Two more young men have just been killed in London. I was deeply moved by the words of Jimmy Mizen’s mother, Margaret, “I just want to say to the parents of this other boy that I feel so, so sorry for them. I don’t feel anger, I feel sorry for the parents. We’ve got such lovely memories of Jimmy and they will have such sorrow about their son. I feel for them, I really do.”

Words of forgiveness that many of us would find difficult, the type of action that we may hear preached, but practice is another matter. I was then equally moved by the words of Rabbi Pete Tobias on Pause for Thought on Radio 2 reminding us that in examination halls this summer there will be several empty desks which should have been occupied by teenagers who have lost their lives to violence. He then linked the culture within a generation with our rejection of many young people through our education system, which labels many as failures from an early age.

You will all be aware that our development campaign over the last two years has been called “Engage a Generation.” Again here, is there a mismatch between words and practice? Do we really engage a generation or just part of a generation, the ones that can fit a particular mould? We have lost many of our Companies in the most disadvantaged areas and often the BB is not working with the most hard to reach young people. But, if we look back through our history, a useful exercise in an anniversary year, we see a radical movement seeking to bring hope and values to the most disadvantaged. Many churches are looking at their outreach to the whole community and realising that for many, church does not appear to be relevant to their everyday lives. New ways or fresh expressions of “being church” are needed to bring the Gospel to those who otherwise wouldn’t hear it. Can we be brave enough to experiment with new ways of being BB and begin to reconnect with teenagers who don’t choose what we have to offer? Have we just appointed four development workers. Part of their work will not only be to support and develop existing groups, but also to support the Development Plan aim: Conduct time-limited pilot schemes of new methods of working that are currently outside traditional BB approaches, with the objective of spreading the use of the successful ones.

It is significant that this initiative is happening in our 125th year, and vital that we hold a limited pilot schemes of new methods of working that are currently outside traditional BB approaches, with the objective of spreading the use of the successful ones.

Many churches are looking at their outreach to the whole community and realising that for many, church does not appear to be relevant to their everyday lives. New ways or fresh expressions of “being church” are needed to bring the Gospel to those who otherwise wouldn’t hear it. Can we be brave enough to experiment with new ways of being BB and begin to reconnect with teenagers who don’t choose what we have to offer? Have we just appointed four development workers. Part of their work will not only be to support and develop existing groups, but also to support the Development Plan aim: Conduct time-limited pilot schemes of new methods of working that are currently outside traditional BB approaches, with the objective of spreading the use of the successful ones.

This is an exciting time for BB. There is no movement better suited to bring the Good News to a whole generation. Please pray for these new staff members as they take up their roles and pray for the BB as it shapes up to face up to the challenges of today, tomorrow and the years ahead.

Steve Dickinson
What’s different about this year’s Firm Foundations is that it still hasn’t finished! Everyone will know that in previous years we didn’t even reach the end of the weekend, so you might be surprised to hear that FF08 is still going on! Don’t despair it isn’t because everyone is still stuck on a muddy field, but because everyone left Hemel Hempstead with a heart and commitment to keep on going wherever they live.

Keep on going with what?
Seeing Jesus as “A Living Hope” in all areas of their lives.

As part of Hope 08, we looked at how Jesus’ hope changes me, changes my friends and changes my world.

In the evenings each of these ideas was explored, through worship, testimony, and an inspiring and challenging message:

**Change Me – Friday Night**
Sonya Newton (Avanti Ministries) shared how through all the hard times in her life there was one constant hope, Jesus. It was this that changed her and can change us all.

**Change My Friends – Saturday Night**
Nigel James (Ignite) shared the story of the paralysed man brought to Jesus by his friends, and focussed on how despite being really difficult and sometimes embarrassing, we should share this hope we know with our friends.

**Change My world – Sunday Night**
Andy Hawthorne (The Message Trust) spoke about how Jesus is the vine and we are the branches, and only when we are rooted in Jesus can we reach out to others.

Every morning Lorne Campbell & Phil Knox (YFC) guided us through the theme further, with fun (who can forget Hop Gear, Lenny, Phil verses Lorne especially the baby food game, and much more!), discussion, teaching, and practical ideas.

The last part of the weekend was communion. Groups were commissioned to go home to be revolutionaries of Jesus revealing him as “a living hope” where they live. As a result of FF08 we are not going to be the same! Hundreds of people promised to go out from FF and change the world. Leaders who saw their young people commit to this, promised to encourage and support them. Young people who saw their leaders make the same promise, committed to make sure it will happen. Our lives and what we do are a huge witness to the communities in which we live.

We shouldn’t protect our love and commitment to Jesus without love impacting the lives of those around us. Therefore we want Jesus not only to influence what we think, but also what we do, and our ideas.

So whether or not you were at FF08, let’s use our whole lives to communicate the heart of the good news.

This year’s festival will be characterised by young people deciding that they will not just sit by in a world of hopelessness, but will stand up and be hope. We all know that the popular image of young people in this country doesn’t give the whole picture. Young people leaving FF were determined not to be tarnished or discouraged by this negativity, but were ready to be moved into action!

What now?
- Make a commitment to follow Jesus with your whole life. Why not go on an Alpha course?
- Follow up from the text message you sent to your friends telling them you were at Firm Foundations.
- Serve your community in a practical way to reach out to the community, whether it’s litter picking, scrapping oil graffiti or even repainting a wall.

As part of Hope 08, Christians all over the UK are giving one million hours of kindness. You might already be doing this as part of the 125 Community Award, or Soul Action’s Noise project. At Firm Foundations Andy Hawthorne said: “The world has always been changed by individuals doing a bit and doing a bit more ... If your company isn’t involved in hope – why not??” So you’ve been warned!

We want to hear your stories of what has changed in your lives following FF, send them to firm.foundations@boys-brigade.org.uk or via post to BBUK Headquarters.


For more photos from this year’s festival or for more information about Firm Foundations visit the website at www.firm-foundations.org.uk

If you haven’t brought a group before, or are looking forward to next year already, book next year’s date which is 22nd to 25th May 2009 in your diary now!
Hope On The Streets for the 125th

Whilst the bulk of the people helping out stayed around the river area, the Junior and Company Section members were handed paint brushes, dustsheets and gloves, ready to paint "the town red" (well white actually). We had decided that our contribution to the work would be to paint out graffiti in the alleyways (of which Tewkesbury has many) and anywhere else we found it. We had some specially printed wet paint signs, with both the BB logo and 125 logo on, ensuring no-one was in any doubt as to who was responsible for the work being done.

Boys and paint are sometimes a dangerous and messy combination but credit must go to all our members as they set about their task with enthusiasm and quickly began to make a difference. As we moved around the town from one alley to the next, many locals stopped to ask what was happening and to congratulate us on the good work. One couple were so impressed that they went to the cake shop and bought doughnuts for all the boys (strange how there weren’t any left for the Captain!).

After completing the anti-graffiti work, we then chose specific areas to do a litter pick and, having noticed just how much there was around the local Youth Centre that we use, we decided it would be a good idea to clear that area up too.

Other members helped with the work around the river before meeting back up to enjoy a BBQ and refreshments. Face painting was also on offer but judging by the state of several of our boys, they had obviously decided they couldn’t wait and had started with the masonry paint we were using earlier.

A great time was had by all and the sense of pride was very noticeable, another positive story for young people and Boys’ Brigade in particular. BB contributed to a total of over 500 hours by people in Tewkesbury toward the target of 1 million, set as a nationwide total for the year by the Hope 08 Campaign. Members who took part will now be receiving the special 125 Community Badges at our Awards evening and an additional day of work is planned so that those who couldn’t make it to this one will have chance to earn their badges as well.

Andrew Baldwin
Captain
1st Tewkesbury Company

The Brigade was delighted to receive the following message from The Church of Scotland:

“The General Assembly congratulate The Boys’ Brigade on their invaluable work among boys and young men and more recently girls over the past 125 years to further the Kingdom among them - ‘Sure and Steadfast’.

Liverpool Battalion 125 Mission – 9th – 11th April 2008

“Our three night mission brought boys, girls and leaders together from all over the city and it was the first of the Liverpool Battalion’s celebrations to mark the BB 125th anniversary. On the Anchors’ night we had almost 60 boys plus a few parents, the same number at the Juniors’ night and 70 teenagers attended the Company/ Seniors’ night!

The Anchor and Junior nights were very lively. The theme was ‘You’re invited to a Party’ which ran through the songs, a quiz, a memory verse and story. The quiz prize involved balloons, full of such things as water, shaving foam, glitter or talc being burst over the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father except by me’.

Boys were challenged with how they would respond to Jesus’ claim that ‘I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father except by me’.

It was great to see so many young people enjoying themselves and to know that 125 years on, the BB is still advancing Christ’s Kingdom amongst boys.

Derek Swanson
Battalion Chaplain

78th Birmingham clean up Smethwick

As part of the 125th Anniversary Celebration of The Boys’ Brigade and Hope 08 the 78th Birmingham Company and the 16+ group with the support of our Pastor Steve Hurley took part in a local clean up operation, engaging with the local community in Smethwick. The project also coincided with Sandwell Council’s Big Spring Clean Campaign.

Clean Glasgow . . .

On 26th April 13 boys from all three sections of the 25th Glasgow Company, helped in a “Clean Glasgow” litter pick up at Albert Primary School at the request of their local Primary school.

Most of the boys present or past are members of the school so it was an opportunity to provide a meaningful community service while working towards their “125” badge.

125 Easter Cards

Members of 133rd London Company and Girls’ Association made 125 Easter cards for the local community. They hand delivered them to two old people’s homes in Tottenham, to the home communicant at the church and to local churches and schools in the community. All cards were individually made by members who took great pleasure and care in making them.

