



NEWS

December 2020



'The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'

John 10:10

six in six challenge

Read more inside!

*Advancing
Christ's
Kingdom*

WHERE'S YOUR HEAD AT?



'We are excited to announce a new mental health project in partnership with Made for More NI uniquely designed for Boys' Brigade NI. Made for More NI is a Christian organisation that aims to equip young people with the knowledge and understanding that there is value in their identity and the choices that they make.

Mental health concerns has been identified as one of the great issues young people are facing; escalated now because of Covid-19. Worries about school life, studying, preparing for and taking exams, and feeling increasingly anxious and isolated are just some of the problems being highlighted. In BB we want children and young people to reach their full potential and feel loved, safe and cared for. So we are feeling really blessed to have received Education Authority funding to run programs, workshops and provide resources for our young people to help them achieve good emotional well being.

Read more inside...

Getting Back to BB

COVID READY

- ✓ Review and understand the BB Framework and Guidance.
- ✓ Complete the Covid- Ready Risk Assessment for each section.
- ✓ Complete the Company Action Log.
- ✓ Complete the Local Approval process.

We hope even more BB Companies will get back to face-to-face activities early in 2021. As you read through this newsletter you will see we have a lot in place to help you do this. Please check out the Stronger Safer Together framework link below regularly to keep up to date with the current status of BB. Before returning to BB face-to-face you need to be Covid Ready as outlined in the steps to the left. If you go to our downloads page you will find links to the Brigade site for everything you need to be Covid Ready.



STRONGER | SAFER | TOGETHER

<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/ourframework/>



NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT SECURES BB RE-START FUNDING.



The Northern Ireland District of Boys' Brigade has successfully secured £50,000 funding, from the Education Authority in NI, to resource and support BB Companies restart youth provision for children and young people, post Covid -19.

The money will be spent in the following key areas:

Free Restart Kits for Every Company in NI!

As we write we have begun dispatching a BB branded kit bag to every BB Company in NI. These are packed full of resources to use on a Company night for all ages and recruitment resources to both attract new members and re-engage with existing members and get them back to BB. The bag has Covid safety posters, 'Welcome Back' postcards, 'We Miss You' postcards, recruitment posters and flyers, badges with 'Life to the Full' and 'Be Bold and Be Strong' quotes taken from our Brigade Vision, Mission and Values, lots of craft materials, and programme/activity ideas.

The second part of the funding will deliver the 'Where's Your Head At' Mental Health Project run by Made for More. The impact of the Covid lockdown and restrictions on the mental health of children and young people has been widely identified, so Mental Health has been prioritised as a central element of this funding project. This also supports our Boys' Brigade Vision from John 10:10 that children and young people experience life to the full. Made for More is a Christian charity that aims to equip young people with the knowledge & understanding that there is value in their identity & the choices that they make.

'Our vision is that children and young people experience life to the full.'

John 10:10

And There's More Coming Soon!

We are producing a new Disability Printed Resource to complement the existing Northern Ireland District Disability App. In recognition that children and young people with disabilities and special needs will need additional support and consideration to get them involved in BB. The Disability information Booklet for Leaders will enable them to take steps to include all children and young people in BB activities, enabling them to achieve their best. On top of that each Battalion will receive a promotional Pop Up Banner that they can loan out to BB Companies as required.

It is hoped that this restart project together with the BB at Home, virtual programmes and the restart support provided by Brigade UK will enable a quick and smooth return of BB Companies in Northern Ireland to face-to-face youth work in 2021. We are aiming to build up leaders' confidence in returning to volunteering and instill confidence in our partner churches for Boys' Brigade Companies to restart youth and children's ministry through the BB programme.

Speaking about the Restart Funding, Alison Irvine, Support and Communications Officer for the Northern Ireland District said:

'We want to be 'Stronger, Safer, Together', enabling members and those yet to be members to benefit from all the opportunities, faith building, challenges and rewards that BB has to offer. The 'Where's Your Head At?' Mental Health Project will further enhance all this work to support the emotional well being of our young people. We are encouraging all our BB companies in Northern Ireland to avail of this free Mental Health programme and book now as this part of the project must be delivered by 31 March 2021.

