

BB NEWS

MCI (P) 031/08/2019

4TH ISSUE
DECEMBER 2019

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE
IN SINGAPORE



**THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN SINGAPORE CELEBRATES OUR
90TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2020!**

**ALSO
AVAILABLE**
ON OUR BB WEBSITE AT
www.bb.org.sg

THE BOYS' BRIGADE HQ
VEHICULAR ENTRANCE VIA GANGES AVENUE

GENERAL INFORMATION



HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS

Honorary President

LG (Ret) Winston Choo DUBC, PJG, BBM, PPA, PBM.

Honorary Vice-Presidents (Clerical)

Bishop Rennis Ponniah (Anglican)
Bishop Terry Kee (Lutheran)
Bishop Dr Chong Chin Chung (Methodist)
Rev Dr Christopher Chia (Presbyterian)

Honorary Vice-Presidents (Lay)

Dr Lee Soo Ann, PBM
Mr Lee Liat Cheng, BBM
Mr Sam Tan Boon Yeow, PBM
Mr Peter Tay Yew Beng
Mr Peter Foo Chien Ho, PBM
Mr Choo Gim Kang
Mr Tan Kok Heng, PPA, PP, PBS
Dr Ho Yew Kee

OFFICE BEARERS

Brigade President

Mr Poh Leong Berg

Vice-Presidents

Mr Timothy Tan Jiat Meng
Mr Patrick Koh Ley Boon
Mr Wilson Tan
Mr Vincent Elliot Tan

Brigade Secretary

Mr Jason Lim Wei Hiong

Brigade Treasurer

Dr Yap Chee Meng

Brigade Chaplain

Rev Daniel Tong Wee Hwa

Associate Brigade Chaplain

Rev Malcolm Tan Thian Hock

Standing Committees Chairman

Mr Liu Lijia (Juniors Programme)
Mr Daren Hoon Wen Jie (Seniors Programme)
Mr Kenneth Cheng Zemin (Primers Programme)
Mr Daryl Tan Jinn Wen (Training)
Mr Tony Tan Tuan Tiong (Activities)
Mr Peter Leong (Facilities)

Cluster Representatives

Mr Bay Qin Yao (North 1)
Mr Daniel Lim Wei Chong (North 2)
Mr Daniel Tay Ban Hong (North 3)
Mr Daryl Chen Wei Ming (South 1)
Mr Gerard Su Jin Song (South 2)
Mr Low Jian Xin (East 1)
Ms Diana Thio Chui Hwa (East 2)
Mr Gabriel Leng Chengda (West 1)
Mr David Oh Tai Wai (West 2)
Mr Edwin Lim Shun Wei (West 3)

Executive Director

Mr Desmond Koh



THE BOYS' BRIGADE

The Boys' Brigade is an international movement with Companies in more than 60 territories. Founded by Sir William Alexander Smith in 1883, it is the pioneer of uniformed youth organisations. In Singapore, the movement is recognised by the Ministry of Education as an approved CCA and it is registered as a Charity under the Charities ACT 1982 (Registration No. 0067)

Object

The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys; and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and all that tends toward a true Christian Manliness.

Our Vision

To be the Youth Organisation of Choice

Our Mission

To nurture youth, based on Christian values, to serve and lead.

Our Beliefs

We are First for Youth

We provide fun, meaningful and challenging activities.

We are committed to serve the community.

We are served and led by Volunteers.

We are enterprising, in tune with our changing world.

We actively engage our stakeholders.

We are a Christian organisation for all Youth.

BB NEWS

The BB News is the official publication of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore. The opinions expressed in the articles are the personal view of the writers and do not necessarily represent the policies of The Boys' Brigade.

Design and Layout

Lemographic

Colour Management and Printing

Refine Printing Pte Ltd

Please address all correspondence and article contributions to:

The Editor, BB News
The Boys' Brigade in Singapore
BB Campus 105 Ganges Avenue
Singapore 169695

Tel: 6737 0377 Fax: 6737 1676
Email: bbhq@bb.org.sg
Website: <http://www.bb.org.sg>

CONTENTS



BB through the generations, for all generations!
Enriching young lives since 1930.