7th Birmingham clean up Smethwick

As part of the 125th Anniversary Celebration of The Boys’ Brigade and Hope 08 the 78th Birmingham Company and the 16+ group with the support of our Pastor Steve Hurley took part in a local clean up operation, engaging with the local community in Smethwick.

The Church of Scotland:

“Thank you very much for your continued efforts in seeking to improve our local community. It is clear from your and your children’s actions and work that you are taking steps to make a difference for the better. We appreciate your hard work and for including the children in your activities.”
The Boys’ Brigade and Children’s Hospices UK – Together making the most of life

As you know, to celebrate 125 years, The Boys’ Brigade will be supporting Children’s Hospices UK. Aiming to raise £125,000 for children’s hospice services across the UK, we need the enthusiasm of every Boys’ Brigade member to make this partnership a success. Below are some fundraising ideas to help us reach this ambitious target and some information on how this money will help an estimated 20,000 life-limited children, and their families, across the UK.

How can I raise money for my local children’s hospice?

Get involved in our Swim for Kids event this October. This swimathon is a brilliant opportunity for you and your team and dive in.

Children’s Hospices UK is making the world’s largest triathlon, to take place on 9th and 10th August 2008. A triathlon is a continuous race comprising a swim, cycle, and a run.

Why not encourage your company members to join around 12,000 competitors in this exciting challenge. For race entry options, costs and details, take a look at our London Triathlon website to decide which distance to opt for.

To reserve your place, call Tracy on 0117 989 7825 or tracy@childhospice.org.uk

Testing. We were given the diagnosis: his condition was terminal and it was unlikely he would see his first birthday. It was obviously a lot to take in. Some bits you put away in your brain until you can deal with it. If you’re lucky enough you get to come to somewhere like Little Havens. When our referral to Little Havens was accepted, the enormity of our situation settled in. Even though the format of children’s hospices can be explained, many people find it hard to grasp the concept.

Little Havens is our second home. At home we have everyday chores to do like housework, and this will make a real difference in the lives of children and young people.

With the Little Havens strapline – Love, Laughter and Life. That is what this place is all about.

The structure is like an extremely sophisticated building that ties us all together is our faith in Little Havens. The Boys’ Brigade has been involved in Little Havens since its beginning because it has been Billy’s life since he was born. The Boys’ Brigade’s role is to get people to opt for.

Children’s Hospices UK is raising £5, £10, £25, £50, £100, £1,000 per hour to opt for.

Billy’s Story

Billy is Caroline and Terry’s youngest child (B) – they have four other children. Billy has been using Little Havens since just after it opened. He has a Genesis of the Corpus Callosum, which means he has multi-complex epilepsy, is blind, profound developmental delay and cerebral palsy. Billy is totally immobile and dependent and this will make a real difference in the lives of children and young people.

At 11.00 on Thursday 22nd May I set off from Tratagar Square and headed up The Mall. It was kind of the Band of Her Majesty’s Guards to accompany me on the first leg as they marched towards Buckingham Palace. Knightsbridge led to South Kensington and crossing the Thames at Wandsworth.

I’ll never forget the sight of the thousands of people and I would like to thank all those who planned routes, walked with me, opened churches, provided refreshments, gave words of encouragement and sponsored me. Your support was very much appreciated. So far over £3,500 has been raised for the two causes and this will make a real difference in the lives of children and young people.

Steve Dickinson

The Boys’ Brigade and Children’s Hospices UK – Together making the most of life

125th Anniversary Walk

Wednesday took me to London and again a route that joined the Companies in the city starting in Blaby and finishing in Loughborough. This was the only day of the walk which saw rain, with the middle of the day being particularly wet. I was very grateful for company on the walk and friendly greetings at a number of churches.

Thursday saw me in Nottingham joined for the day by a number of walkers. It had been arranged that we should meet the Lord Mayor at the City Hall at 2.15, resulting in a rather last pace with the last quarter of a mile requiring running. This was interesting on about the 100th mile of the walk. We managed to arrive just in time, were welcomed by the Lord Mayor and explained the purpose of the walk to him.

The walk was complete and apart from a few blisters I was still in one piece, much to the surprise of some. The venture could not have been possible without the help of so many people and I would like to thank all those who planned routes, walked with me, and sponsored me. Provided refreshments, gave words of encouragement and sponsored me.

The Boys’ Brigade and Children’s Hospices UK – Together making the most of life

The last day of the walk was in Birmingham with a route from Pink Hill to Shirley. The end was in sight and we maintained a steady pace. It was good to meet the young men of the 1st Birmingham in the shadows of the Aston Villa ground. I managed to join in their football game, but I think my team found me a liability. The afternoon was the final stroll with the last eight miles from the city centre to Shirley arriving at 5.00pm.

The walk was complete and apart from a few blisters I was still in one piece, much to the surprise of some. The venture could not have been possible without the help of so many people and I would like to thank all those who planned routes, walked with me, opened churches, provided refreshments, gave words of encouragement and sponsored me. Your support was very much appreciated. So far over £3,500 has been raised for the two causes and this will make a real difference in the lives of children and young people.

Steve Dickinson
Northern Ireland’s B.B. Turning Point Youth Festival in April was a great success with some 200 young people and their leaders attending an action-packed weekend of activities at the Ganaway Centre in the Ards Peninsula. ‘For Sale’ provided a thought provoking theme for the weekend from the guest speaker Philip Kerr from Crown Jesus Ministries, challenging the young people of their value to God and how by following Him, future development is possible in their lives. A full programme presented a wide range of choice with some ‘Going For Gold’ in the Archery hall, while others scaled their individual ‘Everest’ and reached the summit of the largest indoor climbing wall in Ireland or the dizzy heights of the high level ropes course. For those who preferred to keep their feet on ‘terra firma’, soccer and rugby coaching together with Team Challenges were led by Christians in Sport.

Christian Aid highlighted the need to reduce poverty in Latin America and their venue ‘Casa Romero’ played host to Guatemalan Mirror making, circus skills and juggling. Their Latin American Café serving Fair Trade hot chocolate and brownies proved a great attraction. The Ichthus group of young musicians led the worship in the main arena and on Saturday held a praise party backed by Christian songs. The Live Lounge Café showcased popular features such as ‘Millisle Idol’ and ‘You think you can Dance? together with the Games Arcade ensuring those who entered were adequately entertained. The Trading Post sold exclusive TurningPoint merchandise. A team of senior boys and girls and young leaders from Down Battalion hosted a ‘Social’ on Friday evening before competing, challenging and building relationships with the young people throughout the weekend with a varied programme of Sumo Wrestling, Giant Twister and counselling – an excellent addition to the programme.

TurningPoint was grateful for the presence and hands-on participation of the Brigade Secretary Mr Steve Dickinson, Mr John Young MBE and Mr Jonathan Eales who on Saturday afternoon hosted a ‘Visions into Reality’ conference bringing together B.B. personnel from across Northern Ireland in the Beacon indoor Worship centre. Also most welcome were Mr Roger Green and Mr Dan Griffiths from Birmingham Battalion who headed up the worker support team.

A lasting memory of the weekend will be the response of 16 young people who came to a TurningPoint in their lives when they made a commitment to follow Jesus Christ. Plans are already being prepared for TurningPoint 2009 with groups booking for next year before they had left on Sunday afternoon. Information about this can be sourced from Paul McCarroll at Boys’ Brigade House, 14 May Street, Belfast, BT1 4NR or telephone 028 9032 4863, email: belfast@boys-brigade.org.uk

Pipe Milligan, when asked why he was in some particular place, replied, “Everyone has to be somewhere”. Typical of his dry humour, it was in fact a profound remark. Human life exists in a specific context, measurable in time and space. Numbers and statistics dominate our lives, from the dates of birth and death to credit card numbers, email addresses, mobile phone numbers, cholesterol count, blood pressure, and many more besides.

I have just been reading the book, ‘Longitude’ by Dava Sobel; it tells the story of John Harrison, a clock maker who led the pursuit of an accurate timepiece for the guidance and safety of long distance sea voyagers. It is a fascinating piece of history and a gripping story of invention, endeavour and achievement. T. S. Eliot also speaks on the subject in his poem, Ash Wednesday, ‘Because I know that time is always time and place is always and only place, and what is actual is actual only for one time and only for one place’.

At one specific point in time, in a relatively obscure part of the then known world, God sent his only son to be born in human fashion. His life on earth measured approximately thirty three years, most of which is unknown to us, although the last three years are well documented and have inspired millions of people to follow his teaching. We do not know his height, weight, email address, blood group or hair colour, but we do believe that he was, and still is, the Son of God and the Saviour of humankind. Wise men and shepherds appear in the story of his birth, soldiers and religious bigots witnessed his passing, his crucifixion is a fact of history and his resurrection is an article of faith. That we measure human history in BC and AD indicates something of the importance of Jesus. He has been called, ‘the man who divided history into two halves’. During his time in human form, Jesus formed the church and gave the Holy Spirit to empower and inspire both the church and its individual members. Great things have been done for humanity by men and women who followed Jesus and sought to serve others in his name. Just about 125 years ago, William Alexander Smith, as part of his own journey of faith in Jesus, formed the fledging Boys’ Brigade in Scotland and it soon grew into a worldwide movement. Many have come to faith through the BB, communities have prospered, churches grown and lives have been transformed. Is the work done? Is our task over? Are we redundant? I think not. I am just one of an infinite number whose feet were set in the right path by the example and pastoral care of dedicated officers and open minded churches. The challenge for each person, each company and each church, is, as the hymn writer put it, “to serve the present age”. Our 125 years of history is a glorious testimony to a splendid story of Christian faith and service, but this year’s celebrations are also a springboard for the future; our future and theirs – those who come after us. Let us not fail them, or them who called us. This is the time, yours is the place, we are the people. Like Spike said, everyone has to be somewhere.

