



ANNUAL REVIEW 2022 - 2023

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here





A 140th birthday is something to celebrate!

The Boys' Brigade began 140 years ago in Glasgow, and as well as celebrating this significant milestone this year it's also an opportunity to reflect on where we are going and our relevancy to children and young people today.

Our vision is that children and young people experience "life to the full".

John 10:10

Our current journey, built on what leaders told us in the Strategic Review in 2019, focuses on improving the consistency and quality of experience that children and young people have within our organisation. To achieve this we continue to prioritise and invest in leader development and programme resources.

Recent moments like the Big Help Out and Volunteers' Week have highlighted the important contribution that volunteers make within communities across the country.

As well as using opportunities like these to thank and celebrate what BB leaders do, we have been trying to put a more regular spotlight on our leaders. We believe that through sharing stories about the variety of people that volunteer within the BB and why they do it, we will encourage others to consider whether they can get involved.



"I would like to send a huge thank you to the leaders at BB. Both of my children have been attending since they were Anchors and have loved every second. To see them trying out new things, making lots of friends and coming together in the local community is wonderful. The leaders consistently go above and beyond."

– Anne, Parent/Carer

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteer leaders across the UK and RoI, as well as to all our valued supporters, donors and partner organisations.

Jonathan Eales
Chief Executive

QUALITY

Improve the consistency of experience for children and young people

VOICE

Raise the profile and increase participation of children and young people in shaping and representing the organisation

GROWTH

Stabilise membership numbers

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

 **9,231**
volunteer leaders
 6,220  3,111

 **1,022**
Churches across UK & RoI

 **675**
new volunteer leaders have come on board

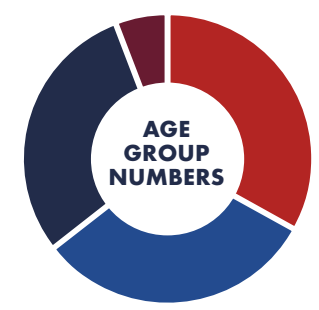
 **6,756**
children and young people started out on their BB adventure


 **400**
young people completed a Duke of Edinburgh's Award, with 44 of them gaining their Gold Award


 **539**
young people gained our highest award, the Queen's Badge


 **600**
young people took part in our six National Competitions that made a return


 **500+**
holidays were provided giving over 7,500 children & young people over 27,000 nights away



 **Anchors**
10,339

 **Company**
9,231

 **Juniors**
9,882

 **Seniors**
1,815

 **31,082**
children & young people in membership
 29,604  1,718

 **51,000+**
hours of voluntary service by young people as part of the DofE Awards or Queen's and President's Badge

 **350**
leaders completed our new Company Management Training course



The Adventure Continues...

The Boys' Brigade has **faith in young people** and provides them with opportunities to **learn, grow and discover** in a safe, fun and caring environment which is rooted in the Christian faith.

We launched our **Your Future programme**, new resources for the Company and Seniors age groups which were produced in partnership with the University of Bolton. These were designed to help young people to identify and develop their own skills, consider their future goals and dreams.

A special set of resources were created to support and equip Companies to **remember the late HM The Queen** and also to **celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III**.

We launched a new **Young Leaders Network** designed to build the confidence of young leaders (aged 18 – 26) within the organisation, and support them to continue to grow and develop. Young leaders came together for a residential weekend in Yorkshire, focused on the “gives and gets” of BB.

After a break of three years, our **National Competitions** returned with young people from 125 Companies taking part in six events.

A new **Company Management Training** course was launched, aimed at Captains and Leaders-in-Charge. BB Headquarters co-ordinated a number of opportunities to complete the course, with around 350 leaders doing so.

The Boys' Brigade joined **The Big Help Out** in May and has been celebrating the contribution of our volunteer leaders throughout the year.

From April to June we shared a series of short videos on our social media channels from filming that took place at five different Companies. These focused on the **benefits and barriers of being part of the BB family**. Over 85,000 people were reached, there were 9,000 reactions to posts and the campaign has recently been shortlisted for two awards by the Chartered Institute for Public Relations.

We were awarded funding from the Government's **Uniformed Youth Fund**, which aims to support young people with their wellbeing, give them opportunities to develop skills for life and empower them to be active members of their local community. The funding has allowed us to invest further in developing new resources for leaders and enhancing our profile.

