



**CLCGB**  
Fun, Faith & Friendship...

# Annual General Meeting Documents Pack

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023



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## Annual General Meeting

**Venue:** St Marys CLB HQ, 4 George Street, Beverley, HU17 0AP  
**Date:** Saturday 22 April 2023  
**Duration:** 11.00 – 16.00 (access from 10am)

### Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Chair's welcome and opening remarks
3. Apologies for absence
4. To approve the minutes of the last AGM held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Including any matters arising not covered in the agenda
5. Governor's Report
6. Financials
  - Treasurer's Report (Gareth Campbell)
  - Approval of Accounts 2021/22
  - Appointment of Auditors
7. Capitation Fees 2023/24 – Proposal to remain at £20 per member
8. Annual reports:
  - FTOG (John Corbishley)
  - Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (Richie Clarke)
  - National Band (Lionel Burdett)
  - Brigade Memorial Garden (Alan Carter)
  - Brigade Remembrance Service and CofE Engagement (Fr Chris Buckley)
  - Award Scheme (Alan Carter)
  - Historical Group (Terry Hissey)
  - Overseas Liaison Officer (Terry Hissey)
  - Regional Reports (Brigade Council Regional Reps)
9. Any Other Business (Please notify NHQ by 14 April 2023)
  - National Archives – Neville Gray (Acting Secretary for the Historical Group)
10. Date and venue of next AGM – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023
11. Closing Prayer (Fr Chris Buckley)

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- 13:00 Lunch – provided by St. Marys Beverley company
- 14:00 DofE Promo & Presentation from Richie Clarke
- 14:30 Grant/Funding Presentation from Julie Golze (We Raise the Game)
- 14.45 'Future of The Brigade' Presentation from Martyn Bedder (Deputy Governor)
- 15:30 Coffee and Award Presentation
- 16:00 Close

## **AGM Minutes**

### **Held electronically via Zoom on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Attendees:** Alan Carter (AC), Andrew Hayday (AH), Ann Sankey (AS), Father Chris Buckley (FCB), Derick Jackson (DJ), Gareth Campbell (GC), Jean Carlin (Longridge) (JC), Jane Benson (Tintern) (JB), Janet Redding (JR), Jayne Warburton Ball (JWB), Jennifer Lockhart (JL), John Corbishley (JCOR), Joan Couzens (JCOU), John Williams (JW), Johnny Conn (JCON), Lindsay Maclure (LM), Martyn Bedder (MB), Maynard Scott (MS), Melvyn Lockhart (ML), Nathan Storm (NS), Olivia Stewart (OS), Perry Gunn (PG), Richie Clarke (RC), Robin Mack (RM), Samantha Evans (SE), Sarah Jane Findlay (SJF), Stephen Whitelegg (SW), Sue Corbishley (SC), Terry Hissey (TH), Tommy Ringland (TR)

#### **1. Opening prayer**

FCB opened the meeting with prayers

#### **2. Chairman's welcome and opening remarks**

AH welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that all being well, next year's AGM will be face to face with a live link available for Ulster Regiment to be involved.

#### **3. Apologies for absence**

James Layfield Carroll, Lionel Burdett, Stephen Manning, Suzanne Manning, Helen Altree, Zoe Palmer, Jason Greenwood, Chris Shuttler, Hazel Ferguson, Sean Andrews, Alan Stewart.

#### **4. To Approve the Minutes of the last AGM held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021 including any matters arising not covered in the agenda**

Minutes accepted as a true and fair record of the last AGM meeting.

Proposer JCOR

Seconder JCOU

#### **5. Governors Report (copy of the report attached)**

Report covers September 2020 – August 2021, looking back, it was a challenging period due to Covid and some units have closed as a result. AH gave huge praise and thanks to all who continued to hold virtual events/meetings during Covid, he also confirmed that the majority of units have now returned to holding company nights.

#### **6. Financials**

##### **• Treasurers Report (copy of the report attached)**

PG read through the report– John Smith is the treasurer but PG is dealing with this report whilst John recovers from his illness.

North Accounting have been our accountants for a number of years now and are always available for help and guidance. PG is happy to suggest that we continue to use North Accounting as our external Auditors and accountants.

TH mentioned about the Holy Trinity Wingate funds that were returned to NHQ. He said, as the funds do not belong to NHQ, he suggests that they are noted as a donation to NHQ. PG does not know the legality surrounding this so cannot pass comment (protocol is that closed company funds are held as ring fenced for 6 years the released in to NHQ funds).

For the Treasurer Report

Proposer PG      Seconder NS

##### **• Approval of accounts 2020/2021**

The accounts were approved as a true and fair record of the financial year.

Proposer PG

Seconder OS

##### **• Appointment of Auditors**

As mentioned above North Accounting will remain as our auditors for CLCGB.

## 7. **Capitation Fees 2022/2023**

During Covid we were able to source reasonable grants meaning we could have a year not charging capitation fees. This offered financial relief to many of our companies. Last year we took a similar approach asking for £5 per member if possible. We took approx. £12,000, which is around a third of what was expected in the accounts. The grants have been harder to find this year. As a result, the proposal from Staff and Finance is that the capitation fees are held for 22/23 at £20 per member. Any pandemics/lockdowns would affect this and everyone would be notified if this was the case.

Capitation fees to be £20 for 2022/2023

Proposer AH

Seconder DJ

## 8. **Annual Reports**

### • **Training (GB and NI) (copy of both reports attached)**

JC presented his report for Great Britain.

JC asked that you encourage your young leaders to take part in the young leaders training course and if they are already part of it to help them along with the practical element of the course.

TH requested details of where the 20 members are from that are currently signed up to the course. JC confirmed they are from Chorley, Wirral, Ashton, Bristol, Central Manchester, Monmouth and Oldham. JC said that over 50% are from the Manchester area.

JC thanked the training team that are involved devoting their time to assist in making the training consistent. AH also passed on thanks from himself and NHQ.

Proposer JC

Seconder AS

JW presented his report for Northern Ireland

AH thanked JW on his and NHQ behalf for all of the effort JW and his team are putting in to the training programme in Northern Ireland.

### • **Duke of Edinburgh's Award (copy of the report attached)**

RC presented his report.

DofE put special measures in place to cover the difficult period whilst normal activities could not go ahead during Covid. Anyone who feels like the special measures should remain please let RC know as the DofE are open to ideas and are willing to consider the changes going forward.

TH said the recent zoom meeting was very positive and the opportunity saved a 6-hour journey. He particularly liked the direct contact with the DofE. TH feels that the gold DofE award should be classed as a special award within Brigade. AH confirmed that anyone who received gold DofE award will receive a letter from himself as Governor and anyone receiving silver DofE award will receive a letter from the regional Deputy Governor.

RC confirmed that a gold expedition is planned for the summer so anyone with candidates ready for a gold qualifying expedition please contact RC or JC.

Proposer RC

Seconder RM

### • **National Band (copy of the report attached)**

In Lionel's absence LM presented the report.

Proposer LM

Seconder MB

### • **Music Competition (copy of the report attached)**

In Robbie O'Brien's absence MB presented the report.

MB confirmed that due to the lack of bands at present we do not have enough for it to be a competition so again, this year a music competition will not be held.

AH passed on his thanks to Robbie and his team for their hard work during the pandemic.

FCB suggested the possibility of having regional/formation heats rather than one big competition. He feels this may build momentum if it is more of a regional competition. MB will pass this request on, he feels something needs to change as this is the last national event the Brigade now holds so we really don't want to lose it.

SJF did state that anyone with ideas on how the music competition can move forward then to let Robbie know as his is holding a meeting soon and the ideas can be discussed there.

Proposer MB                      Secunder JC

- **Brigade Memorial Garden (copy of the report attached)**

MS presented his report.

MS informed all at the meeting that sadly Robin Bolton passed away in the early hours of Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Aged 72.

AH thanked MS and his team for all of their efforts on his and NHQ's behalf.

Proposer MS                      Secunder AC

- **Brigade Remembrance Service (copy of the report attached)**

FCB presented the report.

FCB passed on his thanks to NS for the work he put in to making the video of the remembrance service, which was live streamed at the regular service time during the COVID lockdown.

