

# BB NEWS

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE  
IN SINGAPORE



*BB through the generations,  
for all generations!*

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ALSO  
AVAILABLE  
ON OUR BB WEBSITE AT  
[www.bb.org.sg](http://www.bb.org.sg)

## 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 countries. 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.

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Join us in the celebration by buying or gifting your members or stakeholders with these items. Available at the BB Shop while stocks last!

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# T.I.P.S. TO ENGAGE DIFFERENT GENERATIONS OF BB MEMBERS

**POH LEONG BERG (LTA), BRIGADE PRESIDENT**

The BB Singapore celebrates her 90th anniversary this year. We have been able to come so far only because the BB ministry is about the members, not its programme or awards. It is not about having a system or a curriculum that is impactful as this often leads only to knowledge and skills acquisition; instead, in BB, it is the relational dynamics that are primary. Programmes and awards are a means for us to reach out to the members. We are in the business to equip them for life rather than to organise and coordinate programmes for them to enjoy and learn from.



The BB members see their officers as their mentors, coaches, and friends. All these roles have three things in common: building relationships, investing time and valuing the individual. Officers have to make themselves available to the members, take time to get to know them, connect with them personally and build relationships.

Based on my experiences as an Officer in the Company, I would like to share some **T.I.P.S.** on how we can engage our members effectively and meaningfully, so as to build them up to achieve their fullest potential.



## BE THERE:

The badgework and programmes allow us to be there with the members, interacting, having fun and learning together. When we are there, opportunities present themselves for us to build and strengthen relationships.



## GET INVOLVED:

Officers need to get involved in the activities of the Company. Being involved allows us to experience what the members are experiencing. This enables us to have a common topic for conversation with the members, which often leads in turn to opportunities for character building and the imparting of values. Being involved also allows us to know the gifting of the members and to help them grow in the use of their talents and abilities.



## BE PRESENT:

We need to be present when we engage the members, practising both verbal and non-verbal listening. Listening actively and attempting to understand their perspective would signal that we are interested in what they are saying, in their lives, and that what they say matters; only then will the members trust the officers and open up to us.



## TO SACRIFICE:

Time is limited. To engage the members, time has to be created. There is a need to sacrifice personal time, time that we might otherwise spend on ourselves. We can only reap what we sow and unless we sow the time, we cannot expect to reap the rewards of relationship.

In our engagement with the BB members, we can



- 1 Be an advocate to create opportunities for the members;
- 2 Be a cheerleader when the going gets tough for the members;
- 3 Be a values shaper, imparting godly character values that will carry them through the pressures and challenges of life;
- 4 Be a counsellor when the members stray;
- 5 Be a critic to challenge the members by providing them constructive feedback to spur them on;
- 6 Be a role model in terms of attitude and behaviour;
- 7 Be a teacher to share your story and life experiences to inspire and provide insights to enlighten the members;
- 8 Be a supporter and be available at all times, especially in times of trials. Give them encouragement and a sense of attitude of joy and celebration.

Different generations may have different preferences, but the need to belong is a universal human desire and a strong relationship is the secret to effectively engage the members. We need to have a relational process: a journey undertaken to encourage, equip, and challenge the members to grow towards maturity. We must accept them as they are and they must feel accepted and valued in the BB. The sense of belonging and being a part of the BB family has to be real to them. The BB ministry must be a place where unconditional love is given and genuine care is provided to the members. Only then can the BB be for all generations.

# CELEBRATING OUR BB FOREBEARS

REV MALCOLM T.H. TAN (LTA), ASSOCIATE BRIGADE CHAPLAIN

The writer to the Book of Hebrews informed his readers, the early Jewish Christians, that 'we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses' (12:1), referring to the Old Testament saints who had lived faithfully for God in their time. He imagined a race to be run with these ancient servants of God of long ago as spectators, cheering on the faithful of his New Testament generation. Today, as we run the race set before us in our lives, we, too, are not alone. The faithful of the previous generations, in heavenly places, are watching and encouraging us on. The race we have to run is that work which God has given us in Life. (Ac 20:24). Hence, we are encouraged by those who have faithfully gone on ahead. We learn from their example. We declare that we follow in their footsteps of following Jesus and serving Jesus, even if we have to pay a heavy price to obey God.

