



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"

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NUMBER TWO.

O L D B O Y S ' A S S O C I A T I O N . MARCH 1990.

Dear Old Boy,

The time seems to have flown by since the first Newsletter was published, and as I write, the Company is in the middle of its competition season. To date, the lads have achieved success in the Battalion Squad Drill Competition but narrowly lost out on the First Aid and Team Games Trophies. They also made a clean sweep at the Enfield Battalion and North London Zone Band Competitions winning Bugle Band, Drum Team, Bugle Team, Individual Drummer, Individual Bugler. The Band competition itself was won with a piece entitled "Red Alert", written by our Band Staff - Messrs. Stogden, Pollard and Willis.

Competitions on the horizon are the Battalion and London District Two-Section Drill finals and also the Daily Telegraph Shield Competition which the Battalion lost last year to the 14th West Kent Company from Bexleyheath. We are also hoping for victory in the Gymnastics, Athletics and Cricket Competitions as the lighter evenings approach.

Since last writing, several new members have joined up and the Association's membership currently stands at 64. If you know of any former members not in touch with us, please pass on their names to myself or Don Collins.

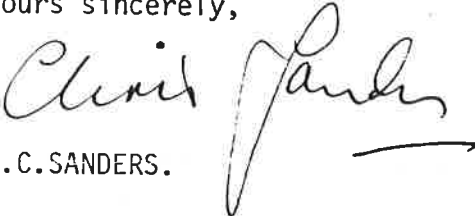
I am once again indebted to those fine fellows who contributed articles for this edition of the Newsletter and would be pleased to receive contributions from the rest of you.

Please find attached a copy of the Centenary programme of events. Kindly note that the Slide Show has had to be postponed but will make an appearance before the end of the year. I would particularly like to draw your attention to the Company Display on May 5th and the Summer Bazaar/Fete on June 23rd. The Display will as you know feature a joint Boys'/Old Boys' Band. We have had two practices so far and whilst we have more than enough Drummers, we only have one Bugler. Stand up Tony Fish! So Buglers, purse up your lips and try to make the next practice which is to be advised later.

The Summer Bazaar/Fete on June 23rd requires a lot of manpower and Don and myself would be most grateful for offers of help to run stalls, collect items for sale, e.g. books, records, cakes etc. It would also be nice to have one or two novelty items such as Wheel of Fortune, Soak the Officer game, China Smashing etc. but these things need to be made. Can anyone help? I would also like to mention the Old Boys' Supper which we are currently trying to arrange for a Saturday in September. Full details will follow as soon as they have been confirmed.

Finally, it is my sad duty to report the passing of two of our Old Boys, Bill Hummerstone (93) and George Whitlock (89). Both of these gentlemen joined the 3rd during the captaincy of T.R.Plowman, representing the Company in the Daily Telegraph Shield Competition at the time when it was awarded to the most all-round efficient Company in London, as well as participating in the many varied activities undertaken by the Company at the turn of the century. Both Bill and George retained a life-long interest in the Company and we extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

Yours sincerely,


C.C.SANDERS.

The Company's first thirty years saw it develop from modest beginnings into one of the premier companies in the Brigade. It had gained a great reputation in drill and all-round efficiency. The Captain, T.R.Plowman, had played a major role in its success, but the Company had suffered a great loss with his premature death in 1920.

In the 1920s there were many changes in Company Captaincy, Alfred Winsley (1920 - 21, 1928 - 31), Charles Chopping (1921 - 25, 1928), and Sydney J.Lahee (1925 - 1928). The position of Captain was a difficult one to hold, especially after Mr.Plowman had held the position with such distinction.

The 3rd had qualified for the 1920 "Daily Telegraph" final, but lost to the 83rd London, and in 1921 failed to qualify for the final at all. Indeed, the following year the Company lost the Battalion Colours competition to the 1st Enfield, the first time since 1905. In January 1923, Major P.W.Leggatt presented the Battalion with new Colours named "The Plowman Colours" in memory of the 3rd's Captain. However, the Colours were presented to the 1st Enfield, winners of the 1922 Battalion competition. Throughout the 1920s there were great battles between the 1st and 3rd for the Battalion Colours. However, the 1st Enfield consistently won the title, often going on to win the "Daily Telegraph" Shield. The 3rd Enfield finally won the "Plowman Colours" in March 1929, when they beat the 1st Enfield by 147 marks to 133 marks. Then at the Guildhall, the 3rd gained third place in the "Daily Telegraph" Shield competition. They then provided the escorts for the King's and London Colours at the Royal Albert Displays.

The 1920s saw the start of the Battalion Bugle Band competition. In 1923, the Devonshire Cup for Bugle Bands was instituted, with "Bugler" being the first test piece. The competition was open to all London District Bugle Bands, with the best two fighting for the title in the final held at the Royal Albert Hall Display. The 3rd had a good band in the early 1930s and won the Battalion Bugle Band competition for years.

The Company's Headquarters was the British Hall. A typical programme for the 1920s was as follows:-

Sunday	- -	Bible Class
Monday	- -	Club Rooms
		Signalling
Wednesday	- -	Drill.
		Subscriptions:
		(Boys at school 1d per week)
		(Boys at work 2d " ")
		(Cpls. & Sgts. 3d " ")
Thursday	- -	Band
		Ambulance
		Y.P.S.
Friday	- -	Gymnasium
		Football.