90TH ANNIVERSARY LOGO DESIGN INSPIRATION:

The salute is the expression of honour, respect and commendation. The uniform, along with the forward looking nature of the Boy's posture, is a signifier that the BB seeks to continue to develop leaders in society for many more generations. The textured lanyards mark the numeral '90'. The circle of stars represent the NCO Star or Leadership badge for holistic development in character and leadership.

04

Hope is the Power to Believe

06

A Future and a Hope

07

Developing Leaders

08

A Day Out With Our Buddies

10

Company Snapshots & Social Media Features

12

The Season of Sharing

14

Officers' Weekend of Adventure!

16

Focusing on Family

18

Let's Code | Micro:bit

19

Bearing Fruit

HOPE IS THE POWER TO BELIEVE

POH LEONG BERG (LTA), BRIGADE PRESIDENT

The Boys' Brigade (BB) in Singapore will be celebrating her 90th anniversary next year, 2020, and the theme is "BB through the Generations, for all Generations". People ask what's my hope for the BB as we celebrate our anniversary and for the many more years to come.



The Boys' Brigade motto is "Sure and Stedfast", based on the book of Hebrews - "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, ..."

But what is hope? Webster defines hope as "desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfilment" and Wikipedia defines hope as "an optimistic state of mind that is based on an expectation of positive outcomes with respect to events and circumstances in one's life or world at large". However, hope in itself is useless unless it is hope in something or someone. Hope must have an

object. The object of our hope must be someone who is more powerful and trustworthy than any problems and challenges we will ever face, and only then can we have true hope. Hope as an anchor will see us through the many storms we will face in life. Hope is an antidote for anxiety and fear.

What does hope do for mankind? John Maxwell in "Think on These Things" wrote that:

"Hope shines brightest when the hour is darkest. Hope motivates when discouragement comes. Hope energizes when the body is tired. Hope sweetens while bitterness bites. Hope sings when all melodies are gone.

Hope believes when evidence is eliminated. Hope listens for answers when no one is talking. Hope climbs over obstacles when no one is helping. Hope endures hardship when no one is caring. Hope smiles confidently when no one is laughing.

Hope reaches for answers when no one is asking. Hope presses toward victory when no one is encouraging. Hope dares to give when no one is sharing. Hope brings the victory when no one is winning.

Hope. It's a simple word but a huge thing. Hope is everything that every human needs. For me, Hope is the power to believe that all things are possible. With hope there is that window of opportunity or new light for assurance that the possibilities are boundless and so long as one believes, anything can happen!"

The BB can have hope today, tomorrow, and always, the unshakable hope, because our hope is based on an eternal and all-powerful God; and because of this, we can have absolute assurance of a future and that no matter what the future holds, we are in good hands, and we will have all the resources we will ever need for any and every circumstance. Thus, we can be hopeful. It is this kind of enduring and expectant true hope that will allow the BB to overcome all odds and challenges and remain sure and steadfast to press on to advance the Object of the BB, towards the future destined for us.

I started my message by saying that people ask me what my hope is for BB Singapore. My hopes for BB Singapore are:



01 The BB will remain sure and steadfast to advance the BB Object to all generations.



02 The BB will always be relevant to the youth of that generation yet at the same time nurturing them, based on the enduring Christian values, to lead and serve.



03 The BB will be the youth organization of choice through the generations.

"BB through the Generations, for all Generations".
We have a reason to Hope.



We look forward to celebrating our 90th Anniversary in 2020 and our centennial in 2030.



BB Contingent at the Purple Parade on 2 November 2019



A FUTURE AND A HOPE

REV DANIEL TONG (LTA), BRIGADE CHAPLAIN

What hope have you for The Boys' Brigade in Singapore, as we celebrate our 90th Anniversary? Are you hoping for more volunteers, and greater support from both Church and School? The successful organization and execution of our planned Anniversary events, well supported by our leaders of State and Sponsors? Are we hopeful for what the Anniversary will springboard us into, or just hoping that the year would not be too taxing on our manpower and finances?

Through the years, the Brigade has faced numerous challenges, from being just one Company in 1930 to a strong Brigade today; moving from being church-based to being school-based; facing ongoing recruitment challenges with the rise of other uniformed groups and falling birth rates; volunteer attrition due to the move to a five-day school week; plus the pull of social media and our young ones changing interests; just to name a few. Through it all, the Brigade continues to progress and grow its service and outreach to Boys.

