



CLCGB

130 years of Fun, Faith & Friendship ...

Annual General Meeting Documents Pack



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Annual General Meeting

Venue: Zoom Video Conference (details to be circulated via email)

Date: Saturday 30 April 2022

Duration: 10:00-12:30

09:45 – 10:00 The zoom call will be open where Perry Gunn will support all those who are new to zoom to get their cameras and microphones sorted (good luck)

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 24th April 2021
Including any matters arising not covered in the agenda
5. Governor's Report
6. Financials
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Approval of Accounts 2020/21
 - Appointment of Auditors
7. Capitation Fees 2022/23
It is proposed that Capitation remains at £20.00 per member
8. Annual reports:
 - Training (GB and NI) – Presentation by John Corbishley – FTOG Chair and John Williams (NI)
 - Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (Richie Clarke)
 - National Band (Lionel Burdett)
 - Music Competition (Robbie O'Brien)
 - Brigade Memorial Garden (Maynard Scott)
 - Brigade Remembrance Service (Fr Chris Buckley)
 - Uniform Committee and New Award Scheme (Alan Carter)
 - Historical Group (Rob Bolton)
 - Overseas Liaison Officer (Terry Hissey)
9. 130th Anniversary – Company events
10. Any Other Business *(Please notify NHQ by 20 April 2022)*
 - Avoid clashes with other National events (Lindsay Maclure)
11. Date and venue of next AGM
12. Closing Prayer (Fr Chris Buckley)

AGM Minutes

Held electronically via Zoom on Saturday 24th April 2021

Attendees: Andrew Hayday (AH), Alan Carter (AC), Martyn Bedder (MB), Zoe Palmer (ZP), Perry Gunn (PG), Helen Aitree (HA), Father Chris Buckley (FCB), Richie Clarke (RC), Jason Greenwood (JG), Gareth Campbell (GC), Nathan Storm (NS), Victoria Jackson (VC), Melvyn Lockhart (ML), Thomas Ringland (TR), Joan Couzens (JCOU), Maynard Scott (MS), Terry Hissey (TH), Robbie O' Brien (RO), Sarah Bedder (SB), Lindsay Maclure (LM), Richard Gregg (RG), Derick Jackson (DJ), Colleen Perry (CP), John Corbishley (JCOR), Sue Corbishley (SC), Stephen Manning (STMAN), Suzanne Manning (SUZMAN), Lionel Burdett (LB), David Hartley (DH), Cath Sheldon (CS), Ann Sankey (AS), Brian Mills (BM), Christine Shuttler (CS), Robin Bolton (RB), Jayne Warburton-Ball (JWB), Trevor Dunkerley (TD), Stephen Whitelegg (SW), John Williams (JW), Revd. Craig Smith (RCS), Sarah-Jane Findley (SJF), Jeff Holder (JH), Johnny Conn (JCON).

1. Opening prayer

FCB opened the meeting with prayers

2. Chairman's welcome and opening remarks

AH welcomed everyone and thanked them for their timely attendance. The Zoom AGM meetings are working well and may continue be the way forward even when things return to normal as it enables Northern Ireland members to join in where they may not be able to otherwise.

3. Apologies for absence

Jim Elliott, Martin Ware, Jane Benson, Jan Pain, Andrew Coombes, Anthony Dix, Revd. John Collier, Trixie Owen, James Layfield-Carroll, Janet Redding.

4. To Approve the Minutes of the last AGM held on 27th June 2020 including any matters arising not covered in the agenda

Minutes approved with only one matter arising. TH reported that on page 18 there is a typo relating to the Historical group. It should say 40 members not years. This will be amended and the minutes will be re-circulated.

Proposer JCOR

Seconder DJ

5. Governors Report (copy attached)

AH noted that this report covers 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020. The year started well with the Music Competition and the Remembrance Service but then the year moved on with Covid-19 and lockdown hit us resulting in meetings, events and work coming to a standstill. During this period NHQ staff were furloughed to try and save funds for Brigade. AH thanked everyone for their huge efforts in continuing to interact with members during lockdown via Zoom meetings and stated we now face a very uphill battle once we are able to begin meeting in person again and need to encourage members to return.

6. Financials

• Treasurers Report (copy attached)

PG covered this report and pointed out that even though Covid-19 has hit the world very hard, Brigade as an organisation has not suffered financially. He also predicts that we should not suffer financially next year, this will be the financial year ending 31st August 2021. This is due to the rental income currently being received from Tenants occupying office/training centre space at NHQ.

RCS queried the investments we currently have as an organisation with Shell. He mentioned that the Church of England are diverting themselves away from companies that promote fossil fuels and asked if we could reconsider the companies we invest in.

Proposer GC Seconder MB

• Approval of accounts 2019/2020

The accounts were unanimously approved.

• Appointment of Auditors

North Accounting are our current auditors and have been for a number of years. They are extremely helpful and a great support to NHQ.

The decision to appoint North Accounting for this year was unanimously agreed.

7. Capitation Fees 2022

Last AGM it was agreed that capitation fees would be £20 per member. Due to recent events it was decided that capitation fees would be waived for this year. In January the capitation invoices were sent out at zero fee but were accompanied by a polite letter from NHQ requesting donations if

companies/Regiments felt able. We are pleased to confirm that we had several donations totalling approximately £11,000. This was made up of donations from a total of 52 Companies/Battalion's/Regiment's/Band from UK and Northern Ireland.

It is proposed that we leave capitation fees at £20 per member but Staff and Finance will review this throughout the year depending on any further lockdown's/ grants received and reviewing the financial stability of NHQ.

Proposal was unanimously approved.

