

GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE FOR LEADERS IN THE BOYS' BRIGADE | AUTUMN 2017

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THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here



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Autumn 2017:
 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

Editorial Team
 Chris Norman (Editor), Niall Rolland and Karen Jay

Designed by www.visiontank.co.uk **Printed by** cpo.org.uk

Publishing & Circulation
 Quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer & Autumn)
 Average circulation during 2016: 9,000 copies

Patron: H. M. The Queen
President: The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
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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

For More Information
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VISION: THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHURCH

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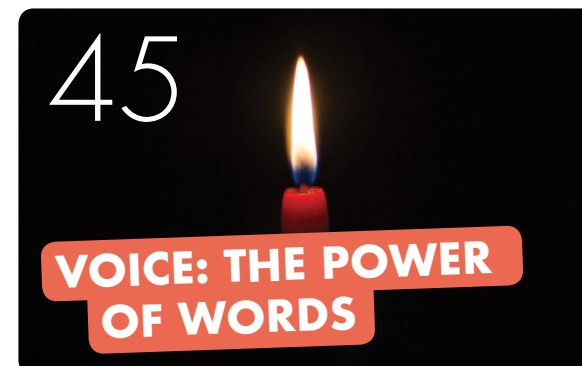
Image - Front Cover, Main Picture:
 Young People at London's Life 2 the Max event in June 2016



TOOLBOX: CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR



TOOLBOX: MAKING THE MOST FROM OUR COMMUNITY



VOICE: THE POWER OF WORDS



THE WAY I SEE IT



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BILL WITH MEMBERS OF BB HONG KONG DURING THEIR VISIT TO SCOTLAND IN AUGUST

One body, but many parts

In August, a group of leaders and young people from BB Hong Kong spent a week at Carronvale House. They were keen to come to Scotland and find out more about their BB roots.

As you can imagine they did a fair bit of sightseeing including all the key sites in Edinburgh and Glasgow. They enjoyed the Edinburgh Tattoo and particularly being welcomed in person by the Tattoo Producer – a good friend of the BB. However, for them the highlights of the tour were the visits to North Woodside Mission Hall where the BB started and paying tribute at Sir William Smith's graveside. It was the first time I had heard "Will Your Anchor Hold" sung in Cantonese.

International connections across the Brigade are a vital part of our work today and it would be good to encourage more exchanges like this. Most of the learning took place over a meal or a cup of coffee. Our visitors were interested to know why we had changed uniform, they also found it strange that our groups met mid-week and had a break in the summer. In the same way we were curious to know why they were still using our old badge system and that all their groups now only offer mixed gender work. I also discovered that boot polish in the UK is far superior to what they can purchase in Hong Kong! Yes there are differences but we are obviously still both part of the one BB movement.

Over the last year or so the Brigade Executive has expended considerable time considering how we are organised and how best to provide support to local Companies. Some members

feel the current system works well while others believe we should have a less centralised model. Coupled with this we now work with many different church denominations which can cause tensions too. Some of the discussions have been difficult and unfortunately some leaders have felt hurt and bewildered by all this.

There are important governance issues to consider but I am often asked will this make a difference to how our Companies operate on a weekly basis? My experience of travelling around the UK and RoI is our Companies are all facing similar issues of sustainability and considering how best to share the Gospel in the modern age.

It was all probably much easier for Sir William in 1883 when he didn't have to worry about charity regulators and disclosure checks too! Paul famously used an analogy of different parts of the body to describe the early church. It seems to me that we too are an organisation of many parts, with varying approaches to the work that we do. However, we are all committed to seeking to present young people with the Gospel and to advancing Christ's Kingdom. Please pray for the Brigade as we try to move forward.

Bill Stevenson

Bill Stevenson
Brigade Secretary & CEO



Follow Bill on Twitter at
[@BillBBHQ](https://twitter.com/BillBBHQ)

Where do we go from here?

I was born into a BB family and later married into a BB family. I think it would be safe to say that The Boys' Brigade is fixed in my DNA. The BB has been and remains a huge part of the Snowden family life.

In the early months of 2016 I was invited to be the Chaplain for the 2016/17 KGVI Youth Leader Training Course. Having reluctantly accepted and fearing that I might not have what it takes to step up to the task, I began what became my KGVI journey.

Over the past two summers of my chaplaincy I have learnt so much about The Boys' Brigade, the future of the churches we work in, and what it means for the young people to be growing up and then becoming leaders in their BB and Church setting.

In that time, I have had the enormous privilege of witnessing the growth and development of the young people attending KGVI. There was growth in maturity, confidence and faith. Some young men and women encountering God for themselves for the first time in a very real way.

These young people arrived on the course as fearful, subdued individuals and emerged as confident, mature, collaborative leaders, hungry to learn more and willing to share all that they had experienced. We had truly become family. Part of the KGVI family, but more vitally, ready and willing to take our place in the family of God and in the family of the Church!

Amongst many conversations that took place as the course was drawing to a close was the question: **'Where do we go from here?'**

For these emerging leaders there was a recurring fear as preparations were being made to return home to Churches and to



Companies. That fear was expressed in a variety of different ways, but the overriding questions seemed to be:

'How do we go back and convince our leaders and our churches that we are now qualified and have the ability to take our place as leaders.'

'How do we persuade the leaders back home to take us seriously?'

Big questions and big concerns.

I believe that I have witnessed the future of the Brigade and the future of our Churches in the making. It is our responsibility as leaders already in active service, to recognise this for ourselves. We need to be responsible for providing opportunities to encourage their growth and development as leaders. Then, along with some essential pastoral care and guidance, help them to find their place within the life and leadership in the body of Christ to which God is calling them.

Sue Snowden

Sue Snowden is an Officer in the 59th Manchester Company and last year took on the role of Chaplain for Manchester Battalion.

Sue began her career as a teacher of children with special needs, but for the past 10 years has been a Lay worker for the Methodist Church, with responsibility for Church Development and Pastoral Support in the Bolton Circuit. Sue is also a Local Preacher and enjoys leading worship around the churches of the Bolton Circuit and beyond.

Sue is married to Ken, they have two children Amy and William who are both far more grown up than they would like to admit.

In her role as Chaplain for Manchester Battalion, Sue led the opening devotions at this year's Brigade Conference held in Manchester and created a blog earlier this year, which provides a weekly message of encouragement for the leaders in the Battalion and others far and wide who care to take a look.



You can visit Sue's blog at:
chaplainsblogblog.wordpress.com



THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHURCH

Since 1883, the BB has reached out to millions of children and young people through our partnership with local churches.

At our peak, we were partnering with 3,110 Churches (that was 1962), today it's fantastic that we are in partnership with 1,344 Churches in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, building bridges into communities to engage with children and young people, bringing them into the life of those local Churches which we partner.

At Brigade Conference held in Manchester in September we seized the opportunity to present some interesting research to those in attendance. This research was carried out by Youthscape, a Christian Youth Work charity. As part of this session we asked delegates to share their views and ideas about how the Brigade can use the findings to fill the confidence gap that the research has revealed in Church youth work and to consider what parallels we see in BB.

The Research

Youthscape spoke to children, young people and adults in over 2000 Churches and the results will perhaps not be so surprising to you, but show how Churches are struggling to deliver effective youth and children's work where they are doing this in isolation.

The opening page of the report asks the question **"What is your Church's greatest need in working with children and young people?"** here are the responses from Church leadership teams:

- “ **Confidence.** Our Church has never had lots of families and young people in it, and although we have a desire to see them in church we have no clear vision as to how that might be achieved.”
- “ Many Churches are **doing their best** to provide youth and children's work, but are struggling.”
- “ Many **lack the resources** simply to keep the show on the road”
- “ Churches feel **more equipped and confident in children's work** compared to youth work”
- “ Many simply can't seem to provide any youth work or **don't have any young people left to work with**”

So let's unpack this a little...

1. Churches especially smaller ones, do more children's work than youth work.

Unsurprisingly, the levels of youth and children's work varied according to church size.

- **Nearly all Churches offered some form of children's work on a Sunday** – 80% of small Churches (up to 50 congregants) and 98% of large Churches (150+ congregants).
- **The same was not true for youth work** – 89% of large Churches offered youth work on a Sunday, while only about 50% of the small Churches did.
- **Only 14.3% of the churches surveyed have no young people at all in their congregation**, so this cannot be due to no young people attending.

In the survey the Churches were asked what types of activities they offer, less than half of the small Churches (0 to 50 congregants) offered recreational activities, with less than 30% offering any residential opportunities.



Where uniformed organisations and Messy Church are involved in smaller Churches, then levels of youth work activity approach (and overtake) the levels of youth work in larger Churches.



Why is it that the Churches surveyed offer more children's work than youth work? Is this the same in your Church? Are there any parallels in BB?

BB Leaders at Conference said...

- “ Leaders feel more confident in working with younger children.
- “ Youth work can be scary.
- “ Churches more inclined to work with what they have got – under 11's.
- “ There's far more distractions and opportunities for young people, so they are less likely to attend i.e. football on a Sunday morning.
- “ Children's work is the easier option!
- “ It's a lot easier to attract children, often parents decision to get children involved.

In response to the parallels in BB, leaders at Conference said...

- “ It's possible on the odd night to throw together an Anchors/Juniors programme by opening the cupboard. You definitely can't get away with this in Company/Seniors!
- “ Many of the same issues (as above)!
- “ In BB, I'm not sure if it is quite the same, as we tend to offer youth work in most Companies (i.e. have a Company/Senior Section), but the big question would be is the leadership appropriate and programme attractive enough to see young people consistently coming through the door? Not in all Companies I doubt.

2. Believing in the effectiveness of their youth and children's work

To gain a deeper insight into the quality of youth and children's work offered, Churches were asked to rate how effective they believed their youth and children's work to be. Now, people weren't given specific measures of effectiveness, so this part of the research is based on subjective judgement, however this is what came out...

- i 26.4% of Churches said their youth work was ineffective**, whilst 12.1% said their children's work was ineffective.
- i 41.4% of the small Churches (0 to 50 congregants) surveyed said their youth work was 'ineffective'.**

Linked to the quality of work 75% of Churches don't engage with young people about topics like mental health, sexuality, relationships, drugs, alcohol, social media and family life – all topics that young people surveyed indicated were important to them and ones they wanted to discuss.

We asked leaders at conference to share their views on the effectiveness of BB work and this is what they said...

- “ Being able to provide opportunities not possible at school or at home”
- “ With young people coming back every week, we are confident that we are effective in our work!”
- “ We sometimes struggle with progression, being able to retain young people”
- “ Numbers isn't everything, for us spiritual and personal growth are more important”
- “ There's always more we could do – but there's so much to be thankful for in what we are already achieving”
- “ Bringing children and young people into contact with the Church – BB is making this happen”

Article Continued →



How would you rate the effectiveness of youth and children's work in your Company? What are you looking for? What do we need to do to improve?

In response to what we need to do to improve, leaders at Conference said...

- “ Grow and improve our identity”
- “ Relevant and engaging programme materials to support leaders”
- “ Good planning”
- “ Continue to seek/question how we 'win' young people for Jesus!”
- “ Supporting young people through transitions in life and BB”
- “ Improved upskilling of leaders to enable effective leadership”

3. Churches know that they are struggling with their youth and children's work but don't know how to fix it.

The churches appeared desperate when asked about their needs; many referenced the need to simply start youth or children's work, or to attract some children and young people in the first place.

When asked what they needed, they said:



When the Churches surveyed were asked what organisations and resources they used in their youth and children's work, we were delighted that the BB was in the Top 10! (so a pat on the back there!). Other organisations and resources featuring in the top 10 included Scripture Union, Urban Saints and Youth for Christ.

In conclusion, the report said...

“Our aim in writing this report was to highlight the reality of youth and children's work in many Churches across the country. We've discovered that many Churches are struggling to offer activities for children and young people, and aren't sure how to begin.

We believe that there are options for every Church when it comes to youth and children's work and that every Church has something to offer children and young people in their area”



What needs to happen in order for BB to fill the gap in youth work provision identified in Churches?



In response to the above question, delegates at Conference said...

- “ Make the Church more aware of BB and other organisations and the support they can provide”
- “ Be relevant”
- “ Strong Christian Leadership”
- “ Listen to the needs to the church and work in partnership, as part of the church, not apart from”
- “ Good and closer relationship with Church leadership”

What can you do?

When new BB work starts in a Church there is a clear vision, purpose and commitment that sees the movement as integral to that Church's mission outreach to the local community. We believe it is critical for the success of both Church and Company to continually strengthen their relationship and work together. For many of our existing Companies that commitment between Church and Company happened many years ago, often before present leaders became involved. As with any partnership it is important that we regularly review what we are seeking to achieve together.

As the 'Losing Heart' report shows the Church is experiencing increasing difficulties getting young people through the doors. Yet each week The Boys' Brigade works with thousands of children and young people, and for many of them The Boys' Brigade is their only connection with the Church.

It does this by PARTNERING the church in outreach, SUPPORTING leaders and ENGAGING children and young people.

There are a number of resources available to help support you and your Company/Church including:

- **'Faith in the Company'** a fantastic resource for Churches and Chaplains aimed at strengthening the relationship between BB and the Church.
- **'Company Health Check'** to help you identify what is going well and what you need to look at.
- **Company Development Scheme** helps you review the past session, set new goals and plan the coming session

We hope that you will take the opportunity to consider the shared role in mission, and that through this more children and young people will come to know Jesus for themselves.

