

Director for Scotland

Newsletter October 2015



### Introduction

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October, a group of Boys and Leaders attended morning worship at St Giles' Cathedral Edinburgh and helped mark the 132<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Brigade on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 1883 – very few youth organisations can boast of such a proud heritage. However it is important to remember that our future is now more important than our past. Over the past few weeks many young people will have joined the BB – it is our duty to ensure that we give them the best possible BB experience.

### Calendar of Events

A calendar of events for the remainder of the session is attached. Please note that the National Cross Country Race will be hosted by Stirling Battalion on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March. The Bands Contest will be returning to the Brunton Hall in Musselburgh, Edinburgh on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. As always please contact Scottish HQ if you need further information on any events.

### National Camp

Plans for the national camp are progressing well and details will soon be circulated to all companies. The canvas camp is due to take place at Dumfries House from the 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> July and a full and exciting programme is been planned. It is many years now since we have had such a camp and this will be an ideal opportunity for companies who do not usually camp to get involved in camping once again. Please encourage companies to support this initiative. More info from: [bbscotcamp@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:bbscotcamp@boys-brigade.org.uk)

### DofE Diamond Challenge

Our friends at the award have recently circulated details about the Diamond Challenge which is being promoted to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Award. As well as being purely good fun, the purpose is to raise funds to help promote DofE, particularly among disadvantaged young people. Full details should already have been received by all BB / DofE centres. Any funds raised by BB individuals or groups will be passed to The Boys' Brigade to further its DofE work, particularly with disadvantaged and vulnerable young people, but only if they enter the code **CHLG7** when they register. Please encourage your young people – and your leaders! – to take up the Challenge, and in particular to use the BB code when they register.

### Youth Alpha

Please find attached some flyers about Youth Alpha Course. Many BB companies have used these successfully and the material could easily be used for the Christian Faith Development Course, which is part of the President's Badge. The resources are free of charge and easy to use.

### Ultimate Challenge Plus

Ultimate Challenge Plus – our nationwide competition for Seniors – will be launched on 16<sup>th</sup> November for its third year. The challenge, which has Seniors completing a mix of 10 physical and mental challenges in their own hall, has been a success in the previous two years, with participation more than doubling last session. Keep an eye on The Gazette, and the dedicated Young Leaders' Network facebook page ([www.facebook.com/YLNScotland](http://www.facebook.com/YLNScotland)) for more details soon.

## WMF – Kit for Kenya

Our next appeal, in conjunction with the Church of Scotland World Mission Council, has now been launched. This session The Boys' Brigade World Mission Fund Project is raising money to help make uniforms for the boys and girls Brigade in Kenya. They will buy material, sewing machines and employ people to make the uniforms. Boys will need to do 10 hours community work to be able to get a uniform – **Kit for Kenya! 10x10 Challenge**

I am delighted to inform you that on the 20<sup>th</sup> November we will present the Moderator with a cheque for £10,000 to support the 2014/15 Appeal, "**Speak up : Speak out**" The presentation will take place at Queensferry Parish Church, South Queensferry.

## Our Community

Thank you all the companies who have already taken part in this year's '[Our Community](#)' campaign. It was launched in partnership with National Trust for Scotland on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Trust's Newhailes Estate with members from Edinburgh, Leith & District. To mark the campaign launch, we ran some press adverts in The Herald and Daily Record and these too seem to have generated a good response.

Both National Trust for Scotland and Keep Scotland Beautiful have resources which might be useful for your involvement in the campaign. For instance, KSB has ideas for BB groups - you can all the info you need on the three projects here: [It's Your Neighbourhood](#), [Beautiful Scotland](#) and [Clean Up Scotland](#)

Should you require more information on these partnerships and the wider 'Our Community' initiative, please email [niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk)

Best wishes,



## Bill Stevenson

Director for Scotland

[bill.stevenson@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:bill.stevenson@boys-brigade.org.uk)  @DirectorBBScot