Stedfast Reunion. We have an Internationally renowned speaker and an even better than usual tea to look forward to. Please don't come alone, bring an Old Boy along who will never cease to thank you.

It has been wonderful to see the generous giving by our Association both to Glynde Camp and to individual Companies. This is made possible through the donations from our Members and there are many who give thanks to God for what has been achieved. May our third resolution be to do even better in 2013.

With Stedfast Greetings to everyone,

Peter Ford Stedfast Association President

Editorial

Welcome to our last newsletter of 2012. We hope that you have enjoyed our editions and that now everyone receives a copy in colour, either by email or post. Next year we will be publishing in March, July and November, don't forget it can only succeed by your support with articles and your pictures (past and present). We are at the moment looking at adding to the newsletter items from the current Companies within the Battalion and from the Battalion itself. Discussions are at present on going.

We say thank you and happy retirement to Frank who retires from the committee at the reunion, apart from finding a new Treasurer, we are seeking another nomination for Vice President as Rev Julian Albrow, has now moved to his new Church in Exeter. All other current posts are of course, subject to re-election, see the invitation letter for details. Make a note of 20th January for our next reunion, I look forward to seeing you all and having an enjoyable afternoon.

The Editorial team send Seasons Greetings for Christmas and the New Year to you all.

Dick Kent

Frank Retires

After more than 10 years our treasurer Frank Dale is retiring. Frank was, like many others, ambushed by our late President Derek Ford in 2001. Rain allowed Derek to offer Frank a lift home from the nearby shops and by the time he was home he had been persuaded!! to take over the Stedfast Merchandise and from there it was only a short step to his becoming Treasurer, taking over from Steve Harrington.

The job was much busier then because of the Outings and Holidays that Derek organised. Always popping around with Brown envelopes?!! containing cheques etc. Frank tells me that he (Derek) would hide around the corner from his home and then surprise him with another lot!

When Peter Gear retired as Chairman no stampede followed, but Frank offered and naturally he was accepted to fulfil the position and served for two years.

Now as age and arthritis begin to take their toll Frank feels the time has come to step down. We wish him every good wish for the future and thank him for all his service to the Association.

Dick Kent

IN MEMORIAM

Since our last Newsletter, Brian Flint 10th , Michael Sharman 22nd Btn and 1st Lingfield.
Have passed to higher service

We send our deepest sympathy and condolences to their family and friends.

May they rest in peace

*Please remember in your prayers all those who suffer either in mind or body
especially Stedfast Members and their Families*

Looking forward in hope

C

At the same time as festive commercials start appearing on television, the middle of October is the time for preparing copy for the Winter *Stedfast News*. So I have to look forward to Christmas, just as Sunday December 2 will begin Advent in which we look back at preparations for the birth of Jesus.

H

I am also looking forward in hope of a tropical Christmas and New Year. **God willing and health permitting**, I should be the guest preacher at the centenary of Christchurch Methodist on the island of St Thomas in the United States Virgin Islands. Such celebrations inevitably look back at history, but can also challenge a congregation to look forward to continuing the Church's worship and mission in the 21st century.

A

I am going to take an 1862 penny with me, recounting how I used this coin in a children's address in 1962. Wellingborough West Street Methodist Church was celebrating their chapel anniversary. I said that most likely this one hundred-year-old penny was older than the chapel. Little did I know that it had been a Primitive Methodist chapel for 150 years, and before that it had been built as a Congregational chapel in 1791! Preachers had been standing on this holy ground for 171 years and the original chapel had been built 228 years before!

P

The point of the children's story was, if this slim and worn penny could tell the story of its life, what a tale it would tell. How many times had it been dropped into the collection plate as the children sang "Hear the pennies dropping...?", How many times had it been spent on a 'penny worth of sweets.' The local church was still writing the story of its life, just as we sing, "Some day I'm going to write, the story of my life" (Thomas Wendell aka Don Williams.)

L

So I plan to remind Christchurch that the chapel may have seen a mere century. However, Wesleyan Methodism was planted in the Virgin Islands in 1789, the first minister was appointed in 1891 and the church recognised by King Christian IX in 1894. What story will the congregation write for the next one hundred years?

