



West Anglia Steadfast Association Newsletter

Email: westanglia@boys-brigade.org.uk

Website: <http://westanglia.boys-brigade.org.uk>

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Contact Us

Address: West Anglia Steadfast Association, C/O Rob Ciantar, Kempston East Methodist Church, Foster Road, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 8DA

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Any items or opinions displayed in the newsletter are that of the individual and do not represent that of the Editorial Team or The Boys' Brigade.

Welcome to the sixth edition of West Anglia Steadfast Association

The West Anglia Battalion consists currently of eleven active companies from Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes. This relatively new battalion was formed by a merger of the old Bedford & district, Luton & district and Milton Keynes Battalions in 2001.

This newsletter hopefully will be an effective way to stay in touch with current & former officers, helpers and ex-members and aid to form a Steadfast Association.

The main aim being to **"Further the Object of the "BB" and to foster the spirit of comradeship between past and present members of the Brigade and to render service to others."**

Chaplain's Corner

"TEAMWORK!"

Dear All.

The longer I am involved with Boys Brigade the more I realise that one of the key factors in what it does and achieves is summed up in "TEAMWORK".

This is obvious and easily seen when a number of lads in a company are involved in some sporting activity such as five aside. They support each other and work together to win the particular match and any cup or trophy in the various tournaments that take place. This "TEAMWORK" is not only important when the lads are in competition but is vital to the good health of a company. Not only is there the need of it by the lads, but also among the officers, the parents and friends as well as the whole Church where the company is based if BB is to flourish. "TEAMWORK" must also be evident in the life of a Battalion and indeed the whole national organisation. While each company has its own identity within the West Anglia Battalion, I am aware that Captains and officers do realise and value the support that the Battalion and National Organisation give, even if sometimes these bodies cause frustration.

In this Steadfast letter I would remind you ALL, whatever your connection with BB and the West Anglia Battalion, that you are ALL important individuals in the "TEAM". In fact, you ALL have a part to play, and your support is vital and necessary if there is to be real "TEAMWORK" throughout the Battalion. Three ways in which you play your part and offer support are your prayers, your encouragement and your enthusiasm. All who are actively involved in a

company or the Battalion do need all three, so please do your part.

As Battalion Chaplain I certainly know the need of these three things. At the recent Battalion event at Wootton Upper School when the various Battalion awards were presented, I was enthused by the encouragement given me by one very young lad, who probably did not realise that he was doing so. After prayer for the worship time and devotional, I had taken as my theme "TEAMWORK". During it I had shared various ideas and illustrations finishing each one by saying "that's TEAMWORK!" After the event, while the lad was waiting for his lift, he came to chat with me. He said to me "You're blind", to which I replied "Yes". He then commented on the difficulty I had had in finding the microphone on the occasions when I had to speak. He continued by saying "The other man had to help you by putting you right in front of the microphone". Once again I said "Yes". Then to my amazement and great encouragement he made the following very profound statement, "That's TEAMWORK!" Obviously he had been listening and grasped what I had been sharing. Prayer was answered, and a tremendous blessing was given me for not only was I encouraged but I was sent away from the event having been enthused in my work as Battalion Chaplain.

With every blessing,

Amos Salisbury
Battalion Chaplain

"I remember the good old days in BB when...there were lots of boys attending"

Martin Fleetwood
WO, 15th Luton

If you "remember the good old days in BB when..."
contact us!

[contact details can be found on the front page]

*Do you have any questions current or past BB wise?
Contact us and we will try to answer your questions*

BB National 125th Celebrations:

On the 4th October 2008 a special commemorative service is being held at Glasgow Cathedral, (which I believe the queen will be attending) Sorry this event will be for the great and the good by invitation only.

The BB will have a national charity for the Year. Hospices. Each company will be given details of their local Hospice so money raised will stay in your community, and also recognised as part of the BB national fundraising figure.

The BB will launch 125 Minutes service in your community for the anniversary year, and it is encouraging companies, individuals and battalions to do 125 minutes of service in our local community and for this each person will get a badge. Please think about what we could do for your companies 125 minutes, I also believe this could be a great way to advertise the BB.