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MEETING OF THE BRIGADE EXECUTIVE – 17TH/18TH MAY 2008

The Meeting was held at Brigade Headquarters Felden Lodge. This is a summary of the main items covered.

• Development Plan
  The Brigade Secretary updated the Executive on progress towards the aims of the Development Plan.

• Visions into Reality
  225 delegates representing 81 Battalions & Districts had attended the Conference. The Executive considered how these conferences were to be followed up and further support given to Battalions to progress action plans.

• 125th anniversary of The Boys’ Brigade
  The Executive was updated on plans for the 125th anniversary service at Glasgow Cathedral and the review of 125 Queensmen at the Guildhall on Saturday 28th June. A group is progressing the Guildhall review and Regions will support representative Queensmen. The Executive was pleased to note that the Brigade had been asked to provide 12 Senators to act as Carpet Guards at the extension and evening performances at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall and recognition of our 125th anniversary.

• Finance
  The Brigade Treasurer reported on a difficult year for the Brigade’s finances. At the year-end, the Brigade recorded a deficit of £110,167 which was £38,000 above plan. This was after the Pension Deficit funding of £109,400. A prior year adjustment will be made in the accounts for the West Nile Street expenditure of approximately £23,000. The key issues of overspend relate to property maintenance and heating and lighting.

• New appointments
  The Executive was pleased to hear of the appointment of four development workers as advertised in the April Gazette. The focus for the Liverpool post will be on piloting new methods of working that can be replicated across the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, while the others will focus on supporting existing work and starting new work in churches.

The Northamptonshire worker will also spend a percentage of their time developing and supporting the Engage Generation project with a UK remit.

• Business Director
  The Business Director updated the Executive on the statistical return process, his work with suppliers and the ongoing developments at Felden Lodge. The Executive agreed that from September Battalions and Districts, where agreed, will be able to issue President’s Badges. The arrangements for Queen’s Badges are unaffected.

• Director of Youth and Children’s Work
  The Director of Youth and Children’s Work updated the Brigade Executive on staff and volunteer development and on the work of the Independent Safeguarding Authority.

• Conventional Review
  The Executive agreed minor drafting amendments to the constitutional motions as reported in the April Gazette. The Executive considered its response to an amendment to the motion which had been received. (The amendment has since been withdrawn).

• Brierley Research
  The Executive received a presentation from Dr Peter Brierley and Heather Wright who had been carrying out research into the perception of the Brigade amongst the churches. This research had been commissioned as part of the Development Plan and will form the basis of our approaches to churches in the future. It was agreed that a similar presentation be made to Brigade Council.

• Brigade Council
  The Executive received updates on Brigade Council 2008 at Tulliallan Castle, Scotland

• Committee Reports
  The Executive received reports from the Regional Committees.

• Office Relocation
  With effect from the beginning of June the Regional Director for England, Eric Hudson, will have an office based at Felden Lodge. The office telephone number will be 01442 331681. All correspondence should be sent to Felden Lodge.

VOTING AT BRIGADE COUNCIL

The voting papers for this year’s Brigade Council are included with this Gazette and are available on the website. Companies are entitled to one vote and may exercise this through the Captain or a nominated Officer at Brigade Council, may proxy it to another member of Brigade Council or may vote by post. Please ensure that your voice is heard. Battalion and District Office Bearers are entitled to vote if they may only do so in person at Council and cannot proxy this vote or vote by post.

JUNIOR SECTION INTERNATIONAL TEAM GAMES

Details for the games have been circulated to Company Captains through the Company Mailing and can also be downloaded from the BBUK Website. This session the Competition will run from 1st October to 31st December 2008 with all results being recorded at BBUK Headquarters by 16th January 2009.

125 CHALLENGE

This competition replaces the Top Team Challenge and is for the Company Section and Seniors age group. As with the Top Team Challenge a sealed pack containing the challenges will be sent on request to companies taking part. A response card has been circulated to Company Captains through the Company Mailing and recipients of the pack can also be submitted on the BBUK Website, and packs will be sent out in early September. This session the Competition will run from 1st October to 31st December 2008 with all results being received at BBUK Headquarters by 16th January 2009.

CAMELOT THEME PARK COMPETITION

Thank you to all those who entered the competition in the April Gazette, and congratulations to the winners. The new programme Challenge Plus are invited to a training day at Felden in early September. The day will include information on how to run the new programme, some tasters of the new activities and an opportunity to see the new badges and learn about the new awards schemes.

The cost of the day will be £10 and a lunch will be provided. Full details and entry form are on the BB website: boys-brigade.org/challengelastyearchallengeplus.htm.

JUSTGIVING.COM

The Boys’ Brigade has set up an account on Justgiving.com to enable friends and supporters of the Brigade to fundraise and donate online. If you have not used Justgiving.com before then it is a great way for getting people to sponsor you for an event you may be doing. You can create your own fundraising page and display it on the Boys’ Brigade including national appeals such as the Association of Children’s Hospices and Palm in Palm Project Appeals. Please note you cannot set up fundraising pages to raise funds for your Company, Battalion, District or other charitable cause through The Boys’ Brigade account.

GIRLS IN THE BOYS’ BRIGADE

All members will now be aware of the proposals by the Brigade Executive for constitutional changes that will be discussed at Brigade Council in September. The Executive believes that the constitutional proposals reorganise the position of many Companies and their find themselves in, allow a flexibility of approach that is needed in the many differing situations that are faced and provide a way to ensure that the Brigade can protect single gender work with boys and young men.

Questions have been raised with regards to the provision of activities, events and competitions by Battalions. Battalions are constituted to support their constituent Company and provision of activity should reflect this and there should be equality of opportunity for Companies that have a Girls’ Association. Equality of opportunity does not necessarily mean that all activities have to be mixed.

The advice given in the Frequently Asked Questions in the April Company Mailing is reprinted below.

Q: What changes will we need to make at Company level? Battalion level?
A: If you have taken the decision to set up a Girls’ Association, then it is essential that both boys and girls are treated equally in the Company. (Equally doesn’t always mean exactly the same, but with equal opportunities to achieve and participate and to be valued equally.) One of the roles of the Battalion is to support all of the Companies in its area, so if a Battalion has a mix of companies including boys-only and those Companies with a Girls’ Association, then those Battalions should ensure that events and competitions offer opportunities to both girls and boys. Where a national sporting body lays down guidelines about organiser/sports or games then if you cannot have mixed teams, then an opportunity for single sex teams to compete separately should be provided, if possible.

The Brigade Executive urges all Companies to support the proposals to go ahead and thereby enable the Brigade to focus on other pressing issues.

BRIGADE TRAINING OFFICERS

The BB in England and Wales is pleased to welcome the following leaders to the network of Brigade Training Officers:


We wish them well in their new role.

COMPETITION

In the April Gazette notice was given of the following Motions to Brigade Council:

in the name of the Brigade Executive

The Brigade Executive propose the following constitutional motions for consideration at Brigade Council on 6th September 2008:

1) Brigade Constitution

To adopt the Memorandum and Articles of Association as set out in Appendix A as the constitution of The Boys’ Brigade, as approved by the Brigade Executive and the Charity Commission, and that this shall be effective from 1 January 2009

2) Brigade Regulations

To adopt the Brigade Regulations as set out in Appendix B with effect from 1 January 2009

The Executive has taken soundings from Counsel which has resulted in three minor amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association which they help to provide greater precision and clarity. To this end, the following amendments will be incorporated without an amendment motion.

Memorandum & Articles of Association

Memorandum clause 4.3.1.3
Delate “did not care” Replace with “was reckless”

Brigade Regulations

Section 3, clauses 5
Delete “There shall be the following categories of child and young person membership:

Replace with “Children and young people shall be members of The Boys’ Brigade through Companies which shall be designated as one of the following:”

Section 9, clause 11 and Section 10, clause 10
Insert the word “otherwise” after “unless specifically stated”
Some years ago, working on Target Badge topics with a group of Company Section first years, I came across a section of the BB website, which gave information on Sir William Smith and the early days of the BB. The notes included a passage that read as follows: “The first camp by the 1st Glasgow Company was held in a building at Tighnabruaich on the Kyles of Bute in 1886. William Smith was an experienced yachtsman and each squad had its own craft – it was a sight indeed to see the boats in nautical array on the placid waters of Bute.”
Tesco Sports for Schools and Clubs Scheme

I n 2006 our company decided to take part in the sports scheme run by Tesco. As a small company we wondered whether it would be worthwhile to participate, especially as many of the local schools were already collecting the vouchers. With letters to parents, emails to work colleagues and asking family members already collecting the vouchers to redirect their vouchers to us instead of their schools, we managed to collect about 1500 vouchers. To assemble tennis or badminton net – even full adventure playground equipment – we can extend the range of activities we can offer the boys without cost to the company other than postage to place the order! Even if you only collect enough vouchers to replace a football it is a worthwhile project for any company.

