

Roundup



NEWSLETTER OF THE MANCHESTER REGIMENT OF THE CHURCH LADS' AND CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE

The Colonel's comment...

It has been a good few years since I joined the Brigade, it has been a big part of my life for over 45 years and in all that time Brigade has been declining in numbers of members and numbers of Companies. We've tried to start new Companies but our focus now is on retaining and growing the Companies we have. If you are struggling, then SHOUT. Don't suffer in silence.

On the subject of growth, I was challenged recently over an article that appeared in the Manchester Evening News regarding the phenomenal growth that the Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade have recently achieved in Manchester. "Why can they do it but we can't?" Two reasons are apparent to me. One is funding, to allow Full time Officers to be appointed on the ground to do the legwork but more crucial is to have Officers and leaders available to run new Companies. That is what we do not have. I realise that only too well from my experience at Holy Trinity Bardsley. We started the new Company two years ago

now. I am still the acting CO of that Company in amongst all my other jobs. No-one has come forward from the parish or from the Regiment, despite requests to take on the Challenge. It's a great little Company if someone wants to take it on. The children are fantastic, we have a good group of Parent helpers and, contrary to the majority, the vicar is really supportive, attends every week he can AND gets involved. Do you fancy your own Company?

I started this article referring to my own beginnings 45 years ago. Our Company at St Marks Heyside, was about to be enrolled. Who would run the new Company? A young Leader from a neighbouring Parish had been recruited, Stewart Oates, He left the comfort of his own Company and parish to rise to the challenge of a brand new Company, with an enthusiastic band of parents and the Company started. 45 years later it is still going strong. That is the difference, we need leaders who are prepared to move out of their comfort zone and take on a challenge head on. That could be you!

Regimental Staff Structure

Each Battalion has a Commanding Officer in place, they have been asked to recruit or confirm the appointment of a Sports Officer, a Training Officer, an Adjutant and a Battalion Warrant Officer. Some of these functions can be undertaken by a Registered Helper, as a Co-ordinator and I do not consider that age bars anyone from expressing an interest. Are you interested in helping?

National Band Competition

This year's National Band Competition will take place at Hinkley Sports Centre, near Leicester on Saturday 17th May 2014. It's worth a trip to see the Brigade bands in action it's an entertaining day. BUT..... Why not take part. Perhaps you think your band isn't developed enough to compete. The beginners section is just right for you. Perhaps only part of your band is capable of performing why not enter an ensemble. There are sections for all capabilities and all sorts of groups. Give it a try, or come and see, and think about next year!

National Band Concert

The Brigade's National Band will be in Concert in the North West this year. They are performing at St Michaels High School, Astley Rd, Chorley. On Saturday 3rd May at 7:30pm. Tickets are £5 form Mick 'n' Sam on 01257 410615. – See poster on page 3.

Boarshurst Centre

If you want to take your Brigade away for the weekend (or longer) there is a great venue, right on your doorstep. As part of our Young Leaders Training Programme we have used the Boarshurst Centre situated on the hills above Greenfield in Saddleworth. It can cater for 24 members in 2 dormitories and 8 leaders in 2 separate rooms. Its got a fantastic kitchen, large meeting / dining room, toilets and showers and a drying room. Its got easy access to walking or do what we did and book OCL (Oldham Community Leisure) to run some outdoor activities for you. Don't forget you'll need someone with a TGA 1 Certificate but we have plenty of those in the Regiment if you need someone to help you out. Try it, it's good to get away!

www.boarshurstcentre.org.uk



Disclosure & Barring Service

YOU may be aware that the Safeguarding process has recently changed from CRB to DBS. That is Criminal Records Bureau to Disclosures and Barring Service. The new DBS process is, at the front end virtually the same as the old CRB process. The form is identical and leaders, once their form is filled in must provide their CO with proof of their identity, one piece of proof with photo ID and one proof of your address.

The completed forms must be treated as personal and confidential by all who handle them. They go to NHQ where they are submitted for vetting. Once the vetting is complete, the individual leader gets their Disclosure back directly to them. CO's then need to see the Disclosure and have a form to fill in to say they have seen it and whether it was clear or if information is Disclosed, what that information was. This may not prevent an individual from becoming a Leader but

must be passed to NHQ for them to decide.

What is now crucial, is that everyone who receives a DBS from Brigade OR anywhere else MUST register it on-line within 14 days. Having registered on-line NHQ can check every 12 months that nothing has changed with an individuals' vetting. This check just says that nothing has changed, they do not see any other personal information. If leaders do not register within the 14 day period then they will have to submit new application forms for the three year renewal and provide evidence for a new check to be carried out. Once you are registered then your Disclosure becomes transferable to other organisations you volunteer for. They can be shown your disclosure and they can check on-line that it is still clear.