Going forward (from this year 2022) the service day will be changing and will be held on the Saturday before the first Sunday in November (the 2022 service will fall on 5<sup>th</sup> November). This will allow more time and hopefully we should be able to get preachers involved.

TH stated how good it was to see overseas Brigade companies viewing the service, as they were able to tune in online. We had viewers from Newfoundland and Bermuda. MB has requested that the service be livestreamed going forward to enable overseas companies to be involved every year. NS has confirmed that this is possible and that he will deal with the arrangements.

TH has asked that things are arranged earlier, FCB agreed and said things really should be organised for July. Clear lines of command and a theme are in place.

AH passed on his thanks to FCB and the team for their efforts in livestreaming the service in 2020 and in advance for this year.

MS expressed concern regarding children being in the livestream videos – his concern is regarding safeguarding – FCB stated that consent will be sought from all parents/carers of all members that will be in the video prior to the day.

Proposer FCB                      Secunder AS

- **Uniform Committee and Awards Scheme (copy of the report attached)**

AC presented his report.

AC is hoping to 'tweak' the award scheme and issue an update before the end of the year. Having received feedback he will incorporate the ideas and make changes where necessary but please be reminded that the award scheme is only a guideline and you can adapt to suit your needs/facilities at Brigade.

AC expressed his thanks to Chris Walker, Trevor Dunkerley and Helen Altree at NHQ for also the Staff and Finance for agreeing to finance the new scheme.

MB added that he attended an award night recently, many badges were given out on the night and the company in question stated they are much happier with the new scheme as it is so easy to use.

AH passed on huge thanks to AC for all of his efforts, the scheme has been very well received.

Proposer AC      Seconded JCON

- **Historical Group (Copy of the report attached)**

Report presented by TH due the very sad recent passing of Rob Bolton.

TH paid tribute to Rob with words to TH from JCON. "He was a huge influence for very many people and his death will hit you harder than most. His life was one of fullness and great purpose. It seemed to me that he never wasted a second, there will never be another Rob Bolton that's for sure".

The report stated that the Brigade didn't hold an annual remembrance service at the at the National Memorial Arboretum, there was no involvement from the Historical group but TH confirmed that a wreath was laid at the memorial stone the following week.

AH gave huge thanks to all members of the Historical Group.

Proposer TH                      Seconded JCON

- **Overseas Liaison Officer (copy of the report attached)**

TH presented his report.

TH is pleased to see interaction between the UK and overseas companies. OS from Longridge has been helping members to write letters and is hoping to have zoom calls on meeting nights. This is an ongoing project and currently the safeguarding aspects are being investigated and parental consent is being obtained in order for it to go ahead.

AH thanked TH for his time and efforts for producing the report.

Proposer TH                      Seconded FCB

## 9. **130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Company Events**

AH confirmed that the previously arranged National 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event is no longer taking place due to a number of reasons. Several companies are running their own celebratory events.

Hopefully all companies should have now received their Queen's Platinum Jubilee/130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary badges. NHQ have received many positive comments regarding the badge. Additional badges are available from NHQ at a cost of £1 per badge plus postage costs.

SW commented that the tag line on the Queens Platinum Jubilee/130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary badge states Fun Faith and Friendship, he wanted to know if it was deliberate/an error, should it be Fun Faith and Fellowship? AH confirmed that the tagline changed approximately 2 years ago to make it more modern.

MB confirmed that a regimental fun day and camp celebration event has been arranged at Willersley Scout Camp on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Everyone is welcome for the day or to camp overnight. All details are on the regimental Facebook page. Indoor accommodation is also available for those that don't wish to sleep under canvas. Prices vary and they are available from MB.

AC let Lord Dannet know about the cancellation of the National Event. He also sent him a Calendar of Events and told him he would be more than welcome to attend any of our events. He accepted the invite and may attend an event.

JW has a meeting arranged with the senior regimental team to discuss 130<sup>th</sup> Celebrations. The ongoing restrictions in Northern Ireland are making the arrangement of group gatherings difficult.

JCON asked AC whether he had any development with his 'The Way Forward' document. AC confirmed that he is awaiting a Governors meeting so that the document can be discussed but at present no progress has been made.

FCB asked JWIL to write to the Archbishop of Armagh asking him to write a letter for Pentecost, JWIL confirmed he is hoping to see the Archbishop of Armagh next week as it is the General Synod for The Church of Ireland.

SW confirmed a couple of events have been pencilled in for the Manchester Regiment, a parade on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in Central Manchester which hopefully will have one big band rather than several small ones. The other for The Regimental Camp which is at the end of July/beginning of August in Scotland.

JWB confirmed that Lancashire Battalion have a camp planned at Bibby's farm for the weekend the original 130<sup>th</sup> Celebrations were planned for with members from Chorley, Longridge and St Mark's Heyside.

## **10. Any Other Business**

- **Avoid clashes with other National Events (Lindsay Maclure)**

LM requested that dates for AGM don't clash with National Band weekend that is always held on the Bank Holiday Weekend. Many members had to miss this year's AGM due to this.

FCB mentioned that some time ago we agreed to send our Annual reports out to our President, Vice Presidents and Honorary Patrons. NHQ to send these out with a covering letter.

TH has requested that any names you have for the Roll of Remembrance are forwarded to him/NHQ the dates will run from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> September retrospectively this is to ensure anyone who may have been missed is included in the following years ceremony.

TH shared that he produced an annual report for Roxeth and Harrow and sends around 50 hard copies and numerous soft copies every year. He encourages all companies to produce a report and send it to people of influence such as councillors, MP's etc... AH confirmed it would be nice to see reports from other companies also.

JW send congratulations to Melvyn Lockhart who attended Windsor Castle and was presented with Maundy money by HRH Prince Charles. AH echoed the congratulations and said it was wonderful to see the photos of the event.

## **11. Date and venue of next AGM**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023. This will be a face to face AGM held at St Mary's Beverley in the hall. Estimated start time 10:30-11:00 but this will be confirmed nearer the time. Anyone with experience of a mobile conference suite, please contact NHQ in advance of the meeting to discuss needs etc... as this is something brand new to us.

## **12. Closing Prayer**

Closing prayers led by FCB.

Remembrance was marked for all who have passed within this year:-

Sheila Theobald  
John Kingston  
Les Coleman  
Phillip Staziker  
Anthony Lee  
Elizabeth Butterfield  
Jean Carter  
Eileen Jelley  
Frank Tew  
Bob Wright  
Vera Whitmore  
Sue Jones  
Robin Bolton



#### **Action points of the AGM Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

NHQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Send Annual reports to our President/Vice President/Honorary Patrons.</li></ul>
ALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact NHQ if you have any experience using mobile conference suite equipment to assist with the next AGM.</li></ul>

#### **Action points of the AGM Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

JG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add training matrix to website/social media/current leaders Facebook page</li></ul>
AH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up a working group for the production of a new flag using MS presentation.</li></ul>
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add the wearing of the Warrant Officer Sash to the agenda for the next uniform committee for discussion.</li><li>• Add standardisation of medals to the next uniform committee agenda.</li></ul>
FCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Liaise with the Historical Group and Westminster to arrange celebrating 100 years of the giving of the St Martins banner to Westminster.</li></ul>

#### **Action points of the AGM Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

FCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be in touch with the Historical Group re items of historical interest from Belle Isle Company (Originally Rob Bolton was dealing with this but agenda item passed to FCB following the recent passing of Rob).</li></ul>
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## **Governor's Statement**

This report covers the period from 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022, which has certainly been another very challenging year, for this organisation and the whole country as we begin to move back to 'normal' life. Some units have flourished, while others have struggled and some have taken the opportunity to close. This leaves us with a reduction in numbers and a need to strengthen our existing units and grow new ones with enhanced resources and leadership to support this.

My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who has lost someone dear over the past year, especially those in our Brigade family. Their time and commitment to this organisation will always be treasured and their memories will ever be in our hearts.

We continue to offer the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. NHQ remains registered as a DofE Licenced Organisation and we continue to recommend this as a core element of the Senior Corps programme. The DofE scheme enables our young people to learn new skills, challenge themselves, improve leadership skills and important life skills in a safe Christian environment which exists in all of our units throughout the UK.

