

# GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE FOR LEADERS IN THE BOYS' BRIGADE | SUMMER 2014

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## YOUNG PEOPLE GROWING IN CONFIDENCE

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**Summer 2014:** July 2014

The **Gazette** is the official magazine of **The Boys' Brigade** in the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland.

**The Object of The Boys' Brigade**

The advancement of Christ's kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.

Please send all contributions to  
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**VISION: GROWTH, QUALITY AND VOICE**

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Image - Front Cover, Bottom Centre:  
Picture courtesy of Manchester Evening news



**TOOLBOX: HOW WELL DO WE WELCOME?**



**TOOLBOX: OUR BRAND**



**VOICE: YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE**



**GET INVOLVED: YOUNG PEOPLE DOING GOOD THINGS**



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## Young people growing in confidence

I don't know about you, but I'm one of those people that leaves certain things to the last minute.

If there's a deadline to meet I usually scrape home with a nanosecond to spare and I appreciate that this can frustrate some of my colleagues.

Yesterday was the Gazette editorial meeting and, of course, a number of the articles outstanding had my initials next to them. One of them was the "Welcome" so here I am, sat in the office at 11.25pm on a Wednesday night (will I beat my midnight deadline?) and I really am very glad that I waited. You see, I've just returned from a great evening presenting awards to the Seniors of 133<sup>rd</sup> London Company and I wanted to share something of what I experienced with you. There were Challenge Plus awards, young volunteer certificates, promotions, individual trophies and two Queen's Badges. The evening was a real celebration of the young people's achievements and they took centre stage. Each young person shared with the audience some aspect of the programme they had enjoyed; the challenge plus project resulting in a meal for 80 church members, getting lost on the Waltham Walk, the Seniors' weekend at a local activity centre and participating in the European Fellowship's Easter course.

Not only did the young people speak of the activities undertaken, but they also spoke about what the BB meant to

them and how they benefited from membership. They spoke about how they had changed, about the influence of the leaders and about their desire to have the same impact on the next generation. They spoke with passion about the devotional sessions and discussions that had challenged them and how these had supported their faith journeys. And, as they spoke, I recognised yet again that because of the work of The Boys' Brigade, testimonies like these can be heard across the British Isles. Young people growing in confidence and growing in faith because of ordinary people doing extraordinary things in His name.

Thank you for what you do. I wish you every blessing with your summer activities and, as Phoebe Thompson reminds us on Page 5, remember to take a break – you deserve it.

*Steve*

**Steve Dickinson**  
Brigade Secretary



Follow Steve on Twitter  
[@sdickinsonbb](https://twitter.com/sdickinsonbb)

*PS I didn't beat the deadline!*



**Steve with the Brigade President talking to members of his Company (7<sup>th</sup> Northampton) at the Annual Display.**



## Season of Rest

We volunteers are a dedicated bunch. We love to serve and throw ourselves into the ring wherever possible. Come rain or shine, big group, small group, or barely a group at all – we'll be there, setting up, clearing up, washing up, organising, supporting and helping, week after week.

This time last year I would have applauded this servant-heartedness and encouraged you to plough on with all you are doing. Unfortunately, I learnt my lesson the hard way.

Last Autumn I contracted glandular fever, and proceeded to suffer from post-viral fatigue for six months. My fast-paced life, busy job, busy church commitments, volunteering and community work finally caught up with me. I was literally good for nothing. On bad days, getting out of bed was exhausting enough only to end up with me straight back in it. On good days I could make it into work, but felt drained all day - and it was a struggle just to stay awake and present in the world. I had to step back from church commitments and from hanging out with my young people; I felt like a disappointment and like I was letting a lot of people down.

The most challenging realisation of all in this time was that I had pushed myself too far – that I had valued the things I was doing for God over and above my wellbeing. The Psalms took on a whole new level of meaning and depth for me during this season - particularly Psalm 23. The 'Lord is my shepherd Psalm' is one of those we are all familiar with, and have probably heard countless times in Sunday School groups or at church. And yet

there was one word which hit me somewhere right between the eyes when I read it a few months ago. Verse two says: 'He *makes* me lie down in green pastures'. I had always thought it said '*lets*' - our shepherd *lets* us lie down in green pastures - you know, if we want to. But this verse actually says he *makes* us lie down. We very often don't know what's good for us. We often don't do what's best for us. We say yes too often. We don't allow ourselves the space to rest. Like sheep we wander into dangerous meadows and exhaust ourselves, and need our shepherd to help us rest.

Yes – we are called to serve. We do what we do because we love young people, and because we feel a calling on our lives to reach them. But we must not neglect our own need for rest. Like Martha in Luke 10 – a real 'doer' – we need to learn to be still in God's presence, even when the demands around us are relentless. So as you head into a season of rest, during this summer break, I encourage you to make the most of it. Don't say yes to lots of other things! Be still, rest, reflect, take time. And have a great summer break.

**Phoebe Thompson**



Phoebe Thompson is the editor of Premier Youthwork magazine and Premier Childrenswork magazine.

*Premier Youthwork* is the UK's leading magazine for Christian youth workers. We reach thousands of youth workers from a broad range of denominational backgrounds every month through the print magazine, as well as online and through our newly re-launched podcast.

In each monthly issue, we provide ideas, resources and guidance to support and shape your youth work. Inside the magazine and on our website you'll find full length feature articles – some deeply practical, some more stretching and challenging; brilliant creative resources to spice up your programme; up-to-date news about developments in youth ministry and culture; how-to guides and much, much more.



For a free sample copy of Premier Youthwork, head to [premieryouthwork.com](https://premieryouthwork.com)





## Growth, **Quality** and Voice

We continue to look at our new development plan, and the three main themes of Growth, Quality and Voice.

In the last issue we looked at Quality, focussing on our Company programmes and considering how we look at the health of our Company. In this issue we continue to look at Quality, focussing in on the local support structures and consider the role Battalions have to play.

In this article, Jonathan Eales, Battalion President of Northamptonshire shares his thoughts on how we go about reviewing and improving the quality of our work with children and young people.



### Profile: Jonathan Eales

In asking Jonathan to write for the magazine we asked him a few questions about his BB journey:

**Q** Tell us a little about your BB journey so far...

**A** It began when I was 8 and my best friend at school suggested I went along to Juniors with him at 27<sup>th</sup> Northampton. A year or so later, he left, I stayed! I will always be grateful to the leaders at the Company for the opportunity they gave me as a young leader to take a central role in running the Company Section. It aided my personal development greatly. It actually led to me leaving the Company when I was 25 to reform the 21<sup>st</sup> Northampton at the church I attend. For the last ten years I have served as President of the Northamptonshire Battalion and for a short time before joining the Brigade staff I was an elected member of the Brigade Executive.

**Q** What's life like for you outside BB?

**A** My aim is to swim every day, though most weeks I don't quite achieve this. I am a Governor at my local Secondary School and a Deacon at the Baptist church I attend. I take a keen interest in current affairs, enjoy going to the theatre whenever possible and even quite like gardening!

**Q** What's been the highlight of your BB journey (so far)?

**A** As the Captain of a new Company being able to build our own traditions and ways of being BB. A really refreshing experience.

**Q** What's your hope for the future (in BB terms)?

**A** That we will all embrace the diversity of the organisation, recognising that there is no one way of being a BB Company.

Article Continued →





## GET THE QUALITY OF THE EXPERIENCE RIGHT AND SURELY GROWTH AND VOICE WILL FOLLOW

### What I have learnt as a Battalion President?

For the past ten years I have undertaken the role of Battalion President. It is a role that I have found enjoyable, frustrating, rewarding and challenging, often in equal measure!

I have felt a real sense of privilege to serve the local Battalion in this way. I have attempted to approach the job as an opportunity to influence change, offer support to leaders and provide new experiences for children and young people, rather than it being about position or a title.

I learnt early on that if anything is to be achieved by a Battalion, those in local leadership must always take the view that the Battalion is there primarily to respond to the needs of Companies and never, that the local Company should feel duty bound to support the Battalion.

*“Our focus in this area is to ensure that we provide the highest quality youth and children’s work provision through equipping our leaders with the best possible skills, understanding and knowledge.”*

- Development Plan 2013-2018

Responding to the needs of Companies isn’t as straightforward as it sounds. Sometimes it is difficult to establish what those needs are, as people aren’t always very good at expressing them! Trial and error can sometimes be the best approach, give something a go and see where it takes you. The danger of course is that success is only judged by numbers participating – a fatal mistake, often the events with lower than hoped numbers, that initially fill you with a sense of disappointment, turned out to be occasions of real productivity and a catalyst for growth and renewed enthusiasm, as the small group of leaders or young people draw on each other’s experience and ideas.

As I look back, I think the most difficult challenge was knowing where to start. I wish the Brigade’s new development plan had been around then. Three simple themes to follow, Growth, Quality and Voice, that fit perfectly with the premise that the role of the Battalion is to respond to the needs of Companies and the people in them.

### Quality

Leaders from Strathkelvin Battalion came together for a breakfast event at Cumbernauld’s Westerwood Hotel in the Spring. The breakfast event was the first of its kind for this area and allowed volunteers to learn about new programme ideas, latest resources and plans to increase BB membership in the area and, of course, enjoy the fellowship and food or a breakfast together!

Sadie Boyle, Battalion President, said “The event went really well and there are already plans for next year. It is very important that our BB leaders get the tools to support them in their work with young people. I think the breakfast event is a really good example of where we can get together in a different environment from a normal Battalion meeting.”

As a Battalion we did initiate things that embraced these headings, we just didn’t realise it at the time.

**Growth** is the place we probably all start, well we did. Researching churches that might be interested in starting or reforming a group, purchasing recruitment materials for Companies, assisting in delivering school assemblies, promoting local Companies in the local media. All important stuff, but only part of the story.

### Quality

“Our Battalion supports our recruitment campaign each year and enhances it through their work in the wider local area.”

James Pickles, 5<sup>th</sup> Halifax

**Quality** to me it’s all about enhancing the experience, for children, young people and leaders. But what can the Battalion do to influence the quality of experience for our members.

#### What ideas do you have?

These are some of the things we tried:

- 1 Provide events and activities for children and young people that Companies can adopt as an extension to their own Company programme.
- 2 Facilitate training locally for leaders. How about running a “master class” on introducing free play for the under 11’s or on sharing ideas in how to fully utilise the Challenge Plus programme pack?
- 3 Encourage Companies to partner one another, maybe for a joint residential or to form a team for a competition.
- 4 A day for Captains to consider succession planning and the need to develop the skills of leaders.
- 5 Events for Captains and Chaplains to cement the relationship between the Company and Church.

**Voice** is not something I ever thought about much, but yes to some extent we did give members a voice. Though I probably provided a platform for the voice of leaders far more than I did for children and young people! We did provide a forum for Seniors that at times worked well, but maybe that was just tokenism.

Giving people a voice is one thing, but what about being a voice for young people – now that is a challenge for us all to focus on.

*“Our aim is that children and young people accessing BB have a high quality experience that enables them to have fun, to achieve and to have the opportunity to participate fully at all levels of our organisations”*

- Development Plan 2013-2018

As I reflect on my time as a Battalion President, I believe that a Battalion should concentrate its efforts on the “Quality” strand of the Development Plan before considering anything else. Creating an environment where leaders are encouraged to embrace a culture of learning that leads to improved practice in our interaction with children and young people seems to me to be the direction Battalions should be heading if we are serious about supporting the work of Companies.

Get the **Quality** of experience right and surely **Growth** and **Voice** will follow on.

**What do you think?** Perhaps you think it sounds great in theory, but is never likely to make reality. Yet another plan to be lost in time! Well I guess the choice is ours, for anyone that has been brave enough to start a new Company, you will know as I discovered, that you can choose and shape reality.

**What have I learnt?** That the Brigade cannot deliver the development plan alone. It has to be the responsibility of us all, and Battalions have a central part to play. It is for all of us to channel our energies into finding creative ways to support, encourage and promote the work of Companies, and tackling the three areas of the Brigade’s Development plan should give us the focus we need.