For all this, we give thanks for the vision of our founder, James Milner Fraser; and the committed Officers who have passed through our ranks these past 90 years – many of whom remaining loyal and supportive alumni to this day. More than this, we acknowledge God's hand upon our Brigade, apart from which we would not be where we are today. For regardless of the challenge of the day, **"I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope"** (Jeremiah 29:11).

"A future and a hope" for the setting up and establishment of the Brigade was birthed in 1930, and this future and hope has been brought to pass. Is the task and time of the Brigade, therefore, now past? In answer, we must ask whether the stated object of the Brigade, "The advancement of Christ's kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness," has been fully and forever achieved. The answer is, of course, no!

There are still Boys out there who would benefit from our care and concern; and while there are, we trust that God still has plans for our service to this community. Challenges there will always be, and I am sure the next 90 years and more will throw up many interesting challenges for the Brigade. Nonetheless, since God has a plan for us, and so long as we sensitively tap into this plan we will survive; and more than survive, thrive! For His plan for the Brigade is "for welfare and not for calamity to give ... a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

As we celebrate our 90th Anniversary, let us look back with thanksgiving and amazement at how our Lord has raised and established the Brigade; and then look forward with great hope and anticipation to the future heights our Lord will continue to lead and establish us as we faithfully and courageously follow after Him!

DEVELOPING LEADERS



During their school holidays from 21 to 23 November, 38 Boys participated in the 48th Singapore Company's (Zhonghua Secondary School) annual camp. The objective of the camp was for Boys to discover their strengths and talents. The Secondary 1 Boys also undertook a Leadership Development Course. Drill and map reading theory and practical lessons were conducted for everyone.

The Boys enjoyed multiple activities such as games, laser tag, outdoor cooking and watching a movie on the first night. The camp highlight was definitely the seven-hour long expedition hike across the western region of Singapore ending at West Coast Park! Their topography skills were put to the test as they were challenged to find checkpoints en route.



"This camp has been very memorable for me as I was able to bond with my cohort mates through the activities. I also learnt not to give up when facing challenges, especially when we got lost during the hike. I cannot wait to join the next camp!"

CPL Ho Rong En (pictured middle)

"I enjoyed the games especially laser tag. The hike, although exhausting, enhanced my topography skills and perseverance. I felt that I had improved my leadership skills and was able to lead the Boys better than before."

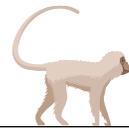
SGT Chan Yong Quan (pictured left)



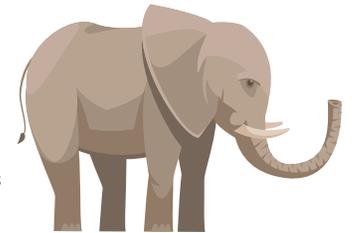
A DAY OUT WITH OUR BUDDIES

MS WEE NI SWEN, TEACHER-IN-CHARGE

39TH SINGAPORE COMPANY, SWISS COTTAGE SECONDARY SCHOOL



On 19 July, 33 of our BB Boys collaborated with the Singapore Zoo to conduct a meaningful Wildlife Buddies Guiding Program for learners from the Down Syndrome Association (Singapore). The Boys served as guides by showing the learners around the zoo.



“Our two main concerns were effective communications with the learners as well as being able to finish the zoo tour within the allocated time. These concerns were allayed after we interacted with the learners as we realised that they were able to understand us well.

“Everyone was really nervous as we had never done this before. We practised servant leadership by guiding our learners through the attractions and taking care of their safety and wellbeing. The tour highlight for my learner was certainly the Butterfly Garden, where we saw many exotic butterflies. I could see the excitement in her eyes when an autumn leaf butterfly landed on her hand!



In my group, the learner was extremely enthusiastic and possessed a lot of stamina. We managed to explore all the designated enclosures in the planned route way ahead of time. Hence, we were able to visit additional animal enclosures. Afterwards, when our learner was asked to recount her experience, we were extremely heartened to hear that we had made her day an enjoyable and joyful one.”

