

Girls' Brigade News

August 2026



**CATCH UP ON
COMPANY NEWS, CELEBRATE
AWARD WINS, GET
EXCITED FOR THE 2026/27
SESSION, EXPLORE
TRAINING AND EVENTS,
AND CHECK OUT THE NEW
RESOURCES4U!**



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Your Office Bearers are committed to staying connected with you. You are encouraged to contact them if you have any suggestions for improvement or ideas for future development in GBNI.

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BE IN THE GIRLS' BRIGADE NEWS!

Please send your company news, activities, celebrations and achievements with photographs to info@gbni.co.uk to feature in a future edition of the Girls' Brigade News.



Pause for Thought

I like the movie 'Sister Act', Sister Mary Clarence has many flaws (haven't we all!). Her character shone much needed light on the lives and workings of the Sisters. In one scene, she is keen for them to engage with the local community, Mother Superior, not so! The Monsignor states of the Mother Superior "Because this is the kind of woman she is, sisters. She wants us to go out into the neighbourhood and meet the people". Is this not what God calls us to do in Girls' Brigade?

We have an incredible opportunity to share the Good News of the Gospel with girls and young women in GB each week. Not only through our Scripture course this year on the 'Fruit of the Spirit' but also in how we engage and share the Gospel in a manner that is suitable for all ages to understand.

What would 'go out into all the world' look like – it's to 'Bee missional' (ICGB incoming theme). To go out into the community, to reach people who know nothing of GB, church or the Gospel; stepping out of our comfort zones. John 20:21 states "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." This was Jesus sending out the Apostles

to continue His teaching. The very word Apostle means 'one who is sent on a mission'. In Luke 10, Jesus sends out the 72 and declares "*the harvest is plenty but the workers are few.*" He desires messengers who will invite others into a relationship with Him.

I think in GB, we can be a bit insular, we ought not to take "one small step for man" but take a giant leap of faith and share the Fruits of the Spirit. In the parable of the banquet, Luke states "*go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.*" We need to meet people where they are at; by the Holy Spirit's power, not of human power, we can be transformed and in turn help to transform others.

As we move towards the start of another GB year, may you know His grace, His ever calm presence in your life before the busyness of GB begins. Exodus 33:14 "And he said, *'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.'*"

Heather Lindsay
GBNI President



Meet Coral Anderson

Your New GB International President



Coral Anderson was elected at the International Conference in the Cook Islands 2026, to be GB's International President (2026–30).

“GB has so much to offer today's girls and young women, just as it has for over 130 years. I have had the privilege of serving with my GB sisters at all levels of leadership in GB Australia. Together we have experienced the highs and lows of leadership, but more importantly we have seen God at work in the lives of girls and young women.

What a privilege to listen to young women as they ask Jesus to be their Saviour and then to pray for them as they journey with Jesus.

One of the things I believe is at the heart of what we do in GB is we offer a safe place for everyone to explore their faith, to be mentored as they walk their spiritual journey and to have fun. The intergenerational way GB works has always been important to me and enjoy seeing women of faith empowering the next generation.

In our rapidly changing world, I encourage us all to work together to ensure our organisation remains relevant to its members and the churches they serve alongside.”

Stay up to date with GB International via their website
<https://gbworldwide.org/>



Lifeboats

WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION (RNLI) HAS BEEN CHOSEN BY THE GBNI TRUSTEE BOARD AS OUR CHARITY OF THE YEAR FOR 2026/27!

TAKE A LOOK AT THE FUNDRAISING PACK IN YOUR COMPANY'S AUGUST PACK FOR IDEAS, INSPIRATION, AND EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET INVOLVED.



For more information, contact info@gbni.co.uk

Charity

of the Year

The RNLI is an inspiring organisation that saves lives at sea, operating lifeboats around the UK and Ireland while delivering essential water safety education. Their dedicated volunteers and crews are ready 24/7, providing lifesaving rescue services whenever they're needed most.

Throughout the coming GB session, we're encouraging GB companies to get behind the RNLI through fundraising and awareness-raising activities. By coming together, we can make a real impact to help this incredible charity continue its lifesaving work and keep our waters safe.

... and relax

The summer months offer a welcome opportunity to kick back and relax a little. Whether we holiday abroad or at home, the intention is usually the same. It's about taking time to rest, recuperate, recharge and refocus.

We speak of taking a well-earned break from the activities of the rest of the year. That often includes GB.

Yet it is possible; that even in these months when we have a break from GB activities, there are some of us who really miss it.

Recently, I attended the UK Pipe Band Championships on behalf of GBNI. I met lots of our members there, many of whom were desperately missing GB and who couldn't wait for September to come. That got me thinking about something that we can remember in the downtime between Spring and Autumn.

I was drawn to recall the 23rd Psalm. We all know this one.

As a minister conducting hospital visits to the sick, providing pastoral care of grieving families, offering comfort to those in perils of many kinds, I often read Psalm 23.

The familiarity of that first line brings a peace to many a troubled heart.

**"THE LORD
IS MY
SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT
WANT."
PSALM 23:1**

If you don't know the rest of the six verses that make up this Psalm, the chances are that this one verse may be enough to help you find the peace we all crave.

David starts with a designation of who God is for Him and for us all. He makes it very personal.

He doesn't say "The Lord is a Shepherd", or "The Lord is our Shepherd", he says that the Lord is MY Shepherd. David belongs to this Shepherd's flock. He is not

detached and simply following the popular fads of the day. He is one of the Shepherd's sheep.

For me, there is a tremendous sense of belonging in this statement, and feeling like we belong somewhere is at the root of being one of the flock.

I enjoy going to Northern Ireland matches at Windsor Park. When I go, I usually park off the Lisburn Road and walk the half mile to the ground alongside many others of the 'Green and White Army.' The feeling of togetherness is palpable. There is a unity of belonging to the one tribe. It's a powerful feeling.

That is something like what David is expressing here. The Lord is HIS Shepherd. He belongs to God. His Shepherd is the One who is over all, in all, and who made all. His Shepherd is the Lord.

Because he belongs to God, he can be sure of the benefits of this.

He will not be in want.

He will be led to the greenest pastures.

His needs, both physically and spiritually, will be met.

He will be guided and protected, and in the end will enjoy eternity with the Shepherd in Glory.

I sometimes wonder why a passage of Scripture becomes more well known than others. But not with these words from David. His words strike right to the very heart of the desire we all share, to belong.

When we have our downtime over the summer, we must remember that we remain members of GB, but more importantly, we are one of His flock.

Praise be to God.



Aaron Ditty
GBNI Spiritual Officer

50th Anniversary Celebrations in Garvagh



There was a real sense of joy and thankfulness in **263rd NI Garvagh** Girls' Brigade this session as the company celebrated its 50th anniversary — a remarkable milestone that brought together cherished memories, lasting friendships and a deep appreciation for all that has been shared over the years.

The celebrations began at the Enrolment Service in October, when former Officer and past member Louise McFetridge returned as guest speaker.

The anniversary year came to a fitting close with a dedicated 50th Anniversary Service, where another past member, Alison Steen, was invited to speak. A highlight of the service was a special choir made up of both past and present members — a lovely reminder of the friendship, faith and sense of belonging that have been at the heart of Garvagh Girls' Brigade for five decades.