'Losing Heart'

All research quoted in this article is extracted from the Youthscape report 'Losing Heart', the full report can be found at:

youthscape.co.uk/research/publications/losing-heart



INFORMED

LATEST NEWS, REPORTS AND UPDATES
FROM BB HEADQUARTERS



Birthday Celebrations

It's been fantastic to see so many Companies across the Brigade joining in the celebrations and holding birthday parties since the start of the new session.

On Friday 15th September we came together to celebrate 100 years to the day when The Boys' Brigade started working with young people under the age of 12 through the formation of the Boy Reserves. Today we are thankful that this work continues, with the Junior Section age group reaching out to more than 15,000 children across some 1340 Companies every week in the UK & RoI.

If you haven't already, then check out **The BIG 100 Birthday Celebration Guide** which provides you with ideas and programme resources to help you with planning and running your party. There's still plenty of time between now and the end of the year to plan and run your birthday party.

We've also seen lots of progress with the **Juniors 100 Challenge**, with activity on social media showing Companies going through and completing the challenges. How many can your Company achieve by the end of the year? Let us know how you are getting on by posting on social media using **#juniors100**.



You can find everything you need to know about getting involved in the Juniors 100 celebrations at: leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/juniors100



Annual Review 2016-2017



Check out our Annual Review for 2016-2017 which provides an overview of activities and events held during the last session. A video has also been produced and can be viewed/download from our Vimeo channel at vimeo.com/theboysbrigade



View the Annual Review online at: boys-brigade.org.uk/who-we-are/annual-review/

Keeping OBM up to date

It is important that Leaders are regularly logging into OBM to keep data up to date for both children & young people and leaders.

Company Leaders should ensure that young people are added on to OBM within 4 weeks of joining the Company, and equally should be removed within 4 weeks of leaving the Company, so that an accurate record of membership is maintained.

It is not necessary that it's the Company Captain who maintains all data for children and young people. If a Company Captain has not already done so, then they can give access to the Officer in Charge of a section so that they can maintain records for the section(s) they are involved in.

If you need any help using OBM, please get in touch with the Support Team on **01442 231 681 (option 4)**.




Statistical Return 2017/18

President's Commendation

Following feedback from Companies, the date that the statistical return is required to be submitted has moved back by two weeks, allowing numbers to settle at the start of the new session.

The statistical return was available to complete from 1st November 2017, with 15th November 2017 the deadline for submission with the 2.5% discount. The deadline for submission and full payment to be received is 1st December 2017.

Only the Company Captain and/or leaders with access to the 'Company' section will be able to view and/or complete the statistical return.



Guidance and support for leaders on completing the Annual Statistical Return can be found at leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/obmresources.htm

In addition to the usual office hours, the Support Team will be available until 8pm on Tuesday evenings to provide assistance and help with using OBM and to answer any registration related questions.

Contact the Support Team on **01442 231 681** (option 4) or email support@boys-brigade.org.uk

Staffing Update

Philip Daley, National Director for the Republic of Ireland is moving on and Brian Weekes will take over the role in November 2017. Philip has served as the National Director in an employed role for some 10 years and before that had already served 16 years as District Secretary. The Brigade is grateful for Philip's service over many years and wishes him well for the future.

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.

Ken King Hertfordshire Battalion / BB Headquarters Staff



A full obituary appears on the BB website at leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/obituaries

Welcome to our New Companies

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

COMPANY	CAPTAIN	CHURCH
1 st Fenwick	Paul Linich	Fenwick Parish Church, Ayrshire
1 st Ollerton & Broughton	Luke Thomas	Assemblies of God, Nottinghamshire
1 st Sawnsea Eastside	Steven Bunting	St Stephens/St Thomas Church, Swansea



The President's Commendation has recently been awarded to:

McCorley Willis – 16th Teeside

John Moore, President of Teesside Battalion presented McCorley Willis of 16th Teeside Company with his President's Commendation at the Company Awards Evening.

Despite his health difficulties McCorley shows great determination and he is a loyal and dedicated member of the Company. He has made many friends and there is a strong sense of comradeship. His positive, cheerful attitude and enthusiasm is an inspiration to all who know him. McCorley is a credit to himself and his family and the Brigade is proud to have him as a member.

Brigade Archivist

Following the retirement of Stephen Lane as Honorary Brigade Archivist, the Brigade is seeking to appoint a new Brigade Archivist to take responsibility for maintaining the Brigade archives.

This will include assembling, cataloguing, preserving and managing collections of historical records and artefacts. The archives are currently shared over different locations in England and Scotland.

A full job description and person specification can be found at boys-brigade.org.uk/job-vacancies

Applications for this role should be received at Brigade Headquarters by 15th December 2017.

News from Brigade Conference

Brigade Conference 2017 took place in Manchester from 1st to 3rd September.

The weekend started with a reception at The Copthorne Hotel in Salford Quays attended by Brigade President, Lord Griffiths of Burry Port and The Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor Eddy Newman along with around 180 BB leaders.

On Saturday the Brigade Council Meeting and workshops earlier in the day, were held at Lighthouse Church in Eccles. 189 leaders attended the Council meeting, the largest attendance in recent years. There were a number of motions for consideration at Brigade Council this year, a summary of the business (inc motions) can be found below.

On Saturday evening a Gala Dinner with entertainment from Aaron Calvert was held at The Copthorne Hotel for some 150 guests. On Sunday morning worship was led by Brigade President, Revd The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port at Emmanuel Community Church in Salford.

Brigade Council Meeting Summary

During the Annual General Meeting the following matters were considered:

The number of votes registered was as follows:

Ordinary	133
Proxy	332
Post	63
Total	528

The President opened the meeting and a particular welcome was extended to all those attending for the first time. A message of greeting from Our Patron HM the Queen was read and council also paid tribute to leaders who had passed away since the last meeting.

A printed copy of the Annual Review for 16/17 was available and members watched a video presentation highlighting key aspects from the report.

The Brigade Treasurer presented the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2017 and up-dated members on the current financial position.

Council then considered other items of business.

1. Capitation Fees

Following a short debate the amendment in the name of East Lancashire Battalion to maintain helper's fees at the current level was agreed.

Council then agreed that the capitation fees for the 2018/19 session would be:

CATEGORY		FEE
Company Fee		Nil
Fee per young person		£19.50
Adult fee	All Officers	£19.50
	(Second person at the same address)	£15.00
	Battalion & District Officers (not on Company roll)	£15.00
	Officers in receipt of state retirement pension	£15.00
	Officers in full time education or training	£15.00
	Helpers	£14.00

2. Auditors

Whiting and Partners were re-appointed as the Brigade's auditors.

3. Office-Bearers

The following Office-Bearers for Session 2017/18 were appointed:

President:	Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
Vice-Presidents:	David Aubrey Alistair Burrow
Treasurer:	Clifford Bygraves

4. Motion in the name of the Brigade Executive to Amend Regulations

Following discussion on a number of the amendments, a number of votes took place and all the proposed amendments to Brigade Regulations were rejected by the meeting.

5. Motion in the name of Alan Ayling 12th Dublin, Paul Christmas 25th Stirling, Tim Dundee 4th Newtonabbey, Phil East 53rd Manchester & Alen Pasley 21st Cardiff.

Members debated proposals to reduce the size of the Brigade Executive and introduce direct elections.

The Executive amendment to this motion was agreed, however after a vote the amended motion was then defeated by 320 votes to 178.

6. Motion in the name of Northern Ireland District

Members from different regions took part in this debate on whether to instruct the Brigade Executive to bring proposals to Council 2018 to provide accountable autonomy in the Regions.

The motion was then carried by 423 votes to 94.

7. Invitation to Edinburgh 2018

Members were invited to Edinburgh for Brigade Council 2018. This will take place from the 31st August to 2nd September.

Response to Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean...



Following the trail of hurricane Irma in the Caribbean, The Brigade President sent a letter of support to members of The Boys' Brigade in the Caribbean.

"I worked for many years with The Boys' Brigade in Haiti. I have seen hurricanes, floods and earthquakes at first hand. I understand and have lived through the aftermath of such tragic events. So my heart goes out to all of you who suffered in any way from the recent passage of hurricane Irma. We were horrified by the extent of the damage but have also been amazed at television pictures showing the resilience and indomitability of the peoples of the Caribbean. You inspire us. You have remained steadfast and true while the billows roll - evidence of course that you have an anchor bedded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.

"On behalf of the members of the Brigade in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, and in the name of all our Battalions and Companies across the land, I send you my greetings and the heartfelt assurance of our continuing prayers."

The Global Fellowship has also spoken of the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Irma as it tore through the eastern Caribbean, inviting those that would like to contribute financially towards the rebuilding of the Brigade on the islands to do so through Global Fellowship. Find out more by contacting steve@globalfellowship.net

An update from the Global Fellowship Regional Coordinator for the Caribbean can be found on page 43.

Get involved in the Top Team Challenge

The Top Team Challenge is a Brigade wide activity for Company and Seniors, where Companies across the country take part in the same tasks in their own meeting place. It's a great competition and is accessible to all Companies, with no travelling required, minimal equipment needed, on a date convenient to you.



The challenge consists of a number of physical and logical challenges, a team of 4 take part against the clock to complete the mini challenges.

To order packs for the 2017/18 challenge for your teams go to leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/top-team.htm

Packs will be sent out to Companies from 20th November 2017 onwards.

BB Represented at BYC in London

Three BB young leaders represented The Boys' Brigade at the British Youth Council's annual council meeting in London at the beginning of September. The BB delegation comprised of: Cabrini Brown, 1st Ballygowan; James Hollyhead, 2nd Wednesbury; and Callum Laing, 3rd Perth.

The young people expressed how important it is that the voice of BB young people is heard at such a level and that BB needs to do more to engage with the British Youth Council.

Reflecting on the weekend, Cabrini said:

"It was fantastic to see so many young people so passionate about things close to their heart or current issues in today's society."

James added:

"I really enjoyed the ACM and I thought it was a great opportunity to get involved and represent The Boys' Brigade and to give BB opinions on the motions which were put forward to be debated on the day."



YOUR VIEWS AND NEWS



4th Barnet members reach new heights

Members of the 4th Barnet got involved in the Juniors 100 Challenge by climbing to the top of St Johns Church Tower in Barnet. Barnet is the highest point on the old coaching route from London to York and the top of the Tower is about 460 feet (168 metres) above sea level.



125 Years and counting in Liverpool

The 2016-2017 session was filled with many special events to mark the 125th Anniversary of The Boys' Brigade in Liverpool. Throughout the year the Battalion raised funds for four designated charities including Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Zoe's Place Children's Hospice, The Oliver King Foundation and the Battalion, raising over £2000.

Special events took place throughout the year including a Carol Service, hosting the National Table Tennis final (with awards being presented by Lord Derby and Sir Ken Dodd), a Long Service Award Service (held every 5 years to honour leaders within our Battalion) and a Parade Service with over 300 in attendance. The year concluded with a charity Gala Dinner held at the Liner Hotel in Liverpool, which was attended by officers and friends alike, with the Lord Mayor of Liverpool in attendance.



2nd Fleet Get Out and About

When asked for their ideas for new activities at BB, 2nd Fleet Juniors asked to do something zoo related. So as part of the Juniors 100 Challenges, along with the Anchor Boys, they fundraised to sponsor some animals at nearby Birdworld in Surrey. They then spent an enjoyable day visiting and learning about the animals they chose to sponsor. The day included an Animal Encounter session on the farm where they held ducklings, guinea pigs, rabbits, and mice (the boys were braver than their Captain!). They also watched the penguins being fed, an outdoor flying display by various birds of prey, and a discovery theatre show. The safari train, a picnic lunch with ice creams, and the adventure playground all went down well too.





North Staff Juniors impress at Goodwood

Members of 8th North Staffs Juniors took part in the Greenpower Gathering of Goblins (electric cars) event at the Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit in July. The Juniors had two electric 'Goblin' cars and during the day, the team took part in Drag races, Slalom and Timed Lap events, a Pit Stop Challenge and a final Race of Champions around the Goodwood Circuit.



ANBoroughMayor @ANBoroughMayor

Enjoyed having a visit from the 10th Newtownabbey Boys Brigade tonight. @BBNI



8th South Shields Party On

Members of the 8th South Shields Juniors had a party as part of the Juniors 100 celebrations with games, a bbq and a birthday cake.

SNAPSHOTS



GLOUCESTERSHIRE CAMP IN WEYMOUTH



3RD BEARSDEN ACTIVITY CAMP



NORTH WEST KENT JUNIORS 100



HEXTABLE & PLUMSTEAD GO RAFTING AT LONDON 2012 CENTRE



YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE QUEEN'S BADGE PRESENTATION



Manchester BB @McBattalionBB

Two of our leaders from 14th Bolton were shortlisted for volunteer of the year at the Bolton volunteer awards #congratulations #BoysBrigade @BBNI



15th Coatbridge visit to Manchester

Company Section and Senior lads from 15th Coatbridge travelled to Manchester, managing to find the Premier League & FA Cup trophies in the National Football Museum, and visited Old Trafford for a tour where everyone got a chance to try on real day match shirts.



3rd Kilsyth BB @3rdKilsythBB

#Juniors100 Challenge - take a photo with something that is 100 years old or more. We had 9 items!





