



## Battalion Competitions

There's always great excitement when 2nd Alton competes against the other Companies in Mid Southern Battalion. The first occasion was the 5-a-side football, played in the Madjeski Dome, training ground of Reading FC. We were pleased to take 3rd place.

Then came Table Tennis. Let's just say we're not world-beaters at that sport!

We're now looking forward to Chess - the most peaceful of the Competitions - and then to the excitement of the Orienteering event, which takes place this year in Alice Holt forest.



*Our team at the Madjeski Dome*

## New faces

Well, not quite so new, as they joined Company Section a couple of months ago!

We welcomed Tommy, transferring from Junior Section, and Joshua, who had visited our BB stand at the "Party in the Park" during the summer.

Both Boys have now gained their Compass Badge, the first Award they can achieve in Company Section, and are looking forward to gaining more badges before the end of the session.



Welcome to both!

## Interesting . . . .

We've been enjoying our Interests sessions on a Friday night. Some have been model-making, some have been playing backgammon and chess, while some have chosen to do cookery - which generally means having nice things to eat after BB!



## We're singing in the rain. . . !

It was dry when the BB Choir (?) set off on their traditional evening carol-singing journey, to raise funds for the Action for Children charity. And for the next two minutes, it stayed that way.

Then the heavens opened. After twenty minutes, Mr Allan decided that we should head back for shelter - and then Jenny had an idea. "Why not ask Wetherspoons to let us sing in Ivy House?"

So she did. They agreed, and as well as carols, we also sang "Happy Birthday" - and raised £70 for Action for Children.



## Dates for your diary

*Band practice takes place at 7pm every Wednesday from 16th January, except where noted.  
A games session usually follows from 8pm to 9pm.*

Fri 11 Jan	First meeting of the session; 7.45pm. <b>Bring your Christmas stamp money and any unused stamps.</b>
Wed 16 Jan	Young Venturers expedition classes begin, 6.30pm and 7pm.
Fri 18 Jan	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Sat 19 Jan	Southern Navigators Orienteering* – meet 9.15am at the church.
<b>Sat 19 Jan</b>	<b>Battalion Chess Tournament, Yateley – afternoon.</b>
Fri 25 Jan	Parade night, 7.45pm. <b>Bring your "Phil the Bag" items.</b>
Fri 1 Feb	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Fri 8 Feb	Parade night, 7.45pm.
<b>Sat 9 Feb</b>	<b>Battalion Orienteering Contest in Alice Holt Forest – leave the church at 9am.</b> Test your skills against other BB boys!
Fri 15 Feb	Parade night, 7.45pm.
<i>16 to 22 Feb</i>	<i>No meetings – Half-term holiday.</i>
Sat 23 Feb	Cycle ride – meet 10am in Anstey Park; bring packed lunch.
Fri 1 Mar	Parade night, 7.45pm.
<b>Sat 2 Mar</b>	<b>Battalion Special Action Day</b> - details later!
Fri 8 Mar	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Sat 9 Mar	Southern Navigators Orienteering* – meet 9.15am at the church.
Fri 15 Mar	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Fri 22 Mar	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Fri 29 Mar	Parade night, 7.45pm.
<b>Sat 30 Mar</b>	<b>Day of Action! <u>Please keep this date clear.</u></b>
<b>Sun 31 Mar</b>	<b>BB/GB Parade, Alton – meet 9.30am at The Butts Green.</b> Parents invited to join us in the Service at the church, 10am.
Fri 5 Apr	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Sat 6 Apr	Southern Navigators Orienteering* – meet 9.15am at the church.
<i>7 - 22 Apr</i>	<i>No BB meetings – Easter Holidays</i> <i>Training Walks for Young Venturers groups to be arranged.</i>
Fri 26 Apr	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Sun 28 Apr	Band leading Scouts' St George's Day parade (afternoon).
Fri 3 May	Parade night, 7.45pm.
Wed 8 May	Display Dress Rehearsal, 7pm.
<b>Fri 10 May</b>	<b>Annual Display.</b>
<b>Sun 12 May</b>	<b>Battalion Church Parade - afternoon.</b> (Date and time tbc)
Fri 17 May	Summer Programme begins. Games on The Butts, 7.30pm.

\* There is usually a fee of £3 for these events.



*Above: In Parliament  
Left: Andrew casts his vote  
Below: Alex explains*



## Democracy in action

This year, the BB chose to partner with Parliament Week, and 2nd Alton agreed to take part!

First of all, Alex Hunt, an ex-member of 2nd Alton, told us about his work as a Town Councillor. Next, we moved into the House of Commons - the church actually - for a debate. The Progressive Party were in Government, with the Traditional Party providing the Opposition. The Progressives were

able to push through their legislation to make grey and pink striped hoodies the new BB uniform!

Then it was time to learn about the Electoral Roll, and to stage our own General Election.

Burgess P (Progressive) narrowly beat Allan D (Traditional) and was duly elected to represent the Church Constituency.

All in all, it was a most worthwhile, enjoyable and educational evening.

## Behind the scenes

As part of the Year 2 challenges, our Boys were given a unique chance to look at parts of Sainsbury's store that are normally out-of-bounds to the public.

Debby Bridger, who is a Church Steward and who works in the supermarket, arranged for us to be given a tour of the "backshop".

It was a real eye-opener. The vast storage warehouse space, the cold store areas, the refuse compactors, the huge machines used for in-store baking, the unloading facilities, everything was amazing.

Boys were able to stand in the freezer rooms, at minus 25 degrees - but not for long! They were shown behind the delicatessen counters, where food is prepared, and introduced to the pizza ovens - fortunately out of action at this time of the evening.

One of the highlights, however, was not behind the scenes, but in full view of the public. We had a chance to work at the till, scanning the goods for real customers! What an opportunity - and we hope we didn't make any mistakes . . . !

Thank you, Debby, for making it all possible. We had a great time.



*Right: Thomas, busy working at the checkout.*



# Bikes in the woods

It's become a bit of a tradition in 2nd Alton to go out on bikes during half-term holidays.

In the autumn, Jacob and Ben enjoyed an off-road journey with Mr A and Mr B on byways and bridleways through the woods around Alton (and they managed to climb a beech tree during one of the stops!).

The next bike ride will be in the February half-term. Will YOU be there this time? Don't miss it!



# Alton remembers

As usual, our band was chosen to lead the Town Remembrance Day parade, with young Andrew making his debut appearance with the bass drum. They played extremely well!

Then, at 6.55 in the evening, our buglers sounded Last Post, simultaneously with others across the country, and a beacon of peace and reconciliation was lit.

**BATTLE'S OVER**  
A NATION'S TRIBUTE  
11TH NOVEMBER 2018  
100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