8. Annual Reports

- Training (GB and NI)

JCOR ran through his report for GB (Please see copy attached)

Proposer JCOR Seconded AC

VJ ran through her report for NI (Please see copy attached).

VJ had an outside organisation run an online training session regarding mental health, VJ has the recording and will be sharing it with NHQ should anyone require the recording.

- Duke of Edinburgh's Award

RC ran through his report (Please see copy attached)

JCOR stated that he will be running a Gold expedition during the summer holidays as he has a member that needs to complete it. If anyone else falls within this category and would like to tag along they are more than welcome. A silver group will also be going out most likely in the Peak District, again anyone is welcome to join if they fall within this category.

Proposer RC Seconded MB

- National Band

LBUR ran through his report (Please see copy attached)

Proposer LBUR Seconded RO

- Music Competition

RO ran through his report (Please see copy attached)

MB thanked Jim Elliott for his fundraising efforts in which he has raised over £1,000 and enabled the 2019 competition to go ahead. Surplus funds from this meant the deposit could be put down for the 2020 competition which of course did not go ahead but those funds have been carried over to secure the date for this year and hopefully the 2021 competition will be held as expected on 25th September.

Proposer RO Seconded JCOR

- Brigade Memorial Garden

MS ran through his report (Please see copy attached)

MS thanked Jeff and Tom Holder from St Marys Hinckley company for their efforts in tidying up the benches at the Memorial Garden.

MS stated that the Arboretum requested that they be allowed to use one of Brigade's benches for a VIP for a VJ service. It later emerged that the Prime minister was seen using it on TV.

Proposer MS Seconded RB

- Brigade Remembrance Service

FCB produced the report (please see copy attached).

FCB thanked everyone for their input in getting a video put together due to the actual in-person service being cancelled due to Covid-19. The video is still available to view online via social media (Facebook).

TH requested that names for commemoration are sent to NHQ/TH in a timely manner to ensure they are included in the service.

JCON feels that we should encourage our younger members to be involved in the service. It was nice to see younger members involved in the video this year and hopefully this can continue.

Proposer FCB

Seconder RG

- **Uniform Committee**

AC ran through his report (please see copy attached)

We haven't met as a committee for over 12 months. The changes agreed as a committee are being acted on. We have had big problems sourcing a belt but we have finally found a supplier that will manufacture the buckles for a reasonable price.

The new dress uniform supplier is working well and despite demand being quite low we have received positive feedback apart from one criticism,

from Newfoundland where they feel the items should include a 'made in England' label.

A new supplier has been sourced for clip on ties and will be available through stores in the very near future.

HA has been loading the new items on to stores in anticipation of them going live once stock is received.

AC explained we have a supplier of the casual uniform local to NHQ and he urged everyone to order any branded items through NHQ rather than try to source items elsewhere to ensure we all look uniform. NHQ always source the best quality items and negotiate for the best prices.

- **Historical Group**

RB gave a verbal overview for the year and has requested that the Historical Group give a report at the AGM going forward. (No written report attached this time)

At present the Historical Group has 40 members. The current situation has prevented visits to the Archives at NHQ and the AGM meeting was held online Via Zoom, however, this allowed the best attendance in 10+ years.

Nev Gray has been producing booklets on the badges/medals which will be available to everyone shortly through the historical group.

RB has produced a biography on Walter Mallock Gee, Founder of the CLB, with the help of the Historical Group.

The group are still doing OK financially and have been able to continue financing the Brigader Magazine JCON is the editor of the magazine. This goes out to all Historical Group members and also to overseas companies.

Alan Stewart (County Durham) is the latest member of the Historical Group. He will replace George Horner as the Historical Group representative on Brigade Council.

The end of the year will see the 25th Anniversary of the Historical Group.

RB encouraged people to become members of the Historical Group. They can show interest by contacting RB/TH/JCON/AC or any other member. AH has accepted honorary membership as the Brigade's new Governor. FCB and RG also requested that they become members.

Proposer RB

Seconder AC

9. Covid-19 update and support for restarting Brigade activities

PG confirmed that NHQ are providing restart packs for each company which consist of face masks, Dettol wipes, hand sanitiser bottles (with company name on), a forehead thermometer, posters and leaflets. The

leaflets can be personalised and printed by NHQ providing the information required is sent to NHQ ASAP. PG gave 2 weeks for people to send details otherwise blank leaflets will be distributed.

Over the next few weeks NHQ will receive colour printed banners for each individual company which measure approx. 4ft x 2ft. The banners have the CLCGB logo, company name and a space for you to write on or stick a poster etc...these will be distributed to companies in due course.

PG is in the process of negotiating prices for items to replenish first aid kits. It is planned that companies will be able to order direct from the company NHQ choose who will then charge NHQ direct. Companies can use this to replace out of date items and stock up for restarting.

PG welcomed ideas/suggestions for inclusion ideas for the restart packs.

AH reminded everyone to complete the risk assessment form and return to NHQ to enable companies to restart when they are able to do so.

Please take time to read the updates on guidance for opening/what is allowed as the information is refreshed regularly so this will assist you for your company night.

10. Review and Implementation of badge schemes

AC confirmed that the new award scheme is nearly complete and will launch soon. He thanked CW and VJ for their tremendous efforts in pulling all of the information together.

AC mentioned that for the Senior section only we will offer either a cloth badge or certificate as not all Seniors will want to wear a cloth badge but may feel happier gaining a certificate. Other sections will offer cloth badges only.

Once finalised and printed all companies will receive a folder containing the new material along with a badge sample.

RG has requested that the uniform committee look at the reversal of the wearing of the Warrant Officer Sash. This will be an item on the agenda for the next meeting. Also BWO and RWO should still be wearing a sash as they are still warrant officers within the Brigade. He also requested looking in to standardisation of medals as at present they vary in shape and size.

