



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 PRESIDENTS

Rev. Ian Suttie
Rev. Julian Albrow

CHAIRMAN

John Donoghue

TREASURER

Alan Caperon

SECRETARY

Alan Caperon

MEMBERSHIP SEC

Ken Towner

COMMITTEE

Jim Attwater
Ray Eaves
Dick Kent
Terry Pomfrey
Stephen Roberts
Les Russell

Dear Stedfast Members,

As I write in the middle of November there are primroses blooming in the garden! There are very many large issues that disturb and concern us but there are also very many small issues that bring us joy and give us the incentive to go forward. God has put us into a wonderful world and gives us the strength to develop and enjoy it.

When we look forward to Christmas we see the son of God as a small baby and resolve to give Him all that we are and all that we have and allow Him to have Lordship over our lives. Each day that we wake up is a minute part of historical time but each day provides the opportunity to expand The Kingdom of God and to experience the joy of His presence.

We can each enrich the lives of others to the extent that we allow Christ to enrich ours. Let this be our Resolution for Advent and into The New Year. The Annual Reunion will not be the same unless you are present, will not be the same unless you succeed wherever possible in encouraging your Wives and Partners to join you. Last Reunion, there was modest increase in attendance. May this increase extend to 2016 and beyond. The next Reunion will be on Sunday 17th January 2016 at 2.30pm in Southwick Methodist Church and all are very welcome. The Speaker will be the Revd. Dr. John C. Neal our Association Chaplain and The Mayor of Brighton and Hove will attend.

What a wonderful evening everyone had at The Founder's Day Dinner on Sunday 4th October. The attendance was by far the greatest I have known and we should all be very grateful to Les Russell for all the arrangements that he makes to ensure such a friendly and successful time.

Many thanks Les to you and all who helped.

Plans for Glynde 2016 are already well advanced and it would be good if a Party of Stedfast Members can visit The Camp and experience again "Gods House in the Trees"

With every good wish for a wonderful Christmas and for The New Year.

With Stedfast Greetings to everyone,

Peter Ford Stedfast Association President



Peter and his partner Sheila

EDITORIAL

I have just returned from the Remembrance Day Parade at Hove Cenotaph bringing home the Sacrifice made by so many during the numerous conflicts over the years. There were 7 Association Members marching behind our Stedfast Band who did their usual splendid performance. As I always say it would be nice to have a few more in the parade!

I have been watching also the Children in Need cycle challenge, and have been greatly impressed by the brave children who have been selected to participate, their stories are very heart moving and many of their comments bring to mind the Glynde Camp Motto T.O.T.O.F. (Think of the Other Fellow). I am sure that in our lives we remember this motto and endeavour to put this into practice.

At this time of the year it is even more applicable, especially in remembering those who are lonely or unwell and would welcome a call however short to make them aware they are not forgotten.

With this in mind I wish all of you a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. The committee have been busy organising the Reunion bearing in mind that we all love to have the time to chat to our friends and swap latest news, I look forward to meeting you all again on the 17th January. Do not forget we need members to serve on the committee, we are losing Ken and Paul this year. Let's make history and for me to get a response to my request for nominations with seconders. I have tried over many many years but so far no replies!! Please help.

Dick

Old Time Music Hall

10th Brighton (Hove) Company putting on their performances of "The Old Time Music Hall" at Ventnor Hall, Blatchington Road, Hove, on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th January 2016. For tickets phone 01903 526036 or email: thetenthbb@hotmail.com. Prices are Adults £5.00 and under 16 years old £3.00. In aid of charity. Thank you.

The next Newsletter will be Spring 2016

Please submit all contributions (electronically or typed if possible) before 31/01/2016
To Terry Pomfrey 148 Mile Oak Road Portslade Brighton BN41 2PL.
Email; Pomf3es@virginmedia.com

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Reunion and Annual General Meeting 2015

We had another good turnout and the Annual General Meeting was as it should not be too prolonged. The minutes, in full, are available if required, from the secretary or myself. I set out a precis of the full minutes below for information.

The meeting was opened by our Chairman and gave thanks to the Dale Family for providing teas in memory of a former member and Treasurer Frank Dale also to the ladies and helpers who served the tea.

John also gave thanks to all those involved in the running of the reunion service.

Greetings and other announcements were given by Ken Towner and a full list is available if required. Please let me know if you would like a copy.

A presentation was made by the Deputy Mayor of Brighton and Hove Councillor Denise Cobb to Ros Ayling who has given many years of service to the Association.

