

ANNUAL REVIEW

2018 - 2019



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here



FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE



FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE

WHO WE ARE

The Boys' Brigade is a volunteer led, uniformed Christian youth organisation, which provides youth and children's work to the Christian Church. Founded by Sir William Smith in Glasgow in 1883, through partnership with local Churches we provide a safe and caring place where children and young people can learn, grow and discover.

OUR VISION

Our vision is that children and young people experience **"life to the full"** (John 10:10).

Faith in Young People, expresses our belief in young people, in their skills, abilities and their voice, and, as a Christian movement, our commitment to sharing and exploring faith. We believe that empowering children and young people is important and do this by involving them in decision making and responsibility at all levels of the Brigade.

2018-2019 SESSION

It has been an incredible year with so much going on across the Brigade which included us celebrating our 135th anniversary. We have continued to work to the main themes of our strategy **Growth, Quality and Voice**, with a particular emphasis on improving the quality of experience for children and young people through our Raise the Bar campaign. This reflects our belief that by focussing on the quality of our work we can see the BB reaching out to more children and young people through sustained growth in membership. We have also been active in ensuring our young people have a voice both internally and externally with them taking a lead in shaping both our movement and the world they live in.

Although rightly proud of our rich heritage this session we have also taken the time to reflect on our work, to enable us to look ahead and determine our priorities and vision for the future. We have invested time consulting with our membership as well as carrying out external research to help shape the future of the movement.

We hope that you will agree that much has been achieved and we are excited to highlight the progress we have made in this review.



FOLLOW US AT  /THEBOYSBRIGADE

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



= 1,253

Churches across UK & RoI



= 15

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



= 11,522
adult volunteers

7,717  / 3,805 



= 1,028

new adult volunteers have come on board



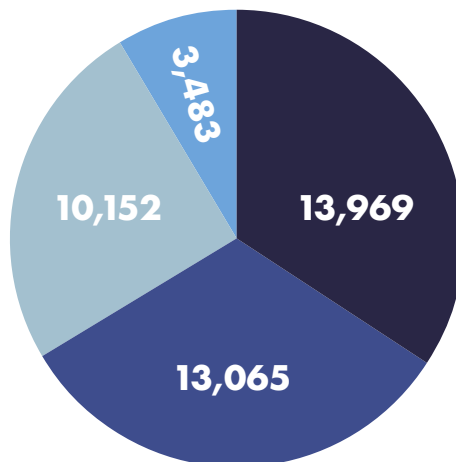
= 40,669

children and young people in membership

39,017  / 1,652 



Our age group numbers



Key:



Anchors – 13,969



Juniors – 13,065



Company – 10,152



Seniors – 3,483



= 7,511

Children and young people started out on their BB adventure



= 850+

young people participated in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



= 647

young people gained the highest award, The Queen's Badge



= 550+

holidays were provided giving over **13,500** Children and young people over **45,000** nights away



DEVELOPING

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

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.



GROWTH

Throughout the Brigade our staff team have not only **supported the work of existing groups** but have also helped to **start new Companies**. This work has involved engaging with Churches, supporting programmes, identifying and training new leaders and recruiting new members.

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.

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.



QUALITY

Raise the Bar our campaign focusing on quality set challenges for each and every part of the organisation, focussed on **raising the quality of experience for children and young people in The Boys' Brigade**. Through the campaign we have seen local groups and areas taking on the challenges, examples of this have included Companies reviewing their programme and planning termly, streamlining their administration through making more use of OBM and getting out and about in the local community.



**RAISE
THE
BAR**

As part of our commitment to Raise the Bar we visited 14 locations across England, Scotland and Wales with our Raise the Bar Roadshow enabling our staff team to **meet with over 400 leaders** to update and inform them about developments, provide training opportunities and encourage involvement in the campaign.



RAISE THE BAR ROADSHOW

FOLLOW US AT  /THEBOYSBRIGADE

THE BRIGADE



Funding received through the Youth United Foundation from the **Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport** has enabled us to invest in the development of core areas of our work. Through this funding we have **relaunched our programmes for under 11's** with new resources delivered to leaders, developed **additional functionality in Online Brigade Manager** to streamline administration as well as create and make **new digital resources accessible** to support the recruitment of new members.

We have also continued to invest in our learning and development strategy for leaders and have developed an **e-learning platform** which will enable us to provide additional training opportunities for our volunteers to ensure they have the skills and knowledge they need to carry out their role.



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



Many of our young people have been **contributing to their local communities and making a real difference**. We have seen examples that include supporting local night shelters, raising money for charity, volunteering abroad and cleaning up local spaces.

