

GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE FOR LEADERS IN THE BOYS' BRIGADE | SUMMER 2022

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THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here



BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK/GAZETTE

Summer 2022:

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

gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

Official notices to members appear in the 'Informed' section of the magazine. Please note that views expressed in other articles by members and contributors are not necessarily those of The Boys' Brigade.

For details on advertising within the magazine see our rate card and information at

boys-brigade.org.uk/gazetteratecard.htm

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Designed by

www.visiontank.co.uk

Printed by

Halcyon

Publishing & Circulation

Termly (Autumn, Spring, Summer)

Average circulation during 2021: 7,500 copies

Patron: H. M. The Queen

Chief Executive: Jonathan Eales

UK & ROI Headquarters

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The Boys' Brigade is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales number 145122.

A registered charity in England & Wales number 305969 and in Scotland number SC038016.

Registered Office: Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0BL, UK

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boys-brigade.org.uk/gazette



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twitter.com/bbgazette



Welcome

The Winter is behind us, and Spring is here! It is the season when new growth begins and changes happen all around us. The days are longer and brighter, trees are in bud, the spring flowers are in bloom and even the air feels warmer.

It is no wonder that Spring is seen as the start of better times, we may even have been motivated to do some Spring cleaning!

Being optimistic is a great attribute, but it can be a challenge to maintain. Keeping with the Spring theme, I stumbled across this quote recently *"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorns have roses"*.

So, when it comes to your role as a leader in The Boys' Brigade, how optimistic do you feel? Do you dwell on the many challenges, frustrations, and disappointments there can be? Or do you hold on to the positives, the response from young people when an activity goes well, the feeling of encouragement when a new member joins, or when a young person achieves one of the major awards?

Next year as an organisation we will mark 140 years of working with children and young people: what an achievement, and what an opportunity to celebrate the difference and impact volunteering can have.

As part of our current five-year strategy to improve the quality of experience for children and young people, last month we launched our first ever nationwide Census. It is important that we find time to pause and reflect on all that is going on, and I hope leaders will complete

the questions together, and use the experience as an opportunity to think ahead too.

We hope the responses will also provide a chance to share in each other's successes and challenges, and we will publish the findings later in the year. It is crucial that the findings are as comprehensive and representative as possible, so please find out if your Company has completed the Census, and if not take the initiative in arranging for it to be submitted.

The purpose of the Census is to gain a greater understanding of the health of Companies, what is working well, as well as what isn't. The responses will help shape our plans and focus support on the needs of members.

I believe there is much for us as an organisation to be optimistic about, and as Christians, Easter is the most significant season of the year, it is a time of renewed hope and optimism too, as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

Time to get that Census completed and help shape the future!

With best wishes,

Jonathan Eales
Chief Executive



Follow Jonathan on Twitter at:
[@jonathanealesbb](https://twitter.com/jonathanealesbb)



What does 'creating spaces for children and young people' look like for you?

One of the things I reflect on in both my work and volunteer context is how we create spaces and space for children and young people in our Churches.

For me this isn't just about the physical space, it is also about our approach to intentionally create inclusive, diverse, participatory and nurturing faith formation spaces.

Recently I received a letter from a person who had been very active for many years in the Methodist Church in running youth clubs and they were asking the question; what are Methodist Churches doing to create spaces for children and young people? They had watched a programme that had been talking about the decline in funding for youth work within local communities and were thinking about their own experiences of benefiting hugely from being part of a youth organisation.

I think The Boys' Brigade is a great response to this very challenge. It is a volunteer movement that creates important spaces in our communities for children and young people.

I have observed that in BB there are peer and intergenerational opportunities that offer conversation and dialogue and activity across the ages. The spaces are participatory and value the voice of children and young people offering opportunities to experience new things and have a go. You are not afraid to pray in these spaces or to talk about God. Your spaces grow and develop young leaders empowering young people to be active and involved now. I know I still use the skills I learnt in my teens in The Girls' Brigade's Young Leaders Training for my role now.

Luke 14:16-23, the Parable of the Banquet, shares the story of an invitation to a meal where the host sends out his staff to invite people from all aspects of life to come and eat as the table is open to all. Our ministry in creating spaces with children and young people is like the banquet – we create a space that is open and accessible to all with God.

What does creating a space for children and young people look like for your Church and community? What do you think the key elements are?

Penny Fuller



Penny is a member of the Brigade's Christian Faith Group and works for the Methodist Church in Britain as Co-ordinator of Children, Youth & Family. Penny is a GB leader in her local Methodist Church and is married to a BB leader. The biggest impact on her life aged 13 was an invitation to a space created for girls in her local community called The Girls' Brigade.



**EVERY DAY IS A
SCHOOL DAY**

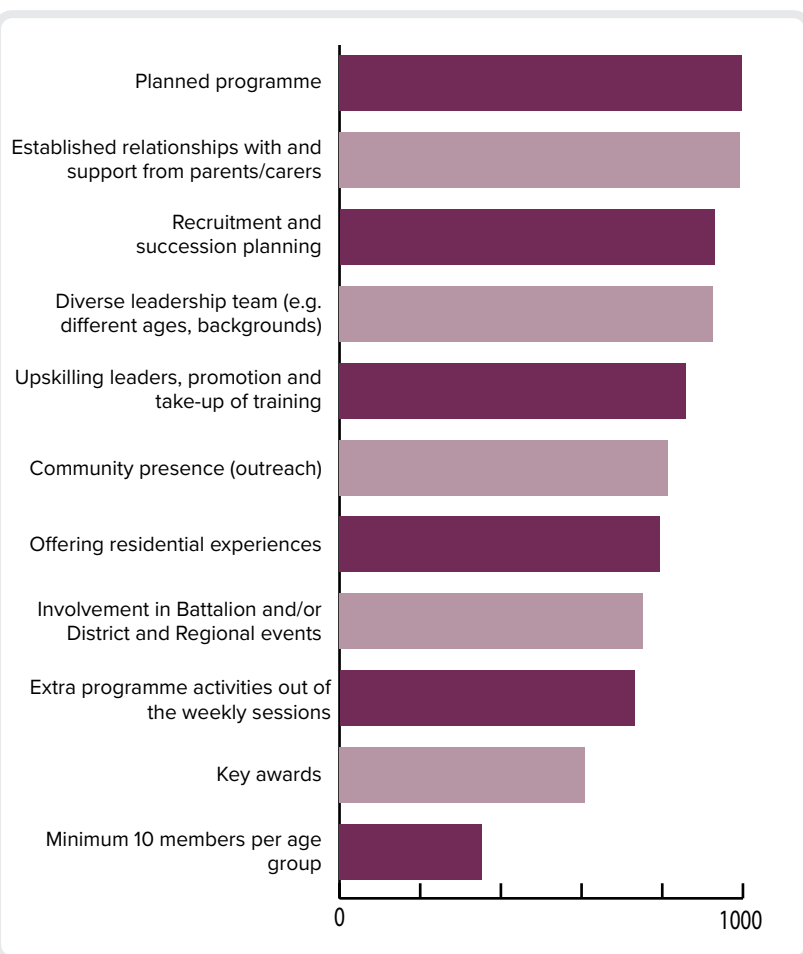


What a journey we have travelled in the last few years... in our everyday lives and within our lives as part of The Boys' Brigade.

