

THE **BB** *The Boys' Brigade in the North West* **Digest** 

Winter 2010

96th Annual Meeting at Salford



On Saturday 9 October 2010 there were some 62 Officers representing 23 Companies from 10 Battalions present in Emmanuel Church (Methodist/Anglican) Salford to receive the Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Salford (Councillor George Wilson) accompanied by The Lady Mayoress on the occasion of the 96th Annual Meeting.

The Opening Devotions were led by the Rev Ken Stokes, Chaplain 53rd Manchester

(Emmanuel Church) followed by welcomes from the Lord Mayor and the President of the Manchester Battalion to which the District President responded.

After the completion of the business of the Annual General Meeting a most interesting and relevant address was given by Nick Harding, Childrens Ministry Advisor for the Church of England Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham on the subject "Boys, God and

the Church". The Council quickly warmed to the speaker when he revealed that he was Queensman in the 80th Birmingham in Centenary Year! During the meeting the council welcomed Brian Mottram, Brian Taylor, and Ron Reid as Honorary Vice Presidents.

At the close of the meeting Afternoon Tea was served in the church Coffee Bar by the staff and the friends of the 53rd Manchester – as ever this provided a time of rich BB fellowship.



BB AMBASSADORS

In September a group of Officers were selected by Brigade Headquarters to be Brigade Ambassadors, their role being to represent the Brigade in connection with development opportunities with churches and demonstrating up to date programme information to all sections of the Brigade. They could be likened to 'the Diplomatic Ambassadors at large' not tied to any specific District or Battalion area but free to move across the movement.

If you travel abroad and find yourself in difficulties you would contact the British Ambassador at the Embassy. It occurs to me that we are all local Ambassadors for the BB and our 'Embassy' is the Battalion a term for our BB Fellowship. Such fellowships are essential to the well-being of our organisation.

At our first District Executive meeting in 2011 we propose to examine 'the role of the Battalion in 2011' as a major subject.

May God richly bless you in His Service.

Alan McLoughlin



WE REMEMBER THEM



1st BURTON-IN-KENDAL COMPANY

The 1st Burton in Kendal (St James Parish Church) pay tribute to the fallen at the Parish Church Memorial.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Consistent with our policy maintaining the District Training Centre to the highest standards the Management Committee have been pleased to be able to authorise the refurbishment of the floor covering in Centenary Hall this will take place during the Christmas/New Year holiday period.



In order to continue a programme of planned maintenance and to develop the activities of the Centre we need to seek and receive donations from outside the movement it is important that these are matched by our own efforts.

To this end I would encourage individuals, Battalions and Companies within the District to consider making donations to the Centre fund.

Alan McLoughlin, District President

BRIGADE COUNCIL – ARMAGH

The Annual Meeting of the Brigade Council was held in the City Hall, Armagh from 3-5 September 2010. Amongst the Officers representing the North west were Andrew McCaldron and Mick Southern of the 35th Liverpool Company (All Saints Parish, Childwall) who received bursaries from the District in support of their attendance.

Our photograph shows them meeting Brigade President Professor Sir Kenneth Calman at a Civic Reception given by the City of Armagh.



NATIONAL BRASS BAND

The BB National Brass Band chose Blackpool for their Annual weekend 16/17 Oct. being based at Highfield Methodist Church for accommodation.

Making a guest appearance on Saturday afternoon in St John's Square, followed in the evening by a concert in North Shore Methodist Church. Sunday morning they played at the morning service in Highfield Methodist.



3rd TRAFFORD COMPANY

The 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist) played a major part in the Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph at Stretford by leading the civic parade, sounding Last Post and Reveille. Our photograph shows member Yuri Felipe reading the lesson.

RAISING FUNDS



The 1st Haslington (Bradley Road Methodist) took part in the Village Fete by organising a Balloon Race. Over 100 Balloons were released the farthest travelling 117 miles to High Wycombe.

Prior to the race the Company website carried attractive publicity and afterwards a log of the details of where the balloons were reported to have arrived.

The Company website is maintained by member Ryan Mellor and is worth a visit

www.haslingtonboysbrigade.co.uk

THE GREAT TOUR – STOPS AT TREALES

On the 3 July 2010 an intrepid band of cyclists gathered in Seaton, Devon to circumnavigate the coast by bicycle keeping the sea to the right for 64 days for an epic 6600km pedal for the Prostrate Cancer Charity.

On Saturday 14 August some 18 riders with support staff arrived at the District Training and Activity Centre to be welcomed by District Vice Presidents Margaret Heywood and Jim Lloyd. An enthusiastic Guard of Honour provided by the Officers and Boys' of the 55th Manchester (*Weaste URC*) lined the drive into the Centre. This was greatly appreciated by the riders as was the High Tea provided by the District.



STEDFAST ASSOCIATIONS

In our District we have two thriving Stedfast Associations.

LIVERPOOL STEDFAST ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1935 as the Liverpool Past Members Association

Secretary: J. Hughes
9 Turner Court, 59 Halewood Road, Liverpool L25 5PG.

MANCHESTER STEDFAST ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1983

Secretary: Miss M Southworth
34 The Mead, Salford M5 2LL.

Both Associations offer the opportunities to enjoy fellowship through a programme of meetings and outings. New members always welcome.

4th Southport Centenary

The weekend of 15 -17 October celebrated the Centenary of the 4th Southport Company, St Simon & Jude with All Souls. Over three days acquaintances were renewed, reminiscences exchanged and photographs taken in celebrating the past and present life of the 4th Southport.