LM queried the lack of new badge award scheme for Martins. AC confirmed that the Martins functions well and is the most concise scheme out of the 4 so will remain the same at present but it will be revised in the future to fall in line with the other schemes.

Proposer AC

Seconder JCON

11. Sharing best practice – company activities, events and camps

- **Units in Great Britain**

Groups in GB vary regarding interaction with members, some doing more than others. Most are doing online meetings with quizzes etc., some are arranging walks with map led groups. However, many don't feel comfortable opening up as yet.

South west are planning a camp for the last week in August. The venue is booked and want to go ahead and the leaders plan to have no visitors or outdoor trips to enable the camp to remain as a bubble.

North East camp is in the planning stage with the venue booked but at present government guidelines state no camps.

Manchester Regimental Camp is not being planned this year due to the current Covid-19 situation.

- **Units in Northern Ireland**

VJ confirmed they are still meeting online and are looking to do outdoor work soon. They collate activity packs and distribute out to the children

so they can all do the same thing during the online meet. It encourages members to join the meeting and this has worked very well particularly with Martins and Y Team sections.

Northern Ireland are not planning on arranging any camps at present.

12. CLB 130th/CGB 120th Anniversary

AC explained that all of the original plans have been changed due to the bank holiday in May 2022 being altered. The committee agreed to move the 130th celebrations to 22nd - 25th July 2022 with the plans remaining very close to how they were originally. We are hoping to have a Royal review on Sunday 24th July. Confirmation from the palace is not sent until 1 year before the event date so we await news on that matter. Recent correspondence has been positive so we are hopeful we will have a Royal member in attendance.

AC will be meeting with the committee to have site visits both at Blackwell and the Arboretum to work out how best to hold the celebrations.

NS has worked on a poster to help companies assist in fundraising for the event. The poster will be going out over the next few weeks. We are inviting companies to join 'Challenge 130' it's based on 130 (130mile hike, 130 cupcakes to sell etc...) we will split any funds raised 50/50 with the company.

FCB noted that 9th November sees the 100th anniversary of the giving of St Martins Banner to Westminster Abbey and he feels it should be marked in some way. He suggests possibly going to Evensong at the Abbey with them marking it in some way and us recording it. He has requested it be discussed so that it isn't forgotten. AH has asked that this be linked with the Historical Group to be investigated.

13. Any Other Business

Brigade national flag at Arboretum

MS has been in the process of pricing up a new printed flag for the Arboretum for 130th celebrations. Due to its complexity this task has been passed to NHQ. MS will forward any information/documents to NHQ

AH thanked MS for his hard work to date on this matter and will form a working committee to take on organising the production of a new flag.

Flags

PG thanked TH for his suggestion regularly fly international flags at NHQ in recognition of our companies across the world. Flags have been purchased and will be raised on specific dates throughout the year, mainly tying in with their national commemorations, i.e. national day.

Manchester Regiment

AH thanked JCOR for his dedication to the Manchester Regiment. He is passing Regimental Command to SW. JCOR will now take on the Chair of FTOG so will still be involved in Brigade Council. JCOR wished SW the best of luck for his new role.

Northern Ireland Bands

JH asked VJ how many bands they have in Northern Ireland. VJ confirmed none at present but they do have one interested in starting. ML confirmed Northern Ireland has at least 600 marching bands so if Brigade were to set up a marching band they face high competition most of which are connected to para military which of course we would keep our members away from. JH offered his help and would happily go over to Northern Ireland should his assistance be required.

14. Date and Venue of next AGM

The next meeting will be on 30th April 2022, details of which will be distributed nearer the time.

15. Closing Prayer

A silence was held to remember Darryl Hewitt, Ray Turnbull and also Prince Philip for his work with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

FCB led the closing prayer

AH thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions towards AGM.

Action points of the AGM Saturday 24th April 2021

JG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add training matrix to website/social media/current leaders Facebook page
NHQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look in to how we ensure policies have been read and understood Investigate for TH a suitable Gymnastic trainer and whether that activity is covered on our insurance
AH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up working group to update the Brigade Website (Richard Gregg would like to be involved) Set up a working group for the production of a new flag using MS presentation.
HA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get mental health training recording from Victoria Amend last year's AGM minutes to reflect the Historical group typo and recirculate.
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add the wearing of the Warrant Officer Sash to the agenda for the next uniform committee for discussion. Add standardisation of medals to the next uniform committee agenda. Work with Nathan to get to Challenge 130 poster distributed. Assist FCB with celebrations for 100 years of the giving of the St Martins banner to Westminster.
ZP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add Historical Group as an annual report for AGM going forward
FCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with the Historical Group and Westminster to arrange celebrating 100 years of the giving of the St Martins banner to Westminster.

Action points of the AGM Saturday 27th June 2020

AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute new badge scheme as soon as it is ready Badge work committee to consider the alignment of senior corps badge scheme to DoFE
S&F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To look at a budget for training. Actually we have grant monies in place for the FTOG to use, but perhaps offer this to companies for local training? Consider a revised date for Arboretum act of remembrance.
RB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be in touch with Belle Isle Company (Father Chris) re items of historical interest

Governor's Statement

This report covers the period from 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021, which has certainly been another very challenging year, for this organisation, the country and indeed the World! The journey back to normality after this very long pandemic is proving to be long and hard, but with support from each and every one, we will succeed.

My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who has lost someone dear over the past year, especially those in our Brigade family. A special note goes to Liz Butterfield, the previous Governor and Darryl Hewitt, Deputy Governor who both sadly passed away this year. Their time, effort and passion invested in this organisation is unmeasurable and we will always be in their debt.