The BB has not only been through the journey of the pandemic, but is also on a journey to ensure that what we offer is of the highest quality as nothing less will do for the children and young people we serve.

The Strategic Review of 2019 highlighted that we must focus on the **quality of the experience for young people, and if we get this right then the rest will follow**. This makes so much sense as the reason for the existence of the BB is to share the love of Jesus with young people. If we are to continue our mission we must ensure that we are relevant to the age we live in so that young people and leaders want to join us.

In the Strategic Review you told us that a high quality BB Company means...



Article Continued →

What does a quality experience within the BB look like to you? (Quotes from the Strategic Review)

"Good relationships with young people and recognition of their individual abilities and strengths."

"Varied programme that can be accessed by a variety of young people and adapted for their needs."

"Passionate and energetic leaders who understand that they are required to give considerable time outside of standard weekly activities."

"Shows God's love to young people and their wider families in every aspect of what we do."

"Quality is meeting the needs of the community around you. Each community will be different so each Company will need to adapt."

Quality of curriculum (which within the BB we would call programme), and quality of leadership are central to the world of learning where I have spent my working life, including as a Head Teacher.

A place of learning to reach its full potential, to be successful, should be filled by a love of learning and a longing to share that love of learning. From that comes a place which children and young people want to be part of, that they are committed to and want to give their time and energy.

Quality of programme is about knowing what works, having energy and enthusiasm to deliver the programme, ensuring that it is ever changing, where new things are tried, sometimes they fail to work, but this is just part of the learning journey for us all. That programme needs a balance to meet the needs of all young people and hopefully to bring out skills and attitudes that perhaps they didn't know they had!

The programme we have developed within the Brigade is here to help you do this. So that you as a leader can share of yourself which is probably the most valuable resource you have to share! The Brigade has invested in programme over recent years, with new under 11s and over 11s programmes being launched, along with #BBatHOME and virtual activities as we adapted to the pandemic.





We have developed a new approach to programme that links together all age groups, that can be at the core of our meetings. Our programme supports leaders with ideas that they can use easily, practical resources that can be adapted to the local context and that will not become stale over time. It provides a structure that promotes a balanced programme over time, with some short, repeatable activities alongside activities that take time, determination and expect a deeper engagement.

Like programme, **leadership development is central to the quality of the experience we offer young people.** Leadership is about the qualities we bring and how these can be enhanced and developed.

Every day should be a 'school day' – we should never stop learning. Whatever our age or experience we can always learn more from other leaders, through continuing professional development courses, visiting other groups, sharing what we do through Battalion/District meetings; these all support us in creating a learning culture, where learning is valued, shared and celebrated. We have also tried to make learning easier and more accessible with the development of virtual training courses and the recent launch of e-learning through OBM.

"A high quality programme and effective high quality leadership are the pillars that support the experiences our young people receive."

The quality of what we share with our young people will impact on how they view life, whether they want to buy-in and offer of themselves. This comes through the **quality of the relationship we share with them.**

The 'BB experience' we share with our young people should excite us and our enthusiasm and love of what we are doing will be recognised by our young people, who will want to be part of it and share with others. This is a journey together with them as we explore life and the riches contained within it. This develops

trust and understanding with our young people and from this the ideal opportunity to share our relationship with Jesus with them, where they can question, challenge and explore.

A high quality programme and effective high quality leadership are the pillars that support the experiences our young people receive. With these resources we can take our wonderful organisation forward to share with young people what lies at its very core, a love of sharing faith and opportunities to mould the lives of those we are called to serve.

We have much to celebrate, but we can't stand still! We can look back at the impact the BB has had and know that it is our responsibility to ensure that we provide those same opportunities to the young people of today, not by imitating the past, but by using the best of today.

The BB has changed, especially in the last few years and we must plan so that we are here, thriving and striving to meet the needs of generations to come. William Smith and the leaders of the past would expect nothing less, in fact they would probably expect more!

Sir William created an organisation designed to meet the needs of the generation of 1883 and we likewise must ensure our organisation meets the needs of our day and is already looking forward.

What will you give to young people of 2022? A programme that makes them thirst for more? A leader who loves to learn and wants to share?

Ian Rumbelow

Vice-President and Chair of the Brigade's Programme Group



Ukraine conflict resources

Children and young people across the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland have been seeing images and hearing stories of war within the European continent for the first time in their lives and will understandably be worried about what is happening and have lots of questions.

In March we launched a special set of new programme resources to support and equip Companies to explore the conflict in Ukraine. The activities are designed to help give children and young people an opportunity to learn more about what is happening, reflect on what they are seeing and a chance to think about how they can respond, including through prayer.

Jonathan Eales, Chief Executive, commented: *"The images we have been watching from Ukraine are truly heart-breaking and our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected by this conflict. As a Christian youth organisation we believe it's incredibly important to create a space for children and young people in this country to explore and discuss what is happening, and consider what they can do to help."*



The Ukraine resources can be found at:
boys-brigade.org.uk/programme-news/activities-to-help-respond-to-events-in-ukraine



HOPE
FOR AUTISM

Hope For Autism

One in 100 people are on the autism spectrum and there are around 700,000 autistic adults and children in the UK. As part of our Spring 2022 termly programme, we partnered with the Scottish charity HOPE for Autism to create new resources for all our age groups. These new activities, in our Get Involved Activity Area, allow children and young people of all ages to learn more about autism.



Find out more and access the new resources on our Programme Hub:
boys-brigade.org.uk/programme/face-to-face-activities

Platinum Jubilee

This year we celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of our Patron, HM The Queen, who acceded to the throne in 1952.

To mark this milestone, we have developed a set of programme resources, activities and competitions to support Companies getting involved in the celebrations. We have also been working with HOPE Together, a partnership of Christian organisations, to create resources which explore the values the Queen lives by, and how Jesus' life and teaching have been the motivation for her life of service. You can find out more on pages 26 and 27.