Our **Christian Faith Group** and new **Ministry Team** are exploring ways of strengthening and building Church partnerships as well as how we support the faith journeys of young people, both of which are central to our work.



1 Coming together in remembrance

Thousands of BB members took part in Remembrance activities and events, with a contingent joining the National Service of Remembrance in London.

2 Royal Visit to Wales

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales visited St Thomas Church, home to 1st Swansea Eastside, during their first visit to Wales since taking on the roles.

3 Life 2 the Max

Over 500 young people and leaders from London and beyond took part in Life 2 the Max at Felden Lodge. It was a fantastic day for all age groups which included funfair rides, inflatables, games, and a time of worship.

4 Celebrating the Coronation

A group of BB members travelled to London to attend the Coronation Procession, where they were able to watch from a special enclosure for uniformed youth organisations on The Mall. Then they saw see the balcony appearance by the Royal Family and flypast from just outside the Palace.

5 Cumbrae Camp & Unite

Hundreds of young people and leaders took part in Cumbrae Camp on Millport and Unite at Felden Lodge. 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 PICTURES



6 KGVI – Equipping our young leaders

Young leaders aged 17 to 25 from across England, Scotland, Wales and two young leaders from the Bahamas took part in KGVI Youth Leader Training at Carronvale House and Felden Lodge, to support and equip them as they move into leadership roles.

7 FIFA Competition

83 teams from Companies across the country took part in our newest National Competition, FIFA, with 4th/5th Kilmarnock becoming the very first winners.

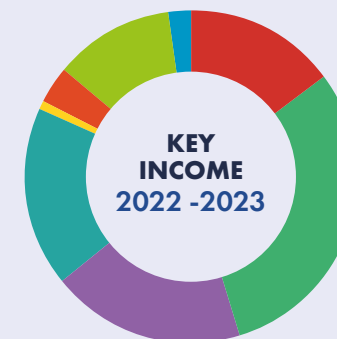
8 Challenge expeditions

Young people from across the Brigade took part in three challenge expeditions – the Cleveland Hike in the North York Moors, the Kilbryde Hike in the moors south of East Kilbride, and the Waltham Walk in the Essex countryside.

9 On the ocean waves

Young people from six different Companies in Scotland enjoyed a week of sailing with Ocean Youth Trust through our CashBack for Communities project.

OUR FINANCES



Donations and Legacies	£448,576
Annual Capitation	£917,412
Training Centre Income	£566,834
Supplies Sales	£523,195
Annual Festival & Events	£26,349
Unrestricted Grants Received	£108,197
Restricted Grants Received	£354,703
Investment Income	£60,679



Cost of Raising Funds	£190,793
Training Centres (non-Brigade use)	£455,854
Training Centres (Brigade use)	£80,445
Unrestricted Grants Payable	£115,529
Restricted Grants Payable	£102,054
Unrestricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£1,191,933
Supplies Administration	£98,486
Supplies Cost of Sales	£299,335
Restricted Management & Delivery of Activities	£281,388



To view our full annual accounts visit:
boys-brigade.org.uk/annual-review

Thank you to our partners, supporters and donors...

Working together with organisations like the **University of Bolton**, **Christian Aid**, the **Children's Society** and **Youthscape** is incredibly important to us.

We have also continued to work with partners across the youth sector through the **Youth United Foundation**, **Youth Link Scotland** and the **Education Authority** in Northern Ireland.

We are grateful for funding providing by the **UK Government** through their **Uniformed Youth Fund** and by the Scottish Government through **CashBack for Communities** and **CYPFEIF**.

President: Rev Dez Johnston

Chief Executive: Jonathan Eales

UK & ROI Headquarters

Felden Lodge
Hemel Hempstead
Herts HP3 0BL

Tel: 0300 303 4454

Email: support@boys-brigade.org.uk

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

Visit our website at: www.boys-brigade.org.uk

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 [@theboysbrigade_ukroi](https://www.instagram.com/theboysbrigade_ukroi)



HOW TO HELP...



Prayer

Each week thousands of children and young people come into the Church through our activities. 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.



Volunteer

Many of our Companies need more volunteer leaders and there are groups that have to operate waiting lists. With the support of more volunteers, 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.



Donate

The Boys' Brigade is mainly dependent on raising finances through our membership. With greater financial resources, we could offer more support to our Companies and expand our work with young people. Can you help by means of a single donation or through a regular financial giving?

BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK