

Newsletter



We once again remind you of how quickly you should deal with the contents of our first Newsletter of the Session:

Needs immediate attention

Needs your early attention

Don't leave it too long

belfastbb.org.uk



**The Boys' Brigade
Belfast Battalion**

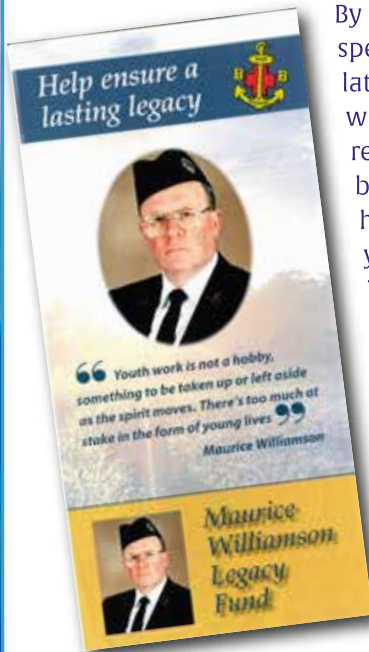
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MW LEGACY FUND



By now you all should have received details of a very special fund that has been created in memory of our late General Secretary, Mr Maurice Williamson M.B.E. who sadly Passed away in November. It is pleasing to report that even at this early stage the response has been encouraging but while a number of individuals have responded, a good number of Companies have yet to make their contributions.

This is one practical way by which together, we can ensure the Legacy created by Maurice lives on paying tribute to the sterling work he carried out in the name of The Boys' Brigade particularly in Belfast Battalion.

If you have yet to make a response please do so at your earliest convenience.

As the nights are getting shorter and days becoming warmer so our attention will soon turn to summer programmes, weekends away and camps following Displays and Parent's Evenings that will be held in the coming days.

But before all of that, there are many opportunities for you to avail of and for Boys and Leaders to participate in as provided in the details listed below.

Events Section B.B. Witness in the City centre (*****)

when on Sunday 20th March 2016 our Company Sections and Junior Sections along with B.B. Old Boys' will be stepping out at our annual Battalion Church Parade and Service which this year is being held at R.B.A.I. (Inst.). Details of the new arrangements for this very special day in the life of our Battalion are enclosed and should be read in detail and acted on to ensure a successful Praise Service and Public Parade. A separate poster is enclosed for your Church's notice board together with a pulpit announcement. The small Church Parade Service organising group has taken on board much of the feedback received after last year's event and have tried to make practical improvements where possible. If you are one of the Battalion Companies that hasn't attended for some time or perhaps have never attended, here's your

opportunity to take part in a remodelled event. It would be great to have an even greater number of Battalion Companies and Old Boys' in attendance and remember, a Battalion Trophy is awarded to the Company which is judged to be top in turn-out and deportment.

Other events are fast approaching namely: Turning Point 2016 (*****)

when we once again anticipate another full programme at our annual Festival over the weekend of 22 – 24 April at Ganaway for B.B. Companies and other youth groups. Already most indoor space is fully booked with groups now availing of the Tented Village to ensure that they don't miss out on yet another great weekend together with those attending the Festival on Saturday.



Section AGMs and Battalion Council Meeting

On Wednesday 11th May in First Bangor Presbyterian Church Halls – a poster for your notice board is enclosed.

Battalion Charity Golf Day (****)

On Wednesday 25th May 2016 at Clandeboye Golf Club where some four ball slots are available but we urge you to act quickly if you are to secure a tee-off time. Contact B.B. House as soon as possible to book your tee-off slot.

AROUND THE SECTIONS

Anchor Boys



Congratulations to 16th Newtownabbey in winning the recent Anchor Boy Worship competition.

Anchor Boy Outing

Plans are now well underway for this year's outing to Ganaway on Saturday 16th April 2016. Please forward your registration by the closing date together with the appropriate payments to B.B. House to ensure that your Anchor Boys don't miss out on a great day! Anchor Boy Leaders will have received, under separate cover, further details together with registration forms.



Junior Section



Recently completed competitions and events included the Battalion Heat of the NID Junior Section Indoor 5-A-Side Tournament resulting in 19th Belfast emerging as the winning team and will now represent the Battalion at the Regional Final on Saturday 23 April 2016. We wish them every success.

Company Section

We would remind Captains that President's Badges and Queen's Badge registration may now be purchased from B.B. House. When making application please ensure that a record of each Boy's achievements accompanies his registration when submitting these for Battalion endorsement. Please allow a three/four day turn round time for such applications.



Don't forget that we can also supply Queen's Badges to Battalion Companies from B.B. House and the application is simple. Each Boy should be provided with an application form following his successful attendance at a Queen's Badge Residential Course which will have been signed by either the Boy's Queen's Badge Adviser or Leader of the Residential course he attended. Once completed this can be presented to B.B. House when the Queen's Badge will be issued (after paying the £ 5 d of course!).



Company Section Soccer trials are well underway with the selection of our representative teams soon to be finalised. We are indebted to those who will be managing our Battalion Teams in the impending Inter-Battalion football Competitions and wish all concerned every success.



Training Section

Recent Battalion-led Training has been delivered to over 160 Young people and adult leaders ranging from Youth Leader Training, Skills for Queen's Badge and soon to be completed Queen's Badge Residential, which is now fully booked. Not forgetting some 150 Boys completing their Building Your Skills elements required for President's Badge we are so very grateful to all who have volunteered to act as Tutors at each of these training courses. The First Response First Aid training was recently held in our new look Belvoir Centre and involved training in the use of defibrillators.

