

2025 ISSUE 4

BB NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN SINGAPORE



THE BOYS' BRIGADE

www.bb.org.sg

October - December Quarterly Highlights

The final quarter of 2025 closes the milestone anniversary of The Boys' Brigade (BB) in Singapore with both significant and meaningful community events and service! The year-long celebration of the 95th Anniversary of BB culminated with a Gala Dinner at Orchid Country Club on 10 October, with the J.M. Fraser Awards Presentation Ceremony happening concurrently.

Our various programmes continue to demonstrate aspects of the BB experience through bonding and cultural exploration activities. Juniors from 21J Singapore Company in Geylang Methodist School (Primary) enjoyed a post-camp outing of Laser Tag while Seniors from 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School travelled to Batam, Indonesia for an intercultural immersion experience.

Our three ITE Primer Companies also held their annual Unity Challenge to bond, connect and learn from one another. Our annual BB Share-a-Gift Project enters its 38th year of community service during the Christmas season.

The joint spirit of celebration, having fun and showing care to the community of the BB brings our 95th year to an exciting close!



21J Singapore Company at a Laser Tag outing



64th Singapore Company setting off to Batam for a Cultural Immersion trip

BB is Hiring!

The Boys' Brigade in Singapore is Hiring!

If you are passionate about youth work and serving the community, apply now! We have positions opened for:

- 1) Executive (Programmes)
- 2) Executive Assistant

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Visit bb.org.sg/career to learn more about available roles and how you can make a difference today. Email jobs@bb.org.sg to apply.



The opinions expressed in the following articles are the personal view of the writers and do not necessarily represent the policies of the Boys' Brigade.

95th Anniversary Dinner and J.M. Fraser Awards Presentation Ceremony



On 10 October, we gathered for the 95th Anniversary Dinner and J.M. Fraser Awards Presentation Ceremony 2025 — a momentous milestone marking nearly a century of shaping generations of Boys to be *Sure* and *Stedfast*.



We were honoured to have Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for Education and Minister-in-Charge of Social Services Integration, as our Guest-of-Honour to join us in celebrating this special occasion.

The annual J.M. Fraser Awards Presentation Ceremony was held alongside the dinner celebration as we recognise the dedication and achievements of our BB Companies and the unwavering service of our Officers, Teachers, Chaplains, and Principals.

We congratulate all our award recipients for their excellence, perseverance, and heart of service!

Best Juniors Programme Company

33J Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Primary)

Best Seniors Programme Company

5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School

Impact Award (Global Citizenship)

25th Singapore Company in Hillgrove Secondary School

Impact Award (Mentoring)

14th Singapore Company in Anglican High School

Impact Award (Social Responsibility)

33J Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Primary)



As we celebrate 95 incredible years of the BB, we look ahead with renewed purpose to continue serving, leading, and inspiring the next generation of Boys.

Serve to Live Well, Live to Serve



by LTA Daniel Lim, Vice-President (Strategic Partnerships)

As members and Officers of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore, we are called to grow not only in discipline and leadership, but also in character, faithfulness and service. A well-balanced life is not about excelling in just one area but about living faithfully in all areas—caring for others and being a good steward of our own well-being (both physical and mental). Community service is not a “good-to-have” activity; it is a vital means through which we learn to live out an others-focused life.

We do not serve to earn praise or clock hours, but because Christ first served us (Mark 10:45). When we approach service prayerfully, we learn humility in action and obedience in small things. BB activities, drills, and service projects like BB CARES and BB Share-a-Gift become meaningful when they flow from a grateful heart.

Community service plays a crucial role in shaping good character. When we serve the elderly, tutor young children, clean neighbourhood spaces, or assist the less privileged, we step out of our comfort zones. We learn patience, empathy, perseverance, and compassion—qualities that cannot be taught in a classroom alone.

Through service, Boys learn responsibility and teamwork, while Officers model servant leadership. In giving our time and energy, we discover that serving others also transforms us. A balanced life is not self-centred but others-focused.



