

Stedfast



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Message from The President

Greetings to all our readers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Association, may I wish you a Happy Blessed New Year 2004 and we want to thank all the Stedfast Associations and friends for their Christmas and New Year greetings.

Another year has gone by and 2003 was another eventful year for SA Kuala Lumpur with most of our programmes successfully organised and also raising the necessary funds to support the Boys' Brigade members in their pursuit of tertiary education. The Grace Dialysis Centre managed by Trinity Methodist Church also benefitted from our support.

Once again, we want to thank all our supporters - golfers, advertisers and donors who have been very faithful with their generous support all these years. I would like to urge all of them to carry on their kind gesture in supporting us in the ensuing year.

As we usher in the year of the monkey, many programmes have been planned and our 9th Annual General Meeting is the first on the card. So, we would like to appeal to all former members to come forward to serve this Association and be counted - as our Captain, our Lord Jesus Christ has sounded the bugle call to call you into this Ministry.

On the international front, we are still in contact with our counterparts from SA Singapore, Australia, England, Scotland, Ireland, Kuching and particularly New Zealand who has just informed us that the next International Convention of Stedfast Associations will now be held from 2nd to 6th March 2005 which was postponed due to the outbreak of the SARS virus.

For the love of our Lord, may we also seek your assistance to continually pray for all of us in the EXCO as we ensure in keeping SA Kuala Lumpur "Stedfastly and Sure" in the coming years.

May the Lord bless you and your family this day and everyday. May the Lord lift up his countenance and give you and your family peace and blessings.

To God be the Glory and Praise.

Danny Cheah

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Editorial Committee

Year 2004 MONKEY



1992, 1980, 1968, Monkeys are resourceful, amusing, clever and skilful business men. Can be relied upon to tackle any complicated problem sensibly. With infectious enthusiasm, youthfulness and expertise. He has the ability to achieve fame and wealth... but often he may resort to less than conventional ways of reaching his goal. Monkeys are ambitious, vain, entertaining... but frighteningly mischievous. Getting on so well with others helps to conceal his egoistical and selfish nature. And in fact, he has a very low opinion of those around him. Yet people always adore monkeys for their wit, high intelligence and their keen interest in affairs of the world. Monkeys are not always truthful... but astute enough not to be found out. However, not all monkeys are liars... but most liars are monkeys. Although capable of falling in love easily... love has its pit-falls for them. Monkeys are irresistible, will accept and get along well with the dragon and the rat. Tigers, snakes and goats could also be good partners, but the monkey should stay away from horses and pigs.

Designed by Derrick Dai

THE 'BB' HANDSHAKE'

Have you ever wondered how the famous 'BB Handshake' started?

In the beginning, it was also known as the 'BB Grip' and 'The First Glasgow Grip'.

How it all started?

In August 1905, Rev. Joseph Cudlipp, the Adjutant-General of the Pennsylvania Division of The United Boys' Brigade of America (UBBA), arrived in Liverpool, England on a two months tour of United Kingdom who was also the editor and publisher of 'The Brigade Boy', the UBBA Journal. In the previous year, he had undertaken a trip around USA with a smaller group BUT this was to be the trip of a lifetime. He was accompanied on this UK tour by a Lieutenant, Sergeant, Corporal and Private described by him as "Troop F".

On this tour, Rev. Joseph Cudlipp visited most of the large cities in Britain and

Ireland, and also admired the way BB was organised in UK. Obviously, he was welcomed wherever he went, shaking hands with many British BB Officers and Boys.

His group, Troop F was present for The Brigade Council week-end in Aberdeen and made a great impression upon his hosts, particularly the members of 1st Glasgow Company. The Founder's son, G Stanley Smith, then 15 years old, observed that the UBBA members had a particular way of shaking hands known as the 'BB Grip'.

The 'BB Grip' was described as 'a handshake which involved dropping the little finger so that it goes between the little and third finger of the other person's hand. Then, very much later in a letter to "Stedfast Mag" in 1957, Stanley Smith recalled the introduction of the grip which they immediately adopted in their own Caompany as 'The First Glasgow Grip', and he has no doubt that the

other Companies did likewise. So, after Stanley Smith joined as Headquarter's Staff, he travelled a great deal and wherever he went, he always used to pass on the handshake to BB officers and boys. Soon, it became famous and today it is known all over the world.