In November the annual act of remembrance took place at the National Memorial Arboretum at Lichfield, Staffordshire. This is always a moving event and enables the Brigade family to come together in one collective act of remembrance. A small group of officers and members also took part in the National act of remembrance at Whitehall, London. This year the salute was taken by HRH Prince William, with the event being televised and airtime given to our group. Yet again the CLCGB group was exemplary and made the organisation very proud.

Our Staff Chaplain has worked tirelessly to encourage other members of the Clergy to become more involved with the CLCGB. The Bishop of Sodor and Man has engaged with leaders and members in a number of virtual addresses. His input has been extremely welcome and we pray this continues along with him representing the CLCGB at Church of England forums.

NHQ accommodation rental remained strong through the year, with the majority of the offices in the main building tenanted and the Lighthouse Project continuing to use the training centre. The team continue to work closely with the businesses in our premises to support them and secure ongoing rentals, giving a major boost to our annual income.

The small team of NHQ staff returned back to their contracted hours after furlough and continue to support the organisation in a wide cross section of admin, finance, estate management and stores activities. Their continued work is essential to the efficient running of the organisation and I thank them for their ongoing dedication and commitment.

A brand new badge work scheme has been developed and rolled out this year. This replaces the existing scheme for the Y Team, JTC and Senior sections. This moves us to a far larger selection of activity and craft badges, all interrelated and sharing a common branding pallet. A huge thank you goes to everyone who have contributed to the success of this new badge work, for the considerable amount of time and effort spent, largely voluntarily.

Grant income to support the organisation still remains challenging to secure. We have engaged an external grant writing company, We Raise the Game, to support us in writing grant applications. It is hoped that this additional funding will enable us to recruit development workers in the South West and South East and also support the development of online resources, which will accompany the new badge work scheme. This will be captured in a new business plan which is being worked on ready to go live next year.

Most local and regional camps and activity weekends have resumed this year, despite some COVID restrictions. These are always fabulous opportunities for members and leaders to spend time together and take part in many different and new activities that they would not normally have the chance to do. These times always resonate with our strapline of Fun, Faith and Friendship.

There are very few positives coming out of the 2-years of COVID restrictions and lock downs, however one may be that of virtual meeting platforms. Throughout the year, all meetings; Brigade Council, AGM, Staff & Finance, FTOG to name but a few have taken place virtually. This has dramatically reduced travel costs and travel time and made the meetings far more accessible and inclusive. This will continue into the New Year, save for the annual AGM which is planned to be a face to face meeting and a series of executive futures meetings.

We continue to have strong ties with our sister organisations across the world in South Africa, Kenya, Newfoundland, St. Helena and Bermuda. We hope that these relationships continue to grow and flourish and we offer out a hand of Christian friendship to them all.

**Andrew Hayday, Governor & Chair of Trustees**

### Bank Balances:

As at 31/08/2021 NHQ balance was £27,785 plus £14,659 Ring-fenced monies. = £42,444

As at 31/08/2022 NHQ balance is £10,000 plus £14,121 Ring-fenced monies. = £24,121

**Portfolio Valuation:** the investments managed by Rathbones as at 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 21 were valued at £212,941

**Portfolio Valuation:** the investments managed by Rathbones as at 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 22 were valued at £198,050

**Other shareholdings** We hold shares in 5 other companies these are;

Value as at	31 May 21	Aug 21	Oct 21	Jan 22	Aug 22
Shell	1041	1159	1345	1558	1854
Nat Grid	687	706	713	819	808
M & S	62	66	72	81	45
Diageo	7038	7232	7727	7648	7791
Centrica	141	135	165	186	196
<b>Total value</b>	<b>£8,969</b>	<b>£9,298</b>	<b>£10,022</b>	<b>£10,292</b>	<b>£10,085</b>

### Grants, Donations & Legacies

£1,162

### Income

#### Office Rent, Lighthouse rent, Telephone charges & Utility bills income

**For the year to 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 22**

**Rent £61,559, Telephone income £4,710, Utilities from Lighthouse £10,490 Total £76,759**

This then increases each January in line with inflation.

Below is a monthly breakdown of tenants income to us.

Lighthouse: **£2896** + contribution to Utility bills (**£1000**)

Others: Yorks Hsg **£580 plus phones £60**, Care 4 U Care **£908 plus phones £171**, Oliver Excavations **£670 plus £180 phones**. Paul Trading **£90**. DFT **£100**

#### **Other NHQ Income Received in current year**

Stores £12,600, DBS £248, Investments £347, Gift Aid £80 – this is NHQs net receipt after Brigade Companies receive 90%,

### Disbanded units

**£10,245 Total**

£222 St Cuthberts Manchester

£9,848 New Earswick, N Yorkshire

£175 Noctorum on the Wirral

### Grants Update

We began to look more into Grants, and the reasons why we are unsuccessful, Early August we commissioned an organization (We raise the game) to help us to bid more successfully.

### Capitation Fees

Outstanding Capitation from January 2020

Holy Trinity Wingate £440 This Company is now closed, and we are still awaiting funds to be returned to NHQ

## Brigade Membership (Paying & Non Paying)

These were the figures up to Nov 22 with Jan 23 added to see a more realistic picture as lockdown meant many companies were not up to date.

<b>Jan 2023</b>	<b>1752 (558 Leaders, 1,194 Children)</b>
<b>Nov 2022</b>	<b>1967 (590 Leaders, 1,377 Children)</b>
<b>June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022</b>	<b>1967 (595 Leaders, 1372 Children)</b>
<b>January 31<sup>st</sup> 2022</b>	<b>2077 (636 Leaders, 1441 Children)</b>
<b>August 31<sup>st</sup> 2021</b>	<b>2302 (680 Leaders, 1622 Children)</b>
August 31 <sup>st</sup> 2020	2319 (670 Leaders, 1649 Children)
April 30 <sup>th</sup> 2020	2327 (680 Leaders, 1647 Children)
January 31 <sup>st</sup> 2020	2315 (682 Leaders, 1633 Children)
October 31 <sup>st</sup> 2019	2381 (687 Leaders, 1694 Children)
August 31 <sup>st</sup> 2019	2466 (697 Leaders, 1769 Children)
May 2019	2650 (750 Leaders, 1900 Children)
Nov 2018	2451 (670 Leaders, 1781 Children)
June 2018	2521 (661 Leaders, 1860 Children)
Feb 2018	2642 (730 Leaders, 1912 Children)
December 2016 members stood at	2645
December 2015 members stood at	2653

## Staffing at NHQ

2 part-time staff (Helen Altree and Zoe Palmer) & 1 full time (Perry Gunn)

## Summary to date

A few companies are now looking to reopen in Sept 21, but we will not know at this point what the levels of membership will be.

There is a lot of worry in the world and UK energy markets, but we fortunately tied into some long tariffs taking us into 2027, so we have been saved from huge increases. It will be wise to now start to look at alternatives such as Solar power and from this utilizing more Electric energy for heating and hot water. The staff & finance team have begun to explore this.

From a positive point of view, we still at NHQ have got the offices full of good paying tenants, renting two spaces out on the car park, and even have a "Virtual" tenant utilizing our address. We have increased rents and phone charges in line with inflation, so this keeps our income in line with any increased expenditure. We receive telephone income from tenants and utilities are shared with Lighthouse homes in our previous training centre. This puts our rental income at the highest we have ever experienced.

NHQ Stores have begun selling again, but there is no huge demand currently, the new Award badges have been very popular though.

We have just commissioned in August a grant finding company to help us maximise our grant income and this will look at Capital expenditure (Buildings, etc) Solar power, and development income.

We do still have an ongoing problem regarding the Vectis Isle of Wight campsite, previously operated by London Regiment, and this is currently being dealt with through a solicitor at a cost to NHQ. This may cost NHQ more than it should have done, as NHQ had no knowledge of what was happening re the camp, until we were told it was closing, so having never taken any income or profit from the site, NHQ is now picking up the pieces. This must not happen again, and should anybody wish to create such an independent site in the future, then it must be declared as such, and steps taken to absolve NHQ of any subsequent liability. This has been ongoing, and we have now settled Gas and Electricity bills, and should receive no more, we have received a rates rebate as a charity, so although still paying rates on the farm buildings, these are considerably reduced.

