



Formal Opening by

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

of Brigade House, Parsons Green, London, SW6

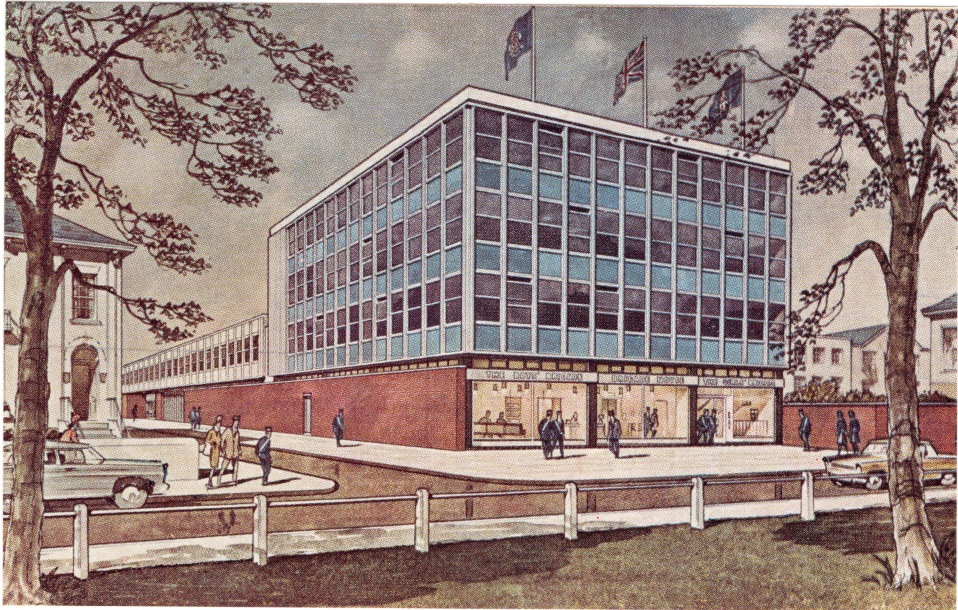
International Headquarters of

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE

9th December 1966

3 pm



Brigade House

The Boys' Brigade and The Girls' Brigade are greatly honoured by the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, Patron of The Boys' Brigade, today to undertake the opening ceremony at Brigade House.

In 1961 an appeal was launched with the aim of providing the BB with its own HQ building. The target was £100,000, and, thanks to the generosity of many friends and the remarkable efforts of the Boys themselves, the amount was raised within six months.

Unfortunately, the search for a suitable site or existing building was protracted. At least 25 projects were examined and rejected, and it was not until 1965 that a four-storeyed building in course of erection in South-West London came to our notice. It was too commodious for The Boys' Brigade alone, but ideal in other respects. The happy solution was to join forces with The Girls' Brigade, who were also looking for a new Headquarters. The partnership was arranged on the basis of participation of 75 per cent by The Boys' Brigade and 25 per cent by The Girls' Brigade.

With the aid of a bank loan the building was purchased freehold at the end of 1965 by Brigade House Limited, a company formed specially for this purpose by the two Brigades.

The internal fitting out was put in hand, and by July, 1966 both the BB and the GB were in occupation. The Boys' Brigade (London District) also occupy part of Brigade House.

A joint appeal is to be launched in February, 1967, for the sum of £100,000 to complete the purchase, fitting out and furnishing of Brigade House and to provide for its future maintenance.

As the International Headquarters of the two organisations, Brigade House should be the focal point of our work throughout the world. So long awaited, it is admirably suited to our needs. While the practical requirements of administrative offices, shops and storage and training accommodation are amply provided for, the joint Headquarters has great potentialities for service to the members of both Brigades, and we hope it will be used increasingly as a meeting place for those who visit London as well as those who live there.

The Boys' Brigade

Founded in 1883 by Sir William Alexander Smith.

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.

Object: 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.

Membership:

Britain 145,000 Boys, 24,500 Officers (including 3,500 ladies) in 3,000 churches.

Overseas in 60 countries 71,899 Boys, 8,000 Officers in 1,600 churches.

The BB provides Boys of 8 to 19 years of age with a wide range of outdoor and indoor activities based on a four-sided programme covering Physical, Educational, Christian Citizenship and Service elements.

As a Christian and Ecumenical Movement and with the local Company forming an integral part of the youth work of the church to which it belongs, religious education is an essential. This, together with discipline, provides for Boys two of the greatest needs of our time.

In addition to a new Headquarters and the re-organisation of the Brigade, re-shaped programmes of activities are being introduced for all three Sections, Junior, Company and Senior.

Though the first of the national voluntary uniformed movements for Boys, The Boys' Brigade is endeavouring to meet the challenge of the late 1960s and beyond. At home and overseas, church, educational and government authorities, and parents acknowledge the part played by the BB in its training of Boys to become Christian men.

The Girls' Brigade

Formed in July 1965 by the Union of:—

The Girls' Brigade of Ireland	founded in 1893
The Girls' Guildry	founded in 1900
The Girls' Life Brigade	founded in 1902

Patrons: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother
Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester

Aim: To help Girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life.

Membership:

Britain 95,876 Girls, 8,292 Officers in 2,284 Churches

Overseas 54,660 Girls, 3,767 Officers in 1,265 Churches
in 35 Countries

The Brigade is a Christian, International and Inter-denominational organisation providing activities designed to help Girls attain physical, mental and spiritual maturity and to encourage them to express what they learn through practical service to home, community and church.

The imaginative, up-to-date programme, planned for four groups, covers an age range of 5-18 years.

The local company is an integral part of the church to which it belongs and religious education, together with the many other subjects which are included in the programme, provide training for the right use of leisure time and for Christian citizenship within a modern world.

Programme

2 pm Reception of Guests by The Lord Bruce, JP, DL, President,
The Boys' Brigade and The Lady MacDermott, President,
The Girls' Brigade.

3 pm Arrival of Her Majesty The Queen.

Her Majesty will be received by His Worship The Mayor
of the London Borough of Hammersmith and The
Mayoress.

Royal Salute.

Inspection of Guards of Honour.

The Lord Bruce will welcome Her Majesty and explain
the origin and purpose of Brigade House.

Her Majesty The Queen will declare the Headquarters open.

Prayer of Dedication by
The Right Rev The Lord Bishop of London,
Honorary Vice-President of The Boys' Brigade.

Her Majesty will unveil a commemorative plaque.

Tour of Brigade House:—

Third floor

Headquarters, The Boys' Brigade, London District.

Second floor

Headquarters, The Girls' Brigade.

First floor

Headquarters, The Boys' Brigade.

Ground floor

BB and GB Training Area, Shops and Stores.

4 pm Departure of Her Majesty.

The Guards of Honour consist of BB Seniors holding The Queen's Badge and GB Brigaders, drawn from all parts of the British Isles.

Music will be provided by the augmented band of the London District, chosen from the bands of the 2nd Enfield, 133rd London, 5th Hendon, and the 2nd Waltham Forest Companies of The Boys' Brigade.

The Trumpet Voluntary	Jeremiah Clarke
Divertimento	Haydn
Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana"	Mascagni
Minuet from "Berenice"	Handel
Songs of Britain	Various

All the music has been arranged especially for The Boys' Brigade bands, by Frank Wright, MBE, Music Director to the Greater London Council.

Buffet tea will be served in the Training Area from 4 p.m.

Brigade House will be open for inspection from 4.15 p.m. Guests are required to begin their tour of the building from the front entrance hall where guides will be available.

The floral decorations are by courtesy of the London Borough of Hammersmith.

Closed Circuit Television by courtesy of Television Advisers, Ltd.