Pictured above: NI District Staff, Denise, Nigel, Deborah and Wendy packing up the free Kit Bags for Companies.



PRAYER POINTS



Lord thank you for all our blessings and daily reminders all around us that we are loved and cherished. Forgive us when we fall short; help us to model Jesus in our lives.

Lord, plant new things in our lives and in the life of BB, in the name of Jesus. Prepare us for new things and help us to be willing to change for your glory.

We lay out our plans for Mission 2021 before you and ask for your increase and your blessing on this time of outreach to our young people.

Help us to recover and thrive after Covid-19; individually, at home, in our families, in our Churches, and in our BB Companies/Battalions. We pray that Covid-19 will be gone here and right across the world. We give thanks for news of a vaccine to protect us - We praise you Lord our God for that breakthrough!

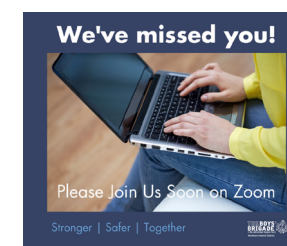
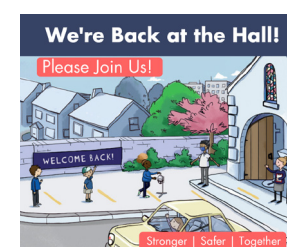
Help us to trust, obey and rejoice in you always. May the truth of your Word become real to us.

Lord search our hearts and renew our spirits in Jesus name. Amen.

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

(Revelation 21:5 ESV)

Social Media Images to Help you Connect with Your Young People.



Six different social media images for you to use to support your message. Use these along with your own Facebook/Instagram text to keep in touch with your members. Available sized for Facebook and Instagram.

Download here:
www.bbni.co.uk/niforms.htm



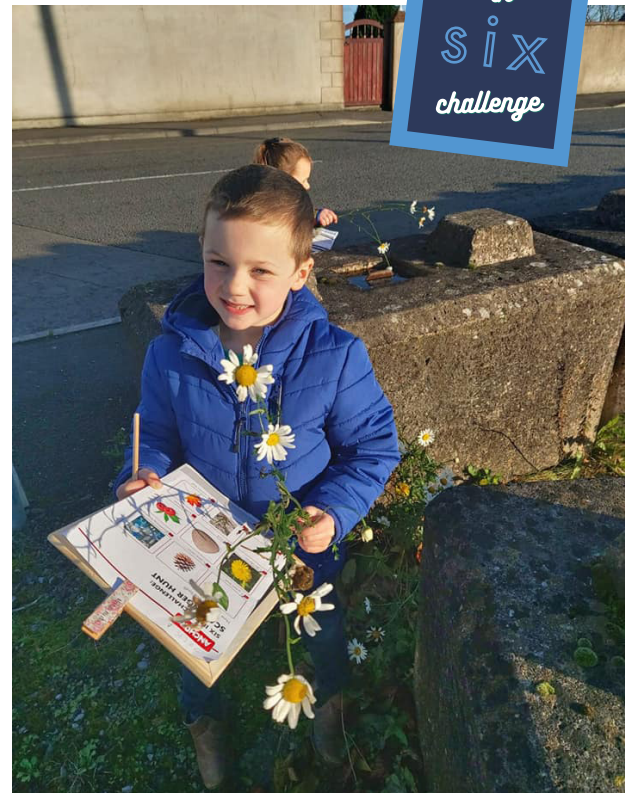
These images have been designed with key messages that we hope will help you to keep in touch with your members on social media and let them know what stage you are at in getting back to BB. We would love to see social media flooded with these good messages in 2021 such as BB is Back and We're Back at the Hall; when the time is right for your Church and your Company. We have BB Companies back meeting since October and doing very well and that has been so encouraging. There is also a set of graphics for those that are doing BB virtually on Zoom.

BB is important for our children and young people. It is the only engagement with Church that many of them have during the week. We feel now more than ever they need to know they have people in their lives that really care about them and what they are facing at this time. They need to know their identity and worth is in Christ; that they are loved unconditionally and forgiven. We want to share hope and love with them in a broken world that has been rocked by Covid-19.