A well-balanced life also involves caring for our physical, emotional and social health. Community service incorporates all of these as it keeps us active, connected with people beyond our usual circles, and grounded in real-life needs. It reminds us that our purpose is lived out in everyday life, not just during BB parades.

In Singapore's fast-paced and achievement-driven culture, service helps us slow down and notice others. It protects us from living a narrow, self-focused life and helps us develop a sense of purpose beyond ourselves.

As we begin January 2026, let us recommit ourselves as Boys and Officers of the Boys' Brigade to live well-balanced lives. Community service is not just something we do—it is part of who we are. When we serve together, we grow together.

May we be known as a Brigade that is well-balanced in life and ready to serve—*Sure and Stedfast*.

64th's Cultural Immersion Trip to Batam

by CPL Asher Phua, 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School

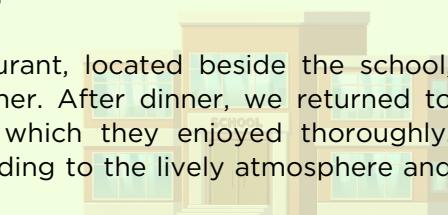
On 11 November, our Company set off on an overseas trip to Batam, Indonesia. We gathered at HarbourFront Centre at 9 a.m. and took a ferry across the strait. After arriving, we travelled to Ansvin School, where we were warmly welcomed by the students and teachers. They challenged us to a friendly basketball match, and although we were soundly defeated, they remained very sporting and even praised our effort.



After the game, we had a sharing session. I was surprised to learn that every student in Ansvin School is a Boys' Brigade member, as their small school size allowed only one CCA. Later, I conducted a first-aid workshop on how to tie an arm sling and a head bandage. By the end of the session, the students managed the techniques fairly well, and we wrapped up with a friendly competition.

In the evening, we headed to Love Seafood Restaurant, located beside the school, where we enjoyed a delicious seafood dinner together. After dinner, we returned to Ansvin School to put up a skit for the students, which they enjoyed thoroughly. Following the skit, we performed a bagpipe piece, adding to the lively atmosphere and ending the evening on a high note.

On the second day, we visited Kampung Sarawak to learn about rice planting. We were taught the steps involved and even entered the paddy fields to plant rice ourselves. Stepping into the mud under the scorching sun was a unique experience, and after only a few minutes, I was already sweating heavily. It made me appreciate the hard work behind something as simple as a bowl of rice.



After cleaning up, we travelled to El-Shaddai Orphanage, where our Company Pipeband performed for the children. We also presented another bagpipe performance specially for the orphans, which they watched with excitement. The Ansvin students followed with a performance of their own, and our tour guide even joined in with a short comedy act. At the end, we handed out gifts to the orphans. Seeing their grateful smiles made me realise how fortunate I am, as items that seemed inexpensive to us were treasured by them.

On the final day, we returned to Ansvin School for a tour. Their classrooms were smaller than ours, with about twenty students each, and most of their learning was self-directed, with teachers acting as supervisors. After the tour, we sang the BB Vesper together, shook hands with our new friends, and said our goodbyes.

This trip was a meaningful and unforgettable experience, giving me a deeper understanding of life in another country and helping me appreciate the blessings I often take for granted.



21J's Post-camp Laser Tag Outing

by 2LT Eng Boon Chong, 21J Singapore Company in Geylang Methodist School (Primary)

The 21J Singapore Company in Geylang Methodist School (Primary) enjoyed an exciting Laser Tag outing on 3 November, as part of their post-camp fellowship activity. The event aimed to foster teamwork, sportsmanship, and camaraderie through fun, strategy-based gameplay.

The session started with a safety and rules briefing at The Cage (Kallang). The Boys were then divided into mixed squads, strategising to complete various missions on the simulated battlefield. They engaged their reflexes and quick thinking while familiarising themselves with their 'guns' and body armour. The game promoted communications and mutual trust as they navigated obstacles, defended bases, and coordinated tactical plans.

