

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2019/20



## Introduction

Our 2019/20 session has been like no other session that I can remember.

Despite the challenges we have all faced in recent months, it is important to stress that The Boys' Brigade's work with young people never stopped. We may have had to work in more creative and imaginative ways than ever before, but our mission to provide children and young people with opportunities for learning, for growth and discovery has continued.

As we look forward to returning to face-to-face activities next session, we reflect on the incredible journey the BB is on, all that has gone before us and all that is to come as we celebrate 137 years since the organisation started.

I believe that the value and impact of The Boys' Brigade is as important as ever, and as we move into the 2020/21 session that will bring with it new challenges we can surely be confident that our work will be vital in supporting children and young people as they find their way in the 'new normal'.

Thank you to all our leaders for their dedication and commitment, as we support children and young people to live their lives to the full!

*Jonathan*

**Jonathan Eales**  
Chief Executive

Article Continued →



# Vision, Mission and Values

Much has been achieved during the session and these pages only provide some highlights from the year under review.

Over the last few years, we have explored with the Brigade family what they think about our vision and mission, and what they believe our values are. It is important that we are confident in who we are, what we are doing and why we are doing it.

In many ways it was appropriate that as we adapted to extremely challenging circumstances of Covid-19 and lockdown, that we took time to remind ourselves of the foundations of the organisation.

Our vision is that “**children and young people experience life to the full**” (John 10:10). Our prayer and hope must surely be that children and young people experience life to the full through coming to know Jesus for themselves.

**Our Mission explains what we do . . .** The Boys’ Brigade has faith in young people and provides them with opportunities to learn, grow and discover in a safe, fun and caring environment which is rooted in the Christian faith.

**Our Values describe who we are and what we believe...** our values are Faith, Inspiring, Caring and Trusting.

 Find out more about our Vision, Mission and Values at [boys-brigade.org.uk/ourvision/](https://boys-brigade.org.uk/ourvision/)



## Covid-19 Response

Following Government guidance, all face-to-face BB activity was suspended in March. Within days it was inspiring to see the creative and imaginative ways leaders found to keep the BB adventure and community alive.

Within a week of suspending face-to-face activities the #BBatHOME programme was launched, providing activities across each age group. 18 weeks of online activities were delivered for children and young people to try out at home supported by their parents/carers.

During lockdown Companies have also delivered Virtual Sessions, using platforms like Zoom, and in many cases, this has increased engagement with members and helped us to continue to build relationships with members’ families and the wider community.

We pay tribute to our BB leaders who are also key workers, playing such an important role in keeping the country going during these unprecedented times.

In addition to this the Brigade has been providing support to leaders through online training and workshops as well as providing a wide range of resources to support engagement with members. Online opportunities have proved to be a great way of sharing learning and experiences from leaders across the country. We have learnt so much about the value of online support and training and this is an area which has already been included in our new strategic plan.



# Strategic Plan

In 2019 we completed a consultation with the membership on the future direction of the Brigade, this saw a new five-year strategy being approved by the Brigade Executive in February this year, with it being launched in September 2020.

The clear recommendation from last year’s consultation was that **Quality, Voice** and **Growth** should be retained as the three strategic priorities but re-ordered to put a greater emphasis on improving quality and consistency of experiences offered to young people. This will include launching a new Over-11s programme in the Spring of 2021.

We have now moved the launching of the new strategy back until January 2021 as we enter into a short-term recovery phase of getting the organisation back to face-to-face activities. However, the focus of the new strategy will remain the same, and although it was developed in pre-Covid-19 times, it remains relevant to where we need to be going in the years to come.



## Our Partnerships



We continue to work with organisations across the youth sector through the **Youth United Foundation**, by sharing good practice, creating opportunities for children & young people and supporting each other.

Through our partnerships in Scotland with **Cashback for Communities** and the **Church of Scotland Guild**, we have been able to provide financial support to Companies. This funding has enabled Companies to purchase equipment, organise trips, go on residential - improving the quality of programme offered to children and young people.

## Our Children & Young People

We have continued to **recognise the achievements of our children and young people** through our award systems, with members achieving the highest awards during the session, including the Queen’s and President’s Badges and The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award.

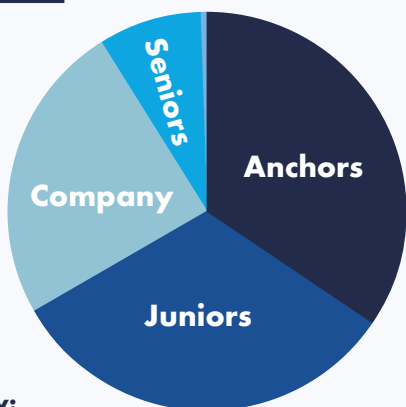
During the session many of our young people have been **contributing to their local communities and making a real difference**. Before lockdown we saw fantastic examples with young people supporting local charities, running a food bank collection point and cleaning up local spaces to mention just a few projects. And since the lockdown, we have seen an outpouring of kindness, with our members delivering care packages, sending messages and keeping in touch with those who are lonely or vulnerable, fundraising for local and national causes and so much more. We are rightly proud of the achievements and contributions of all our members.



## OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



### Our age group numbers



#### Key:

Anchors – 13,439	Seniors – 2,603
Juniors – 12,420	Amicus – 117
Company – 10,451	



**= 1,220**

Churches  
across  
UK & RoI



**= 9**

new Churches have  
chosen BB as their  
partner in outreach and  
mission with children  
and young people in  
the local community



**= 11,228**

adult volunteers

**7,559** / **3,669**



**= 796**

new adult volunteers  
have come on board



**= 7,637**

children and young people started out  
on their BB adventure

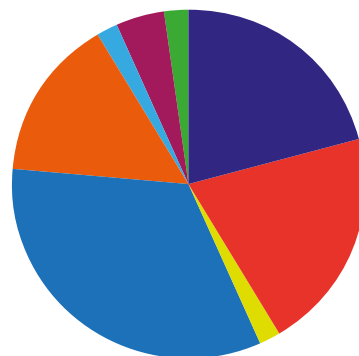


**= 39,030**

children and young people in  
membership

**37,180** / **1,850**

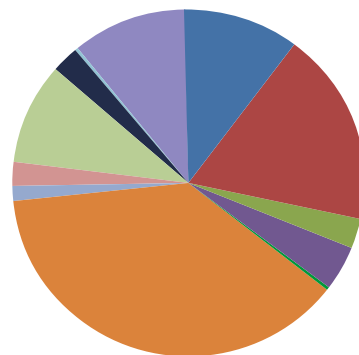
## OUR FINANCES 2019/20



### INCOME

Annual Capitation	£951,530
Donations and Legacies	£604,576
Training Centre Income	£590,470
Investment Income	£55,011
Supplies Sales	£434,264
Unrestricted Grants Received	£60,000
Restricted Grants Received	£125,074
Annual Festival & Events	£60,784

**TOTAL: £2,881,709**



### EXPENDITURE

Cost of Raising Funds	£285,402
Training Centres (non-Brigade use)	£502,940
Training Centres (Brigade use)	£75,151
Unrestricted Grants Payable	£115,637
Restricted Grants Payable	£16,990
Unrestricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£1,044,022
Actuarial Losses on Defined Benefit Scheme	£32,000
Supplies Administration	£65,935
Supplies Cost of Sales	£261,098
Net losses on Investments	£70,329
Investment Management Fees	£4,964
Restricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£295,584

**TOTAL: £2,764,133**