Among those attending the anniversary service were four of the original Officers who helped establish the company: Betty Magowan, Muriel McMaster, Heather McLenaghan and Yvonne Orr. Their presence added a very special touch to the celebration, creating a meaningful link between the company's early days and the vibrant organisation it is today.



Also pictured is Tanya Magowan, who has been part of Garvagh Girls' Brigade for 50 years, having first joined as an Explorer.



All Creatures Great and Small

32nd NI Connor Presbyterian and **251st NI Glenwherry Presbyterian** GB companies recently joined forces at Glenwherry Church Hall for a fantastic Explorer Fun Day.

What began as plans for a simple mobile farm soon grew into a full agricultural extravaganza!

Girls and parents alike were delighted by an amazing variety of animals and farm attractions, from calves and lambs to tractors and quad bikes.

Jigsaw Mobile Farm added an extra touch of excitement with some more unusual visitors too, including a pygmy goat, a parrot, a snake and rabbits. The fun continued outdoors with games, bubbles and face painting.



Inside the hall, there was just as much excitement, as the girls stayed busy planting sunflowers, painting and making masks. And, of course, no great day out would be complete without delicious refreshments. Hot dogs, crisps, cake and sweets were all enjoyed, alongside a lovely warming cup of tea.



Blessed with bright sunshine and dry weather, the event had an amazing turnout of girls and families. It was a truly memorable day, and sincere thanks go to everyone who helped make it such a resounding success.



Wedding Celebrations



Holly Lucas and **Calvin Reid** were married on 24 July 2025 at Redrock Presbyterian Church, Armagh. Holly is Senior Section Officer in **327th NI Redrock Presbyterian** Girls' Brigade and Calvin is Officer in Charge of the Company Section at 1st Tullyallen & Mountnorris Boys' Brigade. The Company sends heartfelt congratulations and every blessing for their life together.

End of Year BBQ in Bangor



8th NI Trinity Presbyterian, Bangor finished off the 2025/26 session in style with an end of year BBQ trip for everyone!

5th Anniversary Celebrations in Railway Street

375th NI Railway Street Presbyterian marked its fifth anniversary on Thursday 26th March 2026 with a joyful celebration with family, friends and members.



The anniversary cake was cut by the eldest and youngest members, Abigail McCleary and Sara Recoder, alongside one of the company's first qualified Officers, Joanna Davidson—fittingly, perfect practice ahead of her wedding this July.



A special highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Brigader Brooch to Abigail McCleary—the first in the company to receive the award.



Abigail's brooch was presented by her mother and Captain Hilary Milligan.

District 6 (Lagan) - 2025/26 session highlights!

Over the past year, members from across **Lagan District** had the opportunity to come together for a variety of activities and events.

Seniors and Brigaders enjoyed evenings at the Scout Woodland in Lisburn taking part in archery, axe throwing and campfire activities.



Juniors had a lot of fun at the drum circle sessions led by The Gathering Drum held at different locations around the District.

The festive season included a Christmas panto performed by Play It By Ear for Explorers and the leaders had the chance to catch up over a leisurely walk and lunch together.



They finished the year with a District Colour Run for all girls in the Company Section, the perfect finale to a really fun year of working together across the District.



Thank you to everyone who took part or volunteered to help and support all the events throughout the year!

16th NI Seaview Presbyterian GB is 80!

16th NI Seaview Presbyterian GB marked its 80th anniversary with 80 Acts of Kindness, beautifully showcased on their Tree of Kindness. One of the highlights was an Intergenerational Christmas Evening, kindly funded by Linking Generations Northern Ireland and thoughtfully planned by the Seniors. Guests enjoyed a handmade light-up Christmas tree, homemade treats and a welcoming festive atmosphere. The girls also created a cheerful post box topper for their local post box.



So much happening in District 3!

Last session, **Cavehill District** secured funding from the Belfast Health Development Unit to run well-being projects in every company in line with 'Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing'. A resource was compiled featuring company night activity suggestions and funding also covered three free district events, giving the girls opportunities to connect and be active. The events were a great success, with lovely feedback from the girls.

Under 5s and Explorers enjoyed the soft play and inflatables at Airtastic.



Juniors took part in a Hawaiian-themed party with roller skating, glitter tattoos, ice cream sundaes and a photo booth.



Seniors and Brigaders enjoyed Laser Tag, 10 Pin Bowling and food at Airtastic.



Helen and Margaret also attended the funding celebration event at City Hall, Belfast.



GB Out & About

It is brilliant to see GB companies continuing to promote their company and Girls' Brigade at different events over the summer months!

112th NI Edengrove Presbyterian had a great time at their church Holiday Bible Club promoting and talking about GB to girls and parents!



To book one of the Promotional Packs, contact info@gbni.co.uk

GBHQ Staff and Esther loved meeting GB leaders, girls and parents at the UK Pipe Band Championships in Belfast.



Get to know your new Board of Trustees Members

A warm welcome to our newly appointed members of the Board of Trustees as they take up their roles at the GBNI AGM. Thank you for your willingness to serve GBNI at national level and for bringing your wisdom, experience and enthusiasm to the leadership of Girls' Brigade over the next four years.



Heather Lindsay
GBNI President

Helen has been a member of Girls' Brigade since she was three years old, moving her way up the ranks to now serving as Captain of 42nd NI Ballygomartin Presbyterian. Her commitment is to see GBNI grow, making girls and leaders feel valued, keeping it interesting, exciting, fun and relevant to today's society and needs, but whilst also upholding our traditional values and Christian beliefs.



Helen Weatherald
Board Rep Group 1

Melissa has been in GB for 26 years, and after serving on the GBNI Youth Forum as a Board Youth Representative, she recently became Captain of 230th NI Metropolitan Tabernacle. Her hope is that GBNI will continue to provide a steady and safe space where girls are encouraged, supported and challenged, and where they can develop through the varied programmes we provide to suit a wide range of girls.



Melissa Meldrum
Board Rep Group 1



Catherine Finney
Board Rep Group 3

Catherine has been an Officer for 30 years, including six years as Captain of 200th NI St James's Presbyterian. Her vision for GBNI is that every girl would have the opportunity to hear God's Word and be nurtured in her faith. She is passionate about ensuring that Girls' Brigade is inclusive and accessible to all.

Lauren grew up through Girls' Brigade and is currently Captain of 372nd NI First Castlederg Presbyterian. Her prayer is that GBNI would strengthen its links in local churches and communities, reaching more girls and young women, allowing us to advance Christ's Kingdom and that leaders would be encouraged and equipped with further resources and training.



Lauren Kerr
Board Rep Group 3



Lewis Donaldson
GBNI Honorary Treasurer

Lewis is a chartered accountant who has worked as a management accountant with experience in social enterprise and private equity. He lives in Parkgate, Templepatrick, with his wife, daughter and two French Bulldogs. As a boy he attended 1st Templepatrick Boys' Brigade. His wife attended 238th NI Lylehill Presbyterian GB with their daughter following in her footsteps when she was old enough.



Annual General Meeting

YOU ARE INVITED!

The GBNI Board of Trustees invites members to join us at the GBNI AGM to look back on and celebrate all the highlights and achievements of the 2025/26 GB Session.