Throughout the day, cheers and laughter echoed as the Boys showcased impressive teamwork and resilience. Even in defeat, they displayed empathy and good sportsmanship—values central to the Boys' Brigade ethos of discipline and service.

The outing ended with a reflection led by Officers, where the Boys shared lessons learnt about leadership, cooperation, and perseverance through play. It was a memorable experience that strengthened friendships and demonstrated that growth can happen through recreation.



Varsity Jacket Giveaway

We congratulate Quan Si Yuan from the 25th Singapore Company in Hillgrove Secondary School for winning our varsity jacket giveaway!

He shared his appreciation for having a Pipes & Drums Band in his Company and how it taught him to challenge himself to play an important role as Band Sergeant of the Company.

If you fancy the varsity jacket, get one now! They are on sale at the BB shop!



Basic Officer Training Course 02/25

16 Officers from 12 Companies attended Day 2 of the Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC) 02/25 at the Boys' Brigade Headquarters on 18 October.

Our Officers were introduced to the various Company Operations training tailored to the respective Programmes. LTA Max Lam and LTA Catherine Lam from 95J Singapore Company in West Grove Primary School led the Officers through the Juniors Programme while LTA Foo Jia Ming from the 11th Singapore Company in Christ Church Secondary School led the Seniors Programme.

Officers took part in the Elevate Adversity Quotient Workshop conducted by Singapore Adventure and Leadership Training (SALT) for the afternoon portion of the training. The session offered practical tools to help Officers build resilience in the Boys they are to mentor in their Companies.



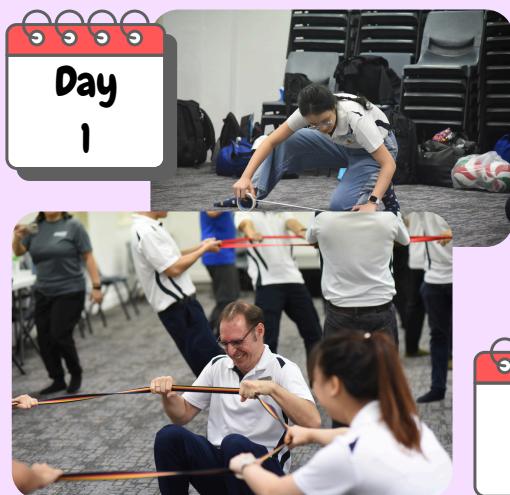
LTA Foo Jia Ming sharing about the Seniors Programme to the Officers



Officers attentively listening to the Games That Teach sharing session

18 Officers from 13 Companies gathered to attend the Adventure Weekend for BOTC 02/25 held at the BB/GB Sembawang Campsite from 1 to 2 November.

Day 1 of the course covered a Games That Teach sharing session to guide the Officers on facilitation and practical learning tools that was ended off with a hike. Day 2 was filled with physical activities where the Officers took on adventure elements such as the Challenge Ropes Course and Kayaking!



Community Service: An Act of Love

by Rev Benjamin Fong, Associate Brigade Chaplain

Having been serving our community for 95 years, we instinctively know that participating in community service is not only good for the community but also good for our development. Sociology can explain how serving others can produce a positive effect on our emotional and mental well-being (not to mention physical, as participants of our annual Share-a-Gift can attest!) To understand why this is so requires a deeper dive into the nature of life in this world, a life marked by redemptive grace.

As I write this, Christians are celebrating the season of Christmas, and you may have heard the beautiful words of the carol Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, declaring “God and sinners reconciled!” Christians believe that Jesus is God coming to heal humanity of our sins so that we can be friends and children of God once more. This reconciliation is not a formality but works out in real world consequences. Jesus himself declares this in Luke 4:18-19. Because God has reconciled us to him, there is good news for the poor, liberty for the captives and the oppressed, and sight for the blind, making this the time of God’s favour!