London Boys' Brigade @BBinLondon

Great day so far @paintballing at Delta Force in East London... 103 BB members from across London taking part today!!! #bbweekend



Newtownabbey Lads out in the Community

Two members of 16th Newtownabbey Company, Jordan McClelland and Glenn Lennox went out into their local community to make a difference. The lads got involved in digging over beds and making up planters at Clonmore House Care Home in Rathcoole. All the plants were donated by Homebase and B&Q. Visitors and residents alike can now enjoy the wonderful show of colour.



3rd Trafford BB @3rdTraffordBB

We're @Tesco Chester Road today bag packing! #fundraising for future #camping trips.



30th Belfast Collection

A massive thank you has to go to the Company Section boys and the Orby community who have collected and donated £600.56 to the Northern Ireland Institute for the Disabled as part of the Company's annual collection evening!



BB Glasgow @TheBBGlasgow

More big screen Big Birthday celebrations near the M8 in Glasgow #juniors100 #BoysBrigade



West of England Juniors Celebrate

Nearly 200 members from the West of England District enjoyed a celebration event at Puxton Park to mark 100 years of the Junior Section. Companies from Devon, Plymouth, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Bristol took part in a special cake cutting ceremony and enjoyed a fun packed day on the attractions. It was a fantastic day with everything from water zorbing to falconry displays on offer.



Life and Work @cofslifeandwork

First Minister @NicolaSturgeon joined @TheBBSScotland in Glasgow as they celebrated 100 years of the Junior Section.



60 years of Camping at Dyffryn

Members of the 2nd Bromsgrove Company had a great camp at the West Midlands District Campsite in Dyffryn, Wales. The camp brought together boys aged from 8 to 16 years from across the West Midlands for a weekend of sporting activities, outdoor pursuits and a special commemorative service to mark 60 years of the Dyffryn site being gifted to the organisation.

#juniors



The Sky's the limit for 3rd Bedford

12 boys and Leaders from the 3rd Bedford Juniors went to visit the Airlander Airship at RAF Cardington near Bedford. The group was shown around the Airlander and inside the hanger by Andy Barton (Captain of 3rd Hemel Hempstead) who works at the site. It was a great evening, with the young people even having a mini Airlander to take home with them!



11th Leeds celebrate Juniors 100

Juniors from the 11th Leeds kicked off a fantastic day of celebrations by setting off on a sponsored walk. All the boys completed the walk and raised £100 in doing so. By doing this the boys ticked off a number of the Juniors 100 Challenges. This was followed by games and of course an impressive birthday cake to celebrate the centenary of the Junior Section.



Freedom of Hartlepool

Congratulations to 1st Hartlepool Company which has been given the Freedom of the Borough of Hartlepool in a presentation made on 18th May 2017.

The 1st Hartlepool Company was founded in October 1886 as part of St Hilda's Church. Sir William Alexander Smith carried out an Inspection of the 1st Hartlepool with over a hundred boys inspected in the Borough Hall; the meeting place of the Company to this very day. The Company has served as a catalyst for thousands of young men of the town and played a part in the life and growth of these people. Members of the Company have served in high profile roles within the town for example Fred Jacques who was Captain served as the first unified Mayor of the Borough of Hartlepool after the amalgamation of the towns of Hartlepool and West Hartlepool in 1967. The 1st Hartlepool is responsible for the founding of other organisations within the town, these being the 1st Hartlepool Girl's Brigade and three of the towns Rugby Clubs, Hartlepool Boys Brigade Old Boys, Hartlepool Old Boys RFC and Hartlepool Athletic RUFC have all been formed through links with the Brigade or the Old Boys Institute of the Brigade, with members of the 1st Hartlepool also representing Great Britain and Ireland touring with the British Lions.

Currently the Company has 27 lads attending each week aged from 5 to 16 years. Hartlepool Mayor, Councillor Robert Cook presented the latest Queens Men, Jaxon Simmonds and Anthony Miller with the Queen's Badges last year.

The Presentation of a framed parchment and engraved silver plate was accepted by Company Captain Paul Craggs on behalf of all members past and present.



Strathkelvin Awards

Provost Jean Jones, North Lanarkshire presented President's and Queen's Badges to boys of the Strathkelvin Battalion at Condorrant Parish Church.



5th Plymouth BB & GA @5PlymouthBBGA

@5PlymouthBBGA wore their BB uniforms today @SalisburyRdPrim to celebrate Founders Day #BB134 #boysbrigade



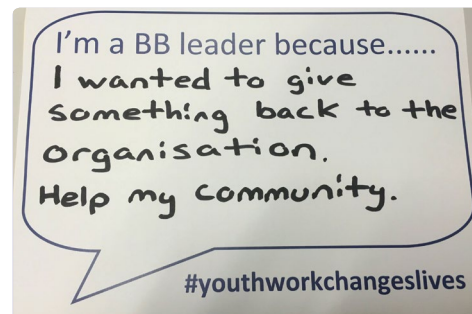
Asda support for 8th Falkirk

Members from 8th Falkirk Company collected cheques from Asda in Grangemouth and Stenhousemuir for £200 each as part of the stores community giving and support for the local community.



46th Aberdeen BB @KincorthBB

Captains' Day underway #BBweekend #youthworkchangeslives



RESOURCE



GREAT ACTIVITIES & IDEAS FOR YOUR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Welcome to the *Autumn 2017* 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



Hobby Craft Blog: Kids Craft Ideas

Check out the UK's No.1 Craft blog run by Hobby Craft, the UK's largest arts and crafts retailer. The blog contains ideas and inspiration for crafts suitable for all ages and the Hobby Craft retail website (hobbycraft.co.uk) has more 25,000 products available helping you to source all your arts and crafts supplies.

Check out blog.hobbycraft.co.uk/kids-craft-ideas



Christians in Sport Resources

There are some fantastic resources available from Christians in Sport, who aim to use sport to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Check out videos, devotional and activity ideas all available on their website to download free of charge.

Check out christiansinsport.org.uk/resources



The Little Crafty Bugs Company

Check out The Little Crafty Bugs Company for a wide range of crafts supplies suitable for groups on a variety of themes, especially suitable for the under 11's age groups.

Check out littlecraftybugs.co.uk

? The Answer's Out There

We often find that leaders face similar issues running their sections whether the group meets in Kilrea or Kirkwall, Lincoln or Letchworth.

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

! 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 Winter 2017/18 issue? Send it to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

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

Check out the sectional programme ideas >>>

22 → Anchors

25 → Juniors

28 → Discover

31 → Challenge Plus

Great activities & ideas for your section:

Programme Planning

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



17 NOV BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Get involved in Children in Need 2017, your group could hold a Pudsey Picnic or raise some money by holding a special Children in Need themed evening. Why not get involved in Pudsey's Round Pound Countdown, by collecting up your old pounds, they can no longer be used in shops, but CiN can still collect them and put them to work changing young lives here in the UK.

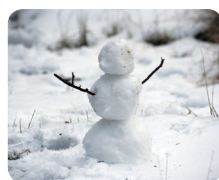
Check out bbcchildreninneed.co.uk



3 JAN - 17 FEB BIG SCHOOLS BIRDWATCH

The Big Schools' Birdwatch is an educational activity that gets your children closer to nature. It takes just an hour and works for all ages and abilities. Register your group to take part and get a free resource pack including a bird ID poster.

Check out rspb.org.uk/kids-and-schools/kids-at-school/schools-birdwatch



18 JAN WORLD SNOWMAN DAY

Get involved in the celebration that is World Snowman Day, which was first celebrated in 2011. Have some fun over the winter period, if you have the opportunity to get outside and play in the snow that's great, but if not try out some of the winter themed activities on our themed programme on page 22.

Get Active: Paper Strip Christmas Tree

Equipment

- Piece of paper or use a template (templates available to download at <http://bit.ly/2xqZXTh>)
- Pre-cut strips of paper/tissue paper
- Pritt Stick or glue
- Colouring pens or pencils (optional)
- Additional decorations - glitter, stickers or pom-poms (optional)

Instructions

1. Download and print off a template for each child or provide a piece of paper they can draw the tree.
2. Stick strips of paper on to the paper, with the longer strips at the base of the tree and the shorter strips at the top. Position the strips at different angles and overlap them.
3. Finish off by decorating with colouring pens or pencils, glitter, stickers, pom-poms, etc.

This craft will also work well with other shapes including a bauble or star. You could cut out the shapes afterwards, add a whole in the top and a ribbon to turn this into a Christmas tree decoration.



Get Creative: Christmas Craft Packs

A range of craft packs are now available from BB Supplies ideal for the Anchors age group in the lead up to Christmas.



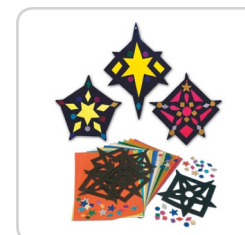
Nativity Stick Puppets £15.49 (31 510 1)

Children will love making these cute Christmas stick puppets! Add faces and clothes to turn them into characters which could be used for role play, to tell the Christmas story or just as a fun activity. Pack of 30.



Stained Glass Candles £11.95 (31 512 1)

Make your windows glow and celebrate the importance of light when you make and display these wonderful silhouette shapes. Pack contains 8 each of 4 designs. Pack of 32.



Stained Glass Stars £9.49 (31 511 1)

A fantastic craft activity, that children will love - creating their own stained glass stars. Four assorted star designs to choose from in a pack that contains all you need to make 30 decorations. Stick them on a window and see the transformation as the light shines through and makes them glow. Fully illustrated ideas and instructions included. Pack contains 10 each of 3 designs, 15 sheets A4 vellum and mixed glitter shapes.

Getting Into The Bible: The Greatest Journey



Go on a Christmas adventure as you follow in the footsteps of the greatest journey ever with The Bible Society's brand-new nativity story. They have produced a video which is available to download (free of charge) and you can order booklets (small charge to cover postage and packaging) to give out to your group to take home with them and share with their family. There are also other accompanying resources available to download including a nativity script and puzzle/colouring sheets.

Check out [The Greatest Journey](http://TheGreatestJourney.com) video and resources at biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas

Get Active: Fruit Salad

Form a circle of chairs that is one chair fewer than the total number of players. Select a player to stand in the middle of the circle. Then walk around the circle naming each player sitting in the circle as a fruit (use 3 or 4 different types of fruit in the same order i.e. apple, orange, pear, apple, orange, pear...). The player in the middle then calls out the name of one of the fruits. All those who were given that name of fruit must get up and change places, everyone else remains seated. The player in the middle must try and sit in an empty spot whilst players are changing places, if they manage to sit in a chair, the player not sitting in a chair goes into the middle. The player in the middle can also call 'Fruit Salad' and everyone who is seated has to change places, again the player in the middle is trying to get a seat. Generally the player in the middle should change each time.



Get Active: Squeak Piggy Squeak

This game can be a lot of fun! Get the group into a circle and sitting down on the floor. Select a player, they should be blindfolded and stand in the middle of the circle. The blindfolded player should be spun round a few times, so they do not know which direction they are facing and who is in front of them (leader to help guide them). They should walk from the centre of the circle towards a player (guided by a leader) and say "SQUEAK PIGGY SQUEAK". The player now squeaks back disguising their voice as much as possible to prevent the blindfolded player from guessing who it is. If they guess correctly the players change places. If not, the blindfolded player must move on to the next person until they guess correctly.

Theme Ideas



WINTER/SNOW

This winter whether you can get outside or are stuck inside, get into the season by trying out these themed ideas.

01 Get Creative: Snowman Biscuits

Equipment:

- Icing sugar
- Rich Tea biscuits
- Edible black pen or writing icing
- White marshmallows
- Tea spoons
- Smarties/Skittles or writing icing (buttons)
- Strawberry lace (scarf)

Instructions:

1. Ice the biscuit using a tea spoon (or similar).
2. Using an edible black pen or writing icing draw a face on to the marshmallow.
3. Place the marshmallow on top and wrap the strawberry lace around to create the scarf.
5. Draw stick arms using the edible pen or writing icing and add sweets for buttons



02 Get into the Bible: God made me unique like a Snowflake

Ask the children if they have ever been out in the snow? Find out what activities they like doing, they might give examples of building a snowman, throwing snowballs, sledging or making footprints. Follow that up by asking them to describe the snow, they might say things like its cold, wet, white, etc.

Explain that when snow is formed in the clouds, it then makes its journey down to the ground, but no two snowflakes are the same, they are all unique.

Like a snowflake, God made all of us unique. There never has been nor will there ever be anyone exactly like you! He made you unique and special. You could go on to create the 'Paper Snowflakes' craft to demonstrate that uniqueness and use it as a reminder of how special you are to God!

03 Get Creative: Paper Snowflakes

This simple craft just requires some white paper and scissors. Take a square white piece of paper and fold it into a triangle. Repeat the triangular fold and then with scissors, cut out shapes and designs along the sides of the triangle. Open the snowflake out.

04 Get Active: Snowman Relay

Get the children into teams for this relay game. Have each team line up behind a starting line. Approx 3m from the start line place a marker cone for each team. Each team should have a set of the following items: a scarf, a pair of gloves and a hat. Start the race with the first member of each team putting on the items and running with them around the marker cone and back to start line. At the start line, the player must remove the snowman items and pass them to the next player. The next player then puts on the accessories and races around the marker cone and back to team before the next player goes. The race continues until one team has all of its members complete the relay.