A

We haven't invented the Church with 'Messy Church', 'Café Church', or power point songs. Advent reminds us of an ancient story with simple beginnings and universal outreach. 'Long ago, prophets knew, Christ would come, born a Jew, come to make all things new.'

Children of the tropical clime
Remember, the Saviour's here;
Poinsettia red,
Bow low their heads
To worship the babe so dear.



The poinsettia is native to Mexico. It is a perennial flowering shrub. The red flowers' are modified leaves with flower clusters at the centre. In the Northern Hemisphere, reduced daylight turns leaves red, hence the Christmas flower.

Therenia Nicholls

I

Tropical Christmas
Sing Christmas song, poinsettia red,
For in a lowly manger bed
A little Babe was born.
[Jamaican Christmas carol by Daisy Myrie]

N

When Christmas first came on this earth, the story of a Saviour's birth/ was told in distant lands.
White Christmas pops perfume the air. A Virgin pure a Son did bear, to save the whole wide world.
Soft Christmas breeze, blow from afar. Tell us the story that we are/ all called to worship him.
Swift humming bird, pause in your flight. Tell on that wondrous, shimmering night, the Angel's Song was heard.
Jerusalem candlesticks shed your light, lead all our nation's children, right/ to Bethlehem's Holy Babe.

John C. Neal

Stedfast Chairman's Report

Both Alan Caperon and myself attended a Battalion Executive Meeting, where we were made very welcome. The Executive responded very well to our proposals.

First to welcome all Officers and Helpers and Company Boys of the Battalion to the Remembrance Parade Service at Hove.

Second to remind all serving Officers and Helpers that they are all members of our Association and they would all be made very welcome to attend our ANNUAL REUNION. This year we shall also be pleased for Companies to bring their senior Boys over 16 to meet the Old Boys of their Companies.

Third this Newsletter is on the Battalion Webb Site. All Members and Boys can read or print out in full colour. We have invited Companies to give reports of their activities. Also for Boys to give items of interest through their Company Captains. Photographs are always very welcome with captions of names etc. Please give this your prayerful support and start writing for our next edition.

Memorabilia is so important for future generations to know of our history. Please do think of passing on BOOKS, MAGAZINES, BADGES, UNIFORMS & OTHER INTERESTING ITEMS. There will be a display of memorabilia at the Annual Reunion on Sunday January 20th 2013. at Southwick Methodist Church meeting at 2pm. For Service at 2.30pm REVD. PETER SHILLING will be giving the address and our President PETER FORD conducting the Service. This will be followed by tea and the AGM. Planning to finish by 6pm.

We shall have very good yellow Stedfast Pens for sale @ £4.00 each. Please have your monies ready not only for the Service Collection & Subs. But also for the specially laid on tea with sandwiches cakes etc. that our Ladies and the Church are preparing for you all.

I do hope you will all make that Special commitment to attend. Please show support to your Committee and the Battalion. If you cannot attend through health or holidays please send your apologies to;

KEN TOWNER, 3, THE DENE, SPENCER AVENUE, HOVE, EAST SUSSEX BN3 8BY. Tel. 01273 414 688 or ken@towner.org.uk

Please make sure you pay your Subs. Suggested £10.00 for admin. Or a donation to help swell the funds for the work amongst the Boys of the Battalion.

God Bless, John Donoghue Committee Chairman.

Looking Back

The Jubilee Colour Company, The 6th Dorset Gardens Methodist Company

If you have any photos of your company, we will be delighted to publish them in the newsletter.



