

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

3rd ENFIELD COMPANY

Christ Church U.R.C., Chase Side, Enfield.

"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"

Reply to: C.Sanders
4, Wheatley Gardens,
Edmonton. N9 9UE.

Tel: 081/807/1864.

NUMBER THREE.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

JULY 1990

Dear Old Boy,

Much has happened since our last News Letter, most notably the Company's Centenary Display on May 5th which was attended by almost 300 Old Boys, Parents and Friends. A great time was had by all with my personal highlights being the impromptu Old Boys v Boys Drill Down and of course the finale Band item. If the Display had not been on Bank Holiday, we would no doubt have attracted many more supporters and it must also be pointed out that several members of the Company were missing due to holidays.

It was very encouraging to see so many members of the Association present on what was a very hot and sticky evening and to all of you, a very big Thank You.

It was also great to see together past Captains, Harold Dye, Jack Hosken, Ron Langhorn, Bernard Barwick and of course Terry Silvey who is still very actively engaged running the Junior Section of the Company. At the end of the evening we arranged to take a photograph of all surviving past Captains as well as the present Andrew Mason. We will hopefully be able to print this at a later date.

June 23rd arrived and we saw the Summer Fayre at Christ Church on what was mercifully a pleasant day. A steady stream of people passed through the hall throughout the day and the current total raised stands at £550.

On July 27th the Company will be off to Camp in Oban, the first time they have camped in Scotland. It will be a long and doubtless tiring journey so please remember the Boys, Officers and Staff in your prayers that they may have a safe, happy and above all, DRY Camp!

All of you will have a copy of the Centenary Programme of events, but here is an event which is not listed:-

OLD BOYS REUNION AND SUPPER.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8th 1990 at CHRIST CHURCH FROM 7.00pm ONWARDS.

The evening will officially commence at 7.30pm with a SHORT meeting to enable us to elect Office Bearers, Secretary, Treasurer etc. followed by a Cold Buffet at 8.00pm. After that we hope to give the Old Boys' Band another "Outing" and there will of course be hundreds of photographs and other items of memorabilia to drool over and of course the chance to have a natter. It has been requested by many of our members that we make this a "Men only" evening and

due to the fact that numbers will be limited as our hall is not very large, we regret that in this instance "Men only" it must be! Tickets for this event are priced at £4.00 and will be available at the beginning of August. Please show your support for this event which I am sure will be a great evening.

And now.... the highlight of the year, our Centenary weekend on December 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

On Saturday December 1st we have hired the Banqueting Suite at Forty Hall for what should be a splendid evening. The Brigade President, Viscount Thurso of Ulbster, J.P. will be honouring us with his presence for this milestone in the life of our Company. A full Four-course meal will be served followed by dancing to suit all tastes. Tickets for this event are £15.00, (Children aged 11 - 16) £10.00 and will be available from the beginning of September, but please get your order in now! We are strictly limited to 150 persons and we are sure that we shall sell out very quickly. I must stress that Members of the Association are being given the first chance to obtain tickets, so please order now before they all go. This evening is open to all Members of the Company, Old Boys and their Wives/Girl Friends.

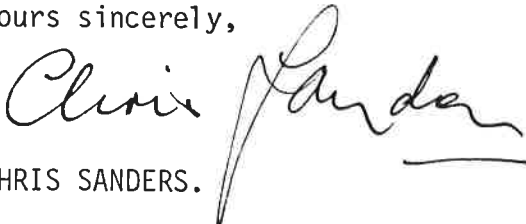
Application Forms for both these events are enclosed.

Last but not least, Sunday December 2nd - Lord Thurso will also be present at our Thanksgiving Service at which a new Colour will be presented to the Company from the Old Boys. The Colour will be known as the "T.R.Plouman Colour" and will be handed to the Company by Mr. David Plouman (nephew of T.R.Plouman), who I am delighted to advise has gracefully accepted the post of Hon. President of the Old Boys Association. If you would like to make a donation to the cost of the Colour please see the enclosed form.

In all cases, please make cheques payable to "3rd ENFIELD CO. BOYS' BRIGADE".

In closing, may I ask that you help spread the word to other Old Boys that you may know who are not currently in contact with us, so that the above events will be well supported.

Yours sincerely,


CHRIS SANDERS.

P.S. Events for December 3rd have not yet been finalised but you will be notified as soon as they are.

For the residents of Enfield the Post-war years saw important changes. In September 1955 Enfield became a London Borough. In the B.B. many companies had suffered from the effects of War. In the 1950's, the advent of Television in the home had adverse effects on the numbers in Youth Organisations. While in the "Swinging Sixties", changes in society and attitudes affected Youth Organisations generally. But through these difficulties the 3rd Enfield marched.

The first post-war Company Captain was Walter R. Pinner (1945 - 50). The Company started Toy making and repairing Toys for the Baker Street Day Nursery. The 3rd held its classes at the Stedfast Hunt, Parsonage Lane. In October 1947, there was an attempt to destroy the hut by fire. The headquarters was saved by the prompt action of the Handicraft Class of Clay Hill Women's Institute! The Company excelled at Ambulance work at this time. In May 1947, the 3rd Enfield put on a remarkable display called the "Sixteen Squad", at the Royal Albert Hall, in which a squad of sixteen young athletes, carrying sparkling wands, gave an intricate figure marching display. The Diamond Jubilee year of the Boys' Brigade in Enfield was 1948. At the Enfield Town Park, a special Whit-Monday Inspection and Sports was held. But sad news had reached Enfield with the loss of Alan Ridge, 1st New Barnet, one of the Founders of the Enfield Battalion. Our ex-Captain, Frank Head, became the new Captain. Under his leadership the 1st New Barnet became a great drill company, often beating the 1st Enfield in the Daily Telegraph Shield finals.

