

BB NEWS

2025 ISSUE 1

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THE BOYS' BRIGADE



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SCAN ME !



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January - March Quarterly Highlights

The first quarter of 2025 had been an exciting and eventful one for our BB Companies! It began with the commemoration of BB Day on 12 January, marking not only this special occasion but also our 95th Anniversary in Singapore, with the Thanksgiving Service held at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church.



11th Singapore Company's Boys celebrating Total Defence Day with Ms Poh Li San, MP for Sembawang West GRC



50th Singapore Company's Boys after their hike

In addition to BB Day, the 11th Singapore Company in Christ Church Secondary School showcased their Pipe Band performance during the Sembawang West C2E's Total Defence Day celebrations.

Our Companies were also actively engaged in BB Week 2025, which kicked off on 3 March. These Companies featured unique testimonials from their Boys and Officers, highlighting what BB means to them and the impact it has had on their lives.

The quarter concluded with the March holidays, with many of our BB Companies conducting their camps, the 50th Singapore Company in Gan Eng Seng School held their Adventure Camp, which included a challenging 16.7km hike!



Post by 2nd Singapore Company in Victoria School



Post by 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School



Post by 93rd Singapore Company in Yuying Secondary School

95th Anniversary Events



With our 95th Anniversary celebrations in full swing following the Thanksgiving Service at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church, there are more events in store this year so do remember to mark your calendars!

23 August 2025	95th Anniversary Carnival
10 October 2025	95th Anniversary Dinner cum JMF Awards Presentation Ceremony

95 Years of Mentorship

by Brigade Vice-President (Finance and Infrastructure), LTA Timothy Tan



We're celebrating our 95th Anniversary of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore (BB) this year!

Since 1930, The BB has been a cornerstone in shaping the lives of countless young people in Singapore. As we mark this milestone, may I invite us to reflect on both the work the BB has done throughout the years, as well as how our lives have been personally impacted. As we celebrate our legacy, we also look forward to the future, and the positive impact we will continue to have on generations to come.

At the heart of the BB lies mentorship, which is a key part of what makes us who we are. It is about helping our Boys realise the potential in themselves, and in turn, for them to eventually teach others the same. That is something I believe we can all hold close to our hearts as we continue to serve in the Brigade.

Over the years, we have had the privilege of guiding many young men as they journey through the BB. Each Boy that joins us embarks on a personal journey of growth. With our badgework and structured syllabus, we equip them with a mix of hard and soft skills that go beyond academic success.



Boys belaying their Company mates and cheering each other on

The BB strives to make an impact at all levels of the community and is proud of the initiatives that Boys and Companies have planned and embarked on on their own accord during our annual BB CARES, as well the involvement by all our stakeholders and partners during our flagship BB Share-A-Gift programme, where daily necessities and essentials are delivered to families in need of them.

We're also excited to hold many celebratory events this year to commemorate this milestone. There will be two key events to watch out for: the 95th Anniversary Carnival on 23 August, will be a day of fun and excitement, filled with games, performances, and activities that showcase the vibrant energy of the BB. Then, on 10 October, we will gather for the 95th Anniversary Dinner, a special evening where we will reflect on our journey and look ahead to the future.

As we celebrate this 95th Anniversary, we take a moment to acknowledge how far we have come. But we also look forward to the many more lives we will touch, the communities we will continue to impact, and the future leaders we will help shape. Here's to the next 95 years and beyond of shaping young lives, building strong communities, and fostering leadership that matters.



95th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service



The 95th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service took place on 12 January at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church, marking the beginning of the Brigade's 95th Anniversary celebrations in Singapore.



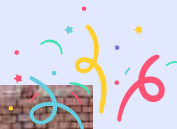
A total of 214 Honorary Office Bearers, Alumni, and BB Members from 55 Companies attended the service.

Guests witnessed a parade segment and a combined Pipe Band performance. After which they proceeded to have a group photo opportunity in front of the iconic Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church backdrop.



Following the photo session, guests attended the service, where they enjoyed a special rendition of 'Thank You' performed by Mr Richard Ho, a former Officer of the 1st Singapore Company.

Stay tuned for more as the 95th Anniversary festivities continue into 2025!



Primers Orientation



30 Primers from 12 Companies attended the Primers Orientation at BBHQ on 22 January 2025!

During the briefings conducted by BBHQ and the Primers Programme Committee, the Primers learned more about the Primers Programme, including the various events planned for the year and the many opportunities to contribute to the Brigade.