Since we are volunteers our Vetting and Disclosure is free. It cannot be used for a work placement without incurring the standard fee that businesses have to pay.

Young Leader Training

The Class of 2013 will be finishing their year long training on the 1st June this year. We hope that the 5 individuals who have undertaken the full course and the others who have been involved in elements of the training will be able, in time to endorse what we've done this year and encourage others to come forward next year.

We will be recruiting more Young Leaders over the summer with a view to commencing the 2014 Young Leaders Training Programme in September. If you have any leaders or potential leaders aged 16 to 25, in September then please, encourage them to sign up. We will be seeking funding again for this and hope to build on all our experiences from this year. Young Leaders Training 2014 – starts 4th & 5th October for anyone aged 16 to 25.

If you want to get some feedback from this years leaders speak to, or email, Vicky Taylor, Chris Hall or Christopher Walker from Manchester, Harriet Holloway from Leicester or Sarah Clarke from Chester.

Sports news

There will be NO Regimental Football this year!

Due to other commitments and the lack of volunteers to assist with the sports we have had to cancel the Regimental Football this year. We will notify Companies regarding entry into the National Football on the 7th June, soon. With that in mind we need someone to act as Assistant Regimental Sports officer to Brian Mills.

St Martins Castleton Awards Night

Thanks to Andrea Knott and her staff for inviting me to share their night with them. Congratulations to her members on all their achievements and her officers and helpers for all the hard work

that went into the evening. Badges were awarded and long service recognized. Attendance awards were given for each section and special awards for sporting achievements. Finally, those members who have contributed most during then last 12 months were rewarded with the Company trophies.

Easter activities



The Martins at Bardsley decorated eggs for Easter. Aren't they cute? They also sang, "If I were a Butterfly" during the March Parade Service.

Regimental Returns & Fees

If you haven't sent in your returns and fees yet, please do so now. We cannot run Regiment without funds.

Teddy Bears Picnic

Sunday, May 4th – Star Wars day – We meet at Park Bridge Heritage Centre at 1:30pm for a picnic with our Teddies. All Martins and Yteam welcome followed by a treasure hunt. Parents welcome.

Prestatyn Camp

St Marks Heyside have just come back from a Training camp at Prestatyn, the Liverpool Regiments camp site in North Wales. We combined the training with our D of E practice expeditions. If you want to take your members camping, try it. The facilities are good, everything you need and they can provide tents as well if you haven't got your own. To go to camp you'll need someone with a TGA 2 Certificate and again there are many leaders in the Regiment who might be able to help you. Contact Brian, Richie or Sarah Clarke from Bebbington with enquiries.

www.prestatyncampsite.co.uk



The Church Lads' & Church Girls' Brigade

National Band Concert



2014

Saturday 3rd May 2014

7:30pm

*St Michael's High School,
Astley Road, Chorley.
Lancashire*



*All Tickets: only £15
Available from "Mick n' Sam": 01257 410615
Mick@stpetersbrigade.co.uk*



Teddy Bears Picnic

for Martins and Yteam
at Park Bridge on Sunday, May 4th

We meet at Park Bridge Heritage Centre
at 1:30pm for a picnic with our Teddies.

All Martins and Yteam welcome
followed by a treasure hunt.

Parents welcome.

Diary Dates

April 2014

26th Regimental Football and Netball - Cancelled.

May 2014

3rd National Band Concert at Chorley.
4th Teddy Bears Picnic for Martins and Yteam at Park Bridge
10th Race Night for Regimental Camp at St Marks Heyside
7pm
13th Regimental Camp meeting
16th Provisional Regimental Yteam Games
17th National Band Competition at Hinckley, Leicester.
24th Core Skills Diocese Training Course Day 1 at Salford.
31st – 1st Young Leaders Training Programme
– Final weekend

June 2014

3rd Regimental Camp meeting
8th Whit Sunday
15th Trinity Sunday

22nd Provisional Martins Family fun day

27th-

29th Leicester Regiment's TGA2 training course
and Officers camp.

28th Core Skills Diocese Training Course Day 2 at Salford.

July 2014

1st Regimental Commanders meeting
4th – 7th Chester DofE Qualifying Silver expeditions
5th Regimental Sports at Radclyffe School Chadderton 2pm
12th Brigade Council meeting
15th Regimental Camp meeting
26th to
2nd Aug Regimental Camp at Aberfoyle Scotland

August 2014

3rd Lord Lieutenants Service to Commemorate the start of
WW1 at Manchester Cathedral
– 15-20 members in Uniform

Your news and photographs are always welcome for inclusion in Roundup – what better way of getting your news circulated throughout the Regiment – and beyond!

Please email your copy by the last Friday in the month to:

johncorbishley@btinternet.com