This world no longer needs to remain in brokenness, marred by the consequences of sin. Every act of service we do in the community demonstrates this truth in practical action, by feeding the hungry, comforting the despairing, and standing in solidarity with those forgotten by society. Each act of service proclaims to the world that God is not angry with this world but is working to save us.

The trouble is, that we ourselves are sinful, like the rest of the world. Being human, our limitations and flaws will trip us up. Serving as a team would bring an entirely different dynamic, because we learn to spur each other towards good. We learn to bear each other’s burdens and weaknesses, so that we become stronger together. We encourage each other in the face of how the needs appear to outweigh our efforts, growing in resilience as we trust that God will accomplish his purposes. We draw on each other’s unique gifts and experiences, so that God can open our eyes to new ways of doing things and overcoming obstacles.

In other words, by serving together in the community, we not only see sin overcome in the world, but we also see sin overcome in ourselves, so that we become closer to who God has made us to be.

May we experience this double gift of grace as we persevere in serving the community in the year ahead!



Our flagship community service project,
BB Share-a-Gift



FCBC Combined Camp

by LTA Peter Tran, 4th Singapore Company in Whitley Secondary School and 2LT Andy Chong, 37th Singapore Company in Hougang Secondary School

The Faith Community Baptist Church-sponsored Boys' Brigade (BB) and Girls' Brigade (GB) Companies came together to organise their second Combined BBGB Camp, held at Hougang Secondary School from 24 to 26 October.

The participating Companies included the 37th Singapore Company and 86th Girls' Brigade Company in Hougang Secondary School, the 73rd Singapore Company and 46th Girls' Brigade Company in Bukit View Secondary School, the 85th Singapore Company in Jurong West Secondary School, the 86th Singapore Company in Jurongville Secondary School and the 99th Singapore Company in Canberra Secondary School. Altogether, nearly 200 Boys, Girls, Officers, Primers, Sparks, and Teachers took part in this meaningful event.

The camp was designed to unite BB and GB members from different schools in a shared journey of friendship, growth, and purpose. Beyond building camaraderie, the camp challenged Boys and Girls to reflect deeply on the impact they have today, not only among their peers, but also on the generations of juniors who will follow in their footsteps. Its core message was clear: to inspire every participant to build and leave behind a lasting legacy.

Campers were divided into mixed inter-school groups, giving them the opportunity to form new friendships and learn from peers outside their usual circles. Each group was guided by an Officer, Primer, or Spark, who facilitated teamwork and mentorship throughout the camp. Participants engaged in a range of exciting activities, from solving puzzles and completing team challenges to testing their precision in archery as they aimed for the bull's-eye.

Leadership development sessions were also conducted, guiding the Boys and Girls to plan and lead activities effectively, then put their learning into action by organising a lively game carnival. Each group designed and managed its own game booth, bringing creativity, teamwork, and leadership to life. The carnival buzzed with energy and laughter as everyone joined in the fun, a true celebration of collaboration and shared achievement.



Officers' Enrolment Ceremony 02/25



13 Officers from 11 Companies successfully enrolled into the Brigade at the Officers' Enrolment Ceremony held on 17 November at Boys' Brigade Headquarters.



Brigade President LTA Patrick Koh opened the ceremony with words of encouragement to the newly inducted Officers. These Officers had to attend a 2-day training course and an adventure weekend (see Page 6).

Brigade Chaplain Rev Daniel Tong then exhorted the Officers and the dedication and enrolment of the Officers followed. May the Officers be role models to the Boys.

In appreciation of our long-serving Officers, 7 Officers were presented with their 10-year A.M. Cherian Long Service Award while 3 Officers attained their 15-year A.M. Cherian Long Service Award.

Annual General Meeting 2025

120 Officers from 94 Companies attended The Boys' Brigade's 92nd Annual General Meeting held at the BB Headquarters on 14 November.

The meeting began with the March-In of the Colours Party by the 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School. Brigade Chaplain Rev Daniel Tong shared an encouraging message and the Brigade Council took stock of the activities organised throughout the past year including the myriad of festivities to celebrate 95 years of the BB.