Regional camps did not take place over the summer of 2021 due to the COVID lock down and restrictions. It is hoped that these will resume soon, but ongoing uncertainty makes annual planning cycles very hard to restart.

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.

In November the annual act of remembrance took place at the National Memorial Arboretum at Lichfield, Staffordshire. However, due to the pandemic this was a virtual event with a limited number of members taking part, but was recorded and shared with the Brigade family over the remembrance weekend. The virtual format was well received and enabled a far larger audience than would normally have taken part, with the worldwide Brigade family accessing the event too.

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, despite COVID restrictions, 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 staff at NHQ were put on furlough for part of the year in order that running costs could be reduced. Staff have worked flexibly in order that some sort of normal could be maintained. A big thank you goes to that small dedicated team who work hard to support the organisation.

Grant income to support COVID was harder to come by this year, but a grant was secured in order that we could provide all units with restart packs, which were well received. A reduction in running costs and increased grant income enabled us to cancel capitation this year, asking instead for donations. Most units were very generous and we received around a third of the budgeted capitation income. It is hoped this can be repeated in the new year.

Throughout 2020-21 the provision of youth work across the country has been subject to a series of COVID lockdowns and strict guidance on group sizes, venue restrictions, enhanced hygiene regimes to name but a few. A number of our halls and meeting venues have been locked down, some for the whole year. Despite this, units have met in many varied and different ways; from outdoor open air settings to virtual meeting platforms. Badge work sessions, fundraising, and a lot more have continued, all to the praise of local leaders who have strived to maintain some sort of normal. A massive thank you goes to every one of our leaders who have tried hard to engage and continue business as normal.

At the end of the year a new badge work scheme went live, with new materials and badges for all sections. It is hoped that this will grow and evolve over the years with everyone sharing ideas and resources. Let's all get involved in order to enhance the amazing work already taking part in our units across the country.

This year saw our Brigade friends in Northern Ireland register as a separate charity, "The CLCGB NI", under the Northern Ireland Charities Commission. This is in order to meet statutory requirements in the province and also to support them drawing down more local funding and enhance grant opportunities. Therefore, the financial activities of the Ulster Regiment have been removed from this set of accounts and has invariably resulted in a significant decrease in the consolidated cash reserves and annual turnover of the organisation. More information is given in a separate report and a note in the accounts.

Andrew Hayday
Governor & Chair of Trustees

Bank Balance: as at 31.08.2020 NHQ balance was **£62,576** plus **£31099** Ring-fenced monies.

As at 31st August 2021 NHQ balance is **£27,785** plus **£14,659** Ring-fenced monies.

Portfolio Valuation: the investments managed by Rathbones were valued at end of Aug were **£212,941**

Portfolio Valuation: the investments managed by Rathbones were valued at 31st August 20 were £154,536

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

Value as at	31 Aug 20	31 Oct 20	29 th Jan 21	31 May 21	Aug 21
Shell	934	830	1045	1041	1159
Nat Grid	626	709	636	687	706
M & S	40	39	54	62	66
Diageo	5158	5813	6097	7038	7232
Centrica	118	107	136	141	135
Total value	£6876	£7498	£7968	£8969	£9298

Grants, Donations & Legacies (received in previous year £2600), Since Sept 1st

We have received £1,267 in donations, £3558 from the closure of the Brigade Association, £3,108 from the loW Vectis camp £14,412 in Furlough income and £16,684 for the Covid Youth Grant, used to create start up packs for Brigade Companies. We will however very likely in the coming year have to pick up expenditure and debts from the loW Vectis Camp?

Income

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

Rent £61,695, Telephone income £3,609, Utilities from Lighthouse £9,551 Total £74,855

Each month we currently hope to receive the following.

NHQ Monthly Rental income: £5,100 plus est'£700 utilities plus £285 telephone charges

Lighthouse: **£2761** + contribution to Utility bills (£700)

Others: DFT **£100**, Care 4 U Care **£881 plus £170 phones**, Oliver Excavations **£670 plus £115 phones**.

Other NHQ Income Received in current year

Stores £3,584, DBS £652, Investments £183, Misc £0, Gift Aid £293 – this is NHQs net receipt after Brigade Companies receive 90%, Capitation as donations £12,350, Fundraising for 130th £200. We also received from Ulster £2,408 to contribute their part of the new DoE Electronic trackers, this is actually shown as Misc.

Grants Update

NHQ applied for a Covid 19 Youth Grant from HMRC we received £16,684 to contribute to lost Capitation revenue, and actually used for creating start up packs for Brigade Companies.

Capitation Fees

Outstanding Capitation from January 2020

Holy Trinity Wingate	£440 This Company is now closed, and we are awaiting funds to be returned to NHQ
St Michaels Tintern	£880 In-between bank accounts (Covid issues) In Hand

Brigade Membership (Paying & Non Paying)

We have slight changes but not realistic, as companies have been shut down

August 31st 2021	2302 (680 Leaders, 1622 Children)
August 31 st 2020	2319 (670 Leaders, 1649 Children)
April 30 th 2020	2327 (680 Leaders, 1647 Children)

January 31 st 2020	2315 (682 Leaders, 1633 Children)
October 31 st 2019	2381 (687 Leaders, 1694 Children)
August 31 st 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) & 2 full time, Perry Gunn and NI development worker (Victoria Jackson) *Victoria Jackson is funded by the Ulster Regiment. Victoria left in June 21

Staff are all now back to working their contracted hours.

External Auditors

We have used North Accounting for a number of years now and have always found them to be very good at their job of auditing and creating our accounts. They are available for advice and guidance throughout the year and helped us as we switched over to Sage Accounting from our manual process previously.

