



The Boys' Brigade in the North West *Digest*



Winter 2008

SPECIAL 125 ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



COMMEMORATIVE SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

94th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at LEYLAND

The Mayor and Mayoress of South Ribble (Councillor Barrie Yates and Mrs Kath Yates) were present to welcome 49 Officers representing 20 Companies and 12 Battalions to Leyland Methodist Church on Saturday 11 October 2008.

The keynote address on Brigade Development was given by Mr Chris Row JP, Brigade Vice President and Chairman of the Brigade Executive.

The Council also received a lively presentation from two young Officers of the 35th Liverpool (*All Saints, Childwall*) Andrew MaCaldon and Michael Southern presenting the work of the charity "Wish upon a Star" and this was adopted as the North West District Charity for 2009.

The business concluded, the Council were entertained to Tea by the Ladies of Leyland Methodist Church.



"The main thing is to keep the Main Thing the Main Thing".

This 'Digest' seeks to celebrate the numerous 'extra' activities that have taken place in the District in 2008 our 125th Anniversary year.

The organisation of a new District event in this day and age required a great deal of faith.

The 'Big Event' based at Treales and Myerscough College was a great success thanks to all that participated and those who prayerfully and financially supported it.

During the year we have enjoyed increased media exposure through local radio and supplements in most of our larger circulation regional newspapers. Whilst the District received very limited opportunities to participate in the national celebrations in London and Glasgow we were well represented by those who took part.

The result of the National appeal for Childrens Hospices is not yet known but I am confident that the District will be a major contributor through our support of the five hospices in our region.

As we conclude our celebrations let us thank God for all that has been achieved and continue to focus on the main thing that is to ensure that there is a Christian ethos in everything we do.

With warmest Christian greetings

Alan McLoughlin
District President

KING GEORGE VI CADET



James Taylor (age 19) a member of the 19th Wigan (Vale Methodist Church Appley Bridge) completed the first week of the above course at Felden Lodge in the summer and is looking forward to completing the course in 2009.

James who joined the 19th as an Anchor Boy proceeded through the ranks graduating as a Queensman through the District Queens Badge course in 2007.

James works in the NHS; an accomplished organist he plays the organ at St Annes Parish Church, Beech Hill where he is also training to be a Lay Reader.

James says the involvement with the KGV1 has been very inspiring and he is looking forward to renewing friendships made with fellow cadets from many parts of the Brigade.

The course is named after the late King because it was funded initially by the Jubilee Trust Fund. Full details of this year's new entrants course can be found on the BB Website.

North West District Swimming Gala



Forty-one boys from 11 Companies representing 6 Battalions attended the Swimming Gala on Saturday, 8th November at the EPIC, Ellesmere Port and enjoyed a day of friendly but intense competition.

Southport and Wigan Battalions shared the trophies with Southport being awarded the Supreme Champions Trophy.

The 4 Southport Companies won 3-1st, 5-2nd and 7-3rd places in the individuals and 5 out of 6 of the relay and medley races.

1st Bebington had 1-1st and 1-2nd place, 1st Leyland 1-1st, 1-2nd and 1-3rd place, 1st Oswaldtwistle 1-1st, 1-2nd and 1-3rd place and

1st Ashton in Makerfield 3-1st, 1-2nd and 1-3rd place as well as the Senior Relay.

Paul Malley of 1st Ashton-in-Makerfield, in his last Gala, again won the 200 Metres which must be a record number of times in the history of the event.

Well done to all who tried their best but just did not make the top three.

HOSPICE APPEAL



East Lancashire Companies raised £1250 for the 125 Children's Hospice Appeal. The 1st Rishton Company played 12.5 hours of non-stop table tennis (photo above) and members of 1st Oswaldtwistle raising money through Battalions Founders Day Collections and special fund raising events and the annual Carol Service. The money was donated to Brian House Childrens Hospice.

Leadership Course



Twenty-three Young men from 14 Companies, representing 7 Battalions attended the first Brigade Leadership Courses on 28/30 November. A second course will be held on 23/25 January 2009.