Our secretary announced that the numbers attending were 115 (members and guests). Happily John Corin, who collapsed prior to the meeting recovered in hospital.

The minutes of the last AGM and accounts were approved by the meeting.

Derek Hinton the Battalion President gave his usual update on the Battalion matters and a copy is available if required.

The meeting then had a talk by the President of the Stedfast Association John Neil OBE on his many travels and experiences in his Presidential Role.

Elections: President Peter Ford, Vice Presidents Rev Ian Suttie And Rev Julian Albrow, Secretary/Treasurer Alan Caperon, Membership Ken Towner

Committee. John Donoghue. Jim Attwater. Ray Eaves. Dick Kent. Terry Pomfrey. Stephen Roberts. Les Russell. Paul Simmons.

Les Russell conducted the Oldest/Youngest on parade. Jim Attwater and Carl Smart (Great Grandfather and Great Grandson).

The meeting closed with the singing of the vesper.

Collections: Church £278.34 Table £163.45

You're bound to go far... number 3

The Rev Dr Philip Alford Potter, third General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, died on March 31 2015. His life illustrates that from humble beginnings and with the help of uniformed youth organisations a committed Christian can go far.

Potter was born to an unmarried mother in Roseau, the capital of the Windward Island of Dominica. His academic journey began in a Grammar School and proceeded to a Theological College in Jamaica. From there he went to London to complete B.D. and M. Th. degrees. Eventually, Philip Potter was awarded nine Honorary Doctorates.

His spiritual journey began by attending the Roman Catholic Cathedral with his grandfather and by being nurtured by his mother in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This continued as a Local (Lay) Preacher in Dominica, a Lay Pastor in the Leeward Island of Nevis and a Methodist Minister in Haiti.

Ecumenically, Philip Potter became involved with the Student Christian Movement (SCM) representing Jamaica at the World Conference on Christian Youth in 1947 and then became SCM Secretary for Britain and Ireland. As a spokesman for youth he attended the First and Second Assemblies of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in 1948 & 1954. He became a staff member in the WCC's Youth Department and its Secretary in 1958.

Potter then became Director of the Commission for World Mission and Evangelism of the WCC in 1967 and the first non-European General Secretary from 1972 until 1984. After leaving the WCC, he was Chaplain and Lecturer at the ecumenical United Theological College of the West Indies until 1990.

From humble beginnings on a small Caribbean island, Philip Potter travelled far and became a leader of the World Church. The current General Secretary of the WCC, Dr Olave Fykse Tvet, says that he was "a credible witness to the vision of the Kingdom of God and its true values of 'righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit'."

When we are trying to extend "Christ's Kingdom among boys", who knows how far these boys (and girls) can go? Some can go far beyond our hopes and imaginations and with God's grace accomplish great things in Christian mission and ministry.

*We thank Thee for the Boys' Brigade, The Boys it taught, the men it made,
May all its members ever see Their chief delight in serving Thee.*

B.B. Hymn Book 157 verse 2

John C. Neal

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my last year as Glynde Camp Quarter Master. I have enjoyed this position for six years. Preparations were ongoing throughout the year in readiness for a week of Fun, Fellowship and Christian Teaching.

The advance party arrived on Wednesday evening to assemble the mess tent and the chapel. I took along homemade cakes for them to enjoy. On Thursday they arrived early to work hard all day to get all the canvas up ready before Friday as heavy rain was expected. My job was to make sure they had plenty of food to keep them all going. On Friday the rain did come and so work inside was to assemble the tables etc in the mess and the chapel and the equipment in the cookhouse and the medical tent etc.

The Boys arrived on the Friday evening all bright and full of energy and excitement. As usual very little sleep on the first night. My job as Q.M. was to supply the food for camp. The menu's and orders were all completed before arrival. The local butcher Lew Howard and his son Darren looked after us every morning at 8am. With fresh bacon, sausages, eggs, ham, beef burgers, mince, legs of pork, gammon steaks and braising steak. The quality was second to none and there was no waste as the Boys as always were extra hungry being in the open air.

TG Fruits Brighton's Wholesalers serving the best hotels & restaurants in the surrounding area, always give Glynde Camp super quality fresh fruit & vegetables. Including Braeburn apples, bananas, satsumas & white grapes. The order included cherry tomatoes, mixed leaf salad, cucumbers, button mushrooms, celery, carrots, washed potatoes, parsnips, mixed peppers, onions & garlic, Leeks & tomatoes for baking and their famous Lord's chips. Delivery was excellent on Friday at 8am and on Monday at 8am.

