



EIGHTH UPDATE

8th Birmingham Boys' Brigade

Volume 1, Issue 2

October 2007

Reunion Bash!

Saturday 7th October 2006 saw the coming together of members, past and present to celebrate the Centenary of the 8th.

Held at the Norfolk Hotel in Birmingham, the reunion saw many old boys from the company meet up for the first time in many years. Fond memories were shared and speeches given by Mr. Les Stirrup (Company Captain 1978—1995) and Mr. Kevin Collins (Company Captain 1995—2007). Both speeches paid tribute to the work and dedication given to the company by Mr. Geoff Tomkinson who himself was Company Captain from 1966—1975 and indeed, is still actively involved in the company.

Kevin Collins commented on the night that the 'coming together of so many people from many different eras of the company is remarkable'.

The reunion saw the start of the centenary celebrations



Members past and present at the Reunion, Norfolk Hotel, Birmingham
7th October 2006

which included many events, not least the Company and Senior Section 5 day expedition through Brittany in Northern France. An amazing experience for all boys and staff and one that will stay long in the memories of those who took part.

Although the Centenary has now come to an end, the verve and enthusiasm created

throughout the year brings us to the start of our next 100 years! We hope and pray that God blesses us greatly with the work we have planned for the future.

In addition, we would also like to thank all those who have supported us over the many years. Your help and prayers are invaluable.

Forthcoming Events and Items for Prayer

Seniors CWRT Weekend

Juniors and Company Section CWRT

Annual Expedition (possibly Ireland)

Summer Camp at Bockleton 2008

St. Basils Sleep out in November 2007

Community Action—Working in our community

Bonfire night—Monday 5th November 2007

Old Boys Cottage weekend

In a Flash

- Do you have old photos or documents that could form part of our Archive?
- Have you visited our web site?
- Do you know any old members of the 8th? Let us know.
- Prayer support is vital! Can you commit to praying for the work of the 8th?

Change of Captaincy

On 1st September 2007, Kevin Collins, Company Captain from 1995—2007, handed the Captaincy to Brendan Quinn.

At the end of our Centenary, the Captaincy of the company was handed to Brendan Quinn. Kevin Collins, who has been company captain for 13 years has worked stoically to bring the 8th to a great standing within the Quinton community. Brendan is looking forward to

the challenges and rewards of serving the company in this capacity.

'The 8th has a very rich history which is a great foundation to look forward for the next 100 years. It has been fantastic to see so many old faces over these last months and I pray that members, past and present continue to support the work we do through participation and prayer.' The role of Captain is something I feel very privileged to have been offered,

and I hope to continue the great work that previous Captains of the 8th have undertaken.'



If you would like to contact us then please use the following:

brendan@8thbirminghambb.co.uk

Or write to us at

8th Birmingham Boys' Brigade,
St. Boniface Church, Quinton Road West, Quinton, Birmingham, B32 2QD



Fred Fowler—From Queens Badge to Africa



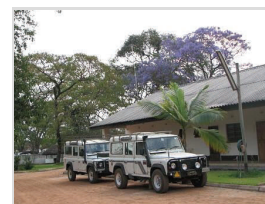
Fred Fowler and Steve Dickinson at the Queens Badge Award Ceremony

Having received his Queens Badge in June this year, Fred Fowler is now working in Zambia, Africa as part of his year out.

Fred Fowler received his Queens badge, presented to him by Mr. Steve Dickinson on Sunday 24th June 2007. Fred was the first Queens Man for nearly 10 years at the 8th. The work involved is extensive and not every young man who reaches President Badge stage goes on to achieve the Queens Badge. So this has been a great achievement for Fred and the 8th.

Fred is now working at Kaniki Bible College in Ndola in Zambia as part of the African

Quest project. The project offers opportunities for year-out candidates to learn, grow and serve local communities in Zambia whilst experiencing the wonders and challenges of working in southern Africa. He will also be part of a team to complete a building project to serve the local community in Ndola and provide better facilities for schools and churches.



Kaniki Bible College, Zambia

We would value your prayers for Fred at this time as he seeks to learn more about God and serve others by sharing his faith in words and action.

We shall be providing information about Fred in Africa on our web site at www.8thbirminghambb.co.uk

France 2007

“Wow, its like there are beaches everywhere, this is a really cool place”

George Ali—Sitting on a Beach outside Concale, France

France 2007 was simply an adventure for all who took part. A 5 day expedition along the coast of Brittany saw some amazing sights and many experiences for staff and boys.

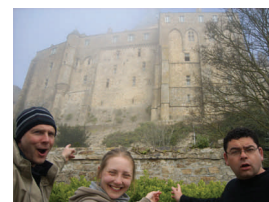
Starting in St. Malo, the group walked and camped over a 5 day period in some of the most beautiful parts of Brittany. The weather was incredible and the experience of travelling in a

foreign country added to the excitement of the trip.



The expedition finished at Mont Saint Michelle, a place of Christian pilgrimage for centuries. We had the opportunity of

spending a few hours inside the old town before catching a train back to the ferry to take us home. A fantastic adventure!



Mont Saint Michelle and some interesting leaders!!
(Kevin Collins, Bethan Marshall & Brendan Quinn)

8th Web Site

The site has now been redesigned to give a more fresh look.

Please do bear with us though as there are still some links that are not yet up and running.

www.8thbirminghambb.co.uk

Galdhopiggen!

In September 2007 Brendan Quinn, Philip Knox, Bethan Marshall and Adam Lawler travelled to Norway to climb the highest mountain in northern Europe. And, despite having to travel for 65 hours on ferries and in cars, they hit the summit on foot on Sunday 9th September 2007.

The climb is to help raise funds for the brigade to help young

boys and men have opportunities to attend camp and cottage through the year and provide sports equipment.

If you would like to make a donation to the company please make all cheques payable to 8th Birmingham Boys Brigade and send them to the address on the front of this newsletter.



Team Galdhopiggen on the summit

Can you shed some light on other photographs in our archive. Who, what, where, why and when?

If so, please do get in touch.