## **FTOG - Formation Training Officers Group.**

### **Annual Report to Brigade Council for Sept 2021 to August 2022.**

FTOG comprises a number of Brigade leaders, some who are appointed as Training Officers and others who have been involved in training Brigade leaders for some years. All those involved in training are welcome to join the group. We hope to encompass all formations and un-attached Companies over time. FTOG has continued to meet on ZOOM to allow more leaders to take part and reduce costs, we have maintained our presence and continue to plan for the future. During this reporting period we have met 4 times on ZOOM to prepare for the courses on offer.

#### **Company Administration day**

- Held on Zoom in December 2021 to support the start-up of a new Company in Leamington Spa.

#### **Skills Training Day at Oldham**

In February 2022 we held first Face to face training session for two years. Leaders were offered:

- Emergency First Aid - (17 Attended)
- Introduction session - Young Leaders Training Programme, (16 attended)
- Discussion Workshops for the new Badge schemes (5 attended)

#### **Young Leaders Training Programme**

1. 16 Young Leaders attended our Introduction day at the Skills Training Day.
2. We held an afternoon update session on Zoom in April 2022
3. Full Weekend Residential Training Course at the Boarshurst Centre in Saddleworth during June 2022 with 15 attendees undertaking sessions on;
  - a. Programme Planning.
  - b. Badges and the award scheme
  - c. Risk assessments and Christian LeadershipActivities on the weekend included
  - d. Curling, orienteering, Treasure hunt and Ten Pin Bowling
4. We also offered all our Young Leaders the opportunity to take a Sports Leaders Level 2 Certificate that was integrated into their training.

#### **Taking Groups Away and DofE**

Meetings have been held at regular intervals with the with our DofE Co-ordinator and interested Brigade leaders

We were offered two FREE Courses.

DofE Introduction – on Two Tuesdays provided by our DofE Coordinator on Zoom

Expedition Supervisor and Assessor training – Two Tuesdays again on Zoom

The revisions of the Expedition Assessor and Supervisors course meant that the Brigade now has to adapt its training and qualification criteria for Expedition supervisors and TGA qualifications. (That work has been completed and new rules, guidance qualification processes and training has been accepted by Brigade Council)

#### **Ongoing & Future training**

- Our Young Leaders will meet for a second Residential Training Weekend at the BB NW training Centre at Kirkham Lancashire in September 2022
- Another Basic Leaders Training Day is planned for November 2022
- A Skills Training day planned for February 2023.
- We review the need for another Young Leaders course for our Young Leaders aged 16 to 25.
- FTOG staff are available should any leader wish to achieve or update their Certificate of Leadership or their TGA qualifications.

**John Corbishley – Chair of FTOG (Formation Training Officers Group)**

## DofE Report

Over this last year DofE activities have been very quiet, unfortunately a planned Gold Expedition had to be cancelled as we did not have the required members to take part and a Silver qualifying had to be aborted as the temperatures went way past 30 degrees.

NI had a quieter than usual year, not running expeditions and training was light.

We currently have 89 (down from 106 last year and 127 previous year) participants signed up for the award, yet only 11 are active (ie logged in within the last few months).

We had 1 bronze and 3 Gold members signed up from NI.

A number of leaders participated in a CLCGB/DofE specific Expedition Supervisors and Assessors course. This was held remotely.

Following the course it was evident that we needed to review and update our TGA and internal training. This was led by John Corbishley and will be reported in the FTOG report. Many thanks to John for his valued work, also thanks to Perry, Marti and Robin for their valued input.

We have met via MS Teams with our DofE National Officer each month.

There have been a number of internal Brigade DofE zoom calls, open to all leaders, unfortunately not well attended other than the usual small number.

The temporary conditions for expeditions will remain in place for the 22/23 season and are being reviewed for the following season and beyond.

It has been our ambition for many years to run some open expeditions and we will continue to attempt to organise them.

## Richie Clarke Dofe Leader

Some Statistics:

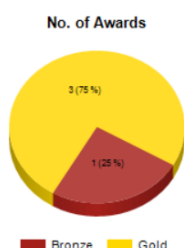
	01 Sep 2019 to 31 Aug 2020				01 Sep 2020 to 31 Aug 2021				01 Sep 2021 to 31 Aug 2022			
	B	S	G	Total	S	G	Total		B	G	Total	
Total Awards Started	2	5	6	13	1	2	3		3	3		3
Disadvantaged Awards Started	0	0	2	2	1	0	1		1	0		0
Total Awards Achieved	4	4	2	10	2	2	4		4	1	3	4
Disadvantaged Awards Achieved	0	1	1	2	0	0	0		0	0	1	1

Current Centre Types	Total	%
Membership organisation	22	100%
Total	22	100%

Current Adults	Total	Log in within last 30 days
Administrator	5	2
Co-ordinator	11	1
Helper	3	0
Leader	23	2
Manager	1	1
Total	43	6

Current Participants	Total	IMD1	IMD2	IMD3
Active	11	0	1	0
Inactive	77	7	3	2
New	1	0	0	0
Total	89	7	4	2

### Achievers by Award Level



### Achievers by Status

Award Level	Active	Inactive	Total by Level
Bronze		1	1
Gold	2	1	3
Total	2	2	4

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This reporting period has seen NB return to normal activities after the disruption of lockdown and COVID 19 restrictions. Thankfully, the band has emerged relatively unscathed from this period of uncertainty, and credit should be given to the band's staff and members for a rapid and smooth return to the high standards that NB is known for.

**SEPTEMBER WEEKEND**

2. With the lift on the restriction of residential activities, we were able to hold our September weekend, some 19 months since NB last met. This would normally have been the band's recruiting weekend, but due to the long period without meeting, it was decided to postpone this until October.
3. Attendance at the weekend was quite low mainly due to the uncertainty of whether the weekend would be on or not, however, such was the high standard of playing, there was no doubt that the band would be ready to perform its annual concert in May. On the Saturday, the band held its lockdown presentations evening where prizes were awarded to the lockdown competition winners, along with several of the band's usual annual trophies.

**OCTOBER (RECRUITING) WEEKEND**

4. The October weekend was similarly successful and NB gained 5 new members - one from St Peter's, Whetstone and 4 from St Mary's Beverley. Again, numbers were fairly low (mainly due to illness), but much musical progress was still made.

**DECEMBER WEEKEND**

5. The Christmas band weekend was held 10-12 December. The weekend was very successful and enjoyable, where alongside the usual schedule of rehearsals, the band celebrated the festive season with a church service, followed by mulled wine, mince pies and carols, held a formal dinner night and finished with a Christmas disco.

**FEBRUARY AND MARCH WEEKENDS**

6. The February and March weekends saw NB achieve great musical progress towards the concert, combined with the usual weekend fun activities and entertainment.

**MAY (CONCERT) WEEKEND**

7. This year's concert was due to be performed at St Mark's Church, Heyside, however, due to the uncertainty of national COVID restrictions, it was decided in December 2021, to move the concert to St Mary's Church, Beverley. This way, if the concert had to be cancelled at short notice, the band would not forfeit any deposits paid towards accommodation, catering etc.
8. The concert performance was superb throughout, culminating with an outstanding rendition of Bach's Toccata in D Minor as the finale piece. After the concert NB returned to Raywell Park and held its annual presentation evening and post-concert party.

**SUMMER BAND CAMP**

9. Due to the low number of staff/members willing/able to attend, NB was not able to hold a playing band tour this year. Instead 18 members and staff, attended a band camp (1 – 5 August 2022). The camp was based at Raywell Park, and included some on-site rehearsals, day trips and activities throughout Yorkshire, including:
  - a. 10-pin bowling.
  - b. A trip on the Humber Rescue lifeboat.
  - c. A day at Flamingoland theme park.
  - d. Archery (many thanks to Glen Redhead (St Mary's, Beverley company, for arranging this).
  - e. A day on the beach at Scarborough.
  - f. An end of camp meal at Wings International Cuisine restaurant in Hull.
8. The camp was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was encouraging that nearly every one of the band's under 18 members were in attendance.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

9. Membership of NB currently stands at:
- a. Band Members 45 (down 11 from last year).
  - b. Staff 11 (down one from last year).

These figures include 9 staff/members who are registered as members of CLCGB through NB.

