

# Heritage

Newsletter of The Boys' Brigade Archives

Vol.3 No.6

10th November 2023

## News from the Archives

At the time of the previous issue of the Heritage newsletter in October, BB Companies were engaging in activities to celebrate the 140th anniversary of The Boys' Brigade. We have added these stories to the timeline on the virtual museum and hope you enjoy finding what activities were held locally by Companies and Battalions for this anniversary. Please send through stories and photographs from 140th anniversary events that we may have missed, so that these can be shared on the virtual museum. Please follow the links provided to explore the content. We are also preparing content on the Baton relay organised by the North Scottish Area, and hope to bring you this story next year.

Work is progressing with cataloguing and packing the BB archive collection held at Felden Lodge in preparation for a future move. We have also been removing all the historical artifacts from the house and transferring these into the archives for safe keeping. This includes the stained glass window which has been in place in the Chapel since 2001 and was a familiar sight for all those that visited. Another familiar sight was the brass bell which hung on the wall in the lounge. One of a pair, these bells was presented by the 29th Liverpool Company Parents, Old Boys and Friends Association, the second bell is in Carronvale House.

We had a request from the North West District for the bell, and it was decided to allow it to go to the Districts training centre in Kirkham where it could continue to be used and appreciated. The Bell was re-dedicated on the occasion of a Celebratory Luncheon held at the Centre on 7th October 2023 to commemorate the 140th Anniversary of The Boys' Brigade

As with the bell, we hope that in the future the stained glass window, will once again find a place in a Brigade building where it can be appreciated and bear testament to the rich history of The Boys' Brigade.



[archive@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:archive@boys-brigade.org.uk)

140th Anniversary

140 Monopoly

Juniors Sleepover

Anchors 140



## Recent posts from our Social Media

In the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday we posted a number of photographs of BB members at past Remembrance events, some of which had been contributed by our supporters. Please send us images from Remembrance events in 2023 to add to our archive collection.

On the 9th November we posted an image of a banner in the name of the 1st Overtown Company which is currently on display in the Maurice Williamson heritage Museum at Ganaway.



### BB Week

On Thursday 2nd November we posted on social media an image from the 26th South Essex, BB week 1963.

Read more about BB Week on our virtual

### Rediscovering The Wiltshire Battalion

Chris Spackman has produced a rich history of the Wiltshire Battalion for our Virtual Museum. Uncover captivating stories, photos, and an exciting revival of a piece of band music not heard for almost four decades.

The page provides a glimpse into the Battalion's past, celebrating its role in shaping the lives of young people and the dedication and achievements of countless individuals.

As you explore, consider sharing your Battalion's history. Whether you're a current or former member, your story is vital in preserving the history of The Boys' Brigade for future generations.

**AUDIO**

THE WILTSHIRE BATTALION

The Wiltshire Battalion March



Click on the links to access the content.

Memorials

Ganaway Museum

BB Week

Wiltshire Battalion



## 4th Kirkcaldy banner.

Daniel Green writes:

During lockdown, The Archive Trust obtained a double-sided painted banner for the 4th Kirkcaldy company which looks as though it may have been painted on linoleum. Kirkcaldy was once famous for the production of Linoleum through Nairn's great factory. The owner of the factory, Sir Michael Nairn, was a great supporter of the 4th Kirkcaldy Company.

Raymond Allerton contacted the Fife Museums who are currently running a two-year project called "Flooring the World," which details the history of the manufacturing of floorcoverings in Kirkcaldy.

The banner held in the Carronvale Archive store has a detail about 4th Kirkcaldy Silver Band on one side and the other side has two boys flanking the Victoria Halls. The Victoria halls were purchased for the company in 1905 and were officially opened in September that year. That might give us an approximate date for the banner between 1905 and 1920. The Victoria Halls have recently been sold to property developers, and the banner had been found in the roof space of the hall.



On Tuesday 17th October we received a visit from Gavin Grant of Fife Museums who suggested that the banner was not linoleum but was actually floorcloth a forerunner to Linoleum that ceased production around 1920.



## From the Archives



43rd Liverpool Tug of War shield.  
*(St Cyprians Church, Edge Hill, 1906 - 1999)*

## Our Archivist Asks



The founder of the IMPS Bruce Porter recently sent into the archives one of the IMPS cloth badges used on the Boys Jerseys. These can be clearly seen in some of the photographs on the IMPS page in the virtual museum. We would like to add an IMPS cap and jersey to our archive collection. If anyone has examples of these rare uniform pieces please contact the Brigade Archivist as we would like to photograph these or would welcome them as an addition to our collection.

**IMPS**

[archive@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:archive@boys-brigade.org.uk)



## Archive Shop

We are continually adding new stock to our online shop. For the badge collectors, we have some new stock to go onto the shop, and hopefully this will be available within the next few weeks. Please keep checking the 'New' page on the shop.

Don't forget that we have packs of Christmas cards available in our online shop, featuring the 1950's artwork of Tom Curr.



**Note: The online shop will be CLOSED from the 4th December 2023 until the 8th January 2024 to give our volunteers a well earned break.**



[archiveshop@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:archiveshop@boys-brigade.org.uk)

Archive Shop

## Virtual Museum



We are starting to expand the virtual museum to include regions around the world. We have looked at the Regional Fellowships, and have started with the first regional fellowship formed in the early 1960's

This encompassed BB work in the Pacific and Asian region, and as the work expanded was split into the Pacific Regional Fellowship and the Asian Regional Fellowship. We are pleased to launch a page on the history of the Pacific Regional Fellowship, which features brief histories of every BB country in the Pacific.

We are working on bringing the rest of the regions to the virtual museum over the next year.

We are looking for contributors to assist with creating pages about the history of the BB in countries around the world. If you can help, please contact us.

Pacific

[archive@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:archive@boys-brigade.org.uk)