Eleven Officers received the A.M. Cherian Long Service Award (20 and 25 years) and two Brigade Staff attained their 3-year Long Service Award.

The dedication of our Brigade Executive, BB Alumni Management Committee and the Brigade Office Staff closed the evening as the current and newly appointed members pledge their commitment to the work and service of the Brigade.





ITE Combined Unity Challenge

by CLT Tan Yan Ruey, ITECW BB Primers Company in ITE College West

This year is special as we host another Unity Challenge, bringing all three ITE colleges (College Central, College East, College West) together. Everyone plays a key role in making new friends, learning and bonding. Our theme, "Unity in Diversity," highlights the energy, spirit, and connections that we bring. Unity is being close and supportive like a family, while diversity reflects the many backgrounds and stories we bring together.

The participants were energetic and eager to bond and work together. To volunteer as a member of the Planning Committee was truly a meaningful experience as we saw months of planning and coordination being brought alive through fun, learning, and laughter. We also created lasting memories and gained valuable lessons in collaboration, commitment, and perseverance.



In my logistics role, preparing materials, coordinating with Companies, and organising activities was tiring but rewarding. Planning was never easy, especially while balancing my studies. However, my team gave their best to face the challenges together, which helped us forge strong friendships and create unforgettable memories. All our efforts made Unity Challenge a true success with a lasting impact.

Designing the T-shirts was a highlight, with everyone contributing ideas and feedback. Our committee stayed prepared, found quick solutions when we faced challenges, kept the momentum, and persevered throughout the journey.

Unity Challenge gave us countless unforgettable moments, bringing everyone together as one big group of friends. I cannot wait to see what the next chapter holds!



Annual Officers' Retreat 2025

126 Officers from 50 Companies came together for a refreshing time of learning and bonding at the Annual Officers' Retreat held from 4 to 5 October at DoubleTree by Hilton Johor Bahru in Malaysia.

Mr Bryan Tan, CEO of ABRY Pte Ltd, gave a keynote speech where he shared valuable insights on leadership, personal growth, and navigating challenges. This has helped our Officers to consider how they can make a lasting impact in their Companies and communities.

Our Officers then took part in a variety of breakout sessions such as AI for Better BB Planning Activities and Sign Languages classes, Leather Wallet Making and Resin Art Tray Making.

The retreat was a time of personal growth, fellowship, and renewal for our Officers as they learn to look beyond skills and knowledge and mentor their Companies with wisdom, compassion, and unity.



Officers making a leather wallet



Officers learning simple sign language gestures

MOE UG Social Media Competition



Congratulations to the 49th Singapore Company in St Hilda's Secondary School for being the BB winning entry at the inaugural MOE UG Social Media Competition Award Presentation Ceremony on 12 November!

The winning entry was an 80-second video describing the variety of activities their Company organised during parades, ranging from drill practices and physical sports to camps and self-development activities. The video aptly captures the spirit of the BB experience, where discipline meets fun and bond-building.

We are thankful for our Senior Boys from the 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School who provided a rousing bagpipe performance for the awards presentation ceremony.

BB Share-a-Gift Opening Ceremony 2025



The Boys' Brigade Share-a-Gift 2025 campaign officially launched on 28 November, encouraging the public to donate food items or contribute online to fulfill the wishes of beneficiaries. Now in its 38th year, the campaign aims to support over 40,000 individuals in need.

This flagship community service initiative engages more than 3,500 Boys and volunteers annually to pack and deliver essential food items and hampers to beneficiaries across Singapore during the festive season.

The opening ceremony was officiated by Mr David Neo, Acting Minister for Community, Culture and Youth & Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Education. The Boys' Brigade continues to remain committed in nurturing compassion in our Boys, instilling a sense of care and service to the community.

