

Factsheet

NUMBER 7: THE FOUNDING OF THE CGB

CRCB - CNAB - CGB - CLCGB

The Church Red Cross Brigade (1901 - 1911)

The Church Nursing & Ambulance Brigade for Young Women & Girls (1911 - 1922)

The Church Girls' Brigade (1922 - 1978)

The Church Lads' & Church Girls' Brigade (1978 -

THE CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE AND THE CLB

Proposal

In April 1922, the CNAB with the backing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, approached the CLB with a view to them taking over the organisation.

The President, one Sir Launcelotte Gubbins, promised that the CNAB would have no 'liabilities'.

Costs to run the Brigade were £698 per year.

Courtship

By July 1922, the CNAB in preparation, had changed its name to 'The Church Girls' Brigade' and were ready to be part of the CLB set - up.

Jilted at the Altar

The CLB Governing body which had welcomed the advances of the girls, put the proposal to a Special CLB Council Meeting which promptly rejected it by 28 votes to 9, ending all thoughts of union.

Options still open

In December 1931, another request for union was made on behalf of the CGB by

The Bishop of Chelmsford, but it too was rejected.

Living Together

In March 1933, the CLB agreed to let the CGB use a room at its NHQ for 10/- (50p) per week. A letter, in 1936, from the CLB General Sec. states that the CLB 'has always extended good wishes to the CGB and wherever possible fraternal assistance.'

In 1969, after using various HQ's, the CGB was back sharing premises with the CLB.

Marriage

In 1976, a steering committee was constituted to investigate CGB/CLB amalgamation leading to the final union in 1978.

From the CLB Minute Books.



Rev. Thomas Milner Founded the CRCB at Christ Church, West Green, Tottenham, London in 1901.

Activities were mainly first - aid and home nursing. The Brigade would often be seen at public events rendering first aid. In 1911 the name was changed and the initials CNAB used. There were annual camps held at Worthing and the CNAB National Brass Band is believed to have been the first girls' Brass Band to be formed in England. During the First World War London Companies set up and manned 'posts' to assist young women coming to the capital for war work.



A CNAB Senior member c.1911