Extract from "The trumpet of the jubilee" a publication which celebrated the first 50 (1900-1950) years of the Brighton district Boys Brigade

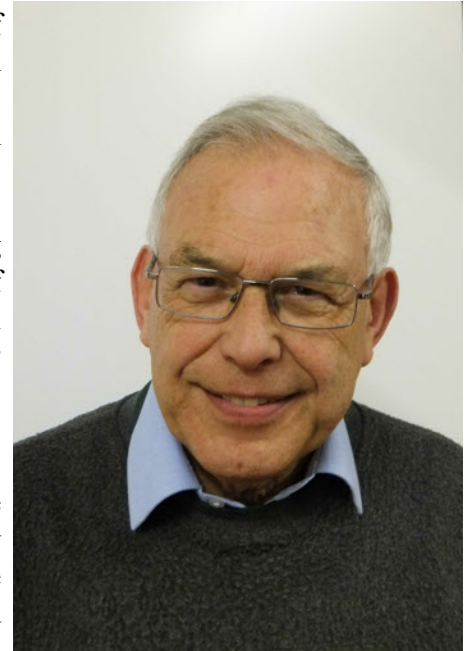
Committee Member Profile;

JOHN DONOGHUE - CHAIRMAN - A BRIEF HISTORY

I joined The Boys' Brigade in October 1950 when I reached the age of 12. There was no Life Boy Team in our Church at that time. The Church was St. Lukes in Elm Grove Hampden Park. The Company strength was never less than 30 Boys. In those days we were affiliated with the Brighton & Hove Battalion

The Company went to Glynde Camp every year which was to us like going abroad, we did not have holidays. I served through the ranks to Staff Sergeant and then served in The Royal Sussex Regt. for two years National Service. When I started work as an apprentice at the *International Stores* in 1953 we still had ration books.

On discharge from the Army I went back to my church and B.B. Company, our Captain Mr ER. Sinden had died. The Church asked if I would take on this role. My older brother Tony pioneered the 3rd Eastbourne Company in 1952. He is five years older than me and had also served through the ranks to Staff Sergeant in the 2nd Eastbourne Company so, at 20 years old I became Captain of the 2nd Eastbourne Company in 1959 until 1966.



I then became a manager of a *Wavy Line Store* in Old Town Eastbourne . Soon after that my brother and I started our own *Wavy Line Store* in Willingdon Road. 2 years later we opened a supermarket in Framfield Way opposite the D. G. H., we won the Silver Award for the best independent store in the UK. & N. I. In those days the independents had 78% of the market now they only have about 3%. So the 80s saw the start of the decline of the independent supermarket and in the late 80s we decided to sell the supermarket. I looked for a convenience store to purchase and found that a store I had worked in, in Old Town, was up for sale so I bought that and run my own store until I retired in 2002, this store won the title of the best Independent Convenient Store in the UK. & NL.

I became a member of Stedfast on retirement and Mr Derek Ford remembered me from the Battalion Glynde Camp. Derek was the Solo Drummer and I was the Mace Bearer Derek got me interested in the Stedfast Band of which I am the Quarter Master & Adjutant on Parades. This band has grown to about 60 members from all over the U.K. & a bugler flies in from Germany (keenness). I now attend Glynde Camp as their Quarter Master and arrange the menu and supply all the food for the Camp including the Advance Party. I issue to all the Boys and Staff a £5.00 voucher to spend in the camp tuck shop from our Stedfast Association Funds.

As Chairman I want to cement a continuing relationship with the Battalion and to be a reliable support for them to know that we will try to be therefor them whenever they need us.

This is were you all come in, would you like to be available for events or to take an active roll and to continually keep the Battalion and Stedfast in your prayers?.

Please come to the Annual Reunion and show your support, you can also contact members on the Committee to add your knowledge to what we all want to achieve to bring Boys into the service of Christ.

Every Blessing,

John Donoghue Chairman

Précis of the Minutes of the Meeting of 15th January 2012.

The Chairman opened the meeting and firstly thanked the ladies for the Tea arrangements and for the sponsors for the tea, the Dench Family in memory of Jean, Alan and Andy...(All connected to the 10th B'ton)

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted as were the accounts for the year.

The Battalion President Derek Hinton updated the Members on the current position in the Battalion and remarked on the progress with the closer involvement with the Association.

Remembrance Sunday; – It was explained to all why it was not possible for the Members to march behind the Band at the parade. The position will be further considered.

Secretary Alan Caperon gave his report on his recent newsletter article and situation with the Federation.