The Company ran a News-sheet, which gave details about the Company events. The 3rd joined other companies for the annual Battalion Camps held at venues such as Felixstowe, Clacton, Swalecliffe and Gurnard Bay. They enjoyed events like walks, rambles, boating, games, sailing, puddocks, swimming and camp concerts. At the 1927 camp at Gurnard Bay, Captain Lahee, who had to leave early, was given a ceremonial send-off on a stage-barrow draped in a Union Jack and drawn by the Beefeaters of the 3rd Enfield. The parade, with a brass band, dumped the Captain

in the village. The 3rd appeared on many occasions at the Royal Albert Hall Displays, Pyramid building (1922, 1928), Wand exercises (1923) and Drill (1945).

In June 1930, the Company took part in a Royal Review in Hyde Park by H.R.H The Duke of Gloucester. Cpl. Weeldon won the London District four mile Cross-Country competition in Epping Forest during October 1930. The Company achieved the third largest sum collected for the B.B. week of any Brigade Company in 1931 and held many recruiting evenings to encourage boys of the district to join. During the 1930s, many Parents and Friends Socials were held, often at the Lecture Hall. Every January the Company would hold its annual Birthday Party at the British Hall. There also existed an Old Boys' Association, which held events at the Red Triangle Club. The Old Boys would take on Boys in sporting competitions like billiards, ping-pong, darts and tiddley-winks. In 1937, collaborating with the Old Boys, plans were made to build accommodation for Club Rooms and Smaller Classes. A hut was built and became known as the Stedfast Hut.

Mr. H.J. Dye became Captain in 1931 and held the office during the 1933 Golden Jubilee of the Brigade. Over 600 members of the B.B. attended the Enfield Battalion Jubilee parade at Lincoln Road, Ponders End in April 1933. In June, the Company took part in the Jubilee celebration at Wembley Stadium, in the presence of The Duke of Gloucester. The band participated in the mass bugle band for the Tattoo, and they also took part in the Indian Clubs Display. It poured with rain for most of the day.

In 1935 Frank Head became the Captain, after being away from Enfield for a time. Mr. Norris Storer Toms, Founder of the 3rd Enfield, made a visit to the Company in November. He recalled the very early days of the 3rd Enfield. At the Empire Stadium, Wembley, the Festival of Youth took place in July 1937. In the presence of the King and Queen, representatives of forty youth organisations took part in a march past; the 3rd participated in this event. The drill form of the 3rd returned, winning the Battalion Colours and Squad Drill Competitions. In 1940, the Golden Jubilee of the 3rd, the Company won the Battalion Colours and the "Daily Telegraph" Shield. The Jubilee celebrations for the Company were affected by the Second World War. The Jubilee camp was held at Brean, Somerset, a year early due to world events. The camp was a great success with 46 Boys, 8 Officers and 9 Staff attending. They returned to Enfield on the 2nd September 1939; the following day War was declared. On the 16th December, at the new Christ Church Hall, the 3rd Enfield held a special Jubilee celebration with 160 people attending. The Guest of Honour was Capt. G. Stanley Smith, M.C., son of the Founder of the B.B. The following May the 50th Annual Inspection and Display was held at Chase Side School, with new Company Colours being presented by relatives of Mr. T.R. Plowman. Summer camps were affected by the War; the Company attended the London District camp at Eton Playing Fields. They helped the War effort by helping with the Fire Brigade and A.F.C.

In 1943, the Company won the "Daily Telegraph" Shield for the ninth time, but this time at the re-instated Royal Albert Hall Display. In October, to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Brigade, the King and Queen, accompanied by Princess Elizabeth, inspected a contingent of the Brigade in the quadrangle of Windsor Castle. The 3rd Enfield were represented as winners of the "Daily Telegraph" Shield. With the end of the War in sight in 1945, the Company said farewell to Frank Head who had been Captain for ten years. He had guided the 3rd through the difficult War years. The Company could now look forward to the post-war years, but problems would be encountered.

ROBERT WILSON.



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Dear Old Boys,

The Centenary Year is now well and truly under way and got off to a flying start with the Launch Party in January, attended by the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress and about 150 Members, Old Boys, Friends and Parents of the Company. The evening was a great success with good food, fun and games and a good time for Old Boys to catch up on the news and past times.

Enclosed with this Newsletter should be a copy of the Programme for the year, and all Old Boys are invited to join in any, or all, of the events. Extra events are publicised as widely as possible.

The Centenary Appeal has also been started and several hundred pounds have already been raised towards the target of £5000. How can Old Boys help? What the Company doesn't want is to constantly ask the Old Boys to put their hands in their pockets and just hand over money (although we would not stop anyone!). All Old Boys can help by attending and supporting the various activities throughout the year, selling our Grand Prize Draw tickets in September/October to as many people as possible, and by sponsoring someone (a Boy/Officer, or the whole Company!) in the Southend Walk and other events. Buying a T-Shirt or Sweat-Shirt also helps as the profits go into the Appeal.

It was good to see so many Old Boys at the Launch Party and I hope to see more of you at the other activities during the year.

Yours sincerely,

ANDREW MASON.
CAPTAIN.

New Members...

P. BEALE.
S. BORKETT.
B. BUSHELL.
A. CLARKE.
C. DUNSDEN.
M. DUNSDEN.
D. EVANS.
T. FISH.
D. FREER.

A. HEAD.
G. HOSFORD.
M. OVER.
R. PURSELL.
G. M. SMITH.
C. R. SMITH.
P. SPENCE.
M. WILLIS

Welcome!



Members of the 1st and 3rd Enfield Old Boys' Club outside their headquarters in Lancaster Road, 1906.

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* DON'T FORGET - COMPANY CENTENARY DINNER *
* SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1st 1990. *
* TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON. *
* PLEASE BOOK THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES. *
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