On Friday some 40 plus past members joined with present Company members in a Pie and Chip Supper.

Saturday the church hosted a five course dinner attended by Past Members of the Company accompanied by their partners. Notable guests included The Mayor of Sefton, The MP for the Southport Constituency, The Battalion President and Secretary and the BB Director for England

On Sunday morning a Centenary Commemoration Service saw the Company at worship. The Company Chaplain the Rev David Whitehouse, with past and present members of the Company contributing to a most moving and memorable occasion.



The service concluded with the hymn Will your Anchor Hold, after which refreshments were served and more acquaintances were made/renewed.

North West District

SWIMMING GALA



Eleven Companies representing 5 Battalions took part in the Swimming Gala on Saturday 6 November at the EPIC, Ellesmere Port and enjoyed a time of friendly competition.

The JUNIOR TROPHY was won by WIRRAL & WEST CHESHIRE BATTALION and SOUTHPORT BATTALION won the COMPANY and SENIOR TROPHIES.

RESULTS

	1st	2nd	3rd
5 Southport Companies	6	3	4
1st Bebington	2	2	
1st Leyland	1	4	2
3rd Chester			1
31st Liverpool			2

The Junior Medley was won by WIRRAL & WEST CHESHIRE. David Green of 1st Ormskirk, for the second year running won the 200 metres.

Well done to all who tries their best but just did not make the top three.

Please encourage other Companies in you Battalion to take part.

THEY REMEMBERED

EDDIE THOMAS, whose funeral took place recently at Christ Church, Cockfosters, London served as a boy in the 43rd Liverpool (*St Cyprian's Parish Church*) and left Liverpool on his marriage to become a Director in his wife's family firm 'Berrys Pianos'.

Eddie spoke throughout his adult life about the happy days in the 43rd and directed in his will that donations should be given in his memory should be donated to Liverpool Battalion – result the sum of £800 was received.

SONIA LOCK who along with her late husband Maurice gave a life time of service in the Life Boys/Junior Section of the 43rd Liverpool (*All Saints, Childwall*). Sonia made a bequest of £2,000 in her will towards the work of the District Training and Activity Centre. This has been used to create the Sonia Lock room in Centenary Hall as a Staff room. The room has a plaque recording this bequest and is inscribed with the Life Boy Crest.

Others have indicated to us their intention to remember the work of the District in their wills.

Any one requiring information as to the District's Charitable status etc. should contact the District President.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

2010

December

11 Building Your Skills Wigan

2011

January

8 District Executive Treales

15 Anchors Event Treales

29 Ten Pin Bowling Warrington

February

12-13 Youth Leader Training Treales

19 Captains Course Manchester

March

5 District Executive Treales

12 Cross Country Wythenshawe Park

25/27 England Unite Felden Lodge

26 Five-a-side Football Treales

April

2 Building Your Skills DTC

9 JS Competitions Day Treales

10/11 Brigade Training Officers DTC

May

14 Building Your Skills Manchester

15 QUEENS BADGE PRESENTATION Chadderton

HERE & THERE

A NEW COMPANY

We welcome into the District fellowship a Company with a Girls Association started in the Parish Church of St. Catherine, Burnley and enrolled into East Lancashire Battalion as the 3rd Burnley Company.

Mr Ian Parrish is transferred from 1st Rishton Company to be Captain.

CAR INSURANCE

Officers using their own vehicles for the conveyance of members to brigade events should ensure their Motor Insurance Policy covers this - "extract from District Executive minutes 9th October 2010".

DISTRICT CHARITY FOR 2010/11 ANNOUNCED

north west
air ambulance



CAMELOT DAY

On Saturday 4 September 2010 some 130 members from 8 Companies had an enjoyable day at CAMELOT THEME PARK, Charnock Richard.

Prayer Topics

Please Pray for:

Brian ARMSTRONG – Oswaldtwistle

David GRIFFITHS – Wigan

Canon Jim HAMILTON – St Helens

David KENNETT – Oldham

Darren WRIGHT – Southport

TEA & TOAST



The 3rd St Helens Company (St Luke's Parish Church, Eccleston) held an opening morning in the church Hall to encourage new members and adult leaders offering everyone Tea and Toast. The District Banner Stands and leaflets were used to good effect.



OBITUARY

Les Southern
Aged 79

Les died on the 13 September, his father was a founder Officer of the 53rd Liverpool Company (Parish Church of the Good Shepherd, West Derby) so it was natural that he should join the 53rd at the earliest opportunity a service that was to continue until the end of his life.

At the time of his death he was in the first year as President of the Liverpool Battalion Past Members Association.

Our condolences are expressed to his wife Sheila.

George Fowler
(Age 73)

George joined the 46th Liverpool Company (St Michael in the Hamlet Parish Church) as boy. He was trained as an engineer but later entered the teaching profession becoming a much respected Deputy Head in the highly deprived Netherley estate.

He was Captain of the 46th from 1965 to 1990 during which time the Company excelled in Liverpool Battalion Drill and Band Competitions.

George will be greatly missed by his wife Olwen, sons Steven and Timothy, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Photo Acknowledgements

David Bailey • Bill Clarey • John Gaffney
Jonathan Hooton • Jim Lloyd • Ryan Mellor
Steve Watt

BUILDING THEIR SKILLS



Sixteen young men from 6 Battalions attended a "Building their Skills" Course at the District Training and Activity Centre on 18 September.



Sixteen members from 5 Companies representing 3 Battalions took part in the Queens Badge Completion Course held at the District Training Centre during the weekend 19/21 November 2010.

THE DIGEST

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