Philip Timms, Our district representative on the England Committee

WEST ANGLIA BATTALION COMPETITIONS, 2007-2008

At the sectional meetings before the AGM, the proposed dates and organizers for next sessions Battalion Competitions are:

Date	Section	Competition	Location	Organiser
31/08/07	Company	Top Team Challenge	From Feb 2007	
13/10/07	Company	10 pin bowling	GoBowling, Dunstable	Allan Tressider
31/10/07	Anchors	Art		Angela Hathaway
31/10/07	Junior	Art		Angela Hathaway
03/11/07	Junior	5 a side	Milton Keynes (Woughton)	1st Newport Pagnell
17/11/07	Anchors	Party	Flitwick	Jo Mallams
01/12/07	Company	National Masterteam	Flitwick	Angela Brydon
01/12/07	Junior	Figure Marching	Priory, Bedford	Allan Tressider
01/12/07	Junior	2 Court Dodge Ball	Priory, Bedford	Allan Tressider
19/01/08	Company	5 a side	Putteridge rec., Luton	Alan White
19/01/08	Senior	5 a side	Putteridge rec., Luton	Alan White
26/01/08	Anchors	Potted Sports	Kempston	Rob Ciantar
02/02/08	Junior	Unihoc	Harlington Upper School	1st Harlington
01/03/08	Anchors	10 pin bowling	GoBowling, Dunstable	Colin Watts
01/03/08	Junior	10 pin bowling	GoBowling, Dunstable	Colin Watts
08/03/08	Company	Table tennis	Kempston East	Alan Thompson
08/03/08	Senior	Table tennis	Kempston East	Alan Thompson
14/03/08	Junior	Bible Quiz	Priory, Bedford	Amos Salisbury
19/04/08	Anchors	Football skills	Central Baptist, Luton	Greg Webb
26/04/08	Company	Unihoc	Putteridge rec., Luton	Alan White
26/04/08	Senior	Unihoc	Putteridge rec., Luton	Alan White
17/05/08	Junior	Water games	St. John's, Luton	Andrew Burchell
15/06/08	Company	First Aid	Luton	Rob Ciantar
05/07/08	Anchors	Sports day	Wootton Upper School	Greg Webb
05/07/08	Junior	Triathlon	Wootton Upper School	Andrew Burchell/ Allan Tressider
05/07/08	Company	Tennis	Wootton Upper School	Chris Brydon
05/07/08	Senior	Tennis	Wootton Upper School	Chris Brydon

Dates to note

125th

*Anniversary
Special Event @
Bedford Corn
Exchange Sat
8th November
2008 (pencil this
date in your diary's,
more details to
follow)*

**If you have any dates
to note for inclusion
in this newsletter,
contact us!**

Seniors & Amicus Meeting

The third meeting for the Senior & Amicus (S&A) members is planned to be paintballing at Brickwood.

This was going to be held on Saturday 21st July 2007, but due to the low numbers attending due to camps and summer holidays this is be reorganised for sometime in the new session.

Rob Ciantar, Development Officer

New Company Section Award Scheme: Discovery

The new Company section badge work programme starts at the beginning of the new session (There is a chart explaining the transition between the old and new system for Boys who are currently on the Get the Credit system.) In terms of the programme activities, the new scheme is to support and not hinder Company work and does come with lots of programme ideas and resources which should be a great help.

The major changes are as follows;

- New Badge Designs
- New Badge Headings or Zones (As they will be called) Skills, Recreation & Community. (Each section will include Christian Faith)
- A new major Badge called discover (Presidents and Queens Badges still remain)
- A Fully resourced programme pack with ideas.

From the feedback it was felt that the Presidents Badge is good but as it is not awarded until the age of 15 another major badge should be introduced for the younger company section lads – Discovery is the name of that new badge.

Philip Timms, Our district representative on the England Committee

At the end of this session the results are:

1st Kempston are 6th time Champions' Cup Holders for the Senior Section

2nd Bedford are Champions' Cup Holders for the Company Section

2nd Bedford remain Champions' Cup Holders for the Junior Section

20th Luton are the Anchor Boy Champions' Cup Holders

Well Done to all who participated!

Battalion Champions' Cup Scores 2006/07

		Senior	Company	Junior	Anchor Boys
1st Bletchley	1B		18		34
2nd Bedford	2B		100	122	63
3rd Bedford	3B		83	107	34
1st Flitwick	1F		17	51	35
1st Harlington	1H		14	117	
1st Kempston	1K	51	99	27	67
15th Luton	15L	48	27	45	
20th Luton	20L	51	95	115	67
22nd Luton	22L	28	28	24	10
23rd Luton	23L		29	70	60
1st Newport Pagnell	1NP		67	28	10

As you can see the competitions were extremely close this year!

Congratulations to:

- 1st Kempston for retaining the Seniors Cup (by three points)
- 2nd Bedford for winning the Company Cup (by only one point!)
 - 2nd Bedford for retaining the Junior Cup (by five points)
- 20th Luton for winning the Anchor Cup (by amount of first places)