### Jonathan Eales

Battalion President, Northamptonshire



## Quality: Key actions in the Development Plan

- ✓ Review learning and leader development
- ✓ Improve and regularly update programme resources
- ✓ Give Captains the opportunity to attend development training
- ✓ Ensure leaders feel confident and are equipped to assist young people on their spiritual journey
- ✓ Improve communications, to promote sharing of ideas and good practice
- ✓ To review our infrastructure (Battalions, Districts, Regions, UK&Rol), to ensure strong support to Companies.
- ✓ To ensure our safeguarding procedures are robust and consistent.





... Your FAQ's Answered

Members of staff provide answers to those questions that we regularly get asked at Headquarters.

**Q** A Staff Sergeant in the Company has just attained his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, can he still remain in the Staff Sergeant Category?

**A** Jonathan Eales, Business Director at BB Headquarters, provides this answer:

“Yes, someone in this role can remain in this category of leadership until the end of the BB session (31<sup>st</sup> August) that they attain their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. If they then wish to continue volunteering in the BB they would then need to transfer into one of the other categories of leadership. Please note since September 2012 the Staff Sergeant role has been a category of leadership, and therefore is subject to a disclosure check and completion of a leader registration form. As a Staff Sergeant is now one of the categories

of leadership in the Company, they cannot participate in contact sports or in Battalion/District Competitions.

**Q** I am a new leader and wish to attend the Youth Leader Training Course, where can I find out where my nearest course is being run?

**A** Ann Trigg, Membership Team at BB Headquarters, provides this answer:

“The range of courses on offer including Youth Leader Training can be found on the BB website. If you look under the ‘Resources and Support’ menu you will find them listed there together with contact details for the course organiser. It is also worth checking with your local Battalion too.”

Welcome to our New Companies

It's fantastic that we can report that the following Companies have recently enrolled:

COMPANY	CAPTAIN	CHURCH
36 <sup>th</sup> Aberdeen	Malcolm MacLennan	St Clement's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen
92 <sup>nd</sup> Birmingham	Paul Tyler	St John & St Peter's/Birmingham Central Baptist, Birmingham
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dagenham	Titilayo Johnson	RCCG Jesus People Parish, Dagenham
67 <sup>th</sup> Edinburgh	Liz Crocker	St David's Broomhouse Parish Church, Edinburgh
1 <sup>st</sup> Kirkmahoe	Rev'd David Almond	Church of Scotland, Dumfries
2 <sup>nd</sup> Newham	Eileen Da-Silva	RCCG Christ Chapel For All Nations, London
1 <sup>st</sup> Stockwell	Lorna Simpson	Stockwell Methodist Church, London
1 <sup>st</sup> Waddon	Elizabeth Adeboye	RCCG Healing Praise Tabernacle, Croydon
1 <sup>st</sup> Walthamstow	Funmilayo Olabode	RCCG The King's Parish London, Walthamstow

Obituaries

We record below the names of BB members who have recently died. We thank God for their faithful service to the Brigade and Church and their witness in the community.

John Clifford	1 <sup>st</sup> Fareham
Marjorie Cowley BEM	1 <sup>st</sup> Oxford
Norman Howell	11 <sup>th</sup> Wolverhampton
Jack Taylor	North Cheshire Battalion

**A full obituary appears on the BB website at [boys-brigade.org.uk/obituaries](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/obituaries)**

Recognised in The Queen's Birthday Honours

The Brigade congratulates the following leaders who were recognised in HM The Queen's Birthday Honours:

**George Crawford (BEM)**, for services to the community in Northern Ireland, particularly through The Boys' Brigade Movement.

**Kenneth Vennard (BEM)**, Captain, 7<sup>th</sup> Portadown, for services to Young People in Northern Ireland.

**Greg Cowley (BEM)**, Captain 28<sup>th</sup> Nottingham, for services to the community in Nottinghamshire.

**Neil Moffett (BEM)**, Captain 5<sup>th</sup> North West Durham, for services to the community in Derwentside, County Durham.

President's Commendations

The President's Commendation has recently been awarded to:

Stephen Blyth - 135<sup>th</sup> Glasgow



On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May, during the annual Parents' Evening and Awards Presentations, Col John Kelly, President of Glasgow Battalion, presented Stephen Blyth with the Brigade President's Commendation.

Stephen spent his first three years of life in hospital with several life threatening conditions. He joined the Anchor Boys at age 7 and has always joined in as many activities as he can physically manage, regularly attending and recently completing his Queen's Badge. He loves to put into practice the leadership skills he has developed and welcomes the opportunity to lead basic drill activities.

Ronnie Campbell, Captain of the 135<sup>th</sup> said "Stephen is well liked by all the boys in the Company and his determination, good humour and exuberance are an example to all of us."

Emily-Jo Forrest - 3<sup>rd</sup> Burnley



On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, during the Awards Evening, Alan McLoughlin, President of North West District, presented Emily-Jo with the Brigade President's Commendation.

During the summer of 2013 Emily-Jo was diagnosed with epilepsy and although she still has episodes she is on medication to help her cope. Emily is still only 5 years old and she is a totally devoted and lively member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Burnley and loves attending every Tuesday evening. This year she qualified for the recruitment badge after introducing her friend Sophia.

Ian Parrish, Captain of 3<sup>rd</sup> Burnley said, "Emily-Jo, at such a young age, shows signs of maturity beyond her years and she is a worthy recipient of the Award".



Brigade Conference 2014

Plans are going well for the Brigade Conference in Glasgow on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September and we hope you will think of coming along.

Remember the conference is open to all leaders and we are also asking that each Battalion tries to ensure it is represented.

As part of the day, we will be running a number of workshops to help you improve and develop the work of the Brigade in your Company / area.

The workshop topics will include.

- ✓ Programme ideas – what is working well
- ✓ Using resources effectively
- ✓ Sharing Faith – how to make it easier
- ✓ Challenging Behaviour/Additional Needs
- ✓ Young Leaders' Work
- ✓ Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- ✓ Grant funding – how to go about putting together a successful application
- ✓ Using digital tools in your Company
- ✓ Other approaches to Youth work

The conference will also include the Brigade's AGM (Brigade Council) and other updates on the work of the Brigade across the UK and RoI.

**Full details and a booking form can be found at [boys-brigade.org.uk/conference2014](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/conference2014)**



# YOUR VIEWS AND NEWS



## BB members meet Prince William & Kate

On an official visit to Scotland, The Duke & Duchess of Cambridge, known as the Earl and Countess of Strathearn in Scotland, met with BB members whilst visiting a Community Centre in Crieff.

William & Kate spent time talking with the boys including members across all age groups.

Kyle Thomson (7) from 3<sup>rd</sup> Perth said "It was nice to speak to Kate and she wanted to know what my favourite bit of Anchor Boys was so I told her about the game Splat".



**Ross Playle** @RossPlayle  
Privilege to represent @theboysbrigade yesterday at the Palace, honour to act as a doorman for @MatthewBarzun & other ambassadors #YesWeCan




## Leaders pick up National Awards

Two BB Captains, Christine Johnston and Colin Weir, were amongst the winners in Scotland's National Youth Worker of the Year awards in Glasgow on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Christine, Captain 3<sup>rd</sup> Kilsyth, won the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' for her on-going work with the Company spanning over 40 years. Colin, Captain 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Motherwell, won the Uniformed Youth Organisation's category. His dedication and commitment to an imaginative programme for the Company's young people caught the attention of the judges.



## Company Section members behind the wheel


It's not every day that an 11 year old gets to drive a car, but with The Boys' Brigade and Young Driver experience, this is exactly what happened. Twelve 11-14 year olds from 10<sup>th</sup> South East Essex took part in their first ever driving lesson at Lakeside Shopping Centre. With professional instructors, they were able to have a go at manoeuvring their car, change gear and reach speeds of 30+mph... - in an empty car park we hasten to add! The young people had a great time and the outcome of the day is that they can't wait to go again.

 To find out more about the young driver lessons please visit: [youngdriver.eu](http://youngdriver.eu)




## Companies pull-together for DofE Expedition

Members from 1<sup>st</sup> Loughaghery, 1<sup>st</sup> Randalstown, 1<sup>st</sup> Saintfield and 1<sup>st</sup> Spa came together to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition. The newly formed groups of young people put time into training and preparing for the expedition, learning all the necessary skills to survive an un-aided two day expedition in the Mourne Mountains. Companies interested in joining others to complete Expeditions in Northern Ireland should contact NI Headquarters for more details.



**212 Glasgow BB**  
@212GlasgowBB  
Sun shines for 212th's golf outing to Troon  
@TheBBScotland  
@TheBBGlasgow



## Alloway raise funds for Charity

Members of 1<sup>st</sup> Alloway Company Junior Section handed over a cheque for £500 to The Brain Tumour Charity. All the boys present participated in the annual sponsored walk, the funds from which are donated to a charity of their choice. In total the Company has donated in excess of £3000 this year to various charities.

## Leaders attend Reception on Irish State Visit

James McClements, Stuart McCormick and Jonathan Graham attended the Northern Ireland reception given by HM The Queen on the occasion of the State Visit by The President of Ireland and Mrs Higgins at Windsor Castle. They represented The Duke of Edinburgh's Award for Northern Ireland and The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland. Along with other DofE representatives, they were introduced to and had the opportunity to talk to The Queen, Prince Philip, The President of Ireland and Mrs Higgins, as well as Dame Mary Peters, Kelly Gallagher and guide Charlotte Evans who earned Great Britain its first ever gold medal at the Winter Paralympics this year. It certainly was a day to remember.

## 14<sup>th</sup> Nottingham 100 Years On

Congratulations to the 14<sup>th</sup> Nottingham on reaching their centenary. A celebration service was held and tree planted in the church grounds to commemorate the event which was attended by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, The Lord Mayor of Nottingham and the Brigade Secretary.

## Send us your news

 Please send in contributions to [newsdesk@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:newsdesk@boys-brigade.org.uk)





## Boys Prepare for Adventure

Budding adventurers from 1<sup>st</sup> Cheslyn Hay have turned survival craft into a fundraising enterprise. The group's own adventurer Glyn Morris taught the eager boys how to transform 8ft of cord into a great looking wristband that also serves as an emergency aid and can even act as replacement shoelaces! The result was a ready-made stock of the emergency bands, which entrepreneurial members of the group suggested selling in order to boost funds and provide challenging and exciting activities.



## Boys visit World War 1 Battlefields

During a three day visit, Seniors and leaders of 1<sup>st</sup> Saffron Walden visited First World War battlefields and a number of other sites including Talbot House, Essex Farm, Tyne Cot Cemetery and the Menin Gate, where a wreath was laid by members of the Company. A very moving moment during the visit was when a wreath was laid at the Church at Authuille in memory of the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Boys' Brigade, Glasgow pals) of the Highland Light Infantry where many very young men lost their lives in the first Battle of the Somme. A visit was also made to Warlencourt British Cemetery where the great-great uncle of one of the Seniors was buried.



**Liverpool** @35\_liverpool

It's #VolunteersWeek! A BIG Thank You to all @theboysbrigade volunteers, who transform the lives of young people!