The ambient foods were all delivered by Brake Brothers. Their representative came to my home to take the orders. This was all delivered in one go on the Friday before the Boys arrived, including breakfast cereals, baked beans, squash and all packaged and tinned foods too many to list here.

The Camp hire's a trailer for chilled & frozen foods. Chilled and frozen foods are also delivered by Brake Brothers arriving early morning on three days, Friday, Monday and Wednesday. The list of food items is too long to mention here, but include bread, milk, yogurts, frozen vegetables, fish etc.

The Camp enjoyed a cooked breakfast every morning and a healthy lunch at midday. For evening dinner they had two choices. Then supper before bed. Camp as always was very enjoyable and I shall miss being with the Boys and staff. I look forward to seeing many of the older Boys and staff at the AGM in January. We have our very own Stedfast Chaplain speaking to us Rev. Dr. John Neal. John has been writing for us in this Stedfast News for many years now, so this is your chance to meet him and to listen to his message.

Please if you are interested in Stedfast or the camp Quarter Master's job you can contact me at jndonoghue38@gmail.com or telephone 01323 501857 or write to me at 37, Park Avenue, Eastbourne, East Sussex. BN21 2XG.

John Donoghue, *Chairman*.

Founders Day Dinner 2015.

On Sunday October 4th 2015, 37 members and guests assembled at The Preston Bowls Club to celebrate the foundation of the B.B. by William Smith 132 years ago in 1883.

Our menu choices were delivered by Michael, the chef and his staff .

It is a testimony to them that the plates were returned, almost licked clean, when the tables were cleared. The meal started with the singing of the camp grace.

After the first course Chairman John proposed a toast to Her Majesty.

At 8pm Our President Peter Ford proposed a toast to Sir William Smith, who opened the doors of the Mission in Glasgow at 8pm 132 years earlier.

We were pleased to welcome Mrs Olive Holkham and Mrs Kay Ford the widows of our former presidents George Holkham and Derek Ford.

There followed a raffle, which caused much amusement. The prizes were presented in the main by Bev Hilton which raised £52 for the Glynde Camp funds.

The evening finished with a rousing rendition of the Camp Vesper.

Following the many favourable comments, made by members as they left, I have requested a booking at the venue for Tuesday Oct 4th 2016 at 7 for 7.30pm.

Les Russell

OLD BOYS' PRAYER

Lord God we come to you now to thank you for the Boys' Brigade For the memories of our Boyhood days.

We think of our members that continue to work with Boys, volunteering to serve you in the B.B. within the church, to advance your kingdom.

At the start of the new session 2015-16 We pray for the officers as they prepare the work for the coming months. We pray for the Boys that they may go through the ranks to join the church and serve you.

We pray for our members that they may stay loyal in their faith. We pray that they will be able to join us in fellowship at our Reunion in January.

We pray for our members that have special need of your grace and love. Give them the strength to persevere through suffering of sickness or poverty or troubled relationships.

Lord God your love will see them through their adversity, to know you are always near. They and us need your strength behind us, your arms around us and then we know we can face whatever lies ahead.

AMEN

Remembrance Sunday Parade

We were fortunate again to have dry weather for the afternoon parade.

We had 7 members marching but the Stedfast Association were well represented by our band and this time there were Boys' Brigade members present. The total on parade this year appeared greater, I think this was because there was a large contingent from the Police Cadets.

In our group we had a veteran who was 91 years of age and the Red Cross representative, and another lady who we have seen over many years, (I am sure she was also was in her 90's), and this year we were helped by the former parade marshal. Might this encourage a few of our members to come and join us it lasts less than an hour?

Our band performed very well, as usual, and the buglers played the last post and after the 2 minutes silence, reveille. This year the wreath was laid on our behalf by Richard Newman one of our drummers very smartly done and in uniform, giving a very smart salute in respect.

After the cenotaph service the parade marched to All Saints Church Hove for a Service of Remembrance.

Dick





**FEDERATION OF STEDFAST ASSOCIATION
UNITED KINGDOM & REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
ANNUAL COUNCIL/FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND
FRIDAY MAY 13th TO SUNDAY MAY 15th 2016**



The cost of the weekend will be £245 per person whether occupying a double/twin room singularly or two people sharing. The cost covers the Federation's registration fee, two nights accommodation on a bed & breakfast basis, welcome dinner on the Friday evening with a Gala dinner Saturday evening and coach trip to Greenwich after the Council meeting on the Saturday.