Find out more about our Platinum Jubilee resources at
boys-brigade.org.uk/platinum-jubilee





Brigade Conference

Brigade Conference (our AGM) will take place on Saturday 3rd September at the Lighthouse Christian Centre in Salford. This will be the first time in three years that the Brigade family has come together for a face-to-face AGM.

The AGM will also be streamed, however those joining virtually will not be able to interact with or vote during the meeting. Those wishing to vote should complete a postal ballot.



For more information please visit:
boys-brigade.org.uk/brigade-conference

Brigade Council 2022 - Annual General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of **THE BOYS' BRIGADE** will be held at Lighthouse Christian Centre, 12 Coronet Way, Salford M50 1RE on Saturday 3rd September at 2pm to consider the following business:-

AGM Agenda

- 1 To receive the Accounts for the year ended **31 March 2022** together with the Reports of the Brigade Executive and Auditors thereon.
- 2 To agree the capitation fees for the 2022/23 session.
- 3 To appoint the independent auditors of The Boys' Brigade until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting and to authorise the Brigade Executive to fix their remuneration.
- 4 To appoint Brigade Office Bearers for Session 2022/23 as proposed by the Brigade Executive.
- 5 To consider three motions in the name of the Brigade Executive to update Section Three of Brigade Regulations (The Organisation – Regulations & Procedures) and Schedule B (Terms of Service for Members of National Bodies).
- 6 To transact any other lawful business.

Full details of the motion wording can be found at boys-brigade.org.uk/brigade-conference

Any proposed amendments to the motions should be sent to the Chief Executive at Brigade Headquarters, to arrive no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 31st May 2022.

By order of the Brigade Executive

Jonathan Eales
Chief Executive

All Members of Brigade Council as defined by the Articles of Association are entitled to be present and vote at this meeting or, in their absence, they may complete a postal ballot. A form will be sent to all members electronically and, if used, should be returned to the Company's Registered Office not later than 2.00pm on Wednesday 31st August 2022.

The Members of Brigade Council are: Companies, Area Groups (Battalions & Districts), Members of the Brigade Executive and Members of Regional Committees.

Registered Office: The Boys' Brigade, Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP3 0BL Registered Company No: 145122 Registered Charity No: 305969 and in Scotland number: SC038016.



e-learning

The Brigade has invested in e-learning as part of our current five-year strategy which focuses on improving the quality and consistency of experience for children and young people. A central part of this strategy is supporting and resourcing leaders to continually develop their skills and refresh their knowledge to ensure we offer a safe and caring environment for children and young people.

The first set of e-learning modules have been launched and are available now to complete via Online Brigade Manager (OBM), providing leaders with the flexibility to learn at a time and place of their convenience.

Leaders should complete the Safeguarding and Managing Risk modules before the end of this current session. This is important as it will help ensure that all our leaders are up to date with the knowledge they need to understand their responsibilities and carry out their role safely and effectively.

For leaders attending Youth Leader Training (YLT) the e-learning modules will become part of the pre-course preparation, and for new leaders the modules have now become part of the registration process.



Find out more about the launch of e-learning at:
boys-brigade.org.uk/gazette/introducing-e-learning-for-leaders

Safer Recruitment

The minimum age to become a leader in The Boys' Brigade is 18. Ideally, suitable young people will wait until the session they become 19 to become a leader.

This reduces any issues connected with holding a position of trust whilst their immediate peers are still young people in the organisation. In addition, the summer break allows the time for Safer Recruitment processes to take place including vetting and barring checks.

It is important to remember that "Young Leaders" are not leaders and do not hold a position of trust. Young Leaders are young people aged 14-18 who are not members of The Boys' Brigade, but support Companies by assisting with the running of an age

group. This is often a role they undertake as part of community volunteer requirements linked to an award they are working towards, such as The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Once a Young Leader reaches the age of 18 they must either follow Safer Recruitment processes and apply to be a leader or cease to volunteer in the Company. They cannot attend as a leader until they have completed the Leader Registration process which now includes mandatory e-learning.

It is important to remind everyone that there should NEVER be any unregistered or 'pending' leaders working in Companies. A leader can only attend BB activities after the full Leader Registration process has been completed.

**A CODE OF
GOOD PRACTICE**
FOR ADULTS WORKING IN
THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Code of Conduct

Please take some time to read in full our new Leaders Code of Conduct. This sets out standards of behaviour The Boys' Brigade expects from all leaders, and will ensure leaders conduct themselves appropriately, doing the right thing in the right way.



Read the Leaders Code of Conduct at:
boys-brigade.org.uk/leaders-code-of-conduct

Welcome to our New Companies

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

COMPANY	CAPTAIN	CHURCH
24 th Bristol	Phil Henderson	Great George Street Church, Bristol
19 th Cardiff	Matthew Nicholas	Belmont Tremorfa Family Church, Cardiff
1 st Peebles	Sarah Brown	St Andrew's Leckie Church, Peebles
1 st Online	Stephen Taylor-Hunt	Virtual



Queen's New Year Honours

Congratulations to BB leaders recognised in the Queen's New Year Honours List for services to The Boys' Brigade and their local communities.

Johanna Geddes, Thurso awarded BEM

"I was really shocked but extremely honoured to be awarded the BEM especially for doing something I truly love doing. It is an honour to be Captain of 1st Thurso."

Gladys Kerr, Craigavon awarded BEM

"I was surprised and very humbled to have been listed on the Queen's New Year Honours List and most grateful to whoever it was who nominated me. I am looking forward to the investiture in Northern Ireland and attending the Palace Garden Party in May."

Rev Steven Bunting, Swansea awarded MBE

"It was overwhelming to receive the news that I had been awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours List. A huge amount of the work we do at St Thomas Church revolves around our Brigade young people and their families and it has been great to celebrate together!"

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.

Bryan Brehaut BEM
Walter Brisk

2nd Guernsey
10th Liverpool / 1st Thatcham /
2nd Rochdale

Sherry Bruce
Eric Chilton

20th Aberdeen
1st Cirencester / 4th Hemel Hempstead

Gordon Dixon
Helene Edwards
Sheena Hamilton

1st Chesham
5th Swindon
1st Cleland

Trevor Harvey
John Langdon
Rev Calum MacLeod
Charles Redford
Raymond Shaw
Andrew Sutton
Alan Watts BEM

1st Woodmansterne
1st North Surrey / BB Canoe Club
3rd Kilmarnock
2nd West Kent
22nd Paisley
10th North Suffolk
5th London



Escape Room competition

As part of the Spring 2022 programme resources, young people in Company and Seniors took part in a national 'Escape Room' competition.

Congratulations to **5th Hull** who managed to crack the four puzzles and find the 4 digit code for the padlock in a very impressive **20:18 minutes**, winning a £40 pizza voucher to celebrate their win.