10. **Bugle School.** Unfortunately, membership of the Bugle School has waned over this reporting period to the point that there are no longer any members. Thankfully, the band's 2 resident buglers are still in attendance.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

11. The band continues to meet at Raywell Park, near Hull, which meets its needs both in the accommodation on offer and its location. Band weekend dates are confirmed up until the end of 2023.

## **FINANCES**

12. The band remains financially stable and in the position where it can offset the cost of tours and extra band weekend activities.
13. The cost of a band weekend remains at £30 (£10 for members of the kitchen staff). There are no plans to increase this in the foreseeable future.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

14. The band would like to wish congratulations to the following:
- a. David Hartley (St Lawrence and St Paul, Longridge), on his award of the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List.
  - b. Robbie O'Brien and Sarah Bedder (both of St Mark's, Heyside), on their engagement (15 January 2022).
  - c. Richard Gregg and Lindsay Maclure (both of St Mark's, Heyside), on their engagement (9 April 2022).
  - d. Jacob Strang and Emily Coultish (both of St Peter's, Whetstone), on the birth of their son, Sebastian (30 June 2022).

## **FUTURE PLANS**

15. The band will now be focusing on its recruitment weekend which is 2 – 4 September 2022, with a view to increasing membership back to pre-COVID numbers. Posters have already been circulated and NB is very much looking forward to welcoming some new members on that weekend.

## **CONCLUSION**

16. NB's staff and members have worked extremely hard to re-instate the band's high musical performance and professional working practices back to pre-COVID levels. Although the band is slightly down in numbers, the performance at this year's concert was exceptional. As always, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of NB's staff for their support and dedication, and to all its members for their hard work over this reporting period.

**Lionel Burdett**

**DoM**

**CLCGB NB**



## **Brigade Memorial Garden**

I have now taken over the role of custodian of the Brigade Memorial Garden from Maynard Scott. I first need to express both my personal gratitude as well as the gratitude of the whole Brigade to Maynard for all the work and care that he put into the garden over the years. Without Maynard's (along with Pauline's support) drive, enthusiasm and sense of duty the garden may easily have withered and died. As it is, we just need to maintain it to the standard that has been set.

Obviously, I must also acknowledge the hard work and support that was provided by Rob Bolton who worked with Maynard to ensure that the Brigade had a memorial to be proud of.

I have a meeting at the site on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April in order to introduce myself.

As this is the only location in the UK that is open to the public where the Brigade has a prominent presence every day I feel that it is important that we continue keep the garden to a high standard and continue with our annual service of remembrance. To that end I prepared the document below.

### **Synopsis**

This annual service is, at present, the only national Brigade event in the calendar. As such, it is important that it is accessible to the whole of the Brigade membership. To try to help to achieve this it was decided to move the date to the weekend prior to the official remembrance weekend. With this in mind, this year's attendance numbers should be considered as thermometer as to whether the date should remain or, should another date be considered. It has been suggested that the anniversary of the 16<sup>th</sup> KRRC engagement at High Wood, the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, may be a possibility (nearest Saturday). This would have several advantages.

- Avoid clashes and commitments to other remembrance services which will hopefully mean that more Brigade members could attend.
- Better availability of VIPs and guests.
- An opportunity to invite people with 16<sup>th</sup> KRRC connections and expand the awareness of the Brigade.
- Possibility of better weather allowing members, families and guests the opportunity to make a day of it and visit the rest of the arboretum.
- 

It could however very much pin the remembrance to the 16<sup>th</sup> KRRC which only represents a small proportion of Brigade members who we have traditionally remembered annually. The memorial garden was dedicated in memory of ALL Brigade members who served both the Brigade (in all of it's forms) and their country.

### **Future Ambition**

In order to ensure the longevity of the service our young members need to be front and centre at all stages of the service. As has been proved previously, with the correct planning (see Planning below) and encouragement our young members can excel at these occasions. Given the public nature of the event it is only right, as a youth organisation, that our youth are highly visible. This was brought home to me during discussions regarding the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration idea when the site managers did not realise we were a youth organisation, they thought we were some sort of old members association.

### **Planning**

Lessons learnt from previous years show that planning cannot start early enough. The lead for future services should be rotated around our regions / formations. With that in mind I have invited Manchester Regiment to take the lead this year.

Example of a suggested rota;

2023 - Manchester Regiment

2024 - Chester and Liverpool Battalions

2025 - Leicester Regiment

2026 - Yorkshire Battalion (Note: 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of High Wood)

2027 - South Wales and South West battalion

2028 - London and South East battalion

2029 - Durham battalion

Publishing a plan as above or similar provides those taking the lead with ample time to plan their contribution. It also allows for any formation that may struggle to make arrangements of support from other formations. Although the above does not include Northern Ireland it is felt that they should be consulted and asked if they would like to take the lead one year. In a similar vain, our world wide membership could be invited to contribute in some way. The lead formation will provide ushers, readers, wreath layers and where possible music in the form of a band or ensemble. Given the extremely public location and the nature of the event this should be to a reasonably high standard. Where a region / formation are unable to provide a band and / or buglers they can invite another region / formation to assist. It should be noted that while it is a great opportunity for bands to play at a national location and draw attention to the Brigade, it is not the be all and end all of the event.

The ecclesiastical side of the service needs to be planned and prepared in plenty of time for the young members to prepare for readings and prayers as well as for guest speakers to be invited. Our young members should be given the opportunity and encouragement to write prayers, poems and / or essays to read out as part of the service. The order of service template should change very little from one year to the next. This enables NHQ to organise the printing and distribution of invites in plenty of time. The order of service should be prepared for printing by the end of July (or at least three months before the service) this allows time for the names to be added to the Roll of Remembrance. Notes should also be included, based on the standing orders, to guide those taking part towards the correct protocols i.e. when to salute and for how long, who salutes, where to stand etc.

Also, with regards to the order of service document; it should be remembered that those guest who attend in memory of a loved one may well see it as a small memorial in its self so, the design and production should consider that it will be kept as a momentum.

Standing orders are being developed to ensure that the ceremonial part of the service is carried out in a professional and respectful manner. Standing orders will enable the lead formation to practice in advance of the service and help those taking part in the ceremonial side of the service to know what is expected of them.

I suggest that the following milestones should be adhered to for November services (obviously to be reviewed if the date is moved);

- Region / formation receive an official invite by the 31<sup>st</sup> of January the previous year. Although there is no reason why a five year plan could not be prepared which would give plenty of planning time.
- Standing orders issued 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- Ecclesiastical details i.e theme, readings, prayers issued by 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- Order of service to be with NHQ by 31<sup>st</sup> July.
- Invites sent out by NHQ. The majority to be sent by 30<sup>th</sup> of July. There will be some late invites, but this can be managed by NHQ.
- Final planning meeting on or around 4 weeks prior to the service.

If we can create a structure and keep to it then it should reduce the amount of work any one person is required to carry out.

**Alan Carter**  
**Deputy Governor**  
**BMG Custodian**

## **CLCGB Award Scheme**

The scheme continues to receive a positive response with over 2000 badges being sold by NHQ stores.

The new Martins Awards has now been written and will be prepared and issued this year.

The Award Scheme is intended to be a live scheme so, with that in mind the feedback that we have received since its launch will be considered and incorporated together with some new environmental and religious additions.

As this all has to be carried out in spare time it is difficult to place mile stones on when it will be achieved but, September would be the ideal.

The key thing is that as the CLCGB prepares for the next 130 years we concentrate on how we continue to extend the Kingdom of Christ among young people, how we appeal to young people and how we can deliver those needs.

As ever, the feedback from our young members, Officers and Leaders is essential for the Award Scheme to stay fresh and relevant.

**Alan Carter**  
**Deputy Governor**

## Historical Group Report

I open this report with the observation that the loss of the inaugural Chairman, Robin Bolton, who died suddenly on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 was an enormous blow to the Historical Group. His presence, knowledge and wisdom are still sorely missed six months on. Tributes have been paid elsewhere but such was his knowledge, enthusiasm and popularity that he held this role for 25 years until his untimely death. With a professional career in teaching, he devoted much time and energy through the production of the Brigade Factsheets. The 'Looking Back' history resource being the first one he designed from scratch, replacing poorly written predecessors that were totally unattractive. He was such a perfectionist in all he did and set the standard for others to aspire to. For as long as the history and heritage of the CLCGB is researched and written about, the name of Robin Bolton will always be mentioned. The contribution he made in terms of preservation and education was incalculable.