Coming up in the months ahead is the Holiday Leadership and Camp Craft Courses with the former a must have for any Leader wishing to take young people away on a residential Holiday with the latter compulsory for all those who camp under canvas. The enclosed registration form will allow you to register your Leaders' participation at either of these essential courses.

Following initial training, re-registration is achieved by your participation in at least one Holiday or Camp within five years and can be made by completing the activity Log which is available to download from www.boys-brigade.org.uk under Resources in the Leaders section and forwarded to BBUK Headquarters at Felden.



Congratulations Section

Well Done to all of the following winners in recent competitions:

Anchor Boys

Worship Competition 16th Newtownabbey

Junior Section

NID Junior Section Indoor
5-A-Side Battalion heat
NID Junior Section
Swimming Gala (P5 Boys)
(P7 Boys)
Relay

Winners: 19th Belfast
Christo Tsoutas 1st H'Boro
Winner Freestyle,
2nd Place Breaststroke
Joseph Orr 2nd Comber
3rd Place Backstroke
Zax Tsoutas 1st H'Boro
Winner Backstroke, 2nd
Place Freestyle
2nd Comber – 2nd Place

Company Section

Indoor 5-A-Side Football

Junior Winners 4th Belfast
Senior Winners 4th Newtownabbey

Table Tennis Championships

Junior Singles	Winner Michael Trimble	30th Belfast
	Runner-up Scott Elder	5th Lisburn
Junior Doubles	Winners Joel Harrison/ Michael Trimble	30th Belfast
	Runners-up Jake Nixon/ Jonathan Beasant	58th Belfast
Senior Singles	Winner Jonathan Elder	5th Lisburn
	Runner-up Connor Trimble	30th Belfast
Senior Doubles	Winners Jonathan Elder/ Conor Heasley	5th Lisburn
	Runners-up Jordan Cupples/ Luke Jenkins	4th Newtownabbey



Chess

Senior	Winner Tim McClennan	113th Belfast
Junior	Winner Cole Johnston	43rd Belfast



Draughts Winner of The Roy Glenn Trophy

Daniel Kerr 115th Belfast

Ten Pin Bowling

Junior	Winner J Cole	43rd Belfast
	Runner-up J Breen	43rd Belfast
Intermediate	Winner A Archbold	4th Belfast
	Runner-up L Hatty	3rd Bangor
Senior	winner S Martin	1st Granshaw
	Runner-up J Cupples	4th Newtownabbey

Inter-Company

Bible Quiz Winners 1st Carryduff

And to all those Companies who participated in the Annual Door To Door Collection on behalf of the Northern Ireland Institute for the Disabled. Those Companies that notified us of having taken up a Collection are listed on the enclosed summary sheet.

GENERAL SECTION

King George VI Youth Awards

Who can apply?

- young people aged between 14 and 21
- groups or individuals can apply
- you must be resident in Northern Ireland

What can you apply for?

You can apply for almost any youth work activity, which should be linked to the aims of the Northern Ireland Youth Work Curriculum but there are some exceptions – Awards are usually granted up to £500.00

Travel: awards are made for travel for activities taking place within Northern Ireland, Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland only. Overseas trips are not eligible for an award.

Sport: Applications for sport will only be considered where the applicant can show that the sport is part of a curriculum based youth work programme. Individuals making an application for sports activity or coaching must be able to demonstrate that they will pass their skills on to a youth group. Single activity sports groups /clubs are not eligible for an Award.

Equipment: Applications for the purchase of equipment should be directly related to training or youth work provision for young people. Awards will not be made for musical instruments, band uniforms or tuition.

For more information click on www.youthnetni.org.uk where you can access an application form. The Awards Panel meets regularly and you are advised to contact the Panel Meeting Administrator before making an application for the date of when the Panel is next due to meet.

Food Hygiene

To-date, over 150 B.B. and Church personnel have taken the precaution of undertaking one of our Food Safety Awareness training sessions emerging with either a Level One or Level Two Food Hygiene Certificate. We are now seeking expressions of interest for a further course and ask that you return the enclosed reply slip to B.B. House by Friday 8th April 2016. After that you will be contacted so that times and dates for courses can be finalised which will best meet everyone's needs and availability.

OPPORTUNITIES SECTION

Coming Up - Don't Overlook (***)

ENTRIES DUE BY:

Monday 21st March	Battalion Anchor Boy Fun Day
Friday 8th April	Holiday Leadership & Camp Craft
Friday 29th April	J/Sec Ten Pin Bowling
Friday 20th May	Athletics Championships
Friday 27th May	Cricket 6-A-Side
Friday 3rd June	DoE Bronze Practice Weekend

And also don't forget Saturday openings for the B.B. Shop on: Saturday 5th & 19th March 9.30am – 1.00pm

NB: B.B. House and Shop is closed Friday 25th – Tuesday 29th April 2016 opening again on Wednesday 30th March ready to serve your needs.

Special Congratulations to ...

New Year Honours congratulations are extended to Belfast Battalion Vice-President, Robert Crangle and his twin brother Ron Crangle who both received the British Empire Medal for their voluntary work to the community of Northern Ireland especially work that has included their support for and contribution to The Boys' Brigade, not least in the 1st Bangor B.B. Company.

E-mail sign up

To enable us to communicate more effectively with you, please send us an up to-date e-mail address to belfast@boys-brigade.org.uk

The B.B. Object

The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.