They work in a very personable manner and are always interested in how we are progressing as a charity organisation, I would be very happy to recommend that we continue to appoint North Accounting as our External Auditor and Accountant.

Perry Gunn

Training Report (GB)

Formation Training Officers Group (FTOG)

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.

With the whole year being under some degree of restrictions, face to face training has not been possible. FTOG has continued to meet on ZOOM and maintain their presence and plan for the future, whenever that future allowed for greater freedom.

During this period, on day was allocated to updating leaders on developing needs and also helping CO's prepare to re-open. Some leaders from un-attached Companies, joined the group and were introduced to the training presentations that are available. Others were introduced to the accounts software package and BMS. Leaders new to running Companies received an overview of Company Administration and other leaders were assisted in the preparation and implementation of Risk Assessments, specifically Covid Risk Assessments and the procedure needed to ensure safe opening.

In total 16 leaders attended the 5 sessions.

At the moment we have tentative plans to run our annual Skills Training Day in Oldham on 26 February 2022 when we hope to offer a range of courses throughout the day. This is open to every Brigade leader and we look to you all to tell us your needs so we can try to meet them. To date we have been asked for:

- Train the trainers training for Officers wishing to deliver training.
- Emergency First Aid
- Safeguarding - face to face level 2/3

Ongoing & Future training:

- We want to run another Young Leaders course and are looking for Young Leaders aged 16 to 25 who wish to join this course so we can assess venues.
- Basic Leaders Training Day. Another day will be planned if demand is there and we cannot accommodate it on the Skills Training Day

John Corbishley

Chair of Formation Training Officers Group

Training Report (NI)

The year 2020 was a year like no other.

During January, I was able to organize a number of First Aid Courses, one at a young leaders training course, and two in a Company in our Second Battalion.

February, seen me repeating a course in the Forth Battalion area with a further two courses in another Company within the Second Battalion.

In the beginning of March, I held a class on Expedition First Aid for those in training for the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

On 16th March, like the rest of the country, we went into a complete lockdown for 101 days. During that time, no activities or church services were able to take place. By the time this was lifted towards the end of June, all CLCGB companies would normally have broken up for the summer.

In September, no further "hands" on classes were possible, though I did manage to hold a Zoom session detailing changes which have been introduced regarding Resuscitation and Covid.

A further two week period of lockdown was implemented on 27th November, but was quickly extended on Christmas Day for a period of 108 days, which was lifted on 12th April 2021.

As a result of 8 months of inactivity due to the country being in complete shutdown, it has been impossible for any other type of training to take place.

John Williams
Ulster Regimental CO

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Being able to realistically deliver a DofE programme this year has again been a massive challenge, most of all when face-to-face is generally a must have. The award scheme has been temporarily changed in an attempt to make it possible for some activities to continue. Extensions to the award, beyond participants 25th birthday is also possible, with a suitable request.

We currently have 106 (down from 127 last year) participants signed up for the award, yet only 19 are active (ie logged in within the last few months).

Northern Ireland had 2 gold groups (4 in each) who successfully completed their practice and qualifying expeditions in the Mourne mountains. The expeditions were under the amended conditions for covid. These participants were ones who were supposed to complete their expeditions the previous year but couldn't due to covid and this was their last chance before heading to university.

The North West ran a combined Silver and Gold practice expedition during the summer. We are aware of two youngsters who need to complete their Gold Qualifier in 2022.

When restrictions are lifted we will hopefully return to some normality and helping and sharing resources will be key to helping all our individuals.

This is the only real award for the Seniors, it has National recognition and UCAS points.

The DofE Award is one of the few areas that Brigade has a significant advantage over the schools. Many schools charge a significant amount for their pupils to undertake the award and the changes will make it cheaper for schools to operate at Bronze. Whether that cost saving is passed down is to be seen. They also operate the Silver level but not many offer Gold expeditions. We can and should continue to offer DofE to our older members and in particular to our University students as a way of enticing them back to Brigade when they finish their higher education. We can offer them the chance, right up to them reaching the age of 25, something the schools cannot. It becomes a way of re-recruiting future leaders. Most of my inactive members are those who have gone to University.

We have a monthly telecon with the DofE. They are always willing to help, they have offered to attend annual camps next year to promote DofE. They will also try to put companies in touch with other organisations, where they are struggling to get numbers.

Richie Clarke
CLCGB DofE leader

National Band

Once again, the reporting period has been dominated by COVID restrictions. National band has not been able to meet for residential weekends at any point during this reporting period, however, we have maintained a busy programme of on-line activities.

It was hoped that we might be able to meet for our October 2020 weekend, but similarly to last year, with the increase in infection rates this aspiration was dismissed.

Membership of NB currently stands at:

- Band Members 56 (up 10 from last year).
- Staff 12 (equal to last year).

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

Bugle School - there are still 6 members of the Bugle School, but all of these have other positions within the band.

After discussion with NHQ, following the closure of St Andrew's, New Earswick, 4 members will continue as members of the Brigade on National Band's BMS.

The band continues to meet at Raywell Park, near Hull, which meets our needs both in the accommodation on offer and its location. Band weekend dates are confirmed up until the end of 2022 and any deposits that have already been paid for cancelled weekends, will be rolled over, as necessary.

The band remains financially stable and in the position where we can offset the cost of tours and extra band weekend activities.

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.

There have been no public performances in this reporting period.

Despite not being able to meet in person, National Band members and staff have remained active through our current members Facebook group and have conducted numerous competitions and activities, including:

- Competitions
- Zoom social evenings
- Quizzes
- Several musical video recordings.

As we were unable to perform our annual concert at St Mark's Church, Heyside, we presented a virtual on-line concert, on what would have been our concert weekend. This featured videos from our past 2 concerts and lockdown recordings. Special thanks to Robbie O'Brien and Richard Gregg, both of St Mark's, Heyside, for their skills, time and effort in producing this.