The BIG EVENT 26th/28th September 2008

CELEBRATING 125

COMPANIES PARTICIPATING

7th Altrincham
1st Bebington
1st Bromborough
1st Burnley
3rd Chester
1st Church
2nd Denton
1st Haslington
1st Leyland
10th Liverpool
5th Manchester
1st Morecambe
1st Ormskirk
1st Oswaldtwistle
1st Rishton
2nd Rochdale
7th Southport
10th Southport
3rd Wallasey
2nd Widnes
2nd Wigan
4th Wigan
14th Wigan

IN THE NORTH WEST

The weekend event was based at the District Training and Activity Centre, Treales and Myerscough College, Bilsborrow and was attended by 134 Company and Senior boys who camped for the weekend and 111 Anchor and Juniors Section boys who came on the Saturday to the District Training Centre. There was also fortyfive BB Staff supported by Youth Evangelist David Saville and team.



ACTIVITIES

Company & Senior

Football
Football Coaching
Canoeing
Big Screen
Computer Games
Fitness Suite
Self Defence
Pool & Darts
Table Tennis
Basketball
Golf Coaching
Golf Simulator
Tree Climbing
Unihoc
Films
Disco

Anchors & Juniors

Craft
Coverdale Puppets
Puppet Making
Games
Storytime



WORSHIP

David Saville
Salt Cellar Youth Project
Oldham
Rock Bus



ANCHOR BOYS AND JUNIOR SECTION AT DISTRICT TRAINING AND ACTIVITY CENTRE



ANCHOR BOYS AND JUNIOR SECTION AT DISTRICT TRAINING AND ACTIVITY CENTRE



COMPANY AND SENIOR BOYS AT MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE



COMPANY AND SENIOR BOYS AT MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE

MANCHESTER AT EASTLANDS



One hundred and fifty Anchor and Junior Section Boys from Manchester Battalion enjoyed a fun packed day at the City of Manchester Stadium venue of the Commonwealth Games and the home of Manchester City Football Club. Mike Summerbee former City and England footballer hosted the day and released 125 Balloons engraved with the '125' Logo,

EARLY BIRDS



Sir Alex Ferguson, Brigade Honorary Vice President invited five Queensmen from the 3rd Trafford Company (*Sevenways Methodist*) to meet him at Manchester United's Training Ground early in the morning of the 23 October. Sir Alex gets in for 7.30am each day!

BEATING RETREAT



On Saturday 4 October the Band of the 3rd Trafford supported by the Accrington BB Brass Band performed a ceremony Beating of Retreat before the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Councillor Mavis Smitheman) in the Peace Garden, St. Peter's Square, Manchester. The Battalion President Mr. Brian Taylor presented the Lord Mayor with a commemorative gift.

MANCHESTER AT LAKESIDE



Manchester Battalion took 150 Boys and officers to the YMCA National Centre at Lakeside, for a weekend of fun and fellowship from 11th to 13th July. The Battalion paid for the lads to go as part of their 125 celebrations.

The visitors took part 25 different activities over the 3 days ranging from team building and problem solving activities to sailing and rope courses.

On what was forecast to be the wettest weekend of the summer we all got soaked arriving on Friday evening, White Noise (made up of members of the 8th Trafford Company) were going to play for our open air service, but we ended up squeezed into a marque. They were promised fun and dry weather, and that's what we got.

Lots of people ended very wet in Lake Windermere, so rain wouldn't have been



a problem. The weekend came to its finale on Sunday with an open air service. Everybody was presented with a bag with the 125 logo on it and its contents.

All in all a great time was had by the Manchester Battalion Company and Senior Sections.