In total 50 teams entered the competition – thank you and well done to everyone who took part.



Check out the full results at:

boys-brigade.org.uk/programme-news/escape-room-results

Shaping the future – Company Census

We are asking each Company to complete a census to understand the overall state of the BB across the country and help to shape our future.

We want to understand what is working and what is not, what the challenges are but also the opportunities that exist for Companies. We also want to have a clear picture of where the organisation is in 2022, which will help shape the support, resources and training that leaders actually need and want in the future.

We are looking for each Company to complete the Census, encouraging the Company's staff team to come together to answer the questions.



If you haven't received information to complete the Census please contact:

support@boys-brigade.org.uk



New Registration Cards

All leaders will shortly be receiving their new registration cards based on their current primary role. The re-registration process has been replaced with a series of 'milestones' which leaders will need to complete in order to keep their registration active. As a result of this the new registration cards do not have an expiry date. The first of these milestones is the five-yearly disclosure check where required.



If you have any questions contact our Support Team at:

support@boys-brigade.org.uk or on 0300 303 4454





Staged Awards

A look at the new Staged Awards for the Company and Seniors age groups

The Staged Awards were launched in Summer 2021 as part of the new Company and Seniors Programmes and build on the Core Activity Awards for these age groups.

Why have we introduced Staged Awards?

The Staged Awards came out of feedback received from surveys carried out with leaders and young people as part of the Company and Seniors Programme Review. Leaders and young people were asking for something

more than the 'participation' focussed awards that were part of the Discover and Challenge Plus Programmes. The Programme Review Group, which had the remit of carrying out the Programme Review, made proposals to launch a new set of awards that would build on the participation focussed 'Core Activity Awards' which would replace the existing Discover and Challenge Plus awards. The Staged Awards would introduce a set of awards which young people would complete based on a set syllabus. These proposals were consulted on in Spring/Summer 2020 with over 400 leaders getting involved in a series of webinars, which ultimately led to the launch of the Staged Awards.



Check out the Staged Awards including the requirements for each award at:

boys-brigade.org.uk/staged-awards

How many Staged Awards are there?

We have announced 18 Staged Awards, which are all linked to one of the six Activity Areas found in the programme, continuing the focus on providing a balanced programme with a wide range of opportunities. So far we have launched 10 of the Staged Awards and the remaining awards will be launched during the Summer 2022 term.



Get Active

- Sports Person
- Water Sports
- Health & Fitness



Get Adventurous

- Camping
- Navigator
- Survival Skills



Get Creative

- Photography
- Musician
- Cooking



Get Into The Bible

- Bible Knowledge
- Church Life



Get Involved

- Active Citizen
- Fundraiser
- Volunteer
- Teamwork & Leadership



Get Learning

- DIY
- First Aider
- Interests

What is a Staged Award?

A Staged Award is focussed on a specific subject (i.e. First Aid, Navigator, Musician) and has been designed to develop skills and interest by young people working through the varying stages of the award. Each Staged Award has four levels, with Level 1 being a taster or introduction to the subject, and as a young person progresses through the award they will continue to develop their skills and interest, where at Level 4 we see them as being experienced and/or self-sufficient in the subject. Young people are able to work towards any number of Staged Awards at any one time, although of course there will be some discretion on this at a Company level based on leaders being able to appropriately support young people.

How does a young person work towards a Staged Award?

To get started on a Staged Award the first thing would be to enable young people to take a look through the range of awards available to see which they would be interested in working towards. Each award has a set syllabus outlining the requirements to complete each level of the award and young people can decide which level they are aiming to ultimately achieve. The levels should be worked towards one at a time in order, so a young person would need to achieve Level 1 before moving on to Level 2. We would encourage leaders to ensure that young people are involved in decisions around choosing which award(s) and level(s) to work towards.

Are there links to the Major Awards?

The Staged Awards can be linked to our Major Awards (President's and Queen's Badges) and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award to help encourage participation in those awards. There are however no requirements for young people to complete Staged Awards as part of working towards the Major Awards.

Can Staged Awards be achieved outside of BB?

Young people can work towards Staged Awards outside of the BB programme, providing it is safe to do so and activity is recorded and evidence shared. Where this is the case leaders will need to ensure that there is appropriate support in place and that risk assessments are carried out prior to activity commencing. Parents/carers should also be aware of planned activity and take responsibility for any activity taking place outside of the BB programme.



Can a Staged Award be gained for previous achievements?

It is not the expectation that Staged Awards are given out without a young person working through each level of the award, one at a time, building on the previous level. This should be based on the minimum periods of time set out for each level of the award or within the specific requirements set out for the award.

Are Staged Awards compulsory?

The Staged Awards are not a compulsory part of our programme, and it is up to each Company, and ultimately the young people to decide if they would like to work towards the awards. We believe that the Staged Awards will help to support retention by providing a source of additional programming and recognition which builds on the core elements.

Can young people create their own Staged Awards areas / topics?

At the moment the 18 Staged Awards are the chosen areas that young people can work towards awards for, this is to ensure consistency in the awards across the Brigade. Over time the plan is to provide awards in other areas and any new areas will be chosen in consultation with young people. To help provide flexibility for young people, both the 'Interests' and 'Sports Person' Staged Awards allow participants to pick their chosen speciality to focus on.

How do we recognise achievement?

We believe it is important to recognise the achievement of young people and the Staged Awards are no different. Based on four levels for each Staged Award, certificates will recognise completion of Levels 1 and 2, with badges recognising completion of Levels 3 and 4. There is space on the armband to wear up to six Staged Awards at any one time.

The certificates are available to download from the website or available to purchase from BB Supplies. The badges are available to purchase from BB Supplies.

Will resources be available to support the Staged Awards?

Yes, we have already produced a number of resources as part of the termly programmes for the Company and Seniors age groups which have links to various Staged Awards. We will continue to provide additional resources to help support leaders and young people.



Remember you can find out more about the Staged Awards and the syllabus for each award at:
boys-brigade.org.uk/staged-awards

Leaders are encouraged to consider how they can incorporate the Staged Awards into the programme for the Company and Seniors age groups. We believe that young people will really enjoy working towards these awards and that they will be a great addition to the programme.



If you have any questions about the Staged Awards please contact us at:
programme@boys-brigade.org.uk



Welcoming refugees

Juniors at **13th Motherwell** created a selection of handmade pictures welcoming refugees to Scotland, which have been sent to Refuweege (a community-based charity in Glasgow) in the hope that they can be used in welcome packs in the future.



5th Glasgow @5thglasgowbb

Some great pancake artistry from our Company age group – all tasty too!