LCP Ryan Soh Zhi Heng

This event was a fruitful experience that taught us values such as empathy and appreciation for what we have. We also learnt the importance of ensuring no one gets left behind in this society. Compared to past Values-in-Action activities that we have done, this event was refreshingly different and we hope to do more of such activities in the future.”

LCP Jeevan Srinivas Jayabal





COMPANY SNAPSHOTS & SOCIAL MEDIA FEATURES





The Season of Sharing

The Boys' Brigade Share-a-Gift (BBSG) 2019 officially launched on 21 November to much fanfare at Our Tampines Hub! A melodious pipes and drums performance by 49th Singapore Company (St. Hilda's Secondary School) welcomed the Guest-of-Honour, Speaker of Parliament Mr Tan Chuan-Jin.

Alongside presenting sponsor Prudential Singapore's CEO Mr Wilf Blackburn and NTUC FairPrice's Deputy CEO Mr Gerry Lee, Brigade President Mr Poh Leong Berg launched the community service project with Mr Tan Chuan-Jin and Mr Henry Tan, Chairman, BB Share-a-Gift Project 2019.

From L to R: Mr Gerry Lee, Mr Henry Tan, Mr Wilf Blackburn, Mr Tan Chuan-Jin and Mr Poh Leong Berg



This year, the project has revamped the contents of the hamper to better suit the needs of receiving beneficiaries and aims to reach 43,276 beneficiaries – the largest number since the project's inception in 1988.



Senior friends from St. Luke's Eldercare (Changkat and Tampines centres) joined in on the fun and tried their hand at archery, CPR and played board games relating to healthier lifestyles!



Officers' Weekend of Adventure!



Over the weekend from 19 to 20 October, we sent Officers who attended the recent Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC) to an Adventure Weekend to live out the theory taught! The 28 Officers may have been from 19 different BB Companies but that weekend, they worked as one. The participants built and sailed their rafts, climbed low elements, conducted outdoor cooking and built a campfire!



“I joined BOTC two years ago but couldn’t complete it due to constant travelling. This time, I was glad to be able to attend the Adventure Weekend! My group members were all very much younger than me. It was a bit challenging to keep up with them, not only during the discussions but the follow-ups too, as the WhatsApp messages would come fast and furious at times. I was impressed by the display of professionalism in the planning and execution of the various activities during camp. The camaraderie, reflections, sharing and care for one another was inspiring. We watched out for each other while carrying out the outdoor activities. It was very enjoyable and we had good laughs.”

OCT John Seet, 36th Singapore Company

“The weekend was filled with fun moments like icebreaker games planned and facilitated by our very own Officers, low elements activities and rafting at sea. By learning how to devise learning activities, we are better equipped to engage our Boys and impart the intended lessons. I was thrilled for the opportunity to bond with Officers from other BB Companies!”

OCT Winston Ong, 49th Singapore Company

FOCUSING ON FAMILY!



As one of the adopters of the pilot programme by The Boys' Brigade and FamChamps®, 7J Singapore Company (St. Andrew's Junior School) conducted a series of Focus on the Family workshops for their Primary 5 and 6 Boys in August, October and November. The Boys who attended the series learnt how to identify their own family values, communication techniques, love languages and much more!



Playing some ice breaker games!



Officer Lim Chong Wei (LTA) conducting one of the workshops



Boys bonding by sharing personal stories about themselves.

Through the workshops, Junior Brayden Wee set the following goals: 1. Improve relationship with parents. 2. Spend more time with siblings. 3. Find out how grandparents stayed married for more than 30 years.

Junior Michael Cheam even wrote a note to his mother to thank her for taking care of him and for teaching him values to be the best he can be. He also learnt that, "my parents will love me no matter what."

Indeed, the goal of the programme is to inspire and promote family bonding and the Boys are learning well!

Another adopter of the pilot programme was 47th Singapore Company in Serangoon Garden Secondary School.

LCP Braden Phua recounted his experience of the workshops. He said, "In the second week of the programme, we were given a challenge to set three family goals for ourselves!" Brendan set the following goals:



To organise an activity for my extended family.



To spend more time with my cousins.