05 Get Active: Roll a Snowman

- ##### Equipment
- Roll a Snowman template (download from mybbresources.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/roll-a-snowman.pdf)

- Dice (for each table of 4)
- Pencil (for each player)



Instructions:

Based on the traditional 'Beetle Drive' play this game is in groups of 4 at a table. Get the youngest player to roll the dice first then play continues clockwise. Players throw the dice in turn and based on the number they get they draw the corresponding feature on the snowman template. Then the next player goes and so on until one player shouts "Snowman" and scores the maximum points for that round. For the next round you could either keep the same players on each table and just start with the next player or move the person who gained the most points on to the next the next table to change things up a bit. Play up to 5 rounds and then find out how many points each player has (adding up each round) to find out the overall winner. In the event of a tie, the two players with the same number of points roll a dice and the highest throw becomes the overall winner.

JUNIORS RESOURCE

Great activities & ideas for your section:

Programme Planning

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



20-26 NOV ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Take part in the week by promoting the 'Speed Down, Save Lives' theme, or focusing on any other road safety issue that is important to you. Sign up for a free action pack, registration is free and you can download factsheets, colouring and activity sheets.

Check out roadsafetyweek.org.uk



DEC 2017 CHRISTINGLE

Celebrate Christingle with your group in the lead up to Christmas, help raise vital funds for the Children's Society. As well as being able to order a Christingle pack so that your group can make their own Christingles, you can find activity sheets, colouring in sheets and other resources available to download.

Check out christingle.org

Get Active: Croc in the River

This is essentially a game of catch. Get the children into two teams, with the teams standing opposite each other around 5 metres apart. One member of the group stands in the middle of the space as the crocodile. Number the teams from opposite ends and then the leader calls a number. The two players with that number must swap places without being caught by the croc. After a number of turns or whenever someone is caught, the croc swaps with another player.



Get Creative: Peppermint Creams

Ingredients

- 75g Icing Sugar (sifted)
- 38g Carnation condensed milk
- Peppermint extract/flavouring (2/3 drops to taste)
- 20g plain chocolate (optional to decorate)

Equipment

- Mixing bowl
- Rolling pin
- Wooden spoon
- Shaped cutters or knife

Instructions

1. Mix the icing sugar, milk and peppermint extract together until it forms a smooth dough. If the mixture is too dry add a little more condensed milk. If too wet add a little more icing sugar.
2. Dust your work surface with icing sugar and roll the dough out to ¼" thick.
3. Cut into approx. 1" circles, squares, stars etc. using cutters or a knife.
4. Leave in a cool place to dry for an hour.
5. Once dry, you could add chocolate, by drizzling or half dunk them in melted chocolate. Allow to dry for a few minutes.



Theme Ideas

WORLD RECORDS

Get into these themed activities based around world records. Have your young people got what it takes to be the best in the world? Have you got a world leader at balancing spoons, or a world champion chopstick user in your Company? Who knows what specialist skills will shine through as your young people try to break some world records.

01 Get Active: Try some World Records for Yourself

Set up some stations for your young people to go around, each one with a world record to try and beat. Can they come close to beating the world record at each activity? Why not set up a Company leader board, to determine who is the 'Company Record Holder' at each challenge? Could you give some small prizes to each record holder?

1. Most spoons balanced on a face

Current record = 31

- Teaspoons are to be used
- Spoons must be balancing on the face and not stuck down

2. Most Smarties / M&Ms eaten in one minute blindfolded using chopsticks

Current record = 20

3. Fastest 100m on a Space Hopper

Current record = 30.2 seconds

4. Most shoelaces tied into a bow in 1 minute

Current record = 31

5. Most socks put on one foot in 30 seconds (one at a time)

Current record – 26

6. Emoji Pairs – Match 20 pairs of emojis

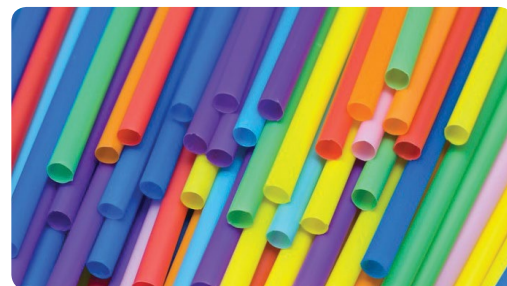
Current Record - 2mins 18 seconds

You can download and print the Emoji cards at bit.ly/2zCivqX



These are just a few records you can attempt. For the full list of records you can try, go to guinnessworldrecords.com/explore-records

02 Get Creative: World's Longest Drinking Straw



The world record for the longest usable drinking straw is 75.82 meters – which is quite impressive! How can you do?

Split up into small groups and give each group the following:

- 30-40 drinking straws
- Sellotape
- Scissors
- Bottle of water

Give each group 10–15 minutes to create the longest drinking straw they can make. Remember, the straw will need to be airtight to work. Once the time is up, see which group has made the longest straw and how much water they can transport through the straw. Get the groups to compete against each other to see who can transport the most water in the quickest time. Can they come close to the world record?



Let us know how you get on by sharing your records on social media using #BBWorldRecords or send details and a picture to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk. We will feature some of these in the next Gazette.



DID YOU KNOW?

Many GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS record holders work and train for many years to achieve their record. One man in particular, Ashrita Furman, continues to attempt and break records every year, and as of July 2017 he held over 190 records!

03 Get Creative: Edible Medals

All record breakers deserve a medal for their hard work and what's better than a medal you can eat? In just a few simple steps, your young people can make their own edible medals to celebrate their efforts in trying to break world records.



Equipment

- Golden Oreos (or similar style & colour biscuit)
- Kellogg's Fruit Winders
- Icing

Instructions

1. Carefully separate the Oreo. The handle of a teaspoon is ideal to help pull them apart.
2. Place some icing onto the inside of one of the Oreo pieces.
3. Unravel a fruit winder and place the two ends on top of the icing, to form the medal ribbon.
4. Spread some more icing on top of the biscuit and fruit winder and then place the top of the biscuit back into place.
5. Finally finish off the medal by decorating it with a pattern, writing etc.

04 Get into the Bible: God gives us all talents... use them!

Start off by sharing the parable of the talents, either by reading the passage from the bible or by summarising the story.



Read Matthew 25:14-30

In the Parable, God is the master and we are his servants. In the bible, the talents given are money, however God gives us many talents too – these are in the form of skills which we have. By trying to break world records tonight, we have found out who has special talents like being able to balance spoons or put socks on quickly.

In life our 'talents' may lie in different areas such as sport, art, writing and so on. Alternatively, your talents may be qualities like kindness, compassion, leadership or helpfulness.

God created us all with special gifts and talents and he really wants us to use those talents for the purpose he gave them to us. If we don't, then we are wasting our talents and not reaching our full potential, which disappoints God.

Hold up a frisbee and ask your group to pretend they don't know what it is or what it is used for. Some people might think it was a hat, or a dinner plate or even a spade for digging in the ground. It could be just about anything, but it isn't. It's a Frisbee and the person who created it, created it for a reason. That reason is to fly!

The Frisbee may not be very impressive to look at, is it? In a world full of high-tech electronic toys such as tablets and smart phones, it is pretty low on the list of impressive looking toys. But boy, can it fly!

Sometimes you and I may look at the talents that God has given to others and think that God hasn't given us very much. We might even be tempted to hide our talent. But when we use our God given talent to be all that God intended for us to be... boy, can we fly!

Finish with a prayer, thanking God for all our talents and asking for his help in making sure we use those talents to the best of our ability.

Get Active: Who's got the Ball?

Get the children into a circle with their hands behind their backs. One member of the group stands in the centre of the circle with their eyes closed while a small ball is passed around the circle. After a minimum of 10 seconds the member in the centre calls out stop and then opens their eyes. They now have to work out who they think has the ball, they name a person who must put both hands out in front of them. Swap over when the member in the centre guesses correctly or after three wrong attempts.

Get Active: Christmas Bingo

Play Christmas Bingo by downloading and printing out some readymade cards available to download at <http://bit.ly/2A3UtzD>.

To play just call out a Christmas symbol and the players put a marker on that picture on their card. A marker could be a plastic counter or a sweet (skittle/smarties). Once a player has five in a row they shout out bingo and they win that round. You could play in smaller groups if there are not enough cards for everyone.



Great activities & ideas for your section:

Programme Planning

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



30 NOV ST ANDREW'S DAY

On November 30th the world celebrates St Andrew's Day, Scotland's national day. St Andrew has been the Patron Saint of Scotland since 1320. Celebrate his patronage by learning about his life, holding your own ceilidh or sampling Scottish delights such as haggis.



NOV / DEC I'M A CELEBRITY

I'm a Celebrity will be back during November, with another 12 celebrities flying down under to spend 3 weeks in the Australian jungle. The celebrities will be going head to head in Bush Tucker Trials to see who will become King or Queen of the Jungle/ Could you run your own themed evening and create some Bush Tucker Trails for your group? Check out the themed ideas in the Autumn 2016 Gazette (page 30) for some ideas to get you going.



26 JAN AUSTRALIA DAY

Celebrate Australia's National Day by taking on an Australian theme to your meeting night. It's a great opportunity to learn something about Australia. Australia is a country that is so far away in terms of distance but has a great many links with our own country, through HM The Queen being Head of State, the Union Flag featuring on the Australian flag, fighting together in two World Wars as well as BB running on both sides of the globe. In summer 2018 our athletes will join those from around the Commonwealth for the 2018 Commonwealth Games which will take place on the Gold Coast.

Get Creative: Tin Can Lanterns

Get your young people create something unique, whilst also considering topics such as recycling.

Equipment

- Clean tin cans (filled with frozen water)
- Nails / Screws
- Hammers
- Templates (if needed)

Preparation

Before the activity you will need to collect tin cans, clean them and reduce any sharp edges. Once that is done you will need to fill the cans with water and freeze them ready for your meeting night.

Instructions

Using a nail / screw and a hammer, you can create designs by gently hammering small holes into the can. This can either be done by free hand, or using a design stuck onto the can. If you are using a design, stick the template onto the can using tape and then tap holes around the outside of your design. Keep the holes close together for good results.

Once you have finished, let the water melt out of the can and then place a tealight candle inside to finish off your lantern.

Ensure the cans you are using have no sharp edges left, ring pull cans will work best. You should also ensure close supervision using this equipment.



Shared by **Joe Harrison, 11th Northampton**

Get Active: Million Pound Drop



Want to test your young people's intelligence? Then why not try out Channel 4's 'Million Pound Drop' game show? This game is also great at bringing our teamwork and leadership skills, as the young people discuss and decide which answer(s) they are going to put their money on.

Instructions

Before the session, you will need to prepare some questions. You can find quiz questions ready to download online or use questions from a board game or similar you might have in the cupboard. You should also have 4 sheets of red paper or trays where the money will be placed based on the answer they select, it could help to label these A, B, C, D so you can then give those options as the answers to the questions.

The format of the game is based on:

- 8 rounds
- Each round has two topics of questions to choose from
- First four rounds have 4 answers to choose from
- Next three rounds have 3 answers to choose from
- The final round has only two answers to choose from.

To help understand the gameshow format you could watch a clip on YouTube, you will also find detailed guidance on the rules and format online by just searching 'Million Pound Drop'.

Split your young people into teams and give each team 100 counters. This can be pennies, plastic coins, buttons or whatever you can get your hands on. Once a question is asked, each team has 60 seconds to place their counters on a drop zone, with each drop zone representing an answer to the question (i.e. A, B, C or D). Each team can place counters on one or more drop zones, but must leave at least one zone empty. The three incorrect answers will then drop. Any counters which fall are then lost for the rest of the game. Carry on through the rounds, if a team loses all of their counters then they are out of the game. The winning team will be the ones with the most counters at the end of the game.

Shared by **Joe Harrison, 11th Northampton**

Get Creative: Lip Sync Battle



Try out this with your young people, it can be great fun for those performing and those watching as well. The concept is simple, just select a favourite song and lip sync (short for lip synchronisation), which is basically matching a person's lip movements based on a pre-recorded song. You could allow each person to select their own song and award points based on accuracy, creativity and overall performance. Or young people could go head to head, singing a part of the song each. As well as lip synchronisation it's also about dancing and the overall show/performance.

This could be run in conjunction with other young people at your church and run as a fundraising or social activity or as part of a talent show.

Get Active: Trading Beans



A great game to play with your young people involving co-operation and negotiation. You will need to purchase jelly beans sufficient so that each member has 10 jelly beans. Give each person 10 jelly beans, making sure they have a variety of colours. When everyone has 10 beans, the game starts. People need to trade their beans with each other, with the goal of having 10 beans of the one colour. A variation involves having a countdown clock to indicate when the game 'finishes' - just to add a sense of urgency.

Get Active: Newspaper Quiz



For this game you will need multiple copies of a recent newspaper with one copy for each team and one for the leader running the activity. Get the young people into teams of 3 or 4 and give each team a copy of the same newspaper. The leader should call out a question based on the contents of the paper. If necessary giving a page number, but you could start off without that and see how quickly they are able to find the answer. Questions could include things such as the result of a sporting event (one they were unlikely to know off the top of their heads), what time a programme is coming on or any detail related to content in the newspaper. The first team with the correct answer wins and should be given a point, make sure you ask questions from lots of different parts/pages of the newspaper as teams may well slit the paper up to make it easier for them to find the answer. A bonus point could be awarded at the end of the game for the first team to bring you the newspaper back in one piece and in the correct order.

