

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



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Happy Centenary – Junior Section

During 2017 we will be celebrating the Centenary of the Junior Section - a significant anniversary in the life of our Organisation and one that members will want to celebrate. A number of events have been planned to mark this anniversary throughout 2017 all with the intention of providing opportunities for participation by today's Junior Section Boys. There are special resources available to download from the BUK website at <http://leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/juniors100> and a special anniversary badge is available to purchase from Stedfast Supplies (The BB Shop) in Belfast that may be worn by Junior Section throughout 2017.



Events Section

B.B. Outreach and Witness in the City centre (*****)

Sunday 9th April 2017 sees our Company Sections and Junior Sections stepping out at our annual Battalion Church Parade and Service which this year is being held at R.B.A.I. The new arrangements put in place for last year's Service and Parade received positive feedback from those in attendance and to that end, this year's Service will follow a similar format and short Parade following the Service. To ensure a successful Praise Service and Public Parade on this very special day in the life of our Battalion, the enclosed arrangements should be read in detail and acted upon. A separate poster is enclosed for your Church's notice board together with a pulpit announcement. 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 join with others from across the Battalion in what is a remodelled outreach 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.

This year's Service will mark the 100th anniversary of the Junior Section which is being celebrated by The Brigade during 2017 so we particularly expect a large turnout of Junior Section Boys and their Leaders.

Other events are fast approaching namely: Turning Point 2017 (*****)

– when we once again anticipate another full programme at our annual Festival over the weekend of 28 – 30 April at Ganaway for B.B. Companies and other youth groups. Already the indoor space is almost fully booked with groups now availing of the Tented Village to ensure that they don't miss out on yet another great weekend. And if a weekend is too much for you, remember Groups can attend the Festival on Saturday.



Section AGMs and Battalion Council Meeting

on Wednesday 10th May in Carnmoney Presbyterian Church Halls – a poster for your notice board is enclosed.

Battalion Charity Golf Day (****)

on Wednesday 24th May 2017 at Clondeboye 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. A registration form is enclosed and you are asked to share this with your staff and those within your Congregation. Is this something that your business would support? The support that we receive at our Golf Day allows us to develop meaningful and purposeful programmes to assist you in your work at Company level so we ask that you give this your early consideration. Contact Dan Magee in B.B. House for further information and to book your tee-off time.

AROUND THE SECTIONS



Congratulations to 4th Newtownabbey in winning the P1/P2 section and 16th Newtownabbey winning the P3/P4

section of the recent Anchor Boy Worship/Craft competition. With an increased entry the task of selecting a winner was all the more difficult such was the very high standard of all the entries received.

Anchor Boy Outing

Plans are now well underway for this year's outing to the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum at Cultra on Saturday 22nd April 2017, details of which were previously sent direct to Officers in Charge. Please forward your Section's registration to B.B. House by the closing date together with the appropriate payment.

Junior Section

The Junior Section of The Boys' Brigade is celebrating 100 years in 2017 and to mark this significant milestone, a number of events have been planned for Junior Section participation across Northern Ireland. One such event is nearing completion through the Junior Section Play the Game events. The Grand Final will be held on Saturday 25th March and we extend our best wishes all who will participate.



The next big event for Junior Sections is their **Big Day Out** to Ganaway on Saturday 6th May 2017. **PRIOR REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL** and as this event is being organised by Northern Ireland District, registration **must be made with Newport**. Details are available from www.bbni.org.uk

Recently completed competitions and events at Battalion level have included the Battalion Heat of the NID Junior Section Indoor 5-A-Side Tournament resulting in 4th Newtownabbey emerging as the winning team and will now represent the Battalion at the Regional Final on Saturday 29th April 2017. We wish them every success.



Don't forget about the Junior Section International Team Games 2017. Details of which can be found at <http://leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/international-team-games>

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 100 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.

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 the Resources section and forwarded to BBUK Headquarters at Felden.

It was disappointing that the First Response First Aid training planned for 11th February 2017 was postponed. From previous experience, we know that this course is always sought after and well-supported in the past. Therefore, we are seeking Expressions of Interest for a rescheduled date for this course, which dependent on the number of responses received, will be held some time before the end of May. Please share this with all your staff.

