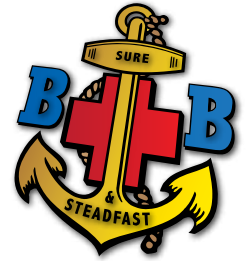




DIGEST



NEWS FROM THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN THE NORTH WEST

SPRING 2024

QUEEN'S MEN 2024



The undermentioned 20 candidates took part in the Queen's Badge completion course held at the District Training and Activity Centre during the weekend 23rd/25th February 2024.

MARY NICHOLS 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)

PHOEBE TAYLOR 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)

CAMERON BERRY 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)

TEVIN MCGREGOR 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist)

TORIN HOURSTON 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist)

WILL KERRUISH 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist)

ANDREW WILDING 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist)

JOSH LEE 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

JOSH HODKINSON 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

CHRIS BELTON 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

THEO BATES 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

LLOYD GRIFFITHS 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

ROWAN FARMER 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

MICHAEL DAVIES 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

JAMES RICE 35th Liverpool (All Saints Parish Church, Childwall)

JOSHUA CRIST 16th Liverpool (Bethel Evangelical)

PETER CRAIG 12th Wigan (St John the Evangelist, Hindley Green)

NOAH GRUMBLY 12th Wigan (St John the Evangelist, Hindley Green)

JONATHAN RUMBLE 1st Oswaldtwistle (Rhyddings Methodist)

JOSHUA KRUPINSKI 3rd Burnley (St Catherines)

HELPING OTHERS



1st Dearham (St Mungo's Parish Church)

The Company chose West Cumbria Hospice at Home for their Charity of the year in 2023. By bringing small change to our weekly sessions for the charity bottle, they raised over £260. Holly, from West Cumbria Hospice at Home came and talked about the great work done by the charity.



7th Liverpool (West Derby Methodist)

Members of the 7th raised the sum of £500 in support of a Sensory Garden at Alder Hey Children's Hospital. The cheque was received by Lisa Cooper Director of Community & Mental Health Services at Alder Hey.

YOUTH LEADER TRAINING

The undermentioned leaders successfully completed their Leadership Training at the Residential Course held at the District Training and Activity Centre during the weekend 3rd/4th February 2024

Monica Seabourne 12th Halifax (New Hope URC)
Philip Cornall 16th Liverpool (Bethel Evangelical)
James Fleetwood 10th Liverpool (Christ Church, Anfield)
Alice Duggan 5th Manchester (Christ Church URC)
Jayne Lucas 55th Manchester (Eccles Congregational)
Robert Wilkinson 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Amanda Best 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Ian Lancaster 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Ella Calderbank 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Robert Walton 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Ryan Earl 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Gary Knott 1st Rainford (All Saints Parish Church)
Erin Taylor-Jones 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)
Akaaliot Singh 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)
Elliot Pickering 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)
Max Neville 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)
Nathan Weatherill 3rd Trafford (Sevenways Methodist)
Matthew Yates 8th Wigan (St. Peters Parish Church, Hindley)

The staff team led by Dr RCW Henderson MBE and included Ian Parrish, Mike Southern, Andy Kay and Scot Barry-Godsell



JUMBLE SALE



FROM THE ARCHIVES



The One Hundredth Birthday on the 17th February 2024 of our much respected former Brigade President The Earl of Elgin & Kincardine caused us to remember his several visits to the District most significantly the Official Opening of Brigade House, Bryn Headquarters of the 1st Bryn Boys' Brigade and 1st Bryn Girls' Brigade on the 27th April 1976.

On Saturday 2nd March the 5th Manchester (Parrswood URC) hosted another of its huge jumble sales with close to 300 people attending and over 50 volunteers supporting. With people previously having travelled from as far as Southampton to attend the sales they are known to be some of the biggest in the country. The Jumble Sales are not only a fantastic source of funds for the 5th Manchester but also allow the young people to build skills such as Auctioneering, Customer Service, Handling Cash, Processing Card Transactions, Negotiating Deals, Confidence and even Furniture Removal! An endless list of career enhancing skills. The friendship and camaraderie of "Jumble Week" is also highly regarded amongst the volunteers with ex members of the company back from university from across the UK to support them.

Due to unforeseen delay in obtaining Royal approval for a King's Badge

It has been necessary to delay the publication of the Queen's Badge Roll of Honour Book until after the Queen's Badge Presentation in May when we will still be presenting Queen's Badges.

Everything is in hand for a speedy delivery thereafter.



