

Dundee & Angus Battalion

Battalion Development

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Development

The Scottish Development team's annual review meeting took place at the end of January in Carronvale House. This group consists of 9 staff led by John Sharp, Director for Scotland. Some are full time, some part time. The team discussed issues relating to 'Mental health and young people'; the place for 'Godly Play' in the BB and 'Communicating confidently'. These three topics were led by external speakers. A key theme of this year's gathering was 'Messaging' which looked at all aspects of delivering the BB programme with the **Key Message** of: *"The Boys' Brigade offers children and young people a safe, caring and fun learning place to **LEARN, GROW** and **DISCOVER**".* A phrase repeated often during these sessions" along with "**Growth in Faith, Community and Young People**".

A review of projects undertaken round the country was given by each person and covered items including Battalion health checks and structural review; training of officers, and senior awards; 'Raise the Bar' campaign; Faith in Young People, the Guild BB Project; the Ultimate Challenge Plus material which is due out soon and the Scottish Youth Parliament elections which this year has 4 BB members in the hustings. The STEM (Science, Technology and Engineering Partnership) is looking for more volunteers to help deliver the projects to young people through a series of workshops. Phase IV of the Cashback scheme is available but only to those starting new companies or new sections in existing companies.

Derek Gunn, the new Scottish Brigade Chaplain met the development team and joined in on the Wednesday sessions. Derek was the North of Scotland field officer (a precursor of the development worker) and Tom Boyles' predecessor in the north before studying for the ministry.

Back at home I continue to receive enquiries for places in BB companies.

Queen's Badge Adviser

Completion course application forms have been circulated and 17 boys are expected to complete their award this summer. Fife are hosting the presentation with the date yet to be confirmed.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The expedition 'Green form' is now available for online completion. NOTE the requirements of the expedition are a stipulated minimum number of hours activity for each day of the expedition and NOT a minimum distance travelled. The development team were still receiving comments of some leaders demanding travelling minimum distance requirements before approval.

Roddy Taylor

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