Vote of Thanks; Ron Wood of the 4th replied on behalf of the Members and asked them to support Alan to prevent the possible demise of the Association.

The Chairman thanked the Rev Julian Albrow, our Vice President, for his work, prior to his move to Exeter.

Election of Officers The following were elected : President; Peter Ford, Vice President; Rev Julian Albrow, Membership; Ken Towner, Treasurer; Frank Dale, Secretary; Alan Caperon.

The following were duly re-elected to the committee: Mr Jim Attwater, Mr Ben Edwards, Mr John Donoghue, Mr Dick Kent, And Mr Paul Simmons.

Mr Paul Hearne was retiring from the committee and was thanked for his contribution to the Association.

Terry Pomfrey has assumed responsibility for the compilation of the Newsletter.

Les Russell led the session to find the Youngest and Oldest Boy present. Youngest Carl Smart and Matt Berman left the battalion in 2011. Oldest was Dick Dench (10th) who enrolled in 1931.

The membership secretary read the apologies.

AROUND THE WORLD

In 2005 John Neale OBE completed his term of service as Brigade President and then was appointed Honary Brigade President.

This led to him having the opportunity to travel to New Zealand, Ghana and Hong Kong.

At each location he found the continuing effectiveness of the Brigade and its ability to adapt to the membership of today's young people whilst retaining the fundamental aims and objective of the BB.

He writes to our Chairman with information of an exciting project in Hong Kong.

This project is a new headquarters building which will have the potential to serve the already strong and expanding membership in the wider area of Asia.

More will be written but for now he is looking for funding details as shown.

If you wish to donate please forward to me Cheques made out to John Neale.

BRICKS

1000 Bricks	£100	500 Bricks	£50	250 Bricks	£25	200 Bricks	£20
100 Bricks	£10	50 Bricks	£5	20 Bricks	£2	10 Bricks	£1

Bricks will show the names of supporters for posterity.

Global Fellowship Workshop 2012 Ngong Hills, Kenya

Habari Yako!

In August this year we were privileged to attend this year's Global Fellowship workshop in the beautiful location of Ngong Hills, Nairobi, Kenya. We were warmly hosted by the local community at the Watakatifu Wote Senta and involved in a comprehensive programme of events, assembled by Boys Brigade Kenya. This year's theme was "Fingerprint" which not only looked into our own personal identity, but also the identity of the national organisations that we represented. It was very interesting to explore why we are who we are and how our social background affects this.

It was great to meet people from likeminded Christian organisations around the world. There were 10 countries present: United Kingdom, Denmark, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Benin, Australia, Rwanda, Uganda, Sierra Leone and Ghana.

We began the week on Sunday with a church service at a local Presbyterian church offering a very different style of worship than we were accustomed to. This was followed by a number of presentations to us from the BB/GB children, displaying their local culture. This was a great way to start the week and really allowed us as a group of young leaders to gel well, making the rest of the week very enjoyable.

We all shared many ideas about our youth work looking at the difficulties and challenges facing each of us at home. We were also able to provide suggestions and solutions based on our experiences which we can all take back with us and implement on a local, regional and national level. Incidentally we are hoping to put together a conference at Felden lodge towards the close of 2012, to convey what we learnt to other BB staff.

During the week, we visited a wild animal orphanage and also a show demonstrating the dances and lifestyles of the traditional tribes of East Africa at the Bomas of Kenya. We went into Nairobi city, which was a very vibrant and exciting place to be. This was particularly enjoyable as we were able to see Kenya and experience the culture outside of the comfort and protection of the GF group.

Part of the cultural experience was the cuisine offered. We consumed a great deal of rice, cabbage and goat which despite our initial hesitation, was lovely although the milky tea is a custom which we didn't bring back with us.

In summary it was a truly life changing workshop which not only challenged us to think about our own identity, and the fingerprint we leave on the world, but also enabled us to build a network of global friends which we hope to treasure for many years to come.

***Owen Creese-Smith BBUK,
John Lewry BBUK***



Remembrance Day Parade

A lovely Autumn Day, Sunny and Mild, the best weather for a long time. Unfortunately I nearly missed it!! – trouble arose at home with the lateness of a carer for my wife so it was a race against time.