## SNAPSHOTS



**1<sup>ST</sup> BLOXHAM CLEAN UP THEIR VILLAGE**



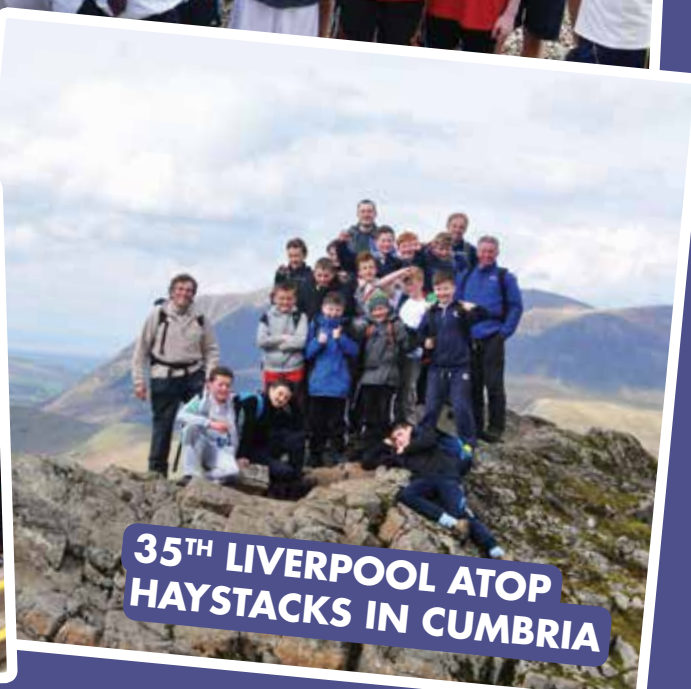
**BRIGADE PRESIDENT AT 7<sup>TH</sup> NORTHAMPTON DISPLAY**



**KENNY MACASKILL MSP VISITS QUEEN'S BADGE COURSE**



**ANGUS ADVENTURE FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> FALKIRK**



**35<sup>TH</sup> LIVERPOOL ATOP HAYSTACKS IN CUMBRIA**



## Earl & Countess visit 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie

181 boys plus leaders of the 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie greeted TRH The Earl and Countess of Wessex when they visited the Company in May. The royal couple were entertained by singing, gymnastics and the Company bugle band. One of the largest Companies in the country, the 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie has seen 13 young men complete their Queen's Badge this year, with a further 17 due to complete next year.



## Kilbryde Hike – 25<sup>th</sup> Stirling brings trophies home!

27 teams battled some torrential downpours in this year's hike in the East Ayrshire Hills. Fantastic efforts from everyone, particularly teams from 25<sup>th</sup> Stirling, who picked up trophies in each category! Go to [facebook.com/kilbrydehike](https://facebook.com/kilbrydehike) to find out more.



## President's Badges at 1<sup>st</sup> Bromborough

Taylor Roberts, aged 17, is one of three members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Bromborough Company to receive his President's Badge this year. After four years of dedicated effort, Taylor was presented with his President's Badge by the Mayor of Wirral.



# MY EXPERIENCE



## Glen Miller's Story

30 year old volunteer Glen Miller from Londonderry, Northern Ireland shares his experience and thoughts about his role at Company, Battalion and Regional level.

**Q** How long have you been a BB volunteer?

**A** "I have been a member of The Boys' Brigade since the age of five and began volunteering when I started my KGV1 Course in 2000, so 14 years now."

**Q** What's your current BB role?

**A** "I currently have a few roles. In my Company (1st Banagher) I'm an Anchor Boy Leader, also I'm President of Londonderry Battalion, sit on NI District Working Group and also on NI Regional Committee."

**Q** How do you think you benefit?

**A** "Firstly, it is through The Boys' Brigade I came to faith during KGV1. I have also had the chance to travel to India with a number of teams and also attend various Garden Parties and Special Events. On a personal note it has helped me develop my public speaking skills, organisation skills and given me a lot more confidence in my own ability."

**Q** What's been the highlight of your Battalion role?

**A** "My highlight as Battalion President was organising a walk for witness and worship event called "Across 125" in 2013 to celebrate 125 years of BB in Ireland and Derry – Londonderry's year as 'City of Culture'. The event was attended by over 800 Boys and Leaders from all over Northern Ireland and greatly boosted the profile of BB in the City."

**Q** Does it take a lot of your time?

**A** "Yes! I would find myself out at least two and more normally three evenings per week from September to June as well as any preparation time. Thankfully, working in our family business allows me to be quite flexible and can use this time to do some of that."

**Q** Is it hard work?

**A** "I wouldn't say it is hard work, although sometimes it can be difficult to motivate people and get their support for various events and/or ideas. On the whole, I really enjoy my work in The Boys' Brigade and having recently returned from Company Camp, I can say it is definitely worthwhile!"

**Q** Do you think it takes a special type of person to become a Battalion Office Bearer?

**A** "I think the key to taking on any leadership role is to be genuinely interested in what you are doing. In The Boys' Brigade, you must have our Object at heart - if that makes you special then Yes! On the other hand, if you are working for thanks or reward, you're in the wrong job!"

**Q** Do you volunteer at anything other than the BB?

**A** "As you may have gathered by now, most of my free time is used up with BB. However I also volunteer with my Church; I'm on our Audio Visual Team and Men's Fellowship planning team."

**@** Send your question(s) to [gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk)

# RESOURCE



## GREAT ACTIVITIES & IDEAS FOR YOUR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Welcome to the Summer 2014 programme supplement, showcasing some great activities and ideas that you could use in your Company.

### Resource Bank

Selection of resources with activities and ideas for all sections



#### MyFishBites

Aimed at over 11's the website has a wide range of content to support the devotional part of your Company programme.

Check out [myfishbites.com](http://myfishbites.com)



#### Christian Aid Resources

A range of online resources from Christian Aid including resource packs, instant session ideas and simulation games for all age groups. There are also specific resources to help support you in responding to natural disasters.

Check out [learn.christianaid.org.uk](http://learn.christianaid.org.uk)



#### TES Connect

Over 700,000 activities, worksheets and lesson plans for all age groups, across a wide range of subjects covering the whole BB programme. Sign up for free access to all resources.

Check out [tes.co.uk](http://tes.co.uk)

### ? The Answer's Out There

We often find that leaders face similar issues running their sections whether the group meets in Lossiemouth or Larne, Middlesbrough or Manchester.

**Do you have a question that you would like to ask other leaders?**

We will look to share your question with leaders across the Brigade and include a selection of responses in the next issue of the Gazette.

**@** Send your question(s) to [gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk)

### 🗨 Your Help

RESOURCE is all about sharing what works well for you in your Company with others. Could you contribute a game, craft, devotional or themed night idea for the Autumn 2014 issue? Send it to [gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk)

Please indicate something about why this idea works well in your Company.

Check out the programme ideas and resources for your section:

**20** ➔ Anchors

**23** ➔ Juniors

**26** ➔ Discover

**29** ➔ Challenge Plus



## Great activities & ideas for your section:

### Programme Planning

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:



#### 13 SEP Roald Dahl Day

Celebrate Roald Dahl day by running a theme night based on one of his stories. 2014 celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - so everything this year is also chocolate flavoured!

Check out [roalddahl.com](http://roalddahl.com)



#### END OF SEP Harvest Festival

A time (end of September) to give thanks for the crops that have been grown and to celebrate the end of the season. Could you get involved with your Church's Harvest service, do a collage or help collect foods to share with those in need in your community?

Speak to your Minister about how the children could get involved.



#### 4 OCT World Animal Day

An opportunity around this day to focus on animals, could you arrange for some animals to visit your group or go to a local farm/zoo? Ask the young people what animals (pets) they might have or talk about the last time they saw an animal.

Check out [worldanimalday.org.uk](http://worldanimalday.org.uk)

## Get Creative: Vegetable People



### Equipment

- ★ Potatoes
- ★ Carrot sticks
- ★ Broccoli
- ★ Cocktail sticks
- ★ Marker Pens

### Instructions

1. Give each child a potato and ask them to draw a face on it using a marker pen.
2. Use cocktail sticks (or half a cocktail stick) to attach the carrot sticks, as arms and legs.
3. With a further cocktail stick attach the piece of broccoli to the head as hair.



Shared by  
**Karen McCaldon, 35<sup>th</sup> Liverpool**

"The boys had a ball crafting their vegetable people into a range of poses and many gave theirs a name".

This craft could link well with a Harvest or Healthy Eating theme.

## Theme Ideas



Turn your section into superheroes for the night with these themed ideas:

### 01 Superhero Corners

Print out names/pictures of some of the popular superhero hideouts/locations and put them up in the corners of your hall. Tell the children to move about the hall as their superhero would (e.g. Superman would be flying around). A leader who is not looking should blow a whistle, the children must then go to a corner, but they don't have to go to their own hideout/lair. The leader then calls out a corner, and those in that corner are out of the game. The game continues until you have a winner. You could add in variations such as you are not allowed to go back to the same corner.

#### Hideouts/Locations

Bat Cave	Batman
Daily Planet	Superman
The Sewers	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
Metropolis	Superman
Gotham City	Batman
Asgard	Four – The Avengers

### 02 Superhero Photo Booth

Setup a camera (or video camera) to one side and ask the children to pose, imitating their super power or a typical character pose. For example Spiderman might be shooting his web out of his wrist, Superman arms in the air ready to fly/lift off. Either have a facility to print off photos on the night so children can take home with them or give them out next week. If you have the facilities to make a video, could you show it at your Company Display or a Church Parade? You could have some backgrounds ready like a blue sheet for the sky or similar to make it look even better!

### 03 Become a Superhero

Ask the children to come dressed as their favourite super hero to add to the atmosphere of the evening. If you're doing this it would be great if some of the leaders got into the spirit of things and dressed for the occasion! You could also print out pictures of superheroes and villains and put them up around the hall to help embrace your theme night even more.

### 04 Stealth

Sit all the children in one line in the middle of the hall facing the same way. Select one superhero at a time to come out and be blindfolded. One at a time other participants attempt to move (stealth like) from their position around the blindfolded superhero, and behind the line of children and back to their position without being caught. The blindfolded superhero doesn't want anyone sneaking up on them and so tries to catch them by pointing at them, if they point directly at them they are caught and must sit down. If they successfully get back to their place the blindfolded superhero is caught and swaps places.

### 05 Invitations

Download and customise invitation cards which have been designed with a superhero theme. You could give an extra invitation to each child and ask them to invite a friend along, as a great opportunity to recruit new members.



Download at  
[boys-brigade.org.uk/superheroinvite.pdf](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/superheroinvite.pdf)

Article Continued →



**06 Superhero Training School**

Setup a number of activities to ensure your Superheroes are fit and ready to take on the world. You could run this as a competition in teams or just as an exercise all the children take part in.

**Skill Run**

Setup a series of hoops, 2 wide and at least 4 long (total 8 hoops), and superheroes run up and back down the course.

**Catch the Villains**

Setup a table with 6 empty bottles (plastic), stick a picture of a villain to each of the bottles and give each child 6 bean bags or small foam balls to attempt to catch (knock down) as many of the villains as possible. If you have outside space you could use water pistols to try and knock over the bottles.

**Speed Tunnel**

Setup a tunnel (using a pop-up tunnel or alternatively chairs put together), superheroes run to the tunnel, through and out the other end touching line/wall and returning back through the tunnel.

**Xray Vision**

The superheroes practice their x-ray vision skills by reaching into mystery bags and trying to guess what the objects are by touch only. Or fill a plastic bottle/tub up with sweets, and superheroes guess how many they think are. Superheroes may use their superpowers such as x-ray vision!

**07 Superhero Relay**

Divide the children into teams, half way down the hall place a hoop with a mask, hat, shield and cape in it for each team. One at a time the children must run to the hoop and put on all the items and then run to the end of the hall and back to the hoop. Take off all those items and put them back into the hoop and run back to their team. This continues until all members of the team have had a go and returned to their team. The winner is the first team to complete the relay.

**Get Active: Skittle Target**

Setup 2 chairs facing outwards 10 metres apart, in the middle between the chairs place a skittle or another object which will stand up, but can easily be knocked over. Place a bean bag on each chair.

Divide the children into teams, one child at a time on the whistle/command goes up and kneels on the chair (so they are facing the target skittle) and throws the bean bag in an attempt to knock over the skittle. If successful that player is the winner and both players return to their teams, and the winner scores a point for their team.

If unsuccessful the players must collect their bean bag from wherever it landed, go back and kneel on the chair before once again throwing their bean bag, this continues until one of the players knocks over the skittle. The winning team is the one with the most points after going through the whole team.

**08 Getting into the Bible**

Ask the children to name as many superheroes as possible, they might come up with some or all of the following including *Batman, Superman, Spiderman, The Hulk, Ben 10, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Captain America*.

Now ask them about the super powers these superheroes have, which might include *flying, x-ray vision, invisibility, super strength, healing, super speed, time travel and mind control*. You could add in some of the things listed above if they did not say them, as you will no doubt get a reaction when you mention them.