Such was, also, the story of the late SP Chua, the Captain of 1st Singapore Company from 1940. He had inherited the captaincy from James Milner Fraser who founded 1st Coy on 12 Jan 1930 at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church, together with some of the BB Boys from 1st Swatow Company such as SGT Quek Eng Moh, a Swatow old Boy. During the Japanese Occupation of Singapore (1942-1945), many of the Officers and Boys remained committed to the BB. The BB official records were secretly preserved despite the danger of doing so. The Singapore Colours were burnt but the drums brought back earlier from the BB Jubilee celebrations in Glasgow (1933) were quietly hidden in the store room of Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church. The BB identity was preserved by the bravery of our BB forebears. SP Chua and J M Fraser were among them.



Mr SP Chua (third from left) sitting next to Mr J M Fraser at a Brigade gathering [date unknown]

After the War (1945), SP Chua quickly restarted the 1st Singapore Company. J M Fraser immediately joined him, after returning from War-time imprisonment. Because 1st Coy did not falter then, the BB movement was able to have a strong take-off and subsequently, grew in strength to serve the Church, the youth of Singapore and eventually, the Nation, with (pioneer generation) BB old Boys such as Winston Choo (1st Coy), Lim Siong Guan (12th Coy), Lee Soo Ann (1st Coy), etc., making their contributions to Singapore. Likewise, may those who have gone on before us, find us faithful. Often the preparations of the past prepare us for the challenges of the present and the future. Indeed, we have an Anchor: May Jesus Christ the Captain of our Salvation make us for the road ahead. To Him be the glory forever!

# RIGHT ON TARGET

5J SINGAPORE COMPANY, KUO CHUAN PRESBYTERIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Company recently had archery sessions on 8 and 12 February! Even with extra measures in place due to Covid-19, the Boys thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.



"I have a lot of fun in the BB! I am very glad that we are still having BB parades despite Covid-19. Our teachers take our temperatures before parade to make sure that everyone is well before participating in archery and drill lessons. I also hope that we will have laser tag in camp this year."

Junior Xavier Leong

"I thought archery was very difficult for me. The arrows that I shot did not hit the target board. But after a few rounds and with the instructor's encouragement, my arrows started to go further and hit the board! It was very fun. I hope to get better at archery next year."

Junior Lai Jing Teng

7J SINGAPORE COMPANY, ST. ANDREW'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

53 Boys from Primary 3 to 6 attended two archery sessions on 31 January and 7 February.



"I learnt how to hold the bow and shoot the arrow to train my aiming and accuracy. I like archery because I am very competitive and it's fun! I learnt the value of Resilience as I did not give up although it was quite difficult."

Junior Isaiah Tang

"Although this year's Adventure Quest is cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation, we continued with our archery training. We were encouraged to ask questions to improve our learning. And I found out about the purpose for each part of the bow and arrow!"

Junior Luis Ong

# Celebrating BB Day!



BB Day is celebrated annually on 12 January to commemorate the founding of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore. All members will wear their full uniforms in school for the day. The BB Day message will be read out in schools. Additionally, the BB Companies celebrate this occasion in their own special way in schools.

33RD SINGAPORE COMPANY, FAIRFIELD METHODIST SCHOOL (SECONDARY)



"BB Day is always special to me. Wearing the BB uniform serves as a reminder for me to be at my best representing The Boys' Brigade and the 33rd Singapore Company. It is a significant day as we remember the heritage behind the organization that we are part of and it spurs us towards fostering the values of Obedience, Reverence, Disciple and Self-Respect."