Chris Ware
1st Havant & Leigh Park Company

Diary Dates

England

5th July
England Regional Athletics

2nd – 8th August
KGVI

20th September
Challenge Plus Training – Felden

Scotland

26 July – 2 August
King George VI – Second Year Course
by invitation only

2 – 9 August
King George VI – New Entrants’ Course

30 - 31 August
125 Live – Scone Palace Cricket Ground
organised by Perth & District Battalion

5 – 7 September
Brigade Council & The Gathering –
Tulliallan Castle

27 September
BB Games 125 – Coatbridge Outdoor
Sports Centre - organised by Airdrie,
Coatbridge & District Battalion

4 October
125th Anniversary Service
– Glasgow Cathedral

11 – 12 October
North Scottish Area Conference – Buckie
organised by Banffshire Battalion

25 – 26 October
Brigade Training Officers’ Foundation Course

International Junior Section Team Games 2007/2008

There were 208 entries into this year’s competition from around the world including Australia, Scotland, Republic of Ireland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England. The top ten were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placing</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Points overall</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25th Stirling</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>1165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1st Erskine &quot;C&quot;</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>1122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3rd Kilkeel &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>1118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>17th Brisbane</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1st Clonmelty</td>
<td>Republic of Ireland</td>
<td>1099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9th Route &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>1067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1st Moira &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>1055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3rd Pine Rivers ”2”</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1st Gillingham</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9th Riverton</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Take part in 2008 ...

Why not take part in the scheme in 2008, vouchers will be in store from September 2006 – you can find out more information and how to register your Company at www.sportsforschoolsandclubs.co.uk

Volunteering ...

We continue to interview some volunteers in each edition of the Gazette and this time two leaders from Scotland answer some questions about what motivates them to volunteer each week.

Profile
Name: Sandy Moffat
Age: 17
Town: Dunfermline
Occupation: Customer Services Advisor
Hobbies/Interests: Driving and BB

Questions
1. Why did you become a volunteer?
Following Grandfather’s footsteps in BB.
2. What makes you laugh?
People you are with, sharing time and fun.
3. Best camp/holiday
First ever visit to Craggan (Edinburgh Battalion’s Outdoor Centre) the weather was good and we never missed out on anything in the programme. Subsequent visits, programmes have been restricted by weather.
4. Hi spots
KGVI first year, great staff and super group of cadets. Worked hard and had great fun, made lots of friends with staff and cadets.
5. Lo Spot
Company band not doing as well as expected in bands contest, but not really a low just a short term disappointment.
6. What keeps you going?
Ambition to do well in BB. – in the past Queen’s Badge and KGVI, in the future to be a good leader.

Profile
Name: Willie Rundell
Age: 42
Town: Wishaw
Occupation: Insurance Assessor
Hobbies/Interests: BB and Hill-walking

Questions
1. Why did you become a volunteer?
Joined the BB at mother’s behest and never regretted it. Felt I should give something back, became an officer and again have no regrets.
2. What makes you laugh?
The boys and officers, their humour, sometimes unintentional contribute weekly to the enjoyment of our programme.
3. Best camp/holiday
Company Camp at Auchinruive, this was a great experience for all participating. The weather was good and there was lots to do and everyone participated. The whole group worked and played together and great fun was had by all.
4. Hi spot – Lo Spot
Highs and lows occur every week, we work through the lows and come out into the next high. Boys continually provide highs, by their achievements, comments and opinions on each other, the programme and the officers.
5. What keeps you going?
The officers and boys, we are a team and every player is needed.
A total of 225 delegates representing 81 Battalions and Districts attended the conferences held over six venues in the spring. The first conference was held at Carronvale on 16th February and the final one at Ganaway on 26th April.

All Battalions had been invited to send three delegates to the conferences whose aims were to inform and consult on recent initiatives, to share more widely the Brigade Development Plan and to enthuse areas for growth and development. The theme for the conference was based on Acts Chapter 2 v 17 “your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions”. In looking at how we turn our visions into reality, the Brigade Secretary quoted:

“Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world.” (Joel A Barker)

The first session concentrated on setting the scene looking at what had happened to BB over the last ten years. Delegates, having discussed factors that have caused decline and whether these were internal or external to the Brigade, highlighted priorities that the Brigade should now address. The Brigade Development Plan was shared and it was pleasing that all of these priorities were there somewhere. Although the plan is very detailed it really is about two things – supporting existing work and looking for opportunities to start new work. In addressing these two needs, the Company Support Scheme and Engage a Generation were detailed and Battalions challenged to take them up.

The proposed constitutional changes were shared and there was opportunity for detailed questioning. After this there was an overview of programme development and Challenge Plus.

The Open Forum allowed for discussion of topics that were of concern to Battalions and members of Regional Committees, Brigade Executive and Staff were on hand to answer specific points.

Delegates were then asked to draft an action plan and highlight three priorities to consider as a result of the day. This was the most important activity as there have been conferences before, which were thought beneficial, but little has happened. Delegates were asked to stress the support they needed from the Brigade to realise their vision and the Staff and Executive will be looking closely at these.

“Why not give your boys a new challenge?”

National Competitions will give your Company & Senior Section members a new challenge for next session. Meet new companies from outside your own Battalion and you might even reach a National Final somewhere in the UK. National Competitions provide competitions to suit every boy and company size. Entry forms for the new session are available from summer Company mailing, and more information by visiting www.boys-brigade.org.uk/nationalcompetitions.htm

Results from the 2008 Finals

Senior Football
1st 2nd GOURROCK
2nd 70th London
3rd 4/5th Kilmarnock
4th 2nd Castlederg
5th 6/8th Dundee
6th 17th North West Durham

Chess
1st 1st NEWTONHILL
2nd 1st Knocknamuckley
3rd 32nd Nottingham
4th 3rd Kilsyth

Masterteam
1st 1st BALLYCLARE
2nd 7th East Kilbride
3rd 2nd Forfar
4th 9th South East Essex
5th 16th Newtownabbey
6th 35th Liverpool

Junior Football
1st 1st MOUNTJOY
2nd 2nd Castlederg
3rd 42nd Dundee
4th 48th London
5th 2nd Port Glasgow
6th 2nd Sutton on Ashfield

Badminton
1st 7th WISHAW
2nd 5th Coleraine
3rd 4th Newtownabbey
4th 1st Poilmont
Joint 5th 9th South East Essex & 32nd Nottingham

Table Tennis
1st 44th GLASGOW
2nd 1st Grangemouth
3rd 1st Burton-in-Kendal
4th 48th London
5th 11th Northampton
6th 1st Knocknamuckley

Table Tennis
1st 44th GLASGOW
2nd 1st Grangemouth
3rd 1st Burton-in-Kendal
4th 48th London
5th 11th Northampton
6th 1st Knocknamuckley

National Football Final

Above: Masterteam 2008 Group

Were you represented?

The Competitions

We can look back on another session of National Competitions that have taken place in various locations throughout the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland.

Competition and fellowship were enjoyed by both boys & officers throughout the session. This session saw some boys and companies taking part in National Finals for the first time in Carrickfergus and Larne (Northern Ireland), Strathkelvin and Edinburgh (Scotland), and Newbury & Blackpool (England).
Challenge Plus Programme
for 15 to 18 year olds in the Seniors

An exciting new programme for leaders working with 15 to 18 year olds, providing you with resources to meet the needs of your young people will be available from August 2008.

The Challenge Plus Programme provides:
- fully resourced Projects with tips and ideas for delivery
- flexibility of working in age groups or all ages together
- a wide range of activities
- a series of challenge cards
- faith development resources
- new award scheme
- new volunteering scheme
- links with The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

How will the programme work?

The Challenge Plus Programme is split into Projects and Challenges as follows:

Projects will include taster activities that will be short sessions to act as an introduction to a project. There will then be resourced ideas on how the Project could be carried out.

The projects will be grouped into 3 programme zones:
- Community
- Life Skills
- Recreation & Leisure.

Each Project will have objectives, will provide resourced project outlines with tips and ideas for delivery, may be split into sub activities and will provide information on how to take Projects further, including: websites, books and other resources.

Challenges are focussed on activities that could be completed by the group or as an individual ranging from ‘Climb a Munro’ to something very different like ‘Review a local takeaway meal’. Each Challenge will be accompanied by ideas on how the challenge could be carried out and health & safety guidance.

What’s in the pack?

Your programme pack will contain:
- Information – this will guide you through how to use the pack, including programme planning, entitlements, rules and regulations and administration including record keeping.
- Projects - fully resourced project outlines with tips and ideas for delivery.
- Challenges – task objectives with tips and ideas for implementation.
- Awards – how the award scheme recognises young people’s achievements including how to gain the Queen’s Badge and information on the new Volunteering Awards.

To order your copy of the new Challenge Plus Programme Pack please complete this form and return to BBUK Headquarters.

Packs will be despatched from 11th August 2008 onwards, please allow up to 14 days for delivery. (Please note: this pack is not currently available through BB Supplies).

I would like to order ...... copies of the Challenge Plus Programme Pack at the special launch price of £27 + Postage & Packaging (normal programme pack price £30).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postage and Packaging should be added as below:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 pack</td>
<td>£4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-4 packs</td>
<td>£7</td>
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<td>5-7 packs</td>
<td>£11</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-10 packs</td>
<td>£13</td>
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LAUNCH ORDER FORM

I would like to order 1 copy of the Challenge Plus Programme Pack at the special launch price of £27 + Postage & Packaging (normal programme pack price £30).