125th ANNIVERSARY DINNER



To celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Brigade the Rev'd Lord Griffiths of Bury Port hosted a Dinner in the House of Lords on Tuesday 16th September. The guest of Honour was Sir Alex Ferguson, Brigade Honorary Vice President. Lee Hiron of the 7th Altrincham Company (*Timperley Methodist*) attended and is pictured third from the left in the front row in the above photograph.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

December		
6	Building Your Skills	Wigan
2009		
January		
11	District Executive	
23/25	Leadership Course Pt 2	Treales
24	Anchor Boy Party	Treales
	Youth Leader Training (Part 2)	Manchester
31	10 Pin Bowling	warrington
February		
7/8	Residential Youth Leader Training Course	Treales
21	First Aid (Part 1)	Wigan
27/1 Mar	QB Completion	Treales
28	Cross Country	
March		
7	District Executive Holiday Leadership	Manchester
28	5-a-side Football	Treales
April		
25	JS Competitions Day Campcraft	Treales
	First Aid (Part 2)	Manchester Wigan
May		
17	Queens Badge Presentation	
June		
6	District Executive	
20	FESTIVAL of FUN	



When you wish upon a Star
dream making for sick children
www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk
The
North West District
Charity for 2009

BRIGADE TRAINING OFFICERS WANTED

If you are interested in training to qualify as a
BRIGADE TRAINING OFFICER
please contact the
District Training Co-ordinator
Mr JOHN BANKS
phone 0161 799 4870
email jbmbgb@yahoo.co.uk

BBC Lancashire

Well done and thank you Rob Henderson and three members of the 1st Morecambe & Heysham Company (Stanley Road Baptist) Rowan Cleet, Nathen Emmett and Michael Innes, who rose at 6.00 am on Sunday 19 October 2008 to take part in a 'live' interview for Radio Lancashire's 'Sunday Morning Chat' programme.

The interview was a composite with an interview recorded by Ashley Peatfield with the 18th Kingston & Merton Company (Worcester Park Baptist) reviewing the work of the BB 125 years on!

Mr Peatfield, himself is a former Queensman in the '18th', is BBC National Coordinator for Local Religious Broadcasting.



Two members of the North West District have received Certificates of Commendation in the BB **Make A Difference Awards** they are:

Robert Brankin - 1st Rishton (Methodist)
Sponsored Bike Ride of the Leeds/Liverpool Canal.

Christopher Fletcher
1st Morecambe & Heysham
(Stanley Road Baptist)
Work for Galloways Society for the Blind.

The North West District Bible Quiz 2009

Details have been sent to Company Captains

JUNIOR SECTION

Readings from
MARKS GOSPEL Ch. 11 – 15

COMPANY SECTION

Readings from
ACTS Ch. 2 – 8

Entries by 31st December 2008
to District Office (Marked BQ)

Photo Acknowledgements

Accrington Observer • Ken Chalton • John Gaffney
Rob Henderson • Bill Janney • Ashley Mellett
G. Smale • Brian Taylor

OBITUARY

RONALD HALLIWELL (Aged 82)

Ronnie was a member of No. 8 Company of the Bolton Boys' Brigade until that organisation re-joined the BB in 1958 to become at their request the 8th Bolton Company (Chorley Old Road Methodist) although only 3 Companies remained of the Bolton Boys' Brigade.

Ronnie played a full part in the re-union becoming a member of the District Executive and in turn President of the Bolton Battalion.

He will be remembered as a loving father of eight children, two of which preceded him, and a dedicated Christian.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Jessie and the family circle.

JOHN WILLIAMS (Aged 89)

John was a member of the 86th London Company (Fox & Knot Congregational Mission) in the Smithfield area of London moving after war service to the new town of Basildon in Essex.

He became Captain of the 4th Basildon (Pitsea and Basildon Congregational) and was at the time of his death Hon. Vice President Eastern District.

John had been a Friend of the North West District for some 20 years.

He was predeceased by his wife Vera earlier this year, there were no children.

Prayer Topics

Please Pray for:

Elsie & Bill GAZE – Childwall

David KENNETT – Oldham

Edna WRIGHT – Fleetwood

Bob READ – Salford

ANCHOR BOYS NEW YEAR PARTY

at the
NORTH WEST DISTRICT
Training & Activity Centre

24 January 2009

for further information contact

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THE DIGEST

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