Now ask the children if they think they are real or just cartoons? Is there a superhero that they think is real? The message to share now is that Jesus is our Superhero, he is real and someone we can rely on. God sent his son Jesus, to save us all, the whole world (1 John 4:14). He forgives us for all that we do wrong in our lives, he's our best friend, he's always there for us.

**09****Get Creative**

On the Superhero theme you could let the children make masks, decorate faircakes/biscuits or draw their own superhero.

**10 Jesus you're my Superhero**

Download and use this song which the children will love to sing and join in with.



Check it out at [youtube.com/watch?v=aYChupDpwqM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYChupDpwqM)

**Juniors RESOURCE****Great activities & ideas for your section:****Programme Planning**

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:

**SUMMER RNLI & Lifeboat Week**

Throughout the summer period the RNLI hold Lifeboat Week's at RNLI stations across the country. Find out about how you could get involved by visiting the nearest RNLI station to your meeting place, or look out for the nearest station if your section has a residential. The RNLI also has lots of useful resources and information about staying safe at or near beaches and the sea on their website.

Check out [goo.gl/DsSZQs](https://goo.gl/DsSZQs)

**20 SEP - 5 OCT British Food Fortnight**

A celebration of British food, get involved by thinking about food, cooking with British ingredients and linking in with Harvest.

Check out [lovebritishfood.co.uk](https://www.lovebritishfood.co.uk)

**4 - 10 OCT World Space Week**

Use the theme ideas 'Journey into Space' in this Gazette and hold your own themed night. Alternatively could you visit a nearby project/museum or get somebody to come and talk to your group.

Check out [spaceweek.org](https://www.spaceweek.org)

**Get Creative: Lighthouse****Equipment**

- ★ Red plastic cup
- ★ Clear plastic cup
- ★ Black piece of card
- ★ White piece of paper
- ★ Scissors
- ★ Glue
- ★ Tealight (battery operated)
- ★ White tape (insulation or similar)

**Instructions**

1. Stick 3 strips of white tape around the red cup.
2. Draw around the bottom of the clear plastic cup onto black card twice, cut out both circles, and also 1 rectangle (door) and 2 squares (windows).

3. Glue the black circle to the bottom of the clear cup and top of the red cup.

4. Glue on the door and windows.

5. Draw around the top of the clear plastic cup onto white piece of paper, cut out circle and cut a slit half way in one place. Where cut, pull ends together so they overlap and glue, creating a cone shape to put on top of the clear cup.

6. Place the tea light on the top of the red cup and place clear cup on top.

*This could link well with a talk about Jesus being the light of the world. John 8:12 says "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*



Shared by  
**Dan Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bedford**



## Theme Ideas

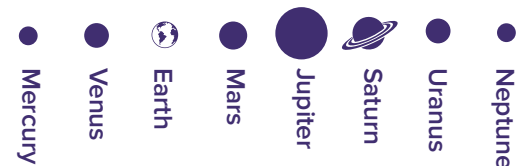


Turn your section into explorers / astronauts with these themed ideas:

### 01 Planet Order

Now that Pluto has been downgraded from being a planet, there are 8 planets in the Solar System. Can the children order them moving out from the Sun?

By using the first letter of each planet a mnemonic can be written to help remember the order.



Examples could include:

"My Very Educated Mother  
Just Served Us Noodles"

"Many Very Elderly Men  
Just Snooze Until Noon"

Ask the children to create their own mnemonic – remember it should be a sentence they can remember!

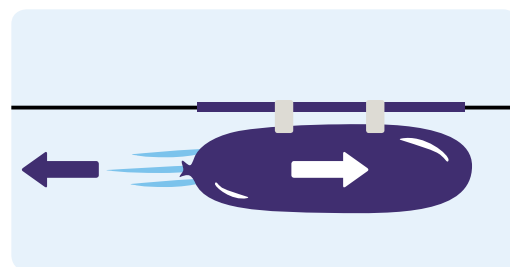
### 02 Planet Relay

Create cards with names (and pictures if possible) of the 8 planets. Place the cards on a chair approx. 10 metres from the start line. Forming teams as required, the first member goes and brings back a planet which is placed on the floor in front of the team. The second member then goes and brings back a second planet. The relay continues until all planets have been brought back. The teams then have to arrange the planets in the correct order. Ideal to play after the children have created their mnemonic to remember the order.

### 03 Rocket / Robot Model

Have a selection of cartons, tubes and boxes etc. which the children choose to make a model of a rocket or a robot. Have coloured paper, paints and felt tipped pens to decorate the model. Let the children be as creative as possible and don't limit their imagination.

### 04



#### Flying Rockets

See how fast your rocket goes, with the children making these balloon based rockets.

#### Equipment

- ★ Balloon  
(round ones will work, but the longer "airship" balloons work best)
- ★ Length of string  
(about 5–10 metres long)
- ★ 1 plastic straw
- ★ Sellotape / Masking Tape

#### Instructions:

1. Tie one end of the string to a chair.
2. Put the other end of the string through the straw.
3. Pull the string tight and tie it to another chair (5–10 metres apart)
4. Blow up the balloon (but don't tie it), pinch the end of the balloon and tape the balloon to the straw.
5. Let go and watch the rocket fly!


The children could race their rockets against each other.

### 06



#### Solar System Foods

A great excuse to give children a variety of fruits, veg, meats, and cheeses in one snack whilst educating them at the same time. Make the Solar System with them, and teach them about each planet at the same time (yes we know Pluto is no longer considered a planet, you can explain that it has recently been downgraded, but was considered a planet at one point). The foods used help represent the planet (although not necessarily in size, again something you can talk about). Before doing this activity download some information about the planets which make up our solar system so you can talk through the key facts as you put your Solar System snack together.

 Ideas on using food to teach children, including a number linked to bible stories: [creativekidssnacks.com](http://creativekidssnacks.com)

### 07

#### Alien Planet

Arrange eight hoops randomly on the floor of your hall. Within each of the hoops or on the wall close by, place the name of a planet. So one hoop is Mercury, one is Venus etc. Ask the children to move around like astronauts. When the music stops (or on the sound of a whistle) the children have to land on a planet (stand in a hoop). The leader, without looking where the astronauts have landed, says which planet has been attacked by aliens. The astronauts in that planet are out and the game continues. As the game goes on and there are less players, add a rule that you are not allowed more than one/two players on each planet, until there is only one surviving astronaut – the winner.

### 08

#### God made the World

Tell the creation story in your own words or use a children's Bible. Emphasise that God was pleased with what he had created. Would he be pleased now with the way we treat the Earth and its people? Create a prayer using some of the themes from the creation story. You can download a PowerPoint presentation of the creation story from the 'Teaching Ideas' website.

 Download from [goo.gl/CDqQ80](http://goo.gl/CDqQ80)



#### Get Active: The Bean Game

Begins with children running/walking around the hall. Shout out commands, and the children carry out the action associated:

- 🥵 **Jumping Bean**  
Jump around the room with feet together.
- 🥵 **Runner Bean**  
Run around/on spot (depending on space).
- 🥵 **Frozen Bean**  
Stand very still.
- 🥵 **Bean Sprout**  
Stand on tiptoes, stretch up to 'touch the roof'.
- 🥵 **Spring Bean**  
Start crouching and spring up towards the sky.
- 🥵 **Broad Bean**  
Stretch arms and legs as far as possible (standing).
- 🥵 **Flat Bean**  
To end activity. Lie flat on floor.



Shared by  
**Paul O'Shea, Development Worker in  
Lanarkshire, Scotland**



#### Getting Into The Bible: Bible Story Guy

If you are looking for some ideas for devotions with Juniors then check out the Bible Story Guy website for lots of easy to use talks.

 Check out the website at [biblestoryguy.com](http://biblestoryguy.com)





## Planning your Programme

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:



### WWF Green Ambassadors

Does your group... love nature? Care about the planet? Want to have the skills and confidence to protect them both? Find out about the WWF's new Green Ambassadors 4 Youth Scheme. With a number of topical issues including food, energy, throw-away, plants & animals, getting around and water, your group can get informed, get involved and get sharing.

Check out [greenambassadors4youth.org.uk](http://greenambassadors4youth.org.uk)



### Kicking off the Football Season

August will see the start of the football season for leagues across the country. Could you set up a fantasy football league for your young people through one of the many websites and get them involved in some healthy competition – you could offer a prize for the winner at the end of the season. Or could you organise a trip to see a match, if not a Premier League game how about supporting your local team?

## Get Active: TriVolle



Barry Mason, Sports Advisor for Youth for Christ tells us about the sport of TriVolle (known as Spikeball in the US) which has arrived in the UK and is spreading.

"So there I was, innocently visiting a park in my home town local park, when I see some American missionaries setting up what looked like a small yellow trampoline and diving around it trying to hit a small yellow ball. A strange sight to most. But, as a keen fan of all things sporty, I just had to find out more. There and then I was introduced to the phenomenon that has become known as TriVolle.

It's not a trampoline, but a TriVolle net. They weren't diving around aimlessly, but reaching to volley the ball as part of this exciting new game. Within minutes I had mastered the basic skills of volleying

and spiking. I was ready to play for points. Suddenly people were moving and stretching everywhere. What on Earth was happening? I like to think I'm competitive in a healthy way and able to work things out quickly. There was something about this game though. There was more to learn.

I was told that there is no restrictive area at all in the game of TriVolle. There are no court edges, there are no sides and there is no limit on the distance of the play. Wow! My mind was blown. I was, and still am, hooked. The tactical and strategical options alongside learning the array of possible shots meant this game had so much more to offer than I first assumed.

So I set about getting a set for my church group. But nothing. They could only be bought from the manufacturer in America. The shipping and import tax made it very expensive. I contacted the manufacturers and asked if I could bring the whole sport to the UK. We opened discussions and I now find myself as some sort of acting CEO of the new sports governing body of TriVolleUK.

As the Sports Advisor for Youth for Christ, I am predominantly working with Christian organisations to see them get a head start on this before we go main stream with the sport. TriVolle is such a focal point that it creates community within

minutes. There is no better leveller of abilities than all having to learn together from scratch."

### TriVolle in the BB

Captain of the 17<sup>th</sup> Nottingham Company, Richard Dawson, is a natural early adopter. He has been using TriVolle for the last few months in two ways, setting it up on Company nights to engage young people in the new sport and explore values of team work and relying on others. He has also been able to use the sport to promote The Boys' Brigade in and around the neighbourhood. He said "The lads have absolutely loved it, especially the 11-16 year olds. It's been great to see even those who are not usually sporty become quickly addicted to such a simple sport."

@ From September you will be able to order your TriVolle set for £50 per set. Contact Barry Mason at [barry.mason@yfc.co.uk](mailto:barry.mason@yfc.co.uk) or ring 0121 502 9602.

Follow the journey on Twitter @TriVolleUK

## Get out & about



Some ideas for over the summer, ideal for use whilst at camp:

### Around the Town Challenges

A number of activities which can be done in any town:

**01 Hunt the Officer**  
Leaders dress up to disguise themselves – this can range from simply donning a false moustache and a hat and using a walking stick to visiting the local fancy dress shop and borrowing the "Elvis" outfit. This depends on the 'bravery' of the staff and how conspicuous they wish to be. Given a head start the leaders position themselves within a defined area of the town. The young people in groups have to find everyone and obtain their signature. The final signature also records the time, if this is to be a competition between the teams. Be careful that the young people don't challenge some unsuspecting member of the public, especially if there's an Elvis Convention in town.

**02 Photo Challenge**  
Most young people will have access to a camera on their mobile phones. Young people, in teams, have to take a photograph of themselves at local features in the town or doing something particular. Again this can be simple challenges such as 'outside the town hall/railway station' etc or you add in something a bit different like take a photo with a member of your team flying or walking on water (they will need to think creatively), playing football in a strange place, find a sign which has the name of a member of your group in it, etc.



### Wet Weather

Unfortunately the British summer may mean the odd spot of rain so it's always wise to have a number of activities ready if your planned programme can't operate. As well as quizzes and board games, have you tried...?