I enclose a cheque for the amount of £

I would like to pay by
debit card with the amount of £

Card Details:
CARD NUMBER: _________ / _______ / _______ / _______
CV2 SECURITY NUMBER: ________ (last 3 digits on back of card)
START DATE: ___ / ___  EXPIRY DATE: ___ / ___ ISSUE NO (SWITCH): ___
NAME ON CARD: __________________________________________________________________________

DELIVERY

Name: __________________________________________________________________________
Company/Battalion/District: ______________________________________________________________
Postcode: __________________________
Daytime Telephone Number: __________________________

PAYMENT

☐ Please debit my credit/debit card with the amount of £ (details as below) including postage & packaging:
CARD NUMBER: _________ / _______ / _______ / _______
CV2 SECURITY NUMBER: ________ (last 3 digits on back of card)
START DATE: ___ / ___  EXPIRY DATE: ___ / ___ ISSUE NO (SWITCH): ___
NAME ON CARD: __________________________________________________________________________

Address (If different from delivery address above):
____________________________________________________________________________________
Postcode: __________________________
Signature: __________________________________________________________________________

Please return to Challenge Plus Programme Orders, The Boys’ Brigade, Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 0BL or FAX (if payment by Credit Card) to: 01442 235 391

Please Note: It will not be possible to take orders by telephone.

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Please Note: It will not be possible to take orders by telephone.
HERE & THERE

2nd Inverness Centenary

The 1st Rugby Company celebrated the company’s centenary with a special weekend of activities last February. On Saturday an early breakfast attracted over 50 past and present members. This was followed by a football match for ‘old boys’ at the Griffin Centre and in the afternoon a Pirate Party was held for present members, which finished with a film and pizza and chips. As if that wasn’t enough for one day, a Company Display took place in the evening. A parade service was held on the Sunday at Rugby Baptist Church. Her Worship the Mayor of Rugby, Sue Peach, read a letter conveying best wishes from The Queen. The Brigade Secretary dedicated new company colours and during the service a time capsule was opened which had been placed in the church safe 25 years ago. This contained photographs and letters from boys in the company in 1983 when a time capsule was opened which had been placed in the church safe 25 years ago. This contained photographs and letters from boys in the company in 1983.

The Mayoress of Lisburn

The Right Worshipful The Mayor of Lisburn, Councillor James Tinsley, joined the Company Section of 1st Magheragall Company in 1981. In 1988 he started helping in the Junior Section and in 1990 became a Lieutenant by completing the KGV Course at Rathmore, Larnie. In the early 1990’s he was selected as one of a number of representatives of the BB in Northern Ireland to meet The Queen at Windsor Castle. He has always been an active member of the company staff and is now leader in charge of the Anchor Boys. In the summer of 2007 he became the youngest Mayor of Lisburn and has been actively promoting the importance of citizenship to BB members and school children throughout the city.

Plymouth Battalion have fun

Twenty-seven Plymouth Battalion Anchor Boys met for their annual fun afternoon. They enjoyed activities based around the story of David and Goliath, which included VeggieTales DVD and the Giant Pickle, drama, crafts and GoLift type games, concluding with a knock-out handball competition. They certainly had fun and learnt that they can do big things with God’s help.

Opening and Dedication of the Ganaway Beacon

On Sunday 13th April the Ganaway Beacon was opened at the Belfast Battalion’s activity and conference centre on the Ards peninsula. Opened by Mr James Smyth, Battalion Honorary Vice President and dedicated by the Battalion Chaplain, Mr Brian Anderson, the Beacon is a special meeting area providing a facility where young people and leaders from across Northern Ireland communities and diverse cultures can come together in spiritual contemplation.

The Boys’ Brigade Gazette
July 2008

Dear Editor...

It is always encouraging to learn of local companies desiring to make associations with BB in different parts of the world. Recently I received such a request from 3rd Coleman who invited me to come to Co. Longford. They are wanting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of their founder by assisting the growth of a company abroad. As in the development of BB internationally, the umbrella organisation of BB internationally, Global Fellowship welcomes such requests. Global Fellowship wishes each company and does its best to turn companies, battalions and organisations.

41st Edinburgh Queen’s Badges

John Hughes, Manager of Falkirk FC, presented four Queens’ Badges to members of the 41st Edinburgh Battalion.

BB WORLD CUP

For a number of years the Edinburgh, Leith & District and Northampton Battalions have regularly held an inter-battalion game of football. Other battalions including Cardiff, Nottingham and Dunfermline have also taken part on some occasions, with each battalion providing a Junior and Senior team. The boys colloquially refer to this as the BB World Cup. As well as the football competition the host battalion provides accommodation over a weekend, the boys take part in some sightseeing and usually a trip to ten-pin bowling. These weekends have proved to be an enjoyable and fairly stress free way of enabling BB members from different parts of the UK to meet in a social context. If your battalion or even your company would be interested in taking part in a similar event, contact Jonathon Eales at Felden and he would be happy to make any connections.
DEA Silver in the Peak District

Members of the 2nd Enfield and 10th Enfield Companies completed their Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Silver Expedition in the Peak District in early April. The team consisting of John Murfitt, Ben Hall, Mark Griffiths and James Norman spent 4 days and 3 nights walking around the Vale of Edale including Mam Tor in varying weather conditions which included sun, cloud, rain, wind and lots of snow!

President’s Badges

Mr John Young MBE, Brigade Vice President presented President’s Badges to members of 43rd Belfast: (l to r) Robert Cardmull, Drew Vincent, Adam Fardiner, David Johnston.

Thank you

The 1st Denton Company would like to thank Costain for their generosity in donating £220 towards the purchase of a new gas cooker for use at their annual summer camps. Costain in the Community (GTC) is a scheme designed to benefit charitable/volunteer organisations such as The Boys’ Brigade, whilst promoting Costain’s reputation as a considerable contractor. The new cooker will enable campers to continue having excellent food in a safe cookhouse.

Youth of Living Water

Democratic Republic of Congo

The Challenges of DR Congo

Despite Congo’s wealth of resources there has been much conflict in trying to gain control of its minerals. As a result of this DR Congo has been engaged in civil war for many years with over 4,000,000 having lost their lives.

Zaire gained independence from Belgium in June 1960 and became known as Congo. However General Mobutu, Chief of the Army, led a coup in 1965 seeking to gain control of the mineral rich Katanga province.

In October 1996 dissident groups led by Laurent Kabila and supported by rebels in Rwanda and Uganda rose in revolt.

Children joining the rebel army or the ‘Youth of Living Water’ – one path leads to death the other offers hope for the future.

Kabila declared himself President with Mobutu fleeing to Morocco.

However in summer 1998 yet another rebel group announced itself, again backed by Rwanda and Uganda and further conflict broke out. A cease-fire was signed in August 1998 but in January 2001 President Kabila was assassinated by one of his bodyguards.

His son Joseph took over as the new Head of State in January 2001 and proved to be more open to negotiations. A transitional national government was formed in 2003. This, at least formally, ended the war.

The first democratic elections for over 40 years took place in July and October 2006. Joseph Kabila was elected President but any progress this continues to occur.

The situation has left DR Congo in a state of absolute desperation.

• Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced creating a humanitarian disaster with many having no hope of food, home, health, education or income.

• High ethnic tension remains in the East and North-East of the country.

• Justice for victims who have had their human rights abused is sparse.

• The education and public health system are both shattered.

• Mass widespread corruption.

• There has been a national economic collapse. The DR Congo is ranked near the bottom of countries on the 2007 Human Development Index at 168 out of 177.

• Violence and insecurity continue.

• Armed forces continue to pose a threat to civilians.

• There are frequent reports of civilian executions.

• Widespread rape and sexual violence continues.

• Banditry and forced labour is common.

• Over 30,000 children have been forced into rebel armies and this continues to occur.

Youth of Living Water

Originally called The Boys’ Brigade but for obvious political reasons YLOW has had to gain a new identity. It operates in the South East of the country in the mineral rich Katanga province, which is around the size of France. They offer a weekly programme through a number of groups across the province for around 2000 boys and girls.

The National Secretary is Mr Jean Tshiswaka from the Anglican Church.

Apart from discipling young people to follow Christ along the lines of the Brigade methodology, the focus is on seeking to develop the young person’s character within the context of their culture. They therefore have an emphasis on social development.

Seminars are regularly held on issues such as HIV/AIDS, employment, human rights, poverty etc. They also run a number of small vocational training and income earning initiatives such as pig rearing, maize growing and rental of wedding gowns.

Youth members from YLOW learn how to grow and then sell maize.

To assist young people in “fighting” the aftermath of the war, they have established a Skills Training Programme. The objective is to train young people through a 9 month apprenticeship school. It will teach students carpentry or tailoring skills leading to gainful employment and the ability to take responsibility for their own lives. The first intake has 12 students and they propose to double this number each year.

At the end of the 9 month period the products the youth have made will be sold through local markets. Some of the income will be invested in the further development of the school but the youth will also receive a commission.

Given the recent history of the country, there is no guarantee that the youth will find external employment on completion of their course. At the very least however they will have learnt skills that will bring income to their families through the establishment of micro-enterprise.
**Web Site**
The England Region young people’s group is designing an England page on the Brigade’s web site, which will be used to promote events and activities within the region. It is expected that the page will go live at the beginning of next session.

**Engage a Generation**
All Battalions in the Region have been contacted asking them to make time in a Battalion meeting to hear about Engage a Generation. To date approximately 50% of Battalions have agreed a date. Please contact the Regional Director for further information if your Battalion has not yet responded.

**Marching Band Competition**
The UK Band Championships has now come under the remit of the Region and is run jointly with The Boys’ Brigade – England & Wales. The competition held on 7th June was the last in the current format. In the future the event will become a Music Festival, which will include marching bands but will also include other musical disciplines. A venue is being sought and a steering group will meet shortly to plan the event. Watch out for further details in the Gazette and Company mailings.

**Northern Saints**
Watch out for further information about this new event which will be held in the North of England over the August Bank Holiday weekend starting in 2009. This will be an activity based Evangelistic event and will be ideal for Company and Senior Section members. Partners are being sought and a planned group established and updates will be announced in future Gazettes and mailings.