## Silver Jubilee

So the Historical Group have celebrated its Silver Jubilee over the last twelve months, nothing special in the way of celebrations, but two unique commemoratives are to hand. The Group has undertaken nearly all of its work without 'a fanfare of trumpets' for much of its existence and that is how I would wish it to continue. On the other hand, the CLCGB often does blow its own trumpet, sometimes less than it should. This year was to have seen a belated celebration of the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Royal Review and activity weekend. Sadly this did not take place, but I'm sure lessons have been learnt and we all go forward approaching new projects afresh.

## Governance

The Group is now at a crossroads in its existence as we shall have a change over of three officers at its October AGM. I would like to formally thank Doug Lake and Janet Mulholland for their work as Secretary and Treasurer respectively for many years. I also welcome Ann Sankey in stepping forward to become Treasurer today. I wish her well dealing with HSBC, watch this space! She received a comprehensive handover from Janet and the very good order the financial documentation was in, current and historic, made the transition easier.

The Executive Committee shall be holding a zoom meeting next month where discussion will take place on the revision of the 2005 Terms of Reference. A new draft has now been prepared and some of the proposed changes are overdue, such as the financial year end and accounts submission dates which will now reflect current policy. However, we don't want to tie ourselves up in red tape and it was agreed to keep the document to an A4 page if possible. Alan Stewart will present the revised version at Brigade Council on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022 with a Chairman's Report.

Sadly, there is now no discussion space at NHQ less the small reception area so zoom meetings are the way ahead. Maybe there is scope for presentations, talks and general 'get togethers' via this medium. The HG AGM via Zoom is here to stay.

## NHQ Archives

I would like to thank David Browning and Daniel Pitchford of St Peter's Whetstone Company and Neville Gray for transporting Robin Bolton's Archive Collection to NHQ. Plus Michael Bolton for carrying out his late brother's wishes in donating it. Neville has covered this very generous donation elsewhere, and the recording of it will keep some of us occupied for some time to come. We are hopeful that the Brigade files on his computer hard drive will come to us in due course. For our factsheets we may have to start again as I believe the software Robin was using was not compatible with newer PCs. We have been gifted remainder copies of Robin's books which we can sell on as 100% profit, thanks to Michael's generosity.

In June 2021 Robin took the initiative to produce a 'Strategic Archive Plan' which we need to revisit at some point. We now have a digital scanner donated to us by Michael which we can use to scan other key source documents such as Record Cards, Annual Reports, Brigade Lists & Minute Books. A couple of Archive working days may be looked at over the next year.

## Media

I am pleased that *The Brigader* has continued to be produced regularly this year. Having done the job for 19 years, it is not a light one to undertake. Special thanks to Editor Johnny Conn & Distribution Manager Graham Sumner for doing a first-class job. Whilst we are getting contributions to the magazine from a number of 'regulars' we would still like more. The quality of material is really interesting with lots of unpublished stories seeing the light of day for the first time. The CGB and its forebears were never really documented, certainly during its existence, until recently so it is

great the Group is using the journal for this purpose. The next issue has been slightly delayed to incorporate today's developments.

Our HG closed Facebook group, now open to everyone to join, has over 180 members, an increase from 143 at the last HG AGM in October 2021. Do spread the word as it could be an avenue for new recruits and material.

### **Remembrance**

Last year Robin Bolton reported: *"The Brigade did not hold an Annual Remembrance service at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire for the first time in years. There was, therefore no involvement for the HG."* Of course this referred to the 2020 event, but a Group wreath was laid in the Brigade Memorial Garden the week after filming the on-line service took place and was in place on Remembrance Sunday. Ethan Bevan from St Michael's Tintern Company laid the Group's poppy wreath in 2021 for which we extend our grateful thanks.

### **Rest in Peace**

The Historical Group was represented at Robin Bolton's funeral and thanksgiving service by myself, Alan Carter, Neville Gray and Johnny Conn. We also said farewell to Liz Butterfield, Deputy Governor, just a few days after last year's AGM and Jean Carter, former officer and mother of Deputy Governor Alan Carter, the same month. Both gave a lifetime of service to the organisation. Also Don Bickerton passed away in April, he was one of our original members way back in 1996.

**Terry Hissey**  
**Historical Group Chairman**

## **Overseas Liaison Officer's Report**

The last year has been a mixed bag but very promising at the same time too. In October last year I became Chairman of the Brigade's Historical Group, so my time is limited in this role.

It is so good to see UK companies embracing modern technology to aid communication. Through the efforts of Oliva Stewart of Longridge Company and Michael Cooper, CO of Trinity East-Port Rexton Company in Newfoundland, their members have started corresponding with each other. As the CLB Programmes Director Michael has been working on a Worldwide Badge that, indeed, could go global. I mentioned last year the scope for cross-pollination of ideas and I'm so pleased to see this has bore fruit. Oliva and Michael have been talking about the possibility of holding a zoom session with representatives from each country. Maybe each to have 20 mins giving a presentation or demonstration of some form explaining a bit about their company, country, culture. Followed by opportunities for questions and really get the members involved in the zoom. It's early days yet but I am hopeful of success. Michael's ongoing support is really valued and I have appended his report to mine as its better to read his own words.

Following the Brigade Council's decision to include overseas personnel in the annual Roll of Remembrance, last year saw 26 names put forward. This included two former Patrons of the Brigade in Newfoundland and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a respected worldwide icon of South Africa.

It is pleasing to note that our Welsh Company in Tintern under Alan Carter is seeking communications with the False Bay Regt in SA.

St Helena has been a bit quiet, but they have had a change of leadership. I hope to hear more from them this year.

A success story this year has been to work collaboratively with Joy Symonds of the Bermuda CGB to design a new cloth badge. These will be worn on their uniform blouses and will look very similar to the Bermuda Boys' Brigade badge. It may be of interest that the two organisations enjoy a close working relationship and the CGB Facebook coverage is of a very high standard, often shared to the UK Leaders page.

Last year I made the point that there was scope to fly a flag at NHQ for Wales and Ireland if suitable ones are supplied. Did anyone respond to this?

Here's to the next 12 months and all that it brings, my list of contacts is expanding and I hope this will continue.

**Terry Hissey**  
**Overseas Liaison Officer**

## Appendix to the 2023 Overseas Liaison Officer's Report

### CLB/CLCGB going Worldwide

Hello from Newfoundland, Canada!!! The history and cooperation between the CLB here in NL and the CLCGB in the UK has always been strong and now is growing and expanding into a World-wide experience for CLB/CLCGB! With the help of Terry Hissey as my liaison, the idea of a NL World-wide badge (similar to the UK one) is now in the pilot stages with full roll-out in Sept 2023!

**How did we get to this point?** First, due to Terry's CLCGB Company late start during Covid, he put me in contact with Olivia Stewart of the St. Paul's and St Lawrence's, Longridge Company. Olivia's CLCGB Company and my CLB Company started a pen-pal program (actually a package will be leaving NL again shortly!). We are now into the 2<sup>nd</sup> training year on our program!

**Where are we now?** We currently are in the process of expanding the world-wide pen-pal program with the CLB/CLCGB with the Organizations from South Africa and Kenya already committing to join us. Terry, Olivia and St. Paul's and St Lawrence's Company youth helped us do a video Jeopardy style Challenge for part of the CLB's "The Great Bull Hunt". Also, during the winter months, "The Great Bull Hunt" has gone virtual, where the mascots have travelled around the world looking to find the missing CLB Camp Mascot Poindexter. Our mascots at the stop in the UK, met Walter the Brigade Bear, toured the UK with Olivia, went on the Trail of the Caribou with Terry! Walter, now is popping up at random locations to join our mascots searching the world (last location was Machu Picchu in Peru!)

**Where are we heading?** We are currently looking to set up a Zoom call with the various CLB/CLCGB around the World. On a personal Company level, our diocese here is helping us to set up a possible trip to the UK to visit Terry, Olivia and their CLCGB Companies in a few years time!!!

I must say a special thank you to Terry Hissey who has been instrumental in getting this off the ground and for the creating the connections between all the World-wide CLB and CLCGB Organizations to exchange information. Thanks also has to go to Olivia Stewart, who like me is a big kid at heart , who along with her CLCGB Company is teaching my CLB youth and I more about the UK.