**01 Animal**  
Young people sit in circle and have an animal and its actions ascribed to each place. The nominal start of the circle is the elephant and the bottom place is the amoeba. Get each member to show their action to everyone else. The elephant starts by doing his action and 'passes' to another animal by doing its action. The animal that was passed to, firstly does their action and then passes to another by doing its action. An animal cannot pass back to the animal that passed to it and you can be strict about the accuracy of the animal's action. For example, if the kangaroo is two hops forward and the person does only one, they are out. A person who is out, moves to the end and becomes the amoeba and everyone moves up a place up to the vacated chair. The animal and its actions remain with the chair so everyone who moves becomes a new animal. The object of the game is to become the elephant and remain there. If someone gets a wrong answer encourage the other members to shout out, 'That's not an animal, move round'.

**02 Wink Murder**  
Ask the young people to sit in a circle. Designate one to be the 'Detective' and ask them to leave whilst you determine who will be the murderer. The detective returns and stands in the middle of the circle. The murderer kills people by winking at them, without being spotted by the detective. Once winked at, the murderer's victims die as loudly and elaborately as possible. After each murder the detective is allowed one guess at who the murderer is. The game continues until the murderer is identified. The detective who identifies the murderer after the fewest number of victims is the winner.

**03 Table Tennis (variation)**  
You cannot use a table tennis table, net or bat. Identify a table to be used and construct a 'net' from what's available (books, cups etc.). Young people choose something which they will use as a bat – could be a book, a plate, a frying pan, but cannot be a real table tennis bat. The game is played in the normal manner. You could organise a knockout competition with a resulting champion.





## FOOTBALL FOCUSED 'SPORTS SESSION'

Craig McMurray, Sports Development Officer in Glasgow, suggests a comprehensive sports session for Company aged young people.

### Warm up

Carry out the following instructions as a warm-up:

- 12 cones are set out randomly around the hall (four different colours should be used, so there will be four groups of three, each group a different colour).
- Players jog around the hall in any direction.
- Shout out one of the colours from the cones and all players must get to that coloured cone as quickly as possible, then carry on jogging again.
- Shout out different dynamic stretches to the group to allow them to stretch and warm up the specific muscles needed for that sport i.e. heel flicks, to stretch the participant's quadriceps.

### King of the ring

#### Equipment

- ★ 1 Football (per player)
- ★ Marker cones

### How to Play

Mark a large square out using the cones. Each player is given a ball and dribbles within the square. On the whistle players must try and kick any opponents ball out of the square whilst protecting their own. If a player's ball is kicked out of the square they are out, the winner is the last player in the square with their football.

### Football - Conditioned Game

Game is played as a normal game of football, i.e. 5-a-side, 7-a-side, 11-a-side .... However a condition can be added to make the game easier, more difficult or to ensure players focus more on a skill they have been practicing during the session.

- Two touch** - Players are only allowed two touches before passing the ball. This will prevent players dribbling the ball and encourage them to pass.

- All players in a team must touch the ball before shooting** – encourage players to maintain possession, and focus on player movement to allow them to work themselves into space to receive a pass.

- Players cannot tackle each other** – all defenders are passive making the game easier (usually used for younger players) to allow more time on the ball without the pressure of an opposing player.

You could think about other conditions you could add in to the game, you could ask the young people what suggestions they might have.

### Cool Down

Instruct the group to carry out the following:

- Light jog around the hall.
- Give a few commands such as a light skip or open groin (nothing strenuous).
- Slowly bring the players down to a slow walk.
- Bring the group into a semi-circle in front of you and give static stretching.

### Stretches

Some definitions and instructions:

**Opening the gate (Open Groin)** - A dynamic stretch completed on the move, a great way of stretching muscles on the move. Bend the leg at the knee and take it from the inside out, you can then repeat the stretch by taking it from the outside in (closing the gate).

**Heel Flicks** - A dynamic stretch completed on the move. Take short steps, lifting your heels up to your backside. No knee lift is required for this drill. You can put your hands behind your back, against your backside so you can feel your heels flick them.

## Programme Planning



Central to Challenge Plus and working with the Seniors age group is the active involvement of young people in decision making.

Throughout their time in BB, young people will have gained invaluable experience; in Anchors and Juniors we ask them to give their opinions and make choices, in Discover young people gain more responsibility, engage in their communities and discuss and reflect upon what they think. Now it's time to develop this even further!

As a leader you could plan an excellent programme for your young people, but with this age group the process is of just as much importance as the outcome. Challenge Plus gets young people involved in every area right from the planning, through to the delivery and evaluation. The Challenge Plus Programme has been written for use by young people and leaders in partnership. Don't be afraid to give your young people Challenge Plus and let them fly with it!

The Challenge Plus Programme pack contains a number of templates and additional information which will help support young people and leaders when thinking about the programme for this age group.

Seniors take a keen interest in what they do during meetings, and usually have a clear idea of what they like. However, sometimes they have difficulty coming up with ideas on what they would like to do as a group.

With the start of the new session looming think about how you could get your young people started, putting their ideas together and planning their own programme for the session. You could try using some of the ideas below on your first night back to help get ideas flowing.

### 01 The Brainstorm Bag

Bring a bag of assorted bits and pieces along to your meeting, the bag should contain a wide selection of items such as a golf ball, dvd, bow tie, sunglasses, teddy bear, toothbrush, key ring, piece of string, map, photo frame, box of matches, sticky tape and a pen-knife.

Divide the young people into teams, tip the contents of the bag into the middle of the floor. Run a relay race from different corners of the room, with each person, from each team picking up an item and taking it back to their team. The team then has to generate 3 programme ideas for that item before returning it to the pile in the middle and picking up another item. Depending on the number of young people, you might want everyone to do this once, or multiple times.

**Ask the young people to think laterally about the items, eg the toothbrush might suggest:**

**Tooth:** visit a dentist, brushing techniques

**Brush:** art, visit a gallery

**Brush:** sweeping up (environmental/community project), DIY (painting and decorating)

**Brush:** hair styling, make-up art, face painting etc

All these suggestions were generated from the toothbrush. Some ideas may be practical, some may not. This is not important. You are encouraging free thinking in the young people.

Come back into one group and discuss the ideas generated in each group for each item.



## 02 Getting the top 10

Put all the ideas into one list that everyone can see and ask the group to decide on their top 10. They could do this by numbering their top 10 by writing 1 by their most favourite and 10 by their least favourite, or by just ticking the 10 that interest them.

## 03 Making it happen!

Making things reality is the next stage, encourage the young people to split into two's or three's and take an activity from the top ten list to go away and think about what they need to do to make it happen.

### Some things for them to think about...

- ? When is it going to take place?
- ? Where?
- ? Is there a cost? Who pays?

- ? Travel arrangements?
- ? Key people?
- ? Equipment needed?
- ? Safety/Risk Assessment?
- ? Qualifications/permission needed?
- ? Awards/DofE/Queen's Badge?

### How did it go?



Let us know how you get on, and what your young people came up with for their programme, email us at: [gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk)

## Great activities & ideas for your section

### Ultimate CHALLENGE PLUS

Paul O'Shea provides an update to 'Ultimate Challenge Plus' which was featured in the spring magazine.

Ultimate Challenge Plus, is a new competition for Seniors that was developed by BB Scotland, with the aim to allow Seniors to compete on an individual basis with other Seniors from around Scotland. It consisted of 10 physical and mental based challenges, with five points available for each challenge. Despite being developed for Scotland it was quickly picked up by Companies in other regions who wanted to use it as part of their Seniors' programme. Feedback has been extremely positive and it is hoped it will be enhanced over time and run as an annual competition.



**Congratulations to all who took part this year, especially our top 3 Seniors:**

Josh McGoldrick	15 <sup>th</sup> Coatbridge
James Booker	14 <sup>th</sup> West Bromwich
Andrew Rowley	1 <sup>st</sup> Newport/Wormit



### Just For Fun: Human Knot

Ask all participants to make a circle, and everyone to put their right hand up in the air, and then grab the hand of someone across the circle from them. Then do the same with the left hand, so each participant is holding hands with two different people. They should not be holding hands with someone directly next to them.

Explain that the group must now untangle themselves to make a circle without breaking the chain of hands. Get participants to take their time, to not tug or pull on each other and help others, it is a team game! If group members break the chain, they must then start over again. Ideally no more than 8-10 in a group, if more then split into smaller groups.

You could give the group a time limit on this activity to make it more challenging. You can also mute/blindfold participants throughout the activity. Alternatively instead of making groups start over when the chain is broken you can create penalties like blindfolding or muting a group member.



### Getting Into The Bible: Fervr.net

Check out this fantastic website, it's Australian and has been created for teenagers (13 to 18's) and publishes daily articles, reviews and video content. It could be great for pointing your young people to, but also to use as a resource for planning your programme. There are many great reviews, articles on current events and topical issues.



Check out the website at [fervr.net](http://fervr.net)

## FOCUS ENGLAND



/theboysbrigade



@theboysbrigade

### Development Focus

Eric Hudson, Director for England shares news on recent developments across the region.

In the last 18 months a tremendous amount of work has been undertaken by development workers in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Stoke on Trent, Bradford and Middlesbrough and Redcar. This work has been made possible by funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government and has been administered by the Youth United Foundation, which is a coalition of most of the uniformed youth organisations in England of which the BB is a part.

This programme came to an end in June, but we are delighted at the progress that has been made. During this time we expect to have opened or re-launched 45 new Companies (including 105 sections, which exceeded the original target of 74 sections). These Companies have been started mainly in churches, but have also been opened in schools working closely with local churches, a prison where BB activities are provided for the children of prisoners on visitors' day and the children are then signposted to their nearest BB Company if at all possible. There is also a Company opening which will cater mainly, but not exclusively, for young carers in Stoke on Trent.

In the budget the Chancellor announced further funding to be channelled through Youth United and we are, of course, bidding for some of this funding to enable us to continue to develop and support the work already started, as well as starting new Companies.

### WHAT'S ON - ENGLAND



#### 2-8 AUG KGV Youth Leadership Training

For those aged 17 to 21 who would like to move into leadership in the BB. [boys-brigade.org.uk/kgvi](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/kgvi)

#### 4 OCT Trainers' Update

To be held at Felden Lodge, an opportunity for Trainers across the Region to come together for an update.



### Get involved in Unite 2015

'Unite' will be a camp with a difference providing a unique opportunity for young people and leaders across England to meet, explore their faith and enjoy a range of activities together. The event is scheduled to take place on 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May 2015 at Felden Lodge.

There will be a packed programme available for young people aged 11+ with a variety of activities, as well as responding to the needs of the leaders too! We're excited to tell you that the renowned evangelist, Mark Greenwood and his team will be joining us. This is a sensational opportunity for us all to be a part of something new where we can work together to set the foundations for a successful event to meet the needs of young people in England for next year and in the future.

If you or your young people have any ideas, concerns, expectations, feedback and questions about the event, or would like to register your interest, then please contact us.

The event will cost per person £65 for catered or £50 for un-catered. Booking for the event will be available from September 2014 onwards.



Get in contact by emailing [unite@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:unite@boys-brigade.org.uk)



Find Unite on Facebook [/unitebb](https://www.facebook.com/unitebb)



Follow Unite on Twitter [@unitebb](https://twitter.com/unitebb)

#### 7-9 NOV Skills Weekend

For young people aged 16-22, at Felden Lodge, an opportunity to learn new skills, can also be used as 'Skills for QB'.

#### 9 MAY The Big Night Out

Take your young people along to TBNO in 2015, held at Lightwater Valley. [www.thebignightout.org.uk](http://www.thebignightout.org.uk)



For a full list of dates go to: [england.boys-brigade.org.uk](http://england.boys-brigade.org.uk)





## Parliamentary Exhibition Showcases work of Brigade

The work of The Boys' Brigade was celebrated in a week-long exhibition at The Scottish Parliament.

The exhibition, which ran from 31<sup>st</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April, highlighted the relevance and importance of The Boys' Brigade. Director for Scotland, Bill Stevenson said "We are grateful for the on-going support from many local MSPs and the exhibition was an excellent opportunity to highlight the range of our work throughout the country." The visit also coincided with the launch of the Scottish Government's new Youth Work Strategy.

 More information about this can be found at: <http://bit.ly/1nvfK9F>



## Church of Scotland General Assembly

The Brigade put on an impressive Guard of Honour for Prince Edward, Lord High Commissioner at St Giles' Cathedral on Assembly Sunday and there was also lots of interest in the BB stand at the 'Heart and Soul' festival.

## WHAT'S ON - SCOTLAND

- 3 JUL** Gold DofE Presentation
- 11-17 JUL** KGVI Second Year
- 1-7 AUG** KGVI New Entrants
- 16-17 AUG** 1000 KM challenge
- 29-30 AUG** Enhancing Your Skills 5
- 6 SEP** Brigade Conference

 For a full list of dates go to: [scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk](http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk)



 /theboysbrigadeinscotland  
 @thebbscotland



## Sports Camp

Company Section members from across Scotland were put through their paces 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April during the 'Discover Sports Camp'. The young athletes stayed at Carronvale House and took their hand to an array of sports, such as rugby, basketball and archery.



## National Events in Lanarkshire

Early spring saw two high-profile national events taking place in Lanarkshire:

**Cross-Country** - Drumpellier Country Park in Coatbridge was the location of the annual Scottish Cross-Country Championships, which took place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March. The race brought together more than 150 young people aged between 11 and 18 from across Scotland.

**Bands Contest** - The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Bands' Contest on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at Motherwell Concert Hall was another magnificent spectacle to showcase the depth of musical talent of BB young people.

 For results see [scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk](http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk)

## Western Mail Cup

The Western Mail Cup has historically been awarded to a member of the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Battalion who in the opinion of a panel of interviewers is considered the most outstanding young person in the Battalion in that year. The young person is judged upon participation in the Company and the wider BB movement as well as church. Progress towards the President's and Queen's Badge is also taken into account. Due to the reorganisation of the BB in Wales, candidates for the award can come from any Company in the Principality. The candidates this year were all of a high quality and the winner was Adam Morris of the 21<sup>st</sup> Cardiff Company.


## WHAT'S ON - WALES

- 4 OCT** First Aid Course
- 8 NOV** Devotions & Craft MasterClass

 For a full list of dates go to: [boysbrigadewales.org.uk](http://boysbrigadewales.org.uk)

## Development Focus

**Gareth Hillier, Supporting & Enabling Officer for Wales, shares something of his activity over the last few months:**

 The summer is here and the good weather is on its way, hopefully. It's been a busy few months meeting with various churches and organisations sharing the good things happening in BB as well as working with our existing groups and I'm excited to visit a few of our camps over the summer. These truly are a highlight and something the children and young people really look forward to and remember for years and years.

Currently, I am launching a new group in Tremorfa, Cardiff which is exciting and we are going through the training and promoting the new group in the community, ready to launch in September. We are also busy putting together the events diary for next session and excited that we are including some new activities and events for Companies across Wales with which to get involved.

 /theboysbrigadeinwales  @BB\_Wales

WALES: ☎ 02920 483555 ✍ The Boys' Brigade, 58 Richmond Road, Roath, Cardiff, CF24 3AT



## Juniors Activity Weekend

50 young people from Junior Sections throughout the Region enjoyed an action packed weekend of adventure at ECO Adventure, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow during May 2014. The activities challenged the young people, particularly the evening hike that turned out to be a rather damp affair. The weather was kind to us for the remainder of the weekend and provided an opportunity for each young person to take responsibility for others through an excellent team effort while participating in an unforgettable experience.

## WHAT'S ON - R.o.I

- 10 SEP** Leaders Meeting & YLT, Cavan
- 18 SEP** Leaders Meeting & YLT, Bunclody
- 22 SEP** Leaders Meeting & YLT, Dublin

 For a full list of dates go to: [boysbrigade.ie](http://boysbrigade.ie)

## Thanksgiving Services

During April and May Services of Thanksgiving were held around the Country in St. Mary's Church, Tullow, - Clontibret Presbyterian Church (Braddox) & St. Mary's Church, Geashill with many members, leaders, parents and friends attending.

R.O.IRELAND : ☎ +353 1 296 4622 ✍ Unit C1 Nutgrove Office Park, Nutgrove Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14



# FOCUS NORTHERN IRELAND



## Freedom of Lisburn City

On 26<sup>th</sup> April, Lisburn City Council conferred 'Freedom' on Voluntary Uniformed Youth Organisations. The day started with the Freedom Ceremony, during which the resolution was read to Council Members and the assembled guests. Certificates were then signed by the Mayor and the Principal Guest of each Organisation. Northern Ireland District was represented by Rev Dr Trevor McCormick.

Representatives of NI District and the four Battalions that operate in the Lisburn City Council area (Antrim, Belfast, Down and Lurgan) attended a Civic Luncheon in the Island Hall. This was followed by a parade of the youth organisations and a concert in Wallace Park, during which recent X-factor Finalists entertained the crowd.

## WHAT'S ON - N.IRELAND

### 19 -25 JUL KGV Officer Cadet Course

This year's annual King George VI Course will return to Rathmore House, Larne. Full details are available from the Training & Programme Officer ([kenneth.mclaughlin@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:kenneth.mclaughlin@boys-brigade.org.uk))

### 25 SEP Queen's Badge Conference

A Queen's Badge Conference, for Advisors and Company Mentors, will take place at NI Headquarters ('Newport', Hillsborough). Details will be made available via the NI Website.

### 4 OCT Anchor Boy Conference

The annual conference for Anchor Boy Leaders will take place in Killead Presbyterian Church Hall. Full details will be circulated to the Officer-in-Charge of each Anchor Boy Section at the beginning of the 2014/15 session. The closing date for the receipt of completed registration forms is 26<sup>th</sup> September.

### 8 NOV Junior Section Conference

The venue for the annual conference for Junior Section Leaders has yet to be confirmed. Full details will be circulated to the Officer-in-Charge of each Junior Section at the beginning of the 2014/15 session. The closing date for the receipt of completed registration forms is 20<sup>th</sup> October.

For a full list of dates go to:  
[ni.boys-brigade.org.uk](http://ni.boys-brigade.org.uk)



## Uniformed Youth Work celebrated at Stormont

On 7<sup>th</sup> April, Mr Mervyn Storey MLA, hosted an event in the Long Gallery at Parliament Buildings to celebrate the achievements of Uniformed Youth Organisations.

The main focus was on CRED (Community Relations, Equality & Diversity) and the various programmes that the Uniformed Group has delivered over the past four years. The evening celebrated the achievements of young people, acknowledged the successful completion of accredited training undertaken by volunteer leaders and provided a suitable opportunity to launch the Uniformed Group's new CRED resource.

Copies of the resource will be circulated to all Companies at the beginning of the 2014/15 session.

## Christian Education Material

Details of the Company Section Christian Education material for the 2014/15 session, 'Jesus Explored – Discover who Jesus is and why He matters', are available on the NI website

## Incredible Ed

Who is Incredible Ed? What has he got to do with The Boys' Brigade? There are lots of Superheroes in The Boys' Brigade, but this is a "SPECIAL SUPERHERO".

Want to know more? Keep an eye on the CRED section of the BBNI Website to find out more at the start of next session.

For more info please go to:  
[www.bbni.org.uk](http://www.bbni.org.uk)

# TOOLBOX



WILLKOMEN!  
BIENVENUE! WELCOME!

## How well do you welcome?

For the 2012 London Olympics, volunteers were given training on how to extend a warm and genuine welcome to visitors from around the world. It boiled down to making people **feel** welcome and this meant that they should be:

GREETED

ACCEPTED

RESPECTED

We all know the feeling of being warmly welcomed and included, and we probably have memories of feeling unwelcome or ignored – just think about the last time you went to a restaurant. Did you hover around wondering whether or not you should head for a table? Did you line up behind a "Please wait to be seated" sign? Or did an actual human walk towards you with a smile and a greeting?

At BB, welcomes are not only about the first time a child or young person comes along, but about how we welcome them every week. So why are those first few moments so important? We don't need to look far for the answers.

If it's not too much of a stretch, try and remember when you were five years old. What did it feel like for you – that first day at school, or arriving at a party? What were your hopes? Your worries and fears? Even now, if we're honest, we can still feel anxious when we join new groups or start new jobs. We wonder what the other people will be like and there are questions in our heads like "Will I be accepted or rejected here?" "Will I feel at home?" "What will they think of me?" and it's just the same for the children and young people who join BB. In fact, we tend to make our minds up about people in the first few minutes and a warm and sincere welcome will make all the difference in the world.

## So how do we make that first impression count?

Let's ask a couple of BB leaders what they do:

I always make sure I learn people's names and find out whether they know anyone here. Once I've welcomed them at the door we buddy them up so that they are not standing around on their own before we get started." Liz also welcomes parents by saying that they're welcome to stay for a while if they wish.

- Liz in Wales

With a new intake of under-11s we get everyone to design a name badge. We provide the coloured pens and stickers and that way the new children have something to do when they arrive, and we get to learn their names a bit quicker.

- Jake in Birmingham

Article Continued →





## WELCOMING YOUNG PEOPLE IS MORE THAN POSITIVE FIRST IMPRESSIONS

### Creating a welcoming culture

Welcoming young people to BB is more than positive first impressions – as important as they are; it's also about creating a welcoming culture and atmosphere. This means that your welcome to children and young people is warm and enthusiastic every time they come. It's about remembering individual likes and dislikes, big events in their lives, birthdays, what team they support, their hobbies, interests and influences. How do you remember all of that for everyone? Just make a few notes and when the time is right, ask the young person about the exam, driving test, football match etc. This makes a huge impact and forms the building blocks for the youth work relationship that's so important in BB work.

Sometimes children and young people can be challenging to us in their behaviour. How do we welcome these young people each week – genuinely and warmly? Well, forgiveness along with unconditional positive regard can help. If we can forgive ourselves for our feelings of irritation or thoughts of resentment and forgive them for whatever behaviour tried our patience in previous weeks, then the slate is wiped clean. What a wonderful gift to give a child – the opportunity to start afresh over and over again.

### What about different cultures?

If you're lucky enough to be based in a diverse community then you will probably be working hard to attract children from all backgrounds. This is where your welcoming skills can really pay off.

Imagine that you've arrived in the UK or Ireland from Poland or Nigeria or India and you have a young family. What would be your hopes for your children? I'm guessing that you would want them to make friends and be happy and feel welcome. This is where BB can play a vital part in community cohesion. How do you get the message out that we welcome children of all cultures and of all faiths and none? And how do you ensure that parents feel secure in leaving their children with you?

It can help a lot to do a little research on the cultures of the nationalities in your catchment area. Back to the London Olympics again – here's a link to a fantastic resource from the London Development Agency on "Welcoming the World". It has useful tips that could give you confidence in understanding different customs and manners.

 **Download the resource at:**  
<http://bit.ly/118aBnN>

How great would it be to welcome a parent from Poland or Nigeria in her mother tongue? Two minutes online will deliver to you the ability to say "E ku abo!" (Welcome in Yoruba) or "Witamy!" pronounced vee-am-ee (Welcome in Polish).

If languages are not your thing, then just remember that a smile is the universal welcome. So keep smiling and keep those welcomes warm.

**Karen Jay**  
Director of Youth & Children's Work

 **If you have any questions then get in touch at:**  
[karen.jay@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:karen.jay@boys-brigade.org.uk)



## MAINTAINING A CONSISTENT BRAND

### Our Brand

Over the past 12 months we have been developing our brand to create a consistent, distinctive and relevant image for The Boys' Brigade. Our brand is important. We want to share something of what it means to have a brand and how we will go about using this through all that we do. 'Branding Guidelines' have been produced to demonstrate brand application locally.

#### ? Why have Branding Guidelines?

Branding guidelines clearly set out our identity through the colours, fonts and layouts that we use, and also set out the variations of logo that can be used and how they are applied. Branding Guidelines will give clarity on what we have agreed to use and when, and will give us rules within which to work. Branding Guidelines also help to provide a user friendly guide to the implementation of our 'Intellectual Property Notice' (the full 'Intellectual Property Notice' can be found on the BB website) which covers the use of our registered trademarks including the 'adventure begins here' logo and 'Brigade Emblem'.