The provisional programme is as follows:-

FRIDAY	Arrival after check in time of 2.00 pm 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm Welcome dinner
SATURDAY	Breakfast in the main restaurant 10.30 am Annual Council Meeting 12.00 pm Coach departs for Greenwich 2.30 pm Optional group visit to the Cutty Sark 4.30 pm Coach departs Greenwich for return to hotel 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm Gala dinner
SUNDAY	Breakfast in the main restaurant 10.30 am latest Check out of hotel 10.30 am Church service at local Church 12.30 pm Optional cold buffet lunch at hotel

Obviously the programme is subject to changes being made nearer the weekend.

THE HOTEL

The Clarendon Hotel, Montpelier Row, Blackheath, London, SE3 0RW

Each room has en-suite bathroom/WC, TV, coffee/tea making facilities, hairdryer, direct dial telephone and free wi-fi. Some rooms have views of the open heath or the walled garden at the rear but we cannot guarantee that the rooms allocated to us will have these views. There is restricted on site parking at front and rear.

LOCATION

The hotel is a short walk in to Blackheath Village which has an array of interesting and varied shops, restaurants and pubs.

The heath that the hotel overlooks has about 210 acres of common land with several ponds. On the far side of the heath is Greenwich Park, a Royal Park, which hosts the Prime Meridian Line and Royal Observatory. Within the park is a café, deer park and statue of General Wolfe.

The far side of the park leads into Greenwich itself with a host of history. Greenwich is a Maritime World Heritage Site and, amongst other attractions, is the National Maritime Museum, Royal Naval College and the Queen's House.

GENERAL MATTERS

Whilst we have a deadline of 31st March 2016 for bookings, so that we can confirm numbers with the hotel, we are happy to take bookings now with a deposit of £50 per person and the balance payable by 31st March 2016. Please contact the under-mentioned should you wish an application form which can be posted or e-mailed to you.

Roger Wallis – Secretary/Membership Secretary, London Stedfast Association
26 Hambro Avenue, Hayes, Bromley, Kent, BR2 7LS
020 8462 1235 roger.wallis2@ntlworld.com

SECRETARY REPORT

Founder's Dinner

As Les has mentioned in his report, we had an excellent evening with our members and guests attending. I think this was the best turnout for a Founder's Dinner at the Preston Bowls Club and I would recommend that you look out for our announcements next year and come to join us for a very enjoyable evening.

Remembrance Parade

The only news to add to Dick's report on the Hove Remembrance parade is that Alan Pratt (who you all know) attended with his daughter and was in good spirits. Alan isn't up to marching now but he had the chance to catch up with me, Dick and his brother Eric Kent after the parade. Alan is looking forward to the Reunion.

Accounts

As acting Treasurer, I estimate that we now expect to have around £1,500 of funds at the end of the year to carry forward to 2016. I showed in detail in the Summer Newsletter the reasons why our cash reserves had reduced from some £2,000 at the start of this year. The main reason being that income from subs had fallen by £300 and other donations were also less than in 2014.

The bequest made in his will by Keith Thompson (10th Brighton Hove Company) to the Stedfast band of £250 has now been used towards the costs to buy 2 silver bugles.

You will remember that over the last 2 years we have received sponsorship of our tea from the Donoghue family in 2014 in memory of Tony Donoghue and from the Dale family this year in memory of Frank Dale. These donations have meant that we have been able to continue our support of our Stedfast activities as well as to The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion and also to Southwick Methodist Church. Regrettably, with falling reserves, a reduction of subs this year and every increasing costs, I know you will help us if you can to maintain the Stedfast Association's support for next year's events as well as our Stedfast Band.

Membership

There has been no objection to John Donoghue's suggestion for Members' wives/partners (and indeed their family members who have supported the BB) to attend the Reunion. We intend to ask you as our members at the AGM whether you would vote on widening our membership with the introduction of "Associate Members of the Stedfast Association". If the members vote in favour, then we will introduce a membership form and put this in the Spring Newsletter and on our website.

I hope all our members will support us by coming to the Reunion.

I hope you have a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Yours Stedfastly

Alan Caperon
Secretary and Treasurer

Called to higher service

William Stanton, former member of the 10th Brighton (Hove) Company. William died on Sunday 13th September 2015, following a motorcycle accident.

Lesley Collins, founder member & Captain of the 4th Eastbourne Company died on Monday 14th September 2015.

Les was aged 89 and founded the Company in 1954 with his brother Reg Collins who died in 2013. Les leaves a wife Margaret.

