

## It's all happening . . .



We've been very pleased to welcome two new members during the summer weeks. Jay (Year 8) joined just before the Annual Display, and hard on his heels, Joey (Year 8) joined a few weeks later. It's been great that they've been taking part in our activities, and we hope that, after the summer holidays, they will soon be into uniform and formally enrolled in the special Service in October.

But there's also been a departure. We're really sad to see Mr Burgess standing down after a mere 37 years as a leader in 2nd Alton. Pete was present as a young member of the 1st Yateley BB Band that helped us to launch 2nd Alton in 1984, and he joined as our bandmaster three years later. The photo above shows him leading the band in the Alton Remembrance Day parade in 2023. He has given invaluable service to the Brigade, and specifically to our Company, acting as Captain for the last seven years, and we will miss him. Best wishes for the future, Pete.

The Captaincy role has been taken over by Mr Allan. He is no stranger to that task, having been the founder Captain back in 1984. It's great that he'll be supported in Company Section by Mr Vincent and Mr Taylor, with Josh helping as a Staff-Sergeant and Mr Robb assisting if required.

### A new Battalion event - "Get Active" . . . .



. . . taking place on 28th September



*Pete at the Anchors & Juniors 140th Celebration in July*



Congratulations to Jessica Merritt on gaining her Silver Award, and to Josh, whose Bronze Award has finally come through, nearly two years after he completed it. Well done, both!



## Dates for your diary

- Fri 6 Sep First Parade Night of the year. We fall in promptly at 7.50pm, so please be there a bit earlier, wearing your full uniform! (*New members should wear their school uniform for the first few weeks.*)
- Wed 11 Sep Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 13 Sep Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- 14 - 15 Sep **DofE Bronze Expedition** in the North Downs.
- Wed 18 Sep Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 20 Sep Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- Wed 25 Sep **Ten-pin Bowling** at The Spectrum Centre - to choose our team for the National Competition! (*Details and Consent Form to follow.*)
- Fri 27 Sep Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- Sat 28 Sep Battalion **Get Active** - High Ropes and more! - Details to follow.
- Wed 2 Oct Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 4 Oct Parade Night, 7.50pm. (BB's 141st Birthday!)
- Sat 5 Oct Company **Orienteering**. Meet 9.30am at the church.
- Wed 9 Oct Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 11 Oct Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- Sat 12 Oct National **Ten-Pin Bowling** at Dunstable, Bedfordshire. Our team will have three Boys.
- Wed 16 Oct Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 18 Oct Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- Sat 19 Oct Battalion **Orienteering Championship**. Details to follow.
- Sun 20 Oct BB and GB **Enrolment Service**. Meet 9.30am at The Butts; Service in the church at 10am; parents warmly welcomed.
- Wed 23 Oct Band practice, 7pm.
- Fri 25 Oct Parade Night, 7.50pm.
- 27Oct-3Nov No meetings - Half-term holiday.
- Sat 2 Nov We'll try to organise a **Bike Ride** . . . .

## Some forward dates

- Sun 10 Nov **Remembrance Sunday** (*Alton Town parade*)
- Sat 30 Nov Church **Christmas Fair** (*morning*)
- Sat 14 Dec Battalion **Table Tennis tournament** at Fleet (*evening*)
- Sat 25 Jan Battalion **Day of Action** - Keep this date clear, please!
- AND, HOT OFF THE PRESS . . . .
- 9 to 16 Aug **Summer Camp!** We're going once again with 1st Woodley and 2nd Fleet Companies to Huish Woods, near Taunton in Somerset.

# What a great time we've all had !



Annual Display



Alton 10



Games on The Butts green



Orienteering in Chawton Park Woods



Battalion Sports Day, Guildford



Climbing at Newbury



Biking at Frensham . . . in the rain!



DofE Bronze Practice, Surrey

Our summer programme was as varied and enjoyable as ever.



Harvey and Jacob about to set off with their friends on their Practice Expedition in May

## DofE Bronze Expedition in the North Downs

In a couple of weeks' time, Jacob and Harvey will be setting off on their adventure - an arduous 25km trek that will take them two days, walking through (and over!) the thickly wooded and hilly Surrey countryside.

They should be ready for this, having attended training classes and successfully completed a practice expedition. Without getting lost? Well, almost!