What's happening:

- Light refreshments at 6 pm
- AGM at 6.30 pm
- Launching Charity of the Year
- Finishing with our annual delicious BBQ
- GB Shop will be open



JOIN US ON 26TH AUGUST AT GBHQ FROM 6 PM

For catering purposes, please book your place online via the GBNI website by 3 pm Friday 21st August 2026.



gbni.co.uk/agm



Admin Updates

GBNI Membership Fees 2026/27

Fee per member : £18.50

(£1 is allocated to insurance)

Postage Fee : £15.00

GB EF Fee per member : £0.10

GB Int. Fee per company : £1.12

GB Int. Fee per member : £0.34

Late Submission of Annual Return

Fee : £10.00 (Automatically applied from 1st December 2026)

GBNI Headquarters and Shop Closure

GBHQ and Shop will be closed on Monday 31st August 2026, for the Summer Bank Holiday, reopening on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 9.30 am.

GBNI Consent Forms for 2026/27

There have been a few changes to the GBNI Consent Forms.

- The paper versions are now available from My Resources to download.
- Google Form Templates for 2026/27 are now available to copy for those who already have permissions to access. If you would like to consider using online forms via Google Forms, we have instructions in My Resources to assist you. We would like to remind all users to make a copy of the form

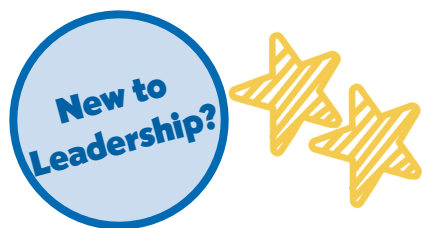
before editing, so that the main templates are not changed for other GB companies using this resource. If you do notice a change to the form, please email info@gbni.co.uk as soon as possible, as these forms are not monitored.

- For Microsoft Licence users, this year, we have produced MS Form Templates of the GBNI Consent Forms. The link to copy these forms is also available to view in My Resources.

GBNI Microsoft Accounts

Have you thought about upgrading your GBNI email redirect to a live inbox? With the new GB session approaching, now is an ideal time to make the switch. A number of GB companies are already using the free Microsoft 365 Basic licence available through GBNI, giving them access to online versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Forms, as well as 1TB of cloud storage.

If you would like to keep your GB emails and documents separate from your personal accounts while benefiting from these additional features, contact leeanne@gbni.co.uk for more information on how to upgrade to an MS account.



There is always a lot happening in Girls' Brigade NI, from events, competitions and deadlines to training sessions and meetings at both national and district levels. To help you stay up to date with everything happening across GBNI, we encourage all GB leaders and Chaplains to register on the GBNI website, log in, and regularly check the calendar at <https://gbni.co.uk/calendar>

If your GB Captain or Leader in Charge has added your profile to My Brigade and your registration email matches, you will receive instant access to all the leaders' features on the website.

These include:

1. Accessing over 1100 resources, including forms, policies, programme materials, competition details and the latest GBNI newsletter.
2. Booking for courses, training, competitions and events.

Are you on social media? Follow us on our platforms to keep up with the latest updates:

- **GB News page:** <https://gbni.co.uk/news>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/GBNI1>
- **Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/girlsbrigadenorthernireland>

3. Viewing what is happening at both district and national level.
4. Updating your personal details and signing the data consent box. You can also manage your subscription to the GBNI monthly eNews for the latest news and deadline reminders.

If you do not receive instant access, don't worry. The website automatically notifies GBHQ, and we conduct daily manual checks in My Brigade to match leader registrations to profiles. If no profile is found, we will contact the Company Captain or Leader in Charge to verify your role in GB and set up a basic registration. Please allow up to two days for accounts to be matched. If you experience any login issues, contact info@gbni.co.uk

To support communication across leadership teams and assist Captains, GB companies may also wish to add an additional leader as a Correspondent for the company via Roles under My Company. Please note that this role activates Company Admin access to My Brigade.

Available to hire!

Games Night Pack



INCLUDES:
RING TOSS,
EGG & SPOON,
BIG FEET,
HOPPER SACKS,
BUCKET STILTS,
QUOITS,
BEANBAGS,
CONES, RACKETS,
CUP & BALL GAME



Contact GBHQ via info@gbni.co.uk to book!

Girls' Brigade shop

Northern Ireland



*The GBNI Shop is open
Monday to Thursday 9.30 am – 5.00 pm
Friday 9.30 am - 4.00 pm*

The GBNI Shop is also open on the following
Saturday mornings from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm

September 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th

October 3rd, 17th and November 7th 2026.

Visit our Shop in Antrim at GBHQ or shop online

gbni.co.uk/shop

The shop accepts cash, card payments and cheques.



*Proceeds from
our Shop support the
ongoing programme, training,
marketing and development
work in GBNI.
Thank you for your support!*

Price List 2026/27

Tunic	£24.50 - £31.00	Navy Pants	£4.50 - £5.50
Red Knitted Jumper	£15.00	Long Leg Pants	£10.00 - £12.00
Girls' White Blouse	£8.50 - £12.00	Knee Socks	£2.00
Navy V Neck Sweatshirt	£14.00 - £19.50	Ankle Socks	£1.50 - £4.20
Sub-Officers' Sweatshirt	£18.50	Red Tights	£4.80
Girls' Navy Skirt	£21.50 - £27.50	Armband	£3.00
White Slippers	£6.50 - £8.50	Section Badge	£1.60
Officer Jacket	£120.00	5m Ribbon	£2.50
Officer Skirt	£42.00	5m White Tape	£1.80 - £2.30
		Officer Blouse	£26.50

GBNI Hoodies and Coloured Polo Shirts

It is important to book out a sample set of either of the above to check colours and sizing before placing your orders - **remember all made-to-order items cannot be returned.**

Hoodies - **three** sample size sets are available to book out.

Coloured Polo Shirts - **two** sample size sets are available to book out.

Please note: orders containing Made-To-Order items must be paid before they can be processed.

Large Company Orders

Large uniform orders should be placed with the Online Shop. If the order is for collection, please use the 'Customer Notes' box to indicate when the order will be collected. Normal packing time during the busy months of September and October is three-five working days. Please check with Customer Service that your order is ready for collection before travelling to GBHQ.

Unfortunately, large orders cannot be placed in the Walk In Shop and taken the same day.

Officer Uniform

If you require a size that we do not currently stock, this can be produced by our supplier. Please contact our GBNI Shop Manager, Claire, by email at shopmanager@gbni.co.uk. Please note a delivery date for the item would be confirmed following your enquiry and a surcharge may apply for this service.

Uniform Size Set for Loan

The GBNI Shop can provide a size set of uniform that can be booked out for one week. This will allow parents to check what size of uniform they require for their daughter before placing their orders online.

Contact us

customerservice@gbni.co.uk
Tel 028 9454 8054 option 1 - GBNI Shop

New Badgework Topics



Lifeboats

Created in partnership with **The RNLI**, this water safety topic is packed with essential skills, engaging activities, and confidence-building learning for all ages.

RNLI name and logo are trademarks of RNLI used under licence from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

We want to help our girls develop practical and interpersonal skills for life.

Learning to speak well in front of others is one of the most useful skills anyone can develop. It helps you express yourself, share your thoughts, and connect with people in meaningful ways.

Public Speaking



Open Doors



The Persecuted Church

In collaboration with **Open Doors UK & Ireland**, we'll explore powerful real-life stories from places where following Jesus comes at a great cost—and discover how we can pray, learn, and take action together.

Check your company August Pack for badgework topic updates for your programme files plus sample activity books. **Activity books are available free of charge from GBHQ.** Please call Emma or email emma@gbni.co.uk to order. Please note stock is limited.