5th's Service Learning Trip to Phang Nga

by OCT Luciano Chung, 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School

Together with 13 Girls from the 28th Girls' Brigade Company, 5 Officers, and 3 Teachers, 17 Boys from the 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School went for an Overseas Service-Learning Trip from 29 October to 2 November to Phang Nga, Thailand. The trip aimed to cultivate global awareness and cross-cultural understanding and strengthen character, leadership, and values among the Boys and Girls, with the theme "Called to Serve, Chosen to Love".

During the four days spent at New Light Community Development Centre, both the Boys and Girls had a great time with the Burmese and Thai kids. They shared their knowledge of English, and engaged them through sessions of music, dance, and art & crafts. Our Boys gained simple sewing and cooking skills from the local people. They also spent time visiting villagers' homes, buying groceries for them.



Boys and Girls visiting a tsunami museum

Visiting the villagers also made me realise that we should not take our parents for granted as they work very hard to support us.

LCP Isaiah Yan
5th Singapore Company in
Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School



Boys and Girls teaching English to the local burmese and thai kids

It was no doubt a memorable trip for both the Boys and Officers as they learnt to be loving leaders who are always ready to serve with a heart of gratitude and empathy.

Cluster WI's Primary School Visit

by LTA Elijah Ong, 86th Singapore Company in Jurongville Secondary School



A casual chat during the BB Cares Carnival about the lack of BB continuation after Junior Boys graduate from Primary Schools grew into an idea for them to have a glimpse into the Senior Programme of BB.

On 11 October, we organized a mini Open House, gathering Seniors from Cluster West 1's 9th (Westwood Secondary School), 74th (Kent Ridge Secondary School), and 86th (Jurongville Secondary School) Singapore Companies at West Grove Primary School. The 86th Singapore Company led a Nerf Showdown briefing while the 9th and 74th Singapore Companies shared their BB experiences. The high-energy Nerf Showdown was a great reminder that BB is not just discipline and drills but also about fun, teamwork, and building bonds across schools.

After the game, the Secondary 3 NCOs gave genuine testimonials about balancing BB with studies, the pride of their awards, and the lasting friendships they have made, showing how BB helps mold Boys into young men.

The combined Open House was vital for continuing the BB legacy. Seeing their Seniors continuing their BB journey would encourage the hearts of the younger generation to see a future in the movement, where they would eventually continue their BB journey as a Senior Boy themselves.

Pipes and Drums Learning Fiesta

76 Boys from 10 Seniors Programme Companies gathered at the Boys' Brigade Headquarters for an intensive three-day Pipes & Drums Learning Fiesta from 17 to 19 November.

The Boys picked up new tunes, sharpened their technique, and trained in instrument-specific groups before uniting as a mass band. Our Boys enjoyed a meaningful time of learning, discipline, and camaraderie as Boys from different Company Pipe Bands grew together as fellow musicians.

Mr David Telford and Mr Callum MacSween joined the fiesta as instructors for the fiesta. Their decades of experience, high standards, and encouragement undoubtedly inspired the Boys to elevate their musicianship.



19th Pipes & Drums Festival

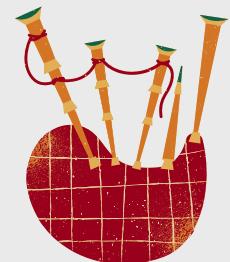
The 19th Pipes & Drums Festival was held at Christ Church Secondary School from 21 to 22 November.

A total of 65 talented participants from 13 Senior Companies and 2 Girls' Brigade Companies came together to fill the air with traditional bagpipe music, showcasing the best of the Boys' Brigade's Scottish heritage.



Mr David Telford from Australia and Mr Callum MacSween from New Zealand were invited to adjudicate for the bagpipes and drums categories of the competition respectively.

Brigade President Patrick Koh presented the prizes to the outstanding performers who stood out in the two categories. The 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School had done their members proud for winning both the BB and Open Band Categories!



We congratulate the runners-up of the festival from the 27th Singapore Company in Presbyterian High School and 11th Singapore Company in Christ Church Secondary School and the skilled soloist medallists for the hard work.





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