Two music theory days were held on 7 and 14 August, at Beverley and Whetstone, respectively. The presentations were well received and the day at Whetstone was particularly well attended, by both members of National Band and Whetstone company. It was hoped to hold another in the North-West too, but a suitable venue could not be found.

Despite the disappointment and frustration experienced during this reporting period, we were thrilled to be able to announce the following:

- 16 October 2020 - the passing out into the Coldstream Guards of Josh Drew, St Mary's Beverley.
- 19 October 2020 - the engagement of Tom Holder and Hannah Givens, both of St Mary's Hinckley.
- 31 December 2020 - the award of the British Empire Medal, in the New Years' Honours List to David Hartley, St Lawrence and St Paul, Longridge.

Obviously, future plans will be dictated by COVID restrictions, but we are hopeful that NB will be able to meet for our September weekend, in order that we can start to rebuild the band's musical performance to its pre-COVID standard, in readiness for our annual concert. If necessary, the date of the concert will be put back later in 2021.

The past reporting period has once again been greatly influenced by COVID restrictions, however, NB has continued to offer its members fun, faith and fellowship, in what has become an accepted, best alternative to meeting in person.

As the reporting period comes to a close, it seems as though there is light at the end of the tunnel and plans are well underway for a return to normality before the end of 2021.

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 patience and loyalty over what has been an unprecedented, extended period of uncertainty.

Lionel Burdett

Director of Music, CLCGB National Band



Music Competition

As we all know all too well, 2020 was a difficult year. Due to bands not being able to meet due to various lockdowns with the use of technology facilitating or day to day life, we decided to hold a virtual competition.

The virtual competition consisted of three parts; Solo and Single Household Videos, Archived Footage of previous competitions, and a Massed Band Video.

The Solo and Single Household Videos had 17 entries from around the UK on a variety of instruments. This showed some real talent within the Brigade from Y-Team to Leaders. All of the members who submitted a video got feedback from our normal judging panel.

All the bands who normally take part in the competition also submitted some archive footage of their favourite performances at the competition, some of the clips went back to 1987! These videos got lots of interest from both current and ex members.

The final part for the day was a massed band recording which included 31 members and putting together over 45 videos to produce a version of The Little Bugler. This also included an international guest from Newfoundland.

All of the above videos are still available on the CLCGB Music and Drill Competition page and on the YouTube channel if you missed them at the time!

The day also featured a virtual performance by the National Band of the CLCGB and the presentation of Deputy Governor Martyn Bedder with the Brigade Cross. Martyn has supported and organised the band competition for many years.

There is still plenty of options to expand the competition in coming years and we are always looking for more companies to join in! Just get in touch if this is something you are interested in (Musicdrillcomp@clcgb.org.uk).

Robbie O'Brien

Brigade Memorial Garden (BMG)

The Brigade Memorial Garden was dedicated on 22 June 2002 and therefore celebrates its twentieth anniversary this summer. We are sad to report that the Rt Revd. Paul Barber, former Assistant Bishop of Bath and Wells, who dedicated the Brigade Memorial Garden passed away early last year.

Situated next to the Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness at the National Memorial Arboretum, the Brigade Memorial Garden continues to be a quiet ambassador for the Brigade. It continues to be a favourite location for a variety of people to hold their TV interviews. Despite the Covid pandemic, visitor attendance at the Arboretum has been recorded in the region of 200,000 this past year and the Brigade Memorial Garden, due to its prime position, has enjoyed a high proportion of that foot-fall.

The grassed areas of the garden and both the small trees have suffered a little mainly due to last year's dry hot summer. The NMA Managing Director made a statement saying *"the whole Arboretum landscape has been suffering from lack of rain so we have probably lost some trees. We are having to use mains water which is not ideal."* As you are aware the Arboretum Grounds Maintenance Team volunteered to mow the grass indefinitely after it had been installed a couple of years ago but we suspect that - due to a change of management - this duty may not have been carried out as often as it should - until we reminded them.

The above discussion brought to light new ways of working with management regarding our memorial. Long gone are the days when we could do as we liked in our own garden with regard to maintenance. We have discovered that we are not even allowed to apply a weed killer because they require certification of the person who undertakes a task such as this, never mind the RA's, insurance, COSHH etc. Thankfully, the Arboretum is happy to do the maintenance for us, but when it suits them to do it. Their incentive for doing this is that they wish the BMG to be aesthetically compatible with the Arboretum's new Boyes Garden which was created next to the BMG. At the time, they hoped the BMG would become a "transitory garden" flowing through from the Boyes Garden.

We are now being asked to enter into an agreement to maintain the central plinth and the paving blocks. At the time of writing, we are not sure what that entails so I regret I must end this report with the words – watch this space.

Maynard Scott

Joint Custodian of the BMG with Rob Bolton

National Remembrance Video Service 2020

Towards the end of the Summer in 2020 it became apparent that the chance of holding our usual National Remembrance Service in person at the National Memorial Arboretum was becoming more and more unlikely. To this end I approached our Bishop Visitor and the Arboretum about the possibility of recording a video service.

The Staff and Finance Committee met in early September and agreed in principle to this if by the end of that month it was obvious the way things were going. As it was, by the beginning of September the Arboretum was operating on fairly restricted numbers.

We set up an informal group of people interested in putting together content for the video, having made contact with Brigade officers and helpers through the "Current Leaders" Facebook group, and we planned for a small group (now restricted by the "rule of six") to meet at the Arboretum on the Second Saturday in October to record the service.