PLUS!

Scan to order free Open Doors resources for your girls.



New Camp Resource Pack



Available online now, containing fresh ideas, practical tools, and inspiration to help you plan an unforgettable experience.

Planning a camp?

Check out page 27 for full details on Leader Camp Training required before heading away.

Activities Team

T-Shirts

For Sale



SUITABLE FOR COMPETITIONS, CRAFT IDEAS AND DISPLAY ITEMS



Plain red, yellow and blue coloured 'Fruit of the Loom' t-shirts priced at £2.50 each in sizes 5-6, 7-8, 9-11 and 12-13

To order, please contact ruth@gbni.co.uk

Junior

Marching

Resource



**CHECK OUT THE
RESOURCES SECTION
OF THE GBNI
WEBSITE**

**The Activities Team hope to plan a Junior
Marching competition in the near future.
Why not try out this resource this session in
your company and/or District!**

Unmissable

Training

Training queries?
Contact martha@gbni.co.uk

BB/GB Expedition & Outdoor Leadership Award

Leaders involved in training or supervising young people in expedition activities need to have a relevant qualification for this role. The **BB/GB Expedition & Outdoor Leadership** course is a great way to gain a suitable qualification. The course is designed and delivered by BB and GB leaders especially for other leaders involved in expedition work with young people. The next course starts in April 2027 with a training weekend and concludes with an assessment weekend in September of the same year.

There are two levels to the course:

- Level 1 is for leaders running expeditions in lowland or open country.
- Level 2 is for those going into mountainous or wild country areas.

Participants must complete Level 1 before going on to Level 2.

Please note that there is a leadership unit common to both levels of the course. Those who have completed Officer or Sub-Officer Leadership training with GB will be exempt from this unit.

Leaders who haven't completed GB training will have to provide evidence of other leadership training attended or can attend courses run by the DofE Belfast office.

Dates for 2027

Training weekend: 16th -18th April 2027 @ BBHQ & Mournes
Assessment weekend: 24th – 26th September 2027 @ BBHQ & Mournes

Course Fees

Level 1: £75pp Level 2: £75pp
BBNI manage the booking for this course, please contact martha@gbni.co.uk for a link to the booking form, once available.

Thanks to EA funding, we have the following items of camping equipment available to borrow by leaders attending Expedition & Outdoor Leadership training. Please contact info@gbni.co.uk to book.

**8 Headtorches
4 Gas stoves
4 Storm shelters
4 Compasses
4 Tents
8 Rucksacks**

CPR Scheme

Did you know that fewer than 1 in 10 people survive a cardiac arrest outside of hospital in the UK?

Together, we can help change that. You have the opportunity to equip your girls with this vital, life-saving skill by introducing them to **CPR training**.



Let's work together to create a generation of confident lifesavers across Northern Ireland.

GBNI, in partnership with the British Heart Foundation, is delighted to offer CPR Training Kits designed specifically for young people aged 12+. These sessions are simple to run—no instructor needed—as all techniques are taught through easy-to-follow videos. All you need is a DVD player and a small space to practise.

Each kit includes everything required to deliver an engaging and practical session, including full training materials and resuscitation

dummies. On completion, participants can even receive certificates to recognise their achievement.

Kits are available to borrow from GBHQ—so why not book one and bring this essential skill to your company.

New Captain's Workshop

*Tuesday 29th
September
7pm @ GBHQ
Cost £5 pp*



Are you stepping into the Captain's role for the first time—or still finding your feet?

You're not alone, and this workshop is designed just for you. Join us for an encouraging and practical evening where you'll connect with others on the same journey, share experiences, ask questions, and gain fresh confidence in your leadership. Together, we'll explore what it means to thrive as a Captain and equip you with ideas and insights to support your role.

Book your place through the Upcoming Events Calendar on our website, or get in touch with GBHQ for more information—we'd love to see you there!

Leadership Training Update

We have been incredibly encouraged over this past year by the number of volunteer leaders who have stepped forward to train as Officers and Sub-Officers.

In total, 168 Trainee Officers and 213 Trainee Sub-Officers began their journey last September—a testament to the passion and commitment within GBNI.

These courses simply would not be possible without the dedication of our district leaders and the faithful service of those on the Training Team. We extend our heartfelt thanks for all they have given over the past year, and for the continued support they will offer to our next group of trainees.

Across the districts, a wide range of workshops were delivered for Trainee Sub-Officers, while Trainee Officers took part in face-to-face training sessions in Second Comber Presbyterian and at GBHQ.

These gatherings provided valuable opportunities to put learning into practice, complementing their online theory and safeguarding training. Just as importantly, they were a chance to share fellowship, build friendships, and enjoy time together—while discovering fresh

ideas and inspiration to take back to their own GB companies.

2026/27 Leadership Applications

The deadline for applications for the 2026/27 Leadership training courses (Officer and Sub-Officer) is the 30th September 2026.

This should hopefully allow time for any of our young people who return to GB in September, with a desire to serve in these roles, to apply and not have to wait another year to begin their training.

Applications are only made online. Please contact GBHQ if you have any problems with the application process.

Camp Training

*Saturday 27th
February 2027
10 am - 2.30 pm
@ GBHQ
Cost £10 pp*



Places can be booked via the Upcoming Events Calendar on our website.

GBNI leaders involved in running camps for their GB girls need to have a relevant qualification for this role.

This training provides leaders with the Camp Training Certificate, which can then be upgraded to a Camp Leader Certificate on completion of a camp and application form.

The training day includes:

- GB Camp guidelines
- Key tasks for preparing for camp

- Other relevant guidelines and procedures
- Awareness of keeping children and leaders safe
- Practical issues involved in running a camp
- Ideas for camp worship and programme

**Date for
your diary!**

Wednesday
3rd March 2027
7pm @ GBHQ

Digital

Footprint

**Leader Workshop with
Made for More**

This workshop is to enable leaders to run a session with their young people, which teaches them valuable insights into understanding and managing their digital footprint, empowering them to navigate the online world responsibly.

Cost: £10 per person

Bookings can be made via the Upcoming Events Calendar and are limited to two per GB company.

If you have any queries please contact martha@gbni.co.uk

Leader

Workshop

Tuesday
6th October
7pm

CRUSE
Supporting
Grieving Children
and Families

This training provides a greater awareness of the impact of bereavement and grief on children, young adults and their families. It looks at the understanding of death at different stages of development and how children and young people respond to grief. The training gives you the tools and confidence to support children and young adults who are dealing with bereavement.

2.5 hour online webinar session including Q&A

Maximum delegates: 10

Cost: £10 per person

Places are limited to one per GB company and can be booked by emailing Martha directly - martha@gbni.co.uk



The Queen's Award

THIS IS AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR GIRLS TO GROW IN FAITH AND CONFIDENCE, DEVELOP NEW SKILLS, AND BE PART OF SOMETHING TRULY REWARDING.

Join one of our upcoming information webinars designed to give potential participants, parents, and GB Leaders, a closer look at the Queen's Award programme—including the challenges, achievements, and lifelong benefits it offers.

Please note: All start at 7 pm and webinar attendance is essential before application.

**THURSDAY
15TH OCTOBER**

**TUESDAY 3RD
NOVEMBER**

**WEDNESDAY 18TH
NOVEMBER**

Webinar places can be booked via the Upcoming Events calendar on our website.