**SSG Michael Lee**



45TH SINGAPORE COMPANY, XINMIN SECONDARY SCHOOL



"It is a great privilege to serve as Acting Captain for the 45th Singapore Company and I am thoroughly excited to work with my fellow Officers and Primers in serving the Boys in the Company. Starting off the year with BB Day was very apt as I was reminded of how far the Brigade has come and how everyone has remained sure and steadfast in our service. The words of our Honorary President, Lieutenant General (Ret) Winston Choo, was a good reminder for us in our plans and actions for the Boys that they continue to learn and grow as many have done before them. The Company looks forward to new and upcoming challenges, from piloting the new Seniors Programme for our Secondary 1 Boys to all the festivities of the Brigade's 90th Anniversary celebrations. We wish all members of the BB Family a blessed BB Day!"

**2LT Kenric Seah, Acting Captain**

"It was a memorable event as I adorned the BB full uniform with pride. Our Company Officers had instilled in us discipline and teamwork through our intense practices for the drill movements."

**PTE Tan Yong Ding**



"For BB Day this year, we showcased drills in the school hall and watched with admiration as the senior Boys received Senior Proficiency Awards."

**LCP Isaac Chow**



# COMPANY SNAPSHOTS & SOCIAL MEDIA FEATURES



# Welcoming New Recruits to the BB Family!

2ND SINGAPORE COMPANY, VICTORIA SCHOOL

Holding their CCA recruitment at the start of the year on 3 January, the 2nd Singapore Company Boys showcased their pipes and drums band and shared with their juniors about their life in BB.



“I shared our varied activities such as kayaking, air rifle shooting, abseiling and the pipe band. Since joining the BB, I have had more opportunities to plan and participate in events such as the March Camp and BB CARES, which have made my BB experience more interesting and fun.”

CPL Joshua Ong



33RD SINGAPORE COMPANY, FAIRFIELD METHODIST SCHOOL (SECONDARY)



“We were thrilled to celebrate BB Day on the same day as recruitment for new members. To appeal to them, we put up an elaborate photo montage of times spent in the BB, the experiences that we have gained and the bonds that we shared as proud members of The Boys’ Brigade.”

SSG Michael Lee



11TH SINGAPORE COMPANY, CHRIST CHURCH SECONDARY SCHOOL



“It was my first time presenting in front of the Secondary 1 cohort! I was pretty nervous on stage. There were parts that I couldn’t remember but I spoke more naturally when I started sharing about what the BB means to us - a CCA to bond and strive together as brothers in arms. At the BB showroom, I introduced the pipe band instruments that were part of our Scottish heritage. We take great pride in learning such unique instruments!”

CPL Gabriel Neo

“Last year, I had the opportunity to do a presentation on stage to new students with my Company Sergeant Major. I was really excited to lead the recruitment campaign this year! I am surprised that so many Secondary 1s came to our booth. We shared our personal experiences, the BB’s badge work programme and national-level competitions such as BB Blaze. For me, the BB is a CCA that builds me up to be the best version of myself and to become a leader for the community. Being in the BB is being in a family where I belong.”

SSG Josiah Ang



“We focused our recruitment strategy on attracting new students to our booths. We offered key chains as door gifts and also built a 2-metre tall photo box tower! Many students were interested in our set-up and surprisingly, a few girls asked if they can join the BB! I think that the biggest strength of our Company is that we dare to continually explore and try new activities.”

CPL Jefferson Law

77TH SINGAPORE COMPANY, TECK WHYE SECONDARY SCHOOL



84TH SINGAPORE COMPANY, UNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL



“I joined the BB in Secondary 1 after viewing the display exhibits of the BB’s activities at the CCA Fair. I have grown in the BB and have become a confident person who can talk to people more easily. I told the potential juniors about our fun camps and activities where every BB member will treat them like one big BB family.”