#### ? What should we be doing as a Company/Battalion/District?

Take a look at the 'Branding Guidelines' and see how they fit with what you are already doing, and what changes you would need to make to follow the guidelines. It's important that every part of the organisation does its part to correctly show-off 'Our Brand'. Being ON BRAND is important at all levels of the organisation.

#### ? Why do we need variations of the logo?

There have always been variations of the logo, as these are needed for different applications. It is important to remember that a logo is used across a wide range of products from full colour and black & white paper based print, to digital media such as the web, email and social media, to printing on mugs, t-shirts, pencils and more.



**Chris Norman**  
IT/Communications Manager, BB Headquarters

Article Continued →



## Showcasing Our Brand

Some of the key elements from the 'Branding Guidelines' are included in this article.

We hope that this brief look into the guidelines will cover some of the most important factors for you to consider when applying our brand, but should you have any queries or want more information please in the first instance download the full 'Branding Guidelines' document. BB Headquarters or your Regional Headquarters will also be able to provide guidance.



## Logo Spacing & Sizing

It is vital that The Boys' Brigade logo has adequate space around it to help keep its message clear. The diagrams in the Branding Guidelines explain how this should be achieved. Logo sizing is also very important as if the logo is smaller than the specified size it can become difficult to read.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 05**



## Logo Variations

The Boys' Brigade has a variety of logo options. The variations that are provided in the Branding Guidelines also include The Girls' Association logo. To see all variations please view our Branding Guidelines.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 06**



## Logo Backgrounds

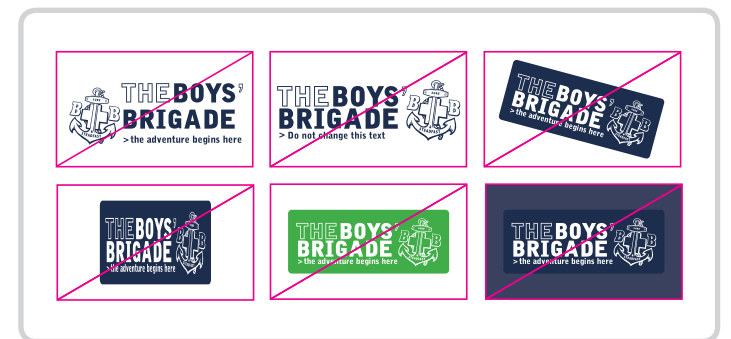
Brand logos should always be placed on the appropriate background. This will help the brand be easily seen. The Branding Guidelines feature a variety of examples showing which logo is appropriate for different backgrounds. It is also important to use the appropriate file type so that the logo is always communicated in the highest quality.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 09**



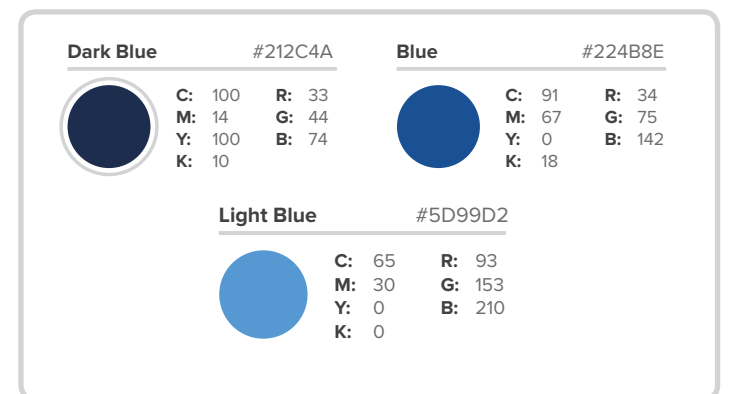
## Identity Missuse

It is important to make sure that The Boys' Brigade logos are not altered. This will maintain consistency across all publications. Although it may be tempting to amend a logo to make it sit with your design this could massively dilute the impact of the brand. See Branding Guidelines for all examples of Identity Missuse.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 11**

## Colour Palette

The Boys' Brigade brand is made up of an array of blues. When these colours are mixed with vivid images it can create a well composed look. It is important that users work to these colours. This will help keep a global consistency. The Branding Guidelines contain a full list of available colours and colour values so that you can accurately translate these colours on your own computer.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 13**

## Adding a Location

We have created instructions on how to localise the BB logo to your Company/Battalion/District. The Branding Guidelines show the colour, font and spacing that should be applied.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 14**

## Brand Fonts

Fonts are a very powerful way of communicating a brand, we have selected a range of fonts to be used. Please avoid using alternative fonts as this will weaken the overall effect of the brand. Choosing the correct font size and weight is also explained in the Branding Guidelines.

 **Branding Guidelines - See Page 16**

## 📄 Downloading 'Our Brand'

We have made all of the logos, fonts, symbols, etc available to download from the BB website, including versions in a number of formats to make it easy for you apply the brand locally.

 Find out all there is to know about 'Our Brand' at:  
**[boys-brigade.org.uk/ourbrand](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/ourbrand)**



## Euroquest 2014

Euroquest is an exciting activity weekend, created by the European Fellowship which will take place in Glasgow in 2014.

The event will see teams taking part in exciting, challenging and problem solving tasks while having the opportunity to visit many of Glasgow's famous landmarks and experience the Scottish culture. This is a fast paced, challenging, team building, inter-cultural fun filled event and one your Company could take part in.

Euroquest will take place over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Starting at 1pm on Saturday, the event will finish at 4pm on Sunday. The cost is just £50 per person which includes all activities, accommodation, breakfast & lunch and travel within Glasgow.


 Find out more at [boys-brigade.org.uk/euroquest.htm](http://boys-brigade.org.uk/euroquest.htm)




## Easter Course in Birmingham

This year the European Fellowship Easter Course took place in Birmingham, England and the theme was Created by You!

32 Participants took part, representing 7 different Organisations and Countries. The course featured intercultural learning opportunities for participants to share ideas, whilst exploring and developing their faith, culminating in a grand garden party to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the European Fellowship with the Eastervision Talent Contest featuring performances from all the participants. A fantastic week was had by all.

 "We had interesting sessions on intercultural learning which were very informative and helped one to appreciate the diversity of different cultures."

 "We had 'Let's Talk' sessions where we discussed our thoughts, feelings and our relationship with God. This was one of the things I enjoyed the most"

Next year the Easter Course will be taking place on the Island of Malta. Applications will be opening soon.



 For more information contact the European Fellowship Training Facilitator, Vaughan Staples by email at [training@europeanfellowship.org](mailto:training@europeanfellowship.org)

## Global Round-up

A snapshot of what is going on in BB and Global Fellowship member organisations around the globe



Parents gathered for the Company's Awards Day, during which there was a handover of the NCO council leadership.



Pcea Kariobangi North Company in Kenya hold their Annual Enrolment service.



The Boys' and Girls' Brigade Neenah Menasha, USA have started their summer camps on Onaway island. They have many week-long camps back to back to facilitate the number of participants who want to take part. The camp can involve overnight adventures, kayaking, biking and hiking. The camp also sees new friendships formed quickly and old ones renewed.



Singapore BB held an event to look at the future of the BB. Many stakeholders were invited including parents, leaders, boys etc and through a constructive process shared their stories so far and how they connected to BB. The fellowship continued throughout the day as a greater understanding from dialogue about expectations and needs helped steer the discussion.



Pesta is the annual camp and convention for BB in Malaysia. However it's recently opened up to other countries in the region, with participants from Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia. Held in Kampar, Perak, it involved a wide range of activities from drill and band competitions to singing and dancing as well as inter-team challenges.



Congratulations to the new Champions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Biannual BB Malaysia 'Pesta' Band Competition





**"YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE"**

## Your Community, Your Country, Your Voice

With Scots going to the polls in September's referendum, you may not know that young people as young as 16 are eligible to vote in this process. This has led to both sides of the campaign adopting new techniques and adapting their messages to reach out to this new type of electorate.

Organisations like The Boys' Brigade, as well as schools, have hosted debates and even mock elections.

This has reignited a debate about young people and their involvement in the political process. Whether it is leafleting in their communities, being involved in public meetings, or engaging with the debate on social media, they are engaging in ways not seen before. But, what is the wider impact of this?

Whilst 16 and 17 year olds can participate in this vote, the same cannot be said when it comes to other elections. In European and also in general elections in both Ireland and the UK, you must be 18 to have this right.

Campaigners argue that voting age should be lowered to 16, whilst opponents claim that younger voters don't take enough interest in politics.

***"NYCI strongly believes that the age at which an individual is eligible to exercise their vote should be reduced from 18 to 16 years of age. In our view, lowering the voting age will serve to motivate young people to vote and increase civic engagement and participation."***

- The National Youth Council for Ireland

The Irish government has committed to holding a referendum on changing the voting age from 18 to 16.

## Survey of BB young people aged 16-25



**"The right to vote should be extended to 16 and 17 year olds in UK/RoI, regional, local and European elections, as well as referendums."**



**39% Agreed**



**"How likely are you as a resident in Scotland, to vote in the upcoming independence referendum?"**



**74% Very Likely**



**"Are you a member of a political party?"**



**10% Yes**

(Data collected between 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014)

However, 'active citizenship' does not only necessarily concern voting in national elections or referenda. Perhaps you are involved in a local or national youth assembly; or you are involved in a local project or campaign? In our BB survey, 32% of respondents said they participated in school or national youth elections.

## Some BB young people gave us their opinions about active citizenship, and in particular, participating in elections...

**Ross, 19, 1<sup>st</sup> Chandlers Ford**

"Young people I've met are more engaged in politics than the media makes out, however more needs to be done to educate young people on politics and why it's important to vote in elections."

**Connor, 18, 13<sup>th</sup> Bromley**

"More education and engagement is needed to ensure young people are voting in the future and not becoming disengaged with our democracy."

**Chris, 18, 1<sup>st</sup> Bearsden**

"Participating in the independence referendum allows your views to be counted. By voting for what you feel is right, you are involved in what could be this country's biggest point in recent history."

## Discuss this with your group

- ? What do you think about 'Votes at 16'?
- ? Is it important to get involved in local decision-making?
- ? Have you considered standing for election in school, college or at university?
- ? Consider inviting a local Member of Parliament to chat with your group

@ Share what your young people think, email us at: [gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk)

Continue the conversation on Twitter: @BBgazette #BBvoice



# GET INVOLVED



## Young people doing good things

Jayne Colquhoun, from vInspired shares with us what the organisation is about and how they can help to support young people in our Companies.

vInspired is a charity dedicated to helping young people discover the value of volunteering, for themselves and for others. We provide under 25's with volunteering and social action opportunities to improve their life skills, confidence and future employability.

We provide opportunities for all young people to do good things – whatever they're into, wherever they are and however much time they have to give. We believe that young people's creativity, energy and optimism can change the world. We're dedicated to helping them improve their skills, confidence and employability whilst doing things they really care about.

### vInspired Awards

The vInspired Awards run through every programme we run and are available for every young person, aged 14 to 25, taking part in social action. The awards are all about recognising the time young people commit, the skills they develop and the difference they make through their volunteering. The vInspired awards will also help to boost their CV by showing colleges, universities and employers evidence of what they achieve as volunteers.

#### We have three awards:



**v10** is our starter award for 10 hours of volunteering. Young people can download the v10 certificate and print it off instantly.



**v50** is for 50 hours of volunteering.



**v100** is for a further 50 hours of volunteering (100 hours in total).

The awards give volunteers the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned during their volunteering and how their skills have developed.



### Be an Awards provider

The vInspired Award providers is a growing network of organisations offering the vInspired Awards to their volunteers. Any charity working with young people can become an Awards provider and receive access to the vInspired Awards, enabling them to give young people the recognition they deserve.