Applications open 1st September 2026 and close on 31st January 2027, with the programme beginning on 1st March 2027.

THE QUEEN'S AWARD

Success Celebration



The Queen's Award Team were delighted to present the Queen's Award brooch and certificate to 37 young women, recognising the successful completion of their Award programme this session.

As a GB family, we warmly congratulate each of the girls on this outstanding achievement and thank them for their dedication, perseverance and commitment to GB.

Moy Presbyterian Church kindly hosted this year's Award Presentation Ceremony on Friday 15th May 2026, where recipients and guests received a very warm welcome. We were honoured to have Helen Buchanan, from Scripture Union, as our guest speaker, who brought an encouraging and inspiring message. We were also pleased to welcome Chair Councillor Frances Burton of Mid Ulster District Council and Nuala Bannon from Friends of the Cancer Centre.

A sincere word of thanks is extended to everyone at Moy

Presbyterian for their kindness, generosity and wonderful hospitality throughout the evening.

One of the initiative tests completed during the programme required girls to make syringe driver bags for those undergoing cancer treatment.



The bags were presented to Nuala Bannon; who shared an insight into how valuable and essential the bags are in supporting people on their cancer treatment pathway.

A highlight of the evening was hearing from Keziah Shaw (138th NI Moy Presbyterian), Erin Cooke (12th NI Magheragall Presbyterian), Anna Robinson (53rd NI Ballycraig Presbyterian), and Ruby Clarence (248th NI Second Limavady Presbyterian), who shared personal reflections on their Queen's Award

journey, offering insight into the elements they completed, the lessons they learned, and the skills and successes they gained along

the way. Their contributions were both inspiring and a testament to the impact of the programme.



Examples of project work on display



GBNI Calendar of Events 2026/27

Dates and venues are subject to change. Keep an eye on our online calendar and bookings for any updates via gbni.co.uk/calendar (Remember to log in first to view and book events).

2026		Venue
Wednesday 26 th August	GBNI AGM	GBHQ
Saturday 5 th – Thursday 10 th September	PE Demos	Various venues
Friday 18 th September	Made For More Mini Conference Topic – Leadership Skills	1 st Saintfield Presbyterian
Monday 21 st September	GB Week of Prayer	Various
Friday 25 th – Sunday 27 th September	BB/GB Expedition & Outdoor Leadership	Mournes
Tuesday 29 th September	New Captains' Workshop	GBHQ and Online
Monday 5 th October	Competition Closing Date One	N/A
Tuesday 6 th October	Bereavement Workshop	Online
Thursday 8 th October	Safeguarding Webinar	Online
Tuesday 13 th October	Sub-Officer Theory Webinar	Online
Tuesday 13 th October	Made For More Mini Conference Topic – Self-Esteem	Knocknamuckley Parish
Thursday 15 th October	QA Webinar	Online
Friday 16 th – Saturday 24 th October	DT Senior Netball	Various
Wednesday 21 st October	Officer Theory Webinar	Online
Tuesday 3 rd November	QA Webinar	Online
Thursday 5 th November	Sub-Officer Theory Webinar	Online
Friday 6 th – Saturday 14 th November	DT Brigader Pickleball	Various
Tuesday 10 th November	Officer Theory Webinar	Online
Friday 13 th November	Senior Netball NI Final	Valley Leisure Centre
Wednesday 18 th November	QA Webinar	Online
Friday 20 th November	DofE Presentation Evening	Loughbrickland Presbyterian
Friday 20 th November – Saturday 5 th December	DT Explorer/Junior Team Games	Various
Wednesday 25 th November	Safeguarding Webinar	Online
Friday 27 th November	Brigader Pickleball NI Final	Lagan Valley LeisurePlex
Monday 30 th November	Annual Returns Submission Deadline	N/A
Monday 30 th November	Competition Closing Date Two	N/A

2027		Venue
Friday 8 th January – Saturday 23 rd January	DT Senior/Brigader Table Quiz	Various
Monday 11 th January	ID PE Junior/Senior Teams	TBC
Wednesday 13 th January	ID PE Junior/Senior Solo Skipping	TBC
Thursday 14 th January	ID PE Brigader Solo	TBC
Saturday 16 th January	ID PE Explorer & Junior Teams	TBC
Tuesday 19 th January	ID PE Brigader Teams	TBC
Saturday 30 th January	PE Finals – Explorer/Brigader	Parkhall Integrated College TBC
Sunday 31 st January	QA Application Deadline	N/A
Monday 1 st - Saturday 6 th February	GB Collection Week	N/A
Saturday 6 th February	PE Finals – Junior/Senior	Parkhall Integrated College TBC
Friday 19 th February	PE Finals – Associate	TBC
Saturday 20 th February	Senior/Brigader Table Quiz NI Final	Castledawson Presbyterian
Saturday 20 th February	Pray Where You Are	N/A
Saturday 27 th February	Camp Training	GBHQ
Saturday 27 th February	Explorer/Junior Team Games NI Final	First Ahoghill Presbyterian
Sunday 28 th February	Assessment Fees Due	N/A
Wednesday 3 rd March	Digital Footprint Workshop	GBHQ
Monday 8 th March	QA Interviews	TBC - GBHQ
Thursday 11 th March	QA Interviews	TBC - D11
Tuesday 16 th March	QA Interviews	GBHQ
Wednesday 24 th March	QA Mentors Drop-in	Online
Friday 16 th – Sunday 18 th April	BB/GB Expedition & Outdoor Leadership – Training Weekend	BBHQ/Mournes
Monday 19 th April – Saturday 15 th May	District AGMs	Various
Saturday 24 th April	YF Colour Experience	TBC
Friday 14 th May	QA Presentation Ceremony	TBC
Tuesday 25 th May – Tuesday 1 st June	Shop Closed for Stocktake	N/A
Saturday 22 nd May	Officer Training	GBHQ
Friday 4 th June	Officer Training	GBHQ
Saturday 19 th June	Officer Training	TBC

Past Members

Northern Division enjoyed another happy year of fellowship, with 24 members coming together four times during the 2025/26 session, including our Annual Dinner before summer.

We began in September 2025 with a talk from John Porter of Chuck Holsen's Prison Fellowship. He shared something of his work in prisons through singing, Bible studies and prayer, and gently encouraged us to remember in prayer those who may never have owned or seen a Bible.

In November 2025, two Committee members, Pamela and Elaine, led a lovely evening making Christmas baubles, together with quizzes and our usual tea and treats. It was a relaxed and enjoyable night for everyone.



Northern Branch

At our February 2026 meeting, Sharon Graham, a Homelessness Nurse in the Northern Trust, spoke about homelessness in our area, sharing statistics and personal stories that helped us better understand the difficulties many people face. On that evening, members also kindly supported Sharon's community work by donating towels and toiletries for local hostels.



We brought the session to a close with our Annual Dinner in May 2026 at the Lodge Hotel, Coleraine. After a lovely meal, Brian Rankin entertained us with poems that were both humorous and thoughtful, and the evening also raised support for Africare's work to provide medical treatment to children in Kenya and throughout Africa. Brian was fantastic and provided lots of laughs and fun; a truly fabulous way to end the session.

The 2025/26 session has now come to an end, and we hope this gives a little glimpse of our group.

If you are a past member of a Girls' Brigade company, we would be delighted to welcome you to join us for the 2026/27 session.