1st Moneymore

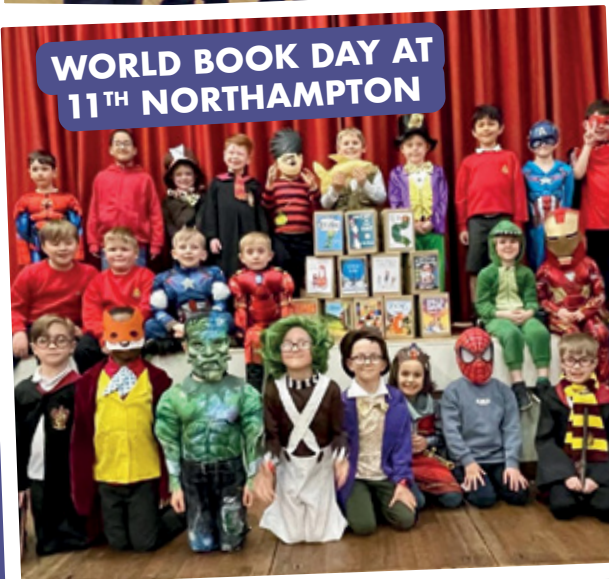
Our Anchors loved trying some drumming! Our thanks to Benjamin from Fun with Drums for an excellent workshop.



SNAPSHOTS



SNAKE VISIT AT 1ST FINTONA



WORLD BOOK DAY AT 11TH NORTHAMPTON



PANCAKES AT 7TH NORTH SURREY

GUERNSEY BATTALION ON PARADE



WALL CLIMBING IN NOTTINGHAM



RED NOSE DAY AT 18TH WORCESTER PARK



Competitions in London

Well done to the 70+ young people who took part in **London District's Band & Drill** competitions. Pictured are members of **4th & 10th Ealing** who won the Musical Accuracy event, with the latter also taking home the Squad Drill trophy.



Queen's Green Canopy in Wootton

Members of **1st Wootton** joined with their local community to plant 70 trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee. Dylan, one of their Juniors, assisted Helen Nellis (Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire) in planting the first tree.



Highland Battalion

Great afternoon at our Building Your Skills course - the first face-to-face training delivered by the Battalion since 2020. Lots of fun and learning!
#BBWeekend



Charity gaming marathon

Members of **30th Belfast** recently undertook a 24-hour gaming marathon in memory of Dylan, a member of their Company age group who sadly passed away last December. The event raised over £2,700 for the Children's Heartbeat Trust, a charity providing support to children and young people living with congenital heart disease (CHD).



Getting into the Winter Olympics

'BB members across the country have been enjoying Winter Olympics themed programmes, including the Juniors at **25th Stirling** who had a visit from Craig Wilson, who represented Team GB in the curling event at the Torino Games in 2006.

Running for Comic Relief

Members of Company and Seniors at **4th East Kilbride** ran 128 laps of their hall – equivalent to 5 kilometres – to raise money for Comic Relief. After they had finished they were treated to some homemade Easter egg cheesecake!



133rd London

Mother's Day craft and cards with our Anchors
#BBinLondon #BBWeekend



Black History Month

1st Rugby welcomed one of their parents along as part of Black History Month to talk about people of colour who have fought for the UK during conflicts.



35th Liverpool @35thLiverpoolBB

Healthy fruit pots at Juniors - super tasty way to end our half term! #BoysBrigade
#FaithInYoungPeople



53rd Manchester @53rdBB

It might be raining but we are all wrapped up ready for a morning of adventures at the @AndertonCentre as part of our Juniors Camp! #Team53rd #BBWeekend





St Patrick's Day in Tralee

Well done to the members of **1st Tralee** who took part in their local St Patrick's Day Parade, following the theme of "Go the Green Way" by using recyclable materials to make starfish, octopus, turtle and jellyfish costumes!



4th Portsmouth

We enjoyed getting an up close look at things on Thursday with the digital microscope!

#BritishScienceWeek



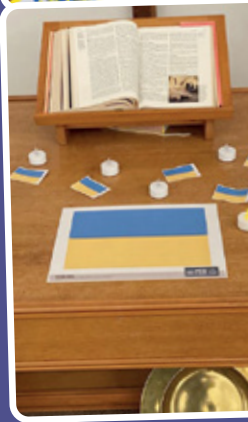
Hillfort Adventure Trek

40 young people and 15 leaders from five different Companies enjoyed a beautiful day out at the Hillfort Adventure Trek organised by the **BB Mountaineering Club**. The event took place concurrently at two locations – the Penshaw Monument near Sunderland and the British Camp near Malvern.



Responding to events in Ukraine...

Many Companies across the country have been taking time to pray for those in Ukraine as well as raising funds to help.





Mission 22 Big Night In...One Big Message of Hope!



Given the Covid surge in Northern Ireland at the start of 2022, the NI District reluctantly took the decision to rethink Mission 22 and launched **Mission 22 Big Night In**, producing videos and other resources for Companies to do the Mission at their own venue. Crown Jesus Ministries worked with District staff to produce two very lively, engaging videos with accompanying games and competitions; one each for under 11s and over 11s.

At the time of writing the response was incredible with a reach far greater than what the four face-to-face venues would have achieved. 53% of Companies had registered for the resources by the end of February representing 5,055 Anchors and Juniors, and 2,566 Company and Seniors.

"This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:3-4



Building Your Skills in Portadown Battalion

Portadown Battalion recently ran its first face-to-face Building Your Skills for President's Badge since 2020, with around 30 young people taking part. Interactive parts of the course included working in teams to make an air bed from balloons, building a newspaper tower to support a cream egg and navigating a string maze.

Made for a Purpose

The NI District ran an evening at Newport to continue to build a community of young leaders aged 18 to 30. Along with good food, interactive sessions and some fun, **Made for More** explored with the young leaders how to look after both spiritual and mental health.

5th Carrickfergus Juniors support for Ukraine

Caleb, a Junior at 5th Carrickfergus designed his own poster to appeal for donations of food, clothing and essential hygiene items for the people of Ukraine. He then spoke to his fellow Juniors explaining to the group about the donations for Ukrainian refugees. They then went without their pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, freeing up the

money that would have been spent to buy a selection of items for Ukrainian refugees.

The group learnt some facts about Ukraine and ended with a session of prayer using some visual aids to help think about those who they were praying for.

Contact: ☎ 028 9268 8444 @ nihq@boys-brigade.org.uk



LOUIS SYMINGTON



MATTHEW HUNTER

Louis Symington, from **56th Edinburgh** and Matthew Hunter, **6th/8th Dundee** have been elected as the new BB Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP). Over the recent months they have been learning how to debate and write manifestos. Find out more about what they are doing via their Twitter and Instagram at **@BB_MSYP**



Introducing 1st Peebles

We are delighted to introduce our newest Company in Scotland, **1st Peebles**. They opened in February this year with the Anchors age group.