Respectfully submitted,

**Captain Michael Cooper**

**Commanding Officer, Trinity East-Port Rexton CLB Company # 3805**

**Programs Director, Eastern NL Diocese Regiment**

## **Lancashire Battalion Report**

Currently there are 4 companies within the Battalion, St Wilfred's, St Lawrence with St Paul, St Peter's & St Laurence's combined and Christ The Servant Digmoor.

Battalion CO is Bob Aldcroft, Adjutant Jayne Warburton Ball, Treasurer Sam McKenna and Training Officer Janet Redding.

Since returning after Covid companies have had varying success. St Peter's and St Laurence's Chorley merged into one company under the command of Chris Shuttler, they have a total of 18 members under 18 across all sections. They are offering a wide programme including band. Church parades alternate between the two Churches.

St Wilfred's have reopened. They are struggling since Covid. The small Martins/ Y Team membership did not return after Covid leaving them currently with just a combined JTC/ Seniors membership numbering just 15 in total. In terms of leaders, they have a constant four plus another four on the reserve list. They are planning to relaunch the younger section very soon on the back of the recent formation of an ex-members marching band.

Christ the Servant Digmoor have returned and currently have 21 members, they continue to offer a wide varied programme including painting a car which was participating in the Benidorm or Bust Rally.

St Lawrence with St Paul currently have 31 members across all sections, offering a varied programme. Initially they returned after covid twice weekly but now meet weekly.

On the whole the Lancashire Battalion is strong they have held a successful camp with 51 attending, and recently all companies participated in Remembrance Sunday Parades both locally and nationally with 14 members participating in the London Parade. There is also a good representation of members in the National Band.

**Janet Redding**  
**NW Brigade Council Rep**



## Leicester Regimental Report

Leicester regiment has seen the loss of 1 company over covid due to health of the officers concerned.

On a brighter note most company's due to the work they did over lockdown have come back stronger and I would like to officially thank them in this report for their hard work and dedication.

At this time we have 6 company's so technically we are not a regiment but what was relevant to the rules 20 years ago is probably not relevant today.

Hinckley  
Barwell  
Broome Leys  
Whetstone  
Braunston  
Hugglescote

We have lost company's mainly down to unreasonable vicars making demands on company officers. They seem to forget that if they are not at church every Sunday they are probably doing gods work in some other way.

I will be handing over the regiment soon January 2023 to John Johnson. It's important that I hand over now before I move from Leicestershire to North Yorkshire in around 4 years because I can help John and if any issues arise, I'm around.

Company's are varied on their sizes and staffing levels.

Whetstone is the largest company and with that they have the largest staff, Hinckley and Braunstone are the smallest and have the least staff which tells a story.

Leaders are a constant worry as they get older and having someone to take over is also a concern. Most company's have this, others not or it's not clear who will definitely take over and nothing is ever definite until an officer retires make no mistake. This is the most important thing in the regiment at this time is to secure the future of the company's as well as trying to expand. Social media is one way we are looking to use more with FB spotted groups.

We are also looking into doing first aid courses ourselves and Whetstone have secured a grant to help with the equipment and the regiment will be making up the difference. Paul Brown has now finished his inspector's course and passed in the top 10% in the country so he will back on this and contacting Tim Hayday who is also looking into this. We can then open the course up to everyone else in the country.

We are looking to restructure the regiment as at this point, we can't staff the regiment or battalions fully so therefore we need to pull our resources together.

To end the report I would like to say that all our company's offer a wide variety of activities and again thank all our officers and helpers for their work week in week out and service over many years

**Martyn Bedder**  
**Deputy Governor**  
**Ex Leicester Regimental CO**

## Manchester Regiment Update

Within the Manchester regiment we have twelve companies and all but one are meeting. While our membership numbers appear to be still somewhat below prepandemic level, with companies now getting back into routine and their confidence returning, we are now starting to see growth in some companies, particularly where there has been active engagement go out and invite new members to join. A recent event where Perry Gunn alongside Alison Harwood (O.I.C. for the company) resulted in approximately a dozen new young people attending the next brigade meetings. We continuously see that this strategy to present and actively invite people to join the Brigade works in boosting our membership base. We would like to thank Perry for the support he provides here and congratulate him on the positive results. I feel that council should consider providing funding for this nationwide.

Over the period Regiment has been involved in organising several events. In December we had an enjoyable Christmas carol service, which was well attended despite the inconvenience of having to wear facemasks. We also hosted the National Training day in February and we have several members from the Manchester attending this year's young leaders training course, which is encouraging. On the 13th March we held our AGM online. The intention was to have this in person but it went online after the venue was no longer available due to illness. We were planning to have a sports/games event in April however this was cancelled due to lack of interest, but we feel that this was due to certain factors such as school holidays and feel that there is an appetite for this event going forward.

The Regimental Parade was held on Sunday 3rd July 2022 at St Ann's Church in the center of Manchester. This year instead of having bands from the individual battalions and the battalions parading as individual units, because of the lower member in the companies and individual company bands being depleted after the lockdown a decision was made in consultation with the companies to form one Regimental band and merge the parade into one unit. While some barriers had to be overcome (a minority chose not to engage with this change) the leadership did an amazing job bringing together the bands and this appears to have had an overall positive effect in galvanizing enthusiasm and building relationships across the Regiment. The parade went very well with the rain staying off and we received some very positive feedback from members, guests, and the public with our host Canon Nigel Ashworth describing it as the best Regimental parade he has hosted (despite our diminished numbers).

Looking forward the Manchester activity week in Aberfoyle Scotland will be going ahead from July 30th to August 6th, and we will be aiming to have a Regimental sports/games event sometime around October or November.

With regards to the one company that is still not currently meeting there is a fear that this company won't re-open the longer this continues. The O.I.C. has said that the current incumbent is placing unworkable conditions on the company to reopen, while also starting up a separate youth group. While I would think this would normally be best addressed at a local [Battalion] level with support from the Regiment, this is complicated by the fact that this is the Battalion commander's company. This has therefore been escalated and recently discussed at Regiment with the O.I.C. to try and understand the situation and put some actions in place to try and move forward. It has been suggested the National Chaplain may be able to provide some support here by conversing with the incumbent at the associated church. At present we are waiting to get some further feedback from the O.I.C of the affected company as to the course of action to take here.

In May an in-person meeting was held with Oldham and Rochdale Battalion to discuss a proposal to merge these two battalions.

Across the regiment we also have some staffing issues within companies including at O.I.C level (due to situations/commitments emerging outside of their Brigade role). While these are currently being managed at Battalion level by a covering rota, it has highlighted the lack of qualifications and experience within some of our companies for the leaders to step up to run a company night in the absence of the O.I.C. Regiment will be aiming to support and address this by providing leadership training over the next period.

Sadly, Colonel Don Nuttall MBE (Retired Commanding Officer of Manchester Regiment CLCGB and O.I.C. of Holy Trinity Platt CLCGB) passed away last Saturday evening prior to Sunday's Regimental parade. Colonel Don was an inspiration and mentor to many in the CLCGB through his strong Christian faith and tireless dedication to CLCGB for over 75yrs. I would like to express my personal gratitude to Don, who's example and teaching inspired me to take up take up responsibility and leadership within the Brigade and in my Christian faith.

**Stephen Whitelegg**  
**Manchester Regiment CO**

## **ULSTER REGIMENT REPORT**

In September we in Northern Ireland were still suffering from the effects of the Covid Epidemic, with the number of positive cases and deaths on the increase. Our Regimental Covid Officer was keeping up to date with any information and instructions being given by the N.I. Health Minister, and giving guidance to any CLCGB Company should they have a positive test after meeting. A total of fourteen companies had resumed in September after completing an approved risk assessment. The remainder are having difficulty in getting leaders numbers up to the required ratio.

I, along with Melvyn Lockhart (Deputy Governor) had a meeting with the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland and Metropolitan, The Most Reverend John McDowell in Church House, Armagh. At this meeting Archbishop McDowell presented Melvyn and I with our respective Commissions.

Our Regimental Publicity Officer was busy producing videos on "Restarting Back" and displayed on our Facebook page, along with Articles in Diocesan Magazines and the Regimental Newsletter.