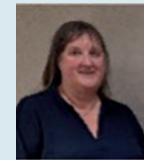
The Committee will meet in June to plan next year's programme, and this will be shared with members once available. If you would like a copy, please contact us.

Chairperson : Valerie Hamilton



07708 804719
Valham1@aol.com

Secretary : Maureen Thompson



07879 498620
Maureen.thompson65@gmail.com



Help GB Australia celebrate their 100th Anniversary

We would love as many of our members as possible to send GB Australia greetings to congratulate them on 100 years of Girls' Brigade in their country in 2027. Scan the QR code to access their form to submit your greeting, either as a video (under one minute long), photo or text. Please upload your message by 30th November 2026.





An interview with Karen Reid.



We recently caught up with Karen Reid, member of the GBNI Youth Forum (YF). Karen's time on the Youth Forum is coming to an end and we asked her to share some of her highlights and take away moments over the past few years.

Looking back, what moment or experience with the YF Team has meant the most to you, and why?

Looking back, I have many fond memories from my time on the Youth Forum Team, from roadshows and book clubs to our first Carol Service at Dundonald Elim. However, one particularly meaningful experience was being part of our vlog series entitled 'Faithful'. Along with a partner, we each focused on a woman from the Bible whose story demonstrated God's faithfulness. We read the chapter individually, took notes, and then recorded a vlog together

discussing our thoughts and what we had learned from it.

Leah was the character we were given to focus on. Through Leah's story, I realised that although she was often portrayed as less beautiful or less worthy of love than her sister, Leah was still chosen by God to be part of His salvation plan, as it was through Leah's family line that Jesus would eventually be born. I found this especially meaningful because it reminded me that, even when we may feel not good enough or less worthy than others, God has a specific plan and purpose for each of our lives. If I had not been part of the YF Team, I may never have considered Leah's story from this perspective.

How has being part of the YF Team shaped you or helped you grow over the past few years?

Being part of the Youth Forum Team has provided me with opportunities to serve within Girl's Brigade at a wider level and has helped me gain a deeper understanding of the overall work of GBNI. Before joining the YF Team, GB felt like something that simply happened

on a Thursday night within my own company. However, being part of the YF Team has allowed me to connect with other GB companies and Officers, encourage girls and young leaders to become involved in the wider work of GB, and support girls in their walk with Jesus.

It has helped me grow in confidence, encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone, and reminded me of the impact encouragement and fellowship can have on others.

I am also thankful for the friendships I have made with the girls I served alongside on the YF Team from June 2021 to June 2026. I am grateful for their encouragement, guidance and support, particularly as some of us have followed similar educational and career paths. Having people around me with shared experiences has meant a great deal. Again, if I had not of had the opportunity and courage to join YF, I would never have made these connections.



What will you miss most about being involved with YF, and what will you carry with you into the next season of life?

I will miss the wider Girls' Brigade community. It has been great to connect with other GB Officers, Sub-Officers and helpers to chat, share ideas and encourage one another.

It has been lovely to be part of the wider Girls' Brigade community in Northern Ireland, and it has been a real source of encouragement, friendship and belonging throughout my time on the Team.

Being part of the YF Team was not only about organising events and developing resources, but also about encouraging young girls and women in their faith and relationship with Jesus. These experiences have helped me grow in confidence and in my ability to work with others and share ideas.

I will carry with me the importance of staying connected in my own faith journey and continuing to take opportunities to encourage others. Although my time on the YF Team is coming to an end, my opportunities to encourage and support others will continue into the next season of life.

What encouragement or advice would you leave for the young people who are still part of the YF Team?

Make the most of every opportunity the YF Team brings. This may include serving in other areas of GBNI, leading workshops or information sessions about YF, or having opportunities to visit different countries or districts. The YF is a great way to witness and be part of the bigger picture of GBNI

and to connect with others who are on a similar journey. It also allows you to work together towards something meaningful.

Most of all, enjoy every moment, as it goes by quickly, and I will always treasure my time as part of the YF Team. I would also encourage girls who are not yet part of the YF Team to prayerfully consider joining when the opportunity arises. It is a busy role, but it is also very worthwhile.



GBNI Youth Forum

GBNI YOUTH FORUM COLOUR EXPERIENCE

24 APRIL 2027

KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR FURTHER DETAILS FOR A FUN DAY OUT WITH YOUR COMPANY SECTION

GBNI YOUTH FORUM

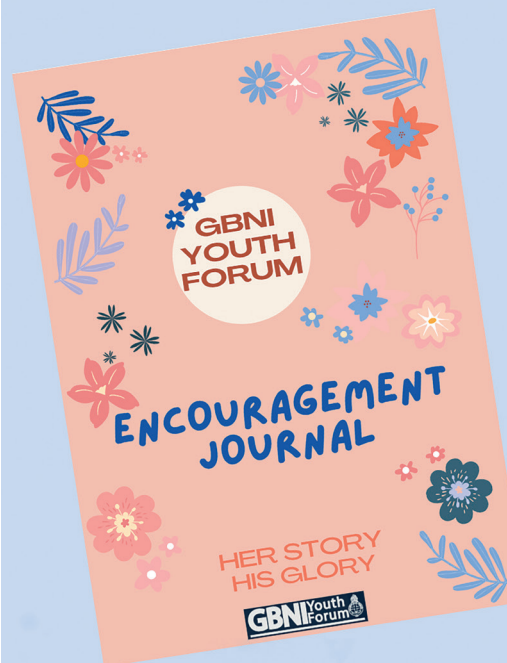
ENCOURAGEMENT JOURNAL

Coming Soon for 26/27

A meaningful gift for any girl in your GB Company, at any stage of her faith journey.

Created by the GBNI Youth Forum Team, the Encouragement Journal will feature devotions, favourite memory verses, reflections from personal faith journeys, and much more. It will also include dedicated space for girls to record their own thoughts, prayers, Bible verses, and reflections as they grow in their relationship with God.

The journal will be available to order through GBNI Headquarters. Further details will be shared soon.



DEVOTION

NAME

TITLE

TESTIMONY

NAME

INSIGHTS FROM FAITH JOURNEY



*Content and design subject to change.

Wednesday 20th May 2026 was a day to remember for GBNI members and their leaders attending Buckingham Palace to receive their **Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award**. It looks like they had a fabulous day!



GOLD DofE SUCCESS!



DofE Award Presentation Evening

This annual event is for those GBNI girls who have completed their Bronze or Silver DofE Award in 2025/26 up to the deadline of 31st October 2026.

Each Award recipient is allowed up to two guests and also each GB company is allowed up to two representatives.

There will be a light supper for all young people and guests after the service and this event is free. Leaders will be contacted when the online booking for this event is open.

This year, the Presentation evening will be held as follows:

Date: Friday 20th November 2026

Venue: Loughbrickland Presbyterian

Time: 7.30 pm

For more information regarding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in Girls' Brigade, please contact martha@gbni.co.uk

PE COMPETITIONS



Explorer Team

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Saturday 16th January 2027 Saturday 30th January 2027 at 3.00 pm
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Junior Team

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Saturday 16th January 2027 Saturday 6th February 2027 at 3.00 pm
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Junior/Senior Team

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Monday 11th January 2027 Saturday 6th February 2027 at 1.00 pm
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Junior/Senior Solo Skipping

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Wednesday 13th January 2027 Saturday 6th February 2027 at 10.00 am
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Brigader Team

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Tuesday 19th January 2027 Saturday 30th January 2027 at 1.00 pm
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Brigader Solo

Inter-District Competitions NI Final	Thursday 14th January 2027 Saturday 30th January 2027 at 10.00 am
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NI PE Finals on Saturday 30th January and Saturday 6th February 2027 will be held at Parkhall Integrated College, Antrim.

