

# ANNUAL REVIEW

## 2015/2016



**THE BOYS' BRIGADE**  
>the adventure begins here



**FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE**

## FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE

The Boys' Brigade continues to be the largest Christian uniformed youth organisation in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Although rightly proud of our heritage we continue to grow and develop the organisation. We are currently working to our 2013-2018 development plan which has a focus on Growth, Quality and Voice.

The Brigade is still fully committed to our Object of advancing Christ's Kingdom. We have a mission to care for and challenge young people using a programme of informal education. We partner many churches of different denominations to provide weekly activities for thousands of children and young people and continue to have a strong presence across the country.

After many years of loyal service, Steve Dickinson retired as Brigade Secretary in July 2015. Thanks are due to our many dedicated volunteers and supporters who give freely of their time and energy to keep the Brigade at the forefront of Christian youth work.

Whilst this review seeks to demonstrate a year in the life of the Brigade, it can only provide a glimpse of the movement. As you read the following pages we hope you will agree that much is being achieved and that we have continued to deliver quality youth work to our young people.







**We have continued to explore ways to start new work and to grow existing Companies to provide every child or young person with the opportunity to join BB regardless of where they live.**

youth**united**

Through continued funding from the Youth United Foundation (YUF) we have been successful in starting more than 50 new groups during the session. Support from YUF has also enabled us to continue to work with schools, prisons and young offender institutions, as well as explore different models of working including establishing The Rural Challenge project working in remote communities.

and young people in remote communities across Yorkshire and Mid/North Wales. Since the project began in October 2015 it has exceeded initial targets with 8 groups now up and running and more than 200 children and young people engaging in the weekly programme.

This year we have gone into our second year of working at Wetherby Young Offender Institution in Yorkshire. Over 40 young people have accessed a programme focused around personal development, teamwork, challenging attitudes and mind-sets and most importantly having fun! A programme specific for secure estates has been developed in partnership with the Chaplaincy team which we hope may be rolled out to other institutions in the future.

Volunteers' Week 2016 we celebrated the fantastic contribution made by our leaders who contributed more than 4 million hours of service through their volunteering in the BB. We also encouraged our leaders to share their volunteering story through our #IamBBleader social media campaign.

FACT #1



= 1,398

**CHURCHES ACROSS UK & ROI**



The Rural Challenge Project is an initiative funded jointly by the Cabinet Office and YUF, to provide after school provision for children

FACT #2



= 28

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

Key to growth is recruitment and retention of adult volunteers and this year 936 new volunteers have joined the BB. During



'One for All' a recruitment campaign which has been launched for the new session to increase overall membership. The campaign seeks to challenge each age group within the Brigade to grow by at least one additional member.


**ONE FOR  
ALL**



# QUALITY

We want all of our members to have the best possible experience; to have fun, to achieve and to be able to participate fully in their Companies and the wider Brigade.

FACT #3

 = 47,121  
Children & Young People

In keeping with our strapline ‘**The adventure begins here**’ The Boys’ Brigade continues to provide opportunities to children and young people beyond those possible at school or at home. Residential activities including sleepovers, camps and trips abroad continue to be key highlights in the programme for children and young people.



FACT #4

 = OVER 650  
holidays were provided  
giving over 14,000  
children & young people  
over 60,000 nights away

In partnership with  
**YoungMinds**, the  
voice for young



people’s mental health and wellbeing, we held a series of Mental Health conferences attended by some 200 leaders. Key speakers shared their knowledge and experience to help raise awareness of mental health issues amongst young people and identify ways that our leaders can help support young people who are suffering or vulnerable.

A new membership system has been launched.

**Online Brigade Manager (OBM)** helps to streamline administration in the local Company by providing functionality to support record keeping, managing events, planning quality programmes and effectively communicating with parents/carers. OBM also provides functionality to our National Headquarters to support leader appointment and provide statistical information helping us to identify and deploy resources effectively across the organisation – notably helping to further improve the quality of our work.

We continue to invest in our **learning and development strategy** for leaders, making our training and support services more accessible. This has been achieved through launching interactive e-learning modules, producing a series of videos as well as hosting interactive webinars.



## Putting our “Faith in Young People” strapline into practice, ensuring that our members’ voices are heard both inside and outside of the organisation.

The BB has continued to be involved in **Step up to Serve**, and re-pledged it’s commitment to the **#iwill campaign** by promoting social action across all age groups. As part of this pledge we launched the **Our Community** campaign in September 2015 encouraging our members to get involved and be active in their local communities. Young People came up with ideas and turned them into reality, helping to make a difference by volunteering, fundraising and campaigning.



In September we held our **Make a Difference Awards** at the House of Commons in London. These awards are presented annually to young people who have shown commitment or done something extraordinary in making a difference to the lives of those around them. Young people from England, Northern Ireland and Scotland received their awards from the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Lindsay Hoyle MP.

Through working towards their **Queen’s Badge** and **The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award**, young people within the Brigade have contributed more than 100,000 hours of volunteering in the BB, Church and the wider community.

FACT #5

 = **OVER 800**  
young people participated  
in The Duke of Edinburgh’s  
Award

In March we teamed up with **Sport Relief 2016**, setting ourselves a challenge to get involved in raising money to help people living tough lives in the UK and some of the world’s poorest countries. Young people across the country got involved by running, walking, swimming, cycling and rowing, covering thousands of miles and raising thousands £’s.

Companies have also been involved in **overseas’ ventures** giving Seniors opportunities to make a real difference in communities across the globe.