I arrived just in time to see the parade turning into Grand Avenue to the Cenotaph. It was very lucky for me that as I arrived at the Cenotaph with our wreath the order was given for wreath bearers to fall in so I was able to join them without any fuss.

It was my pleasure to lay the wreath on behalf of the members and pay my personal respects. I was then able to join the 7 others of the Association on parade.

When the wreath laying was completed there was the two minutes silence, which was led by the buglers of the Stedfast Band.

Following the prayers the parade moved off and the salute was taken by the Mayor as they made their way to *All Saints Church* for the Service of Remembrance.

The 23 members of the Stedfast Band were again a credit to the Association and a fine advert for the Boy' Brigade.

It was good to see 2 serving Boys and an Officer at the ceremony but again disappointing that our attendance continues to shrink.

Brian Leany laid a wreath in the morning from the Association at the Brighton Cenotaph service.

Dick Kent



An update on The Stedfast Association and the Battalion from your Secretary Alan Caperon

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

Progress continues to be made with the Website and your Committee will be meeting with the Boys of the 10th Boys Brigade Company during December for a demonstration of how the Website works and to view its contents. It is intended that we will present the Website to you at the Reunion. Hopefully, the Website will be up and running for 2013. We will also show you the Facebook page and the friends that have so far visited the Facebook page.

OUR BATTALION

The BB Executive supported our proposals that we put to their meeting on 9 October 2012 where we reported on the favourable responses we had previously received from all the BB Company Captains to the following 3 proposals:-

- 1) Would you and your Company benefit from the use of a combined Battalion/Stedfast Newsletter? Perhaps along the lines of Breezes?
- 2) We are proposing that BB Boys attend the Remembrance Parade at Grand Avenue in Hove each year to march behind the Stedfast Band on the Sunday afternoon.
- 3) We are inviting BB Boys of 16 or over together with their Company Officers to attend the Stedfast Reunion at the Southwich Methodist Church on the 20 January 2013.

We intend to change the format of the Newsletter for 2013 and depending on the Battalion response we may need to increase this to 4 issues per year rather than the current 4 monthly issues. We are sure the Newsletter will evolve over time with a mixture of articles from recent BB events to historically items where both the Stedfast Members and BB Boys can share in what is currently going on in your Battalion and to go down memory lane together and remember the past. We will also be looking for a new name for the Newsletter.

There was insufficient time to make the arrangements for the Boys to participate at the Remembrance Parade on 11 November 2012 but for November 2013 we will make sure the arrangements are put in hand with parents and Company Officers in plenty of time so that we can have a presence of BB Boys. As you know, the Stedfast Band leads the march from Hove Town Hall to Grand Avenue for the laying of wreaths on behalf of The Boys' Brigade and The Stedfast Association and then we march from Grand Avenue to All Saints Church for the Service of Remembrance. Attendees include military and former military, the Mayor and Council dignitaries as well as youth organisations and volunteer groups. The support from Brighton and Hove Residents has grown over recent years as you would expect in view of the armed conflicts that our country has been involved with paying particular regard to local soldiers who have died in the service of our country.

Quite a number of BB companies have their own parades at their own churches on Remembrance Sunday morning but we believe the arrangements in future will be worthwhile as it will give the BB Boys and Stedfast Members the opportunity to march together in an event that is organised by The Royal British Legion. Stedfast Members numbers are reducing each year which is a matter we will wish to discuss with the Members at the Reunion.

Continued on next page

Lastly you will see that we are inviting all young men from the BB Companies of 16 years and older, together with Company Officers to the Reunion and Tea which as you know is on the 20 January 2013. It is important that you introduce yourself to these young men and find out which Company they are from. We hope that at the Tea, you will share your time not only with your comrades but with these young men so they can find out about us and the Stedfast Members can find out about them and to see whether we may have served in their BB Companies. We do need to share our experiences and find out how perhaps the Reunion and Tea might change in the future to appeal to both the young and older BB/Stedfast Members.