The Answer's Out There

For this issue we asked the following...

"We know some Companies are running the Company Section and Seniors age groups together, what are the advantages and disadvantages to this and how does this work in your Company?"

In response to this a number of leaders have shared their thoughts.

"We have always done it this way, mainly because we do not have enough Officers (and in many years, not enough boys) to run two separate programmes. However, we try to provide separate badge classes for new boys who have just moved up from Junior Section, to provide a softer transition, rather than just suddenly throwing them in with the other boys who are up to 6 years older than them. We find the main difficulty with running Company Section and Seniors together is coming up with fresh ideas for badge work. It can be tempting to just reuse something you did a few years ago, but since you are working with the same boys for up to 7 years, this isn't really an option."

Andrew Swann, 1st Connor

Just for fun: Snowman Drawing

This is a great game to play this Christmas or over the winter period, it's simple, involves some drawing and a lot of laughs.

Simply hand all the young people (and the leaders, they could have a go to!) a white paper plate and a black colouring pen. Ask everyone to place their paper plate on their head, holding the plate in one hand and the pen in the other hand. Once everyone is ready a leader should give a series of instructions:

- Draw a line for the ground/snow
- Draw a large snow ball for the base of your snowman.
- Create a medium sized snowball on top of the first one.
- Create a small snowball on top of that for the head.
- Draw a carrot nose.
- Now add 2 eyes and a mouth with dots of coal.
- Draw a scarf to keep your snowman warm
- Add 2 stick arms
- And finally, finish your snowman by drawing a top hat on your snowman's head

It should get quite entertaining, nobody is allowed to look at what they are drawing and must keep the paper plate on their head at all times. Now that the drawings are complete, ask everybody to take a look at their snowman and show others. You could have a competition and vote on the best snowman!

"In recent years as a Company we have actually found a greater need to provide a separate or split programme for the first two years of Company Section (school years 7 and 8) which provides a bit more of a cushion and focus on this age group at a time when there are lots of pressures from the move to secondary school and changing friendships circles. Mixing year 9 upwards has not been so much of a problem for us. This may be unique to us, but we have found this has worked really well and has meant we have retained more young people during the transition from Juniors to Company Section."

Chris Norman, 10th Enfield

"I feel it is important to keep activities which are 'special' to each age group and this applies to Seniors too. Even if you are running a joint programme they need at least some activities away from the younger ones to allow the younger ones to have something to look forward to when they move to this age group, if not it is just 7 years of 'the same'."

Vicki Brownlee, 5th Hull

CHALLENGE PLUS

RESOURCE

Programme Planning

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



13-19 NOV UK PARLIAMENT WEEK

Now in its seventh year, the week-long festival encourages local groups to explore what UK parliament means to them and empower them to get involved.

Check out more information and resources at ukparliamentweek.org



1 DEC WORLD AIDS DAY

World AIDS Day takes place on the 1st December each year. Over 100,000 people are living with HIV in the UK. Globally, there are an estimated 36.7 million people who have the virus. Despite the virus only being identified in 1984, more than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history. World AIDS Day is an opportunity to show solidarity with the millions of people living with HIV worldwide. Most people do this by wearing an HIV awareness red ribbon on the day, but you could consider how you could build greater awareness with your young people and also how you could make a difference by supporting World Aids Day.

Check out more at worldaidsday.org

Ultimate Challenge Plus



UCP makes a return for session 2017 – 2018. This mental and physical challenge allows Seniors from right across the Brigade to take part and compete for the overall title. You don't need to have special facilities or equipment to participate and, what's more, UCP can be carried out in your own meeting space. Whether you have a larger membership in the section, or just a few young people, UCP is an individual competition where young people are competing against others from right across the UK & RoI.

In addition, Seniors also have the option to use UCP on their path to Challenge Plus Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Over the last few years, Companies have used UCP on their normal meeting nights, and in some cases, Battalions have organised this as a special event for Seniors. However your young people wish to get involved, UCP is about setting goals, focusing on a task and challenging yourself to go further.

Find out more and download the UCP by visiting
boys-brigade.org.uk/ucp

Many congratulations to Andrew Allan, 1st Carrickfergus who came 1st place in 2016 – 2017 Ultimate Challenge Plus competition.

Challenge: Gutter Line

Try out this great problem-solving and teamwork challenge!

Equipment

- Several lengths of plastic gutter or pipe
- Several balls (or a container with water)



Instructions

This energiser activity involves different sized balls (or even water) moving down different lengths of gutter/pipe from the start to a designated end point which is marked clearly. Each participant only has one short length of gutter/pipe each, making good communication and teamwork essential!

The start and finish points can be separated by an obstacle course and you could also add in certain rules, such as every member of the team has to carry the ball twice, and so on.

Give each participant a piece of pipe and give them a few minutes to prepare. The time starts as soon as the first ball is set off. It's a good idea to give the group a few practice attempts.

TOP TIP

You could challenge another group to film the challenge attempt and make a movie out of it! Email your photos and videos to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk and we will feature the best ones!



With 90% of professions in the UK requiring some degree of digital skills, coding is one of the many ways in which young people can develop these important skills.

Using the likes of a **micro:bit** (a tiny programmable computer) you can get creative with code, bringing it to life as young people make all sorts of cool creations, from robots to musical instruments – there are no shortage of possibilities!

Where to start

Your young people can try out some fun coding and develop skills without having access to a micro:bit. Just visit microbit.org for ways to get started and get activity ideas. There are also links to materials to help young people get started with their coding journey.

You could decide to make an investment at the beginning by buying at least one micro:bit (or similar). These are normally fairly affordable with many coming in at £14 or less.

Next Steps

As the young people become more confident, they can think about undertaking more ambitious projects, from robotics and solving real engineering challenges. You can visit the microbit website or elsewhere online to see some fantastic, fun and ambitious projects.



ARE YOU ALREADY OFFERING DIGITAL ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COMPANY?

Share what's working well by emailing gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk or tweet @BBgazette



Just for fun: Pass the Parcel with a Twist



Try out this variation of the traditional Pass the Parcel game. You will need various prizes and lots and lots of clingfilm, ultimately making what is known in the USA as a 'Saran Wrap Ball' ('Saran' is the trading name of a Company producing polythene wrap in the USA). As with the traditional pass the parcel game, you should start off with the main prize in the middle, then wrap clingfilm around it to form a ball. Add additional smaller prizes as layers in between the clingfilm.

Playing the Game

Get the young people to sit in a circle. The first person with the ball starts unwrapping while the person on their right rolls a pair of dice, trying to roll doubles. Once doubles are rolled, the ball and dice move round to the right to the next players in turn. The person with the ball does not stop unwrapping until the person to their right rolls doubles. Players get to keep the treasures they unwrap along the way.

If you are looking for the ball to be passed quickly around the group, you could use just one dice and pick a number that has to be hit in order for the ball to move on. You could make the unwrapping more difficult by making them wear a blindfold or a pair of gloves.

When making the ball, you can use one continuous piece of clingfilm or individual pieces. If using individual pieces, start them at different angles and cut the clingfilm at different lengths to make it more challenging. If you have a larger group, you could use two or three balls and start them at different points in the circle or have two groups with a ball each.



Just for fun: Supermarket

This is a great game which will get all your young people involved. The first player starts the game by saying "I went to the supermarket to buy an Apple (or any other object you can buy in a supermarket that begins with an A). The next player repeats the sentence, including the "A" word and adds a "B" word. Each successive player recites the sentence with all the alphabet items, adding one of their own. For example; 'I went to the supermarket and bought an Apple, Banana, CD, dog food, envelopes, frozen fish'. It's not too hard to reach the end of the alphabet, usually with a little help! Watch out for 'Q' and 'X'.

FOCUS ENGLAND & WALES

England And Wales Team Update - One Year On!

As we approach the end of 2017, we look back at the previous session and catch up with the staff team to see how their new roles have developed...



Natalie at the Unite Camp at Felden Lodge in June

Natalie Whipday

Director for England and Wales

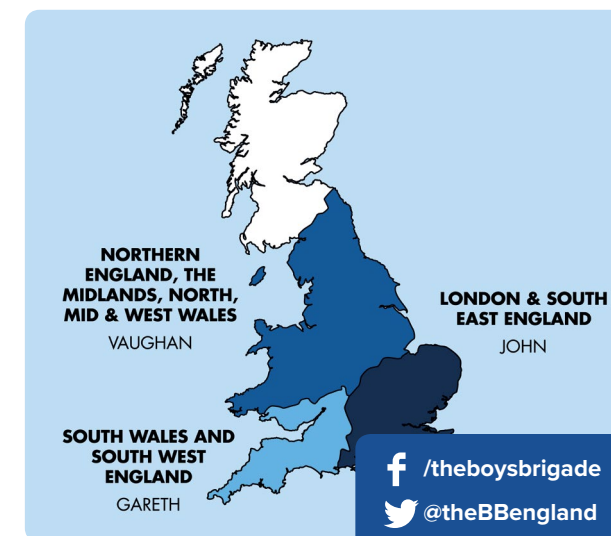
It has been an extremely busy but enjoyable year for the team. Our initial focus was identifying a true understanding of the current needs of Companies within the Region. A priority was to form links with Districts, Battalions and Companies opening clear lines of communication between them and England and Wales HQ.

Various Brigade HQ functions have also been Regionalised such as the processing of;

- ✓ Holiday / Expedition Notifications
- ✓ Awards – Queens, President Badges, Long Service Awards
- ✓ Training records
- ✓ Complaints
- ✓ Enquires

Some highlights of the year have been the very successful Get Active Roadshows, Unite camp going from strength to strength and positive progress made in forming links with Government Officials in Wales and England. My team took the lead in ensuring that Brigade Conference in Manchester was hosted to a high standard. We are also due to host two Regional Juniors 100 Adventure Sleepovers to mark the centenary of the Junior Section.

It is evident to me that there is some outstanding youth work taking place, delivered by committed and dedicated leaders and that we are offering amazing opportunities to children and young people. Support is however required in many areas with identified needs being a lack of volunteers, church relations,



recruitment and the quality of programme. I would encourage any leaders who feel their Company could benefit from support to please contact us. A continued priority will be working with existing Companies to sustain our numbers whilst also looking at areas of new work and raising our profile with Churches to assist with improving relationships and highlighting their role as our Partners.

Get in touch with Natalie by email natalie.whipday@boys-brigade.org.uk or by phone on 01442 509 520



Vaughan attended the Mid-staffs and Sandwell Battalion Juniors 100 Celebration at the Black Country Museum in July.

Vaughan Staples

Areas covered include Northern England, The Midlands, North, Mid and West Wales

It has been a pleasure meeting and supporting the various Companies, Battalions and Districts I have met with over the past year. There are a number of strong Companies with a large number of young people and leaders providing quality

programmes and opportunities to those in their care and this has been fantastic to see and learn from. There have also been a number of Companies who have been struggling and this has led to conversations on the best way forward for the leaders, young people and church involved. This has included looking at support plans, succession planning, sustainability, recruitment, retention and church relationships, and as a last resort, this has included closures. In a time where we are aiming to offer a quality BB experience to all our members, closing Companies is difficult but sometimes necessary. However where possible those few leaders or young people who have remained have been directed to other Companies, and many new Companies are in the process of starting.

As well as developing and supporting Companies and Battalions, it has been an incredibly busy year, taking lead roles in organising the OBM roadshows, Brigade Conference in Manchester, the Big Night Out, the upcoming Juniors 100 Adventure Sleepovers as well as attending many other regional and local events. All have given me opportunity to meet with the membership and listen to what support and guidance is required. I look forward to continuing to provide support in the coming session, so please contact me at the Northern Office in Manchester for any guidance you may need.

Get in touch with Vaughen by email v.staples@boys-brigade.org.uk or by phone on **01442 509 515**



John attended London's Juniors 100 Camp and Fun Day in June, attended by 400+

John Myers

Areas covered include London and South East England
A full year has now passed as Development Worker for London, East Anglia and the South East! It has been an exciting and busy year and it's been a great pleasure to travel around various Battalions and Companies and meet so many Leaders, and children & young people. The focus of the year has been to introduce myself to all Battalions within my geographical area and offer help and support where possible. By forming working relationships with local Battalions, it is hoped that these partnerships will help to support local BB Companies, especially those who have identified the need for support and work towards providing quality services/provisions for our members.

Get in touch with John by email john.myers@boys-brigade.org.uk or by phone on **01442 509 534**



Gareth attended the Unite Camp at Felden Lodge in June

Gareth Hillier

Areas covered include South Wales and South West England

It's been an exciting year, one which has been full of challenge but also opportunity. I have enjoyed getting around many of the Battalions and Companies, widening my knowledge of the Brigade, outside my previous remit of just focusing on South Wales. This has enabled me to broaden my approach in improving the quality of what we deliver. I have loved seeing the great work that happens week in week out. I am encouraged by meeting so many amazing volunteers who give so much to making the BB what it is. Part of my role has seen me working with struggling Companies and a highlight has been seeing the improvements made over the last 12 months. A personal highlight was the event we ran at the Welsh Assembly. It was a tremendous success and we have had some great opportunities since then and I look forward to holding more events at the assembly with the aim of raising our profile.

Get in touch with Gareth by email gareth.hillier@boys-brigade.org.uk or by phone on **07411 624044**

The England and Wales Team are based at the Northern Office in Manchester and the England and Wales Headquarters at Felden Lodge, supported by our Administrator, Graham Weston.

All general enquiries can be directed to the England and Wales Team by calling **01442 288 558** or emailing ewhq@boys-brigade.org.uk.

Notifying Training Courses

All Brigade Training Officers are reminded that they must notify and register any training to the England and Wales HQ by email (ewhq@boys-brigade.org.uk) prior to the training taking place and also provide details of those leaders who have completed training thereafter to ensure leaders' records are kept up to date.

Unite 2018

Unite will take place from Saturday 26th to Monday 28th May 2018 at Felden Lodge.

There will be the option for groups to arrive on the evening of Friday 25th May if they wish. The cost is £72 per person, or £75 if arriving on the Friday evening (the additional charge includes food on Friday evening and Saturday morning).

For more information, or to download a booking form, visit the website at: unitebb.org.uk/booking

WHAT'S ON - ENG & WAL

- 9 DEC** **Young Leaders Climbing Event (Wales)**
For further details contact gareth.hillier@boys-brigade.org.uk
- 16 MAR** **Young Leaders Whitewater Rafting (Wales)**
For further details contact gareth.hillier@boys-brigade.org.uk
- 24 MAR** **National Music Festival South of England (Chandlers Ford)**
For further details contact bbgbfestival@live.co.uk
- 28 APR** **National Music Festival North of England (Derringham Bank)**
For further details contact bbgbfestival@live.co.uk
- 20 MAY** **Waltham Walk 2018**
Find out more at walthamwalk.org.uk
- 25-28 MAY** **Unite Camp, Felden Lodge**
Find out more at unitebb.org.uk



TRAINING DATES

- 1-3 DEC** **Youth Leadership Training (Part 1)**
Felden Lodge
- 2 DEC** **Captain's Training**
Felden Lodge
- 13 JAN** **Youth Leadership Training (Part 1)**
Cardiff
- 27 JAN** **Skills for Queen's Badge**
Felden Lodge
- 27-28 JAN** **Queen's Badge Completion Course**
Felden Lodge
- 3 FEB** **Youth Leadership Training (Part 2)**
Felden Lodge
- 10 FEB** **DofE Update**
Felden Lodge
- 10 FEB** **Working with challenging behaviour**
Cardiff

FOCUS R.O.I

Announcing our new National Director

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Brian Weekes as National Director for The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association in the Republic of Ireland. Brian has a wealth of experience working in the BB.



Brian joined the Junior Section of the 29th Dublin Company, in 1967 where he continued as a member and Leader for almost 30 years.

Brian takes up post with a strong "BB pedigree" as well as extensive experience in the business world. We all wish Brian the very best in his new role within our organisation.

Brian replaces Philip Daley who has been our National Director for the last 10 years. Philip has been appointed Grand Secretary/

Chief Executive of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Ireland. We wish Philp every success in his new role and we are delighted that he will be remaining within the BB family as a volunteer.

- 1976** Awarded the Queen's Badge
- 1976** KGVI Cadet at Felden Lodge
- 1983** CO for Irish contingent to Centenary celebrations in Glasgow
- 1983/4** Attended the Pan Australian Centenary Camp in Canberra
- 1984** Qualified as a Brigade Training Officer in Carronvale and elected Training Director for Republic of Ireland District.



Young Leaders Visit Bangladesh for World Mission Fund

In August, Craig Lowe and Kalesha Mayne, BB young leaders from Kirkintilloch and Paisley returned from a two-week visit to Bangladesh to witness first-hand how global warming is affecting the South Asian country. Their visit was part of the BB / Church of Scotland World Mission Fund 'Climate Conscious Total Village' project.

In partnership with the Church of Bangladesh, Craig, 22 and Kalesha, 21, spent time in the Dhaka area of the country. They met farmers that also saw the wider local community being educated about the effects of climate change and how, together, challenges could be addressed.

Craig said "This trip allowed me to experience something I wouldn't have been able to do otherwise. Also I was very interested to see how global warming is affecting countries in this region in comparison to the effects we are facing in our country."

Climate change is a critical issue in Bangladesh, and of course a major global issue. Faith-based organisations and churches are at the heart of efforts to help those already facing the effects of global warming."

The new World Mission project, 'Playground for StARS' is being launched this Autumn. To find out how your Company, Church or Battalion can get involved, please visit worldmissionfund.org.uk

Juniors 100 Debated in the Scottish Parliament!

MSPs from three political parties participated in a Juniors 100 debate, which was called following a parliamentary motion from Alexander Stewart MSP welcoming the milestone marking 100 years of The BB working with the Junior Section age group.



A number of BB alumni are also members of the Scottish Parliament, including MSPs Fulton MacGregor, Stuart McMillan and Iain Gray, all of whom spoke in the debate.

Stuart McMillan MSP, the Parliamentary Piper, learned to play the pipes in The Boys' Brigade. In his contribution to the debate, he said "Whether through team building, sport, charity activity, helping people to become good citizens or the many other activities that it does, The Boys' Brigade delivers in every constituency in the country, throughout the UK and globally. It has been a force for good and it is a huge cause for celebration that the Junior Section is now 100 years old."



You can view a video of the debate at goo.gl/826yS6

Development staff

In mid-October, Paul O'Shea, Development Officer for Lanarkshire moved to pastures new to start a new job as an Active Schools Coordinator. Paul has served in his role for the past four years and has worked closely with companies and battalions across the Lanarkshire Fellowship and beyond.



The SHQ team wishes Paul every success and blessing for the future. News will be coming out soon about appointments to the Scottish Development team.

Spill the Beans

Spill the Beans provides worship and Christian faith learning resources for all ages with a Scottish flavour. BB Scotland has teamed up with the publishers to make this resource, including the brand new edition, available on the leaders' website <http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk/spillthebeans.htm>. You can also access this material by contacting niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk



Cumbræ Camp 2018

After the successful event in May this year bringing together Company Sections from across the country, BB Scotland will be running the national camp again in 2018! The four-day residential experience will run from 25th until 28th May 2018. More information and registration details are available on the events webpage at boys-brigade.org.uk/events



Make a Difference Award

Alan Graham from 1st New Monkland was presented with the *Make a Difference Award* by STV news stalwart and former BB member John MacKay. Alan received the national honour for helping others in his local community where he carried out in excess of 250 hours at Airdrie Foodbank whilst working towards his Queen's Badge.

Alan, who embarked on KGV1 this summer said "It's an amazing feeling and a great honour. It came as a big surprise as it was it was a very unexpected nomination. My volunteering has given me a much clearer understanding of foodbanks and just how many people rely on them. The experience has also really helped me develop my teamwork and communication skills."

The *Make a Difference Award* is open to BB young people (aged 5 – 19) who have gone an extra mile to help others. Find out more by visiting leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/gomad.htm



SUPPORTING
year of young people
bliadhna na h-òigridh
2018

Year of Young People 2018 – Update

Now is a great chance to think about planning events to mark the next 'designated year' in Scotland – the **Year of Young People 2018**. We have set up a website with some background, which includes a toolkit to help you make the most about this great opportunity to showcase The Boys' Brigade and its young people in your area. YoYP 2018 is very much about giving young people an opportunity to shape events, so make sure to speak to your members about what they would like to see happen.



Visit:
boys-brigade.org.uk/scotland/yoyp2018

Amazing Things 4!

The 4th edition of *Amazing Things – The Guide to Youth Awards in Scotland* has been launched by the Awards Network to coincide with the 2017 Scottish Learning Festival. Featuring 26 youth award providers, including The Boys' Brigade, it is packed with information that will help young people, educators and employers learn more about youth awards and how they contribute to young people's learning, life and work skills development.

Copies of *Amazing Things 4* can be ordered by contacting scottishhq@boys-brigade.org.uk or downloaded from awardsnetwork.org

WHAT'S ON - SCOTLAND

18 - 19 NOV

**Leading Sports
(Skills for QB) Course**
Carronvale House

1 - 2 DEC

**Enhancing Your Skills
(Skills for QB) Course**
Carronvale House

2 - 3 DEC

**Enhancing Your Skills
(Skills for QB) Course**
Carronvale House

FOCUS NORTHERN IRELAND



Free CRED Resources for collection at NIHQ Newport

Preparing to Be Incredible is designed to help Leaders explore a wide variety of themes around inclusion such as sectarianism, disability awareness, mental health, racism, equality and LGBT with young people in the over 11s age group. These are all issues that a group of young people from each of the 6 main uniformed youth organisations in NI identified as relevant to them.

INCREDIBLY it's Child's Play is for leaders working with the under 11s age group and has activities to help explore the issues of community relations, equality and diversity through play.

Let's Talk is a spiral bound A6 book of pictures paired with common phrases you might use whilst working with children and young people, translated in six languages: English, Arabic, Polish, Chinese, Irish and Ulster Scots. This is a joint initiative with the main uniformed organisations and made possible with funding from the Education Authority. We hope this helps Leaders in situations where they are communicating with children and young people whose first language is not English. We all want to include children and young people of all backgrounds and abilities in our youth work and make their experience a positive one where they feel welcome and involved.

Anchor Boy Charity

Down's Syndrome Association NI has been selected as the Anchor Boy Charity for the 2017/18 session. The Down's Syndrome Association (DSA) is the only charity in Northern Ireland, focusing solely on all aspects of living successfully with Down's Syndrome. Their aim is to help people with Down's Syndrome live full and rewarding lives.

Time Out with John's Gospel

This Bible Study has been edited by John Kee (Summer Madness) and is a collaboration work with various organisations including The Bible Society in NI. The book is provided free because of the support and sponsorship of various organisations including The Boys' Brigade Northern Ireland District and is available to collect FREE from NIHQ.



KGVI Celebrations

The Annual KGVI Leadership course took place from Saturday 22nd to Friday 28th July 2017. Twelve second years and seven first years took part in a lively and challenging week. Lee Kitson, BB Officer from 7th Londonderry took a session on fencing during the week as a time out activity which proved very popular with the cadets.

A celebration evening was held on Friday 8th September 2017 in the Old Courthouse Antrim kindly hosted by Cllr Paul Hamill, Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, to recognise the completion of the 2017 Year 2 KGVI Young Leaders. The 'Top Cadet' award was awarded to Megan Anderson from 4th Ballymoney BB Company. The Northern Ireland District is very blessed to have these young people willing to train as BB Leaders and serve in their Churches through The Boys' Brigade.

The 2018 KGVI residential youth leader training course will take place from Saturday 21st July to Friday 27th July at NIHQ Newport. We would encourage all Captains to consider this opportunity to get young people to train as leaders in BB. It is a fun and practical week where trainees get the opportunity to develop their leadership skills in a safe environment.



New Staff appointed at NIHQ

The Northern Ireland District is pleased to announce the appointment of the following members of staff:



Training & Programme Officer

David Penney joined the NIHQ staff team in late August as the Training & Programme Officer. David was previously the Director of Youth Ministries at First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church. He has also been involved in the wider denomination and chaired the committee that is responsible for PCI's annual 'MAD Weekend' for five years.



PA to the Director

Denise Johnston has been appointed to the position of PA to the Director. Denise was previously employed as an Administration Officer with Clubs for Young People and has considerable knowledge of the wider voluntary youth sector in Northern Ireland. Denise is a former Anchor Boy Leader.



Progress at Newport

We are pleased to report that significant progress has been made at Newport over the summer period. Phase Three of the project is the refurbishment of the remaining four classrooms, two cloakrooms and some other smaller rooms. This will provide a training/meeting room, three dormitory style bedrooms and two smaller bedrooms which can be used by tutors or those requiring disabled access facilities. It is anticipated that the major work on this phase will be completed by Christmas 2017, with the kitting out to be done in early 2018, subject to available funding. We therefore hope that residential training can commence at Newport before the end of the 2017/18 session.



Company Section Scripture Course 17/18 'Lessons from the Lesser Known'

The Bible is filled with wonderful accounts of great men and women used by God. Some were great leaders, some were great Kings, or great prophets, or great people. Many of these people we know by name: from the Old Testament - Adam, Noah, Abraham and Isaac, Joseph, Moses, David, and many more. From the New Testament - Jesus' work and ministry; Peter, Paul, James and John, Timothy and others. This booklet of lessons is about people in the Bible who are not so well known, hence the title: 'Lessons from the Lesser Known'.

There are some people who appear only once or twice by name in scripture, yet they are important in what they can teach us. It is also good for us all to remember that you do not need to be a big name, a great person or famous to make a difference or have an impact upon others. As you study these 'Lesser Known' characters take time to think about the person and the situation; what lesson or lessons we can learn from these people that can be applied in our daily lives and situations.

