

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2023 - 2024





# Celebrating 140 years

The Boys' Brigade began in 1883, in Glasgow. This significant milestone was celebrated both across the Battalion and nationally.

As part of the celebrations, on Saturday 7th October, 65 (8 - 11 year olds from Nottingham and 53rd Manchester) had a fantastic time taking part in a giant sleepover in the galleries of Nottingham Castle.

As the gates opened to the Castle, they were met by Robin Hood, who gave them a guided tour of the grounds. After this, the young people (and leaders) had the opportunity to interact with the galleries.

Nottingham Castle was lit up blue for the evening to help celebrate our anniversary.

Later in the evening they joined a National BB gathering of sleepovers happening across the UK.

Following a few hours sleep, the young people enjoyed some time to play on the playground, before going home.

Leading up to the event Greg Cowley (our President) appeared on BBC Radio Nottingham and Jonathan Eales (BBUK CEO) appeared on NottsTV. Then on Sunday 8th October, live from the castle three of our young people were interviewed live on BBC Radio Nottingham.





## IN THE COMMUNITY



All our groups head out into their local area and work with the community as often as they can.

Activities have included:

- our Broxtowe groups, working with Transform Training around Youth Violence Consultations,
- our Bestwood Village group visiting Dynamo House to do some artwork which a local artist used for inspiration for around the local area.
- many of our groups being little heroes and litter picking around their local areas.



## OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



**300+**

young people



**135**

years of BB in Nottingham



**141**

volunteers



**15**

groups

“The Boys’ Brigade has shown me how to be a positive, confident and fun influence.”

Lottie - NTU Student & Boys’ Brigade Helper





# 1 Service of Celebration for Lord-Lieutenant Sir John Peace

In February we had the honour of attending a service of celebration for Lord Lieutenant Sir John Peace at Southwell Minster. Amy & Katie from 28th Nottingham attended along with two leaders.

# 2 We Are Notts Radio Show

In December we got the chance to have an hour long special on BBC Radio Nottingham talking about our work.

# 3 National Competitions

32nd Nottingham made the Badminton, Chess & Fifa BBUK National Competitions finals representing England which is a great achievement, congratulations.

# 4 Trooping of the Colour

In June, 32nd Nottingham had an early start and headed to London for Trooping of the Colour, a fantastic experience that the young people who went won't forget. Although it was a long day it was most certainly a highlight of the year.

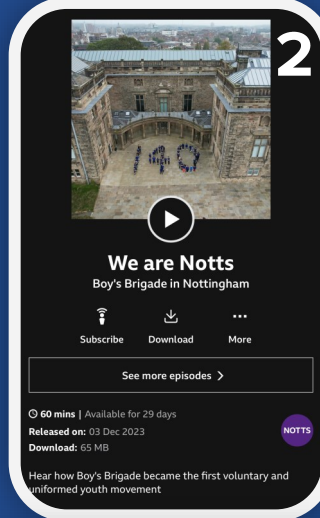
# 5 Nottinghamshire County Show

We once again attended the Nottinghamshire County Show at Newark Showground, where we had a busy day, offering axe throwing, archery, and sunflower seed planting while also engaging in conversations about our work.

# 6 Weekly activities

Our groups offer a varied and diverse programme on their weekly evenings.

## A YEAR IN PICTURES



## Competitions / Activities

Every year we offer a large number of competitions and activities for all our members (Anchors, Juniors, Company & Seniors).

These include Activity days, Dodgeball, Football, Pool, Snooker, Chess, Draughts, Climbing, mini Challenges and many many more.

Congratulations to all the groups & young people who have won and taken part in these competitions and activities .



Peter & Kieran from 37th Nottingham, had the honour of stewarding at the King's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

## Duke of Edinburgh / Queen's Badge

The Boys' Brigade in Nottingham encourages our young people to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme. We run our in house expeditions with our qualified instructors and supply each participant with their own co-ordinator.

The Queen's Badge is the highest award that may be gained by one of our members.

Every year we have a number of young people working towards their award.

Congratulations to all that gained their award this session.







## Adventure Weekend 2023

In September, 48 young people attended our Annual Adventure Weekend, which this year was at Kingswood Dearne Valley.



Activities included QuickZip, Buggy Building, High Ropes, Jacobs Ladder, Bushcraft, Fire lighting and Shelter Building, Nightline, Team Building, Low Ropes and Archery.

Both our young people and leaders overcame fears together, to take part in all the activities.

These weekends helps building new friendships and skills as well as achieving core badges and their Residential Nights Away award.



**BBUK** in partnership with **Youthscape Centre** for research published **Youth Culture and Trends**, an insight research around the lives and culture of young people today.



This was launched at a reception at the **Houses of Parliament** with **Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP**.

**Three** of our leaders were honoured to have been invited and attended the reception.



## Anchors Trip to Stonebridge Farm

22 of our Anchors (4 - 7 year olds) had a great day out at Stonebridge City Farm in May, feeding and learning about the animals, following the etching trial and even got to see the bees swarm.

It was a lovely warm day, so ice creams were also consumed.

It was great for us to support a fellow local charity.





## BATTALION BAND IN PICTURES

The 2023 - 2024 session has been a busy session for our Battalion Band. They have attended and entertained at many different public events. This gives our young people experiences and opportunities, which they would not have had without the band.

These events included:

- 1 Nottinghamshire County Show at Newark Showground**
- 2 British Transplant Games Opening Ceremony at Nottingham Castle**
- 3 St Georges Day Parade in Southwell**
- 4 Civic Carol Service at Nottingham Council House**

This has taken lots of practice and time, and we are very proud of all our young people who have taken part.



## Company details

**1st Nottm** - St Andrews Church, Nottm

**8th Nottm** - St Giles' Church, West Bridgford

**16th Nottm** - Stapleford Methodist Church

**17th Nottm** - The Pearson Centre for Young People, Beeston

**18th Nottm** - Hucknall Methodist Church

**19th Nottm** - The Dales URC, Bakersfield

**22nd Nottm** - St Mary's Church, Radcliffe on Trent

**28th Nottm** - St Mark's Church, Bestwood Village

**32nd Nottm** - Nuthall Methodist Church

**33rd Nottm** - Bingham Methodist Church

**37th Nottm** - Westdale Lane Baptist Church, Mapperley

**39th Nottm** - Arnold Methodist Church

**42nd Nottm** - Church of Holy Rood, Edwalton

**44th Nottm** - Clifton Methodist Church

**45th Nottm** - Holy Trinity Church, Clifton

### Battalion Patron:

Sir John Peace

Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire

### Battalion Active Patron:

Col. David R. Sneath M.A., T.D., D.L

### Honorary Battalion Presidents:

J.R. Wrigley

V.A. Brand

### Contact details:

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### Charity Number: 522262

To see more photos or to find our more, why not follow us on our socials:



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## Can you help us?

Many of our groups need more volunteer leaders, which means we have groups that have to operate waiting lists. With the support of more adults, the BB experience could be offered to more children and young people.

**Could you help** us by sharing some of your time to support a local Company? Full support and training is given to all of our volunteers.

Please contact us for details of a local company.