**Scottish Senior’s Challenge**
Ross Harrison of the 1st Kirtintilloch BB Company sent in this report to complete Senior’s Challenge no 50.

“In November 2007, as part of my Senior’s Challenge, I travelled to Lamlash on the Isle of Arran to see The Boys’ Brigade Lifeboat.

I had to go down at 9am on a cold Saturday morning because they were taking the lifeboat out on a training exercise. I was shown around by Mark who was really helpful. He told me all about the engine, the equipment and how it was used, where everyone sat and the jobs they did. He let me sit in the lifeboat and try on some of the equipment.”

This is the last year of the Scottish Senior’s Challenge. In September it will be replaced by the new programme for Seniors “Challenge Plus”. The Scottish Committee would like to thank all the Seniors and Companies who have used the challenges over the last five years and hope that you will enjoy using “Challenge Plus”.

**BBAY AUCTION**
An auction of old memorabilia (uniforms, badges, membership cards, manuals) at Brigade Council Weekend Tulliallan Castle, 5 – 7 Sept 2008, in aid of 125 Children’s Hospices Appeal. Everyone attending the Council weekend has been asked to bring along (or send in) one item of memorabilia, but you can also donate items even if you are not attending Council. Please send items to:-

**BATTALIONS DISPLAYS**
Battalions (not just Scottish ones) are invited to remember the last 125 years of The Boys’ Brigade in their areas.

Create a display of old photos and/or memorabilia for the Brigade Council weekend 5 – 7 Sept 2008 at Tulliallan Castle.

A display area of 6ft x 3ft will be available. Bring your own equipment. A table will be provided. Use display boards or Powerpoint type presentations. Some ESB Installers have already booked. To book a display area for your battalion, phone 01324 562 008, by 10th August 2008, indicating if you need an electric power supply. Prizes for the best displays.

**REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**
**LauraLynn Children’s Hospice Foundation**
“Together making the most of life”
The BB in the Republic of Ireland is supporting the LauraLynn Children’s Hospice Foundation as part of the Brigade celebrating 125 years of our founding. As we go to press £8500 has been received towards our target of £25,000. Thank you to the Companies that have already contributed and good luck with your fundraising to those who have various activities planned over the coming months.

**THE BOYS’ BRIGADE IN NORTHERN IRELAND JUNIOR SECTION 1-2-5 GO CHALLENGE**
During 2008 Junior Sections in Northern Ireland have had the opportunity to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of The Boys’ Brigade by taking part in the 1-2-5 GO CHALLENGE at four venues throughout Northern Ireland.

Two events have already been held in February and April with another two due to be held during October (Cockstown 11/12 Oct, Lisburn 17/18 Oct). Around 180 boys have already taken part and there is the opportunity for up to another 360 to take part in October. For two hours 15 minutes teams of four boys take part in 15 innovative and exciting challenges working together as a team. A small group of Officers from Northern Ireland planned, designed and made the Challenges and have been responsible for the organisation at each venue. One of the aims was to provide activities and use equipment and resources that would be different from those normally available on a section evening.

With titles such as In the Driving Seat, Onetwofive Go Challenge, Curling, Wonder Wall, Locks and Badges, Pick and Pass, Tangeos, Magnetic Challenge, Maze, Walk the Plank, Quick Reaction, Caterpillar Walk, Golf Ball Tunnel, Calculator Game and Speed Cups, boys have been kept fully occupied with a great variety of activities. Using a number of halls and rooms at each venue has kept up the surprise element, as boys have no idea of what the challenges entail.

Small trophies are awarded to the winners of each session and all boys receive a special 1-2-5 GO Challenge Certificate. Feedback from the boys (and officers) has been very positive and encouraging. The favourite Challenges (mentioned by the boys) have included In the Driving Seat, Wonder Wall, Magnetic Challenge and Maze.

It is also good feedback to know that some sections have even registered to bring more boys to a second venue.

Companies are encouraged to register as soon as possible for the final 2 events – closing date Monday 22 September 2008. Professor Norman Nevin, presented the certificates and trophies.

**125Cinema**
Archive video footage will be shown during the Brigade Council weekend.

Our thanks, so far, to George Francis for video of the 1947 Chislehurst & District Camp (now Bromley battalion) and to Rob Bolton for a dvd of BB archive films ranging from 1908 to 1966. As well as being shown, copies of this dvd will be on sale during the Council weekend.

The footage contains gymnastics, camping, marching, bands, Royal reviews and much more.

If you have any footage that you would be willing to lend please contact: BBU4U@btinternet.com

**Paul McCarroll**
Full-time Senior Executive Officer with the Belfast Battalion has been awarded a Churchill Fellowship Travel Bursary from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. He will spend 6–8 weeks in Canada and North America during the summer, studying the Recruitment and Retention of Volunteers with a wide range of organisations from the voluntary and community sector. The Fellowship attracts over 1000 applicants each year, from which 100 individuals are chosen who wish to broaden their horizons, using their Fellowship to bring experience to their organisation and community on their return. We look forward to the benefits of Paul’s experiences in his work with young people in the future.

**Enrolment Service of**
...GO...
England and Wales BB/GB National Band Championships

Twenty five bands took part in an excellent day of friendly competition at the Northwood Stadium, Stoke on Trent on 7th June. There were many different styles of music and all of the young people gave of their best to provide an entertaining day for the appreciative audience.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BB/GB Inspection</td>
<td>51st Birmingham BB/35th Birmingham GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginners’ Class</td>
<td>1st Malvern BB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novice Class</td>
<td>Hull and East Yorkshire GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Class Indoor</td>
<td>13th Bromley BB/ 1st St Mary Cray GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contest Class</td>
<td>4th Stafford BB/GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Championship Class</td>
<td>10th Wolverhampton BB/ 1st Lanesfield/1st Coseley GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadet Class</td>
<td>4th Stafford BB/GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Class (Outdoor)</td>
<td>13th Bromley BB/1st St Mary Cray GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drum Major</td>
<td>Ashley Elliott, 11th Northampton BB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Drum</td>
<td>Daniel Kemshed, 11th Northampton BB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Valved Instrument</td>
<td>Simon Davies, 1st Tamworth BB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Non-Valved Instrument</td>
<td>Ben Harrison, 11th Northampton BB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Scottish Bands’ Contest

19th April 2008

The twentieth Scottish Bands’ Contest was once again a very successful day demonstrating the high standard within Scottish bands.

Chief guest for the day was John Young MBE, Brigade Vice President and chairman of the Brigade Executive. John was joined in the morning by Provost Winifred Sloan of South Ayrshire Council and John Scott MSP for the Ayr constituency.

Results:

**Mini pipe bands**

Novice – 44th Dundee
Contest – 231st Glasgow
Championship – 6/8th Dundee

**Pipe Bands**

Novice – 1st Troon
Contest – 231st Glasgow
Championship – 6/8th Dundee

**Open Class**

Contest – 7th Airdrie Flute Band
Championship – 1st Tulliallan Trumpet Band
Best Mallets Player on the Day – 2nd Port Glasgow
The Boys’ Brigade is working with Youth Fun Days to provide discounted tickets for Youth Groups for all of Merlin Entertainments Group attractions - Alton Towers Resort, LEGOLAND® Windsor, THORPE PARK, Chessington World of Adventures & Zoo, Warwick Castle, Madame Tussauds, the Dungeons, SEA LIFE, Windsor, THORPE PARK, Alton Towers Resort, LEGOLAND® Windsor, Tussauds, the Dungeons, SEA LIFE.

If you’re looking for a great day out for your Company or Battalion, then look no further than Youth Fun Days (formerly known as N&L Scout Events). A free group visit to Alton Towers for up to 20 people by answering the following question - “What City is home to Alton Towers for 2008”? Answers to be sent to altontowerscompetition@boys-brigade.org.uk by 31st July 2008.

On Saturday 8th November why not bring a group along to our Exclusive event at Alton Towers? Tickets are just £16.50 adults (17 yrs +) and £13.00 children (4-16 yrs) if purchased before 1st September 2008, plus you will receive 1 free adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased!

You can order your tickets online at www.youthfundays.co.uk for further information and to purchase your tickets. All tickets must be purchased at least 2 working days in advance of your tickets.

FOLLOWING an initial entry of 33 teams from Ireland and England, 27 teams actually took part in the Competition. The Sheriff of Nottingham, Councillor Jeannie Packer, visited and presented the prizes.

There were trophies, individual medals and prizes. This event and the one in 2007 were funded with help towards the cost of prizes from The Co-operative Group’s Community Dividend Fund and in addition this year The Rotary Club of Wollaton Park kindly made a grant. The local branch of Sainsbury’s Supermarkets plc helped towards the catering costs.

Congratulations to all those who took part in a splendid day. The 25th and 39th Nottingham Companies did the catering and the 44th Nottingham Company provided overnight accommodation on the Friday for the teams from Torquay and Lancashire.

RESULTS:
Under-18 League Winners Shield (to be returned each year) and gold medals and B.B. trophies (to be kept): 22nd Dublin
Under-18 League Runners-up silver medals and shin pads (to be kept): 1st Torquay
Under-14 League – The David Nunn Memorial Trophy (which will be retained at Powerleague) and The Robin Hood Knockout Competition Winners Cup (to be returned each year) plus gold medals and footballs (to be kept): 48th London
Under-14 League Runners-up silver medals and B.B. draw string bags (to be kept): 15th South Shields
Cup for the Best Sporting Team in the Under-18 League (to be returned each year) plus water bottles (to be kept): 32nd Nottingham/1st Awsworth joint team
The Clifford Jones Memorial Trophy for the Best Sporting Team in the Under-14 League (to be returned each year) plus water bottles (to be kept): 1st Ashton-in-Makerfield

The Cost of Visiting the Youth Fun Days attractions for 2008 is just a click away! Alternatively ring 0161 277 8998 or 0115 952 3617 to book by phone.