With no training able to take place during the Pandemic, it was good to see a new initiative being taken up by "The Big House" who provided a resource pack and organisation to help provide secondary school age children with coping strategies when their life has been "Shaken". The purchase of these packs was provided by a grant received by the Regiment.

In the beginning of 2022 we received word that we had been successful in our application for a grant from the Black Santa Appeal. (*The Black Santa is the Dean of St Annes Cathedral Belfast standing on the Cathedral steps every day on the weeks approaching Christmas and collecting donations from the public*). This grant allowed us to purchase more copies of the new Badge Scheme.

Due to the large numbers of Covid still in the open, the Church of Ireland had advised on another shutdown of organisations. At the end of January, and following advice from the Diocesan Bishops, a letter was drafted to Companies permitting them to resume their weekly meetings provided permission was given by the Select Vestries and Rector.

The Regimental Staff discussed "The Road Ahead" document which had been issued by NHQ. A response was collated from the answers we had been given from various members and forwarded onto NHQ. Our conclusion reads: *"our leaders have a real sense of purpose within the structures as they are. Members here are proud of their organisation and its history and feel that there is no necessity for a lot of changes. There are more important matters to deal with, such as providing a challenging programme for our members. This is where the CLCGB in NI will be focussed as we emerge from this awful pandemic."*

**Annual Accounts.** These have been submitted along with our report to the Northern Ireland Charity Commission.

**Duke of Edinburgh's Award.** No activity since last September but there is a possibility of six bronze candidates for 2022. Four members have completed their Gold Award.

**Publicity.** As in last year, our Publicity Officer produced a video for the Christmas Period and another to coincide with the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations. Both were loaded onto Facebook and YouTube with almost 1200 likes.

**Training Initiatives.** Following the resignation of the Regimental Training Officer it was decided that we set up a Training Team consisting of two Officers who were members of the training team when Melvyn was training officer, along with myself. I introduced a new Officer to the team to the position of Training Co-ordinator with the responsibility of sending out training dates, collecting completed requests and recording.

**Leaders Handbook.** A new Leaders Handbook has been prepared by our 2 i/c to work through for the next twelve months and noting any comments.

**Scripture Course.** The Regiment managed to purchase a Scripture for our members which was written by one of our Dioceses for their Sunday Schools.

**Archbishops Award.** Will be competed for by Companies during 2023 and presented to the winning Company by Archbishop John McDowell.

**Sport.** A programme of sporting events have been planned for 2023.

**130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2023** A working group has been set up to mark the 130<sup>th</sup> CLCGB NI Anniversary.

A letter of condolence was sent to Buckingham Palace following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

**John Williams**

**Commanding Officer (Ulster Regiment)**



## **Wales & South West Report**

COVID did not help with either maintaining or expanding the present numbers. The new company at Whitchurch in Bristol closed and Corsham company is only just continuing to operate due to the low number of children. The momentum to re-open companies at Griffithstown and Hay-on-Wye was lost. Although conversations are continuing.

Numbers at Stockwood and Tintern increased once the companies re-started although some leaders did not come back. Stockwood are meeting with different sections meeting on alternative weeks.

**Alan Carter**  
**Deputy Governor**

## **Liverpool & Chester Battalion Report to AGM**

Over this last year things slowly returned to somewhere close to normal.

The Battalion organised an evening of Crazy Golf for youngsters and parents.

The officers and leaders have met on a regular basis.

We enjoyed a great camp at our "home site" in Prestatyn, North Wales. We missed the heatwave and weather was mixed, but the youngsters enjoyed a week of fun, faith and friendship with the usual field games, Swimming, visit to Greenwood Forest Park, canoeing, rock climbing and visits to the beach. The theme for the week was "Fruit of the Spirit"

Members of the Battalion have also continued to run the Brigade campsite "The Albert Wilson Memorial Field". Prior to the start of the season we suffered some storm Arwen damage, however this resulted in the decision for a face lift of one of the toilet block, with more work planned for 22-23 season.

The field had a good season, welcoming some regular camps from Scottish BB companies and some new BB/GB companies and Heaton Norris CLCGB. It was great to have new campers.

Unfortunately we lost one company, St Andrews Noctorum closed during the summer. Youngster numbers had fallen and lack of clergy support in the Parish did not help !

We had three Young Leaders attending the YL programme and have really started to grow as leaders.

We have one previous young leader who will hopefully complete her Gold DofE.

I would like to thank all of our Leaders and Youngsters who continue to "Fight the Good Fight"

We look forward to recruiting new members in the following year.

**Richie Clarke**  
**CLCGB DofE leader**

## **CLCGB Archives, The Future.**

### **Background details.**

Way back in March last year, I was fortunate to visit our Archives at Wath with Rob Bolton, only just a few weeks before he passed away.

I had visited the Archives on quite a regular basis and kept in touch with Rob regarding activities to be tackled particularly logging-in 'recent donations' and storing in boxes for future cataloguing.

It was good to have a face to face discussions after the restrictions imposed due to Covid etc.

A Strategic Plan regarding our Archives had previously been formulated, agreed and circulated. Included in this were some of the recommendations provided after a visit from the National Archives personnel.

There was an awful lot of work to be done within our original Archives which consisted of two rooms in the attic at NHQ. The possibility of clearing the third storage room where, mostly old drums and musical instruments were stored was also discussed.

Funding had been applied for in the past through the CLCGB but was not successful.

Rob spoke to me about an initiative that had been discussed with his contacts within the Boys' Brigade regarding a possible joint archives initiative.

With Rob's untimely death and then being informed that his vast collection of CLCGB related memorabilia was to be gifted to the Historical Group for its administration and upkeep, it posed a whole new responsibility upon us!

We as a Historical Group were very grateful to NHQ to allocate the one and only storeroom left in the building to temporary house Rob's collection. Which was duly collected and transported from his house to NHQ in July 2022.

A start has been made to sort out and catalogue this extensive additional personal archive.

If you could see what we in the CLCGB inherited, you should see what he bequeathed to the Boys' Brigade!

After meeting many BB contacts at Rob's funeral and memorial service, which included their Archivist, Colin Swinton, we established good communication.

In October last year, I attended a BB Archive Day at Felden Lodge in Hemel Hempstead and was fortunate to have a personal tour of their archives.

During this event they had on display, part of Rob's BB collection but also his collection of memorabilia from other uniformed youth organisations, many no longer existing. These items had been entrusted to the BB for safe keeping.

### **So where does this leave us?**

We need to decide on the future for our own Archives, now greatly added to by Rob's personal collection.

The Historical Group will continue to store and catalogue the items but are the Archives just a repository for the Brigade's history?

Do we want to make them accessible to the general public and our membership?

Do we need to continue to provide Factsheets and historical articles, some of which are channelled through our Brigader publication.

The Boys' Brigade have instigated a virtual archive function but we need the resource to provide this, as well as people to set up and maintain it.

We have a HG Facebook presence plus we do get enquiries from time to time from the general public, mainly family historians for information about a family member.

We obviously have to be careful with what details are provided.

Data protection and the provision of historical personal information needs to be taken into consideration.

The subject of insurance of the Archive has been raised on several occasions and needs to be addressed.

### **Joint Archives Initiative.**

This was originally an idea discussed between the BB Archivist Colin Swinton and some members of their Archive Trust including Rob Bolton.

We should be aware that the BB have an ulterior motive on this subject.

Their 'English Archives' are housed at the Felden Lodge Centre in Hemel Hempstead. The buildings and extensive grounds are possibly being sold off.

The BB already have their Archive Trust and an unpaid Archivist but their funding is just £1000 per year.

The Archivist does not want to see the English Archive moved to their Scottish Centre in Edinburgh.

### **Proposal.**

Have an Archive Centre/Museum for uniformed youth organisations (not Scouting) based somewhere in the Midlands, easily accessible with parking, for storage of archive material, displays and exhibitions for the visiting public.

Would have to be funded by an independent trust fund?

Full/ part time archivist & staff would need to be considered.

Do we want to partake in this or concentrate on keeping our Archives at St. Martin's House?

We certainly need more active members within the Historical Group to undertake the tasks ahead.

**Nev Gray**

**Historical Group Acting Secretary**