In addition to the footage recorded at the Arboretum, the final product included a reading, prayers, and a poem – "In Flanders fields" read by members of the Brigade and recorded in their own homes or churches. Bishop Peter kindly supplied his video address recorded at his home in the Isle of Man.

The Video Service was made available on Facebook and the Brigade website at the usual time of 1430 on the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday. The Facebook view counter reached nearly 2000!

Thanks to all who took part, not least Nathan Storm who video recorded the service and spent many hours editing the footage ready for the final presentation online. The way that people pulled together and made it work demonstrated complete professionalism and dedication, and the final product is an excellent example of what the Brigade is capable of.

Chris Buckley
Staff Chaplain

Uniform Committee

The committee has not met since the last AGM.

Helen has sourced suppliers for the new belts (including buckles) and clip on ties. These are now available through NHQ stores.

The new Award Scheme has now been completed and the award badges designed and purchased. Brassards for the awards to be attached to are available from NHQ.

The new badge scheme includes a membership badge which doubles as the section shoulder flash. These have been redesigned and updated to include the letters CLCGB;



Dress Regulations have now been issued to all OIC's

Supply of new uniforms appear to be working out satisfactorily. UK demand is low due to the lack of recent activities and the annual music competition.

With regards to polo shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, jackets etc. These are all available through NHQ and are bought to order. It is important for the organisation as a whole that all uniform items whether formal or informal are purchased through NHQ.

We are a uniformed organisation and as such, by definition, all members should be equipped in a uniformed manner.

The more equipment that is purchased through NHQ the greater their purchasing power is which will help to control overall costs.

At present the organisation's uniform requirements are being met.

The New Award Scheme

The scheme has now been completed and has been issued to all companies. As we have previously stated the idea is that it is an open scheme that can be regularly updated and we would encourage members to send in ideas.

It has been a much larger project than I envisaged which, together with the COVID pandemic and NHQ staff being furloughed greatly delayed its launch.

We would not be where we are today without the hard work of a small team of NHQ staff and volunteers. Helen, pulling everything together and sourcing the badge manufacturers (and getting an incredible deal). Liaising with the printers and making up the folders and much, much more.

Chris Walker took on the design of the badges which, to do in a professional manner that the manufacturers can use, is extremely skilled and time consuming. His work enabling the completion of this project (and others) is greatly appreciated.

Trevor Dunkerley had the unenviable task of designing the lay out of the graphics again, a task that needed a level of expertise far beyond Helen or my capabilities. Again, his work on this is greatly appreciated.

My hope is that the scheme will be used to encourage growth through a varied, challenging and exciting program and can be shown to interested parties to demonstrate that we are a forward looking organisation. It is now up to all of our members to ensure that new ideas are fed to NHQ for the next revision.

Alan Carter
Deputy Governor

Historical Group (HG)

2021 is our 25th Year! A good reason to be thankful, but also reflective because the past year has, been another very unusual year. We have, again had a great 'excuse' for not getting involved or not visiting the archives, particularly during the first six or seven months. As I said last year, our HG is not easily distracted and much has again been achieved. 'Lockdown' and 'post lockdown' has been seen as an opportunity as well as a problem and in some ways 'Normal Service' has continued. If we are to move forward, perhaps we can start by marking our '25 years' service to the Brigade in some way.

2020 saw a change at the top with the new Governor, Andrew Hayday, accepting the position of Honorary member of the Group. Our long-time member, Deputy Governor Alan Carter has remained very busy on a number of fronts Brigade-wise. Alan has been working on awards, uniform, the future of the CLCGB and celebrating the 130th Anniversary. It is hoped that the HG will be able to support the Brigade as it moves forward following the pandemic.

As usual, I must give a big thanks to our office-bearers during the past year. I would particularly thank, Janet Mulholland, (Who has had to deal with the weird and unpredictable workings of HSBC, amongst other things), Doug Lake, Johnny Conn, and Graham Sumner. Thank you, Graham, for stepping-up to assist in a number of ways while Doug has been unwell.

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.

Headquarters staff have continued to answer and forward e-mails requesting, usually detailed, historical questions about their relatives and their time in the Brigade. For the most part we have been able to answer these and in some cases donations of artefacts has resulted. We continue to increase the amount of 'on-line' activity which we receive and respond to, with the workload shared between Doug, Nev, Johnny, Terry and myself. Enquiries from around the UK and the rest of the world continue to grow in number.

Whilst other similar groups have resorted to 'digital' online publication of their magazine, The 'Brigader' has been produced regularly again this year. Special thanks to Editor Johnny Conn & stand-in 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.

Our HG Facebook page, which was initially restricted to 'members only' has now been opened up to everyone (If they provide satisfactory credentials) and has given us another tool to improve our contacts and flow of information. It has been great to see so many excellent contributions and it has proven to be a first-class way to keep in touch, especially in recent somewhat trying times.

As I write, arrangements are in hand for a second 'Virtual' AGM. This will be on Saturday 09 October at 11:00. Hopefully a shortened version using 'Zoom' will be enough to fulfil our constitutional duty again, as it proved to be successful last year. Members should get invitations via e-mail and I thank The Boys' Brigade, West Midland District for making this available and avoiding the 'break' we had in 2020, half way through. It should be noted that with no surplus space at all at NHQ, due to renting out all rooms except the two offices, the AGM would this year have been held in the entrance hall – which is far from ideal.

It is pleasing to report that much research continues to be done, some being summarised in the pages of the 'Brigader'. It's good for members to keep up with 'where we are' on research. Particular thanks to Nev Gray, Johnny Conn, Terry Hissey and Graham Sumner who have again done much valuable research this year.

A project which I started more than twenty years ago, to record and publish a list and pictures (a book) on all the Brigade badges has been re-vitalised during the past two years. However, we are concentrating initially upon the medals, and there has been much progress. Nev. Gray has led this one by co-ordinating all the main collectors and subsequently producing a number of documents on medals.

