

**The 22nd Paisley Company The Boys' Brigade
Ex-Members Association**

Office Bearers Session 2006/07

Honorary President
W. Raymond Shaw

Honorary Vice-President
Alec Todd

Chaplain
Rev. Alasdair Cameron

President
Duncan Turner

Vice-President
George Murray

Secretary
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Treasurer
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EX-MEMBERS'

UPDATE

**February 2007
Issue Two**

CAPTAIN'S FOREWORD

It is difficult to think that it is three years on from our centenary and we are now approaching the third ex-members' dinner. How time flies! We have also experienced 'time flying' in the Company with a new approach to the Easter break. We have brought forward the Annual Inspection to March and this allows for a more relaxed session after Easter.

The Company Section will again be attending Newcastleton this year and your generous donation has gone a long way to providing our transport. Thank you on behalf of the Boys and Officers of the 22nd.

See you in October!

Bill

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INVITATION

The 22nd will be holding our Annual Inspection on Friday 16th March. All Ex-Members would be made very welcome

Upper Hall, Sherwood Greenlaw Church

Please be seated for 7.30pm

NEWS UPDATE

It's been another busy session for the 22nd and already we are gearing up for the annual display. Due to Easter holidays and the Company Section weekend away it was proving difficult to get in enough practice immediately before the display so this year's display has been moved forward by a couple of months. After the display we will enjoy a few weeks of informal activities such as outings to the cinema or swimming baths, the Company Section 12 hour sponsored sports night and the trip to Blair Drummond, culminating in the Company Section adventure weekend, now moved to mid May when the weather will hopefully be kinder to us than last year.

On a national level, there is also a lot going on. Proposed changes to the badge structure and to the constitution have been the cause of much debate at recent Council and Executive meetings. There are few involved in the Brigade who have managed to avoid the 'Girls in the Brigade' debate in recent years. We are also approaching the 125th anniversary of the Brigade and plans are already underway for national events including a tattoo-style celebration.

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to echo Bill's words of thanks for your generous support of the 22nd. Our trip down to Newcastleton will involve upwards of 20 boys this year, the highest number yet, and your support allows the Company Section to continue to invest in successful activities like this.

David Syme
Liaison Officer

Diary of forthcoming Company events:

Friday 16th March	Annual Inspection
Friday 23rd March	Cinema/Swimming/Fire Station outings
Sunday 25th March	Uniformed Parade
Friday 30th March	12 hour sports night (overnight)
Saturday 21st April	Blair Drummond Trip
Friday 11th May - Sunday 13th May	Newcastleton Weekend Away

CROSS-COUNTRY

The setting was a chilly autumn day on a squelchy farmer's field on the outskirts of Houston - the occasion was none other than the Battalion cross country competition, held on 11th November 2006. Five boys from the Company Section "volunteered" to take part and although there were no new trophies for the 22nd cabinet, a good time was had by all. This was only one of a number of Battalion competitions entered by the 22nd this year. Others included quizzes and the Junior Section competition days. Another popular choice is the 5-asides which is taking place in March. It's always encouraging to see the boys of the 22nd taking part in these events and reminding everyone that the 22nd is still here. Pictured is "Uncle" Fraser Murdoch looking relieved to cross the finishing line.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

With the BB being founded in Scotland it's often easy to forget that we now have a worldwide presence through Boys' and Girls' Brigade companies and affiliated Christian organisations:

- BB/GB Uganda now has over 20,000 members
- St. Maarten in the Caribbean is celebrating 45 years of BB work this year and will be hosting the regional Caribbean camp
- BB Rwanda has now been operational for six years and activities include making mud-bricks to construct churches
- War in Congo makes it impossible for new companies to start up but the existing sixteen units of Youth of Living Water maintain a membership of over 2,000

For further information visit www.globalfellowship.net

BATTALION FUNDRAISING

Following a successful pilot last year, the Battalion held its second craft and valuation fayre in Paisley Town Hall on 4th November 2006. With a variety of craft stalls, local painters and kids activities, the fayre was a great success raising over £2000. For the second year in a row, the 22nd ran the tearoom, winning praise from the Battalion organisers. Two weeks later, ten of the Company Section assisted at another fundraising event, this time a bag-pack at Somerfield in the Piazza Centre. The two events raised over £3,000 for the Battalion HQ Fund. Following the sale of its old Orchard Street home, the Battalion office and shop are currently housed in a hall at Wallneuk Church under temporary arrangements while a permanent home is sought.



EX MEMBERS NEWS

It wouldn't be an ex-members' newsletter without some ex-members' news so here's a quick update on what's been happening:

- W Raymond Shaw was confirmed as Honorary President and Alex Todd was confirmed as Honorary Vice President of the Ex-Members' Association, at the AGM in October 2006;
- At the same meeting, the Association kindly donated the sum of £350 to the 22nd Company;
- The Executive Committee met on 22nd February. Plans are well in hand for this year's AGM and dinner which will be held on 13th October 2007 in Ralston Golf Club. The enrolment service is scheduled to take place the following day and all ex-members will be made most welcome.

Membership currently stands at 34. Anyone wishing to join can contact Ella Caldwell on 0141 881 3893 for further information.

A NIGHT WITH THE 22ND

All three sections of the 22nd meet on a Friday night. The Anchor Boys kick the night off at 6.30pm with a variety of games and activities. The 'third year' boys now have their own achievement programme and work towards gaining a single badge at the end of the session. The boys can be seen exercising their singing voices in practice for the display (right) and playing one of their Friday night games (left).



The object of the game is to lie on the ground and stay completely still with the last boy left winning a prize. Unfortunately for the officers, not all games are as quiet with dodgy-ball remaining a firm favourite. After the games have finished there's just time for a cup of juice and the Anchor Boy prayer before the boys vacate the hall for the Company Section who start at 7.30pm.

Meanwhile, the Junior Section who meet at 7.00pm have already started their activities in the Lower Hall. A typical night starts and ends with a short service and raising or lowering of the flag. In between this, the boys take part in a range of badgework activities as well as team games and quizzes. One of the favourite activities is an obstacle circuit where the boys are split into teams and challenged to complete the course in the shortest possible time. Pictured right is one of the Junior boys trying to escape from the tunnel.



The Juniors finish at 8.30pm, leaving the Company Section to run on until 10.00pm. The evening starts with a short opening service and inspection (pictured right - the new-style polo shirt and sweater uniform can be seen). The boys then get changed into PT kits for a traditional box routine with a few modern twists along the way (pictured below).



Most of the older boys are proficient at all the exercises and put on a professional display of star jumps, somersaults, straddles and side vaults. After PT is over and the equipment safely stowed away for another week, it's time for some achievement work. The badge system is currently in the process of major review, but at the moment the award system is based around the five badges for: Interests, Physical, Adventure, Leadership and Community. New recruits cut their teeth with the Target badge programme.

The hard work put in by the boys is also taken into account when the trophies and other awards are decided on. After tuck it's



time for games which can include football and unihoc (left). After that, just time for a short closing service before the 22nd is dismissed for another week.