Evelyn Ward, 16th Brighton. Evelyn ran the junior section for George Holkham. A faithful servant of The Boys' Brigade.

Ron Lewis, Ex 1st Hillingdon Company who was a regular member of our band and drum instructor of the National Band, BADOTSA, passed away at his home on 1st November. He will be missed by all the Brighton District Band members.

Olive Holkham Wife of George Holkham died Sunday 15th November 2015

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

Brighton Stedfast Band

Unfortunately, the band will not be able to play before the reunion as the situation is much the same as last year - we simply don't have enough local bandsmen to form a band. You will recall that in the years previous to last year the band numbers had dwindled to only 5 or 6 and even that number relied on help from London band members, who, sadly, are no longer with us. I feel that to put that few a number on public display is probably not a 'plus' for the organisation. However, should the situation change and sufficient numbers are available we could, presumably, play at the last minute? As regards buglers for Last Post and reveille, I am sure we can provide at least one.

Band Appearances.

Most of our outings these days are as part of the National Stedfast band, or assisting with local events for other band areas (e.g. London). This year we did the following; Guernsey Liberation Celebration, Eastbourne Carnival, Bexley Heath Civic Parade, Hove remembrance Parade.

Next year;

We hope to attend Bexley Heath and Hove Remembrance as these have been annual events for some years. Beating retreat in Edinburgh in May, Possibly Norwich Lord Mayors Show in July (This is helping with the East Anglia boys and girls bands).

New members are always welcome - if you played as a boy, or never played at all. We meet first Friday in every month at the Southwick Methodist Church.

Regards,

Barry McCann

Ernest Beal V.C.

Ernest Beal was the only Brighton man to have been awarded the Victoria Cross in the First World War.

Ernest Beal was born in 1883 and became an active member of The Boys' Brigade. When war broke out in 1914, he was 31 and he enlisted as a trooper in the 21st Sussex Yeomanry. Later he was promoted to sergeant and was posted in 1915 to the Balkans. Ernest Beal was transferred to the 16th Royal Sussex Regiment in 1916 and served with his new unit on the Western Front. He was recommended for a commission and was finally transferred to the 3rd Yorkshire Regiment in 1917. Second Lieutenant Beal was awarded the posthumous VC for conspicuous bravery on March 22 1918 at St Leger. On that day, he died of wounds, aged 35, when saving the life of one of his men under fire. His name is listed on the Arras Memorial to the Missing in Pas-de-Calais, France.