Associate Team and Associate Solo competitions will be held on Friday 19th February 2027, at Trinity Methodist, Lisburn.

Entry deadline for ALL PE competitions – Monday 30th November 2026 at 5 pm.

Additional info for Demonstrations

Please read the following information if you are attending a PE Demonstration on behalf of your company.

For All Demonstrations:

- All PE Demos are now strictly pre-registration only (book online in the Upcoming Events Calendar on our website). All places must be booked and paid for online.
- Demonstrations for PE (Solo and Team) are available at £5.00 per company per set - three spaces per company with only two working on the floor at any one time.

2026/27 Demonstration Dates & Venue

Saturday 5th September	Section	Time
Second Comber Presbyterian BT23 5DT	ET JT JST JSSS BS BT	9.00 am 10.00 am 11.00 am 12.00 noon 1.00 pm 2.00 pm
Monday 7th September	Section	Time
St Paul's Parish Lisburn BT28 1UE	AS AT	7.15pm 8.15pm
Tuesday 8th September	Section	Time
Kilmakee Presbyterian BT17 9QD	ET JT	7.15 pm 8.15 pm
Wednesday 9th September	Section	Time
St Mary's Parish Dundonald BT16 2RY	BS BT	7.15 pm 8.15 pm
Thursday 10th September	Section	Time
St Mary's Parish Dundonald BT16 2RY	JSSS JST	7.15 pm 8.15 pm

- Members may only attend one demonstration per set.
- Demonstrations for Associate PE (Solo and Team) are also available at £5.00 per company per set - 10 spaces per company.

What to wear for Demonstrations:

- Only correct Girls' Brigade uniform as listed below may be worn on the floor.
- Correct PE uniform (no jewellery, nail polish, false nails, sweatshirts/hoodies or jogging bottoms/leggings), or Officers' working uniform – navy jogging bottoms (no leggings and no branding, with the exception of GB jogging bottoms), GB regulation polo shirt (must be white with GB Crest), navy GB sweatshirt, and white PE slippers with white ankle socks.
- Hoodies must not be worn on the floor.
- Anyone not wearing correct uniform will be asked to leave the floor.

For directions to the demonstration venues, please refer to Google Maps using the postcodes provided.

Made for More Youth Conference

FOR SENIORS
AND BRIGADERS
ONLY!



GBNI Youth Forum in partnership with Made for More are offering two different themed conferences where girls in Seniors and Brigaders can come together for a night of fun, games, food and discussion.

Leadership - 18th September, 7 pm @ 1st Saintfield Presbyterian - Dt 5

In this engaging session, girls will discover their unique leadership strengths and gain the confidence to lead with impact in their own sphere.

Self-esteem - 13th October, 7 pm @ Knocknamuckley Parish - Dt 7

In this interactive session, girls will be equipped with tools to build their self-esteem and empowered to recognise their intrinsic worth and value.



Priority booking will be given to companies in host districts. Any remaining places will be offered to any GB company willing to travel to the venue.

For more information, contact
youthforum@gbni.co.uk



WE ARE GIRLS' BRIGADE EDITION

Resources
4
August 2026

Welcome to the August 2026 Resources 4U

The summer is coming to an end and we are all looking forward to a new session in GB. In this edition of Resources 4U (R4U) we have focused on **We are Girls' Brigade** - our crest/badge and motto. We have also included some ice breaker and getting to know you games and ideas for girls who are either new to GB or who have moved to a new company section.

As you use these resources, it is our prayer that your girls will have fun, get to know each other more and build lasting friendships that will carry on long into the future.

COMPANY SUBMISSION

The talented Seniors and Brigaders from **207th NI Abbots Cross Congregational GB** gave white charity-shop jeans a brilliant makeover using fabric pens for their badgework. Each pair is totally unique—and they look amazing!



Resources 4U is designed to equip you; our leaders with ideas and resources to complement and aid delivery of the GB Programme. We are aware that, within GBNI, all girls are unique. They enjoy different things and have a broad range of interests. Feel free to adapt the ideas we have provided to meet the needs of your girls. Also, don't forget to look over previous editions of R4U. These are available to download from the Resources 4U Folder on the GBNI website. You may be reminded of a great craft or game that worked really well before, but will be new to the girls who are currently in your GB company.

OUR GB MOTTO

Encourage the girls to think about the GB motto as they have fun and enjoy doing craft and games together.

Seek

Seeking God means more than just knowing He is real. It means wanting to be close to Him, learning about Him, and trying to live the way He wants.

Download this colouring sheet from My Resources.



Give each girl a packet of bubbles and a copy of the GB Motto explained in the bubble circles below. As they blow the bubbles they are reminded of being part of GB and what that means.

Serving God means showing love, kindness, and care to other people. Jesus showed us how to serve by loving people, helping them, and giving His life for us.

Serve

Follow

Following Jesus is being obedient to His commands and teachings. It is trusting in Him and following His plan and direction for our life. How do we know what to do? God uses the Bible to tell us. The Holy Spirit lives inside us, and helps us to live God's way. He helps us understand the Bible, and helps us as we pray. At times, God uses other Christians to help us know what to do. God shows us how to follow in the best way possible.

OUR GB BADGE

Prayer Stations

To know Christ as our King means to know His sovereign authority, to keep His commands and to serve one another.

Crown - 'Above the lamp is a crown, that we may own Christ as our King.'

Using a crown template, ask the girls to write their prayers of worship to God inside the crown.

Service to each other

The Bible has many references to Jesus, the servant King (John 13:1-17, John 19:23-30). Ask the girls to read the verses and think about their GB company. How can they know Christ by serving others around them?

Cross - 'In the centre, a cross, a symbol of Christ and His church.'

Draw or print out a cross template. Set out a few jigsaw pieces dotted about under the cross. Ask the girls to think about the part they play in God's church. As part of God's church, we are all linked and connected to each other, just like the pieces of a jigsaw. Ask the girls to take a piece of the jigsaw home to remind them of their part in God's church.

Torch - 'Behind all a torch, the flame of Christ's living Spirit and our devotion to Him'

At the back of the GBNI Crest is the flame which represents the flame of Christ's living Spirit and our devotion to Him. Christ's Spirit comes to refresh and restore us.