Please see in the Newsletter the 2012/13 programme of our Battalion. Please also visit the BB website until our own Website is available.

CONCLUSION

In 2012 we have planted the Acorns so that the Stedfast Association and The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion can now have the opportunity in 2013 to join together in certain events and to have a greater connection. Your Committee will keep you informed via the Website and Newsletters but please support us and your Battalion in any way you can.

Yours sincerely and Stedfastly

Alan Caperon

Secretary for the President and Committee

Brighton Stedfast Band Report

The Brighton Stedfast band is still continuing despite the fact that the band is rather depleted due to illness among its key members. In fact the band depends on support from members of Stedfast from other places in the country in order that it can continue to operate. So, if there is anybody reading this report who has played in a band before or would like to come along to one of our practises, we meet on the first Friday of each month at Southwick Methodist Church at 7pm. Come and join us. We have recently welcomed a new member, Graham Kent and we hope that he will continue to stay with us.

What have we been doing and where have we been this last year?

Two national band practises at Feldon Lodge, Bexleyheath Jubilee Day parade, Amersham Church Opening and village fete parade, Willingdon charity event at the British Queen Public House, Eastbourne, Gloucester Day parade and celebration (this introduced the Newport Stedfast band members to the band), National Band practise at Swindon Railway Museum (attended by Brighton, London, Malvern and Newport Stedfast members). This event also included a display to the public.

Most recently on Armistice and Remembrance Sunday, we led the Portslade British Legion parade to the cenotaph in Portslade village in the morning and the Hove British Legion parade to the cenotaph and then on to a service at the All Saints Church, Hove in the afternoon.

As you can see we have had an interesting, happy and worthwhile year but we can still do better.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has travelled some distance, at their own expense, to make it possible for us to do our local events.

Hope to see lots of you at our next practise.

Brian White Band Master, Brighton Stedfast.

Report from the Bugles & Drums of the Stedfast Association



On Sunday 4th November the Bugles & Drums of the National Stedfast Association Band had a practice at the GWR Steam Museum, Swindon.

Members from Brighton attended with others from various parts of the country, London, Gloucestershire, Newport Gwent, Andover Hampshire. making an impressive band of over 40 musicians.

The day consisted of the several sections, drums and bugles having their own training sessions, then coming together for a full band practice, which proved to be constructive.

At lunch time the whole band played for the public in the adjoining shopping precinct and later for the staff in the entrance hall to the Museum.

Although it was a long day with an early start and a long journey it was rewarding to meet up with other like-minded band people. I am sure this won't be the last of these ventures.

Pictures:- Band playing for the staff in the museum entrance hall lead by Bandmaster Mr Alan Hamer

First World War 100th Anniversary tour to Ypres

I would like to tell you that the Bugles and Drums of the Stedfast Association (BADOTSA) are looking at the possibility of organising a tour in 2014 to Ypres, Albert or Brugge in Belgium, to coincide with 100th Anniversary of outbreak of the First World War.

The tour will be for four or five days (six days at most, and will primarily be a Band tour. It is the intention to include where possible a Parade / Beating the Retreat / Last Post etc. (i.e. whatever we can get permission for) at the key memorial sites / locations in the Flanders area of Belgium. It is possible that a day trip to the Somme would also be arranged.

This idea has been inspired by the publication that has been produced by the Glasgow Stedfast Association entitled "A brief History of the 16th Battalion Highland Light Infantry City of Glasgow Regiment (The Boys' Brigade Battalion)". The 'seed' about this idea has already been sown with the Glasgow Stedfast Association, thanks to John Neil and John Cooper (who has given permission to replicate the contents for promotional purposes).

A new page has been created on the BADOTSA website containing nominal details of the tour idea as it stands at present. It also contains an extract of the article that inspired the idea . The link is <http://stedfastassociationbugleband.btck.co.uk/WorldWar1-2014Tour>

Work on the trip will realistically start in January due to other commitments by the main organiser (David Kemp of BADOTSA) and a number of the people who we will be asking for help. We are literally at the commencement of trying to organise something, so it could all come to nothing, but equally it all could come together. Obviously, as we have just started looking into organising this we have no idea of what the trip will cost, but we will say that it will be as affordable as we can make it.

Although this is primarily intended to be a Band tour, we understand that others within the Stedfast Family might want to be a part of the tour. We are therefore not ruling out spectators joining the tour at the moment, but at this stage we are concentrating on the band aspect. However, we would like to ask that individual Associations promote the idea of the band tour to their membership, please. If they could collate any interest from people wishing to be part of it, as spectators and then let me know, and I can then pass it on to David Kemp accordingly.

Thank you, and best wishes. *Phillip C Stallard, Federation Secretary*

Missing Stedfast Items

Your Committee have asked me to find the following items that have gone missing or have been mislaid or someone is keeping as a keepsake!?!

- 1/..... Colour Stand.
- 2/..... Book of Remembrance.
- 3/..... Wooden Cross.
- 4/..... Millennium Plate.

Please, Please if you know where I can locate these items let me know....Tele. No: 01323 501857 or e-mail jdonoghue38@gmail.com or write 37, Park Avenue, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 2XG.

THANK YOU.....John Donoghue, Chairman

Battalion Forthcoming Events

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

December 2012

- 1 Saturday Company Badminton Competition (Oathill Com College H/Heath)
- 4 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 31 Monday Battalion Statistical return due
- 31 Monday Brigade Statistical return due

January 2013

- 20 Sunday Stedfast Association Re-Union 2.30pm (Southwick Methodist Church)
- 31 Thursday Ernest Beal VC Award - entries due

February 2013

- 5 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 11 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 16 Saturday Company and Junior Swimming Sports (Steyning Sports Centre)

March 2013

- 4 Monday Company Scripture Competition (Battalion HQ)
- 9 Saturday Junior Spring Competition (HQ 25th?)
- 20 Wednesday Company Drill Competition (HQ 1st Southwick)

April 2013

- 9 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 15 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 26/28 Friday-Sunday Junior Section Holiday

May 2013

- 7 Tuesday Finance Committee (TBA)
- 14 Tuesday Company 5-a-side Football (Oathill Com College H/Heath)
- 14 Tuesday Junior 5-a-side Football (TBA)

June 2013

- 3 Monday Company Athletic Sports (Withdean Stadium Brighton)
- 4 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 10 Monday Camp Council (Battalion HQ)
- 14 or 21 Friday Junior Sports Day (TBA)
- 18 Tuesday Company Harriers Competition (Glynde)

July 2013

- 2 Tuesday Executive (Battalion HQ)
- 10 Wednesday Battalion Council A G M (HQ 25th Brighton)
- 15 Monday Sussex 2013 Boys Camp Meeting (TBA)
- 26 Friday Camp Sussex 2013 commences (Glynde)

August 2013

- 2 Friday Camp Sussex 2013 concludes (Glynde)
- 31 Saturday Battalion Financial Year End

The next Newsletter will be Spring 2013.

Please submit all contributions, electronically or typed if possible, before 1st March 2013.

To Dick Kent, Staples, Staples Barn Lane, Henfield, West Sussex. BN5 9PR.

Email; rkent09@aol.com

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Reunion and Annual General Meeting

Our Next Reunion will be held on **Sunday 20th January 2013**
at Southwick Methodist Church. 2.30pm
Please use the Manor Hall Road entrance

We welcome all **Senior Boys, Captains and Officers**,
We hope to see as many of you, young, old and in between,
who have served or are serving in the Boys Brigade for this our Annual Get Together.
Please come along and support your committee

At the AGM we will be electing our officers, and seeking nominations for Vice President as Rev Julian Albrow, has now moved to his new Church in Exeter.

You will need to obtain the nominees permission first.

Any names to me, Dick Kent please.

We will need to appoint a new Treasurer, when long serving Frank Dale retires.
If you are interested, please contact Dick Kent for further details.

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:
Ken Towner, 3 The Dene, Spencer Avenue, Hove BN3 8BY (01273 414688).

If you also send a subscription of £10.00 you will receive our regular newsletter keeping you up to date with all our events and news. (cheques payable to the Stedfast Association)