Below is the list of Beal V.C. Watch winners

1919	C/Sgt S.Hope 3rd	1956	Sgt's A.N.Ball/ J.Miles 13th/14th	1990	Not Awarded
1920	Sgt J.B.Voller 13th	1957	Sgt D.Simmons 14th	1991	Cpl J.Anderson 2nd B.Hill
1921	Sgt A.Hope 3rd	1958	Sgt F.Sheppard 25th	1992	*
1922	C/Sgt E.P.Slater 19th	1959	Sgt A.K.Sharp 4th	1993	Sgt P.Cherriman 1st Horsham
1923	C/Sgt S.Cox 13th	1960	Cpl A.Mackenzie 14th	1994	*
1924	Sgt L.Tyler 13th	1961	Sgt M.Harris 30th	1995	*
1925	Sgt S.Voller 13th	1962	Sgt A.Jackson 14th	1996	M.Dignum 3rd B.Hill
1926	Sgt W.Bristow 14th	1963	Sgt M.Dale 10th	1997	J.Connor 2nd B.Hill
1927	Sgt L.Surman 13th	1964	Sgt M.E.Benham 15th	1998	K.Pickard 2nd B.Hill
1928	Sgt E.Holden 10th	1965	Sgt D.Rowlands 16th	1999	*
1929	C/Sgt L.Westgate 3rd	1966	Sgt M.Fanstone 18th	2000	Sgt P.Eaves 10th
1930	Cpl L.Harris 3rd	1967	Snr R.J.Simmons 26th	2001	Sgt M Adams 26th
1931	Sgt C.P.Voller 13th	1968	Sgt M.Hall 14th	2002	*
1932	Sgt F.Barber 3rd	1969	Sgt D.J.Rance 13th	2003	Sgt J.Johnson 1st Lindfield
1933	Sgt H.Cowley 1st	1970	Sgt T.P.Simmons 13th	2004	Sgt S.Emerson 26th
1934	C/Sgt E.House 12th	1971	Sgt D.Funnell 30th	2005	*
1935	C/Sgt A.Moss 3rd	1972	Sgt D.Gee 14th	2006	Not Awarded
1936	Not Awarded	1973	Sgt R.Starling 23rd	2007	Sgt J.Lewry 26th
1937	Sgt C.Taylor 3rd	1974	Sgt M.Fowler 13th	2008	Sgt O.CreeseSmith 2nd B.Hill
1938	C/Sgt A.Howard 20th	1975	Sgt I.Stoner 14th	2009	Sgt J.Stenning 2nd B.Hill
1939	Sgt J.Pratt 3rd	1976	Sgt D.White 9th	2010	Sgt A.Price 3rd B.Hill
1940	Sgt D.Hitchins 14th	1977	Sgt M.Ellis Martin 14th	2011	Sgt T.Bryant 3rd B.Hill
1941	Sgt T.Crump 9th	1978	Sgt S.Maskell 14th	2012	Not Awarded
1942	Cpl D.Atkinson 19th	1979	Sgt S.Foster 1st Lindfield	2013	Sgt C.Dean 3rd B.Hill
1943	Sgt D.Elphick 19th	1980	Sgt T.Hall 14th	2014	Sgt W.Heyward 1st Lindfield
1944	Sgt J.Winton 13th	1981	Sgts S.Avard/N.Neville 14th/13th	2015	Cpl A Sander 3rd B.Hill
1945	Sgt D.Elmer 13th	1982	Sgt A.Lay 1st Lindfield		
1946	Sgt E.Hitchins 14th	1983	Sgt A.Bennewith 1st Lindfield		
1947	Sgt R.Virgo 4th	1984	Sgt J.Sayers 13th		
1948	Sgt E.Niblett 6th	1985	Sgt M.Ball 13th		
1949	Sgt G.Brown 14th	1986	Sgt S Walder 13th		
1950	Cpl K.Thomsett 21st	1987	Sgt M.Noakes 2nd B.Hill		
1951	Sgt G.R.Holkham 16th	1988	Sgt J.Bennett 2nd B.Hill		
1952	Cpl K.Elmer 13th	1989	Sgt R.Walker 1st Lindfield		
1953	Sgt D.Miller 30th				
1954	Sgt D.Parsons 14th				
1955	J.Corin 30th				

Not accounted for *

Battalion and Stedfast Events

January 2016

9th Sat Junior New Year Party (TBA)
 17th Sun Stedfast Association Reunion
 2pm Southwick Methodist Church
 29th & 30th Old Time Music Hall Show
 Central URC Hove (10th Btn H.Q.)
 31st Sun Ernest Beal VC Award - entries due

February 2016

2nd Tue Executive 7.30pm (Battalion HQ)
 6th Sat Company and Junior Swimming
 Sports (Steyping Sports Centre)
 8th Mon Camp Council 7.45pm
 (Battalion HQ)
 22nd Mon Scripture Competition
 (Battalion HQ)

March 2016

5th Sat Junior Spring Competition
 (HQ 25th)
 16th Wed Company Drill Competition
 (HQ 1st S/wick)

April 2016

5 Tue Executive 7.30pm (Battalion HQ)
 11 Mon Camp Council 7.45pm
 (Battalion HQ)
 22/24 Fri-Sun Junior Section Holiday
 (Carrot Wood)

May 2016

14th Sat Junior 5-a-side Football

June 2016

6th Mon Company Athletic Sports
 (Withdean Stadium Brighton)
 7th Tue Executive 7.30pm (Battalion HQ)
 13th Mon Camp Council 7.45pm
 (Battalion HQ)
 10th or 17th Fri Junior Sports Day
 (Braypool Rec Gd Patcham)
 21st Tue Company Harriers Competition
 (Glynde)

July 2016

5th Tue Executive 7.30pm (Battalion HQ)
 11th Mon Glynde Camp Boys Camp
 Meeting
 8.00pm (Battalion HQ)
 14th Thur Battalion Council A G M 7.30pm
 (Battalion HQ)
 22nd Fri Glynde Camp commences
 (Cows Wood)
 29th Fri Glynde Camp concludes
 (Cows Wood)

August 2016

31st Mon Battalion Financial Year End
 Start of 2016-2017 session TBA

October 2016

4th Tue Founders Dinner at Preston Bowls
 Club

November 2016

6th Sun Remembrance Day Parade
 2pm Hove Town Hall
 (Battalion and Stedfast members)

BADOTSA

In the last edition of the Onlooker in 2014 we reported that we were about to embark on the Lord Mayors Show and finally with a band of 73 put on an excellent performance (well we thought so anyway) in excellent weather although some complained (as you might expect) that we went too fast. That said unfortunately, as one of many civilian visiting-bands vying to enter, we have not been selected for this year's LMS parade – its 800th



Plans are afoot to join the LMS in Norwich in July next year – so watch this space.