In 1950, the 3rd too celebrated its own Diamond Jubilee. Two special Jubilee Suppers were held, one at the Stedfast Hut (February) and one at the Foresters Hall (November). Jack Hosken became the new Captain. The following year was Festival of Britain year. The Company took part in a national B.B. relay - this was to relay a message to Buckingham Palace and to the King. Boys from all over the country took part in the event. One relay travelled through Enfield. In Coronation Year, the 3rd was one of half a dozen companies that helped with accommodation for the June Coronation Celebrations. Yet another important year was 1954, the Founder's Centenary. On the 19th June, the 3rd was represented in the Festival of Boyhood at Wembley Stadium. Enfield Battalion presented a Gymnastic Kaleidoscope - tumbling, boxing, pyramids etc.

The Band won the Devonshire Cup for Bugle Bands for the first time in 1956, beating the 77th London in the final at the Royal Albert Hall. The test piece was "Royal Albert Hall". and the cup was presented by Dr. Roger Bannister. In June of the same year, the Band won the "Bowler Cup", at the annual Bugle Band Competition held in Hornchurch. The Band was also asked to appear on the televised Earls Court Show in August. The annual Camp that year was eventful. The site, at Corfe Castle, was hit by a gale reaching 43 miles an hour. The marquee and tents were blown down and the boys evacuated to a Church hall! History was made by the Company in 1957 at the Royal Albert Hall display. The 3rd Enfield's Bugle Band item "Band-on-the-Beat, with the march "Swingtime" was a great success. The audience demanded the first-ever encore at this annual display. However, on the Saturday afternoon performance the Kettle Drummer "Neddy" Lloyd, hit the Kettle drum so hard that his stick left his hand and went flying through the air. He ran and picked up his Bass drum sticks. The Stedfast magazine put a cartoon of him playing using his hands, tom-tom style. The "Band-on-the-Beat" item was repeated on several occasions.

In 1958, Ron Langhorn became the new Captain of the Company. In September 1959, the 3rd Enfield Bugle Band, by popular request, appeared in a show at the Scala Theatre entitled "London Town", a show put on in honour of Brigade Council being held in London.

The Enfield Battalion lost a great B.B. man with the passing of Dr. Robert Leslie Ridge in 1958. The following year new Battalion Colours known as the "Ridge Colours", which replaced the "Plowman Colours", were presented by Charles Chopping in a ceremony at Enfield Town Park. At the Whitecliffe Bay Camp of 1961, the Company instituted the new Company Mascot of Yogi Bear.

The 75th Anniversary of the Boys' Brigade in Enfield (1963) was marked by a Drumhead Thanksgiving Service and a special Civic Reception on Chase Green. As part of the 75th Anniversary celebrations for the 3rd Enfield in 1965, a special Old Boys Reunion Dinner at Pearsons Restaurant was organized.

The following year Christ Church and the 3rd Enfield lost two grand men of the B.B., Charles Chopping died at the age of 82; he was on three occasions Captain of the 3rd, and the Rev. Ebenezer Rees died aged 97; he was Chaplain of the 3rd for many years. On a happier note the Enfield Battalion became London District Football Champions in the World Cup year; this was the seventeenth time they had won the trophy. Meanwhile the Band reached the final of the Devonshire Cup again with the test piece "Carronvale". The Company lost to the 73rd London by seven points.

The Drill form of the 3rd Enfield returned during Ron Langhorn's Captaincy when they won the 1968 Battalion Colours Competition, the first time since 1943, but this time only using Two-Section Drill. They repeated the result in 1969 and went on to win the London District Two-Section Drill Competition in the last final held at the Royal Albert Hall display. The Company beat the 13th Ealing Company in the final by one point. The Band gave a modern beat item called "Bandagogo"; this received a standing ovation on the Saturday evening. The 1969 Camp at Swanage was eventful. The Camp survived two storms and strong winds. The damage was reported by ITN and in the National Press,

The Company now moved towards a new decade, the 1970s. But the decade was only four days old, when the 3rd Enfield heard of the passing of their great Captain, Frank Head. A new Company Trophy was presented to the 3rd in his memory. New successes and changes lay ahead for the Company.

ROBERT WILSON.

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RD ENFIELD CO.

1890 1990



THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Christ Church U.R.C.,
Chase Side, Enfield.

Reply to

The present Company Colour was presented to the Company on its Golden Jubilee in 1940.

It has been suggested by many Old Boys and Friends of the Company that they present the Company with a new Colour on its Centenary.

If you would like to donate a small sum towards the cost of a new Colour which is in the region of £250, please complete the section at the bottom of this page.



I WISH TO DONATE TO THE 3RD ENFIELD CO. FUND FOR A NEW COLOUR.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE 3RD ENFIELD CO. BOYS' BRIGADE AND ATTACH THIS FORM TO THE CHEQUE.