New Captain Sarah Brown said, *"We have been really excited to launch our brand-new Company in Peebles. We now have 15 children attending each week and a wonderful team leading the sessions. The team has received lots of support and encouragement from previous BB members in the town, and we hope to continue to grow, and launch a Juniors age group in the near future!"*



Kilbryde Hike

The **Kilbryde Hike** takes place on 11th and 12th June this year on the hills and moors to the south of East Kilbride. It is a competitive hike for young people aged 11-18. Teams of 3-5 will travel between 18-25 miles over the two days. Young people who are doing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award can use the hike as their qualifying expedition.



Find out more at:
kilbrydehike.bbglasgow.org.uk

#OpenTo... new beginnings

In November, **1st Tulliallan** opened a Girls' Association for all age groups as well as the band, and it has got off to a great start. The Company made the decision after enquiries from a number of parents/carers.

Company Captain Darren Empson said, *"I wonder why we didn't do it sooner. It's been a breath of fresh air having the new members. The village benefits from more activities for all young people to learn and have fun."*

"Many of the parents/carers are either former members or have family who have been part of the 1st Tulliallan and now have children of their own, so they always want the best for us. The parents/carers of the new members who

have joined have given us great fantastic feedback about how much they enjoy it."



Contact: ☎ 0300 303 4454 📧 support@boys-brigade.org.uk





7th Dublin makes the most of COVID-19 restrictions!



After having to suspend indoor activities under Covid-19 guidelines, the Company age group at **7th Dublin** held an Outdoor Adventure Day in River Valley Park in Swords, North County Dublin. The young people and leaders had a great time exploring all the activities.

Their Anchors and Juniors also had a great day out at Newbridge House Farm, near the village of Donabate in North County Dublin. A highlight was a huge turkey which the children enjoyed having a "turkey conversation" with.

The Company hopes to become involved in the Charlie Bird Fundraising appeal for motor neurone disease. While they are restricted from joining Charlie on his epic climb of Croagh Patrick for environmental reasons, at time of publication they will have just climbed our own mountain in the shape of the Big Sugar Loaf in County Wicklow.



1st Longford

1st Longford has remained active during the pandemic, continuing to meet every fortnight. Recently they held a joint enrolment service with the GFS in St. Paul's, Newtownforbes. The children and young people of the Company played a vital part in leading the service.



1st Tralee

Since the beginning of the pandemic, **1st Tralee** has kept the children and young people engaged and completed a number of different activities. These included gingerbread houses for Christmas, a pizza night and a beach clean-up on Banna Beach. In light of recent international events, they also created a "Wall of Peace".

The Company has also taken to the hills for a hike on the Tonevane Loop, followed by a BBQ and a splash about in the stream!

The restarting of our Companies

In early March the RoI Management Committee withdrew the BB Covid Guidance, in line with the Minister for Equality, Children, Disability, Integration and Youth's announcement that the youth sector may now deliver services in line with the limited public health measures in place at any time.

Covid-19 has not gone away but we are moving to a phase of living with the virus and therefore the Management

Committee recommends that Companies still continue to operate safely in line with public health measures.

The Management Committee hopes that the withdrawal of BB Covid Guidance will allow Companies that have not managed to reopen to look more positively towards doing so. They are eager to provide any assistance Companies require to reopen, so please get in touch with any requests by emailing info@boysbrigade.ie

CONTACT: ☎ +353 (1) 296 4622 📍 Unit C1 Nutgrove Office Park, Nutgrove Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, Ireland



Get involved in a challenge expedition!

We are pleased to share details of two upcoming challenge expeditions, with opportunities for children, young people and leaders to get involved! Both events include challenges along the way and an overnight camp if taking part for the whole weekend.

The **Waltham Walk** will take place in the Essex countryside on **Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May 2022**. Teams consist of 3 or 4 people and Junior teams must also include a leader.



- **Junior Trek:** One-day taster hike for ages 10-12
- **Super Junior Trek:** Two-day taster hike for ages 10-12
- **Mini Trek:** Two-day competitive hike for ages 12-14
- **Main Event:** Two-day competitive hike for ages 14-19

There are also one or two-day **Veterans** events for ages 19 and above.



For more information or to enter please email:
walthamwalk@boys-brigade.org.uk

The **Cleveland Hike** will take place in the North York Moors on **Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th June 2022**. For all entry categories it is possible to take part on one or both days.

- **Aged 13-19 Team:** 3- or 4-person team, all members aged 13-19
- **Aged 20+ Team:** 3- or 4-person team, at least one member aged 20+
- **Mixed Age Team:** A team of 4 or more people of any age (usually young people led by a leader)



For more information or to enter please visit:
theclevelandhike.com

26th Leeds raise funds to support member

Members of **26th Leeds** have been raising funds to support Oliver, a member of their Seniors age group.

Following the sudden onset of symptoms, Oliver was diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease unclassified (IBDU). This auto-immune condition has impacted him in numerous ways, including preventing him from attending BB and necessitating a move to remote school lessons.

To raise money for a new laptop (rather than using a borrowed one) for Oliver's lessons, children and young people at the Company undertook a 'Walkathon' in February, walking varying distances depending on their age group.

In March, Paul Curtis (Captain) cycled a 75-mile route from the Company's base at St Mark's Methodist Church in Swinnow to Nuthall Methodist Church, the home of 32nd Nottingham – Paul's Company as a young person. All this was done on a cultural icon from the 1970s – a Raleigh Chopper!

These activities raised over £1,700 in total, far exceeding the initial target of £700. A big well done to everyone involved!

Snowdonia Adventure Camp



The BB Mountaineering Camp is running an **Adventure Camp** at Dyffryn Ardudwy, Snowdonia from **Saturday 27th to Wednesday 31st August 2022**.

This is a canvas camp for young people in school years 9 and above who are keen to try mountain walking, rock climbing, gorge walking, kayaking and to explore the Christian faith.