The Orientation also provided a great opportunity for Primers to build new friendships as they interact with peers from different Companies and get to know one another. We wish them the best as they embark on the next step of their BB journey.



The President's Award Tea Session

39 Primers from 20 Companies attended The President's Award Tea Session, where they engaged in a dialogue with The President's Award Selection Panel, Primers Programme Committee, and President's Men Alumni.

The panel shared their experiences—both as past recipients of the Award and as Selection Panellists—offering valuable insights into what they look for in an applicant.

During the session, the Primers had the opportunity to ask questions about the Award, including its requirements and how they can be better prepared when they start their application.





91st Coy's Cycling Expedition

BY LCP MICHAEL TIRHAS FROM 91ST SINGAPORE COMPANY IN REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Cycling expedition is a popular annual event at the 91st Company, offering participants an opportunity to push their limits while enjoying a scenic ride. This year's route took cyclists from East Coast Park to Changi Jurassic Mile—a journey that combines physical challenge with the thrill of the outdoors.

The route itself is demanding, with a mix of uphill climbs and fast descents. For many participants, the ride can be physically taxing, especially those who are not accustomed to long distances or intense climbs. However, with proper preparation and training, the ride becomes an enjoyable adventure rather than a struggle.

While last year's ride proved difficult for some, the improvements seen in the returning participants this year were evident. Many riders who had struggled the previous year were able to complete the entire journey with greater ease with the support from one another.



106J's Chinese New Year Celebration

BY 2LT DORCAS KOH FROM 106J SINGAPORE COMPANY IN GAN ENG SENG PRIMARY SCHOOL

The 106J Singapore Company celebrated Lunar New Year with joy, tradition, and camaraderie. The highlight was the Lo Hei session, where Boys enthusiastically tossed ingredients while shouting auspicious phrases for success and unity. Adding creativity, they arranged mandarin oranges to spell "大吉大利," symbolising prosperity and wealth.

The celebration continued with a feast of traditional CNY treats like pineapple tarts and kueh bang kit, bringing smiles and shared enjoyment. A special moment was when their Captain, LTA Peter's presentation of red packets, symbolising blessings for the year ahead.

Beyond festivities, the event fostered deeper bonds, reinforcing the BB spirit of friendship, teamwork, and cultural appreciation. Through such activities, we strengthen our sense of belonging and unity, ensuring that BB remains a place where values and traditions thrive. Here's to a blessed and meaningful year ahead for 106J Singapore Company!



Adventure Open House

The Adventure Open House was held on 8 February at the BB/GB Campsite, where 145 Boys from 7 Companies participated in Stand-Up Paddling and the High Elements Rope Course.

Participants had the opportunity to try out these fun new activities, which they can bring back stories of their experiences to their Companies to share with their juniors and future recruits.

The Boys had an exciting time as they faced their fears head-on—whether on the water or up on the ropes course. They also forged new friendships with Boys from other Companies and strengthened the camaraderie among their own peers.



LET'S GO
ADVENTURE



The high elements course was a transformative experience that helped me overcome my fear of heights. Initially terrified, I wanted to give up, but encouragement from my batchmates and Officers kept me going. Step by step, I gained confidence, and reaching the end filled me with pride.

**-SSG Jacob Ong Seng Kuan from
19th Singapore Company in
Yishun Town Secondary School-**



Juniors Programme Conference 01/25

The Juniors Programme Conference was organised on 25 February at the BBHQ.

A total of 41 Captains, Teachers and Officers from 38 Companies attended the conference.

The Officers were given updates to the Juniors Programme curriculum by Chairman LTA Gerard Su. As well as a briefing by the Chairman of Adventure Quest 2025, LTA Robin Chua.



Seniors Programme Conference 01/25

The Seniors Programme Conference was organised on 4 March at the BBHQ.

A total of 72 Captains, Teachers and Officers from 48 Companies attended the conference.

The Officers were given updates to various elements of the Seniors Programme Curriculum by the Seniors Programme Committee as well as a briefing on the upcoming BB Blaze by Chairman 2LT Chue Zheng Yang.



95 Years... And Counting!

by Brigade Chaplain, Rev Daniel Tong

In this age of disposables and short attention spans, the Brigade is this year celebrating its 95th Anniversary... and looking forward to our 100th! How have we managed to survive these past nine decades, and what makes us think we will survive in the decades to come?

