



The Boys' Brigade in the North West

# Digest



summer 2014



## Queens Badge Ceremony 2014



The Queens Badge Ceremony for 2014 took place on Sunday 18 May 2014 in Altrincham Methodist Church by kind invitation of the 2nd Altrincham Company. Some 35 members representing 20 Companies from 15 Battalions were present to receive their awards from Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater Manchester Mr Warren J. Smith KStJ JP. After the ceremony some 225 parents and friends enjoyed a buffet meal by invitation of the District Executive.



**FESTIVAL of FUN • Saturday 21 June • see back page**

## QUEENSMEN & QUEENSWOMEN 2014

George Pickering	1st Burton in Kendal
Finlay Rooney	1st Burton in Kendal
Harry Still	1st Burton in Kendal
Ryan Farlam	1st Chapel en le Frith
James Williams	1st Chapel en le Frith
Jacob Ashton	1st Leyland
Jack Houghton	10th Liverpool
Daniel Ealey	16th Liverpool
Ryan Bush	31st Liverpool
Dominic Scullion	5th Manchester
Will Snowden	59th Manchester
Morgan Hill	1st Middlewich
Neil Richmond	1st Middlewich
Scott Atherton	1st Moreton
Aidan Dunn	1st Moreton
Duncan McKay	1st Moreton
Thomas Grindley	24th Oldham
Rebecca Lewis	24th Oldham
Thomas Ridehalgh	1st Oswaldtwistle
Andrew Haller	1st Port Sunlight
Stephen McDonough	1st Port Sunlight
Matthew Myers	1st Rishton
Steven Hodgson	1st Skerton
Jamie Dickerson	3rd Trafford
Nicholas Saunders	3rd Trafford
Sebastian Tasker	3rd Trafford
Aidan Weatherill	3rd Trafford
Nathan Parry	8th Trafford
James Wright	8th Trafford
Bethany Evans	9th Widnes
Adam France	8th Wigan
Joshua Pendlebury	8th Wigan
Thomas Craig	12th Wigan
Nicholas Goaley	12th Wigan
Christopher Wainwright	12th Wigan

## Only Volunteers

It is impossible to fully appreciate a century of service given by the volunteers in the District. The early volumes of the BB Gazette tell of large church parades and equally large camps in the 1920s and 30s. During my lifetime I recall sitting in the balcony at Blackpool Tower Circus to witness the first ever District Display in 1951 this was to continue for 50 subsequent years. Others will tell of the first Christian leadership course, which became the legendary "Caperway" and many took the first steps towards a total commitment to Christ and remarkably the end of Caperway as a venue gave birth to our District Training and Activity Centre.

Much has been achieved in 100 years through dedicated volunteers. In the present generation when we struggle to maintain the standards of the past we are tempted to accept second best because we are only volunteers. I am reminded of the dictum of my own BB mentor and inspiration from Southport who told me at the age of 22 – "only the best is good enough".

We are only a volunteer in Christ service twice, once when we decide to be an officer and secondly when you choose to retire.

*"Jesus replied, No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in God's kingdom". Luke 9.62*

*In Christ's service*

*Alan McLoughlin*

*District President*

# Commonwealth Day

The District Anchor and Junior Section Committee organised a Sports and Activities day with a Commonwealth Games theme on Saturday, 29 March this enjoyed fantastic support from 182 members from 16 Companies representing 8 Battalions. The District Centenary flag was hoisted at this event to mark the first Centenary Year event.



## MEET the MAYOR



### Junior Section members from the Wirral & West Cheshire Battalion visited the Mayor's Parlour at Wallasey Town Hall in February.

Ten boys plus Staff from 1st Bebington (*Grange URC*), 1st Bromborough (*Bromborough Methodist*) and 1st Port Sunlight (*Christ Church URC*) were welcomed by the Mayor of Wirral, Councillor Dave Mitchell and Mayoress Mrs Sue Mitchell and given a conducted tour of the building. Staff and boys enjoyed the occasion and learned many things about our Borough.

## Hospital in the Park



On Saturday 22 March the 7th Southport Company (*Birkdale Methodist*) held their Annual Display in front of parents and supporters. Our picture shows Helen Hughes from **Alder Hey Hospital in the Park Project** receiving a collection cheque for £154.75 from Oliver Hagan, Junior, with young men from the Company and Lt. Mrs Janet Oldham. Helen gave a talk about the new hospital and an online presentation was shown.

## FIRST AID TRAINING



On Saturday 26 April two First Aid Overview courses were held at the District Training Centre. Alan Gibb from Training Aid Ltd took the courses with a total of 25 Leaders from 8 Companies in 5 Battalions participated.

# CARNIVAL CAPERS



The 1st Bare Company (*Bare Methodist*) took part in the Morecambe Carnival on 4 May and won 1st place for most original entry. They had around 50 boys attend on the day with the Juniors riding on the go carts and walking alongside, the Company and Seniors played or escorted the drums with Anchors waving at the crowds from the minibus.

## Queens Badge Completion



Some 18 young people representing 12 Companies from 7 Battalions participated in the second Queens Badge completion course during the weekend 7-9 March 2014.

## President's Commendation



Emily-Jo Forrest has been awarded the Brigade Presidents Commendation and this was presented at 3rd Burnley (*St. Catherine's Parish Church*) awards evening. Photograph shows from left to right Ian Parrish, Alan McLoughlin, Father Roger Parker (Company Chaplain) and Emily-Jo Forrest.



### M.E.N. WISH CAMPAIGN 2014

Readers of the "Manchester Evening News" generously collected 18484 Wish Tokens in support of the 3rd Trafford Company (*Sevenways Methodist Church*) this resulted in a cheque from the newspaper amounting to £386. Captain Brian Taylor said it is humbling to know we have so many anonymous supporters across amongst such a wide area.