Rev. Joseph Cudlipp introduced the 'BB Grip' to Britain. In the 1950's, Harold T Barrow, a former Chaplain published a booklet entitled, "The Boys' Brigade Handshake". The booklet outlined the handshake as The Sign of Loyalty, a Declaration of Friendship, an Expression of Sympathy and Compassion, a Proof of Agreement and a Covenant of fellowship.

Note : The Editor wishes to thank the Chairman of Manchester Stedfast who is also the Editor of their Manchester SA Stedsure Magazine, Mr. Ron Adshead who so kindly consented to our request of using the above article. Terima kasih RON.



9th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING cum FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Date : Saturday, 20th March, 2004
Time : 6.30pm
Venue : Level 1, Menara Wesley,
Wesley Methodist Church
Kuala Lumpur

BE THERE and please do make the effort to attend as it is an Election Year where the office-bearers will be elected for a two-year term. This is also the time of the year where the various reports and financial position of the Association will be presented.

Members who want to raise any matters or propose to amend the Constitution, are kindly requested to write to the Secretariat or email to stedfastkl@yahoo.com

Please note that a light fellowship dinner will be served (free-of-charge) after the A.G.M. Members are therefore requested to confirm their attendance for the AGM to facilitate the necessary arrangement.

PROGRAMMES 2004

11th March	-	Liverpool SA AGM
20th March	-	9th Annual General Meeting
11th April	-	Kuching SA AGM
16th - 18th April	-	Boys' Brigade Malaysia AGM
19th April	-	Manchester SA AGM
April / May	-	Stedfast KL Scholarship Awards
15th-16th May	-	New Zealand SA AGM
28th May	-	Singapore SA AGM
25th - 27th June	-	Boys' Brigade New Zealand AGM
20th August	-	7th Stedfast Golf Tournament
9th September	-	New South Wales SA AGM
2nd October	-	Stedfast Members' BBO Nite
11th to 13th November	-	Stedfast Family Camp

KUL / Stedfast Games - to be decided by KL BB State Council

5th International Convention of Stedfast Associations

In view of the outbreak of the SARS epidemic, we have now received confirmation that the Convention which was scheduled for March 2004 will now be held from 2nd to 6th March, 2005.

It will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand - the largest city in the South Island and is acknowledged as being the "most English city outside England" with its well-presented Gothic style architecture. It is also known as "One of the Garden Cities of the World".

We have also received an email from Mr. David Mardon, the Organising Chairman that they are reviewing their costings and hopefully, they are able to lower the cost so that more members could attend. So, keep the dates free and call the Secretariat if you require additional information or look out for more details in the next issue.

Stedfast KL Fund disimbursed for 2003

*Scholarship Recipients		
1)	Ms. Foong Siew Fong 16th Penang Coy 1st year Business Admin at UTAR	RM3,500.00
2)	Gerard Francis Lopez Final year Medicine at UM (Stedfast KL has been sponsoring him since the first year)	RM4,500.00
*Boys' Brigade KUL Games		
		RM1,700.00
*Grace Dialysis Centre		
		RM5,000.00
*Methodist Church in Malaysia		
		RM 700.00
TOTAL		RM 15,400.00

STEDFAST FAMILY CAMP



Swiss-Garden Resort & Spa Damai Laut, Lumut was the venue for our Stedfast Family Camp. Surrounded by lush tropical forest and the Straits of Malacca, 76 of us - the Juniors and the Seniors, the young and the not so young, gathered from November 21st to 23rd, 2003. It offers a wonderful retreat to nature as it is spread out majestically on 400 acres of land surrounded by green hills. It offers superb hotel amenities and facilities for a holiday which is filled with recreational fun, relaxation and enjoyment.

Before we check-in at the hotel, our first stop was at a restaurant to enjoy the local food and its "Foo Chow specialities". It was a good start 'cos by the time we got to the hotel, we got our rooms in double quick time due to the efficiency of the organisers.