PROGRAMME NEWS



Above: Well done to 2nd Ballymena Company Section boys who took on the Bag it Up challenge, sorting through and donating their clothes and books to Hope 365.



Above: Anchor Boy Jack from 1st Caledon doing the scavenger hunt for the #6in6challengebbni



Our Six in Six challenge continues with lots more to come!
Keep checking out our webpage for new Challenges for Jan, Feb and March!
at <http://www.bbni.co.uk/nisixinsix.htm>



'BB the change that you wish to see in the world!'

Hope365 Ethiopia, rescue street children in Ethiopia and is the Company & Senior Section charity partner for 20/21.

A resource pack is available to download from our website with programme activities which will inform and challenge your young people on the work of Hope365 in Ethiopia.

These resources have been designed to align with the six Programme Activity Areas. We understand that Covid-19 may change the way in which you meet this year; we have created these resources with that in mind and so they will work on Zoom too if you are not meeting face-to-face.

For more information on the work of the charity please go to:
www.hope365.co.uk/



Download this Resource Pack from our downloads section here:
<https://bit.ly/Hope365ResourcePack>

PROGRAMME NEWS - A MUSICAL START TO 2021!

This year we are offering a free to enter music competition for each of our sections which can be recorded, either in your hall if you are back to face-to-face, or recorded at home. Entries for all sections may be uploaded to the relevant links below by a registered leader or by the parents/guardians of the young people entering the competition. **All entries should be uploaded between Mon 4 and Fri 29 January 2021.**



UPLOAD ENTRIES HERE:

<https://bit.ly/AnchorPraise>
Please record performances on phone or tablet device and upload to the link above between Mon 4 - Friday 29 Jan 2021

Download the rules here 
<https://bit.ly/AnchorPraiseRules>



UPLOAD ENTRIES HERE:

<https://bit.ly/JSMusicianoftheYear>
Please record performances on phone or tablet device and upload to the link above between Mon 4 - Friday 29 Jan 2021

Download the rules here 
<https://bit.ly/JSMOTYRules>



UPLOAD ENTRIES HERE:

<https://bit.ly/CSMusicianoftheYear>
Please record performances on phone or tablet device and upload to the link at link above between Mon 4 - Friday 29 Jan 2021

Download the rules here 
<https://bit.ly/CSMOTYRules>

GENERAL POINTS TO NOTE:

1. All young people entering should wear BB uniform if at all possible, for recording their performance.
2. Parents must give permission for photos/videos to be used for wider BB purposes - this is on the upload form.
3. All three competitions will be judged by an independent adjudicator(s).
4. All young people who enter will receive a Certificate of Participation.

 Please check the individual competition rules above for each section.

COMING SOON!

Details to follow in our e news



Annual Colouring Competition for Anchor Boys.

Templates for P1 - P4 Can be completed at home or in your hall. Rules and 2021 entry deadlines to be announced.

Check out the Anchor's resource pack for Habitat for Humanity - lots of activities to help learn about the charity and how to support them.

www.bbni.co.uk/niforms.htm



PROGRAMME NEWS


VIRTUAL SESSIONS

**7.30pm - 9.00pm on ZOOM**



SKILLS: 15 JAN | 05 MAR

COMPLETION:
29 JAN
19 FEB
19 MAR

BOOK NOW! 

www.bbni.co.uk/niforms.htm

QUEEN'S BADGE COURSES

DOING THINGS A BIT DIFFERENTLY!

Check out these resources:

QUEEN'S BADGE: <https://bit.ly/ContinuingQB>

PRESIDENT'S BADGE: <https://bit.ly/ContinuingPB>

DofE - THE AWARD AT HOME:
<https://www.dukeofed.org/covid19>

CONVERSATIONS AROUND...

<https://bit.ly/ProgforAnchors>



Programmes
for Anchors



Zoom session - scan the QR code to register

18 January 2021 | 7.30pm - 8.30pm

ANCHORS

CONVERSATIONS AROUND...

<https://bit.ly/ProgforComp>



Programmes for
Company Section



Zoom session. Scan the QR code to register.

8 February 2021 | 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Company
& Seniors

ENCOUNTER.