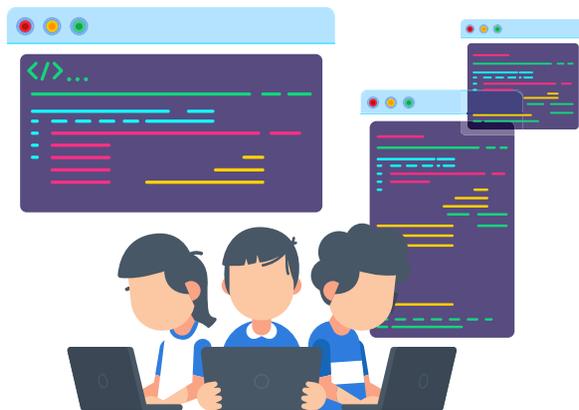


To initiate a family outing.

"I accomplished my goals by inviting my extended family members to a fishing trip. Everyone agreed readily with joy as fishing is a communal activity that we enjoy. I felt happy and excited as we have not seen each other for some time."

LCP Braden Phua (pictured in a purple t-shirt in front)





Let's Code | Micro:bit

Thirty BB Boys from Secondary 1 to 3 in the 33rd Singapore Company at Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary) attended micro:bit classes in July and August. Over four two-hour sessions, they picked up coding skills and applied their new found talent on real life projects.



“Learning how to code the micro:bit and simple gadgets such as trip alarms was cool. I learnt more about resilience as sometimes the codes didn't work and I had to be more patient to work out the codes properly. I would like to take more classes in future, as the lessons were enriching and bonds were also strengthened among the Boys.”

PTE Nathaniel Tang

“Micro:bit was more difficult than the coding classes in school where HTML was used. We got to learn JavaScript, one of the world's most popular programming language. And I learnt many useful coding techniques too! For example, I took a longer time at the beginning to code something, but in the end, we coded at a faster pace and learnt more critical thinking skills to shorten the code as well as the time taken.”

CPL Kynan Huang

BEARING FRUIT

LIM YANG JUN (OCT), TEACHER-IN-CHARGE

24J SINGAPORE COMPANY, FUHUA PRIMARY SCHOOL



From 16 to 17 November, six Boys from the 24J Singapore Company participated in a combined camp with the 14th and 80th Girls' Brigade Companies. Through teachable moments in the activities, the Boys learnt character traits such as love, forbearance, kindness, gentleness and self-control. The reflections also provided opportunities for them to share life applications on what they have learnt.



“I enjoyed playing laser tag. During the game, we customised the forts and the entire team could battle together. I also loved campfire night, where everyone sang and performed together. While preparing for the performance, we had to resolve disagreements within the group. I learnt that everyone is different and that it takes time for everyone to agree on the same thing. We had worked hard for the performance and I was glad that we were placed second. I also learnt that we should work together as a team and not go our separate ways.”

Junior Ethan Zhe Kai Singh

“I benefited from the debrief sessions at night, where I learnt about self-discipline, teamwork and being independent. I am looking forward to the next camp!”

Junior Kee Heng Shen

“I was excited to make new friends in the camp. My favourite activity was laser tag. Even though the facilitators were strict, they taught us that life is not always fair. I also learnt that teamwork was the key to success.”

Junior Natarajan Yogeswaran

Give your loved ones A head start in life

Begin with **Junior Share Builders Plan**
and enjoy 12-months handling fee rebates



39 Counters
Available for
Selection



Dollar Cost
Averaging



No Lock-In
Period

Start saving for your child's future today!

- Regular fixed dollar amount investment plan
- Start small from SGD 100 for equities and bonds
- Multiple-counter purchase with single handling fee
- Automatic re-investment of dividends
- No brokerage fees



Scan to learn more!



www.poems.com.sg/rsp/#junior-sbp | 6531 1555 | talktophillip@phillip.com.sg

Follow PhillipCapital on [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [y](#) [i](#) [n](#) [v](#)

Brought to you by Phillip Securities Pte Ltd (A member of PhillipCapital)

Co. Reg. No. 197501035Z

poems

P PhillipCapital
Your Partner In Finance

Terms & Conditions Apply. This advertisement is intended for general information only and does not have any regard to your specific investment objectives, financial situation and any of your particular needs. Investments are subject to investment risks including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. The value of the shares and the income from them may fall as well as rise. Any opinion or view herein is made on a general basis and is subject to change without notice. This advertisement has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.