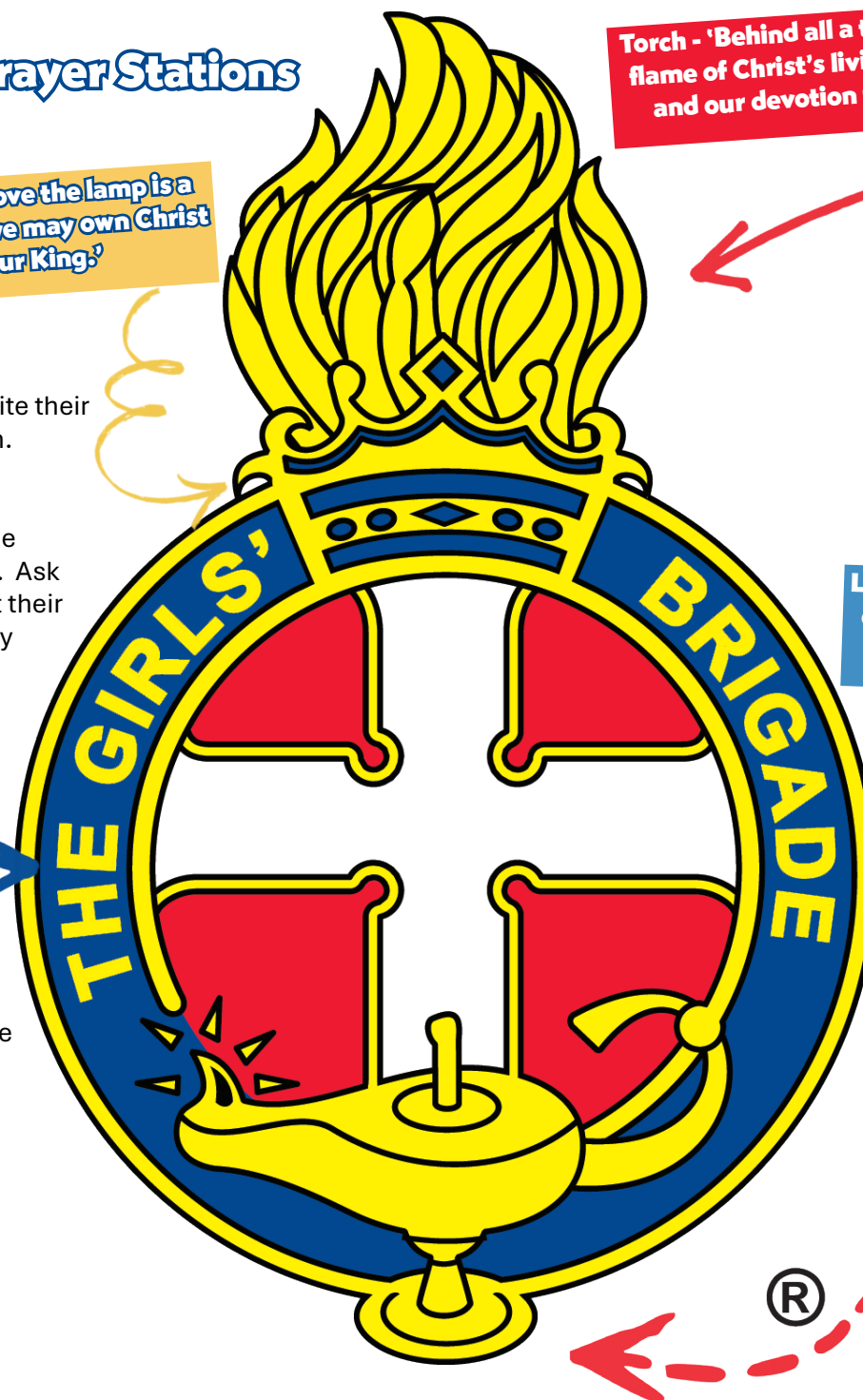
Cut out small rectangular pieces of card and spray each one with strong perfume. Ask the girls to lift one of the cards to smell the perfume. As they breathe in the scent, they can ask God to send His Spirit to refresh them. Just in the same way as they smell the perfume, pray that others will sense the Spirit of Christ in them.

Lamp - 'Below it is a lamp, that our light may shine out upon the world.'

Set up a vase or lantern with fairy lights illuminated inside on top of either a map of your local area or a piece of paper with your area name. As the girls spend time at this station, encourage them to ask God for the strength, courage and opportunities to shine as lights for Him in their community.

The girls can also spend time thinking about their own GB company. Who do they know in their company; who needs God's light?

As they pray for this person, add their first name initial to a post-it and attach this to the outside of the vase/lantern.



OUR GB BADGE ideas to do with your girls

Make and
decorate
beaded or
paper crowns.

Make tea light
holders with air
dry clay.

Make toasted
marshmallows
or s'mores over
a flame.

Ask the girls to
design their own GB
badge incorporating
all four elements.

Turn out the lights, give each
girl a torch or light. Ask the
girls to turn their light on,
one after the other. Each
time another light comes
on, the dark room becomes
a little brighter. As part of
the GB family, we all make a
difference when we shine for
God.

Make a wax paper lantern.

You will need markers, wax paper,
lollipop sticks, a glue gun and
battery tealights. The girls could
use patterned
tissue paper
in place of
decorating wax
paper.



Celebrate Jesus as our
King with shaker plates.
Super easy to make with
paper plates and dried rice
or beans.



Image and idea from www.sundayschool-network.com/craft-Praise-Noise-Maker

Stained glass cross
biscuits using any biscuit
dough and hard sweets.



Idea and image from
www.downredbud-drive.com/stained-glass-cross-cookies/

Blow through a straw
on to paper to create
'flames' from runny
yellow, orange and
red paint.

Share your ideas -
email info@gbni.co.uk



GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Icebreaker ideas

Play the **GET TO KNOW YOU** game. Game template is available to download from My Resources.



KNOCK IT OUT

You will need an orange, a pair of tights and 10 empty two litre bottles. Place the orange in the toe of one of the legs in your tights and put the gusset of the tights onto your head. Space the bottles around the person playing in a circle. Tip your head forward and swing the tights. The challenge is to try and knock over the bottles. Who wins? Whoever knocks over the bottles the quickest.

SPAGHETTI NAMES

Cook lots of spaghetti and let it go cold. Put it all in the middle of the floor and give each girl a plate or paper towel. In twos, they should spell out the name of their partner with spaghetti. This will help them (and you!!) learn all their names. At the end say a prayer thanking God for making such amazing girls called.. and read out all of the spaghetti names. Inspired by an idea in Children's Work Magazine May 2014.

MOVING NAMES

This is a fun and active way to get to know everyone's name. One at a time, each girl and leader says their name and accompanies it with an action. The rest of the group says their name and repeats the action. You may need leaders to get this started if the girls are shy to begin with.

New Beginnings!

Set out a pile of loom bands, along with an empty loom and a crochet hook. If there is someone in your group who is good at making these bracelets, then ask them to go ahead and make one as you speak.

Explain that at the start of the year we might feel like we are just little bits of rubber band. A bit useless, not connected to anything, easily lost. However, this is not true.

Each and every GB girl and leader is precious and worth the world to both Jesus and your leaders. However, loom bands reach their full potential when they do what they were designed to do; woven together with other bands on a loom by someone who knows what they are doing. God is our Creator. He is the One who knows how to mould us so that we work in the best way possible and be who we can be.

Loom bracelets also work because lots of bands are looped together. In GB we want everyone to get along and to help each other reach their potential. This could be in sports or crafts, but most importantly, we want to help each other get to know God better and be part of God's big family.

Summarise 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, which talks about the Body of Christ and how we each have a role to play in God's family. The bracelets that people make on their fingers are great, but the ones made on the loom can be so much more complex and intricate. As Christians, we believe that we can only reach our full potential when our roots are deep in God's Word and when we live by what it says.

Read Psalm 119:10-16 to the girls. This is why the Scripture Course is such an important part of GB so we can learn what God wants to say to us and allow our lives to be changed by it.

Equipment

Hire



**PICKLEBALL
SETS INCLUDING
NETS, PADDLES
AND BALLS**

Contact GBHQ via info@gbni.co.uk to book!