After our opening prayer and briefing, we proceeded to the beach for a good fun time of telematch and we must give thanks to our good Lord for His ever presence and timely fine weather throughout the day as it was raining since we boarded the bus in the morning.

Evening was a time for sharing - a time with God, fellowshiping and getting to know our new friends. Paul Long did an excellent job with all his simple, fun and appropriate sharing throughout the camp.

Our highlight for the next day was our Annual Golf Closed Tournament while the non-golfers were involved in a Treasure hunt organised by the Resort. Some of

us even took time off to hop over to the nearby island resort of Pangkor Laut. Michael Yei once again surprised the seasoned golfers by retaining his championship while Josephine Soo came in with a well-earned runner-up spot.

The second evening was special because it was a "makan" treat as we took a short journey to the local village called "Kampung Cina" known for its delicacies and sea food. It was eat and eat until we say, "enough is enough". We ate until we cannot eat any more and some of us also tasted the fresh coconut "toddy" drink.

During the closing session of the camp, everyone was a winner when prizes were given to all the golfers and groups. It was also a sad time as we have say our good-byes except for those who were going back by bus. It was another splendid four hours ride to Kuala Lumpur as there were a lot of singing of evergreen songs and Christmas carols.

All in all, this camp will be rated as one of the best, fun and enjoyable family camp when we compare with the many other camps we have organised over the years. All of us will certainly look forward to the next family camp just as we sang, "Shalom, till we meet again". We certainly must thank God for his abundance grace and blessings, for quality family time, for renewal and developing of friendship over the last three days.

To God be the Glory and Praise.
Amen.



Stedfast Kuala Lumpur raises RM17,000

The Stedfast Association of Kuala Lumpur, a body for serving officers and former members of the Boys' Brigade, managed to raise RM17,000 from a golf event held at the Templer Park Golf and Country Club recently.

The money raised will be used to provide financial assistance for needy members of the Boys' Brigade to further their studies and to support the non-profit Grace Dialysis Centre in Petaling Jaya.

The winner of the tournament, Wang Jack Jong, received a challenge trophy and a 29in flat screen television set for his effort. The president of Stedfast Kuala Lumpur, Danny Cheah, gave away the prizes.

Stedfast Kuala Lumpur secretary Michael Yei said no one managed to score a hole-in-one to claim the RM15,000 Rolex watch. A total of 126 golfers took part in the event.

"Over the years, we have raised more than RM100,000 through this tournament which seeks to bring together old friends in the Boys Brigade for a good cause. The main bulk of the money raised have gone to Boys' Brigade - for scholarships, programmes, training and development purposes," he said.

"This year's tournament was special because it was the first time that Grace Dialysis Centre was one of the beneficiaries."

Taken from The Star on Friday, October 17, 2003

Stedfast Kuala Lumpur raises RM17,000

Danny Cheah (left) presenting the challenge trophy to winner Wang Jack Jong.



Pesta BBM



As former members of the Boys' Brigade, the Stedfast Association has always viewed with much interest the BB's latest programmes and happenings. Some of us have even went through these events before during our memorable lives as a Boy.

One of the most important events in the BB calendar is the BB Pesta, a gathering of BB members from all over the country and region, coming for a time of fellowship, worship and friendly competition.

The 2003 Pesta was held in the historic city of Melaka, from the 10th till the 15th of December. Among the highlights of the Pesta were the Melaka City Expedition (Rasa Melaka), Originally Orange Bash and the Adventure Series. These programme were indeed a fresh addition to the Pesta.

Also included were the traditional Band, Footdrill and Singing Competitions where all participating teams had the chance to compete in true BB spirit and camaraderie. Here are some of the highlights from the Pesta and the competition results.

Band Competition:

- 1st - 1st Johor Bahru
- 2nd - 1st Kuala Lumpur
- 3rd - 1st Melaka

Best Band Major

Sgt Tan Yee Meng - 1st Kuala Lumpur

Footdrill Competition

- 1st - 1st Sibü
- 2nd - 1st Johor Bahru
- 3rd - 8th Penang

Singing Competition

- 1st - 3rd Kuala Lumpur
- 2nd - 1st Manjung
- 3rd - 1st Johor Bahru

Overall Champion

1st Johor Bahru



Submitted by Timothy Chan
Photos by Terence Tay



On the 30th and 31st of August, the grounds of KL Wesley and the Methodist Boys' Primary and Secondary Schools were turned into a mini battlefield of sports.