## DISTRICT CHARITY APPEAL 2014



Further donations have been received by the District as follows:-

3rd St. Helens ( <i>St. Luke's Parish Church</i> )	£120.00
QB Completion Course	£16.70
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>£ 513.52</b>

# Festival of Fun

Saturday 21 June 2014

11.00 – 16.00 Admission £1.00

11.00 onwards Archery. All Age Groups. Main Field.  
11.00 onwards Target Shooting – Main Field  
11.00 onwards Hot Shots CS & SS Field & Sports Hall.  
(Target Golf, Archery, Shooting, Penalty Shoot Out, Basketball, Darts)  
12.00 - 12.30 Hopper Race Anchors Main Field  
13.00 - 14.00 Trim Trail. Juniors. Adventure Area.  
13.00 - 13.30 Parachute Games. Anchors. Main Field  
14.00 - 14.30 Wheelie Race. CS. Main Field.  
14.30 - 15.00 Hopper Race Juniors Main Field  
15.00 - 16.00 All Age Groups. Main Field.  
Caterpillar Crawl, Ski Races,  
Tug of War.  
Hopper Race Company and Adults

## EVENTS DURING THE DAY

Main Field – Inflatables incl. Giant Table Football  
All Age Groups  
'Up and Over' (Tumbling Mats) All Age Groups  
Adventure Playground  
Available under Supervision All Age Groups  
Sports Hall – Climbing Wall JS, CS, SS  
Car Park area – Climbing Tower  
Lawn area – Face painting,  
Giant Garden Games,  
Tuck Shop, Stalls & BBQ  
Centenary Hall – Refreshments

## HOTSHOTS ACTIVITIES

Closing date for entries 7 June 2014 - no applications on the day  
Enquires to [lancastrabb@talktalk.net](mailto:lancastrabb@talktalk.net)

## DISTRICT CALENDAR

### June

8 Colour Service Port Sunlight  
21 FESTIVAL OF FUN Treales  
30/1 Expedition & Outdoor Leadership BBMC

### August

31 District Reception & Thanksgiving Treales

### September

6 Brigade Council Glasgow  
13 District Executive Treales  
19/21 "Camp 100" Treales

### October

4 100th Annual General Meeting Manchester  
18/19 Skills for QB Leadership Pt1 Treales  
27 Bands Day Treales

### The Boys' Brigade

## NORTH WEST DISTRICT

Notice is nearby given that the

**100th Annual General Meeting**  
of the District Council will be held in the

Ashes Suite

Old Trafford County Cricket Ground,  
Manchester

on Saturday 4 October 2014 at 2.00pm

when the guest speaker will be the Brigade  
President the Rev. Lord Griffiths of Burry Port.

W. J. Clarey  
District Secretary

## PRESIDENTS BADGE

The High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, Mr Paul Griffiths presented Ben Royle and Leo Neville of the 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist) with their Presidents Badge. The High Sheriff also presented a Cheque on behalf of Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund for £500.00 to support our Company funds.



## Photo Acknowledgements

Ken Chalton • Sandra Fagan • John Gaffney  
David Holmes • Ian Parrish  
Mike Southern • Brian Taylor

## OBITUARY

### JACK TAYLOR

(age 72)

Jack was Founder Captain of the 6th Warrington Company (Elmwood Avenue URC) a position he held from 1969 to 1973. In 1995 he was Founder Captain of the 12th Warrington Company (Risley Independent Methodist) he continued in this role until 2002.

He served the Warrington and District Battalion as Battalion President, Extension Officer and District Executive Member.

On the integration of Warrington into the newly formed North Cheshire Battalion he was appointed Battalion Chaplain.

In 2003 he received the High Sheriff of Cheshire Certificate of Commendation for Service to the Community.

Along with his wife Dorothy, Jack was a fervent supporter of the District Training Centre and it is to Dorothy and their daughters Andrea and Helen we extend our deepest sympathy.

## ROYAL OCCASIONS

### ROYAL STEWARDS

The following Queensmen were invited to serve as Stewards at a Royal Garden Party held Buckingham Palace on the 3 June.

Jacob Ashton 1st Leyland (Leyland Methodist)  
Jamie Dickerson 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)  
Aidan Weatherill 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)  
Stephen McDonough 1st Port Sunlight (Christ Church URC)  
Will Snowden 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist)

### ROYAL GUESTS

The following officers and their guests have had the honour to be invited to attend one of Her Majesty the Queen's garden parties during the summer.

Terry Buckley 1st Denton (Hope URC)  
Bob Graham 1st Ormskirk (Ormskirk URC)  
Deborah Grierson 1st Middlewich (Queens Street URC)  
Graham Iddon 7th Southport (Birkdale Methodist)  
Brian Taylor 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)

We congratulate them on being so recognised for their service to their respective communities.

## Prayer Topics

### Please Pray for:

Jenny BARNES – Blackburn  
Sue & Dave MITCHELL – Moreton  
Bill McKAY – Moreton  
Bryan MOORE – Liverpool Stedfast  
Jeff ROBERTS – Oldham  
Darren WRIGHT – Southport

## THE DIGEST

is the quarterly newsletter of

The Boys' Brigade, North West District  
Carr Lane, Treales, Kirkham PR4 3SS.

Tel: 01772 685000

Email: [office@bb-northwest.org.uk](mailto:office@bb-northwest.org.uk)

Web: [www.bb-northwest.org.uk](http://www.bb-northwest.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 520143

## DESIGN:

John GAFFNEY

[johngaffney@talktalk.net](mailto:johngaffney@talktalk.net)