#### Benefits for Awards providers include:

- 👍 Being the first to hear about new vInspired programmes and campaigns
- 👍 Promotional materials and merchandise to support your volunteering activities
- 👍 Your own page and Awards provider badge on vInspired.com
- 👍 Access to training to support you to use the system
- 👍 Our fantastic v50 and v100 certificates
- 👍 Opportunities to get media coverage for your young volunteers
- 👍 It's free!

#### To sign up to be a vInspired Awards Provider:

[vinspired.com/about/awardsnetwork](http://vinspired.com/about/awardsnetwork) or for further information contact Tracey Primus at [tracey.primus@vinspired.com](mailto:tracey.primus@vinspired.com) or on 020 760 7037.

#### Halifax Battalion

Halifax Battalion has already signed up to be an awards provider. With over 60 young people volunteering within the Battalion they are able to log their volunteer hours and gain the vInspired Awards alongside BB awards including President's and Queen's badges.

Robert Batty, Battalion Secretary, said that he hopes that it will help improve the status of the Senior members of the Battalion. Andrew Rawnsley, Battalion President, added that it was a fantastic way to recognise the volunteers' hard work!

### Saltire Awards

Although vInspired operates across the UK, there are other opportunities to recognise volunteering:

Saltire Awards are the new Scottish awards designed to formally recognise the commitment and contribution of youth volunteering to voluntary organisations.

Supported by the Scottish Government, the Saltire Awards enable young volunteers to record the skills, experience and learning gained through successful volunteering placements provided by local and national voluntary agencies.

The Awards are split in to four sections - The Challenge, The Approach, The Ascent and The Summit and achievement

## How else can young people get involved with vInspired?



Our **online market-place**, vInspired.com links young people with appealing and varied opportunities with almost 2,000 other charities, schools and organisations across the country. BB Companies have successfully advertised for volunteers through the online market-place.



**vInspired Cashpoint** offers young people grants of up to £500 to enable them to run their own social action projects.



**National Citizen Service** offers 16 and 17 year olds the chance to learn new skills, meet new mates and make a difference to the people and places they care about.



Our **Do Something campaigns** call on young people to come together en masse and take small online actions that don't need much time or any money, but help make a huge impact on causes they're passionate about.



**Task Squad** is a micro-work platform that introduces young people, eager to undertake paid work, to organisations who are looking to fulfil short term staffing needs.



For more information about vInspired, visit our website at [vinspired.com](http://vinspired.com)

is recognised in the form of Saltire Award certificates and Young Scot reward points.

Saltire Awards are designed to encourage, enable and reward youth volunteering and to make it easy for organisations to support young people to take part.

It is an ideal way for additional recognition of the volunteering BB young people do in their Companies and in the community as part of a President's, Queen's or DofE Award.



You can find out more by contacting BB Scottish HQ or going to [saltireawards.org.uk](http://saltireawards.org.uk).











## APPROVED CAMPSITES

The following sites have been officially approved, having met Guidelines laid down by the Brigade, and local Fire and Public Health Authorities.




**Auchengillan Outdoor Centre** in the Central Scottish Highlands offers camping and modern indoor accommodation. There are many challenging and adventurous activities (on and off-site) and lots of places of interest to visit.

**Contact:**  
 01360 770256  
 centre@auchengillan.com  
 www.auchengillan.com




**Norfolk / Felden Lodge Campsites**  
 2014/2015 BB canvas campsites (operated by 10th Enfield) fully equipped for up to 70 (smaller camps welcome) in West Runton (North Norfolk) and at BBUK HQ (Hertfordshire).

**Contact:**  
 Chris Norman on 07703 571915  
 chris@boys-brigade.org.uk  
 10enfield.boys-brigade.org.uk



**Honeyhill Camp** (NW Kent Battalion) 12 acres Bearsted Maidstone. Open from Easter to October. Small and large camps welcome. Showers, toilets, building with large kitchen, sports facilities. Canvas for hire or bring your own.

**Contact:**  
 Andy Foster on 07946 163176  
 honeyhill@boys-brigade.org.uk  
 honeyhill.boys-brigade.org.uk

**West Midland District Camping Centre, Dyffryn Ardudwy**  
 3 fully equipped canvas sites available for mixed camps. Main centre site caters up to 90 people with dormitory accommodation for 40. 2 smaller sites cater up to 50 people.

**Contact:**  
 Jamie Copson on 01905 480 955  
 info@bbcamping.co.uk  
 www.bbcamping.co.uk



**Vectis Youth Camps.** Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight. Two self-contained campsites with permanent kitchens, showers and toilets. All tenting equipment included. Ideal for organised camps of between 25 and 250 people for weekend and week long camps.

**Contact:**  
 Dettie Quirke on 07582 429929  
 info@vectisyouthcamps.org

**Craggan Outdoor Centre, on the shores of Loch Tay, Perthshire.** A great Centre for camps of all ages, with disabled access, sleeps 29 and is self-catering. Ideal for outdoor and water activities with own canoes and jetty.

**Contact:**  
 0131 551 1200 ext 20  
 craggan@thebb-edinburgh.org.uk

**Coopers Mead Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight.** Traditional camping at its very best and at a reasonable cost! Weeks available for 2015, 2016 and beyond.

**Contact:**  
 Ted Walliss 01737 352732  
 edwardwalliss@btinternet.com

**Broadleas, Haytor, Devon** Indoor sleeps 30, 2 staff bedrooms sleep 5. Showers etc. kitchen, dining hall. Camping for 55. Tents provided. Equipped kitchen, dining hall, showers etc. Outdoor pool, large hall.

**Contact:**  
 Diana Dale on 01452 615072  
 broadleas@boys-brigade.org.uk  
 broadleas.boys-brigade.org.uk

Popular BB approved campsite at **Freshwater, Isle Of Wight.** Fully equipped for 60 (approx), canvas tents/marquee, purpose built toilet block, cookhouse. Minimum charge 20 campers. Close to safe sandy beaches and leisure centre. Enquiries contact John Osborn.




**Contact:**  
 07796 177795  
 info@freshwatertrust.com  
 www.freshwatertrust.com

**Bromley Battalion Campsite, Whitecliffe Bay, IoW.** Large & small marquees, traditional ridge tents. Purpose built cookhouse/QM; shower/flush toilet block (male/female) mains gas. At "best value" prices. Takes up to 120 people.

**Contact:**  
 Keith Francis on 01474 705485  
 bromley\_campsite@outlook.com  
 bbcampsite.co.uk

## CAMPING/HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

**Near Blackpool at Kirkham in the Rural Fylde North West District.** Training & Activity Centre provides excellent indoor self-catering accommodation. Centenary Hall 44. Stedfast Lodge 16 plus a camping field and sports hall.

**Contact:**  
 Wardens, The Boys' Brigade, Carr Lane, Treales, Kirkham PR4 3SS  
 01772 685000  
 office@bb-northwest.org.uk  
 www.bb-northwest.org.uk



**Rock Uk Adventure Centres.** Bring your Company/Battalion to one of our spacious adventure centres. Carrot Wood in Kent, Frontier Centre in Northants, Summit Centre in South Wales and Whithaugh Park in the Scottish Borders.

**Contact:**  
 0844 8000 222  
 sales.info@rockuk.org  
 www.rockuk.org

**Well Road Centre, Moffat, Scotland.** Fully equipped self-catering for up to 70. 13 bedrooms. Separate shower/toilet areas. 2 meeting rooms, spacious kitchen and dining room. Indoor games hall.

**Contact:**  
 01683 221040  
 ben8363@aol.com  
 www.wellroadcentre.co.uk



**Greenmoor Centre, S35 7DX.** Sheffield BB self-catering Centre. Sleeps 28 (3 dorms, 2-staff bed & 2-staff/disabled bed). Wi-Fi available. In Upper Don Valley, N of Sheffield near Peak District, within easy reach of M1.

**Contact:**  
 Sue Cowie on 01246 274021  
 2cfdbb@gmail.com




**Dyffryn Campsite, Nr Barmouth, Nth Wales.** Fully equipped for up to 60 people, operated by 1st Nth Wales Company. Purpose built cookhouse, dining hall, & shower/toilet block, with traditional ridge tents & caravan on site.

**Contact:**  
 01978 761105  
 admin@caergwrlebb.org.uk  
 www.caergwrlebb.org.uk



**The Albert Wilson Memorial Field, Prestatyn, North Wales** - Two camping areas each with cookhouses/toilets/shower. One field is suitable for up to 36, and our main field with new refurbished cookhouse for larger groups. Marquee and Tents available.

**Contact:**  
 bookings@prestatyncampsite.co.uk  
 www.prestatyncampsite.co.uk

**Abernethy Adventure Centres.** Visit one of our 4 Outdoor Adventure Centres in Scotland with your Battalion/Company for an activity filled all inclusive weekend. Visit the weekends section of our website for more information

**Contact:**  
 Karen Edmondson on 01479 818005  
 marketing@abernethy.org.uk  
 www.abernethy.org.uk




**Glasshouses Mill.** In beautiful Nidderdale near Harrogate, hostel accommodation for 40. Access to sheltered lake and Yorkshire Dales. Close to Ripon and Flamingo land. Weeks still available for summer 2014.

**Contact:**  
 David Barnes on 07748 214786  
 www.themillactivitycentre.org.uk




**CMC, North Wales.** Able to provide residential accom. or just activities for your BB camp. Try anything from archery to climbing, paddleboarding to gorge walking (a BB favourite). On the coast near Dyffryn Ardudwy.

**Contact:**  
 01341 241718  
 office@cmcpensarn.org.uk  
 www.cmcpensarn.org.uk

**Broomley Grange** North of England District Camping & (fully catered) Residential Outdoor Activity Centre set in 22 acres of grounds. We offer a wide range of activities and plan the programme around you! + DoF Gold Residential.

**Contact:**  
 01661 842299  
 manager@broomleygrange.co.uk  
 www.broomleygrange.co.uk

**Swanage Methodist Church.** Excellent accommodation for BB holidays/indoor camps. Well equipped hall, smaller rooms, showers, kitchen, youth room, WIFI & car park. Participation of BB groups in all age services very welcome.

**Contact:**  
 Ralph Lewis on 01929 422421  
 ralph@swanagemethodist.org.uk  
 www.swanagemethodist.org.uk

## FOR SALE

### BAND INSTRUMENTS

Full set of BB band instruments – offers.

**Contact:**  
 0161 613 5181

Small advertisements copy for Campsites, Residential/Activity Centre's and items wanted or for sale should be sent to **gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk**. Advertisements for the next issue (Autumn 2014) should be received by 1st August 2014. All advertisements are based on up to 225 characters (including spaces and punctuation) plus contact details (telephone number, email and website address) at a cost of £10 per issue.

*The Boys' Brigade takes no responsibility for statements made in any advertisements here or elsewhere in the BB Gazette.*





## CHEERING STICKS

Product: 11 697 1

A pair of cheering sticks featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo. Blow them up and bang them together to create noise to encourage your team or support your cause! Great for spectator participation at any event. Packed in pairs, they come with a straw to blow up and deflate, and are approx. 50cm long when inflated



## ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE LAPEL BADGE

Product: 11 620 1



Chrome finish badge featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo with a tie pin fastening, ideal for non-uniform occasions.

## WAVE SHARPENER & RUBBER

Product: 11 660 1



Plastic pencil sharper and eraser featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo.

## FOUR COLOUR PEN

Product: 11 696 1



Multi-colour pen with blue, black, red and green inks in one single barrel featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo.

## DESK DIARY SESSION

Product: 31 004 1



A5 diary for the academic year, August 2014 to July 2015 featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo.

## LANYARD BUBBLE BLOWER

Product: 11 211 1



Bubble blower on a lanyard featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo.

## CHAPLAIN'S BADGE

Product: 11 761 1



Buttonhole badge with BB Anchor and 'Chaplain' across the top of the badge. Ideal to present to a new Chaplain for them to wear at BB events.

**SHOP.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK**



Order your items online 24 hours a day. Visit [shop.boys-brigade.org.uk](http://shop.boys-brigade.org.uk)



Order your items by telephone on 08707 442 292 (Mon to Fri)



Also available at local depots around the UK (See Supplies Catalogue or Website)