The 1st Kuala Lumpur Boys Brigade Company had taken the initiative to organize the third installment of the KUL Games, involving all BB Companies in the Kuala Lumpur State, and by 8.00am that Saturday morning, many of the 250 participants started flowing in.

This time around, the games on offer were football, basketball, volleyball, captainball, chess and carom. The abundance of games meant that everyone had the chance to get involved.

The games kicked off with a special opening ceremony officiated by VIP's from the Games' main sponsor, the Stedfast Association of Kuala Lumpur. Among those present were Mr Yong Chee Seng and Mr Michael Yei.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of this year's Games was the fact that for the first time, participants will spend a night at the competition grounds, making it somewhat like a mini Olympics.

Many who attended the Games gave positive remarks and returned home with a smile. The others, perhaps slightly disappointed, went home looking forward to another installment of the Games sometime soon.

As the host Company, the 1st Kuala Lumpur Boys' Brigade Company hopes that all who attended the Games enjoyed themselves thoroughly. We would also like to thank many of our generous sponsors, especially the Stedfast Association of Kuala Lumpur and the Wesley Methodist Church for its support.

Submitted by Timothy Chan
Photos by Terence Tay



Mr. Yong declaring the KUL Games opened.



Subscriptions



As always, a big thank you to all of you who have shown support and have sent your subs to us. However, if you have not paid, may we remind you that your subscription to **Persatuan Stedfast Kuala Lumpur** is overdue and we would appreciate if you attend to this as a matter of urgency.

Members will also like to know that we will be able to receive your subscription during the Annual General Meeting and members are encouraged to upgrade their membership to Life Membership.

You might also like to know that your subscriptions not only covers the expense and postage of your newsletter, it also means that we would be in a position to assist the Boys' Brigade Companies and KL BB State Council financially, and of course, not forgetting the Stedfast Scholarships we offer to Boys' Brigade members in their pursuit of tertiary education.

Scholarship Awards 2004

Application for the Stedfast Scholarship Awards 2004 will be available for the whole month of April and shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview in early May. The interview will be conducted by Mr. Yong Chee Seng, Chairman of the Association's Human Resource and Social Development Committee.

ONLY current Stedfast and Boys' Brigade members are eligible to apply. Priorities are given to members from KL BB State Council. The application forms are obtainable from your Captains and the closing date is 30th April, 2004.



The 1st Fifty Years!



The 1st Kuala Lumpur Boys' and Girls' Brigade Company has come a long way since it was founded in 1954 and we have been blessed by God's providence and grace as a ministry for the past 50 years.

This year, the Companies will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with the theme **The 1st Fifty Years**. There will be a host of events lined up for the year and we warmly welcome you to come and join us in a time of celebration!

The first event on the calendar is the **Enrolment & Thanksgiving Service** on Saturday the 20th of March, 11a.m. at the Wesley Methodist Church, Kuala Lumpur.

For more information about the **1st Fifty Years**, do drop an email to tim112@pd.jaring.my and we will keep you updated. God bless!

Latest on the historical event - the formation of **FEDERATION OF STEDFAST ASSOCIATIONS UNITED KINGDOM & REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**

The Mighty Band of Brothers with 12 Associations and hopefully more will join them are now in its formative stage. With the formation of the federation, it is hoped that our communication and friendship will be further improved and that it will act as a pivot to many good things to come in the future between Kuala Lumpur SA and the Federation.

Stedsure Manchester SA newsletter has rightfully quoted that "The Boys' Brigade would never, ever, have become the great influential movement it is, if in the beginning the various Companies had decided to stay in isolation, feeling they had no time for Battalions, District and the national Brigade Council". I am sure Stedfast Associations across the globe will suffer the same fate of its very objectives if we stay in isolation or existed for ulterior motives.