Undaunted, on the 8 to 11 May this year, 31 of us armed with 160 croissants went on our annual overseas trip to Guernsey. We went to support the BB and Islanders, celebrating the 70th anniversary of their Liberation from the German occupation of WW2. The 2nd Guernsey officers were our hosts throughout and the Captain (aptly named) Steve England gave us great support. The band made a formal presentation to the Company to mark the occasion when

Steve and his Uncle both attended the Eastbourne Carnival Parade (see below). The memento took the form of a mounted bust of Sir Winston Churchill (as produced by Charlotte Hern). It has a glass dust cover as well.

We undertook 5 parades during a 36 hours period (3 Saturday & 2 Sunday) and in addition a practice at the BB HQ after our arrival on the Friday. Following the practice the band continued to play throughout the night and indeed for all the other nights too – or so I'm told as Alaine & I were in the penthouse suite (aka Vestry).

The most spectacular occasion was having the honour of leading the Cavalcades Regular Naval & Army contingents, sent to the Island for the occasion, along with the olds & bolds of the RBL. This was along the sea front in St Peter's Port. The band acquitted itself well. Videos & stills may be found on the web site.

Several social occasions were enjoyed and the last event on the Sunday evening was the joint bands public Beating of Retreat when we were all able to play together, bugles, fifes, bells & drums. A wonderful & memorable occasion for all involved.

The next main event on the play list was the **Carnival at Eastbourne on 30th May**. Orchestrated by John Donoghue our ex- Adjutant (he retired last year!!). To mark this a presentation was made in the form of a caricature of John in full flow. A glass dome completed the effect.

There were 33 players involved at Eastbourne, which lasted for 2 hours. Carol Simmons was voted "Man of the Match" and is considering entering her marathon bell playing achievement, during the parade, into the Guinness Book of Records.

John hosted upwards of 50 folk to lunch both before and tea after the event, at his pad in downtown Eastbourne. Sadly this was the last occasion that this will happen and so we need to find somewhere else to fill this gap. Perhaps we should go to Bognor next year? Ideas on a post card please...



In between we have had several practices at both **Loughborough and Felden** and smaller events by regional Stedfast Bands in **Worcester, Cwmbran and Halifax**.

Next up (Wales & West Stedfast Regional Band); is **Ross on Wye & Cheltenham**; (London & Brighton Stedfast Regional Band) **Bexley & Mordern**. Get along if you can.

Organisational Matters

A new website is to be found here <http://www.badotsa.co.uk/index.html> so plug in and have a look.

New & younger members are joining up as well as several older chaps...

Our new younger bandmasters are beginning to pull their weight with 2 of the 3 now having run a practice each and one having overseen Guernsey and Eastbourne. Well done to all...

Kind regards **Paul Hern** Adjutant

Glynde Camp 2015

Camp letters

Here at Glynde camp we have had another exceptional week! As Administrator I have overseen the smooth running of the camp program including laurel crown, tent inspection, inter tent activities, excursions and many more fun activities. Throughout the week I have seen all of our boys develop spiritually down to the support provided by our staff members as well as the friendships they have made with each other at camp. We have enjoyed success on the sports field where some of the younger boys have grown in confidence and our senior boys have taken on responsibility and proved they can be responsible citizens. Once again the provision at Glynde camp has been exceptional which is all down to the staff members we have. The food has, as always been outstanding and of course the whole of camp has enjoyed the tuck shop goodies and we are all very grateful for our £5 vouchers! As administrator I see the hard work that our staff put into camp and this most definitely provides our boys with the best possible experience. Once again thank you for the support the Steadfast association gives Glynde camp and long may our boys experience Glynde!

Joe Stenning

“At Glynde 2015, a week that started with a downpour, but ended with sunshine, the winners of the inter-tent volleyball was a team drawn from 3rd Burgess Hill and 1st Southwick Companies, while the 5 a side Football trophy was won by the 2nd Burgess Hill. Diggers won the Laurel Crown, and Team Leader Mark Jago was duly crowned by C.O. Gary Pickett. A relatively recent innovation, a chess tournament, was won by Sgt. Adam Sander, 3rd Burgess Hill”.