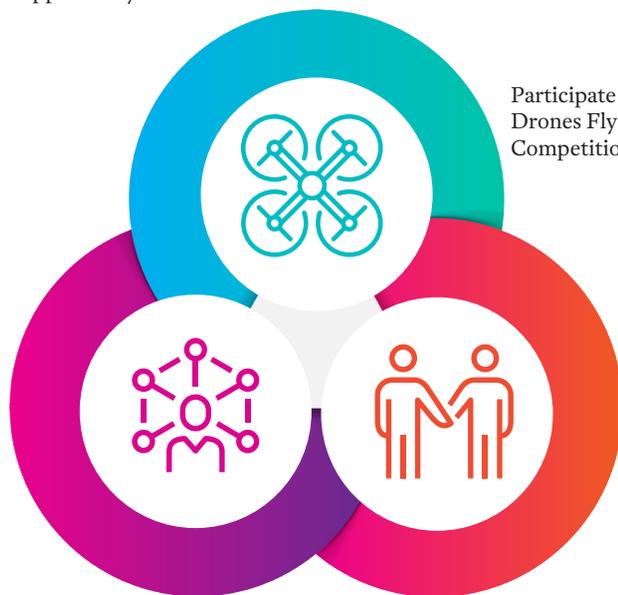
LCP Yeo Jun Qi

# LAUNCHING PRIMERS FELLOWSHIP!



With a new style of attracting Primers, the inaugural Primers Fellowship launched on 11 January! This introductory programme at the start of the year offered Seniors Programme members a preview of some of our experiential learning activities.

The participants had the opportunity to:



Participate in the Drones Fly Out Competition.

Interact and make new friends from BB Companies across Singapore through the ice-breaker games and break-out sessions.

Acquire some soft skills based on the electives offered, such as Effective Coaching, Financial Literacy, Five Love Languages - Keys to Better Communication, and more.

A total of 69 Primers from 20 BB Companies took part in this event that was held at the Brigade headquarters.



*Instructional Techniques through Drills*



*Communication Skills - Five Love Languages*



*Drones Fly Out Competition*



*Sumptuous Buffet Lunch*



*Primers that had just practiced their drone flying skills outdoors!*

“I decided to continue my BB journey in the Primers Programme because being in the BB has made me more outgoing as I used to be a quieter person. I have also learnt how to react in certain situations and have improved on my leadership skills.”

**CLT Hareesh S, 50th Singapore Company, Gan Eng Seng School**

# Hosting 33rd Vic Boronia Company from Australia!



Earlier in January, the 7J (St Andrew’s Junior School), 50th (Gan Eng Seng School) and 60th (Raffles Institution) Singapore Companies hosted visitors from BB Australia! Brothers Darren and Daniel Ngui are Officers of 33rd Vic Boronia Company. The purpose of their trip was to learn more about boosting membership and introducing the NCO structure. Their father Chee Leong Ngui, National President of BB Australia, had also visited 16J (Kong Hua School), 12BR (Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)) and 85th (Jurong West Secondary School) Singapore Companies in 2019.

At the Companies, Darren and Daniel shared about their BB activities back in Melbourne, from Nerf wars to hiking along coastal Australia and even father-son camping trips! At 7J Coy, they hosted a Q&A session, where the Juniors were curious to find out more about their badge work programme.



The Boys from 7J Coy listening intently to Darren!

They also managed to catch 50th and 60th Singapore Companies in the midst of their CCA trial preparations. The 50th Coy Officers shared about their NCO structure and leadership grooming process. For instance, the Boys in charge of the upcoming recruitment have had to set up six stations of Zombieland and Nerf Shoot Out for the NCOs to experience and provide constructive feedback. Darren commented that, “to see the Officers guide the Boys and yet provide them enough space to try everything out is great.”



L – R: 50th Coy Teacher Kayne Tan, Daniel and Darren Ngui, and Officer Keith Lim looking on as the NCO Council conducted briefing and trial run of their CCA trials.



Over at 60th Coy, WO Zachariah Koi took the Ngui brothers on a tour and introduced them to the various activities the Boys were doing. They saw the Boys preparing games, attended an NCO Council meeting and sat in on a pipes and drums showcase. Zachariah summarised the visit as, “I learnt that we have our differences but the BB values and activities are similar.”



Darren mentioned that his favourite moment of the visits was to see how organised the Boys are operationally and how the Boys and Primers’ support had alleviated the workload of Officers. He was impressed that the Boys know their roles well enough to initiate and are proactive to engage.

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