Youth Fun Days attractions for 2008:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attraction</th>
<th>Adult Price</th>
<th>Child Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alton Towers</td>
<td>Adults £12.00, Children £7.70</td>
<td>Group bookings Adults &amp; Children 10 + people £17.50, All group bookings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorpe Park</td>
<td>Adults £21.50, Children £14.30</td>
<td>Group bookings of 10 + receive 1 FREE Adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chessington World of Adventures &amp; Zoo</td>
<td>Adults £21.50, Children £14.30</td>
<td>Group bookings of 10 + receive 1 FREE Adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madame Tussauds London</td>
<td>Adults £17.50, Children £14.00</td>
<td>Group bookings of 10 + receive 1 FREE Adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh Dungeon</td>
<td>Adults £14.95, Children £11.95</td>
<td>Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEA LIFE</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Children £3.50</td>
<td>Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 5 child tickets purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dungeons</td>
<td>London Dungeon: Adults &amp; Children £10.00 per ticket, Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>York Dungeon: Adults &amp; Children £3.50, Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edinburgh Dungeon: Adults &amp; Children £4.95, Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEGOLAND Windsor: Adults &amp; Children £18.00, Group bookings Adults &amp; Children 10 + people £17.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warner Bros: Adults £17.70, Children £14.40, Group bookings of 10 + receive 1 FREE Adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>THE DUNGEONS: London Dungeon: Adults &amp; Children £10.00 per ticket, Group bookings of 10 + people receive 1 FREE adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased</td>
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On Saturday, 26th April 2008 the Nottingham Battalion again arranged and hosted national outdoor 5-a-side Football Competitions at the Powerleague Soccer Centre in Nottingham for members of The Boys’ Brigade.

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With the introduction of the Discover programme last year, as part of the ongoing Programme Review, an opportunity was taken to update the training material used as part of the work towards the President’s Badge, formerly Grade 3 Leadership.

APPENDED CAMPSEITS

The following sites have been officially approved, having met Guidelines laid down by the Brigade, and Local Fire and Public Health Authorities.

AUCHENGLAN IN AUTDORE CENTRE offers a choice of camping areas and modern indoor accommodation in an unvailed setting in the central Scottish Highlands near to Loch Lomond. Visiting groups can undertake an extensive range of challenging and adventurous activities (on- and off-site) and there are lots of places of interest to visit close by. Fibe colour brochure available from Auchenglan Outdoor Centre, Blainfield, StriLingshire G64 9AU. Tel: 01770 770296. Fax: 01770 771917. E-mail: centre@auchenlan.com. Website: www.auchenlan.com

FELDEN LODGE CAMPSITE 2009. BB canvas campsite (operated by 10th Enfield) fully equipped for up to 50 (smaller camps welcome) at the BBUK HQ in Hotfordshire (from June to Sept). Contact Chris Norman on 07703 571915 or (e) chris@boys-brigade.org.uk

SWANAGE CAMPSITE 2009. BB canvas campsite (operated by 10th Enfield) fully equipped for up to 60 (smaller camps welcome) in Swanage. Contact Chris Norman on 07703 571915 or (e) chris@boys-brigade.org.uk

HONEYHILL CAMP (NW Kent Batallion). 12 acres Beared near Maidstone. Easy access to coast, places of interest, sports facilities. Building with kitchen, gas, electricity, mains water. Contact Dennis Hatt, Tel: 01795 673392 Mob: 07749 790413. Email: dennis.1firstminster@talktalk.net

WEST MIDLAND DISTRICT CAMPING CENTRE. DYPTRYN ARLDEN, The Boys’ Brigade Camping Centre at Dyfryn Arlden has available 3 camp sites all suitable for mixed camps. The largest main centre site caters for up to 70 people, has a fully equipped kitchen and dining area. Also provided is dormitory accommodation for 40 sports. Fully equipped wash and shower facilities. Tent rides are provided on the adjacent 3 acre field which can also be used for sports. The smaller 2 acres site caters for up to 60 people and each is equipped with kitchen, store, electric lighting, gas cookers, fridge, freezer, tents, 40x20 marquee, wash and flush toilet facilities, with access to main centre showers.

Thanks to Jamies Copping 01905 490 965. Email: dyrtyfyn.camping.centre@boys-brigade.org.uk. Website: http://dyrfyn-boys-brigade.org.uk

VECTIS YOUTH CAMPS. Three beautiful campsites on the Isle of Wight with permanent kitchens, showers and toilets. Each site is self contained and in easy reach of south beaches and all the attractions of the island. All tenting and equipment supplied. Prices from £35 per person per week. Ideal for organized camps of between 25 and 150 people. Telephone 01544 482020. Email: siteadmin@vectisyouthcamps.org.uk. Website: www.vectisyouthcamps.org.uk

GLENGARRY CAMP 2008/9, Chidock, Dorset (near Lyme Regis). Fully equipped approved BB site 10 minutes from beach. Brick cookhouse, running hot and cold water, gas cookers and grills, shop, new fridge freezer etc. While canvas for 30 – 70 including 40 x 30’ marquees. Nearby leisure centre with indoor pool 10 mins. Contact Mark 020 8903 1116 or email mark.myhan@talk21.net

CRAGGAN, the Outdoor Centre of Edinburgh, Leith and District Battalion. Sitd in glorious countryside by Loch Tay, Perthshire. The Centre is securely refurbished, has disabled access, sleeps 30, is self-catering and is ideal for weekend and other camps. Well situated for outdoor and water activities with own canoes and jetty. Contact craggan@thoeb-edinburgh.org.uk or 0131 551 1200 ext 20.

BROMLEY BATTLETON SITE, WHITECLIFF BAY, ISLE OF WIGHT. Fully equipped approved BB site. Canvas, male/female shower blocks, flush toilets, mains gas and electricity. Small or large numbers up to 100, Details George Francis. “Keweney’, Besfield Lane, Farmingham, D4 0EZ. Phone 01302 862401 or Keith Francis, 01474 750485. Email: george.francis44@btinternet.com or visit our website www.bcampsite.co.uk for availability and all information.

CAMPING/HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

BLACKPOOL AREA. Self-catering accommodation. (1) Accommodation for 44 in comfort. 4 single rooms for staff. 2 shower rooms, bedroom and cloakroom provided. Fully equipped kitchen. (2) Small Party Unit for 16 persons, including two staff rooms. Fully equipped as above. (3) Camp site with camp kitchen/dining room, shower and toilet facilities. The campsite includes a large sports hall with climbing wall and sports field. The campsite is situated in the beautiful town of Blackpool, Lancashire. Contact Steve Tomlinson, 07722 845252 or Keith Margetts, 01524 731713. Email: keithm@blackpool.jobcentre.gov.uk Email: sctomlinson@btinternet.com

BARNABAS ADVENTURE CENTRES. Bring your company/battalion to one of our spacious venues. Campy Wood (Kent). Withith Parkhough (Scottish Borders). Fronfield Centre (Northants) and Halls Green (Kent). We’d love to send you a brochure.

Contact: Brian Barnes. Barnabas Adventure Centres. FREEPOST TN2 186. Torridge, Kent TN11 9EG. Tel: 01732 364795. Email: barnabascentres@freeuk.com or www.barnabascentres.org.uk or email: bb@barnabas.org.uk

SOUTHERN SCOTLAND. Spacious Edwardian house in its own grounds within the lovely town of Moffat. Rent the Welb Road Centre for a self-catering experience. Group availability weekends and week days. Open all year. Two meeting/ activity rooms. Local facilities for quarters, horse riding. 5 bedroom house in its own grounds. 5 miles south of Moffat on the A75, 01886 832051. Contact Malcolm Miller. Email: mmiller@moffat.net for more information.

With the introduction of the Discover programme last year, as part of the ongoing Programme Review, an opportunity was taken to update the training material used as part of the work towards the President’s Badge, formerly Grade 3 Leadership. The new material called ‘Building Your Skills’ is aimed at developing skills required to work co-operatively with others to make a difference in the life of the young person and the training company. The training is open to young people in Year 4 of the Company Section, or older, working towards the President’s Badge but is also available to any young person who would benefit from developing their team skills and negotiating skills.

Throughout the training, participants are challenged to look at the different roles they play in groups and how they can change, how to work with others in a way that strengthens the group and also gets the task done. Probably the biggest challenge is how they can use these experiences to make a difference in their own companies. The course is practical and interactive with tasks covering teamwork, communication, trust, planning, problem solving and creativity and all tackled in a fun way.

A number of Battalions have already used the material and feedback from both participants and staff has been very positive. Possibly the most northerly course was run in Kirkwall on Orkney in February. Scottish Headquarters had organised a ‘Youth Leader Training course on the island over the weekend and it was utilised by a number of young people in the area.

The training was the last stage in the work towards the President’s Badge and all seven young men have now started work on their Queen’s Badge. With 1st Kirkwall celebrating its Centenary in 2009 it would be great to see them all completing the highest award and adding to the roll of Queen’s Men in the Company.

The Boys’ Brigade Gazette

July 2008

The Boys’ Brigade Gazette
On Sunday morning we joined the congregation of the Altnacham Methodist Church for worship, the home of the 2nd Altnacham Company, followed in the afternoon with the Battalion Church Parade at Manchester Cathedral.