To begin with, due recognition and respect must be given to all our Officers, Teachers, Primers and Volunteers. Their dedication to our Boys is truly a major underlying factor to the longevity of the Brigade. Thank you for your willing and faithful sacrifices of time and energy both during and outside of parade time, in formal and informal settings, and at your own expense. A special thank you to your respective families for releasing you to this important and meaningful ministry to Boys.

Through the years, the challenge has been to adapt to changing more, while retaining and upholding our organisational core – like our *BB Object*. In this, we have been blessed with farsighted and creative Brigade Presidents, Brigade Executive, Brigade Office and Officers who have read the times and been both timely and flexible in implementing new programmes to engage our Boys. It has been so, and remains so to this day.

Yet, this only scratches the surface of the reason for our organisational survival, for innovative programmes does not sustain us and our service to Boys. There is nothing new under the sun.

What truly sustains and drives the Brigade forward through time and change, is dedication: the unwavering commitment of our Officers, seen in the way they guide, mentor and care for the Boys, is what keeps the heart of the Brigade beating strong.

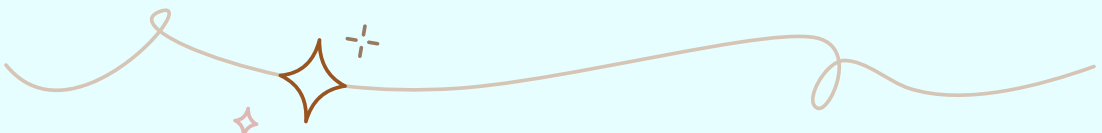
It is this spirit of service and mentorship that has inspired generations of Officers to keep our Companies growing, even as times change. It keeps our focus clear – to do our very best for every Boy, staying true to our *BB Object*, and keep the Brigade advancing for decades more to come.



Boys guiding one another during a first aid station at BBAQ 2025



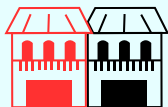
Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)



Teachers' Orientation 01/25

The Teachers' Orientation was held on 22 February at BBHQ, with 15 teachers from 11 Companies participating in various workshops. Through these sessions, they gained insights into The Boys' Brigade as a youth organisation, the roles of Officers and Teachers, and how they can positively impact the Boys.

As part of the orientation, the teachers explored the BB Heritage Gallery to learn more about the organisation's rich history. They also attended engaging lessons on how BB Companies are run at both the Juniors and Seniors Programmes.



Officer Cadet Orientation 01/25

21 Candidates from 19 Companies attended the Officer Cadet Orientation Course on 1 March. The session began at BBHQ, where they learned about BB traditions, beliefs, methods, and responsibilities.

Following this, the Officers embarked on the BB Founder's Trail, gaining a deeper appreciation of BB's history at its founding site, Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church. This outdoor experience provided valuable insights into the Brigade's rich heritage and enduring legacy.

"Becoming an Officer has always been something I aspired to be since I was a Boy. It was eye-opening to hear different perspectives from fellow Officers on how we can improve our Companies in so many ways. Learning more about BB's history. Walking the BB Founder's Trail and exploring the heritage gallery made me reflect on the legacy we are part of."

**-OCT Niranjan Murali from
13th Singapore Company in
Sembawang Secondary School-**



Adventure Quest

528 Boys from 38 Companies competed in the BB Adventure Quest at Northbrooks Secondary School and Yishun Park on 29 March! The Boys were tested across various domains, from first aid to knot-tying. They also took on unique adventure challenges, including riding a bicycle, archery, and a race-against-the-clock obstacle course! For the first time in recent history, Boys in Primary 3, 4 and 5 took part alongside their seniors!

We were honored to have Mr Derrick Goh, Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC, present the awards to our winning teams and share some words of encouragement with the Boys.



Boys giving a warm welcome to our GOH, Mr Derrick Goh



Flag-Off by BBAQ 25 Chairman, LTA Robin Chua



Congratulations to all the teams for completing the race.

Champion - Team 8 from 49J Singapore Company in St Hilda's Primary School

1st Runner-Up - Team 5 from 57J Singapore Company in Pei Hwa Presbyterian Primary School

2nd Runner-Up - Team 63 from 35J Singapore Company in Zhangde Primary School



Company Recruitment

FEATURING 10TH, 14TH, 33RD, 93RD AND ITECW PRIMERS SINGAPORE COMPANIES

As a new academic year begins, BB Companies across Singapore are in full swing, reaching out to potential recruits and introducing them to the transformative experience of The Boys' Brigade.

With Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) playing a key role in a student's school journey, BB offers a platform where Boys develop essential life skills, forge lasting friendships, and grow into confident leaders. Through hands-on experiences, teamwork, and community service, every recruit will embark on a journey of personal development through the BB.

This year, several BB Companies took creative approaches to recruitment, setting up unique CCA booths to attract new members. ITE College West Primers Company (ITECW), 14th Singapore Company in Anglican High School, 93rd Singapore Company in Yuying Secondary School, and 10th Singapore Company in Beatty Secondary School designed engaging experiences that gave potential recruits a glimpse into BB life. These booths featured exciting demonstrations, such as musical drill showcases that highlighted discipline and teamwork, interactive stations where students could try out first-aid skills or adventure-based challenges, and immersive videos showcasing fun-filled BB camps.



The 33rd Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary) also made waves with its dynamic Secondary 1 CCA Experience on 13 January, featuring an exhilarating Nerf War that brought new students together in a friendly, high-energy competition. Laughter and cheers filled the air as teams strategised, defended, and attacked in thrilling skirmishes that tested their agility, teamwork, and quick thinking. More than just a game, the event introduced the recruits to the values of teamwork, leadership, and resilience—hallmarks of the Company's identity.

A warm welcome to all our new recruits! As they don the BB uniform, we look forward to seeing them grow, lead, and serve with passion. Here's to another year of adventure, learning, and camaraderie!

Primers Summit 01/25



48 Primers from 19 Companies attended the Primers Summit 01/25 at BBHQ on 22 February.

The summit featured two insightful workshops:

- CV Writing by Singapore Adventure and Leadership Training
- Sports Science for Adventure Races by Mr Edzra Iskandar

In the CV Writing workshop, Primers learned how to craft well-structured, visually appealing curriculum vitae that stand out while tailoring them to different job roles and industries. These skills will come in handy when they submit their President's Award applications.

The Sports Science for Adventure Races workshop equipped Primers with the knowledge to organise adventure race training from a sports science perspective. They also developed race preparation plans to help train Boys for BB Blaze.

This summit provided Primers with essential skills that supports both their personal growth and contributions to the Brigade.



Glimpse of a Wider Region

BY LTA RAYMOND KWOK

I attended the recent Boys' Brigade Asia council meeting held in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 28 November to 1 December 2024. Thirty-five members from 8 countries were in attendance.



THE BOYS' BRIGADE
ASIA

The meeting provided a valuable platform for meaningful dialogue, cultural exchange, and leadership development, all set against the vibrant backdrop of Cambodia's rich history and heritage. It was a truly enriching experience that fostered deeper connections and broadened perspectives for all who participated.

A key visit was to the BB Learning Centre, founded in 2003, which provides English and IT lessons to underprivileged children. With over 80 students who are members of this learning centre, it is heartening to see the BB's impact on our neighbours in the region.



BB Asia Officers

ITECC Primers Colour Consecration Service

BY LTA ELIJAH TAN FROM ITECC PRIMERS COMPANY IN ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL

The Colour Consecration Ceremony is a momentous occasion that years ago, many would not have imagined possible. Yet, through dedication and perseverance, the ITECC Primers Singapore Company has flourished over the past five years, marking a significant milestone in its journey.

When I first joined ITECC Primers as an Officer and became its first Officer-in-Command of Operations (OC Ops), I held the firm belief—that as the first ITE Primers Company, we had a responsibility to set the benchmark for others to follow. With the eventual establishment of Primers Companies in ITE College West (ITECW) and ITE College East (ITECE), the BB in ITE is stronger than ever, and will only continue to grow in the years to come.

Today, as Captain, I have witnessed hundreds of young adults grow into confident and capable leaders. The growth of the Company has indeed been remarkable. The Colour Consecration is more than just a symbolic milestone; it is a representation of the journey, the struggles, and the triumphs that have shaped the Company into what it is today.

The ceremony itself was an emotional and heartwarming gathering, bringing together generations of Officers, Primers, mentors, and supporters. Among the most significant moments was the presence of past Chief Primers—the very individuals who had once led the Company, standing together at the front, showing their unwavering support. It was a powerful reminder that while leadership changes with each passing year, the spirit of camaraderie and service remains *stedfast*.

As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for the foundation laid before us and a renewed commitment to uphold the values that define us. With the strength of our community, we will continue to inspire and nurture the leaders of tomorrow.



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