Geoffery Cocksedge





**THE BOYS'
BRIGADE**
& GIRLS' ASSOCIATION
>the adventure begins here



National Music Festivals 2016

for the Boys' & Girls' Brigade and friends

our 10th anniversary year

Now open for entries!

We're looking forward to the National Music Festivals for the Boys' and Girls' Brigade and friends in 2016. The dates for these will be:

- 19th March for the Southern festival in Chandler's Ford, Hampshire
- 16th April for the Midlands festival in Oadby, Leicestershire.

The deadline for all entries, for **both** festivals is **30th January 2016**.

The syllabus for 2016 can be found [here](#) with all the information about the different classes available, which include vocal, keyboard, brass, woodwind, percussion, strings and mixed. Entries can be solos, duets, groups, bands or choirs.

To submit entries for either festival, please register on the [Festival website](#). After registering, and logging in, you will be able to select the "Enter" button in the top right to submit entries.

We're also very happy to announce that this year we are again able to offer workshops for free at the festivals, due to generous donations in previous years.

Hope to see you there!



President:
His Grace The Earl of
Elgin & Kincardine

Local President: Peter Ford

Brighton Hove & District Branch

of Former Members, Serving Officers, Friends and
Supporters of The Boys' Brigade

Email address: alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk
Or please reply to
Alan Caperon
72 Poulters Lane
West Sussex
BN14 7SZ

December 2015

Dear Members

STEDFAST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION SERVICE ON 17 JANUARY 2016 from 2pm WITH OUR BRIGHTON BOYS' BRIGADE BATTALION followed by tea and the AGM.

It is with great pleasure that the President and Committee would like to invite you to attend our annual Stedfast Association Reunion at Southwick Methodist Church, Manor Hall Road, Southwick. Please bring your membership forms with you and sign the attendance register when you arrive. The Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Lynda Hyde will be attending and is expected to join us at 2.15pm. The Reunion Service will then commence at 2.30pm. Immediately after the service, afternoon refreshments will be served followed by the AGM.

Our President Peter Ford will lead the Church Service, our own Stedfast Association Chaplain Rev Dr John C Neal will be our speaker and Rev Ian Suttie from Southwick Methodist Church will say the prayers. Derek Hinton, the President of our Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion has agreed to carry out his usual duties of the bible reading during the service and give us his update on Battalion matters at the AGM. Carl Jukes will be our organist. The Brighton Boys' Brigade Battalion colours will be paraded by the 3rd Burgess Hill Co (already invited) and we hope that the Stedfast colours will be paraded by our members from the 16th Brighton Company. A number of our committee will also be participating during the afternoon.

We hope that other dignitaries from our local councils will also be represented. We also extend this invitation to the Battalion Companies Senior Boys as in previous years. If you wish to bring your wives and partners, they will also be very welcome as we all know just how important it has been in your BB life to have had their support.

There have been a number of important events in 2015 and we are putting slides on the TV screens during the Reunion to include the band engagements and the Boys' at Glynde Camp.

Carl Jukes is making further progress with the Stedfast website and we invite you to visit the site at www.brightonstedfast.org.uk where you will be able to see pictures from the 2015 reunion, our 2015 newsletters and other important information. We will shortly be able to show you on our website and have included in our newsletter almost an entire list of all the winners of the Beal VC watch since 1919 including this year's winner whom we have invited to the Reunion to read the Remembrance verses.

We hope to have good weather on the day but please check our website prior to the Reunion for any last minute announcements.

Please join us in worship for an afternoon of celebration of The Boys' Brigade in Brighton Hove and District where senior boys, serving officers as well as Old Boys, former officers, Stedfast members and your wives and partners can share our love of the BB with our special guests.

Yours sincerely and Stedfastly
Alan Caperon
Secretary

Reunion and Annual General Meeting

Our Next Reunion
SUNDAY 17th JANUARY 2016
at Southwick Methodist Church.
Service starts 2.30pm
Meeting from 2.00pm for enrolment etc.

We hope to see as many of you as possible for our Annual Get Together.
We welcome serving Senior Boys and Company Captains, Officers and Staff.
You will be very warmly welcomed and we look forward to seeing you.

At the AGM we will be electing our officers,
Any names to me, Dick Kent, (e-mail; RKent09@aol.com)
You will need to obtain their permission first.
If you are interested in joining our committee, please contact any current committee member.

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 West Sussex BN14 7SZ
alan.caperon@hotmail.co.uk

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