COMPANY SPOTLIGHT 1ST CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH COMPANY

The 1st Chapel en-le-Frith Company, The Boys' Life Brigade was enrolled on the 19th September 1926 in the schoolrooms of Town End Methodist church. Twelve days later the Boys' Life Brigade merged with The Boys' Brigade to form The Boys' Brigade we know today. It was probably one of the final Boys' Life Brigade Companies to be formed. Captain Harry Minshull and Warrant Officer Edward Carrington enrolled thirteen Boys on that night. Harry had been a member of the 62nd Manchester BB Company (Stanley Street, Openshaw) as a Boy and later joined and became Captain of 1st Alfreton Company before moving to Chapel.

The Drum and Bugle Band was formed about a year later and the practices were so unpopular with the local residents that the Captain ended up taking Boys to a quarry near Ford Hall to play. The first camp was in 1927 at Hassop near Bakewell. Most of the Boys had never done anything like this before and to quote one of the Boys (Reg Eyre) "It was a truly wonderful experience". It soon became an annual event.

Over the next few decades, the Company grew in size and reputation with only a slight interruption to meetings due to the Second World War. Graham Harper joined in 1946, the first night back after the war, having seen a sign up in the Empress Cinema opposite the Church. He was a member and Officer for over 60 years. His brother, Ralph took over from Harry Minshull as Captain in 1966. During the 1970s the Company reached its peak (up 'til now) with over 100 Boys on the register. Originally in the North Midland District and not part of a Battalion, the Company joined the North West District and Stockport Battalion in 1971. We made our first appearance at the BB show in Blackpool around this time and again in 1976 as the 'Diddy Men'. We helped form the East Cheshire Battalion in the early 70s and transferred again to Manchester Battalion in 1985.

Covid was a challenge for everyone including BB. We kept going with Zoom sessions, sometimes with only one or two Boys. Our current Captain, Peter Goddard has been in charge for 30 years this year and is only the fourth Captain in our history. Since Covid we have made a bit of a resurgence. Numbers are back up to levels around 10 years ago with around 20 Boys across the sections so as we near our Centenary in two years' time we are really confident for the future.



DISTRICT CALENDAR 2024

27th April	Holiday Leadership	Liverpool
28th April	Camp Craft	Liverpool
19th May	Queen's Badge Presentation	All Saints' Childwall
25th-27th May	*Unite Camp	Dyffryn Ardudwy
1st June	District Executive	Treales
15th June	Fun Day and Picnic	Treales
* NATIONAL OR REGIONAL EVENTS		

50 YEARS ON



The Annual Fellowship Dinner of the East Lancashire Battalion held at The Cellar Padiham marked the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the East Lancashire Battalion which was created in 1974 by the amalgamation of the Blackburn & District Group and the Burnley Battalion.



ON THE BALL!

Prior to the 1970 World Cup Competition in Mexico, Francis Lee, Manchester City and member of the England team presented a commemorative football with autographs to the 12th Wigan Company (St John Evangelist Parish Church, Hindley Green) to assist with fundraising towards the new Headquarters. Fifty four years on the Ball still exists but the signatures have faded.



Francis a former member of the 1st Westhoughton Company died recently but the 12th Company and Headquarters have flourished.

The Digest is a quarterly newsletter of The Boys' Brigade, North West District, Carr Lane, Treales, Kirkham PR4 3SS

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OBITUARIES

LYNNE HAWORTH

Lynne, sometime Leader in Charge of the 1st Oswaldtwistle Company (Rhyddings Methodist) has died. Lynne was a great support to her husband David in the work of the "1st" and his role as District Treasurer 1992 to 1998.

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to David, daughter Faye and son Nicholas.

ROY HARDMAN (AGE 87)

Roy was a Boy in the 45th Manchester (Bridgewater Hall Methodist) and subsequently an Officer in 5th Manchester Company (Parrswood URC) during which time he was responsible for restarting the Band.

Our condolences have been expressed his daughter Susan and son in law Ken (Snowden) and the family circle.

BRIAN MOTTRAM (AGE 90)

Brian a lifetime member and sometime Captain of the 59th Manchester (Platt Lane Methodist) passed into glory on 17th March. In addition to his service in the Company he rendered outstanding service to the District Training Centre first as a handyman, he was a Woodwork teacher by profession then along with his wife Barbara became part time Wardens of the Centre facilitating us with time to create a full time appointment. He was Hon. Vice President of the District and a faithful member of Manchester Stedfast.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his son's Stephen, Trevor and Alan (Captain 59th and President Manchester Battalion) and the family circle.

PRAYER TOPICS

Audrey and Jim Lloyd - Brian Taylor

BB BROTHERS-ALL



Ian Lythgoe Captain 5th Wigan (St Peters Parish Church, Hindley) on a visit to Singapore met with members of the 2nd Singapore who had undertaken a Company run around Marina Bay.