## 01 HM THE QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY

Over the weekend of 11th – 12th June, the nation came together to celebrate HM The Queen's 90th Birthday. There were opportunities for BB members to join in through official events in London including Trooping the Colour and The Patron's Lunch; as well as local events organised by Companies and Churches. Over 200 young people headed into Central London on Saturday for the Trooping of the Colour and 30 members representing the regions attended The Patrons Lunch in The Mall on Sunday.

## 02 FIRST MINISTER PRESENTS QUEEN'S BADGES

Northern Ireland's First Minister, Arlene Foster presented Queen's Badges to 199 young people from across the District at a special award ceremony held in Ballymoney. The First Minister congratulated recipients, commending them on their commitment and service to others.

## 03 UNITE – A GREAT WEEKEND TOGETHER

In June, young people and leaders from across England and beyond came together at Felden Lodge for the second Unite camp, following the success of the first event in 2015. The weekend provided an opportunity for everyone to enjoy activities together as well as explore their faith.

## 04 FIRST MINISTER'S TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERING CHAMPION

Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon hailed the impact that the work of the BB has on both local communities and young people as she met with Lewis Shillinglaw from the 1<sup>st</sup> Loanhead Company to present him with this year's Make a Difference Award at the Scottish Parliament. Working for his Queen's badge with the charity Thornton Rose, Riding for the Disabled, he carried out in excess of 220 hours of volunteering.

# A YEAR IN PICTURE







05

## 05 BBNI RECOGNISED WITH QUEEN'S AWARD

The Northern Ireland District was honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK. The District is one of 193 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious award this year, cited for engaging, encouraging and enabling Boys and Young Men to develop in body, mind, friendship, service and Christian faith. The Lord Lieutenant of Co Down presented the award at a celebration event at NI Headquarters in June.



08

## 06 DUNBLANE LADS TRIP TO MALAWI

Members from 25th Stirling Company raised £65,000 for their Project Malawi trip during which they transformed 10 classrooms across two schools in Likhubula. The group were travelling with Classrooms for Malawi a Scottish charity who work to renovate schools using local paid workers and volunteers from Scotland.

## 07 700 ATTEND LONDON'S LIFE 2 THE MAX

Nearly 700 BB members from across London and beyond came together in June at Felden Lodge for Life 2 the Max, a bi-annual event for members of the District. They enjoyed a wide range of activities including fun fair rides, inflatables, climbing wall, crafts – just some of what was on offer. Evangelist Adrian Ward, entertained with his magic and shared a message of hope in Jesus.



07

## 08 BB LEADERS RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

John Forrest, 26th Stirling Company and Stanley McMillan, 1st Scone Company both received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Scottish Youth Worker of the Year Awards.

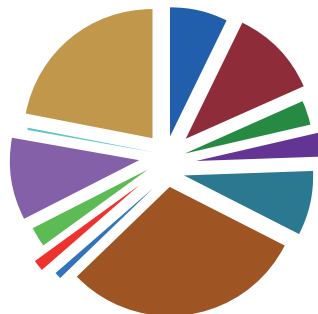
## INCOME 2015-2016

Donations and Legacies	5.7%
Training Centre Income	19.7%
Investment Income	1.4%
Annual Capitation	32.5%
Supplies Sales	19%
Unrestricted Grants Received	0.5%
Restricted Grants Received	20.1%
Unite Christian Festival	0.5%



## EXPENDITURE 2015-2016

Cost of Raising Funds	7.3%
Training Centres (non-Brigade use)	11.1%
Training Centres (Brigade use)	3.1%
Unrestricted Grants Payable	3%
Restricted Grants Payable	8%
Unrestricted Management & Delivery of Activities	30.2%
Net Losses on investments	1%
Actuarial Losses on Defined Benefit Scheme	1.4%
Supplies Administration	2.4%
Supplies Cost of Sales	10.3%
Investment Management Fees	0.2%
Restricted Management & Delivery of Activities	21.9%



## THE BOYS' BRIGADE

**Patron:** H.M. The Queen

**Vice Patron:** The Archbishop of Canterbury

**President:** The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port

**Acting Brigade Secretary/CEO:** Mr Bill Stevenson

## OUR OBJECT

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.

## MOTTO

**Sure & Steadfast** – Hebrews 6:19

## HEADQUARTERS

### UK & Republic of Ireland

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### Republic of Ireland

Unit C1 Nutgrove Office Park, Nutgrove Avenue  
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## REGISTERED COMPANY / CHARITY

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

A registered charity in England and Wales  
(305969) and Scotland (SC0038016)

## DESIGN

CPO – [www.cpo.org.uk](http://www.cpo.org.uk)



## Can you help us?



### Practically

Many of our Companies need more volunteer leaders and there are groups that have to operate waiting lists. With the support of more adults, the BB experience could be offered to more children and young people. Could you help us by sharing some of your time to support a local Company? Full support and training is given to all of our volunteers. Please contact us for details of a local group.



### Prayerfully

Each week thousands of young people come into the church environment through the activities of The Boys' Brigade. Many have no other connection with the church. The support of prayer for leaders and members is vital in our ongoing commitment to advance Christ's Kingdom. There are also details of specific projects that you may wish to pray for on our website.



### Financially

The Boys' Brigade is mainly dependent on raising finances through its membership. We do not feel that we can ask more of those that give so freely of their time week by week. With greater financial resources, the Brigade could offer more support to its Companies and expand its work to attract more young people into the life of the church. Can you help by means of a single donation or through a regular financial giving? For details of our "Friends" scheme, please contact us.

**[WWW.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK)**