LIVES CHANGED BY JESUS

Ten sessions looking at lives in the Bible changed by Jesus.
Check out the Syllabus here:
bit.ly/EncounterSyllabus.

Memory Verses:

Romans 3:10
Romans 5:8
Romans 10:9-10
Romans 5:1-2

Can be done on Zoom! Leaders can work through the studies with groups either virtually or in person. Leader's guide is now available to order. **Price £5 each or £10 for 3 copies** (prices include p&p). Currently available by post only.

Order online here:
<https://bit.ly/CEOrder20>

or call NIHQ on 028 9268 8444

MADE FOR MORE: WHERE'S YOUR HEAD AT?

WHERE'S YOUR HEAD AT? 

THIS WEEK AT BOYS' BRIGADE WE ARE JOINED BY MADE FOR MORE!



Book your session now with Made for More!

The Boys' Brigade NI and Made For More have come together to create the 'Where's Your Head At?' project and a number of resources to help you offer support and discuss the topic of mental health with the boys in your company.

Book soon! Its free and its good! To help you share and promote the project there is a special website just for BB, to provide Leaders with more resources and tools to keep the conversation going & help create a generation of boys that are willing and able to talk about their mental health. Check it out at www.madeformoreni.co.uk/boysbrigaderesource

As we continue to add resources and videos please feel free to download them and use them with your company and across your social media platforms.

Contact info to book Made for More for your BB

e mail: info@madeformoreni.co.uk,
Instagram: @madeformoreni;
Facebook: @madeformoreni;
Web: www.madeformoreni.co.uk/

Resources to support you with the 'Where's Your Head At?' project available to download include social media images with relevant Bible verses - see some examples below.

BOYS BRIGADE NI

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:7

MADE FOR MORE

BOYS BRIGADE NI

Reminder
Read! Take 15 minutes each day to read the Bible. Start in the Book of Matthew & start to learn about the life of Jesus.

[Options](#) [Close](#)

MADE FOR MORE

Here to Help...



ALISON IRVINE
Support &
Communications
Officer

alison.irvine@
boys-brigade.org.uk
07496 671 813



DAVID PENNEY
Training &
Programme
Officer

david.penney@
boys-brigade.org.uk
07496 671 821

4 - 8 JANUARY 2021

NEW YEAR WEEK OF PRAYER



Advancing Christ's Kingdom

Please join when you can during the week of 4-8 January 2021 for our second week of prayer this session. Let us enter 2021 with confidence, laying out our confessions, thanksgiving and the desires of our hearts before our Heavenly Father. Join us as we pray over the week for BB, each section, our Mission 2021, the vision, mission and values of BB, each of our Battalions, our Committees and Office Bearers, the staff team and the safe return to BB for all. Prayer points will be posted each day on our Facebook page along with Zoom links to join the online prayer group in the evenings. Register for daily prayer points here: <https://bit.ly/NewYearWeekofPrayer>



EA News and Updates

Have you Registered Your BB Company or Battalion with EA?

We encourage all BB Companies and Battalions to register with EA. This is of great benefit to BB companies as once registered they can apply yearly for local Non-Targeted/Generic Youth Provision Funding. Additionally this entitles Companies and Battalions to apply for other funding from EA and also to be eligible to receive extra funds, such as that issued for PPE in late 2020. On top of this, the funding that the NI District receives from EA is based on the number of BB Companies registered with EA. Money that in turn is spent to design and deliver services that benefit our children and young people.

The Engagement Framework

If you were registered in 2020 with EA and received funding you will receive notification to complete the Engagement Framework as part of the reporting back on the funding. If you need help with this please contact us at NIHQ and one of our support staff will be happy to assist you. A copy of the Engagement Framework Infographic poster is included with the Restart Kit bags sent to Captains and Correspondents in December. You can also access it online here and further help on the EA page of our website: www.bbni.co.uk/nieducationauthor.htm



DO YOU NEED A LAPTOP FOR YOUR COMPANY OR BATTALION?

NIHQ has some laptops that we can issue to Companies or Battalions to help them manage the admin for their BB Company/Battalion and to connect and engage with their members online.

Please complete the expression of interest form here:

<https://bit.ly/technihq>

If we are over subscribed selection criteria will apply.