For more details please visit:
bbmc.boys-brigade.org.uk/adventure-camp-aug-22

CONTACT: ☎ 0300 303 4454 @ support@boys-brigade.org.uk



PLATINUM JUBILEE

Celebration of Faith & Service

70

Hope Together

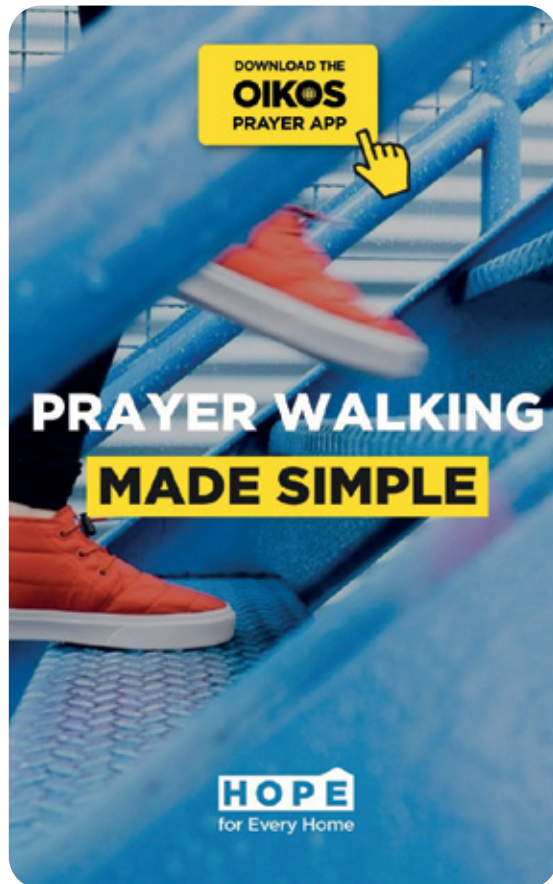
HOPE Together

The Platinum Jubilee is an incredible opportunity to celebrate our Queen's life of faith and service. That's why HOPE Together is so excited to be partnering with The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade as the country marks this historic event!

We want to see a generation of young people serving others with the same commitment and faithfulness that the Queen has demonstrated across her 70 years as monarch. That's why a bunch of brilliant organisations have put together some great resources for use with 11-14s, including those in uniformed organisations, around the theme of "On Her Majesty's Service"

HOPE Together is also inviting young people across the country to get involved with **70 Acts of Service** in their communities – to honour Her Majesty's 70 years of sure and steadfast service. HOPE Together would love to see people serving others and making a difference in their communities, right where they are. Could your Company group gather your friends, family, and community together to make a difference in your street, village, town or city?

Beyond the Platinum Jubilee, HOPE is also passionate about young people experiencing life in all its fullness, and wants to encourage them on their faith adventures. Here are some of the ways your Company could get involved.



Get prayer walking

We are passionate about the power of prayer, and through the **'Just Pray'** initiative HOPE is encouraging young people across the country to get out and pray for their local areas. To help with this, they've produced a booklet called **'Prayer Walking Made Simple'**, which is full of practical tips for people of all ages.

HOPE is also inviting people to use the **OIKOS Prayer App** to 'tap to tag' the places they've prayed in – to create a map of the prayers of the whole country. Perhaps young people you know might be up for a prayer adventure!



Go on a wellbeing journey

We know that the pandemic has been especially hard for young people. That's why HOPE Together has launched **'The Youth Wellbeing Journey'** – a series that invites young people to discover more of God's plan for their wellbeing. Using videos hosted by young people, each episode takes a closer look at six different areas of wellbeing: physical, emotional, spiritual, relational, financial, and vocational. The series is designed to create a space for discussion and reflection and is suitable for 11-18-year-olds.



Get equipped to share faith

HOPE is committed to equipping young people to share their faith confidently with their peers. That's why, alongside a great network of partners, **Amplify: the Young Evangelists' Academy** was set up. It's an eight month mentoring programme for 11-17-year-olds, which aims to encourage, equip and empower young people to share their faith with their friends, family and community. Any young person who is actively living out what it looks like to share Jesus with others is welcome on Amplify.



If any of these resources might be helpful as you walk alongside young people in your Company, you can find out more at: www.hopetogether.org.uk

Mark's Gospel

Finally, HOPE is always keen to encourage people to adventure through the Bible! These beautifully illustrated copies of **Mark's Gospel** are designed to bring the story of Jesus' life to young people in an eye-catching, accessible way.

Most of all, HOPE wants everyone, everywhere to know the hope and 'life in all its fullness' that Jesus brings.

Dan Randall

YxYA Director - Hope Together



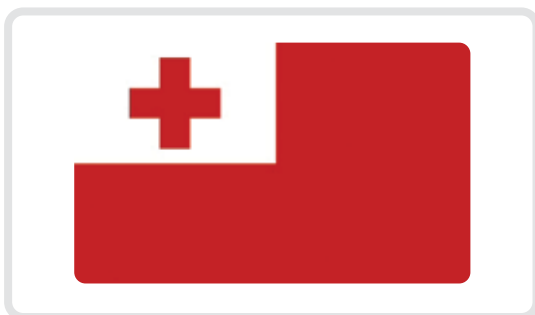
Global Fellowship appoints new Patron

The Executive Committee of Global Fellowship of Christian Youth has announced that Lord Griffiths of Burry Port has been appointed as the organisation's first-ever Patron.

Lord Griffiths first met The Boys' Brigade whilst serving the Methodist Church of Haiti in the 1970s, where he was

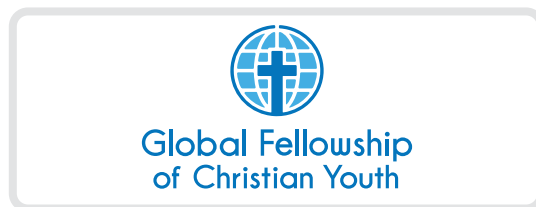
ordained. Upon returning to the UK he served various ministries and BB chaplaincies as well as holding the role of President of the Methodist Conference in 1994-1995.

He is a life peer in the House of Lords, having been created Baron Griffiths of Burry Port, of Pembrey and Burry Port in the County of Dyfed in 2004. From 2011 until 2020, Lord Griffiths served as President of The Boys' Brigade UK & Rol.



Tonga update

Following the devastating eruption and tsunami that hit Tonga in January, Global Fellowship is pleased to report that BB members there are safe and well. International aid is now getting through, and BB Australia has been keeping in contact with the organisation in Tonga. Please continue to keep all those affected in your prayers.



Global Fellowship Triennial Conference

The next Global Fellowship Triennial Conference is schedule to take place in Kampala, Uganda, from 17th to 21st August 2022. It has been agreed that following the lifting of various travel restrictions around the world that the meeting will take place as a face-to-face event.



If you are interested in attending and would like more details please contact:
admin@globalfellowship.net

Global Round-up

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



Pictured are members of 23rd Bahamas at their monthly Church Parade at St Barnabas Anglican Church.



Members of 2nd and 3rd Pathum Thani in Thailand came together for a friendly Badminton competition as part of the Sports Award that their members are working towards.



After a gap of many years, it is fantastic to see that BB Companies are being re-established in Malawi. Pictured are the members of 1st Ekwendeni at one of their meetings.