As last year, there has been no publication of 'New' Factsheets this year, which is essentially down to me, but there are a number waiting in the pipeline. The factsheets we have are being extensively used with 'hits' into the thousands for some. The 'Looking-Back' history Sheet is also very popular. At one time we were very much ahead of the BB in terms of our online Brigade history resources, but I fear we may have been 'upstaged' by the BB with its 'Virtual Museum'... certainly worth a look.

One helpful outcome of 'lockdown' was that the W.M. Gee Biography project was finally completed. The first ever Biography of the Founder of the CLB, was published before Christmas 2020; A5 size, 164 pages, softback, published by

RB Publishing. Priced at £10. A number of HG members contributed to this, for which I am grateful. Perhaps a little disappointing has been the fact that currently more have been sold in Newfoundland than in the UK!

Although the scanning of 'Brigade' Magazines has been completed, I find that there are still a few missing pages which had in fact been removed from the copies I used to scan. It is now time to move on to scan other key documents such as Record Cards, Annual Reports, Brigade Lists & Minute Books.

There is still much to be 'sorted' in the Archive rooms, we continue to be victims of our own success. Donations have also continued to be made for which we are grateful.

The future of our archive is one that should be under constant scrutiny. Since we have now operated as a group for 25 years, I felt that it was time we reviewed where we were in relation to the archives and set a path and some targets going forward. In June 2021 I took the initiative to produce a 'Strategic Archive Plan' for the next few years, in consultation with Nev Gray. (Who spends a lot of time there). My feelings are that we have been a little complacent in respect of looking to the future. It is essential that we work together and we all 'sing from the same sheet'. The idea is to discuss this plan at the AGM and hopefully adopt a version of it as 'Policy' for the Group.

I would like to thank the Governor for his continued support of our Group. Thanks very much to the NHQ Staff, Perry, Zoe & Helen. I will repeat what I always say... we are not a 'front-line' activity, and we aim not to be in any way a distraction from achieving the object and purpose of the Brigade. I look forward to 2021/22, with confidence in the Group, its activities and direction, but we do need to increase our numbers. Members and friends are asked to support us wherever and however they can.

Rob Bolton
Historical Group Chairman

Overseas Liason Officer

I was duly appointed to the above post by the Brigade Council on 19th June 2021. Unlike other office holders within the Brigade I had no brief nor job description. But then neither did Walter Gee back in 1891 and look what he went on to achieve! By way of introduction, I was the UK Liaison Officer for the Newfoundland CLB Tour of Honour in July 2016. Part of which involved organising the Anglo-Canadian 'Swift & Bold' remembrance service in Hugglescote, Leicestershire. This responsibility built upon my relationship with the Newfoundlanders since 2000 when I hosted a Company group over Easter at Roxeth & Harrow. A couple of years earlier I had hosted a pair of South African CLGB Officers and had also hosted members from Barbados and St Helena in 2001. Those of you present in the NMA Chapel at the Brigade's 2015 Remembrance service may recall I presented a message of greetings from the Bermuda CGB who I was fortunate to visit that year. More recently, in 2018 I hosted Newfoundlander David Mercer and his wife and organised a meet and greet for the members at Roxeth. He still sends them local chocolate which they eagerly devour!

So my first task was to (re)introduce myself to the contacts I already had or gained via Facebook. My initial messages were promoting the proposed Royal Review in July. It must be said that there was more enthusiasm received from them than I saw in some parts of the UK. Of course that event was cancelled and there was insufficient time to pull together a standalone event for the overseas contingents. However, maybe an international camp could be a project for the future given more planning time, maybe in 2031?

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. They are even hoping to collectively facetime as well which is marvellous. Michael is also Programmes Director and working on a Worldwide Badge hence, thanks to Alan Carter, he is now in receipt of our new syllabuses. So the scope is certainly there for cross-pollination of ideas. The UK Historical Group have been working with the William G Tilley CLB Museum in Newfoundland since its creation in 2006, and the Brigade Archives before that. It is hoped a local branch may be formed there building on our joint heritage. A history of the Brigade in Barbados has already been written by Nev Gray of the Historical Group.

At its June meeting last year I was pleased that the Brigade Council endorsed my established principle that it is appropriate for the names of overseas personnel be included in the annual Roll of Remembrance. Both world wars saw a global response and sacrifice from the worldwide Brigade membership and, therefore, it is quite proper we should be remembering them. It must be said that the inclusion of names helps build international relationships.

The Brigade in Kenya is one that that I've had little communication with, but on the other hand it's great to welcome St Helena back into the fold. All strength to Philip Yon and his team on their achievement. An initiative that I instigated, before I took office, was the flying of international flags at National Headquarters. Thanks to the efforts of the staff there we now celebrate the following countries over these dates:

Commonwealth	Second Monday in March
Newfoundland	1 st April
South Africa	27 th April
St Helena	21 st May
Bermuda	Last Friday in May
Newfoundland & Canada	1 st July (Change at midday)
Barbados	30 th November
Kenya	12 th December

There is scope to fly the flag for Wales and Ireland if suitable ones are supplied, any offers? Feedback I receive from my overseas contacts is that they greatly appreciate the efforts we make. It must be said that all the overseas members I have met in my forty-year membership have been great ambassadors for their respective countries. So it goes that there has been more overseas interaction in the last twenty-two years than the last thirty years of the 20th Century. With the modern technology available to us now, communication is easier than ever. Several overseas formations have Facebook pages where you can find up to date news of what is happening. Here's to the next 12 months and all that it brings, building upon the first ten months of this new role.

Terry Hissey