If you would like to contribute anything for future columns, please contact Philip Daley, The Seftiad Association, Unit C1 Nutgrove Office Park, Nutgrove Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 or email boysbrigade@eircom.net or telephone +353 (01) 296 4622.

**VACANCY FOR NVQ/SVQ ADMINISTRATOR**

The BB is looking for an NVQ/SVQ Administrator to be responsible for a smooth running of our NVO Centre. The role will also involve general I.T. support at Felden and consequently a good level if IT skills will be required.

For full details and application pack, please go to www.boys-brigade.org.uk/vacancies.html

**BB COLLECTORS’ CLUB**

Can we help you find striking your own badge?

From time to time many Battalions and Companies strikes badge and other souvenirs for special occasions. These items can be costly to produce, especially in small numbers and generally have a set up charge.

The Boys’ Brigade’s Collectors Club can perhaps help you by buying a small amount of your badges or souvenirs for use in sales if you are keen to be a souvenir I would be happy to hear from you – Kevin Alitchon, Co-ordinator of The Boys’ Brigade’s Collectors Club, http://bbc.boys-brigade.org.uk

Are you interested in joining The Boys’ Brigade’s Collectors’ Club?

Club membership is only open to UK residents. A membership fee of £12, the current annual fee is £9.00 payable in January. The first thing you receive is a quarterly Newsletter and Club membership buttonhole badge. If you require any further information either contact me or visit our site (http://boys-brigade.org.uk - Kevin Alitchon, Joint Co-ordinator, BBCC)

**Brigade Memorabilia Auction**

Our annual BB Memorabilia Auction will be held at St Stephen’s Methodist Church, Bideford Way, Cannock, on Saturday 25th October.

As in all previous auctions we anticipate a good range of early badges, membership cards and the like. We have been promised a Bolton Boys’ Brigade badge this time.

Viewing will start at approximately 11.00am with the auction running from 2.00pm until about 4.00pm. Postal bids will be welcome. Note that bidding will go up in steps of about 10% or less, so that to be successful any bid needs to be one step above any other, and not necessarily reach the specified limit.

Catalogues will be available from the end of July and are normally sent to those bidding in the get to the venue. They will include details on how to get to the venue. There is parking available at the church. If you have not taken part in previous auctions then drop a line to Ken. Please include two second class stamps.

Some items are being sold for owners on a 50:50 basis. Apart from this all profit goes to Brigade development.

For further information contact Ken King, 14 Gomer Close, Codicote, Hitchin, SG4 8XR

**OBITUARIES**

**WILLIAM BOWIE MBE MC MA (97)** was one of the longest and most effective Presidents of the Glasgow Battalion. Before the war, during which he was awarded the Military Cross, he served as an officer in the 234th Glasgow Company. He engaged with people of all ages and with pride he continued to serve the company as a Honorary Vice-President.

**JAMES EDE (33)** joined the 14th West Kent Company as an Anchor Boy and progressed through all sections of the company becoming an officer in 1993 and Captain in 2004. James showed great dedication to the Company and was a well-liked figure. Following his presidency, he continued to serve as an Honorary Vice-President. Many of the new initiatives in Glasgow benefited from his generous support. He was appointed a Brigade Honorary Vice-President.

**L KEITH LOWER** was the founder Captain of 2nd Stood Brook Company at Frintonbury Baptist Church, near Rochester. Keith was one of the pioneers who set up and ran the Midway Camp sites on the Isle of Wight and the North West Kent Battalion’s Honeyhill Campsite, near Maidstone. Keith was appointed an Honorary Vice President of North West Kent Battalion; other roles included serving as deacon, secretary and treasurer in his church for many years. He will be sadly missed by sons Philip and Stephen, their respective families and friends.

**S ALASDAIR MUNRO JP (72)** was a boy in the 43rd Liverpool Company (St Cyprians, Edge Hill). He became an officer in the 43rd and subsequently a Brigade Training Officer for a term, Battalion President. He was also President of the Liverpool PMA and Secretary of the BB Anglican Council for many years. His sympathy is extended to his wife, Kathleen and son, Asaaclin, in their loss.

**GORDON TAYLOR (79)** joined the 16th Leeds Company at age 19 and progressed through the ranks to become a Lieutenant. When he moved to Sheffield he was an officer at St John’s Crookes and the 20th Sheffield Companies and in 1977 he was instrumental in setting up the 10th Sheffield Company at Hillsborough Tabernacle Church. He served there for 30 years, including ten as Captain. He was also a church deacon. His love of The Boys’ Brigade and its foundations were fundamental in all that he did. He is deeply missed by all his family and friends.

**CRAG RICHARDS** (101) was a boy and officer in 16th Leith Company, (Junnon Road Church). Craig was an enthusiastic officer for 73 years and is particularly remembered for his service in the 1930’s as Battalion Secretary, helping the Battalion to acquire Letheret Park and Pollock Pavilion, which are still in use today. Craig was a City Councillor and Member of the Edinburgh Merchants’ Company. He always had a twinkle in his eye and was usually to be seen immaculately dressed sporting a bowler hat.

**KENTH THOMPSON** (84) was a boy member of 11th Hamilton Company and progressed through the ranks to become officer and captain, serving for over 50 years. His purpose in life was to see which he ably did and was well respected by all who knew him. He was also a church officer and elder. Kenneth will be missed by his family and friends and all who served with him.

**ARTHUR WOOTTON** (85) joined the 19th Wolverhampton Company when he was 11 years old and only broke his service during the war when he joined the Royal Marines. He returned after the war and served as a lieutenant teaching Dtl, First Aid and Bible study in particular. In retirement he continued to service the company as a Vice President. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Eileen and family and all who knew him.

**BASIC EXPEDITION LEADERSHIP (SPORTS LEADERS UK – LEVEL 2)**

The BB in Birmingham is organising a BEL course delivered over four weekends and three day-long sessions, between October 2008 and February 2009. To complete the BEL, 30 hours working and learning groups are required. This is an ideal course for those wishing to instruct within the Expeditions Section of The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award at Bronze and Silver levels in open countryside; work towards the Service Section of the Award; develop outdoor leadership skills and is a recognised National Governing Body qualification. The cost of the course is £150.00* and includes all tuition, registration and residential fees. The delivery will be in the Midlands area.

**OPEN GOLD VENTURE**

The Boys’ Brigade/Girls’ Brigade are organising an Open Gold Expedition (journeying and exploring opportunities available) on Dartmoor during 22-28 August 2009. Based at Broadleas Camping and Training Centre, Haytor, Devon, and staffed by qualified supervisors and assessors, this is an excellent opportunity to join with other individuals and groups to complete a qualifying or full practice journey. The cost is £39 and it is open to participants from any organisation or group. Details: Dave Mayo – as above.

**GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH**

Global Fellowship of Christian Youth, the international umbrella body of which BB UK is a member, invites applications for the part-time post of

Chief Executive Officer

Successful candidates should be in sympathy with the aims of GF, have an ability to provide strategic leadership, be willing and able to travel and work with people from around the world and a proven track record in project management. The post is a part-time one and attracts a salary of up to £20,000 (subject to qualifications and experience) for a 50% working week plus an office allowance.

An application pack can be downloaded from www.globalfellowship.net

**Deadline for applications: 31 July 2008**

*Registration fee of £75.00 is refunded to those delegates who are under 18 years of age at the commencement of the course.*
BB SUPPLIES

31 367 1 Membership Cards 2008/2009 ................................................................. £1.30
Sold in packs of 10, membership cards are available for the new session 2008 – 2009.

31 148 1 I-FILE Handbook ................................................................. £4.00
The I-FILE Handbook is a new full colour A5 handbook for members of the Company Section
and Seniors which includes information and facts on The Boys’ Brigade as well as log
sheets to record progress through the Discover and Challenge Plus Award Schemes plus
the Discovery Badge, President’s Badge and Young Volunteer Awards.

Service Badges NEW
New service badges will be available from 11th August 2008, which will be used across all
age groups. Check the Online Shop or your Supplies Catalogue for product codes and prices.

Don’t forget to buy your 125th Anniversary items which are selling fast...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 120 1</td>
<td>Mug with Circular 125 Logo</td>
<td>£4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 121 1</td>
<td>Hand Clapper</td>
<td>£1.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 122 1</td>
<td>Ball Pen</td>
<td>£1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 123 1</td>
<td>Marrow Mug with 125 Logo (Colour)</td>
<td>£5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 150 1</td>
<td>Bronze Badge</td>
<td>£1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pictures of all items available through BB Supplies are available online
at http://shop.boys-brigade.org.uk

BB Supplies, Garcia Estate, Canterbury Road, Worthing, BN13 1BW
Telephone: 08707 442 292 Fax: 08707 203 842

Order online 24 hours a day through the Online Shop at http://shop.boys-brigade.org.uk
Also available at local depots around the UK (See Supplies Catalogue or Website for more details)

Exclusive Event
We promise you a great day out!
Saturday 8th November 2008

Early booking offer
Adults £16.50 & Children £13
+ 1 free adult ticket with every 10 child tickets purchased
For bookings made before 1st September 08

With Youthfundays (formerly N&L Scout Events) Celebrate 125 years of The Boys’ Brigade with your Battalion or Company.
Adults £17.00 (17 yrs +) and Children £13.50 (4-16 yrs) Plus 1 free adult ticket for every 10 child tickets purchased
A selection of theme park rides will be available

To book please call 0115 9523617* or e-mail office@nottinghamshire-scouts.com
For further information or to download a booking form please visit www.youthfundays.co.uk

*Tel number available during office hours Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm Payment can be made via debit or credit card (2.9% handling charge) or cheque.