We express our thanks to the Christian Education and Church Relations Committee for producing this course and in particular the contributors: Rev Scott Woodburn, Rev Peter Fleming and Rev Alistair Beattie. To order please phone NIHQ or find the order form at bbni.org.uk/niforms.htm

WHAT'S ON - N. IRELAND

18 DEC

JS Musician of the Year
Entries due

12 - 14 JAN

Youth Leader Training (Residential)

13 JAN

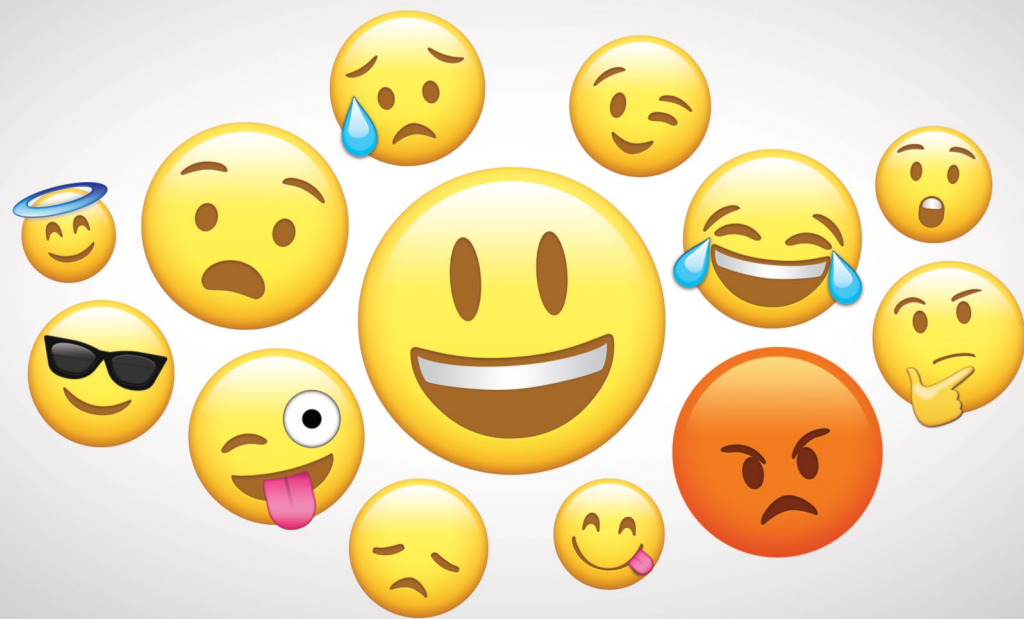
JS Musician of the Year

26-28 JAN

Skills for Queen's Badge

27 JAN

Anchor Boys Fun & Games



Challenging Behaviour

The Behaviour Challenge

One of the things we hear most from Leaders is that working with “challenging” behaviour is not only widespread, but often a cause of stress and frustration. Many of us can feel a sense of despair or failure when our strategies don’t seem to be working.

Few things are as personally challenging as working with a group of children or young people whose behaviour can seem out of our control. It can often appear to overshadow everything else that is going on at a BB night.

What is important for our own well-being and for the quality of the work we seek to deliver is to remember that we can learn from our experiences. We can develop skills and strategies to cope, and also to be self-aware enough to recognize when we are in danger of not coping, when we need support or a new way of seeing the situation.

The key skill, and often the turning point in the relationship with a child is to understand the reasons for the behaviour. This does two things:

- Enables the Leader to feel empowered to deal effectively with the behaviour, and
- Clarifies what is the best approach with an individual child.

This understanding also gives you the ability to detach from the emotions that the behavior can make you feel, and focus instead on a structured response. This will help both the Leader and the child!

What Do We Mean by Challenging Behaviour?

The first step to gaining more skills in this area is to define what challenging behaviour means to you, bearing in mind that not all Leaders will find the same behaviour equally challenging. Think of a child or young person you work with – would you say that their behaviour was mild, moderate or extremely challenging to you?

What form does the behavior take? Is it:

- Disruptive
- Aggressive
- Violent
- Self-harming
- Refusing to cooperate?

Then ask yourself what impact does this behaviour have:

- On the child or young person him/herself?
- On other children and young people?
- On Leaders?

Understanding the Reasons

Now ask yourself what the reasons or causes could be.

Could it be:

- something that is distressing the young person, at home or at school?
- a diagnosed medical condition?
- a learned disrespect for boundaries or the rights of others?
- a programme that is boring or pitched too high or too low?
- a leader who is unconfident in their role or who is over-controlling?

It could be all or none of the above, and it may be that we never entirely understand the young person until a more trusting and sharing relationship has been built. However, whatever the causes, the solutions will vary. What is likely to happen though, as we attempt to deepen our understanding is that we alter our perspective. We begin to widen our focus from just the immediate impact of the behaviour, to an understanding of causes, or spark-points for individuals.

“ Every child deserves someone who believes in them. Be that one!

Coping with our own responses

So how do we cope with the stress that can build up? Finding meaningful and constructive ways to deal with challenging behaviour takes energy, patience and sometimes, creativity. None of these are accessible to us when we are close to “burn-out”.

It’s interesting how we sometimes react differently to the same behaviour we encounter each week. This suggests that our own inner resources are vital, and is another good reason for BB Leaders to look after themselves!

One of the ways to take a step back and share ideas and strategies is to come onto the BB course “Working with Challenging Behaviour”. There you can talk informally to colleagues and explore some tried and tested approaches to working positively with young people whose behaviour challenges us.

BB Training

Talk to your Captain or Battalion or District Training Convenor and ask for a “Working with Challenging Behaviour” course to be scheduled in. These courses offer practical techniques to use when attempting to improve behaviour. There are plenty of opportunities to learn about using strategies and, without promising a magic solution, this part of the course aims to increase a leader’s confidence and skill in working with young people in a style that reinforces better behaviour.

The key learning point is that the quality of attention we give to children and young people is powerful. Leaders can draw from a range of techniques, which used together, can produce amazing results.

The course will help by:

- changing the way that we understand and communicate with young people
- enabling us to create situations in which the child or young person can do well
- help Leaders to set up a token system to reinforce better behaviour and offer strategies for dealing with the inevitable “blow out” incidents.

“ Challenging behaviour is just a signal, the means by which a child is communicating that he or she is having difficulty meeting an expectation

And Finally...

There is one vital technique that ensures the renewal of our energies and the renewal of the relationships with young people that become strained. That technique is to practice forgiveness.

There are two important elements to it:

- Review the Company night when it has finished and everyone has gone. Go over in your mind the critical incidents, or your responses to any challenging behaviour. If possible, speak to a fellow Leader. In your heart, forgive the young person for their behaviour, and try to let go of any anger or disappointment you might feel.
- Forgive yourself for any mistakes you feel you have made in trying to manage a young person’s behaviour. Try and let go of any guilt or disappointment you may feel about your own resentful thoughts or a harsh tone of voice you used.

By practicing forgiveness and letting go of unhelpful feelings, you can come back to the next meeting renewed and refreshed. This way we have the potential to meet that young person again with positive expectations, and possibly be one of the few people who will have an impact on that young person and their behaviour.

Good luck. You are doing a GREAT job!

Karen Jay

Director of Children’s & Youth Work



Get in touch with Karen by email at karen.jay@boys-brigade.org.uk



Making the most from our community

Engagement and Communications Officer, **Niall Rolland**, shares some ideas on how we can be more effective at gaining support from our local communities and how this ongoing support can really make a difference...

Whether your Company runs all four sections or one, the weekly commitment to providing a safe space where young people are learning and can be themselves is an invaluable one and makes an invaluable investment into a local community. Too often perhaps, we don't have the time, the guidance, or the confidence to engage our wider community and this can mean that the variety, quality and potential of BB work is not fully recognised or appreciated. For example: Do people outside the Church and Company really know what we do? Do they have an understanding of our impact?

Our Community

We may not always recognise it, but with over 1300 Companies across UK & RoI, The Boys' Brigade is at the heart of 'community engagement'. In other words, we are in the business of building positive ongoing relationships to the benefit of the local community.

However, is it clear who our community really is?

Automatically, we may consider our 'community' to be along geographical lines, or just those in our membership - but its definition can be wider to mean a 'group of people united by at least one common characteristic, including geography, identity or shared interests'.

Beyond our Church and the families of our members, who are we referring to? Well, these will vary from Company to Company, but in most cases they will include:

- Other Churches
- Other BB Companies
- Schools / education
- Youth organisations
- Local people
- Charities
- Businesses
- Council/Local Authority
- Sports Clubs
- Elected Representatives

It's important to recognise that we cannot realistically engage with all of these different groups, but appreciate that they can be relevant to what we want to achieve.

Why does engaging with these groups matter?

It is only right that we focus, first and foremost, on our current members and the quality of the programme. Nevertheless, reaching out to this wider audience can make a tangible difference. Below are just a few reasons why building relationships across our community is worth doing:

1 It's what we do!

The Boys' Brigade has always led the way to engaging the wider community – whether to partner Churches in their outreach, or to meet the challenge of a community need.

2 Membership

By tapping into these other groups within our communities, we can add a huge boost to our recruitment efforts.

3 Volunteers

Sometimes it helps to think a little 'outside the box' when we are looking for our next group of volunteer leaders. By casting the net a little wider, it offers the opportunity to attract a variety of talented individuals to your staff team. Also, there may also be training opportunities open to BB leaders within other organisations.

4 Reputation

By making sure that the wider community is more aware of our work and impact, it can offer a boost to the reputation of The Boys' Brigade. It demonstrates a confidence that we are proud of what we are doing and know how much we (and our young people) make a difference.

5 Collaboration

Whether it is a local school, charity or another youth group, many other organisations share similar objectives, such as supporting young people. By working together, there are opportunities for shared learning, programme development and much else besides.

6 Funding

Community engagement also opens the door to funding from different sources – whether they be from likes of local community grants, or from running an event.

How can we make the most of our community?

There is definitely no one-size fits all approach here. BB Companies in rural settings, for instance, will have a very different experience to those in more urban areas. However, the approach is the same – be bold, be visible and be accessible.

This doesn't mean that you should spend excessive amounts of time contacting other organisations, or take time away from the important work of running a Company. But why not include this as an item for a staff-meeting? Are there practical steps that I can take to improve my Company's community engagement? Take a look at the suggestions below:

Support a local good cause

Ask your young people for ideas of who you could fundraise or carryout some volunteering for. Very often these experiences help build your programme too!

Example – 1st Dunbar



This year members of 1st Dunbar took on some tough challenges to raise money for the Bethany Christian Trust, a local homelessness charity. Young people completed the Edinburgh Kiltwalk Mighty Stride (a 26 mile walk around Edinburgh) and also abseiled the 37 metre Barns Ness Lighthouse. The group has raised an incredible £1000!

Build relationships with local schools

It is easy to think of schools as only a place to just drop off flyers about BB, but by persevering and taking a few extra steps, it can develop into a really good relationship. Some of the things you could try:

- School assemblies
- Deliver sessions in schools, such as leadership or wider achievement
- Share the achievements of BB young people with the school
- Ask to have a stall at a school event – such as a parents' evening or fundraiser
- Invite the local Headteacher to a BB event, such as your awards' presentation

Example – 5th Plymouth



To coincide with the 4th October, 5th Plymouth had arranged that BB members at their local primary school could wear their uniform to school for a day. This not only highlights The Boys' Brigade, but it's a fantastic way that both school and BB can work together to celebrate young people's achievements beyond what happens in the school day.

Media / Social media / Web presence

- Engaging your community also involves using tools like press and social media. Putting out a press release, or posting on the likes of Twitter and Facebook allows you to communicate to a wider audience about the BB programme, events and activities.
- Remember that social media is interactive and by showing an interest in other organisations, you can start to build useful connections, such as with your elected representatives, or other BB Companies.

Be easy to find and identify

- It might be a good website, or even a banner on the side of the hall, but by being bold and accessible, the wider community is more likely to interact with BB and also recommend you!

Example – Enfield Battalion



Every year Enfield Battalion gets involved in the Enfield Autumn Show to promote awareness of BB in the local community, making sure that as many people as possible know that there is a BB presence in the local community!

- Is there a regular local event you can get involved in, such as a fete or gala day?
- Local businesses and also supermarkets can also be a great way to build connections in the local community – the likes of the plastic bag funds and community walls can be very effective and generates a good news story too!

Example – 7th West Kent



The 7th West Kent have produced a new banner which is now up outside their Church and promoting their work with boys and girls in the local community.

What's next?

Look at what other BB Companies, Churches and other organisations are already doing – get in touch to find out what works well and what the impact has been. You don't always have to reinvent the wheel! Also, take a look at the community connections on your doorstep – through your Church, parents/ carers and also through BB young people. This will help you develop a plan to identify which organisations to approach, what your goals are and set some realistic timescales.

Support is not far away so don't be disheartened if there are barriers in your road – speak to other Companies, your Battalion or Regional HQ about this. Or you can drop me an email to niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk.

Finally, it's important to be patient! These connections will take time to develop and often the benefits will not be clear straight away – persevere, take on board suggestions and be confident in what the BB offers the wider community.

 **The One for All section of the Leaders' website has templates and suggestions which can aid your community engagement work. Visit: leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/oneforall.htm**

 **If you have a success story, please share this by emailing newsdesk@boys-brigade.org.uk**

GLOBAL

Response to Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean...

Walter Stuart, Regional Coordinator for the Global Fellowship shares more about the impact Hurricane Irma and Maria had on the Caribbean and specifically about the BB presence in the region.