Remember registrations forms and details of training events and Battalion competitions can be downloaded from our Battalion website www.belfastbb.org.uk



Congratulations Section

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

Anchor Boys

Worship Competition

P1/P2 Winners 4th Newtownabbey
P3/P4 Winners 16th Newtownabbey

Junior Section

NID Junior Section Indoor 5-A-Side Battalion heat

Winners 4th Newtownabbey

Company Section

Indoor 5-A-Side Football

Junior Winners 16th Newtownabbey
Senior Winners 4th Newtownabbey

Table Tennis Championships

Junior Singles

Winner Scott Elder 5th Lisburn
Runner-up Cameron McCaughey 1st Carryduff

Junior Doubles

Winners Brown/Stevenson 43rd Belfast
Runners-up Wilson/Ruddock 3rd Newtownabbey

Senior Singles

Winner Jordan Cupples 4th Newtownabbey
Runner-up Alex Archbold 4th Newtownabbey

Senior Doubles

Winners Archold/Dundee 4th Newtownabbey
Runners-up Bowers/Cupples 4th Newtownabbey

Chess

Gold Winner Reece Sloan 58th Belfast
Silver Winner Ben Loyal 11th Bangor
Bronze Winner Cole Johnston 43rd Belfast

Draughts

Winner of The Roy Glenn Trophy Justin Keenan 113th Belfast
Silver Winner Owen Ross 11th Bangor
Bronze Winner James Henderson 1st Granshaw

Badminton Championships

Junior Singles

Winner Matthew Walker 3rd Newtownabbey
Runner-up Ben Archbold 4th Newtownabbey

Junior Doubles

Winners Philip Moore & Ben Archbold 4th Newtownabbey
Runners-up Cameron Wilson & Adam Ruddock 3rd Newtownabbey

Senior Singles

Winner Adam Surgeoner 4th Newtownabbey
Runner-up Alex Archbold 4th Newtownabbey

Senior Doubles

Winners Adam Surgeoner & Matthew Dundee 4th N'Abbey
Runners-up Andrew Smyth & Jonathan Dempster 4th Lisburn

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. At the recent meeting of Executive and Group.

Officials at the Headquarters of the Institute, those in attendance heard at first hand from the Director the significant impact our collection makes, adding value to all that the Institute seeks to do. We also heard of future plans and how this year's collection has been earmarked for a specific Project. It is such a pity that our total was not greater with more Companies participating! For those who do, well done. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and is making such a positive contribution in the lives of so many people.

Special congratulations go to 113th Belfast B.B. Company (Mountpottinger Baptist) who celebrate 60 years since their formation in 1957.

Well done to 4th Newtownabbey who have reached the finals of the Northern Ireland District Badminton, the Irish regional final and qualified for the National Badminton final in Leicester also, qualified for the Senior 5-a-side National final in Glasgow and the National Master Team final in Antrim.

OPPORTUNITIES SECTION

Coming Up

Don't Overlook (*****)

ENTRIES DUE BY:

Monday 3rd April	Battalion Anchor Boy Fun Day
Friday 7th April	Holiday Leadership & Camp Craft
Friday 26th May	Athletics Championships
	Cricket 6-A-Side
	DofE Bronze Practice Weekend
	Skills for Queen's Badge/Queen's Badge Residential (June Courses)

And also don't forget the next Saturday opening for the B.B. Shop on:

Saturday 25th March 9.30am – 1.00pm

NB: B.B. House and Shop is closed Friday 14th April – Tuesday 18th April 2017 opening again on Wednesday 19th April ready to serve your needs.

JUNIORS

The enclosed brochure illustrates a small range of the wide selection of B.B. items available for purchase ahead of your Parents' Night and Company Displays. As this year is the Centenary of Junior Section, a number of items, many of which are exclusive to The B.B. Shop in Belfast are available to suitably mark this anniversary.

Passed to Higher Service

James Hunter (15th Belfast) who was a BB stalwart in 15th Belfast. He and his wife Joan were a legendary couple with Joan continuing as Officer in Charge of the Anchor boys for many years. The tales they could tell of their experiences of B.B. would fill many volumes.

William Halliday passed to Higher Service mid-January. William (or Billy) influenced many young lives through his profession in teaching and brought this vast experience to his work in Boys' Brigade. His love of music and The B.B. was brought to bear particularly through the formation of and his continued membership of The B.B. Irish Centenary Male Voice Choir. Another one of our great B.B. stalwarts who will be sadly missed.

Please remember in your Prayers

The family of our Chief Executive as Sarah is undergoing treatment. We give thanks for the positive response to treatment so far and as plans are put in place for the next stages of treatment, we particularly remember Paul, Heather, Naomi and especially Sarah at this difficult time.

E-mail sign up

To enable us to communicate more effectively with you, please send us 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. 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.