Following news of the BB beginning to operate in Pakistan, it is great to report that a National Executive has been elected and the process of registering the organisation with the government is now underway.



Congratulations to Brigade Neenah in Wisconsin, USA, who recently celebrated their 122nd birthday with a Brigade Birthday Bash at The Plaza, a new community venue in downtown Neenah!



Pictured are members of 1st Mengo in Kampala, Uganda, at one of their band practices.

CAMPSITES & RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

Norfolk / Felden Lodge Campsites

BB canvas campsites (operated by 10th Enfield) fully equipped for up to 80 (smaller camps welcome) in West Runton (North Norfolk) and at Felden Lodge, BBHQ (Hertfordshire).

☎ 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.

☎ 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.

☎ John Sharp 0121 530 4580 or 07961 231569
 @ info@bbcamping.co.uk
 www.bbcamping.co.uk

Campsite Morthoe/Woolacombe

Traditional ridge tents/marquee. New barn housing toilet/shower block and fully equipped kitchen. Small or large groups. Weekends available Easter, weeks during school holidays.

☎ Clive Gordon 07718 761150
 @ clive04@yahoo.co.uk
 www.warcombe.org.uk

Bromley Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight

Fully equipped for up to 100 (small camps welcome). Large and small marquees, ridge tents. Cookhouse/QM, shower and toilet (M/F) concrete blocks; mains gas and electric. At competitive prices.

☎ Keith Francis 01474 705485
 @ keithfrancis2606@gmail.com
 www.bbcampsite.co.uk

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 (see aerial view). Wardens, The Boys' Brigade, Carr Lane, Treales, Kirkham, PR4 3SS

☎ 01772 685000
 @ office@bb-northwest.org.uk
 www.bb-northwest.org.uk

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.

☎ 01683 221040
 @ ben8363@aol.com
 www.wellroadcentre.co.uk

Swanage, Dorset. Church hall available for camps. The accommodation can comfortably sleep 24 people.

☎ 01929 422421
 www.swanagemethodist.org.uk/bookings.html

Coopers Mead Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight.

Traditional camping at its very best and at a reasonable cost! Weeks available in 2022 and beyond. Contact to discuss your return to camping on the Isle of Wight.

☎ Ted Walliss 01737 352732
 @ edwardwalliss@btinternet.com

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.

@ bookings@prestatyncampsite.co.uk
 www.prestatyncampsite.co.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 (£750). Close to safe sandy beaches and leisure centre.

☎ Tim Finch 07786 733782
 www.freshwatertrust.com
 @ freshwatercamping@gmail.com

Dartmoor Activity Centre, Broadleas.

With 3 accommodation options, each with your own dedicated kitchen, dining halls, washroom facilities, activity areas and woodland. Option 1, Indoor accommodation for 38. Option 2, wood cabins sleeping 36. Option 3, campground for up to 55. Activities available on request.

☎ 01364 661283
 @ info@dartmooractivitycentre.com
 www.dartmooractivitycentre.com

Broomley Grange Residential Outdoor Activity Centre

Set in 22 acres of grounds in Northumberland, just 25 mins from Newcastle. We offer fully catered accommodation for up to 62 guests and camping for up to 100, and 30 challenging activities onsite delivered by qualified staff.

☎ 01661 842299
 broomleygrange.co.uk
 @ manager@broomleygrange.co.uk

1st Yeovil Campsite Corfe Castle Fully equipped for 60 persons, all white canvas 14'x14' ridge tents. 75'x30' Marquee. Weeks available 2022 and beyond.

☎ Graham Voizey 01935 422 292
 @ graham.voizey@btinternet.com

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.

☎ 0131 551 1200 ext 301
 @ office@thebb-edinburgh.org.uk

Small advertisements

Copy for Campsites, Residential/Activity Centres and items wanted or for sale should be sent to **gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk**

Advertisements for the next issue (Autumn 2022) should be received by 17th June 2022. 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 £30 (including VAT) for three issues.

Full colour advertisements

Please contact us to enquire about full colour advertisements. Discounts are available to Companies/Battalions/Districts and Registered Charities, as well as block bookings of two or more issues.



CRAGGAN Outdoor Centre

10% off new bookings, quote "BB Gazette"

Contact

- Phone: 0131 551 1200 ext. 301
- Email: office@thebb-edinburgh.org.uk
- Web: www.thebb-edinburgh.org.uk

THE BOYS' BRIGADE & GIRLS' ASSOCIATION
 > the adventure begins here
 Edinburgh, Leith & District Battalion

CRAGGAN is situated on the south bank of Loch Tay in the beautiful countryside of Perthshire.

The centre is available for use by groups of all ages with ready access to local facilities and is well suited for water activities, hill walking and group holidays.

The centre sleeps up to 29 people on a self-catering basis with additional space for camping.



'Holcot', not-for-profit, Christian Group Holiday Centre, Edenbridge, Kent.
 Fully equipped and particularly well-suited for childrens' groups.
 W/E's max £35pp (minimum number applies) with discounts available
 for primary aged groups.

Tel: 01732 863330 Email: holcot@btconnect.com

www.holcotgroupholidaycentre.co.uk



NEW-LOOK ONLINE SHOP!

BB Supplies is the official ordering and distribution service for Brigade merchandise. The range of products available to purchase includes all uniform items, awards, ranges of gifts, fundraising, recruitment and other resources to assist local groups in providing a broad programme of activities for children and young people.

Order online 24 hours, 7 days a week with next-day delivery available (order before 12 noon) at shop.boys-brigade.org.uk



NEW

COMPANY AND SENIORS CORE ACTIVITY AWARDS

Product Code: Various

These new Core Activity Awards are for presentation to members of the Company and Seniors age groups for participation in the programme.

£1.40

NEW

COMPANY AND SENIORS STAGED AWARDS

Product Code: Various

These awards are part of our Staged Awards for the Company and Seniors age groups, with badges to recognise achievement at Levels 3 and 4 of each Staged Award.

£1.25

NEW

60MM MEDAL

Product Code: 028021

(Anchors), 028031
(Juniors), 028041
(Company), 028051
(Seniors), 028001 (BB),
028011 (BB/GA)

Large 60mm silver medal with options for each age group as well as BB & BB/GA versions, including coloured ribbon.

£2.80

NIV BIBLE FOR CHILDREN

Product Code: 353660

Includes BB logo on front cover. This Bible features an easy-to-read layout and is perfect as a gift or presentation item for children to help them in their Bible adventure!

£18

WWW.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK



Order your items online 24 hours a day. Visit shop.boys-brigade.org.uk



Order your items by telephone on +44 (0) 333 320 8078 (Mon to Fri)



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