



June 2000

# The Bulletin

A Quarterly Newsletter for The Boys Brigade and The Stedfast Association in the Republic of Ireland



**Our Object:** 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.



## 32nd Dublin Company - Clontarf Presbyterian Church

**On 3rd March 1900, the 32nd Dublin Company was enrolled for the first time and attached to Clontarf Presbyterian Church. In each of the ninety-nine years since then and without interruption the Company has met for its Winter Session on Friday nights in**



**Howth Road Schools.**

The session just finished was the 100th in the lifetime of the Company and this was marked in a number of ways.



Over the last year, a hard working committee, chaired by Keith Lewis and comprising several

former Captains and Officers of the Company, met on a monthly basis – latterly becoming bi-monthly.

A Parents and Friends Evening was held on Friday 22nd October last. This very successful event kicked-off the celebrations with a large number of Past Members and parents attending. The evening was notable, in particular, for the huge array of large print photographs on display – mostly attributed to Bobby Oak's skills over the years. These photographs were on



display at all of the Centenary Events and were very popular with Past Members who reminisced more than one late night with them! A slide show of last year's camp and many old slides was also shown.

The second Centenary Event was held on Saturday 4th March and took the form of a nostalgic hike from Glenmalure in Co. Wicklow up to the summit of Luqnaquilla. Thirty past and present members under the expert guidance of Robert Garrett made the pilgrimage and many had not seen that particular piece of hallowed turf in several years! It was an unparalleled triumph of the spirit unlikely to be equalled for many years to come.

All members of the Company have been presented with a special, 32nd Dublin Company Centenary buttonhole badge in the shape of the Centenary Logo to mark the celebrations.

On Friday 14th April our Centenary Inspection and

## Celebrating 100 years 1900 – 2000



Display was held in Mount Temple Comprehensive School (the 25th year in succession at that venue). We were honoured to have the Brigade President, His Honour Judge Reg Lockett as Inspecting Officer. Special items included an exhibition of Drill in Fours by the more 'senior' past members and a high vaulting frame item by some of the less 'senior' past members. St. George's Brass Band provided live music. We were all particularly impressed with the Brigade President who played a major part in making this main event a memorable occasion for all who were present.

Our Centenary Celebration Dinner in was held the next day in Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links. One hundred and sixty Past Members, Parents and Friends of the Company attended to hear Keith eloquently toast the Company and Alan Bothwell respond, poetically toasting the Centenary Committee.

On Sunday afternoon a Thanksgiving Service and unveiling of Company Plaque was held in Clontarf Presbyterian Church. The address was given by guest preacher and former Company President and Chaplain (1966 – 72), Rev. H.D. McKillen. Following the service, the Camp Flag which had been raised on the Church lawn was lowered as Retreat was played on the bugle by Bobby Oak and David Haisley.

A stated objective of the Committee had been to ensure

that the Boys themselves should have an event to mark the Centenary for them. To that end, the Anchor Boys and Junior Section each spent a morning in the Fun Zone of Fitness Centre in Fairview, while the Company Section are going on an adventure weekend to Tramore in July to try their hand at some water-sports.

With the Centenary of the Company has come many things – a lot of organisation by a hard-working committee of current and former Officers, a lot of memories of Past Members being shared at Centenary Events and meetings, a lot of effort from current Boys and Officers to ensure the Company is well represented during the year. With these things has come a greater appreciation of what the BB does for its members and the lasting print that it leaves on a Boy along with life long memories of the events which were held to mark this very special occasion.