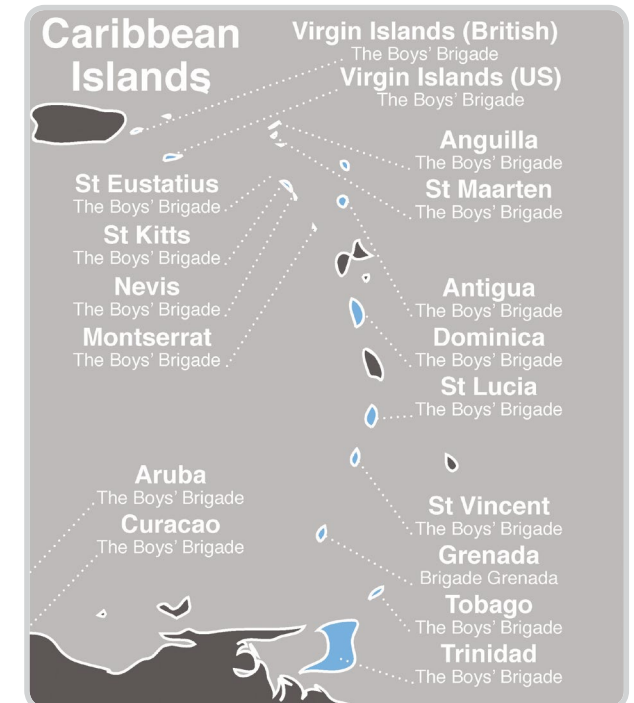
The month of September will be forever etched in the minds of those in the Caribbean, as one of the most challenging experiences ever as they recall the damage, mayhem, discomfort and inconvenience caused by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria. Hurricane Irma in particular which devastated Anguilla, British Virgin Islands (Tortola), Saint Maarten, Saint Martin and other Leeward islands, has been referred to as the strongest hurricane to hit the Atlantic and unofficially as the fourth costliest hurricane on record. This category 5 Hurricane with a wind speed of up to 295 km/h caused massive damage and loss to several of our BB families and counterparts with whom we just recently celebrated at our 125th Anniversary Camp in Antigua (July 2017).

Anguilla

Hurricane Irma has caused widespread decimation to the island and this will have a significant impact on its tourism industry, to which locals depend for direct employment or to feed small businesses. Since the hurricane, they have been left with no electricity and running water and chronic fuel shortages have further hampered mobility. Telephone communications were down and there was limited access to the badly-hit port. Thankfully these services are slowly starting to be restored. Schools are gradually being reopened some on a part time/shift basis. All three churches associated with The Boys' Brigade on the island sustained major damage to the roofs and while the 1st and 4th Anguilla BB Companies have resumed meeting, the 2nd Anguilla is looking to restart shortly.

British Virgin Islands

The island of Tortola is considered the territory's largest and this island suffered an extraordinary level of destruction. Some of the homes of the members who attended the International Camp just a few months ago have been severely damaged. Gradually, communication is being restored and to date many residents are still dependent on generators while others resort to batteries and candles which are in short supply. Looting, which was an unfortunate feature immediately after the hurricane is now over. Some schools are still closed and this has caused some parents to send their children abroad to continue their educational pursuits. It is uncertain how this would impact and affect BB on the island. In the meantime, efforts are being made to have BB regrouped and reactivated.



St Maarten

Dutch officials have reported that up to 70% of the island's houses were badly damaged or destroyed by the hurricane. The airport which was severely damaged was closed for several days and several businesses were forced to close due to the devastation. Some of the main hotels are still closed, but are making tremendous strides towards reopening for the tourist season. Several parents have opted to send their children overseas for schooling as the reopening of schools was delayed for quite a while. Thankfully, BB for the one Company on the island restarted on October 5th.

St Martin

Upon the passage of Hurricane Irma, this island was unreachable, the hurricane left a trail of wreckage with damage to almost every building on the island. Looting and lawlessness ensued on the island immediately after the disaster with gun-toting gangs marauding through the streets and robbing people and businesses. This situation is now under control as police and troops have brought order to those acts of lawlessness. Water and electricity are still not available in several areas. The only BB Company has lost some of its members to Guadeloupe as they have relocated there to continue their schooling since some schools on the island still remain closed. The Ebenezer Methodist Church from where the only BB Company operates suffered severe loss and still remains non-functional. As a result, BB has not yet restarted. Capt. Marie Holaman in her most recent message has indicated that while the situation may appear hopeless, the people of St Martin are thankful to be alive and are requesting prayers for quick restoration.

Global Round-up

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



1ST OSSET LEADER VISITS BB IN THAILAND

Whilst on holiday in Thailand, BB Leader Sandra Trout of 1st Osset Company was invited to visit The Boys Brigade in Thailand. Visiting BB HQ in the Pathum Thani Province, Sandra met with Mr Lam Kien Ann, BB Executive Director; Ms Prachsanee Uttachat, Brigade Secretary and Mr Milan Chinsomboon, Brigade President. Sandra also had the opportunity to go to Thai Christian School in Downtown Bangkok, and met with staff and Boys of the 1st Bangkok Company where she made a presentation about BB in the UK and the 1st Ossett.



46TH BRISBANE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Members of the 46th Brisbane Company in Australia enjoyed their first night back on 4th October taking the opportunity to celebrate The Boys' Brigade's 134th anniversary and the centenary of the Junior Section.



2ND KRUISFONTEIN COMPANY BAND

Band members of 2nd Kruisfontein Company in South Africa take time out for a selfie.



NEW SOUTH WALES LEADERSHIP COURSE

BB members from across New South Wales in Australia came together for a Leadership Development Course at Bethshan Camp and Conference Centre.



BRIGADE CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Members of The Boys' and Girls' Brigade of Brockton, Massachusetts in the USA working on putting together their box for their Christmas toy drive to Haiti. They are getting as many toys as they can to send to a charity they are supporting 'Children in Haiti'.



AUSTRALIAN VISITOR AT 10TH EALING

Whilst in the UK for business, Andrew McLean, President of Victoria and Tasmania in Australia took time out to visit UK & Rol Headquarters and get along to 10th Ealing Company on their meeting night.

VOICE

The Power of Words

"I want to go on living even after my death! And that's why I am so grateful to God for having given me this gift, which I can use to develop myself and to express all that's in me. When I write I can shake off all my cares; my sorrow disappears; my spirits are revived."

Anne Frank, written in her diary, 5 April 1944

Every year the Holocaust Memorial Trust reminds all of us, old and young, of the horrific events perpetrated by the Nazis, as well as subsequent genocides and urges us to never again allow hatred to overpower love.

The **2018 Holocaust Memorial Day** is on **27th January** and the theme is "The Power of Words", hence the quote from Anne Frank above – an example of words being used for good. However, words can equally be used to hurt or humiliate, and this is where the link between the Holocaust and bullying has been made.

A young intern on the Jewish Community Relations Council in the USA, was asked about this link and said: "When I heard about this I asked myself, "What does bullying have to do with the Holocaust?" I realised that bullies target certain victims, not based on who they are, but on appearance, sexual orientation, and religion. There are also those who stand by and watch while others are victimized, and don't do anything to stop it. In many ways, the Holocaust embodies the characteristics of school bullying. Just as many kids stand by while others are victimized; groups of people and even countries stood by and watched as over 11 million people were killed by the Nazis. Having an anti-bullying activity tied to an event about the Holocaust teaches young people that the choices they make and the actions they carry out every day make a huge difference."

This is an interesting and different way to address bullying, which might just gain the imagination of young people in your Company, rather than the usual talks and discussions. And by doing this you'll be playing your part in supporting the United Nations which has pressed member states to develop programmes and activities that instil the memory of the Holocaust in the minds of young people and urges them to do their part to ensure we learn from such atrocities.

There are lots of ideas for activities for BB Leaders on the website of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, so you have plenty of time to download the free Activity Pack at hmd.org.uk/content/order-or-download-activity-pack. You can also order booklets, stickers and badges free of charge when you order the pack.

Discuss this with your group




Take a look at the resources including Life Stories which could help you lead into a discussion with your young people. Let us know if you're planning something to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January 2018 and, afterwards, how your young people reacted.

Continue the conversation on Twitter
@BBgazette using hashtag #BBVoice

CAMPSITES & RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

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




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).

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 weeklong 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




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.

Contact:

 Clive Gordon 07718 761150
 cliveg04@yahoo.co.uk
 www.warcombe.org.uk




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

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

Bromley Battalion Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, IOW

Large & small marquees, ridge tents. Purpose built Cookhouse/QM; Shower & Toilet block (M/F) Mains Gas & Electricity. At competitive prices, catering for up to 120.




Contact:

 Keith Francis on 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).

Contact:

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.

Contact:

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




Greenmoor Residential Centre S35 7DX. Reopened after extensive refurbishment. Flexible sleeping in 6 rooms for 30 Accessible facilities Lounge Dining Room Kitchen 3 showers toilets washroom games room staff room projection equipment heating 15 minutes M1 and dark peak.

Contact Mark Boswell:

 Mark Boswell (bookings) 07760 11615
 Tony Drury-Smith 07930 177764
 Greenmoor Centre




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

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. Enquiries contact Jon Tickle.




Contact:

 07770 795701
 freshwatercamping@gmail.com
 www.freshwatertrust.com

Christian Mountain Centre, North Wales



Can 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@cmcadventure.org.uk
 www.cmcadventure.org.uk



Coopers Mead Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight. Traditional camping at its very best and at a reasonable cost! Weeks available in 2018 and beyond.

Contact:

 Ted Walliss 01737 352732
 edwardwalliss@btinternet.com

Brixham, Devon Fully equipped for 60 persons 14' x 14' ridge tents plus 70' x 30' Marquee & 30' x 13' Toilet tent all in white canvass. Bookings now for 2017.



Contact:

 01935 422292
 graham.voizey@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.

Contact:

 bookings@prestatyncampsite.co.uk
 www.prestatyncampsite.co.uk

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 (Winter 2017/18) should be received by 10th December 2017. 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.



@ FELDEN LODGE

Bring your Company to Felden Lodge for your next residential...

Facilities onsite include:




- 27 ensuite bedrooms in house
- Self Catering in Thurso Centre
- Camping (inc. Static Camp)
- Sports Hall & Outdoor Pitch

Find out more by contacting the Centre Manager on 01442 288 557

WWW.FELDENLODGE.CO.UK

Peak District – Leslie Johnson Centre Warslow Near to Alton Towers. Fully equipped self catering for up to 31 people. Lounge, dining and games rooms, showers etc. playground & garden. 2 staff bedrooms sleep 7. Open all year.




Contact:

 Kevin Ford on 01782320287
 kevinford@yahoo.co.uk
 northstaffs.boys-brigade.org.uk

Fordell Firs National Activity Centre

Operated by Scouts Scotland, Fordell Firs offers more than 25 activities, including high ropes, climbing and archery on site and is also close to the attractions of Edinburgh. Indoor accommodation or camping.


Contact:

 01383 412704
 warden@fordellfirs.org.uk
 www.scouts.scot/centres/fordellfirs

Lochgailhead National Activity Centre

Operated by Scouts Scotland, Lochgailhead is a RYA training centre so offers unrivalled opportunities for sailing and water sports, as well as an exciting programme of land activities. Fully catered packages are available.




Contact:

 01301 703217
 info@lochgailhead.org.uk
 www.scouts.scot/centres/lochgailhead

Meggernie National Activity Centre

Operated by Scouts Scotland, Meggernie offers a stunning, rural setting for walking, nature exploration, expeditions, traditional camping or survival skills. Indoor accommodation is also available.

Contact:

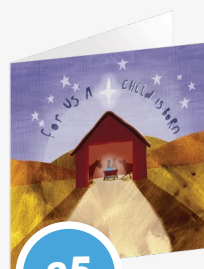
 01887 866231
 warden@meggernie.org.uk
 www.scouts.scot/centres/meggernie

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

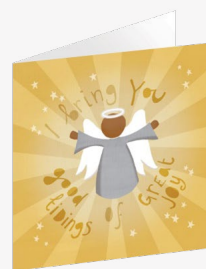
CHRISTMAS CARDS - JOY OF CHRISTMAS (PK12)

31 522 1

Pack of 12 cards, with 3 contemporary designs featuring the BB 'adventure begins here' logo with envelopes.



£5



STAINED GLASS STARS

Product: 31 511 1



£9.49

Craft activity with four assorted star designs in a pack which contains all you need to make 30 decorations. Ideal for Anchor / Juniors Christmas craft.

CHRISTMAS CARDS WORDS FOR CHRISTMAS

Product: 31 519 1



£4

Pack of 10 cards, with 2 designs (5 of each design) featuring the BB 'Adventure begins here' logo, with envelopes.

BOXED PEN & TORCH GIFT SET

Product: 11 654 1



£8

The soft touch Chic ballpoint pen and LED flashlight make a wonderful gift set. Both products are laser engraved and presented in a gift box.

A5 BLACK NOTEBOOK & PEN

Product: 11 688 1



£5.60

Stylish notebook with a soft-feel hard-backed cover, contrasting coloured elasticated strap, page marker and ballpen. Embossed with BB logo.

JUNIORS 100 CHALLENGE MEDAL

Product: 11 712 1



£3

Medal on a ribbon for members completing the Juniors 100 Challenge in 2017. Full details of challenges at leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/juniors100

JUNIORS 100 PLASTIC DRAWSTRING BAG

Product: 11 709 1



£1.50

Blue 'heavy duty' plastic duffle style bag with blue cord and the Juniors 100 logo printed in silver on one side.

SHOP.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)