The Brigade is proud to currently have two young people on the **Youth United Foundation Youth Panel**. Lee Bird (1st Sittingbourne) is the Chair of the panel and Daria Bageac (53rd Manchester) is the youngest member at 14 years old. The panel have been carrying out a key piece of research on behalf of the government on the benefits of volunteering and the impact of loneliness.

The Boys’ Brigade was represented at a **roundtable event on the growing issue of knife crime** hosted by HRH The Prince of Wales at Clarence House. Shabazz Dyer (133rd London), aged 17 from was invited to the event to contribute and promote the importance of uniformed youth groups in offering young people a different route in life away from crime.

The voice of our members is also represented at a national level, with examples including our delegation to the **British Youth Council** and also the election of Alistair Thomson (1st Bearsden) and Chris Winters (7th Wishaw) to the **Scottish Youth Parliament**.



01 CENTENARY OF THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Members from across the Brigade were involved in local and national commemorative events and activities to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, including a group of 80 young people and leaders who represented the Brigade at the National Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in London.

02 EASTER COURSE IN SNOWDONIA

The Brigade played host to this year's Easter Course, which was held in Snowdonia National Park. Over 40 participants attended from Christian Youth Organisations based in several different European countries.

03 NORTHERN IRELAND QUEEN'S BADGE CELEBRATION

In April members from across Northern Ireland came together at Belfast City Hall for their Annual Queen's Badge celebration, recognising the 227 young people who have gained the Queen's Badge during the session. The awards were presented by Lady Mary Peters.

04 KGV – THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

More than 90 young people aged between 17 and 21 took part in KGV youth leadership training courses at Carronvale House, Felden Lodge and Newport to support and equip them as they move into leadership roles within the Brigade.

05 REGIONAL CAMPS

The late May bank holiday weekend saw hundreds of young people take part in regional camps in England & Wales (Unite) and Scotland (Cumbrae Camp). Those who attended had the opportunity to camp for the weekend, take part in a wide range of activities and come together for times of worship.

A YEAR IN PICTURE





03



06



08

06 JUNIORS GIANT SLEEPOVER

Almost 400 Juniors from across Scotland spent an evening and overnight at Glasgow Science Centre, one of Scotland's top visitor attractions. Members experienced the planetarium, live Science Show and interactive scientific exhibits.

07 700+ ATTEND LIFE 2 THE MAX

One of the biggest events organised across the Brigade in 2019 saw over 700 young people and leaders from London and beyond take part in Life 2 the Max at Felden Lodge, BB Headquarters. It was a fantastic day for all age groups which included funfair rides, inflatables, games, a time of worship with Chip Kendall and much more!

08 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

More than 200 Companies from across the Brigade took part in this year's National Competitions which each culminated in national finals held in the regions. Congratulations to all that took part in 2018-19, the winners were:

5-a-side Football (Junior) – 7th Wishaw

5-a-side Football (Senior) – 1st Moneymore

Badminton – 4th Newtownabbey

Chess – 1st Crowborough

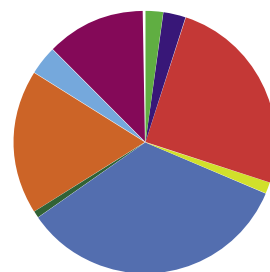
Masterteam – 4th Newtownabbey

Table Tennis – 44th Glasgow

GUILD PARTNERSHIP

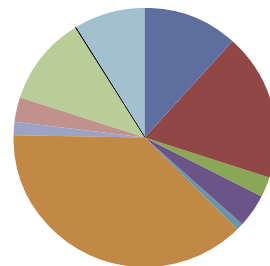
Last year BB Scotland began a three year partnership with the Church of Scotland Guild. Over the last 12 months BB speakers, including many young leaders, have presented the work of BB Scotland in 178 Churches across the region as part of this partnership. With the funds already received from the Guild a new Mini-Grants scheme has been set up for Companies across Scotland.

OUR FINANCES 2018-2019



INCOME

Donations and Legacies	£78,320
Training Centre Income	£670,642
Investment Income	£43,732
Annual Capitation	£914,094
Net gains on Investments	£19,366
Supplies Sales	£485,789
Unrestricted Grants Received	£95,166
Restricted Grants Received	£334,519
Annual Festival & Events	£62,846



EXPENDITURE

Cost of Raising Funds	£320,986
Training Centres (non-Brigade use)	£493,071
Training Centres (Brigade use)	£73,726
Unrestricted Grants Payable	£112,702
Restricted Grants Payable	£16,990
Unrestricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£1,024,999
Actuarial Losses on Defined Benefit Scheme	£44,000
Supplies Administration	£84,694
Supplies Cost of Sales	£298,473
Investment Management Fees	£6,372
Restricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£233,702

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Patron: H.M. The Queen

President: The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port

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

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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

Vision Tank - www.visiontank.co.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