

Director for Scotland

Newsletter January 2014



### Introduction

I have again been out visiting Companies and Battalions. It is always good to meet new members and see how much they are enjoying their time in the Brigade.

Paisley and District Battalion are to be commended on a very successful development conference which they recently held. The whole focus was on how best to activate leaders within the Battalion.

### Simon Smith

We were deeply saddened to learn of Simon's death on the 4<sup>th</sup> January. Simon had an outstanding personality and a strong Christian faith. He was an excellent development officer in the North of Scotland and will be greatly missed. There was an impressive BB presence at his funeral in Inverness and his family have asked me to pass on their sincere thanks for all the messages of condolence and support they received during this difficult time.

We will be re-advertising Simon's position in due course.

### Scottish Bands Contest

Entries are invited for this year's Scottish Bands Contest, which will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April in Motherwell Concert Hall. It would be great to see entries from new bands, or bands which have not entered for the last few years. A copy of the entry form and the contest rules can be found here <http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk/scotlandbands.htm>

### Building Your Skills

It has been great to see the number of Queen's Badges presented in Scotland over the last couple of years increasing and 2014 looks like being another bumper year. In order for us to gauge potential numbers for the next couple of years, it would be helpful if Battalions could indicate the number of young people attending Building Your Skills courses in the Battalion this year. Please drop Alan Hunter an email at [alan.hunter@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:alan.hunter@boys-brigade.org.uk)

### Scotland Committee

The committee met again at Carronvale on 1<sup>st</sup> February. During the course of their discussion members received reports of training and development and also considered how best to develop the Young Leaders' Networks.

### Gordon Findlay BEM

Congratulations to Gordon Findlay, Captain of the 6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Dundee who was awarded a BEM in the New Year's Honours list. It is fantastic to see BB service being recognised in this way. If you think someone in your Battalion also deserves an honour, you will find all the information at [www.gov.uk/honours](http://www.gov.uk/honours)

### Charity Golf Day

Attached you will find a flyer for the Charity Golf Day we are holding on the 28<sup>th</sup> May. Please pass this on to any golfers in your area. We are also looking for sponsors for each of the 18<sup>th</sup> holes at Westerwood. If you know of any local businesses that may support this can you please let Paul O'Shea know via [paul.oshea@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:paul.oshea@boys-brigade.org.uk)

### Commonwealth Games – Ceremonies Cast Performer opportunities

The Games organisers are now looking for cast members for the opening and closing ceremonies. A cast of is required and we have been asked to spread the word across our network. If you know someone who would be interested please ask them to check out the website <http://www.glasgow2014.com/press-releases/curtain-glasgow-2014-opens-ceremonies-cast-search-six-months-go-games> Applications will be accepted up until 14<sup>th</sup> February.

## Young Scot Awards

We all know BB members who have made a positive difference to the lives of others and their local community. So why not nominate one of them for a Young Scot Award? They need to be aged 11-26 and the deadline is 18th February. You can get more information on the 11 award categories and how to nominate at: [www.youngscotawards.co.uk](http://www.youngscotawards.co.uk)

## Clean Up Scotland

The Boys' Brigade in Scotland is partnering and supporting the "Clean Up Scotland" mass-engagement campaign that is working to make Scotland the cleanest country in Europe. Further information is attached.

## Expedition Training at Glenmore Lodge

We again have some funding available to allow young leaders to gain a mountain leadership qualification at Glenmore Lodge. Anyone interested in taking up this offer should contact Rhona Drummond at [rhona.drummond@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:rhona.drummond@boys-brigade.org.uk) We will usually cover up to two-thirds of the cost of training courses.

## Young Scot Arts fund

We have been advised that BB bands are eligible to apply to this fund for assistance.

<http://www.youngscot.org/info/198-creative-enterprise-fund>. The maximum grant available for a group is £750 and the application must be submitted by a young person (15 to 22 years).

The next deadline is the 16<sup>th</sup> February.

## Mission Aviation Fellowship

Are you interested in helping to break a world record? MAF are keen to involve BB members in their record breaking zip wire attempt on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June at Hamilton Race Course.

All the details can be found at [www.mafbigpicture.org](http://www.mafbigpicture.org)

## Young Leaders' Network

There are various national events lined up for the 16-25 age group this year, including a trip to Lisbon in June and 'Ultimate Challenge Plus'. You can take a look at the 2014 programme and also find our details about the European venture at <http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk/seniorsandyoungle.htm>

Should you have local events taking place or would like to find out more about YLN, please contact Niall Rolland [niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk)

With all best wishes,



## Bill Stevenson

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